



Old Greshamian Magazine

October 2008 Number 147



Contents

Editorial	p3
A Word from the Chairman	p4
Michael Goff	p5

News

OG Events	p6
Antony Clark	p8
Phillip John	p9
New Website: New Image	p10
London Children's Camp	p11
OG News	p13
Marriages, Engagements, Honours	p24
Obituaries	p25

Reviews and Articles

We had been hit: George Seal-Coon	p38
Youth with a Mission	p40
All Aboard the Medical Express	p42
Hitching to Morocco	p43
The Sapwell Diaries	p46
A Quintessential Englishman: Hoult Taylor	p50
Magnificent Machines from a Bygone Age	p52
Iron OGs	p54
The Free Man with a Touch of Genius	p55
Corresponding with Auden	p56
John Bradburne, poet, naturalist – and saint?	p57
Memories of Gresham's School	p61
History as she is wrote	p62

Sport

The Old Greshamian Golfing Society	p65
Swimming	p69
OGRE	p70
Hogs	p72

Miscellaneous

OG Lodge	p75
Advertising, Merchandise and so on	p76
A Legacy for Life	p77
Contacts	p78
News and change of address	p79

Editorial

It has been an exciting year for the OG Club. The Auden Festival in September went very well, attracting considerable press interest and bringing in more than 500 visitors. Its real success was placing Auden within a school context that meant so much to him - both good and bad. The Ten Year on Reunion was also a great success and all the eighty or so who enjoyed it owe a real debt of gratitude to Alex Buch for all her hard work. The Christmas drinks party at Fishmongers' Hall was a lively, noisy and thoroughly enjoyable event. It was good that so many OGs could visit the Hall - many of them for the first time - and especially to see OGs of all ages and vintages enjoying meeting together: three generations of the Mumby family (opposite), for example were represented. The first 20/20 Cricket in June was also much enjoyed and we look forward to a wide programme of Autumn events, as detailed later in the magazine. This is to say nothing about the OG golf, hockey, swimming and football which continue to flourish. Do come and support if you can.



After more than twenty years involvement with the OGs, our Chairman Michael Goff is retiring. We are also very sorry to say goodbye to our retiring Secretary, Bridget Neville, who has served on the Committee for more than ten years. We shall miss her hard work, her cheerful, positive presence and her organisational skills. Michael Baker was elected as Chairman at the June AGM.

At school too the news is of change. After six years at Gresham's Antony Clark has decided to move on to become Headmaster of Malvern College. We wish him and his family all good fortune for the future. An appreciation of his time as Headmaster by the Deputy Head, Nigel Flower, follows. As you read this, his successor Phillip John from King William's School, Isle of Man will be enjoying the first weeks of his time at Gresham's. We wish him and his family a happy and successful time here and look forward to getting to know them.

I would like to thank the following for their invaluable help in producing the magazine. Tony Leech has looked out and prepared the photographs and designed the cover. Nothing is ever too much trouble for him. Richard Peaver always manages to scour the papers for OG news. Without him the magazine would be much thinner. Barbara Fowler makes sense of whatever material I send her and produces a clear typescript for the printers in a trice.

John Smart
(S 1985-2006)



A Word from the Chairman



Welcome to your 2008 OG magazine! May I take this opportunity of introducing myself as your new Chairman. I joined Crossways as a lowly first former in 1956 and left Woodlands in 1965 as the oldest boy in the School and I was not even a house prefect - there's hope for you all!

The Club has moved forward substantially over the last few years and I would like to thank my predecessor, Michael Goff, Headmaster, Antony Clark, and Honorary Secretary, Bridget Neville for all the hard work they have put in to achieve this.

Moving forward, we are hoping the Club will be represented at the School

with an OG co-coordinator having desk space and with the secretarial duties being performed by the Development Office. The website is being updated more regularly and more OGs are logging-on. As snail mail is becoming increasingly more expensive it is important that we improve our database as much as possible to enable email contact. So please log on and update, or place, your details.

The committee have done a sterling job this year and it is great to see the London Children's Camp rising from the ashes. We are thankful to the advertisers without whom Editor John Smart would not be able to produce such an excellent colour formatted magazine.

It was encouraging to hear at Speech Day that the Governors are going to become more 'local' and that they are developing a long term strategy for the development of the School. Finally, following the excellent Summer Ball of '05 I am pleased to announce the Summer Ball '10, (2010), during the May half term, as before.

Good wishes to all for a successful year.

Michael Baker, Chairman
(c&W 1956-65)

Michael Goff

Michael has given his time and energy selflessly to the OGs for the past twenty years and the current thriving state of the Club is in no small measure thanks to him. He has a sure sense of what the Club is about in terms of keeping in touch and fostering friendships and has been especially good at encouraging young OGs in all their activities. As Chairman he immediately saw how important the OG Database and the website were to the Club and supported their development in every way. It is excellent news that he is going to be on the Steering Committee of the Foundation, which, like a sleeping giant, is beginning to wake up from its slumbers. There is no doubt that it will benefit the school in the time to come and we shall hear much more of it...



Michael and daughter Charlotte





OG Events

The **Howson Lunch** was held after the Club AGM on June 22nd in the Scruff Shacks. A group of thirty OGs enjoyed the hospitality kindly provided by the Headmaster and an excellent lunch organized beautifully, as usual, by the Catering Manager Mike Strong.



The programme for 2008 contains many new events. The first **20/20 Cricket Competition** played on June 15th for the Alan Ponder trophy was a great success. The Nocturnes, captained by the wily Adney Paine, faced an OG side captained by Nick Hanington and a strong school side. More than a 1000 runs were scored, spectators basked in the fitful sunshine and a good, not too serious, day's cricket was enjoyed by all. Congratulations to the OG side who emerged as the deserved winners. We hope this will become an annual fixture. Many thanks to Adney Payne and Peter Watson (above left) for organising it all so well.

On a cold and misty night in June more than twenty OGs returned to give a **jazz concert** in honour of the assistant director of Music, Adam Stanworth, who is leaving to become Head of Music at Box Hill School. Back to school they all came, bringing sheer pleasure to the packed audience at the Auden Theatre. The first half was more traditional jazz, ending with the wonderful 'St James's Infirmary Blues'. Adam Alston's piano solos were much applauded. The second half was a show case for Matthew Stevens' dazzling group Fanno Meglio. All the jazz (wo)men played together with an energy and infectious enjoyment that the audience shared. There could not have been a finer tribute to that ever-modest Svengali - Adam Stanworth!



There is still just time to sign up for the **Lunch and guided tour round Thursford** on **Sunday 14th September** from 1.15 (by courtesy of our President, John Cushing.) The lunch is free and will be followed by a backstage tour, a chance to see preparations for the Christmas Show, to hear Robert Wolfe on the mighty Wurlitzer, and to try out the carousels. All the fun of the fair for children and adults! Please contact John Smart at johndsmart@aol.com to reserve your places for lunch and a good day out.

The **Cocktail Party** for OGs and members of the Common Room on **Saturday 29 November** has been changed into an **Autumn Lunch** in the Scruff Shacks. After lunch OGs are invited to support the School 1st XV playing against St Joseph's and there will be tea in the CFB after the game. Again, please contact John Smart to book your places.

During late 2008 and early 2009 we shall be piloting two new events to assess their popularity:

Leicester Tigers at Welford Road

We are negotiating some VIP hospitality at both the Gloucester and Wasps matches during the 2008-9 season. As we go to press the fixture list has still to be finalised so we can't be certain of dates, but the intention is that a group of us, together with spouses and friends, will meet at Welford Road, enjoy a four course silver service lunch together with a Q&A session by two players, watch the match from gold grandstand seats and tuck into sandwiches and dessert after the match before we go our separate ways. Tickets will cost in the region of £150.

The Earl's Court Boat Show

The ever-popular show takes place in November and provides ample opportunity to engage in some window shopping. We are negotiating some hospitality which would enable a Gresham's group to get access to some unusual aspects of the Show, enjoy a relaxed lounge from which they can embark into the show floor and enjoy a very delicious lunch and drinks. We anticipate the cost being in the region of £150.

We'd love to hear from you if you have other ideas of events we could arrange to allow OGs and the wider school community opportunities to share common interests. A day at the Chelsea Flower Show? Or maybe a gentle guided walk along the north Norfolk coast?

For tickets or if you would like to be keep in touch with the latest news and information about these events please email the OG club at development@greshams.com or telephone 01263 714614.



Antony Clark: Headmaster 2002-2008



It was a brutal start for the Clarks: Brigitte was assailed by a lingering and debilitating virus; a cutting easterly wind seemed to blow for weeks; there were power cuts, and a shortage of winter clothes. Very quickly Antony realised that there was to be little opportunity for any glamorous projects at the School. We had developed other exciting areas of the school, but had allowed our boarding houses to lag behind our competitors. Antony took the brave option to capitalise on the whacky make-over of Britten and prioritise the regeneration of the boarding Houses. Farfield followed in similar style, glorious in lime green and dark blue..... Howson's next, then Woodlands, almost a ground-up restoration project. Tallis is now in the throes of major refurbishment, an extension of eight new rooms

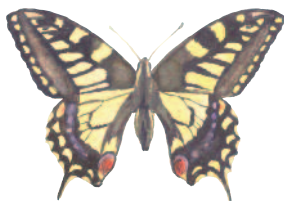
is being added to Britten, and Oakeley is next on the list. So, a part of Antony's legacy to Gresham's are boarding houses that housemasters and housemistresses are proud to show to prospective parents, and most important of all, boarding houses that the pupils are comfortable and safe in.

Antony can also feel proud of the lead that he has taken in fostering closer relationships between the parents and the Houses. We now see our parents more frequently both formally and informally and this is much appreciated in a world of consumer satisfaction. He has introduced a Staff/Parent Forum, which acts as a successful conduit for issues raised by both of those bodies, and has markedly improved communications between the School and parents.

The next bold move was the introduction of the International Baccalaureate. This required significant investment, principally in staff, at a time when caution seemed to dictate that belt-tightening was the order of the day, but Antony presented the project very powerfully to the governors. We are now one year in to the IB, and as well as the pleasing interest that it continues to attract from Germany, bringing in a selection of impressive students to enrich the School cocktail, Antony must also be delighted that his bold move has done so much to stabilise the finances; indeed the projections for numbers over the next three years are very healthy. The buzz out there is very exciting; how heartening it is to see parents anxious to ensure that their children are going to be registered at Gresham's, fearful perhaps that there will not be room for them!

It has been a privilege to work closely with Antony for the last two years. I count myself lucky to have seen Antony in his office handling staff, pupils and parents with enormous patience, with quiet authority, but most significantly with great compassion. At the risk of over-using an adjective, Antony Clark, you are a good man, you are a good headmaster, and you have been good for Gresham's.

An abridged version of the speech given by the Deputy Headmaster, Nigel Flower, at the Common Room Dinner June 2008



Philip John



Kathryn, the children and I are looking forward to our move to Norfolk with a great deal of excitement, and although we will not be moving into Lockhart House until the 18 August we have been overwhelmed by the goodwill and kindness that everybody has shown us. We already feel part of Gresham's and are looking forward to meeting the wider school community in the not too distant future. In particular, I am looking forward to finding out more about the Old Greshamian Society and its members.

Gresham's is a fine school with a very proud tradition; a school at the crossroads of a new, bright and very exciting future. It is important in this ever-changing world to embrace all that is good about tradition, but we must not be afraid to move with the times. We must adapt to the needs of today's pupils and parents and to very different and demanding educational requirements.

All fine institutions are founded on the strength and support of their members and I am certain that Gresham's School can continue to rely on the Old Greshamian Society for that support.

I hope that you will all feel able to visit the school at some stage: you will always be assured of a very warm welcome!

Philip John



New Website: New Image



The OG Club opened its new website www.ogclub.com in early 2008.

While the Club has maintained a small and voluntarily administered webspace for a number of years, the new site adopts a contemporary and professional design which embraces innovative technologies, radically simplifying the search for lost friends and classmates.

Open to all OGs, users can opt to sign up to the website, a free and quick process which allows access to the site's non-public pages and functions. Registered users can search for old friends, view their classmates' profiles and contact any other registered user via a secure email service, in addition to making the most of the message forum which allows users to author and respond to unique conversation threads. To this end, users could rustle together OGs who like to play hockey, find former classmates living in Australia (there are quite a number of them!) or test the waters for a potential reunion or get-together.

Also available online is OG news, where you can learn about your classmates' most recent ventures and successes. The website has recently featured a diverse collection of OGs, including **Luke Chow** (F 1999-2004) who has just released a debut pop CD, **Martin Macnaughton** (T 1990-93) who recently broke an aquatic national record and **Lt George Seal-Coon** (F 1995-2000) who recounts his experiences in Afghanistan with the Royal Anglian Regiment. (see p38) Also online is the latest events news, with dates and details for all upcoming OG Club reunions and festivities.

The website is continually expanding and developing, and we are keen to build on the services currently online. Providing support and assistance to recent leavers is among our top priorities, and we hope to draw upon resources both at the school and throughout the OG network to offer informal careers advice and work experience to new graduates. OG merchandise is another hot issue, and plans to redevelop and showcase merchandise online are already underway.

We hope you will take the opportunity to visit the OG Club online soon and we would welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Val Bowers

Director for External Relations and Development

London Children's Camp

The London Children's Camp has in the past played a large part in the life of both Gresham's and children from London.

Originally set up in 1926, the charity set out to provide "holidays for needy children and young people resident in or near Greater London" according to its articles. The charity ran a holiday home on the coast near Kessingland and in its heyday was providing holiday breaks for hundreds of children each year.

The charity became dormant some fifteen or twenty years ago and the property fell into disrepair. Fortunately, Dick Copas, during his recent tenure as OG Club Chairman, envisaged a new sense of purpose and future for the charity and initiated a rescue programme for the charity. With the sterling support of OG James Morgan he managed to revive the board of trustees and bring in some new blood.

The vision now is to sell the existing site and put the funds raised towards some form of shared ownership of an outward bound facility in one of the recognised regions such as Wales or the Lake District. This facility will once again provide holidays for needy children from the Greater London area and it is hoped will also be made available on a commercial basis to other bodies including Greshams. The School has also made it clear that it wants to be fully involved in the charity as part of its social responsibility and for the pastoral development of its students.

Discussions are ongoing with planners regarding the sale of the site. The trustees have set the objective of having children in residence at the new facility by Summer 2010 – which certainly focuses the minds of those involved!

The trustees would like to record their thanks to Antony Clark as outgoing Chairman, James Morgan, OG Christopher Deane for his assistance with insurance cover and of course Dick Copas for his vision and determination. Dick has also kindly agreed to put his experience of outward bound programmes to good use once again in researching possible sites for the base of the reborn London Children's Camp. Finally, we would like to thank the long-serving trustees who have supported the transition to the 'new regime' and have handed over a rich archive of documents detailing the history of the charity. We look forward to sharing gems from this archive in the future and hopefully adding to it.

Patrick Peal
(W 1962-67)

Chairman, London Children's Camp

Exceptional Wines and Spirits

Bakers and Larners of Holt with 2000 square feet of cool, dry cellar boasts a range of exciting stock, selected by Michael Baker, diploma holder from the Wine and Spirit Education Trust and department manager Vernon Banham, that is unsurpassed in Norfolk. For the discerning wine customer, our unrivalled variety and service reflects 275 years of passion, where excellence comes as standard.

Hidden beneath the street scene, lies a labyrinth of cellars containing impressive rarities and special vintages that stretch back to the early 20th century.

Whether on-line or in person our philosophy is based on providing you with the right product with unmatched service.

Come and discover us...

The Exceptional Wine Merchant



Bakers & Larners of Holt

8 Market Place Holt
01263 712244

Shop on line at
www.bakersandlarners.co.uk



OG News: Pre 1960s

Richard Barclay (OSH 1940-44) writes:

I joined the Navy at 17, had a wonderful Far Eastern tour before Cambridge and an enjoyable career in banking, including three overseas tours. I have now been retired 20 years, during which I married for the second time, only for my wife, Hazel, to die after 14 months leaving me shipwrecked in Devon. Ten years later I met Joan in Petra – as one does – and joined her here: a family return to Gloucestershire which my forefather left for Scotland in 1069 in the ‘train’ of Margaret, later Queen of Scotland and mother of three kings.

The magazine has also encouraged me to send a line about four OSH octogenarians who have remained life-long friends. The first 80th birthday party was mine – more anon – followed by John (Curly) Dardier in April. John’s career was in the Canadian Air Force and he is now retired in Western France. His family decided to give his 80th party where he spent his war years – Seascale, Cumbria and, even more originally, to give him a ride on ‘The Ratty’, the miniature railway which travels into the best scenery in the Lakes. Unknown to him, at each of the frequent station-stops, one of his friends from the past was waiting to offer an anecdote – I was the earliest, with Pentire memories. Afterwards we celebrated at Manchester Castle.

Next was John(y) Moor’s party at his

father’s old home and now John’s son’s, at East Meon (Hants) – a great gathering. My most unusual memory of John was his descent from the skies on me in Cyprus in 1951 as a doctor in the Paras (all the more surprising as the JTC ranked low in his priorities at school!) He couldn’t come to my party but Bill (Dog) Hudson could, driven across England by his daughter Tricia, my god-daughter. Bill had many strong points summed up by his being a most reliable back at rugger. It’s time I visited him again at Cley. His 80th has not caught up with him yet.

My family is so scattered that I had a series of 80th parties. On my actual birthday (3rd December) we held a drinks party for neighbours and a lunch for immediate family. To ease travelling for my Scottish relatives and friends we planned a party at my nephew’s home in Kinloch Rannock. Sadly we couldn’t attend! My wife Joan had a horrible accident to her shoulder a few days before and was in hospital. As many of those invited had arranged to stay at Rannock, the party went ahead – we were rung up and each person round the table gave us a cheering word – or two – it was obviously a very good party.

George Antony Birch (F 1950-53) writes:

After some 42 years spent overseas in the USA, Africa, Australia and Asia, working in oil and gas, mining and finance George has finally semi-retired to rural Devon. He no longer plays



cricket but is still an active tennis player and remains a director of a large mining company. He would be pleased to hear from any of his contemporaries in the neighbourhood or elsewhere!

Edgar Chavasse (F 38-42) writes:

The last contact I had was when A.B. Douglas sent a goodwill message to me in Belgrade on our marriage in December 1947, so we are just about to celebrate our Diamond Wedding! We spent our working lives with Unilever on the Overseas side so had limited time in the UK. Recently, a friend visited Holt and took a number of photos as well as getting a copy of "Gresham's in Wartime". I found this interesting, though I have no nostalgia in respect of the Pentire Hotel. I played both bugle and drums with the band and it is one of the happier memories of that time.

Sir Christopher Cockerell (W 24-28)



"Gresham's and the Fishmongers' Company donated £500 to the establishment of a column bearing the school's name at a site dedicated

to the extraordinary work of this OG," writes Anthony Clark. The names will be formally inscribed on the Hovercraft Celebratory Column at Somerleyton. News about all this can be found at www.hovercraftsomerleyton.org.uk

Col. Paul Harris OBE (OSH & F 24-30) writes:

I was fascinated to read the article about the open air theatre in the

School woods. After OSH I was at Farfield 1924 -1930, I am 94 years old. I shared a study with Benjamin Britten for a while when he transferred from Woodlands to Farfield to be nearer the music rooms and Chapel. He and I were delegated to announce the entrance of an actor during the performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, he with a trumpet and I with a drum. At the end he said to me, "This would make a good opera!" We kept it touch during the war and soon after it we met again for the first performance of the opera at Glyndebourne's original Opera House. It was thanks, therefore, to the theatre in the School woods that his magical opera was conceived! I am often sent tickets when it is being performed there but there is still a very strong recollection of standing behind a bush at the back of the stage when the opera was conceived. Robertson was the Housemaster at Farfield and J.R.Eccles the Headmaster; and Benjamin Britten the conductor of the School Orchestra (apart from being a stagehand!)

Roger Rowe (H 51-55). Roger Rowe's passion for music has seen him championing cultural events in Norwich over the past two decades. The 71-year-old has been involved in the Norfolk and Norwich Festival for more than 20 years, latterly as a trustee. A key focus of his voluntary work with the Norfolk and Norwich Music Club is in developing the talent and passion of young musicians as well as organising the Norfolk and Norwich Chamber Music concerts.

David Rymer (F 48-53) writes:

Many congratulations on your recent OG Magazine. Despite finding with each new edition that there are fewer and fewer references to my Greshamian contemporaries, I have still found much to interest me. Having taken part in an Auden evening in York on the anniversary of his birthday, celebrating the centenary of his birth there, (which included visiting the house) it was good to share the school's celebration too.

The article on the 'woods' Theatre brought back many memories of Houlst Taylor and of my participation in performances there in casts which included John Tusa, Stephen Frears, Martin Burgess, and Richard Reiri amongst many others. York was also my birthplace and I still live close by in Knaresborough. I have been retired for more than 10 years, but am active in York and was Chairman of its Theatre Royal in the 1970s. In recent times I was on the Board of the Company which mounted a highly successful production of the York Mystery Plays in 2000 inside York Minster as part of the Millennium Celebrations. I am also a member of the Company of Merchant Adventurer's of York which possesses very proudly its own medieval timber-framed hall complete with Trading Floor, Undercroft (Hospital) and Chapel. This is the largest Hall of this type remaining intact in Europe. I was Governor (Master) in 1989-90 like members of three generations before me. My portrait is hung in the Hall and I am currently the longest serving member or Father of the House! My brother John (F 1945-50, but

deceased 1996) was Governor in 1983-4)

I maintain a strong interest in the Arts, though now my involvement is more with Ballet and Dance. I am a Governor of the London Studio Centre. I have a small and dwindling Charitable Trust which is administered by Anthony Baker (OG) who is a co-Trustee. [He will be well known to you being a loyal former committee member and living in Runton.] This Trust has supported Excellence in the Arts, sponsoring new works for the Ballet Schools, Companies and occasional outstanding students in the Professional Schools, many of whom progress into the Major Companies and some are Principals.

I have recently been in contact with Graham Hogg (F 1947-55), whose father was best man to my own father, and keep in regular contact with Lindsay Mackinlay (W 1948-53) who has retired from a wealth of company Boards and Chairs - to play excellent Golf! Lindsay is also a member and past Governor of the Merchant Adventurer's Company. Richard Colman (F 1948-53) is also a regular contact. I would love to read more news of contemporaries and am hoping that your new website will make this more practical. I recall with much affection names like Steigman, Chris Abrams, John and Peter Drinkwater, Jeremy and Robert Tunstall, Peter James, Kingsley Stroude, Michael Culver, the Sadler brothers, Jeremy Pudney, etc., etc. I do maintain contact with A.B. Douglas' family though sadly we have now lost



both his elder daughter Madelaine and his wife Betty. Christine though is in good order. Highlights of my time in the school were Chapel Services, Ballroom Dancing Lessons with Betty Douglas, League hockey and cricket, drama, but rarely the classroom teaching!

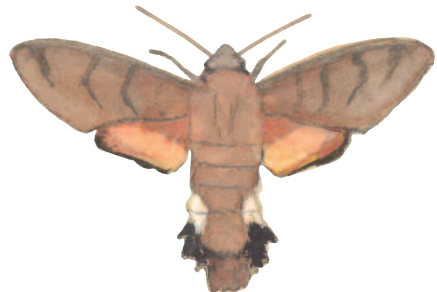
Charlie Yonkers (F 58-59) writes:

In the years since Gresham's/Farfield, I subsequently received a Yale B.A. and a Harvard J.D. Then I practiced law in with a firm in Washington, DC, married Ann Harvey (William & Mary and Exeter University), and became a father of a girl and boy (both eventually matriculated in England and Ireland), took time off for four years to be a Peace Corps Country Director in Benin from 1972-1976, and then returned to rejoin my firm as Managing Partner for the rest of my career. The firm grew from 14 to 400+. I retired in 2004, received a M.A. in 2006 from Georgetown University, and now am an Adjunct Professor there teaching colonial and constitutional history. I stayed in contact with Bernard Sankey until his death. Ann and I once visited the School in 1976 and we saw the Lockharts. In 2001 and 2006, I visited with John Harrison, Farfield's Assistant House Master in my era, and his wife as well. In addition, I retain many friendships among my American colleagues who were also English-Speaking Union Fellows at other schools in Britain. All in all, the record shows the purposes of the exchange were admirably met and have enriched the rest of my life.

I was the English-Speaking Union Schoolboy to Gresham's in 1958-59 and enjoyed my year and many friendships in Farfield. I receive with great pleasure the OG Magazine and stay in contact with Dr Adrian A. Warner and his family. Adrian and I were great friends, as I was with Stephen Frears, Jack London, M.A.C. Scott, John Allen and others like T.P. Swan and Assistant Housemaster John Harrison. I found an old photo that I took in 1959 recently. I always treasured it and entitled it "The Ascension of House Captain Warner." It includes from left to right. J.P. Allen, J.London, M.A.C. Scott and S. Frears,



all departing 6th Formers that Summer Term. As we approach fifty years from those happy bygone days, I send my old friends greetings and a welcome in Washington DC.



1960s and 1970s

Jonathan Platten (F 71-77), Headmaster of Alderman Peel School, Wells, writes:

Just a few notes to those of you who were kind enough to sponsor me on the two week project in Kolkata, as Calcutta now likes to be known. India seems to be a place where everything in extraordinary, with police-force feeding robbers bananas to work a swallowed stolen necklace through the system! During our time there I was chastised by a nun and given fruit by a beggar!

Our main work was helping teach in a 'mobile school' for street children. This meant getting on a bus at 7.45 and travelling to pick up the children before the women washed them at the church and after a blue shirt which passed for a uniform was put on, assembly and lessons began. We were aware we were only scratching the surface but we could give love, attention, affirmation and a smattering of English and Maths to children who had literally nothing. I was greeted the first morning by a startlingly dark lad, disconcertingly naked apart from a piece of string about his waist! He had no inhibitions (obviously) and proceeded to kick-box with every member of the team.

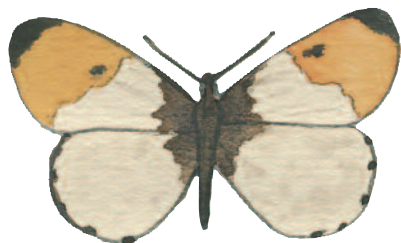
Aside from the main school work, we helped at an old people's hostel, supported some local church initiatives and went with a Bengali team to a village accessible only by a raised pathway three bricks wide top present

the gospel to people who had never heard. All in all it was beyond anything I could have imagined and I would like to thank you all for your support. If you can endure a slideshow, you are welcome to visit. There is no truth in the rumour that I got a new job whilst I was there!

Missing 1970s OG's

We know that you are not really lost! Please let us know your address and e-mail and persuade your friends to do the same.

Name	House	Leaving Year
Jeremy Turner	W	1970
Trevor Seaward	T	1970
Mark Bourne	W	1971
Andrew Henderson	H	1971
Robert Smallwood	H	1971
Edward Harvey	O	1972
David Wickham	H	1973
Adriaan Van Buuren	W	1973
Richard Little	O	1974
Stephen Bryan	T	1974
John Wiersum	T	1974
Christopher Legge	OSH	1974
David Coutts	H	1975
Kay Purdy	O	1976
Jonathan Perry-Warnes	H	1976
Duncan Williams	W	1976
Stephen Huntsman	F	1976
Nicholas Hanson	T	1977
Nicholas Buckley	W	1977
Christopher Gibbs	W	1977
Richard Mewton	W	1978
Richard Gale	F	1978
Jakob Voorthuis	O	1978
Penny Howes	O	1979





1980s

Sue Batstone emailed to say:

Having been a teacher since 1984, with a first post teaching Statistics to A level (now that would shock my poor beleaguered Maths teacher!) and a quirky Maths scheme called SMILE to CSE, most of my subsequent work has been in special education, I currently work via a commercial company, both as an interim-manager i.e. supply Head, Deputy, or SENCO, and providing Health and Safety, Management and SEN training courses. I've been acting/interim head of several special schools, such as when the post-holder becomes ill, and in one case was assisted from the premises!

I have a seventeen year old daughter, Emma. With family still in Norfolk I send many holidays "at home", including one year a fire on the family boat, moored at Horning, and then partially sinking it the next.

Roddie Bray (H 83-88) lives in Cape Town with his wife and two daughters; he runs a tourism company called African Dawn Touring which specializes in safaris and educational trips.

Anna Cornish (O 83-85) entered into a Civil Partnership with Rachel Lush in June 2006. She achieved an MSc in Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points with distinction in July 2007.

Alastair Cuthbert (T 76-81) is now a Detective Chief Inspector in the Devon

& Cornwall Constabulary and the Crime Manager for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly based at Launceston. Married to Sarah, they have three daughters, Charlotte, Francesca, and Georgina.

David A Hart's *The Unification of World Faith: the Challenge of Sun Myung Moon* was published by Om Books in 2007. David taught here for many years. He sent a copy of his book inscribed with "Fond Memories of being ordained at Gresham's by Aubrey Aitken on 26th June 1983 Bishop of Lynn". He is now both a Hindu and a practising priest and in his seven books has explored the links between faiths. He teaches at the Centre for American Studies at in Trivandrum, Southern India and is the India Secretary for the World College of Faiths. This is his sixth and most radical book so far.

Rosie Jones (née Gotts O 1982-84) has been working in property development in London for 17 years but has now moved to a farm in deepest rural Aberdeenshire with her husband Nigel. Since then she has been on a steep learning curve and now has an expanding menagerie of dogs, horses, sheep, pigs and cattle.

Judy Newton (O 84-86) emailed : I have heard through the grapevine that I have fallen off the edge of then world as far as OGs are concerned for my year group! My maiden name is Judy Palmer and I left Gresham's in

1986 with the likes of Helen Simmonds, Alex Smeed, Caroline Brown and many others. I am now living in Bexhill, E. Sussex with three young girls and a tired but hardworking husband, Jason.

Flight Lieutenant Andy Robins (F 1983-85) After completing his A-levels Andy joined the Royal Air Force and was selected to fly the Tornado GR1/4, a two-seat ground attack aircraft. He took part in military exercises throughout the world and served operationally over southern Iraq; during which time he was Mentioned in Dispatches.

Before joining the Red Arrows Andy spent two years as a flying instructor, responsible for teaching the Royal Air Force's future fast-jet pilots using the Tucano TMk1 aircraft. When not at work, Andy enjoys travelling and most sports. He describes his skiing style as "speed rather than skill", and has recently started sailing with the Royal Air Force Yacht Association. He is currently working to pass his 'Coastal Skipper' exams.

Reprinted from The Red Arrows Publication

Greg Sergeant (k&T 1980-90) writes that Henry James Sergeant was born on 12th March this year and his sister Molly adores him. "We are still living in Ashted in Surrey although we've moved to accommodate the growing family, and I am still running my own pub company www.greatlittlepub.co.uk which currently comprises three pubs in Surrey and Berkshire."

Dr. St John Simpson (T 1978-80), who is currently the Curator responsible for the pre-Islamic collections from Iran and Arabia at the British Museum, spent three years working in Iraq in the 1980s and much enjoyed his time there "in those good old days". He has excavated extensively in the Middle East and Central Asia and organized major exhibitions at the British Museum. Last year he published a monograph 'Excavations at Tell Abu Dhahir' on archaeological excavations he carried out before the area was flooded by the Eski Mosul dam.

Missing 1980s OG's

We know that you are not really lost! Please let us know your address and e-mail and persuade your friends to do the same.

Name	House	Leaving Year
Thomas Brewis	OSH	1980
Matthew Arnold	F	1980
Jeremy Troughton	W	1981
Hilary Gates	O	1981
David Chalmers	W	1981
Nicholas Taylor	H	1981
William Lambert	H	1982
Peter Ashken	OSH	1982
Susan Wilson	O	1982
Alastair Jones	W	1983
Sarah Willey	O	1983
Katherine Gillam	O	1983
Charlotte Wills	O	1983
Heide-Maria Bailey	O	1983
Mary Sladden	O	1983
Duncan Burgess	H	1983
Ralph Pannell	OSH	1983
Peter West	OSH	1983
Angus Bridge	H	1984
Timothy Sheffield	OSH	1984
John Hunter	T	1984
Owain Davies	OSH	1984
Nicholas Collie	H	1984
David Hart	W	1984
Mark McCaghrey	W	1984
James Hoseason	T	1985
Mohammed Al-Hussaini	T	1985
Sarah Markham	Oa	1985
Jason Snook	W	1986

Continued overleaf



Missing 1980s & 1990s OG's

We know that you are not really lost! Please let us know your address and e-mail and persuade your friends to do the same.

Name	House	Leaving Year	Name	House	Leaving Year
Colina Gathercole	O	1986	Catherine Martin	O	1996
Kitty Blount	O	1986	Julia Monument	O	1996
John Oliver	OSH	1986	Joanna Bircham	O	1996
David Heales	W	1987	Kate Smith	O	1996
Andrew Marton	OSH	1987	Richard Downs	W	1996
Jeremy Dugdale	H	1987	James Woodward	W	1996
Catherine Ross	O	1987	Alastair Brown	T	1996
Emma Bowett	O	1987	Matthew Doughty	W	1996
Duncan Chang	OSH	1987	Anna Peak	O	1997
Toby Hosking	F	1988	Rebecca Holmes	B	1997
Thosten Rothman	F	1989	Alice MacIntyre	O	1997
Christopher Winward	OSH	1989	Kate Girling	E	1997
Simon Button	OSH	1989	Edward Nell	H	1997
Martin Rooke	F	1989	Katharine Yuill	O	1997
Hester Coles	Edh	1989	Peter Hunnam	H	1997
Alex Gingell	OSH	1989	Lisa Woodrow	E	1997
Celina Llewellyn	E	1989	Fiona Grieve	O	1997
Rosamund Evennett	E	1989	Emily Smith	O	1997
Martin Stannard	Ho	1990	Jonathan Downs	W	1997
Amanda Ashcroft	O	1990	Kate Doughty	O	1997
Sabine Pryszucha	E	1990	Damien Roper	H	1997
Emma Griffiths	O	1990	Waka Nakai	B	1998
David Newton	F	1990	Ross van Poortvlie	F	1998
Meino von Olderhausen	W	1990	Niklaas van Poortvliet	F	1998
Candy Pui Man Wong	O	1990	Rebecca Cooper	O	1998
Colin Bottomley	F	1990	Constantyn Lantau	W	1998
Simon Cunningham	H	1990	Daniela Ivanova	E	1998
Charles McClelland	T	1990	Daniel Brooke-Lander	W	1998
Jason Berry	H	1991	Iain Matthews	F	1998
Matthew Purling	W	1991	Russell Scott-Skinner	T	1998
Jonathan Brown	OSH	1992	Suzanne Walker	E	1998
Alexander Wallace	W	1992	Toby Balson	T	1999
Cressida Hollands	E	1992	Julie Raben-Levetzau	E	1999
Joanna Lewis	O	1992	Thomas Shelton	F	1999
Frederick Depraetere	T	1992	Andrew Ellis	H	1999
Noah Osborne	OSH	1993	Hamish Pirie	F	1999
Kirsty Clark	O	1993	Harriet Robjent	E	1999
Anna Saltmarsh	E	1993	Garrison Tsang	T	1999
Charles Dodgson	T	1993	Emily Thomas	B	1999
Jennie Pollard	E	1993	Matthew Peak	F	1999
Pui See Cheng	E	1993	Alex Scoles	T	1999
Clare Buck	E	1994	Caroline Taylor	E	1999
Jeremy Mobbs	H	1994	Thomas Monument	F	1999
Katharine Todd	E	1995	Kasha Dunne	E	1999
William Clarke	H	1995			
Joseph Lemmer	T	1995			
Stacey Long	E	1995			
Lucy Manning	E	1995			
Stephanie Ridley	O	1995			
Oliver Roper	T	1995			
Matthew Holmes	T	1996			
Matthew Doughty	W	1996			
Oliver Morgan	W	1996			
Jeremy Middleton	F	1996			



1990s

Robert Alston (W 86-91) emailed to give news of his elder brother Henry, and cousin James who were also at Gresham's. Henry is involved in the OGs through Christopher Dean. He is also in touch with Jon Heggie having been flat mates for three years in London. He works for UBS as a Private Banker in London and also spends three days a week in Norfolk on the family farm near Wymondham. Jo Herbert asked Robert to help with a careers event last year which unfortunately he was unable to attend but he would be happy to do so again if required.

Jeremy Ladyman (H 1994-96) writes: I went to Cambridge and enjoyed myself a great deal, rowing and running etc but probably not working hard enough (though I came out with a decent degree). From there I took a second year out and landed myself a job in the City with one of the magic circle law firms. Two years of law school ensued. It was at law school I met Chloe, my now very long term girlfriend. I spent 4 years in London, and then moved up to Yorkshire (where Chloe is a barrister), to continue my career as a solicitor.

Agnes Plate (now Diepenbroik) (O 91 -91) emailed:

After having read the OG magazine with great pleasure again I thought I should inform you that my husband Hagan and I had a baby boy called Ferdinand on June 18th 2007. We still

live in Hamburg, Germany working as lawyers.

Emily Thomas (B 97-99) is loving teaching at the Roche School in Wandsworth and is involved with netball, hockey and tennis. She is getting married in 2008 to Will Fletcher and has bought a tiny house near the river Thames in Hampton.

Kieron Tuck (F 86-91) is now the Club Manager of Eaton Golf Club in Norwich, having previously spent five years working at Marriott Sprowston Manor Hotel & Country Club. He has been married to Kate for six years and has a two-year-old daughter called Megan, with another scheduled for arrival in March 2008.





Post 2000

Natasha Howard (E 1996-98) has been chosen to row in the British women's eight at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. After leaving Gresham's she learned to row at the University of East Anglia.

Martin McNaughton (T 1990-93) set a new British record in the sport of free diving at the German Championships in Berlin in February 2008. In the Static and Dynamic Apnea section which involves swimming underwater on one breath for as far as possible Martin completed a distance of 156 metres, comfortably beating the UK record set in 2004. The British Free Diving Association called it "a remarkable achievement", because, firstly, Martin, who lives and works in Copenhagen, has only been diving since 2007, secondly because it was his debut at a major competition and finally because he did it while suffering from a heavy cold!



Photo: Martin Müller

Charlie Meggy (k&T 1994-2005) writes:

I am currently a second year student studying Civil Engineering at Swansea University and over the Easter period I shall be attempting to hitch hike 1,600 miles from the main road outside my university to Morocco for charity. I am

one of 900 students from all over the UK participating to support Link Community Development (LCD). It works to improve education in some of the poorest areas in Africa by running projects for schools and teachers.



In the past I have focused my efforts towards raising money for Asthma research in memory of my Gresham's School friend, James Field, who passed away from the condition at the age of 14. I have taken part in the Great North Run twice, the Cardiff Half-Marathon and the London Marathon and to date have raised nearly £2,000.

(See 'Hitching to Morocco', (P43) to read Charlie's account of his trip.)

John Smart's (S 82-2006) *Modernism and After, English Literature 1910-1940*, published by Cambridge University Press, came out in the summer. It is an absolute bargain.

Raphael Terroni (S 2002-) who teaches piano at Gresham's is following his acclaimed recording of Leonard Berkeley's Piano Music on the Naxos label with a disc of Chamber Music which he hopes will come out this year.

Ben Youngs (T 2004-2008) represented England against Canada in the Rugby World Championship under 20 competition. He scored two tries and was chosen



as "Man of the Match". He is currently playing for Leicester Tigers, as is his elder brother Tom.

Missing Post 2000 OG's

We know that you are not really lost! Please let us know your address and e-mail and persuade your friends to do the same.

Name	House	Leaving Year
Andrew Barrett	H	2000
Kimberley Johnstone	E	2000
Ryan Fernandes	H	2000
Natasha Hughes-Lewis	B	2000
Terrence Lau	T	2000
Georgina Large	E	2000
Marie Harleman	O	2000
Erica Simmonds	O	2001
Philippa Crane	O	2002
Anneke Brown	B	2002
Ivan Tang	T	2003
Emma Robinson	O	2005
Joshua Rooney	W	2005
Toby Lubbock	H	2006
Benjamin Skuce	H	2007

Butcher Andrews. North Norfolk Solicitors.

- Commercial
- Matrimonial
- Personal Injury
- Conveyancing
- Wills and Probate
- Employment
- Will Disputes

Fakenham 01328 863131

Holt 01263 712023

email: ba@butcherandrews.co.uk

www.butcherandrews.co.uk

BUTCHER • ANDREWS
Solicitors



Marriages and Engagements

Dr. Patrick Aldridge (k&H 1990-98) has become engaged to Sarah Matthews.

Alexandra Buch (B 1992-1997) married Richard Bartlam at Booton Church on February 2nd. Her sister **Olivia** (E 1990-95) was bridesmaid.

George Carswell (F 1991-94) is engaged to Alison Masters.

Tom Dye (F 97-99) married Clare Pummell on 26th May 2007 at Lyng, Norfolk. Tom's brother **James** (F 2000-02) was Best Man and **Matthew Peak** (c&F 92-99) was an usher. **Mary Dye**, Tom's sister (E 2002-07) was one of the bridesmaids.

Rachel Fisher married Michael Alistair Cramp on Saturday 7th June at Gresham's chapel.

Olivia Jenney (O 1993-98) has become engaged to Adam Stone and her younger sister **Emily** (1995-2001) has become engaged to Sundeep Daniel of Delhi.

James MacBrayne (F 1992-97) married Amy Taylor on 11th August 2007 in St. Salvator's Chapel, St. Andrews. Several OGs attended including usher James Tovey and bridesmaids Clare and Helen MacBrayne.

Vicki Manchett (c&B 1990-97) got engaged to Charles Mansour in February.

Charlotte Middleton (E 96-98) married **Mark Sisson** (W 93-98) at the School Chapel on 1st September 2007. The Best Man was **Duncan Baker** (W 93-98) and the Matron of Honour was **Maria Traill** (née Townsend E 96 – 98). Charlotte wore a splendid Japanese silk dress embroidered with pearls, first seen at her great-grandmother's wedding and became the sixth bride in her family to wear it in a century.

Jonathan Pugh-Smith (F 96-01) and Triny Buxton became engaged in December 2007.

Olivia Shrive has become engaged to Simon Fieldhouse.

Peter Withers (H 1974-8) and Georgia Kirk announced their engagement in December 2007.

Honours & Awards

Andrew Jefford (k&H 69-74) recently won the Roederer International Wine Writer of the Year award for the second year running.

Roger Rowe (H 51-55) was made an MBE for voluntary service to music in Norfolk

Douglas Quartly Watson (D 1924-33) was awarded the D.F.C. for night bombing towards the end of World War II.

Obituaries

Anthony G. Bennett (H 41-43) died on 24th March 2008.

Ray Bowen (Chaplain 75-83) died in April 2008. He was Douglas Argyle's successor.

K. W. Bushell (H 38-42) died on 16th January 2008 after a brave fight against cancer. Ken was born in 1924. A link with Gresham's already existed: he was a nephew of W.F. Bushell who had taught there from 1907 to 1912 and who, when he died in 1974, was the last surviving member of Howson's staff.

Ken went up to Cambridge from Gresham's in 1942 and took a war-time degree in engineering, going onto join the Navy as an engineer officer and arriving in the Pacific just as the atom bomb was dropped. A year later he was demobilised and joined the firm of Revertex – leading makers of rubber – as an engineer. He was soon to see exciting times when a spell in the Malayan rubber plantations brought him into close contact with the communist insurgency. His rise in Revertex was steady and took him to the top, as Managing Director. The firm later merged with Yule Catto, and Ken joined that board.

Ken's leisure time was well filled. In addition to a keen interest in history, he was much absorbed with sailing – a sport to which Oliver Wyatt introduced him. He progressed from Dinghies to much larger craft, via Merlin Rocket

and Dragon, and was for many years a member of the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club at Burnham-on-Crouch. He became Commodore of the club in the 1980s. In retirement, Ken and friends often visited his villa in Carros, near Nice, which he built. Swimming and walking kept the party fit. He played a major role in building up the community in Harlow, where he lived, and had a large hand in founding the nearby St. Clare Hospice, becoming Chairman of Trustees.

Ken, who was unmarried, had a relaxed and cheerful attitude to life, but beneath this exterior lay considerable business talents which he exercised much to the benefit of both his firm and the wider world.

Rob Roseveare (o,k and OSH 33 – 42)

Oliver Wyatt (H 38 – 42)

Richard Chopping (k& OSH 1928-1935) died on 17th April 2008. Richard Chopping is probably best known today as the creator of dust-jackets for the publisher Jonathan Cape's Ian Fleming James Bond novels. *From Russia with Love* with its pistol and flower design, the skull and rose for *Goldfinger* and the slightly eerie spyhole and Ian Fleming's name-plate artwork for *For Your Eyes Only* are distinctively Chopping's work. The creator of these confections, with their meticulous attention to detail and delicacy of colour, was, however, much more than a book-jacket designer. By the time they appeared, Chopping had established a reputation as a versatile



illustrator who was noted for his depictions of natural objects such as butterflies, flowers, insects and fruit, based on close observation, as well as being a sympathetic teacher, busy exhibitor and author.

Richard Wasey Chopping was born in 1917 in Colchester, Essex. His father was an entrepreneurial businessman from a milling family, a miller and store owner who eventually became mayor of Colchester: Chopping began painting as a small boy, encouraged by his art master at Gresham's School, at Holt, in Norfolk. The future composer Benjamin Britten and spy Donald Maclean were his contemporaries at Gresham's, and Britten remained a friend. In the late 1930s Chopping attended the London Theatre Studio and learned stage design under Michel St Denis. Next came his period as student, cook and housekeeper at the East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing run by Cedric Morris and Lett Haines. They had opened the school in 1937 and it was eventually based for many years at Benton End near Hadleigh in Suffolk. Lucien Freud, who had enrolled in the early summer of 1939, was another student of this unique school.

Chopping and the artist Denis Wirth-Miller lived together for some 70 years from the time that Wirth-Miller was 21, Chopping 20. They bought a house in 1944 in Wivenhoe Essex but as it was a port and ship-building centre and a wartime restricted area they could not move in until 1945. Eventually they were the first in Colchester to register a civil

partnership in December 2005. They were founder-members of a strong artistic colony in Wivenhoe. It received a boost in 1970 when the journalist George Gale invited the politician Edward Heath to open the new Wivenhoe Arts Club, with its own exhibition hall. It attracted not only visual artists but writers such as Kingsley Amis and Peregrine Worsthorne.

Chopping's final years were blighted by sight problems, when first one, then the other, retina detached. He could just read, but could not see a picture and, although unable to paint, determinedly kept on with his writing as best he could.

Reprinted from the Independent

Professor Norman Cohn (F 1929-33) died at the end of July 2007.

Professor Norman Cohn, who died aged 92, was a historian, philosopher, linguist, author and expert on persecution, genocide and extermination; his seminal book, *The Pursuit of the Millennium* (1957), earned cult status. Translated into 11 languages since its initial publication, *The Pursuit of the Millennium* became Cohn's best-known work and was acclaimed as one of the most important studies of apocalyptic ideas. In the book Cohn revealed for the first time the history of revolutionary millenarians, people who believe that the old world is about to be transformed into a new order in which the chosen few reap their reward of an earthy paradise and everyone else perishes.

Having witnessed at first hand the apocalyptic atrocities of war, Cohn wondered whether the fanatical ideas of the Nazis and Communists were exclusively a 20th century phenomenon or whether they had more ancient roots. Both tyrannies contained the myth of a final titanic struggle against a demonised enemy – the Jews in the case of Hitler’s Germany, the bourgeoisie in that of Stalin’s Soviet Union.

Although working as a linguist when he returned to academic life after the Second World War, Cohn – with no training as an historian but never hidebound – embarked on a quest for the historical origins of these ideas which took him back to the Middle Ages. Armed with Latin and medieval German and French, he embarked on a 10-year investigation of sources for his book, with the aim of shedding light on the ancient collective fantasies that still exerted an influence on European culture. In a clear, classical style, Cohn brought obscure medieval documents to life, creating scenes that portrayed, for instance, the starving, blood-splattered flagellants who in 1349 stormed the gates of Frankfurt to slaughter the Jews in a religious-ecstatic orgy of killing; or describing how, in 1251, a raggle-taggle army of paupers, led by a renegade monk, captured the villages of Picardy on the orders of the Virgin Mary.

In 1995 when the *Times Literary Supplement* listed the 100 non-fiction works that had had the greatest influence on the way in which post-war Europeans perceive themselves,

Cohn’s book ranked alongside works by Camus, Sartre, Friedman and Foucault. At the turn of the century seven years ago, Cohn’s apocalyptic themes again caught the *zeitgeist* and his book enjoyed a revival, thanks to those people who mistakenly believed that the advent of the new millennium portended the dawn of doomsday. As one critic noted, *The Pursuit of the Millennium*’s cult status was confirmed by the fact that it was frequently quoted by people who had never even read it.

A modest man of deep convictions who shunned the limelight, Cohn exposed many of the modern world’s collective fantasies, the archaic ideas responsible for much of the cruelty and fanaticism of history which he believed still characterised our thinking. With his white beard and courtly air, he struck one observer as not unlike the prophets of Armageddon he had spent so many years researching, but “his expression is far milder and his tone epitomises English breeding – formed by the university culture of the interwar period and an upbringing in a bourgeois home with German-Jewish roots”.

Norman Rufus Colin Cohn was born on January 12 1915 in London. His father August was Jewish, his mother Daisy was a Roman Catholic. He was educated as a scholar at Gresham’s School, Holt, and of Christ Church, Oxford where in 1936 he took a First in Medieval and Modern Languages. He remained at Oxford as a research student until 1939. From the outbreak



of the Second World War Cohn served in the Queen's Royal Regiment, and then later in the Intelligence Corps, where his work brought him into contact with both Nazis and Communist ideologies, stimulating his ideas for the book that was to make his name.

Sent to Vienna in 1945, he was assigned to interrogate members of the SS, and met many refugees from Stalin's reign of terror – experiences that gave rise to questions that would occupy him for most of the rest of his life. In 1963 his career as a linguist changed direction completely. He became a professorial fellow at Sussex University and director of the university's Columbus Centre. He was a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and in 1978 was elected a Fellow of the British Academy. After retiring in 1980 he continued to write at his son's 300-year-old thatched cottage in Hertfordshire; and he enjoyed long, vigorous country walks.

From The Daily Telegraph

The Rev. Gordon Craven (H 1940-44) has died. His daughter, Rebecca, wrote the following obituary:

The Reverend Gordon Craven, aged 81, died on 17th March 2008. Gordon was born in Cullingworth, Yorkshire. After Gresham's he was commissioned into the Royal Engineers at the end of the war. He then read Theology at Queens' College, Cambridge and trained for the priesthood at Wells Theological College. After a curacy in Castleford he was appointed Vicar of Fairfield and King Sterndale in 1957. During Gordon's incumbency the

parish almost doubled in size and he was instrumental in establishing a mission church amongst the new housing. Gordon was chaplain the Mayor of Buxton and was made Freeman of the Borough of Buxton in 1973 in recognition of the valuable contribution he made to the local area. In 1972 he left Fairfield to return to Wells in Somerset. There, he and his wife, Deidre, both trained as psychiatric nurses at the Mendip Hospital and in due course were made charge nurses. Up to and after their retirement, they remained active members of Wells Cathedral and Gordon continued his ministry, gladly helping out at local village churches. During Holy Week Gordon died peacefully at home whilst reading his Bible.

Peter Dodman (F 35-40) died on April 6th 2007.

Canon Owen Eva (K 31-36) died in April and his funeral took place in Runcorn. The Reverend Douglas Argyle (Chaplain 1959-1974) writes that they kept in touch through the Cambridge Prayer Fellowship and occasional meetings and wrote to each other annually.

Peter Farmer-Wright (S 71-2008) died on April 16th after a valiant fight against cancer. His faith helped him to bear an illness that many would have found unendurable. He came to Gresham's after some years as a housemaster at Rannoch School. His funeral in St Andrew's Church Holt was packed with friends and relatives, members of Tallis House past and

present and many OGs. He was an excellent Housemaster of Tallis combining a sure sense of right and wrong with kindness and sympathy. He was a fine Maths teacher with a special sympathy for those who found the subject difficult. An excellent rugby coach, he ran the 1st XV with skill and commitment and also coached the Under Fifteen cricket side. In Tallis he instituted the peculiar, almost *Scottish*, custom of the House early morning run. The boys rose at dawn, ran to Sheringham and had a quick dip in the North Sea before returning to a hot breakfast and lessons.

Few of those present will forget the demonstration of affection from the Tallis boys to him when the house won the House Music Cup in 2006. Peter will be remembered for his gift of friendship, for his humour and his good nature.

Alan Ponder writes: I was chatting with a colleague at about 10.45 one Friday evening in the Feathers Hotel when a young man from the bar came up and asked if we were Gresham's teachers. "I'm here for the rugby job," he said and sat down with us, pint in hand. He introduced himself. I said "As a matter of fact I'll be interviewing you tomorrow morning about your maths and cricket." At which point he immediately jumped up to the bar and ordered me another pint "Thanks, Peter," I said, "The job's yours." I had immediately felt a great warmth and empathy towards Peter and knew he would be an asset for Gresham's and a very close friend of mine. And so it proved.

In 2001 I invited Peter to join me in our cricket tour to Barbados. I know that he absolutely loved those three weeks. His moves on the dance floor at the Harbour Lights were legendary...

My main story is that Peter helped to save my life. One day I was out on a canoe with my son, Charlie, twelve years old at the time, when the canoe collapsed about seventy five yards from the beach. Being a non-swimmer and having no life jacket, panic set in and with Charlie holding my head above water, I began shouting for help. Within a matter of a very few seconds there was Peter who had seen what was going on from the beach and immediately swam out to me and helped me back to the shore. I know that Peter would have loved to have taken his wife and family to Barbados one day.

David Clouesley Fitch (W 31-36) has died. His son, Geoffrey Fitch, writes:

I am sorry to report the death of my father David Fitch on 25th March 2007. He had been ill for a number of years and died peacefully at home. We were all sad to see him go but the end was made much better when I recollected that 5 years ago he had told me he was "looking forward to dying". When I questioned this comment and asked him why, he responded "I'm looking forward to finding the answer to that big question!" A great response to the inevitability of death.

My father's father was H.A. Fitch who attended Gresham's in the early 1900s.



My father's years were early to mid 30s and I followed on from '56 – '65. David was the only Fitch not to be Head Boy but if that ever bothered him he never told me! From Gresham's he went to King's College, Cambridge and from there straight to war with the Norfolks. He transferred to the 1/15 Punjabi Regt and had a pretty easy war in India unlike his former comrades in the Norfolks (who hadn't volunteered for the Indian Army) many of whom ended up as POWs shortly after arriving in Singapore.

My father became a schoolmaster post-war, a job he frankly hated but he also busied himself as a parish and district councillor, Liberal Party parliamentary Agent for four elections, school governor and founder of his local Scout group. In other word he kept on volunteering!

Gresham's was the obvious school for my father having been a Norfolk man through and through – he was born at Marsham and brought up in the Rectories of Sheringham and Stiffkey (his father followed the infamous Rev. Davidson in c. 1932). He obviously felt that he benefited from his Gresham's education otherwise he wouldn't have sent me.

John Forrest (OSH 1958-62) One of the most highly regarded and influential arable farmers in East Anglia, John Forrest, has died suddenly at his home aged 63. When he won the award as the Cereal Grower of the Year in 1992, he was predictably surprised by this success but the title was thoroughly deserved. A member

of the Norfolk-based Morley Research Centre for about 20 years, he played a key role in the development and creation of the country's largest independent practical farming research body. He became a board member of The Arable Group, which was formed following the merger of Morley and the Arable Research Centres in 2003.

His farm, Mowness Hall at Stonham Aspal, near Stowmarket, was a frequent winner of the Suffolk Agricultural Association's supreme title over three decades. He always shunned the limelight whenever possible, even as a winner of the best farm title and King George VI Supreme Championship Trophy.

Last year, he was delighted when his son James won the special conservation award. Mr Forrest was born in 1945 at Sandpit Farm, Bruisyard, and went to school at Stowmarket and St Felix in Felixstowe before Gresham's, Holt. He went to Writtle College and several years later got the chance to start farming on his own account in 1968 at Stonham, when he took over a run-down farm. His skill and determination turned the arable farm into a highly productive holding over the next 40 years. Inside six years, he was farming about 800 acres as other land, including a tenancy, was added in 1974. It was an exciting time for an enthusiastic arable farmer following accession to the Common Market or EEC (European Economic Community) in 1973 as technology including better seeds, crop protection products and

machinery became available. Always a practical farmer, he enjoyed the challenge of designing and modifying machinery and using technology to farm the land efficiently and with care. He pioneered the use of rubber-tracked tractors in the 1990s to protect the soil structure and the land. But he also worked as hard off the farm too. A keen sportsman, he played hockey for Ipswich, represented his county, and played well into his 40s. He also became involved with the co-operative ECF, (Eastern Counties Farmers) starting as member of the crop services division, later joining the group board for several years. In 1973, he became a founder member of the Gipping Valley Group, then growing dwarf beans and later vining peas.

As chairman of the Felix Cobbold Trust, he devoted considerable time and energy to transform the long-established agricultural charity into a more modern structure. He was also a great supporter of Suffolk Young Farmers, serving as chairman of Stowmarket, and met his wife through the organisation.

He will be remembered as a modest man, who was always willing to offer advice only when asked, and was regarded by many in the farming industry as a mentor. He leaves a widow, Christine, a son, James, daughter Clare, and three grandchildren.

*Reprinted from the
Eastern Daily Press*

D.E.Hardwick (W 1944-1946) has died in January in Worcestershire.

Peter Corran writes that he shared a double study with him in Michaelmas 1944 at the Bay Hotel Newquay. John Bennett, who was a contemporary of David's in Woodlands, attended the funeral.

Manfred Witgar Sweetlove Hitchcock (o, k&W 1932-41) died in 2007. He was born in Bures, Suffolk in 1923. The name Witgar was from an Anglo Saxon Thane who had owned Bures Mill in the 11th Century. He was educated at Gresham's School, Holt before entering St Catherine's College in 1941 to read Natural Sciences, specialising in Zoology. He graduated in 1944 also winning the Frank Smart Prize for Zoology for outstanding work. St Catherine's has won this only four times in the last one hundred years. After graduating he joined his father in the family Animal Feed Milling business in Bures, becoming Managing Director after his father's death in 1957. Bures Mill was sold in 1994 when Witgar retired.

Witgar's lifelong passion was his research into the life and achievements of his great, great, great uncle, Matthew Flinders, the explorer, who circumnavigated Australia and charted a large percentage of the coastline. He gave papers on Matthew's life at Flinders University in Adelaide. Recently, at the age of 82, he travelled to Australia again for the launch of the book. *Matthew Flinders Private Journal*, having written the foreword. Until his last illness he managed his home and garden without help and was mentally very alert and his memory unimpaired.



Woodlands c. 1930

Professor C.H Gimingham (o, k&W 34 – 41) writes:

Witgar and I were contemporaries at Gresham's and subsequently as undergraduates at Cambridge (1941-44). Not only did our activities follow similar paths, but we became friends early on and remained in touch throughout the rest of his life. I therefore pay tribute to a loyal friend whom I shall greatly miss. Witgar retained very vivid memories of his school and university days (having kept a detailed diary throughout), and he kept in touch with a number of good friends made at that time. He was a most loyal OG and a great supporter of what the School stood for (especially in the days of J.R. Eccles, Headmaster, and A. Gamble, Housemaster of the Old School House when it was the Junior House). Throughout his life he

was appreciative of what he gained from his years at the School. Apart from the teaching and other educational advantages, he thrived on freedom which we enjoyed in those days – for example he and I explored much of Norfolk on our bicycles. We were both active members of the School's Natural History Society: his interests centred on the geological and meteorological aspects of its activities, and for a period he undertook daily met. observations (even extending to a daily forecast!), which I believe he continued later at his home in Suffolk. The surroundings of Holt have plenty of scope for our interests, and when the School moved to Newquay during the war years (from summer 1940) we were lucky that we were again in an area where we could pursue these. Witgar explored many of the remnants

of the Cornish mineral mining industry and helped to arrange a number of excursions to local mines. (In later years he attended several of the Newquay reunions.) His work for a University scholarship was concentrated on science subjects, especially those likely to be relevant to his firm intention to go into his father's business, but at the same time he has very wide interests including history, sociology and current affairs, and he read widely. Overall, he summed up his eight school years as "of outstanding interest and enjoyment."

Dr John Frederic Hope-Simpson (W 1927-32), a lecturer in the Botany Department at Bristol University for 31 years died on 11th February 2007 at the age of 93. Martin Crossley-Evans sent the following appreciation of his life and work written by himself and his colleagues:

John Hope-Simpson was always known as H-S to everyone in the Botany Department, staff and students. He was born in London in 1913 and attended Gresham's School in Norfolk. From there he went on to Oxford University, where he was awarded a first in Botany. He stayed on at Oxford to carry out research for his DPhil on the ecology of grasslands on soils overlaying chalk. His supervisor was Professor AG Tansley FRS, the founding father of plant ecology in Britain. The resulting papers contribute to our basic knowledge and understanding of how the species composition and structure of these grasslands is controlled, especially in relation to features of the soil and to grazing by sheep and rabbits.

In 1939 he spent several months on an expedition in southern Sudan. This resulted in a substantial and important paper on the open savanna woodland of that region and its relation to the soils; publication was delayed until after the Second World War. During the war, H-S was at first part of a team concerned with how food production from grassland areas could be increased. In 1947 he was appointed to a lectureship in the Botany Department, where he remained until his retirement in 1978. During his early years in the Department his teaching was mainly on genetics. Although he had no research experience of this branch of biology, his lectures were, by student report, clear and interesting. Later, as more staff joined the department, he was able to transfer his teaching to his own area of expertise, plant ecology. He was instrumental in starting a course in conservation, to which other staff contributed.

From his arrival at Bristol onwards, his research was particularly involved with Braunton Burrows, a large area of sand dunes on the north coast of Devon. Various staff colleagues and research students were involved in the ongoing research, but H-S was the leader, the one who continued over decades as others came and went. Major multi-author papers resulted. Study of how the vegetation varied across the dune system provided a basis for understanding how the vegetation was controlled by features of the soil and microclimate. Yearly records were made, which as the years passed became very valuable information on



how the vegetation was changing, which could be related to changes in the soils and in climate. For many years there was a week-long undergraduate field course at Branton, organised by H-S; it was a special and memorable experience for the students to take part in this ongoing project. After his retirement H-S continued investigations at Branton. His last visit was only about 18 months before he died.

Outside the University he was active in promoting conservation; for many years he was a leading member of the Somerset and Wiltshire Wildlife Trusts. He had wide interests outside botany, and he read widely. For many years he sang in the Bristol Choral Society. He was noted for producing unexpected and perceptive questions about subjects far removed from his research area. He was almost always cheerful, even at difficult times. He will be remembered with affection by former colleagues, and by generations of students.

Harold Maurice (Mike) Newton (F 32-37), who died on August 11th 2007, was born in Overstone, Northants in 1918. writes his son, Mike Newton. From an early age his cricket bat was his favourite possession. At the age of eight he was the youngest member of the Waynefflete Preparatory School XI. Later he played both cricket and hockey for Gresham's School, Norfolk and Jesus College, Cambridge (1937-39) and became a member of the Hawks' Club. Throughout the summer vacation of 1937 he played for

Northants County Cricket Club, usually in the Second XI but in two matches for the First. At the time of his death he was the only surviving pre-war Northants player.

He learned to fly with the Cambridge University Air Squadron. His ambition was to fly ever since he had a joyride at Sywell Aerodrome at the age of ten, the year his father, Charles Newton, had started the aerodrome. In August 1939 Mike was commissioned into the RAFVR and was making reconnaissance flights over France in anticipation of a German invasion. He flew throughout the war, attaining the rank of Squadron Leader. After the war Mike joined the Shell Oil Company. Over the next 15 years he worked in many parts of the world, including Shanghai, where his son Mike (H 61 – 66, S 70 – 71) was born, Hong Kong, Singapore, West Africa, the West Indies (where two daughters were born) and Pakistan. He always managed to find somewhere to play cricket – usually as wicketkeeper and often as captain. If there was no cricket team where he was stationed, he started one!

When his father became ill in 1960 Mike resigned from Shell and returned to take over as managing Director of Sywell Aerodrome, Northampton, where he remained until his retirement in 1982. During this time he became Civilian Chairman, and later President, of Northampton 5(F) Air Training Corps.

When he wanted to train as a cricket coach, a 'blind eye' was turned to his age – well above the upper limit for this course. After qualifying he helped to run

the Northants County Under 15 side for a number of years and took them on several tours. In later years Mike had to be satisfied with being a spectator at the Northants County Ground, at Lords, where he was a member of the MCC, and in the West Indies where he was a member of both Barbados and Trinidad Cricket Associations.

In 1973 he married his second wife, Elizabeth. Since his retirement in 1982 they have spent their winters in the West Indies. His ashes were interred in the Military Cemetery, Barbados on 18th December 2007. He is survived by his wife, four children, twelve grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren.

N.H. Lee (k&F 43-49). Roy Kemp and Anthony Baker write:

Neville joined the School in Kenwyn during the wartime evacuation at Newquay and indeed in recent years has returned for two of the Newquay reunions. His home was in Sheringham so on the return to Holt he became a day boy for his Farfield days. His family background was in wholesale grocery so on leaving the School he spent some time with leading wholesale grocers in London "to learn the trade". He then found his contemporaries had to do National Service but he failed his medical for some minor reason. He found his friends were all enjoying foreign postings while he was finding his training rather dull. Hence, he decided to gain foreign experience and became a tea planter in India. It was in India he met his wife Rosemary and they were married when Neville was on leave in Grantchester. He and Rosemary spent happy days in India

and returned to England (by then with four daughters) in the sixties.

For some time thereafter, life was more difficult for Neville being not too sure as to the course to follow. He eventually worked in the home rental market in London and decided that suited him. So he set up his own business in Brighton under the name of Leaders Residential Letting Agents. This business, with his hard work, became successful and Neville became prominent in this field. Not only did his business expand in the Sussex area but Neville was also a founder member in 1981 of the professional body for the industry, ARLA, Neville later became President. In the Birthday Honours of 1995 he was awarded an OBE for his services to the letting industry.

Rosemary's interest was gardening so Neville enjoyed their old country house in Sussex with an extensive garden. He retired in 1996 and felt he should do something of a charitable nature and helped drive one of the relief lorries to Bosnia during the Bosnian/Serbian conflict. Sadly he was not able to enjoy his retirement as he would have wished. Rosemary died in 1996 and subsequently Neville developed Parkinson's disease which he bore bravely. He married Sonia in 2004 and she helped him through these difficult times.

Neville will be much missed by Sonia, his four daughters and their families (including 11 grandchildren) and friends. One day at four o'clock in the morning while he was receiving treatment in hospital, one of his grandsons (aged 18) telephoned him.



When Neville asked him where he was, he said, "On top of Everest" Quite an adventurous family!

Alan C. Purdy (W 1935-39) Mike Purdy has written to say that his father died in June 2005 aged 83.

S.P.E. Simon, (H 1931-37) Hugh and Roxanne Simon write that their father Pat Simon passed away peacefully on the 22nd May with his family around him. He outlived his eldest and only surviving brother Jack; Lord Simon of Glaisdale by two years.

Stanley Patrick Evelyn, but always known as Pat, was the youngest of the five Simon brothers who attended Gresham's school during the 1920s and 30s Pat greatly enjoyed his time at Gresham's, recounting bike rides to early morning swims as his preferred that option to the obligatory cold showers, reasoning that he could warm up again riding back.

His career in the wine trade, after Trinity Hall, Cambridge where he read modern languages and the War, when he served with the Royal Artillery and at Field Marshal Montgomery's headquarters, is best summed up by Peter Hallgarten, his friend and colleague of 50 years, who writes:

I always think of him as a professor of wine, with encyclopaedic knowledge of vinous subjects from far and wide. His comments were always very well thought out, meticulous in accuracy, sometimes almost too detailed for anyone not as immersed in the subject as he was. As a taster he was second to none, avoiding flowery language,

sticking to carefully chosen descriptions which completely reflected the style and value. Pat was indeed an excellent and very patient educator. The distillation of 50 years in the wine trade created *Wine Taster's Logic* published in 2000. The book is typical Pat, full of anecdotes and information, ideal for the amateur and professionals. The basic description of a wine through patterns of lines and curves was an interesting concept, which worked in evaluating tastes within a small group.

Pat was very proud of being one of the first Masters of Wine back in 1966. Throughout the last 40 years he was active in the Institute, especially in the education and standards committees. Besides wine his interests were wide and varied and always well studied. He spoke at least 6 languages and played several musical instruments. Even at the age of 82 he took up bookbinding and always enjoyed learning new skills and subjects. The basis of this interest in learning came from school, his parents and his brothers. Pat kept in touch with Gresham's throughout his life through the Old Greshamian Lodge and, until quite recently, he would travel up to Holt to see old friends and take part in school events and celebrations.

Robin Bradbury Winter (W 36-41) died on 6th October 2007. His son Jeremy Winter writes: Robin was born on 26th August 1922. His father Bernard Bradbury Winter attended Gresham's before him, as probably did Bernard's brothers. He was evacuated down to Newquay with the School during the early part of the war. He

had photos in his album of Newquay and some of his contemporaries. Immediately on leaving school he joined the army and was posted to India to serve in the 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles, where he served with distinction in Burma, rising to the rank of Major.

After the war, he worked in various parts of the motor industry until the 1970s. He then took on a series of positions at Oxford University, the last and most important of which was as Secretary of the Ashmolean Museum. Under his tenure, the Ashmolean carried out major improvement works. On retirement from full time work, he was engaged in the supervision of building work at Brasenose College, Oxford, a job he continued with until his late 70s. His last, but by no means least important, job was serving tea to

patients in the Windrush Community Hospital in Witney, which he did until shortly before his 85th birthday. He had lived at Witney for most of the last 50 years.

He married Mary Winter in 1953. There was a Gresham's connection there, in that J. Noel Johnson was a contemporary of Robin Winter's at Gresham's, and was the uncle of Mary. They had two children, me and my sister Clare. I was intended to go to Gresham's but ended up at Bradfield (a soccer school, much to my annoyance). Mary Winter died in 1991 and Robin linked up with Lalita Bearne, the widow of a fellow Gurkha officer. They married in 2005.

The School hymn "Lift up your Hearts", to the tune of "Woodlands" by Walter Greator, was sung at his cremation.

LARKING GOWEN
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

your future is our future

*For an informal chat
on business or
personal affairs*

Call Mark Curtis
0845 612 0426
www.larking-gowen.co.uk

Offices: Bungay • Claydon • Colchester • Cromer
• Dereham • Diss • Fakenham • Holt • Ipswich • Norwich



We had been hit: George Seal-Coon

It was the moment that every commander on the ground in Afghanistan fears. "The shockwave hit the building and everything went dark. The force punched into my chest and pressed me down through the roof. I knew immediately that the bomb had fallen short – and I knew we would have casualties." Speaking for the first time since a 500lb American bomb exploded among his soldiers Lt George Seal-Coon (F 1995-2001) has given *The Sunday Telegraph* a chilling description of the "friendly fire" incident that left three British soldiers dead.

As the thick desert dust cleared it revealed a scene of "horror and carnage", he said. Men were lying mortally injured. Clothes had been stripped from bodies by the force of the blast. Cries of "medic, medic" echoed around the compound.

This should have been a routine patrol for the men from B Company of the 1st Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment. But nothing is routine in Helmand province, even now nearly six years on from the initial push against al_Qaeda. It was August 23 and dusk was approaching when the 100 British troops left their base near Kajaki in northern Helmand. Two hours into the operation, at about 6.15pm, the patrol was attacked by the Taliban with rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons. Six soldiers from 7 platoon, including Lt Seal-Coon, occupied a deserted compound while a Joint Tactical Air Controller called in an air strike by American F-15 fighters on the enemy position.

In a voice cracking with emotion the 25-year-old lieutenant recalled: "I got a message over the radio stating that the bomb would hit in 20 seconds. I thought it would either hit a target 500 metres away or another at last one kilometre from our position. The enemy was firing from both. "Five of us were on the roof waiting for it to hit when there was this huge explosion. I knew immediately that we had been hit by the bomb. I knew it was close but at that stage I didn't realise how close. I could see straight away that some of the soldiers were badly injured. I was shocked not just by the blast but by the number of casualties. There were four guys seriously injured on the roof"

It was obvious that Pte John Thumble, 21 and Pte Aaron McClure, 19 were in a bad way. He went on: "We were totally exposed to the enemy and I knew we had to get the injured off the roof. I gave them first aid and both were passed to the soldiers below. I am not sure whether they were alive." Neither man survived. It was at that stage that some of the soldiers realised that Pte Robert Foster, 19, was

missing and had probably been buried under the collapsed building. In a frantic effort to rescue the young man his fellow soldiers dug with their bare hands until they found him. Lt Seal-Coon added; "He probably died instantly and the fact that he didn't suffer gives me some comfort."

Pte Joshua Lee, 20, and Cpl Stuart Parker, 30, were also among the casualties. Both had multiple injuries, including burns and deep lacerations, but they survived the attack. Under the direction of Sgt Michael "Woody" Woodrow, the casualties were taken back to their base close to the Kajaki Dam.

"I'm still left with a sense of disbelief that I survived," said Lt Seal-Coon. "Immediately it hit, I knew a mistake had been made but at that stage my only concern was for the injured soldiers." He survived the blast probably because he instinctively ducked just before the bomb exploded 20ft from his position. All those who came through the attack had, said the lieutenant, "shed tears" at the loss of their colleagues; many have sleepless nights. His soldiers still feel angry at the incident, he said, and want a "quick and open" inquiry.

"I've spent a lot of time going over and over the incident in my mind, trying to work out what went wrong," said Lt Seal-Coon. "I've been talking about it with some of the guys in the platoon: It's easier to talk to people who were there when it happened. All three of those who were killed were great lads, really strong characters. My responsibility now is to make sure that all my men get home safely. My duty is to them, it always has been. I was their commander for two years and knew them all well. We were as close as family."

Sgt Woodrow gave his account of the bomb's aftermath: "I could see that some of the soldiers were already dead – it was a shocking, horrible scene. I pulled one bloke out of the rubble. He looked up at me and said, 'We've got casualties'. He was uninjured but shocked. "I called for 'Check Fire' over the radio, which meant that any further bombing run would be aborted. Then I saw the boss climb out of the rubble. He began giving first aid to one of the injured guys and then took command of the situation and all the time he was exposed to the enemy. He showed true leadership when it was needed, the selfless sacrifice that is often talked about."

Reprinted from The Sunday Telegraph





Youth with a Mission

For my Gap Year project I decided to spend six months with the international Christian organisation 'Youth with a Mission' which works all over the world training up young people and sending them out to help and teach in communities



in almost every country in the world.

I had always wanted to go to Africa so, having discovered that 'YWAM' has lots of bases all over Africa, I was keen to spend several months there. So at the beginning of January last year, I found myself leaving the English winter and stepping onto the hot tarmac of Cape Town International Airport and from there I spent 3 amazingly fun months

working with a group of 25 other young people from all over the world at YWAM's base in Cape Town - going into the townships, teaching English to Congolese immigrants and lots more, as well as receiving training ourselves.

Towards the end of March, however, we all began to pack up our stuff in order to move on to our next location for 3 months: Rwanda. Ravaged by genocide in 1994, this country still bears the scars and trauma of such horrific violence, although its progress and desire for forgiveness and reconciliation amongst its



people has been amazing. Gone was the comfortable beach life of Cape Town, and we now had to get used to having no clean running water, no power showers, no flushing toilets, scarce electricity, and not much in the way of good food! Thankfully, Rwanda is an absolutely beautiful land, as are its people, and we never had that much time to dwell on our lack of luxuries because

our days were packed full of ministries. These included: working with street kids, going into the prisons, working with women in prostitution, visiting refugee camps, teaching in schools, organising youth groups, playing with children in

orphanages, visiting people with HIV/AIDS, praying with patients in hospitals, and carrying out manual labour such as physically helping to build a church. I will never forget some of the days we spent doing these ministries, seeing the raw reality of life in Central Africa. It was a truly amazing time we had in Rwanda and despite how hard it was sometimes, both emotionally and physically, I am so grateful I had the opportunity to have such a gap year. Listening to the tragic stories of so many of the Rwandans we met who had survived the genocide, it made you realise how our everyday 'problems' seem to pale drastically in comparison to those from a very different background.

After Rwanda, we returned to South Africa for a few weeks before all separating to go home to our respective countries. It was really hard for me to get on the plane home as I had loved my time so much in Africa and I would like to say a big thank you to the Old Greshamian Club for so kindly helping to sponsor this wonderful time I had abroad!

Georgina Nicholson
(c&E 1992-2006)

Legal Advice..? Make us your first call.

Our first class professional team is ready to meet all your legal requirements. With clients throughout East Anglia and London, we are renowned for our service. To us, it's service and results that count.

Please contact:

Fakenham	- 01328 863231
Holt	- 01263 712835
Sheringham	- 01263 825959
Wells	- 01328 710210
King's Lynn	- 01553 778900

Hayes + Storr – All you'll ever need

law@hayes-storr.com

www.hayesandstorr.co.uk





All Aboard the Medical Express

The clackity-clack of the train on the tracks becomes the clanging and hammering of an orthopaedic operating theatre. Outside, under the sun's fierce glare, there is fevered activity as hundreds of hopeful patients clamour for attention. For a month, a dedicated team of health professionals will assess and treat up to 6,000 poor people with disabilities; and inside this hospital on wheels they will perform life-changing operations on 800 of them free of charge. All aboard the Lifeline Express.

Since 1991 the train has traveled to nearly 100 rural locations on India's 70,000 kilometres of railway as part of an international initiative to prevent and treat disability caused by diseases such as polio. Deformed limbs are straightened, cataracts are removed, cleft palates are repaired, and the deaf are given hearing aids or surgery.

The team also offers advice on improving maternal and child health. Crucially, the train leaves behind a permanent lifeline: at each destination a clinic is established, and the visiting specialists teach local doctors their skills. Over 400,000 people have benefited, thanks to the 70,000 medical personnel who have donated their time and expertise. The Impact India Foundation runs the project helped by the UN Development Programme, Unicef, World Health Organization and the Indian government. The £20,000 needed to fund treatments at each stop comes from corporate and public donations. "It's an Indian solution to an Indian problem," says Gary Knight, who captured these images.

"The train is a very hopeful, inspiring place. Terrible disabilities can be overcome, giving young men and women the chance to marry or find work, giving new life to people who would otherwise be condemned to poverty or isolation." Some of the patients must be turned away, however, because their disabilities are too severe to be treated. "For them the future is very bleak," Knight says. "But their grace in the face of such despair will be my enduring memory."

Susanna Jolly
(B 2000-2002)



Hitching to Morocco

Well what an adventure! Reality has just about set in now that I'm settled back into life at Swansea University and never get tired telling my stories! For those of you who may never have heard of the Hitch, it's an official university event held annually with over 1000 students taking part. The objective is to Hitch-hike to Morocco in aid of the charity LCD.

I set out with the goal to raise £500 and the current total is £1267 and rising! It has been a lot of hard work but comes with an enormous sense of achievement. I walked around my university halls with an enormous jar of change asking people to guess the value for a pound a try. I made five charity pots and placed them around campus and generally spoke to as many people as possible. Two days before starting the Hitch I was £20 short of my initial target and went to my Student bar, ate a jar of Marmite to raise the remainder and more! All the money raised will go towards improving the education standards in the poorest parts of Africa.

We left early on Saturday 15th of March to a champagne send-off with the local news team snapping photos of us all and off we walked to the main road outside the university! Fifteen minutes later we were onboard our first lift. Despite rain all day in the UK, the longest wait was only about an hour. Made it to Portsmouth comfortably with eight hours to wait for our ferry to Le Havre. Enough time to find a pub and watch Wales win the Grand Slam! Upon returning we were greeted by a sea of green Hitch t-shirts. Not good news for securing a lift. However, after frantically rushing around the ship we found a British man named Richard, who was heading to southern France in a Jaguar! So we tried not to





smile too obviously as we left the ferry passing all my fellow hitchers standing with their signs by the side of the road.

After an entire day of travelling at 9:30pm we were dropped off at a service station outside Bordeaux; However, I was not aware it closed at 10pm and without a tent, this put me and my hitch partner Jenna in quite a situation. We wandered around for a while and then we came across an eerie looking hotel that, just our luck, was fully booked. By now it was 11pm and there was nowhere else to turn to. However, a taxi pulled up to the hotel and a French woman emerged. In desperation we explained our situation and ten minutes later I was having a hot shower! She very kindly let us sleep on her floor and wrote out a translation of what we were doing, which turned out to be very helpful when trying to speak to drivers, who spoke no English (my GCSE French was a little rusty!)

We did eventually make it to a tollbooth just south of Bayonne before entering Spain. This is where we hit the Jackpot! Spotting a lorry with a British Licence we went to meet our new drivers, Graham and Glynn. It turned out they were heading to Albufeira in southern Portugal. The best part; they were transporting a mobile home so for the next two nights we had a nice mattress to sleep on! Although it was a slow journey at least we were moving unlike some of my other Hitch friends, who were miles behind at this point. It was amusing hearing others progress and keeping in contact via text messages with the odd bit of teasing!

After four uneventful rides we arrived in Tarifa ready to catch the ferry to Morocco the next morning. There is an enormous amount of controversy over the whole hitchhiking world and in my two years experience I have been fascinated by the diversity of people who have given us lifts. In general, most have been extremely hospitable, friendly and helpful, which is what made this experience what it is. One minute you are standing in the rain wondering what you were thinking when you signed up and the next you are living a memory that will remain with you for a lifetime. I remember last year one of our lifts was with a Spanish woman, who picked us up in San Sebastian, Spain. We had been waiting all day and three groups left before us. She took us into her house and allowed us to sleep in the living room, where we ordered pizza, sang along to a guitar, watched movies and had a much needed good night's sleep.

All these stories - and we aren't even in Morocco yet! The ferry from Tarifa docked at Tangier on 19th of March. This marked the official end of the Hitch. I now wanted to do explore, so I headed straight to the coast for some serious relax time! I made my way to Taghazoute, a small fishing village, where I met a Moroccan student named Fahmed almost immediately having stepped off the bus. I don't know if any of you have been to Morocco but, especially in

Marrakech, people are usually only friendly for one reason – your money. He was different, showed us around, found us a place to stay with a sea view balcony for £4 a night and, despite offering money for his efforts, refused and told me that it was just good to practise his English. Later that night he invited us to his home for a Moroccan tajine dinner and all his friends and family sang and played music for us. Very memorable indeed...

Unfortunately the dream had to end sometime and I really felt this when stepping off the plane to be greeted by the British weather that I'm all too familiar with. I am now back at university about to sit my final second year examinations towards my Civil Engineering Degree. Things are generally going well and I realise how quickly time goes, which is why I want to thank the OG Club and everyone once again for their support because it would not have been possible without it. It has meant so much to me but more especially to the countless children receiving an education through the work of Link Community Development. It's hard not to get carried away but I urge everyone to just take every opportunity, like the Hitch that's on offer. If you see me next year when I'm doing this event again by the side of the road, please feel free to pull over and be part of my new story!

Charlie Meggy
(k&T 1994-2005)



THE TANNERY®
FINE LEATHER TO GIVE AND TO HOLD

Handbags and leather accessories personally selected from Europe's finest makers.

Please do drop in when you are next in Holt, or request our gift brochure.



Tel 01263 711500
or email info@thetannery.co.uk

The Tannery Lees Yard Holt Norfolk NR25 6HS www.thetannery.co.uk



The Sapwell Diaries

When I was working recently on the school archives Liz Larby, the archivist, drew my attention to the diaries of a near contemporary of Auden's, J.I. Sapwell, for 1921, six months of which survive. Sapwell was in Woodlands of which JR Eccles was housemaster and in the science 6th as Auden was two years later. They were written to cover everything he did and his reactions to events on a daily basis for one year. He records that this was his plan: a year in the life of J.I. Sapwell. He comes over as a most conscientious, loyal boy who had strong opinions and was determined to do as well as he could at everything. Three generations of Sapwells in the school bear testimony to that.

The headmaster dominates the pages, as teacher, form master and housemaster: "In Chapel I sit in a two-seater almost next to JRE. He bawls the hymns and quite spoils everything by singing so loud. I don't really care for the tone of his voice, it is rather coarse." Eccles was a workaholic and like most of the staff devoted the whole of his time to the School. Things though were much more flexible then for pupils as well as staff: *"Granny could not take us in Organic 12-1 as he went to play golf with JRE. He is going to take us tonight."*

There were always those who would delight in mimicking Eccles, though not to his face - he was not a man to be trifled with. Sapwell was frequently irritated by him, perhaps not surprisingly as they saw so much of each other. But he also gives praise where praise was due. He records faithfully what the head said on a wide variety of subjects so that a much fuller picture emerges than is usually seen. He emerges in this diary from the shadow of Howson and is seen to deserve credit for the great success of the school during his time as head and for establishing an ethos from which so many enormously talented old boys benefited. In that sense this diary is a prime source for those wishing to understand how those amazing generations of Greshamians emerged.

Much has been written about the Honour system. Confession of misdemeanours was an integral part of this system, about which Auden wrote with a bitterness that has tended to cloud the impression the School left on him. It is interesting to compare his views on it with the references to it in Sapwell's diary:

"The Sixth were wanted in No.3 classroom at 7 o'clock by JRE. We all assembled wondering what was up. JRE came in and outlined the four main traditions of the School: honesty, purity, truth and industry. He then said that one of the sixth form had disgraced himself and his form by offending against two of these."

JRE then proceeded to outline his case with a detailed description of an essay's having been stolen, copied and then returned. This was noticed in the marking and the boy concerned did not at first own up but was finally prevailed upon to

do so. The culprit who was captain of the form was demoted to the bottom of the order and lost his privileges as a sixth former. Sapwell somewhat unfeelingly was pleased that as a result of this he was made captain of the Lower Sixth. He seems to have regarded the whole episode as entirely fair, as it probably was. More tellingly earlier in the term he wrote:

"After prayers I went to JRE and made a little confession to him dating from last Summer Term, which I found out relieved my mind a lot. I went and collected my paper (for a talk he was giving) and went through to JRE again who put me on the exeat and said he hoped my paper would go off all right."

Clearly for Sapwell (and probably for most others or the School would not have been such a success), the system seemed a good one, or at least perfectly acceptable. The general impression left by the diary and the other evidence available from Eccles' time is of a liberal, even idealistic school where the trust given to the boys was not abused and benefited them greatly.

By far the largest society in the school was the Natural History Society. In 1921 it had 8 sections and at least half the school were members. Reports of its meetings were printed. Sapwell was a keen member. He records what happened at many meetings, one of which, of the Architectural section on January 23rd, is of particular interest. It took place just after Auden had joined that section, which turned out to be significant:

"After Chapel I went to a meeting of the Architectural Section. We were promised five papers this term with two possibles. Toc (CK Tyler, the Master who was then Chairman) was very precocious (sic) about the possibles. Hutchinson said that his depended on whether he could get lantern slides from Dr Auden (WH Auden's father) Toc said, 'We must not have uncertainties, we must cast this one out.' I moved that it was left open for the present and that we should accept the offer provisionally. This was carried all right so Toc was put down."

The formality of the proceedings is perhaps not surprising but the equal status of boys and the member of staff concerned is a pointer to the freedom of discussion between boys and staff and the good relations that generally applied. The assumption is that Wystan had said that his father might lend his slides, presumably when he came to address the Sociological Society, which he did later that term. One sees a more senior boy not allowing the young Auden to be put down.



Boys' teaching of each other was a feature of the Society. Sapwell records this well: *"Saturday, Hutchinson (they shared a study) was in a bad temper preparing for his*



paper. I went to his paper in the evening on 'Variation and the Origin of the Species.' It was quite good and I am sure it did me a lot of good from the biological point of view."

The scientific life of the school was remarkable for the freedom that boys had to pursue their own ideas.

"Hutchinson suddenly had a brain wave on chemistry. If you can make mixed ethers why shouldn't one make a mixed inorganic oxide? (The formulae are given.) We intend to investigate this and we think the best way will be to try and fuse together dry sodium and dry KOH in an atmosphere of nitrogen."

There is no record of the explosion that would have been likely to have taken place if they had attempted this. Throughout the diary Sapwell records he and Hutchinson as having free access to the labs at any time of evening or during the day and conducting experiments unsupervised either on their own initiative or as part of the teaching programme. Eccles records in his autobiography that all rooms were always unlocked.

The diary covers one term in the Lower Sixth and two in the Upper Sixth. The timing of lessons was conventional, with five forty-minute lessons before lunch and two in the late afternoon from Monday to Friday with a Saturday morning school of five lessons. Here any resemblance to a modern Independent Boarding School timetable ends, though prep, was conventionally structured with three forty-minute sessions. Sapwell's preps on Thursdays and Fridays were ascribed to particular subjects, Extra English, Mechanics and Chemistry. This and much else can be seen from his individual timetable that in a tattered condition has survived tucked into his diary, a most revealing and fortunate find. Much time throughout the week was assigned to 'Extras'. Especially, much of the time in the first two hours of the morning was taken up by these – time when those being taught are at their most receptive. It is possible to see from his diary how these 'extras' were used. They were either earmarked at the beginning of each term to fit the individual needs of a boy for tuition, or on an ad hoc basis if lessons had been missed, or for extra tuition needed for the whole set or for a boy on his own. Much of this 'extra' time though was left unassigned, in Sapwell's case 17 of the 38 lessons each week. There are frequent references in the diary to his use of the laboratories. Let one suffice, the level of trust is striking:

January 22: "In the evening I went over to the Physics lab as Hutchinson wanted to do an experiment to find the heat developed in contracting a muscle. He was at a meeting of the Sociological Society for a long time while I was fitting up the apparatus and in the end we did not do the experiment so I wasted a good hour over there."

One assumes a similar freedom was given in all subjects and this goes a long way to explaining the success of the School in developing the unusual levels of achievement in so many of its boys of that time. It was common too for boys to set up experiments for the staff before lessons. Very little time, if any, seems to have been regarded as free in the sense that a boy or a member of staff could

expect not to be called upon for some school activity. Eccles, as his Housemaster, is down in Sapwell's timetable for the whole of each Saturday evening!

The informality and flexibility of the curriculum and the give and take of all this is well illustrated by the entry in the diary for May 11th, the first day of the summer term when Sapwell was promoted to the Upper Sixth, (as Auden was at that stage in the sixth forms.):

"We went to No.3 classroom where JRE read out our scheme of work. He arranged extra Physics lessons and then we went and saw 'P' about Biology. He said he was going to do Botany properly in the Autumn Term and that I had better do a little on my own."

This style of timetable produced an unusual and, by any standards, challenging regime, designed to promote private study and individual initiative.

There seems to be no public mention at this time of the School Certificate - indeed the reference to it in this diary is the only mention of it in the archives. Obviously no one was troubled by it. There was some informal preparation for the Oxford and Cambridge entrance exams. This began for Sapwell as early as February when he had just been promoted to the Upper Sixth. *"In Nickal's Extra Physics third period I did a practical schol question."* Academic rigour and industry were also encouraged by a system of regularly published form orders throughout the School, which was fairly conventional at that time. Sapwell's diary records for Monday Feb 7th:

"The First Quarter's Order was read out after prayers; the Vth did not have an order read out. I did the ups and downs for JRE as Browne was out of School. We had 15 up and 17 down and two absent."

It has already been noted that a boy was demoted for disciplinary reasons connected with gaining marks by cheating. This formal public exposure of everyone's academic progress and prowess was clearly thought entirely natural and normal by Sapwell, whose regular recording of the details shows that he rather enjoyed it.

The school was obviously a very busy and thriving community where common endeavour was enthused by a sense that each person could and should play a full part. The success of its pupils in later life was no accident. Sapwell became a doctor having sadly failed to get into Cambridge. With that disappointment, stoically borne, the diary ends.

A fuller treatment of the life of the school and its influence on WH Auden will be produced in the Autumn. This uses a wide range of source material and includes further use of Sapwell's diary. Copies will be available from John Smart at the school.

Hugh Wright

(Headmaster 1985- 1991)



A Quintessential Englishman: Hoult Taylor

When you are as old as I am time seems to scurry by faster than Lewis Hamilton can pop champagne corks. I became an OG in 1955, the year James Dean, who would have been 77 this year, was killed and Disneyland, which I was to visit 7 years later, opened its gates in California. In those days America now the centre of world attention, seemed as distant as the outer reaches of the universe; except that my father had been there on a couple of business trips in the late 1940s. As kids we were thrilled when he returned with an electric train set for me and a dolls house for my sister. Both were exquisitely detailed. The engine was an exact replica of an old Santa Fe railroad locomotive complete with whistle and the dolls house contained classic Louis XV furniture moulded in plastic. In post-war Britain we were the envy of all our friends since nothing remotely as fine as these two toys could have been bought here, even in Hamleys.

What with those gifts, the black and white cowboy films and my father's stories of his experiences in the USA I became fascinated with a world that seemed so full of excitement. Little did I know then that some 13 years later in my early 20s I would be touring that incredible country as an actor with the London Old Vic in Franco Zeffirelli's memorable production of *Romeo and Juliet*. On Broadway and in Hollywood we met with many famous actors, writers and film stars, but it was the late great Laurence Olivier who, as he was making an entrance in one of Shakespeare's leading roles, turned to a fellow actor and said "It's no good – I must go out and get a proper job." So, after 20 years in the entertainment industry, I went out and got myself a 'proper job' as USA account director for a credit card enhancement agency. My first assignment was over six weeks in Hawaii (well someone had to do it) and thereafter, into the nineties, I commuted to and from the US each time taking in several states every trip. I reckoned I saw more of the country than most Americans do in a lifetime.

Possibly one who saw less of America than almost anybody was my English teacher at Holt. He was the flamboyant and charismatic H.D.F. Taylor known to all as Hoult Taylor to distinguish him from the affable and avuncular junior school teacher Laurie Taylor. Arriving at the school in 1928 he was already a hugely accomplished musician, a classical English scholar and a talented director of stage plays. Would he not have been thrilled to exercise his unparalleled skills in the Auden Theatre? It was in this latter genre that I was to find my vocation as an actor along with one or two other aspiring thespians.

Both Taylors were colleagues and close friends of the erudite English teacher and

eventual second master, John Coleridge. When I was writing this I asked John if he would contribute a memoir about Hoult Taylor. Recognising his unmistakeable gait one summer's day John recalls: *Presumably going past the chapel and tennis courts he makes for the Theatre in the Woods where his world, where he is truly dominant, begins. And on another occasion: A young man, seeking to gravitate to outdoor directing, stands slightly behind him and to his right at the top of the theatre's steps. While observing a rehearsing actor Hoult says, "Ah, that is how he sees Malvolio. We'll go along with that." The professional teaches me to respect the efforts of the amateur aspirant.*

Latterly he attached himself to the Old School House where he had become a close friend of my housemaster, the Australian E.G. Kelly. Every few evenings Taylor would come bouncing in to the OSH dining hall at prayers, shoulders back, casting a wry smile in our direction and seat himself securely at the old upright piano. When the hymn for the night was announced he would strike a few introductory chords and we were off. His playing was so "alive" and mellifluous that we were inspired to sing out as if it were the last night of the proms. At the chapel organ there was no one to touch his playing. What will live with me for ever was his rendition of the old 100th ('All People That on Earth Do Dwell') with a stirring finish composed especially for the Coronation by Vaughan Williams. In classes his animated take on Chaucer was a joy and he taught me how to appreciate Shakespeare as well as how to tackle his plays.

In the late 1950s John Coleridge spent a year in America on an exchange with Jo Grover, second master of a school in Connecticut. During Grover's stay at Gresham's Hoult Taylor and he became friends. A year later, enchanted by his wit and learning, Taylor accepted a position at Grover's school in the States. Then, according to John, it all went pear-shaped and he returned to the UK less than six months later. *The wider spread of talents, the rampant disrespect of the Head's authority, a genial game whose rules both sides abided by, was not to the taste of that quintessential Englishman. He fled before his time, never again to return to Gresham's and retired to modest accommodation near Sonning in Berkshire.*



I have much to thank Hoult Taylor for, and know my life and those of many others at Gresham's were made richer by his presence both as teacher and friend. He had the gift of inspiring young people to reach beyond what they perceived were their



capability thresholds. There are so many unanswered questions about this enigmatic man. Sad to imagine he ended his days in comparative obscurity. I only wish he were alive today so I could go and shake him warmly by the hand.

Michael Pemberton
(OSH 1950-55)

Reader Offer: Mike and his wife Tina own a fish and seafood restaurant at Ovington (between Swaffham and Hingham) just off the Dereham Road in South Norfolk. The Café at Brovey Lair is Michelin recommended and The Good Food Guide has Tina as one of its top 200 chefs while the restaurant shares second place in all of East Anglia. Mike will offer complimentary cocktails to OGs as well as retired and current staff on arrival at the restaurant. Those staying over will also be entitled to a substantial reduction on the stunning garden suites. Visit www.broveylair.com or call 01953 882706 mentioning code GRES55.

Magnificent machines from a bygone age

The Thursford Collection is the brainchild of our President John Cushing and the product of many years of hard work. Its success is a tribute to his sure sense of what people enjoy and his vision in providing such a unique blend of fairground fun, music and dance.

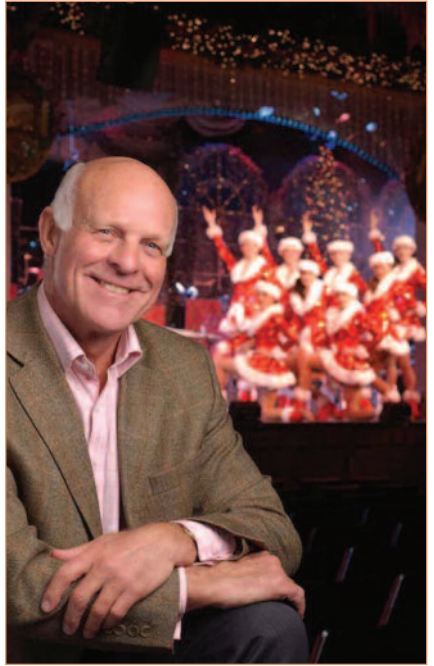
The Thursford Collection is in the tranquil setting of a small Norfolk village and takes you back to a traditional old-fashioned fairground where majestic engines sit next to carousel rides.

Many things compete for attention when, for the very first time, you walk into the large exhibition hall – the colour, the lights, the movement, the sounds of jaunty organ music, all the magnificent machines on display. But two large fairground rides inevitably draw visitors to them to experience the delight of



riding on these magnificent machines. One is the 19th-century Savaged Gondola Switchback roundabout, the last of its kind in existence. It is called a gondola because the richly-carved cars in which revellers ride are shaped like Venetian gondolas. The other is an 1896 Savages three abreast set of Gallopers, one of the best made by this company. It also bears the original Orton and

Spooner painted scenes on the rounding boards. This carousel which had not operated for nearly 25 years, was installed at Thursford three years ago, and after restoration, is also operational for rides. Music is another important part of a visit to Thursford and each day the collection of mechanical organs, ranging from the small street version to enormous dance and fairground exhibits, all play jaunty tunes to demonstrate their different styles and sounds. But nothing can compare with the wondrous sound of the mighty Wurlitzer, starring Robert Wolfe in his daily shows featuring popular music, not only from today, but from the 30s, 40s, and 50s. You will also see the Wurlitzer being played as it would have been in the days of the silent movie era, but using today's technology.



Traditional Norfolk farm buildings have been transformed into Dickensian-style gift shops, ice cream parlour, coffee/tea shop and the famous year-round Christmas gift shop giving visitors the opportunity to purchase an array of presents to rival many larger towns.

November and December see a complete change, when the exhibition hall is transformed into a winter wonderland for its Christmas Spectacular Shows. Now in its 30th year, there are 86 performances with seating for nearly 1,500 people, a cast of more than 100 professional singers, dancers and musicians, all performing live at each show, 1,000 costumes and 750,000 lights. It is the largest Christmas Show in England.





Iron OGs

Endurance events are getting more and more popular all the time. Every year there are record entries in the London Marathon and London Triathlon and an ever increasing number of challenging charity events take place around the country. We all know people who have managed such feats be it for the sake of charity or their own personal challenge.

For me, training and participating in events such as a Triathlon, a 100 mile bike ride or a marathon is a weakness. I fall prey to the addiction of the endorphins and I literally run away from the pressures of everyday life to selfishly enjoy the solitude and peace of a training session. As a further sign of my weakness, my participation can also be put down to a vain effort to delay the onset of middle age and the accompanying spread.



Jerry Furniss



Owain Davies

There is an event, however, which only the truly strong can compete in: The Ironman. In the last two years, three friends, all contemporary OGs have completed a course of a swim of 2½ miles, a 115 mile bike ride followed by running a full marathon. In 2006 Owain Davies (OSH 79-84) and Jerry Furniss (OSH 79-84) completed Ironman Austria in 12 hours 40 minutes and an incredible 11 hours 5 minutes respectively. I had put down their inner strength and strange desire to become Ironmen to spending 5 gruelling years in Old School House. But where did Sam Kingston (H 81-86) get the mettle to complete Ironman Switzerland in 12 hours 54 minutes this year? Although he avoided tough regime of the School's oldest boarding house as a pesky third former he did spend most mornings running around the houses in the "8 o'clock" punishments of the time.

But perhaps for all of them, it can be better put down to the un-definable strength that is built by being sent away from the comforts of home to compete, endure and enjoy. It is just that Owain, Jerry and Sam must have spent more wind-whipped hours on Eccles filed than the rest of us.

R.A. Dale
(T 79-84)

The Free Man with a Touch of Genius

They added a verse to the unending song last weekend at Gresham's School, Holt. Though Wystan Auden was born in York, raised in Birmingham, found his voice at Oxford, and later gave himself to the world, living in Manhattan, the Bay of Naples and lower Austria, he was schooled in Norfolk, where admirers gathered to salute the great poet's memory in this, his centenary year.

The centerpiece of the three-day event in the school's Auden Theatre was a superb address by Lord Gowrie on the post-war poems, but there were excellent contributions by five other speakers. Blake Morrison reminded us of Auden's playfulness; Professor Stephen Lahey of his return to Anglicanism. Katherine Bucknell traced his development from youthful admiration of Hardy and Eliot to the onset of maturity, and Roger Mallion, from King's School, Canterbury, offered a first-hand observation of Auden's notorious table talk (and alcoholic consumption) at Christ Church, Oxford in the last years of his life. There was also a chance to hear about Auden's association with Benjamin Britten, who followed him to Gresham's.

Mallion raised laughs by recalling Auden's infamous gambit to unwary guests at dinner: "Do you piss in the washbasin?" However, primed by their host, Mallion's friends were fully prepared. When one cleric replied "Only when there is no window open", the conversational bully was unhorsed.

With the booze and boredom, and the resentment of Oxonians who thought he had done a bunk in 1939, Auden's tale had a sad end. Even Gowrie could not deny that. The last fifteen years (Auden died in 1973) yielded few poems of interest. Taken overall, though, it was a remarkable life, which produced a corpus of great work. In his closing remarks Gowrie quoted Isaiah Berlin's opinion that Auden was one of two Englishmen of the last century who possessed genius – "The other being Churchill".

It was inevitable that we have made less of Auden's centenary than of Sir John Betjeman's last year. Betjeman became a loveable television performer, and all his life wrote poems that were accessible in the best sense of that much-abused word. Auden could be difficult, in his work as well as his life. And, of course, he lived abroad for three decades, taking American citizenship as early as 1946.

Michael Henderson

Reprinted from the Daily Telegraph



Corresponding with Auden

On 4 February 1967 I was 17, and in my last year at Farfield. At the time I had such an obsessive interest in poetry that I declined to answer questions on anything else in my English A level. This obsession, together with the knowledge that Auden had been a Farfield boy must explain why I wrote the letter to him, to which the letter printed below is his reply. To recreate from memory what exactly I put in my letter is, after 40 years, an impossible task, but a certain amount is obvious from Auden's comments. I told him that I was undecided whether to become a poet or a painter (my career options would not have endeared me to George I) and enclosed a copy of my poem *Phobia*. This short verse was printed (on blue paper) on the centre pages the issue of *The Gresham* (the school magazine) for the summer term 1967. I would not normally wish to resurrect this juvenile composition, but, as it provides a context for Auden's reply, here it is:



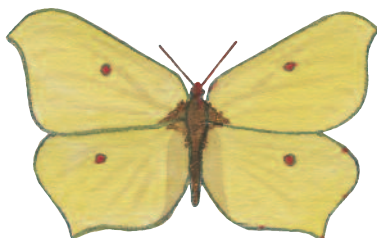
Auden the new boy

How about the terror of sharp things –
 Of razor blades, of splintered broken glass
 The needle, the syringe, the revulsion that it brings
 My tense and tender throat, my feet, my arm
 – How about the terror of sharp things?

I also recall that I asked his opinion of certain contemporary poets – Allen Ginsberg is one name that I can remember mentioning. I am sure he was wise to ignore this part of my letter; but I would still like to know the answer.

Finally, you may be wondering, did I take any notice of Auden's good advice? Of course not.

Joe Mason
 (F 1962-67)



77 St Mark's Place
New York City
New York 10003
U.S.A.
Feb 23 1967

Dear Mr Mason,

Your letter of 4th Feb has just caught up with me in the middle of a lecture tour. It was a great surprise to see Farfield on the envelope.

You say that the 'how about' phrase in your poem 'may wear a bit thin'. Actually it is the best line in the poem.

As to the question you ask. Nobody can ever tell somebody else whether they should become a writer or a painter or anything else. If you really want to write poems and/or paint pictures you will. In either case unless you have rich parents who are prepared to support you for a number of years your immediate problem is to decide what sort of job you believe you could do in order to earn a living, and then study whatever that job requires.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely
W.H.Auden.

John Bradburne, poet, naturalist - and saint?

John Randal Bradburne left Farfield in 1939 to join the Indian Army instead of going to university. When he died in 1979 this eccentric missionary left behind a legacy of 6,000 pages of verse in the Spartan tin hut that was his final home in a life of wandering.

John had a lifetime love of the natural world. One of his earliest poems was called 'The Birds', also the subject of his final sequence. During his life he wrote hundreds of poems about the wildlife of England and Africa, pasting animal pictures everywhere he went, including on the covers of a school exercise book. Eagles in particular fascinated John because of their spiritual significance of flying close to God. In Africa he climbed a tall tree to observe an eagle's nest, playing his recorder to the parent birds, and even cared for a tame one. Bees too held



special significance for him after he prayed to God to send an angry swarm to keep visitors at bay, feeding his buzzing guests with prune juice and altar wine! Since John's untimely death there have been many uncanny instances where his followers and associates being visited by eagles or bees.

Bradburne was born in Cumbria in 1921, the son of a parson. The family soon moved to Norfolk, though, and Gresham's features in a number of John's early poems where his love of his natural surroundings is already evident. 'Serene were the surroundings of my school', he wrote, 'and pleasant were her fields whereon we played, Remarkably attractive to a fool.' John would often depict himself as fool or jester in his poetry, assuring us that he was 'Bottom-of-class-but-two-or-three each year'. He recalled playing 'in Shakespeare like a fool' amidst a 'leafy wood', but admits to being more interested in climbing the trees to observe birds, bees and grasshoppers than in the cricket game taking place beneath. Somewhat tongue-in-cheek, he also noted that his own name has not been written in 'golden letters' by his Alma Mater along with those of Benjamin Britten, Wystan Auden and other 'mummers'.



John Bradburne aged 40, 1961

A very different backdrop was soon to prove inspiring for John, who found bustling Bombay rather a culture shock after gentle north Norfolk, but quickly developed a love of both its people and wildlife. After a dramatic escape from enforced hiding in the Malaysian jungle John rejoined his Gurkha regiment, tending the wounded, bird-watching, and singing psalms. There followed a year with Major Wingate's 'Chindits' and a spell in hospital with Malaria. Father John Dove who met him at this time described Bradburne as a hero and a misfit, perhaps a fitting epithet for the life that was to come.

John soon realised that a solitary life devoted to God and helping others was where his destiny lay, and spent many years living in various monastic communities with the intention of becoming a monk. Entering Buckfast Abbey as a gardener, he quickly began to prepare to become a member of the Roman Catholic Church, being received in 1947. After this there followed a short spell teaching in Devon, a brief romance, and a period as a fisherman. He went to Italy and the Holy Land on a pilgrimage, travelling as a vagabond, playing hymns on his recorder, and made vows of poverty and chastity. Returning to London on the

death of his father, John worked as a carer in a shelter for the homeless and busked to raise money for church restoration, calling himself the jester of Christ.

By now it was becoming clear to John that he was perhaps too much the individual to be a monk, although he still longed for solitude and always followed the hours and rituals of praying and singing. He wrote to Father Dove asking if he knew of a vacant cave in Africa where he might pray and live as a hermit. In 1962 John began his long association with South Africa, working in Jesuit missions growing and distributing food for the poor. Word of John's compassion soon spread, though, and it was whilst working at an education centre in Harare that he felt it necessary to call on a swarm of bees to keep unwanted visitors at bay. Bradburne's great hero was St Francis of Assisi, who gave away his belongings and dressed as a leper in order to work amongst them. John had three wishes; to work with lepers, to die a martyr, and to be buried in the habit of a Franciscan monk.

As soon as he saw the appalling living conditions of the lepers at Mutemwa he knew he had finally found his true vocation. John was appointed warden and immediately set about making improvements, driving out the rats, improving housing and hygiene, even bathing the sores of these social outcasts with whom he so strongly identified. He tried to restore humanity and dignity to the colony, bringing in much-needed medical attention and building a chapel. With his refusal to compromise, however, John quickly met opposition. Committee members were angry when he refused to reduce food rations and to force lepers to wear metal tags around their necks, and he was sacked and told to leave. Camping on a nearby rock, John continued to care for the sick, creeping into the camp at night to read the Bible to comfort the dying.

When first in South Africa John had learned about the abundant wildlife. He prayed for an eagle, and one appeared. During his last six years spent living in isolation in a simple tin hut outside the leper colony he was able to get even closer to nature and inspired to write many poems on the subject. Wearing the monastic habit, John now lived as a hermit, growing his hair and beard long, and becoming very thin, which he hoped would improve his chances of flying like a bird! Shortly before the kidnap that led to his murder, John had a vision of an angel and a squadron of large ants invaded his hut in an omen of doom. In his bid to help the lepers, John had possibly unwittingly become caught up in local politics when locals involved in stealing supplies decided to abduct and march him at gunpoint to a guerrilla outpost. Much to their anger, the commander had no quarrel with this quiet charity worker and set him free. John Bradburne's body was found by the side of the road on 5th September 1979. He had been shot in the back and left to die.



Strange incidents immediately began happening: a group who approached the body heard singing and ran off in terror, a huge white bird was seen hovering overhead, and three beams of light apparently rose from where he lay. During John's funeral it was noticed that three drops of blood had fallen from his coffin and lay in a pool. When the coffin was later opened, the body was clean and dry, but it was soon realised that John's wish of being clothed in monastic habit in death had not been granted, and this was put right. John Bradburne's death soon resulted in a cult, miracles were attributed to him, cancers cured, dire warnings of accidents received, and job successes secured following prayers to this curious and caring man. Many pilgrims go to Mutemwa to visit his shrine, and the woman who tends it claims to have had visions of the Virgin Mary. His friend Father Dove firmly believes in John's sanctity, and a 'cause file' of material for his beatification has been submitted for consideration. To add to the list of Gresham's great and good, along with the Britten's and Auden's, we may soon have a reclusive saint who spent his life in the service of God. An interesting collection of material about John Bradburne has recently been donated to the School Archives, including a biography by Father Dove entitled 'Strange Vagabond of God', and a selection of his nature poems 'Birds Bees and Beasts'.



John Bradburne the poet
in the tin hut at Mutemwa

Eagles (1949)

*Your wheel above mountains
In face of the sun
So near to the fountains
Where light is begun:
'Tis only the angels
Whose wings are more strong,
So you are the symbol
Of Holy Saint John.*

Liz Larby

Gresham's School Archivist

From 'Memories of Gresham's School'

Some Rules and Customs:

1. When meeting a master outside the school grounds, caps had to be raised or a salute made.
2. No boy to leave the table at breakfast or tea within the first ten minutes and while the prefect at the end of one's table was still there, his permission to leave the table had to be obtained.
3. While there was no fagging for prefects, certain boys had public duties to perform of a minor nature to save prefects having to do those tasks themselves.
4. Sunday suits included a waistcoat, the penultimate button of which had to be left undone on the last but one Sunday of term to denote *but one!* Similarly, the last Sunday was known as Cock Hat Sunday, so straw hats had to be worn at an angle.
5. At Woodlands, boys walking to Big School should go at least in pairs, even if it meant an 18-year-old walking with one four years younger.
6. Punishments were really minor. They included washing and dressing in ten minutes and reporting to the prefect in the dormitory by 7.10am. This was sometimes combined with running round the inner side of the School Woods. Being reported to one's Housemaster was the most significant.
7. Chocolates and sweets were forbidden until 1934. This rule was broken by those who walked down the lane parallel to the Cromer Road on Sunday afternoons and noticed the bars of Milky Way just showing behind the muslin curtain of one of the cottages. A purchase was easily accomplished. In the later 1930s the Headmaster put up a notice under the Old Clock in the main School Building: *Itinerant Vendors of Ice-cream are out of bounds*. Freshly picked strawberries were permitted to be purchased at a market garden just down the Kelling Road until the School Shop was opened in 1934.
8. Exeats had to be obtained to cover expected absence from classes and lunch and tea callovers. Thus on taking the open scholarship examination in 1936 and 1937 I had to get the signatures of all the masters whose periods I would be missing. Similarly to go out to lunch and tea with my parents and to go out of the area of Holt, I had to get the signature of the Housemaster and the Headmaster. We were restricted to three such exeats per term. These exeats were made on block paper, with details written by the applicant, who kept the exeat. They were never given for being away for a night, a feature which helped boys to take part in extramural activities and at the same time encouraged a greater feeling for life at the borders through being forced to centre our interests on activities with fellow pupils.

M.W.S. Hitchcock
(o, k&W 32-41)



History as she is rote

After the popularity of the first section of historical howlers provided by Sue Smart and David Hamill here are some more (completely genuine) thoughts from Gresham's pupils about more modern times.

The Liberal Party

"The Liberals asked the King to make five hundred new piers."

"Another achievement of the Liberal Party was Old Age Pensioners."

The First World War

"The generals decided to send people over the top into no-man's-land. They sent Pete. I was very sad to see him go."

"The only weapons aeroplanes had were revolvers which were hard to hit with when flying a plane."

"Some aircraft were used in fighting, like the Allied Sop with Camel."

Life in the trenches

"People had to have their leg or foot chopped off because of a disease called trench foot which is when your socks get damp and then your foot starts to swell up with enormous pain."

"It's dreadful, I don't know where to start, loud gunfire, blood everywhere and John and James from church died. But at least they died for our country. I was so lucky I didn't get my head blown off by a German machine gun. It's so boring."

"I've only been over the top once. I was one in three to come back. Twenty-four people went out, three came back."

"Some people are saying they have nostalgia just to get out of the front line. If you run away you get shot."

"I'm glad I'm not a scout. He has to crawl across no-man's land, poke his head over the edge of the enemy's trench and then crawl back again."

Changes in the lives of women during the 1st World War

"In the Golden Age most women were made to tidy, wash, cook and clean."

"Another change was that birth rates increased due to lack of contraception and husbands at war."

The General Strike

"...the other unions pulled out. This day became known as Black Friday. Knowing they couldn't strike then, they called the strike off and had it on another Friday. This became known as Red Friday."

"On Red Fridaynine days later.....this was called Black Friday, although I don't know how one Friday comes nine days after another."

Medical Advances

"During the Crimean War Nightingale was put in charge of a large hospital in Gilpily."

"Florence Nightingale was a national heroin."

"Pasteur discovered that micro organisms were everywhere, using a microscope."

"Pasteur discovered that when a substance or liquid was heated it was no longer affected by bacteria. He tried this theory on a sheep."

"Lister decided to wash doctors' tools and hands in chloroform to try to kill off disease."

"Lister used carbolic acid to make childbirth less painful."

"James Simpson discovered chloroform. At first you would be happy and then you'd pass out."

Effects of the National Health Service Act

"..millions of subscriptions were handed out."

The Second World War

Q. Describe the U-boat method of attack.

A. The U-boats started very high and then dropped their bombs. It wasn't easy to shoot them down

"Life in Britain was totally different from life in Germany, because Germany was extreme right-wing fascist and Britain was just fascist."



Stop Press

James Copas

Attained a BSc Class 2:1 degree in Environmental Management at Sheffield Hallam in 1996. He now works for Thomas Cook in Peterborough and married Hayley Collis in 2005 - they have a daughter Niamh.

Dave Copas

Left Gresham's in 1996. Graduated from Nottingham University Medical School in 2001 and became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 2005. He continues 'Specialist Training (ST3)' in Orthopaedic Surgery in Nottingham. He married Emma Collins in 2006.

Rob Copas

Left Gresham's in 1998. Graduated from Nottingham University with a BSc in Biology and returned to University in Birmingham to study Medicine in 2003. He graduated in 2008 with Honours and starts work at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in London as a junior doctor in August 2008.

OG Club Committee

Henry Alston

Duncan Baker

Michael Baker

Chairman

Val Bowers (*ex officio*)

Mark Buckingham

Ali Cargill

John Cushing

President

Robert Dale

Chris Deane

Nigel Flower

Fiona Gathercole

Michael Goff

OG Governor

Robert Howell

Philip John

Headmaster

Richard Maxwell

James Morgan

Treasurer

Patrick Peal

Vice Chairman

Mark Seldon

Common Room Representative

John Smart

OG Co-ordinator. Editor of the OG Magazine

Richard Youngs

Beth Irvine has become our Secretary.

At the last meeting **Alex Bartlam** and **Nick Hanington** were invited to join the committee.

Sport

The Old Greshamian Golfing Society

Hon Secretary/Treasurer:
Richard Stevens

Captain: Mike Barnard

3 Seagroves
Boxworth
Cambridge
CB3 8LS

Tel 01954 267027



Messrs Mann, Hedley, Semple,
Stockton, Allison and Stevens

Autumn Meeting, Hunstanton – Wednesday 26th September 2007

The hardy bunch of 24 souls who ventured out were not rewarded with the weather that their dedication and support deserved – gentle breeze it was not, dry and sunny spells were noticeable by their absence. We did, however, manage to get everyone on to the golf course twice and, given the conditions, there were some excellent scores, headed by Alan Spinks with 62 points, winning the Guy Marsom Memorial Trophy – we were delighted that Guy's parents, Geoff and Dallas were able to join us in the morning and for lunch, also that James Marsom was able to attend and excelled with 55 points, in 3rd place. Crawford Balch made a welcome return to the podium with 58 points, and 2nd place. Despite the conditions a good day was had by all and we were very well looked after at both Hunstanton and the night

before at the Lifeboat at Thornham, where 11 of us went into serious training at the bar and over dinner – which could explain some of the less good scores the following day!

The AGM was held at Hunstanton. Existing officers were re-elected en bloc and the Secretary was asked to investigate a venue closer to London for the Autumn Meeting in 2008, in the hope that some London based golfers might be encouraged to join us without scaring off some of our regular supporters.

4 Schools Match, Royal Worlington – Friday 12th October 2007

This very enjoyable and social occasion involving Gresham's, Uppingham, Marlborough and Tonbridge saw the



Gresham's team of Jim Balch, Mike Barnard, Tony Rains and Richard Stevens defeat Marlborough in the morning only to succumb to Uppingham after lunch – they were the better golfers on the day, nothing to do with them 'lunching' better than us!

Spring Meeting, Royal Worlington – Friday 14th March 2008

14 golfers turned up for our first meeting of the year at Royal Worlington. The course was in excellent order, the weather was fine and we were looked after fabulously well in usual Worlington style. The Fishmongers' Trophy was won, once again, by Peter Morton with a splendid score of 77 points followed by Peter Andrews (71) and Tony Rains (68).

Halford Hewitt, Royal Cinque Ports: 10th - 13th April 2008



With confidence and optimism 10 golfers arrived on the Kent coast to do battle against Westminster in the first round on the morning of 10th April. A favourable draw, after a number of

years without much luck, gave grounds for the optimism which was duly converted into a 3½ - 1½ win, so pitching us against Tonbridge, one of the favourites, in the 2nd round. Although remaining competitive in a number of the matches for a long time, Gresham's eventually succumbed 4½ - ½ to the eventual winners, and were left to continue to aspire to an appearance in the third round. The confidence that had built up over a series of close but unsuccessful encounters in previous years has stood the team in good stead and they thoroughly deserved the success against Westminster – we must now build on this and look to progress further in future years.

Ben Stockham did an excellent job marshalling his team and with almost everyone turning up for a practice round and staying overnight on the Wednesday there was a real 'team' feel to the week – long may this continue! With a mixture of youth and experience Gresham's were represented by Ben Stockham (capt), Tom Allison, Mike Barnard, Tristan Hedley, Adam Mann, James Marsom, Jeremy Mumby, Hugh Semple, Will Stebbings and Richard Stevens.

Grafton Morrish Qualifying Round, Leicestershire GC – Sunday 18th May 2008

After the difficulties encountered in 2007 there was a real danger that Gresham's would be unable to send a team to take part in this year's event,

however after some careful cajoling Hugh Semple managed to persuade 6 of us to turn up at The Leicestershire GC to play the format of scratch foursomes stableford, with 70+ points being the likely qualifying mark. As it was, 71 points qualified which was too much for the Gresham's team of Hugh Semple (capt), Jeremy Mumby, Richard Stevens, Peter Watson, Graham Wells and Simon Whitton, who could only manage 59 points.

There is no doubt that we have the golfers capable of scoring 70+ points to secure a weekend on the Norfolk coast in the Autumn and even with the accepted complications of trying to persuade the lower handicappers to venture into the Midlands for one round of foursomes golf on a Sunday it has been far too long since Gresham's reached the final and I would urge all potential Grafton Morrish players to make themselves available for next year's qualifier, to be held once again at The Leicestershire GC on Sunday 17th May 2009.

Summer Meeting, Sheringham – Sunday 22nd June 2008

Held on the Sunday of OG weekend, the Summer Meeting drew a disappointingly low turnout, with only 9 OG's and 3 staff able to get to Sheringham. On a dry but breezy day scoring was tricky with Keith Thomas scoring 32 points to secure the OG Summer Meeting Cup, followed by Wally Hammond (30) in 2nd place. The Veterans Cup was won by Peter Morton (27) and the Staff/Pupils Cup by David Jackson (32).

The generosity of Sheringham, who offered very attractive green fees, and of Gresham's itself, in laying on a buffet back at school is much appreciated and thanks go to George Heaney for his exemplary organisation of the event. George retires from Gresham's this year and I am very grateful to him for all the support he has given to the Society over the years, particularly with the Summer Meeting, but also in ensuring that we are able to keep in contact with golfers as they leave school. George, may we wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement and to hopefully see more of you on the golf course

Cyril Gray, Worplesdon – 26th – 28th June 2008

On a golf course in very good condition, as reported by Jeremy Mumby, with greens the best he had come across in a long time – very fast and slippery were the words used – Gresham's went down 3-0 to a strong Dulwich team in the first round. The match was not as unbalanced as the result suggests, and the view was that the lack of match practice was a major factor. In the Plate Gresham's came up against Whitgift, losing 2-1 so the stay in Surrey was sadly shortlived, albeit very enjoyable and convivial.

Representing the school this year were Jeremy Mumby (Captain in the absence of the holidaying Mike Barnard), Pat Cook, Tom Hawes, Robert Mumby, Peter Watson and Graham Wells.



Governors' Match, Royal West Norfolk – Thursday 26th June 2008

Tony Rains, captaining the side on the day, reported a 4-0 victory over the Governors, but with two matches going to the 18th it was not as one sided as the score suggests. Generously entertained and very much enjoying Royal West Norfolk the following represented the school – Tony Rains (Capt), Andrew Bell, Peter Bodington, Crow Goodley, Wally Hammond, Peter Morton, David Newling and Alan Spinks.

As to events later in the year, the following are scheduled:

Autumn Meeting, Gog Magog – Tuesday 30th September 2008

Our efforts to find a location closer to London for the Autumn Meeting have got as far as Cambridge and we shall be holding the Autumn Meeting at the Gog Magog Golf Club. A good turn out is anticipated and we shall continue to look for alternative venues which allows for attendance by as wide a spectrum of the membership as possible. The Autumn Meeting is also the occasion for the Society's AGM.

4 Schools Match, Royal Worlington – Friday 10th October 2008

This regular event in the Society's and the Worlington calendar only requires a 4-man team and places are highly sought after.

Provisional fixtures for 2009

Wednesday 14th January

Halford Hewitt AGM & 2009 competition draw

Friday 27th March

Spring Meeting, Royal Worlington

Thursday 2nd - Sunday 5th April

Halford Hewitt, Royal Cinque Ports & Royal St Georges (practice day, Wednesday 1st April)

Sunday 17th May

Grafton Morrish Qualifying – Leicestershire GC

June (date to be confirmed)

Summer Meeting, Sheringham

Thursday 25th – Saturday 27th June

Cyril Gray, Worplesdon (practice day Wednesday 24th June)

Thursday 25th June

Match vs Governors, Royal West Norfolk

Early August

Old Cholmeleian Golf Society Tournament, Highgate

Friday 25th – Sunday 27th September

Grafton Morrish Finals, Hunstanton & Brancaster

Late September/early October

Autumn Meeting, details yet to be confirmed

Friday 9th October (tbc)

4 Schools Match, Royal Worlington

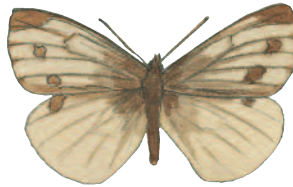
The OG Golf Society is always looking for new members, of all abilities (the handicap range of existing members is from 2 to 28 for men and up to 34 for ladies). We enjoy our golf, our match against the Governors, and the Spring, Summer and Autumn meetings days in particular are totally inclusive and we actively encourage golfers of all ages, sexes and abilities to join us. So if you are already a member but haven't been to any of our meetings now is the time to change all that and if you are not a member but would like to

join please contact the Hon Secretary:

Richard Stevens
Riverside
12 Mill Lane
Fordham
Cambs
CB7 5NQ

Tel: 01638 721571 (home)
01638 720228 (office)
07889 751275 (mobile)

richard.stevens@allen-newport.co.uk



Swimming

The annual OG swimming gala took place on Sunday 15th June 2008 and witnessed a turnout far superior to that of the 2007 OG gala. The team included Mike Neville (T 02), Tom Morrison (H 03), Kim Morrison (B 06), Joel Large (F 07), Dominic Boshier (F 07) and Owen Hamilton (W 99).

The OGs got off to a flying start with victories in the first two events but somehow Gresham's mysteriously crept up to within two points of the OGs in time for the relays. Unfortunately the relays unveiled the difference in fitness levels and the OGs were left trailing behind the Gresham's team, who therefore won the gala.

The gala was followed by the

traditional Barbecue round Evan Tuck's house and accompanied by the almost traditional clear blue skies. It has only rained once in the 28 consecutive years of the annual Swimming Gala Barbecue!

I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Tuck for taking the time to organise and the event and prepare all the food. It was great to see the OGs back after last year's blip. However, next year is Evan's final year at Gresham's and so OGs from far and wide are expected to clear their diaries and swim their hearts out to ensure victory in the last ever Evan Tuck OG Gala!

Mike Neville
(k&T 1992-2002)



OGRE

It has been an outstanding year of individual successes for OGRE, and two individuals in particular. But more of that later.

OGRE's first outing as a club this season was for the annual February smallbore match against Gresham's Rifle Club. After a few years of it taking part at the school range, Jonah Mitchell very generously offered to have the event take place at its traditional venue of Winfarthing Rifle Club, Jonah's own range at his farm. The match took place in its usual good humour, with the relative inexperience of the youngsters meaning that, even with smallbore ring-rustiness, the old crusties were able to take a healthy 31 point win. With a pub conveniently situated right next door to the range, both teams enjoyed a convivial lunch together to round off a very enjoyable day.

When the club converged at Bisley in July for the Imperial meeting, those enjoying occupancy of 'Mission Control' - the OGRE hut - found that this time occupying it would actually be enjoyable. Thanks goes to the school's shooting master Freddie Grounds and a small band of others who offered up their labour to cover the rough dirt magnets that were the walls with plasterboard and put up a lap-board ceiling. There are one or two bits to do to finish off the job but already it is a much more pleasant place to be in, and the club offers all those involved in the restoration its thanks.

The first events in the Imperial are team matches, the Schools Veterans and the Astor County Clubs Championship. Performances in the Vets were not up to those of Epsom, but hopes were high for the Astor. Only dropping 11 points for a total of 621.73 in difficult wind conditions was a very good score, but not quite good enough to hold off the City of Newcastle, who went two points better.

The very difficult, fish-tailing wind decided to carry on right through the rest of the meeting. What you need in those conditions is a vast amount of experience to draw on, together with consummate skills as a marksman and an unflappable approach to even the most daunting of conditions. If you were to ask any shooter who they think is fortunate enough to possess this Holy Grail of qualities in spades, and they would probably say Glyn Barnett and Nigel Ball.

And so it proved to be. The ex-Gresham's pupil and former Gresham's shooting master between them rampaged through the prize lists. Nigel claimed ten competitions outright including the Grand Aggregate, Glyn took every stage of the St George's Challenge Cup, and both were involved in a scenario that is unprecedented. In five competitions there was a two-way tie for first place. The duellists? Ball and Barnett. Each one necessitated a tie shoot. Glyn claimed the Short Range Aggregate and the Bronze Cross for

the First Stage of the Georges, while Nigel took the Donaldson and Wednesday Aggregates. The 900 yard Conan Doyle match, after both of them put down a perfect 50 with 10 V Bulls, was shared.

Mention deserves to be made of Chris Heales, whose 49.4 gave him 3rd in the 1,000 yard Lovell on a day when nobody was able to get a 50, and Ed Wood, who with his 3rd Place in George's 1 made it an OGRE 1-2-3. Nigel finally claimed one of the 'Big Three' competitions by winning the Grand Aggregate, Glyn at 8th and Pete Holden in 40th also finishing in X Class berths.

In the other of the 'Big Three' competitions, Glyn collected the Silver Cross for winning the Second Stage of the St. George's with a 150.22 on his way to the final where the only 150 of the match gave him the trophy and the Gold Cross to carry off all three stages. Also in the final were Mike

Coutts (31st), Nigel (42nd) and Ed Wood (73rd). Glyn was the highest Norfolk shot in H.M. the Queen's Prize final at 23rd along with Nigel (35th), Chris Heales (83rd) and Charlotte Lemmer (85th).

The end of the meeting sees individual matches drop off and team events take precedence, so it is in your interests to make your early scores good enough to get you noticed by team captains. Nigel and Glyn were both selected for England in the short range National match and the long range Mackinnon, as well as for Great Britain in the Kolapore. Pete did enough to be awarded a reserve slot in the Mackinnon.

Best wishes go to Richard Stearn, selected for the British Universities Sparts Association team to the Channel Islands, and to Holly Foster, who will tour America with England in 2009.

Guy Bartle

Gresham's Cricket

Alan Ponder's lively account of the last twenty five years of school cricket has now been published. Handsomely illustrated, *Gresham's Cricket (1982-2006)* has detailed playing records, sections on the best XI, the most memorable matches, Barbados trips and much more! Donations of £5 or more will secure you a copy. All profits will go to Gresham's School cricket.





Hogs 2007/8

Another spectacular season of vintage hockey was had by all, with the results showing another mixed bag of ups and downs, injuries and achievements and highs and lows. A hard core of regulars including CJ, Payne senior, Flower senior and Bannock turned out come rain or rain and performed miracles every Thursday evening against a variety of opposition. Fortunately we acquired the talents of Felix Flower and Luke Headley prior to their escape to soap dodging duties and their goal scoring efforts kept the teams average up to a respectable level. Calls of "Give it to Felix" from all members of the Hogs were a testament to his considerable abilities, with some of the older members welling up with memories of their own past glories being reincarnated through FF and LH. Others of us were just glad to still be on the pitch and make it through 80 minutes unscathed.

The graceful skills of Lintott R and Horsley A beefed up the midfield and the two of them amassed 18 goals between them. Deane as usual was the rock around which play flowed ably supported by Mitchell and the find of the season Alex the Teacher, who has slotted into the left back position seamlessly.

Pitcher and Buckingham had another great season linking wonderfully to set up and provide the glory for others. Mentions must also go to Knapp major

and minor who provided great entertainment on and off the pitch, always immaculate in attire.

Non speaking parts were also played by the following: Nev, Curtis, Hewson, Nicholls, Worthington Wheeler and Goodley who all participated.

Finally a big thank you to Dale, the man behind the mask, who's svelte-like figure continues to keep out some of the counties best strikers week in week out.

We played 23 games winning 14 and losing 6, drawing 3. Memorable victories vs. the school 7-2 with Headley, Horsley and Flower inflicting the damage and an 8-7 win over Dereham with Flower scoring a hat trick. The season was rounded off with a forgettable (for some club members) dinner at Christine's with speeches, excellent fare and fine wines.

Large thanks to Mark Buckingham for being fixture secretary and to all those who turned out to swing their axes. Also thanks to R and Julie for supplying and driving the minibus to our only away fixture. Thank you to James Glennie our supreme umpire who was invaluable throughout and provided a unique style of "total umpiring". Thanks also to Dave Horsley for his cameo performance.

Skipper



THINK CONNECTED THINK AHEAD

Barclays Commercial Bank has specialists in over 50 industries. Working exclusively in your sector, they can provide the expertise and industry networks to move your business forward. By thinking ahead, we can help you make the right connections. For more information call the East Anglia Agricultural Team or Norfolk and Waveney Team on 01603 244 598 or visit www.barclayscommercial.com



BARCLAYS
COMMERCIAL

BARRATT & COOKE

STOCKBROKERS

MEMBERS OF THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

5 Opie Street, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 3DW

Based in Norwich, Barratt & Cooke Stockbrokers are now one of the leading fully independent stockbrokers in the country and have approximately £1,000m under management. Although at the forefront of technology, our success has been based on our traditional approach of providing a highly efficient and personal service to individuals, trusts and charities.

All clients have their own stockbroker, which allows individual portfolios to be tailored to the specific requirements of each client, taking into account their objectives for capital growth, income and liquidity.

We have a clear investment strategy focussing on investing in a balanced, well spread portfolio of top quality investments for the medium and long term, where portfolios are structured to include 'Blue chip' equity, smaller companies, Gilt & Fixed Interest and collective Investment/Unit Trusts as appropriate.

For further details on our full range of Services, Charges and Terms & Conditions please contact us on 01603 624236 or visit our website: **www.barrattandcooke.co.uk**.

Our motto since 1880:

*'If you give a service, you will have a business.
If you do not give a service, you do not deserve a business.'*

Barratt & Cooke is the trading name of Barratt & Cooke Limited Registered in England No. 5378036
Barratt & Cooke Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority,
whose address is 25 The North Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London E14 5HS

OG Lodge No 5769

Officers:

Master – Follett Balch. 27 Hartswood Road, London. W12 9NE.

Tel No: 020 8743 1764 Email: follet@thebalches.net

Secretary – Mike Stott. Brick Kiln Farm, North Walsham, Norfolk. NR28 9LH

Tel No: 01692 403096 Email: mikestott@tesco.net

Meetings: 2009

Thursday January 15th 2009 at Freemasons' Hall, London.

Thursday April 16th 2009 at Freemasons' Hall, London.

Friday June 19th 2009 at Gresham's School.

Thursday September 24th 2009 at Freemasons' Hall, London.

Anybody who wishes to consider joining the Old Greshamian Lodge please contact Mike Stott, Secretary, on the above address or by telephone and or email and they would be made very welcome to be a member of the School Lodge.

Careers Department

I am very grateful to the OGs who took part in the Careers Convention in December 2007. My appeal this year is more ambitious! Firstly I would be very pleased to hear from any OG with current experience in a particular career to contact me if they are willing to take part in the 2008 Careers Convention to be held on Saturday 29 November, to coincide with the OG weekend. I would particularly welcome help from lady OGs who seem to be more reticent with offers of help!

Secondly I am trying to build up a bank of contacts for work experience/ shadowing for committed and focused A Level and IB Lower Sixth Formers. Although work experience is valuable for all students, there are two areas I am keen to concentrate on: prospective Oxbridge, medical and veterinary applicants and the encouragement of pure science as a degree choice and career option. I would welcome comments, suggestions, contacts and offers of help in any of these areas. Please write to me at calban@greshams.com

Honours Board

Would all OGs who have received 1st Class degrees or higher honours since 2004, please contact the Head of the Sixth Form, Gareth Burnell, with their details at gburnell@greshams.com



Advertising

Michael Baker will be pleased to receive enquiries about advertising in the Magazine. All work needs to be supplied by the advertiser.

Address: 8, Market Place, Holt, Norfolk NR25 5BW. (Tel: 01263 712244)

Books and Club Regalia

The following are available for purchase:

Braces	£16.00
OG Tie (silk)	£20.00
OG Tie (polyester)	£10.00
Cufflinks	
Coat size	£2.50
Cuff size	£2.00



Gresham's in Wartime £5.50

An excellent account of the period in World War II when the School was evacuated to Newquay.

I Will Plant Me a Tree £20.00

An illustrated History of Gresham's by Steve Benson and Martin Crossley-Evans

Please add £5.00 for postage and packaging and send cheques, payable to the OG Club, to The Club Co-ordinator, c/o The Staff Common Room, Gresham's School, Holt, Norfolk NR25 6EA.

What to Wear

Calling all OGs! We are currently reviewing the merchandise that is available from the school and the OG club website (www.ogclub.com). At the moment we offer a selection of ties, braces and cufflinks which seems rather male orientated and very little for the girls except some 'ladies lapel pins' which have not sold particularly well. So with this rather meagre selection failing to sell like the proverbial hot cakes, please spout forth your opinions on what could or should be available to all OGs. Various ideas have been raised at the Committee meetings such as earrings, broaches, kitchenware (tea towels, mugs etc) and boxer shorts to be modelled by J.Smart (motion not carried) carrying the grasshopper motif, but we would welcome your input. Please email development@greshams.com with your suggestions.

Ali Cargill
(F 1984-1989)

A Legacy for Life

Many OGs feel that the time they spent at school in Holt had a profound influence on the rest of their lives. If you felt strongly about Gresham's, please consider leaving a legacy to the Gresham's Foundation

Why should I leave the Gresham's Foundation one?

OGs often leave the school a legacy because they believe that education is truly the greatest gift of all. But education at Gresham's is not static and the needs of today's, and tomorrow's, young people are not the same as yesterday's. Providing our children with the stimulation and experience they need to become the future's bright, considerate, and socially skilled leaders and opinion formers compels us to extend our bursary and scholarship programme, improve our facilities and develop our curriculum. Your financial support can help us do this.

Leaving a legacy to the Gresham's Foundation celebrates the significant impact the school had on your life. It also enables you to reduce the amount of Inheritance Tax payable by your estate after your death. It provides a cost effective mechanism through which many people can reduce by up to 40% the amount of IHT payable on estates in excess of £325,000.

Can I choose how my money's spent?

Yes, you can choose how your legacy will be spent if you'd like to. You can outline your wishes either in letter to us when you provide us with an indication that you intend to leave us a legacy, or in a clause in your Will. It's likely that the Gresham's Foundation will operate three Funds, and you can choose which you'd like your legacy to support.

The Bursary Fund – to help those who would not otherwise be able to benefit from a Gresham's education.

The Annual Fund – to fund relatively small items of equipment. Staff from the Pre Prep, Prep and Senior Schools will be invited to indicate what would make a real difference to the way they can engage young people in their subjects.

The Development Fund – to underwrite substantial new developments. New project proposals are developed in close collaboration with school governors, teachers, parents, OGs and Foundation trustees.



How do I set up a legacy to the Gresham's Foundation?

Contact your solicitor. There are several sorts of legacy available and he or she can advise you on which is most appropriate for your circumstances. If you don't currently have a Will, a legacy too can be included when you make one, or if you already have one, a codicil can be added to make the Foundation a beneficiary after your death.

More information?

Please ring 01263 714614 or email development@greshams.com if you require any more information.

Val Bowers

Contacts

Please send all suggestions, articles and photographs (including your house and the dates you were at School) to the Editor, c/o The Common Room, Gresham's School, Holt, Norfolk, NR25 6EA or via email to jsmart@greshams.com. The copy date for the Magazine is the end of July every year.

All updates for the website, email addresses and address changes should be sent to the OG Club website: www.ogclub.com



Old Greshamian Change of Address

Moving House? Please keep in touch!

We enjoy receiving your news, views and recollections. Do please feel free to send your details on the form below or alternatively send an email. Remember to check the website for up to date news from us.

To: OG Club, c/o Gresham's School, Holt, Norfolk, NR25 6EA
or via email to ogclub@greshams.com

FROM

HOUSE(S)

YEARS

Please note the following change of address:

Postcode

Editor's plea: PLEASE INCLUDE TELEPHONE NUMBER & EMAIL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

News for inclusion in the magazine



News for inclusion in the magazine (cont.)

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 25 horizontal dotted lines.