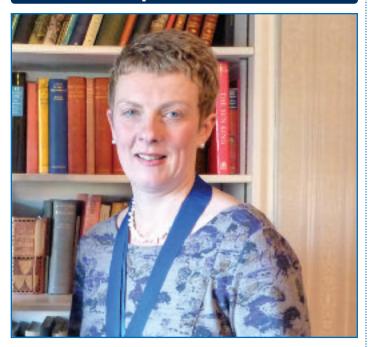
# Old Herefordians' 2015 News etter





#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

#### **President's Report 2015**



As in previous years 2015 has been another busy year for the Club with a number of OH reunions, Marches 7s, the Old Herefordians in London Annual Dinner, this year held at the East India Club, as well as their regular spring and autumn lunches, and the OH Regatta in September.

During 2015 the OH Club has invested funds to purchase the services of a professional archive specialist to copy and digitalise much of our historic archive material. By the time you receive this edition of the Old Herefordians' Newsletter, it is hoped that the material will be available via the OH website. As you will read in the report from the Development Office, the OH Club has also purchased 70 poppies from the 2014 display at the Tower of London (one for each of our fallen in WW1), with the aim to create a permanent memorial to our fallen from the First World War.

OH Day this year will be held on Saturday 5 December 2015 – the AGM will be held in the morning and you are invited to join us for lunch in the school dining hall following the AGM, 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.

Once again, I would like to pass on my sincere thanks to the team in the Development Office for their continued hard work, OH Editor Clare Adamson for a wonderful OH magazine and my fellow members of the OH Committee for their continued commitment to the OH Club.

#### **Gill Rivers**

President, Old Herefordians' Club

# From the Development Office:

Look forward, Look back, Remember and Dream. Never has an aspiration seemed more appropriate to the work we do supporting the OH Club and the School than in this last year.

We have *looked forward* with excitement and celebrated outstanding successes, especially musically, with wins at national level for our Junior School Choir and Cantabile Girls' Choir. The School has also received a commendation in the Education Business Awards for its music provision for our pupils and across Herefordshire.

We have *looked back* and *remembered* former pupils' contributions to the Military through the dedication of a memorial plaque in Ypres, a tree in front of No.1 and the OH Club has purchased 70 poppies from the Tower of London (one for each of our fallen in WW1) as a permanent commemoration. We have continued our history project based on those who served in WW1 and have shared elements of it with the county. Pupils have been enlightened with visits from OH relating their memories of the School, and with stories and treasured personal possessions shared with us by relatives of OH who served in WW1.

In reunions, OH have remembered their time at school or, as in the case of the Nepal Trekkers' Reunion, journeys made. Young OH are building their memories and experiences with financial help from the Evolva Award and the OH Travel Award.

Our archives have always been a rich source of information and memories and for many years the OH Club has been keen to make them available online. This has now been achieved and they will be available from September via the OH website.

As we move into the next academic year, we can *look forward* to a variety of events starting with the OH Regatta, drinks after Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, carol services; OHiL events at lunches, drinks and dinners; Remembrance and OH reunions for leavers of many generations throughout the year. In school events, conferences and workshops, OH and their families continue to support us and share the benefit of their achievements, insights, journeys, careers advice and much more.

More than anything we *Dream* and continue to work to find resources to fund the opportunities and facilities we would like to provide for our pupils and the bursary provision we would like to build.

Claire Morgan-Jones Development Director

# **NEWSLETTER 2015**

# **OH NEWS**

# **OH MP**



**Michael Tomlinson** (OH 1991-96) was elected as Conservative MP for Mid-Dorset and North Poole in the 2015 General Election. The seat was previously held by the Liberal Democrats with a 269 majority; Michael was returned with a majority of 10,530.

# Michael's father, Howard (retired HCS Headmaster), reports on the event:

#### 'Knocking-Up' in Mid-Dorset and North Poole

We were warned that parents make the worst canvassers. That wasn't quite our experience when canvassing for Michael in the days before the May General Election. Sure, doors were slammed in our faces and we received our fair measure of verbal noncompliance, as might be expected from a constituency that had returned a Lib-Dem candidate in the previous three Elections. Comments such as: "I wouldn't vote Tory if it was my last dying breath"; "It's meant to be a secret ballot isn't it?"; and 'I'm fed up with being canvassed' were only to be expected. And even: "Don't give me one of those!" [a 'Vote for Michael' leaflet]; "I don't believe in it" [the system presumably, not the party] was not such a surprise from a tattooed, earringed, black-clad potential voter smoking a roll-up; although "Do you think that I am going to vote for the Sodomite party?" certainly was.

But there were positive comments as well. Such observations from a shire-Tory in Bere Regis: "If my grand-daughter votes Lib-Dem, she will be the first member of my family not to have voted Conservative in 200 years"; and another from a (presumed) well-wisher: "Whenever my husband and I see Michael's posters, we think he should still be in short trousers – bless him!", might both be interpreted as signs of approval. We could also draw some comfort from the many undecided voters we encountered in the Lib-Dem wards where we were largely based.

And then there were the moments which made our days: the unexpected canvassing of my former Latin teacher and scoutmaster, whom I had not seen for almost fifty years, and who said that after being at one

of the hustings, he was going to vote for Michael because he thought that he would make the better impression in the Commons; meeting up again with James and Peter Rowat OHs, who both assured me that they had voted the right way; and trying - alas unsuccessfully - to catch the lady's (possibly Tory but certainly Christian) rabbit which had escaped from its hutch.

Not that it appeared to us that the result was in the bag. Indeed, with typical caution, Michael kept his parents 'knocking-up' (bringing out your core vote) until half-an-hour before the polls closed on election day, in the expectation that there might be only a handful of votes in it either way. I was more confident, not least when a UKIP teller in the polling station opposite told me that he was voting tactically for Michael to keep out the Lib-Dem candidate. But even then I was not prepared - at least not until I saw the votes piling up at the Count in the early hours of 8 May - for the land-slide which followed: victory for Michael by a majority of 10,530; a total vote of 23,639, which translated as over 50% of the votes cast; and the election of the first Old Herefordian MP (it is believed) since Sir William Gregory was returned for Hereford in the Convention Parliament of 1689.

Howard Tomlinson

#### Youngest Mayor



On 21 May 2015, Sebastian Field (OH 1993-2000) was elected the 535th Mayor of Gloucester. In attendance at his Mayor-making were former HCS staff Howard and Heather Tomlinson and Eqe Parker. Sebastian said: "It's a huge honour to become Mayor of Gloucester in such a wonderful year for our city. We have the Tall

Ships Festival, the Gloucester History Festival, and the small matter of the Rugby World Cup, where some matches are being hosted at Kingsholm Stadium in Gloucester".

Sebastian is the youngest Mayor of Gloucester in at least 300 years, and is already making an impression as a friendly and energetic Mayor. With his wife Vicki, he is attending lots of different events across Gloucester. He has chosen The Superhero Foundation as his charity, which is run by local hero Jamie McDonald and his cousin Kev Brady. Both men completed superhuman physical challenges to raise

#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

tens of thousands for charity. Sebastian hopes to do a sponsored run between all the churches and places of worship in Gloucester during his year. He will also be undertaking other physical challenges and placing an emphasis on healthy living. He will also keep singing countertenor in Gloucester Cathedral Choir as he has done for ten years, and will be continuing his career as a singer and singing teacher, being referred to locally as 'the singing Mayor'!

Sebastian paid tribute to his friend Ed Tomlinson during his acceptance speech, and made reference to how Ed was and is an example to us all and a spur to action. He was delighted that Howard and Heather, Ed's parents, were able to be with him to see him become Mayor.

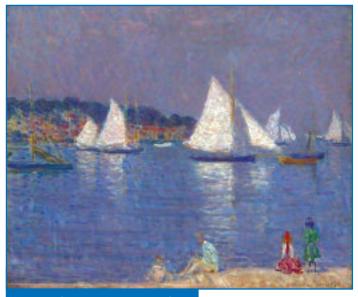
Sebastian has been a city councillor for Kingsholm and Wotton in Gloucester for eight years, and will be Mayor until May 2016. During this time he will attend many hundreds of events and meet thousands of people. He said "my education at Hereford Cathedral School has I'm sure helped me not only during my election campaigns and work as a councillor but will stand me in good stead during this busy year as Mayor". Sebastian returned to Hereford 'in state' for the opening service of the Hereford Three Choirs Festival 2015; he was led in the procession by his Sword Bearer and Mace Bearers, and accompanied by his Lady Mayoress Vicki and the Sheriff and Deputy Mayor of Gloucester Jim Beeley.



Three Choirs procession in Hereford

Any OH who would like to make a donation to Sebastian's charity should send a cheque payable to Gloucester City Council Civic Charities to The Mayor's Parlour, Herbert Warehouse, Gloucester Docks, GL1 2EQ. Any queries can be emailed to civics@gloucester.gov.uk.

# **Auctioned at Christie's**



Yachts at Cowes by Phillip Wilson Steer

A Victorian oil painting by an Old Herefordian was auctioned to an anonymous buyer for £314,500 at Christie's in June, making it the second most valuable painting by the artist.

Yachts at Cowes was painted by **Philip Wilson Steer** OM RA (OH 1875-77), in 1892. Queen Victoria moved her summer court to the Isle of Wight and yacht racing at Cowes became one of the principal events in the 19th Century social calendar. Steer enjoyed observing holiday-makers watching the off-shore excitement of the annual yacht racing. It is thought this costal scene was a personal favourite of the artist, which he kept in his own collection for forty years.

Steer, whose childhood home was in Whitchurch, Herefordshire, was a leading painter of the Impressionism movement in Britain. In 1931, Steer received the Order of Merit, a special honour limited to twenty-four living individuals and awarded for exceptional achievement in the fields of the arts, learning, literature and science. Steer died in 1942.

#### **The Flame Returned**

A former schoolboy may have had his conscience pricked after 'a dare' as long ago as 1955. He has recently returned a small oak carving, which may have been used as a staircase decoration, to the Cathedral School.

Nicknamed 'The Flame' by school staff, the item had long since been forgotten. It was returned along with an anonymous letter explaining that the item had been unearthed during a recent house move.

Headteacher, Paul Smith, said all he knew of the mystery prankster, who was now likely to be in their mid-70s, was their gender: "It must have been a boy

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as it was a boys-only school then," he said. "It was quite a surprise to receive it." The parcel, addressed to the 'Headmaster', had a Hereford postmark but no other clues. The accompanying note included an apology:

"Dear Sir or Madam. I return this to Hereford Cathedral School. It was taken as a 'dare' about 55 to 60 years ago when the darer was a pupil.

"It is thought that it came from either the top of an upright supporting the main staircase in the Cathedral Junior School (Cathedral Preparatory School

then) or from somewhere near the honours boards in the senior school.

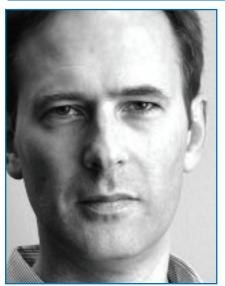
"It has been carefully looked after.

"It has come to light recently as the result of a house move. The darer apologises and hopes it can be re-instated."

But Mr Smith said he thinks it is likely the carving and accompanying letter will be framed and put in the Alumni Room at the school. "It may be that someone will read the letter and remember the dare", he added.

The school would like to reassure the darer and the perpetrator of the dare that their prank has been forgiven and if they would like to come forward we would be very pleased to print the story of their jolly japes in the next edition of the *Old Herefordians' Newsletter.* 

# **WNO Appointment**



The Welsh National Opera has appointed **Alexander Martin** (OH 1981-1987) as Chorus Master. In his debut season, starting in August 2014, he worked with WNO's critically acclaimed Chorus Rossini's on William Tell and Moses in Egypt and Bizet's

*Carmen.* In spring 2015 Alexander conducted WNO's new production of *Chorus!* 

Alexander was the guest speaker at the Hereford Cathedral School Speech Day in July - see page 15.

# **Back in the UK**



**Timothy Noon** (OH 1984-1991) has been appointed Director of Music at Exeter Cathedral from January 2016. Exeter has a choir of thirtysix girl and boy choristers and its organ has recently been refurbished at a cost of £1 million.

Tim, whose wife is a New Zealander, is currently the director of music at Auckland Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

Tim began his musical career as a chorister at Hereford Cathedral, before being appointed at the age of seventeen as Organ Scholar of Canterbury Cathedral, and the following year he became Organ Scholar at Christ Church, Oxford where he also read for a degree in music. He returned to Canterbury as Assistant Organist, then becoming Organist and Master of the Choristers of St David's Cathedral in Wales, moving then to be Director of Music at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool.

As an organist, he is a frequent solo performer, and has performed concerts in many prestigious venues across Europe. He is also an active composer and arranger and his various works have been published by the RSCM.

# Singing Success



Former Hereford chorister and King's College choral scholar **Pat Dunachie** (OH 2005-2012) is a member of The Gesualdo Six, which has been appointed as St John's Smith Square Young Artists 2015/16.

The ensemble, formed in 2014 for a performance of Gesualdo's

*Tenebrae Responsories* for Maundy Thursday, is made up of current and former members of Cambridge choirs. The vocal sextet, who specialise in the performance of renaissance music, had a successful summer concert tour and are now recording a CD.

Pat, who graduated from Cambridge this summer with a double-first music degree, sings *alto* and has gained much experience singing with other choral groups such as Ex Cathedra, Armonico Consort, Rodolfus Choir, and deputising with the choirs of Christ Church Oxford, Merton College Oxford,

#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

Gloucester Cathedral and the Royal Military Chapel (Wellington Barracks), amongst others. He also edits and typesets early music, and his editions have been used by performers including Carolyn Sampson, King's College Choir, His Majesty's Sackbutts and Cornetts and Ex Cathedra.

# **Palace Invitation**



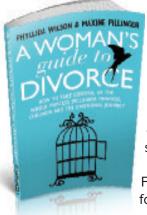


Mr **Randy Langford** (OH 1936-43) was invited to Buckingham Palace for a garden party for his charity work for St Michael's Hospice. He has been raising money for the charity for more than twenty years and has raised over £200,000.

Randy is in frequent

contact with his old school: he is a regular at the OH annual Christmas lunch and has also been invited to Hereford Cathedral Junior School. The children were so enthralled with his visit that they made Randy a 90th birthday card!

### **Guide to Divorce**



Phyllida Wilson (OH), has cowritten A Woman's Guide To Divorce with friend Maxine Pillinger. The authors have used their own experiences of divorce as a basis to write the book, which aims to guide other women going through the same process.

Phyllida has a degree in French and Law and has worked for a number of law firms as a manager in development, marketing and client relationships. Currently she is working as a consultant at a Gloucestershire university. She now lives in Cirencester with her two teenage children. ISBN-13: 978-1845286095, £9.98.

Visit www.womansguideto.com.

# **Dedication to Service**

**Mrs Mary Lawrence,** who has worked at Hereford Cathedral School for more than forty years caring for staff and pupils, and in particular the choristers, has been awarded the Order of St Ethelbert from Hereford Cathedral.

The new award recognises the dedication of those who have given long and distinguished service to the cathedral. At Evensong on Sunday 18 October, Mrs Lawrence received a certificate and her medal. Mary said the award was a wonderful surprise: "I really haven't done anything out of the ordinary. Looking after all the choristers and the pupils is all in a day's work for me. I especially like them to pop in and see me when they have left the school. It's lovely to see how they are getting along."



# **Debut Novel**

Stranger Visitor Foreigner Guest is an intricate debut novel by **Elizabeth Porter** (OH 1975-82), set in Tanzania in both the nineteenth and twenty-first centuries.

Elizabeth spent many years living and working in Tanzania. She was awarded an Arts Council of Wales travel bursary which enabled her to do further research in Tanzania. Elizabeth also writes short stories and was runnerup in Cinnamon's recent short story competition. She currently works for Cardiff Library Service.

ISBN: 9781909077645, £9.99.



# **OH REUNIONS**

#### **Ghachok Reunion**

In July 2015, via the auspices of Helen Pearson (OH Alumni Officer), HCS held a 'Trekking Reunion' for all those who had been to Nepal since the first visit.

The initial trip was organised by Mike Moffatt in 1998, with the assistance of Lt. Col. Edward Marvin (OH) and Major Ramprasad Gurung. In recent years, Mrs Alex Campbell has been co-ordinating these annual treks for the HCS Sixth Form pupils. After the first trek, a small committee was established which called itself the Ghachok Link Committee (GLC) to oversee a specific project. Eventually, it was decided that perhaps the project could be Shree Sharada School; located in Ghachok village. Over the years the GLC has overseen many improvements for the school.

At the reunion, our most notable guests were Major Ram' and Gyanu his wife. We were joined by former pupils and some parents, all of whom had previously trekked in



Nepal. It was a great afternoon, enabling everyone to catch up and swap trekking experiences and stories. Mike Moffatt and Major Ram' gave a short update on the recent earthquake in Nepal and the effect it has had on everyday life out there. Sadly it has destroyed some villages, roads and crucial farm land. Added to this, tourism for 2015 has been dealt a severe blow, as many of the planned treks for the season have been cancelled.



At a recent GLC meeting it was decided to set up a Nepal Earthquake Fund, to help those who over the years had been involved with the HCS treks. The GLC was aware that a number of the Sherpas and other Himalavan Envpro staff had been severely affected and needed some assistance. Alex Campbell suggested that she would speak to the HCS Bursar to see if under the wing of HCS a relief fund could be established. Some generous donations flowed in from friends, HCS parents and pupils and the fund has grown steadily over recent weeks.



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2015 both Alex In October Campbell and Mike Moffatt will be visiting Nepal at their own expense to see how best the collected funds could be used to assist HCS' friends in Nepal. Should anyone wish to make a donation, please make cheques payable to 'HCS Nepal Earthquake Fund'. If you wish to make an anonymous donation that's fine, otherwise your name will be listed amongst the other kind donations received so far. At the moment the plan is to keep this fund open-ended due to the havoc caused in Nepal.

Towards the end of the year an update on how, when and where the proceeds of the HCS Nepal Earthquake fund are being spent will be produced, hopefully with a few photographs of some of the beneficiaries included.

Mike Moffatt



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# **Old Herefordians in London - Spring Luncheon 2015**

#### Soggetts on the terrace of Doggetts

On a very soggy day in May, people arrived throughout the morning at our usual lunchtime venue, Doggett's Coat & Badge beside the Thames, with some having become quite drenched by the time they reached the pub!

In the end there were a total of 37 OHs present plus 5 visitors, including Claire Morgan-Jones (HCS Development Director) and Helen Pearson (OH Club Alumni Officer). A good cross-section of Old Herefordians attended, spanning at least four HCS decades. The most senior member present joined the Cathedral School in 1944, whereas the youngest left in 1980. Among the gathered company were several gentlemen who left HCS for the last time in 1955, this lunch therefore became a kind of 60th anniversary for them. Because of persistent rain, unfortunately we were unable to make use of the external balcony overlooking the river this time. The result was that it seemed rather crowded inside the Terrace Bar but it certainly did not dampen the collective spirit!

Peter Fairman-Bourn

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# **NEWSLETTER 2015**

# Now & Then

Meeting up at the OHiL Spring Luncheon were two old school friends, both from School House, Dr David B Roberts (PhD) and Dr Brian C Jones (MD).

David writes: "I can date [the photo] to Michaelmas Term 1949, as that was the only term I wore short trousers. Despite clothing being rationed I persuaded my parents to let me have long trousers for my second and subsequent terms."



David and Brian outside the cathedral.



David Roberts on the left, Brian Jones on the right, May 2015.

# Where are they Now?

Peter Fairman-Bourn, OH in London, is hoping to make contact with the following OHs:

Anthony J Parry 55-60 Michael B Palfrey 53-60 Peter W Gillespie 53-60 Keith Floyd 50-56 Barry D Pugh 52-60

Please contact Peter if you have any information: Peter Fairman-Bourn rugbypfb@talktalk.net.

# **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@herefordcs.com

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



#### SIXTY YEARS AGO

To those of you who left HCS for the final time in 1956, why not celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of becoming an Old Herefordian?

We shall be delighted to welcome you to one (or both) of our OHiL lunchtime meetings beside the Thames in 2016.

> For dates and details see the OHiL Events or contact Peter Fairman-Bourn admin@ohil.org.uk

# **OHiL Events 2016**

# **OH Annual London Dinner**\*

Thursday 28 April 6.30 for 7.00pm East India Club, St James's Square, SW1

# Annual Spring Luncheon Thursday 19 May

11.00am onwards Terrace Bar Doggets Coat & Badge, Blackfriars Bridge, SE1

# **Autumn Luncheon**

Thursday 20 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 admin@ohil.org.uk

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

\*The Annual London Dinner is organised by the OH Club: development@herefordcs.com for details.

#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

# **OH SPORT**

#### Rugby

#### The annual fixture between the school 1st XV and the old boys was played on a crisp December day at Wyeside.

A large crowd assembled to watch a very competitive game played in an excellent spirit. The first twenty minutes produced plenty of action but no points; just before half-time Ben Butler cut inside his opposite number to score a well-worked try, Tom Porter added the conversion to make the score 7-0 to the school at half-time.



#### **OH Rugby Team**

The second half started with a try in the corner for the OH team –James Lewis diving over after a break from Rob Campbell. The school responded with some the OH defence from the half-way line, 12-5. The game increased in pace and the school missed one or two chances before Ben Butler picked up a stray OH pass to score his second try of the game, 17-5. The OH responded quickly and worked hard with some aggressive forward play; a quick ball to the backs and Tom Price went over with five minutes to go, 17-12. The OH continued to run the ball at every opportunity but the school defence held out to register a well-deserved 17-12 victory.

**Richard Skyrme** 



# The annual Old Herefordians' Day even saw the return of football!

The event provided an entertaining fixture for the crowd as Hereford Cathedral School raced into a 3-0 lead shortly before half-time. The Old Herefordians, however, forced their way back into the game due to some inspired substitutions and the score was levelled



with 10 minutes remaining. The OH team, who sensed victory, fought hard and with the first team fading away, scored two late goals which sealed the game for the Old Herefordians and the score finished 5-3. A big thanks to Dan Nowosielski for managing the Old Herefordians and for the crowd who came and watched.

**Roger Sweetman** 

# **Hockey**

The annual hockey fixture between the mixed senior school team and the Old Herefordians was played at Hereford Leisure Centre with a good crowd of spectators watching.



Molly Collins scored the first goal from a short corner routine to put the school ahead. Excellent midfield play by OH Adam Hewlett helped the Old Herefordians to score two goals and OH goal keeper George Lossock kept the score line close. In the end two goals from Alice Bunting lead to a well-deserved 3-2 victory to the senior school team. Well done to all players.

Pippa Blandford

#### NEWSLETTER 2015

### Netball

#### The annual game of netball between school 1st VII and the Old Herefordians took place in the school sports hall on a cold December morning.

The Old Herefordians unfortunately had a few illnesses on the day and they were left two players short. Luckily for them Miss Major was on hand to step in to GD and Alex Lovell (OH) had the opportunity to show off his previous netball experience as he stepped in to play WD.



A large crowd assembled to watch and the pressure of the occasion was evident as the score at quarter time was a close 3–2 to school. The school team settled in the second quarter and managed to pull away and lead 10 goals to 4 at half-time. Although the OHs worked well together in attack and good shooting from Sarah Connop, Ellie Lewis and Flora Harvey and the many interceptions made by Alex Lovell, the experience and team work of the school's 1st VII proved too much for the OH side and school sailed to a 30 goal to 10 victory. **Sarah Hopkins** 



# **Burghill Golf Day**

Casual readers of this report will not be surprised to learn that the legendary indomitable spirit of the HCS pupil brought us through the adverse weather conditions which prevailed on the 15 May 2015 at Burghill Valley Golf Club.

The day before was so hot that the midges were a problem, the day after the sun was too strong, but the day of the event experienced so much rain that the greens filled up with water as we approached them. We, however, were undaunted and there were no cancellations that day which just goes to prove what an excellent grounding we had at school. It will be no surprise to any of you who were at school in the 60s to observe that the members of the winning team were all in Deanery during their school days. The members of that house suffered untold deprivations which determined their future character......say no more!

Surprisingly we are going to do it all again next year. Put the date in your diary: Thursday 12 May 2016 at Burghill Valley Golf Club. It is a good day and Burghill look after us very well. Any OH who enjoys golf is welcome to join us. Send me an email and I'll contact you in the New Year to see if you still think it's a good idea.

Andrew Singer abs.singer@btinternet.com



The photograph was taken during a rare break in the weather. Back row I-r: Clive Mugridge, Howard Tomlinson, John Oldman and Andrew Williams.

*Third row I-r:* Jeremy Clare, Andrew Singer, Jack Beach and Angus Craig. *Second row I-r:* Ray Harries, Richard Blott and Roger Morgan. *Front row I-r:* Stephen Williams, Peter Williams and John Eede – the winners!

#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

# **OH Regatta**

On Sunday 13 September 2015, the Hereford Cathedral School boat club once again took to the river to showcase their rowing skills in our annual OH Regatta.

For the second year in a row, the September weather proved to be kinder to us than expected which made for a very enjoyable afternoon of competition for both competitors and spectators alike!

The first win of the day came from Louise and Romily in the Women's Senior Doubles after a closely fought race. The mixed J15 quad was up next won by Tobias, Phoenix, Theo and Sarah and ably coxed by Seb Cargill who managed to inspire the team to victory even in the midst of a chest infection. The J15 Mixed Double sculls raced next and Eva and Sam took the prize in this race.

The Senior Boys' Quad race was a very close run event and resulted in Patrick, Charles, Orlando and Josh coxed by Romily taking the lead, adding another medal to Romily's tally and starting Patrick off on his incredibly busy racing day!

Sarah and Eva won the J15 Girls' Double race both increasing their medal haul from the day and Sam took the J15 Boys' Single Scull race which had been hotly contested from a very enthusiastic year group. Josh and Patrick raced ahead in the Senior Boys' Double sculls to take victory from Will and Jacob.

We also were able to host sibling races with some of the younger members of the rowing fraternity and this was won by the formidable pairing of Tori and Will Sykes – a future rowing partnership here! Romily finished her day with yet another medal in the Senior Single sculls race and was awarded the Millenium plate for her efforts. The competitive part of the day then finished with the award of the Symonds Cup which is the Senior Boys' Sculling Prize. The final of this race ended in a dead heat and it was decided



Skerret Family

that both Patrick and James should share the honours.

Not to be outdone by our new rowers, we had a crew of incredibly enthusiastic Skerrett family rowers who appeared in matching kit to compete in our OH race. Unfortunately the OH crew they raced against was a boat filled with fairly recent school leavers and current rowers and this proved to be too much for the Skerrett crew but we hope to see them again in future years.

All this, and we still managed to run almost to time! A fabulous afternoon was had by all in the lovely weather, with thanks due to parents for manning and supplying the cake tent and keeping everyone fed, coaches Jed and Giedre for marshalling and to our new Director of Sports, Marcus Blackburn for his masterful use of the megaphone to keep everyone informed of the races taking place. It was a wonderful day and a fantastic way for myself (as outgoing Mistress in charge of rowing) to say farewell to rowing at HCS.

Isla Whitmore



Winning OH Crew

#### **Herefordians Cricket Club**

#### Herefordians Cricket Club is a city-based, familyfriendly club which welcomes players from throughout the county.

The club aims to promote amateur cricket in a safe and friendly environment without restriction on gender, ethnicity or ability.

Teams play both league and social fixtures at weekends from May to September; the practice sessions are held on Wednesday evenings. Occasional players are welcome.

The club was founded in 1948 as the 'Old Herefordians Cricket Club' by a group of 'old boys' from Hereford Cathedral School. In 1951 the "Old" was dropped from the name to allow wider membership of the club.

If you would like further information about the club, please contact: F T Mason (General Secretary) - 07765 617956.

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## **OH CAREERS**

# Sebastian Field (OH 1993-2000)



Sebastian and his wife Vicki

#### Hereford Cathedral School's motto is 'An Education for Life', and that's been very pertinent for my career.

Life has a habit of throwing unexpected things at you, and it's how you deal with them that determines the shape of your future. I like to think that some of the lessons I learnt at HCS have stood me in good stead during my career.

It's odd to say this as both a professional singer and the current Mayor of Gloucester, but in my earlier life I never imagined being either a singer or a politician. That's not to say that I've fallen into either occupation, as both have required hard work along the way, and brought with them their fair share of setbacks and anxieties.

I first started singing seriously as a boy chorister at Hereford Cathedral, but it was not until my voice changed and I found that I could still sing well in the higher range, that I really began to 'find my voice'. Since then I have performed as a countertenor soloist with many notable choral societies around the country, and have sung solo live on BBC Radio 3, and in the Royal Albert amongst other venues. Hall, I work regularly as a professional consort singer, and I run my

own group, Ensemble Sine Nomine, who specialise in historical performances and innovative programmes.

I got married last year to Vicki, and we regularly perform together as a soprano and countertenor partnership. This year we have been performing together as Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and relating our music to the history of Gloucester.

I became Mayor of Gloucester in May 2015, and this will be a year's appointment. I was first elected as a city councillor in 2007, and have been re-elected twice, in 2011 and 2015. I first got involved almost accidentally, as a result of a casual conversation with a friend who was also a city councillor. I said something along the lines of how I got annoyed at people (usually Gloucester residents) who knocked the city. Clearly we have issues, but nothing is solved by those who stand on the sidelines moaning. Two days later my friend told me of a vacancy for the Kingsholm and Wotton seat, and the rest as they say is history!

Life as a city councillor is interesting and sometimes frustrating. Some of the problems faced by our city still remain, whilst others have been solved. Gloucester is a city going places, and as well as maintaining a high pace of regeneration, we have a rich history, and we are now one of the premier tourist destinations in the country. In September 2015 it will be my honour to be Mayor of Gloucester during the Rugby World Cup, four games of which will be played at Kingsholm stadium.

I am proud to be the 535th Mayor of Gloucester, and I am especially proud that I am the youngest Mayor of Gloucester in at least 300 years. I am working really hard to keep talking up our city, and to show people what a great place it is. Of course, I will always have a soft spot for Hereford as I was born and raised there, but Gloucester is my home, and I greatly value the good relationship between the cities of Three Choirs. Hereford. the Gloucester and Worcester.

What next for me? For now I am just enjoying every day as Mayor. It is an exhilarating and exhausting role. I hope that I can make a few marks and leave some sort of legacy. Some Mayors do it again after a few years have passed - I'll never say never but I suspect I will leave it all out on the field this year, if you'll pardon the pun. The interesting thing about this year has been that it has brought my singing to the forefront, and I'm gaining followers and opportunities to further my singing career. I hope I can keep this buzz going after my year has ended, as well as staying in touch with all the fantastic charities and voluntary aroups I've met.

Being Mayor of such a proud and historic city as Gloucester could go to one's head. I hope I am keeping humble and not getting above myself. As Mayor you get to meet a lot of VIPs and attend lots of fancy functions. These are good as far as they go, but I'm far more interested in meeting the unsung heroes of Gloucester, those who work hard for charity and keep our city going. They are the real VIPs in my book.

2016 will be ten years since we lost our friend Edward Tomlinson, and we still miss him. Vicki and I were lucky enough to have Ed's parents Howard and Heather at our wedding, and they were also at the Mayor-making. In my speech, and in several others since then, I have talked about Ed and how he is an inspiration to me in my life. When I get down, I think of him and how he's not around (at least physically) to share these experiences, so I must get the most out of each day. He is a spur to me to go on and achieve more, in his honour, and I'm sure many of us have a similar figure in our lives. I know that Eddie would be proud of what I've achieved, and delighted at the cricket, which as I write is looking like an England victorv!

I have no idea what the future will bring. I imagine and hope that music will be involved, but also history and perhaps more politics, maybe at a higher level. New things will come along, such as writing, and other interests that I don't know about yet. The point is to keep exploring and growing, to grasp opportunities with both hands, and never to let little setbacks keep you from achieving your dreams.

#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

# **HTC (Harry) Lloyd** (OH 1926-1934)



Harry Lloyd had talked with his daughter Sally about contributing an article to the OH Newsletter. Unfortunately, he died in 2011, at the age of 96, before writing his article but he did talk to Sally about its possible content.

'Harry, my father, started at the school as a boarder 90 years ago. When he came across a copy of this magazine in recent years he thought he would like to write a contribution, but sadly, died before he got round to it. In 2005, Harry and I spent a few days in Hereford, and he shared happy memories of the place as he showed me around.

Life could not have been easy for a boy of 10, leaving home and settling in. Harry never complained about his time at the school, although it was so cold one winter that the boys had to break the ice on the water in the bowls for washing. From that early age he developed a self-reliance that stood him in good stead throughout his life.

He came from a large extended family in Neath, the son of young parents, but living in a house with grandparents and a widowed uncle. His father was a butcher, and the family owned land on a hill at the edge of Neath, where they reared livestock, as well as having their own horses and dogs. The family worked hard, but there was also a lot of fun. They had a car, and there were exciting trips to mountains and coast, as well as concerts in Cardiff and rugby matches. He was a boy who enjoyed listening to the stories of the older members of the family, and reading.

Educated at the Church Junior School in Neath and singing in the choir there, he seems to have taken the move to boarding in his stride. He loved the services and music at the cathedral, took an interest in all subjects and played rugby and cricket. He did have one complaint – the suet puddings served up for lunch every Wednesday before the games lesson.

As a sixth former, he particularly appreciated the Sunday evening sessions, when a group of boys could meet at the home of the housemaster to listen to recordings of classical music, and for play and poetry readings. This nurtured his love of music and literature which remained with him throughout his life.

As a teenager, Harry decided that he would like to have a career in law. He studied at Swansea University and was articled to the Town Clerk in Neath. It was there that he met my mother, who worked as a secretary. Having qualified as a solicitor, he worked briefly in a practice before war was declared when he joined up with a regiment in South Wales. He hoped to stay near home, but was immediately sent off to training bases ever further away. As with many young couples at that time, my parents decided to marry and had a small, but romantic wedding at short notice.

Due to the cadet training he had undertaken at school, Harry was soon made an officer. After extensive training and a variety of roles, he joined Brigade headquarters and was promoted to captain in the 11th Armoured Division. He went over to France as part of the D-Day operation. By the end of the war he was a Major, and had been fortunate to come through unscathed as everybody who followed him into a job was killed.

At the end of the war he returned home, needing to find employment as well as a home for himself and my mother. He intended to become a Town Clerk, but was fortunate in being offered the job of Deputy Clerk to the Magistrates in Cardiff. This turned out to be a good fit, because of his interest in people. He later became the Clerk when his predecessor retired.

When Harry started, there were two courts operating in Cardiff every day. By the time he finished there were nine, and he had to organise hearings for 800 cases a week. There were memorable cases, and some memorable events – such as when Welsh Language Society activists locked the doors of a court, and everyone inside, including Harry, had to wait a long time to be released.



Harry at school (front right)

A common thread running through Harry's war service and his work in Cardiff, was his approachability and encouragement for the people who worked for him, and those who came up in court before him. I think too that education had given him his confidence to act in accordance with his principles. Examples of this are his decision - at a time when the Home Office was dithering about what to do about a case in Aberystwyth - to go ahead and issue the first summons in Welsh. He thought it was common sense. His sense of social justice, led him to work with Leo Abse - an MP who took up causes that other MPs avoided - on the bills, changing the law on homosexuality and divorce reform.

At home, Harry involved himself fully in everything that was going on, and always had time... he never hurried. He enjoyed gardening, walking the dog, and he shared a love of music with my mother. My parents had settled very happily in Penarth after the war; they became rooted in the community, involved in the church and had many friends. Harry's passion was rugby - he would come home from watching Cardiff play on a Saturday afternoon, absolutely hoarse!

Harry retired in 1981. The following year, he arranged a family trip on a Swans' Hellenic Cruise. This was not only because of his continuing interest in the Classics, but because, as a boy he had been very impressed by the accounts of this same cruise undertaken by the Headmaster.

My parents continued to be very active in retirement. They liked to go

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#### NEWSLETTER 2015

Guest of Honour at HCS Speech Day 2015

Alexander Martin, OH 1980-1987

to concerts in Cardiff and were still travelling abroad for holidays in their 80s – changing trains in the middle of the night.

When my mother became ill with heart disease, Harry took on a lot of the household tasks, especially the cooking, and took my mother out nearly every day in the car. After she died at the end of 2001, he stayed in Penarth looking after himself very well and coming on family holidays with us. In 2006, he suffered a stroke, after which he was confined to a wheelchair. At that point he willingly came to London to live near us, in St David's Nursing Home – originally set up to look after disabled servicemen after the First World War. He settled well there, telling his visitors that if you have been to boarding school and in the army, you can get used to anything!

While there, he managed to keep up with all that was happening in the world outside, enjoyed the concerts and the social activities in the Home, and enjoyed trips out – including to royal events. He particularly enjoyed keeping up with the Welsh Rugby Team, as well as Cardiff Blues. Fortunately both teams were doing well when he died at the end of 2011, after a short illness.

Harry lived through some very difficult times but he always found something interesting in life, maintained a sense of wonder and an impish sense of humour. I think that the stimulating education he received at Hereford contributed to his expectation that there is always something new and exciting round the corner.

Sally Horattides

# **ACADEMIC CONGRATULATIONS**

Xander Drury obtained a 2:1 degree in Classics from the University of Durham.

**Patrick Dunachie,** (OH 2012) a choral scholar at King's College, Cambridge, graduated with a double first in his music degree.

**Antonia Lazenby** (OH 2009) was awarded a first class honours degree from the Royal College of Music and is now going to Guildhall School of Music and Drama to do a postgraduate course in bassoon studies.

**Emma Leeman** has been awarded a first class honours degree in medicine from Cambridge University. **Iona Macleod** (OH 2011) graduated from Bristol University in 2014 with a first class honours degree in History of Art.

Emily Preece has graduated from the University of Warwick with a 2:1 degree in Biochemistry.

**Eleanor Smith** has been awarded a first class honours degree in Natural Sciences from the University of Cambridge.

Mary Wall (OH 2010) has qualified as a doctor at the University of Birmingham.

**Matthew Walne** (OH 2011) has achieved a first class honours degree in Chemistry at Sheffield and will be going on to study medicine.



Born in London, Alexander Martin began his musical life as a chorister at Hereford Cathedral under Roy Massey.

He studied Music at St John's College, Cambridge, where he was also Organ Scholar under George Guest's direction. Then he studied the piano at the Royal College of Music in London, before taking up the position of repetiteur/coach at the Opéra National de Lyon in 1992.

Between 1995 and 1998 Alexander spent four seasons in Germany as repetiteur at the Hamburg State Opera, and repetiteur and conductor at the Hesse State Opera in Wiesbaden, before returning to live in France to pursue a freelance career. As conductor, assistant and coach he was a guest at the operas of Lyon, Marseille, Avignon, le Capitole Toulouse, l'Opéra National du Rhin Strasbourg (conductor for Britten's Rape of Lucretia), La Monnaie Brussels, Le Grand Théâtre Geneva, as well as for the Aix-en-Provence, Glyndebourne, a n d Montepulciano Festivals. Alexander also worked closely with Philippe Jordan in Graz for Britten's Peter Grimes and Turn of the Screw, and collaborated with René Jacobs in Rome for Rossini's Tancredi. Following three seasons as Chorus Master in Berne, Switzerland (where he conducted Massenet's also Cendrillon, and Dave Maric's Ghosts), Alexander worked as Chorus Master at the Opéra National de Bordeaux between 2010 and 2014. During this time he also worked in Bayreuth with Philippe Jordan (Parsifal) in 2012.

Alexander became Welsh National Opera's (WNO) Chorus Master at the start of the 2015 season, working with the chorus on repertoire as diverse as Rossini's *William Tell* and *Moses in Egypt*, as well as *Carmen*, *The Magic Flute* and world première of *Peter Pan*. He also conducted *Chorus!* with the WNO company. He is married to the soprano Hélène Le Corre, and has two children.

# Notable Old Herefordians

# **OH Somerset Scholars 8:** Joseph Goldsmith (OH 1991-98)

Joseph Goldsmith is my ninth, and last, Old Herefordian Somerset award-winner. As a lawyer, his occupation does not set him apart from the hundreds of other OHs who have been elected to the award at Brasenose College, Oxford, or St John's, Cambridge, since the 1680s.

What distinguishes Joseph's award, however, is that it was won in open competition: 'close' scholarships were phased out at both universities in the late 1970s, Celia Lind-Jackson being the last OH - and only woman so far

- to have won one (at BNC) under the old dispensation in 1979.

Nevertheless, the named award survives, and OHs are still eligible to be given a named Somerset title at the two colleges provided they do exceptionally well in university degree examinations - as Joseph did in 1999 when his Somerset (Thornhill) exhibition both enabled him to wear a scholars' gown and marked him out as a promising student, university his promise being fulfilled in 2001 with the award of his first-class degree in the final honour school of Modern History at Oxford.

Indeed, scholarship and high achievement have been Joseph's watch-words since he started at the cathedral school. At HCS, he carried all before him, winning the academic form prize most Distain Non F

Joe Goldsmith standing before the school debating honours board on which his name is engraved several times.

years; the Raphael Powell History prizes (the benefactor himself being a distinguished academic lawyer who became professor of civil law at University College London); as well as prizes for Biology, Chemistry, Theology, English and debating. His six and-a-half 'A' levels reflected the breadth of his academic interests; Mr Priday in one end-of-term report on Joseph's progress in Mathematics and Further Mathematics wryly commenting that he was pleased to find a historian who was also reasonably good at numbers.

But it was not all academics for Joseph was involved in

several drama productions, played in brass bands and orchestras, gained his Chief Scout's award and Duke of Edinburgh Gold, represented the school in debating at the finals of the Oxford and Cambridge Union competitions, came an honourable second as the Tory candidate in the 1997 'mock' General Election and rowed for the school.

Joseph continued at least two of these activities at a higher level after leaving school. Rowing was his main sport at university. As a member of the Brasenose 1st VIII for Torpids and Eights, the crew held off Dan Snow and his Balliol VIII in 'the Gut' (the stretch of the 'Isis' half-way down the Bumps course); and he later won his 'blade' in

> an achievement, 2001, Joseph claims, which ranks a very close second to his first in finals. Secondly, his experience as a school debater stood him in very good stead after university during his law conversion year at City University, London, when he won the national Blackstone's mooting competition, as well as gaining a distinction on the course. The Bar Vocational Course at the Inns of Court School of Law followed, as did continued success: the top mark of his intake and being named 'student of the year' by Lincoln's Inn in 2003. Thereafter, pupillage beckoned and a tenancy at 5 Stone Buildings, where he continues to reside as a leading junior barrister.

Joseph's wide-ranging chancery practice includes advice on issues as diverse

as pensions; trusts and wills; probate and administration of estates; capital taxes and estate planning; something called 'proprietary estoppel'; Inheritance Act claims; mental incapacity; and ecclesiastical law. Recommended by Chambers UK as an 'up and coming' and then 'leading junior' every year since 2007, comments on his professional expertise relate to his intellectual brilliance, excellent technical advice, thorough preparation and convincing court-room manner. 'He does not go in for histrionics', says one observer, 'but when he says something, you know it's worth paying attention'.

# **NEWSLETTER 2015**

**NEWSLETTER 2015** 

It was ever thus. Joseph was destined for great things from an early age. Of his school days, he pays tribute to a number of inspiring teachers who guided him through his education. He names two, however, as exceptional influences on his formation: the late Dave Mathias, his primary school head-teacher at Hunderton Junior and Egerton Parker. Mr Mathias provided him with the extra coaching for the school's 11 plus examination which helped him win his first scholarship, and Mr Parker became his mentor at HCS. Joseph writes: 'I owe the most to Ege Parker for introducing me to, and integrating me into, and encouraging me to flourish at school at the outset; for treating me and my fellow pupils - and helping us to act - as young adults rather than children; for encouraging our individual thought; for developing and nurturing our love of history; and [for] encouraging me to aspire to go up to Oxford. In short, and put simply, for making me an historian'. Such sentiments would be echoed by many other of Ege's pupils over the decades.

Joseph claims he will almost certainly remain in professional practice as a lawyer and that he is unlikely to return to the groves of academe. If so, it will be a great loss to scholarship. Nevertheless, it is reassuring for this writer to hear that he always turns to the history section before the law section in any bookshop. And even more so for me to learn that he recently purchased a copy of Guns and Government, the author's long out of print study of the late seventeenth century Ordnance Office, despite its being bought at the knock-down price of £3.50p.

Howard Tomlinson

[This series will conclude next year with a portrait of Sarah Seymour (1631-1692), the founder of the Somerset scholarships.]

# **DESTINATIONS 2015**

Hannah Abraham: Manchester - Spanish, Portuguese & Latin American Studies George Bolt: Manchester - Mathematics Matthew Boulton: East Anglia - American History Charlotte Burdett: Birmingham - Medicine Sandhir Chahal: Kings College London - Liberal Arts Felix **Clive**: Oxford - Classics I Ella **Cockerton**: York - Psychology Molly Collins: Oxford Brookes - Psychology Cameron Condon: Cardiff - Ancient History Rory **Cook**: Post A level application Conor **Cowden**: Exeter - Energy Engineering Helen Davies: Cardiff - Biochemistry (Biomedical) Luisa Eakins: Portsmouth - International Relations & Languages Sophie Edwards: Exeter - Business and Management Megan **Ellis**: Queen Mary London - Film Studies and Drama Emily **Fielder**: Post A level application William Ford: Loughborough - Sport & Exercise Science Piper Fowler-Wright: Birmingham - Physics Frederick Glass: Post A level application Molly Gray: Harper Adams - Rural Enterprise & Land Management Evie Griffiths: Durham - Anthropology Frederick Hamilton-Russell: Royal Agricultural - Farm Management Maurits Hasselbach: Post A level application Jack Huffer: Warwick - Mathematics Henry Jones: Bath - Electrical & Electronic Engineering Lucie Kemp: Exeter - Ancient History Jake Kirby: Sheffield - Computer Networks Marina **Kovaleva**: Cardiff - Mechanical Engineering Zak **Kyriakou**: Cardiff - Economics Gemma Laing: Post A level application Augusta Lazenby: Bristol - Geography Billy Lewis: Harper Adams - Agriculture Henry Locke: Stirling - Computing Science Alex Lovell: Bristol W/E - Business Management Cian Lynch: Bangor - English Literature Thomas Mackie: Southampton - Civil Engineering Amy Magee: Exeter - Psychology Henry Mason: Exeter - Economics Matthew **McKay**: Post A level application Helena **Moore**: Cambridge - Music Laura **Morris**: Oxford Brookes - Sport & Exercise Science Henry **Mower**: Southampton - Philosophy, Politics & Economics Daniel **Nowosielski**: Chester - Psychology Sophie Orr: Leeds - Nursing (Child) Charlotte Pawley: Oxford - English Language & Literature Richard Penney: Durham - Natural Sciences Molly Phillips: Loughborough - Ergonomics Christopher Poolton: Loughborough - Materials Engineering Thomas Porter: Oxford Brookes - Business and Management Sophie Preece: Bath - Biochemistry Charles Prosser: Exeter - Theology and Religion Alexander Quan: Nottingham - Veterinary Medicine Tomos Rees: Cardiff - Modern History & Politics Arthur **Reynolds**: York - Philosophy, Politics & Economics Blythe **Roberts**: Exeter - Psychology Elizabeth **Rogers**: Cardiff - Archaeology William Rogers: Harper Adams - Business Management & Marketing Jessica Sayce: Cardiff - Media, Journalism & Culture Thomas **Scotcher**: Post A level application Eleanor **Smith**: Bristol - History of Art Leah Smith: Birmingham - Mathematics Tom Snell: Exeter - Management with Marketing Alice Spreckley: Swansea - Osteopathy Barnaby van Straaten: Cambridge - Natural Sciences Lydia Stratford: Birmingham - Medicine Joshua Tam: Bangor - Business Economics Joanna **Thomas**: Birmingham - Chemical Engineering & Business Management Katie **Thomas**: Royal Agricultural - Rural Land Management Harry Trew: Loughborough - Electronic & Electrical Engineering William Vincent: Manchester - Drama & English Literature Henry Vowles: Queen Mary London - Medicine Shelly **Wang**: Reading - Art & Psychology Hugh **Watkinson**: Durham - Chemistry (Industrial) Clare **Watson**: Bristol - Mathematics & Philosophy James **Webb**: Bristol - Computer Science Molly **Williams**: Royal Agricultural - Rural Land Management Rachel **Williamson**: Bristol W/E - Business Management, Accounting & Finance Thomas **Windows**: Exeter - History & International Relations Huajie Zeng: Hull - Chemistry Amy Zhu: Manchester - Finance

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# NEWSLETTER 2015

# OH WEDDINGS



Ben Ellis and Alice Shea Ben Ellis (OH 1998-2005) married Alice Shea from Wimbledon, on 22 August 2015, at St Mary the Virgin Church at Burghill, Hereford. The reception was held at Brinsop Court.

Ben is the son of Mark (OH) and Elaine Ellis. Other OHs included ushers, Ian Budge, James Burgoyne, Ben Owens, Tom Barrow and James Turner; best men Josh Morgan and Charlie Davison; bridesmaids Amy and Megan Ellis; as well as many other OH guests, with some flying in from South Africa and Vietnam. The service was officiated by Rev Andrew Law, former Chaplain at HCS and the groom's uncle.

The couple first met whilst on a ski instructor course in Canada during their gap year, but met again at the Twickenham 7s four years ago and never looked back. They live in Islington; Ben works for Lloyds bank at their Head office and Alice is an interior design consultant.

# Robert Erskine and Danielle Phillips

Robert Erskine (OH 1997-2007) has married Danielle Phillips, whom he met in Abergavenny some twenty years ago.

It obviously seems like Robert took a long time getting around to popping the question but marriage was possibly not something he was considering when he was five!



and Dani's wedding Rob's ceremony took place on 2 May 2015, at Lyde Court near Hereford. A Welsh male voice choir entertained the quests prior to the ceremony. Brothers James and Michael Erskine acted as best men, and cousins Hugh and Rob Campbell were ushers. Other Old Herefordians who were present on the day were Will Lambert, Luke Cross, Johnny Pudge, Freddie Anthony, Tom Austwick, Amy Ellis, Ben Price, Edward Gwyther, James Shutt, Laura Healey, Lily Forward, Lizzie Wesley, Tiggy Bagley, Rachel Hewitt, Andy Aston. Harry Gardner-Clarke was invited but couldn't make it due to his work. Robert and Danielle live in Monmouth. They spent their honeymoon on safari and on the beach in Tanzania.

#### James Erskine and Victoria Holdsworth

James (OH 1993-2000), was married to Victoria Holdsworth on 19 June 2015 – just seven weeks after his youngest brother's wedding.

The ceremony was held at Elmore Court near Gloucester. The couple, who have made their home in Cheltenham, spent their honeymoon in Norway.

Andrew Davies was best man and brothers Michael and Robert were ushers. There were several other OHs in attendance: Hugh cousins and Roh Campbell, friends Edward Goldsmith, Huw Warren, Sian Warren, Chris Brierly, Laurence Hobden, Jonathan Sheldrake, Jamie Walker, Oli Evans, Suzy Clarke and Ben Andrews, all leavers in 2000.



Luke Fisher and Alison Zhu The wedding took place on 1 August 2015 of Luke Fisher (OH 2000-07) to Alison Zhu.

The service was held at Trinity College, Cambridge and the reception at Newnham College, Cambridge. Luke's brother, Joseph Fisher (OH), was best man and his sister, Amalie Fisher (OH), was the organist.



Alison and Luke Fisher pictured with OH guests. *Middle row*: Liam Dunachie, Holly Aston, Isabel Drury, Amy Gullis, Emma Cooper. *Back row*: Will Spencer, Sebastian Smith, Angus Rawstorne.

#### NEWSLETTER 2015

# OH WEDDINGS

#### David Lifely and Freya Wileman

On 29 August 2015, OHs David Lifely and Freya Wileman were married in St Mary the Virgin Church, Burghill, Hereford.

The couple met at Hereford Cathedral School Sixth Form (leaving in July 2008), and OHs turned out in abundance, with almost 40 in attendance at the wedding. The couple currently live in West London; David works as an Offshore Structural Engineer and Freya as an Account Manager in a Content Marketing Agency.



#### Mark Lowden and Sarah Chapman

Mark Anthony Lowden (OH 1996-2003) married Sarah Katherine Chapman Jones on 11 April 2015 at the Lady Chapel, Hereford Cathedral.

Best Man was Dominic Lacey and Master of Ceremonies was John Crichton, both OH from the same year. Among the guests were Sue Connop (former HCS Games/Geography teacher), Andy Connop (HCS Games teacher), Sarah Connop (OH 2000-2007), Edward Painter, Simon Andrews, and Camilla Hern (née Watkins) was the photographer (all OH 1996-2003).

Mark, a Chartered Financial Adviser and Sarah, a BBC Journalist, live in Cookham, Berkshire.



# Amy-Louise Moffat and Frank McMurray

During October 2014 Amy-Louise Moffatt (OH 1997-2003) married Frank McMurray on the Isle of Skye in a Civil Wedding. Both Amy and Frank are currently serving in the Armed Forces.



#### Mike Powell and Stefani Jenkins

The marriage of Michael Powell (OH) to Stefani Jenkins (Haberdashers' Monmouth School for Girls) took place on 14 August at Holy Trinity Church in Combe Down, Bath.

The wedding breakfast and evening reception took place at Prior Park College, Bath. Following the wedding celebrations, the couple set off on a two week honeymoon, stopping in New York, LA and Hawaii - "the best two weeks of our lives!".

Michael is a Housemaster and Sports teacher at Padworth College, Berkshire.





Please let us know of your upcoming wedding so we can include you in the next edition of the *Old Herefordian*.

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# OH TRAVEL

#### **Studying Roman Art**

In September of this year I travelled to Rome for a short stay with the help of the OH Travel Fund to research Roman Art and Architecture for one of my degree exam papers in Classics. I went with a planned itinerary but discovered so much more there that was useful for my university papers that I will be sitting at the end of my upcoming final year.

Staying at the top of the Spanish Steps I was only a short walk from the Pantheon where I went first. The scale of the building was astounding, and although not specifically a part of my art course, it was really interesting to look at the style of columns used across the front and the style of the domed ceiling. I was also close to the Column of Marcus Aurelius (pictured) that looms in a small square off a busy street. The column shows scenes of warfare and violence all the way to the top and seeing it in person was incredibly valuable for understanding it as a monument. Most of my course is Roman artwork so the next day I headed to the Capitoline Museums, designed bv Michelangelo, which house some of the best surviving artwork from the 300 years that I study. Whilst there for the day I attended a course which talked us through some of the marble busts and mosaics in more detail and I was able to look at some pieces in the process of being restored and not currently on show to the general public. Here I was able to find some examples of art that were pertinent to my course but which I hadn't come across before so I walked away with a very full camera!

The following day was my last full day in Rome so I packed in the Colosseum with the Arch of Constantine and the Roman Forum in the baking Roman heat. The Forum was not too busy and enough has survived to be able to appreciate the ground plan of temples and civic buildings that would have made up the heart of Roman life. It also included a number of arches that I study for my course and it was wonderful to be able to see these still standing at the edges of the Forum. The Palatine Museum in



Mosaic of gladiatorial scene (Colosseum)



Marble sculptures in the Capitoline Museum

the centre of the Palatine Hill part of the site had beautiful mosaics and marble sculptures that have been found and preserved from the various villas in the Forum. The entire site has been extremely well preserved and I would encourage everyone to go and explore the area, which you can roam around in the sun.

There is no doubt that the trip has been an extremely valuable resource for my upcoming exams as it was so useful to see and understand the monuments and art in person and I would like to say a very big thank you to the OH Travel Fund for helping me to take this trip.

Emily Burdett



Column of Marcus Aurelius

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

# Richard P. Bower OH 1946-50

Dr Richard Bower, born in 1933, died on Sunday 2 August 2015, following a fall at his home in Rye, Sussex.

At HCS Richard was a School House monitor and L/Sgt in CCF; he was a member of several drama



and music societies and a leading member of the Field Naturalist Society.

Below is an appreciation of his life written by his sister and published in the Rye News.

## 'A quiet man for a coup

Since his retirement in 1992 from Booker McConnell PLC, when he travelled the world, initiating projects in over 16 countries as a soil surveyor and land planner with specialist sugar growing experience, Richard had made his home in Rye, where his younger sister's family lived and worked. He took various voluntary jobs during his retirement including several years as Treasurer for Rye Museum, where he then continued as an enthusiastic guide at the Ypres Tower until his death.

A quiet, gentle and unassuming man, many of his local friends will not have realised what an interesting and often exciting working life he had lead. After Sandhurst and ten years army service with secondments to both the Somali Scouts and the Aden Protectorate Levy, he took a BSc at the University College of Wales in Bangor followed by a PhD.

After a two year posting to Sabah with the Overseas Development Agency, he joined Booker McConnell in 1974 as one of their specialist soil experts and travelled from Paraguay to the Philippines and Papua New Guinea to Africa. He spent several years in Indonesian Kalimantan and was later in Iran, working on projects to halt the encroaching desert until the Shah was ousted.

A job in Equatorial Cameroon was curtailed by a bug which involved two or three days walking and crawling, with the help of his workers, to get out of the forest and reach their motorbikes to get back to a doctor.

He helped to make the desert bloom in Oman, made a short trip to Jordan - where he discovered the Secret Police headquarters, though claimed not to have gone inside.

Work in Kenya and Tanzania seemed to go quite

smoothly, but a spell in Ethiopia ended when President Menghistu's regime fell, and his team came out on the ex-president's flight just in time. He returned later and was then held up by bandits who thankfully decided he was not of value to them just then.

He also returned to Somalia and was saddened to find all the work from an earlier project had been destroyed by rebels. He seemed to have a knack of surviving coups and revolutions wherever he was posted, one of the smallest being in 1979 in Papua New Guinea.'

**Biddy Cole** 

# **Gareth Holliday** OH

Gareth Holliday passed away on 31 August, aged 61, following a short unexpected illness. Gareth was a chorister at Hereford Cathedral from 1964 to 1969.

After a career with Midlands Electricity as Network Customer Services Manager, Gareth took early retirement in 2005. He had taken up golf in 2002; after retiring he started helping out at his local golf club, Gaudet Luce, Droitwich. With his extensive experience of dealing with the public, Gareth was soon given the job of Society Organiser for the club, where his warm and charming personality ensured that guest's golfing events ran smoothly. Gareth was Chairman of Droitwich Dolphins Swimming Club from 1992 to 2001. He leaves his wife Jackie and two daughters.

# John Llewellyn Hunkin FCA FTII OH 1934-39

John Hunkin died on January 2nd 2013 in his 90th year. John was born in Neath, West Glamorgan and gained a scholarship to attend Hereford Cathedral School as a boarder in 1934.



On leaving school in 1939, he trained in accountancy and was articled at Jennings and Watkins in Neath. This training was interrupted when John joined the army for National Service. Gaining the rank of Captain, he served both at home and abroad, and was stationed in Norway, Singapore and Japan where he was involved in clearing up after the devastation created in Nagasaki.

After National Service, John returned to Neath to complete his articles, qualifying as an accountant in 1950.

In his career as an accountant, John became a partner in Jennings and Watkins, and subsequently a senior partner in Watkins, Bradfield and Company where he remained until his retirement in 1988. He was a well-respected member of the accountancy profession and served as Secretary of the Swansea and South Wales District Society of Incorporated Accountants, President of the South Wales Society of Chartered Accountants (1982) and spent many years on committees of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

John brought his financial expertise to his local church, St David's in Neath, where he was Parish Treasurer for 12 years. Following this period, he demonstrated his commitment to the church serving as Rector's Warden and Church Treasurer for many years.

Outside of his work, John had a keen interest in swimming. He made a major contribution to swimming in Wales, serving as President of Neath Swimming Club for more than 40 years and President of the West Wales Swimming Association for almost 40 years. He also served as President of the Welsh Swimming Association (1975) and Chairman of the British Swimming Federation (1979).

John showed tremendous commitment to all activities in which he was involved. He was also very proud of his family. He leaves behind his widow, Joce, three children, ten grandchildren and an increasing number of great-grandchildren. He will be sadly missed.

# **Donald Fraser James**

OH 1941-46

Donald Fraser James died at home on 9 June 2015 after a long illness.

In his final year at HCS, Donald was Captain of Boats. Under his captaincy, the school was joint winner of the Public Schools coxed fours at Marlow after a dead-heat with Haileybury, – each school held the cup for six months! The Herefordian of 1946 reports of D F James: 'As captain, he showed himself a good organiser and leader.'

Donald joined the RAF for two years of National Service and then studied to become a librarian. He was assistant to the chief librarian at Kendal, Henry Marshall, who was also the friend and publisher of Alfred Wainwright. Donald became Borough Librarian of Kendal and then Westmorland County Librarian until

that County ceased to exist. Books were his lifelong passion.

He leaves his wife, their two children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

# Christopher John Morris OH 1933-37

Organist and publisher Christopher Morris died at the age of 92 on 23 November 2014.

Christopher was born on 13 May 1922 at Clevedon in North Somerset, the second



of three children, into a musical family; his father, Walter, had been a head chorister and Enid, his mother, was a talented pianist and church organist. Christopher was auditioned for a chorister scholarship at Hereford Cathedral by the musical director, Dr Percy Hull. Christopher had a meticulous nature which is perhaps why, on his journey to Hereford, he timed the train travelling through the Severn Tunnel; Dr Hull asked whether he had travelled by train, whether he had passed through the Severn Tunnel and how long this had taken. Fortunately, Christopher was able to give a precise answer: "Four minutes and nine seconds, sir.". He received the Sinclair scholarship.

As a chorister he participated in the annual Three Choirs Festival, and among other musical experiences sang under the baton of Sir Edward Elgar with the London Symphony Orchestra in 1933. He left Hereford Cathedral School at the age of sixteen, after gaining his Oxford School Certificate in 1937, and became articled organ pupil (and subsequently assistant organist) to Percy Hull in the cathedral. His musical education was interrupted by WW2 when he was called up and assigned to the 17th/21st Lancers. At the end of the war, with the rank of captain, he was appointed head of music at a military college in Austria. It was here he met a talented young pianist from Witney in Oxfordshire, Ruth Early.

After demobilisation, Christopher completed his organ studies at the Royal Academy of Music. In 1947, at the age of twenty-five, he was appointed organist and director of music at St George's, Hanover Square, – the church where Handel had worshipped and where Christopher and Ruth were married in 1949 – and was described as 'a brilliant choir-trainer and musicologist'; he retired after twenty-five years service.

In addition to his position as church organist, in 1954 Christopher was asked to become a full-time music publisher at the nearby Oxford University Press. Here he worked with eminent composers: Ralph Vaughan Williams, then in his eighties, and Sir William Walton (and the formidable Lady Walton). He was also the first to encourage and publish the young John Rutter. The Welsh composer William Mathias, who was a house composer at OUP, dedicated his 1986 organ *Recessional* to 'Christopher Morris, musician, publisher, friend'. Christopher had a reputation for being approachable and straightforward, but he was also meticulous, accurate and brilliant at spotting printing errors.



Christopher (right) with Dame Janet Baker and Sir William Walton at a reception to launch the EMI recording of Walton's opera, Troilus and Cressida in 1977.

Christopher also arranged music for the organ and composed. His carol *Born in a Manger* was performed at the King's College Cambridge Carol Service in 1962 and was recorded for EMI in 1965 by the Bach Choir, conducted by Sir David Willcocks. His major commercial achievement was creating and publishing, in 1961, *Carols for Choirs;* a single volume bringing together the vocal scores of 50 Christmas carols. It sold more than a million copies, and was followed by several more volumes edited by David Willcocks and John Rutter. He retired from the OUP in 1986, and twenty years later left London to live near his family in Oxfordshire.

Christopher was a talented man from a talented family. His elder brother, Gareth, was the principal flautist with the Philharmonia Orchestra for twenty-four years and a distinguished soloist. His younger sibling is Jan Morris, the author and travel writer who accompanied Edmund

Hilary on the 1953 Everest expedition.

He had a daughter and son with his wife Ruth, who died in 1997; and he was very proud that all his five grandsons carried on the family tradition and won chorister scholarships.

#### An Appreciation by John Rutter

I first met Christopher Morris in 1967. He was Music Editor at Oxford University Press, and I was a recently graduated student at Cambridge, brought to see him by Sir David Willcocks, the legendary director of King's College Choir who had taken an interest in my early carol compositions and believed I might be a useful addition to the Oxford catalogue.

I had expected the Music Editor of such a longestablished and revered publisher to be a grand and daunting figure, but Christopher was friendly, highspirited and welcoming. I was promptly signed up to join the Oxford stable, and Christopher together with David became a father-figure to the young emerging composer who sometimes needed keeping on the rails. In retrospect, I can see how fortunate I was to have Christopher as my editor. He always had time to see me, despite his onerous duties – for some years until an assistant was appointed, he was OUP's sole music editor, responsible for looking after such distinguished composers as Walton, Rawsthorne, Berkeley, Mathias and Hoddinott, in addition to vetting floods of unsolicited manuscripts and deciding what to publish. His music department was small but committed, productive, and successful. We, the composers, always felt we were part of a family, and often enjoyed the warm hospitality of Christopher and his adored wife Ruth at their home in Kensington.

Christopher had sound musical judgement, no doubt rooted in his solid background as a Hereford chorister, and he retained a special love for choral and in particular church music. He edited, more or less anonymously, a number of choral anthologies which remain standard to this day, including The Oxford Book of Tudor Anthems which is on most cathedral and college choir shelves and the equally valuable Anthems for Choirs series. Undoubtedly the best-selling of these was the Carols for Choirs series, still used by choirs all over the English-speaking world. This series was his idea. He had originally planned to issue a completely revised Oxford Book of Carols but was thwarted by the objections of Martin Shaw's widow, who insisted that the 1928 book should remain exactly as it stood. Christopher's stroke of genius was to sidestep and commission a fresh book (the title Carols for Choirs was

his), drafting in Reginald Jacques, conductor of the Bach Choir, and David Willcocks from King's to be its co-editors. Issued in 1961, the book was a runaway success and, following the death of Reginald Jacques, I was invited to be co-editor of the subsequent volumes.

Christopher possessed all the necessary qualities of a fine music editor. As far as the public was concerned, he was happy to remain modestly in the background, but as a former wartime tank commander (an experience he never even mentioned to me) he lacked nothing in nerve and courage, willing to take a risk but never reckless, not shrinking from difficult decisions when these were needed. When he retired he handed on to his successors a music department which was commercially successful and highly respected, and he drew quiet satisfaction from watching its continued progress and recalling the happy relationships he had enjoyed during his years there.

John Rutter

# Michael Morris OH 1933-40

Michael Morris, who was born in 1924, passed away on 17 June, aged 91. As a probationer chorister, Michael had the distinction of singing



in the Three Choirs Festival in 1933 when Sir Edward Elgar conducted his *Dream of Gerontius*. He went on to sing in fifty-three Three Choirs festivals and was Chorus Superintendent for the Hereford contingent for many years. In 1997 he retired after a sixty year association with the Hereford Choral Society and during this time performed under five different conductors; he was quoted in the *Old Herefordian* magazine at the time: "It has been a wonderful experience... perhaps my abiding memory of those glorious decades is of the lovely people who have been my friends and colleagues. It was a privilege to know them as it still is to know the present members."

Below is the address given by the Dean of Hereford at the funeral service for Michael Morris, 1 July 2015:

'Softly and gently, dearly-ransomed soul, Farewell, but not for ever, brother dear, Swiftly shall pass thy night of trial here And I will come and wake thee on the morrow. Those words end *The Dream of Gerontius*, and it is with the music of the Angel's Farewell, that we shall bear Michael from the cathedral at the end of this service.

I wonder - will it be like that - our death? A gentle falling asleep in the hands of loving and merciful God? I like to think so and I am sure that was how Michael saw it. I can't believe that one who had been part of so many performances of The Dream wouldn't somehow be influenced by Newman and Elgar's wonderful vision of our end and our new beginning. I guess Michael will have had his moments, like Gerontius himself, at the opening of The Dream, when he's terrified of death. But that was not my experience of Michael – in all our recent conversations, I found him ready to depart - yes, patiently waiting, confident of all that would be, and content to look back - with a wonderful, sharp and accurate memory for a man of 91 - to a life so well spent and with so many experiences and events to treasure and celebrate.

So what will we all remember of Michael?

He was a great Herefordian. Born and bred in the city his parents both musicians, music was in his bones – first in the choir at All Saints, then, at the age of nine, he won a scholarship to Cathedral and Cathedral School and in that great year of 1933, he was pitched into music and culture at the highest level, singing under Elgar himself and even meeting the great George Bernard Shaw. So began an association with the Three Choirs Festival of great distinction – singing in 53 festivals – 3 as a boy and 50 as a man – marshalling the chorus as he did so skilfully and tactfully over so many years. And what a year in which to salute a great son of the Three Choirs Festival – this 300 anniversary year! I feel sure that when the history of the festival is revised, in due course, alongside all the luminaries, Michael will find a valued place.

Michael loved all aspects of Hereford music – present at the 175th anniversary of Hereford Choral Society, in 2012, he was one of the few to remember the centenary, 75 years before, performing as he did under Percy Hull, Meredith Davies, Melville Cooke, Richard Lloyd and Roy Massey. Only five years of army service interrupted Michael's association with the Choral Society, and he rejoined in 1947.

Michael supported Hereford in many other ways – a season ticket holder at Hereford United for over 50 years – a good actor, performing locally in his repertory days; he was a valued member of St Ethelbert Probus Club – joining in 1983; a strong Freemason at Coningsby Lodge; a loyal member of Hereford Conservative Club.

Michael was a man who inspired great affection and | loyalty. Friends tell me that a walk with Michael in High Town was like a royal progress, and took for ever, as he stopped to talk to first this friend, then that acquaintance. He inspired that affection, as he was so good to talk to and always interested in what you had to say – 'what was the latest news'? – 'what was going on in the cathedral'?

How marvellous that he was able to stay in his home till the end. This was possible through the constant care of Bob, his neighbour and Bob's daughter Vicky. We'd all want to salute you both for what you did for Michael and the great love and care you showed him.

Michael knew dark times, too. He fought in the Second World War, being parachuted into Burma with a radio on his back - and indeed was one of the lucky few to make it ashore when a massive air drop went wrong and hundreds of our parachutists were dropped into the sea instead of onto the coast. He then fought his way up through Italy and Europe - so we proudly commemorate a distinguished war record.

There were sadnesses, too – his wife Megan died ten years ago and his daughter, Carol, just over a year ago - and how good it is to have Jack, Michael's son-in-law, with us today.

Michael endured much these last years, with operations and medical concerns, but he had an extraordinary way of making light of it all, and always turning the conversation from himself to the person he was speaking to.

His faith was real and deep – this cathedral meant so much to him and how right that his funeral service should take place here today.

We spoke about his funeral and we've included some of his beloved Elgar but what he really wanted was for Lucy to sing Handel's Let the bright seraphim. This is another image of our death, I guess. The Angel's Farewell is one of gentle resignation and mercy, but this aria from Samson is in the mould of The Trumpet Shall Sound – the triumphant key of D major, likewise proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus Christ. So, as we now hear this wonderful music, we shall remember Michael, and recall those words from Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, as another faithful Christian arrived at the Celestial City – So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.

May Michael rest in peace and rise in glory." The Very Revd Michael Tavinor

# **Jennifer Higham**

Hereford Cathedral Junior School was sad to learn of the death of former teacher Mrs Jennifer Higham; she worked at the school from 1959-1999. She originally acted as



training in 1964 she was appointed Year 1 class teacher. After her retirement she continued to support the school with occasional appearances in the office. The retired class teacher died from Parkinson's disease after a four year fight, in Hereford Hospital on 8 September 2015, aged 74.

An extract from Teachers Educational Supplement (TES) from 2006 read:

'Some outstanding teachers are honoured with knighthoods or have assembly halls named after them. Most just live on in their pupils' memories. But surely only one can see a racehorse flash past, bearing her name and the colours of her school. Jennifer Higham worked at Hereford Cathedral Junior School for more than 40 years, starting as an assistant then returning after teacher training. One devoted pupil when she was a student teacher in the 60s was Peter Scudamore, one of the greatest jockeys of all time.

So when the school's racehorse-owning syndicate (well, this is Herefordshire) was seeking a name for a new horse stabled at the Scudamore yard, "Mrs Higham" was the obvious choice. She did well on her first outing, coming fifth in a 15-horse race at Uttoxeter, on New Year's Eve. And the cry, "Mrs Higham is coming up on the outside," gave pleasure all round.'

Mrs Higham led an active retirement involving volunteering for Hereford Riding for the Disabled (RDA), organising Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal collections, walking Offa's Dyke with friends, Canadian Canoeing with Hereford Canoe Club, Long-distance Horse rides and foreign holidays to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada.

Being wife, mother and grandmother were the most important part of her life, she valued them more than anything. She was always interested in and concerned about others.

Her funeral at Hereford Cathedral on 25 September was attended by mourners including ex-pupils, parents and colleagues from HCJS with family and many friends. Muffled Bells were rung by the band of bell ringers she rang with from her local church in Woolhope.

# **Alex Shave**

The school is sad to have learned of the death of former HCS teacher Alex Shave who passed away on the 14 August, aged 79, after a long illness. Alex taught Economics and German at the school and was father to OHs Ali (Alison) and Paddy (Patrick) Shave.

# The following Eulogy was written by the Shave family:

'Alex was born in Croydon but his family soon moved to Dulwich. During the war his parents were Air Raid Wardens and Alex and his friends found it all rather exciting, although it is clear he was often in danger. He gained a scholarship to Dulwich College. After leaving school he obtained a job in the Civil Service but he was called up for National Service and was in the RAF for two years.

Afterwards he worked in a bank but all this time he really wanted to go back to studying and gained a place at Bristol University to read Economics and Languages. He really enjoyed University and it was here he met Jeannie, and his love for appearing on stage and producing revues started from here.

After university he obtained a job at the BBC as a Stage Manager responsible for sound effects. His claim to fame was rattling the bucket in Mrs Dale's Diary! By this time Alex and Jeannie were married and they both came to the conclusion that London was not for them. Alex had done some supply teaching and he applied for a temporary job in Gloucestershire. After this he was approached to teach French at Whitecross School. This however did not last long and he was asked to teach at the Cathedral School. This began a whole new life for Jeannie and Alex.

They had a daughter Alison and six years later a son Patrick. While at the Cathedral School he coached squash and cricket, started a Bridge Club, produced revues, did the lighting for plays and quite often helped building the stage sets. He was also an approachable and popular Housemaster. In his later years he did more admin jobs and couldn't think why he was put in charge of Health and Safety!

After retirement he continued playing bridge and took up golf in a serious way. He was the secretary of Brockington Golf Club and also Senior's Captain.

Alex was a people's man. He enjoyed gatherings, dinner parties and often performed at them. His party piece was Susanna's a Funniful Man, which had everyone in hysterics.

He was a great father and much loved by his grandchildren. He was always able to surprise them

with odd presents! And always considered wise and able to answer any question.

For the last two years Alex's health had not been good but he was always cheerful and pleased to see people. Everyone who knew him was impressed with his kindness and willingness to help anyone who needed it and many people have expressed this in their cards to the family.

He was not a Church goer (although having said that he did go into the Cathedral every morning while he was teaching and sometimes addressed the assembled pupils) but he was a spiritual man and loved Church music and he supported Jeannie in all her church activities.

A few months ago Ali wrote her Dad a letter which finished with the words "I have many happy memories and I feel fortunate and privileged to have you as my Dad and I know Paddy feels the same. Love, joy and laughter – can't beat it".

This is a thanksgiving for Alex's life and we shall miss him!'

# Bob Talbot

It was with great sadness that Hereford Cathedral School learnt of the death of Bob Talbot, a former teacher, in May after a long illness. Bob had been a key figure at the school for thirty-four years. As Howard Tomlinson,



Headmaster, said of Bob on his retirement in 2002:

'Bob has made a huge contribution to the life of the school – to its marketing, to its pastoral welfare, as a well-respected Tutor; to the life of the Common Room as its social secretary and many times President; to its adventure activities as a CCF officer; to its rugby, not least as 1st XV coach for many years and co-founder of the Marches Sevens competition; and to its aesthetic appreciations and general culture as head of an outstanding Art Department.'

Aside from the cultural school trips abroad for which Bob was well known, rugby was clearly a love in Bob's life. When Bob and teaching colleague Don Theakston started the Marches Sevens in 1976, they probably had no idea that it would still be running more than thirty years later and have grown to be a major fixture in the schools' rugby sevens calendar nationally.

During his time at the School he nurtured the talent

#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

# OBITUARIES

of many who would go on to regional, national and international success, including former Welsh International Paul Thorburn who said of Bob on hearing of his passing:

'There can be no question that Bob made a phenomenal contribution to the lives of so many people whilst at Hereford Cathedral School, particularly those of us who were fortunate to have a passion for rugby. Bob was a huge motivation for us all and his commitment to the teams he coached was tireless, whether it was the junior teams or the first XV. One of his legacies will be the Marches 7's, a tournament which now rates as one of the largest and most successful events on the schools 7's circuit and it was only six weeks ago that a number of former HCS students and staff enjoyed another momentous occasion. Sadly, Bob was unable to make it to Wyeside that day and it is with great sadness therefore that we never had an opportunity to say our thanks to him. On a personal note, Bob's contribution to my career was enormous, giving me great encouragement all the way through my school career and when I managed to make the Neath squad, he and a number of other staff members made every effort to come along and watch and I am indebted to him for the support he gave me, even if that meant occasionally he had to cheer for Wales!'

Bob was also involved in rugby in the wider county and stepped down after 40 years' service, which included 20 years as treasurer, with the Herefordshire Schools' Rugby Union in 2013.

Bob was a kind and generous man, a mentor for junior colleagues, who cared deeply about people. Colleagues describe him as 'someone you could talk to', 'whose respect you wanted', someone 'who supported and encouraged you'.

Hereford Cathedral School's current Headmaster Paul Smith said:

'We were all saddened to hear of Bob's death. Bob, the first ever Head of Art at the School, left us with an outstanding Art Department and his legacy has continued to go from strength to strength with the Department now being recognised at a national level."

"His lasting legacy, with Don Theakston, of the annual Marches Sevens Rugby Tournament also stands as a true testament to his vision and passion, and to his belief that life and learning are so often aided by the provision of opportunities, not just facilitated within the classroom."

Bob leaves a wife, Sue, a former teacher at Hereford Cathedral Junior School and a daughter Louise.



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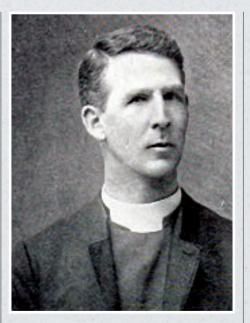


# The Cathedral School One 100 Years Ago: John Henson and the Inspection of 1915

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

The First World War brought with it unprecedented challenges for any head-teacher as the Reverend John Henson, Headmaster of Hereford Cathedral School during these war years, found to his cost in 1914-15.

One of the major consequences for the school of the outbreak of war was a rapid decline in pupil numbers which reached a low point of seventy-one boys in April 1915. Over the weeks from late July to mid-September 1914, eighteen newly registered boarders were withdrawn from Henson's lists, thereby reducing the school's potential income by nearly £1,000. At a time when the headmaster was still responsible for collecting the school fees and paying his staff, such a loss was also likely to have caused Henson financial embarrassment. In addition, many of the older boys had left, so Henson was faced with the prospect of a tiny sixth form, which was down to eight pupils by early 1915, and a young and inexperienced group of monitors. The exception was his Head of School, T M Ragg, but in early October he also (in the Headmaster's phrase) 'discarded the pen for the sword' and joined the many Old Herefordians who had flocked to the colours during the first weeks of the war.



Correspondingly, Henson's staff had been reduced to six assistant masters by September 1914. Henson was more fortunate than some of his HMC colleagues in that no teacher had left voluntarily that summer to serve their King and country but Percy Hull, the music master and Dr Sinclair's assistant as cathedral organist, having left England in early August to undertake a walking tour in the Black Forest, had been caught by the outbreak of war and interned in Germany. The autumn term activities of the OTC, too, were disrupted by the successive loss of two sergeant instructors, whom the War Office recalled for senior training duties, and the resignation of the newly appointed commanding officer.

In such circumstances, it is not surprising that the school's governors began to lose confidence in their headmaster. In the autumn 1914 meeting, it was reported that the deficiency in the fee account for that term would be nearly £70, which would rise to over £112 if the staff remained the same for the following spring term. In the end, Henson reduced the deficit to £13 2s 8d. Nevertheless, during these early war months his headmastership was insecure. Indeed, in February 1915 the governors asked him to consider his position 'given the falling off of numbers and the...[finances] of the school'.

In addition to the financial concerns, Henson had to face down parental complaints 'with reference to the discipline and administration of the school'. Indeed, it seems as though some influential members of the local community were deliberately denigrating the cathedral school in an attempt to have it closed down and so benefit the new high school. As one of the HMIs had reported, following a post-inspection conference in Hereford in March 1915:

The governors explained their difficulties with the utmost frankness. They thought the school was in a desperate position. The school and the Headmaster were constantly attacked by parents, by the towns-people and by the neighbourhood generally. Trivial incidents had been seized upon and magnified into scandals. The Headmaster gave me a typical case. A big boy with conspicuously red hair [having] got a bad kick on the head during a football match... walked unsteadily back to school through the streets of Hereford. This became the origin of a legend that drunkenness was one of the prevailing vices of the cathedral school.

HCS was indeed in a 'desperate position' in these early war months yet it survived thanks, in part, to the favourable inspection report which helped still the 'injurious tittle-tattle' and the unfair attacks that the Headmaster had endured.

Although Henson may have feared the worst when four inspectors descended on HCS on 16th and 17th March 1915, he was personally vindicated, being described as 'a teacher of exceptional ability...with unusual powers of hard and continuous work'. He may have taught an excessive weekly timetable of thirtyone periods, but the best teaching in the school (in History and Classics) was conducted by the Headmaster himself. Henson's introduction of a systematic History scheme would make it impossible for a sixth-former ever again 'to be entirely ignorant of the history of his own country'; and in Classics, although only fifteen boys now studied Greek (in four sets), the success of the Headmaster's decision to reduce the amount of reading was shown by 'the extremely promising work' of the best boys in Form IV no less than by 'the accuracy and taste' of the Sixth in their translations.

Attainment in other subjects was more variable. The work of the senior boys in mathematics, although they were taught by a master who had been listed nineteenth wrangler in 1911, was disappointing; the effectiveness of modern languages teaching had declined; and there were difficulties in English caused by the teaching being shared out among the whole staff. Even so, the attainment achieved in these three disciplines was considered 'fair'. The same could not be said for other areas. Science still occupied a subordinate position in the curriculum. There was no sixth form science teaching at all; the subject could be dropped entirely by boys opting for German or Greek at the end of Form III; less than five hours per week was allocated to Science in the whole school; there was no master with a Science degree; and the laboratory, although well equipped, was insufficiently used, it being 'cold and damp' in winter. Criticisms were also made of the school's provision in Geography, which was not taught beyond Form IV and where the master had no special qualification or aptitude for the subject; in Art, taught in two junior forms, where drawing instruction was 'not on good lines... [being] very largely from copies' and the teaching in Form III was disrupted by the master having simultaneously to teach mathematics to a different group of boys; and in Music, where the thirty minutes weekly allocation for the two divisions, plus a Saturday 'singsong' for the older boys, was considered insufficient, and the boys were 'thoroughly bored' with having to sing hymn tunes which they well knew. Part of the problem was that the choristers were withdrawn from these and other lessons. Indeed, to the inspectors, the choristers with their special timetable were 'a nuisance to the rest of the school'. It was hardly a new observation.

Other weaknesses, namely the indifferent pupil grading; the low masters' salaries (which ranged from £170 to £130 annually); the problems posed by the Oxford Junior examination; the lack of a systematic medical examination; and the need for more 'modern single desks' and pictures were alluded to, but it was by no means a negative report. The improvements that had been made to the accommodation, the classrooms apart, since the 1908 inspection and the school's 'vigorous corporate life', for example, were commended. But most important of all, in terms of the school's continuation, was the general conclusion:

Since the date of the last full inspection report, there has been established in Hereford a wellequipped county secondary school for boys. In an important provincial centre like Hereford there should be ample space for at least two efficient boys' schools differing not necessarily in grade but in type. The cathedral school, with its traditions and endowment, can offer a predominantly classical education up to a high point. Under the present Headmaster, the classical tradition is in excellent hands, and the school should continue to fill a most useful place in the educational scheme of the district.

The spring term of 1915 marked the nadir of the school's fortunes during Henson's tenure. The inspectors, however, had both vindicated the headmaster and affirmed the school's place in the county's educational provision. Henson and the school survived but it had been a close run thing.

Howard Tomlinson

# **WW1 Commemoration**

2014, 100 years on from the outbreak of the First World War, saw the commencement of four years of commemoration and remembrance to mark the centenary.

During World War One over 400 former pupils of HCS and HCJS served their country and seventy were killed. In 1918/19 the OH Club appealed to its members to raise funds for a memorial to be placed in the Lady Chapel of Hereford Cathedral, which at that time was a place of daily worship for the School. In due course the brass plaque we see today was erected, followed by a similar plaque after WW2.

The OH Club has matched funding from Mr Ege Parker, former HCS teacher, and together they commissioned a brass memorial plaque which has been erected in St George's Memorial Chapel, Ypres, to mark the sacrifice of so many Old Herefordians on the Western Front. The HCS Chamber Choir sang at the dedication of the plaque in St George's Chapel.

Hereford Cathedral School's Senior Chamber Choir had been invited to Belgium to represent the United Kingdom to perform as part of the 'Thousand Voices for Peace' concert. They joined with thirty-eight other choirs from 18 countries for the concert in the International Basilica of the Sacred Heart (Koekelberg Basilica) in Brussels.

# **Boy Bishop's Speech**

Harry Brook, who was installed as Boy Bishop in 2014, remembered the Old Herefordians of the Great War in his speech:

'I visited Belgium [November 2014] with the Senior Chamber Choir to take part in the 1000 Voices for Peace concert. We were one of thirty-nine choirs from countries involved in the First World War who took part in this homage to peace. Whilst in Belgium, we also took part in a service at St George's Memorial Chapel, Ypres, to commemorate the seventy Old Herefordians who died



in the Great War. When I returned home, I was interested to discover that one of the seventy, Charles Howard Harris, was, like me, a chorister at Hereford Cathedral.

Charles Harris was born in 1897. He was the son of Edward Charles and Flora Caroline Harris and lived at 56, Broad Street. So, unlike me, he would have been able to go home after Matins on Sundays. Although I do not know the exact dates when Charles Harris was a chorister, I think this would have been sometime between 1904 and 1911 when he was aged between seven and fourteen years old.

Being a chorister in the 1900s was even more of a commitment than it is today. During my time as a chorister, I took part in hundreds of services, which I find quite amazing. However, the choristers at the beginning of the twentieth century would have taken part in even more services as the only time they had off was a half holiday on Wednesdays and three weeks summer holiday. Boys who lived at great distances from Hereford were boarded out in private houses, which, living in Kington, would have helped me after many a late concert.

I joined Hereford Cathedral as a probationer in September 2009,

about one hundred years after Charles Harris. For me, this meant moving from Shobdon Primary School to Hereford Cathedral Junior School. Each morning, my fellow probationers and I were whisked off by Mr Dyke for training leading up to the chorister test. This is a big moment for a probationer as the test determines whether or not you become a full chorister. I remember that my test took place at Mr Bowen's house. Mrs Bowen kindly offered me lunch but I declined in case it was the other half of the avocado that Mr Bowen was enjoying! Fortunately, the journey from Kington gave me plenty of time to revise and I passed the test first time. I was 'ruffed' on 15 July 2010 along with my fellow probationers, Michael and William. This also happened to be the valediction service for three of my former mentors: Anthony, Rory and Matthew.

When Charles Harris joined the choir in the early 1900s, the organist was Dr George Robinson Sinclair. Sinclair's dog, Dan, as many of my former colleagues behind me may know, is the subject of one of Elgar's Enigma Variations. Dan attended choir practices with his master and apparently growled at choristers who sang out of tune. Mr Bowen may like to consider taking this approach.

Sinclair was a dignified role model. The choristers held him in great esteem and affection and were happy and worked as a welldisciplined team. This was also my experience as a chorister under Mr Bowen's direction. Dr Sinclair arranged for a room to be built in his garden which was known as 'The Ark', and this was where practices were held until a song room was built. The modern day equivalent of 'The Ark' is Choir House where choristers and probationers keep Mr Gacek on his toes in between practices and services.

Like me, Charles Harris would have enjoyed chorister outings as

these were started in the 1880s. The annual chorister outing continues to be a popular event today. It is quite possible that the outings I enjoyed and those enjoyed by Charles Harris and his fellow choristers had at least one thing in common – a steam train journey.

However, I do not think that Charles Harris would have been on tour abroad as a chorister. A year after I joined, the choir went on tour to South Africa for the first time. I had just started Year 5 and so was nine years old when we went but fortunately I didn't have home sickness. It was a fantastic experience, the only disappointment being that we did not see an elephant in its natural environment.

During my time in the choir, I also had the honour of taking part in a Christmas CD recording and several radio broadcasts. Participating in the Three Choirs Festival was one of the highlights of my time as a chorister and something which I share in common with Charles Harris. He and I will have sung much of the same choral music and perhaps even stood in the same place in the choir stalls behind me.

Charles Harris served in the 26th battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. The battalion set off for France on 4 May 1916 and took part in various battles on the Western Front, including the Battle of Flers-Courcelette and the Battle of the Transloy Ridges. Charles was only 19 years old when he died on the 10 October 1916 as a result of wounds received in action two days earlier.

If Charles Harris, and millions others like him, had not made the ultimate sacrifice, then I may never have had the opportunity to be a chorister at Hereford Cathedral. In 1916, the year when Charles died, John Maxwell Edmunds wrote: "When you go Home, tell them of us and say, For your Tomorrow, we gave our Today". Charles gave his today for my tomorrow and for this I will always be grateful.'

# Poppies at the Tower

Between July and November 2014 a display of ceramic poppies filled the moat at the Tower of London: 888,246 poppies – one for each British soldier killed.

The OH Club decided to purchase seventy of the poppies from the Tower of London to represent each OH life lost. A structure has been commissioned to incorporate the poppies so that they can be on permanent display in school and also used in the cathedral for our Service of Remembrance each year; the poppies will complement and augment the glass plaque which is placed on the central plinth, bearing the names of all our 20th and 21st Century war dead.



# 'Skylark'

Digby Haseler left Hereford Cathedral School in 1917 to join the King's Shropshire Light Infantry. He wrote poetry at school and continued to write verses when posted to the trenches in France.



In 2014, Hereford Cathedral School's Cantabile Girls' Choir commissioned Michael Neaum to set one of Digby Haseler's poems to music. *The Skylark* was given its premiere performance, on 18 October 2014, in Hereford Cathedral at a concert to raise money for local military charities. On 17 May 2015 Cantabile Girls' Choir won the BBC *Songs of Praise* Senior Choir of the Year singing *The Skylark*.

# Skylark

One lark sings over no man's land. The batteries roar on either hand, And very angry guns are they Now the night turns into day.

One lark sings over no man's land. The more they shell the more he sings!

Little bird, can you understand All the meaning of all these things It's a far cry across the sea To the folk who gave my life to me. Praise be to God who all good planned

One lark sings over no man's land.

The CD is available from Hereford Cathedral School Music Department (01432 363531), price £8.00 plus postage.

# **England Caps Displayed**

Lieutenant Francis Oakeley (OH) was an England international rugby player in 1913 when England won the first ever grand slam. He died in WW1 at the age of twenty-three; his submarine did not return from operations in the North Sea in December 1914.

Liz Smith, his niece, came to talk to Hereford Cathedral Junior School; one of the school houses is named Oakley. She also lent the school Francis Oakley's personal possessions, including his England 'caps', to display before they travelled to the Rugby Museum at Twickenham.



# **WW1 1915** Those OHs who were killed serving their country:



# Charles Robert Blackett

Second Lieutenant 2nd Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action at Ypres on 25 April 1915, aged 20.

He is commemorated at the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, and also in the church at Smethcote, Shropshire, where his father, Reverend William Robert Blackett, was Rector.

# Wilfred Townshend Carless

Born in 1875, Wilfred was the son of Joseph and Florence Carless and attended HCS 1885-91; his book, *A Short History of Hereford School,* was published in 1914.

A prominent local solicitor and Freeman of the City of Hereford, W T Carless was Registrar of the Hereford County Court and High Court of Justice, and he was also Deputy City and County Coroner. In 1897 he joined the Herefordshire Volunteers. Major Carless served with 1st Battalion Herefordshire Regiment, and took command of the regiment a few hours after landing at Suvla Bay when the Colonel was wounded. He was posted as missing, presumed dead, on 12 August 1915, aged 39. He is commemorated at Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Cathedral (a plaque commissioned by his wife and children), and Helles Memorial.



# Robert Shuttleworth Clarke

Captain in 5th Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry, was killed in action near Hooge 25 September, aged 25.

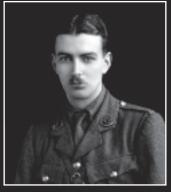
He was the son of Maria and the Reverend William Shuttleworth Clarke, Vicar of Marstow. A Baroque-style memorial tablet in the church commemorates Robert's life, and he is also commemorated on the school and cathedral memorials in Hereford as well as the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres.

#### Harold Cutfield Private, 16th The Queen's Lancers, was killed in action on 21 February, aged 19. He is commemorated at the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres.

Harold was the son of Arthur Cutfield, surgeon, and Agnes Cutfield of Merton House. Ross-on-Wye. The December 1916 edition of The Herefordian records his death: 'He left the School while still in the Preparatory, but even so young he had gained distinction, for he was School cox in 1906.' The Poverty Bay Herald newspaper of New Zealand, dated 22 May 1915 records: 'Advice has been received that Mr Harold Cutfield, well known in Gisbourne, has been killed in action at Ypres. He came out to the Dominion about three years ago, and was for some time with Mr Guy Porter, of Waingate. When war broke out he returned home and joined the 16th Lancers. This corps, whilst storming the enemy's trenches, was terribly cut up, losing many officers and men.'

# George Herbert Davies

Lieutenant 3rd Battalion attached 1st King's Shropshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action on 9 August at Hooge, aged 26. He is commemorated at the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, as well as at the school and Glasgow University.



George was the son of the Rev. John Bayley Davies, Rector of Waters Upton, Wellington, Salop, and Mrs Susan Davies.

He attended the University of Glasgow to study Engineering; he never graduated, however, and instead went to work for John Brown's, the shipbuilding company.

George joined the Shropshire Light Infantry in August 1914 and was promoted to Lieutenant on the 21 March 1915. He became a machinegun officer attached to the 1st Bn. Manchester Regiment. Invalided home in February 1915, he returned to the Front in April. He died in Hooge, Belgium. Major E. B. Luard wrote: "He was in charge of the machine guns, and was most gallantly getting one into position when he was shot dead. He is a very great loss to the regiment. He was very popular with both the officers and men. I had a great admiration of him, and feel the loss of a very courageous, hard-working and valuable young officer."



# **Peter Gedge**

Joined the Suffolk Regiment having postponed his plans to train for the priesthood. He landed in France on 29 May 1915 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 7th Battalion Suffolk Regiment.

He was killed in the "Action of the Hohenzollern Redoubt [Loos]", 13 October 1915, he was aged 24. He is commemorated at both Denstone College and Hereford Cathedral School as well as the Swanley War Memorial and the Loos Memorial.

Peter was the son of Reverend Edmund and Mary Elizabeth Gedge, of Swanley Junction, Kent. He had two brothers, Reverend Basil Johnson Gedge (military chaplain) and Joseph Gedge, who were also killed in the war; neither attended HCS. Staff Paymaster Joseph Gedge was killed on HMS Amphion on 6 August 1914, the first Royal Navy ship to be lost, just thirtytwo hours after war was declared. The Gedge Medal is still awarded by the Royal Navy.

# **Elliot Blair Grasett**

Lieutenant, 28th Punjabis attached 33rd Punjabis, Indian Army. He was born at Allensmore Vicarage, the son of the Reverend James Elliot Grasett.

He took part in every aspect of school life: Singing, Debating, Hockey, Rowing, Football and Cricket. His 'Valete' in the December, 1907 edition of The Herefordian:

'E. B. Grasett, Captain of Cricket 1907, 1st XI. Cricket 1906-7, 2nd XI. Football 1905-6, Monitor.' Elliot was a choral scholar at



Jesus College, Cambridge; he represented his college in Hockey, Rowing, Football and Cricket and added tennis to his sporting prowess. He graduated in 1911 with a BA in Modern Languages and was commissioned into the Indian Army. He also served in Egypt, taking part in the repulse of the Turkish attack at the Suez Canal in February 1915, before his posting to France. Lieutenant Grasett died in action, 25 September 1915, aged 27, leading his men at the Battle of Loos; he is remembered on the Indian Army memorial at Neuve-Chapelle. "Gallant and fearless to the last" - recalled his Commanding Officer - "he died as he would have wished himself, in front of his men."

# **Christopher Hatton**

Second Lieutenant, South Staffordshire Regiment died on 9 December 1915, aged 24.

The son of Charles and Ann Hatton of The Red House, Barton Street, Hereford, Christopher had been employed as a bank clerk in Worcestershire. He is commemorated on the St. Nicholas War Memorial, Hereford, and buried at St John the Baptist churchyard, Londonthorpe, Lincolnshire. [Belton Park, Londonthorpe, was a WW1 military camp and hospital.]

# William Ernest Mauvan

An Assistant School Teacher in Surrey, he joined the 2nd/4th Battalion The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

#### Corporal Mauvan died on 9 August, aged 31.

He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Gallipoli.

# **James Lewis Millar**

Private, Herefordshire Regiment, was killed in action 15 August, aged 18. He is buried at Suvla, Gallipoli. He was the son of Robert and Isabella Millar, of Bodenham, Hereford.

The December 1916 edition of The Herefordian included his obituary:

'Private J. L. Millar, Herefordshire Regiment, joined the 2nd Battalion when it was being raised in Hereford, and was afterwards transferred to the 1st. He then proceeded with it to the Dardanelles, and there met his death. He was instantaneously killed, being hit by a shell. He was a member of the School 1st XI, 1914.'

# Llewllyn Haslope Oldham

Second Lieutenant 2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment, was killed in action 26 September, aged 18. He is commemorated at Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Cathedral and Loos Memorial.



He was the son of the Reverend Egerton Haslope Oldham. The December, 1916 edition of The Herefordian included his obituary:

'Sec.-Lieut. L. Oldham. Worcestershire Regiment, joined very early in the War, and joined the ranks. He was promoted to Sergeant, and then obtained a commission while at the Front. While at School he represented the 1st XI. in Cricket in 1913, and gave promise of an oarsman, rowing in the Yellow Boat. He was also in the Football Eleven.'

# Rowland George Prichard

Lieutenant 1st Battalion Suffolk Regiment, was killed in action on 24 April, aged 19. He is commemorated at Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Cathedral and the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres.



Rowland was the youngest of four children of the Reverend Charles Collwyn Prichard, Rector of Alresford, Essex. At school, he won the VI Form Classics prize and the Canon Cape's Latin Verse Prize at Speeches, 1914. The July 1915 edition of *The Herefordian* included his obituary: 'The Editors regret to announce

'The Editors regret to announce the death of 2nd-Lieut. R. G. Prichard (O.H.), who was killed in action on April 28th. He was at school from 1909-1914, and was a Member of the School Crew in 1914, and of the Football XI In 1913. He was among the first to join and obtained a Commission very soon in the 3rd Batt. Suffolk Regt.'

# Henry Freeman Russell

Second Lieutenant 4th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment, was killed in action on 6 August, aged 25. He is commemorated at Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Cathedral and Helles Memorial.



Henry was the son of Mary M. Russell, of Southfield, Leominster, and the late Henry Freeman Russell JP. The December 1916 edition of The Herefordian included his obituary:

'Lieut. H. F. Russell, 4th Worcesters, was killed in the Dardanelles. He left School when in the Fifth Form, having received his 2nd XI Cricket Colours, 1906, and 2nd XI Football, 1906.'

# **Edward Stocker**

Second Lieutenant 6th Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers, he was killed in action on 25 September, aged 31.

He was the son of William E. G. and Juanita Stocker, and born in 1884 at Wimbledon, Surrey. In 1911 his employment is recorded as Bank Clerk in Wimbledon. However, his family also lived in Rustington, Sussex, and he is commemorated on the town's memorial as well as the Loos Memorial, France.

# David Marmaduke Williams

Killed in action 25 September, aged 25. He is commemorated at Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Cathedral and Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez.

The December, 1916 edition of The Herefordian included his obituary:

'Lieut. David Marmaduke Williams, O.H., Staffordshire Regiment who was killed on Sept. 25th. 1915, at the battle of Loos. Only 25 years of age.

Lieut. Williams was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Williams, late of Marston House, Hereford, and grandson of the late Mr. A. T. Lefroy, Chief Constable of Gloucestershire. Lieut. D. M. Williams received a commission in the 4th Batt. South Staffordshire Regiment in October, 1914, and joined the Depot in Jersey. On March 5th, 1915, he went out to the Front, attached to the 2nd Battalion. In May he acted as officer carrying the code messages between the General and Colonel, through the fire-zone at the battle of Festubert and was highly complimented by General Monro for the "extraordinarily good work he did." A short time after, he received a commission in the Regulars for "distinguished service in the field." In January he was mentioned in despatches. At the battle of Loos on Sept. 25th he was machine-gun officer under Capt. Kilby (who was awarded the V.C. for this action) and most gallantly rushed his gun up to within 20 metres of the German trenches, raking them with fire until shot down with all his men, who were either killed or wounded, Corpl. Waile was shot dead as he was courageously trying to bandage the wound in Lieut. Williams's head.

Colonel Morgan wrote to his parents, saying, "Your son, for his great gallantry, was recommended for the Military Cross and, had he lived, he would most certainly have received it. The Battalion covered themselves with glory, and your son had done so splendidly when serving." The Adjutant said he had, on more than one occasion, given proof of his great bravery, and the Regiment could ill afford to lose him.

An officer also paid this tribute: "He is a very great loss to us; he cheered everyone up, and was the life and soul of the mess. Nobody could have been a more gallant or truer friend."

# Monday [7 July 1915]

My dear mother

I got here yesterday and almost as soon as I got to the billets we went off to the trenches. I am now writing this in a dugout in the first line of trenches. The Germans are only 50 yards in front of us here.

We have now spent 24 hours in this trench. The whole relief works on 4 days in and 4 days out. It has been fairly quiet but for a few coal boxes and snipers. They liven up towards night time.

Tuesday

Still in the same place this morning. They gave 2 or 3 Jack Johnsons to liven us up at about 8 o clock.

Just in for a lively time.

Your loving son Tom

Just been through an artillery bombardment you can what [sic] it is like when only 50 yards apart as you get the benefit of your own as well as the enemies shells Jack Johnsons usually.

I'll write you first chance I'm dog tired now. Tom

#### 4 August 1915 Mar dagara (1

My dear mother

Very many thanks for your P.C. the shirt and the fly stuff. I got 2 parcels from Aunt Ina and Aunt Esther at the same time. The one from Aunt Ina had travelled a bit and turned up with just my name and a towel round it.

That camp bed is mine. I lent it to Daubeny while at the Base and then he sent it back. I'll send a paper to do with it. We came out the translast to be down in the trans

We came out the trenches two nights ago and we may go in again in two days time or go back for some rest as perhaps a boost will give us something to do.

I spent my last two days up sniping. The Huns kindly signalled back results by means of flags. They stuck up two flags on Bank Holiday, but we shot them down. They gave us a halt one night and we gave them one back the next but I don't think it is going on like this for long.

I got a letter from Robert yesterday saying he had not been in the trenches yet.

Two new officers turned up yesterday from the Artists Rifles. Please thank Joyce very much for her letter and say I'll write first opportunity

I very often get a horse to go riding and hope to this afternoon. I was busy yesterday afternoon paying out the company and taking them down for a bathe. We have to march 4 kilometres for the baths.

I met Williams yesterday in a car. They do get a good time the ASC. Drive about in cars all day long and never go anywhere near the Firing Line -- but I wouldn't be in it for any thing. N.W. has been wounded he says. Your loving son Tom

[18 August 1915] My dear mother

This letter may reach you late for various reasons in the post. My home address was sent for leave last night so I hope to be home in a short time though I'm afraid I shall never be able to say when except by telegraphing from London when I get there. Anything may turn up between now and then so it's no use saying anything for certain.

We have spent a week on end in these trenches and as far as I can make out are liable to be in them for another week before we are out of them. They are not such very bad trenches but we get some lively hours now and then, the nights especially. I spend most of my time crawling in the grass and their

communication trenches looking for souvenirs and will bring home what I can. I have been doing a lot of sniping too. This is a very good place for it.

The Herefordshire do not seem to have started very well. Very bad luck on them as they would have hardly seen anything fighting before they got these casualties. I got both your letters & the paper for which many thanks.

We have got a gramophone in one of the companies which is a great asset.

The Huns are a very sporting lot here as they signal all the results of your shots when sniping by waving flags. Yesterday a fellow was firing at a white sandbag in those trenches and for every miss they put up another white flag and for every hit they took one down. I am going to try and bring my rifle back as I shall probably lose it if I take it about with me.

I hope to be starting on leave soon after this weeks tour. Your loving son Tom

PS Many thanks for sending off footers and mouthorgans.

#### [8 September 1915]

#### My dear mother

We came out the trenches yesterday evening and present are billetted just behind. We are going 'in' again tomorrow in the same trenches so we are not having long wait.

The trenches are in an awful state. A foot deep in either mud or water so my T boots will come in very useful.

There is a tremendous lot of work to do up in trenches now for the winter.

I had a bathe in the canal today. Very dirty but better than nothing.

They shelled the canalside very heavily when I was going up to the trenches on my way back from leave and knocked holes in the tow path all the way up.

Will write tomorrow if I get a chance, but no time now. How is Robert? And where?

Your loving son Tom

# Letters Home

Letters written from the Front by Thomas Norbury Wilmot, 1915.



Sunday 18th

My dear mother

Did that cablegrame come from you that I got yesterday saying that I was reported dead? If so it's quite a mistake I'm far from dead yet. I can't think how the report came about and you could not have messed it up about JD Wilmot as I told you about him. By the way a cablegram takes just as long as a letter to come out, but I sent a reply to that one. We are going back into the trenches on Wednesday. There were rumours of tomorrow but I don't think it is true. We are having a game of footer this afternoon. Officers v.

Sergeants. Your loving son Tom

> [14 September 1915] Sunday My dear mother

Very many thanks for the H. Times. Why did you suddenly think I was at Devonport and put it on the address?

We ought to have been going into the trenches again today but the order was cancelled this morning and I believe we are going back to have a couple of days rest.

I am going for a ride after tea with Barton. It is a great treat being able to do these things instead of being in the trenches -- the trenches we were going to near Gy.

Just before we were relieved on Friday we brought down a Bosch aeroplane. It came over our trenches so we fired out and turned it back. And on the way back the guns followed it up and one shell burst just underneath it. It went for a few yds and then came down head over heels. We gave a great cheer and suitable remarks were passed to the Huns who are only 50 yds away just there. They are always shouting over to us.

I saw about Robert [Robert wounded and hospitalised] in the papers. I saw he will be in London soon. What rot they write about the Herefords in the H Times. They ought to be had up. At any rate the letters the men write ought to be censored long before they reach England. I see privates writing to the papers. Why it is in Kings Regs about nobody in the services being allowed to write to the papers. Its bound to be a pack of lies or it would have been censored. Not much news. Your loving son Tom

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#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**

# SCHOOL NEWS

# **Exam Results**



#### Hereford Cathedral School produced its best ever A level A\* - B results. With an increase in the percentage of A\* grades achieved, over a fifth of all grades awarded were at the highest level.

In Spanish, French, Latin, English Literature, Music, RS Philosophy and Ethics, Drama and Art every candidate was awarded a grade between A\* and B. It also proved to be a record year in Chemistry and Economics with 93% and 86% of grades achieved being awarded A\* -B. The Art and Music Departments were particularly delighted that for the sixth year running all their students achieved at least a B grade or above.

The AS results were also excellent with 77% of all grades achieved being A - C grade and 58% of all exams taken were awarded either an A or B grade.

The GCSE results were also outstanding with more than half the candidates achieving  $A^*$  - B grade.

Nearly a quarter of all students secured all A\* - A. Two pupils achieved outstanding results, each securing 12 A\* grades', four pupils gained 11 A\*s, three achieved 10 A\*s and five pupils were awarded nine A\*s. In general, a third of all grades achieved by pupils were A\* and 61% were either an A\*or A, up two per cent on last year.

It was a record year for Chemistry with 97.9% of grades achieved being an  $A^*$  - A. For the ninth year running, pupils have achieved all  $A^*$  - C grades in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Music. The Drama and Latin departments were also delighted that all their students achieved  $A^*$  - C grades this year.

# **Cantabile Wins Songs of Praise**

# Hereford Cathedral School's Cantabile Girls' Choir won the BBC *Songs of Praise* Senior School Choir of the Year Competition 2015, which was broadcast on 17 May.

The seventeen singers from Hereford Cathedral School, accompanied by fellow pupil Laurence John and Cantabile Director Jo Williamson, took the



Cantabile Girls' Choir at the Albert Hall

audience and judges at Nottingham's Albert Hall by storm in the final of the competition.

Competing against choirs from Twyford Church of England High School and Strathearn School Chamber Choir, the choir sang *The Skylark* to clinch the title. The song was commissioned especially for Cantabile in commemoration of the centenary of WW1; the music was composed by Michael Neaum and the lyrics were written as a poem during the Great War by a former HCS pupil and the emotional connection brought an extra dimension to the performance.

In July the choir again performed at the International Eisteddfod, Llangollen, competing against choirs from all over the world. The girls gave an enthralling performance and Cantabile was crowned winning choir of the Childrens' Folk Song competition. The choir also came fourth in the Senior Children's Choir competition, making them the highest placed UK choir.

After such major successes, Cantabile is in great demand and has a full performance schedule. Most recently the choir sang at the Royal Albert Hall, London, as part of the BBC Songs of Praise event, The Big Sing. Unexpectedly, one of the choir, Rachel, was asked to step into the limelight and take the place of the professional soloist who was unwell.

Rachel said: "It was very nerve-racking but it was a great experience."

Jo Williamson, Choir Director added: "We're really honoured that the BBC asked us to provide a lastminute soloist. We are so proud of Rachel, she sang beautifully."

# **Brilliant Biologists**

# During Science Week, forty-six Year 10 pupils took part in the Biology Challenge organised by the Society of Biology.

This is an international competition aimed at rewarding 14-15 year old students who have an outstanding interest and knowledge of Biology. Over 32,000 students took part in this competition. The top

5% scores in the competition are awarded a Gold medal; one HCS pupil achieved a particularly high mark and was awarded a Gold medal.

Seven HCS pupils were awarded Silver medals and another seven achieved the Bronze medal. Seventeen of our pupils were Highly Commended and seven were Commended. The Biology Department is extremely proud that 43 out of 46 of our pupils achieved an above average result in this Biology Challenge competition. These are outstanding results and clearly demonstrate great academic potential.

## **British Biology Olympiads 2015**

The Biology Olympiad is a national competition organised by the Society of Biology for A level students who have demonstrated a very strong academic ability in Biology – a fast-moving science where new pieces of research are published every day.

Over 6000 students took part nationwide. Ten pupils were selected by the HCS Biology Department to participate in this competition; they met regularly after school to prepare for it, but also to find out more about the wonders of biology outside the limited time available in lessons. Only the top 6% achieve a Gold Medal and the top 11% a Silver Medal, with the top 16% achieving a Bronze Medal. Nine HCS sixth form biologists achieved either a medal or a certificate (3 silver medals, 2 bronze medals and 4 commendations!). An excellent result.



## **Top Teacher**

**Mrs Elena Segalini-Bower,** Head of Biology, was placed joint second in the Biology Teacher of the Year awards by the Society of Biology. The award recognises the very best and most inspiring biology teachers in 11-18 education in the UK.



## **HSC SPORT**

**County Hockey Champions** 



In March, the U15 Girls Hockey Team (coached by Ian Johnson) became County Champions, beating Lucton in the final 4-0.

## **County Netball Champions**



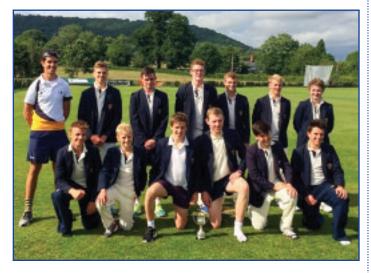
Hereford Cathedral School U18 Netball teams sailed to victory with the annual U18 County Netball Tournament. The 1st and 2nd VII netball teams defeated Hereford Sixth Form College 1st and 2nd teams in the semi-finals.

This resulted in an all-Hereford Cathedral School final where excellent netball was played and the final score: HCS 1st VII 12 - HCS 2nd VII 1.

Hereford Cathedral School's U12 and U13 Netball teams also won their respective County Netball Tournaments to become County Champions.

#### NEWSLETTER 2015

## **County Cricket Champions**



Having beaten Wigmore and Earl Mortimer in the opening rounds, the U15 XI met Bishops at Burghill Cricket Club in the Jack Roberts Cup Final.

The school bowled first, and, after a fast start, managed to restrict Bishops to 142-8. Despite losing some key early wickets, the school won by 5 wickets with 5 overs to spare, making the U15 boys County Champions.

## **Historic Win**



Finally, Saturday 31 January 2015 saw the historic defeat of Llandovery at home, by HCS 1st XV! Previously, only two sides have put more than 36 points against Llandovery at home since 1999. A Crawshay's invitation XV in 2001 and Filton College in 2008.

## **DoE Gold**

Katie Subak-Sharpe received her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award at St James's Palace, London.



#### **Remembrance at HCS**



*From left to right:* Howard Tomlinson, Barry Sutton, David Richards and Paul Smith.

To mark the 100th anniversary of the First World War and to commemorate more than 100 former pupils of Hereford Cathedral School who died fighting for this country, a tree was planted by 'The Wall'.

The school's headmaster, Paul Smith, was joined by three previous headmasters who were in charge from 1968 onwards for the special event: David Richards, Barry Sutton and Howard Tomlinson. It was the first time that all four had been together at the same time.

## Debating

### Mr Jackson, teacher in charge of the school Debating Society, was delighted to welcome back some OH debaters to the school this year.

Mr Joseph Goldsmith OH returned to adjudicate in the Senior House Debate; Joe's illustrious debating career included representing the school at the Mace Competition and both the Oxford and Cambridge School Debating competitions. The debate was held in the Gilbert Library and was won by Stuart House with their persuasive argument supporting nuclear energy.



Joseph Goldsmith with the winners of the Senior Debate

#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**



Josh Wooderson and Emily Burdett with the junior debaters

The Lower School House Debate was judged by Old Herefordians and experienced school debaters Josh Wooderson and Emily Burdett. The winning team was Cornwall who carried the motion: 'This House believes it is time to abolish the monarchy'!

## **OH Visit**

## Hereford Cathedral Junior School Class 5S were lucky enough to meet an OH who attended the Prep School in the 1930s.

Mr Randy Langford talked to the class about how his school education gave him values for life such as longlasting friendships, being helpful and kind to others. He also talked passionately about his school days and shared his photographs with the children. There was one of him wearing an "uncomfortable" Eton collar as well as others of his cricket team and friends. The class were also amazed to learn that he had swimming lessons in the River Wye!



## **Staff News**

**Mr Phil Hyde (OH)** was appointed to the Geography Department in 2013. As a pupil at the school he contributed to sport, CCF and other extra-curricular activities; he was also a School Monitor. Mr Hyde has proved to be an excellent teacher, both hardworking and conscientious, and always willing to participate in trips, fieldwork, and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. He has also been an excellent Tutor and worked wonders with our U13 rugby team. We wish him well at Exeter School.

**Miss Pippa Blandford (OH),** a former student in our Sixth Form, joined the school's PE and Games Department in September 2013 to cover a maternity leave. Miss Blandford completed her NQT year with us, and has proved to be an excellent and extremely professional, hard working teacher; she has demonstrated outstanding skills in her subject discipline. She has been popular with staff and pupils and will be missed; we wish her well at Kew House School in London.

**Miss Sinead Duignan** joined HCS in September 2011 as a new teacher. She is a first-class teacher who has undoubtedly contributed to the outstanding reputation of the Biology Department. Her pupils have achieved excellent results at GCSE and A Level and she has also run an extremely popular lunch-time dissection club. In September 2013, Miss Duignan was appointed Head of General Studies. She has had a good rapport with pupils, and they respect her intellect, dedication and pastoral care. She moves on to become Head of Biology at The Red Maids' School in Bristol.

**Mr Christopher Townend** joined Hereford Cathedral School in 2010 to take up the newly-created post of Director of Marketing and Communications. In his time here Mr Townend worked extremely hard to promote and market the school, including branding our website, signage, minibuses and all publicity. We wish Mr Townend good luck in his new role as Director of Marketing and Admissions at Dover College.

**Miss Anna Jasieniecka** joined the Art Department in 2010 as a newly-qualified teacher and quickly proved herself to be an excellent catch: conscientious, hardworking and well thought of by pupils, staff and parents. Miss Jasieniecka has taught Art and Art Textiles throughout the school and has made a huge contribution to the Art Department's outstanding results. Aside from her teaching responsibilities, Miss Jasieniecka was Head of the Royal Naval section of the CCF. We wish her well as she takes up a teaching post at the highly successful Headington Girls' School in Oxford.

## **NEWSLETTER 2015**

## OLD HEREFORDIANS' CLUB

Mr Matthew Gacek was employed by the cathedral as Chorister Tutor in 2009. In this role he has attended hundreds of Evensongs and other chorister events as well as accompanying chorister tours. Having previously been a teacher, Mr Gacek was a godsend in understanding schools, pupils and the conflicting demands placed upon choristers. We are also grateful to Mr Gacek for all the cover teaching that he undertook whilst part of our community. Mr Gacek has decided to 'retire' again and spend time looking after his grandchildren.

Lady Fiona Mynors joined the Governing Body in 2008 having previously been a Head Teacher (Margaret Allen Prep School) and Chair of Governors (Cheltenham College). Lady Mynors was Chair of the Governing Body Education Committee; she is an expert on compliance issues and was the Governor responsible for safeguarding. Her knowledge, wise counsel and insight were extremely valuable to both Governors and the Senior Leadership Team. Lady Mynors took a particular interest in the Junior School and was a supporter of music and drama in the school. We thank her for all support.

Mr Michael Jackson joined HCS in 2007 from Weobley High School where he was Head of ICT; he has been a huge asset to our teaching of this subject. Not satisfied with teaching Economics and ICT, Mr Jackson put forward a proposal for AS and A2 Business Studies to be introduced, and he has led the teaching of this subject. Outside of the classroom Mr Jackson has been in charge of the School's CCF Naval section and subsequently he ran the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. He organised the School's Young Enterprise programme and was involved in several Bank of

England competitions. Mr Jackson leaves us to be Head of Economics and Assistant Housemaster at Scarborough College.

Mr James Petrie was appointed as Head of English in 2006, and left to become Deputy Head Academic at The British School of Barcelona last January. Previously he had been Head of English and Deputy Head of the senior school at King's School, Madrid. Mr Petrie is an outstanding teacher of English. His enthusiasm and interest in English is boundless: in the classroom or in the assemblies that he presented, the trips that he organised or the drama productions with which he was involved. For pupils with an interest in creative writing, Mr Petrie enriched their lives by encouraging them to travel beyond the constraints of the curriculum: poetry competitions, author visits, journalism and trips to the Hay Festival Segovia all met with huge success and celebration. He introduced IGCSE English and A English Language level and Literature, and during his reign academic results rose significantly. Mr Petrie stepped up to become an acting Deputy Head (covering maternity leave), and later joined the Senior Leadership Team. He is a footballer keen and was instrumental in introducing football to the senior school games curriculum. It was clear to all that his love of Spain, its language and culture (to say nothing of the weather and football) would present a strong pull if he ever decided to look for new opportunities. When he did, he was quickly snapped up.

**The Reverend Pamela Row** was appointed as HCS Head of Religious Studies and School Chaplain in January 2002, joining us from a state school in the Wirral where she had been Head of Department. She relinquished her

role as Head of RS in 2003 to concentrate on her Chaplaincy. As School Chaplain she has overseen the daily worship for the school community, including major events throughout the year; she has also organised Chapels with a range of invited speakers to assist with the task of challenging pupils and staff to think about others, and their own beliefs, and to consider who we are within the Christian context. Rev Row has also run an induction programme for those who wish to be confirmed. In addition to her Chaplaincy and her RS teaching teaching commitments, she was Leader of the School's Scout Troop, and in more recent years, she has been involved with the School's Combined Cadet Force. She is caring and compassionate, inclusive of all and has much to offer a community. As she retires from HCS Rev Row has been thinking about a 'new chapter' in her life, and we wish her well as she prepares to take on whatever new challenges may arise.

Mr Martyn Lane joined HCS in 1997 having taken early retirement as Director of Music at RGS Newcastle. He was invited to join the Music Department by the then Director of Music, Mr John Williams; he has acted as both a teacher of piano and theory as well as а distinguished accompanist. Mr Lane has been involved in many of the school's successful performances; he has worked closely with Mrs Jo Williamson and together with Mr John Williams they formed the Cathedral's outreach choir, the Herefordshire Singing Club, (which, in April 2015, became the new Herefordshire Junior Youth Choir): he has also worked closely with Mrs Williamson and 'Cantabile'. For the Music School, Mr Lane has been a source of great knowledge and repertoire; and someone to whom

## NEWSLETTER 2015

the less experienced teachers could go to ask for advice. We wish Mr Lane well as he moves to Oxfordshire with his family.

Mrs Molly Ball joined HCS in 1983 to cover a one-term maternity leave in Art, Design, Needlework and Pottery, and some 32 years later she has retired from the school! Mrs Ball has taught Fine Art across all year-groups, as well as Technology, and has been the driving force behind the teaching of Ceramics in the Department. She has run clubs in pottery, jewellery, life drawing; she has organised holiday workshops in printmaking, stained glass and ceramics; she has been on History of Art Trips to Paris, Florence, Venice Rome. and Amsterdam. There is no doubt that Mrs Ball's skill and expertise in helping the Art Department to consistently achieve some of the best results in the school have been helped by her role as a GCSE moderator for OCR and an AS/A level moderator for AQA (the school received a letter from AQA singing her praises as 'a moderator who is consistently excellent'). Mrs Ball has been an inspirational teacher who is passionate about Art. She has high expectations of her pupils, taking an avid interest in their work and progress. She was also instrumental in introducing ICT to the Art Department at a time when Photoshop was hardly known. As a colleague she has been a great mentor for a number of art teachers who have moved on from HCS to pastures new. Outside of the classroom Mrs Ball has always been interested in the pastoral welfare of her pupils and tutor group. She has been a Tutor in both Cornwall, and more latterly Langford House, and has a reputation for knowing her tutees extremely well. All of Mrs Ball's children are OHs, so she has seen the school from various perspectives. We wish Mrs Ball all the best for her retirement and thank her loyalty to the school.

**Mrs Katherine Soulsby** joined the school in 1972. Married to Jeremy (OH), unquestionably the greatest English Bassoon maker of his time, Mrs Soulsby joined the school as one of (we think) two female teachers. Over the years she has seen many successes, and has tutored a number of the country's leading bassoonists. When one says the name 'Soulsby' in musical circles, most people know of either Katherine or Jeremy. Mrs Soulsby

retired from the Music Service several years ago, but to Mr Evans' relief continued to teach at the Cathedral School through until July 2015. Mrs Soulsby can claim to have taught hundreds of bassoonists, and it has been the school's great privilege to have had the benefit of her teaching in the Music School for so many years. Only recently Mrs Soulsby watched Antonia Lazenby (OH) give her final recital at the Royal College of Music, before moving on to The Guildhall School of Music and Drama as the latest Soulsby prodigy. We wish Mrs Soulsby all the best in retirement.



## 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 1950-1960 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.

Aldred, V B August, D B August, J C W Aylett, R N Baddeley, C J Barlow, David Geoffrey Barlow, Peter Geoffrey Barnsley, C I W Barrett, John Victor Bassett, Roger Bates, PAM Bedding, David Ashley Bintcliffe, G A Brookes, Richard William George Brown, AJC Brown, J B Bryson, Nicholas Kennedy Burton, S Butterworth, L J Butterworth, Michael J Cameron, Keith Stephen Challenger, Peter N, Reverend Clinkett, Cedric George Coldwell, Anthony Michael Colley, R M Cowell, Philip Fred Claude Crossman, Frank A Crowley, J E Davidson, Colin Davies, C N Davies, G O Davies, John Francis Davis, C J. Davison, Terrance Roy Devetta, Melvyn Dimmock, G H Dinno, AD, Duckenfield, John Austin Samuel Eckley, Neville Richard Evans, David Gareth Evans, Warwick Anthony Farr, AG Floyd, K Ford, Paul Terrance Galsworthy, J G R Gilg, Ian Edward Cameron Godsall, John W Gregg, M R Groom, G N Haines, John Richard Hale, B B Hales, Roger Phillip

Hammond, Stephen G Henley, Keith John, Dr Hillary, RJ Hocking, Fraser John Howard, D J P Inns, Nicholas Ralph, Jackson, M James, Peter Terrance Jarman, David Jenkins, B H W Jenkins, CW, Dr Jenkinson, Peter A Jessup, Michael Anthony Johnson, M K Jones, Brian Callum, Dr Jones, C V Jones, Elwyn Caradoc Jones. G J Jones, M H W Jones, R E T, Mr Kent-Barber, N B Kidd, Robert Victor Kinchant, Douglas Richard King, B D Lambert, J D B Le Mesurier, P R Lewin, Peter Edmund, Lewis, Anthony Cobham Lewis, M P Lister, Martin Richard Nicholas Lloyd, D G Lomas, R A, Mr MaCcalman, A D Malleson, H H Mendus, M R Mitchell, G G T Morgan, David Bruce Neal, AW Newman, M J Nicholas, J T G Norris, I A Ord, J L Ord, W M Paddle, A J Parkinson, J G Parsons, A S R Pennington, J N B Perry, LT Pettitt. R Pickard, Roger Howard Powell, M J Price, Anthony Richard

Price, T R Prichard, D L J Pritchard, Anthony Nurse Prosser. C J Provan, I D Quest. J A Rabbitts, G N Read, Anthony Beresford Rees, A B Rippen, Keith Alastair Roberts, John Mervin Rogers, B P Sanders, Peter Edward Sawbridge, M J Sheldon, A Sherwell, David Barnet Smith, C C Smith, D D Smith, E J R Sparkes, D M Squire, Arthur Patrick Melbourne Stevens. R Stringer, S D Teague, Michael Daniel Tennyson, J G A Thomas, Brian Gregory Thomas, David Roger Thomas, Owain David Thompson, A R Thorne, J C Tick, J T P Toplis, E G Townsend, T H A Tozer, Peter Frederick Vann. P Venables, K C Wardale, W R G Waugh, M J Weston-Tozer, Patrick Frederick, (Captain Retd) Whitney, Brian James Wigley, D K Williams, Anthony Oriel Williams, B R Williams, John Thomas, Williams, R L Williamson, I C Wilson, David Ray Wingfield, Robert Malcolm Woods, J C Woodyer, D J

## NEWSLETTER 2015

## **OLD HEREFORDIANS' CLUB**

## DIGITAL FUTURE FOR HISTORY

Over the years the Old Herefordians' Club has become the guardian of much treasured OH and school history: historic records, photographs, artefacts and ephemera.

Many of the items are displayed in the OH Room in No.1, formerly the Headmaster's Study and latterly the Monitors' Common Room. What is on display, however, is only the tip of the iceberg. Digital technology now enables us to provide school and OH magazines as well as a range of photographs through the website.



## **NEWSLETTER 2015**

## **Boys Come Home**

### During October 2015 the school was visited by Mr and Mrs Richard Cook of Truro, Cornwall who kindly donated four framed photographs depicting Old Herefordians dating circa 1910.

These wonderful old photographs depicted named old boys from various sporting school teams.

Mr Cook came into possession of these items in the early 1970s following the death of Capt. Thomas Millyard who resided at Forde Grange, Decoy, a small village in Newton Abbot, Devon. Although Mr Cook unfortunately did not know Capt. Millyard, the photographs were passed to him from the housekeeper who was a friend of the family. Ever since, the photographs have remained in his possession and have adorned the walls of his various homes.

It is known that Thomas Millyard and his twin brother George were born in Bromyard, Herefordshire in 1893. They both attended Hereford School where they excelled at all sports and later joined, like so many of their contemporaries, the Herefordshire Regiment at the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.

An extract from the regimental history in 1915 records: "One evening in the week, C company gave D company a 'good licking' at cricket but when the Battalion cricket team played Wickford they got 'badly beaten' and had been unlucky in losing some of their men before they had got into full swing. The last bats for the Herefords were Lts. G and T Millyard; T Millyard was run at 13, and G Millyard bowled out for a yorker for 2."

Mr Cook also kindly donated to the school Capt. Millyard's British Army issue bible which he would have carried in the trenches. Research also indicates that Capt. Millyard was captured and held prisoner of war by the Germans in 1918. He died in south Devon in 1970.





# 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.

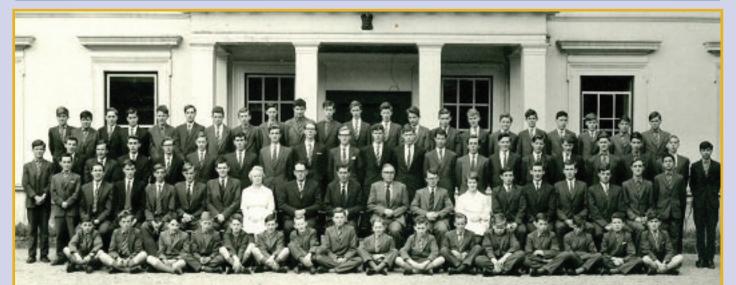
Development Office: 01432 363566

Email: development@herefordcs.com

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



#### **NEWSLETTER 2015**



## 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@herefordcs.com / 01432 363566

# 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

 Lapel pin
 £5.00

 Tea Towel
 £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

## NEWSLETTER 2015

## **Old Herefordians' Newsletter 2014** Cover Photographs



#### Photo 2

Brigadier Henry Cecil John Hunt, Baron Hunt., KG, PC, CBE, DSO (who led the expedition in 1953 which conquered Mount Everest) inspecting the CCF.

Second rank (from R to L): 2 - L/Cpl Ian Jones, 3 - Cpl. Geoffrey Burgess, 6 - Peter Robbins, 7 - Michael J Read.

Photo 3

Girl in grey with red gaiters - Victoria Harrison

#### Photo 4

Deanery 6th form (probably in 1970). *Back row L to R:* Edwards (known as "Hod"); Lewis (known as "Lew"); Richard Aston; Stuart Macoustra. *Front Row L to R:* Colin B Jennings; Percy or Perce; Steve C Rowlands (his father was Second Master and Housemaster of Deanery); Clive M Wrigley.

Photo 6

Girl on far right Sarah Hawnt (now MacGregor).

#### Photo 12

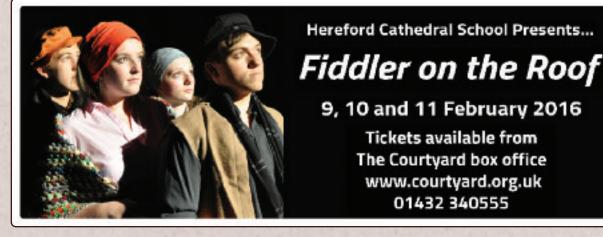
*Top row L-R:* ?, Helena Wynn, ?, Rachel Blackshaw, Amy Hill, Paul ....., Corinne Hart, ?, Francis Collins, James Wray, ? *Middle Row L-R:* ?, Laura Maxwell, Glen Martin, Simon Papworth, Ben ...., Chris Valentini, Chris Hallewell, Toby Preston, ?, Jake Lightowler, ?, A Wynn, ? *Seated L-R:* Mr Jackson, ?, Mr Wilks, ?, Mr and Mrs Priday, Lee Maxwell, Mr Wilson, Mr Croot. *Bottom Row L-R:* Giles Papworth, ?, ?, John Pring, ... Collins

#### Photo 15

Under 13 Sevens team, winners of the Lucton Sevens tournament. *Back row:* Andrew Thornewell, Richard? Cotterell, Richard George, Mark Richards, Mr Don Theakston. *Front row:* David Tidmarsh, Tim Hague (Captain), David Archer.

Photo 16 Gareth Lewis OH 91-98

Thanks to: Peter Fairman-Bourn (2); K Hawnt (3, 6); Jake Lightowler (12, 16); Stuart Williams (4).



# OH DAY Saturday 5th December 2015

10.00 am	OH Netball (HCS Sports Hall)
10.30 am	Coffee in Old Deanery
11.00 am	AGM in Briscoe Room, Old Deanery
11.45 am	Drinks in Old Deanery
12.00	OH Mixed Hockey - Hereford Leisure Centre
12.15 pm	Lunch in Dining hall (£15.00 p.p.)
2.00 pm	OH Football at Wyeside**
2.30 pm	OH Rugby at Wyeside**
7.00 pm	Castle House - Informal dinner at Castle House Hotel (£30.00 p.p., partners welcome.)

\*\*Hot food available from 3.00pm in the Pavilion at Wyeside for £5.00 and a pay bar.

If you would like to take part in any sporting event on OH Day please contact the relevant person below:

RUGBY - Richard Skyrme: 01432 363561 / r.skyrme@herefordcs.com

HOCKEY - Lisa Foster: 01432 363561 / l.foster@herefordcs.com

NETBALL - Charlotte Keegan: 01432 363561 / c.keegan@herefordcs.com

FOOTBALL - Bruce Blyth: 01432 363522 / b.blyth@herefordcs.com

For more information and to book lunch or dinner, please contact: Helen Pearson 01432 363566 development@herefordcs.com / Claire Morgan-Jones 01432 363590 cmjones@herefordcs.com

## **Old Herefordians Club Annual London Dinner 2016**

Thursday 28 April, 6.30pm £55.00

East India Club, 16 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LH

## **Editorial**

2015 is the second year of commemorating the First World War and the Old Herefordians' Newsletter is continuing to feature those OH who lost their lives during the Great War. The shorter the biography the more poignant it appears to me: the Development Department has worked hard to research their lives, but many of these young soldiers joined up straight from school, or were possibly students, and there is so little information to be discovered.

Anyone who has tried to trace their own ancestry will acknowledge that it is a time-consuming and tricky task which requires a considerable amount of scanning through documents and is often beset by many false starts. So, how fortunate future researchers will be when they discover the new Old Herefordians' digital archive: now, past issues of the school and club magazines can be searched instantly online by date or key word; already, there is a treasure trove of photographs and other historical documents. This, however, is only the beginning: as more funds are raised then gradually more of the school's history can be liberated from the depths of the Zimmerman basement by being digitised and made available online.

By profession I am a librarian and research is what I am trained to do; from now on, I will be spending many happy hours delving into the depths of the digitised archive from the comfort of my office chair. Have a go - I think you will find it addictive too.

Clare Adamson Editor e: development@herefordcs.com

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**

**Development Office** 

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.



**Hereford Cathedral School Old Deanery Cathedral Close** Hereford **HR1 2NG** Tel: 01432 363566 Email: development@herefordcs.com www.ohclub.co.uk

President: /ice President: /ice President: Secretary: DH Trust: Alumni Officer: DH Editor:	Gill Rivers Juliette Austen ( Howard Tomlins Mark Ellis Peter Williams Helen Pearson Clare Adamson

Chandler on









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16

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12

# HCS Archive Memories... What have you got in your archive?

11

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15

all.

If you can name any of the faces in these photographs, please get in touch

