

THE

2017



REVIEW





Taunton School - Friendships for Life

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Annual *OT Review*. I hope you will enjoy reading the articles and maybe see a name that triggers further happy memories. As they say: "Let's start a conversation."

One thing I have learned since I joined Taunton School 28 years ago is that whilst everyone is not a highflier, each and every pupil has a unique talent. Pupils leave Taunton School with a confidence and belief in themselves, and teachers are always delighted to hear news of where life has taken them.

There are currently 55 Old Tauntonian parents who have 69 children being educated at Taunton School – that's a massive vote of confidence for the school as well as acknowledging that we provide a life-changing education. Thanks to generations of forward-thinking OTs who have passed through its doors, Taunton School is full of bright, confident young men and women who are destined to become tomorrow's leaders of change.

The three stated aims of the Old Tauntonian Association are: the renewing of old friendships, making new friends and welfare of the school. Using modern-day language these could be restated as encouraging the engagement of OTs socially, professionally and philanthropically.

The 'social' side of the Association has been a great success over the years. It is good to see a rise of younger OTs attending the ever-vibrant London Club Dinner.

As an Association, we should be assisting our members professionally and my aim over the next year is to develop a series of informal

“ Taunton School is built on a tradition of philanthropy ”

networking events in London. There is a wealth of knowledge and goodwill amongst the body of OTs yet to be fully utilised. I shall be adding a section on *OTs Online* where you can offer work advice/experience.

Taunton School is built on a tradition of philanthropy: every building and every bursary was, and still is today, provided through the generosity of others. If two-thirds of the OTs reading this message donated £10 per month for 3 years, then over £2m would be generated for our Bursary Fund. I see at first hand on a daily basis how bursaries change the lives of youngsters here at Taunton School.

I'm delighted when OTs drop in for 'surprise' visits, but it would be useful if you contacted me beforehand so I can make myself available to greet you. Security and safe-guarding measures mean that we are unable to let you wander round the site unaccompanied.

In order to reduce our costs, apart from the Annual *OT Review*, all future communication (including invites to events etc) will be via email. PLEASE let us have your email address – we want to keep in contact with you!

David J Bridges – *OTA Secretary*



President's Message

I'd like to begin by wishing all OTs and their families, wherever you may be, all the best for 2017.

2016 has been a year of 'steady as she goes'. I have attended many OT branch meetings/dinners throughout the year and, in most cases, the attendance has been good and supportive. The OT weekend in June, hosted by the school and Headmaster, was successful and reasonably well attended. I thank all OTs who give of their time to take on the responsibility of organising and marketing the various OT events around the country.

April 2016 saw the OT Golf Society (OTGS) scratch team reach the semi-

finals of the Halford Hewitt Plate competition. This is a tremendous achievement given the quality of the competitors from the sixty-four public schools that enter with teams of ten players! Overall, the OTGS is strong with approximately twelve meetings (both scratch and handicap) between March and October. I encourage all OTs, who are interested in golf, to contact the various organisers or indeed myself.

2016 saw the beginnings of an initiative between the OTA and Taunton School Foundation to provide funding for talented pupils to attend Taunton School who otherwise would not have the opportunity of such a life-changing education.

“ Throughout 2017 I will continue to encourage OTs to expand the LinkedIn network as a tool to help all OTs both young and old. ”

Continuing with the theme of fundraising and my passion for golf, Nadine Latte (Foundation Director) is holding a charity golf day on June 18th to coincide with the OT weekend.

Throughout 2017 I will continue to encourage OTs to expand the LinkedIn network as a tool to help all OTs both young and old. This, of course, is not limited to LinkedIn but all social media.

Finally, the arrangements for my President's Dinner on Saturday 22nd April 2017 at the Garden Rooms of Hampton Court are well progressed. My guest speaker is Mary Berry who is married to Paul Hunnings (*Wills West '50*). The event is almost sold out – please contact David Bridges (ots@tauntonschool.co.uk) if you wish to apply.



3G

Taunton School: 3G Experience



3 Generations of the Wyatt family tell of their experiences at Taunton School

WES WYATT (Fairwater '43-'48)



Can you remember your first encounter with the Headmaster?

The Wyatt connection with Taunton School began in 1943 when

my mother accompanied me to meet Headmaster Donald Crichton-Miller. I was a Somerset County Scholar and we received no warm welcome but just the words "I won't take him as a Day Boy" to which my mother's reply was "...right, Headmaster, will you take him as a boarder?" So, in September 1943, I entered Winterstoke House as a boarder even though my home was only 8 miles away.

Did your teachers engage and inspire you?

Teachers were mostly unapproachable but were expected to deliver an

education which was checked fortnightly by the Headmaster when we stood in form order at the back of the Form Master's Class. If a pupil dropped 3 places he was put on a 'report card' If a poor report card resulted, this was followed by a caning from the Headmaster.

Were your parents encouraged to communicate with Staff during term-time?

As far as I recall, my parents would never have met my Housemasters or any other teachers.

You didn't stay into the 6th Form: was that your decision?

I left in 1948, following a letter from father saying: "...if you want to inherit the farm, you had better come and help me".

Thus my student life at Taunton School concluded.

Was life fair?

At the time, Taunton School was an austere place run by Prefects – some of whom, it has to be said, were pretty sadistic.

Were you fed well?

It was war time, food was scarce and we grew our own potatoes on headlands around the sports fields and on the area which is now The Durrant Hockey Astro. Our diet was augmented by Codliver Oil and Malt, Adexalin tablets and daily milk.

'Friendships are for life'..... have they been?

Perhaps because of the environment, friendships were made which have lasted for 73 years so far. Some of us are 14 years past our 'sell-by date' but still have regular get-togethers: a priceless asset.

You're an avid supporter of the Old Tauntonian Association?

The Taunton School Old Boys' Association became part of my life when John Dearden (Housemaster of Junior Day Boys) kept in regular contact to play skittles and attend Western Branch events. It was Norman Roberts who put my name forward for President of the Old Tauntonian Association. This happened in 1979 when one of the highlights for me was Donald Crichton-Miller putting his arm round me saying "Congratulations Wes – the first of my boys to be President." Praise indeed. Another highlight was being elected President of the OT Golfing Society.

You're obviously proud of your old school?

School is so different now: all Public Schools are different. My friend Philip Penny, who started at Taunton School

the same day I did, rang me and said "that place which was like a prison is now a holiday camp!"

That puts things into perspective. It is heart-stirring to see a school progress to the position it is today which is welcoming and friendly, a place which most pupils love. An amazing transformation.



ROBERT WYATT (Wills West '70-'74)

Did you mind having to board?

I arrived at Taunton School in 1970 and became a boarder in Loveday House. I was used to boarding having come from Connaught House School, Bishops Lydeard (now Cedar Falls Health Spa).

Did you enjoy it?

Loveday was a junior House of the Senior School, run by Housemaster John Wright – an austere, military type whose corporal punishment was renowned for 'slipping over the boundaries'. At that time, Loveday and Winterstoke pupils had breakfast in what is now the Carrington Library, with dormitories above.

Did your teachers engage and inspire you?

As a new boy, I remember getting myself into the 'A' Set for maths, well above my ability. My Housemaster, John Wright, was also my teacher. After giving some wrong answers, he hurled the blackboard rubber at me, hitting the ink bottle which sent ink flying everywhere and I said "now look what you've done"...you can imagine the result! I enjoyed sport at school, especially Athletics and Rugby. David Wrench was always fun as a rugby coach and he told me I would have been good if I had been

born with a brain. I also got on well with David Hazell, the Rugby and Athletics Coach.

Did you enjoy Wills West?

Geoff Stephens was a fair and kind Housemaster and his wife, Connie, regularly made egg and chips for us after prep. We were allowed to watch television in their sitting room at the weekends – then quite a treat.

Fond memories or not?

I do have fond memories of Taunton School. I enjoyed the Choir and Chapel but the best times were sport and school life generally. Members of staff I remember with affection include James Williams, Paul Wickham, 'Jumbo' Russ, 'Foxy' Hunter and John Fisher. I think they knew that farming was going to be my aim and got me through with enough education to exist by the end of the 5th Form.



THOMAS WYATT (Goodland Y12) '08-)

Are you fed well?

The catering at the school is fantastic; there is a great variety of tasty food.

Apart from Sport, what co-curricular activities are offered?

There are loads of co-curricular activities on offer at Taunton School such as DofE, Ten Tors 45 mile, Young Enterprise. There's also Clay Pigeon Shooting and Astronomy which can be enjoyed after school.

Your father and grandfather were boarders – as a day pupil, are you missing out?

No I don't think so, although I have had the experience of boarding and I had a great time! However, I like to

come home every evening and have the weekend to do what I want.

Neither your father nor grandfather entered the 6th form – what made you stay?

I've many friends here and I seem to get along with the teachers. I also enjoy playing Taunton School sport and feel that there would be no other school that would be able to offer more.

Do your teachers engage and inspire you?

The teachers engage with the pupils greatly and I have a good relationship with them. They encourage me to work hard and I went on to achieve good GCSE results – they do a great job of inspiring the pupils in their care.

You have a mobile phone, email and internet access – do you communicate with your father more than your father did with his father?

I communicate with my father more as I come home every day from school. However, it is much easier for me to communicate with my dad as I only have to send him a text whereas he would have had to write home. They also had limited access to the only phone in the school. My life is much easier when it comes to work as I only have to 'Google' it but my father and grandfather would have to go to the library and look it up – which is still a great option at Taunton School...and encouraged!

When the time comes, would you send your children to Taunton School?

Without a doubt, I would definitely consider sending my children to Taunton School.

Entrepreneurs: 1

Miles Wharton



Declan Rogers, former Housemaster of *Fairwater House*, asks Fashion Entrepreneur and Old Tauntonian Miles Wharton (*TPS & Fairwater 2001-08*) about his time at Taunton School.

What is your best memory of Taunton School?

My best memory would be the 'Waller Club' where, once a week, we would try a selection of different international beers. I enjoyed the fact that we could all get together and have a good chat.

And your worst?

I definitely wasn't a fan of school work or lessons.

Your best friend was?

My closest friend was **Richard Green** (*Wills East 2007*) and he was Best Man at my wedding to Cassie in November 2016.

Obviously I was your favourite teacher... any others?

Without a doubt you were my favourite! Even though you didn't teach me an academic subject, you did guide me to become the man I am today. Neil Gush would be top on my list – I always felt he was down-to-earth and a great teacher as well as a great listener.

Does the term 'likeable rogue' mean anything to you?

Of course – it's one of my favourite terms. As I now tell people: the better you dress, the worse you can behave!!

Any secrets to confess about your time in Fairwater?

I had a mini fridge in my room. Most people were aware of this as

I always had it fully stocked with Fanta but... the back row was full of Fosters which never seemed to get noticed. I can't tell you the rest or I will make you look bad.

Tell us about your business *The Bespoke Corner*.

The Bespoke Corner is a luxury, tailoring service based in Australia offering custom garments such as formal wear, business suits, shirts & casual wear. We are the first 24/7 travelling tailor with clients all over the world producing some of the finest garments in our factory in the hills of Tuscany.

Have you 'dressed' any Celebrities?

We haven't really dealt with many A-list celebrities. However, the majority of our clients are very successful CEOs/business owners of some of the largest corporations which, in my eyes, are more impressive than celebrities.

Which famous person do you think would benefit from a makeover from your Company?

Donald Trump – he needs a lot of work!

How did you get into fashion?

I've always been interested in fashion from an early age. When I was wearing suits at school they were Versace. Having your own style allows you to portray whatever image you want. It is amazing how somebody can improve their appearance by just dressing a little bit better.

When can I expect a call for my own bespoke suit fitting?

When you invite me for dinner or come to Australia.

What is your favourite possession?
My 18k Gold Rolex Day-Date President watch.

When are you going to invite Dave Tarr and myself to Australia?

I would be more than happy to host you both. I would even take time off to show you both around Australia.

“ I was never interested in academic work but once I found a drive to achieve something different, the opportunities have proved endless. ”



What has been the most important thing you have learned in business?
Firstly, do something you're passionate about, then it won't feel like work.

Secondly, make sure you work harder than your competition. The more hours you put in the more you will get out of it. Keep learning and adapting to the market. Thirdly, get a mentor to help guide you through issues you are facing as they have probably been through the same at some point.

Finally, your network is your net worth. Who you know is more important than what you know. This is by far one rule I have always kept close to me. Always associate with people who are at a higher level than yourself – this way you're always trying to improve. Negative friends will always affect your mind-set and ability to expand.

What key message of support can you give to our own budding entrepreneurs here at Taunton School?

Never give up. Everyone will tell you that you're crazy and it won't work. I failed all my exams at Taunton School and dropped out of university. I was never interested in academic work but once I found a drive to achieve something different, the opportunities have proved endless.

In the April 2013 edition of the OT Review, you were featured in the 'Updates' section. You concluded with "...my aim is to build an empire, no matter what it takes." How's that going?

Still on track 100%. It's been a rocky road but there is light at the end of the tunnel.



Entrepreneurs: 2

Andy Chan



Andy Chan (Wills West 2000)
Entered Taunton School International in 1997 and Taunton School in 1998. He is co-founder of Hotcha www.hotcha.co.uk

What is Hotcha?
Hotcha is a Chinese takeaway and delivery brand offering a great selection of freshly-prepared, tasty dishes. We offer deliveries and collections from 11am until 11pm, 7 days a week.

Tell us about the start of your journey.
It's not been easy! I graduated with a Master Degree in Science from University College London. Between 2005 and 2009 I worked as a chemist and became Manager of the Research & Development Department of a leading cosmetic manufacturer in China, developing various kinds of skincare and bodycare products for the global market. In late 2009 I established my own cosmetic import

business in the UK. Unfortunately, this failed. I then spent 2 years researching the UK Chinese takeaway market. Eventually, in 2011 our first Hotcha store opened in Bristol. We began with 6 staff, including myself and my business partner, but now employ 181 staff across the Southwest (Bristol, Bath, Swindon, Weston-super-Mare) and Liverpool. In 2013, we were awarded the Prize for Young Entrepreneur in the UK. We opened a store in London at the end of 2016 and another store is opening shortly in Newbury.

What role do you play within Hotcha?

I am the co-founder with a 50% share split. I am the Executive Director but focus on production and cost control. Hotcha is my main business. As well as this, I operate a number of investment projects in Hong Kong and China, assisting quality enterprises to float on the Market. It is expected that one will be listed in the Hong Kong Exchange Market by the end of 2016. This enhances my experience and, very soon, I believe that Hotcha will also be listed!

Has Hotcha won any awards?

Yes it has! We did extremely well at the 2016 UK Business Awards. As winners of the *Disruptive Business Model (The Future)* and *Inspiring Entrepreneur of the Year*, Fiona Bentley (Awards Consultant) said: "Hotcha is the name on everyone's lips. Achieving a major investment in 2016 and going to secure two prestigious 'Dons' at the first UK Business Awards, 2016 this really is a company to watch."

The UK Business Awards are judged by panels of independent business

men and women with scoring methodology and criteria endorsed by Cranfield University School of Management.

In December 2016 we won the *Amazon Growing Business of the Year: Smaller Company Award* and we were listed 48th position for the *Virgin 100 Growing Business Award 2016* in the *Sunday Times*.

What are your plans for the future?
Our mission is to become the number one takeaway chain in the UK.

We recently sealed a £7.5m investment deal to fund national expansion plans, as we vow to become the *Domino's Pizza* of the Chinese takeaway market. We will open ten new locations in London and the South East (Fulham, Brent Cross, Eltham, and Romford) over the next 18 months, doubling our existing presence in the West of England. In 2014 we had an annual turnover of £2.5m but this increased to £6m in the year ending March 2016. We are Britain's largest Chinese takeaway chain, and we are planning 30 stores under its own name and 70 more under franchise by 2017, when we hope to list it on the Stock Market.

How has Taunton School helped you with your business?

The values that we share within our company are Professionalism, Friendliness, Passion and Great Customer Care. These are all things that I learnt and experienced at Taunton School.

How did Taunton School inspire you to set up your own business?
Taunton School has always offered students a wide variety of courses

and workshops which combine studies from different business areas. It really ignited my interest in business.

Taunton School taught me to be resilient, courageous and patient. I was encouraged to think more thoroughly and holistically.

I made friends with students from all over the world and learned about various cultures which broadened my exposure and global vision.

Many of my current personal and business contacts were formed at Taunton School. I was inspired to develop my potential, to establish and clarify my career goals and connect to the real business world.

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Did you make commercial mistakes? Were they expensive?
Everyone, including myself, should make mistakes. Although some of mine have been financially costly, the most important thing is what I've learnt from these mistakes.

What advice would you offer current budding Taunton School entrepreneurs?

You should have a clear mission for your business. It is far more important than profit because it gives you faith and power to overcome every challenge and maintain your passion. In addition, it is preferable to operate a business which is difficult and unique in nature. The reason being that no matter how innovative your idea, if it is too simple your competitors will copy it and occupy your market share very soon.

After identifying the business mission and nature, you should draft a practical timetable, which lists out all tasks to be done every day, every week and every month. This helps identify the milestones so you won't become easily lost in a dynamic world. Then regularly, for instance every two weeks, you should look back on what you have done and adjust your timetable, if necessary. Soon, you will be able to identify your strengths and weaknesses. No one is perfect! Therefore you should cooperate with other partners in a team and be able to lead it.

Finally, remember that building a business is a long and hard process. You should be able to withstand loneliness and be courageous enough to accept and learn from failures. I sincerely hope all of you become successful entrepreneurs and your dreams come true.

Entrepreneurs: 3

Richard Yelf



Richard Yelf (*School House 1972*) spends most of his time travelling to unusual and exotic destinations around the globe in his capacity as Founder and Managing Director of *Georadar Research Pty Ltd*. He maps

the earth's surface using ground penetrating radar (GPR), which he co-invented. GPR is a geophysical method used to image objects or layers in the ground. GPR technology evolved in the 1970s and Ric's main

contribution to this new science was to develop more than 65 practical applications of the method. These applications include civil engineering, geology, mining, archaeology, forensics, agriculture, groundwater and medical imaging. With 600 projects under his belt, Ric has travelled to more than 140 countries over the past 40 years.

Ric, where did it all begin?

Following Taunton School I spent a gap year in the Arabian Gulf working on the 'Green Desert' project in Abu Dhabi, growing hydroponic vegetables. During this time I lived with the desert Bedouin and sailed on pearl fishing dhows, before returning to the UK to study for a Bachelor of Science in engineering, geology and geophysics at Liverpool University. I then spent a year working as an exploration geologist on oil rigs, recording all the geological and drilling information in the wild North Sea and the deserts of Iran, before returning to London to study for my MSc in hydrogeology at University College of London in 1978.

Has 'luck' played a part in your career path?

In 1982 I became Southeast Asian Manager of OYO Corporation, Japan's largest geo-engineering company. Mining companies in South Africa were extracting the gold out of the rock using cyanide. The waste rock was then dumped in big spoil piles outside of Johannesburg, where it leached into the ground water, dangerously contaminating it. They needed a method that could map the spread of pollution in the ground, but there were no geophysical methods that could do it – it didn't exist. By chance, one day I was in Japan in a hot

thermal bath house describing this problem to a Japanese businessman who, it turned out, had been working on radar systems for *Koden Marine Radar*. We started doing some prototyping and two years later we had a working product – a primitive radar system.

We now have very high resolution systems that take remarkably good pictures in the ground. I introduced Ground Penetrating Radar to Australia through a series of workshops in 1984 and in 1985 I returned permanently to Australia, initially to do a PhD at the University of New England. I did three years of applied research and during that time I built my company *Georadar Research Pty Ltd*.



What are the most interesting projects you've worked on?

I've worked with Sir David Attenborough mapping termite nests in the Kimberly for the BBC's *Life on Earth* series. I had done 12 years of GPR exploration work in the Kimberly region for the Argyle diamond mine (where pink diamonds are mined) and had seen the subsurface extent of countless termite burrows, becoming an authority in this area.

With termites, we normally only see the 'pinnacles' above the ground, but, like icebergs, this is only a small part of their nest. What is below the ground is much bigger and extends down to the water table. One of my favourite memories is seeing Sir David crawling into an excavated termite mound that had been mapped with GPR.

I've been involved with four expeditions to Antarctica to map polar ice thickness. We use low frequency GPR to map the thickness of the ice sheets, which can be 3.5 km thick. I managed to locate a 6,500-year old woolly mammoth in the permafrost of Siberia.

I have worked with NASA for the design of GPR sensors for the Mars Rovers.

“ One of my favourite memories is seeing Sir David (Attenborough) crawling into an excavated termite mound that had been mapped with GPR. ”



To what do you credit your enthusiasm?

It's my strong Christian faith – I'm curious about the entire Universe. My main scientific interest is looking for a possible mechanism whereby life might be transported in some very primitive form around the universe.

In the 1970s I was involved with Dr Tom Gaskell, chief geophysicist of *BP Oil* and head of the *Glomar Challenger* Project, to drill some very deep core holes into the earth's crust. From this work very primitive organisms (simpler than bacteria) were discovered living in the rock under extreme conditions. They were named 'Archaea' – meaning very old – and are now considered to be the origin of all life on earth. My belief is that possibly they arrived on earth via ice comets about three or four billion years ago.

Where to from here?

My goal is to send a robotic GPR system to Europa – the moon of Jupiter – which is believed to have over a kilometre of frozen crust. It is possible that the conditions below the frozen crust might support primitive life forms.

My hope is that radar technology will become a future tool which can be used in medical imaging and combined with MRI. It will tell you about the complex chemistry of body organs.



10 Years on... Tom Millington

“ Looking back, hockey at Taunton School was incredibly influential for me with great facilities and a buzz for the sport. ”

Taunton School Sports Scholar Tom Millington (*Marshall 2004-06*) looks back on his time at Taunton School and how it influenced him to found FORTITUDE – Hockey Goalkeeper Coaching.

Looking back, hockey at Taunton School was incredibly influential for me with great facilities and a buzz for the sport. I was fortunate enough to be awarded a Sports Scholarship. The coaches were excellent and resident goalkeeper coach Declan Rogers was a real asset. We had a very



successful team, which meant I was relatively quiet during matches yet tested heavily in training! The biggest influence at school, however, was my teammates. We were, and still are, extremely competitive. The great thing about the sport is the bond you make with your teammates that can push you to excel.

This has always been a big reason why I love the sport of hockey and goalkeeping.

Fortitude began two years ago in a pub in Fulham over a couple of beers with friend and previous coach, Steve Bayer. I was desperate to get out of estate agency, and so set about searching for a job that would mix independence with my passion for hockey – more

specifically goalkeeping as I have always played in goal.

On leaving Taunton School I played Junior International Hockey as well as Premier League Hockey with Loughborough and Wimbledon HC. I had the good fortune of being coached by some of the world's best. Steve has coached some of GB's best goalkeepers in the last decade including Ali McGregor and Maddie Hinch. We knew we had decent playing and coaching experience between us. Steve had been asked to coach the Belgian national team's goalkeepers so we both quit our day jobs and set about planning for clubs, schools and individuals to gain better access to experienced and knowledgeable goalkeeper coaching.

Increasing numbers of clubs and schools have begun to outsource their coaching staff, seeing the benefit in attracting players/students to their institutions. Coaches also see the benefit of a competent and consistently performing goalkeeper. We now operate a full schedule for beginners to international athletes coaching in both the UK and Belgium. This includes club and school programmes that span the entire season, holiday courses, coaching coaches, independent sessions, consultancy, 1-on-1s etc.

We haven't looked back. One thing you quickly learn is that hockey is a small world and word travels fast. Schools and clubs have been surprised by the development of their

goalkeepers after only a few months' of coaching. Two years have flown by with huge positivity resulting in an increasing demand. Hockey has evolved quickly over the past two decades and goalkeeping has had to keep up. Countries have varying styles too. We see the benefit of harnessing that blend within our diverse coaching staff as well as maintaining a core philosophy. In 5 years time we aim to be operating in more major hockey countries looking to improve standards, coaching knowledge and accessibility.

Find out more about us at www.fortitudehockey.com and follow us on most social media platforms.



20 Years on... Dr Rachael Kiddy



If I can help to inspire current students to consider 'postgrad' education or social research, please feel free to get in touch.



Dr Rachael Kiddey
(Gloucester 1995-97)

OMG! It's 20 years since I left....

I have very fond memories of Taunton School and still recommend it highly to everyone! I now have a PhD and I'm married with one son. I currently split my time between working for an academic grants foundation called the Independent Social Research Foundation (www.isrf.org) and the Department of Archaeology at the University of York, where I undertook my PhD. I also have an archaeological blog – www.archaeotout.com

I obtained my first degree in History of Art & Italian from Oxford Brookes University, before working as a documentary television researcher for several years (*BBC TV & Channel 4*).

In 2003/4, whilst still undertaking freelance media work, I gained a Masters in Historical Archaeology of the Modern World at the University of Bristol. My MA dissertation used the Bristol Pirate Walk as a case study for understanding the relationship between archaeology and heritage.

Following my Masters, I became a documentary producer at BBC Radio 4, specialising in feature documentaries concerning social affairs, archaeology, anthropology and political history.

In 2014, I successfully passed my PhD within four years and without corrections: the title of my thesis being *'Homeless Heritage: collaborative social archaeology as therapeutic practice'*. Fieldwork involved developing participatory archaeological methodologies for working with contemporary homeless people on their heritage.

Since obtaining my PhD, I have divided my time between writing a book on *'Homeless Heritage'* for Oxford University Press and working as Editorial Assistant for the Independent Social Research Foundation (www.isrf.org). I hold Research Associate status at the Department of Archaeology, University of York, and am a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and the Society for Historical Archaeology.

If I can help to inspire current students to consider 'postgrad' education or social research, or help the school in any other way, please feel free to get in touch. I'm very enthusiastic about learning and where education can take a person!

rachael.kiddey@prm.ox.ac.uk

Renewing Old Friendships

Two members of the winning Public Schools Rugby 7s Tournament team of 1948 met at a recent OT Western Club lunch.



Ernie Pike and Tony Pryce – 2016

86 year old **Ernie Pike** (*Deputy Head Boy & Head of Somerset House*) and **Tony Pryce** (*right*) played alongside each other and this was the first time that Ernie had been back to Taunton School since leaving in 1948. The 1948 Taunton 7s team beat Rugby 11-0, Monmouth 14-0, Epsom College 11-0, Oundle 8-3 and Worksop 11-3 before going on to beat Christ's Hospital 15-6 in the final.

David Bridges (*OT Secretary*) said: "I was delighted that several OTs who either played alongside Ernie in the 1st XV 1947 side or were peers in Somerset House were able to attend. Ernie had no idea and enjoyed the 'surprise' – memories flowed over a great lunch provided by the School Catering Team. One of the three aims of the OTA is 'the renewing of old friendships' – what a great memory for Ernie and his fellow OTs after 68 years apart."



Ernie Pike and Tony Pryce – 1948

Like Father, Like Son...



The adventures of David Neal (*Somerset '59*) and Andrew Neal (*Somerset '62*) recently inspired an Exhibition at the Museum of Somerset.

David and Andrew's father was Dr Ernest Neal, Head of Biology at Taunton School (1946-71) and the first Chairman of the Somerset Wildlife Trust.

Being encouraged and inspired by their father, they explored the Somerset countryside on family walks and cycle adventures. They collected plants, butterflies and other specimens for their own mini-museum in the attic of the family home. David began to build canoes and kept logbooks of his adventures on the rivers Tone and Parrett.

Led by their elder brother **Keith** (*Somerset '57*), the boys formed The Natural History of Living Things club. By 1949, the attic room had become transformed and housed aquaria, butterfly collections, plants and an

array of natural history specimens. They meticulously minuted their many meetings, produced magazines, held exhibitions and kept detailed logbooks of their expeditions.

David went on to pursue careers in engineering and teaching.

Andrew, enthused by his father's pioneering photography and film-making, had a career in television production, including a period as head of the BBC Natural History Unit.



They collected plants, butterflies and other specimens for their own mini-museum in the attic of the family home.



Wartime Memories of Sir Michael Franklin KCB CMG



Sir Michael Franklin KCB CMG (*Fairwater 1940-45*), Deputy Director General, European Commission, 1973-77; Head of the European Secretariat, Cabinet Office, 1977-81; subsequently Permanent Secretary, Board of Trade and Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food recalls his time at Taunton School during Wartime Britain.



up and given over to potatoes and other edible crops. We were all given domestic jobs to do. Mine was to tend the Fairwater boiler. This consisted partly in stoking the boiler and partly ensuring that the boys who found the boiler house a perfect place for a smoke didn't get found out.

he cheated. Conversely, I must pay tribute to the late Hedley Burston who persuaded my parents to let me stay on in the sixth form to try for Oxbridge. As it happened, my route to Cambridge was via the army rather than a scholarship but Burston was a fine mentor.



Then there was the food. Rationing became tighter as the war went on. All ration books were handed in at the start of term and, the joke had it, were divided fairly – half for the masters and half for the boys! Augmenting school meals was difficult though I do recall a kind farmer/parent who provided us with a roast chicken for a midnight feast, and feast it was.

Random things were available. I remember tins of sardines, strawberry jam, condensed milk (consumed as everyone knows by boring two holes in the lid) and, curiously, peanut butter. There was a shop in town that doled it out by the pound, wrapped in greaseproof and newspaper, and then eaten with a spoon – we certainly didn't starve!

News of the wider world and the progress of the war filtered through. We even had a visit from the famous Wing Commander Guy Gibson VC. I still have one of my sixth form notebooks which mark the 6th June and the Normandy Landings. VE Day gave us a day off and I think we may well have run dry the cider factory at Norton Fitzwarren. The next day, I joined up.



I must be one of a dwindling band who was at school during WWII. It might be thought that in rural Somerset the school would be immune from the horrors of war, and to a large extent we were. Taunton did not feature in the Luftwaffe's Baedeker raids and no stray bomb from the raids on Bristol docks fell on the school. However, we did have air raid warnings which obliged us to sleep on straw paillasses in the main school corridor. How the dust from the paillasses didn't give us all chronic asthma I shall never know!

If the customary routine of school life – lessons, exams, sport, chapel and holidays – carried on, there were differences. No doubt, like me, more people joined the OTC (later the JTC) than would have done in normal times. Evacuees from Eltham College and King's School Rochester joined us without much disruption for the rest of us.

All green spaces and some of the playing fields were dug

Temporary staff came to replace those who had gone off to fight. I recall one maths master who, with a heavy German accent, gave us a piece of good advice which I have never forgotten: *"It's alright zat you do it in ziz way; zee main point is you get zee right answer!"*

Alas, this was the time when the powers of the legendary second master, S P Record, were failing. He taught us Latin but in my class everyone failed the School Certificate exam except one, and now that he is long since dead, I can reveal that



“ We did have air raid warnings which obliged us to sleep on straw paillasses in the main school corridor. ”



BURSARIES
CHANGE LIVES

Foundation Update: Bursaries are Everything



We launched our bursary appeal last year and, thanks to some outstanding generosity, many children whose parents do not have financial means have been able to access an education here at Taunton School. Over £250,000 has been raised since January 2015.

The School is in good shape. Our exam results are at a record high and we have set ambitious targets to improve consistently over time. Bursaries are central to our vision to maintain high standards of excellence and

increase competitive performance. Our students, from a broad range of social and economic backgrounds, are among those who attend leading universities throughout the world and are making a difference in today's society.

We want to support young people who have passion and commitment to benefit from life-changing education at Taunton School. Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Foundation.

Nadine Latte
Foundation and Alumni Director

“
Bursaries are central to our vision to maintain high standards of excellence and increase competitive performance.
”

“
It is our passionate belief that enabling those with talent and determination to access a life-changing education is good for the school. Among our 10 Oxbridge applications this year – 6 of those students are bursary recipients.
”

Celebrating Bursaries at the 1847 Society Lunch



In September 2016, we welcomed special guest speakers **Liam Travers (Head Boy '15)** and **Obi Imachukwu (Weirfield '09-'11)** who talked about their experiences at Taunton School and how their bursaries changed their lives. Michael Button (Chairman of our 1847 Legacy Society) also spoke about the importance of legacy giving. Our guests of honour were Neil Woodyer, Henry Keeling and

his wife Jan Nuttall. All have offered outstanding support for their old school and it was a pleasure to welcome Neil and his family back to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the creation of 'Woodyer House' - one of the girls' boarding houses at Taunton School. Henry and Jan's generosity created the 'Keeling Bursary' award, which offers means-tested financial support for students looking to enter Sixth Form.

The Girls' choir sang and members of the 1847 Society (our donors, legators and key supporters) were able to meet some of our current bursary holders and mingle with our students.

The prestigious 1847 Society Lunch is our annual event which recognises and celebrates the importance of philanthropy; something on which our school was built.

Liam Travers speaks at the 1847 Society Lunch



At the recent 1847 Society Lunch, Liam Travers (Marshall '14-'16) and Head Boy thanked generous benefactors, both past and present, who have provided life-changing opportunities.

As a beneficiary of the massive generosity of many individuals here, I'd like to share with you my Taunton School journey.

My story begins with a pretty average 16 year old boy in the summer of 2014 who had received his GCSE results and was looking forward to the next step in his life.

From a young age, my parents taught me that each part of my school career was a hurdle that had to be negotiated wisely in order to be successful. Richard Huish College was generally accepted to be the next stop in a long line of on-going hurdles. Unlike many of my friends, however, I approached my sixth form search with an open mind, turning my attention to all three Independent Schools in Taunton.

I entered the Scholarship exams for Kings and Queen's College but nothing about those schools inspired me. I came to Taunton School, and was interviewed by Dr John Newton in his ridiculously large office-cum-living room where the scheduled 10 minute 'chat' about my school achievements turned into a 45 minute discussion on subjects ranging from fracking to José Mourinho. Following this interview, I was incredibly fortunate

to be awarded a 100% Ian Evans Lombe International Baccalaureate Scholarship.

This was a life-changing moment.

I remember on my first day writing a note on the fridge: *'...if I don't like it, I will drop out'*. It makes me laugh when I think about it, seeing as the next two years were the best of my life thus far. I have met some of the most fascinating and inspiring people, some of whom are sat here today: people that not only had the same interests but a hunger to make a success of the gift that is a Taunton School education.

I was taught by the most competent and caring teachers and even became Head Boy.

Now that I have left, I am blessed with the benefit of hindsight and have started to compare myself to other friends who performed identically to me at GCSE, in order to figure out how I may have turned out had things not manifested the way they did.

Like them, my journey has taken me from A to B, with 'B' being a place at a top university, somewhere far in excess of what I thought was possible. Unlike them, however, during the sixth form I visited all the other letters, receiving experiences unique to a Taunton School education:

I wonder how many God-awful Mr Bridges jokes they've had to grin-and-bear! I wonder if they've scored winning goals on The Front or whether they've ever sneaked out of the back of a boarding house! I wonder how many times they've accidentally fallen asleep in Chapel

or if they've ever been hit for six by Marcus Trescothick. I wonder if they've ever debated the EU Referendum with the Governors over a glass of wine or experienced the stress of finishing a Heads of School speech five minutes before it was due to be delivered. Ultimately I wonder how much they've learnt about themselves.

It's the shaping and experiences that makes Taunton School a very special place.

I wonder if my former school friends have the wealth of opportunities I now have. For instance, I spent part of my summer in Belgium at an OTs birthday party where I had a conversation with Azania, a Bangladeshi girl who was in the year above me. I made a throwaway comment about how I loved the work of a massively famous Microfinance company based in Dhaka. Fast forward three weeks and I have a two month internship in the pipeline owing to the contacts she has. This is not the first time, and certainly won't be the last, I'll benefit from the dense and impressive network of Old Tauntonians.

Where would I be without Taunton School? Perhaps fate would have done me well? Standing in front of you today, ladies and gentlemen, I can tell you that that is, frankly, rubbish.

I know I speak on behalf of all Scholarship and Bursary recipients when I say that Taunton School and the generosity of its benefactors have changed our fates and for that we are more grateful than you will ever know.

Thank You.

“
It's the shaping and experiences that makes Taunton School a very special place.
”

Foundation Update from Michael Button



Michael Button (Wills East '49-'56), Chairman of the 1847 Society stresses the importance of fundraising by the Taunton School Foundation.

Some people question why a successful independent school repeatedly asks for money from its former pupils, parents and friends. Often repeated phrases include:

- Why can't we just put the fees up?
- Surely we have an endowment that the Foundation has built over the last 15 years that covers any funding need!
- Most people are not wealthy enough to make a real difference.

● We are constantly asked to support projects in life and most of these are much worthier; supporting a privileged educational institution doesn't really compete with helping those in real need.

Fees, no matter how high you put them, will never be enough to support capital projects and to offer means-tested bursaries to those in need. The Foundation has raised millions of pounds over the years, supports bursaries and has helped to shape the fabric of the school significantly; however, there is no Endowment Fund.

There are worthy projects and we are all asked to "give generously" to many good causes. What makes giving back to the school unique? It doesn't; unless you feel that your education at Taunton School shaped

you as a person and maybe helped your career. We do not ask for money for a successful independent, privileged school. We ask for money to help those who are not in a position to do so, to access an outstanding education. The money is to help with fees for those without means. The money is to maintain our historic buildings and provide world-class facilities for our students. The money is to ensure that Taunton School maintains its place as a highly respected HMC School – considered (universally as a group of schools) as among the best in the world.

Large gifts from wealthy benefactors have played a part in our fundraising story and legacies are crucial. It is, however, the smaller, regular gifts from our many OTs, parents and friends that make a real difference.

The Leavers' Wall

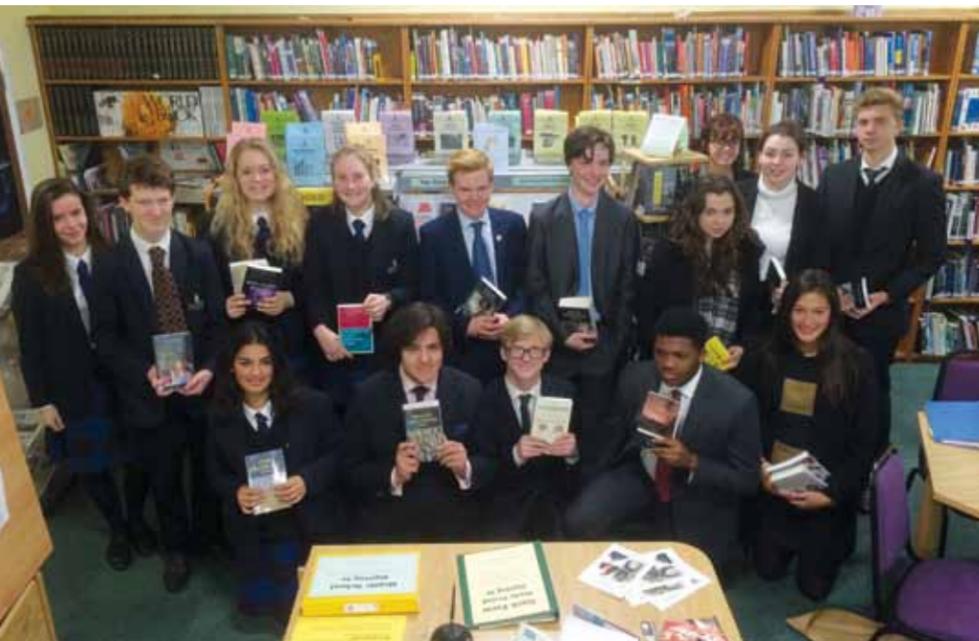


An initiative in 2016 saw the creation of the Leavers' Wall. OTs are invited to donate £100 (£10 a month for 10 months) to effectively buy a piece of Taunton School for perpetuity. Recognising that many will have left their mark somewhere on the campus, this, nevertheless, is an opportunity to leave an 'official' stamp of your time here. All proceeds are put towards our bursary appeal and over £7000 has so far been raised. Thank you to all who have donated, including many of our international parents.

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Over £7000 has
so far been raised.
”

“
We simply cannot thrive without philanthropic support. Giving is part of our heritage, it's our culture and it needs to grow, so that we can provide education to all those who have the potential to change the world.
”

The Joy of Literature: 1



“

A book is a device to ignite the imagination
(Alan Bennett)

”

Carrington Library Update

The refurbished Library was well used last year and issued more than three times as many books as in 2013-14. This is in large part due to the improvements in stock made possible by generous donations to the Foundation.

A new collection, with the tagline *Read Yourself Interesting*, encourages wide and deep reading among our most academically ambitious students. Its creation was entirely funded by donations. Other gifts have allowed

us to add more classics this year, improve specific sections such as photography and physics, and increase the range of award winning novels and popular young adult fiction.

We believe firmly in the benefits of reading print and will continue to use all donations to develop a first class selection of texts.

Amanda Lockwood,
LRC Librarian

Dr David Jefferies (*School House 1962*) who is a regular, generous donor to the Taunton School Foundation Library Fund writes of his passion for the written word:

“Physical paper books are as important a source of information as is online reading. They have a memorable and tangible feel to them. At Taunton School Library in the 1950s and early 1960s I remember finding the complete works of the American poet Ogden Nash, and reading all 12 volumes of ‘The Second World War’ by Winston Churchill. I still picture the bindings and sizes of these works. That was 60 years ago – how many web pages will you remember having read after over 50 years have elapsed?”

“The main reason I donate every year to the Taunton School library, is to enable the purchase of ‘real books’ to encourage tangible reading. I find that reading a book multiple times gives one a changing perspective on what was written. Long may real libraries exist!”



Caroline Battong (née Jackson) (*Gloucester '94*) is also passionate about books.

After graduating with a degree in the History of the Near and Middle East, Caroline spent eight years working for the BBC. Highlights included leading on the ‘Talent Fund for Disabled Actors’ project where she held ground-breaking open auditions across the UK. She was able to marry her love of History and English while working for Education Production where she used her research skills on *Tuning into Children* with Kirsty Wark, *The Routes of English* with Melvin Bragg and her personal favourite – the Mitford Sisters and being part of the team that interviewed the Duchess of Devonshire at Chatsworth.

Caroline moved out of London to run a small holding in Lincolnshire and worked in a secondary school as a Community Development Coordinator. Working with young people and in partnership with youth workers, the local council and family learning networks was hugely rewarding. Highlights included a fact-finding trip to Albania to set up an international partnership.

In September 2016 she joined the *Libraries Unlimited* team as Executive Officer, based in Exeter. *Libraries Unlimited* is a new, independent staff and community owned social enterprise, established in April 2016 whose mission is to bring ideas, imagination, knowledge and creativity to people’s lives and communities. This includes promoting and encouraging a love of reading. *Libraries Unlimited’s* new project called ‘Adopt a Book’ launched in December 2016. If you

are fascinated by English and History as she is, you can find out how you can help preserve some rare and unique works at: <http://www.devon.gov.uk/adoptabook>

Caroline commented: *“It was Mr Carrington – easily the kindest, most patient and thoughtful teacher – who inspired my love of reading. Credit also belongs to my mum, home schooling us in Libya with no radio and no TV. That environment really inspired my love of reading and made me realise how amazing books are at giving you access to a world which you might not see every day. The book that holds the best memories from the age of 7 was one full of paintings from the National Portrait Gallery. I created my own stories about what thought the people in the paintings had done.”*

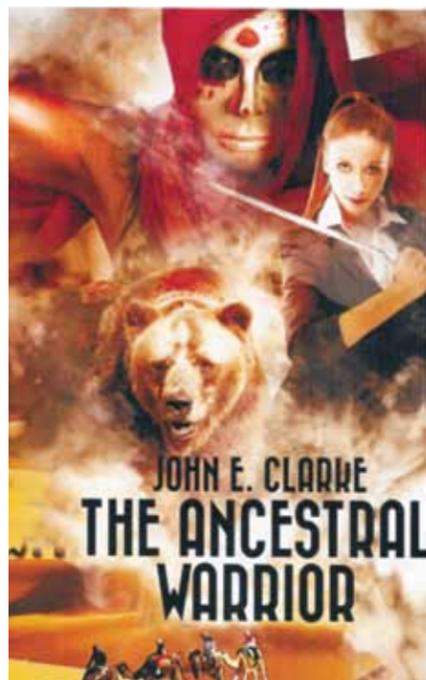
“
It was Mr Carrington
who inspired my
love of reading.
”



The Joy of Literature: 2



The Ancestral Warrior



John E Clarke
(Somerset 1951)

Having previously published two non-fiction books plus several factual articles and technical papers in magazines and scientific journals, *The Ancestral Warrior* is John's first work of fiction, aimed at teenagers and young-at-heart adults. It is obtainable from Amazon in paperback (500 pages) and Kindle editions.

In this innovative fantasy, readers encounter a mysterious talking bear and a small diverse group of humans crossing a continent to rescue a distant city state from the grasp of a tyrant. The story is leavened throughout with good humour, and romance is never too far around the corner.

The magical aspects of the story are firmly grounded in a precise realism. The ecological and geopolitical traditions, religions and technologies found in the different countries are described in sufficient depth to give verisimilitude to the make-believe continent across which the story roams.

“
The magical aspects of the story are firmly grounded in a precise realism.

John was educated in the Zoology Departments at Bristol and Edinburgh Universities and later at the School of Forest Resources in the University of Georgia (USA). Most of his working life has been spent in Africa and the Middle East on wildlife and protected area management programs. He is particularly interested in deserts – an interest that comes through in his first novel.

OTs who were his contemporaries in Somerset may recall an oral legend concerning a certain Saracen!

The Fallen

Rob Richardson (Fairwater 1990)

Rob, who writes under his middle name Tarn, has just had his second novel published.

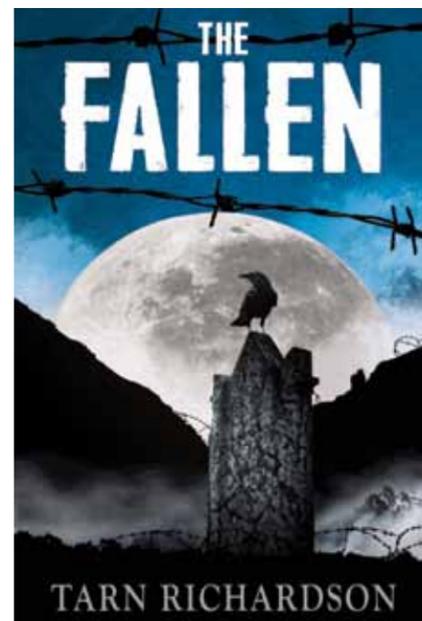
The Fallen is the chilling sequel to his debut novel *The Damned*, that was named as one of the Book

Depository's 'Books of 2015', and which introduced Poldek Tacit, the determined and unhinged Catholic Inquisitor, on a quest to battle the creatures that roam the trenches of an alternate World War One.

It's 1915 and, whilst the second battle of the Isonzo Front rages on the Italian Austro-Hungarian border, war threatens to engulf the Inquisition as dark forces muster amongst the most fanatical servants of the Catholic Church.

Rob, who attributes his desire to become an author to when he was read *The Hobbit* by Mrs Jones at Taunton Junior School aged eight, hopes the second book in acclaimed *The Darkest Hand* trilogy continues to grow a legion of fans fascinated by this alternative historical fiction epic.

The Fallen is available as a paperback and ebook from online retailers and all good bookshops.



'Bright' in Bangkok: Suksit Petampai

Suksit 'Bright' Petampai
(Wills West 1996-01)

Since leaving Taunton School, 'Bright' has gained a BA in International Management from Dominican University of California, an MBA in International Business and Strategic Management from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok and is studying for a PhD in Architectural Heritage Management and Tourism at Silpakorn University, Bangkok.

Did you enjoy your time at Taunton School?

I had a great time! I met many different people from around the world and enjoyed learning of their cultural differences. All the teachers were very kind, patient and supportive – especially Derek Baty, my Housemaster in Wills West.

Any particular teachers inspire you?

Business Studies was one of my favourite classes and Stephen Pugh was my favourite teacher. To this day I can remember one important thing he kept saying... "Failure is not an option". This quotation inspired me not to give up, especially during exam times. It plays an important part in my life and I tell my students the same thing!

Where has your career path taken you?

I am a Lecturer at a University in Thailand. My main area of focus is in Mathematics and Finance. I teach students to make good decisions based on numerical data.

How has Taunton School influenced you?

My time at Taunton School allowed me to understand different cultures

from people all over the world and it has enabled me to adjust easily when I meet people from different countries today. My listening and oral skills improved tremendously during my time at Taunton School! I try to be patient and understanding with my students as my teachers were with me.

Any advice to current 6th Formers?

Follow your dream and be persistent. It is not easy to be successful in life – a lot of people give up, but the important thing is to be smart about the decisions you make. Think about

your decisions and the consequences carefully. However, I believe through hard work and persistence, one can become successful.

What do you do in your spare time? What are your passions?

I like to travel in my spare time: I recently visited Chiang Mai and had a great time watching elephants there. Furthermore, I also recently visited Chengdu, China, where I saw many pandas. I love wine, particularly French wines because of their sophisticated tastes especially those that come from Pauillac.





Message from the Headmaster

We began the 2016-17 academic year in very good heart following an outstanding set of exam results. Last year's Upper Sixth can be very proud of themselves with 68% of all grades at A*- B or equivalent. 51% of all GCSE grades were A*- A. It was especially pleasing to see the significant improvement in boys' results. It is clear that our focus on fulfilling academic potential is paying off and we are performing at a higher level than most schools and colleges in the area. I am so grateful to my colleagues for their commitment to the students. Their inspirational teaching and willingness to give up vast amounts of their own time has enabled the students to deliver these results. To be clear, it is not just the high achievers that we celebrate. We are not a selective school and I am very proud of those students who have striven for C and D grades. Their achievements are equally worthy of celebration.

As ever, the spring term is a very busy term with mock exams for a significant number of our students. I began the term with a Chapel talk focusing on how we can all learn from failure. Failure and mistakes are often seen, particularly by young people, as a sign of weakness or ineptitude. I highlighted to the community that mistakes and failures are learning opportunities for us all and that we must not shy away from them. Analysing our mistakes and asking "what can I do better next time?" is key to turning failure into success.

I invite you to take a look at our new website which shows us off in a very positive light. Watch some of the videos to get a real sense of our warm and friendly community: www.tauntonschool.co.uk

“
We learn
from failure,
not from success
”

There are two certainties for our children when they enter the world of work. They will need to master fast-changing technology and they will work closely with people from all around the world. Last year in the senior school we taught students from 43 different countries and there will be a similar number this year. Some of these students are amongst our highest achievers and have an outstanding work ethic. They bring richness to the experience at Taunton School and a feeling of togetherness. Our UK students gain a huge amount from studying alongside their international friends and vice versa. Our community provides a 'real life' experience that many other schools are unable to provide and I have absolutely no doubt that this experience will stand them in good stead for when they leave Taunton School.

There are many events which we are looking forward to throughout this term. The John Rae Society Lecture with Professor Robert Winston on Monday 13th March promises to be a wonderful experience. The Classical Music Concert on Sunday 19th March and the Popular Music Concert on Wednesday 8th February are new initiatives and look like great fun.

I look forward to seeing OTs at the Reunion Weekend in June. You are all welcome but we especially encourage the leavers of 2007 to return as well as leavers of all ages from Marshall and Goodland Houses, celebrating 50 years since their founding. Evans House (snr) celebrates 40 years since founding – we completed a total refurbishment of Evans House in January 2017 so please come and see how much it has changed! Many of the Housemasters will be attending.

Academic Success

Our Sixth Form students excelled themselves in their A level results this year, significantly outperforming last year's cohort. We are equally proud of the achievements of our BTEC students.

With an overall pass rate of over 98%, an A*-C rate of 85% and A*-B rate of 68%, the School has shown itself as an academic leader. Our students achieved a 100% pass rate in 26 out of the 30 subjects offered on the A-Level course. Individually, 28 students achieved 3 As or better. We have every confidence that these statistics herald the birth of exciting and lasting growth in academic performance at the school.

Headmaster, Mr Glaser said: "These are excellent results and I am extremely proud of all of our students. They have shown that their hard work, alongside committed teachers and supportive parents,

really does pay dividends. I am committed to ensuring that we will continue to build on this momentum and our academic depth across all subjects. Our teachers have delivered academic depth, exceptional support and demonstrated why Taunton School is the right choice for so many students at Sixth Form. That said, it is the students who have backed that up with hard work and their success is greatly deserved."

In its inaugural year, BTEC Sport and Exercise Science saw very strong

results with a third obtaining the maximum grade – triple star distinction, which equates to 3 A*. Hayley Mortimer, the school's Director of Sport said: "All students achieved excellent results. The BTEC course has enabled pupils to gain sought-after places at the University of Bath, currently ranked top for its Sports provision. Pupils with a BTEC are better prepared for the style of learning at university as well as becoming more independent in their own journey."

“
Our students achieved a 100% pass rate in 26 out of the 30 subjects offered on the A-Level course. Individually, 28 students achieved 3 As or better.
”



Welcome to the Class of 2016



“
Enjoy the journey of life.
”

Harry Acton, Atlanta Allen-Skinner, Bibi Biotti, Florence Bloomfield, Ivan Borovoi, Emily Bosworth, Ornella Bourgeois, Hera Bradly, Daniel Brauns, Alice Bygrave, Ashton Caddick, Louise Capart, Nicole Chaing, Donald Chao, Xiangru Chen, Alex Chichin, Harry Clapp, Isabelle Clark, Edward Cochrane, Tesni Collins, Henry Corp, James Cowling, Joby Craven, Nick Crossing, Zoe Cullum, Yasmin Dankaro, Salvi De Sena, Cynthia Deng, Leo Dietrich, Bryony Evans, Supun Fernando, Aurora Ferne, Tamta Gagoshidze, Jenny Gange, Tommaso Garavaglia, Dayou Geng, Henry Gliddon, Glen Grutzke, Max Hamker, Victoria Hannaford,

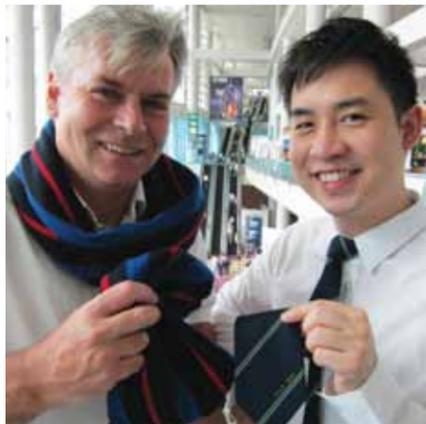
Sam Harrison, Lauren Hemmings, Georgia Hespe, Ollie Hitchens, Erik Hoppe, Sebastian Horler, Charlie Hutton-Pattimore, Daria Ilina, Pip Jackson, Giancarlo Jarach, Connor Johnson-Goodier, Boris Kachalich, Ayse Keskin, Christiana Kimitri, Fame Kogen, Adedolapo Kola-Daisi, Sahil Kotecha, Rory Kyle, Michael Lai, Eva Lalic, James Lamb, Phoebe Lawson, Rosie Lewes, Eddie Lewis, Sunny Li, Alisa Liubitckaia, Imogen Lydford, Frank Ma, Alexander Mabian, Sebastian Maggs, Greg Markitan, Kiema Mbathi, Florence McCormick, Cameron Milne, Rosemary Moss, Ryosuke Nagano, Brian Ncube, Bruce Niu, Joe Notaro-Livingstone, Sophia Nunn, Olivia Nzeyimana,

Joe Ong, Peter Onyemenam, Heidi Parsons, Amrita Patel, Champ Phattaraboonprakob, Andrew Phiphopsukhawadee, Harry Pittard, Matthew Power, Mimi Preuksakesorn, Cuno Rothfos, Sophie Russell, Ivan Solovyev, Joshua Spuetz, Oliver Squires, Maximilian Staniland, Emma Stent, Anna Steppan, Julius Stoeblen, Peem Suaysom, Casper Tang, Sara Thelen, Phoebe Thomas, Gabrielle Thompson, Sergio Tommasi, Toby Topp, Liam Travers, Lizzie Tucker, Henry Ukachukwu, Dafi, Valcheva, Qian Wang, Wenbo Wang, Angus West, James White, Felix Wiese, Jonny Wilson, Linda Wonneberger, Yitong Wu, Anton Zaytsev, Zak Zhao, Weidi Zhou

Out and About: Updates on OTs



Nick Waters (*Fairwater 1985*) and Kenneth Fung (*Wills West 2003*).



Kenneth writes: “Nick had previously worked for a long while as a news reporter and anchor at Asia Television Limited (ATV) – Hong Kong’s first TV station (founded in 1957) – and I actually used to watch him on TV during my younger years.

Fast forward to my first stint in broadcast news in 2009 where I joined rival TV station Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) as a news reporter and anchor, covering political development and the local news beat in Hong Kong.

Fast forward again to the beginning of 2016 where I had the privilege to work with Nick at the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, overseeing media affairs at the recent Asian Financial Forum in January. This was a big one for Hong Kong as we had the pleasure of former US Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke as one of our main guest speakers. I didn’t realise Nick was an OT until we caught up more recently for the Belt and Road Summit, where we were in charge of media affairs again. Definitely a very small world indeed!”

Solofo Razafimahaleo (*TISC and Wills East 1996-1999*)



Adrian Hallworth (Principal, TSI) and Solofo

Solofo is pictured here on his recent visit to the School. Solofo was one of the first intakes of students to Taunton International Study Centre (now TSI) when it opened in 1996.



Remembering the good old days!
L-R: David Jenkins (*Wills West '58*), David Ellis (*Wills West '58*), Graeme Ingram-Evans (*Fairwater '57*), David Watson (*Wills West '58*)

Neil Longstreet (*School House 1974*)

Over a period of 15 years, Neil established and strengthened the Taunton School Foundation, raising thousands of pounds annually to support a range of projects. Throughout Neil’s tenure, he successfully created relationships within the OT community, many of whom continue to support the school. Legacy pledges came and the 1847 Society was born. Millions of pounds worth of legacy pledges became instrumental in Neil’s professional legacy. An annual event continues to cherish and celebrate association between legators, donors and friends of the school.



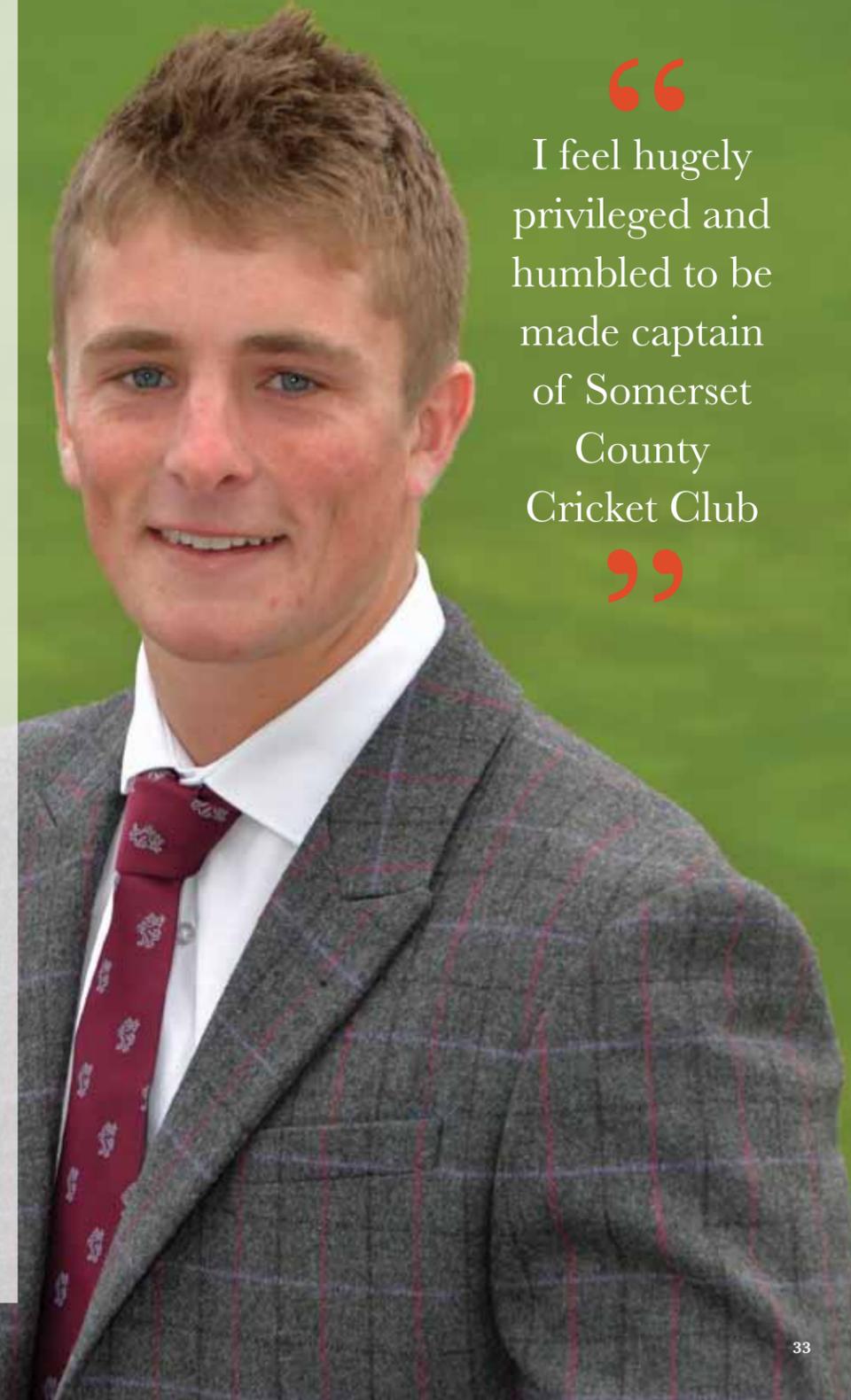
Following his retirement in December 2015, Neil successfully walked the 500 miles of the Camino de Santiago in May and raised nearly £6k for St Margaret’s Hospice.

Neil said: “It was a truly amazing and humbling experience and whilst I started off alone, I met some incredible people along the way. I had to complete the last 150 miles with a nasty ankle injury, but walked through the pain and even managed 40km on the last day.”

Opening batsman Tom Abell (*Goodland 2012*) will lead the Somerset County Cricket Club side in the 2017 Specsavers County Championship.

Tom said: “I feel hugely privileged and humbled to be made captain of Somerset County Cricket Club. To have the opportunity to play for Somerset was a dream for me so to captain the Club is something incredibly special. To follow on from some of the previous captains of the Club who are listed on the honours board in the pavilion is an incredible feeling and something that I don’t think will sink in for a while. After such an exciting and successful 2016 campaign, I hope we can build on what we created and bring further success next season.”

Director of Cricket Matt Maynard believes that Tom was the stand-out candidate for the position: “People will no doubt point out Tom’s age but that doesn’t come in to it – Graeme Smith was captaining South Africa when he was 22! If you’re good enough, you’re old enough and Tom is certainly good enough. Anyone who has spent any time in his company knows that his knowledge and understanding of the game are outstanding. He has an old head on those young shoulders and he is held in very high regard by his teammates. He is the epitome of what this Club is all about both on and off the field. His temperament and attitude are beyond reproach and there is no doubt in my mind that he will be an excellent captain for this Club not just in 2017 but in the years to come.”



“ I feel hugely privileged and humbled to be made captain of Somerset County Cricket Club ”

Out and About: Updates on OTs



Alison Shaw (née Page)
(Weirfield 1973)



L-R: Alison, Rob and Mark

In November 2016, Alison was with a group from the UK on a Battlefields Tour at Devonshire Ridge – the Memorial for the Devonshire Regiment.

Alison commented: *“I stopped to listen to a teacher reading poetry to a delightfully attentive group of young people. I spoke to them and discovered who they were – a group from Taunton School with their teachers Rob Gallimore and Mark Chatterton....what a lovely surprise!”*



L-R:
Chris, David,
Murray, Nadine

At the June 2016 IDPE (Independent Development Professionals in Education) Conference, David & Nadine met up with OTs **Chris Rainford (Evans 2009)** and **Murray Lindo (Evans 1988)**. Chris is Business Development Manager at *Buffalo Fundraising Consultants* and Murray is Foundation Director at Wellington College, Berkshire.

Oliver Griffiths (Fairwater 1999)

As Manager at the Richmond-on-Thames Jackson-Stops & Staff office, Oliver took part in the British Property Awards for 2016 presentation dinner in the Bankers Hall, City of London. They won Best UK Estate Agent. His Richmond Office was ‘mystery shopped’ by the awards’ team against a set of twenty-five criteria to obtain a balanced overview of their client service levels at every stage of the sales process. The judging criteria were both comprehensive and detailed, exploring different mediums, scenarios and time periods to ensure that agents had been rigorously and fairly judged.



Oliver (left) said: *“I can’t quite believe it and no doubt neither will some of my Taunton School teachers!”*

Guy Skinner (Evans 2011)



In 2016, Guy graduated in Natural Sciences at Durham, and started his MPhil in Social and Developmental Psychology at Cambridge in October.

Guy was accepted at Sidney Sussex College. However the Psychology Department, possibly based on the proposal that he submitted following his volunteer work with the Applied Developmental Research Group, submitted him for an Award.

He was successful and now holds an Isaac Newton Trust Scholarship and is a member of Homerton College, the co-funder of the Award in this case. The Award covers fees and accommodation.

Guy commented: *“While I might have been seen more as an all-round sports person rather than an ‘academic’ at Taunton School, it was the value of hard work and determination that really made its mark on me.”*

“When I was at Taunton School, the drama department was under the reign of the inspirational Meryl Smart and theatre productions ranging from Shakespeare to musicals were put on with real passion and dedication.”

The
HALCYON

Edward Bluemel
(Goodland 2011)

Actor Edward Bluemel recently landed a lead role in the World-War II ITV period drama series, *The Halcyon*. Edward (the son of Martin Bluemel, Head of Chemistry and IB, and Jane Bluemel, Teacher of Physics) was cast as Toby Hamilton in the hit TV series of January 2017.

The drama, set in 1940, shows London life through the prism of war and the impact it has on families, politics, relationships and work across every social strata. Edward’s character, Toby, is described as *“having lived his life under the shadow of Freddie, the elder twin. He’s sharp, clever and gifted with a promising academic career, but the lack of love from his father has left him bitter and at odds with the Hamilton name.”*

Edward commented: *“When I was at Taunton School, the drama department was under the reign of the inspirational Meryl Smart and theatre productions ranging from Shakespeare to musicals were put on with real passion and dedication. It was taken very seriously and it was because of this that I really started to believe that pursuing acting as a career could be more than just a wild fantasy as young actors are often led to believe.”*

As well as his latest role, he has also had a one-episode part in *Holby City* and one of the leading parts in a film *Access all Areas*, which is due to be released later this year.

Out and About: Updates on OTs

Colin Trim, David Craggs,
Nick Read, John Hine, Brian Smith



A quintet of OTs from Somerset House 1963/64 recently enjoyed lunch and a tour of the School. Colin Trim said: "We 'Old Fogeys' thoroughly enjoyed the School's hospitality and we were delighted to be able to purchase a 'joint' plaque for the Leavers' Wall,

helping support the Foundation Bursary Fund. Most of us 'Old Fogeys' were Somerset County Day Scholars and so it is appropriate that we give something back to enable others to enjoy a life-changing education they may not be able to afford."

Harlequin Players Association (HPA) 2016



A luncheon was held at the RAC Club on Pall Mall to celebrate the 150th season (sesquicentennial) of the Harlequin Football Club which was founded in 1866.

David Morgan (School House '75) is the current club Chairman and **Jonny Stocker (Foxcombe '75)** is the Hon. Treasurer of the HPA and the Harlequin Gentleman.

L-R back: David Morgan, Will Osmond, Hillary Carr, Julian Pike

L-R front: Roger Reed, Jonny Stocker, Mike Pudner



Old Tauntonian Lodge No.5735 (OTL)
Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street,
London WC

Master: Malcolm Wicks

Senior Warden: Michael Ramsbotham
Junior Warden: Teddy Tucker
Secretary: Graham Bowerman
T: 01275 855293, M: 07885 461579,
E: graham.bowerman@gmail.com

The New Year started with David Hendrick's Passing in February. In March, Stephen McLauchlan, a member of Taunton School Lodge, was Raised at the request of the Lodge and at the same meeting Jonny Bouchier was presented with his Grand Lodge Certificate. The Installation meeting took place in October when Dr Malcolm Wicks was Installed as the 78th Master and his third innings as such. The usual happy occasion was made even more special with Malcolm's son Dr Robert from the Old Eastbournian Lodge (and newly appointed Grand Officer – PAGDC) taking part. On a sad note Michael Button gave a eulogy for Tony Perch, Hon Organist for the Lodge over the past 20 years who had died in May. The December meeting saw the Raising of David Hendrick and a gift of £500 approved for the Taunton School Educational Trust, to be used as a travel bursary for a pupil studying for the medical profession. David Hughes in his new role as a Metropolitan Grand Inspector received a promotion to PSGD at the Investiture Meeting of Grand Lodge in April.

The Public School Lodges Council 2016 Festival was held at Christ's Hospital School at Horsham in

NEWS from the Lodges



May with the OTL represented by Michael Button and Graham and Mo Bowerman. The 2017 Festival will be held on Saturday 3rd June at Charterhouse. See PSLC website.



Taunton School Lodge No.8215 (TSL)
The Masonic Hall,
The Crescent,
Taunton

Master: Julian Frost
Senior Warden: David Noble
Junior Warden: Alan Watkins
Secretary: Chris Harding
T: 01202 733694
E: harding588@btinternet.com

The Lodge enjoyed another busy year in 2016. February saw the Passing of David Hendricks on behalf of the Old Tauntonian Lodge, a proposal for Simon Willets to become a joining member and the presentation of Festival Jewels to a number of members in recognition of their support for the 2020 Somerset Festival for the Grand Charity. The Installation meeting in May saw Julian Frost assume the chair for a second time, and the presentation to the Lodge of its first Ashlar Award for the contribution so far made to the 2020 Festival. Ian James took his third degree in September with David Jenkins assuming the chair in the unavoidable absence of the Master; the Provincial Travelling Trowel was delivered to the Lodge by Somerset Fairway Lodge (the golfing Lodge) for onward transmission to Exmoor Lodge at Minehead (this was accomplished in October with David Jenkins, John Williams and Gerald Routley representing TSL), Chris Tolchard was elected an

Honorary Member of the Lodge. The November meeting witnessed Paul Billings second degree, Graham Bowerman elected a joining member of the Lodge, and Gerald Routley receiving his 50th Anniversary Certificate from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Several members of the Lodge attended the Federation of School Lodges Cluster meeting held under the banner of the Old Aluredian Lodge (King's College) earlier in the month.

The 2016 Festival for the Federation of School Lodge was held at Hertford in September under the banner of the Old Hertfordian Lodge and was attended by David Jenkins and Mike Button. The 2017 Festival will be held on Saturday 2nd September at Pocklington School, 3rd September at Richard Hale School, Hertford under the banner of the Old Hertfordian Lodge – see FSL website. **Taunton School Lodge will be hosting the 2018 Festival on 1st September at Taunton School in 2018.**

Congratulations to Chris Harding, Teddy Tucker and Richard Giles who will receive promotions at Provincial Grand Lodge in April 2017. Also to David Yule, a founder member, who received his 60th anniversary certificate in November, and to Edward Martin who was Installed as Master of Quantock Lodge, Watchet in October. On a sad note the Lodge was sorry to learn of the death of Peter Marley in December and of his wife Ann a few days later.

All Old Tauntonian Freemasons and their friends are cordially invited to attend meetings of both Lodges and the RA Chapter and will be made most welcome. Website: www.otmason.co.uk



Old Tauntonian Chapter No.5735 (OTC)
Mark Masons' Hall,
St. James's Street, London SW

Z. David Noble, H. Ted Tucker,
J. Teddy Tucker
Scribe E: Graham Bowerman – details as OT Lodge.

The April meeting took a slightly different format and saw the delivery of the Three Lectures and an interesting visit to the history of the Royal Arch in its relationship to Biblical History. In November the Installation meeting saw David Noble take the chair of Z and Ted and Teddy Tucker inducted into the Hand J chairs. Attendance at both meetings was extremely good with many visitors who are always made most welcome. Dining at Mark Masons Hall has witnessed a much improved quality of food and service which makes for a most convivial occasion.

MEETINGS 2017

OTL – Friday 3rd February,
Friday 3rd March,
Friday 6th October (Inst),
Friday 1st December – **16.00 hrs**

TSL – Tuesday 7th February,
19th May (Inst),
Friday 22nd September,
Friday 24th November **18.30 hrs**

OTC – Tuesday 4th April,
Tuesday 7th November (Inst) – 16.00 hrs

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



Pictured is **Rory Cook (Goodland '14)** at Buckingham Palace after he recently received his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award at its Diamond Anniversary celebration. Rory was invited to represent Somerset at this international event.

Like many others he benefited from the well organised programme that runs at Taunton School and was able to complete his award before leaving. He subsequently spent a year working at Ballarat Grammar School in Australia and is currently studying Human Biology at Loughborough University.



“
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has helped countless young people on their sometimes difficult path to adulthood.
”

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT

This picture shows the 1984 DofE Gold Awards at Buckingham Palace. On the following pages you can see what happened next to five of the people shown in the photograph...



Back Row: Matthew Heal, Elizabeth Jamison, Giles Bazley, Nikki Toogood.
Front Row: Anjali Wadvani, ?, Alison Baker, ?, Philippa Greig

The Duke of Edinburgh Award goes from strength to strength at Taunton School. There are currently 229 of our students working toward their awards across all year groups. In 2016, for the first time, we opened the

Bronze Award up to our Year 9 students – over 80% of those eligible (some 63 students) signed up to complete their Bronze Awards and most of these are well on track to complete their awards next year. During 2016,

five expeditions have run at Bronze and Gold levels. The Gold Award is more difficult to complete whilst students are still at Taunton School due to the timescales involved. We are currently the largest Gold centre in the County.

Alison Baker (*Besley 1983*) discusses the value of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and memories of expeditions...

What did achieving the DofE mean to you?

For me, DofE was the expeditions! They were eagerly anticipated, probably the most challenging part and from them I gained lifelong friends and a great love of cycling and walking.

What did you learn from the DofE?

There were other parts which developed me as a person for example volunteering in the hospital. Being shy I found this difficult but it also confirmed a medical career was not for me!

Where has life taken you?

After school I completed my degree at Kingston Polytechnic and then trained as a Chartered Accountant with EY in Exeter. Many years later I'm self-employed, working from home and living in Devon with my husband and three boys.

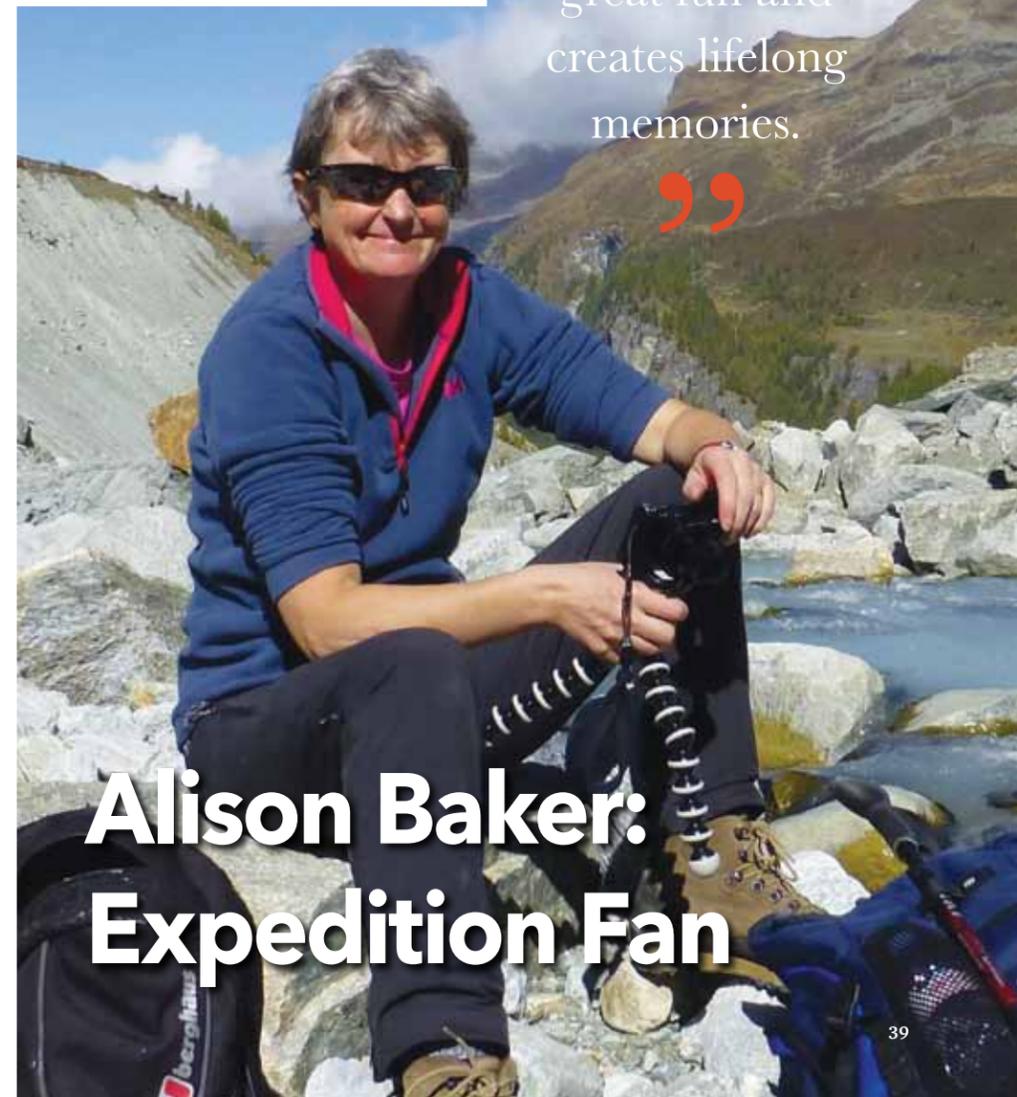
Do your children have the opportunity to do DofE?

The younger two (twins) are doing their Gold expedition this summer, having already completed their Bronze and Silver awards. Like me, they always look forward to the expeditions.

Any words of encouragement?

I would thoroughly recommend DofE as a motivation for trying new things and pushing yourself to complete something even if you find it difficult. But above all it's great fun and creates lifelong memories.

“
...above all it's great fun and creates lifelong memories.
”



**Alison Baker:
Expedition Fan**



Matthew Heal: Golden Pride

“Completion of any level of the DofE is a challenge that definitely gives one a sense of achievement and worth.”

on my CV. After a ‘gap’ year spent working in industrial research I did an undergraduate degree in Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge, a D.Phil. in physical chemistry at the University of Oxford, and postdoctoral research at the University of Leeds. Since 1994 I have been a lecturer and research-group leader at the University of Edinburgh, with research interests in the area of atmospheric chemistry and air pollution. I get to see university applications from sixth-formers and like it when I see DofE on the personal statements!

Do you continue to enjoy outdoor pursuits?

The outdoor activities parts of DofE (expeditions and outdoor sports) continue to dominate my interests and leisure time. My (then future) wife, Kate, and I met through the university hillwalking club. We spend many weekends walking around the UK; living in Scotland for more than the past 20 years has been fantastic for that – we have the highlands just to the north, and the southern uplands and northern England just to the south. We’ve climbed all the Scottish ‘Munros’ (mountains >3000 ft (in old currency)) and all the ‘Corbetts’ (summits between 2,500 and 3,000ft). Our passion is travelling, generally to the wild areas, and have been fortunate to be able to travel many countries and to trek and climb in most of the world’s main mountain ranges.

Advice to current DofE participants?

Perseverance! Completion of any level of the DofE is a challenge that definitely gives one a sense of achievement and worth.

What was the most challenging aspect?

The expedition trips were not any particular challenge to me because I already knew about this sort of stuff. Probably the most challenging aspect for me at the time was the multi-day residential course which I attended without anybody else I knew (somewhere near Plymouth I recall), since I was quite shy (still am!) in interacting and integrating with new social situations. But then this is just the sort of thing the DofE helps with – getting out there and doing stuff.

What did achieving DofE Gold mean to you?

I was very proud to achieve the Gold DofE and know it looked good

Matthew Heal (*Goodland '84*) discusses the challenges of the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme and the pride of achieving a Gold Award.

DofE or CCF – an easy choice?

Having worked my way up through the Bronze and Silver awards I very much enjoyed the challenge of the Gold DofE. From family camping holidays to the likes of Snowdonia, Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District I already knew I enjoyed hill walking and camping, so DofE and not CCF was the obvious choice for me. I enjoyed the organisational aspects of DofE ‘expedition’ planning (route plans and timings, kit lists, and so on!) and the post-expedition report writing.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



Elizabeth Jamison: A Love of Travel

“It taught me to appreciate the importance of teamwork...”

Elizabeth Jamison (*Besley '83*) discusses her experience of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and volunteering at Taunton Musgrove Hospital...

DofE or CCF – an easy choice?

It was quite simply the only non-military option offered at the school!

How has the award helped you?

It taught me to appreciate the importance of teamwork, supporting each other in adverse conditions. On our DofE hikes/cycle rides we were often close to exhaustion but kept going because we didn't want to let each other down. The same is true for many situations at work. The ability to compromise and be flexible is very important when living abroad. Learning to use problem-solving strategies (needed all the time in a mixed age group and ability

class) and having perseverance (not giving up despite hiking in freezing conditions with no breakfast because the farm dog had stolen our sausages!) have also helped me.

Where has life taken you?

I live in Bad Nauheim, Germany with my German husband and we have two adult daughters. I teach full-time in a Montessori primary school (at a semi-private school in Frankfurt am Main) and am responsible for English and individualised learning within a Montessori environment. I studied French and linguistics in Ripon, PGCE in Leicester and German degree in Montessori education.

Has your love of the outdoors continued?

Yes – I LOVE travelling! Since leaving Taunton School I have travelled to many parts of Europe, Asia and South

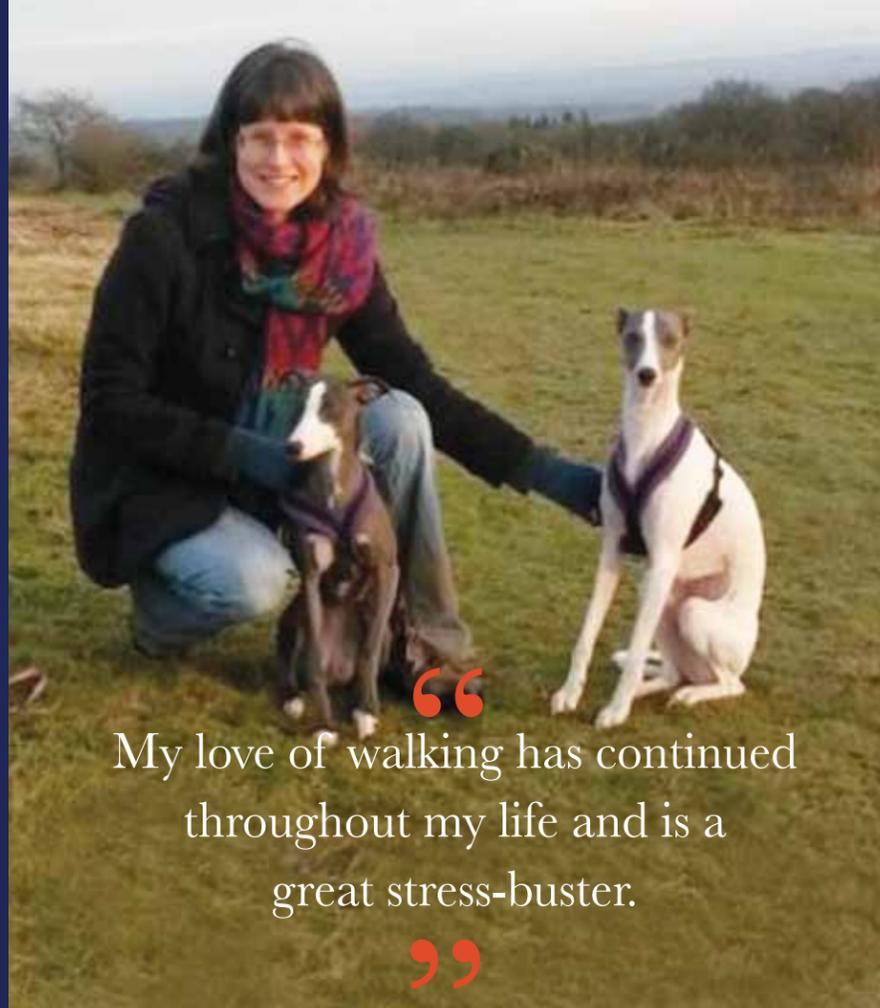
America. I have lived in Australia, Japan, USA and New Zealand. I have spent 99% of my working life abroad where the DofE scheme is not known. I love being outside and hiking using my map-reading skills – still useful when the Sat Nav can't be trusted!

The greatest challenge of Gold DofE?

Working on the male surgical ward at Musgrove Park Hospital: on the first day I fainted while watching a wound being dressed and ended up in the bed next to the patient!

Any advice to current DofE participants:

Stick at it! We live in a society where people look for short term satisfaction and at the first sight of a problem give up. Learning to overcome difficulties is a great asset in both personal and professional life.



“
My love of walking has continued throughout my life and is a great stress-buster.
”

Philippa Greig: The Walk of Life

Philippa Greig (Besley '83) talks about how the the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme can build confidence...

DofE or CCF – an easy choice?

I can't really remember why I chose to do DofE, but I loved it from the start. The same group of friends worked through all three awards. It was definitely the best part of school for me, and I remember many happy times with this group. I am still in touch with all of them and, although we don't see each other that often, they are the kind of friends who you still feel really comfortable with the moment you see them. We did lots of practices for the events at weekends, which was great fun

and got us out and exercising, and we also did Ten Tors, which is probably the highlight in my school memories. We were particularly lucky with the weather which was gorgeous.

How has the Award helped you?

DofE taught us many 'good people' skills: how to work as a team, supporting each other through difficult times, resilience, determination, a huge sense of achievement – particularly working through all three awards. Taunton School was particularly good at supporting us and encouraging us to learn new skills and find new interests – this just opened out my world for me. I would definitely do it again!

What did achieving Gold DofE mean to you?

I was not particularly keen on the academic side of things, or very sporty, so I felt better about not achieving great exam results because I had achieved my Gold Award! Achieving Gold DofE gave me confidence – it really was the best part of school for me.

Have you encouraged your children to do the DofE?

I have three daughters and they all did the Bronze Award, but they didn't have the same school support and only one of them achieved their Bronze. We went camping every year in Cornwall when they were still at primary school, which they loved, but we have done less of this over the years.

Where has life taken you?

When I left school I began training as a nurse, but unfortunately I slipped a disc in my back so had to abandon training. I met my husband-to-be at much the same time and returned to Somerset to marry. I entered the world of office work which I didn't much enjoy, but it paid the mortgage! I spent a short time as a classroom assistant, and then discovered Pilates. Having found that it transformed how my back felt, I decided to become a teacher in order to help others feel better. Five years ago I qualified as a Pilates teacher and I love this job.

Has your love of the outdoors continued?

My love of walking has continued throughout my life and is a great stress-buster: getting out in nature helps you through the most difficult of times. We have two whippets who I enjoy walking daily.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



Jebel Toubkal,
4167m, Morocco
(Nikki in the middle)



Nikki Toogood: Making a Difference

Nikki Toogood (Besley '83) explains the path that led to her latest career...

What did achieving Gold DofE mean to you?

Over thirty years after receiving my Gold DofE Award, at St James' Palace, I still consider it to be one of my best life experiences. The expeditions were the most memorable part of the awards for me. I enjoyed working as a team and overcoming the physical and mental challenges that were thrown at us. Long lasting friendships were made.

Has your love of the outdoors continued?

I am married to Brian, who is a keen runner, orienteer and musician. We have enjoyed walking, running, orienteering, camping and travelling together and have climbed various mountains, including the highest mountains in England, Scotland,

Wales, and North Africa. Our 19 year old daughter, Eleanor, who is studying Psychology at Durham University and 17 year old son, Matthew, who is at Richard Huish College were joined this year a by Lola, a Cockapoo, who has ensured that we all continue to enjoy the great outdoors!

How has the award helped you?

The award has helped me with many aspects of my life. A Gold DofE Award is a great achievement to have on your CV; employers like people who have shown commitment to completing it and have gained the skills and qualities that it provides you with.

Where has life taken you?

After leaving Taunton School, I worked for Nat West for three years as a Bank Clerk. The bank made my award presentation day even more special for me, giving my mother and I a tour of the, then recently

completed, Nat West Tower and a special lunch. My photo and an article appeared in the Nat West magazine. I then worked at the Hydrographic Office in Taunton, for 17 years, compiling navigational charts for the Navy, but once we had a family, a term-time job seemed to make sense.

Do you still do volunteer work?

For the DofE volunteering section, I volunteered at the former Princess Margaret's School for the Handicapped. Although I did not realise it at the time, I had sown the seeds for my latest career. I am now a Learning Facilitator, working among students with learning and/or physical disabilities, at Bridgwater and Taunton College. I have worked here for the past ten years and love making a difference to peoples' lives.

“
...I love making a difference to peoples' lives.
”

Has your enthusiasm for the DofE touched others?

My experiences of DofE encouraged my daughter to take part in the scheme and complete her Bronze Award – sadly there was no opportunity for her to do the Silver at her school. I also gave a talk about my DofE experiences to a small group of students at work and one of them started the scheme and has recently completed his Gold Award. Both he and I were immensely proud of his achievement.

In Memoriam:

Barry Sutton: The Taunton Years A Tribute by John Brown

Barry Sutton came to Taunton School as its twelfth Headmaster in 1987 and he oversaw numerous changes, many of which reflected what was happening in independent schools generally. Management structures were changing along with attitudes to discipline, boarding provision, and marketing. Barry was an outstanding historian and enjoyed teaching his subject when time allowed.

By the end of his time as Headmaster in 1997, Weirfield School had been sold and the proceeds used to establish the co-educational Taunton Preparatory School (an important move as it united the three schools on the central site), an AstroTurf hockey pitch, a new Performing Arts complex and a study centre for international students.

However, Barry's legacy to Taunton School is far greater than the factual account of these developments. Everything he did was undertaken after careful consideration and always in what he saw as the School's best interests. Whilst financial constraints overshadowed much of his headship, a national fall in the demand for boarding places as a result of the recession led to the closure of boarding houses. The resulting upset and hostility caused him much distress, as did the necessity for some staff redundancies and the cutting of staff allowances.

Centralised catering was established with the opening of

the upper dining room in 1994 after the closure of School House and the transformation of the old Memorial Hall into a well-equipped Theatre. The later decision to close Foxcombe and re-open it as Taunton International Study Centre proved to be a masterstroke which rescued the School from serious financial difficulties, upsetting as the move was for the girls and staff of Foxcombe. TISC's immediate success and later evolution into Taunton School International represents Barry's most enduring legacy to the future. He also founded the Parents' Association in his desire to forge closer links with the families whose young people he cared passionately about.

Barry was a fervent believer in the education of the whole person. He set great store by the spiritual side of school life, believing that it was in the Chapel that the School found its heart. Its music, too, was dear to him and, though a loyal Anglican himself, he renewed links with the Six Schools of non-conformist foundation of which Taunton was one. Concerts as well as the academic and sporting sides of school life also enjoyed his full support. An able public speaker himself, he took his Presidency of The Burke very seriously, attending debates and opening the way for major public speaking competitions to take place at the School. He was also a national figure in the scouting movement and had received the accolade of Silver Wolf.

Barry was essentially an unashamed traditionalist, in many ways the last of the 'old school' headmasters. On one occasion when school rules were being revised he queried the need to stipulate that headgear be removed in the dining hall as "surely no

gentleman would wear a hat indoors". He loathed league tables and mission statements, once declaring that if people wanted a mission statement for Taunton School they need look no further than the school's motto: *Ora et Labora*. He had to move with the times, and the establishment of the new Senior Management Team reflected what was happening elsewhere. The days of the headmaster as benevolent despot were undoubtedly numbered.

“
Barry was a faithful
servant of Taunton
School who had
warmth, humour
and the gift
of friendship
”

Barry and Margaret – for she, too, both as Headmaster's wife and as a teacher of Maths and Physics was fully involved in school life – were always happy in the company of their staff, and the pupils found Barry a very approachable headmaster. Barry enjoyed good conversation, and there was always a touch of humour as he feigned surprise that someone was unfamiliar with a certain cathedral or historical event. There were those who mistakenly took this as an attempt at intellectual superiority, but it was little more than fun and had no malice in it. The real Barry was a kind man who, as a person of faith, did not practise self-importance, preferring often to act quietly behind the scenes.

Once, when heading off to some school event, he said to Margaret, "Come on, my dear, we need to go or we may not get a seat" – where other headmasters with less humility would have expected a reserved seat in the front row.

The School's 150th anniversary celebrations in 1997 provided a suitable framework for Barry's retirement. During a special Commemoration ceremony Barry planted a commemorative tree on the Front, after which he and Margaret departed stylishly by helicopter. Later that evening they were back to say goodbye to all their friends. One sensed the end of an era, as Barry and Margaret delightfully but formally stood at the door to receive their guests all dressed in their summer finery. After time among friends farewells were said and Barry escorted Margaret, to a shiny Rolls Royce this time, to begin a well-deserved retirement. We would not see his like again.

Although he followed the 'headmaster's code' of not returning too frequently to school, Barry followed Taunton's progress with an absorbing interest and was proud when two of his grandchildren recently joined the School. He was a regular attender at OT functions having made firm friendships with many of the OTs whom he saw regularly, and the Association – of which he was President in 1994 – has reason to be grateful for his unswerving loyalty, as indeed do all of us.

Barry was a faithful servant of Taunton School who had warmth, humour and the gift of friendship. He will be greatly missed.

The full tribute to Barry may be found in the OT Digital Archive:
<https://taunton.web-intouch.com>

“
Barry was a fervent
believer in the
education of the
whole person.
”

In Memoriam: The Lives of OTs



Dr John Sanford Berkeley
(Senior Day Boys '39-'44)
23 October 1927– 06 March 2016



Taunton School played a significant part in John's life.

His early education was at King's College School in Wimbledon but, in 1939, his father's job took the rest of the family to Edinburgh. John then came to Somerset where he lived with an aunt and attended Taunton School as a day pupil.

Taunton played a significant role in moulding John for his future career in medicine. When he contracted a severe case of chickenpox the formidable Aunt Con came to school to collect some homework for him. The surprising outcome of this course of action was that having been a bit behind with his school work when he returned to class he was ahead of his peers. Filled with a new sense of self confidence he discovered a real interest in Natural Sciences.

He was inspired by Dr Ernest Neal, his Biology Master, and decided that he would study Medicine and was delighted when he was offered a place at Edinburgh University. Apart from applying himself to his studies he managed to become a rowing blue and an accomplished mountaineer.

Following his first houseman year at Raigmore in Inverness came two years of National Service with the RAF. This gave him the opportunity to combine his medical knowledge with his love of climbing and he was a key player in the formation of the Mountain Rescue Service. Thirteen years as a General Practitioner in Fort William allowed him to develop these skills and in addition to being a much loved GP he made significant contributions to the understanding and management of hypothermia and also of formulating safety guidelines for people venturing into the mountains.

His Christian faith then led him to work overseas with his wife Muriel – also a doctor. These postings commenced with three years with the Leprosy Mission in Bhutan. Later they spent a further three years in Bhutan setting up a school in Thimphu for training health workers for the Bhutanese government.

After retirement they spent the best part of ten years working *pro bono* in Aden with the Medical School and Yemeni Ministry of Health. In between these adventures in exotic locations he taught in the Department of General Practice at Aberdeen University and laterally made a major contribution to Palliative Care in Grampian.

He enjoyed a happy retirement in Speyside – skiing and hillwalking until well into his 80s and making an invaluable contribution locally as a lay preacher in the Church of Scotland wherever there was a vacant pulpit. He is greatly missed by his wife Muriel, his three children, his grandchildren and his great grandchildren.

Alison Johnson (Daughter)

Leonard Albert Alfred 'Peter' Broom
(Senior Day Boys '34-'39)
2 January 1923 –
10 October 2016



Peter was born in Taunton, the third of four children. On leaving Taunton School his first job was at the Ministry of Agriculture in 1939 before signing up to join the war effort in the RAF in 1941, which also saw him posted to India.

On leaving the Forces in 1946, he re-joined the Ministry of Agriculture and went on to enjoy a long and distinguished career. A regular church-goer and keen singer, he was often in choirs and musicals, singing at St Andrew's Church in Taunton, which also saw the gathering of his extended family for his funeral.

Nick Broom (Goodland '96)



Peter Lawrence Wood
(School House '33-'44)
8 October 1925 – 11 February 2016

Peter Wood was part of the generation of Oxbridge-graduate directors who transformed British theatre in the 1960s.

Equally at home with classical and contemporary plays – notably a long, defining partnership with Tom Stoppard – he was artistic director of the Oxford Playhouse and London's Arts Theatre (succeeding Peter Hall on both occasions) and enjoyed long relationships with the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Born in Colyton, Devon, he began directing at Taunton School and, after graduating from Cambridge, staged *Romeo and Juliet* and *Hamlet* for the Elizabethan Theatre Company. Joining the Oxford Playhouse in 1955, he made a splash directing Maggie Smith in *The Magistrate* and *The School for Scandal*.

The year 1958 proved to be an 'annus mirabilis' for Wood with the UK premiere of Eugene O'Neill's *The Iceman Cometh* (Arts Theatre), the first staging of Harold Pinter's *The Birthday Party* (Lyric, Hammersmith), a revival of Schiller's *Mary Stuart* (Edinburgh Festival and Old Vic) and a first foray into television. His rise to prominence was as notable for its speed as much as for its eventual longevity. Early successes with the RSC included *A Winter's Tale* in 1960 with Peggy Ashcroft's definitive Paulina and Ian Bannen's Hamlet the following year, when he also directed Richard Chamberlain in the role for television.

His championing of new work saw the premieres of John Whiting's (*Wills West '31-'36*) *The Devils* (RSC, 1961), *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, with Vanessa Redgrave (Wyndham's Theatre, 1966) and the first productions of 10 plays by Tom Stoppard.

Invited to the National Theatre by Laurence Olivier, he directed the star in Ibsen's *The Master Builder* (1964), *Love for Love* (1965) and later on television in *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (1973). He would later serve as Peter Hall's associate on the South Bank. He proved an incisive and illuminating director of classic texts, notably in Restoration comedies with particularly rich and ripe revivals at the National Theatre of *The Double Dealer* (1980, also filmed for television), *The Rivals* (1983), *The Beaux Stratagem* (1989) and *The School for Scandal* (1990).

He had a parallel career in opera, regularly directing for Glyndebourne Festival Theatre, the Royal Opera House and internationally. His television credits included the five-part *Song of Songs* with Penelope Wilton (1973), David Mercer's *Flint* (1978) and Stoppard's *The Dog it Was That Died* (1989).

“ Peter Wood was part of a generation of Oxbridge-graduate directors who transformed British theatre in the 1960s. ”

In Memoriam: The Lives of OTs



Alan Tunstill
(Wills East '48-'52)
25 November 1935–28 October 2016



From his arrival at Taunton School, Alan was a keen and energetic contributor to sport in Foxcombe and later Wills East. Rugby was his first love and he soon made his mark as a forceful second row, becoming an automatic choice for the 1st XV in 1951 and the unbeaten 1952 side. He was also

goalkeeper for the 1st X1 Hockey and played cricket for the 2nd X1.

Leaving at the age of 17 he worked in The City and qualified as a Chartered Surveyor. He worked on the property side for a number of firms before becoming a partner at Richard Sanders. He left The City to set up his own partnership in Tunbridge Wells, which he ran successfully until he retired.

He continued to enjoy his sport, representing Saracens RFC from junior level through to the 1st XV, by now playing in the back row – and on occasion for the OT Sports Club. After moving to Sussex in 1963 he played for Crowborough RFC and captained the club in the mid-60s when they enjoyed unprecedented success. He was a keen golfer and squash player but also became a lover of the countryside and retired

to North Cornwall in 1999, spending many happy years on his farm growing vegetables and tending his bees and chickens.

He returned to Sussex after illness in 2011 and died peacefully after suffering with Alzheimer's for several years.

Brian Mead (Wills West '53)

“ Alan was a keen and energetic contributor to sport in Foxcombe and later Wills East. ”



Melanie Rouse (née Gould)
(Babbingly '71-'78)
18 May 1960 –
20 September 2016

Melanie passed away aged 55 following a brief, courageous battle with cancer.

Melanie always spoke fondly of her days at Weirfield School and later Taunton School where she made many lifelong friends. Melanie was a delightful person, always friendly and happy, with a beautiful beaming smile to greet everyone. Melanie was originally born in Nigeria and her parents moved to Uganda and finally Libya. The children all boarded in the UK. Melanie later became a Norland Nanny after leaving

Taunton School and in 1984, I met her while she was in Boston working as a Nanny for my company's director and his wife. We married in 1986 and moved to Northampton.

We were very happily married for 30 years until she became ill earlier this year. However, her diagnosis came on the 20th August, some 10 months after she initially went to the doctor. The doctors missed a vital Ecoli infection in March which meant that she was severely compromised and when the final diagnosis was made for the cancer, she had exactly one month before she died. Melanie and I have 4 amazing children, Craig 29, Chantelle 26, Jordan 24, and Francesca 19.

Geoffrey Rouse

(David) Allan Reditt
(Somerset '47-'55)
6 July 1936 – 5 November 2106



Ever the Professional Journalist, Allan penned his own obituary:

After graduating with a degree in Zoology from King's College, London, and a Post Graduate certificate in Education at the Institute of Education, London University, Allan taught for two years at Haberdashers' Aske's School.

He joined the advertising company Pritchard Wood and Partners in Knightsbridge as a media executive until invited by Old Tauntonian Tony Morrison (Somerset '47-'55) to join his company *Nonesuch Expeditions Ltd* in 1963 making seven films for the BBC *Adventure* programme in Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay.

On his return to the UK he entered journalism first on the City Press in the City of London and then the Westminster Press Group as reporter and television correspondent. In 1965 he joined Reuter news agency and was appointed correspondent to Ghana in 1968.

He was subsequently posted to Singapore, Malaysia, Nigeria, Portugal,

South Korea, Brazil, Bahrain, Cyprus and Hong Kong where he retired in 1992. During his career he covered stories in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Togo, Niger, Cameroun, Chad, Gabon, DRC (Zaire), Angola, Algeria, Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, India, The Maldives, The Seychelles, Mauritius, Brunei and Canada. He was correspondent on the Queen's tour of Asia in 1972. On retirement he settled in the Dordogne region of France. Allan is survived by his wife Jackie and daughter Kate (Gloucester '85) and son, Gavin (Wills East '88).

Tony Morrison (Somerset '55) remembers Allan with affection: Allan and I were taught together in UBioVI. We kept in touch during university days – DAR was at King's London and I was at Bristol.

By 1962 I had begun my own TV Film Production Company, *Nonesuch Expeditions*, with a colleague from Bristol. In 1963 Allan joined us to make seven films

in South America for the then 'young' David Attenborough and his series *Adventure*. Most pertinent to our lives we met two girls in Bolivia – one English and one Welsh.

Allan married the English girl and I married the Welsh one. Both of us remained married and it is the English girl, Jackie, who has been widowed in France.

The picture (below) was taken in 1954 outside the Science Block. L-R: are Brian Brownsey, David Lyle Stephens, Allan Reditt, Malcolm Wicks, Geoff Gill and Mike Brentnall. We called ourselves 'The Science Library Club' and, much to the chagrin of 'Ernie' Neal, spent hours discussing the finer points of sexual biology. Allan always signed himself as 'DA Reditt' (Duck's Arse Reditt) because of his 1950s hair style!

We enjoyed so many huge laughs together. Allan will be very sadly missed.



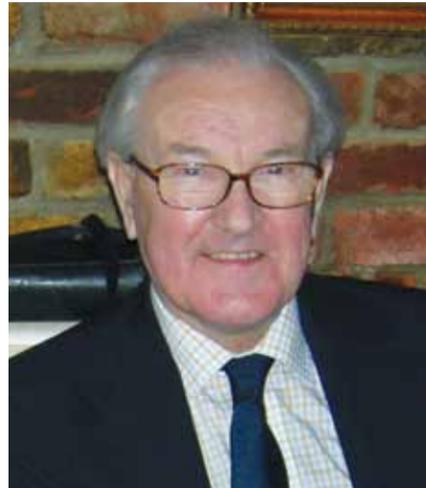
“ Allan always signed himself as 'DA Reditt' (Duck's Arse Reditt) because of his 1950s hair style! ”

Tony Morrison

In Memoriam: The Lives of OTs



Leslie Keith Lewis
(School House '39-'48)
25 September 1929 –
10 October 2015



After attending a local prep school in Highgate Keith came to Taunton School – during his time here he started exchanging letters with a young lady called Elizabeth Winyard whom he had been introduced to through his sister Diana.

Keith was Head of School, Head of School House and a School Prefect. He was awarded the following prizes: Old Boys' Scholarship, 1948; Bat for best fielder, 1947; Old Boys' cricket bat, 1948; Senior Choral Prize 1946 and 1948 and the Went Memorial Reading Prize, 1948. He played for the 1st XI Cricket 1945-8 (Captain in 1948) – scoring 186 vs Downside and 142 vs Canford in 1948 making a season average of 83; Young Middlesex Amateurs' XI, 1947; 1st XI Hockey 1947-8 (Colours and Captain, 1948); Southgate Public Schools' XI, 1948; Tennis VI, 1947-8 (Colours, 1947); School Squash Team, 1946-8 (Colours, 1946 and Captain, 1948); Captain of Fives, 1948. Shooting VIII,

1946-8 (Colours 1947); Drama Club Committee member; Dancing Club Committee member; Choir; Orchestra; Sgt. J.T.C.

Following 2 years in the Army he studied Law and Economics at Pembroke College, Cambridge where his love of sport grew and he achieved a rare double blue playing cricket and captaining the hockey team for the university.

In 1953 he began work at Borthwick and Sons – an international meat importer and suppliers where he was to work for 23 years. Borthwick offered Keith an exciting opportunity of a 3 year placement abroad and in September 1959 he, Elizabeth and Martin moved to Melbourne Australia for 18 months and then had 12 months in Wellington, New Zealand.

The family moved to Buckinghamshire in 1972 where, after leaving Borthwick and Sons, Keith worked locally in Thame before retiring in 1989.

In 1978 he was one of the founding members of the Prestwood and Great Missenden Lions club, helping raise thousands of pounds for local and national causes – he organised and ran the annual Race Night – a hugely successful and enjoyable evening!

His dry sense of humour and wonderful delivery made him an excellent public speaker and a great raconteur who always had a joke or line or look that made those in the room smile or laugh.

In 2007 he and Elizabeth moved to Worcester and in September 2015 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary – he was impressed to receive their card from the Queen and spent a lovely day surrounded by his family.

Keith is pictured in the photograph below making the School's highest run score, which stood for many years, and was his proudest sporting achievement.

“ His dry sense of humour and wonderful delivery made him an excellent public speaker and a great raconteur... ”



Dr Nicola Ruth Brice (née Marrow)
(Weirfield School '67)
11 July 1949 – 26 May 2016

Following successful 'O' and 'A' level examination results from Weirfield School, Nicola moved to London to train as a nurse at St. Thomas' Hospital. Having gained her RGN state registration she stayed at the hospital for another year to become a Nightingale Nurse.

Nicola wanted to try something different so she headed to Australia

to see family and find a job. Her ticket was paid when she found a lady in need of a nurse to support her on the long flight. In Australia she met and married Rob. Over the coming years they had 3 children Grieg, Andrew and Stuart.

In her mid 40s Nicola discovered she had breast cancer. Following chemotherapy and radiotherapy, doctors finally gave her the 'all clear'. The experience caused Nicola to return to education where she took a degree in women's health which led her to completing a doctorate – enabling her to become a researcher. She worked with Cancer Action Victoria – a group that helped other women with cancer.

In 2014 Nicola discovered that cancer had returned in the form of lymphoma. At the end of 2015 she

was given a stem cell transplant but, due to an infection, she almost died. She came through and hoped she was cured but when she had a follow-up check they found the cancer had returned. Other treatments were tried including a trial treatment, but the cancer was so aggressive it kept returning, until no more could be done. Nicola died in the early hours of the morning of 26th May 2016. By an amazing coincidence, having been born at White Cottage in Cornwall, England, she passed away in White Cottage in Mount Waverley, Melbourne.

Many would have given up but Nicola fought the battle always with a smile on her face and with hope and determination. She will be missed by many friends, family and women who have much to thank her for.

Peter James Murphy
(Academic Staff '57-'60)

In the early hours of Sunday 3rd April 2016, after a short illness, the school lost a dear and distinguished former member of staff. Peter joined Taunton School in 1957 to teach

French and German and he also became assistant housemaster in Winterstoke (then a junior Boys' boarding house). He was later appointed Housemaster for five years before succeeding



Dr P G Smith as Housemaster of School House, a post he retained for six years. During that time he became engaged to Holly Nunn, the popular sister in charge of the school hospital and, after his marriage, he left the house to focus on his growing family.

A schoolmaster in the truest sense of the word, Peter made a significant contribution to numerous aspects of school life. For more than ten years he ran the school squash teams and the rifle club and he was also actively involved with the 2nd VI tennis, the Foals hockey, and cricket and rugby teams. As well as serving for twelve years in the CCF, for which he was awarded his long service medal, he was also a very competent bridge player who partnered Gerry Hunter

for numerous years. A talented linguist, he was greatly respected by colleagues and students alike. His deep knowledge of both languages and their structure made him a perceptive and valuable source of judgement and reference. In 1979 Peter took his family to Germany for a term as part of a teacher exchange which was extremely successful. Peter was, first and foremost, a gentleman who will be fondly remembered for his quiet sincerity and dedication to the school. Kind and unflappable, he was generous with his time and care. Peter retired in 1990 to enjoy family life, his love of gardening and the daily challenge of the crossword. He will be much missed.

Judy Iredale and John Brown

In Memoriam: The Lives of OTs

Allan Roy Crossman
(Somerset '54-'62)
28 February 1942 –
11 November 2015



Allan was awarded a Bursary to attend Taunton School as a day boy and it stood him in good stead, moving on to a London University degree in Entomology and thereafter to employment in scientific research and development (R&D). He met Heather whilst still at school and they married in 1966.

In connection with his work, Allan spent two years in Malaysia, later taking a two-year secondment to Australia. In Malaysia, Allan and Heather were joined by their first daughter, Lisa, on the turn of the decade. With frequent business trips to South America, Allan also learnt to speak fluent Spanish. Six years later, and once more back in the UK, Zoë became a member of the family.

“ Allan amassed a huge amount of knowledge and was the only one to ask about many and varied topics. He could give you a quicker answer than Google!

”

In the early 1980s, the family set off travelling again, but this time not as far, to Brussels where Allan joined a US company and continued in R&D. 1984 saw them all move to better weather, with a 5-year stay in Athens. Allan continued his business travels mainly in Africa, Turkey and Eastern countries such as Turkmenistan. He usually brought back souvenirs from his travels, as well as amazing stories. A brief return to Brussels, then Allan stopped globetrotting and settled back in south Manchester before retiring a few years later.

Well-known to all as an inveterate reader, the house is filled with nearly 1,500 books. Allan amassed a huge amount of knowledge and was the only one to ask about many and varied topics. He could give you an answer quicker than Google! His passions were also music, geology and astronomy.

Allan is survived by his wife Heather, daughters Lisa and Zoë, his grandson Oliver and two granddaughters, Poppy and Kara.

Lisa Crossman,
(Murray House '89)



Channel Swim raises £11,500

Pupils and staff who swam twenty-two miles across the English Channel in an amazing feat have raised £11,500 for the Royal Marine Charity. They completed the Channel Titan 16 swim in fourteen hours and twenty-three minutes, finishing just after midnight on September 20th 2016. They beat a staff team of teachers and were pipped by a Royal Marine team by just three minutes!

They enjoyed a celebratory dinner with the beneficiaries to recognise their huge achievement. They were congratulated by The Royal Marines and received messages from The Deputy Commandant General Royal Marines Brigadier

Richard Spencer OBE who described the children as “brave and generous”.

Captain John White, an injured Royal Marine who lives locally, explained how the charity had supported him

recently in a trip to a specialist hospital in the US where he was fitted with new prosthetic legs and an arm, which he was unable to get in the UK. This has enabled him to work and live independently with his young family.

“ Pupils and staff who swam twenty-two miles across the English Channel in an amazing feat have raised £11,500 for the Royal Marine Charity.

”

Traffic Management @ Taunton School

OTs should be aware that a new one way traffic system is now in place at Taunton School.

On entering the campus through the main gate on Staplegrove Road, the two-way system operates as

normal until the corner of the Main School building. From here, the one way system goes clockwise past the Science Block, the New Pavilion and the Grounds department, before re-joining the main access road. For the time being, it is still



possible to drive across the Parade Ground to access the Durrant parking area by the Music School.

All Brighton the Day!

“
A glorious sunny day saw the traditional
Cap presentation for the new debutants
of the 1st XI cricket team...
”



A glorious sunny day saw the traditional Cap presentation for the new debutants of the 1st XI cricket team before their game against Blundells in June 2016. Old Tauntonian **David Brighton (Fairwater '49)** was on hand to present the caps to Dominic Court, Jack Houston, Miles Cave, James Gamble and Max Fiske. David was himself a 1st XI cricketer during his time at Taunton School, and had a memorable 1949 season, which saw him take **25 wickets at an average of 10**. He went on to join Warwickshire after he left school and then had many years in running the cricket in the Army. He was delighted to see a number of Fairwater boys in the 1st XI and was able to pass on some insight into cricket during his time.

Archivist John Brown dived into the books during the winter, and identified that this was our 132nd anniversary of the match against Blundells and produced a wonderful account of the numerous matches throughout our schools history.

The match in itself created history with an amazing tie!

132 years playing against one another, 112 matches during this time and previously there were only 1 tie and 6 wash outs.

Festivities and presentations over and Taunton, who won the toss, went out to bat. The new pairing of Dom Court and Sam Whitefield set about their first of hopefully many strong stands, working the ball nicely and moving past 50 partnership in the 12th over. They continued until Dom cut one to point for the partnership to finish on 79. Another quick wicket and Ed Eminson joined Whitefield as Taunton tried to wrestle back a little momentum. Whitefield worked the ball well around the field and took advantage of a couple of chances to score the first 100 of the season. Blundells were eventually able to break through his defences, but not before a 128 run 3rd wicket partnership with Eminson and 105 runs to his name. Eminson has come

close to scoring his maiden 50 in his last few games, but was finally able to break the hoodoo and classically brought it up with a 6. However, Blundells were not a team to back down and worked hard through the last 10 overs of the innings to take 7-41 and ensure a challenging, but not untenable total. Aldridge finished with 4-36 from his 6 overs to be the pick of the bowlers.

Blundells certainly showed a determination and attitude that this was not going to be a walk over, with Lockwood and Olphant-Thompson pummelling early boundaries and raced the score out early. Their 75 run opening stand was broken by Whitefield, turning one through gate. Blundells captain Dan Pyle continued the fast pace and raced along 43 before he was very well caught by James Gamble with the score on 137 in the 25th over. Regular runs and wickets fell over the next 20 overs, with neither side able to wrestle the initiative in their sides favour. However at 218-8, Taunton sensed their chance, only to be stopped by some excellent batting from Cabburn, who worked the ball well into gaps and struck the occasional boundary to get the score to 250 with 9 wickets down and 1 over to go.

With the sun losing its heat, but with the crowd increasing as returning sports players tried to work out the ever-changing scoreboard, captain Nick Crossing tasked himself bowling the final over. Crossing had bowled some excellent overs towards the end, but number 11 Mitchell managed to get the 3rd ball away for 4. This saw the equation down to 3 from 3, which became 1 from 1. With all the fielders in, a quick single to midwicket, brought Whitefield back into the action with an underarm fling to run out a diving Mitchell and ensure an amazing tie. So now with 113 matches played, the record books will say there are 2 ties and more memories on the wonderful Front field at Taunton School. Certainly Whitefield, with 105, 4-37 and a match saving run out, will savour this one for a while.

Around the Clubs

London Club Dinner



RAF Club, Piccadilly



“
When friends meet, hearts warm.
”

Around the Clubs

Hong Kong



Midland Club Lunch: Bidford on Avon



Cornish Club Lunch: Newquay



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| | | |
|---|--|--|
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Operating Theatre Live

Students had the ultimate medical experience when *Operating Theatre Live* took over the Old Library and transformed it into a scene from *Casualty*.

Wearing surgical gowns and hats, students on the specialist Pre-Med Programme and scientists in Year 11 and the Sixth Form, gained a real insight into careers in medicine as they got to grips with dissecting parts of a pig. They took part in a real heart transplant, including an angioplasty procedure and fitting a pacemaker, discovered the anatomy of a brain and eye and learnt real surgical techniques. They also got to amputate a leg and reattach it, remove intestines and practiced giving anaesthetic injections.

The experience for students hoping to establish a career in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science and many specialist medical roles, was

invaluable as places to study these courses at University are highly competitive.

Edward Mathias, an Upper Sixth student, said: "It is great how the school is offering this experience to us. We are getting an in depth insight into what it is like to be a doctor and it could make or break that decision for some people. It has also been interesting to hear about what it is like personally to be a doctor and how it affects your life."

Caro Wedgwood, Head of Biology and Pre-Med Programme, said: "This is above and beyond what the students can see in the classroom and the exposure to practical experience prepares our students to have a realistic understanding of medicine and the wider medical profession. It shows the students the reality of the job and helps them decide if it is right for them and what other options they have. We are committed to preparing our students for university and helping them make the right career choices."

“ Students had the ultimate medical experience when *Operating Theatre Live* took over the Old Library and transformed it into a scene from *Casualty*. ”

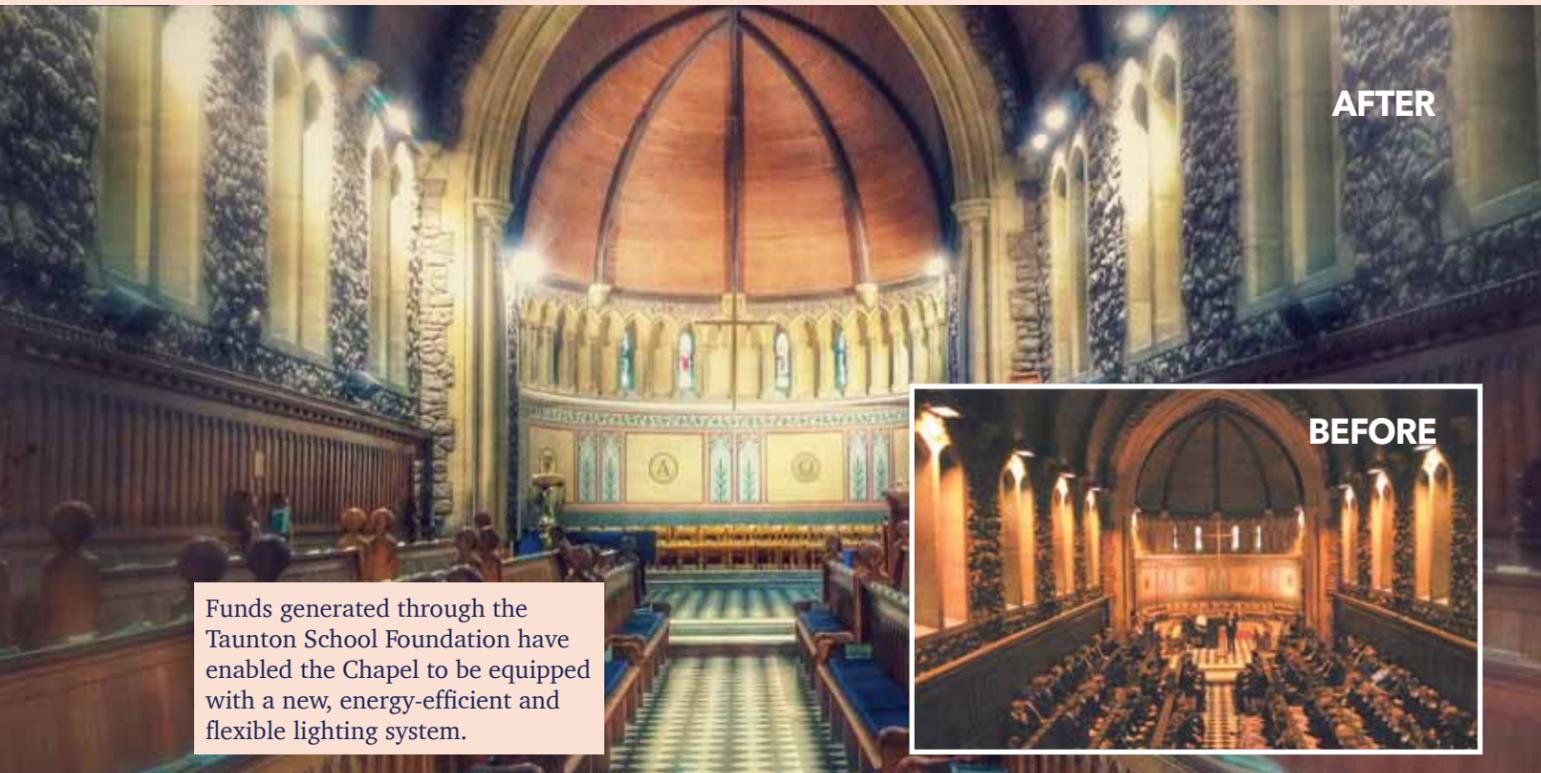
Births

| | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--|
| BAILEY | to Michael | Fairwater '95 | and Diana | Alexander Henry Christopher – 05.03.16 |
| BOOTHERSTONE | to Mark | Fairwater '92 | and Tamara | Emma – 28.03.16 |
| CAVANAGH | to Andrew | Marshall '04 | and Holly | Henry Oliver James – 21.10.16 |
| COOK | to Jenny (<i>Watts</i>) | Besley '03 | and Martin | Henry Robert – 09.10.16 |
| COUSINS | to Eleanor (<i>Hervé</i>) | Foxcombe '97 | and Simon | Gabriella Clementine – 02.11.15 |
| CREASEY | to Jon | Wills West '96 | and Elizabeth | Thomas Russell – 20.07.16 |
| DAVIDSON | to Andrew | Marshall '03 | and Charlotte | Olivia Rose – 23.03.16 |
| FERNANDES | to Rebecca (<i>Roost</i>) | Besley '02 | and Guy | Sebastian – 10.02.17 |
| FRITH | to Tim | Wills West '01 | and Jenny | Albert James – 17.06.16 |
| GARDHAM | to Andy | Wills West '99 | and Clare | Luca John – 14.12.16 |
| GILMORE | to Simon | Marshall '05 | and Chrisanthi | Ari Ray – 22.02.17 |
| HO | to Louis | Fairwater '01 | and Rachel | Charlotte – 24.09.16 |
| JONES | to Caroline (<i>Crocker</i>) | Murray '01 | and Owen | Morgan Elwyn – 21.03.16 |
| JONES | to Owen | Wills West '01 | and Caroline | Morgan Elwyn – 21.03.16 |
| JOSLIN | to Rebecca (<i>Alers-Hankey</i>) | Besley '02 | and Alex | Flora India Alers – 21.08.16 |
| KING | to Katie (<i>Riseley</i>) | Gloucester '99 | and Martin | Harrietta – 19.11.16 |
| LANG | to Decca | Besley '04 | and Alex | Euphemia Thornwood – 17.11.16 |
| MAGIY | to Andre | Wills East '01 | and Joanne | Alexander Robin Andreevich – 13.06.16 |
| MURPHY | to Fiona (<i>Johnston</i>) | Besley '05 | and Martin | Sophie Ann – 09.08.16 |
| PARSONS | to Richard | Wills West '05 | and Charlotte | Rory George – 25.12.16 |
| SEGAR | to Simon | Goodland '01 | and Sarah | Jack Lowen – 18.09.16 |
| SHICKLE | to Greg | School House '94 | and Alice | Douglas – 21.12.16 |
| WATSON | to Alexandra (<i>Heath</i>) | Gloucester '97 | and David | Charlotte Jane Zara – 09.08.16 |
| WOODGATE | to Jeremy | Marshall '03 | and Katie | Isobel Grace – 08.07.16 |
| WOODING | to OJ | Evans '02 | and Eva | Felicity Charlotte – 07.11.16 |



EVITA!

Let there be Light!



AFTER



BEFORE

Funds generated through the Taunton School Foundation have enabled the Chapel to be equipped with a new, energy-efficient and flexible lighting system.

Excitement was built, expectations were high and the demand for tickets saw seats sell out on every night. The *Evita* cast, under the wings of the Music School, were under immense pressure to achieve something great and they did just that! It was marvellous to receive standing ovations, rapturous applause and the audience moved to tears by the story of Eva Peron.

The opening night started off with a bang, hosting the Mayoress of Taunton Deane who described the

evening as a “fantastic occasion”. Things only got better during the second night, where Lily Evans as Eva Peron led the cast through an emotional plot, whilst Tessa Lewes as the Mistress melted hearts with *‘Another Suitcase in Another Hall’*. Dan Woolstencroft as Che and Louis Large were both on top form throughout, and Cam Willets wooed the audience with amazing flamboyance in *‘On this Night of a Thousand Stars’*.

Thursday saw our understudies take control of the show for an

afternoon of awe inspiring silence, with our auditorium filled by Taunton Preparatory School and other preparatory schools from around Somerset. During our second performance of the day, with Rosie Stacey as Eva and Josie Taylor as the Mistress, our cast performed incredibly well, being described as *‘undoubtedly equivalent to a professional show’* and *‘total brilliance’* by our audience. With over eight hundred tickets sold and five performances given it is safe to say that *Evita* was truly successful and, yet again, surpassed all expectation.

Engagements

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----|--------------------|
| LUKE CARMICHAEL | (Marshall '95) | to | Coco Salsa Sprague |
| HENRY CARPENTER | (Marshall '04) | to | Claire Perkins |
| HANNAH DIBB-HOLLAND | (Jenkin '04) | to | Thomas Williams |
| CATRIONA DUNN | (Besley '04) | to | Andrew Douglas |
| ANNA EDMONDSON | (Gloucester '93) | to | Ian Deakin |
| ABBI GRAHAM | (Besley '06) | to | Richard Pearce |
| CAMILLA HANDFORD | (Weirfield '05) | to | Oliver Tunnicliffe |
| CHARLES HANDFORD | (Fairwater '08) | to | Dr Shakira Nathoo |
| LUCY HASTILOW | (Bevan '06) | to | Kenneth Loakman |
| LYDIA HAYDEN | (Besley '07) | to | Nicholas Yiend |
| ROBIN HOWESON | (Fairwater '02) | to | Tanya Shepherd |
| MATTHEW KIRBY | (Evans '04) | to | Nicola Hinton |
| ERIC LAM | (Wills West '09) | to | Ivy Yu |
| JAMES LONGSTREET | (Marshall '06) | to | Robyn Colville |
| KATE TAYLOR | (Bevan '07) | to | Guy Outen |
| LISA SALTER | (Murray '97) | to | Richard Morgan |
| THOMAS STRAND | (Evans '05) | to | Mila Lin |



“
If music be
the food of love,
play on...
”

Marriages

| | | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------|
| BARTLETT | Ben | Evans '03 | to Chelsea | 10.06.16 |
| BELLEW | Sarah (<i>née Poole</i>) | Gloucester '01 | to Mark | 10.09.16 |
| BLUEMEL | Ben | Goodland '06 | to Kelsey | 05.09.16 |
| CARROLL | Alex | Fairwater '05 | to Emily | 17.07.16 |
| CAVANAGH | James | Marshall '01 | to Sarah | 06.08.16 |
| CHENG | Ronnie | Wills East '02 | to Stephanie | 03.09.16 |
| EGAN | Jodie (<i>née Yeadon</i>) | Foxcombe '95 | to James | 16.07.16 |
| FAHNBULLEH | Gamal | Fairwater '00 | to Liz | 23.07.16 |
| FARRINGTON | Lizzie (<i>née Frith</i>) | Gloucester '03 | to Adam | 09.07.16 |
| GADSBY | Will | Evans '07 | to Jenny | 28.05.16 |
| GOWAR | Thomas | Goodland '06 | to Sarah | 21.05.16 |
| GREENWOOD | Toby | Evans '01 | to Millie | 21.05.16 |
| GUILOR | Edward | Marshall '04 | to Oluwatoyin | 02.07.16 |
| HAMILTON | Katherine (<i>née Longstreet</i>) | Jenkin '04 | to Matthew | 30.07.16 |
| HAWKINS | Jack | Goodland '04 | to Lily | 28.07.16 |
| HAWKINS | Lily (<i>née Paul</i>) | Jenkin '06 | to Jack | 28.07.16 |
| HOLDSWORTH | Jake | Fairwater '07 | to Abi | 18.08.16 |
| JONES | Judy (<i>née Iredale</i>) | Staff '82-'16 | to Jonah | 09.07.16 |
| JONES | Phillip | Evans '91 | to Emily | 17.09.16 |
| JONES | Stephanie (<i>née Gardham</i>) | Weirfield '02 | to Andy | 10.09.16 |
| KOSACHEV | Dmitri | Wills West '04 | to Svetlana | 19.11.16 |
| LARGE | Iain | Goodland '07 | to Hannah | 24.09.16 |
| McCREDIE | Rebecca (<i>née Hanson</i>) | Jenkin '06 | to Oliver | 11.06.16 |
| PALFREY | Alison (<i>née Crocker</i>) | Weirfield '03 | to Matthew | 18.02.17 |
| PARSONS | Richard | Wills West '05 | to Charlotte | 19.03.16 |
| ROBINSON | Sam | Fairwater '05 | to Liz | 18.07.16 |
| RUSSELL | Emma (<i>née Kennedy</i>) | Jenkin '04 | to James | 09.07.16 |
| BAGLOW | Kathryn (<i>née Speedy</i>) | Weirfield '04 | to Owen | 17.12.16 |
| TRATT | Laurence | Marshall '97 | to Chun | 10.09.16 |
| WAKELY | Richard | Evans '11 | to Emily | 28.05.16 |
| WHARTON | Miles | Fairwater '08 | to Cassie | 14.11.16 |
| WONG | Lok Tin | Fairwater '99 | to Penny | 10.09.16 |

Old Tauntonian Golfing Society

Hon Secretaries: Richard Jowett (OTGS) and Gill Jowett (Western Branch)

Tegor, Staplegrove, Taunton, TA2 6EG T: 01823 331666

E: richardjowett@hotmail.com E: gilljowett@hotmail.co.uk W: www.oldtauntonians.org

Our policy of subsidising school players and younger OTs is beginning to pay off. Numbers at our Society Meetings have increased and in the Halford Hewitt, our team reached the Plate semi-final for only the third time ever, losing 1-2 to The Leys. Please remember that we offer completely free golf to all TS pupils in the Thone Cup and the Rose Bowl and free green fees to all OTs under 25 in all OTGS events.

It appears that the OTGS is now the only active year-round OT sports association remaining so it is surely incumbent on us to keep it going. Please help not only by recruiting but by persuading our known decent golfers to take part in the important events. Richard Norris (*Hon Treasurer*) continues to manage our financial affairs well. There was a small loss this year but that was almost entirely due to our gift of golf clubs to TPS. I'm afraid that, once again, subscriptions are down but donations are up. As you know we do not insist on a subscription before you can play, indeed all are welcome, but if you feel that you could contribute to the Society it would be much appreciated. The running costs of the competitions side of the Society are considerable (over £1200 pa). Many thanks to the 20 who subscribed last year. If you feel able to contribute please do so by sending your contribution to Richard Norris, 26 Sutton Court, Chiswick, London W4 3JE (from whom direct debit forms can be obtained).

“
The most important
shot in golf is the
next one. (*Ben Hogan*)
”

SOCIETY MEETINGS (all welcome)

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| May 7 (Su) | Thone Cup | Taunton & Pickeridge | Hugh Todd |
| May 14 (Su) | Fairwater Cup | St. George's Hill | Richard Willacy |
| June 17 (Sa) | AGM and Reunion Weekend | TBA | Clive Large |
| June 18 (Su) | Match vs School | Oake Manor | Clive Large |
| June 26 (M) | Old Honitonians | Oake Manor | Richard Jowett |
| Oct 1 (Su) | Rose Bowl | Oake Manor | Hugh Todd |

SCRATCH COMPETITIONS (Bona fide OTs only)

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| April 4-9 (Tues-Su) incl. practice | Halford Hewitt | Deal/Sandwich | Richard Willacy |
| May 7 (Su) | Grafton Morrish (qualifier) | North Hants | Richard Willacy |
| June 21-24 (Wed-Sa) incl. practice | Cyril Gray (over 50) | Worplesdon | David Morgan |
| Sept 28 -1 Oct (Thurs-Su) | Grafton Morrish (event) | Brancaster/Hunstanton | Richard Willacy |

MATCH MANAGERS

Terry Davidge, OTGS President

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Clive Large

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clive.large@tauntonschool.co.uk (h) 01823 325846

Richard Norris, Hon Treas.

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Hugh Todd

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h.todd71@btinternet.com (h) 01278 671880



Deaths

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| BAZLEY | Hugh | Academic Staff '74-'92 | 02.12.16 |
| BERKELEY | John Sanford | Senior Day Boys '39-'44 | 06.03.16 |
| BEWSHER | Neil Richard | Fairwater '41-'49 | 26.06.15 |
| BROOM | Leonard Albert Alfred ('Peter') | Senior Day Boys '34-'39 | 10.10.16 |
| BRUCE | Nicola (<i>née Marrow</i>) | Weirfield School '67 | 26.05.16 |
| BURNETT | Michael William | School House '41-'47 | 07.09.15 |
| CLEVES | Kenwyn Graham | Academic Staff '70-'92 | 11.11.16 |
| COLES | Arthur Gordon | Senior Day Boys '34-'42 | 20.05.16 |
| COLES | Kenneth Alan | Senior Day Boys '36-'42 | 17.07.16 |
| COX | Nina Tremlett | HM Secretary '46-'78 | 03.05.16 |
| CROSSMAN | Allan Roy | Somerset '54-'62 | 11.11.15 |
| CULVERWELL | Martin Phillip | Somerset '60-'68 | 14.04.16 |
| DAVEY | Stuart Maurice | Fairwater '40-'47 | 12.03.16 |
| DAVIS | Christopher John Fursdon | Somerset '54-'59 | 11.11.15 |
| DAVIS | Christopher Willie | Wills East '44-'49 | 25.03.16 |
| DAWSON | Esmond Colin | School House '35-'43 | 05.09.16 |
| EDMONDS | Roger Talbot | Fairwater '45-'54 | 09.06.16 |
| EVERITT MBE | Michael Antony | Fairwater '38-'43 | 25.06.16 |
| GRAHAM | David James Ogle | Wills West '44-'50 | 17.03.16 |
| HACKER | Peter Frederick | Somerset '52-'62 | 28.11.16 |
| HEARN | Michael | Senior Day Boys '39-'44 | 25.06.16 |
| HEWITT | John Herbert | School House '36-'41 | 28.10.16 |
| HUGHES | Geoffrey Bernard | Academic Staff '56-'67 | 20.08.16 |
| IMRIE | John Alexander Bland | School House '42-'47 | 12.01.16 |
| JACOBSON | Peter Bernard Martin | Wills West '41-'47 | 11.04.16 |
| LEWIS | Leslie Keith | School House '39-'48 | 10.10.15 |
| LOCKIE | Anthony Bruce Deverell | Fairwater '40-'45 | 11.10.16 |
| MACLEAN | Major Robert | School House '28-'37 | 17.03.16 |
| MARLEY | Elizabeth Ann (<i>née Coles</i>) | Weirfield School '47-'53 | 17.12.16 |
| MARLEY | Peter Thomas | Somerset '42-'51 | 12.12.16 |
| MCCORMACK | Douglas Stanley | Wills East '32-'37 | 04.02.16 |
| MURPHY | Peter James | Academic Staff '57-'90 | 03.04.16 |
| PEARCE | Bernard Maurice | School House '32-'37 | 17.06.16 |
| PEARSON | Mary Elizabeth (<i>née Stokes</i>) | Weirfield School '37-'45 | 02.06.16 |
| PEATFIELD | Mary (<i>née Lock</i>) | Weirfield School '38-'51 | 02.06.16 |
| REDITT | David Allan | Somerset '47-'55 | 05.11.16 |
| ROUSE | Melanie Jayne (<i>née Gould</i>) | Babbingly '71-'78 | 20.09.16 |
| STEVENS-HOARE | Edward John | Somerset '51-'58 | 14.11.15 |
| SUTTON | Barry Bridge | Headmaster '87-'97 | 15.09.16 |
| TEAKLE | John Antony | Fairwater '41-'45 | 12.03.16 |
| THOMAS | Aubrey William | Fairwater '30-'34 | 14.01.16 |
| TIDBOALD | Mary (<i>née Jewell</i>) | Weirfield School '33-'36 | 08.02.17 |
| TUNSTILL | Alan | Wills East '48-'52 | 28.10.16 |
| TURNER | Harold James ('Jim') | Wills East '34-'44 | 24.10.16 |
| WAY | Simon John | Wills West '46-'56 | 02.02.15 |
| WILLIAMS | Eric John | Fairwater '41-'45 | 19.10.16 |

“ A life well lived is a precious gift. ”

From the Archives

10 Years Ago: 2007



Events to celebrate the Centenary of the School Chapel centred on the installation of the new **Digital Copeman Hart Organ** (above)

Bevan House won the **House Singing Competition** for the first time since 1979.



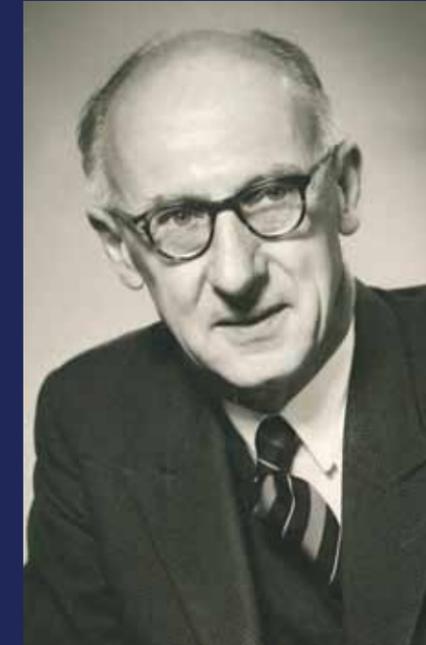
1st XI Cricket, under the Captaincy of **Jon Todd** (left), had an unbeaten season.

TISC had a new Hall.

TS Radio was launched (below).



25 Years Ago: 1992



Freddie Dowell (above), associated with Taunton School since 1917, and the only member of staff to have been Mayor of Taunton, died.

Girls 1st XI Hockey had best season to date, unbeaten over 2 terms

Old Weirfieldian **Jane Barrie** joined the School Council/Governors.

Boys' Hockey Team ('The Griffins') (see picture below) toured Hong Kong and Macau.



50 Years Ago: 1967

The Headmaster, Dr John Rae, made a controversial speech at his first Commemoration Day in which he said there was no future for the Public School system.

Inter-school Polo enjoyed a brief heyday of 3 matches played v Millfield on the Orchard Portman Ground. Millfield won 2 and Taunton 1

The wettest May for 300 years curtailed the Cricket season.

Roger Priest joined the Staff and **JB Kenyon** retired after 38 years at Taunton School.

100 Years Ago: 1917

1917 was dominated by the growing WWI losses.

There were 259 boys in the OTC (CCF)

The Easter Holiday was shortened because of travel difficulties and boys, unable to go home, stayed with the Headmaster at his house in Devon.

Fairwater (East) won the **House Chess** for the 5th year running.

There were 5 Oxbridge successes: 4 at Cambridge (Science) and 1 at Oxford (Classics).

From the Archives:

1992



The Chapel Choir, under their Director David Bridges, sang the weekend Services at St George's Chapel Windsor (above), sang evensong in Exeter and Bristol Cathedrals, recorded *Sunday Half Hour* for BBC Radio 2 and sung a 'live' Daily Service for BBC Radio 4 (right).



“

I love to hear a choir. I love the humanity... to see the faces of real people devoting themselves to a piece of music. I like the teamwork. It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that.

Paul McCartney

”



Forthcoming Events 2017

<https://taunton.web-intouch.com>



APRIL 2017

Saturday 22
OTA President's Dinner
Hampton Court Palace

Celebrity Chef **Mary Berry CBE** will be the special guest speaker at this event.

MAY 2017

Saturday 13
West Wales Dinner
6.30pm
The Old King's Arms Hotel
SA71 4JS

JUNE 2017

Saturday 17
OTA Reunion Weekend
Taunton School

ALL WELCOME, but special anniversaries for:

10 year reunion for leavers from 2007

20 year reunion for leavers from 1997

Dine with an Old Master

50 years ago Goodland House was formed 1967

50 years ago Marshall House was formed 1967

40 years ago Evans House (snr) was formed 1977

OTA Committee Meeting 10.15am

OTA AGM 11.45am

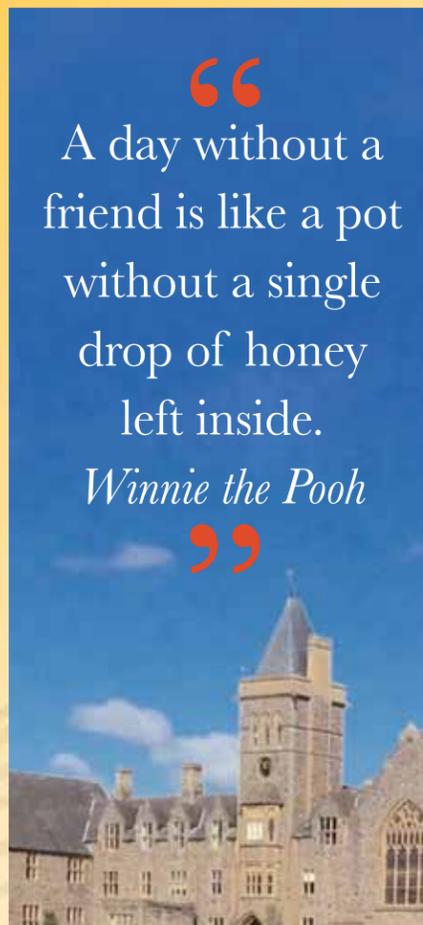
Family Barbecue 12.30pm

Reunion Dinner 6.30pm

Sunday 18
Chapel & Lunch
10.30am

Foundation, PTA & OTA Golf
Oake Manor Golf Club – 2.00pm
OTs, Parents and Staff welcome.
Proceeds to benefit PTA and the Foundation.
Fours with supper to follow.

Sunday 25
Midland Lunch
Copt Heath Golf Club B93 9LN
12.00 noon



“
A day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside.
Winnie the Pooh
”



SEPTEMBER 2017

Friday 8
Western Club Lunch
12.30pm
Taunton School

Sunday 10
Cornish Club Lunch
12.00pm
Headland Hotel, TR7 1EW

Saturday 23
1847 Society
Foundation Lunch
12.00pm
Taunton School

OCTOBER 2017

Thursday 5
Professional Networking:
Law & Finance
6.00pm
Farrer & Co. WC2A 3LH

Friday 6
Western Club Lunch
12.30pm
Taunton School

NOVEMBER 2017

Friday 3
Western Club Lunch
12.30pm
Taunton School

Thursday 30
London Club Dinner
6.30pm
RAF Club,
Piccadilly W1J 7PY

DECEMBER 2017

Thursday 7
Western Club
Christmas Lunch
12.30pm Taunton School

THE
OT
REVIEW



2017