

Old Herefordians' Newsletter 2014



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.

President's Report 2014



Gill Rivers and retiring OH President Andrew Davies.

It is my great pleasure to write my first President's Report for the 2014 Old Herefordians' Newsletter.

2014 has been another busy year for the Club with a number of reunions, the Annual Dinner at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, the OH Regatta in September and the Old Herefordians in London now regular spring and autumn lunches. Unfortunately due to the heavy rainfall we experienced earlier in the year the Marches 7's had to be postponed. The reunions are becoming a popular event, enabling people to gather together whilst providing an opportunity to review the past and momentarily even relive it.

I would encourage Old Herefordians to join us for OH Day on Saturday 6 December 2014. After the formalities of the AGM in the morning you are invited to us for lunch in the school dining hall or the informal meal held at the Castle House hotel in the evening. Full details of how to book your place are included in the Newsletter.

The Club continues to work on the members' database to ensure that is kept up to date for the needs of future communication and record keeping. The OH archiving project also continues to catalogue data, photographs and memorabilia from the school's history. The OH Archive Room in No 1 Castle Street is well worth a visit (some will remember this room as the Monitors' Common Room). It is always opened during a reunion event and visits at other times can be

arranged with the staff in the Development Office.

I would like to thank the team in the Development Office for their continued hard work and the OH Editor, Clare Adamson, for putting together another packed magazine. I would also like to thank the members of the OH Committee for their dedication and commitment to the Club and their support to me during my first year.

Gill Rivers

President, Old Herefordians' Club

From the Development Office:

This year, on behalf of the school, I would like to say thank you.

These last twelve months have seen even more events than in previous years. Thank you for coming to the OH days and events, for leading your year group reunions, for keeping in touch with us and the OH in London in person; by email and phone; and on Facebook and LinkedIn.

We are now in contact with more OHs than before and it is always a pleasure to know what you are doing; to meet up with you; to show you and talk to you about developments at the School. This year we have been able to share with you a fantastic report in the Good Schools' Guide and share that we achieved the highest rating of 'excellent' in every category of the Independent Schools Inspectorate Report.

Thank you to those OH who contributed to our bursary appeal over the last two years and to those of you who have made known to us your legacy pledges. Your contributions to the bursary fund are held in a restricted fund and the investment income is being used to provide bursary funding to pupils who have now started at the school and who are now enjoying the exciting and stimulating learning environment that we offer.

The need for bursaries is as great now as ever and we would like to make our 'excellent' provision and caring school available to more talented pupils. To do this we need your help. As you will have seen in our bursary appeal material a few OHs giving a £1 a day can make a significant difference and enable us to offer a funded or part-funded place.

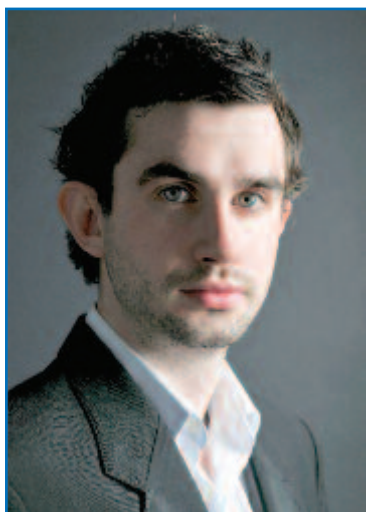
I would ask you to please take a moment to review the details on page 46 and then make a commitment to help a young person start on their journey to becoming an Old Herefordian.

Claire Morgan-Jones

Development Director

OH NEWS

Operatic Career



Described in *The Daily Telegraph* as a 'honey-voiced tenor', **Anthony Gregory** (OH) continues to make a name for himself in opera. In the 2013/2014 season, Anthony was chosen to be one of English National Opera's Harewood Artists, which enables exceptionally talented UK-trained singers to perform with a major opera company

while receiving specialist coaching, support and guidance.

In an increasingly busy schedule, Anthony has performed in a number of prestigious events this year: appearing in Verdi's *Rigoletto* at the London Coliseum; as a soloist in the Royal Choral Society's Good Friday performance of Handel's *Messiah* at the Royal Albert Hall; in the ENO world premiere of Anderson's *Theban*s; singing with the Choir of King's College, Cambridge for a performance of Mozart's Mass in C minor in June; and in August he returned to the Verbier Festival to sing the role of Agenore in Mozart's *Il re pastore*.

This autumn, Anthony has been performing the role of Peter Quint and Prologue in venues around the country with the Glyndebourne tour in Britten's *Turn of the Screw*. And, in January 2015, he makes his Royal Opera debut singing First Shepherd in *Orfeo* at the Roundhouse, a role he reprises a month later with English National Opera. He will also make his debut at the prestigious summer festival in Aix-en-Provence.

Fighting Ebola



David Darg demonstrating chlorine production

© Operation Blessing

Charity worker **David Darg**, OH, is in Liberia attempting to combat the spread of Ebola.

David is vice-president of international operations for Operation Blessing International.

Operation Blessing's Ebola prevention teams are working hard to provide rural communities in Liberia with the knowledge and resources to fight the spread of Ebola, distributing hand washing buckets filled with a chlorine disinfectant and teaching vulnerable families how to protect themselves from the deadly virus.

Marathon Marriage



Vikki and Ben at Hadrian's Wall

Old Herefordian **Vikki Frith's** marriage got off to a flying start when she and husband Ben Thompson spent a day of their honeymoon running an ultra-marathon for charity.

The couple were married in Hereford and after a week spent in the Lake District, Vikki and Ben headed further north to take part in *RatRace: The Wall*. The day-long run follows the course of Hadrian's Wall from Carlisle to Newcastle, Ben's hometown. The couple completed the 69-mile ultra-marathon in 14 hours 49 minutes. "It went OK, we got through it," said Vikki. "I have done the London marathon twice and do lots of triathlons. Ben used to do a bit of cycling but hadn't done any running before. But it was his idea, he wanted to do it for a challenge."

The couple met in Antarctica where Ben was on a British Antarctic Survey Research ship with the Merchant Navy and Vikki joined as a scientist.

Instead of 'traditional' wedding presents, the couple asked for donations to their chosen charity: The Apostleship of the Sea. The charity provides practical and pastoral care to all seafarers from across the world, regardless of belief, nationality or rank. In all the main ports in Great Britain their team of chaplains and volunteer ship visitors assist thousands of seafarers each year, meeting their needs through the provision of help, support and advice.

Vikki and Ben raised more than £1,500 through their honeymoon adventure, but to help them raise even more please visit justgiving.com/BenandVikki.

See page 22 for Vikki and Ben's wedding photo.

Running the Sahara

In April, former Head Boy **Jacob Coates** ran the 'toughest footrace on earth' — the Marathon Des Sables. This is a 250km foot race across the Sahara desert over six days where Jake had to carry all of his gear for the week on his back the whole way!

Jake is a hospital doctor working in critical care in Sydney, Australia. To train for the event he had to fit in two to five-hour runs before or after a full day's work, building up to 150kms a week for four months in order to achieve the right physical and mental condition for the race. Such dedicated training paid off as Jake finished 27th out of more than 1,100 international entrants, completing the race in 28 hours 22 minutes.

This was not only a personal challenge realised. Jake was raising money for Ovarian Cancer Action, the UK's leading ovarian cancer charity. Jake wishes to raise awareness of the disease which has affected his own family. More than 7000 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer in the UK each year with more than 4500 dying annually. Survival rates for Ovarian Cancer in the UK are amongst the lowest in Europe.

Every pound raised by Jake goes directly to Ovarian Cancer Action. Please visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/Jacob-Coates1>.



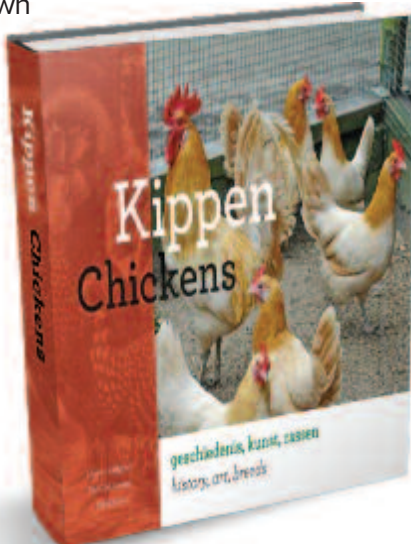
David sizing-up the Portsmouth Spinnaker Tower

Abseil at 80

Renowned poultry expert and author **David Bland** (OH) has recently provided technical translation assistance for *Kippen-Chickens* a dual Dutch-English language book covering the history of the chicken, depiction in art and a description of breeds. A must for every chicken keeper!

Aside from his chicken expertise, David continues his charity fundraising for Blesma (British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association). In 2012 David made a parachute jump, raising nearly £2,000. David is now planning to raise even more money for Blesma. He has assembled a team of eleven, mainly ex-sailors to join him in abseiling down the Portsmouth Spinnaker Tower — 300 metres. The event is planned for Sunday 24 May 2015; David says "I will have turned 80 by then and age helps raise more money!"

To sponsor David, please look out for the Just Giving link next year at www.ohil.org.uk.



Engineering Award



Rachel Taylor (OH 2000-2005), Assistant Engineer with national Consulting Engineers Mouchel, and currently seconded to Wessex Water was presented with the annual Ruth Allen Award at the Pipeline Industries Guild National Dinner held at the Grosvenor House Hotel in March.

This prestigious award is made to the Young Person who has contributed substantially to the aims of the PIG

Young Persons Network. Rachel is currently secretary of the Wales and West YPN, but is due to take the national Chair next year.

The training days that Rachel organises are always very popular with existing members and have gone a long way to bring in new membership to strengthen the Network.

In addition to the specially designed trophy to keep for a year, Rachel also received funding of £1500 for four professional coaching sessions and a bottle of champagne.

Sandhurst Honour



© Crown Copyright 2013 (Photographer Mike Smith L.B.I.P.P.)

The Sandhurst Sword of Honour, awarded to the Officer Cadet considered by the Commandant to be the best of the course, was presented to Senior Under Officer **Matthew Barnes** (OH 2000-2004). Field Marshal The Lord Guthrie of Craigiebank GCB LVO OBE, representing Her Majesty The Queen, was the Reviewing Officer at the 173rd Sovereign's Parade in December 2013. Matthew also gained full Sandhurst colours for athletics. He has been commissioned into The Parachute Regiment.

Matthew, who attended Hereford Cathedral Junior School and was a chorister, also attended Christ College, Brecon, where he was Head Boy and gained a degree in Sports Science at Bangor University.

Burghley Winner

Louise Harwood (née Skelton), on her horse LVS Movistar, was the impressive winner of the four-year-old Dubarry Burghley Young Event Horse qualifier held at the Festival of British Eventing at Gatcombe Park. The pair scored 28 out of 30 in the dressage and 38 out of 40 over the coloured poles.

Louise, who has a stable of twelve horses, is a BHS registered instructor and also a British Eventing accredited coach. Movistar, an Irish-bred 16hh chestnut gelding, is owned jointly by Louise and Alice Houlker.

Sacred Music in Secular Society



Jonathan Arnold's (OH) new book, *Sacred Music in Secular Society* draws upon his experience as a professional musician and as a priest, to provide a new and challenging work asking why Christian sacred music is now appealing afresh to a wide and varied audience, both religious and secular. Blending scholarship,

theological reflection and interviews with some of the greatest musicians and spiritual leaders of our day, including James MacMillan and Rowan Williams, he suggests that the intrinsically theological and spiritual nature of sacred music remains an immense attraction particularly in secular society and "meets a deep and intrinsic human need for the spiritual, mystical, transcendent, or unearthly".



Jonathan is Chaplain and Senior Research Fellow at Worcester College, Oxford, and sings with professional ensembles, including The Sixteen.

Sacred Music in Secular Society - £18.22; Ashgate, 2014.

Where the Streams Meet

An autobiographical book by former pupil **Harriet Curtis-Lowe**, *Where the Streams Meet*, was published in September.

This is a book of many aspects. Harriet, who is a Flight-Lieutenant in the RAF, kept a diary during her tour of duty in Afghanistan which she has incorporated into the book. Counterbalancing the reality of war, the book also tells a love story: how she met and later married Kranthi Tadikonda in a mass Hindu ceremony in Hyderabad in 2009, therefore combining an RAF career with her family duties in another culture. But beyond her career and heart-warming love story, *Where the Streams Meet* also charts her spiritual journey through exposure to other cultures and religions: Hinduism in India and Islam in Afghanistan.

Harriet, who has two young children — Bethany and William, has recently completed a Masters in Islamic Studies at the University of Wales.

Royalties from the book will be donated to two charities: Womankind Worldwide, an international human rights charity working to help women transform their lives in Africa, Asia and Latin America; and the Sufi Saint School in Ajmer, India, which brings together children from different communities, irrespective of their caste, colour, religion and gender.

Harriet is also a talented singer/songwriter. As well as being a past pupil at HCS, she was head chorister at Wells Cathedral. In 2010 she founded an RAF choir called The Spitfires, which supports charitable causes and has Sir John Major as its patron. She has produced a music CD (sold separately) featuring 11 tracks which form a 'soundtrack' to *Where*

the Streams Meet. Extracts from

all the tracks on the CD can be heard at: www.wherethestreamsmeet.co.uk.



Crime Novel



Another gripping new crime novel in the Coroner Jenny Cooper series by **Matthew Hall** has been published. Matthew is the bestselling author of *The Coroner* and *The Flight*.

The story is set against the backdrop of the Wye Valley — an area Matthew knows well — in the

fictional village of

Blackstone Ley where a family dies in a house fire. As the police close the case on a family tragedy, Coroner Jenny Cooper begins to uncover Blackstone Ley's secrets hidden in the flames. *The Burning* - £16.99; Mantle, 2014

Mathematics Department

If you 'have' Facebook then you may be interested in liking the shiny new HCS Maths page. You'll find a variety of mathematical and/or educational news, some puzzles and the occasional notification of a Lower Sixth test!

If you read <3 as 'less than three' and fail to see the heart (my children despair!) then this is the page for you. Here's hoping that OHs are continuing their enjoyment of all things mathematical!

Mike Taylor

Head of Math, HCS



OH Day 2013







Hereford Cathedral School and The OH Club requests the pleasure of your company at
Old Herefordians' Day 2014
 Saturday 6 December 2014, 11.30am start (AGM at 10.30am)
 at Old Deanery, The Cathedral Close, Hereford HR1 2NG

Two Course Meal, Wine & Coffee: £15 per head
 OH Day Rugby, Football, Netball, Hockey and Chess. Hot Food available at Wyese
 Round off the day with an evening meal at the Castle House Hotel: £30 per head

RSVP by 21/11/2014: Mrs Helen Pearson, Development Office
 01432 363566 development@herefordcs.com www.herefordcs.com





OH REUNIONS

School House Reunion

A spring reunion was held at HCS for School House OHs resident at some time during 1955 to 1965.

Following on from the successful 50th anniversary reunion for 1962 leavers held in Hereford in 2012, several School House OHs decided to have a follow-up reunion coinciding with an HCS function, the CCF General Inspection, in 2014. Fourteen OHs gathered at the Old Deanery on 7 May for a tour of the school and School House, which although no longer a boarding house and serving other functions has not changed very much since our days (apologies to the English teacher whose class was disturbed by the re-enactment of the old tradition of shouting for a "Fag" in the corridor), followed by afternoon tea at No1 Castle Street. That evening eleven met for drinks and dinner at the Castle House Hotel.

The next morning the OH group headed down to Wyese for the CCF General Inspection, displays and mock attack. Although a little damp, spirits were high and we were duly impressed by the cadets' performance and enjoyed being entertained by the band of the Rifles.

A good time was had by all and our thanks go to HCS, especially Helen Pearson and Claire Morgan-Jones, for the generous hospitality ensuring the success of the reunion.

Howard Griffiths

Attending OHs: Geoffrey Burgess, John Eisel, Peter Garland, Howard Griffiths, Ian Jones, Gareth Jones, Michael Parker, Duncan Pierce, Powell Price, Roger Pye, Chris Roberts, John Scally, Jake Spear, Barry Williams.

The '82-'89 Reunion

A beautifully sunny Saturday in May saw the class of '82-'89 reunite at No. 1 to recognise 25 years since leaving HCS. Despite the years, and many miles of separation, conversation was instantly buzzing and old friendships immediately sparked again.



Over forty former pupils and family gathered for afternoon tea on the lawn and were joined by more than half-a-dozen of their former teachers and headmaster, some of whom are retired but with many still teaching at the school! After a couple of hours of conversation and reminiscing they were eventually interrupted to enjoy a trip down memory lane with a tour of the school, old and new. This included the new sports hall, which impressed by

comparison to the old gym, and the former 'big school' and 'studio theatre' which is now the impressive school library.

The afternoon events soon morphed into the evening which began (rather early) with a couple of drinks at The Barrels and then on to Thai Gallery where twenty-three met for a fantastic meal and a determined good time! After visiting a couple of old haunts for a few more drinks the group ended up in Saxty's, where the

champagne flowed and conversation became slurred, well into the early hours of Sunday morning. A truly wonderful and special twelve hours were enjoyed with everyone suddenly having gained some 'old' friends again. And, it was agreed that this event should have happened a long time ago so a commitment was made to make this a regular event every five years from now onwards... watch this space.

Jason Hicks



1984 Reunion

Despite the threatening weather forecast the sun shone on the class of 1984 as they got together on 5 July 2014 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of leaving HCS.

The reception in the hall of Number 1 reunited people who hadn't seen each other since leaving and the babble of chatter and laughter was deafening. OHs had travelled from across England, from Wales and Scotland as well as one intrepid alumni from Austria; an amazing turnout. We were also joined by some of our best loved teachers and the ageless and redoubtable Mrs Lawrence.

The reminiscence, gossip and huddles in corners of the garden of Number 1 lasted for hours and went well into the night around Hereford's finest hostelryes and the last revelers parted at 2 am. The class of '84 were impressed with the expansion of the school as well as the quality of facilities on offer and enjoyed a tour of classrooms old and new; memories sparked and absent friends recalled. We raised a glass to those kept from us by distance and circumstances and remembered dear friends whose loss we feel. It was a lovely day full of charming people with a common bond of HCS.

Our sincere thanks go to Tim Conning for suggesting the reunion and to the Development Team (Helen in particular) for making the day run so smoothly. If you have ever worried about attending a reunion, I urge you to go; nothing beats reminiscing about a shared past. Thanks to all the 84s who came and made it such a special day.

Lara Latcham



Singing on the River

Graham White (OH 1957-63) writes: One evening in June, I attended a wonderful concert given by The King's Men, Choral Scholars of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge entitled 'Singing on the River 2014'.

My wife and myself were delighted that a member of the harmony group was **Pat Dunachie**, OH. We met him during the interval and he agreed to a photo of himself.



Welcome Back!

Have you got a significant birthday coming up?

Not sure of how to celebrate?

Why not have a reunion at School?

The Development Office will be happy to help you get in touch with your year group and set up an event.

Contact Alumni Officer Helen Pearson for further information:

development@hcjs.com / 01432 363566

Old Herefordians' Club

Let us know about important events in your life and career and make sure you contact the school Development Office when you change your address.

Development Office:

01432 363566

email: development@hcjs.co.uk

It's a great way to keep in touch with your contemporaries!



Old Herefordians in London - Autumn Luncheon, October 2014



The Old Herefordians' Club in London has been established for nearly sixty years and provides an opportunity for those OHs resident in or near the capital to meet up again with their former HCS contemporaries in an informal setting. OHiL stages several informal pub reunions in central London throughout the year. The 2015 Spring Luncheon will be the 50th OHiL gathering since founding these reunions in 2003. OHiL events are open to any OH, regardless of when you left school.

OHiL Events 2015

Annual London Dinner

Thursday 30 April

6.30 for 7.00pm

East India Club,

St James' s Square, SW1

Annual Spring Luncheon

Thursday 14 May

11.00am onwards

Terrace Bar

Doggets Coat & Badge

Blackfriars Bridge, SE1

Autumn Luncheon

Thursday 22 October

Thomas Doggett Bar

Doggets Coat & Badge

Blackfriars Bridge, SE1

All OHs from any era welcome to attend any event.

To reserve a place, please contact

Peter Fairman-Bourn pfb@oldherefordiansclub.co.uk

Visit our website to find out even more information about OHiL: www.ohil.org.uk.

OH SPORT

Rugby

The annual match between the Old Herefordians and HCS 1ST XV was battled out on OH Day, Saturday 7 December 2013. A large crowd arrived at Wyeside to watch an excellent game of rugby in perfect conditions. A close game was expected and the two sides did not disappoint.

The school had the best of the early exchanges and the OHs were surprised by the physicality of the school side. The OHs started to settle and some very good forward play allowed a spell of sustained pressure in the school's '22'; eventually a tackle was missed and Olly Cross dived over the line to score and converted his own try: 7-0 at half-time.

The second half started the in a very positive way for HCS, with the school running the ball from all areas of the field, but the OH defence held firm. The OH then had a fantastic break-away from their own half. With some excellent 'off loading' and a quick couple of passes, Dave Penney dived over in the corner to score a well-worked try; the conversion was missed, 12-0. Then the school continued to work hard and played some very good, controlled rugby. Continued possession paid off and after a flowing move on the right wing, Ben Butler scored in the corner, with 10 minutes to go. The school hammered away at the OH line, but some determined defence kept the school out and the final whistle went to finish the game with a 12-5 win for the Old Herefordians.

Richard Skyrme



The OH Rugby Team



OLD HEREFORDIANS: 12

Tries: Olly Cross,
Dave Penney
Conversion: Olly Cross

HCS: 5

Try: Ben Butler

OH Golf



The Golfers: left to right, back row: Jeremy Clare 58-64, Ray Harris 55-61 and Angus Craig 60-65; middle row: Howard Tomlinson HM 87-05, Roger Morgan 63-70 and Phillip Handscomb 62-68; front row: Clive Mugridge 57-64, Andrew Singer 57-64, John Oldman 57-64 and Stephen Williams 67-74.

All good things come to an end and after ten years at Belmont Golf Club we have switched venues.

Belmont closed in March 2014, and it has been a sad end for all the members of that club and the staff. It was situated in such lovely countryside with the River Wye running along part of the course and views of Belmont Abbey from the highest point. It also suited us really well and we had some very happy times there.

Rumours in the press of its likely closure abounded last year and I visited Belmont in November to see for myself. It was a sad story. The staff we knew had all

NEW VENUE: BURGHILL VALLEY CLUB

Burghill Golf Day

Thursday 14 May 2015

Coffee & Bacon Rolls 10.30am

Round of Golf

Supper 6pm

Cost £45

Contact

Andrew Singer (OH 57-64)

Tel: 01656 785628

abs.singer@btinternet.com

gone and the accommodation had been closed for some months. So began a search to find a new venue and Burghill Valley Club ticked most of the boxes. It is close to the city centre. It is challenging but not too strenuous. They can accommodate us for supper and the cost is similar to Belmont's.

It turned out to be a good choice. The club made us very welcome, the food was good and the course in excellent condition. Nine of us played golf and, for the first time in eleven years, I was on the winning team! Phillip Handscomb played for the first time and Clive Mugridge drove his buggy. Clive also acted as coach resulting in Phillip being on the winning side (Jeremy was the other winning team member). The weather was beautiful and we were able to sit outside until late with beers and banter.

We have booked for next year; same time, same price and same place. Come and join us. We call it the School House Invitation Day but, in truth, only two of us were in School House and it was never meant to be exclusive anyway. Which house you were in, or what gender you are, is immaterial. Golfing ability is also secondary. Enjoying the day is, however, obligatory.

Andrew Singer

Next year's match - Burghill Valley Club on Thursday 14 May 2015.

**Contact Andrew: abs.singer@btinternet.com
01656 785628 / 07817 095992**

Boats, Buns and Bunting: OH Regatta 2014

Coaches, crews and spectators alike staggered in disbelief... what was this? The sun out, for an OH regatta? Could this really be true? Not wanting to risk losing the glorious weather for a second, HCS rowers set up the cake stall, hung up the bunting and prepped the boats for what would be a very enjoyable afternoon of racing.

The first win of the day came from James and Louise in the Mixed Seniors Double after a closely fought race. The mixed J15 quad was up next, won by Patrick, Pearl, Harry and Gabriel, ably coxed by Ryan. Alice and Charlotte stormed to victory in the Junior vs. Senior Girls' Double, with Alice going on to win the Senior Girls' Double race, partnered by Heather. The Senior Boys Quad bought another medal to James' tally along with Dom, Will and Jacob, coxed by Heather. Patrick and Pearl went head to head for the J15 Singles final, with Patrick easing ahead to victory. Will and Jacob won the Senior Boys Double race, with Harry and Pearl taking the title in the Mixed J15 Doubles and Patrick and Gabriel striving ahead for the finish line to win the J15 Boys Doubles event. Louise, Heather, Tori and Georgia proved a formidable crew, taking the Mixed Year Girls'

Quad title with the calm touch of Ryan at the helm. Alice won the Symonds Plate, the Senior Girls' Single race and James added yet another medal to his tally winning the Symonds Cup, the Senior Boys Sculling Prize.

Not to be outdone by this bunch of young 'uns, the OHs came out in force for the Coaches/Captains vs. OH quad race, with the crew of Ed Deutsch, Alice Spreckley, Charles Hulley and Laura Mansfield showing that current HCSBC rowers can still learn a thing or two as they confidently pulled ahead to win. Not willing to simply roll over, Will and James beat the OH double of Ed and Charles by a hair, whilst OH Laura and Girls' Vice Captain Louise showed coach Giedre and Mistress in Charge of Rowing Isla how it's done.

All this, and we still managed to run to time! A fabulous afternoon was had by all in the lovely weather, with thanks due to parents for manning the cake tent and keeping everyone fed, coaches Jed and Giedre for marshalling and of course Isla Whitmore for organising the event and making it run so smoothly. It was a wonderful day, and we hope to see you all back again next year (especially the cakes)!

Thomas Windows,
Captain of Boats



Regatta winners:
Ed Deutsch
(OH 2003-2009)
Charles Hulley
(OH 1991-1996)



Annual Cricket Match: Old boys and HCS 1st XI

OH REGATTA 2015

Sunday 13 September 2015
Hereford Rowing Club

Please join us for a Pre-Regatta Lunch and a Riverside Cream Tea!

To book your place, please contact
 Helen Pearson: 01432 363 566 development@hcjs.org



HCS CAREERS

Julie Gittoes (OH 1994)



I'm not particularly nostalgic by temperament, but re-visiting Hereford Cathedral for Evensong last summer brought waves of memories flooding back. As I sat in the stalls I remembered endless assemblies, Carol Services and Monday morning hymn practice. I remembered debating the future of the Mappa Mundi in an English lesson when the Cathedral Chapter had talked about selling it; and singing *Jerusalem on Leavers' Day*.

School reports describe me as reserved and quiet; 'Julie needs to involve herself more in class', was

one comment. So it's perhaps surprising that I'm in a role which demands a lot of public speaking - from lectures and sermons, chairing meetings to conducting weddings. There's another side to being a priest which side which demands a quiet, imaginative attentiveness: to human stories, to the mystery of God's love, to contemporary culture and to what might be going on under the surface of things. Or as Jep puts it in the 2013 film *The Great Beauty*, 'Hidden underneath the blah blah blah, buried under the chatter and noise, silence and emotion, emotion and fear - the tiny sporadic flashes of beauty.'

In 1994, I completed my A-levels and was thinking about what to do next. I wasn't a sufficiently proficient or confident linguist to study French/German; I loved English but wanted to keep reading books for pleasure. I toyed with law, but as I started to complete the UCAS form, it didn't seem to fit with my temperament and interests. My parish priest suggested reading theology because he thought I'd enjoy the intellectual challenge, and also because it would be a way of exploring questions of faith.

Having taken a year out at secretarial college (touch typing is still one of the most important skills I've acquired), I went to Durham. I fell in love with the place - Bill Bryson describes a wonderful 'perfect little city'. For me though,

crossing the threshold of the Cathedral itself was a glimpse of the numinous. I also fell in love with theology - interpreting scripture, wrestling with doctrine, learning about church history. For me, it opens up questions rather than closing down. I can remember sitting in seminar room C and being struck by the importance of paradox and tentativeness in speech about God; to being on *The Edge of Words*, as Rowan Williams explores it in his latest book.

As a student, I drifted in and out of church. I asserted that I didn't want to pursue the obvious careers for a theologian: preaching, teaching or research. Yet all those things were possibilities. As a result of the courageous and hopeful decision of General Synod in 1992, I could explore vocation as a priest and theologian with an awareness of the cost and the joy that that entailed. Somehow what others said to me, and an inner sense of nagging calling, nudged me to ask that question.

I went to a national selection conference shortly after my finals; and having decided to complete a Masters, I went to Cambridge to train for ordination. To have the opportunity to complete a PhD at the same time, was an immense gift of time and space to engage in theological conversation. Altogether, the combination of research, a rhythm of prayer, a

range of placements from a college chapel to an adult psychiatric ward and student life was profoundly transformative.

In 2004 I was ordained priest at St Paul's Cathedral, serving my curacy at St James' Hampton Hill. To be involved in parish life then, and subsequently as an incumbent at All Saints' Hampton, was full of joy and challenge. Being alongside people in the complexity of their lives; being rooted in a community; glimpsing transformation. The celebration of the Eucharist was at the heart of the parish: gifts of hospitality and encounter; remembering in a way that enriched the present with a vision of hope. One of the most powerful moments of God's Kingdom breaking in was when we hosted a lunch time recital series for the neighbouring children's hospice. We were entranced: young and old, parents and staff, passers-by and worshippers. Grief and hope were held together for that hour.

Alongside full-time vicar-ing, I have continued to teach on regional training courses, which is energising and encouraging as I watch students make deeper connections between theology and their own contexts. Finding time to continue to do research is more challenging; but I have found ways of working collaboratively to make that more manageable. These strands of work led me to apply to work in a collegial context, with a more focused brief. It was, apparently, my answer to the question about the sitcom "Rev" that got me the job! It's brutally honest - full of humanity, grace, struggle and hope.

In 2014 not a day goes by when I don't say 'I love what I do'. Being at Guildford Cathedral gives a different perspective on our Diocese: delighting in friends and colleagues from different traditions; fostering a range of connections.

My role is about education and conversation - pursuing the Spirit's gift of wisdom together within what Archbishop Justin calls an untidy church. That means equipping the congregation in their discipleship; planning lectures on biblical, theological and spiritual themes; working in partnership with the University of Surrey and other institutions on Stag Hill to host dialogues on faith and the public square. The scale might be different, but the challenges are the same. It is on the one hand about attending carefully to what's going on in the world - in the arts and politics, in civic life and amidst personal concerns. It's also about attending to the love of God - made manifest in word, sacrament, fellowship and silence.

My late supervisor, Dan Hardy, wrote of the way in which the light of God is refracted in the world like a band of colour. He named the task of the theologian as being to work with that colour. As a priest and theologian, I think you do that effectively in dialogue with other disciplines, keeping alive a vision of the common good (or what Christians call the Kingdom of God).

When we celebrated the twentieth anniversary of ordination of women to the priesthood at the Cathedral, I gave thanks for all those who have nurtured, inspired, challenged and encouraged me through their faith and witness. I prayed too for a deepening of trust and a spirit of generosity within the life of the Church. Human beings will always disagree; but we need to increase our capacity to stay with the conversation. It's that multi-layered attention to God and others that remained at the heart of my sense of vocation.

Jessica Barker
(née Lawrence) (OH 1997)

Having gained five A-levels in the sciences, mathematics and art, including the Blacker Prize for Art, I left HCS for London to read a Bachelors degree in Radiography at City University.

I studied human biology during my first year, and soon realised that most of my enjoyment of learning anatomy was through drawing it. During the first clinical period at the Royal Free Hospital, I soon realised that the job I was training for was not going to fulfil all of my interests. Despite having left HCS, the Careers Advisor Beryl Haughton kindly extended her support recommending that I complete the first year exams, but also arranged for me an interview with the local art college.

I spent the following year on a foundation course at Hereford College of Art. It was here that I discovered my love for design, and moreover architecture –the ultimate combination of science, maths and art. Funnily enough, it was one of my HCS maths tutors, Mr Thornley, who had suggested I study architecture a few years prior, but being a teenager at the time, I didn't listen to his advice...

In 2002, I entered the profession with a First Class Bachelors degree in Architecture (RIBA PI) from the University of Westminster. Staying in London, I worked in the offices of the then late Sir Richard Seifert (famed for his buildings –Natwest Tower, Centre Point and Euston Station) before returning to university for further study for a Diploma in Architecture (RIBA PII) at The Bartlett, UCL.

Two years later, returning once again to the profession, I worked for various offices to include James Gorst Architects and Stirling Prize winning practice, Alison Brooks

Architects, on building schools, social and private housing. It was during this period that I also met my husband, Robert Barker.

In 2008, I joined Ron Arad Architects where I have the pleasure of working on extraordinary designs across the world, and at varying scales from footwear, to art installations and a large hotel. During my time at the practice, our work has been shown at major solo exhibitions at Centre Pompidou, Paris, MoMA, New York, and The Barbican, London. In 2010, I became a Chartered Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Outside of professional life, after a few years of searching, my husband and I purchased a derelict mews site in a leafy corner of South East London. It was here that we designed and built a new home for ourselves, also building two neighbouring houses to help finance the project.

Thirty-two party-wall agreements later and 18 months on site, the three houses – Forest Mews was completed in May 2014. The project has already won various awards, and has been listed in the *Sunday Times* as one of seven best new designer homes in the UK. This September, we opened our doors to the public, as part of London Open House (www.londonopenhouse.org/design/living.html).

During my career, I have designed many homes for other people, but having recently built my own home, I now have a better understanding from a clients' perspective, and look forward to taking this experience to my next commission.

Currently, in parallel with architectural practice, I am also about to embark on a new role as a Creative in Residence at Hereford College of Art, where I am looking to develop and research my own

building product designs, with the end goal of seeing these in production.

My time at HCS not only equipped me with a very relevant combination of A-Levels (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Art and General Studies) to architecture and my current position in relation to material science and product design; but also supported my change of career in my first years at university. I look fondly on my time at the school and the experiences I gained there, which have helped me to have a successful career in Architecture.

Rex Taylor

In 1934 I started at the Prep School just down the road (Castle Street) when Miss Gamlin was Headmistress. In 1936 I was promoted to the Senior School – partly Boarder and partly Day Boy.

Dr Crees was Headmaster and was he strict!! His wife was known as "Queen" and in their house – which you now treat as part of the school she was the "Boss" –we all knew it!

In January 1940 not many days after school started a messenger came to my class and stated that Dr Crees wanted to see me. That usually meant the cane, so you can imagine how I felt. To my surprise when I was shown in, there was my father talking to the Headmaster. I was greeted by a somewhat irate HM who said: "Your father wants to take you out of school *now* and I am very much against it." Well you can guess who won the argument and as soon as we were outside my dad told me I was to start work at the National Provincial Bank (now NatWest) on Monday. I never questioned him and worked at the Bank for three years at £1-4s per week!!

In 1943 I joined the RAF to train as a pilot. Within a week I was on a boat to South Africa and then Rhodesia where I qualified as a Spitfire fighter pilot. I met my future wife, then flew off to the Far East, where I stayed until the atom bomb.

Thereafter I returned to the UK, was de-mobbed and returned to banking. But after the freedom that I experienced as a pilot I found sitting behind the counter day after day frustrating so in 1948 my wife and I packed our bags and caught a boat back to Rhodesia where I joined the Standard Bank until I retired in 1980. I relocated to South Africa when Robert Mugabe came to power, and had six years in Cape Town and now live just outside Johannesburg. My darling wife died very suddenly in Sept 2006.

Old Herefordians' Club

Let us know about important events in your life and career and make sure you contact the school Development Office when you change your address.

**Development Office:
01432 363566
email: development@hcjs.co.uk**

It's a great way to keep in touch with your contemporaries!



Guest of Honour at HCS Speech Day 2014

John Maguire, OH 1980-1987

John enjoyed a very busy school life: 1st XV rugby full colours, Head of Somerset House, Under Officer in the CCF, Chairman of the Venture Scout Unit, Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, School Monitor, plus a few school plays (one a very pretentious adaptation of Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*) and the odd bit of study thrown in.

After school he gained a Short Service Limited Commission in the Royal Engineers, went to Sandhurst and served with the Royal Marines in Norway. John then started studying Economics at Portsmouth which he subsequently abandoned before travelling and then working for the French ski manufacturer Salomon for four winters in the Alps and Australia.



Back home, John volunteered at Radio Wyvern (now Heart), starting at the bottom. He vacuumed the carpets, wrote the daily quiz, and read the sports bulletins before being approached by Beacon FM in Wolverhampton. Six months later, in 1994, John joined the BBC at Radio Cornwall, becoming News Editor

and winning a Gold Radio Academy Award. In 1997 he moved into television news in Plymouth, winning a Royal Television Award, before moving to Bristol in 2002 where he achieved another RTS. In 2010 John moved into national news and he notes wryly that "the awards have dried up since!" TV news has taken him to Afghanistan, Oman, Egypt, Sierra Leone and South Africa.

John currently reports for BBC Breakfast, the One O'Clock News, the BBC News Channel, Radio 4 and Radio 5. If you're up early on weekends, you may see him surfing the sofa on BBC Breakfast on BBC One.

John is married and has two wonderful daughters - neither of whom wants to be a BBC TV reporter; according to John, they want "proper jobs".

CAREERS UPDATE

Michael Boyle (OH 1985)

After graduating from the University of Manchester with a BSc. (Hons) in European Studies in 1988, Michael Boyle joined the world of advertising and B2B publishing, ultimately making a name for himself in exhibition management in London, Munich and Boston.

Starting in advertising sales, he soon progressed to a management role, setting up his own business and running an international publishing and trade show management company, based in S. Germany. Michael sold his business in 2012 and is enjoying life in Tyrol, Austria with his wife Evelin and daughters Sophie and Paula.

David Phillips (OH 1983) is professor and chair (head) of the department of philosophy at the University of Houston in Texas, and author of the book *Sidgwickian Ethics* (Oxford University Press 2011). He writes:

'After leaving HCS I went up to Lincoln College Oxford to read PPE. I fell in love with philosophy, got a first, and shared the Henry Wilde prize for the best performance on finals by a philosophy undergrad. There were quite a number of Old Herefordians in Oxford at the time, among them Mark Sutton (Barry's son) also at Lincoln, and Giles Latcham next door at Exeter. With budget cuts meaning few opportunities in Britain, like many aspiring British philosophers of my generation I decided to pursue

graduate study in the US. I got my Ph.D in 1993 from Cornell University in upstate New York, working with Dick Boyd and Nick Sturgeon (known in the trade as "the Cornell Realists"). I have been at the University of Houston ever since. For those who don't know it, Houston is a big, diverse city, whose climate only partly conforms to the stereotype of Texas. It really is extremely hot in summers, but it's much closer to a drained swamp than to a desert.

The book is about the 19th century English philosopher Henry Sidgwick (1838-1900 – a quintessential Victorian) and his masterpiece *The Methods of Ethics* (1st edition 1874; 7th [posthumous edition 1907]). Sidgwick is both the last of the three Classical Utilitarians (Bentham, Mill

and Sidgwick) and the founding figure in a tradition of British Intuitionism whose later central figures include G.E. Moore and W.D. Ross. There is quite a resurgence of interest in his work among philosophers just now – OUP has at least three other books about Sidgwick and the British Intuitionist tradition in the pipeline.'

Damon Holliday (was Hodgkinson) (OH 1979), is now working as a Consultant Trust and Estates Practitioner with Druces LLP in London.

Vaughan Hyett (OH 1997), former Head Chorister, is a Police Officer in Plymouth City. He has been with the police force for seven years and works in the professional development unit where he teaches new recruits.

Vaughan attended university in Plymouth, gaining a degree in Leisure and Tourism with Outdoor Adventure Education. He then met his wife, a native of Plymouth, and settled down to life in the West Country.

Gary Withers has been appointed as chief executive officer of Whitehelm Capital.

Gary, who has extensive global funds management experience internationally, will be based initially in Sydney, Australia. He has previously held CEO posts at First State Investments in the UK, at Credit Suisse Asset Management and AVIVA Life.

ACADEMIC CONGRATULATIONS

Michael Copley-May has been awarded a First Class Honours degree in Physics from Durham University.

Tyleri Fitzgerald has been awarded a First Class Honours degree in Ancient History from King's College, London.

Ed Fletcher has been awarded a First Class Honours degree in Textile and Design from Bath Spa University.

James Fletcher has received a Science Fellowship from Oxford University.

Chloe Gilbert has been awarded a First Class Honours degree in the History of Art from the University of Oxford.

Theo Gurgul has been awarded a first class honours degree in History from the University of York.

Flic Hunter-Choat has been awarded a 2:1 MSc in Chemistry from Bristol University.

Sam Scotcher is studying Medicine at Bristol University. He has recently been delighted to win two national awards. At the annual National Conference for Aspiring Surgeons, on 1 March 2014, he won the top prize for his presentation in the category of Trauma and Orthopaedics, and he was also awarded top prize for the best overall presentation at the conference. This conference accepts entries from junior doctors as well as medical students throughout the UK, and the prizes are awarded by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Hannah Telling gained a First Class Honours MA in History and History of Art at Edinburgh. She is now doing an MSc in Gender History also at Edinburgh.

DESTINATIONS 2014

Louis **Barber**: Cardiff - Civil Engineering
 Lucy **Bennett**: Birmingham - Eng Lang/Class Lit & Civ
 Charles **Bilton**: Swansea - Classical Civilisation
 George **Bolt**: Post A Level application
 Larissa **Boyd**: QMUL - Medical Engineering
 Anya **Breen**: Bristol - Politics/International Relations
 Emma **Burleigh**: Cardiff - English Language
 Ben **Butler**: York - Environmental Geography
 Kun **Chang**: Cambridge - Chemical Engineering
 Shibo **Chen**: Birmingham - Materials Science/Tech
 Florence **Churchward**: Exeter - Liberal Arts
 Posy **Clay**: BUWE - Mathematics
 Christopher **Cockbain**: Southampton - Aero/Astronautics
 Harriet **Edwards**: Cardiff - Music
 Lucy **Fletcher**: Bristol - Law
 Alice **Glover**: Bristol - Classical Studies
 Helingzi **Gong**: Sheffield - Accounting/Finance
 Asif **Haider**: York - Biomedical Sciences
 Sophie **Hammond**: Nottingham - Medicine
 Rosie **Hanks**: Cardiff - Architecture
 William **Helme**: Durham - Chemistry
 Mitchell **Henchoz**: LSE - Management
 Daniel **Hingston**: Birmingham - Mechanical Engineering
 Jonathan **Hitchiner**: CANCC - Primary Education
 Rebecca **Hobby**: Oxford Business & Media School
 Evangeline **Hughes**: Aberdeen - Geology/Petroleum Geology
 Amy **Hutchinson**: Exeter - Conservation Biology/Ecology
 Darcey **Jones**: Durham - History
 James **Kitchen**: Kent - Economics
 Oliver **Layton**: Cambridge - Natural Sciences
 Eleanor **Lewis**: Warwick - Classical Civilisation
 Jiandan **Li**: RHUL - Economics
 Qishen **Li**: Parsons (New York) - Architecture
 Serena **Linley-Adams**: Edinburgh - Medicine
 Alex **Lovell**: Gap Year
 Susanna **Magowan**: Birmingham - Physiotherapy
 Laura **Mansfield**: Durham - Arts
 Rory **Mathie**: Nottingham - American Studies/English
 James **McGreevy**: RHUL - Computer Science/Maths
 Katherine **Miller**: Nottingham - French/Hispanic Studies
 William **Morris**: Cardiff - Biomedical Sciences
 Eliza **Nenadich**: York - Theatre
 William **Notley**: Exeter - Environmental Science
 Alfie **Oliver-Davies**: King's College London - History
 Laurence **Osborne**: BUWE - Product Design Technology
 Cody **Palin**: HW - Brewing and Distilling
 Christopher **Payne**: Cardiff - Medicine
 David **Penney**: Cardiff - Medicine
 Ella **Phillips**: Swansea - Classical Civilisation
 Cordelia **Philpotts**: Exeter - Management/Marketing
 Christian **Porter**: Bath - Management/Marketing
 Georgina **Portman-Lewis**: Nottingham - Art History
 Sam **Powell**: Bath - Modern Lang/European Studies
 Sophie **Preece**: Post A level application
 Caitlin **Price**: Manchester - English Lit/American Studies
 Jessica **Price**: Nottingham - Veterinary Medicine
 Thomas **Price**: Harper Adams - Rural Enterprise/Land Management
 Charles **Prosser**: Post A level application
 Alexandra **Rowberry**: Exeter - Geography
 Alastair **Scott**: Manchester - Medicine
 Alexander **Shepherd**: Teaching
 Elizabeth **Snell**: RAU - Equine/Agricultural Management
 Laura **Snow**: NEWC - Classical Studies/English
 Freya **Taylor**: Liverpool - Law/Criminology
 William **Teece**: CUWIC - Sport Management
 Caitriona **Turnbull**: Keele - Medicine
 Rory **Turnbull**: Oxford - Theology/Religion
 Oliver **Turner**: Aberystwyth - Accounting/Finance
 Annette **Watkins**: Exeter - Economics
 Matthew **Welch**: Bristol - Chemistry
 Rachel **Williamson**: Swansea - Business Management
 Jacob **Wooderson**: Birmingham - Economics

Notable Old Herefordians

OH Somerset Scholars 8:**David James** (OH 1966-73)

David James, my eighth Old Herefordian Somerset scholar, is now a distinguished education consultant. He gained his exhibition (later converted to a scholarship after his first in 'Mods') to read English at Brasenose College, Oxford, in December 1973 after more than seven years at HCS. David had a highly successful school career, ending his time here as Head of School, Head Librarian (of the old Zimmerman library, now part of the Portman Centre) and news editor of *The Herefordian*.

It was David's good fortune that his years at HCS largely coincided with those of another David who was to have a considerable influence on his career at the school. For David Richards was not only an enlightened headmaster, who in the early 1970s admitted the first girls, but also a fine English teacher. David James today recalls with affection his headmaster's sixth-form teaching of the early classical canon of English literature, which combined well with the expertise of Malcolm Knowles who specialized in more modern works. It was a heady mixture: Shakespeare, Milton, Wordsworth, Houseman, T S Eliot and Robert Frost, to name just a few of the greats. And then there was the teaching of Michael Stafford (another Brasenose man) and Bernard Edwards, who together gave him 'a real sense of France and Germany' as well as a good understanding of Goethe and the French romantic poets. David's sixth-form lessons in the cramped rooms on the first floor of the Ferrers Street cottage (now part of the new Sports Hall) were formative and reveal the truth of Lovelace's poetic observation that 'stone walls do not a prison make/nor iron bars a cage'.

David's sixth form education also stood him in good stead for the demands – in rather grander surroundings – of an Oxford BA in English, and an M.Phil. in modern literature from the same university. Indeed, it says a lot for his school-teachers, as well as his memory, that when he was being vivaed for a 'first' he was able to quote from

Paradise Lost (Book II) which he had studied in his schooldays (as he is still able to do) in answer to an impossible question on Milton's supposed influence on Robert Lowell.

After Oxford, David forged a successful career in the world of education, first as a teacher at Solihull Sixth Form College; then as an education officer for its borough council; and later as head of education personnel services at Shropshire County Council. From there, he was seconded for a year as a special advisor to the Department for Education and Employment (as it then was) on the creation of policy on teaching issues. Thereafter, for more than a decade, he was a key player as

head of professional regulation at the ill-fated General Teaching Council, an unwieldy 64-person assembly which was wound up by the present government in 2012. The regulatory regime he helped put in place now continues under the auspices of the Department for Education. Recently, David has set up his own consultancy business – Harmer Consultancy – which provides HR support to the education sector, by giving advice and training to school leaders 'to make difficult, complex and often unwelcome decisions in a fair and reasoned way, while



sustaining relationships of credibility and trust'. It is a bold claim but given David's vast experience, charm and integrity, if anyone can deliver this wide brief to a range of clients in the maintained and independent sectors, he can.

As for current educational politics, when asked about Michael Gove's tenure as the longest serving Secretary of State for Education, David's attitude is ambivalent. He expressed admiration for Gove's passion for education, as well as his attempts to re-introduce academic rigour into the school curriculum and his determination to give all children the opportunities enjoyed by those in the independent sector. But he was more circumspect about the Minister's real education revolution – the freeing of maintained schools from local authority control, over one half of all schools having now been established as 'free schools' or academies. One senses that the

empowering of head- teachers and their governors with independent control meets with David's approval. He gives a telling example from his own experience of bureaucracy run mad in the old days: when he was an education officer for Shropshire County Council, among the (in retrospect extraordinary) issues he had to deal with was responding to staff's leave of absence requests from local schools. On the other hand, he is only too well aware of the dangers that could ensue from the setting up of schools totally independent of local authority control, as has recently been shown by the alleged 'Trojan horse' infiltration of some Birmingham schools.

'The jury is still out', he says, on Gove's period in office. However, what is not in doubt in David's eyes is the quality of education he himself received. For David remains profoundly grateful to our school for identifying and encouraging his love of literature and wider study. And as his CV indicates, his educational grounding at HCS has also served him well throughout his career of support – in a wide variety of roles – for the nation's teachers. Even the stern Duchess would have approved.

Howard Tomlinson

Dr Tomlinson has recently written an article on Sarah Seymour, fourth Duchess of Somerset (1631-1692) – whose endowments of scholarships for OHs to Brasenose, Oxford, and St John's, Cambridge, lasted for about 300 years (until c 1980) – for the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. This can be read on-line (and accessed through most public libraries) via its website: www.oxforddnb.com.

If OHs wish to learn more about David James' HR consultancy service, please contact him at uk.linkedin.com/pub/david-james/43/44/ab1.

OH WEDDINGS

Hugh Campbell (OH 1994 -1999) and **Michelle Penn**



On 5 July 2014, Hugh Campbell married Michelle Penn at Great Barn, Hales Hall near Great Yarmouth.

Hugh, a civil engineer and Michelle a doctor now live in Marshfield near Bath.

Guests at the wedding included OH groomsmen Tom/Rob Campbell (Brother), Chris Powell and Peter Powell; sister Rachel, ladies Beth Handoll, Laura Ashford, Penny Powell all from that year group, and Tim Coates from the year ahead. Also cousins James, Michael and Robert Erskine all OHs.

Rachel Campbell (OH 1996 - 2003) and **Simon Head**



Rachel Campbell married Simon Head on Saturday 23 August 2014 at St Nicholas Church, Trellech in Monmouthshire. The reception was held at Flanesford Priory near Goodrich.

Rachel's brothers Hugh and Tom were groomsmen. Rachel was given away by her mother Alex Campbell (HCS CCF staff 1998-2011) ongoing Nepal trek co-ordinator!

Amongst the nine bridesmaids were two OHs - Sarah Barrow and Maria Fowler. Guests included other OHs: Amy Moffatt, Julia Messer, Dominic Lacey, Jamie Andrews and Ed Tomkins

all from the same year. Also friends Ben Powell (1994-2001) and Tim Coates (1993-1996), as well as cousins James, Michael and Robert Erskine, also OHs.

Vikki Frith (OH) and **Ben Thompson**



Vikki and Ben were married at St Francis Xavier Church, Broad Street, on 14 June 2014, followed by a reception at Vikki's parents' house in Lugwardine.

Six OHs attended: David Kaye (OH 99-06), Nadia Majeed (OH 99-05), Holly Hughes (OH 99-06), and Kerri Middleton (OH 99-06), and younger brother and sister, Nicholas (OH 02-09) and Rhian Frith (OH 04-11).

Vikki is a scientist and is studying for a PhD in the Meteorology Department, Reading University, and Ben is in the Merchant Navy.

Harry Hopkins (OH 2001) and **Sarah Bushnell**



Harry Hopkins and Sarah Bushnell were married at Hereford Cathedral.

Sarah teaches PE at HCS.

BABY CONGRATULATIONS

Joanne Phillip (née Egerton)

Maxwell Jonathan Philip born 30 June weighing a healthy 8lb 1oz to Tim and Jo Phillip (née Egerton) OH 1991-1998, and joins older sister Lexi (born January 2012). Jo and family live in Southfields, Wandsworth, London.

OH TRAVEL

The OH Club's Travel Bursary and Hereford Cathedral School's Evolva Award have assisted six OHs in fulfilling educational and personal goals this year. Writing a report is a condition of the award; to view the full reports, please visit: www.oldherefordiansclub.co.uk.

Madagascar

by Jonathan Hitchiner

I begin this small snippet of my journeys this year with a quote from Lawrence K. Fish, 'Find life experiences and swallow them whole. Travel. Meet new people. Go down some dead ends and explore dark alleys. Try everything. Exhaust yourself in the glorious pursuit of life.' I found this gem on one of my many cards that I sent home.

My first adventure led my brother and me to an island that has inspired and influenced many scientists, such as Gerald Durrell and David Attenborough. The island being Madagascar. On 12 July we took two plane journeys to Antannarivo, the capital of Madagascar. The next morning we woke up ready for a four hour flight to Toliara in order to prepare ourselves for a Bruce Parry adventure with the Vezo tribe. This unique tribe lives on the South Western coast of Madagascar, in a remote fishing village called Tampolove. Trust me, the true identity of the 'Vezo' tribe cannot even be found in the depths of the internet, nor has the tribe heard of such an invention! This expedition involved documenting the tribe with a goPro, a contour and a Nikon DSLR camera, we were both ready to tackle this challenge head on. With this equipment we were able to film the fishing lifestyle and the individual roles within the tribe. To watch the short film go to: <http://vimeo.com/86441488>.



After this intrepid exploration I returned to the UK with a modest tan for a red head, and headed West to a different kind of jungle. A concrete one located on the East-coast of the USA, here I spent three months at Saint Thomas Choir School in New York

City teaching/assisting with the daily antics of an all boys boarding school. I so much enjoyed this opportunity and if I could repeat the whole experience I wouldn't hesitate to do so. Living 30 seconds walk from Central Park, and 10 minutes from

Times Square was certainly an opportunity that doesn't come to everyone. I acknowledge how lucky I am to have lived in a city of such size and variation, and I can only dream that one day I will return. Maybe as a teacher, if I'm lucky!



Teaching Street Children

by Susanna Magowan

Having never travelled out of Europe it is safe to say this was something totally new. It was both exciting yet challenging as I spent two weeks during August working with street children in Sri Lanka, through an organisation called Child Action Lanka (CAL).



In Sri Lanka pupils attend school in the morning provided they have the necessary uniforms, books and shoes and return home during the afternoon. Sadly, however this isn't always the case. Some children are refused entry, even with the necessary equipment due to the perception that street children are born bad. During the afternoon those who do attend school may turn to crime: begging, drug trafficking and

prostitution as well as suffering exploitation and abuse. Child Action aim to help those marginalised by society by breaking the cycle of poverty and helping children improve their future prospects. I was privileged to spend my first week in Batticaloa, one of the poorest regions but with the largest number of children. The Batticaloa location has within it a further five communities. During the morning the teachers from all five communities came to the house and we were able to share some of the teaching methods used in the UK. During the afternoon we spent time at the Thalawai community. Before CAL began working in Thalawai many children would go to work after school or play instead of studying. I was struck by the children's enthusiasm and eagerness to participate in our activities. All the children were not only keen to learn but also to help each other. I had taken pipe cleaners to do craft activities combined with teaching English. The challenge of learning how to make something with only English instructions when Tamil is the spoken language was quickly accepted, and it was lovely to see the older more dexterous children helping the younger ones. The second week was spent with the children in Kandy, the second largest city in the country. I spent time working with pre-

school children and babies helping with craft activities, songs, being an extra pair of hands for the teacher and of course play time! Spending time with Child Action Lanka taught me so much, especially the importance of showing love and care to every child regardless of their gender, age, religion or background. Managing in a foreign culture despite the language barrier often without translation proved an important learning experience. Being immersed in a culture of many different religions, and living with local people, eating local food and finding my way around an unfamiliar city was so enriching. Although it felt odd coming home to a country where we have so much I saw with new eyes that happiness isn't always found in the material possessions we often desire. I came to appreciate with new depth the value of education and a stable community offering love and support. Both of which I found to be true at the centres with CAL and my time at HCS. Both I and CAL are deeply thankful for the support HCS gave. Working with CAL was such a great opportunity to spend time not only giving myself but receiving more in return. I learnt more being there than I could have expected and I hope it not too long before I can return!

Volunteering in Costa Rica

by Rosie Hanks and Kalli Sikes

Orphanage

Our story begins in the rather dismal capital city of Costa Rica, San José.

Each morning at 8.30am we caught the Cedros bus into Maximo Nivel for Spanish lessons (basico). At 12.00pm we set off to our orphanage run by nuns and funded by the Catholic Church, supporting children from the ages of 12 months to 9 years. We had a heartbreakingly poor ratio of volunteers to children: 3 to 20. Each child demands attention and they drape themselves over every limb of your body. Our jobs were mainly to provide the individual attention the children crave and need, as well as help with meal times and getting them all outside into the fresh air to play.

The first few days were the toughest, as the language barrier seemed unconquerable. We attempted to compensate with energy. It was exhausting. We carried, we chased, we threw, we drew, we did everything we could to please the children. One boy bawled inconsolably for hours. We felt unbelievably overwhelmed. As the days proceeded it became easier. They began to trust us, and we began to understand them.

Coffee

Week four took us to a coffee plantation in Monteverde to help with the picking, packaging and processing of coffee. The farm is set in a steep-sided valley a two-hour hike away from the nearest civilisation. Our hosts were a family of four living in a small house of corrugated iron. Since coming to Costa Rica, we have both become coffee fiends, but we were ignorant of the whole process that leads to the silky goodness that we all know and love. The berries we had to pick were either bright red or yellow. The process... pick everything and place it into the baskets we had tied around our waists. Once picked the seeds are allowed to dry out in the sun. They are then roasted at 175 degrees celcius which changes the colour, taste, smell, and density. After roasting, the beans are cooled and packaged into 175g bags and sealed up ready to be sold.

Turtles

We quickly became fully immersed in Turtle Conservation life. We patrolled the Ostional beach under a sky littered with stars. Suddenly, walking barefoot along the sand, we discovered a trail leading up the beach. Following it we found a turtle laboriously digging, attempting to make a pit deep

enough for the 50-150 eggs she would soon lay. We recorded the entire process taking measurements of the shell, flippers, width and depth of the pit, timing the egg dropping process, and counting the eggs. We watched as this ancient reptile finally covered the hole and made her slow, dramatic departure back into the ocean.



Rosie and Kalli releasing baby turtles

Pyrenees Trek

by David Penney and Sam Powell

Some time ago we had convinced ourselves that this would be a brilliant end to our Gap Years: walking all the way across the Pyrenees entirely self-supported. As an extra motivation (and in a bid to raise awareness), we were doing the hike in aid of Herefordshire Headway, a charity working to rehabilitate people after serious head injury. On Saturday 14 June we hauled our packs onto our backs and boarded the plane, to Barcelona, still turning over last-minute concerns. Was it right to leave the heavy maps at home? And was it sensible to spurn a tent in place of bivvy bags? Guides suggested it could take 6 weeks – but when should we book to travel home? It was too late for worries, and soon we were standing at the rattle end of the snake's tail of the Pyrenees.

We walked long days, finding somewhere at night to curl up in our waterproof sleeping bags – coming across a shepherd's shelter if we were lucky. Our preparation, it could be said, had been fairly minimal. Sam had never slept in his bivvy bag – 'I lay in the vegetable patch and Dad sprayed me with a hose. I got wet, but don't think we were doing it right so it should be fine!' – and Dave's gas stove regularly malfunctioned,

belching out fireballs which singed leg hairs and jeopardized the all-important end-of-day meal. In fact, food was the fuel of our thought and the strongest motivation to walk each day – we talked about it endlessly.

One diary entry describes a memorable night halfway through the trip. The wind had picked up throughout the day though, and our position was fairly exposed so we chose a large boulder for shelter, wriggling our bivvy bags into the dip created by the colossal stone. As soon as we closed our eyes, we heard the most ominous of sounds: a faint tap-tap-tapping on the bags. It wasn't long before the light drops had become heavier, and a distant, disconcerting crackle of thunder was fast approaching. Before we knew it a full-blown storm had descended. Hail bounced into our bivvy bags, coming to an icy rest beneath our necks where it would melt, chilly rivulets spindling further down our backs. Seven hours later and into the next morning, we were entrenched in drifts of hail, and utterly miserable.

By the end of the hike, we had walked 1,013,994 steps, over 850km and climbed/descended 46,000m in 28 days. We managed to get through four pairs of footwear, too.

Thanks goes to everybody who sponsored us and helped raise money for Herefordshire Headway, and also to the OH Travel Bursary which helped make the whole expedition happen – an unforgettable experience!



Sam and David

Mary in Machame

by Mary Wall

Like any other young child I had big dreams most of which were far-fetched or else only lasted for twenty-four hours, but there was always one constant desire and that was to go to Africa.

I left HCS in 2010 to study Medicine at The University of Birmingham. Four years on, it was time to embark on an elective project as part of my studies. In Birmingham, this involves constructing a project to be investigated in any hospital anywhere in the world. Naturally this seemed like the perfect opportunity to fulfil my ambition. In early May 2014 I arrived fresh-faced and excited in Tanzania. The hospital in which I would be working over the coming four weeks was the Machame Lutheran Hospital situated over 1,500 meters up the slopes of Kilimanjaro in Northern Tanzania. The hospital has around 130 beds and serves as a general medical/surgical community hospital for the area. Whilst at the hospital I was able to participate in all the day-to-day activities. I joined doctors on the ward rounds and in various clinics and was exposed to some truly spectacular and advanced pathologies as well as diseases and

presentations that I had never seen before. I also experienced some surgery. An aspect which I particularly enjoyed was the outreach programme in which a team goes to remote village and delivers healthcare for a day. One of the villages I visited, about one-and-a-half hours drive from our base hospital, had not received any medical attention for two years and consequently we were treated like royalty. They laid out several banquets for us in which we were waited upon hand and foot.



Mary at the church where the outreach clinic was held

Whilst in Machame I also went to the nearby orphanage and spent some time playing with and caring for the babies under 18 months. Before going, I was a bit concerned as I had barely even held a baby before, let alone know what to do with it! I was surprised to realise that the time I spent at the orphanage was probably the time in which I really felt I was making the most difference. The centre was so under-staffed that when a baby woke up it would be fed by a nurse, have its nappy changed and then be put

on a double mattress on the floor with the others. The only time in which the children would be held was when they were being fed and they were not played with at all. Luckily for me, some sort of instinct kicked in and I spent several happy hours playing with the children having great fun. It was a really humbling experience and one that I will never forget.

Serving Africa Mission

by Maggie Tate

On Thursday 7 August, four intrepid explorers set off from Hereford on their way to Ghana. With an age range of 50 years, from age 21 to 71, the members of Holmer Parish Church were to spend ten days at the Serving Africa Mission base in the Medie Valley, just outside Accra, the capital of Ghana.

The Serving Africa Mission was started by the Rev. Jim and Mary Smith over twenty years ago. Working in Accra and across the Medie Valley, this small community currently includes five churches, a refuge for abused women and their children (one of only two in the entire country), a mission base including accommodation and a well providing clean water. Currently under construction is a shelter for homeless children and a school, kindergarten, and training centre for church pastors. We met some of the teenagers from the young people's church, the Ark, which meets every Saturday afternoon and is run completely by the children and young people. The youngest member is less than 2 years old, the oldest are 19-year-old twins, Raheal and Rebecca, who are the designated leaders and 'youth pastors'. The children imitate the activities which occur

during the Sunday services at Blessing Church in their own services at the Ark. They rotate the roles of leading the service, praise and worship, prayer, testimonies, sharing Bible verses, and preaching between themselves each week. We spent an intense ten days taking part in the activities of the mission, which included visiting all their churches and projects in the

valley, attending services and prayer meetings, discussing Bible stories with different groups, visiting people, getting to know the Women's Fellowship at Blessing Church, and spending time with the women and children at Ruth House (the women's refuge). Through our coming and going, we also got to know several members of the community around the base and formed



I became great friends with Dora and Grace, two sisters (age 21 and 19) who lived opposite the mission base where we were staying.

some lasting friendships. For me, along with the other members of the team, the experience has not only been life changing, but has given us new passion and ideas for how we can serve the churches and communities we return to. I have visited Africa before, but the faith-filled environment that I found in this valley was, although extremely challenging and difficult at times, something I hope and trust will remain with me, as I start working with young people aged 11-18 at Holy Trinity Church in Cambridge.

Apology: Unfortunately, the name of last year's travel correspondent was omitted. Paddle Peru was by Tom Leeman.

HCS and The Great War



No one can have failed to notice that we have arrived at the centenary of the First World War. Throughout the land families were to lose loved ones, brothers, fathers, sons, friends and former colleagues.

In 1914 practically all senior boys left HCS in order to join up or go into training and by September 1915 so many former pupils had answered "the call" that there was not a single boy of 17 who could pass a military medical left in the school. Their dorms became dug outs, scrum on the rugby field would soon be a scrum to capture an enemy objective. The names learnt in a history lesson on Waterloo, then 100 years old, would soon be places they too had visited and defended. They were transformed from schoolboys to soldiers within a few months.

In our archives, *The Herefordian* magazines of the time recorded not only school life, but published lists of former pupils known to be serving, details of honours awarded and details of those killed. It documents debates, extra holidays given to recognise honours awarded, visits from serving OH and the thoughts of the Head at each successive Speech Day. Through it we can see the change in the School's psyche, echoing the national mood, as the war progressed.

Sadly, former pupils of public schools were often, by virtue of their family background and schooling, healthier and fitter than their contemporaries. The public school system, with its Officer Training Corps - HCS was one of the first schools in the country to establish an Officer Training Corps (OTC) in 1908 - and sports, taught team working and leadership and many families already had a long tradition of serving in the armed forces. Thus, former pupils were ideally suited to the role of junior officer. As such they were 'first over the top' and at the height of the war on the Western Front, this meant an average life expectancy of just six weeks.

For HCS, the toll on former pupils was horrendous. In this "War to end all wars" over 400 former HCS boys were known to have served, four times the size of the school in 1914. Many were wounded, mentioned in dispatches and awarded medals. Tragically, 70 of that number were killed. It was truly the loss of a generation. OHs served in every branch of the forces and in every arena of the war.

Over the next four years we will remember those former pupils and staff who served and those who died 100 years ago. The

school will continue to hold its annual service of remembrance, and evening of words and music for remembrance. In addition we will use the OH archives to add as much colour and character to the names of those who fell from the details in the OH magazines and photographs of the time so that this generation of HCS pupils might better understand that 'there but for the Grace of God go they'.

Over the next four years the school will remember and mark this significant anniversary, starting this year with the dedication and erection of a plaque of remembrance in St George's Memorial Chapel Ypres, kindly paid for by the OH Club and Mr Ege Parker, and with the planting of a new tree outside No1 Castle Street dedicated to the fallen. And, through these pages we will over the next four years remember those who served and fell, in the words of the OH magazines, the *Hereford Times*, their letters home and their school photos.

100 Years Ago: Hereford Cathedral School on the Eve of the Great War

In this annual series, Howard Tomlinson surveys the fortunes of HCS during the years of the First World War.

Although by no means the smallest secondary school in the country in the summer of 1914, HCS with 82 boys – over one third of whom were boarders – was among a handful of establishments in the Headmasters' Conference of leading 'public' schools with fewer than 100 pupils. It was also a school with a declining roll: ten more boys had attended when the scholarly new headmaster, Reverend John Henson, took over the reins in May 1913.

The reason for the decline in day numbers – for the numbers in the boarding community remained steady – is not hard to fathom for HCS was facing increasingly fierce competition from the new Hereford secondary school for boys. Built at a cost of £10,000, with accommodation for 150, free places for a quarter of its pupils and low fees (£2 5s per term, including stationery and books) for the remainder, a progressive curriculum, and a scientist, Mr A Redway Allen, as its first Headmaster, it would have looked a distinctly attractive alternative to HCS for some local parents. But the loss of ten pupils at a time when (during 1913-14) the masters' salary bill, including Henson's capitation fee, exceeded the incoming fees by nearly £240 meant a reduction in assistant masters – to six, one for each form – and loss of efficiency.

So the reduction in the number of boys and masters in 1913-14 inevitably affected the quality of education that HCS provided. Academic standards may not have fallen, thanks in part to Henson's heavy timetable and the brilliance of his teaching, but given the decrease in the numbers of senior boys, it is not surprising that these were not memorable years for sporting achievement. To take just one example, the traditional 'Oxford'

versus 'Cambridge' school boat race was dropped from the 1914 regatta programme 'owing to the paucity of oarsmen, the majority of the seniors being either unable to swim or too delicate to row'. And the school's reputation suffered. In the summer of 1913, an Old Herefordian had put down the deterioration in the standard of games to the lack of a 'thorough games coach'. A year later another furious correspondent was scandalised by the lack of a rowing coach and that HCS was seemingly blind 'to the glorious past of rowing'. The lack of a competent games coach was bad enough, but even worse was the want of a commanding officer for the corps which meant that HCS was unable to arrange field days in that fateful summer of 1914.

The Great War was, in one sense, not entirely unexpected. War clouds had been gathering for some time before August 1914, and the prospect of war had even pierced the consciousness of some Hereford boys. In a remarkably prescient editorial of December 1909, W J Oatfield, later Fielder exhibitor of King's College, Cambridge, made this observation:

We are living in an age of revolution – an age that seems unable to rest for mobility...Those who in these troublous times enter a public school must remember that they have during their life there to prepare themselves for a struggle which is bound to come sooner or later, in which they will have to vindicate their position as rulers of this race, as members of this Empire which stands at the head of all empires.

Three years later, one of Oatfield's successors as senior editor of

The Herefordian commented that the 'outside world' viewed the Balkan unrest 'with considerable alarm...for fear that the flame of war should be kindled widespread throughout Europe by the contagion of this outbreak'. He added, however, that there seemed (in December 1912) 'no serious danger of the great powers becoming embroiled in this struggle'. Even a member of the school debating society in the year before the war's outbreak, pointed out the dangers of a channel tunnel being built given the prospect of war with Germany.

Yet when war was declared later the following summer, it came as a surprise to many. The Bosnian crisis of 1908 and that in the Balkans in 1912-13 had been successfully resolved by sensible diplomacy. Why not the one following the assassination of Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo on 28 June 1914? For public schools in general and HCS in particular, the 1914 summer term was much like all the others stretching back through those halcyon late Victorian and Edwardian years. One searches in vain through the school magazine and other records for any mention of the prospect of war. Masters and boys were too preoccupied with examinations, cricket matches and the annual inspection of the Officers Training Corps. In any case, the real build-up – Austria's declaration of war on Serbia – did not occur until 28 July 1914, when term was ending.

HCS broke up on that very day after the final cricket fixture – and another loss – against the Old Herefordians. A contingent of twenty-eight then departed for the OTC public schools' camp in the idyllic surroundings, with its lake for swimming and canal for boating, ☒

of Mytchett Farm, Aldershot. The two battalion camp officers ('the best we have had for a long time') attached to HCS at the camp were both Irish guardsmen: Captain Berners, who was killed in action the following month, and Lieutenant the Honourable Harold Alexander, later Field Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis. From there Daly Briscoe – then a 14 year old cadet, who over 80 years later was to open the new school library – sent two picture postcards to his parents at Bewell House, Hereford. On the second card, which caught the evening post on Sunday 2 August, after again complaining about his lack of 'cash', he casually remarked: 'I think the war a jolly fine thing, don't you?' It was a common enough sentiment at the time but one which still astonishes the modern reader. The next day after reveillé, the cadets were ordered to return home and the camp was disbanded after less than five days, the boys arriving back in Hereford late that afternoon 'tired, dusty and full of the war'. War was declared a few hours later at midnight on 4 August and things were never to be the same again, either in this little cloistered community or in the world at large.



Daly Briscoe in 1998

Editorial from *The Herefordian*, December 1914

On returning to School this term we found that Hereford was in a military whirlwind. Wherever one went one met soldiers either drilling or strolling about. But in spite of these things the time-honoured routine of school life went on as usual.

The Football XI. got together, and in the first few matches played exceedingly well, but since then bad luck seems to have dogged our footsteps. We were unlucky in losing T. M. Ragg, who departed from our midst to serve King and country, and we wish him every success.

Day by day the names of Old Herefordians who have joined the Colours come streaming in, until the Editors have a list of 147 Old Herefordians to publish in this term's "Herefordian."

A short time ago two of our members went to Malvern to sit for the Sandhurst Entrance Examination, and we hope with all our hearts that the examiners may not be too hard upon them.

W. J. G. Yeomans has left us to take up a commission in Kitchener's army, and the 2nd XI. deplore the loss of their heaviest back.

I am asked by my fellow-Editors to apologise for not having procured a Cambridge Letter, but as far as we know there is only one Old Herefordian up at present, and he wrote and told us that he thought it was hardly worth while writing a letter, as there was only himself up there to write about.

In consequence of the war, two or three of us will be breaking away from the old School and taking up other occupations, but what is the use of bewailing the fact—it has been said many times before that the Old Order is bound to give place to the New, and the war has only hurried the parting by a few terms.

We wish the best of luck to those who are leaving us, and may the old School continue to do in the future what she has done in the past.

And for the coming generation, we would like to call to their memory the stirring words spoken by the Dean of Salisbury on Speech Day, when he urged the boys to "Play up, play up, and play the game." If those who come after follow this advice, the School will always have in it men who will uphold its old reputation.

'Oxford Letter' from *The Herefordian*, December, 1914

Dear Mr Editor,

One found, on coming up this term, Oxford in a new role. It seemed rather a training school for war, than a home for academical pursuits. Life here is strangely quiet, a chilling silence reigns in every cloister. And why? The noisy tramp of war has rung its echoing note, and Alma Mater's sons are hastening to their country's call. Those lately with us are now serving in one or other branch of the Army or Navy.

And what am I to say of those who are still here? The vast majority are in the O.T.C. training as hard as they can to get their commission. Those not in the O.T.C. are of course the American students and those for medical and other reasons are unable to join. Oxford's sacrifice will, I think, be no small one, every College is continuing to pay its full of human lives. This week's Varsity gives a list of names, amounting to over fifty, of those members of Oxford University of recent date, who have to be numbered amongst the many others who have laid down their lives for their country.

Now, in turning to that part of Oxford life which forms so essential a part of it, what do we see? The river, whose waters were once lashed into foam by the strokes of rowing eights as each strove to make its bump, is almost deathly still save for a "Scratch" four here and there and an occasional punt. Football and Rugger are games one scarcely ever hears mentioned. The Parks has become the playing field for the now nobler game.

Yours,
Oxonian.

Letters Home

Extracts from letters by Thomas Norbury Wilmot, written before the outbreak of war in 1914.

[Addressed to C.W. Stuart Esq, 81 Hijo-Machi, Kobe, Japan, via Siberia. Written on Cathedral School, Hereford, headed paper] ▼



[Addressed to ▶
Perrystone Towers,
Ross-on-Wye,
Herefordshire,
England from
Canada]

My dear Uncle Charlie,

I'm sorry I haven't written before, but I really haven't had time. We've been having boat races and fives competitions lately, so that there's been no time at all.

We beat Monmouth in the boat race last Thursday by 31/2 lengths. And we are racing Worcester (away) on Saturday. It was grand run going over to Monmouth. We went over in two motor 'buses (if that's how you spell it) and had ripping sport. But it poured with rain the whole day, so that we all got wet through, especially during the race.

I don't expect all of us will be able to go to Worcester, because of the strike. But I think I shall be able to go, because of the fives four. We play Worcester at fives. And I think my brother, I, and two others are going to play. I hope we shall beat them.

We've been playing hockey a bit lately. But of course we've lost all the matches, as it is really a school game. And I don't think much of the game what ever it is.

Rowing of course is the great thing this term. The regatta was about 3 weeks ago, and our four won our race but Ned lost his. Ned was rowing (bow) and I was rowing (stroke). I like rowing awfully. Of course next term we're on the river all the time when we are not playing cricket. We ought to have a pretty good cricket team this year.

We don't break up till the Thurs after Easter; and the sports are on April. 10th. I expect you know the 'Varsity Sports was a draw. And Macmillan beat the 1/4 mile record by 1/5 sec.

What a ripping postcard that was you sent me. I suppose that was the front of the ship below.

Your loving nephew
Tom

June 16th 1914

My dear mother,

Many thanks for your last gd letter. I did not have time to write last Sunday as we were working all the morning, and in the afternoon we went down to the river so this [?] short.

No I have not been to church and as far as I can see not much likelihood of any while I am here. There is not a church nearer than 14 miles away, and it is impossible for a man to go there after working long hours all the week and most of Sunday. The 4 commandments out here starts 'Six days shalt thou labour, and on the 7th day do odd jobs' and the odd jobs keep you busy most of the time...

I have to do all the milking night and morning, at present, only 2 but it was 4. I have heard from Hodgson twice and got the Herefordian, but they don't seem to have had any cricket matches yet. He told me he had got his photo alright. Please thank Joyce. Will you send one to Nurse?...

I am not alone now with the work as Hugh Rising [?] came on here having had enough of the Canadian farm he was on. Mr Porter does not do work except odd jobs. We have got 11 horses on the farm.

I took strychnine by mistake last week but ain't dead yet. One drawback here is that there is no water to drink, so that you get absolutely parched with thirst. Well I was parched one day fencing so went and milked a cow nearby into a tin I had with nails in. After I had quenched my thirst it dawned on me that we had mixed strychnine in that same tin to poison gophers with.

Well I must chuck up now. Please thank Meriel very much for her letter and say I am writing as soon as poss.

Could not believe about Foster.

Your loving son Tom

August 2nd Sunday

My dear mother

We have had such terribly hot weather that all the crops have been pretty nearly burnt out. We are starting harvesting tomorrow on the breaking.

We had rather a fright yesterday in the way of a very bad hailstorm. Luckily it did not lay the crop flat but a worse storm followed the course of the river just afterwards which may have done a lot of harm. They are liable to come at about this time and lay all the crops flat so that the only thing to do is to plough up for next. The storm goes right across the country in a narrow strip like a cyclone. I was harrowing at the time with an outfit (4 horses) and had to stand out in the lot as of course it would have been no use attempting to drive the horses. Just had to turn their backs towards it while they kicked and screamed until it passed over.

We went down to the river on Thursday and had a bathe. Last Tuesday we just missed touching 100° in the shade. It's jolly warm working in the that sort of weather...

What happend at the Off [?] match? I suppose I ought to get a Herefordian. They seem to have done pretty badly at cricket from some cuttings which Joyce sent. I hope the cup was alright. Who got it? I should guess Vaughan though I've heard nothing of what has happened.

I must chuck now.

Your loving son Tom

[Same letter continued]

Aug 9th Sunday

I never posted this. What excitement there must be in England about the war. I hope there'll be a chance of volunteering out here — there might be with luck. We shan't hear much about it here as the papers are heavily censored and we don't often get those. We started harvest yesterday. No time to write only just finished work and 9.30.

Sept 6 1914

My dear mother

Many thanks for your letter. I was awfully sorry to hear about the black cow it must be a terrible loss just now.

What are the chances of enlisting in England? I don't want to enlist out here as there'll be no chance of seeing any service let alone Canadian company. Write as soon as you can as the chances are any thing at all I'll enlist in England — but if I can't enlist in England I will out here — it will be better than nothing. Mrs Coates (her father is a retired Colonel in the Indian Army) advises me to go to England and join the regular army as through influence I might easily get a commission. But there's not much influence in the family now is there? I'd do any thing for that but do rather think the chances are small. If ever there is a chance of getting anything I'd do it — but if you don't think I can I'll join out here. I do call it bad luck — of all places to be stuck in at this time I should say the Canadian prairie is the worst. Anyway I wonder what the chances of joining the regular army are. I shouldn't be surprised if this war went on for some years. As far as I can make out England will want every man she can get.

Hugh Rising shot a pig belonging to a Fin [?] here the other. They have been let loose and of course eating up everything. The day before I shot one through the hams with a rifle but Hugh made a bad shot and hit it clean through the heart the pig dropping dead directly. I rushed up to stick it but there's not a spare moment to dress it in so we shall have to haul it out on the prairie. We expect the Fin up here any time with a knife because they are terribly dangerous people to deal with.

Any way do write and say what the chances are to enlist I'm absolutely mad to.

Your loving son Tom

PS Val hasn't turned up yet — we can't make out what has happened to him.

Strongfield Saskatchewan Sept 10th

My dear mother,

Many thanks for yours of Aug 24th. I have spoken to Porter [?] and he is bang on but I said I would stick to him through threshing. If you could possibly make an application for me it would be a good thing. We shall finish threshing in about the end of next week then I must stay 2 or 3 days to haul wheat so that Porter can get some money and I think he'll help me through though I may have to borrow a little. I shall turn up as soon as I possibly can, as there'll be rather a race I should. I was going to volunteer anyway, though in Canada you would only be put on Sentry duty over an elevator. Porter was in the S.A. War so of course he understands it all. We are working any amount of time now — working from dawn until after sunset.

I hope to goodness the engine does not break down. Hugh Sampson leaves us on Monday so we shall have to slave more than ever then. I hope to goodness to get a commission — it's the chance of a lifetime. Still I shall volunteer anyway. No time to write — but if you can make me an application and I'll be on the spot as soon as I can.

Val is here. The wheat is awful but the price is good.

Your loving son Tom

Tom did indeed get his wish. Second Lieutenant Thomas Wilmot of the 2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment was mentioned in despatches and awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry. He died of his wounds on 25 August 1916.

Killed in Action

Of the seventy Old Herefordians killed during the Great War, tragically three were killed in the early months of the war in 1914: William Alfred James, John Frederick Loder-Symonds and Francis Eckley Oakeley.

William Alfred James

Our archives reveal scarcely any information about the life of William Alfred James. He was born in Kilkenny, Ireland in 1887. Before the outbreak of war he was a Church of England clergyman in Mortlake, Surrey.

He was a Corporal (9029) in the 1st Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry and was killed in action on 24 August 1914, aged 27. He is commemorated at Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Cathedral and Ploegsteert Memorial, Ypres.

John Frederick Loder-Symonds

John Frederick Loder-Symonds, was born in Dharwar, India, in 1874. He was the eldest son of Captain F C Loder-Symonds, J.P. and Mary Josephine Loder-Symonds of Hinton Waldrist. He was the grandson of Mr J F Symonds of Hereford; John was educated at Hereford Cathedral School and Eton.

Captain Loder-Symonds was married in 1907, as reported by *The Tablet*:



(Photograph courtesy of Staffordshire Regiment Museum.)

'LODER SYMONDS—VAVASOUR.

On Saturday afternoon, at the Church of Our Lady of Victories, Kensington, Captain J. F. Loder Symonds, South Staffordshire Regiment, eldest son of Captain F. C. Loder Symonds, late R.A., of Hinton-Waldrist, Berkshire, was married to Miss May Vavasour, daughter of Sir William Vavasour, Bart., of Hazlewood Castle, Yorkshire. The marriage ceremony was performed by Canon Fanning. Captain R. Loder Symonds, Cheshire Regiment, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man. The bride was gracefully attired in a gown of white satin and lace embroidered with fine pearls, and her train was held by two pages, Viscount Encombe and the Hon. Michael Scott, cousins of the bride. Miss Maud Vavasour (sister) was the only bridesmaid, wearing a simple dress of tucked Russian net and lace and pale blue velvet hat. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Hans Crescent Hotel, which was numerously attended, and later Captain J. and Mrs. Loder Symonds left for Beech Bill, Sheffield, kindly lent by the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk for the honeymoon.'

Commissioned to South Staffordshire Regiment in 1894 he served in Madras in 1896 and West Africa in 1900. John was a Captain and subsequently a Major, and Mentioned in Despatches. He was killed in action on 11 November 1914, aged 40. He is commemorated at Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Cathedral and the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres.

Francis Eckley Oakeley



Francis Eckley Oakeley was born on 5 February 1891. He was the fifth son of the Reverend James Oakeley of Holy Trinity, Whitecross, Hereford. From Hereford Cathedral School he attended naval college, first at Osborne on the Isle of Wight and then the Royal Naval College,

Dartmouth. He won the cadet fencing competition Sabre v. Sabre at the Royal Naval and Military Tournament in 1906, and the first prize cadet competition, Foil v. Foil, in the following year. His remarkable skill as a Rugby player was also becoming widely known and he went on to gain four England international Rugby Caps.

The following extracts have been taken from 'Teddy Bear Tails to Itchy Tights' – a history of Hereford Cathedral Prep School (now Hereford Cathedral Junior School), by Jill Howard-Jones. Our thanks to Jill for her permission to use the material.

"He passed out from Dartmouth on 15 Sept 1908—and while still only a Midshipman, began playing for the Services First Twenty. He was said to have good physique and was considered a first-rate half-back at Rugby.



Francis Oakeley tries to break down the wing, with support from Alfred Maynard, Sidney Smart, and Ronald Poulton during the 1913 Grand Slam match at Twickenham.

On 15 March 1913, he played for England against Scotland at Twickenham. England, inspired by a fast and skilful set of forwards, won their first Grand Slam with a win by a single try in front of the Prince of Wales and 25,000 spectators.

When England faced Wales at Twickenham on 17 January 1914, Oakeley was not included in the team. Francis was recalled for the match against Ireland on 14 February.

Only five weeks later, on March 21, England played their last match on British soil before the start of the Great War. A spectator recorded that 'Few among us could have imagined that in six months' time, sport would be thrust out of our mind for five full years and that no less than eleven of the men who played in this splendid encounter would fall in the war.' Francis Oakeley was to be one of them. He had only seven months to live.

Three weeks later, Francis Oakeley again played for England, this time against France at Stade Colombes, Paris, on 13 April. He was commended in the press for 'getting his backs moving for Poulton to score his fourth try. Greenwood converted each of these tries to raise England's points total to 39 and his own contribution to six conversions.' Unfortunately 'unsavoury scenes' on and off the field occurred during the second half as 'the English began to play attractive open Rugby which was contrary to the traditions of the French. Happily England was unruffled by these incidents.' Another English victory was secured and the skilful play of F.E. Oakeley (Royal Navy and United Services) had once again received public acclaim. The press were certainly in no doubt: Oakeley was the most promising player of the United Services.

His naval career had taken off too. By 1913, he had become Lieutenant Oakeley after gaining experience of serving in Battle & Cruiser Squadrons. It was, presumably recognition of his proficiency and potential that led to his being moved to H.M.S. Dolphin, the Portsmouth Submarine Depot, for the first five months of 1913 for instruction in underwater warfare. Lt. Oakeley served first on C7. Whilst the B & C classes were coastal submarines, the D1 of 1914 was ocean-going and had diesel engines for surface propulsion. To the young lieutenant his transfer to D2 must have seemed a technical miracle, especially as in 1914, no navy could detect a submerged submarine, unless it had surfaced at the wrong moment, fired a torpedo or shown its periscope—even then it would have to be near enough to the surface to be rammed or hit by gunfire (no easy matter when the target was so small).

Within a year of his initial training on submarines he found himself serving on D2 under the command of 31 year old Lieutenant-Commander A.G. Jameson. On 23 November 1914, Submarine D2 was on patrol in the North Sea when a wave washed Jameson overboard. Lt. Oakeley heard the shout and as second-in-command, dashed to the conning-tower to take over. The submarine swung around, the men leaning over the conning-tower coaming to stare out through the gale force wind and rain for their captain. It was hopeless. They knew it was impossible for anyone to survive in those wild seas, but Oakeley continued the search for two hours before calling it off. He eventually brought the submarine back to Harwich, where he faced the unenviable task of reporting Jameson's loss to his Flotilla Commander on H.M.S. Maidstone.



D2 Crew September 1914. Officers seated in Row 2; Lt. FE. Oakeley seated left. (Courtesy of the RN Submarine Museum, Gosport)

Oakeley was given no time to recover from this traumatic experience. The very next day, he left Harwich for another patrol in D2, now under the command of her new captain, 29 year old Lieutenant-Commander Clement Head. As the sub glided slowly past H.M.S. Maidstone, Lt. Cdr. Head raised his hand in salute. D2 was never to be seen again. She vanished somewhere in the North Sea, taking her new captain and his second-in-command to a watery grave with the rest of her crew. No evidence has ever been found to indicate her fate. Had the cruel sea, thwarted by its solitary victim a few days earlier, avenged itself on the whole crew? Or had D2 encountered a German torpedo boat?

Listed as killed in action, in only the fourth month of the war, at 23 years of age, Lieutenant Francis Oakeley was an acclaimed international Rugby star and war hero.

*'The waters were his winding sheet, the sea was made his tomb;
Yet for his fame the ocean sea, was not sufficient room.'*

Francis Oakeley is typical of that lost heroic generation who gave their lives in the Great War. And his death remains mysterious.

Of the four young heroes commemorated in the House names of Hereford Cathedral Junior School, which the preparatory school was later to become, Lieutenant Oakeley was the only one lost at sea."

HM Submarine D2 was lost on 1 December 1914. Francis is commemorated at Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Hampshire, Hereford Cathedral School and Hereford Cathedral.

Verses from France to the Family

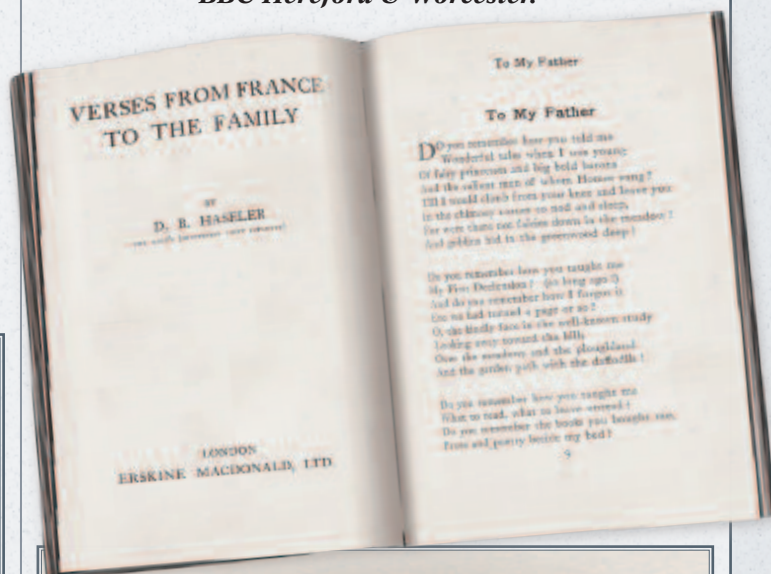
Digby Haseler left Hereford Cathedral School in 1917 to join the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and then saw active service as a Lieutenant in France until he was wounded by shrapnel that pierced his helmet on 11 November 1918. Throughout his time at School and in France, Digby wrote poems which were published in small volumes at the time to raise money for the regiment and later in an anthology alongside those of Sassoon, Owens and Brooke published by Cambridge University Press.

This year Hereford Cathedral School's award winning Cantabile Girls' Choir, chose one of the poems and commissioned well know composer Michael Neaum to set it to music for them. The premiere of the work took place at the Military Charities Concert in Hereford Cathedral on 18 October 2014.

Digby's work will feature in Hereford Cathedral School's Evening of Words and Music for Remembrance on 11th November 2014 at 7pm in Hereford Cathedral. Admission is free with a retiring collection for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, whose standard bearers add to the atmosphere of the occasion.



During his visit to HCS, Nick was interviewed about his father for radio by Nicola Goodwin of BBC Hereford & Worcester.



Digby as a schoolboy at Hereford Cathedral School

In October, Nick Haseler walked the same corridors of Hereford Cathedral School as his father before him. This in itself is not unusual, but Nick had travelled from Melbourne, Australia, to visit his father's alma mater and to see where his father started to write war poems in 1916, whilst still a schoolboy.



First World War Medals

Former Hereford Cathedral School Headmaster Alan Francis John (Jack) Hopewell, was himself an Old Herefordian, attending the school from 1908-1911.

He served in Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) and was granted an immediate commission in August 1914 because of his service in HCS OTC. His brigade sailed from Liverpool in July 1915 for Gallipoli, landing at Suvla Bay in August 1915 where Jack Hopewell was wounded. He subsequently lost a lung and was invalided out of service in July 1917.

Jack Hopewell's daughter, Mrs Patricia Brittain, writes: 'someone who made a collection of medals contacted me saying that he had "acquired" his Gallipoli medals and wanted to know more about the history of them. I, of course, didn't know of their existence and assumed that my mother, when clearing out, decided to dispose of them somehow. This was before the era of handing down sentimental items to members of the family who might be interested.

I immediately wrote to this gentleman and tactfully asked whether it would be at all possible to buy these off him (not knowing at all the value of them). He rang me back and said of course they should be returned to the family and he kindly agreed that I should just pay the price he had paid for them.'

Alan F J Hopewell was Headmaster from 1945 until his death in January 1957 at the age of 64.

These pages have been compiled from information held in the Old Herefordians' Archive and from external sources. The Development Office team, led by Claire Morgan-Jones, has spent many hours

researching the contributions, and in some cases the ultimate sacrifice, made by Old Herefordians during the First World War.

Over the next four years the team will continue to research and collate the information held on all OH who served in WW1. Any information you have would be warmly welcomed.

Thanks to: Rory Turnbull (OH 2014); Martin Everett (OH 59); Helen Pearson, and Herefordshire County Library.

Our thanks also go to: Dr Frances Hurd and Miranda Michels for the reproduction of Thomas Wilmots' letters; Nick Hassler for the photographs of his father; Mrs Patricia Brittain for the information on Jack Hopewell's medals.



Photo: Austin & Son, Hereford

Hereford Cathedral School

Memorial to

A. F. J. Hopewell

HEAD MASTER 1945-1957.



LIEUT. A. F. J. HOPEWELL
LG: 19/7/1917. WEST RIDING REGIMENT. TEMP LT. A. F. J. HOPEWELL
RELINQUISHES HIS COMMISSION ON ACCOUNT OF ILL HEALTH
CAUSED BY WOUNDS.
HEADMASTER OF HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL IN 1944-1949

(1) 1914-15 Star - (2) British War Medal - (3) Victory Medal

Old Herefordians' Newsletter 2013 Cover Photographs

Photo 1

c. 1953: *Top-left*: Bernie Edwards (teacher); *Middle-right*: L Kent.

Photo 3

HCS CCF Band (1959) at attention in front of old pavilion.
L to r: Bugler Cdt Hancocks G (*rear 6th rank*); Drummer L/Cpl Robbins P (*3rd rank*); 5. ?? (*rear rank – no bugle*); 6. Drummer Cdt Donaghy M (*2nd rank*); 7. Cymballer ?? (*5th rank*); 8. Drummer Cpl Tucker W (*front rank*); 9. Cymballer ?? (*behind Bass drummer*); 10. Bass drummer ??; 11. Bugler (*rear rank – obscured*); 12. Bugler ?? (*4th rank*); 13. Drummer L/Cpl Bourn P (*front rank*); 14. Drummer L/Cpl Kings S (*3rd rank*); 15. Drummer ?? (*front rank obscured*); 16. Drum Major Sgt Hill PS (*with mace*); 17. Drummer ?? (*2nd rank – obscured*); 18. Leading Drummer L/Cpl Hall C (*front rank*);
Standing to the right side is our Band Master Sgt. Matthews W (Wyeside groundsman & former regular soldier)

Photo 4

HCS CCF Band at General Inspection – Wyeside Summer 1959. L to r: Drum Major Sgt Hill PS; OC CCF Major Lush HJ; Side drummer L/Cpl Bourn P; Inspecting Officer; Tenor drummer L/Cpl Robbins P; Leading side drummer L/Cpl Hall C. In the peaked cap on the left, Harold Lush; Chris Hall on drums (Wyeside 1959).

Photo 5

c. 1982: Hilary Burnham in *The Vigil*.

Photo 6

Simon Ellis and Mr Morris (Head of Chemistry) in *The Vigil*.

Photo 7

Geraldine and Bill Rumsey, Topsy ?, Emma Disney, Rachel Rikards, Bethan Deakin (girls' boarding house).

Photo 8

Suzanne Watson (*4th from left, standing at back*).

Photo 10

HCS CCF at Castlemartin, 1958.

Rear row: LCpl CLT Jenkins, LSgt BJS Howard, Sgt JMC Levitt, Cpl MJ Everett (hidden), UO A Howgate, CSM RWG Brookes;
Fourth row: LCpl JF Barlett, Cdt FJ Hocking, Cdt W Tucker, LCpl C Chambers, LCpl ES Judge, Cpl ADR Wilson, LSgt AW Butler, Cpl PS Hill, Cpl B Hole, Sgt RM Manning, Cpl PW Gillespie;
Third row: Cdt LJ Garrett, SSI IW Matthews, Capt AJ Moore, Capt JLT Brooks, Maj HJ Lush, 2Lt WE Glover, Cdt PE Saunders, LSgt T Greenland;
Second row: Cdt JKH Webb, Cdt JM Eardley, LCpl Read, Cdt J Cooper, Cdt Pickard, LCpl VJ Collingridge, Cdt JR Bryson, Cdt P Garland;
Front row: Cdt BR Hilsden, Cdt CJ Lush, Cdt RJ Blott, Cdt WG Nance.

Photo 16

Reception Party at Edgar Street Football Ground for the visit of HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh (accompanied by the Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire, Sir Richard Cotterell Bart CBE KStJ TD), to Hereford 24 April 1957. Next to policeman Staff Serg. Des Gillingham, next to Des, Alan Shepherd.

Thanks to: PFB (3, 4, 17, 24); Martin Everett (10, 16, 17); Des Gillingham (1, 4, 10, 16, 17); Allan James (4, 24); Catherine Larmour [nee George] (5, 6, 8, 18, 22); Sophie Morris (4, 6, 7, 8).



Photo 17

Small CCF contingent lining route into Hereford Utd. FC ground in Edgar Street.

Rear line of cadets facing camera are left to right: 1. LSgt DPV ('Des') Gillingham; 2. Cpl ??; 3. Cdt Bartlett JK; 4. Cdt Bourn P; 5. Cdt Hancocks G; 6. Cdt ??; 7. Cdt Blackhall R; 8. Cdt Hall C

Photo 18

Michael Walling (on the right) in *The Vigil*.

Photo 22

L to r: Turner?, Jonathan Preece, Andrew Thornewell, Jonathan Crowley, Richard Slee.

Photo 24

Crew of HCS Third IV

Standing: P W Gillespie (3); Mr P Skinner (Coach); J M Roberts (stroke). *Seated*: R J Jenkins (bow); M B Roberts (cox); J McLuskie (2).

Victor Jordan writes: The people in the photograph at the bottom of page 33 (2013) submitted by Mrs Mages were all from Old Deanery. Starting from the back row on the left is,

I am almost sure, Derek Davis, then DL Pritchard, Byron Mages, and a boy from West Africa whose name I forget. Sitting in front are on the left RM (Bobby) Milne and on the right JE Crowley.

Allan James

suggests the name Whittaker for the boy in the front right of photo.



John Kent attended the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst after leaving HCS. He was made a 2nd Lieutenant, South Wales Borderers in July 1955, Lieutenant in 1957, and Captain in 1961. *The Herefordian* dated May 1959 reports that Lt L J H Kent SWB (OH) helped out with HCS CCF Certificate A examination held on 11 December 1958.

John joined the Parachute Regiment in July 1962, was appointed Major in 1967, and retired as Lieutenant-Colonel in April 1978. He was Commanding Officer of 4th (Volunteer) Battalion Parachute Regiment TA from 1975 to 1977.

John Kent died peacefully at Petersfield Hospital on 20th April 2012 aged 77. His funeral took place at the Royal Garrison Church, Aldershot. He was said to be 'a soldier's soldier'. He is survived by his wife Sheila, children Andrew, Stuart and Alexandra, and grandchildren.

Lindsay A J Lafford

L.H.D., F.R.C.O.(CHM), F.T.C.L., F.A.G.O., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., M.R.S.T., A.S.C.A.P.

OH 1922-1929

Dr. Lindsay Lafford, educator, composer, conductor, organist and Professor Emeritus of Music, passed away on Saturday, April 5,



at his home in Phoenix, Arizona, at the age of 101.

Lindsay was born in Gloucester in 1912. At age 9 he entered Hereford Cathedral School on scholarship as a chorister, eventually rising to be Head Chorister. He then "went into the organ loft" in 1929, becoming the Articled Pupil of the Cathedral Organist, Dr. (later, Sir) Percy Hull, on the G. R. Sinclair Scholarship. Immersion in the daily flow of cathedral music and the private tuition in history, theory and composition provided by the scholarship built on the excellent education he received at HCS to equip Lindsay for the life and career that took him around the globe.

Lindsay's father, Arthur, was a manager for a railway shipping firm serving the Great Western Railway, a cyclist, gardener, swimmer and oarsman. He would have liked Lindsay to go into banking, but he deferred to Lindsay's mother's vision for the boy's future. This was a blessing, since Lindsay was

hopeless at mathematics all his life. Julia (Jones) Lafford had grown up in Cinderford in a large and musical family. She had a beautiful alto voice and sang in the Three Choirs Festival choruses for most of her life. She started Lindsay on piano lessons at age 6 with Miss Ivy Banks (whom Lindsay remembered as an excellent teacher), on Mill Street, Hereford, and had him audition for the choir in 1922. She was a leader in the Women's Institute movement, a gifted artist, and in the late 1950s enjoyed celebrity as a regular panelist on the ITV programme *Life Begins at 80*. Lindsay received his humour gene alongside musical talent from the Jones side of the family.

In 1935 Lindsay was appointed organist and director of music at St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong. He taught in the Diocesan Schools, conducted the Hong Kong Singers, and performed regularly on ZBW, the government radio station for the Colony. He specialised in piano accompanying at the RCM and also played the bassoon, so he was much in demand. He served in the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps, training armoured car drivers as part of his duties. He met Anna Pohl in Dalat, French Indo-China, while both were on holiday in 1938. Anne, a native of Germany, was an interpreter and administrator for a German industrial firm in Hong Kong. She had been posted first to Shanghai in 1936 at age 19, but when the Sino-Japanese war forced the closure of the Shanghai headquarters and evacuation of its staff, Anne helped establish her company's Hong Kong office. Lindsay's colleagues at ZBW warned him about associating with Anne, suggesting that she might be a spy! He paid no attention. Anne and Lindsay married in Hereford in June, 1939, and went to Germany in August to introduce Lindsay to Anne's family in Cologne. (Lindsay later realized that he nearly repeated his mentor's experience of being caught in Germany as war began. Percy Hull was interned in Ruhleben throughout World War I.) The Laffords were to sail for the U.S. just after war was declared on September 1st. Following some days' anxious scrambling for exit permits, while the Cunard Line added guns to the deck of RMS Aquitania and dealt with a crew strike for hazard pay, they were able to sail, with a destroyer escort for two days of the crossing, to assume Lindsay's teaching positions at Haverford and Swarthmore Colleges near Philadelphia and as University Organist at Princeton. The Hereford Connection played a role here as Ernest Willoughby, former Hereford Assistant Organist already

established in Philadelphia, had alerted Lindsay to the teaching opportunities for which he was interviewed after he left Hong Kong in March, 1939. During World War II service in the U.S. Navy he was a Chaplain's Assistant and director of music for The Navy Goes to Church, a programme broadcast on WOR radio in New York.

Lindsay became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1946. He joined the faculty of Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY, in 1948, as Music Department chair, organist, director of the chorus and orchestra, carillonneur and everyone's chamber music partner. He established the music major and, in the early years, taught half the academic courses in the department, until he was able to expand the music faculty. During a sabbatical year, 1961-62, he served as organist at St. John's Cathedral, Jacksonville, Florida, and as director of the St. John's Opera Company and the Diocesan Choral Society.

Professor Lafford was always appreciated for his sense of humour and interesting lectures. He was a wonderful storyteller, blessed with an excellent memory throughout his life, and made the great composers come alive in his classes, recitals and rehearsals with anecdotes and examples. He also did his best to include everyone possible in his performing groups, the musically gifted, of course, but also those whose main talent was enthusiasm. Even the latter blossomed as musicians under his mentorship. The Colleges' chorus, the Schola Cantorum, was one of the largest organizations on campus. He took them on performing tours in New England, to Toronto (Canada), New York City, Washington, DC, and to Florida at a time when few students had had the chance to travel widely. He taught this large group major choral works such as the Mozart and Brahms Requiems, Elgar's Music-Makers and Orff's Carmina Burana and inspired in them a love of music that has enriched their lives. When Lindsay received the Distinguished Faculty Award of Hobart and William Smith in 2000, more nomination letters were submitted on his behalf than the committee had ever received before. Hobart and William Smith also honored Lindsay for his 100th birthday by establishing the Lindsay Lafford Performing Arts Scholarship. The Music Department benefits from the Lafford Endowed Fund for Music, created by a grateful former student and enhanced by recent memorials. The internet has made it easy for many of his students to stay in touch with him throughout the decades. Lindsay deeply appreciated that his

students carried his musical goals and values forward with them in their own lives. Many joined in celebrating milestones with Lindsay and providing support during health challenges.



Lindsay composing; his 100th birthday letter from the Queen is framed on the wall.

Lindsay approached life with optimism and resilience. As a small child he survived the Spanish influenza of 1918-19. In the U.S. Navy, he contracted polio that weakened his right arm, shoulder and his voice and swallowing ability. He had to contemplate the loss of his ability to play the organ and pursue his career. Fortunately, he was able to recover over time, though he had some permanent muscle damage. He worked his way through a broken pelvis on the left side at the age of 90, and regained full mobility and organ pedal facility in five months. Following the removal of a kidney that cured a urinary tract cancer in 2009, he returned to the organ on Christmas Eve, exactly a month after the surgery. In 2011, a more serious fractured pelvis on the right at nearly age 99 was harder to overcome, but he managed the patience needed for six months of no weight-bearing on the right, followed by incredible determination and discipline to resume walking and performing. He had osteoporosis that caused a sudden compression fracture in his spine in late March. It complicated and ultimately prevented recovery from a case of pneumonia that would not respond to treatment. Before his brief final illness, he was always looking forward, planning the next adventure or composition, getting started in the middle of the night when sleep was disrupted by pain or worries.

In 1979, Lindsay and Anne retired from their long-term teaching positions and moved to Florida after 31 years in Geneva. In retirement, he concentrated on composing and performing, spending the next

fourteen years at St. Philips Episcopal Church in Coral Gables and at the University of Miami. He was Anne's unofficial assistant in her position as Director of the Foreign Language Laboratories at the University and succeeded her as its director upon her death, when the laboratories were named in her memory. Lindsay Lafford composed approximately 300 works, leading to publications, many performances and several awards from international competitions. In 1993 he was invited to Hong Kong to conduct the HK Sinfonietta in a performance of his *In Memoriam* which he had written during World War II to honour the memories of his Hong Kong colleagues, friends, and former students who had been killed in defence of the Colony. The following year he embarked on a second retirement in Tempe, Arizona, near his son Peter and daughter-in-law Barbara. He was then *really* free to compose, conduct and spend every summer in Europe. In 2007 he premièred his Cantata of Psalms, an extensive work for soloists, chorus and chamber orchestra. This resulted in his recognition as the Ageless Hero of Arizona in Creative Expression, for 2008, a programme sponsored by The Arizona Republic newspaper.

The third source of joy in Lindsay's life, following his love for family and for music, was his passion for motorized transport. As soon as he could graduate from a bicycle, he acquired a much-used 1914 Triumph motorcycle, progressed to a 3-wheeled Morgan and a 1926 Morris Cowley. In Hong Kong, he treated himself to four MGs, culminating in the yellow 4-seater, 1.5 litre beauty with which he courted Anne. He loved to drive. He relished his frequent 2600-mile trips across the United States to conduct and to visit family. In 1990, for fun, he drove by himself to the Nordkapp of Norway and a couple of years later challenged himself to drive as many Alpine passes as he could fit in—about a dozen, before being scheduled to go to Britain. After several decades of family-oriented vehicles, he returned in 1989 to 2-seater sporty and fast cars. Always an early adopter of technology, in 2000 he had one of the first Honda Insight 2-seater hybrids in Arizona, followed by additional hybrids and energy efficient, but sporty, vehicles. At the age of 100+ he enjoyed a ride in a Tesla fully electric automobile and had the pleasure of seeing the Solar Impulse solar-powered airplane and meeting its pilots when it paused in Phoenix on its 2013 flight across the U.S., preparing for future global flights. Close to the opposite end of the history of air travel, Lindsay witnessed Curtiss Jenny

seaplanes in Penzance as a small boy. He saw one crash in the water within sight of the shore, reported this to his family, who said, "Ha, Ha, doesn't he have a keen imagination!" They learned from the paper next day that he had been correct!

Lindsay Lafford never lost touch with his English roots. He was associated with the Walbrook Singers, a London-based choir of men and boys founded 35 years ago to specialise in cathedral substitution. The founders wanted to provide men and boys who were unable to undertake a full-time cathedral commitment the opportunity learn and offer the liturgy. They have served at Hereford a number of times, most recently in 2010. Since 1993 when the choir officials (one of whom is Kevin Lafford, a distant cousin) and Lindsay met, they commissioned anthems and service music from him every year for the next 20 years. The choir considered him their patron for the inspiration and insight he gave them. Lindsay always joined the choir for its summer cathedral weeks in England and Germany. In 1998 the Lordship of Ridley (a domain in the Borders region along Hadrian's Wall) was bestowed on Lindsay. The title, created in 1230, came to Lindsay through the Bowes Lyon family. Lindsay resumed dual British and U.S. citizenship when American law changed to allow this. One of his greatest delights as he turned 100 was to receive centennial congratulations and good wishes from H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. Glyn Morgan of the Hereford Perpetual Trust facilitated arrangements for this celebration. The tradition of a congratulatory telegram for centenarians from the monarch began when Lindsay was very small. He remembered the fuss made about these elders but never imagined he would reach this milestone himself.

Lindsay was a very devoted ambassador for British music. In Hong Kong, he conducted the première of Sir George Dyson's Canterbury Pilgrims, and later conducted the oratorio's American Première. He heard Vaughan Williams' *Hodie* at the Worcester Three Choirs Festival in 1954, and arranged to conduct the American première that December, also honored by a meeting with RVW in the U.S. to discuss the work that November. He conducted premières of several works by Gordon Jacob. Of course, Lindsay was also a British composer, too, steeped in the tradition of Elgar and Holst, Stanford and Vaughan Williams, so his own compositions represent this heritage. One of Lindsay's final publications during his lifetime was his Sonata No. 2 for Organ, inspired by his native Gloucestershire and

the Wiltshire countryside around Latton, the home of the earliest known Laffords.

He was one of the few remaining who had performed under Elgar. In addition, Geraint Bowen, Hereford Cathedral's Director of Music, says Lindsay was the only person who had played all the organs of Hereford Cathedral dating from the 1892 Father Willis to the present instrument, for the inauguration of which he composed a celebratory piece ("quoting" S. S. Wesley's *Blessed be the God and Father*) that he played at a choir reunion in 2005. In 2010 he played the Hereford organ for what would be the last time, as he celebrated the Walbrook Singers' 30th anniversary with his new prelude on Lift High the Cross. The hardest part of that experience was climbing into the organ loft to practice. It got easier, as all things do, with practice! For many decades he performed organ and carillon recitals in Europe, India, Hong Kong and throughout the United States.

He wrote both text and music for *Floreat, Herefordensis!*, celebrating 1200 years of worship and education at Hereford. It was performed by the Cathedral School's chorus and orchestra in March 1988, at the Commemoration service to begin the Easter school holiday; David Briggs (assistant organist) was at the organ and Richard Errington conducted. Lindsay and his daughter were present and enjoyed time with Ege Parker, Errington, Briggs and others. The piece is dedicated to Headmaster Howard Tomlinson, who is the dedicatee of one of Lindsay's published organ pieces, as are Paul Derry, OH, and Lindsay's lifelong friend, Lay Clerk Edgar Godwin.

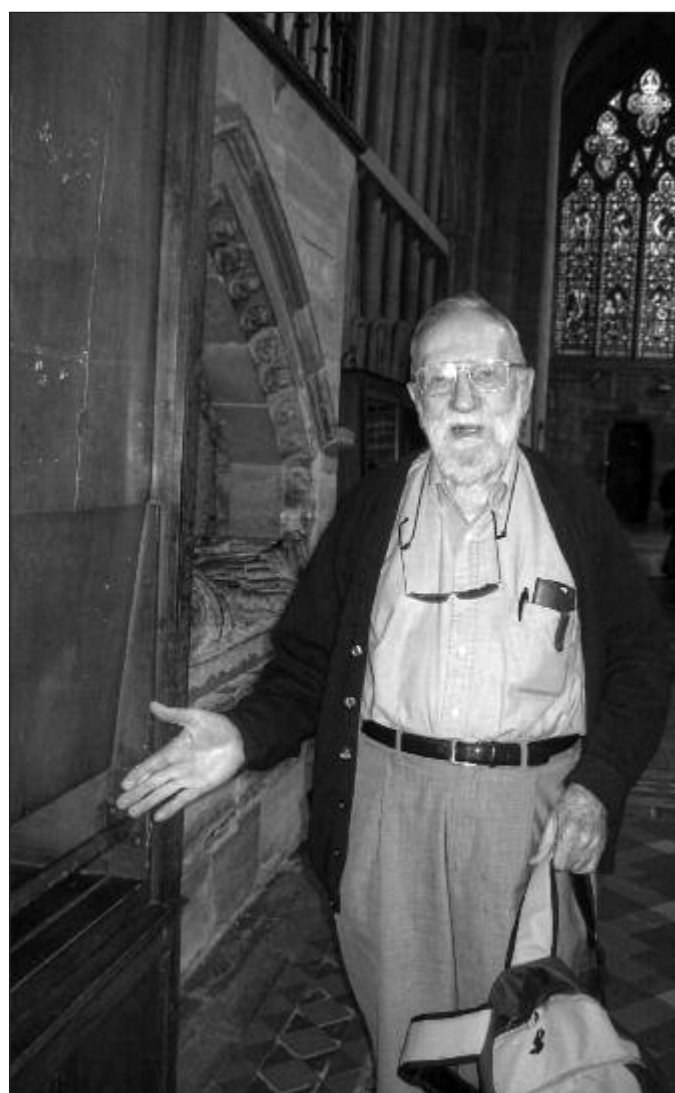
Lindsay visited Hereford Cathedral on many occasions, annually for the last 20 years and for the Three Choirs Festival and chorister reunions. He wrote an article for the 2012 festival programme in which he described the Three Choirs Festivals of his day and his involvement with them and with The Canterbury Pilgrims, a focus of that festival. Lindsay has now returned permanently to Hereford Cathedral, his "spiritual home." His ashes were interred at the cathedral in a ceremony conducted by the Dean. His daughter Julia writes: "My family and I felt very cherished during our August visit to Hereford to bury Dad's ashes in the Chapter House Garden. We have spent so much time with our parents in Hereford, from the first postwar visit sixty years ago (when we lived with the Godwins on Park Street) to the present, that we feel very much at home. The tenderness shown by everyone at the Cathedral gives us deep comfort and reassurance

that Dad's final resting place is one of holiness, respect and devotion."

Anne predeceased Lindsay in 1988. He is survived by his daughter, Julia Welbon, and sons, Llewellyn and Peter; his son-in-law, Guy Welbon; his daughters-in-law, Laurel O'Donnell and Barbara Lafford; and his grandson, Christopher Welbon.

Further details of Lindsay Lafford's life and music, and recordings of many works, are available on his website: Lord-of-Ridley.com.

Thank you to the family of Dr. Lindsay Lafford who have helped in the preparation of this obituary. - Editor.



Lindsay, in 2005, in Hereford Cathedral pointing to one of the 32-foot wooden organ pipes. Attached at the mouth of the pipe is a round wooden dowel, called a beard, which directs the airflow therefore altering the harmonic structure of the sound. The dowel was cut from a broomstick handle and attached by Lindsay when he was organist in his early twenties.

James C Meredith

OH 1966-1972

The Club has been informed of the death of James Charles Meredith aged 59 of Lowdy Hall Farm, Ullingswick. Sadly, James passed away on 19 December, 2013. He is survived by his wife Ann, children Sarah, Charles (OH) and Lauren and his brother John (OH).

Leonora Okarma Weaver

OH 1974-1976

Leonora Okarma Weaver died aged 56 in the ICU in Atlanta, Georgia on 25 August, 2014, after a short illness.

Leo came to HCS in September 1974 and studied A-level art with Bob Talbot and history with Ege Parker. It was the third year that girls had been admitted into the sixth form and was a time of great change for the School, but it's probably true to say that little in its long history could have prepared it for Leonora Okarma.

The daughter of a successful American art dealer, Leo had been brought up in Atlanta, Georgia. The family moved to England in 1972, when Leo's parents relocated their gallery to Brobury House, Bredwardine. In this quintessentially English country house, Leo grew up surrounded by art. I once commented on a "nice sketch" hanging in the downstairs loo. After a few moments thought she replied, without any touch of irony, "Oh, you mean the Rembrandt."

HCS in 1974 was still a very traditional, minor public school for boys, just emerging from the era of Tom Brown's Schooldays and in which beating, fagging and institutionalised bullying had only just started to be addressed. The admission of girls into the sixth form had been seen by some, both staff and pupils, as the beginning of the end. I don't think that many of us realised just how courageous the school's first girls had to be.

Leonora stood out even more conspicuously than the others. A couple of years at an English girls' boarding school had done little to anglicise the USA out of her. On the surface, she could be larger – and louder –



than life and while her regular greeting of "Why he...llo, y'all!" fitted with her self-image as a "Southern belle", the spine-jarring, concussion-inducing back-slap that usually followed it most certainly did not!

Many of us loved her for her outspoken approach and iconoclastic attitude to school traditions, but for some it was just too much and resulted in a degree of casual cruelty that upset her a great deal more than she liked to show. A friend said on Facebook "She was a lot braver than the rest of us". True indeed.

After leaving school, Leo became apprenticed to her father, Eugene, specialising in conservation and restoration work. She later became a full partner in the business and by 1993 was running it. Sadly, that year saw the very early death of her husband, David Weaver. Only three years later, her father died and her mother decided to sell the Brobury estate and return to Atlanta. Faced with a forced move herself, Leo, too, chose in 2001 to follow her mother.

Back in the States, Leo's business went from strength to strength and by the time of her death she was widely acknowledged as an expert restorer at the highest level of



her profession. Her clients included private collectors, major museums and institutions, while her commissions ranged from 15th century works of art to rare, original cinema posters for *Gone with the Wind*.

With her sudden, unexpected death, a great talent has been lost, but for many Old Herefordians a great friend has been lost, too. I shall certainly miss that back-slap!

Martin Prior

C D O Price (Dudley)

OH 1943 -1948

The club has been informed of the death of Dudley Price, of New House Farm, Marden, on Friday, 6 September 2013, after a long, valiant struggle. We offer our condolences to his children Debbie, Andrew and Miles, and grandchildren Ed, Andy and Kate. £1,263 was raised in generous donations at Dudley's funeral for St Michael's Hospice.

Mrs Meriel Oliver

'It is with great sadness that we have heard of the death of Meriel Oliver, wife of Bishop John Oliver

(Bishop of Hereford 1990-2003). Meriel had been unwell for some time and deteriorated rapidly in the last week. She died, peacefully, in Cheltenham Hospital on Friday night (5 September).

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bishop John and with Tom and Henry and their families at this time of sadness.

Meriel will be remembered with great affection for her wonderful support for all when she was in Hereford – for her never-failing smile – for her ministry as a Reader and as Chair of the Governors of Hereford Cathedral School – and in so many other ways.

There will be a memorial service in the cathedral, probably towards the end of November.

May Meriel rest in peace and rise in glory.'

Dean Michael Tavinor

Bill Walling

Bill Walling, HCS Careers Teacher from 1975 to the mid-1980s died in March.

'It was the HCS's great good fortune that Bill Walling saw his role as the careers officer for Herefordshire to provide an all-embracing professional service to young people irrespective of the school they were attending and so put at the pupils' and staff's disposal the benefit of his enormous experience and knowledge. It was no disrespect to the resident advisers that Bill took the careers advice in Castle Street into a new dimension of expertise, but it was his care for the individual that went with it that was outstanding. But then that reflected the man. With his focus on the individual he built an appreciation of his or her strengths and talents that informed his advice and suggestions. It took time, but time he was willing to give.

After Bill retired from the Careers Service he devoted his whole attention to HCS and so my successor was even more fortunate than I, but I also was privileged to enjoy with Bill another of his enthusiasms – the love of the outdoor – as he came on scout camps with the troop. We all benefited from his experience and good fellowship in the mountains, instanced particularly in my memory in the occasion that William Ledwich, then a very new recruit as Venture Scout Leader, unpacked his kit in the outback to find that he had brought the poles for his hike-tent, but no tent. It was Bill to the rescue. Bill and I often shared that moment in after years and we did not let William forget it either!

Bill was a great servant to HCS, an invaluable help to this headmaster and a dear friend.'

Barry Sutton

SCHOOL NEWS

Hereford Cathedral School:

'Justifiably growing more self-assured, a school with a great deal to offer and an ethos of careful, thoughtful, nurture. Much to impress, with truly outstanding arts and music, a wide curriculum, a great sense of community service and genuine commitment to developing courage, confidence and a sense of adventure in even the quietest child.'

Good Schools Guide

THE
GOOD
SCHOOLS
GUIDE

Hereford Cathedral School:

'Pupils respond very effectively to excellent opportunities in the curriculum and activities, and to excellent teaching.'

Independent Schools Inspectorate report 2014



A level results

Another set of outstanding A Level results for HCS pupils this year has ensured that the majority our Sixth Form students have secured places at their first choice university.

This year, almost a quarter of all Hereford Cathedral School A Level candidates achieved an A* or A grade in every exam that they took, with 54% of candidates



achieving no grade less than a B. For the fourth year running no student failed an exam, and a fifth of all A Level subjects offered by the school recorded no grade less than a B. The Art and Music Departments are delighted that this is the fifth year running that their students have achieved all A*-B grades.

The school witnessed an increase in the percentage of A* grades with 19% of all grades achieved being at this highest level. In total, 48% of all grades achieved were at the A*-A grade, and over 75% of all grades achieved were B grade or above.

The AS results were also excellent with 79% of all grades achieved being A-C grade and 45% of all exams taken were awarded the top A grade.

GCSE results

The GCSE results have also been excellent, with nearly a quarter of all candidates achieving either an A* or A grade in every subject that they studied.

In total 22 out of the 93 Year 11 pupils achieved all A* or A grades. Almost a third of all Hereford Cathedral School results were at the top A* grade, with 59% of all grades being at A*/A. Over 80% of all grades achieved were above a B grade.

The school's GCSE results have remained excellent in 'traditionally academically challenging' subjects such as the Sciences, English and Latin. The Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Music Departments are delighted that this is the eighth year running that their students have achieved all A*-C grades.

New Nursery

The HCS Nursery has moved into new premises and two special visitors - Iggle Piggle and Upsy Daisy - performed the opening ceremony.



The new Nursery has been designed with a large, bright and airy room for the children, a wet play area and a secluded walled garden for outdoor activities. Above all it offers a warm and welcoming atmosphere to our youngest pupils at the start of their HCS education.

Cantabile Choir

Hereford Cathedral School's successful girls' choir, Cantabile has an increasingly busy performance schedule. This year they were runners-up in the final of the BBC's Songs of Praise School Choir of the Year broadcast in May 2014. The judges said that the girls were 'a wonderful group of young singers' and displayed 'technical brilliance and magical moments'.

Other highlights have included another successful International Eisteddfod this summer, when they gained third place in the Children's Folk Choir category; and singing with the British Police Symphony Orchestra in the Military Charities Concert at Hereford Cathedral.

The choir is now fundraising for their trip to the European Choir Games. They hoping to find sponsors who would be happy to give dedicated and talented young singers the exciting opportunity to participate in a European choral tour and competition.

If you would like to know more please don't hesitate to contact Melanie Cuthbert at HCS Music Department.



England Hockey JRPC

Hereford Cathedral School pupils Alice Bunting and Sarah Lewis were selected for Tier 2 of the England Hockey JRPC (Junior Regional Performance Centre). Only three girls from Hereford were selected at this level.



Alice Bunting (left) and Sarah Lewis

Bible Competition

Twelve Year 8 pupils entered the Schools Bible Competition, a national competition run by the Bible Society and open to all schools in the UK.

Pupils were given a choice of six stories of Jesus, as recorded in the Gospels, and challenged to re-write them in a creative and informative way – as if they were first hand witnesses to the event.

Eleven of the pupils received 'Work of outstanding level' whilst one pupil, Lily, achieved fourth place and will attend a special prize winners' event to be held in London.



Rugby Selection

Hereford Cathedral School pupil Will Butler has been selected for the England Midlands U16s divisional squad, with the prospect of eventual England U16 honours.

Following County honours and North Midlands honours, Will is the only U16 player from Herefordshire to make this grade and is, in fact, one of only 14 Centres from across England to make an U16 divisional squad.

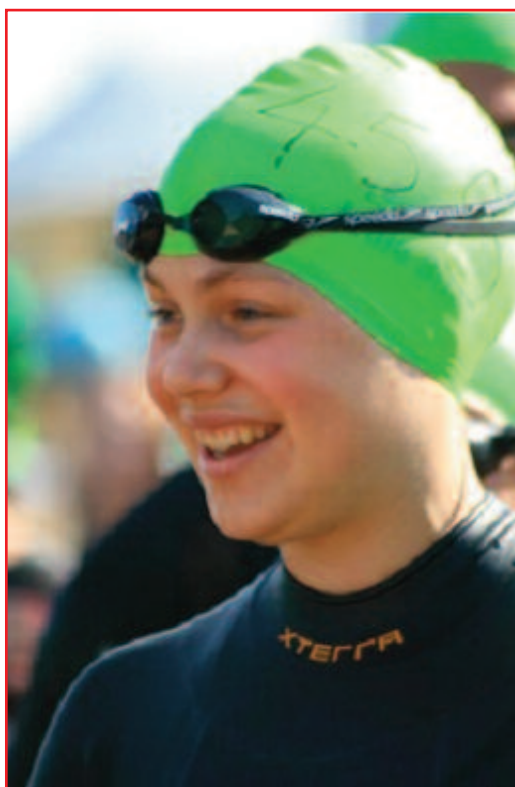


Swimming achievement

A team from City of Hereford Swimming Club, including Hereford Cathedral School pupil Lydia, took part in Swim Britain 2014 open water event at Blenheim Palace.

They surpassed all expectations, finishing second out of 217 participating teams and they broke the hour barrier, swimming three minutes faster than last year, finishing in 57 minutes!

Remarkably, Lydia recorded the fourth fastest female swim of the day finishing behind two British Olympic swimmers and a GB international water polo player! The weather and the surroundings were glorious and they all enjoyed a very special day.



Cricket Cup

The Hereford Cathedral School Under 12s Cricket team won the County Cup.

Our team made 197 for 4 and St Mary's made 95 for 4 of 25 overs.

Luke Tulacz made 121 and got two wickets. The other notable performer was Jasper Linley-Adams who got 34.



20/20 Cricket Win

The 20/20 festival at Wyese opened with sunshine and a high standard of cricket from the six participating teams.

HCS started strongly in their match against CC Brecon, and posted an excellent total of 164-4, major contributions from Will Butler 49, Ben Butler 31 and Tom Porter 25. In reply Brecon found the consistent line and length of the bowlers difficult and finished on 132-7; a win for HCS by 32 runs.

The afternoon fixture was against Wellington. HCS batted first and found the bowling slightly more testing than the previous match. Wellington started strongly but a fall of wickets put the game in the balance. The HCS bowlers held their nerve and took some excellent catches in the deep and managed to scrape home by 19 runs.

On the sunny second day, HCS had Gower College as their opponents. HCS batted first and Charlie Skyrme and Ben Butler put on 26 for the first wicket but then a loss of four wickets left us struggling; Will Butler helped with an excellent 34 but a final total of 116 looked 30 runs short. The bowlers continued their excellent form and Will Helme soon had Gower in trouble, taking two early wickets, a high-scoring fight back turned the game around but then some suicidal running and some excellent catches produced a fantastic HCS win by 10 runs to finish both days undefeated.

The final day was abandoned due to rain.



They also surveyed butterflies and birds and there was even some time for Jaguar tracking and watching monkey fights. The week was topped off with a visit to the impressive Calakmul Mayan ruins; a UNESCO world heritage site, which gave panoramic views of the rainforest as far as the eye could see.

The second week saw students travelling to the small coastal town of Xpu-Ha and undertaking their PADI diving referral courses and snorkelling in the tropical waters surrounding the Yucatan Peninsula. Students were also involved in the turtle monitoring and conservation programme, taking part in sunrise and sunset turtle walks to identify tracks and spot nests and also had the unique opportunity to release baby turtles into the sea.

STAFF NEWS

Mrs Suzanne Connop

has been at HCS since 1984 and in that time she has been a Geography teacher, Games teacher, Games coach and parent of two HCS pupils: Mark and Sarah. She was appointed as a part-time Geography teacher, but her expertise in a wide range of sport did not go unnoticed (Mrs Connop represented Welsh Universities in 800m, 3000m, cross country and horse riding) and she was soon deployed supporting girls' games. Her proficiency and talent have extended beyond HCS and she has been a key player in the organisation of sport throughout Herefordshire County and District. Key responsibilities for HCS have included: organiser of Netball, Cross Country and Athletics fixtures; the running of U15, U16, and Second VII Netball teams; and the running of boys' and girls' teams for both Athletics and Cross Country. More recently, Mrs Connop has



Mexico Trip

This summer, A Level students took part in the Biology Department's ecology expedition to Mexico.

The first week of the trip involved students camping in the Calakmul Biosphere, the largest stretch of tropical forest outside of the Amazon, and undertaking ecology surveys with experienced research scientists. Students went out overnight catching bats in mist nets, before identifying and tagging them. A similar survey saw them chasing and catching the herpetofauna of the Yucatan peninsula and recording their findings.

overseen the School successfully competing in various equestrian events. Mrs Connop also organised major school sporting events such as the Hull Cup and Sports Day and her boundless energy is evident as she literally runs from one event to the next. That she has managed to do all this for Hereford Cathedral School whilst also being Head of Geography at Lucton School is truly remarkable. We thank Mrs Connop for her dedicated service to the School and wish her all the best as she leaves us to take up a larger teaching commitment at Lucton School.

Mr Paul Jones joined the School as ICT Technician in 2004 and has given sterling support to numerous staff over the years. His patient and amiable nature meant that he was well qualified to deal with the frustrations and 'silly' questions of those less au fait with the technicalities of networks, computers and software! He has tremendous rapport with pupils and has a reputation for being firm but fair. We wish him well in his new role as Head of ICT at Crosfields School in Reading.

Mr Norman Moon was employed as Director of Finance and Resources from September 2011 until December 2013. Mr Moon was a hardworking, conscientious, and valued member of the Senior Leadership Team. During his relatively short time with us he introduced an apprenticeship scheme, new arrangements for school travel and perhaps most significantly he helped the School successfully acquire new facilities for our Nursery.

Mrs Frances Page (née Sweetman), was appointed to the School in 2008 as a newly qualified teacher of Spanish and French. She has been an enthusiastic, professional and highly motivated teacher as well as being a popular form tutor. Mrs Page has helped out with school exchanges and various trips and activities, including a successful cultural exchange with Seikyo Guayen School in Japan. Mrs Page leaves to be Head of Spanish at Caldicot School.



Mr Krishnan Pillai joined the Physics Department in September 2013 on a one year contract. He came to us from Dean Close School and quickly settled in, charming us with his winning smile. Mr Pillai has willingly supported the extra-curricular life of the School and been supportive as a Form Tutor. We thank him and wish him all the best as he takes up a Physics post at Rossall School.

Mrs Elinor Roberts

joined the School in 1998 as IT Technician and retired as ICT Systems Manager in May this year. In the rapidly changing world of ICT, Mrs Roberts has ensured that the school has kept pace with new developments. However, Mrs Roberts' contribution to the School



has not been restricted to ICT, and we are grateful to her for her support of Scouts, Duke of Edinburgh Award and various other trips and activities.

Miss Emma Sage

joined the School in 1999 as a newly qualified teacher. She has taught Latin, Classical Civilisation, Greek and some RS. As Head of Department (2010), she has done an outstanding job in maintaining high academic standards. She has run the Junior Classics Society, has supported the production of numerous Classics plays and organised a wide variety of Classics trips in the UK and abroad.



Miss Sage has been a tutor and has been an active contributor to extra-curricular activities including Netball, section leader of the RAF and supporting numerous Art and Ski trips. Miss Sage is moving on to take up a post at Blundell's School.

Ms Sue Thorogood has been associated with the School since 2005 and has provided confidential advice and counselling support for many pupils, parents and staff. Always discreet and completely professional, Ms Thorogood has exercised her responsibilities and care with great sensitivity and wisdom. We wish her well as she moves to Hereford Sixth Form College.

Mr Tim Wheeler joined us in September 2008 as Head of Junior School. He came to us from Bilton Grange School where he was both Director of Studies and Head of Classics. He has also been an educational consultant and has experience of senior school teaching; he taught for ten years at Norwich School where he was Head of Sixth Form Studies and was also a Boarding Housemaster. Mr Wheeler is an all-round sportsman, a thespian, a true educationalist and a committed Christian. We wish him well as Head of Stockport Grammar Junior School.

HOW TO SUPPORT THE BURSARY FUND

What is the Bursary Fund?

This new initiative is intended to support the development of bursaries for talented pupils from families who would not be able to afford the fees.

Who can support the Bursary Fund?

OHs, parents, grandparents and all our Friends through one off donations or regular donations. Participation is the key to the success of the Fund and all donations, of whatever size, are welcome.

What if this Fund does not suit me but I wish to give in another way?

For any questions, please contact the Development Director,

Claire Morgan-Jones, on **01432 363590**, email cmjones@herefordcs.com or visit www.herefordcs.com.

You can transform a life for £1 a day



"Pupils at the Cathedral School are nurtured to become remarkable young adults and this life-changing opportunity should be available to all, regardless of their financial means."

Anna Ellis nee Brookes
(OH 1975 - 1982)

government assistance and the lack of endowments have significantly restricted our ability to support pupils from families of limited financial means.

In 2012, we launched our Bursary Fund Appeal, asking our alumni and friends to help us ensure that more young people could experience a Hereford Cathedral School education. We always receive more requests for our means tested bursaries than we are able to award and there are still talented young people for whom the dream of a place at our school remains unfulfilled.

Therefore, I ask those of you who have yet to contribute to consider giving just £1 a day to help transform a life. Please make a commitment today and be part of something that will make a lasting and significant difference to a child.

Paul Smith, Headmaster

Hereford Cathedral School has educated young people for over 600 years. Today, it continues to enable pupils to thrive academically, musically, creatively and in sport. The School lays the foundations for adult life and is a place where life long friendships are established.

In the past, the School was able to offer this opportunity to a wide and diverse community through government supported direct grants and assisted places; indeed at one point 40% of the school's population received some financial assistance.

Nowadays, through prudent financial management, the School is able to offer a limited number of bursaries, but the demise of the

Without the help and support of Hereford Cathedral School, my academic ambition would not have been achieved. Gaining a place at Oxford University has provided me with a platform to future success. The HCS bursary scheme gave me the start that I needed."

Chloe Gilbert (OH 2009-2013)



"Most of the important things in my life today, from my friends, my job and my positive outlook on the world, I owe to the positive experience at Hereford Cathedral. That would not have been possible without the Assisted Bursary."

James Probert (OH 2009-2013)

"Bursaries provide the gift of education to an individual whilst simultaneously bringing huge benefits to the school. These include supporting and further developing existing high standards, and encouraging a diverse school community."

Katy Skerrett

(Governor, Parent, OH 1987 - 1994)



2011)
 "The Bursary awarded
 afforded me an edu
 wealth of opportunity
 otherwise have been
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 lifetime"

Iared Barazett
 (OH 2003-2

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 have been
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 Place."
 (OH 1992-1999)



**HOW TO SUPPORT THE
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 are welcome.

How can I give?
 The reverse of this insert is available for you to complete and
 return to us in the enclosed freepost envelope.

**What if this Fund does not suit me but
 I wish to give in another way?**
 For any questions, please contact the Development Director,
 Claire Morgan-Jones, on 01432 363590, email
 cmjones@herefordcs.com, or visit www.herefordcs.com

Hereford Cathedral School
 Old Deanery, The Cathedral Close, Hereford HR1 2NG

**"Without this extraordinary gift, it
 would simply not be possible for our
 child to attend the Cathedral School.
 This is without doubt a life-changing
 opportunity... making reachable the
 unreachable."**

**A heartfelt letter from a parent,
 2012**

The inclusion of a pupil's image in this leaflet
 does not infer that they receive any financial assistance.

LOST OHS

The Development Office and OH Club would like to re-establish contact with as many OHs as possible. Below is a list of former pupils who left HCS between 1940-1950 for whom we do not hold a contact address. Because we do not have their address they do not receive the OH Newsletter. If you are in contact with any of those listed (or have any other information) please ask them to contact Helen Pearson, Alumni Officer.

Adams, T E
 Atkins, J C
 Barraclough, J W
 Barter, M C
 Bateson, A C
 Berthon, J G
 Bramley, J F S
 Brown, A C
 Butcher, H G
 Cathcart, A
 Charles, D E
 Connell, D
 Cooper, D J L
 Cooper, W J
 Corps, Barry V M
 Daley, W T L
 Daniel, R
 Davies, D C
 Davies, David H M, (Brigadier Retd)
 Denby, R M
 Dickens, K W
 Dunn, E C
 Elmslie, D J S
 Evans, B J
 Fairbrother, Douglas
 Ford, G H
 Fox, C A
 Geddes, E M
 Giles, A R,
 Goddard-Fenwick, T J
 Godson, R A B
 Green, C R
 Griffith, M P
 Grindley, M J
 Hackett, Derek C
 Hall, N F
 Hamlett, L E
 Hammond, J E
 Hartwell, J K
 Head, D
 Hidden, Nicholas J, Dr
 Hiles, R W
 Hill, H Keith
 Hodges, H C C
 House, Michael C C, The Reverend

Howell, N F H
 Hughes, I E, Dr
 Hurcumb, B H
 Irons, L
 James, W A V
 Jenkins, J W
 Jepps, A W
 Johnson, W P Bill
 Jones, A J R
 Jones, D A A
 Kilgour, J D
 Le Mesurier, Mark
 Lewis, G A
 Lewis, M H W
 Lewis, Ronald D M, Dr
 Link, J D,
 Lloyd, M E M
 Luxton, M J
 MaCadie, C S
 Magrath, D I
 Manning, D H
 Martin, J A
 Milligan, J A M V
 Mills, P A
 Miranda, P J L
 Morgan, P J
 Mules, D W T
 Mules, N A
 Nevinson, K
 Owen, H D M
 Padwick, M F D
 Parry, H G
 Parsons, F C
 Parsons, R H
 Penn, C E (Major Retd)
 Pilkington, T A
 Pill, D J
 Porter, T C B
 Powell, H N C
 Price, A
 Ridley, P J,
 Ridley, W P
 Roberts, W P
 Scrivens, G A
 Singer, A R

Singer, G E
 Smith, Anthony C
 Sockett, W D
 Sparkes, A M,
 Stacey, P J
 Statham, N J H
 Stoger, L
 Swales, J S
 Tristram, J H
 Wainwright, A I N
 Wallis, Keith H
 Ward, A R
 Wells, D J
 Wells, P G N
 Willett, D W
 Windridge, E M S, (Lieutenant Retd)
 Yates, G W,

Old Herefordians' Club

Let us know about important events in your life and career and make sure you contact the school Development Office when you change your address.

Development Office:
01432 363566
email: development@hcjs.co.uk

It's a great way to keep in touch with your contemporaries!



The screenshot shows the website for the Old Herefordians' Club. The header includes the club's name and a navigation menu with links: Home, News, Events, History, WW1 Remembered, Supporting HCS, Awards and Mentoring, About OHs, OH Magazine, and Shop. A login section for 'The Alumni Association of Hereford Cathedral School' is visible on the right. The main content area features several news items, including a photo of a group of people at a social event, a photo of a rugby player, and a photo of a plaque dedication. A social media sidebar on the right shows links to Facebook, Twitter, and Google+. The website URL 'www.oldherefordiansclub.co.uk' is displayed at the bottom.

More than just a tie!



As well as the Old Herefordians' tie and scarf, the OH Club has a new range of very desirable merchandise on offer!

For women there is a very attractive school shield design, hand-enameled charm suitable for a necklace or bracelet. For men there are school shield cuff links to complement the OH Club tie. Also on sale are tote bags featuring drawings of the school buildings, an OH pen and an umbrella in the school colours.

| | |
|------------|--------|
| Cuff links | £18.00 |
| Charm/bead | £18.00 |
| Tie | £10.00 |
| Umbrella | £15.00 |
| Tote Bag | £6.00 |
| Pen | £5.00 |



To purchase or enquire about OH merchandise, please contact: The Development Office, Old Deanery, Cathedral Close, Hereford HR1 2NG. Tel: 01432 363590 / development@herefordcs.com



Welcome Back!

*Have you got a significant birthday coming up? Not sure of how to celebrate?
Why not have a reunion at School?*

The Development Office will be happy to help you get in touch with your year group and set up an event.

Contact Alumni Officer Helen Pearson for further information:
development@hcjs.com / 01432 363566

The Guards' Chapel

Hereford Cathedral Choir in London

In the presence of HRH Princess Alexandra KG GCVO



A Service for Advent

The Royal Military Chapel
Wellington Barracks, London

Tuesday 2 December 2014, 6.30 pm

followed by a reception in the Officers' Mess

Ticket information: 01432 374261
perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org



HEREFORD CATHEDRAL
Perpetual Trust



OH DAY

Saturday 6th December, 2014

| | |
|----------|---|
| 9.30 am | OH v HCS Chess (Coffee in Old Deanery/Chess Room O) |
| 10.00 am | Netball in School Sports Hall |
| 10.30 am | Coffee in Old Deanery |
| 11.00 am | AGM in Briscoe Room, Old Deanery |
| 11.30 am | Drinks in Old Deanery |
| 11.30 am | Mixed Hockey, Hereford Leisure Centre (K.O. 12.00pm) |
| 12.15 pm | Lunch in Dining Hall (£15.00 p.p.) |
| 2.00 pm | *NEW* OH Football, Wyeseide |
| 2.30 pm | OH Rugby, Wyeseide |
| 7.30 pm | Informal Buffet, Castle House Hotel (£30.00 p.p.) |

If you would like to book for the lunch or evening buffet, or would like any other general information, please contact Helen Pearson - 01432 363 566 / development@hcjs.co.uk

To play **Chess** please contact:
Richard Croot - 01432 363 504 / RJCroo@herefordcs.com

To play **Football** please email James Petrie:
jbpetr@herefordcs.com

To play **Hockey** or **Netball** please contact:
Sarah Bushnell - s_bush@herefordcs.com

To play **Rugby** please contact:
Richard Skyrme - 01432 363 561
rpskyr@herefordcs.com

Hot food will be available to purchase at Wyeseide from 3.00pm in the Pavilion.

Editorial

Editing the annual *Old Herefordians' Newsletter* is always a pleasure. Each year there are the many newsworthy achievements of OHs young and old, the joyful reunions, the adventures of intrepid travellers and the peek into such a variety of careers.

This year's magazine, however, is tinged with sadness as we contemplate the centenary of the commencement of the First World War; the Great War where so very many lives were lost. Hereford Cathedral School lost seventy former pupils and they are remembered in our prayers at the annual school Remembrance Service in the cathedral. And yet, distanced from the present by one hundred years it is perhaps difficult to comprehend the tragedy which surely affected almost every family and community. Reading the letters of young Tom Wilmot, where we sense his schoolboy excitement at the prospect of adventure and doing the right thing for King and country, we are touched by the loss of youth; we read with regret of Francis Oakeley's glittering rugby career cut short by the cruel sea; we are shocked by the death of Major John Loder-Symonds, a professional soldier cut down in his prime by a new kind of warfare; and what of the Reverend William Alfred James of whom we know so little —was he serving as a minister to the troops?

I would like to thank the Development Office team of researchers who have worked so hard to compile our Great War feature. If any reader has information on Old Herefordians and WW1, please do get in touch.

Clare Adamson

Editor

e: development@hcjs.co.uk

Please note that any personal opinions expressed in this publication are not the views of the Editor, the OH Club and Committee, or Hereford Cathedral School.

OH Enquiries

If you require information about the OH Club or wish to visit the OH History Room, please contact Alumni Officer Helen Pearson at the address below.

Development Office
Hereford Cathedral School
Old Deanery
Cathedral Close
Hereford
HR1 2NG
Tel: 01432 363566
Email: development@hcjs.org
www.ohclub.co.uk



President: **Gill Rivers**
Vice President: **Juliette Austen Chandler**
Vice President: **Jon Webb**
Secretary: **Mark Ellis**
OH Trust: **Peter Williams**
Alumni Officer: **Helen Pearson**
OH Editor: **Clare Adamson**



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www.graphics-shack.co.uk



Print: ALLPAY
T: 0844 557 8325
www.allpay.net



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



Hereford Cathedral School and The OH Club requests the pleasure of your company at
Old Herefordians' Day 2014
Saturday 6 December 2014, 11.30am start (AGM at 10.30am)
at Old Deanery, The Cathedral Close, Hereford HR1 2NG

Two Course Meal, Wine & Coffee: £15 per head
OH Day Rugby, Football, Netball, Hockey and Chess. Hot Food available at Wyeseide
Round off the day with an evening meal at the Castle House Hotel: £30 per head
RSVP by 21/11/2014: Mrs Helen Pearson, Development Office
01432 363566 development@herefordcs.com www.herefordcs.com

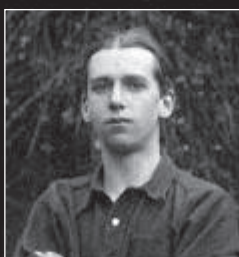
HCS and The Great War



Some of the OHs who died during WW1



CR BLACKETT



KS HEMINGWAY



EB GRASSET



V BODDINGTON



F LESTER



CGN MORRIS



RG PRICHARD



LH OLDHAM



CN HARRIS



TN WILMOT



HF RUSSELL



BR STREETEN



HA VENABLES



H CHIGNELL



GH DAVIES



CE LE MESURIER



RS CLARKE



JF WOODHALL



FWL HATTON



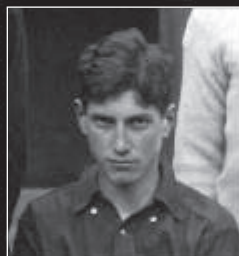
WT CARLESS



WL CARVER



AG WHITEHOUSE



DN BUCHANAN



FE OAKELEY



P GEDGE



ACC DUTTON



JW SPANTON