THE TWO NEW SCHOOLS ISSUE

Feature
The London Academy of Excellence, Tottenham

Bob Rothenberg is Highgate’s New Chair of Governors
This issue celebrates the opening of the new Junior School in Bishopswood Road, and looks forward to the opening in September of the new London Academy of Excellence in Tottenham.

It is my last issue as Editor, and I wish to thank my fellow editors, Mike Hammerson and William Kimberley, for their continued diligence and commitment and thank you all as readers and contributors. Your enthusiasm for the magazine, and the many letters and articles which have been sent in have been a joy and a pleasure to read and to publish.

I wish you all the very best, and look forward to your continued contribution to the new magazine and editor, Catherine Sides.

SIMON APPLETON
The Editor of this magazine, much esteemed – both editor and magazine! – by its loyal readers, emailed his courteous and timely request for ‘the usual editorial’.

I am, I hope, a well-tempered contributor but given the opportunity elsewhere in this edition to talk about the excitement of the new Junior School and its opening by the Bishop of Woolwich, the Right Reverend Karowei Dorgu, whose tender support of his late son’s school was forged in such harrowing circumstances, and about the challenges but also unique opportunities for Highgate as an educational charity in opening the London Academy of Excellence Tottenham, I am going to break with tradition and to devote this piece to the Editor himself.

Simon Appleton took up the editorship of The Cholmeleian before my arrival in 2006 and had already established a formula for this school magazine, aiming to serve both school and alumni, which is unique and has stood the test of the twelve years he has overseen its bi-annual publication. Most schools have a magazine which acts as a record of the year past, and The Cholmeleian does that, of course: the School’s sporting tribulations and success are charted; critiques of plays and concerts are included; significant individual achievements are recorded; indeed, one senses that the magazine’s illustrious termly predecessors still influence editorial direction and shape, but there are striking differences. Each magazine has a leitmotif to direct the student editors towards alumni whose professional lives would otherwise go unnoticed by older and younger Cholmeleians, or towards episodes in the School’s history or in its current development. Windows are opened into the School older readers recall or younger readers experience; while those connected to the School are assured of a varied read, the quality of the writing is such that anyone might enjoy this supplement to their weekly read.

What does this tell of us of our editor, Simon Appleton, who retires at the end of the Summer Term in which this magazine is published? He is a hawk-eyed, demanding stylist whose limpid prose can excite interest while smoothing the passage of the starchiest content; his deft handling of thoughtfully-chosen interviews captures voices old and voices young authentically, and often with well-observed humour; his deep-seated affection for the school he knows and the alumni he has befriended never strays sentimental or saccharine. Efficient, inventive, patient, reliable, diligent and determined, our Editor has combined this not insignificant task, requiring deep reserves of imagination and re-invention, with directing alumni relations and teaching his fourth decade of classes of all ages and abilities; it will be for Simon to say which of alumni and pupils has proved to be the more taxing group, but his perennial smile suggests he has enjoyed the company of both with equal relish and enthusiasm!

I have to read The Cholmeleian – it goes with the territory – and there will be many for whom the same is true, but our Editor has ensured that our six-monthly read is pleasurable even when duty-bound, but for many, less able to keep in touch or up to date, Simon’s work has ensured a living connection with a School, with a childhood, with a life that’s followed on; that’s invaluable, skilled service for which many have good reason to be very grateful, not least one Head who has been warmly thanked for, and congratulated on, each and every submission, however over-long and under-punctual! ■ ADAM PETTITT
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STAY UP TO DATE WITH HIGHGATE

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Bob Rothenberg (QG 1963) has succeeded John Mills as the Chairman of the Governing Body. Bob currently serves as Deputy Chairman, a post he has occupied since 2005. Bob’s associations with Highgate go back to his time at Highgate as a boy where he was educated together with his brothers, David (HG/QG 1952) and John (QG 1959). The Rothenberg connections with Highgate continue as Bob’s son, Simon (WG 1997), was educated at the School and four of his father’s grandsons (including Simon) and two great-grandsons attended the School. Pippa, his wife, has served as Chair of the Parents’ Association both in the Junior and Senior Schools during Simon’s time at the school. She is now a trustee of the Friends of Highgate School.

The Rothenberg family connection with Highgate was commemorated in 2010 when the Rothenberg Recital Room was opened as part of the Dyne House Refurbishment. Bob’s father, Helmut, an émigré from Germany, was keen to widen and deepen the cultural life of his adopted country and, on Bob’s leaving Highgate in 1968, he donated the Rothenberg Arts Prize Fund which established the Rothenberg Bursaries for Art, Music and Drama.

After leaving Highgate, Bob trained as an accountant, undertaking his articles at Harmood Banner where David Richards OC (1942) and Chairman of the Governors (1988 to 1999), was a partner. In 1977 he joined his father’s firm, Blick Rothenberg and Noble, becoming a partner in 1979 and Senior Partner in 1997. For eleven years he was a board member of Think London, the official foreign direct investment agency for London.

Bob has spent much time travelling, promoting London and the UK as a business centre, not only representing Blick Rothenberg and its international association, but also in co-operation with UK Trade & Investment. He was a non-executive director of easyJet plc until May 2010. In June 2012 he became a Director to the board of London First, a membership organisation with the mission to make London the best city in the world in which to do business. He was awarded an MBE in the 2007 New Year’s Honours List for services to business and to the community in London.

Formerly a trustee of both The Prince’s Foundation for the Built Environment and The Mayor of London’s Fund for Young Musicians, Bob is now a trustee of Police Now. He is a keen skier, though perhaps slower than in the past, a lifelong Tottenham Hotspur supporter and is fortunate enough to be able regularly to enjoy theatre and opera.

I am taking on the Chairmanship of the Governing body at a time of strength and success for the School and this is in no small part to all that John Mills has achieved over his time as Chairman. The introduction of co-education throughout the School, the continued development and improvement of the various School buildings and overall infrastructure together with the recognition of Highgate as a leading independent co-educational London day school are acknowledgements of the achievement of his leadership. I have been set a high standard to maintain’, Bob commented.

‘Notwithstanding this success there remain challenges. I see my time in leading the Governors as being one of consolidation of our strengths with further development and improvement of our buildings and infrastructure having regard to the school finances and affordability of school fees and ensuring a continuity in the governance of the school. The twenty first century opportunities such as use of technology coupled with an evermore diverse society are on our agenda and I am confident that my fellow governors and I will be able to see the School successfully through the coming years.’
REMREMERMING
ERIC SHERWIN

On 19 November, Mark James joined the Sherwin family to dedicate a tree in memory of Eric Sherwin, Principal of the Junior School from 1952–77. Eric’s daughter, Sue Dennis, and sons Roy, Richard and Charles Sherwin were present, together with some of their children and grandchildren, and two teachers who worked with Eric, Richard Dyson and John Marchant. They were joined by a handful of pupils whom he had taught, including Barry Dennis and David Walker (with whom Eric had worked when organising Educational Cruises).

Mark said a few generous words, Roy gave a few recollections of life in Cholmeley, remembering the trials and tribulations of keeping the coke boilers under Cholmeley House alight, as well as telling of the time in 1959 when, after Bolton won the FA Cup at Wembley, Nat Lofthouse brought the Cup to the school for the boys to see and handle!

Richard Dyson, whom Eric had taught as a ten year old at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Wakefield before eventually becoming a master in the Junior School, spoke of his days working with Eric, and Barry Dennis spoke of his memories as a pupil in the Junior School – including being beaten by Eric!

Sue unveiled a dedication to Eric under a new Liriodendron (tulip) tree, recalling the moment sixty years previously when she was a teenager and living in Cholmeley House, and Eric had taken her to look at a sapling Liriodendron tree that he had planted on the ground between Cholmeley House and Ingleholme.

‘He asked me to remember to look at it in fifty years’ time to see how it had grown. When I first heard, about seven years ago, that Cholmeley House was to be demolished and replaced with a state-of-the art Junior School, I immediately remembered Dad’s request, and went to see how it had grown. It was by then a pretty large and beautiful tree, and so I requested that if at all possible it could be retained within the new development. Alas, that was not possible and so I asked Mark James, the current Principal of Highgate Junior School, if a new liriodendron sapling could be included in the landscaping. It was a privileged moment when I finally unveiled the dedication of the new Liriodendron tree to my dear Daddy:

Eric Sherwin
Master in Charge
Highgate Junior School
1952 to 1977’
SASHA HACO
WRITES TEXT FOR
COMMEMORATIVE
STAMP ISSUE

asha Haco (née Hajnal-Corob) (c/2011) has written the text for a booklet to accompany the issue of a series of six stamps, commemorating the work of Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking. In 1916, Albert Einstein published his General Theory of Relativity, a theory of space and time and of gravitation, which, he explains, are all fundamentally linked through geometry. This theory completely revolutionised our understanding of the universe and has profoundly influenced scientific research ever since.

Sasha writes: ‘To commemorate the centenary of this ground-breaking discovery, a series of six collectable stamps was released in collaboration with Professor Stephen Hawking. These stamps depict some of the most important aspects of the work of Einstein and Hawking. For example, one has a diagram of gravitational waves (a major prediction of Einstein’s theory) and another illustrates the mechanism of Hawking radiation (Hawking’s famous discovery that black holes constantly emit particles). These stamps come with a short booklet that I wrote, which explains the theory of general relativity and its importance, and the most notable scientific discoveries in the field over the last century. It describes the work of Hawking and gives more detail about the images on the stamps.

Aside from writing text for stamp brochures, I spend most of my time on my own PhD research, which lately has been focused on some of the properties of spacetime – a mathematical model in which the familiar three dimensions of the world that we inhabit and the time that we experience are interwoven. Over the past few months I have been investigating whether work carried out on things called the ‘symmetries’ of so-called ‘flat’ spacetime (i.e. without gravity) in the 1960s is also applicable to the ‘curved’ spacetime that results once gravity is included.’

MEMORIAL TO
JOHN TAVENER

On Friday November 11, the University of Winchester and Winchester Cathedral hosted events to mark the life and work of the composer John Tavener (HG 1957). Following a Memorial Evensong, during which music by the composer was performed, a specially-commissioned sculpture to commemorate Tavener was unveiled. This extraordinary and beautiful piece, created by Angela Conner, with letter carving by Tom Perkins, is unusually made of glass. The sculpture is permanently installed in the Cathedral’s south presbytery aisle, near the frieze of Fyodorof icons in the retrochoir. Angela Conner is one of Britain’s most prolific sculptors who, for over 40 years, has created Europe’s largest mobile sculptures as well as acclaimed portraits. She commented: ‘John Tavener spoke to me several times about the beautiful symbolism water provides. This gave me the inspiration to work with the nearest sculptural material to flowing water – molten glass. This element is also reflected in the Greek palindrome, which translates to ‘Cleanse your sins, not only your face’. Water is such a classical symbol for cleansing. John’s work will flow on into the future and become part of the history of spiritual music.’

Tavener’s creative relationship with the Cathedral and its choir was established in the 1970s and continues to this day. His link with the University of Winchester was established in 2007 with the award of an Honorary Doctorate. The Tavener Centre for Music and Spirituality at the University exists as a result of collaborative meetings between the Dean of Winchester Cathedral, the Reverend Professor June Boyce-Tillman of the University of Winchester, Andrew Lumsden, Organist and Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral, and Lady Tavener. The Tavener Foundation has been created to promote the knowledge and appreciation of music in general and to advance the exploration of the life and work of John Tavener, through educational and cultural activities; to advance the development of religious and cultural harmony through music, and to establish and maintain a Tavener archive as a resource of national heritage.
In the summer of 2015 during a clear out of the storeroom in the sports pavilion, a dusty portrait in oil of an elderly gentleman was discovered alongside a cricket bat. The autographed bat lived in a home-made display case which bore a fragile label: THE BAT used by A.E. Knight in the 1903-04 TEST SERIES in AUSTRALIA (Leicestershire and England, Cricket Professional at Highgate School 1908-39). No mystery there then. Albert Ernest Knight (1873-1946) was a known quantity thanks to Valete and Obituary notices in copies of The Cholmeleian, though it seems that he had joined Highgate in 1913 on his retirement from county cricket. The signatures on the bat – including such evocative names as Rhodes and Trumper – were those of the English and Australian teams, probably from the Fourth Test, which England had won by 157 runs, and in which Knight made the highest score on either side: 70 not out in England’s first innings. In beating Australia by three matches to two overall, the MCC team captained by Sir Pelham ‘Plum’ Warner, regained the Ashes. But what of the painting? Capital Projects Manager Simon Martini, who had found the picture, thought that he had spotted a ‘K’ through the murk at the bottom of the canvas (cracks forming a concentric circular pattern which resemble a cobweb) on the paint surface, possibly caused by blows from balls that had been unkindly kicked at it when it hung in the pavilion’s entrance hall. Shortly afterwards a grainy photograph of an elderly Albert Knight in profile turned up in the Archives, which gave grounds for thinking that he was perhaps the subject; and then one February morning Archivist Julia Hudson was editing the transcript of an interview taped in 1987 with Tommy Twidell, who had taken charge of the hundred or so boys who remained in north London during the war. She came across the immortal lines: ‘He (Kyffin Williams) was a very good appointment indeed, by Mr Bell...He did a very good portrait of Albert Knight. They’ve got some nice paintings by him at the school.’ Mystery – to much relief and great delight – solved! The former cricketer had posed a year before his death, and three years before Kyffin’s first public exhibition at the Colnaghi gallery on Old Bond Street in 1948. And he had been much more than a sportsman. The Cholmeleian of March 1943 records that ‘...from the beginning of the war until May, 1940...Mr Albert Knight who then looked after the playing fields, and Mr Arthur Waugh, author and publisher, graced the Sixth Form with brilliant philosophic and literary dissertations.’

David Smith, Heritage Officer
ince leaving Highgate, Dr Jack Kreindler (SG 1992) has been taking advantage of the computation revolution to improve healthcare. As a medical technology entrepreneur, founder of Sentrian and CHHP, he doesn’t see barriers to the potential of his projects, with a goal of adapting health services to improve our productivity and vitality.

‘When you try linking together things which don’t typically connect, brilliant emergent properties pop out’, he says. Jack’s ventures all seem to combine ingredients which we would previously have never thought to put together. In his first company, he married data analytics with his medical expertise. Statistics helped him to identify trends in physiological health and provide advice to companies on improving productivity in their workforce. After this success, Jack founded the ‘Centre for Health and Human Performance’ (CHHP). Treating everyone from the terminally ill to elite athletes, it has become renowned in elite sport medicine, using close health monitoring to help individuals achieve the best possible outcomes. They have helped terminally ill patients climb mountains and run marathons, and have also worked with Comic Relief to raise over £40 million.

Jack’s creative thinking was evident from his time at school, where he never belonged to either ‘the arts’ or ‘the sciences’. He is remembered for his contribution to theatre at Highgate, and being the only person to get into medical school doing Art A-level. Whilst training to be a doctor, he also found the time to work in website design for Douglas Adams’ ‘Hitchhiker’s Guide Online’. Jack quickly understood the huge impact that computation could have and he realised that medicine was going to change massively. He left his job working in full time medicine after just a year to start his first venture.

Since then, Jack has become a serial entrepreneur. After being invited to the Silicon Valley think-tank Singularity University, he was infected with California’s positive thinking and went on to launch a number of start-ups. ‘Sentrian’ monitors chronically ill patients at home and predicts problems up to five days in advance, allowing them to avoid unnecessary hospitalisation. ‘Mindshare’ has developed technology to combine data from millions of radiology scans allowing doctors to improve their decision making. Jack believes that using biosensors together with artificial intelligence can continue to revolutionise healthcare. The kind of data collection which is carried out for elite athletes used to exist only in labs and hospitals, but now people can track their own health metrics with just a phone. With health services coming under tremendous pressure, more intelligent medicine is in high demand. Jack now devotes much of his time to public speaking and engagement, lecturing on performance optimisation, health economics, and the future of medicine. He says ‘I just want to know there will be a health service if I need it’; there’s no doubt he is helping that happen.
Freddie Highmore (EG c/2013) is one of Highgate’s most talented alumni in recent years and was described in November as ‘one of the most intriguing actors around’ by the New York Times. The 24 year old polyglot has been acting since he was seven years old, and was a child star while at Highgate itself, starring in major box-office hits such as Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Finding Neverland to critical acclaim. Despite starring in over 20 feature films Freddie took four years out to earn a double First in Arabic and French at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. After assessing whether he really wanted to have an adult acting career, Freddie has had fantastic success on the small screen, with his starring turn in Psycho prequel Mr Bates becoming a massive hit in the States. (Which incidentally filmed its first season during his Erasmus year at University). He has followed up these successes by featuring in Stephen Poliakoff’s latest drama, Close to the Enemy (which had a seven week run on BBC Two at the tail end of last year). Showcasing even more artistic ambition, in December 2016, it was announced that Freddie will portray the title character of bankrobber Baby Face Nelson in an upcoming A&E drama pilot Baby Face, which he co-wrote and will executive produce with Kerry Ehrin.

Another Highgate alumni and child star, Gregg Sulkin (SG c/2005) has had major career success in recent times. Following appearances in various Disney channel television shows, and British comedy Sixty Six, Gregg has made great strides in TV comedy. He starred in the popular MTV comedy Faking It, and after its cancellation in 2016 has now sold a new comedy to the channel in which he is set to star and produce called (F)unemployment.

Despide Starring in over 20 feature films Freddie took four years out to earn a double first in Arabic and French at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

James Clyde (GH 1974) has taken prominent roles in the RSC’s autumn season, playing The Duke in a gender-reversed Cymbeline, and the evil Duke of Cornwall in King Lear, directed by Gregory Doran, and starring Anthony Sher as Lear.

In one of the nastiest scenes in Shakespeare, Cornwall blinds the Earl of Gloucester, and grinds his eye under the heel of his boot.

James is the son of OC Gordon Clyde (GH 1945) who achieved fame as an actor, writer and broadcaster, best known to the public for his role as The Interviewer in The Dick Emery Show. He wrote for the greats of British comedy, including Harry Secombe, Eric Morecambe and Ronnie Corbett. His uncles Tim, Robbie and Alex are also OCs.

James’ roles follow a two-year stint as Matilda’s Dad, Mr Wormwood, in the musical based on Roald Dahl’s Matilda. James’ time as a boarder at Highgate ‘wasn’t a great time’ he reflects. ‘The School was run down and living in the past’. One highlight was Philip Swan’s inspirational leadership of Drama, although drama, James recalls, ‘was regarded by the authorities as frivolous and not to be encouraged’.

He took the lead in Sergeant Musgrave’s Dance at the age of only 16, and remembers acting with Lloyd Owen, now highly successful as an actor following a long run as the Bodyguard in the musical based on the Whitney Houston film. He also acted with Jonathan Hill, now Lord Hill and the former European Commissioner for Financial Services, who, James recalls, ‘wasn’t a bad actor’.

Leaving Highgate, he joined a band, having had ‘enough of institutions’, then went to train as an actor at RADA aged 24. Although he has made numerous film and television appearances, including in The Bill and New Tricks, James is pleased to be acting with the RSC, and back in the theatre, ‘his first love’.

James Clyde playing in Lear and Cymbeline

Freddie Highmore in Close to the Enemy

James Clyde acting with the RSC
The annual Georgie Willett memorial match took place on Senior Field, with a cake sale raising in excess of £400 for the Brain Tumour Trust. Georgie’s family, as well as his friends who either played or supported, were there to once again remember Georgie, and also to witness the placing of a bench in memory of him. A very sporty boy, Georgie would have sat in this area on many occasions during his time in the Junior and Senior school. The teams were once again captained by his close friends Shunya Matsumoto and Charlie Carman, with Charlie claiming the spoils this year.

STUART EVANS

Remembering Georgie Willett

Alan Palmer (Common Room, 1951-1969) recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Tony Lawdham (EG 1948) writes: ‘A party was held recently in Oxford to celebrate the 90th Birthday of Alan Palmer, the historian and one of Highgate’s most distinguished teachers. He taught at Highgate from 1951 to 1969, his pupils gaining an exceptional number of scholarships and places at Oxford (and some at Cambridge!) He has published over 40 noted historical works, including biographies of Metternich, Alexander I and Bismarck, works on Eastern Europe and on the Baltic, as well as his best-selling Dictionary of Modern History. The Salient has just appeared in paperback, and shortly his autobiography, focused on the years leading to the Second World War, will be published with the intriguing title The Wireless in the Corner. The party took place at St Luke’s Nursing Home, Headington, Oxford, where Alan now lives. The gathering, of 20 invited guests, included two former Highgate colleagues, David Bolton and John Griffin (both 1963-72) and their wives, and one of his earliest pupils, Tony Lawdham, together with other friends, including from the Church of St Mary Magdalen, Oxford, of which Alan has been a trustee and has written the history. There was a splendid buffet, and John Griffin (CR 1963-72), recalling many Highgate memories and happy family occasions, and referring to his wide-ranging travels and publications, led the very warm congratulations to Alan. A close friend presented Alan with a beautiful celebratory album of photographs, many featuring his late wife, Veronica and one, taken by Peter Jones (HG 1949), of the VIth Form party which Alan led to Paris over Easter 1953. An account of ‘Alan’s Early Years at Highgate’, by Tony Lawdham and Lewis Rudd (EG 1948), was also included, together with the excellent piece Thomas (Freddie) Fox (CR 1934-1973), Alan’s fellow history teacher, wrote when Alan left Highgate. Alan, as sharp and alert as ever, plainly enjoyed the party. Altogether it was a very happy occasion in celebration of a much loved and much admired friend’s notable birthday.’

TONY LAWDHAM
(EG 1948)

ALAN PALMER CELEBRATES HIS NINETIETH
Having recently flown with another OC Joe Sherry (TL c/2004), I contacted Simon Appleton who asked me to write 300-500 words on my career. I’m sure he was asking me to do 300-500 words fifteen years ago…” (writes Adam Pencharz (FG c/2003).

‘If any of my peers remember me, you might remember my obsession with all things aviation. Well, that didn’t go away after I left Highgate in 2003. I went to Newcastle University and promptly joined the RAF reserve which involved all sorts but flying was the main draw. I also joined the Parachute club. These two things left no time for lectures so I dropped out of university a year later. Not a great start to the ‘real world.’

Having always wanted to fly but the Air Force not wanting me, I applied to a scheme called CTC Wings which trains people to be qualified to fly airliners as a first officer. That was 2008 and 18 months later I was starting as a first officer flying Boeing 737s with easyJet.

Five and a half years later I’m now a captain flying airbus A319/A320, still at easyJet flying short/medium haul round Europe.

I can’t honestly go through a ‘day in the life’ for our work because every day is different. Today for example I am working 11hrs going to Palma then Inverness, tomorrow I’m going to Zurich then Barcelona. Even if we fly to the same place twice in a day the two return trips will be different. The weather might change, it might be dark, the passenger numbers will vary (so might their behaviour). It’s certainly enough to keep us on our toes.

The highly automated aircraft that we fly require a different set of skills to those which pilots needed forty years ago. The core flying skills are certainly still vital and we are encouraged to ‘hand fly’ the aircraft as much as possible. But nowadays we really do focus on something called ‘non-technical skills.’ We break them down into sections but broadly speaking it’s about how we operate as a team and manage situations that come up. The aviation industry is a world leader in this and its experts are being used in all sorts of areas especially the NHS.

The team isn’t just the two guys at the front, it’s the cabin crew, ground crew, engineering, air traffic control and the company back in the UK. We are at the ‘sharp end’ (sorry) but there is a huge number of people in the background helping ensure the operation is as safe as possible.

There are pros and cons. It’s very rewarding, great views, great people, being let loose on a £50million jet and most importantly, I don’t take my work home with me. When I leave the crew room I don’t have to think about work until the next day. The main downside is the shift work, starting early and finishing late. Also we work most weekends, meaning time at home is precious.

Overall though, I love my job and wouldn’t change anything (well maybe more weekends off!)’

Adam Pencharz (FG c/2003)

LIFE IN THE COCKPIT FOR OCs SHERRY AND PENCHARZ

IT’S VERY REWARDING, GREAT VIEWS, GREAT PEOPLE, BEING LET LOOSE ON A £50MILLION JET
THE AMERICAN SUPPORTERS OF HIGHGATE SCHOOL, INC.

The American Supporters of Highgate School was set up in 2010 by a group of OCs based in the USA – Robert Shaw (WG 1968), Anthony Toogood (GH 1962) and Paul Burnham (GH 1972).

Formerly known as the Fellowship of Cholmeleians in the USA, The American Supporters of Highgate School has tax-exempt (501(c)(3)) status with the Internal Revenue Service, and is not-for-profit: its sole purpose is to support the charitable objectives of Highgate School. It exists to enable US-based supporters, and those who have assets in the US, to give tax-efficiently to support Highgate.

The President of the American Supporters is Robert Shaw and the other board members are Paul Burnham, Hazel McKibbin (SG 2011) and Alan Bedwell (QG 1993).

Since its incorporation in 2010, the American Supporters of Highgate School has granted a total of over $300,000 in donations from OCs and parents to Highgate, in support of bursaries, partnership teaching and educational facilities at Highgate.

The American Supporters also organise events in the USA, most recently a dinner at the Yale Club in July 2015, which Adam and Barbara Pettitt attended. The next event will be a drinks party on 2 November 2017 in New York, hosted by Jon Polledri (SH 1987), President of the Cholmeleian Society.

To contact the American Supporters of Highgate School, please email Robert Shaw on rshaw@mystrasventures.com or write to him at: Robert Shaw, President, The American Supporters of Highgate School, Inc. 130 East End Avenue (12A), New York, NY 10028.

Gifts can be made by transfer to: Account number: 803 020 104
Account name: The Fellowship of Cholmeleians In America, Inc. ABA routing number: 021 114 263

Barbed Wire Barbies

Barbed Wire Barbies started out as the ‘A’ Level devised theatre piece of six Y13 Highgate girls. The inventive production explores the expectations that are put on young women today, and how these expectations can imprison young people.

Each of the six performers played multiple roles in the fast-moving story, and displayed a range of different theatrical skills. Though the play was mostly comical, it contained a hard-hitting message about the sometimes excessive pressures that are put on young people, and some scenes were extremely moving. After a successful exam performance in February 2016, the piece was revised and transferred to the off-West End venue of the Tristan Bates Theatre in Covent Garden. This transfer was the launch of Raiser Theatre, a new theatre company that seeks to provide a stepping stone to a career in the arts for those leaving school, university or drama school by staging bold, dynamic work on the Fringe circuits. Though this first production involved Highgate pupils, Raiser Theatre will draw on a pool of actors from Highgate and other local partner schools, giving opportunities to pupils from a range of backgrounds.

Guy Woolf (TL c/2013), who is artistic director of Raiser, says seeing this production made him reflect on the imbalance that is deep-rooted in this industry: ‘The same faces are getting the same roles and there is a wealth of talent that will struggle to succeed because of either gender, race or economic situation that might even stop them having a go in the first place.’ Raiser hopes to grow out of its humble beginnings through partnerships with schools, theatre companies and charities into a collective that is busy programming exciting, bold work on the fringe and supporting our next generation of actors in order to make the industry properly reflect the diversity of our city.

TIM HYAM
Gabriella Sonabend has exhibited her work at an exhibition sponsored by the Arts Council at The Koppel Project Hive this autumn. The pictures are the result of a six month expedition to Columbia with fellow artist Sol Bailey Barker in 2014, exploring its landscapes and researching and responding to its histories, mythologies and contemporary state. From Myth to Earth is a new immersive installation, dealing with notions of dispossession and shifting identity inspired by myths, colonial history and family stories of lives both in Colombia and London, and presented through sculpture, painting, audio narrative, video and soundscapes. Gabriella studied at The Slade School of Fine Art, the Bezalel Academy of Art and SOAS. After graduating she curated numerous exhibitions including In The Way of Being and co-created and wrote Safe House a collaboration with Jeremy Herbert commissioned for the Young Vic Theatre. Gabriella’s writing has been published by the Young Vic in London and the Nomadic Press (Oakland). Her visual artwork has been exhibited in Colombia, Peru, London, Oxford, Jerusalem, China, Italy and India. She was recently long-listed for the Aesthetica Art Prize for her video A Window into Bogota. Her video Thirty Over Ten was awarded the Art Nova 100 Prize at The Arte Laguna Prize in Venice, was shortlisted for the Wells Art Prize and subsequently exhibited in Beijing. She has been artist-in-residence at numerous international institutions including Lugar a Dudas in Cali and The Kriti Gallery in Varanasi.

With an emphasis on storytelling and social engagement, she frequently works with small communities unearthing lost stories and traditions and finding ways to re-examine and talk about the complexity of identity. She is currently working with the Latino community of Haringey developing creative workshops exploring notions of and addressing states of dispossession. In 2016 Bailey Barker and Sonabend were awarded a National Lottery, Arts Council of England Grant for the research and development of From Myth To Earth and parallel exhibition Mitologia de la Tierra.
hile sorting one of the boxes in the Archive, we discovered a package containing two letters signed by Gerard Manley Hopkins, the 19th century poet. Hopkins went to study Classics at Balliol College, Oxford, in 1863 after receiving an Exhibition from Highgate. This was paid half-yearly until 1867 when the Governors had cause to query Hopkins’ attendance at Chapel, one of the prerequisites of receiving an Exhibition. On a Testimonial his tutor had annotated ‘that he has, during that time, conducted himself soberly and piously’ with ‘so far as he has come under my cognisance’. In his letters, Hopkins explains that he ‘has lately become a Catholic and with the express leave of the Master and Fellows I have ceased to attend the College Chapel’. He goes on to say that he can provide a ‘further guarantee of the fulfilment of religious duties – which seems to be meant by the word ‘piously’ in the testimonial’. The Governors must have been satisfied with his response for there are no more letters in the packet. The Testimonial and letter confirming his conversion to Catholicism can be seen in the Museum in the case dedicated to Head Master John Dyne. They are alongside a library register signed several times by Hopkins and showing him to have been a keen reader.

JULIA HUDSON, ARCHIVIST

When Saul Lehrfreund (SH 1987) left Highgate to study law at Reading University in 1986 he had little idea what route his life would take. It was not until studying human rights law at university that he knew he wanted to pursue a legal career.

Shortly after graduating and completing his Masters, Saul joined the London law firm, Simons, Muirhead and Burton. His role was unique – to provide pro-bono legal assistance to death row prisoners in the Caribbean. When, only six months into the job, Bernard Simons, his supervisor and mentor suddenly died, Saul found himself solely in charge of a growing caseload. The responsibility was daunting, but he was incredibly motivated to assist prisoners being detained in appalling conditions on death row who were facing execution.

Today, as Co-executive Director of the Death Penalty Project (DPP), an independent charity he founded with Parvais Jabbar, the DPP works in more than 30 countries and is responsible for saving the lives of hundreds of prisoners around the world.

Over the past 25 years, Saul and the DPP have had incredible success in preventing executions and limiting the use of the death penalty. More than 50 innocent victims of miscarriages of justice have been released from prison. Legal victories include the abolition of the mandatory death penalty in 12 countries in the Caribbean and Africa. In a single case in Uganda, everyone facing the death penalty (some 900 prisoners) was taken off death row. Sir Keir Starmer QC, MP and former Director of Public Prosecutions, has described the DPP as ‘the most successful litigation organisation in the world’.

The DPP promotes and protects the human rights of particularly vulnerable prisoners, including juveniles, those who suffer from mental health issues and foreign nationals, including British citizens facing the death penalty overseas. To complement their legal activities, the DPP also provides training for local defence lawyers, prosecutors, doctors and members of the judiciary and engages with governments to promote informed debate on human rights issues and capital punishment.

When Saul started working in the field, fewer than 40 countries had abolished the death penalty; today the number is well over 100. Saul explains that the balance has clearly shifted: ‘today it is those who retain the death penalty that are called on to justify their position, with the majority of the world’s nations seeing capital punishment as a cruel relic of history’. Saul has received wide recognition for his endeavours: In 2000, he was awarded an MBE for services to international human rights law; in 2009, he received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Reading and last year, the University appointed him Visiting Professor of Law. To find out more about the DPP, go to www.deathpenaltyproject.org and to support their work please donate via www.justgiving.com/deathpenaltyproject/donate.

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS LETTERS DISCOVERED

One of two letters by Gerard Manley Hopkins which have recently come to light
‘I’m very excited about the publication of Women as public moralists in Britain, which is the latest work in the Royal Historical Society’s Studies in History series, published by Boydell & Brewer. In the book I explore the ways in which a tradition of women moralists in Britain shaped public debates about the nation’s moral health, and men’s and women’s responsibility to ensure it. I focus on the role played by eight of the most significant of these women moralists whose writing on history, literature, and visual art changed contemporaries’ understanding of the lessons to be drawn from each field at the same time as they contested and redefined contemporary understandings of masculinity and femininity. I devote chapters to the pivotal intellectual work of some of the most important of these women moralists, starting with Anna Jameson who considered herself to be the empowered successor of eighteenth-century bluestockings. She wrote enormously popular and successful books which championed women’s and men’s joint responsibility for improving British society, and paved the way for Islington-born Hannah Lawrance who used history to show that women had played a decisive role in England’s national story. In subsequent chapters I examine the contributions to public debate made by the Scottish journalist, historian, and novelist Margaret Oliphant, the famous Marian Evans (better known to us as ‘George Eliot’) who edited the Westminster Review periodical, and the late-century journalist and novelist Eliza Lynn Linton, from Cumbria.

**IN THE BOOK I EXPLORE THE WAYS IN WHICH A TRADITION OF WOMEN MORALISTS IN BRITAIN SHAPED PUBLIC DEBATES ABOUT THE NATION’S MORAL HEALTH**

By the time Eliza Linton was writing, social and political currents were moving fast, and her career shows how women moralists adapted to the cultural pressures of fin-de-siècle Britain. The career of the Hackney-born modernist and sometime feminist Beatrice Hastings (famously painted by Modigliani) lets me explore this in detail. In the final chapters of the book I compare her work to the moralising non-fiction of her contemporaries Rebecca West, and Virginia Woolf. What emerges is unmistakable evidence that each of these women writers understood themselves to be part of a tradition of women of letters stretching from eighteenth-century bluestockings to their own time – and the growing consensus in this period that women’s intellectual potential was equal to men’s, and not determined by their sex. I hope that my work represents an important new direction in debates about modern British cultural history, and sheds new light on the bluestocking legacy, the place of women in the public sphere and the development of feminism in Britain’s ‘long nineteenth century’.

DR BENJAMIN DABBY, FOUNDATION HISTORIAN

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ast March, a joint meeting of Highgate’s LGBT and Masaryk societies welcomed Robert Nisbet (WG 1986) to speak on his experience of being LGBT in the world of the media. Currently the Senior Political Correspondent at Sky, Nisbet’s vast journalistic experience has taken him all over the world – from Washington DC for Barack Obama’s inauguration, to Greece in the midst of economic crisis, to the funeral of Nelson Mandela – giving him a wealth of experience and knowledge that he shared with current Highgate students.

It’s fair to say that Nisbet’s experience has been unique, even among the diverse lives of OCs. Unlikely incidents resulting from the inescapable confluence of his sexuality and his job include being forced to come out to his parents by mobile phone on a boat because the now-defunct News of the World was planning to publish an article on his sexuality the next day (an article whose column space was ultimately robbed by one celebrity scandal or other); in addition to reporting on the notoriously homophobic Westboro Baptist Church whilst undercover as a bible scholar and from a ‘reparative therapy’ convention that he dubbed ‘the gayest place ever’.

On both occasions, he admitted to being a gay journalist on air in the interests of full disclosure. This, of course, led to accusations of diminished independence – something which he hopes future generations of LGBT journalists will not fall prey to. This was an era, he says, in which the public didn’t ‘know’ our journalists, so such a personal disclosure seemed rare, even superfluous. He maintains, however, that disclosing this perceived ‘bias’ was necessary to maintain the objectivity of his reporting. This is an approach to journalism that has characterised his varied career.

The talk inevitably moved onto the challenges facing the place of the media under President Trump, and the place of LGBT journalists within it. Keen to emphasise the duty of the 4th Estate to speak truth to power, Nisbet outlined his belief that the Washington press must put aside petty rivalries and focus on truth rather than deference – a belief perhaps born of his own experience in the challenges of reporting objectively from all situations. Above all, he expects an ‘interesting few years’, in which we will question the place of the press and even the place of truth. The most interesting aspect of Nisbet’s talk was undoubtedly his hopes for the next generation of journalists, who he believes will face the complex question of objectivity more closely than ever before. Perhaps, he mused, it will fall to our generation to take up these reins.

BEATRICE BARR (12EG)
Kyffin Williams, Highgate’s Art Master from 1944-73, often compared himself to Vincent van Gogh. He once said: ‘... it’s very odd, van Gogh and I came from the same social background. He had a father who was solid and well balanced and a neurotic mother, as I did. He had no ability and talent, and I had none.’ So it was fitting that the 9th annual Kyffin Williams Lecture should have taken the great Dutch painter as its subject, together with Anthony Green – Kyffin pupil, subsequently assistant and sunflower fanatic.

Art historian Martin Bailey spoke with authority about both men, taking his audience of over fifty on a colourful journey from the south of France to north London. Van Gogh’s time in Arles – a prolific period of 444 days in which he produced over 200 paintings – is the subject of Bailey’s book *Studio of the South: Van Gogh in Provence* published last year. The title refers to the famous ‘yellow house’ that Vincent had taken on as a welcome change from hotel rooms. Sadly it had been bombed in the Second World War and not rebuilt, leaving Arles without what might have become one of France’s most popular tourist attractions. Bailey addressed the self-mutilation incident, explaining that a painting in the Kröller-Müller Museum, 70 km to the south-west of Amsterdam, shows a letter sent by his brother Theo from Paris saying that he had become engaged. Was the news that he might be about to lose the financial and emotional support of his sibling enough to make van Gogh cut his ear off?

Anthony Green had his own family problems – when his French mother separated from her alcoholic husband, she moved downstairs to the flat in Lissenden Mansions where her parents lived, which resulted in Anthony ‘being used as a shuttlecock, bounced between the two apartments’. Happily the worst thing that happened as a result was that he became a weekly boarder in The Lodge (under HJ Gibbon). In 1957, while at the Slade, he met Mary Cozens-Walker ‘who has played such a central role in his life, as a lover, the mother of their two daughters and muse.’ The inspiration for over 600 narrative paintings, Mary is the star of his story; but he also loves to paint flowers, in particular the sunflowers of van Gogh, whom he described as ‘one of his gods’. After questions, Martin Bailey signed copies of his richly illustrated new book *Anthony Green: Painting Life*, which expertly charts the developments in Green’s intertwined personal and artistic lives, and contains a catalogue raisonné of his work.

The annual KW Lecture now forms part of the ‘Mondays at the Mills’ programme, a series of talks by Highgate staff and outside speakers. Topics have ranged from ‘Known knowns, known unknowns and unknown unknowns’ about the mathematics of risk and uncertainty to ‘The King under the car park: the search for Richard III’. The full programme can be found here:


DAVID SMITH, HERITAGE OFFICER

KYFFIN 100 There are plans to stage an exhibition celebrating Kyffin Williams’s centenary year in the School Museum in September 2018. If any reader has an original work by Kyffin (or knows of someone with one) that they are willing to loan for a period of a fortnight or possibly a month, Heritage Officer David Smith would be happy to hear from you: david.smith@highgateschool.org.uk
Jodie Hayes has started ‘Beautii’, a new on-demand company offering home and workplace beauty treatments.

Beautii is dedicated to creating superb treatments and innovative beauty solutions. Delivering make-up applications, blow-dries and nail appointments on demand and at your service, founder Jodie Hayes has designed Beautii to seamlessly fit into the time-poor modern woman’s lifestyle. Using only industry professionals: editorial quality make-up artists, hairstylists, manicurists, and beauty experts, all of which have been carefully selected as of the Beautii roster.

Jodie aims to grow Beautii to offer clients affordable luxury services to their door, with a view to growing regionally. On top of offering best in class beauty services, Jodie plans to engage and grow the Beautii community through original and clever content from tips and tricks from industry professionals to an upcoming video strategy. She is also hoping to add on-line purchasing through her website.

Jodie commented to The Cholmeleian: ‘I’ve always been a massive beauty junkie, interested in products and treatments from a young age, and I’ve grown up surrounded by beauty from my mother’s styling agency, Carol Hayes Management.

After leaving Highgate I went on to read Economics at the University of Edinburgh before returning to London to work in my first job in the world of advertising as a project manager for a leading market consultancy. Following this, I took a role in the City as an analyst for a retail and consumer strategy consultancy. It was there where I decided to develop my interest in the beauty sector further working with brands including Burberry, and Original Additions (Elegant Touch and Eylure).

The idea for Beautii was born at the beginning of last year but not fully launched until October. My advice to anyone thinking about starting a business is don’t be rigid in your approach. I’ve changed something about Beautii almost every day since we’ve launched; whether it’s a copy change, or an update to our site, for example we’ve recently introduced massages to our treatment menu due to customer demand.

When not working, Jodie loves to keep active and horse-riding and Pilates are favourite activities, as well as searching out new food spots – she confesses to being ‘a bit of a foodie’!

www.beautii.co
www.instagram.com/beautii.co/
Telephone 020 7428 1870
Email jodie@beautii.co
Robert Desmond (QQ c/2007) and Theo Brainin (SH c/2007) want to write your parents’ memoirs!

For the last two years, they have been building Story Terrace. Based in London’s Brick Lane, the business is here to make sure that in 50 years time, everyone can read about their parents and grandparents.

The idea behind the business is simple – ‘a biographer for every person’. Here is how it works:

1. Story Terrace matches you or your loved one with one of 300 professional journalists and authors, based on location and background.
2. The writer interviews the storyteller at home, usually over 2-3 sessions, and drafts a manuscript.
3. Once you’re happy, Story Terrace edits, designs and prints hardbound photo-illustrated books, and delivers them by post. The whole process usually takes 8-12 weeks.

For Theo, there is a personal motivation:

‘My grandfather Harold was an eminent QC in apartheid South Africa. Alongside other lawyers, he had the privilege of representing Nelson Mandela at the Rivonia trial, delivering the plea in mitigation after Mandela was found guilty. It’s a family legend which has had a huge influence on me, but I have never heard him talk about it – because he died years before I was born.’

‘I would love to have some kind of record of his memories of that time. It’s why Story Terrace was such an appealing project for me – my mum is working with one of our writers to make her book right now!’

As Robert puts it, the service is a response to two big internet phenomena – heritage discovery sites, and social media:

‘Websites like ancestry.com are a very popular way to research your past, but unless your relatives wrote a diary or a memoir, it’s almost impossible to go beyond the records and discover their memories and emotions.’

‘At the same time, we are recording more of our lives than ever, but what we publish on Facebook won’t necessarily stand the test of time – (let alone Snapchat!). It’s not a record to pass down to your children.’

It’s a serious business – the company is operational in three countries, and made almost $500k in sales in 2016. Early backers include senior silicon valley executives and UK retail titans. Now Theo and Robert are raising money to take the company to the next level. They plan to invest in the technology behind the books, to drive down costs and create new products.

Theo told us, ‘The next step is to go digital, and even more accessible. Our newest product is a ‘Memory Book’. It’s a gift book you create online, celebrating someone special. Anyone can make one. You invite your friends and family to contribute on www.mystorystarter.com – everyone uploads their favourite memories and photos, and we print the book.’

Story Terrace creates ghostwritten memoirs, using professional writers and face-to-face interviews. Biography packages range from £800-£4000. ‘Memory Books’ start at £49.

www.mystorystarter.com
www.storyterrace.com
Richard Dawkins’ reputation precedes him, and Yan Wong, who followed a few years after me from Highgate to New College, has become well known following his role as a presenter on the BBC’s *Bang Goes the Theory!*

Having studied under Dawkins at Oxford, Yan became his researcher and the fruits of their collaboration is this impressive study of nothing less than the origins of mankind.

This, the second edition of *The Ancestor’s Tale*, takes us like Chaucer’s characters, on a pilgrimage (the term is deliberately used by the authors to suggest a reverence for the natural world, though not in a religious sense). Our ‘Canterbury’ (in other words the final destination) is the last universal common ancestor, or ‘Luca’, some form of ancient bacterium. Taking the journey in reverse is an attempt to topple the clichéd view of the past history of life leading inevitably towards us, *Homo sapiens*. Traditionally Darwin’s concept of the ‘tree of life’ has been misinterpreted anthropocentrically with ancestral species acting as biological John the Baptists, presaging the glory of the coming of the human race. This book uses the elegantly simple device of starting with the Omega rather than the Alpha, peering through what DH Lawrence called ‘the wrong end of the telescope of time’ so that we begin our pilgrimage with ourselves and voyage back to Luca, to which we (and all extant lifeforms) therefore owe something of a belated debt of gratitude.

Like Martin Amis’ *Time’s Arrow* we are travelling back in time, but not to rerun the life of a single (evil) person, rather we undertake the ultimate genealogical voyage around all our fathers and their Y chromosomes, not forgetting our mitochondrial mothers, too. To do this, we meet up with around forty common ancestors, or ‘concestors’ as Dawkins and Wong call them. This means, for example, that our most recent concestor dates from around 6 million years ago, and it is the one that we share with our closest living relatives, the common chimpanzee and the bonobo. Note, of course, that we are not descended from chimps any more than they are from us (how insulting to the poor chimp either way!) in the same way that your sibling is not your parent.

Successive concestors represent rendezvous for greater numbers of fellow pilgrims of ever-diminishing genetic similarity as we walk ever further back in time, our footsteps rapidly outdistancing those fossilized tracks of Lucy (our Australopithecine near-ancestor) on our ultimate quest for Luca.

A book that attempts to trace our history to the beginning of life itself some 4 billion years ago is likely to be a long one – and, at 700 pages as well as a further 50 of references to encourage the reader onwards into further fractals of discovery, it is. By my reckoning, there have been at least 200 million different species that have existed...
in that time, and inevitably only a few can be prioritized as pilgrims, which is where my only criticism of the concestor approach lies. Although the idea works wonderfully as a whole, it does mean that occasionally large chunks of geological time containing important groups of creatures are bypassed or skimmed, by virtue of the fact that they do not lie directly within our own pedigree. Dinosaurs, which were the dominant vertebrates for 140 million years, are a case in point. This is a small price to pay for the overall success of the Chaucerian concept, and it could have been no other way given that the closest our small furry ancestors got to a dinosaur would have been to cower in its shadow. The relative paucity of references to plants, and for that matter the other major branches of the evolutionary tree – fungi, protocists and bacteria – was a justified, but again inevitable, criticism made of the first edition of the book, given the early point in our history at which we parted company from them. A positive feature is that the structured temporal narrative allows less room for polemic, so allowing the incredible variety of life to speak up eloquently for itself in ‘praise’ of natural selection (save for a few well-aimed tilts at creationists, often with tongue firmly in cheek).

WILL ATKINS (FG 1985)

TAKING THE JOURNEY IN REVERSE IS AN ATTEMPT TO TOPPLE THE CLICHÉD VIEW OF THE PAST HISTORY OF LIFE LEADING INEVITABLY TOWARDS US, HOMO SAPIENS.

LIFE AMONGST THE THORNS

After a decade of conservation work in Madagascar’s spiny forest, Dr Charlie Gardner (HG 1997) recently published his book, Life Amongst the Thorns. The fourth largest island in the world has one of the most remarkable collections of habitats and ecosystems anywhere on the planet. Eighty-five per cent of the species found in these enchanting landscapes are unique to the island, but the precious wildlife is continually threatened. Replacing the diverse forest ecosystems, vast grasslands now cover two thirds of the island. It is in the arid south, far from the reach of western tourism, that Charlie has been working to protect one of the world’s greatest conservation priorities. In the spiny forest, lemur can be seen leaping between thorny green pillars, which emerge from the tangled undergrowth. Chameleons, multi-coloured birds and intricately patterned tortoises also thrive in this dwindling paradise.

Charlie arrived in Madagascar two years after a landmark conservation pledge, the ‘Durban Vision’. He, together with the WWF, Blue Venture, and other NGOs, has been helping turn the dream into reality by tripling the coverage of protected areas in the country. With a foreword from Sir David Attenborough, his book reflects a decade of hard work in an exotic and surreal land, showcasing the amazing biodiversity found there, and the importance of ongoing conservation efforts. Accompanied by the stunning photography of his wife, Louise Jasper, the book takes us into the spiny forest, educating us about the unique nature of Madagascan speciation, after an 80 million year isolation of the island from other land masses. The wide array of endemic flora, mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians, is as impressive as it is inspiring.

His journey began at the University of Leeds with a BSc in Zoology, he then studied for an MSc in conservation biology at the University of Kent, where he also completed his PhD and is now an Honorary Research Fellow. Charlie’s interdisciplinary approach has helped shape his research. By using conservation biology together with social science he helps local communities too, in an effort to improve governance and management of protected areas and natural resources. His book also takes us through the challenges that the Malagasy face and how poverty might be resolved in isolated regions. As he explains, ‘the natural habitats of the spiny forest are not just important for biodiversity, but also for the hundreds of thousands of people that live around them, and billions of others worldwide’.

ANDREA GUARIGLIA (13EG)
Highgate has been co-educational for more than a decade, and gender equality is one of the School’s core values: that girls and boys should have equal opportunities to learn, develop and thrive.

In September 2016 we held the inaugural meeting of Highgate Women, a new group for women connected to Highgate: alumnae, parents, carers, staff and friends of the School. In founding Highgate Women, we wanted to empower female parents, carers, alumnae and staff by providing opportunities to network with other women from the Highgate community. We particularly wanted to celebrate the diverse achievements of our female alumnae, who now number around 500.

At our launch event in September, the principal speaker kicked off her speech after an introduction which detailed her stellar career and four children by asking the assembled audience to say whether they were impressed that she had managed a career and a family. Most were, and were gently chastised for being so: of course, it should be no surprise that a woman has a successful career, and no surprise if she combines that with having a family. Christiana Marran, a Highgate parent who is Managing Director and Head of Corporate Communications EMEA at Credit Suisse, then gave an inspiring speech which covered areas such as ‘imposter syndrome’, unconscious bias, and Credit Suisse’s ‘Real Returns’ programme, helping women to re-enter the workplace after a career break.

Highgate’s Head, Adam Pettitt, expressed his support for Highgate Women. Emphasising that even very young children are exposed to the negative effects of gender stereotyping, he hoped that the greater involvement of members of Highgate Women in School life would help to combat this.

Listening carefully in the audience were yes, some men and also some young women who had left Highgate just a few months earlier. The message addressed an issue that is live throughout the School, and in society more widely. Boys and girls asked who is likely to be better at maths will say boys; both believe that girls are better at English. More girls choose English for A level than do boys, and more boys do Further Maths and Physics than girls. Asked to draw a scientist, seven-year-olds will more often draw a man.

At Highgate we try to even out the conscious and unconscious slopings of our educational playing field: we have run girls-only DT clubs and created boy-heavy dance troupes for musicals; girls enter the single-sex Mathematics Olympiad, and we make a point of inviting female scientists and entrepreneurs to talk to both single-sex and mixed pupil groups. A student-led feminist society and pupils, rather than a top-down staff agenda, informed the planning for our Gender Equality Awareness Week this March.

Highgate Women are already helping the School community: following our launch, we were delighted to welcome Vivienne Durham, former Head of Francis Holland School, and Barbara Pettitt, Modern Languages teacher at Highgate, to discuss how best to communicate effectively and supportively with teenage girls.

With the direction of Rebecca Hyam (Head of English) and Louise Shelley (Deputy Head, Pupils’ Personal Development and Employability), we held a focus group of parents and OCs to discuss how Highgate Women might work with staff to help pupils deal with the worst excesses of our gender-unequal society. Many Highgate Women are already offering careers advice to pupils, and acting as mentors in our ‘Connect 7’ personal development programme. Future plans include events themed around women in sport and the arts.

There is much work to be done. But when they leave the School, we hope that our pupils, both female and male, can go into the world armed with curiosity rather than preconceptions, conscious rather than unconscious of what has shaped their outlook.

VERITY SMITH AND SALIMA VIRJI
HE end of the Lent term saw the brand-new Junior School transformed into the glamorous venue for Highgate’s first Fundraising Gala Dinner, hosted by Highgate parent, actor Jude Law, and organised by Emily Clarke (Deputy Development Director) and Patrick Johnston (Assistant Head, Projects and Logistics). Over 250 guests mingled with Highgate staff and of course Jude himself, with a common purpose: to raise funds to extend educational opportunity – to offer more Bursaries at Highgate, and to support the new London Academy of Excellence Tottenham, due to open in September 2017.

Parents, OCs and friends of the School had pledged a bewitching array of ‘prizes’ for the silent and live auctions, ranging from stays in skiing chalets, tickets to sold-out West End shows (Hamilton, anyone?) and money-can’t-usually-buy experiences, such as ‘A day in the life of a Premiership football journalist’, and the opportunity to record a song with a world-famous songwriter. We were hugely fortunate that a generous donor pledged a matching fund of £100,000 to encourage bids and pledges on the night. The stage was set for an exciting evening.

After Adam Pettitt welcomed guests, Jude Law spoke passionately about the importance of extending the wonderful educational opportunities available at Highgate to as many children as possible, via both Highgate’s Bursary programme, and our partnerships with over 40 state schools in London, in particular the London Academy of Excellence Tottenham, the new sixth form free school of which Highgate is the principal educational sponsor. Jamie French (SG 2012), a former Highgate bursary recipient who is now reading Medicine at Cambridge, spoke movingly about the positive impact his bursary had on his life, and guests watched a short film of a pupil from the London Academy of Excellence Stratford talking about the outstanding academic opportunities available to her, and how well the school is supporting and preparing her for her application to medical school.

The silent auction gathered pace throughout dinner, with guests excitedly trying to outbid each other using the highly addictive iPad-based auction software. Some of the best prizes, however, were reserved for the live auction, in which we benefited from the ultimate professional auctioneer, John Hays, Deputy Chairman of Christie’s, New York, who blended humour and ruthless persuasiveness to excellent effect, bringing the evening’s fundraising to a thrilling close.

Through a combination of the silent and live auctions, the pledge cards which guests generously used to promise donations, and the matching fund, the total collectively raised at the time of going to press stands at around £250,000: £100,000 to help fund counselling, learning support and extra-curricular activities at LAE Tottenham, and £150,000 for bursaries at Highgate, which is about the equivalent of a full-fee bursary for a Senior School pupil from Year 7 all the way through to Year 13.

Our community’s collective action made a huge impact on educational opportunities for children at Highgate and in Tottenham, and we look forward to building on these successes in the coming months and years.

SALIMA VIRJI, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

THE SILENT AUCTION GATHERED PACE THROUGHOUT DINNER, WITH GUESTS EXCITEDLY TRYING TO OUTBID EACH OTHER USING THE HIGHLY ADDICTIVE IPAD-BASED AUCTION SOFTWARE
The LAE Tottenham, situated next to Tottenham Hotspur’s new stadium in White Hart Lane, opens its doors to 175 pupils in September. The Sixth Form Academy, whose main educational sponsor is Highgate, in partnership with Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, will have five teachers seconded from Highgate in addition to eight other teachers. Nine independent schools assist Highgate as partners.

A school and a football club might seem an unlikely pairing for starting up a new academy, but there is a common purpose, which Adam explains: ‘The club is a major employer in an area of deprivation where there isn’t a great deal of successful entrepreneurship or commerce or business. We share a belief that the young people of Tottenham must have brilliant opportunities. Being born in Tottenham you should still be able to go on and be incredibly successful.’

The Academy is the jewel in the crown of Highgate’s partnership work and the fruition of ten years of building ties with schools in the borough of Haringey who are feeder schools for the new Academy.

‘It would be very difficult to imagine trying to do this without the established relationships that Highgate has in Year 11-16 schools. It’s the positive experiences that those schools have had with the ‘brand’, if you want to call it that, of Highgate which supports our pupil recruitment’, commented Jan.

As well as the links with partner schools, Highgate has the highly successful model of the London Academy of Excellence, Stratford, to follow. Established in Newham in 2014, with Highgate acting as one of a number of partner schools, the LAE Stratford is now in its fifth year, and has attracted national attention for its excellent ‘A’ Level results and the ambitious university destinations of its pupils. Its Founding Head, Robert Wilne, was Head of Mathematics at Highgate, and the first Director of Sir Roger Cholmeley’s Charity at Highgate.

Highgate’s work with schools in the maintained sector attracted the attention of the previous Education Secretary, Michael Gove, who
praised the School for ‘leading from the front’ in developing partnerships to teach maths and science in local schools.

Head Adam Pettitt was recently invited to Downing Street, where the prime minister spoke of her motivation and rationale for the green paper, which will become the white paper ‘Schools Which Work for Everyone’.

‘That was very much a nod in the direction of the work we are doing to improve educational opportunity in Tottenham’, commented Adam.

The new Academy in Tottenham’s aim is to increase the Sixth Form provision in the less-affluent eastern part of Haringey, where only 1% gain places at the coveted Russell Group of universities. The figure is 18% in the rest of the borough. Highgate’s involvement will assist in the ‘exporting of the independent school DNA’, in Lord Adonis’ phrase and the funding – from Tottenham Hotspur and the provision of teachers from Highgate – will make the funding model for a small academy work. ‘It takes half a million off the government’s operational budget, which really helps’, commented Adam.

The famous independent school DNA is the provision of societies, clubs and out-of-school experiences, which the new academy will offer. ‘I want to achieve the ‘independent experience’ – we will work hard to create the co-curriculum, so we don’t narrow down to being just a good or outstanding school, in Ofsted-speak’, commented Jan.

Educational aspiration is the aim, with academic rigour at the forefront. ‘The subjects offered are ‘hard’ ‘A’ Levels, which support the pupils’ applications to top universities’, commented Jan.

Jan is well-placed for his new role, having taught at Park View School, an LAET feeder, and been Head of Sixth Form at Aylwood Academy, where he taught Politics. He is clearly excited by turning the dream into reality: ‘I’m looking forward to day 1, with all those people sitting in front of you and waiting to have the kind of experience which we’ve talked about for so long.’ Adam responds to that excitement: ‘I can imagine that feeling, although I’ve never walked into a school which hasn’t existed before. The excitement for me will be the first governors’ meeting (Adam sits as Deputy Chair of Governors) where we’re able to start talking about issues to do with the running and management of the school.’
But how do the Highgate pupils benefit from the partnership? Adam’s response conveys his passion for the charitable purpose of the new academy: ‘If you lead your life thinking about the benefit you can have on other people who are less privileged than yourself, then you’re going to lead a very fulfilling life but if you just search for your own success, there is always a danger that you are not going to be successful and not going to be rewarded. It allows the School to demonstrate that doing good can be the best way to live your life.’

On a practical level too, the School’s charitable impulse works: ‘We are able to recruit teachers who are attracted to the idea of teaching bright pupils but who want to have an impact on a wider, more diverse set of pupils.’

Adam also hopes that the young people of both schools meet and share experiences. ‘I hope both sets of Sixth Formers have the opportunity to meet and become peer mentors, and by volunteering, which they will if our experience with the Shine project is anything to go by. I have seen pupils on the Shine project do marvellous things and they have been people who might have got overlooked at school and they have shone brilliantly in quiet ways that have made a difference to those children.’

And once the project is up and running, what then for Highgate’s partnership ambitions? ‘There is undoubtedly a lot that’s going to happen to LAE Tottenham; that doesn’t mean that things will stop happening, but they might be more co-ordinated around the impact we can have on the Tottenham area, but we’ll still be doing things that really matter locally’, comments Adam.

It’s an exciting prospect for the new academy to become a hub for wider partnership activity in the Tottenham area, and good for Highgate’s pupils and parents to know that, in an age of increasing inequality – nowhere more starkly apparent than in our capital city – that the School’s charitable purpose is expanding in such a robust and morally confident way.
Robbi Sher wins Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award

Robbi (12QG) was chosen as one of 15 winners in the competition for 11–17 year olds. Her poem, Sunny Side Up was selected out of more than 10,000 entries from 76 countries. Robbi’s achievement becomes all the more remarkable for this being the first proper poem she ever wrote. ‘I found out about the competition from an anthology of poems of previous winners circulated at school,’ she explains, ‘and decided to give it a try. I hadn’t really written poetry before. I think I was lucky to have won – it was just the idea the judges were looking for.’

Winners congregated at the Royal Festival Hall to recite their poems and have them analysed by the judges. ‘It was very interesting to listen to their analysis. It was as if they had written the poem themselves,’ Robbi observes, ‘and decided to give it a try. I hadn’t really written poetry before. I think I was lucky to have won – it was just the idea the judges were looking for.’

The winners’ prize was to attend a poetry writing masterclass organised by the charity Arvon in a remote spot on the borders of Wales and Shropshire. ‘It was in the middle of nowhere,’ Robbi explains, ‘and I didn’t know I was doing that.’ It was exciting meeting other finalists from all over the world, such as Canada, New Zealand, Vietnam and ‘it was so interesting to see how their culture was reflected in their poetry.’

The retreat culminated in an anthology of contemporary poetry by the winners. Robbi says she might enter more competitions though reveals her interests are far wider ranging: ‘Music is my first love and I want to study Chemistry at University.’ Indeed she is a passionate advocate for the complementary nature of the arts and sciences: ‘There are too many people who feel either you go down the Science or Arts route and there is nothing in between, when in fact these subjects have a lot in common.’

Kira Rothwell to play U19 netball for England

Following her selection for the U17 England team at the European Championships, Kira Rothwell (11GH) has been offered a place on the U19 squad at the age of just 15.

Always a keen athlete, Kira began her journey at the Middlesex satellite netball academy and followed this through the regional levels to the national platform on which she now finds herself. ‘She came to us in year 7 and was talent ID’d at the time,’ senior netball coach Stephanie Pride explains, ‘It was a real project trying to expose her to every sport; she chose netball and she has managed to reach every representative point on the England netball pathway so far.’

Kira’s progress has been rapid. After only a year on the regional squad she was selected to train on the long England squad in November. ‘To get into the national squad, Kira explains, ‘They see you playing for your region – London and South West for us, and they select you to come to a trial period.’ She says that further screening and selection followed. ‘We had a camp once a month where you go and stay for two nights in Loughborough or Sheffield and they look at you.’ Early in 2017 Kira got the news she had made the U17 short squad for the European Championships. ‘I couldn’t tell anyone because I found out on Monday during our mocks – I found out at 10 and you’re not allowed to tell anyone until 11 and my exam started at 11 so all through my exam I wasn’t able to concentrate.’

Not only did England reign triumphant at the Championships, Kira has now been selected for the U19 team on the basis of her performance there. Aged just 15 she will be playing with girls four years her senior. ‘It’s the Commonwealth and world championships she should be looking at in the future’, Steph remarks, ‘She clearly has an exciting future in the sport.’

LOLA KATZ ROBERTS (13NG)
HARRIET HOWARTH
WINS CRANMER READING
COMPETITION

Harrriet (11NG) has won the national final of the competition organised by the prayer book society designed to introduce young people to the Book of Common Prayer, following Annie Ramsay-Davis’ success in the competition last year.

Following a suggestion from the Chaplain, Harrriet chose a set of the Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the second Sunday in Advent. The first round was for the London and Southwark diocese. ‘There were about ten competitors in my category,’ she recalls, ‘all older than me, all sixth formers wearing sixth form clothes; it was a bit intimidating.’ Harrriet saw off this well-dressed competition to gain a place in the national final. Judges praised the well-paced and composed reading she delivered, even if, when they came to give her some constructive criticism, ‘they said I sounded a bit like a battery that was running out,’ Harrriet recalls laughing.

The final in Worcester brought together winners from the local heats all over the country. ‘I didn’t expect to win at all,’ Harrriet says, ‘I was just watching the others thinking, ‘Wow I’m not going to be able to beat them.’ The judges said I was composed and confident, but honestly all that was a blur. But the most nerve-wracking moment was after I’d won. They suddenly announced that I had to perform it again to everybody – honestly I was so nervous, probably more nervous because everyone was thinking, ‘Oh here’s the winner! She’s going to be great!’

There was one more surprise in store when Harrriet received her prize: ‘They gave me another prayer book, and I thought, ‘Great! I’ve got another prayer book,’ but inside after the excitement had died down and I opened it I found a £200 cheque. I nearly fell over I was so shocked.’

In spite of some nervous moments Harrriet is in no doubt the experience was worthwhile: ‘When I was doing it I could tell they were all really engaged with it. You enjoying saying the words because they are beautiful words and everyone is there to listen to the words and think about the words. It was really nice that I could play a part in stimulating their minds and their thoughts. And I felt a bit humble that I was reading such an important text.’

ALICE MITCHELL
WINS DUKE OF YORK’S AWARD

Alice Mitchell (13QG) has won the Duke of York’s award for creative use of technology in the final round of the Young Engineers Mentoring competition, while classmate Josh Pena (13SG) also makes the final sixteen.

Alice Mitchell was selected for the accolade for her design for a robot which brings aid to trapped earthquake survivors. She received the award as one of only sixteen finalists in the national Young Engineers Mentoring competition at the Big Bang fair and will now receive a cash prize of £1000, paid work placement at a top engineering company and access to a mentor through her first year at university.

Alice’s robot was selected thanks to its specially designed wheels which can contract and expand thus allowing it to navigate difficult terrain and deliver vital supplies to trapped earthquake survivors. Alice, who studies DT, but had to teach herself all the theory behind the complex design of her rescue robot, explains her fascination with engineering: ‘I have been interested in engineering my whole life. I always wanted to take stuff apart when I was younger – my mom used to hate it; I used to destroy all my toys.’

Andy Thomson, head of DTE at Highgate, who encouraged Alice to apply for the mentoring scheme, commented, ‘I am so proud of her. She has been a real success story in DTE. I remember inviting her to setup an all-girls robotics team in KS3, then boom… here she is with her earthquake aidbot.’

Josh Pena also made it through to the final sixteen of the Young Engineers Mentoring competition with his design for an autonomous robot which can reach someone without their need to control it. ‘If
Grace Mee (13QG), has enjoyed extraordinary success in the high jump, winning both the U17 and U20 Middlesex county championships and placing 5th and 4th at the national schools and indoor championships respectively.

High jumping is not always what you would associate with teenage sporting culture. In the school curriculum it makes room for rounders, hockey and netball. However, none of that concerned Grace Mee when she decided to take it up. Having ‘always looked up to her sister’s achievements’ in the discipline, Grace decided to try it out herself and, with a decade passed since her first jump, she has no regrets over this choice. Furthermore, with an impressive personal best of 1.70m, Grace excels in a sport she evidently loves.

Grace’s idol, Jessica Ennis, epitomises the mental toughness required to succeed at high jumping and it is Jess’ work ethic which Grace reflects in her own training. She practises the sport three times a week for an hour and a half, with no less than former Olympian Greg Richardson, as well as two strength and conditioning circuits, predominantly with the local Highgate Harriers.

Grace does just view her passion as a form of exercise; in fact, as she remarks, ‘My main reason for doing high jump is for enjoyment’. It is this that drives her onwards, as she progresses step by step in the sport. She accepts that she does not know what is round the corner; in such an agile and physical sport as the high jump the possibility of injury is always present; however, it is not as if this frightens Grace, who, having chipped a bone in her foot a couple of seasons ago, had no issue in returning to the sport wholeheartedly. It is this unadulterated grit and passion that emanates most off Grace: in her own words, ‘reaching goals always takes time, practice and motivation. If you work hard, train hard, you’ll get there’.

DARIUS PARVIZI-WAYNE (13WG)
HIGHGATE ENGINEERS WIN ARKWRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS

Ana Yakunina (12SG), Nick Roberts (12HG), Roch Briscoe (12WG) and Damon Falck (12EG) have been awarded prestigious Arkwright Scholarships for their engineering designs, which will support them during their sixth form studies.

Nick, is ‘thrilled’ to have such a fantastic opportunity. A keen student of maths and science, Nick is considering studying Mechanical Engineering at university and aspires to an illustrious career in engineering. ‘I would like to start a manufacturing company that specialises in mechanical based systems, such as motors and pumps,’ he declares with infectious enthusiasm. Nick attributes his interest in engineering to ‘its requirement in almost all fields’ and is disappointed by current findings which suggest that there is a shortage of up to 30,000 employees in the UK engineering industry.

Fellow prize winner Ana is equally excited to have been selected for such an accolade. Ana is keen to pursue a degree in General Engineering, and after recently developing an interest in psychology, is considering a career conducting ‘research for the government or military’ regarding drones and artificial intelligence. Ana’s unique and fascinating career choice is not the only cause she is keen to pioneer, however. Also surprised by the fact that there is a shortage of engineers in the UK, Ana argues that this is the perfect opportunity for women to satisfy this desperately-needed demand, while also ‘breaking gender norms.’

As well as winning a scholarship, Roch has qualified for the International Vex Robotics final with a robot he designed and built himself, with the help of a single friend out of school. Roch rented out a room in a town hall, scavenged parts from last year’s robot, and used computer design tools to minimise the build time. ‘Last year we had a five man team, and this year there was only two of us so automatically it was a lot more work to try to get everything done in the same amount of time, so it’s been a lot harder this year – just two of us who have built it and programmed it.’

Lack of assistance proved no hindrance, and after winning three national competitions, Roch didn’t just qualify for the international final but became the first-ranked out of five teams for England, beating Highgate School’s own five man, well-resourced team in the process.

Sam Huston (13MG), The Cholmeleian’s very own music editor, was crowned Highgate Young Musician of the Year as Robbi Sher (12QG) and Amos Sharp (10MG) were runners-up in one of the finest competitions in years.

Sarah Henderson (10QG) won the parallel Bach Prize competition.

Sam Huston beat seven other finalists with his rendition of the Andante from Charles Stanford’s Clarinet Concerto. Guest judge Zoe Martlew, internationally acclaimed cellist and former judge of BBC Young Musician of the Year, praised him for his ‘totally inhabiting the world of the piece’, his ‘control’ and ‘carefully shaped and graded lines.’ ‘A beautiful and polished performance’, she noted.

Zoe remarked on the exceptional standard of all the finalists. She said she was ‘blown away’ by Amos Sharp’s rendition of the first movement of Fauré’s Violin Sonata in A, describing his performance as ‘intense and mesmerizing’ and described Robbi Sher’s performance of Kol Nidrei by Max Bruch, as ‘really controlled, and well considered...it really sung.’

She also offered some insightful, often witty, advice, suggesting Robbi’s performance of Kol Nidrei ‘needed a little pain,’ adding ‘Don’t worry, it comes as you get older,’ or Helen Footman’s rendition of Pur d'esti o bocca bella by Antonio Lotti needed a more flirtatious
ast year, Highgate’s class of 2017 voted for Joe Hilton (13HG) and Amy Walpole (13SH) to become the new heads of Highgate School. Whilst they may have had big shoes to fill, their commitment and determination to better Highgate has proven invaluable, and Year 13 continue to witness the myriad of proposals Amy and Joe put forth. We spoke to the Head Boy and Head Girl in order to receive further insight into what they envisage achieving in their roles.

Having opened the year with an assembly to the whole senior school themed upon Bob Dylan’s classic tune ‘The Times They are a Changin’, the pair indeed set the tone of the year to come. They have not shied away from the message of that assembly, a message preaching the importance of accepting change, especially in the context of the school community. Although enacting such change has come with some difficulties, with Amy admitting that ‘trying to implement new things can take time’, and Joe confessing to sending ‘lots and lots of emails,’ in the words of the bard himself, they know that their ‘chance won’t come again.’

The Class of 2018 chose Maya Dharampal-Hornby (12EG) and Manolis Chryssanthopoulos (12SG) to succeed Joe and Amy. They commented: ‘These first few weeks since being elected Heads of School have certainly been very exciting for both of us. Admittedly, when we first found out about our appointment, it all seemed a bit daunting. However, after speaking with both previous Heads of School, Joe Hilton and Amy Walpole, this initial apprehension left us. Instead, we are now very much looking forward to seizing the opportunities that the role will offer us to to have a positive impact on the School. It was especially humbling to know that we had been elected to this position by our peers and teachers. The whole election was run in a spirit of friendliness totally fitting with the ethos and reality of Highgate School. We are aiming to not only fufill but exceed the School’s and, perhaps more importantly, our ‘voters’ expectations of us over the coming year!’

SASKIA KEMSLEY (13QG) AND KATIE FITZGERALD (13KG)
**BARBADOS**

Eighteen girls from Year 12 travelled to Barbados on a netball trip and played against local clubs around the island. Unprecedented success was achieved when their playing was judged to be of such a standard they were pitted against The University of the West Indies team, made up of girls 4 years older than them. Other highlights included receiving instruction from a national coach, touring the island and water sports on their rest days.

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**IRELAND**

Fifteen sixth formers flew to Ireland for a weekend of learning and cultural immersion in preparation for their English Literature Pre-U. They attended private lectures by professors from Trinity College Dublin and Queen’s University Belfast, enjoyed a trip to Dublin’s Abbey Theatre to see Frank McGuinness’ latest play, Donegal, and undertook tours of James Joyce’s Dublin and (separately!) of Belfast’s political hotspots. The trip was intense, yet informative, and all the students returned with a greater sense of the depth of Irish literature.

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**CHINA**

Pupils travelled to Chengdu, China to teach in local primary schools and improve their understanding of the language and culture. Pupils improved their speaking and listening skills by interacting with local teachers and gained an insight into what living and working in Chengdu entails. They came to appreciate the huge variation between different areas, and how the modern is coming to exist alongside the traditional.

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**MADRID**

Nine Year 11 pupils went to Madrid on a language trip. It was an educational, cultural and fun experience. They had the opportunity to experience the “real” Spanish food (including “chocolate con churros”!), improve their language skills during their morning lessons and see some of the most representative examples of Spanish art during their visits to El Prado, Museo Reina Sofia and Palacio Real. There was also time for laughter, sun and a bit of fun.
Year 6 went on an inspiring, exciting and interesting trip to Bletchley park, home of WW2 codebreaking. We went there because it was linked to our coding project in ICT, algebra in maths and WW2 topic in history. Our trip was also extremely educational as we learned lots of new things. First of all, we explored the mansion where the first codebreakers went at the start of WW2. We saw the spacious library and beautiful ballroom, which, like the other rooms, were crowned with deciphering machines and codebreakers. Later on we had a tour with a knowledgeable guide with an amazing story. He believed the war ended two years earlier thanks to the codebreakers. We got to touch and press our initials into a real German Enigma Machine; also we learnt that if you kept pressing the same letter for example ‘E’, even if you kept pressing it all day it would generate every letter apart from ‘E’. We had a codebreaking workshop where we had to break various codes and ciphers. The hardest code to crack was the Caesar Cipher. We found this trip fascinating and really enjoyed it.

ELOISE FEDARB, KATIE JONES, MAX CAMPBELL WONG AND OLIVIA REDMAN (6J)

The Pre-Prep and Junior School Parents’ Association organised a week of activities to raise money for the charity ‘War Child’. Dan Collison, Director of Programmes, came in to speak in assembly about the work of the charity which helps children around the world who are caught up in conflict. A charity breakfast in the Dining Hall and a bake sale after school later in the week raised a total of over £1200. In PSHE lessons too, all children had the chance to further reflect on the issues surrounding war and conflict and to hear real-life stories of children affected.

ALISON WORLAND
Year 5 put on a spectacular production in the Junior School Hall. The evening combined work the pupils had been doing on The Tempest in drama lessons as well as songs they had been learning in music. All the form classes had their own scene from The Tempest which highlighted the acting skill and creative talents of Year 5. The whole year sang an impressively choreographed version of Be Prepared from The Lion King and the show culminated in a very moving rendition of Changed for Good from the musical Wicked, which even had some of the audience in tears. There was also a selection of solo songs including: Trade Winds, One Hand, One Heart and O Mistress Mine which all helped to bring the emotional content of Shakespeare’s writing to life through words and music. It was a very impressive performance which showcased the wide ranging abilities of the entire year group.

EMMA PRICE

SCHOOL NEWS

The annual Junior School Chamber Concert saw a fantastic array of chamber and solo performances. The concert opened with a rousing number performed by the Trumpet Camerata before seguing into a beautiful duet of Panis Angelicus by Ethan Cantor and Shaan Bhaskar. Impressive performances were also achieved by the Lauderdale String Quartet, Bishopwood String Quartet and the Quartz Ensemble who all demonstrated excellent listening and eye-contact skills whilst performing without a conductor. Solos by John-Christopher Papadopoulos on viola and Isabella Giagounidis on violin wowed the audience. Further highlights included the Wind Wizards who gave an unexpected ending to their polished piece and the Ensemble Cornu which impressed with their lyrical tone and poise on stage. A special mention should also go to the Alhambra Duo who performed a particularly virtuosic and difficult piece after just one rehearsal. The whole concert was a huge success. Congratulations to all involved.

EMMA PRICE

CHAMBER CONCERT

AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND DRAMA
3D went on an exciting school trip to the Science Museum! Everyone was buzzing around joyfully and jumping up and down when we heard the news. The Museum was beautiful, painted glossy white with huge stone pillars at the entrance. We had never seen such a powerful and majestic building as this. The first room was the spookiest place we had ever seen. There were glass eyes, skulls and skeletons. My favourite one was the skull with a hole because someone drilled it in. We went to a place called ‘Atmosphere’ where I played a science game about friction. In the ‘Journeys through Medicine’ room my favourite exhibit was the middle of the protein structure as I had never seen or heard about it before. In the Wonder Lab I enjoyed looking at the pulley system. It was the best school trip I’ve ever been on.

SAUL TAYLOR AND MILLIE ROXBURGH (3D)

Following a successful fundraising event in aid of Swiss Cottage School, some children from Year 6 were invited to visit and see where the money they had raised was spent. They had a tour of the school and attended MAGIC breakfast, an initiative which the money from Highgate has helped to secure for four years. They thoroughly enjoyed the visit: meeting students with a range of disabilities and profound special needs was a valuable experience and they were fascinated by the similarities and differences between the two schools.

ALISON WORLAND

Pupils in Year 4 visited Verulamium in St Albans to link in with their History topic of Roman Britain. Verulamium Museum is a fantastic place to find out about everyday Roman life. It’s built on the site of one of the largest Roman settlements in Britain, so as well as seeing a museum packed with Roman objects, children explored the remains of the Roman town and took part in education sessions run by the museum staff. The pupils also explored the hypocaust building in the park.

ALISON WORLAND

This year’s World Book Day was great! It was based on the idea of secret spaces. My favourite part was stepping into the Drama Room that had been transformed into a secret garden. It was decorated amazingly. I really enjoyed all the activities.

I dressed up as Alice from the Maisie Hitchins series. I chose her because I really like these detective books. Alice really wants to be a detective but she is not allowed. In the afternoon, I made a 3D model of the Secret Garden with pupils from other year groups.

I dressed up as Newt Scamander from the Fantastic Beasts. I chose this character because he is very creative and very kind. I brought in a homemade suitcase with three magical creatures from the book: the Niffler, the Occamy and the Bowtruckle.

SOPHIE JEETLEY (5N), KHEEVI KAUR (5R), AND TOMAS CLARKE (4N)
Local artist, Tim Davies, visited the Pre-Prep to carry out sculpture workshops with all the children from Nursery to Year 2.

Prior to the workshops, all the pupils had participated in class discussions about the possible theme for this whole-school art project. Their ideas were then taken to a School Council Meeting and the School Council representatives decided that animals was the most popular theme for these permanent installations, which would be placed in communal areas in the Pre-Prep building.

All classes participated in two workshops across the week. First they helped to build the structures using willow stems and masking tape, and then they decorated the animals using tissue paper. The children worked collaboratively in small groups during their sessions and each class took over from where the previous class had left off. With Tim’s guidance, the children worked confidently with the materials and created a crocodile, a giraffe and five parrots! These magnificent creations can now be seen around the Pre-Prep building.

Sarah Fleming

As part of our study of some of the great novels of Roald Dahl, we paid a visit to the Roald Dahl museum in Great Missenden. We struck gold with a beautiful day (following Storm Doris) and enjoyed a sunny walk around the village and up to the cemetery where Roald Dahl is buried. We saw several landmarks that inspired him to write some of his stories, including the woods from Fantastic Mr Fox and Sophie’s orphanage from The BFG. We then spent the afternoon exploring the interactive galleries and learning lots of interesting facts about Roald Dahl’s life and how he wrote his stories. We even got to visit his writing hut and sit in his writing chair!

Lucy Marais

Sculpture Workshops

Pupils created some extraordinary models of animals
9 DEC 2016
The famous author David Walliams came to our school and talked to us about The Midnight Gang and read about Windy Mindy from his book, The World’s Worst Children.

8 FEB 2017
That time when Highgate mathematician/legend Mr Bottomley was taped to a wall for charity. @MSF_uk @NoahsArkHospice #charityweek #tapehim

14 OCT 2016
Autumnal foliage and an obscured view of Senior Field

6 DEC 2016
Pre-Prep pupils were eggstremely eggscited to hatch chick eggs as part of their ‘Food, Farming and Festivals’ project.

9 DEC 2016
Read about the day when Holocaust Survivor Rudi Oppenheimer visited the school and told his remarkable story. http://ow.ly/iCuj30bPAg4
STAY UP TO DATE WITH HIGHGATE:

10 OCT 2016
Thank you to @ItmakesSNS for engaging our Y12 pupils in a solutions based debate to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict today. http://ow.ly/cyz3bPwZZ

10 OCT 2016
Highgate cross-country runners finished 3rd in King’s Trophy last week.

11 NOV 2016
We will remember them

13 OCT 2016
So this happened here at school yesterday! Thanks @JustinBieber for stopping by for a senior football session @HighgateSpEX #justinbieber

13 JAN 2017
Snowy chapel this morning

18 NOV 2016
Well done to all @highgatemusic pupils performing in last night’s spectacular concert at St John’s Smith Square! Full review to follow http://ow.ly/ch93bPxFuS
It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living. This quote from Sir David Attenborough greets visitors as they enter Highgate’s new Junior School.

The engraving is the work of Alec and Fiona Peever, artists based near Witney in Oxfordshire who specialize in sculpture and letter carving. They had previously been employed in the decoration of the Charter Building – the ‘schoolchildren themed’ water-sprouting gargoyles for the front of the building, metal screens for the main windows and door, and carved stone features for the entrance.

Down on Bishopswood Road the aim of the Peevers was to inspire pupils to engage with the wonders of nature through unexpectedly located sculptures: a resin bronze cast pangolin dangles precariously from one of the overhead glulam beams; while a stone snail crawls endlessly up the wall of a staircase. Several of their designs relate specifically to growth patterns influenced by the principles of the well-known Fibonacci sequence: a resin bronze cast of bees on a stone hive; a marble mosaic floor inset depicting a nautilus shell spiral.

Leonardo of Pisa, better known these days by the nickname of Fibonacci (filius Bonacci), was active in the early 13th century, based largely at the North African port of Béjaïa (Bougie, in French, which is apparently where their word for candle stems from). In an influential book published in 1202, Liber Abaci (Book of Calculations), he not only outlined the

David Smith, our Heritage Officer, looks at the mathematical sequence that underlies so many things in nature, and which is reflected in the sculptures at the Junior School.
usefulness of the Hindu-Arabic number system (that we use today), but also gave a solution to the ‘rabbit problem’: if you have a single pair of rabbits at the start of the year, how many pairs will there be at the end? Making rather a lot of assumptions, you end up with one pair at the start of month one, still one at the start of month two, but then 2, 3, 5, 8, 13 and so on until you arrive at an answer of 233 – each number in the sequence simply being the sum of the previous two.

The so-called Fibonacci series has a wealth of interesting mathematical properties and occurs in nature with surprising regularity. The number of ancestors that a male bee in a colony has follows the sequence (male bees only have a mother, while female ones have both a mother and a father); and the numbers of spiral lines of seeds on a sunflower head, or scales on a pine cone are always Fibonacci numbers, but different ones in different directions.

This is to do with the Golden Ratio (also known as the Golden Section or Golden Mean), a number obtained by dividing the larger of any two adjacent numbers in the series by the previous one – the result tends to approximately 1.618. A rectangle with sides in that proportion is meant to be particularly pleasing to the eye and is said to have influenced artists and architects over the centuries. The Golden Angle is the smaller of two angles which add up to 360 degrees, and whose ratio is 1.618 – which can be calculated to be about 137 degrees. It turns out that the seeds on a sunflower head, for example, can be packed most efficiently if each successive seed is positioned at an angle of – you guessed it – 137 degrees relative to its neighbour.

A Fibonacci spiral is constructed by inscribing arcs of circles inside squares stacked against one another whose sides increase in accordance with the sequence. Spirals come in many different mathematical varieties, but this particular one seems to crop up in the natural world, and the expanding shape of the nautilus shell is one such example. It could be that ammonites and curled chameleon tails, also to be found around the building, are associated with the ‘F’ word too.

DAVID SMITH HERITAGE OFFICER
A year in a row, the competition was held in Alexandra Palace and this huge venue was filled with a capella music for the evening. The wonderful thing about this event is how it manages to combine inclusivity, as over 800 pupils took part, with high standards of music making, despite the short timeframe that pupils had to put their entries together. This year the winning House was Eastgate: meaning that they have now completed an incredibly impressive three year winning streak. While they were certainly deserved victors, there was some very stiff competition and Heathgate are also deserving of a special mention for their ‘anthemic’ version of Hozier’s song *Take me to Church*.

With the House Vocal Competition completed, the Music Department’s attention turned to preparing for the Michaelmas Concert, which was held in St John’s Smith Square in Westminster. This concert saw pupils from throughout the Senior School performing a range of different repertoire ranging from Mozart’s *Requiem* to Sinclair’s *Funk Loops*. Highlights from this concert included the performance of JS Bach’s *Double Violin Concerto* with Eve Smith-Bingham (13SH) and Josh Jones-Lachman (13SG) as soloists. This is an incredibly difficult work to shape and phrase due to Bach’s dense counterpoint but they, and the Chamber Orchestra rose to the task admirably. The Jazz Orchestra’s performances of *Cute* (made famous by Count Basie) and the Jazz Standard *Round Midnight* also show the great diversity of music making at Highgate in what was an evening otherwise dominated by performances in the Classical idiom.

This year’s House Instrumental competition was another great example of the diversity of music making at Highgate: something that can be seen from the top three placings as Eastgate won performing *Watermelon Man* by Herbie Hancock, while Fargate were second and Midgate third with performances of music from Shostakovich’s *First Jazz Suite* and Dvorak’s *Slavonic Dances* respectively. This victory for Eastgate continued their domination of House music competitions within the Senior School as they have now won both the House Vocal and Instrumental competitions for three years in a row.

Young Musician of the Year competition took a different format as performers competed for the opportunity to play a movement from a Concerto with the Highgate School Symphony Orchestra. Competition was fierce in the heats during the day as around 35 musicians competed to be one of 8 performing in the final during the evening. Samuel Huston (13MG) ended up winning the competition, with Amos Sharp (10MG) and Roberta Sher (12QG) being awarded special commendations. The Bach Prize, a new initiative for this year, took place alongside this in order to find the best performance of a work by JS Bach. Sarah Henderson (10QG) was this year’s winner for her interpretation of the *Prelude* from Bach’s *First Cello Suite*: a daring repertoire choice given the movement’s fame, but she was a deserving winner for her natural performance of the work. The South East Schools’ Chamber Competition saw very promising results for Highgate pupils on a larger scale as the Junior Piano Trio reached the final while the Senior Piano Quintet finished 2nd overall performing the second movement from Schumann’s *Quintet in Eb Major*. This result is especially impressive given the very high levels of competition at this event and a great amount of kudos should go to Miss Andrusier for her continued success in raising the standards of chamber music throughout Highgate.
However, music making at Highgate is not just limited to the Senior School. The new Junior School’s state-of-the-art hall and practice rooms play host to a wide range of different ensembles. Indeed, these were showcased in the Junior School’s Michaelmas Concert and Chamber Concert and we can be sure that there is no shortage of rising musical talent within the foundation.

Finally, Highgate’s Chapel Choirs and Chorale have been very busy during the current academic year, singing evensong in the School Chapel and half-termly services for the Senior School. Unlike most of the music-making at Highgate, which is constricted to either the Junior or Senior schools, the Chapel Choirs draw their numbers from throughout the whole foundation with Junior School choristers performing alongside older pupils. The highlight of the Choirs’ year is at Christmas time as services are sung at St Mark’s Church in Dalston and at St Michael’s in Highgate. This year, all choirs joined together to perform OC John Rutter’s Shepherd’s Pipe Carol: a piece that has become a firm favourite throughout the three schools. In bringing all of the choirs together, special mention must go to Miss Price who has undergone great pains to transform the choirs at Highgate and raise the level of musicianship within them: she will be hugely missed by all when she leaves us at the end of this year.

SAM HUSTON (13 MG)

This will be the last report from Sam, who leaves us this year, hopefully to take up his offer of a place to read Music at Gonville and Caius, Cambridge. The Huston brothers, Sam and older brother Ben, have written the Cholmeleian’s Music reviews since 2010, when Ben began reviewing in Year 9. It has been a great pleasure to watch the brothers’ musical knowledge develop in the pages of the Cholmeleian, as well as their success as musicians and it is a great pleasure in this issue to report on Sam’s winning of the Solo Music Competition. We owe them a big debt of gratitude for their hard work and dedication, and wish them all the very best for the future.
his year we again saw a very high standard of entries for the annual House Drama Competition. Choices of plays were as diverse as ever, transforming us to the surreal fantasy world of Alice in Wonderland, to the bleak reality of the Great Depression in Of Mice and Men, to the darkly comic world of roadside homicides in Fargo.

In the end the judges (Juliet Fehr & Tim Hyam) could only send four entries into the final. They chose: Posh by Laura Wade (Fargate), Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time by Simon Stephens (Westgate), Party by Tom Basden (Kingsgate) and The Pillow Man by Martin McDonagh (Heathgate). The finals were adjudicated by Annabel Arden, an esteemed theatre and opera director who co-founded the renowned company Théâtre de Complicité. The stand out performances and careful direction in Party pipped the others to the post and Kingsgate (director: Ruth Louis (13KG)) therefore walked away with first place at the end of the night. However, Fargate were commended on their bravery by putting girls into the roles of boys, Westgate’s Curious Incident was ‘better than the West End version’, and Heathgate’s use of movement in The Pillow Man accurately captured the element of story-telling in the play.

In addition, Annabel highlighted some outstanding individual performances. Special mention was given to: James Rodgers (13HG) for his outstanding portrayal of two very different characters in The Pillow Man, and Rachel Tabizel (12FG) for her utterly convincing performance as a ‘posh’ boy in Posh.

Overall this was a hugely enjoyable and entertaining evening that remains a great example of how creative, imaginative and resourceful our pupils are.

JULIET FEHR

Young Directors’ Review

Young Directors’ gives one student the opportunity to direct a play of his/her choice over one hectic weekend after a series of workshops with industry professionals. This year, James Rodgers (13HG) chose to direct the unique Lungs by Duncan Macmillan. It tells the story of one couple’s relationship through their many stages of euphoria, doubt, loss and fear over many years. It is ingeniously told with seamless shifts in time and location and explicitly stated by the playwright that there is to be no mime, no props, no set, no sound or lighting to denote these changes. No mean feat for a director with years of experience, let alone a Sixth Former.

Rodgers’ staging brought the audience into their front room, their car, their hospital bed (etc!) by removing any necessity for conventional audience configurations and placing us like eavesdroppers in the midst of the action. Unencumbered by the strictures of the form, the result was an utterly truthful production as we were forced to imagine and bridge the gaps in narrative ourselves. The performances by Ruth Louis (13KG) and Maxim Uys (13GH) were comfortably of a professional standard, rising to the challenges of a small cast with maturity and aplomb. Ruth successfully conveyed her mercuriality and paranoia in a delicate balance between humorous and touching. Maxim’s energy was a perfect counterweight: measured and more deliberate while effectively demonstrating his clumsiness and flawed humanity. An unforgettable evening of unique drama: not a dry eye in the house.

GUY WOOLF
The Middle School production of *A Christmas Carol* gave a breath of fresh air (quite literally) to Dickens’ classic tale of redemption by contrasting the elegant language and style of Victorian Britain with some rather familiar surroundings.

The decision to set the play in promenade theatre was a refreshing take on the classic tale, as the narrators (played by Izzy Pactor and Sima Ogden with ukulele in tow) guided us from Chapel Quad all the way to the Drama Studio. It allowed for a level of immersion unlike anything I had ever experienced, as we were physically placed into the play and were very much a part of what was unfolding.

The atmosphere was established right from the get-go: it was a cold December evening and the bells were just striking eight as the play began. This suited the tone for the other ghosts to come with his disturbing performance of Jacob Marley forcing himself through a fake door, like something from a haunted house.

The use of the chorus was particularly striking with their omnipresence throughout the performance, almost always on stage be it as merry-goers at a Christmas market, ghostly figures during Scrooge’s apparitions or a member of Fezziwig’s party. Indeed, Grace Turner must be commended for her multiple different roles be it a highly believable portrayal of Scrooge’s old boss, Fezziwig, or Fred Scrooge’s comedic wife.

The most impressive interpretation of this performance however was of the three ghosts that visit Scrooge. The Ghost of Christmas Past was in the form of a hand-puppet, with Ruby Anderson as the puppet-master, which suited the eerie atmosphere of the first ghostly encounter especially as it was in the form of a child. Leone Kessel took a more modern approach to the Ghost of Christmas Present as she rushed both Scrooge and the audience around the lower floors of Dyne House. It was the Ghost of Christmas Future who was the most extravagant: a vast monstrous puppet with only a head and a hand that directed Scrooge towards the Drama Studio to play witness to his grim future. Mrs Banks did a stellar job of creating both puppets, be it a small doll to an 8ft monstrosity! After an emotional scene over Tiny Tim’s death between Bob Cratchit (Tiago Richardson) and his wife (Lara Bolton-Patel), it was quite a relief to hear a rendition of Mariah Carey’s *All I Want for Christmas*. With choreography by Aoife Walter and outstanding singing from Eliza Light it was a very fitting ending to Scrooge’s journey.

Overall the production was both highly original and entertaining to watch, with exactly the right blend of sincerity and comedy. Directors Miss Hale and Mr Woolf are to be congratulated on bringing together an excellent cast for a stunning performance of an old classic. Well done to all involved.

TOBY MILLER (13NG)
The cast of The Comedy of Errors delivered a perfectly pitched performance of Shakespeare’s farcical comedy about twins and a complex case of mistaken identity. As with any of Shakespeare’s plays there is the challenge of the language, but then we must add in the confusion of four characters, who are two sets of twins, sharing two names, and there is ample opportunity for lack of understanding on the behalf of the audience. It is a declaration of the ability of the directors, Ruth Louis and Tim Hyam, that not only was it comprehensive but, as evidenced by the laughter that exploded throughout, thoroughly entertaining.

The show was transposed against the backdrop of a brick wall, covered in graffiti, that enabled the cast to lead a modernized performance and showed the timeless quality of the humor written by Shakespeare in 1594. From the outset, as the characters strode and wandered across the stage, the dynamic relationships and contrasting characters were clear to see.

The scene was set in a court room as Egeon (Joe Hilton) spoke of how he, one of his sons, and one slave, were separated from his wife (Amy Walpole) and the corresponding twins. As a citizen of Syracuse, which is at war with Ephesus, Egeon is illegally in Ephesus and is arrested and condemned to death unless a ransom is paid by sunset. Punctuating the seriousness of his situation is a jester, in the form of the Officer (James Habanananda), who played up the more slapstick side to the audience, eliciting laughs as he did.

Antipholus and Dromio arrive in Ephesus searching for their twin brothers, not knowing their father is also there on the same quest. Unknown to all of them, the lost Antipholus and Dromio have been living in Ephesus for many years. The strangers are greeted like old friends and Antipholus (James Rodgers) finds he has a wife, Adriana (Gemma O’Neill). To compound problems more, he falls for Luciana (Hannah Duffey), Adriana’s sister. The anger this creates is a definite counterpoint and balances the humour well.

In the roles of the Antipholus twins both James Rodgers, with brilliant delivery in his monologues, and Bruce Allinson, with considerable command and control of the stage, displayed uncanny similarity. The two Dromios, adeptly brought to life by Maxim Uys and Marko Andrejevic, are sent running back and forth, mistaking one master for the other, and they gave an energetic performance that never faded. Aided by the same costume – a clever indicator for the audience, to whom a red suit becomes synonymous with Antipholus, and a blue tracksuit with Dromio, they managed to engage and create hilarity, as they confounded those around them.

The cast, leads and strong supporting actors, are to be commended for this dynamic and witty performance. Made more fluid by music that reflected the action, and lighting to complement it, the tech crew (Annabelle Dennis, Maddy Hilditch, Mrs Banks) should be praised on an extremely enjoyable version of the Shakespearian play, with its joyful reunion and resolution. It has all it needs to deliver a spectacular rendition, representing Highgate, at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this summer.

ELLA O’BRIEN (12TL)
enthusiasts of European drama were spoilt for choice this year, with not one but three French plays on offer.

Year 9 and 10 pupils presented Pierre Gripari’s Inspecteur Toutou, directed by Mandy Bolster and Emily Roessler, wherein the eponymous hero, played with panache by Louis Grayson, is called upon to investigate some of the grislier crimes committed in the world of fairy tales and finds himself debunking the lies of notorious villains such as Red Riding Hood’s wolf, played with grisly relish by Louis Pettitt.

Bea Twentyman and Ella Lane gave a polished version of Jean-Michel Ribes’s sketch Tragédie, directed by Barbara Pettitt. The pair bickered with verve as a too-long married couple, with the husband refusing to utter a single ‘bravo’ to his prima donna sister-in-law after her rendition of Phèdre.

It fell to the Sixth Formers to serve up some acerbic social satire in the form of Yasmina Reza’s le Dieu du Carnage, directed by Céclie Hayes and Jack Flowers. After a playground kerfuffle leaves a child injured, two bourgeois couples meet to resolve the issue with befitting civility. Leanne Tyme, Beatrice Barr and Sonny Ashbourne-Serkis carried off the ensuing chaos with aplomb, allowing us a glimpse of what lies behind the facade of the privileged classes.

Those of us fortunate to attend did not begrudge the pupils and directors the ‘bravo’ their efforts deserved.

French Plays

& Y8 Play Jason and the Argonauts was a spirited and engaging evening of theatre in which the actors performed with skill and ingenuity to tell this timeless epic tale of heroism and humanity. The play was set in the port of Athens, where Jason and his shipmates are disguised as a group of travelling actors who just happen to be passing through. The wicked King Pelleas commands them to perform a story, and they act out the tale of Jason, whom Pelleas believes to be dead. It is only when the actors reach the end of the story that Pelleas realises Jason is alive and has returned with the Golden Fleece that entitles him to reclaim the throne from Pelleas. This production wittily updated the story, representing the port’s waterfront using giant cardboard boxes, and costumes of jeans and leather jackets – including a golden, fleece-lined jacket. Ammar Irfan played Jason with terrific gusto and well-judged humour alongside Ava-Larissa Riley’s feisty Medea, and the whole ensemble of 23 performers showed a brilliant rapport with each other and the audience. Clear stagecraft and diction combined with amazing props and puppets, created by Miss Rowley with the support of the Y7 backstage crew, to make this a memorable evening of theatre.

Jason and the Argonauts

Dr James Brydon

The cast of Jason and the Argonauts

The cast of Jason and the Argonauts

Inspecteur Toutou (Louis Grayson) cross-examines Molly Arnesen’s Snow White

The cast of Jason and the Argonauts

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the visual simplicity of the crossword puzzle is deceptive: a neat square of squares and a list of purposefully pithy clues tell the outsider little of the skill, knowledge and agility required to solve the puzzle. The same might be said of David Fotheringham whose friendly demeanour and gentle tone do not reveal the penetrating intelligence, humane wisdom and Stakhanovite efficiency which have characterised David’s twenty-five years at Highgate School.

David Fotheringham joined Highgate School as Head of Classics in 1992 from The Cheltenham Ladies’ College where he had established himself as a well-respected, scholarly teacher with a particular gift for advising pupils on their university choices. The move south from his native Scotland had been preceded by studies at St Andrews (a First and three University prizes) and three years of research and undergraduate teaching.

David has combined the qualities of a first-rate academic classicist with those of an adept and sensitive teacher: depth, scope, rigour and clarity in a disciplined yet relaxed atmosphere in which genuine interest in pupils as individuals is manifest and felt. However busy he has become, not least on his promotion to senior management roles, David has seen his own teaching as central to his work and has not allowed any schedule of administrative duties to deflect him from it. His subject knowledge is legendary among younger and older colleagues alike and is fed by a restless curiosity and an avid reading habit. A colleague who rejoices in changes in syllabus and set texts seeing them as the stimulus for fresh insights, David invigorated and challenged his department: his careful cultivation of teaching and learning in Classics led to growth in popularity and in standards at all levels.

While the last decade has seen him leading the academic life of the School, David has a strong pastoral bent. In his roles as Sixth Form Tutor in Southgate House and Careers Adviser with responsibility for applications to Oxford and Cambridge, he knew the importance of knowing his pitch, of being consistent, of giving time, of listening carefully before framing advice with the quiet and reassuring authority of one’s favourite family friend. He found time to support the Duke of Edinburgh programme and added staff induction to his portfolio of responsibilities before assuming the new post of Assistant Head (Academic) in 2006 and that of Deputy Head (Academic) in 2008.

David’s skill and insight as a teacher have informed his thinking about academic leadership and management. His phenomenal capacity for dealing with operational ‘stuff’ swiftly (and elegantly!) means that he has always been able to dedicate time to strategy, and what it means to be scholarly has been a constant in his thinking: David has inspired, cajoled and, on occasion, arm-twisted colleagues into following his bidding to teach beyond the syllabus and to promote classroom techniques which allow pupils to think for themselves.

Highgate is a very different school in 2017 from the one which David joined in 1992. The principal architect of those changes since 2006, which have seen the primacy of teaching and learning established, of scholarly teaching and learning in particular, but without pressure cooking or slave driving, is David. While he passes the baton to James Newton, David has taken up a new challenge in setting up Highgate’s first Teaching Consultancy which will be based at the London Academy of Excellence Tottenham where he will also direct that fledgling school’s teacher training. It is our hope that the Fotheringham wisdom will in this way find wider audiences which will, we know, be as receptive and grateful to David as Highgate has been.

ADAM PETTITT
Jenny McLoughlin arrived at Highgate School in style: offering a close reading of the verse of Amelia Lanyer, the first published female poet in English, she started as she meant to go on and the former Head of English was smitten. What was not apparent, even in that first lesson, was the breadth of the contribution that Jenny would make to Highgate at every level. It has been nothing short of exceptional.

She came to Highgate after completing an English degree at Trinity College, Dublin, and a PGCE at the University of East Anglia. During her seven years at the school Jenny established herself as an inspiring classroom teacher, combining rigour with creativity and humour. Her sixth form class last year concluded, with some satisfaction, that Miss McLoughlin, like Jean Brodie, was ‘in her prime.’

In addition, Jenny has successfully mentored Oxbridge candidates, delivered extension lectures on Modernism and re-acquainted the department with George Herbert. Meanwhile, her involvement in the wider cultural life of the school has been ground-breaking. She co-produced the first Round House show in Camden, to mark the 450th anniversary of the school, and is currently working on the third. She was also a pioneer in producing sixth form Shakespeare productions and taking them to the Edinburgh Festival, including Much Ado About Nothing, The Tempest and, most recently in 2015, Romeo and Juliet.

Jenny has also been at the forefront of the department’s involvement in local community projects. She led the Highgate Adult Literacy Programme, helping refugees prepare for the workplace. As part of this, she ensured that the entire English Department was trained in teaching English as an additional language. At one stage, this involved us all communicating only in Norwegian for an afternoon: further evidence, if any were needed, that Jenny can get anyone to do anything in the name of a cause.

In most recent years, Jenny has shone especially brightly in her pastoral role as Head of Southgate. Her commitment to her pupils, whom she has treated with dignity, patience and wisdom, has made her a hugely significant member of the pastoral team. The gentle stream of pupils coming to her door to discuss issues big and small, over the last four years, is endless evidence of their trust in her. The affection in which she is held by her house is tangible.

It would be wrong, of course, not to also acknowledge Jenny’s humour and warmth. Her corner of the office is an endless source of ‘Scandi’ chic, spare birthday cards and biting wit. Her support of women’s causes has also been a notable force, whilst her good taste in Literature is unquestioned.

REBECCA HYAM

Like all the best professional friendships, ours flourished over the shared love of a book: Edith Wharton’s A House of Mirth. Alongside Wharton, Jen shares a talent for both the visually aesthetic and the word on the page.

She will undoubtedly bring the same combination of gifts to her new career when she takes up her place at the London College of Garden Design, Kew, in the autumn. If anyone can make the flowers grow in just the right place and at just the right time, it’s Jenny McLoughlin.
ith his colourful ties and loud, cheerful and uninhibited manner, Keith has been a feature of the Highgate scene for a long time, joining the School in September 1986 from Berkhamsted. Keith worked for 26 years in the Physics Department, a close-knit, barely-changing group whose main members were Keith, Head of Department David Smith and Mark Short. This team gave the Department a sense of continuity, and Keith enjoyed the strong leadership and enthusiasm for the subject conveyed by David. He also enjoyed teaching the subject, which, he recalls, ‘was more a group of us discussing Physics’ than teaching. David Smith recalls: ‘not only were Keith’s ties loud, so was his delivery in the classroom – you could always tell from a long way off which lab he was teaching in’. His ‘party piece’ when teaching electrostatics (in Year 10 I think) was to re-enact an experiment first carried out in the mid-18th century by Abbot Nollet in which a mild electric shock was passed along a mile-long row of Carthusian monks – Keith would duplicate it with all the pupils in his class holding hands while the first in line attracted a spark from a Van de Graaff generator’.

Keith’s influence went way beyond the classroom in many ways, chiefly in his running of the newly-day house, Grindal, from 1993-2011, stepping into the shoes inhabited by John Lewis. Keith enjoyed the house, commenting that he could ‘mould it in his own way. We enjoyed taking ourselves and things not too seriously.’ He also commented that he ‘had inculcated the winning spirit in the house’ although when pressed for detail could only recall winning a Junior Athletics Competition.

Oddly, considering his sporting passions (Arsenal, the MCC) Keith’s main successes in the house were artistic, with Orlando Weekes of the Maccabees and Kayvan Novak, of the TV comedy series, The Phonejacker two famous GH alumni.

Keith’s main extra-curricular involvement was with the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme, which he ran from 1988-2003, again with another tightly-knit group comprising Peter Knowles, Humphry Barnikel, Mark Short and Gabriel Triger (the Chef). In those pre-Risk Assessment days, hair-raising incidents would occur, including rescuing a boy with hypothermia from Snowden at 3am in the morning. Keith enjoyed the camaraderie amongst the staff, and seeing the pupils in a different light. Gabriel’s cooking was such a success that ‘even the boys thanked him!’ Gabriel’s ability to complete a day’s hiking and then cook a meal for thirty was recalled fondly by Keith.

Keith’s latest incarnation was as Head of Careers, ‘a more difficult job these days, as jobs are getting harder to get’. He has enjoyed reconnecting with the OCs, as he has also done by joining the OC Lodge. He became Chair of Governors at a local state school, a role from which he derives a great deal of enjoyment.

Keith’s mainstay and support, Kathryn aka ‘Lady Tuck’ was a great help to Keith in running Grindal, as she was good at supporting the musical events, which Keith did not enjoy as much as the sporting events.

Their three sons, Sam (WG c/2006), Ben (WG c/2007) and Josh (WG c/2011) all went to Highgate.

Keith and Kathryn are looking forward to keeping in touch with the School when they retire close to London, travelling, spending time watching Test Cricket and attending meetings of the Equinoctial Society, a group of retired Highgate teachers who meet up at the time of the Spring and Autumnal Equinox. We wish them all the best for a long and happy retirement.
Well, it’s obvious that you know far more about this than I do…Now would you like a drink?” With these slightly weary words Simon Appleton terminated my first Oxbridge tutorial. It had clearly been a long day and his gentlemanly admission of defeat struck a chord. He, in his first year of teaching at Mill Hill, and I, in my last year of the Sixth Form, hit it off straight away. Years and years later when I became Head of English at Highgate, I had another chance to observe this fascinating pedagogue from a new perspective…

After Stowe and Trinity College, Oxford – where he starred in a production of Twelfth Night alongside Hugh Grant – Simon did a stint at MHS before arriving at Highgate in 1989 where he entered an English Department which was, by all accounts, fractious and factional. To these challenges was added the fact that Highgate was not in those days quite the haven of industry, discipline and tolerance that it became. For one of Simon’s temperament this posed a problem. Not by nature confrontational, he must have endured a great deal. So he put his head down and did the thing he was best at: drawing out the meaning of literary language and ideas to an audience whose appreciativeness many of us would now struggle with.

But gentle persistence has its own rewards. The culture of the Department and of the School was refined over the years; and gradually, generations of Cholmeleians came to relish Simon’s calm and civilised expositions of the beauties of Shakespeare, Milton, and Keats; of his favoured novelists EM Forster and Evelyn Waugh; and of his great triumvirate of poetic loves – Hardy, Auden, and Larkin. This last list is no coincidental meeting of tastes but represents a deeper affinity of temperaments and versions of Englishness. A lover of the countryside and the country; of culture, allusiveness, and wit; and somehow imbued with an achingly funny melancholic streak, Simon found in his favourite poets a reflection of himself which enabled him in turn to transmit his deep knowledge of the writing to his pupils. They responded to his sincerity, gentleness, and flashes of naughty humour, by upping their game – and rewarding him with huge loyalty and affection.

For all his admirable ‘old school’ qualities, however, Simon is also in many ways deeply unconventional. Sometimes tempted to tweak the nose of authority, he once delivered a fitting rebuke to a visiting HoD by carrying out my injunction to “Just do what you’d be doing: no special performance,” by delivering a silent reading lesson which the bemused ‘inspector’ sat through with his clipboard while Simon got on with some marking. Equally provocative is his occasional mild enquiry as to the content of the syllabus or set text list – just as a two-year course draws to a close…

We as colleagues shall miss Simon’s accumulated scepticism of the intellectually modish and of restless curricular reform; his aptly pointed quotation; and his gentle mischief; just as his pupils will look far to replace his warmth, wisdom, and humane sense of what is decorous and right. As he shrugs off Larkin’s toad work which has squatted on his life, we trust he will not be ambling down Cemetery Road but, rather, like the narrator of Dockery and Son, will be happily contemplating ‘The lawn spread[…] dazzlingly wide’.

GORDON CATHERWOOD
ead Master Reverend Charles McDowall recognised the need for a more age-appropriate education. In 1889 a school was opened for younger boys in 'Cholmeley House' on Southwood Lane, the one-time residence of Head Master Reverend John Dyne. The first Master of the Junior School was George Atkinson.

OC Bryan Thwaites, writing to The Cholmeleian in summer 1976, recalls his friend who lived there saying:

‘Cholmeley was a beautiful rambling Victorian house and I lived there until I was eighteen when we were made to move to Bishopswood Road. The windows on the first floor in the bay were the school dining room and the window above this behind the tree was the French window of my mother’s drawing room opening out on a very large verandah which went right round the back of the house on the second floor. The sash window on the right also opening on to the verandah was our dining room and the room above that was the bedroom I shared with my sister. All these rooms faced due East and were freezing cold. The ground floor was the ‘cellar’ where ‘the man’ cleaned all the boys’ shoes every day... Most of the pleasant memories of my childhood are connected with this house so you must forgive me being rather nostalgic.’

One of the Junior School’s most famous pupils, John Betjeman, was taught by TS Eliot in the extension building in the grounds in 1916. Betjeman was already writing poetry at this time and remembered showing Eliot a collection to which he had given the title, The Best Poems of John Betjeman, but what Eliot thought of them we do not know and the manuscript is lost.

In 1938, Head Master Geoffrey Bell moved the Junior School to a newly built ‘Cholmeley House’ on Bishopswood Road. One Cholmeleian remembered moving out ‘of the old, dusty, rather ugly Victorian building and travelling down the hill to a new Junior School: purpose built, shiny and spotless’. The architect was Oswald Milne whose work included some of the main interiors of Claridge’s Hotel.

A year later, when war broke out, the Junior School was evacuated to Hartland Abbey in Devon. Under the
care of Onfrey Dumaresq, the School flourished. He arranged for them to publish their own magazine called Abbey News. After lessons, boys were free to explore the Abbey’s idyllic grounds and sometimes they went further afield on bicycles. Scouting became a popular activity, and on Saturdays the local vicar would deliver a talk, followed by a cinema show in the evening. After church on Sundays, the afternoons were set aside for letter-writing and games. The Junior School was reunited with the Senior School evacuees at Westward Ho! in the summer of 1941. The whole school returned to Highgate on 31 March 1943.

Queen Elizabeth II is Visitor to Highgate, an honorary position which remembers the School’s foundation with Letters Patent from her namesake in 1565. This made the 1953 coronation a significant event for the School. Under Eric Sherwin, Master in Charge, the Junior School celebrated with an elaborate pageant.

Ingleholme, the Victorian building on the corner of Hampstead Lane and Bishopswood Road, has been used by the Junior School since the late 1930s, originally for ‘music, handicraft and noisy activities’. It is now part of the new building.

From 2004 the Junior School began admitting girls. Highgate is now fully co-educational.

The new Junior School has a hall with retractable seats for assemblies, concerts and dramatic productions as well as a state-of-the-art library and central exhibition space. Outside, there are play spaces designed for creative games, a small amphitheatre and a literary garden.

JULIA HUDSON (ARCHIVIST) AND HENLEY HENLEY-SMITH (CURATOR)
Barnaby Lenon is on a journey, one that is still unfolding as he enters his 63rd year. A career that encompasses teaching at Eton for 12 years, Deputy Head at Highgate and then Headmaster at Trinity School of John Whitgift before moving on to become Headmaster at Harrow for 12 years, it could be said that he has achieved everything that anyone could possibly want in the academic world. However, this is definitely not true in his case. He might have retired from headmastering but that does not mean that he has retired to go on a screen printing course (which he has), go rowing, (which he does), or write books, (which he has done) and has just published *Much Progress: Successful Schools in England* to great acclaim and a plaudit from David Cameron. No, Barnaby Lenon is a driven man whose high output energy is vented as chairman of a number of institutions, including the Independent Schools Council, the London Academy of Excellence, Stratford, which he helped set up, and a board member of Ofqual, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation that regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England.

While his background is firmly in the private sector when it comes to education, it does not mean that Barnaby is an élitist of any sort, as he recognises the importance of the state sector. Where he is forthright, though, is in his view that educational standards need to be improved across the board although he does question the current government’s policy on grammar schools.

‘This country has one big problem and that is the underperformance of the bottom 40 per cent of pupils, particularly white working class boys, but not only them. Anybody who has taught for any length of time will know that in a normal year 53 per cent of pupils in this country manage to scrape together five GCSEs grades A to C, including English and maths, which seems an incredibly low figure. In fact, a very high proportion of those who manage that only get C’s which many ISC schools would regard as tantamount to failure.

‘I’m not worried about the top 40 per cent, all of whom go to universities, which is why I think it’s a bit of a mystery that this government has chosen as its first step to focus on grammar schools, which are only relevant to the top 20 per cent, as if there was some big problem there, but there isn’t.’
It’s the bottom 20% that appears to learn very little at school between the ages of 11 and 16 — and that’s the number one problem. However, there are schools, particularly in London, that are proving you can get very good results, even with disadvantaged pupils. ‘If I was the Secretary of State for Education I would be focusing on nursery schools first, primary schools second and really good vocational courses for pupils over the age of 16, the latter having been talked about endlessly since the end of the Second World War to no good effect. The one thing I would not be thinking about is the top 20 per cent of secondary schools.’

To back his argument up, Barnaby maintains that disadvantage is largely fixed by the age of five. ‘If you can give disadvantaged pupils, that means those on free school meals, really high class nursery and reception education so that they start at the age of five school ready, then they have a reasonable chance of having a decent standard of numeracy and literacy by the age of 11. This means that they have a good chance of going on to get reasonably good GCSE results.’

‘However, not everyone is academic, so there need to be sensible alternatives to A levels, so if half the population take them, the other half can do something that’s just as valuable and should inexorably lead to a good skilled job, but we haven’t managed to solve that yet in this country.’

Social mobility figures largely on Barnaby’s radar, as it does with the government, Theresa May even referencing it on the day she was appointed Prime Minister. ‘What we have to do’, comments Barnaby, ‘is to remain competent in our ability to demonstrate what a good education can be and what that means in our sector is a combination of very good exam results along with the development of soft skills, personal characteristics which are going to be more important than exam results when you get your first job.’

‘It’s the bottom 20% that appears to learn very little at school between the ages of 11 and 16 — and that’s the number one problem.’

‘Linked to that there needs to be a much higher degree of involvement with extra-curricular activities than would be normal in a state school, which Highgate illustrates extremely well. At the same time we have to be seen to be working with and supporting the state sector because we don’t believe it’s a zero sum game and we don’t think it’s going to be damaging to us if we help the state sector improve. There’s also the moral duty. If we are doing very well, we should ensure that other schools, especially those in our local area, are doing just as well, and Adam Pettitt has been splendid in this respect.

In this context, Barnaby is very proud of his role as Chairman of Governors in the London Academy of Excellence in Stratford, East London that since opening in September 2012 has established a strong reputation for academic excellence. ‘This is the model that Highgate School has decided to adopt,’ he says. ‘Adam and I are hand in glove as far as these projects are concerned and I am extremely grateful to him personally and the School for its splendid contribution to this excellent state school over the past five years, and I hope that we can be equally helpful as Highgate moves to create a replica in Tottenham that will be opening this September. In fact, I am thinking of becoming a Tottenham Hotspur fan.’

This is a reference to Highgate acting as the principal education sponsor of LAE Tottenham and recruiting and deploying the full-time equivalent of five members of the total teaching staff, as well as assisting with wider administrative, pastoral and management support. Tottenham Hotspur will be the principal business sponsor, providing financial support, as well as the school premises and facilities management.

‘We all agree that partnerships of this sort are worthwhile as long as they don’t have the effect of driving up fees any higher.’

WILLIAM KIMBERLEY (GH 1963)
Highgate’s cross-country runners enjoyed a haul of silverware over the course of the 2016/2017 season as the boys and girls experienced team and individual success at a variety of competitions.

At the Haskell Cup held on the North Downs in November, Austin Harris, Joseph Wildisen and the Fawden brothers Terence and Dempster took first place ahead of St. Albans School and The Judd; a result which ensured Highgate’s name was engraved on the trophy for the first time since its inauguration in 1954.

The quartet were joined by Charles Smith and Louis Pettitt for the King Henry VIII School relays in Coventry in February and the team produced another historic performance to finish 7th from 50 schools. This was Highgate’s highest ever placing in almost forty years of competing at the prestigious event whose past competitors include the Brownlee brothers and Sebastian Coe. Keen not to be outshone by their male counterparts, the girls’ team of Phoebe Littler, Sophie Boehler, Mia Manttan, Millie Pettitt, Emma Williets and Hailey Knowles made light of snow-covered terrain at the Knole run in January to win team silver. This was followed by victory at the South-East Schools Championships hosted by Harrow School; an achievement made all the more impressive given that all six Highgate girls came from Y8-11 and were competing in an U19 age group.

Other notable performances came at the popular Wellington College Relays with Highgate recording three team victories, and at the Middlesex Schools Championships where Isobel Chadwick, Mia Manttan and Terence Fawden all achieved podium finishes. Terence, who has established himself as something of a cross-country talisman over the years, will be sorely missed next season. Without doubt, he leaves large spikes to fill, although...
t has been a busy and successful season for the Fives squads with over 30 fixtures and tournaments played over the 2 terms. Numbers in SpEx lessons have been encouragingly high, with 35+ players attending on each Senior School Sport afternoon. The school players have supported the returning OC Fives Club with enthusiasm, pupils have played in the majority of adult league 1 and 2 matches this season. New initiatives such as an inaugural U12 tournament day, weekly evening training sessions and an internal tournament with the OC team have been received well. School players have participated in the majority of adult tournaments over the course of the year.

Highgate was represented by 82 pairs at the Marsh National Eton Fives Schools Championships held this year at Eton College. 670 pairs from 33 schools competed this year including pairs from Malaysia and Switzerland, all Highgate players enjoyed the experience of playing tournament level fives across the 13 competitions from Year 6 upwards.

SELECTED RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Results</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 11</td>
<td>Semi-Finalists / Main plate winners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 12</td>
<td>Champions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 13 Girls</td>
<td>Quarter-finalists x4 / Semi Finalists x2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 14</td>
<td>Semi-finalists x2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 15</td>
<td>Champions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 16</td>
<td>Semi-Finalists x2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 18 Girls</td>
<td>Finalists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 18 Mixed</td>
<td>Final 1-1 / Postponed</td>
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DAVID MEW (FIVES & CRICKET COACH)

the commitment shown in the junior ranks provides much promise for the future. Sincere thanks are owed to Mr Morrow and Mr Gault for their assistance at fixtures and training.

GARETH CREAGH
After a successful senior tour to the USA the 1st XI have continued to impress during the Lent term. As the Football season comes to a close with all teams having played a total of 343 fixtures, it was only fitting that the 1st XI cap this highly successful year with victory in the Middlesex County Senior Cup Final, for the first time in the school’s history. With the side trailing at half time, a free kick from Tom Waine caught out the Latymer goalkeeper to level with 15 minutes remaining. A narrow 2-1 win against a spirited and hard working Latymer School was only secured in the 87th minute when Anton Baleanu capitalised on a poor goalkeeper’s clearance to fire home from 25 yards out. Highgate 1st XI sensed victory and were rewarded late on in front of the jubilant travelling fans.

Strong results from the 2nd, 3rd and 4th XI’s indicates the strength in depth the Senior School now has. The 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th XI’s also enjoyed a number of fixtures over the course of the last term with over 150 boys participating in Football across years 11, 12 & 13. The U15 and U14 teams have continued to build on the solid foundations set in the Autumn. The 14A team lost in the semi-final of the Middlesex Cup against an impressive Friern Barnet School, and for the first time ever the team included two female pupils. The U12 and 13 teams continue to receive plaudits from opposition coaches for their style of play with all teams being encouraged to play out from the back.

John Humphrey

At this year’s Public Schools Fencing Competition, Alessandro Gill defended his Junior Foil title. He has now won the event three times. Isabella Gill similarly defended her Girls’ Foil title having won it twice previously, fresh from a very creditable 7th place at the European Fencing Championships.

Highgate had two other finalists – Rhiannon Hales in the Ladies’ Junior Foil and Matthew Abrahams in the Boys’ Senior Foil. Both are serious fencers and have the ability and aspiration to go further in the future.

Alex Truvert was unfortunate to go out of the competition early but we wish him better luck when on international duty in Poland.

Alex Rouse made the last 16 in the Senior Ladies’ Foil which is indicative of her persistence and willingness to learn from and listen to Mr Hamika’s coaching.

Thalia Seale was also great value for her Last 32 placing in the Seniors and Coco Allen McDonnell (10SG) reached the Last 32 in the Juniors – her first ever competition after about a term and a half of Fencing.
The 2016-17 season for Highgate Netball has seen seven age groups, over twenty-five teams and some 220 fixtures make up a fantastic two terms of our focus sport for girls.

The senior Netball teams toured to Barbados in October where they played top schools, clubs and universities on our third visit to this immensely talented island filled with student-athletes that always challenge our players. Leading from the front, our 1st VII team have enjoyed a hugely successful year, where they have been able to consolidate their experiences over their time at school to bring home some excellent victories over some of the best teams in Middlesex, Essex and Hertfordshire. They have become a respected and high achieving squad that can rival the best of teams in one of the strongest counties in the South East. In addition to this team success, individual representative honours have reached their peak with our first player receiving her first England cap for U17’s at Netball Europe (Kira Rothwell) and two players (Anna Willis, Kira Rothwell) selected to join London’s first franchise, London Pulse, in the England Netball Performance League, playing across the country against England’s best Under 19 athletes.

Our new generation have started their Highgate Netball campaign with impressive levels of participation and performance and have enjoyed a comprehensive fixture programme that has introduced them to our borough and county competitions. This new crop of athletes has managed to become Under 12 Haringey Borough Champions and in their first season in maroon have totalled an impressive 350 goals.

The Mallinson Netball Academy continues to grow from strength to strength with a performance training and playing programme that spans the entire year with our objective being the academy becoming the vehicle for transferring players into the England Netball Performance Pathway.

The future of Netball at our school is bright and we are confident that our girls will continue to shine on court and wear their maroon with pride as they represent Highgate.

STEPH PRIDE
Football remains at the heart of OC sports with the OCs running 3 teams in the Arthurian League as well as a Vets side that plays in the Derrick Moore Trophy.

There were changes at the top as Jack Jones stepped aside by reason of work commitments and his place as 1st XI captain was taken by the energetic Dan Sherry with Henrik Sundvik as his deputy. The early results were mixed with player availability being somewhat disappointing and with the team settling into the new style of play that Dan and Henrik put in place. However, by mid-season the side had settled well and went on an impressive run of results. Having comprehensively despatched Old Epsomians in the 1st round of the Arthur Dunn cup (3-0), there followed a number of impressive displays interrupted only by a disappointing display against Brentwood when they went out of the Dunn 2-4 in the 2nd round.

Having beaten Aldenham 9-0, Wellington 8-3, Malvern 7-5 and Radley 7-2 in successive matches, they were in line for a promotion place, but back to back defeats against Repton 1-2 and Winchester 1-5 put paid to those hopes.

Centre forward Matt Brown has led the line well. There have also been some outstanding performances including from Dan, Henrik and Tom Henderson in midfield as well as Louis Dodds and Ben Berrick in attack, the twin Patch brothers, Imran Basri and Max Little in defence and Ben Rose in goal.

The 2s have had a difficult season and are currently battling hard to avoid relegation. At the heart of the difficulties faced by their skipper Dave Emery has been availability. When he has been able to call on his best XI, they are easily a match for any side in their current division. Sadly, this has not occurred as often as Dave would have wished.

The ever-enthusiastic Sam Khalique has, once again been in charge of the 3s. They play with expansive flair, often throwing caution to the wind, and (sadly) suffering the consequences! Arthur Barker has shown his skills wherever he has been asked to play, and Tom Lethbridge has worked hard in midfield. Speedy Eddie Tse has
At the time of going to press, the OCs have not long returned from winning the Annual Cricket-on-Ice competition in St Moritz Switzerland, having won all 3 of their competitive matches. Skipper John Zani was able to call upon COI ‘debutants’ Marlon McCaskill, Eddie Tse and Mohsin Habib thereby bringing with him the strongest side for many a year. Tony Friend put in some impressive performances throwing himself around behind the stumps and Sam, Munch and Mani Khalique also performed well in all 3 matches. The Debutants and Ross McCaskill each put in solid batting performances in this unique tournament, which was played in beautiful sunshine for most of the time.

His Excellency the British Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, David Moran was Guest Speaker at the Gala Dinner attended by over 60 players, guests and supporters. He captivated those attending with a memorable and amusing speech.

Back to last summer. Sam Khalique was again in charge of the 1st XI and he led from the front with both bat and ball, when and where needed. He was supported by his spin bowler brother Munch, as well as by tireless Arthur Barker who spearheaded the bowling attack.

Jamie Whybrow and Tom Lethbridge were the team’s outstanding batsmen, well supported by Jules Schlagman, Willy Whiteside and Ian Sanderson. On their day, they can beat any side in the division, but more consistency is needed as they ended the term in mid-table.

There is the need for some new young blood to come into the side so this is a call to all OCs with an interest in the game to come forward…Please!

2nd XI skipper Ross McCaskill broke his finger in the 1st match of the season and that ruled him out for over 3 months. Joint Vice Captains Dan Sherry and Rory Blackshaw took on the mantle seamlessly. Dan was the pick of the batsmen, with his unique style of play, determined to get on top of the bowlers from the first ball faced. Dom Gibberd won the Divisional Bowling award for his outstanding efforts throughout the season. He was well-supported by Eddie Tse, Rory, Dan and Faiz Azam. After a shaky start which saw the side bottom of the division at the halfway point, the team went on such an impressive run of wins such that promotion was nearly achieved.

John Zani (WG 1966)

They then overcame Westminster on penalties in the Quarter Finals only to suffer the same fate themselves against Old Foresters in the nail-biting semi-final (see match report). We are very grateful to the School in allowing these Vets matches to be played there, and to those who came to support.

Old Cholms 2-2 Old Foresters (Scorers: Addison, Spyrou)
Forest won 4-3 on penalties

The Old Cholmeleians Vets team were incredibly unfortunate not to progress into the final of the prestigious Derrick Moore Trophy losing to Old Foresters on penalties. The Cholms were 2-1 up with only seconds left of normal time, when the visitors scored to equalise with the last kick of 90 mins.

Joe Adams’ team started the game brightly, looking well organised and dangerous when in possession, and were unfortunate to concede 20 mins in to a scrappy goal. John Addison who was exceptional throughout with his tireless running from centre midfield, pulled the game level, having broken through the Forest midfield playing a lovely one-two, and then finishing with great composure when entering the penalty box. The visitors then applied considerable pressure to the Old Cholms backline with a succession of corners and set plays, however some resolute defending and the ability to break on the counter with Dave Luca and Adam Benson looking dangerous in wide positions saw the Cholms go in at half time level, having had chances to extend their lead.

The Cholms started the 2nd half with real energy and an exceptional passing move that allowed Dave Luca to stretch his legs in the channels, who was able to tee up Adam Benson to put in a delightful cross which Nick Collins headed towards the bottom corner, only for a miraculous save from the Forest goalkeeper to somehow keep the ball out.

Two missed penalties from the Cholms meant Forest went through to the final winning 4-3.
Together with hundreds of other OCs I got bombarded with constant letters from TG Mallinson as soon as I left school. Apparently, he also sent some out to various people still at School to congratulate them on their exam results, sporting achievements, or other special occasions. I received my first postcard in January 1959 and my last letter in May 2007. Unfortunately, not all have been kept, but I would guess that I received more that thirty over the period. It would be interesting to know just how many of his missives were dispatched in all, but clearly in their thousands and perhaps others could respond on the subject, and recount their exchanges? Here is a selection from mine.

The very first was a postcard sent to me in Vancouver in January 1959, when I was taking my gap year, and reaching the West Coast alone and in wet dreary conditions with my spirits somewhat low. I was uplifted to receive from Mally typically enthusiastic and encouraging news about the School and he finished with the phrase: ‘Is life worth living? It depends on the liver.’

**NOV 2001** In my response to this request and being a non-UK tax payer I asked if I could get one of my relatives in the UK to put my donation in their name: ‘There seems no earthly reason why you should not send £250 to Mr Piddlesnook or Jack Ripper and get them to send it on to us. Very kind of you to think of us getting Gift Aid tax benefit. Go on pushing Ronnie Austin into organizing another OC Paris lunch.’

**NOV 2001** ‘I am intrigued by your circumflex accent on ‘pôt au feu’. There is a café round here with one, but I’ve never known a circumflex on a pôt before! It may have a connection with ‘post hoc proper hoc’, the ‘s’ being replaced by a circumflex.

Cosi fan Tutti was beautifully sung but a wee bit drawn out. Give me My Fair Lady every time.’

(Having Parker and not Mallinson for a French teacher, it was my mistake. But shows the eagle eye and mind still highly active.)

**OCT 2002** I had written a letter to The Cholmeleian regretting that his parents had not given him Victor as an additional first name, which otherwise would have ensured that Highgate had the very first TGV on foot. ‘About my parents not giving me the initial V, you might be interested to know that my father died before I was born. He died in July 1909, and I was born in August 1909. He was incidentally Headmaster of Dulwich College Preparatory School, and is alleged to have died being poisoned by a bad pork pie purchased at the Beachy Head Hotel, Eastbourne; he developed peritonitis for which there was no cure in 1909. He left instructions that the child should be called ‘Theodore’.

**JAN 1992**, after The Lodge farewell party which he attended, I sent him some photos: ‘Peter Knowles is delighted with them as am I. I hope Ronnie Austin will organise another OC dinner (in Paris) this year. When he does, I shall certainly accept with alacrity.’

**OCT 2001** ‘It occurs to me that you ought to be a friend of Highgate with a capital ‘F’. I enclose a sheet which speaks for itself. Like Heineken lager, the Friends reach parts of the School that the Governors cannot reach. At the moment, The Friends are celebrating the arrival at the Royal College of Music of an 18 year old OC, who won a scholarship for piano playing at the RCM. Without the Friends’ help he would never have come to Highgate.’
with regard to the letters on p.68 of the winter issue of the Cholmeleian, I remember vividly that day in 1944 when the V1 landed on the Senior field. I was in Junior School, taking a French lesson from a Mr Firth, in a classroom facing the field, the wall overlooking the field was almost all glass. When the V1 engine cut out, we all knew what was going to happen. Mr Firth said ‘Everyone get into the shelter!’ There was a mad scramble to get out through the door. He then said ‘The rest of you get under your desks!’ I did, the bomb exploded on the playing field, the glass wall came, shattered, in to the classroom (it seemed in very slow motion, as these things do in moments of tragedy). I panicked while the thousands of glass fragments were still in motion, stood up, mouth open, and swallowed several glass shards and glass dust. I think I must have passed out, because when I came to, the glass had been surgically removed in a nearby hospital. It was one of the most terrifying moments in my life. (I am now 83, and cannot recall being more frightened than on that day).

With regard to Michael Hammerson’s letter relating Ross Kessel’s account of that awful day, the master with the strong German accent was a Dr Herxheimer, a German Jew who had fled Germany because of the Nazis, and if a boy, and ‘Theodora’ if a girl, both names meaning ‘Gift of God.’ He finishes: ‘But seriously, thank you warmly for your references to opera parties and to those Spanish classes – ‘Cien botellas de aciete de oliva, etc!’ Altiora in votis.’

Glynne Hibbert (1944) has sent in a photograph of a parade in front of School House, and comments: ‘when I joined in 1943 I was issued with that type of uniform. I cannot remember when we changed into Battle Dress, it must have been 1944, probably when we were allowed into the Big School once the Navy and WRENS had left the building.’

Anyone with memories of the OTC/CCF of that time do write in.
He V1 stories reminded me of the bomb that fell in Waterlow Park. I was taking my School Certificate Geography exam in the reinforced basement in the main school when it landed. In those days we used fountain pens, for Biros had not yet been invented. The blast from the bomb squeezed the ink out of the rubber ink-sac, and that made a big blot on my paper. The invigilating master, HJ Gibbon, blotted it and ringed it, and marked it ‘Result of Enemy Action’, and we all got on with our exam paper.

After the exam finished some of us went down to St Michael’s Grove, where we found ‘Eggy B’ (Mr Bullen) sitting on his front door step, smoking his pipe. His house had been extensively damaged by the blast, with glass all over the place. He appeared undisturbed!

I was saddened to read of the death of Andrew Herxheimer. He had a most distinguished career as a pharmacologist, and edited the biweekly Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin, which gave expert guidance to doctors for many years. It was a huge help towards practising ‘evidence-based medicine’.

His father, Dr Herxheimer Senior, taught Biology while the School was at Westward Ho!, and I am sure made a big difference to my choice of careers and my success in achieving a medical qualification. I believe that he had been a Professor of Medicine in Berlin, and was the original describer of the ‘Herxheimer Reaction’. I remember both of them with great fondness.

EDWARD BRENTNALL
(1941)

if the editors were offering a prize, it would go to David Fecci (1950) who identified the lot! They are:

Front row, seated:
Leo Hawkins, Alan Izzard, Jeffrey Moorhouse, Michael Lewin, Michael Wright.

Second row, standing:
Peter Kingsland, Philip Cohen, Gordon Tindale, Trevor Lloyd, Tony Bacon, Tony Baker, Peter Feldman.
a School’s success is measured by its benevolence, Highgate is topping the league tables. With 47 local state schools already involved, the partnership scheme will reach a milestone in September when the London Academy of Excellence Tottenham opens its doors. So, what’s driving all this expansion? Moreover, how did Highgate come to co-sponsor a school with Tottenham Hotspur Football Club? And why have several OCs returned to work on partnership projects? We sat down with the partnership team to find out.

From supporting the 25 Highgate staff who participate in partnership teaching, to running subject-themed events for the students of partner schools, to co-sponsoring LAE Stratford and now Tottenham, the partnership team has been busy. According to Sarah Butterworth, the new Community Partnerships Director, the desire to undertake so much partnership work emanates from Highgate’s responsibility to share what we are lucky enough to have access to, with the ultimate goal of ‘making sure that everybody in the education system is getting a fair shot’ as far as possible.

This is a view echoed by the six members of the team, none more than Oliver Feghali, the sole non-Old Cholmelean of the group. Having attended a partner school in Camden, Oliver ascribes much of his success to the opportunities that Highgate’s partnership gave him access to, most of all in maths. ‘If it weren’t for [the Highgate partnership scheme], I wouldn’t have done further maths, I wouldn’t be as interested as I am in maths now, and I wouldn’t be here right now either’.

Joe Connor (FG 2012), the Senior Chrysalis Fellow, is passionate about improving access to the kind of experience that Oliver was able to benefit from in his schooldays. For him, the team’s principal aim is to ‘make education as fair as we can’,
projects as big as the creation of LAET to as small as simply ‘talking about science’ in order to develop students’ enthusiasm for continued learning.

This is similarly the case for Rosalia Myttas Perris (TL 2009), who, in her break before Bar School, is working with the team on projects as varied as choir with primary school children and Oxbridge preparation with LAE Stratford students. Like Joe, her work focusses on developing students’ aspirations, no matter their background.

For Alexander Graham (TL 2010), interest in teaching was the initial motivation for joining. However, the experience of running the Saturday coding masterclass has led to a change of direction towards computer science, which he will return to university to study next year – it seems that the scheme helps the Chrysalis fellows reach newfound ambitions along with the students.

Findlay Caplan (FG 2014) is perhaps the best example of the team members’ common pedagogic ambition: an aspiring primary school teacher, Chrysalis partnership teaching is allowing her to work with primary school children three days a week, gaining classroom experience that has secured her a place to study for a PGCE at UCL’s Institute of Education.

The word ‘exciting’ comes up frequently in Findlay’s description of her work with the team – it’s clear throughout the interview that developing students’ passion is their paramount goal. Their many concrete success stories are testament to the fact they are, to use the prevailing measure of charitable success, ‘making a difference’ to the lives of the students they reach. Findlay gives the example of an architecture session run as part of the SHINE educational expansion programme: ‘after one of our sessions one of the kids came up to me and asked ‘how hard is it to become an architect? How smart do you have to be? What do I have to do?’ because he got so excited about it… half of them didn’t even know what architecture was when we first went up there’.

As well as running workshops on subjects such as architecture that students would be unlikely to ever come into contact with in the classroom, their programmes seek to expand on pupils’ existing experience of a subject. The best example of this is in maths, where workshops aim to help primary school level children experience maths that ‘isn’t just about adding and subtracting’. The positive effect of this approach is palpable – the team mention one primary school where ‘the kids literally run down the halls and burst in the doors’ to get to maths club, and another where the pupils eagerly choose maths club over swimming lessons.

Highgate students are every bit as enthusiastic about getting involved as students from the partnership schools: volunteering for the Saturday morning SHINE sessions is oversubscribed. With all this enthusiasm at both ends, where is the scheme going under Ms Butterworth’s leadership?

When she joined, the LAE Tottenham ‘had been bubbling away’ for some time, despite her predecessor, John Lewis, having ‘some mixed feelings about sponsoring LAE Tottenham … he was concerned that it would take away from the work that we have been doing in our local community and our existing relationships’. But the partnership team has not waved goodbye to connections in Camden or in Islington – rather than changing direction, it’s ‘increased its footprint’.

The main aim of LAE Tottenham, for the team as a whole, is to ‘bring what LAE Stratford has brought to Newnham, to Tottenham’. With only one percent of east Haringey gaining places at Russell Group universities in comparison to eighteen percent of west Haringey, the team are keen to emphasise the necessity of removing the postcode lottery on education and ensuring that pupils have access to the kind of schools that can get them into the Year 11 students participate in a Chemistry Saturday Masterclass.
universities they deserve to go to.

For Ms Butterworth, ‘this all comes down to the question of academic rigour’ and ‘the full school life’. Schools in the east of Haringey are far more likely to finish at 16, leaving their students to sixth form colleges with no ‘structural sense of a school’, thus depriving students of the system of support that schools offer. Unsurprisingly, educationally-deprived east Haringey contains five wards in the poorest 10% of the city, by contrast to west Haringey, which contains four wards in the richest 10%.

In this divided borough, the team hopes that LAE Tottenham will help to redress the socioeconomic balance, bringing the structure and resources that North London bubble Highgate students take for granted to an area where few students are offered the same opportunities.

LAE Tottenham will not only have access to Highgate’s resources and connections, but its experience too – ‘it has taken ten years at Highgate to build this programme… [our partnership] saves [LAE Tottenham] all the trial and error that we have been working through in our 10 years’. With ‘the schools from whence [LAE students] came looking to have them come back as representatives and mentors’, the extent of the partnership team’s influence seems unbounded, even once its official growth stagnates.

Having heard this much, I had to ask – is there a tangible end point? ‘It’s not that we want to keep growing and growing’, is Ms Butterworth’s response, ‘but we can get to a point where we’re happy with what we have, and then it’s about maintaining the quality of what we do’. It is clear, however, that partnership work has become an integral part of Highgate’s identity as an independent but benevolent school. ‘At a time when the government is questioning independent schools about the impact we could or should be having…I think at Highgate we’ve always been ahead of what we’ve been asked to do’.

BEATRICE BARR (12EG)
DABBY – HORNBY On August 6, 2017, Dr. Ben Dabby (Common Room) to Matthew Hornby at Prospect House, in East Sussex.

DIAMOND WEDDING BRENTNALL On January 8, 2015, Edward Brentnall MBE (1941) and his wife Hazel (Otridge) celebrated their Diamond Wedding. They were married on January 8, 1955 in St Andrew’s Cathedral, Singapore, while he was serving in the RAMC as Regimental Medical Officer to the Singapore Engineer Regiment. They live in Australia.

HONOURS COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE SIMON EDWARD JOHN WALKER (JUNIOR SCHOOL) lately Director General, Institute of Directors, for services to Business and the Economy.

DEATHS

HUTCHISON (1932) On January 1, 2017, Dr Harry Gordon Hutchison, aged 96. He was in the 1937 Fives VI and the 1935-6 Shooting VIII. He read Agriculture at Reading University, served during the War as a Major in the Gold Coast Regiment and in the Royal West African Air Force, and obtained his Doctorate in Animal Genetics at Edinburgh University in 1957. From 1947 to 1954 he worked with the Ministry of Agriculture in Tanganyika on research into animal husbandry, and with the United Nations from 1965 to 1981. In 1982 he established Harry Hutchison Personal Investments.

SMITH (SG 1933) During Summer 2016, Clifford Harry Smith, aged 95. He was a retired Chartered Accountant.


RENDER (SH 1937) On March 6, 2017, Desmond David Render, aged 92. After his time at Westward Ho!, he decided not to return to Highgate and joined the Sherwood Rangers, a tank regiment of the Royal Armoured Corps. He became a Captain in command of a tank troop and fought after D-Day through to the end of the war, after which he worked in the building trade. We announced in the Winter 2016 Cholmeleian that he had been awarded the Legion d’Honneur that year. He lived in Totteridge, and leaves his wife, Ann. He was a member of Barnet Probus Club, as is Dr. John Hodgson (MG 1953), who reported his death to us.

SNELL (1935) On February 7, 2015, Dr. Eric Saxon Snell, MB BS Lond (1948), MRCP (1952), MA Oxon (1961), MD Lond (1967), FRCP (1973), aged 91. From the website of the Royal College of Physicians, we learn that he was director of medical and scientific affairs at the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) and a former medical director of Glaxo. His working life began as a weatherman with the Air Ministry during the Second World War, but he was released to study. He flirted with the stage while at medical school, appearing in two Gilbert and Sullivan operas, one of them – The Mikado – attended by two young princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret. His first post was as sole resident doctor at a small hospital in Ramsgate. One of his patients there had a Colles’ fracture of the forearm. He had never seen one, but read in a textbook how to repair it with a firm blow to the offending bone, and took a few practice swings on the nurse before administering the blow to the patient – fortunately giving a perfect result. Curiously, he suffered his own Colles’ fracture many years later, when playing football for a Glaxo team. He married Margaret Edmond in July 1949 in Crickhowell, south Wales; they had three children, Nicola, Nigel and Philippa, and seven grandchildren.

His medical career was a distinguished one. He returned to St Mary’s as a house physician and later registrar and senior registrar, and in 1959 spent a year teaching at a medical school in Ibadan, Nigeria. He then took a teaching and research post as May Reader in Medicine at Oxford University, and in 1965 moved into the pharmaceutical industry, becoming Medical Director of Glaxo and later a director of Glaxo Group Research. He chaired the medical committee of the ABPI and served on their code of practice committee. In 1980 he became Director of Medical and Scientific Affairs at the ABPI, and through his initiative the Centre for Medicines Research was born. He published articles on pharmaceutical medicine, notably on research into topical steroids.

He retired aged 62, but continued to do consultancy work in the pharmaceutical industry. He took classes in music at the City Literary Institute in London, played and composed, and had his music performed publicly in Dorset in 1989. He was also a member of the Dorset Choral Society. He was always physically active, from playing football and running at school, to more football at St Mary’s, and while at Glaxo, where he was a regular in the ‘veterans’ team. In his last years he lived in Poundbury village in Dorset. He was also working on his memoirs (which may yet see the light of day). Although he became physically less able in his last couple of years, his mind remained alert and his ability to laugh was undiminished to the end. He died in Dorchester County Hospital after a short illness.

Winston (1937) On August 11, 2016, Clive Noel Winston, aged 91. He was a solicitor with the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) and a former medical director of Glaxo and later a director of practice committee. In 1980 he became Director of Medical and Scientific Affairs at the ABPI, and through his initiative the Centre for Medicines Research was born. He published articles on pharmaceutical medicine, notably on research into topical steroids.

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WINSTON (1937) On August 11, 2016, Clive Noel Winston, aged 91. He was a solicitor with the Metropolitan Police.

GYSIN (NG 1938) On January 6, 2017, Charles James Gysin, aged 91. He was a director of Matthews, Wrightson & Burbridge, Shipbrokers (later Galbraith’s Ltd.), was elected a member of the Baltic Exchange in 1959, and retired in 1984. His funeral was at Cambridge City Crematorium.

WINSLOWS (1939) During Summer 2016, John Malcolm Ridler, aged 87. He was an engineer, and became Senior Engineer in the Engineering and Projects Division of Cable and Wireless plc.

PRICE (1944) During 2016, Peter Coles Price, aged 85.

HUGHES (FG/GH 1947) On October 10, 2016, Leonard John Hughes, aged 81, after a long illness. Len was a keen sportsman and was captain of the OC 1st XI during the late 1950s. Whilst in the army for his national service he served in Cyprus during the EOKA troubles. He qualified as an engineer and was Managing Director of Greenwood Airvac, mechanical & electrical engineers in Sussex. For many years he lived in Worthing, Sussex with his wife Sally. They had two daughters, Charlotte and Heidi. [Sent by friend John Campbell (GH 1946)]

LANCASTER (WG 1947) On November 22, 2016, Guy William Lancaster, aged 81, following a long illness. Guy was the youngest of three brothers who attended Highgate School. He recalled the day in June 1944 when a V1 bomb landed on the school playing field, after which he was dispatched to his uncle’s farm in Norfolk for the summer, returning again in September for the start of the academic year. On leaving Highgate, he went up to Pembroke College, Cambridge to read modern languages and then returned to Cambridge, as part of his National Service,
to attend the Joint Services School for Linguists during the Cold War, becoming fluent in Russian. After this, he joined the family business, P. Fanghanel & Co., eventually becoming Managing Director. Guy was also a talented musician and a very competent bridge player. He is survived by his wife, Lorna, his children, Louise and Julian, and his four grandchildren, Oliver, Claudia, Jude & Lara.

SMITH (NG 1948) On November 9, 2016, Edward Richard Smith, aged 80. For 18 months he had been in hospital and then in a Care Home suffering from discitus, an infection of the discs of the spine, and at the beginning of November was diagnosed with bile duct cancer, a very invasive cancer which is usually only diagnosed when it is too late for any treatment, and from which he died the following day. In his professional life he was a Director of Hill, Samuel & Co., Merchant Bankers, and a Fellow of the Institute of Bankers.

WOOLF (MG 1948) On November 18, 2016, Douglas Samuel Woolf, a week before his 81st birthday, in Miami, Florida, where he had lived for the last 25 years and where he was predeceased by his wife, Millie; a memorial service was held there on November 20, 2016. He was fiercely proud of his days at Highgate, where he led Midgate to victory in the Hunt Cup and was a member of the school boxing team. He enjoyed a close relationship with Theodore Mallinson, who visited him when he lived in the Cayman Islands and joined him on an O.C. trip in Jamaica. After Highgate, he went to the London School of Economics and then had a very successful career in business. He will be deeply missed by his son, Daniel, and many friends, including Jeffrey Breslaw (MG 1947), who sent this note.

JENKINS (GH 1949) On January 4, 2017, Ivor Glynne Jenkins, aged 80, in Cabbagetown, Toronto. Glynne epitomised the never-say-die attitude to life and sport which Highgate brought out in him: he was in the Cricket XI 1954-5, Captain of the Football XI 1953-5, and Captain of Athletics in 1955. He always said, “I am the fittest person of my age,” which was true, with his athletics career and playing squash right up to the day before he died. He attended 14 Olympic Games, the first in 1948, nine of those as a commentator for CTV, and too many athletic and world championships to count. Soccer – and Arsenal – was an equal love. His other passion was Sir Winston Churchill; many will recall his stories about being a boarder at Highgate with Churchill’s biographer, Sir Martin Gilbert. He was a member of the International Churchill Society and a Board Director of the Churchill Society of Canada.

Glynne worked in the advertising industry in Africa, Canada, Europe the Far East, and the Middle East. In Canada, he also ran courses at a number of Universities and colleges. He was an avid traveller, and truly loved Africa, and the Beatles, who he saw at the London Hippodrome and met at Abbey Road. He was also a film buff, his favourites being any wartime film, documentary, or musical.

Although he lived for many years in Toronto, Canada, he regularly returned to the UK to see family and friends, including what became known as ‘The Gang’, a loose grouping of OCs and others from the Hampstead, Golders Green and Highgate areas, who stayed friends all their lives. Their “tradition of riotous evening re-unions at Christmas in top-class London restaurants, with more sedate lunch-time dates (with wives and/ or children) in a City inn, is kept alive to this day by the now-diminishing band”. He cherished his two boys, Damian and Nick, and their families, and was best friend to his wife Beverley, with whom he had just celebrated 29 years of marriage. In 2016, he celebrated his 80th birthday with family and friends in London and in Toronto. He is remembered for his energy, spirit, keen interest in everything, humour, kindness, and above all else his endless stories. Because of his love of wildlife and conservation, the family asked that any donations should be made to the World Wildlife Fund.

Howard Darbon (GH 1955) adds: “Glynne lived near us in Totteridge and I got to know him well, both through our involvement with the OCs’ Football and through athletics. I was persuaded to join Orion Harriers, which used to organise an annual schools X-Country event in Epping Forest which I won three years on the trot, but I soon realised that that club was not really suitable for track and field, in which I was best at school, and was persuaded by Glynne to join Shaftesbury Harriers, of which he was a member. It was as a direct result of his ‘mentoring’ that I went on to enjoy a long and relatively successful athletics career. As a keen Arsenal fan, he often, when in the UK, looked me up and we would go the occasional match and have enjoyable discussions on all aspects of sport. I played for many years alongside him with the OCs, encouraged always by his kindness, and above all else his endless stories. Because of his love of wildlife and conservation, the family asked that any donations should be made to the World Wildlife Fund. [Adapted from an obituary by his widow Beverley and a note from Tim Clyde (GH 1952)].”
his positive comments and leadership from the front. He was a great friend, lived life to the full, enjoyed sport and became a successful squash player, particularly when competing as a ‘veteran’, and was on court just before his death.

INWALD (EG 1950) On September 24, 2016, Dr. Anthony Charles Inwald, MB, BS, MRCGP, aged 80.

Tony was born in London and grew up above the surgery in St John’s Way which had been bought by his father in 1927. During the war he narrowly missed being killed by a V2 rocket which flattened many other houses in the street. He attended Highgate School, playing football as a winger for both his school and medical school teams, and made many lifelong friends through sport, whether football, sailing or golf. Following A-levels (one correspondent suggests that he was the first person to get four A-levels at the School), he won a place at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, and entered general practice in 1961, joining his father, Dr Philip Inwald, in the St. John’s Way Medical Centre in Upper Holloway, North London, which he had founded. Tony remained in the family surgery for 41 years, helping to develop it into a thriving training practice in a modern health centre.

In the 1970s, a compulsory purchase order resulted in the family moving out of the Victorian building that doubled as the family home and surgery (fondly known as “Dracula’s Castle”) and the practice relocated to a Portakabin for several years. During this trying period Tony, along with his colleagues, supervised the design and building of new purpose-built accommodation for the growing practice. At the same time, he took on the role of School Doctor at Highgate School from 1986-97, taking over from George Rankine, and no doubt many OCs will remember him in this role.

In 1996, he found himself on the front pages of the national newspapers after being stabbed and seriously wounded by a patient with mental health problems. Typically, he had gone to the aid of another GP, who had called for help when the patient had taken out a knife during a consultation. Although as far as he was concerned, he had done nothing special, others disagreed and he was given a Carnegie Hero Award. He was a vocal supporter of the NHS and was for many years active in his local BMA division. Following his retirement (the celebration of which was held in Big School), he became a Trustee of the Friends of the Whittington Hospital.

He died, aged 80, at home and surrounded by his family. He leaves his wife Naomi, to whom he was a devoted husband for 53 years, two children, David (EG 1978), and Jacqueline, and five grandchildren. He is also fondly remembered by many at the School.

DAWE (WG 1954) On June 24, 2016, Christopher John Dawe, aged 74, from cancer, bravely battled in Pamplona, Spain. He first worked in Basle to perfect his German, and then went to Spain, where he met his future wife Marie-Lo. He started working for Linden-Comansa Pamplona, one of the largest European Crane manufacturers, travelling the world, selling cranes to China, the Middle East and the Americas, and becoming international sales director. Chris had many outside interests, particularly anything mechanical/engineering – including flying his model aeroplanes, an expensive but enjoyable hobby – and was a keen golfer. Every summer for the last 25 years his good friends Lawrence Feldman (WG 1955) and Robin Alexander (WG 1955), who submitted this memoir, would spend ten days at Chris’s country cottage to enjoy themselves with golf, good regional cuisine and copious amounts of good local Navarra wines. Chris and Marie-Lo were married for 50 years, and had three children and many grandchildren.

MEIER (FG 1956) On September 21, 2016, Peter Meier, aged 72. Arriving in Canada as an English solicitor, Peter qualified as an Ontario barrister and then, disquieted by the adversarial approach, undertook a Master of Laws at York University (Osgoode Hall Law School) in Alternate Dispute Resolution, to become a Mediator. His son Paul, a labour lawyer, lives with his three children in Toronto and his daughter Kate, a College Lecturer, with her two children in Brussels; his wife Rosemary practises as a psychiatrist in Toronto. Introduced to the Quaker Committee on Jails and Justice, Peter participated in visits to Metro West Detention Centre. In 1992 he joined a group of citizens, concerned by the second trial of Guy Paul Morin, which grew into the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted (AIDWYC). Peter remained actively involved in AIDWYC, serving as President from its inception in 1993 until 2004, and was awarded the Rubin Hurricane Carter award, which he received posthumously on October 6 2016, Wrongful Conviction Day, when AIDWYC became known as Innocence Canada.
PARKER (SH 1958)
On January 1, 2016, John William Kirkhove
Parker, aged 72.

John was immensely proud of attending Highgate and enjoyed his time there. He would recall to his family all the activities and events he took part in as a boarder, his time in the CCF, where he rose to captain and was a 1st Class shot, the cross country runs, but, most importantly, sport which he continued to take part in throughout his life, especially cricket. On leaving Highgate in 1962, he joined the Gosport office of LS Vail & Son, chartered surveyors, as an articled clerk, qualified as a Chartered Surveyor in 1969, and subsequently became a partner until 1987 when the Halifax Building Society acquired the residential business.

After this John was under contract to the Halifax but was eventually able to turn his hand to something totally new – the sale of sweets in the new shopping centres opening up and down the country. He was a lifelong member of Hampshire County Cricket club, and played a major part in the testimonials for Mark Nicholas, Chris & Robin Smith as part of the Portsmouth Fund raising committee; but closest to his heart was Stansted Cricket Club, for whom he was not just a player but Secretary. John also played football in the Portsmouth Sunday League for Drayton.

BRAININ (WG 1955)
On May 1, 2016, George Abraham Brainin, aged 74.

His friend Michael Detsiny (HG 1955) writes: “George was, even as a schoolboy, a larger than life character. Tall and good looking, he had an infectious sense of humour and lit up any room or gathering. He was an excellent sportsman, and as captain and centre half of that great Westgate senior house football team, George more than gave his all. I remember the day when my house, Heathgate, toiled in vain to score; after the match, Theodore Mallinson announced loudly to everyone in earshot “George, you are our rock.”. He was also in the school tennis team and made a formidable doubles partnership with his friend Michael Mansfield. However, playing with George as a doubles pairing was hazardous; his serve was fierce – he either aced his opponent or the ball smashed into the back of his partner at the net!

On leaving school he went into the family business and it was his drive and enthusiasm that built Brainin Cashmeres into one of the UK’s top luxury retailers. Sadly he had a stroke about ten years ago and was house-bound, and largely chair-bound. However, not once in all those difficult years did he utter one single word of complaint. He said that he had had a great deal of good luck and therefore had to accept the downside. That he even managed to somehow enjoy those difficult years was due entirely to the devotion of his wife, Odette. Those who knew him at school and in later life will treasure his memory.

FULFORD (TL 1957)

John was immensely proud of attending Highgate and enjoyed his time there. He would recall to his family all the activities and events he took part in as a boarder, his time in the CCF, where he rose to captain and was a 1st Class shot, the cross country runs, but, most importantly, sport which he continued to take part in throughout his life, especially cricket. On leaving Highgate in 1962, he joined the Gosport office of LS Vail & Son, chartered surveyors, as an articled clerk, qualified as a Chartered Surveyor in 1969, and subsequently became a partner until 1987 when the Halifax Building Society acquired the residential business.

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and in later life he took up golf and was a member of Goodwood Golf Club. Golf took him too many countries where he made many new friends and it was on these travels that he fell in love with South Africa. He is survived by his two daughters, two granddaughters and a grandson.

**STEINER (HG 1957)** On July 14, 2016, Michael Clement Steiner, aged 73. He leaves his widow, Ruth.

**SAVAGE (NG 1964)** On November 14, 2016, Christopher Bentham Savage, aged 65 after a long illness. A memorial service was held at the home of his lifelong friend Andrew Mills (NG 1964). (Note submitted by his brother Roger, NG 1964-67)

**WALTON (JUNIOR SCHOOL STAFF, 1970-97)** During September, 2016, Bill Walton, who taught French at the Junior School. His son Richard thought to advise us of his death as “the school was a very significant part of his life” [See Obituaries]

**LEIR (MG 1981)** On January 13, 2017, Mungo Edward Amyatt Leir, aged 48. Mungo was both willing and smart, enjoying Biology, Chemistry and Physics in his sixth form years. He was always well turned-out, especially in his sergeant’s RAF cadet uniform, and well polished boots. It was then that he learned to fly, first gliders then aeroplanes, something that developed into a lifelong passion. Another passion was business, he and Janko Mrsic-Flogel (also at Highgate) started Paradox Software producing and publishing computer games also whilst in the sixth form. Mungo was admitted to Bristol University to read Botany in 1986, but after one term, decided that his heart was more in business, so he returned to Whetstone and Muswell Hill to work. This developed into a successful career running a specialist company, “The Directors”, where he published recreational flight simulator software and a magazine, “Just Flight”, until online delivery of titles changed the industry, and made the business unviable.

He married Emma Macpherson in 1993 and, after a year-long round the world honeymoon trip, he and Emma settled in Brighton, bringing up their child Ishbel (now 21) in a loving family home overlooking Queens Park. Outside of work he took up private flying, at one time owning a part-share of a stunt aeroplane that he flew out of Shoreham airport, near Brighton, bringing many passengers to near total shock, whilst he calmly maintained control. This was one of his preferred forms of meditation and finding peace in the present moment.

After his marriage ended in 2005, he stayed in Brighton and continued to publish flight simulation software. In 2014 he finally moved to Hay-On-Wye, on the Welsh border, close to where he had lived with his grandparents in early childhood. It was there that he found happiness again, after some more turbulent times, quickly becoming well known in the local community, using his good looks, charm and worldly wisdom. He started the Black Mountain Roast coffee company and invented the Espresso Martini chocolate bar.

He died very unexpectedly of a heart attack in his home, having spent a close family Christmas with his mother, Carolyn, brother Daniel Start (also at Highgate) and daughter Ishbel. His funeral was on 1 February in St Michaels, Clyro, where the order of service and songs were those Mungo had chosen whilst alive, starting with *The Man With The Child In His Eyes*, by Kate Bush. His family and friends will miss him dearly. He was just 48. [From Adam Spannier (MG 1981)]

**TALBOT** In February, 2016, John Michael Arthur Talbot, aged 81. He was Clerk to the Governors from 1980 to his retirement on April 30, 1997. He was senior partner of solicitors Bower Cotton and Bower, who had provided the Clerk to the School Governors from at least 1934 until Sean McGeeeney took over from Bob Perrin (who succeeded John) in September 2000.

**CORRECTION AND APOLOGY** On page 74 of the Winter 2016 issue, the photograph of the late Michael Colne (1944) accompanying his obituary was inadvertently captioned ’Nigel Colne’, who is his living brother who advised us of his death. We are grateful to him and his family for taking it in good part – “Just to let you know brother Michael’s widow and close family took the typo with great humour and reflected how Mike would have would also be chuckling about it somewhere! My wife is waiting for the condolence letters to roll in!”. We apologise for the mistake, and trust that Nigel will continue in good health for many years yet!
hose who knew Bill Walton will be saddened to learn that he died, at home, on 11 September 2016.

Bill’s Highgate story began when he joined the Junior School staff, as Head of French, in September 1970, not retiring until 1997. His legacy was founded on more than the teaching of French and he established himself as a unique and remarkable human being. His friendly manner and jovial humour, which seemed to survive all those vagaries which beset the teacher, made him a popular colleague. Put simply, he was enjoyable to be with.

An isolated success may be attributed to fortune but Bill was a successful and committed teacher throughout his career. Not only was he Head of French but Housemaster of Sandys, an enthusiastic athletics coach and an indefatigable record keeper and scorer. Any dedicated individual might emulate this but Bill brought the warmth of humanity to his tasks and held the interest of his pupils because he refused to become dull and predictable, either as a teacher or a person.

Bill’s fantastic sense of humour enlivened many a staff room discussion and he could be enigmatic too. Andrew Costeloe recalls that on being introduced to Bill one of the first things he said was: ‘Nice to meet you, by the way my name’s not Bill.’ It seems that there had been another member of staff called Brian, Bill’s actual name, and Bill had arisen out of necessity. Bill embodied quirky stories of that nature, which contributed to the fascination of the man.

He always believed that French should not be confined to the classroom and organised an incredibly varied series of trips to France. These excursions might take in Paris, the South of France, or the Northern departments. Classic venues such as Cathedrals and Chateaux were interspersed with activities such as land yachting and on one memorable occasion, fishing. The youthful enthusiasm of the ‘anglers,’ ensured that almost as many trout ended up in trees as on the bank.

The most unforgettable of these experiences occurred in Paris. Unsurprisingly a visit to the Eiffel Tower was planned but the party was confounded by a tortuous example of the infamous Catherine Wheel queue. It would be hours before the party reached the front of the line. Bill agreed that joining the queue was an impossibility. The boys were lined up and instructed to follow him wherever he led and to ask no questions. He led the way straight to the front of the queue and his imperious assertion that this was ‘the special group’ proved astonishingly convincing. Even the seemingly obdurate official at the turnstile capitulated. Highgate ascended the Eiffel Tower, bang on schedule.

Following his career at Highgate Bill retired to live with his second wife Lynne, Senior Matron in the boarding house before changing her role to that of pastoral care for the day pupils. Lynne’s cheerful, composed personality proved a wonderful foil and the retirement was very happy. Sadly missed, Bill will be remembered by his ex-colleagues with respect and affection.

Victor James Fox died on 12 May 2016 in a motor-cycling accident near Uttarkashi, in a mountainous region of northern India, aged just 22. He was travelling with three friends, from Rishikesh to a remote hamlet in the Himalayas.

After leaving Bristol University he had spent four and a half months solo-traveling around Colombia, of which part was spent helping out on ecolodges in return for board and lodgings. He was fascinated by Colombia’s diverse natural beauty, and was shocked by the way indigenous tribes were treated by central government. He then met with a university friend in India, and they’d been travelling for 2 months when the accident happened.

He attended Highgate School between 2001 and 2012, and was an exceptional student. Throughout his time both in the Junior and Senior School, Victor excelled socially and academically. From the age of 9 through to when he left at 18 he was a prominent and popular member of his peer group. People were drawn to a young man with a simply lovable nature: he was relaxed, fun-loving, kind and quick-witted.

Vicky Stubbs remembered how he earned a ‘best actor’ award for his portrayal of a disaffected and dissolute youth in The Breakfast Club in the Junior School, making everyone laugh during rehearsals with his extreme takes on the character. He took drum lessons for several years and enjoyed playing in the inter house instrumental competition in which Eastgate was notably successful.

Academically, he had it all. Victor was naturally intelligent, insatiably curious and diligent when needed. He took everything in his stride, without bother, achieving top grades at GCSE and A-level. During Year 13 he developed a real passion for philosophy which led him to accept a place at the University of Bristol in 2012, from where he graduated three years later with First Class Honours. His tutor Seiriol Morgan said that his essay on Heidegger in the final year was the best on the subject he had read during his career as a lecturer.

I was lucky enough to know Victor both at Highgate and later at university, and his qualities were certainly obvious to all those who knew or met him. Victor was intelligent, funny and kind; a constant voice of reason; effortlessly popular and social. He had an infectious laugh, and a smirk that grew into a wholehearted smile. He exuded a happiness that made him approachable to strangers, and his company a pleasure to friends and family. He had the wonderful ability to make a room quiet and to listen to him, whilst maintaining the capacity to listen to others. He was always open to new ideas and people, and rarely passed judgement unnecessarily. He had a deserved confidence and swagger yet retained an obvious humility. He was, and remains, an inspiration to me and many of our friends. He was a credit to himself, his family and the environment – inclusive of Highgate School – that nurtured him and let him grow into the remarkable person he became. He left an indelible mark on so many people, and he is so sorely missed.

Mr James spoke movingly at his memorial service and has since instituted an annual ‘Creative Thinking Award’ to be given in his memory. Victor’s cremation took place at Marylebone cemetery on 23 May. There was a celebration of his life, attended by hundreds, in the dining room at Highgate School.
in the world to have a television service. His son, 81-year-old Simon Blumlein, called the award a great honour for his father and the family. [Adapted from a feature in the Hampstead and Highgate Express for 16 Feb 2017]

RICHARD GREENSLADE
(NG 1937) – A Personal Memory from Tim Clyde
(GH 1952)

Re-reading the 2013 Magazine revived memories of Dick Greenslade and happy days in OCs soccer teams, from the late 1950s until I moved from London to the South Coast in 1989. Dick was one of the ‘elder statesmen’ of the Sports Club when it opened at its spacious new grounds in Hendon Wood Lane, at about the time I left Highgate and started playing OC football. Dick, and others, were an inspiration, especially to us youngsters fresh out of School; they worked so hard to acquire, and then to maintain, what has proved to be the focal point of OC sporting activity and a permanent legacy.

I can vouch for the description of Dick, by his brother Len, as an immovable force on the playing field. Dick was always the man you wanted on your side; I shudder to think what he was like to face in sporting combat. Although today even professional footballers think twice about tackling a fast-moving attacker approaching them down the wing, Dick’s method – usually successful – was to launch himself feet-first at the enemy, taking ball, man, himself – and even a bystander or two – into an unceremonious touch – the ‘Sliding Tackle’ par excellence!

But, alongside his indomitable sporting spirit, Dick remained a kind and gentle soul off the pitch, always tolerant of the foibles of those of us still too young to know better and setting a good example to all those around him. He appeared not to have a nasty bone in his body, although the broken bodies of some of his opponents tell a different story: you certainly knew when you’d been ‘Greensladed’!

His longevity on the field of play didn’t surprise me. Dick lived for the OC Sports Club and gave his all, and half his life, to it. The many who enjoyed his modest temperament and relished his steely resolve will never forget him or the richness he brought to the lives of all who knew him. If St Peter has any sense, he will have made Dick Keeper of the Pearly Gates – enter if you dare!

EDWARD BRENTNALL
(TL/HG 1941) (see also
Diamond Wedding note) writes from Australia with an update on the last seven decades. After training at UCH in London, he met his wife Hazel there when they were both working in Casualty. She subsequently went to Australia for two years as a “10 pound Pom” (a colloquialism used Down Under for British subjects who were encouraged to migrate there after the Second World War, at a fare of £10); she then joined him in Singapore, where Edward was working with the Royal Army Medical Corps (for which he was awarded his MBE) and they were married. They returned home at Easter 1957, and later went into general practice in Kent, but in 1965 decided to emigrate to Australia, influenced by many things, including the climate and the fact that his brother Philip Brentnall (1939) and his wife Sally had gone to Melbourne in 1952. He was in a group practice

NOTES

ALAN BLUMLEIN (1918) was awarded a posthumous Grammy Award in Los Angeles on February 11th, 2017, for his pioneering contributions to sound engineering and recording. The award came 75 years after his death.

Born in 1903 to a German émigré father and a mother of Scottish descent, Blumlein attended Biggin School; they worked so hard to acquire, and then to maintain, what has proved to be the focal point of OC sporting activity and a permanent legacy.

With the outbreak of War in 1939, he worked on the development of a system for detecting the approach of enemy aircraft, his team developing the HS2 airborne radar. On June 7, 1942, the Halifax bomber in which they were testing the system crashed, killing him and the other 10 passengers and crew.

During his career, Blumlein was a prolific inventor, earning 128 patents in electronics and audio engineering covering stereo, television and radar. As a result of his work, the UK was the first country
for ten years, specialising in obstetrics, and in 1975 was offered the post of Emergency Department Director at their local hospital, Box Hill Hospital, Melbourne. “Fools rush in where Angels fear to tread” but, he says, it was the most interesting and exciting period of his. He retired in 1994, but as there was a shortage of Fellows of their new College, he was offered locum jobs, setting up and recruiting for Emergency Departments in Auckland, Cairns, Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, and again in Adelaide. He has also been involved with St John Ambulance, Australia, since 1967. In sum, then, he considers they have had a great life in Australia, and are lucky to be able to live in central Melbourne, a short walk from everything. Wagner’s Ring Cycle was recently performed at their Art Centre, and he was able to walk there in about seven minutes. Melbourne claims to be one of the most liveable cities in the world; while it is not perfect, he opines, it is not bad! They have also explored much of Australia, including the centre, the Kimberley, Far North Queensland and Western Australia. He stays in touch with fellow OCs there, and attended the OC dinner on December 7, 2017, organised by Tim Acton who does a magnificent job of keeping them all in touch. He adds that he went with the Junior School to Hartland Abbey, and has given copies of his letters home from there to the School Archives. (A web search by the Editors reveals that he modestly omits to mention that he was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in 2010 for services to acute and emergency medicine; also, that the Edward Brentnall Award is named in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, where he was instrumental in developing the speciality of emergency medicine and creating a College for medical training. He introduced one of the first triage systems in a “casualty” department and initiated the first combined medical and nursing associations. The award is presented annually by him to an ACEM Fellow or trainee for a published paper relating to public health or disaster).

**ANTHONY GREEN RA (SG 1951)** was the subject of an exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, from January 18 to April 30, 2017. Titled *The Life and Death of Miss Dupont*, it celebrated the 40th anniversary of his election as a Royal Academician in 1977, and was the subject of an article in the RA magazine for winter 2016. He also had a retrospective exhibition at London gallery Chris Beetles from January to March 1917. A book on his work has also been published: *Anthony Green: Painting Life* by Martin Bailey, published at £30

**OCS IN ROME** OC soirée Rome (Thurs 7 or Fri 8 September 2017)

A group of OCs, writes Colin Pincombe: “Harris, Etheridge, Springett & Pincombe (circa 1955-7) will be meeting up in Rome and wish to get together with contemporaries and other OCs. There are four of us plus another who attended The Hall with us, but was unfortunately then sent to Berkhamsted. Depending on the responses, we might meet up for an evening drink or dinner in central Rome. Partners will, of course, be welcome. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact: Richard Springett – richardspringett23@yahoo.com or Colin Pincombe – +44 1548 857507”

**RICHARD BREWSTER (CH 1959)** writes that, over the last few years, Guy Buckler (CH 1959) has organised a Cordell lunch Club for those OC veterans who joined Cordell in the 1959/60 year. The Club normally meets twice a year, and last met on 1st December on the South Bank at a restaurant called The Wharf. Over lunch the conversation only lapses when interrupted by the frequent laughter. If you remember this band of Cordell brothers, please do contact Guy by emailing Notes & News [We believe that this is just one of many informal gatherings of OCs who have a bond either through sharing a House or as members of sports team. Please tell Notes & News if you have any such news, as we would very much like to report on who meets and where – Editors]

ADAM YAMEY (HG 1965) writes that, in recent years, he began writing as a hobby, and has published several books, some noted in earlier magazines. At Highgate, his progress in English was not great at first, and he attributes his improvement in writing to the first-rate weekly essay criticism classes held by Head of Biology George Sellick during the A-level Biology course. They had to write three essays a week, and on Saturday mornings George read out the highlights and lowlights of each essay to the class, which could be quite embarrassing, but also very educational. These sessions used to be interrupted by parents of prospective students entering the room as part of the School’s ‘sales’ pitch. George told us that whenever we heard the door being opened, we were to try to look like serious students!

In 2016 Adam published a biography of his great-grandfather Franz Ginsberg (1862-1936) who left Prussia
JON LANSMAN (QG 1970) is the founder of Momentum, which he founded following his direction of Jeremy Corbyn’s election to the leadership of the Labour Party in 2015. Jon read Economics at Clare College, Cambridge, graduating in 1979. He was active in politics at Cambridge and was elected a student member of the Academic Board. He ran for Union President with Andrew Marr (then nicknamed ‘Red Andy’) on the same slate. Soon after, he became a friend of Labour’s election agent in Hornsey, Jeremy Corbyn. Following Labour’s 1979 defeat, Jon worked as ‘chief fixer’ for Tony Benn, and worked with Benn on his 1988 campaign for the Labour Party leadership in which he challenged the incumbent, Neil Kinnock. From 2010, he worked as a researcher for Michael Meacher. Interviewed by the Jewish Chronicle in January, he commented on the recent accusations of anti-Semitism: ‘Yes, of course the vast majority of British Jews are supportive of Israel as a Jewish state – and actually so is Jeremy – but they are far from supportive of all aspects of what is happening there.’ And of Ken Livingstone he remarked: ‘A period of silence is long overdue from Ken Livingstone, especially on anti-semitism, racism and Zionism.’

HUGH ALDERSEY-WILLIAMS (WG 1971) has written books on chemistry, history and design. Tide, is his most recent book (2016), about what he sees as ‘the greatest force on earth’; what may appear to be a mere rise and fall of the sea is a phenomenon which has shaped continents. Hugh has sought a way of combining his passions for arts and sciences; after his degree in Natural Sciences at Cambridge he tried journalism, before publishing his first books during his time in the United States. From graphic design to buckminsterfullerene, his books combine a passion and curiosity for each of his diverse projects. The success of Periodic Tales, where he explains the everyday importance of the elements, led him to feature on BBC Radio 4 discussing his fascination with the history of chemistry and its value today.

CHARLES DRAZIN (SG 1974) has published Mapping the Past: A Search for Five Brothers at the Edge of Empire, a historical work following five brothers around the world in the dying days of Empire, published in August 2016. He read Classics at Oxford, has worked for many years as a writer and editor, and also teaches at Queen Mary College, London. His other books include In Search of the Third Man (1999), Korda: Britain’s Only Movie Mogul (2002), The Man Who Outshone the Sun King (2008) and The Faber Book of French Cinema (2011).

JEREMY ROSE (1980) became Men’s Captain of Highgate Golf Club in March 2016; his term is for one year. He was a Junior member while he was at Highgate School, and is either the first or second OC to be Captain of the golf club – no one really seems to know! He has been a member of the club for 36 years. The Lady Captain is Penny McCormack, some of whose children went to Highgate. Jeremy owns Keats Estate Agents in Muswell Hill with his business partner Shane Perkins (KG 1975). They have been partners since 1996.

ROBERT HALFON (QG 1982) has been appointed Minister of State at the Department of Education, with a brief for further education, skills and apprenticeships. He moves from being Minister of State without Portfolio to an expanded Department of Education, with Justine Greening at the helm. Robert set up a new parliamentary apprentice programme with the charity New Deal of The Mind Known as the ‘school of apprentices’ which offers 16 to 19-year-olds the chance to spend up to three days a week working in Westminster, along with two days working towards
a level 3 apprenticeship (equivalent to A-level) in business administration. In 2013 he received a Politician of the Year from Avanta, a large employment and training provider, for his work promoting the apprenticeship scheme.

GEORGE HARTLEY (COMMON ROOM 1995-2003) has been appointed Headmaster of The King’s School, Chester from September 2017, the school’s 42nd Headmaster at King’s since its foundation in 1541. He is currently Principal of Elizabeth College, Guernsey was previously Head of Sixth Form at Berkhamsted School, and before that taught at Highgate, Queen’s College, Taunton and Eton.

RICHARD TILLET (EG 1986) will be the new Principal of Queen’s College London, an 11-18 all girls’ school in Harley Street, from September 2017.

Richard has been working at Harrogate Ladies’ College for the past seven years, as Head of Sixth Form, Deputy Head (Academic) and latterly Senior Deputy Head. He is looking forward to being able to get back in touch with some old friends and seeing Arsenal again from time to time! He is married to Dr. Emma Longstaff, who works in academic publishing. Their daughter Elisabeth was born in 2009.

KAYVAN AREFPOUR (GH 1992), known to the public as Kayvan Novak, creator of the E4 television comedy Fonejacker, began a new Radio 4 show in February, Celebrity Voicemail Show, which the Sunday Times describes as “spectacularly funny. The format is simple: Novak imagines the answerphone messages left for VIPs, beginning with Sadiq Khan. So we hear his PA; an imam; the organisers of the National Curry awards; and a Prevent think tank that interprets a child’s drawing of pineapples as grenades. Novak does every voice… It is entirely fictitious, but scalpel-sharp.” See https://goo.gl/YReTFn.

MARK HANLEY-BROWNE (DEPUTY HEAD) retires as Head of the Emanuel School, Battersea, London, in August after 13 years. From September 2017 he will take up the post of Chief Executive Officer of the Alpha Plus Group Plc., an education company which runs a network of independent schools and colleges.

TIM BENSON (EG 1996) will be having a solo exhibition at the Mall Galleries’ flagship Threadneedle Space in November. The exhibition will consist of painted portraits of Ebola survivors and those that treated them during the recent outbreak in Sierra Leone. The exhibition will consist of painted portraits of Ebola survivors and those that treated them during the recent outbreak in Sierra Leone. He travelled to Sierra Leone in 2016 and interviewed many of those affected. This exhibition will tell their story, with audio interviews running alongside the paintings. A percentage of sales will go to those affected.

JOE BAKER (TL C/2014) has won a Beilby scholarship and is reading Biological Sciences at Somerville College, Oxford.

JOSHUA DACRE (FG C/2007) has gained his PhD at the School of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Edinburgh; his Thesis was Thalamic Control of Motor Behaviour. He is now on a salaried Post-Doctorate at the University.

CLOVIS RAU (C/2005) made the Camden New Journal for 28th July, 2016 when he saw police attempting to resuscitate an unconscious man in Camden High Street. Clovis, a trainee accident and emergency doctor at Queen’s Hospital, Romford, said: “We were just passing and saw the police trying to resuscitate him. The guy had passed out, so I did what I could to help out.” His prompt action saved the man’s life.

SAMUEL LEONARD GRIFFITHS (MG C/2013) gained a BSc with Honours in Cell and Molecular Biology at Newcastle University in July 2016.

NICK RIDPATH (HG C/2015) was joint top First in Politics, Philosophy and Economics mods at the end of his first year. He was also voted the counsellor/mentor for first year PPE students in his college or year.
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