



# The Old Eastbournian 2019

The Journal of The Eastbournian Society



# WHERE CHARACTER IS MADE

A photograph of a young boy and girl in school uniforms standing in a hallway. The boy is behind the girl, holding her shoulders. They are surrounded by vibrant, swirling light trails in shades of pink, purple, and green, creating a dynamic and energetic atmosphere. The background shows a wooden wall with a trophy and a large window.

## WHO THEY WILL BE STARTS HERE

At St Andrew's Prep we encourage our pupils to build lines of character that help them be who they want to be.

You are warmly invited to attend one of our open events.

[www.standrewsprep.co.uk/whats-on/open-days](http://www.standrewsprep.co.uk/whats-on/open-days)

**St Andrew's Prep**  
EASTBOURNE



All Old Eastbournians, parents, College staff and other members  
of the Eastbournian Society are cordially invited to

# The Annual London Dinner

## Celebrating Eastbournian achievement

Guest of honour: Tom Evans (Wargrave 2005–10)

**Wednesday**  
**11 March 2020**

The Cavalry and Guards Club,  
127 Piccadilly, London, W1J 7PX

**An occasion  
not to be missed**



### The theme of this year's dinner is Endurance

Our guest of honour is former army captain Tom Evans who has made a name for himself in the last few years as one of the world's best ultra-runners. From coming third in 2017 in the gruelling Marathon des Sables, an epic race across the Sahara, to winning the Courmayeur Champex Chamonix (CCC) in 2018 and then taking third place in the 100-mile Western States race in the mountains and canyons of California in 2019, Tom has proved his incredible ability as an endurance runner.



Endurance of a different kind has been experienced by our second guest, John Thornley, who recently completed a teaching career of 41 years and half a term, all at the College. Although

now no longer teaching modern languages, John is still very much involved with the school, both in the Eastbournian Society and under his new title Administrative Support Specialist, although he is not too sure about the acronym.



- Formal evening wear ('Black tie')
- Reception drinks from 6.30pm
- Dinner from 7.30pm
- Q&A session with Tom Evans
- Three-course meal
- Half bottle of wine per person
- Tea or coffee
- Tickets cost £75 per person (£50 for OEs aged 29 and under)

**All tickets are subsidised by the Eastbournian Society**

To book your place(s) please contact Lulu Brown – 01323 451911 or [vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk)  
You can also write to: Eastbournian Society (London dinner), Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX



# Gonville celebration lunch



**Sunday 31 May 12.30pm**

**Dining Hall, Winn Building**

This year's summer lunch celebrates, in the 2019–20 academic year, 130 years since the founding of Gonville House in 1889.

The lunch is open to all Old Eastbournians, former and current staff, and other friends of the College, who are invited to join us, together with their husbands, wives or partners. An archives exhibition about the history of Gonville will be on display.

Dress code: Smart daywear/jacket and tie.  
The cost is £25 per person for a drinks reception, two-course lunch with wine, and coffee to follow.

To book your place(s) please contact  
Lulu Brown 01323 451911  
or [vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk)

You can also write to:  
Eastbournian Society (Gonville lunch),  
Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road  
Eastbourne, BN21 4JX



# The Old Eastbournian Reunion 2020



**Saturday 5 September**

This year we are inviting Old Eastbournians who will be celebrating 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and more years since they left the College.

So, if you were a sixth-form leaver in any of the years shown opposite, you are welcome to attend, and members of staff from any of these eras are also invited.

If you left the College before reaching the sixth form, you are still welcome to come along with the equivalent year group that you were in.

Left in:	Celebrating:
2010 or 2011	10 years
2000 or 2001	20 years
1990 or 1991	30 years
1980 or 1981	40 years
1970 or 1971	50+ years
or any earlier year	

Husbands, wives and partners are welcome as your guests. There is no charge for any of the activities during the day, including lunch and tea. The evening drinks reception and dinner costs just £25 per person (the cost is subsidised by the Eastbournian Society).

Reunion activities include:

- Lunch • Guided tour of the College • 1st XV and OE rugby •
- Tea • Visits to former houses • Evensong in Chapel •
- Evening drinks reception and three-course dinner (Dress code: Smart; £25 per person) •

**IMPORTANT: PLACES FOR LUNCH, TEA AND/OR DINNER MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE.**

To book your place(s) please contact Lulu Brown –  
01323 451911 or [vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk)

You can also write to:  
Eastbournian Society (Reunion),  
Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road,  
Eastbourne, BN21 4JX



# THE OLD EASTBOURNIAN 2019



Welcome to the latest edition of our review of the Eastbournian Society's year. Our cover shows the culmination of Project 150, with the official opening of the Winn Building by Dame Katherine Grainger, Chair of UK Sport. The building is of course named after our greatest living benefactor, David Winn OBE, whose generosity towards his old school has helped transform the College's facilities.

We are grateful to all those OEs and parents who help in so many ways, whether it is getting involved in careers and networking evenings, organising OE sports teams, arranging their own mini reunions and get-togethers or simply taking an interest in the College and coming along to the events we organise.

This sense of community is greatly valued. As Headmaster Tom Lawson says:

*Nothing adds more value than the insight our boys and girls gain from the experience and networking provided by willing parents and alumni through the Eastbournian Society. Community and camaraderie is right at the core of what makes this school special, and nothing pleases me more than seeing parents making friends through their connection with the College and active membership of the Eastbournian Society. A parent can give their child and their schoolmates no greater advantage than involving themselves in the ES network whose scope and vibrancy sets us apart from other schools.*

However we can never afford to stand still and our collective resolve is continually to improve the depth and breadth of the College community and its activities – we want to provide you with the very best in everything. We want to make this magazine available to as many as possible, along with the monthly emails that bring you the latest news of upcoming events.

Our main challenge is that on average we only have 'live' email addresses for just over 30% of OEs. And yet we know that many OEs keep in touch with groups of friends or are in contact via Facebook and yet are lost as far as the College and this office is concerned. Please do keep us up to date with your contact details and encourage others to do the same. Please do volunteer to sit on a committee or gather a table of friends for an event.

**David Stewart, Eastbournian Society Director**

## Keeping in touch by email

Under data protection rules we need you to give us permission to send you regular emails. It is easy to do so by any of the following ways:

- Send an email to [es@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:es@eastbourne-college.co.uk).
- Call us on 01323 452262.
- Write to us at Eastbournian Society, Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX.
- Tell us in person if you are visiting the College or attending an event.
- Or opt in on our website at [eastbourniansociety.org/opt-in](http://eastbourniansociety.org/opt-in).

## Data protection statement

The contact information we hold on our members is only used by the Eastbournian Society and Eastbourne College. We do not share this information with anyone else. We use it to send you details of our events (by email and post) and other letters and publications, including this magazine. If anybody asks us for the contact details of any person on our database, we will always check with the person concerned if they are happy for us to do so. Most commonly this is when an old school friend wishes to re-establish contact, and we are always happy to help with this type of request if we can.

If you have any questions about this, please contact David Blake on [drblake@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:drblake@eastbourne-college.co.uk), 01323 452262 or by post to the address above.

We welcome contributions to the magazine, whether items of news, recollections, reports of social gatherings and reunions, or longer articles which may be of interest to our readers. Photographs are welcome too. Please do get in touch with us at [es@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:es@eastbourne-college.co.uk) if you would like to submit something and we can advise on the length of the article.

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### Cover photo

David Winn OBE and Dame Katherine Grainger at the opening of the Winn Building on Friday 21 June 2019



The Old Eastbournian 2019 was compiled and edited by David Blake. Editorial contributions are credited in the magazine. It was designed by Martin Bannon ([martinbannon.design@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:martinbannon.design@hotmail.co.uk)) and printed by The Lavenham Press ([www.lavenhampress.com](http://www.lavenhampress.com)).

All Old Eastbournians, parents, College staff and other members of the Eastbournian Society are invited to celebrate Christmas at



# **THE** **'ROARING 20s'** **WINTER BALL**

Dining Hall, Winn Building  
Saturday 19 December 2020

Drinks from 7.00pm • Dinner from  
7.45pm • Carriages at midnight  
Champagne reception • Three-course  
meal • Coffee • Pay bar  
Dancing to The Big Kahuna party band

Formal evening wear ('Black tie') – but feel free to add a touch of 1920s glamour or festive colour  
Tickets cost £55 per person (Over 18s only)

To book your places please contact Lulu Brown on 01323 451911 or [vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk)  
Or write to: Eastbournian Society (Winter Ball), Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In comparison to the last few hectic years which have seen Project 150 and the Winn Building completed, 2019 has been a far quieter year. Nevertheless David Stewart and his excellent team in the Eastbournian Society office have provided us with another year of exciting events, all of which are reported upon elsewhere in this magazine.

I still meet Old Eastbournians at various functions, who for one reason or another have not had the opportunity to see the splendid new facilities that the P150 development offers at the College. I urge everyone to make the trip and witness for themselves this magnificent addition to the College facilities; you will not be disappointed.

In 2019 we celebrated 50 years since the first girls arrived at the College, formerly at the annual London dinner where OE Patti Clare (Nugent 1981-83), who plays Mary Taylor in ITV's *Coronation Street*, was our guest of honour, and then with a reunion lunch at the College in June. It may be 50 years of girls at the College, but those of us who spent our College years in School House before the girls arrived, often have to remind ourselves that it is now a girls boarding house, and has been for the past 20 years!

At the London dinner we also honoured Paul Lowden, former head of the English department and housemaster of both Pennell and Blackwater, who was retiring from the teaching staff after 32 years. We wished him well and made him an honorary OE.

We must give our thanks to the many OEs, parents and friends who voluntarily gave their time to assist with the annual futures convention in March. This is the new name for what was previously known as the careers convention, held each year to introduce Year 11 and 12 pupils to possible career choices for life after their formal education. Their contribution to the success of this event is invaluable and of great assistance to Miss Gordon, the College's Head of Futures. I am sure she would welcome any more volunteers whose professions



**Hugh, left, at the London dinner in April with Magnus Spencer (Powell 1980-85) and Christine Bertoli (Nugent 1980-85)**



**Hugh, right, at the Over-60s lunch in May with, left to right, Jo Grey (School 1965-69), Eric Koops (Gonville 1959-63) and Peter Robinson (Wargrave 1949-53)**

may be of interest to the pupils and which are not currently featured at this convention.

I would also like to thank all those OEs who devote so much of their time to our sporting activities, and we always need more willing hands to help in all areas. OE golf is flourishing in the capable hands of Jo Grey, Chris Walker and David Burt, who arrange a whole host of fixtures each year, mainly against other alumni. OE cricket under the chairmanship of Nigel Wheeler peaked in 2017

with an appearance in the Cricketer Cup final but has not enjoyed quite the same success in 2018 and 2019. However a new committee of enthusiastic cricketing OEs has been formed so prospects for 2020 look promising and the Stags rugby team led by James Potter are also enjoying a revival.

Exciting news, hot off the press, is the formation of an OE hockey club. A committee has been formed by several keen players with a view to arranging matches for both male and female OEs. More details about this will be available soon.

It is sometimes difficult to recruit younger OEs, especially for mid-week matches, so the efforts of all sports organisers are much appreciated, and early commitment to an event makes life so much easier for those in charge.

The Eastbournian Society is very much a forerunner in running business and career networking events, held mainly in London, which are envied by other alumni associations and continue to do well. They are well organised by Lulu Brown and David Stewart and with considerable pupil involvement ably assisted by the Futures Department. OEs in various professions can 'give back' their experience and advice to the younger generations and we are grateful to them for volunteering their time to do this. David is

always interested in introducing new professions so if you can host an event in an industry that we do not already cover, please make contact with David or Lulu. We can bring together many OEs sharing the same business interests.

Tom Lawson has now been headmaster for over three years and is a wonderful and active supporter of the Eastbournian Society and its events, which is essential in bringing all parts of the College community together. We are looking forward to continued support during 2020 and another activity-packed year, which I am confident will be another successful one for your society. The fact that the College is currently at full capacity speaks volumes for the effectiveness of all the good work the Eastbournian Society does.

We are extremely lucky to have in the office a remarkable team of people who make it all possible, to whom the society offer their sincere thanks. David Stewart, John Thornley, David Blake, Christine Todd and not forgetting of course our very capable events organiser Lulu Brown. They all play a very significant part in our success.

I hope you all enjoy another great *Old Eastbournian* magazine.

**Hugh Price (School 1961-66)  
Chairman, Eastbournian Society**

# THE EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY COMMITTEE

The AGM of the Eastbournian Society was held on Saturday 2 March 2019. At the meeting the accounts for the year ended 31 July 2018 were approved and the existing officers re-elected unanimously.

Helen Ridge joined the committee as a new parent representative. All other members of the committee remained in situ.

## Officers

**President**  
**Chairman**  
**Vice Chairman and Treasurer**  
**Development Director**  
**Headmaster**

David Winn (School 1954–59)  
Hugh Price (School 1961–66)  
Darren Meek (Blackwater 1982–87)  
David Stewart  
Tom Lawson

## Committee

**Charity (OE)**  
**Database and Communications (College)**  
**Events Organiser (College/OE)**  
**Events (College)**  
**Events (OE)**  
**Futures (College)**  
**Parents (College)**  
**Sports (OE)**

Eric Koops (Gonville 1959–63)  
David Blake  
Lulu Brown (Nugent 1980–82)  
John Thornley  
Alex Brown (Blackwater 1980–85)  
Head of Futures  
Alexandra Byatt, Sharon Leek, Helen Ridge  
Vacant

# THE EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY OFFICE

The Eastbournian Society team – who we are, what we do and how to contact us



Left to right: David Blake, Christine Todd, David Stewart, Lulu Brown, John Thornley

## David Stewart

Development Director

David runs the Eastbournian Society and the Foundation. Please contact David if you are interested in making a gift or leaving a legacy, or wish to discuss how you can support the activities of the College's Foundation. 01323 452308  
das@eastbourne-college.co.uk

## John Thornley

Eastbournian Society Events

John taught modern languages at the College for 41 years (and, he adds, half a term) from 1978 to 2019 and is a former OEA Secretary. He continues to have a number of school administrative roles, alongside which he plans, organises and helps host

our cultural events, including theatre trips, talks, London walks and visits to places of interest. 01323 452314  
jt@eastbourne-college.co.uk

## Lulu Brown

Events Organiser

Lulu is an OE and works part-time during term time with events planning, organising and hosting, and you will often see her name as the main contact for booking places at our events. If you are interested in attending or hosting a business/career networking event, or in helping at the annual careers convention, please let Lulu know. 01323 451911  
vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk

## Christine Todd

Foundation and Eastbournian Society Administrator

Christine deals with the administration relating to donations, bequests and fundraising. She is a familiar face at the annual Foundation Day for Devonshire Society members and other benefactors, as well as the Golf Challenge, both of which she organises. 01323 452316  
ct@eastbourne-college.co.uk

## David Blake

Database and Communications Manager

David manages the Eastbournian

Society database, updates our web pages, processes registrations on the web site and sends emails about future events. He is part of the editorial team of the *Old Eastbournian* magazine and welcomes news items and photos for the 'News of OEs' section. Please contact David with changes of address or if you would like to contact a fellow OE. 01323 452262  
drblake@eastbourne-college.co.uk



## Flo

We were sorry to say goodbye to a loyal member of the ES team, Flo, David Stewart's 'executive assistant', who died in October. Visitors to the ES office will know that Flo would be there to greet them, and she was always a calming influence for those of us who work here. She is much missed.



A photograph of a modern interior space, likely a dining room or kitchen. The room features a large, multi-paned window that looks out onto a wooded area with trees showing autumn foliage. The ceiling has exposed wooden beams and a section with horizontal wooden slats. The floor is made of large, light-colored tiles. In the foreground, there is a wooden dining table with a thick, natural edge top and black metal legs. Two modern chairs with yellow seats and wooden legs are tucked under the table. To the right, a dark blue door with a brass handle is partially visible. On the left wall, there is a large, abstract, textured artwork. Sunlight streams in from the window, creating strong shadows on the floor.

**Creative Architecture**  
**01892 525732**  
**[johnbullockdesign.com](http://johnbullockdesign.com)**





## EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY EVENTS

The Eastbournian Society organises a variety of social and cultural trips, talks and events to which all members are welcome. A meeting about future events is held at the beginning of each term at which suggestions for theatre shows, visits to places of interest, London walks and so on are discussed.

We send regular email updates about future events and the Eastbournian Society website has the most up-to-date listing of what is coming up. Here is a selection of some of the activities that took place in 2019.



### The history of Harrods

On Tuesday 12 February Merton Cox gave an enlightening talk on the history of Harrods, with some personal anecdotes of when he worked in the antiques department of the famous store. More than 40 ES members packed the Long Room to hear the talk.



### Snow White

The visit to the London Palladium on Wednesday 2 January to see the pantomime *Snow White* attracted our biggest number of theatregoers with 72 ES members going along, just a few of whom are pictured here.



### Quiz night and dinner

A new location for the quiz night, which was held in the function rooms by the dining hall on Saturday 9 February. Over 70 people attended and also enjoyed a curry buffet and a glass of wine or two.



### The Price

*The Price* by Arthur Miller, starring David Suchet, was our next theatrical outing, at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday 27 March, with some 34 society members attending



### Company

A theatre trip to see the Sondheim musical *Company* at the Gielgud Theatre took place on Thursday 14 March, and a few of those who went along are pictured here.



### Grandparents visit the College

The popular annual visit of grandparents of current pupils, which took place on Saturday 18 May, involved a tour of the College and a reception with Headmaster Tom Lawson in the Warren Atrium.





### Man of La Mancha

*Man of La Mancha* starring Kelsey Grammer (TV's *Frasier*) at the London Coliseum on Wednesday 5 June proved to be another successful theatre outing for the society.



### 9 to 5 The Musical

The Savoy Theatre was the venue for a trip to the hit musical *9 to 5*, based on the Dolly Parton film, which attracted an enthusiastic audience who greatly enjoyed the show.



### Wine tasting

An evening of wine tasting on Friday 6 September concentrated on whites and reds from the Burgundy region. Guy Boursot was the host and his knowledge and humour was much appreciated by the attendees.



### Spencer House and da Vinci

On Monday 17 June over 30 society members enjoyed a guided tour round Spencer House in St James's, followed by a visit to the Leonardo da Vinci exhibition at the Queen's Gallery of Buckingham Palace.



### Reception for parents of new pupils

Parents of new pupils were invited to a reception at the College on Saturday 7 September, with a welcome from Headmaster Tom Lawson and a presentation by David Stewart about the Eastbourne Society's activities.

**SPEEDWELL**  
EVENT AND CATERING EQUIPMENT HIRE

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DIRECTOR

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### Return to Harrods

Merton Cox's talk in February proved very popular and we held a second talk about the history of Harrods on Tuesday 15 October to accommodate all those who could not attend the first time round.



### Eastbourne pub evening

ES members enjoyed an informal pub evening in The Dolphin on South Street on Thursday 7 November.



### The Man in the White Suit

The comedy *The Man in the White Suit* at Wyndham's Theatre was our theatre trip on Wednesday 13 November and a few of the ES group are pictured here. See also actor Ben Deery's entry in the OE news section on page 53.



### Exploring Brunel's London

The annual London walk this year involved a boat trip along the Thames exploring the life and work of the engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and culminated in a visit to the Brunel Museum in Rotherhithe.



### Wartime Eastbourne talk

College archivist Paul Jordan gave an informative talk on Eastbourne in the Second World War on Thursday 21 November. Over 40 people attended, some of whom are seen here in the College reception.



### Goldilocks

Our final theatre outing of the year was to *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, the London Palladium's pantomime, on Tuesday 17 December. Around 60 ES members went along and a few brave souls waited in the rain for JT to take their picture.



## SHIPPING INDUSTRY NETWORKING



The shipping industry evening has become firmly established in the series of career and business networking events organised by the Eastbournian Society. The 2019 event was held on Wednesday 16 January.

As in previous years, the venue was the Members Bar at the Baltic Exchange in London, and we are grateful to Mark Jackson (School 1975–77), CEO of the Baltic Exchange, for arranging this for us. The networking events enable Old Eastbournians, parents, staff and current pupils to meet, discuss career options, get advice and make business contacts. In the past this has led to College leavers getting work experience, which in some cases has resulted in job offers and training opportunities. We are always grateful to those who attend and pass on their knowledge and expertise, and it was good to see so many pupils taking advantage of the opportunity.

## LEGAL NETWORKING AT LINCOLN'S INN



A career and business networking evening focusing on the legal profession was held on Tuesday 26 February.

Hosted by barrister Richard Liddell (Reeves 1989-94) in his chambers in New Square, Lincoln's Inn, the event was an opportunity for current pupils, Old Eastbournians, parents and College staff to meet and discuss career prospects and opportunities.

Richard spoke to the attendees, explaining how he had got into the legal profession, and gave an overview of the work in his practice, which covers four main areas: commercial disputes (including international arbitration), professional negligence claims, construction claims and sports law. Tom Shepherd (Powell 1996-2001) also spoke about his career in commercial litigation, including civil fraud and insolvency and financial services.

We are grateful to all the OEs who came along to share their advice and experience with College pupils as they consider their career options.

# Simple Kent Funerals

Please contact Toby Mynott, OE, on  
07806 613297 (24 hrs)

[support@simplekentfunerals.co.uk](mailto:support@simplekentfunerals.co.uk)

[www.simplekentfunerals.co.uk](http://www.simplekentfunerals.co.uk)

Applefield Cottage, Redbrook Street,  
Woodchurch, Kent TN26 3QS.

We're flexible, positive,  
creative, eco-friendly,  
open-minded and caring.

We're here to help you  
celebrate the life of your  
loved one.

We work across Kent and  
eastern East Sussex.

Please visit the feedback  
page on our website -  
not all funeral firms  
are the same...



## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER



“we are an engine of social mobility in the local area and beyond.”

It is always a privilege for me to write for the Eastbournian Society audience, knowing as I do the unwavering loyalty of the readership. Love for the College is certainly something that current pupils and staff have, but like a good wine this affection becomes deeper and richer with time. Frankly, I need every ounce of your approbation at this time when it seems that the political conversation is dead set against independent schools and our school, my vocation and your legacy are the villains du jour. In fact, the twin threats of affordability and punitive policy amplify each other, as I will outline below, but first to the positives!

Within our happy community, things are going very well indeed. It is taking time to adjust to our new timetable causing much tiredness but I am pleased to report an excellent take up of the enrichment activities on Saturday mornings so that we maintain our boarding feel while giving the flexibility that modern families demand.

With a smidge more academic time in the timetable, teachers report they are making better progress and pupils are further ahead in their preparation than ever before. Exam results, both A-level and GCSE, were up on the previous year, with 55% of all grades A–A\* equivalent (grades 7–9 in the new system) compared with 48% last year. Grades are not important but they unlock possibilities for our pupils to express the really important things they have learned: camaraderie, teamwork, integrity, in the wider world.

Sport seems to get ever stronger, in particular girls tennis, equestrianism, and cricket. Adding former England spinner James Tredwell to the coaching staff combined with a strong team of home-grown and scholarship talent, has seen us playing an exciting brand of cricket that is getting noticed in publications such as *The Cricketer* – once again we are named as one of their top cricketing schools.

All the while there has been a slew of top musicians achieving the ARSM Diploma, going the level beyond grade VIII, including Sian Sulke who was appointed a choral scholar at St Peter's Oxford and gained a place to read PPE. Our Young Enterprise team beat all the local schools and then the Brighton ones (including that unmentionable place) on the way to becoming Sussex Company of the Year.

My Speech Day offering focused on the extraordinary work we do in the Eastbourne Schools Partnership to provide benefit to 15,000 children in 12 local maintained schools. Whether that is homework clubs, languages support, Oxbridge and extension work, beach clean projects, ballet or the tough team challenge day, there is no doubt we are a leading school in our public benefit. Coupled with generous means-tested bursaries, including the 100% Professor Soddy scholars and many others supported by generous Eastbournian Society benefactors, we are an engine of social mobility in the local area and beyond.

Which is why it is bonkers for the politicians to punish us.

Thanks to the uncertainty in the economy affordability remains a huge issue for us. We try to keep fees down to ensure that striving families can send children to Eastbourne. This government's grab to make up the shortfall of the past generosity and actuarial miscalculated Teachers Pension Scheme has resulted in an extra cost to the College of about £800 per fee-paying pupil (per year). This is not money that goes into our teachers' pension pots, mind you; with an unfunded nationalised scheme like TPS that is just a tax on current working people. There has been no defence of the principle that we should continue to be relieved of business rates just like every other charity. As explained above, with the bursaries, partnership with state schools, and investment in educational purpose (at no cost to the taxpayer, and without paying out to any shareholder) we are an amazingly effective social enterprise. The Labour party will go further, promising to add VAT on to school fees, making us unaffordable to many. This policy will result in the need for so many extra state school places that any revenue will be wiped out; it is purely the politics of envy. They also promise to consult on abolition ('integrating private schools into the comprehensive system') and I do not think their economic policies will do many favours to our parents' disposable income either. Those independent prep schools which we rely upon to provide a varied ecosystem of new entrants are on the edge of the financial abyss or will be further absorbed into chains or tie-up with rival senior schools.

Fortunately, generations of good governance and prudent financial decision-making by the board means we are in a relatively strong position to weather the storm. We will need far-sighted investment in the endowment by donors in order to maintain the bursaries which provide life-changing chances for deserving pupils of hard-working families and enable us to recruit excellent pupils. We will need to continue to husband our resources effectively and embrace the challenge of efficient delivery of superb education. But, most of all, we will need our friends – that's you; and thank you.

Tom Lawson, Headmaster



The Young Enterprise Team who won Sussex Company of the Year



Tom Lawson with Sian Sulke

Note: This article was written before the UK general election on 12 December 2019.



# EDWARD JOHNSON

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← *Grandparents*  
YEAR OF BIRTH

← ← ← ← ←  
*Children*  
YEAR OF BIRTH

← ← ← ← ←  
*Grandchildren*  
YEAR OF BIRTH



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*Family Tree* - keepsake box  
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## REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS

*When the governors meet in December each year we finalise our annual report on the preceding academic year. The annual report sets out the financial performance of Eastbourne College and St Andrew's Prep and discusses how the two schools deliver public benefit for our pupils and the wider public.*



Philip Broadley working with a group of Year 12 economists

**T**his year the termly meeting took place a few days before the general election and the governors spent some time considering all possible outcomes of the election and their consequences for independent schools.

As the magazine goes to print in January the political situation for the next few years is more predictable. However, the need for an informed debate about the future of education in this country is no less pressing. As a nation, we owe it to the 100,000 children – about 1 in 5 – who leave school with fewer than five GCSEs, to find ways to raise standards.

In the meantime the College will continue with two important initiatives that we have developed over the last few years. We shall continue to serve the wider community in Eastbourne and its environs by playing a leading role in the Eastbourne Schools Partnership. You

can read more about the activities of the ESP at [www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/about-us/community/partnerships](http://www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/about-us/community/partnerships). We shall also work to support more pupils who can benefit from a College education but whose families lack the means to pay the full fees. In the past few years we have been able to increase our support of talented local children through the generosity of OEs and other friends. You will hear us talk more in the future about the benefits this assistance brings to the pupils who benefit from it and I hope others will consider assisting us so we can offer a College education to yet more children.

My chairman's introduction to the full annual report follows. The full report is available on the College website, at [www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/about-us/board-of-governors](http://www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/about-us/board-of-governors). Please get in touch with me via the Eastbournian Society office if you would like to discuss it or find out more about what we are doing.

**I** am pleased to introduce the Charity's Annual Report describing the activities of our two schools, Eastbourne College and St Andrew's Prep, over the year. Last year the Governors and the Heads agreed a five-year strategic plan looking forward to 2023. The Annual Report sets out our progress in achieving the objectives of this plan in its first year, as we aim to deliver the best for our pupils from our outstanding facilities and dedicated staff.

Everything we do as a charity is for the benefit of those we educate. We proudly devote much of the Annual Report to setting out the achievements over the year of our approximately 1,000 pupils. Whether in public exams or national competition,

our pupils continue to show the value of the education we have long sought to provide.

The year saw some important celebrations that both looked back at past achievements and forward to our plans for the future. The College celebrated 50 years of co-education. The College was one of the first HMC schools to admit girls to the sixth form, a reminder that we have long taken an innovative approach to education. We drew the College's 150th anniversary celebrations to a close with a spectacular audio-visual laser show that saw the Memorial Building become a giant backdrop on which the College's history and its pupils' achievements were displayed. We ended the year with the formal opening of the Winn Building by Dame

Katherine Grainger, a most happy occasion showing the transformation in the College's facilities that has been achieved.

For the first time in a generation, a major political party has fought a general election campaign with a manifesto commitment to explore ways of integrating independent schools into the maintained sector. Whatever the outcome of the general election, it is clear charitable, independent schools as a whole must not only continue to serve the widest possible set of beneficiaries but do more to improve public understanding of what we do.

The Charity plays an important role in the Eastbourne Schools Partnership (ESP), an organisation that brings together the maintained and independent schools in Eastbourne and the surrounding area. The Annual Report sets out how the activities of the ESP continue to expand and provide a range of opportunities for our pupils and teachers to work together with other schools to mutual benefit.

The College was established in 1867 'to provide a general education of the highest class'. Both schools continually strive to live up to that founding principle. We want to increase our ability to provide support to those pupils who cannot afford our full fees. During the year 159 pupils, 17% of the total, received some assistance with their fees through means-tested bursaries. The Governors greatly appreciate the support of a number of trusts and individuals who contribute to the fees of 17 current pupils. We also value the commitment of our Devonshire Society members who have promised to support the Charity in their wills.

One of our strategic objectives is to increase the availability of bursaries by a combination of growing our own funds and the numbers of supporters who fund current pupils. As we set out to achieve this, we have been greatly encouraged by a donation of £1million from David Winn to establish the Denso Scholarship Fund. This fund will support pupils studying STEM subjects who would otherwise not have the opportunity to attend the College and award-holders will also have opportunities to work in industry.

The Charity's funds increased by £636k during the year as a result of our educational activities, trading income and donations. As we are a charitable company, all our funds are used to support the education we provide at the College and St Andrew's Prep and any surplus is reinvested in the Charity.

During the year, Carol Meade, our Bursar for 11 years, retired. Carol's lasting contribution to the Charity includes delivering three major building projects that transformed the facilities of the two schools. In succession, Abbey Gough joined us from Glyndebourne as Chief Operating Officer.

Finally, on behalf of the Governors, I thank Tom Lawson and Gareth Jones, our two Heads, and the over 400 staff who teach at and support the running of the two schools. I also thank the more than 1,000 people who have contributed to our fund raising for P150, our anniversary building project, and the pavilion and who continue to support a number of pupils. Without them all we would not be able to provide the education we do.

Philip Broadley  
9 December 2019



# FOUNDATION AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Project 150 has grabbed most of the headlines in recent years and rightly so. However behind the scenes the Foundation Office has also been getting on with its core task of providing bursaries, awards and sponsorships for pupils who would not otherwise be able to come to the College.

This year we will once again be supporting 17 pupils to the tune of £150k in the current academic year. Thank you to our generous supporters who make this possible and who see how the opportunity of an Eastbourne education can transform someone's life, and the lives of many others. This wide cross section of supporters who contribute do so in different ways. Some Devonshire Society members have bequeathed legacies resulting in permanent endowments. Others donate

affordable sums on a monthly basis which, when collated, can sponsor a pupil, and others like to support anonymously and under the radar. This is the Foundation's bread and butter role (not roll!) and it is clear talking to OEs of all generations that hundreds of you over the years have been in receipt of some sort of fee assistance without even knowing how or why it has happened.

We are determined to build on this wonderful support and to follow in the footsteps of what our prede-



**Eleanor Chapman is now on a tennis scholarship at a US university**

cessors have done in the past. If you agree that an education is the best way of making the world a better place, the following examples show what can be achieved:

Matt Ginno (Reeves 2012-14) joined the College from Willingdon School as the first recipient of the Bernard Drake Award. He was a star of College stage and musical events and was appointed head of school a year later. He has now graduated from UCL. Another beneficiary of the same award, generously funded by an OE, is in her final year at Oxford University.

Walter Huchu (Gonville 2015-17) arrived at the College in the Lower Sixth from Zimbabwe and was sponsored by an anonymous benefactor. He was appointed head of school in the Upper Sixth and is now in his final year reading economics at Sussex University. As a result of a generous legacy from Trevor Pescud (for talented girl tennis players), Eleanor Chapman (Blackwater 2016-18) helped elevate the school girls tennis team to number three in the country. She is now on a tennis scholarship at a university in the USA.

Many of you will have heard of the Peter Bibby Award which is funded

through the generous supporters of the annual Foundation Golf Challenge. The award is for talented local cricketers and Harry Finch (Craig 2011-13), Ben Twine (Craig 2013-17) and Joe Pocklington (Craig 2014-19) are the three cases in point. Harry has been a contracted professional cricketer with Sussex CCC for the last four years, Ben Twine is reading economics at Exeter and captaining the university cricket club and Joe Pocklington was head of school and captain of cricket for two years and is currently playing 'grade' cricket in Australia. Finally, a pupil in the Upper Sixth is the first recipient of the Sevorg Award for those interested in and with a passion for the environment. This was set up as a result of a generous legacy from the estate of James Groves (Pennell 1949-54).

These are just some examples of how support of the Foundation can transform the lives of talented pupils and in so doing enhance the life of the school as a whole. I hope many more of you will feel that you would also like to make a difference to a young person's life in this way.

In November a new Foundation and Development Advisory board met under the chairmanship of John Maidens (governor and College parent) and they will assist the Foundation Office in spreading the word and recruiting more of you to the life-changing work of this office.

Thanks as ever to the brilliant members of the team here in the office who make all this possible. And last but by no means least thanks to those of you who give us so much encouragement in the work we do. As our first headmaster the Revd Wood said in 1867:

*'In Eastbourne, out of Eastbourne alike, let your character be known for good. Be brave, be generous, be pure, be true.'*

Ex Oriente Salus.

David Stewart



Walter Huchu was head of school when he showed the Duke of Devonshire round the Nugee Building on the day of its official opening, 26 April 2017



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## THE FUTURES CONVENTION

The Eastbournian Society's annual futures convention was held on Friday 1 March.



The event is an opportunity for College pupils from Year 11 and the sixth form to get advice on university choices, gap years and future careers.

It was also attended by a number of pupils from other schools in the area which are part of the Eastbourne Schools Partnership.

The fair was held in the sports hall in the Winn

Building, and there were some 70 representatives of universities, professions and gap year companies, as well as others offering advice on interview techniques and apprenticeships.

We are grateful to the many Old Eastbournians, parents and staff who gave up their time to make the event such a success.

## 2020 Futures Convention

The next futures convention will be on Friday 6 March 2020

The Futures Department and the Eastbournian Society warmly welcome offers from anyone who would like to volunteer their time at this event or to offer a day of work shadowing. In particular we are keen to increase the number of opportunities for sixth form pupils to undertake longer work placements to get a real insight into

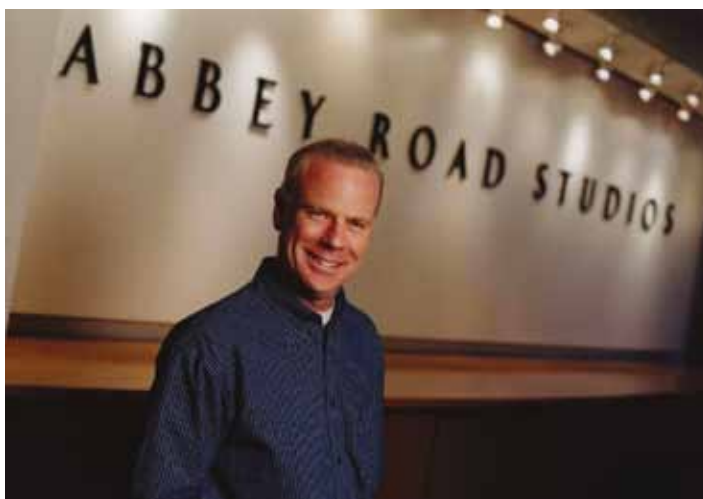
a business and hopefully provide some productive work in return.

If you think you may be able to help in some way, please contact the Futures Department ([futures@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:futures@eastbourne-college.co.uk)) or Lulu Brown ([vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk)) or call the department on 01323 452211.

## MARTIN BENGE A CAREER IN THE RECORDING INDUSTRY

Martin Benge (School 1957-61) has been presented with a lifetime achievement award for his work in the recording industry, a career which started with EMI in the UK, included working with the Beatles at Abbey Road and continued with Studio 301 in Sydney, Australia

With a highly successful career in the recording industry, you would imagine that it all began when Martin Benge joined EMI, fresh from having completed a diploma in electrical engineering after he left the College. It's true that he started work at EMI in 1962, but it was not in the recording division. In fact he started a three-year apprenticeship at the EMI factory in Hayes, Middlesex. At the time it was the start of a promising electronics engineering career, as EMI was a vast organisation which not only recorded and pressed records, but also manufactured recording equipment, as well as making record players, radios and televisions for the domestic market.



Martin at Abbey Road

Initially Martin's work concentrated on the practicalities of engineering, including metalwork, soldering and circuitry, before he worked on research for defence projects involving radar. After two years Martin moved to the audio department and started building recording consoles. EMI had studios in 11 different countries at the time, and the equipment – consoles, tape machines and microphones – all came from the Hayes factory.

Then followed a move to the Abbey Road Studios in north London where, in the technical department, Martin had to go back to basics and master his cable coiling skills before being allowed on the recording equipment. As an assistant he was responsible for wiring the microphones, patching in the equipment, checking levels and making everything ready for the recording engineer to press the record button.

At this point, Martin decided that recording was what he wanted to do. He says: 'I'd always loved music and sound, and tinkered around with old radiograms and record players. I was fascinated with the whole idea of music on a disk.' But although he was very familiar with the technical side of things, he soon realised that getting a decent sound on a recording was another thing entirely, and that he faced a steep learning curve to achieve this.

Then you had to go and do it again.'

Martin first worked with the Beatles in 1968 when their regular engineer was unavailable. The resulting session ended up being the song *Across the Universe*. Regarding the Fab Four, he says: 'Paul was always good to work with. George was great. Ringo just came in to do his thing. And John, well you never really know where you stood with him. He was difficult to work for sometimes, but he was a brilliant songwriter, had a

they trekked with a few friends to India and back in a Land Rover. The original plan was to return to Abbey Road, but after he and Jeannie got married, they thought they'd try out Australia. In 1971, with no job to go to, he walked into EMI Studios at 301 Castlereagh Street, where he got a job on the strength of having been an Abbey Road engineer. He says, 'I loved working there; I loved the artists, the studio, the people there, and the lifestyle in Australia. We stayed for 22 years, until I ended up back at Abbey Road.'

The Sydney operation was simpler than Abbey Road as it had fewer staff. Martin's first love was music, but he soon found that he was getting bogged down in recording commercials and jingles. He then worked as a freelance engineer for 11 years, with more work on music and film scoring, including jazz, orchestral and classical pieces.

In 1984, Martin was offered the chance to become the manager of Studio 301 (as the EMI studio was then called). He said yes, but only if he could continue with his recording career. He realised that improvements were needed to the studio

and the Townhouse. Abbey Road also saw some changes, where a deal with Apple led to websites for bands being created and videos of sessions being released on DVD. However, the EMI management failed to see the potential of digital distribution of music and ignored the internet in favour of traditional retailing of CDs. Martin says: 'Nobody really wanted to do what Steve Jobs did when Apple invented iTunes and the iPod. EMI should have done that, or one of the big music companies should have. In the end it had to be a computer company which came up with the new business model. The rest is history. EMI doesn't even exist anymore.'

During this period Martin was involved with the Beatles again, when they were working on the Anthology project, which involved releasing everything, including outtakes, which had never been released. He persuaded Paul McCartney that using the old mixing desk and tape machine were important as Abbey Road was where the original recordings had been made.

After four and a half years, Martin returned to Australia, having suggested that record industry entrepreneur Tom Misner take over the then struggling Studio 301, and reinvigorate the brand. Although professional studios are not the only way to record these days, Martin feels that for orchestras or bigger groups there really is no substitute.



**Martin with Paul McCartney at Abbey Road in 1995**

Luckily for him, some of the Abbey Road producers, including George Martin, were patient enough to give him some pointers on how to do the job. He says: 'We learnt from people who were the world's greatest engineers in my opinion and at Abbey Road the engineers were the best in the business.'

He began to find a niche in big band and classical recording. A new studio manager, Alan Stagg, had confidence that Martin's experience in recording 40-piece ensembles with Geoff Love for *The Black and White Minstrel Show* was enough for him to engineer sessions with the London Symphony Orchestra and the New Philharmonia, where there would be 120 musicians in the studio. Martin says: 'You'd only use four or five microphones. You tried to record as faithfully as possible to the sound in the room.'

One memorable session was in 1967 with Sydney Bowman and His Old Tyme Dance Orchestra. The idea was to get the mix, the balance and the recording done in one hit to sound good enough to go straight to the cutting room. What Martin wasn't prepared for were the two ballroom dancers dancing the routines in the studio to ensure the tempos were spot on. He says: 'In the middle of a take the dancers would stop, wave their hands and scream out, it's speeding up or it's slowing down.

great voice and he was always looking for something different, as they all were really. That song is an absolute classic and haunting. It was just so good from the minute you heard it.'

Martin says that Abbey Road was a hub of creativity: 'In one studio you could have the London Symphony



**Martin, seated, at Studio 301 in 1974**

Orchestra in the big room recording symphonic music with one of the great conductors, then you might have the Beatles in studio two recording *Sgt Pepper*, while Pink Floyd was in studio three doing *Ummagumma* while someone like Max Bygraves doing some mixing in another studio. You would have a constant cross-fertilisation between these artists all in the studio at the same time.'

After eight years at EMI, Martin and his wife-to-be Jeannie wanted to do some travelling and in 1969-70,



**Martin with the lifetime achievement award**

set-up, and set about replacing equipment and improving the acoustics. He also knew the importance of dealing positively with artists' needs. His changes led to an increase in the number of international acts coming to record, including David Bowie, Duran Duran, Elton John, Prince, Bob Dylan and Split Enz, which increased the studio's profile within EMI and encouraged more investment in the facilities. Martin's success did not go unnoticed. By 1992, EMI had merged with Thorn to become Thorn EMI, which in turn bought out Richard Branson's Virgin Records. A Virgin executive was expected to take over the running of Abbey Road, but there was concern about the management differences between the two labels, and in the end the job was offered to Martin to ensure some continuity of the EMI culture.

Moving back to the UK in 1993, Martin had a big job on his hands. Some of the former Virgin studios had to go, but it was also an opportunity to invest in others such as Olympic



**Presenting his weekly music radio show**

Now that he has retired Martin works as a volunteer presenter on the local community radio station Bay and Basin 92.7 FM, where he does a weekly programme playing anything recorded between 1930 and 1960, with a focus on big bands, as well as a bit of early Elvis. Martin was presented with the Producer/Engineer Lifetime Achievement award, sponsored by Studio 301 and *Audio Technology* magazine, in December 2018.

Our thanks go to *Audio Technology* magazine and *The South Coast Register*, Nowra, New South Wales, for information contained in this article.

**David Blake**

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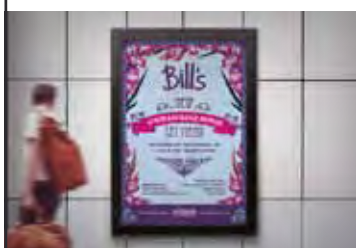




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# THE LONDON DINNER 2019

Actress Patti Clare (Nugent 1983-85) and long-serving English teacher Paul Lowden were the guests of honour at the 2019 annual London dinner on Monday 29 April.



Headmaster Tom Lawson with Patti Clare and Paul Lowden



Nigel Wheeler and Anthony Lamb



Pre-dinner champagne in the Palm Court

The Waldorf Hilton Hotel was the venue for a champagne reception in the Palm Court followed by dinner in the Adelphi Suite. The evening is an opportunity for us to recognise Eastbournian achievement and we were delighted to welcome both Patti and Paul to the dinner.

The evening began with Nigel Wheeler recounting Paul's 32-year career at the College, during which he has served as Head of English, housemaster of both Pennell and Blackwater houses, and director of many a school drama production. Paul responded with an amusing speech in which he remembered the four headmasters under which he had served, describing each in the style of the James Bond actor which he felt they most resembled.

Headmaster Tom Lawson thanked the guests for their loyalty and support of the College in what is the 50th anniversary year of girls first joining the school in 1968-69. In particular he paid tribute to David Winn OBE (School 1954-59), the College's greatest living benefactor, who had made a further very generous donation towards bursary funding,



Remembering the 1984 production of *Half a Sixpence*: Alex Brown, Amanda McNeil, Sarah Bray, Patti Clare, Kate Isitt, Christine Bertoli and Magnus Spencer



Emma Garrett organised a table of her contemporaries who left the College in 1986



Dinner in the Adelphi Suite

having already contributed greatly to the recent Project 150 appeal.

Following the meal, Alex Brown (Blackwater 1980-85) hosted a question-and-answer session with Patti. Alex and Patti had both performed in the College production of *Half a Sixpence* in 1984 and there were a few of their fellow performers at the dinner: Christine Bertoli (Nugent 1983-85), Sarah Bray (née Winston) (Nugent 1983-85), Kate Isitt (Nugent 1983-85) and Magnus Spencer (Powell 1980-85). Patti spoke about her College days with great affection, saying that her time at the school had boosted her confidence, and given her a good grounding in literature and drama which proved useful when she later joined the Glasgow Citizen's Theatre. She also told of her time on *Coronation Street*, where she has played the part of Mary Taylor for over 10 years. Patti finished with the observation that for her and her contemporaries, the teachers at the College had always given them the encouragement to flourish, a sentiment which was much appreciated by the guests.

## Nigel Wheeler's tribute to Paul Lowden

*Paul is not a conformist. Paul is not a traditionalist. Let's just call him a maverick. He is a free-thinking, unconventional, alternative, independent, delightful maverick. Classes love his easy manner, his imaginative teaching technique, his enthusiasm and his delight in both the material to be taught and those lucky enough to be in a bubbling, busy, bustling, brainstorming, brilliant class.*

*A callow, fresh-faced youth joined an extraordinary English department back in 1987. Colin Brezicki was our leader, Philip Le Brocq was in his final triumphant year and Paul must have wondered what it was all about...*

*Bangs and Bounces – Prep School Visits – Shakespeare Wallahs – Summer Marking Marathons – English Lunches – Stratford Weekends – Hoards of visiting lecturers (doing our work for us) – London Theatre – Chichester ... drama, drama, drama – Ah! Those were the days. And Paul bought into it – very easily!*



Drama, drama, drama is of course a first love for Paul at College. Who could forget the Romeo and Juliet production that saw both Romeo and Juliet expelled for ignoring the fact that the play was over!

Stacks of plays, major productions, fringe productions, Big School, The Dell, the Le Brocq Studio – even the cricket pavilion and the hallowed turf before it! Ah! Outside Edge. That quintessential play of domestic chaos centred around a village match – and accompanied with flagons of fine, foaming, frothy Harvey's ale.

Cricket is not Paul's chief sport but he is a staunch Eclectic, appearing in the staff team against Sussex villages always wearing a slightly inappropriate sweat-shirt with Tintin on the front. Many of you remember seeing Paul running miles – literally miles – even

joining in the school steeplechase, up and over the Downs, along the seafront, gallantly allowing a boy or two to beat him to the finishing line. Paul's sporting contributions to College life – master-in-charge of athletics, master-in-charge of cross country etc – join those on the list of boring achievements that we have to mention: Head of English, Housemaster of Blackwater and Pennell, tutor elsewhere, CCF avoider, Links journalist. Jobs that we either earn or receive through longevity of service.

Paul did all these jobs very well. But for Maverick Paul it's the fun of making kids think, making them delight in language, poetry and prose that's important. He has never been a traditional spoon-feeder – he is a challenging inspirer. For him, education is not about

filling buckets, but lighting fires. Paul, life is never dull with you – Jacqui and Sam and Alice and Emma wouldn't allow it to be so – and you certainly don't even know what the word means. Your Meads home is the best party house in Eastbourne. Your feasts and fine fare, your fun and good cheer, smile forth from the rafters.

What a player! You will miss those plays and productions. Your casts across the years on the boards in the houses, games fields and classes. Thank you for the opportunities you have given them, both the talented and the also-ran. All have benefited from your bold productions and wise direction. Indeed we are all grateful. Now it's over to you Mr Maverick the stage is set. Good luck, break a leg and thanks indeed!

## THE OVER-60S LUNCH

It was a gloriously sunny day for the Over-60s lunch on Monday 13 May, and St George's Hill Club in Weybridge was the perfect location for this annual get-together.



Peter Jamieson (Blackwater 1960-63), Keith Ross (School 1958-63), Graham Boal, Rosemary Ross and Dougal Graham (School 1957-61)

With around 40 guests, the event proved very popular, and the chance for an al fresco pre-lunch drink was much appreciated. The guest speaker was His Honour Graham Boal QC (Powell 1957-62) and he gave a talk entitled *Miscarriage of Justice: From Barnstaple to Birmingham*. Judge Boal was called to the bar in 1966 and took silk in 1993. He was appointed as a circuit judge, sitting in the Central Criminal Court, in 1996. He retired in July 2005.



Robin Grey (Pennell 1945-49), Pip Kirtley, Diana Moss (Nugent 1970-72), Alison Gourlay (Nugent 1970-72), Sue McEvoy (Nugent 1971-73) and John de Brugha (Blackwater 1968-72)



Simon Taylor (Gonville 1959-64), Nigel Parker (Gonville 1957-62), Bob Rogers (Pennell 1957-61) and John Humphries (Pennell 1948-52)



Michael Dix (Pennell 1957-62), Mike Barford (Reeves 1963-68) and Robert Bolsom (Pennell 1960-64)

# A HISTORY OF SUPPORTING GOOD CAUSES

College archivist Paul Jordan looks at how supporting those less fortunate has long been a part of the College's values



Pupils assisted with laying out a community playing field in Stockton in 1937

Providing help and support for people in the wider community is very much part of the ethos of the College today but there has been a history of this dating back to the early 1900s.

In 1906, the Bishop of Stepney, the Right Revd Cosmo Gordon Lang, and Revd Woolcombe, the Head of Oxford House in Bethnal Green (established by Oxford University to provide help and assistance to the poor and dispossessed), visited the College to discuss the possibility of the school supporting a mission for boys in the East End of London.



A leaflet advertising the Eastbourne College Mission in Bethnal Green

The College agreed to fund a boys' club, based at Oxford House, with a subscription of £100. The money would be raised by Chapel collections, subscription from College pupils and annual subscriptions from masters, OEs and other interested parties. OEs would also be encouraged to volunteer to help with activities. The aim of the club was to provide 'healthy recreation by means of indoor and outdoor sports and games to lads in the poorest parts of the East of London'.

Sports included cricket, football, boxing and a harriers team was formed. Advice was given to novice runners to be aware of slipping on the greasy tram tracks when on the roads.

Initially there were two clubs; the Eastbourne Club, consisting of local working boys aged between 14 and 18, and the Old Eastbourne Club, made up of past members of the Eastbourne Club.

Concerts were given, and in 1910, a visit of the Pom Pom Pierrot troupe, piloted by Mr C Wickings-

Smith (OE) was a distinctly novel attraction and uproariously successful'.

There were days out too, including trips to Eastbourne and Bognor Regis. This may have been the first time that many of the boys had been to the seaside and, by the 1920s, annual camps were being organised.

In 1917, the College's support for this type of mission work was expanded when it offered to support a new boys' club in Eastbourne. Based in the Beach Road Institute, it was the idea of the Revd H V Scott who had recently taken over the Christ Church parish in Seaside, regarded by some as the 'East End' of the town.

Several pupils wheeled down a selection of equipment for the club, including fencing apparatus, boxing gloves and books and, on the following evening, College boys helped out at a party. Richard Lynex (School 1913-18) presented a design for a badge (dark blue with a stag's head) and Arthur Crook (Gonville & School 1911-17) initiated a 'game of Footer with an ex-boxing glove'. More than 50 boys attended and it was regarded as a great success. In the 1920s, the club was taken over by Toc H (an international Christian movement founded by 'Tubby' Clayton in 1920) and the link with the College ended in 1938.

Despite the severe bombing of the Bethnal Green area during the Second World War, the club carried on its work and, in 1954, the first Cornflower Ball was held in London to raise funds for the mission. Oxford House was renamed Eastbourne House in 1949 and the club continued for almost another 20 years before finally closing in 1967.



The programme for the first Cornflower Ball on Friday 8 October 1954, which raised funds for the College Mission

During the 1930s, further efforts were made to make the pupils aware of the living conditions of those less advantaged than themselves.

Under the direction of Frederick Snell (Head of Science), trips for pupils to deprived areas in the UK were organised from 1935 to 1939. The aim was to show the boys the conditions in which many of the unemployed lived. While the pupils were there, sometimes staying as guests of the men, the boys helped out in practical ways; digging over allotments in Wales, laying out a playing field for community use in Stockton and shifting slag to form an extension to a social centre in Durham. One Welsh town was described as being 'in a terrible plight, with 80% of its inhabitants out of work and no prospects of future prosperity'.



Cover of *Phoenix* magazine, sales of which raised money for distressed areas

Inspired by these visits, several pupils asked Snell if a society could be set up to discuss social problems. These took place during the boys' private study periods and were held on a Saturday evening in Mr Snell's sitting room. Subjects included Housing, Public Health, Unemployment and Local Government. Frederick Snell left the College in December 1938 and the 1939 visit to Durham was supervised by Ralph Simpson, the art master.

In the month Snell left the College a magazine, *Phoenix*, was launched by members of Powell House. The aim of the publication was to raise money from its sales for 'distressed areas' and to encourage young unknown writers (current pupils) by the publication of their work alongside those of famous people. It contained short stories, articles, verses and reviews and its cover was designed by Ralph Simpson.

In the preface, entitled *The Unemployed and their Distress*, Bishop Walter Carey (then College Chaplain) advocated bringing 'cultural' education to unemployed men and women, music, drama, education and recreation. He went on to say 'The chief thing is To Care'.

The Social Commandos were established in 1961 with the aim of helping elderly residents living in the Eastbourne area. Activities included painting and wood chopping and assisting with wheelchair



In the 1960s and 70s the Social Commandos visited the elderly of Eastbourne



outing and coach trips. Later, the Commandos liaised with the Women's Voluntary Service (WVS) in their activities in the community and, by 1966, they were also visiting Chailey Heritage in East Sussex, a home for children with physical disabilities.

By the 1990s this had evolved into Service and Skills (later renamed as Service at School, or S@S) and, as well as help for the elderly, pupils also got involved with children's charities, and helping with disabled people. Also during the 1990s, the College



The Hand in Hand Trust in Lima, helped with funds from ECHO, where Katie Evans (Blackwater 2001-06) spent part of her gap year

organised weekly trips for pupils to visit St Botolph's in London, a centre which provided a variety of services for the homeless.

The College started an overseas programme of charity work in 1999 with the launch of ECHO (Eastbourne College Help Overseas), the College's Millennium initiative. In September of that year 400 pupils, staff and parents walked a 14-mile circular route over the Downs. £10,000 was raised and two of the first recipients of the funds raised were the Hand in Hand Trust, which provided day centres for street children in Lima, and Housing for Humanity, based in Eastbourne.

Other organisations which were to benefit from ECHO's help included the children's charity Friends of Liesicki Homes in Poland, the Tiger Kloof School near Johannesburg and the High Five Breakfast Club in Zambia. ECHO closed in 2015 to be replaced by the 50p promise whereby staff and pupils were encouraged to bring 50p a week to Chapel to help others in greater need.

Bi-annual charity lunches have been a fixture at the College since 2012. Normal menus in the dining hall are dispensed with and only baked potatoes and baked beans and a piece of fruit provided. The money saved goes to a nominated charity.

The Chapel Charity was introduced by the former Chaplain, Revd David Ibbotson, in September 2017. A pupil or group of pupils volunteer to lead the fundraising for a charity of their choice, organising a series of events each term.

One of the charities which benefitted in 2019 was the Chaseley Trust. Based in Eastbourne, the trust cares for people with a wide range of severe physical disabilities. They also care for those with

progressive conditions, such as multiple sclerosis and motor neurone disease. Funds are also raised for the trust by an annual mid-summer concert hosted by the College.

Another way of raising funds is done through the College Charity Society who help organise charity events within the houses. These might include cake sales or sports events. The Charity also responds to



Blackwater girls collected donations for the Eastbourne Foodbank in 2016

national and global disasters. In support of the Filipino staff employed at the College, a fundraising day was held following a typhoon in the Philippines in 2013, and, more recently, money was raised to help a family affected by the Grenfell Tower fire in London.

Since the early 1900s, the College has been engaged with charitable activities in the local and wider area and continues to do so. Today this is neatly summarised in the following sentence on the College website:

*Eastbourne College encourages pupils to reflect on their good fortune and consider, as an integral part of their wider education, the needs of those less fortunate or in need of help.*



Erection of a 'Passivhaus' dwelling in Fairlight



Retrospective application for a rear garden terrace within a conservation area

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# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS EDUCATING GIRLS

The year 2018–19 marked 50 years since the first girl pupils arrived at Eastbourne College and we were delighted to help celebrate this milestone with a lunch on Sunday 2 June.

The venue was the Christopher Kirk-Greene function suite in the Winn Building and, with the weather being so good, we were able to have drinks on the outside terrace before sitting down for the meal.

Former pupils and staff came together with memories and a lot of laughter, and they also had a chance to view an archives exhibition of co-education at the College on display in the dining hall.

Headmaster Tom Lawson welcomed the guests and said that the first girls had helped lay the foundation of what the school has become, with girls now taking part, and achieving, in all aspects of school life.

There followed a few reminiscences and anecdotes, with those formerly in charge of Nugent House, David Charman and his wife Ann, along with Vaughan and Jane Schulze, remembering some of the more amusing stories of their days looking after the girls. We also heard from a number of Old Eastbournians confessing to some of the rules they broke and the fun they had while at the College.

## 'Something we all cherish'

**Wendy de la Fargue (née Teale) (Nugent 1979-81)** wrote to us in April:

I am really very sad to be missing two important girls events this year, the London dinner and the Eastbourne gathering in June.

As a former Head Girl I wanted to write and say that the influence of Eastbourne College on myself and many of my peers is something we all cherish. Whilst the literary image of Mrs Haversham may be somewhat cobwebbed, like some of our memories, they are soon revived and dusted down when gatherings occur.

Recently, as you know, our year gathered to celebrate Philip and Sally Le Brocq and stand still a moment to honour our peer friend, their son, John. If there was something to note it was the sheer happiness expressed in the faces. The memories came flooding back, the friendships rekindled and we were filled with great joy.

It may only have been two years of our lives but they were and are among the most formative ones in a teenager's world. The staff changed their approach to the pupil as the pupil became a young adult, our minds were tested with academics beyond rote learning and we gained meaningful experiences which helped shape who we are today.

I firmly believe that the girls added a huge dimension to the College, often unknowingly, and hope that we gave as much as we took. It remains the crucial anchor where my roots were well set from which to carve the statue of my life.

So to all the girls while have the privilege of being there now, seize all of it, keep close to it and above all walk tall.



David and Ann Charman (centre) with some of the OEs who were in Nugent when they were in charge, 1980-85



Pipi Kirtley with David Winn (School 1954-59)



Mark Foster (Wargrave 1969-71), Liz Foster (Nugent 1969-70) and Headmaster Tom Lawson



Vaughan and Jane Schulze were in charge of Nugent 1971-75, pictured here with Sara Maclaurin (Nugent 1985-87)



Jess Lawson with Nicolette Collins (Nugent 1972-74) and Charles Collins

Jennie Lathbury (Nugent 1975-77), Vicky Burford (current Nugent housemistress), Kate Pierrepont (Nugent 1975-77) and Katy Tubb (Nugent 1975-77)







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# THE OPENING OF THE WINN BUILDING

Dame Katherine Grainger, Chair of UK Sport, opened the Winn Building, part of the Project 150 development, in a ceremony on Friday 21 June.

With five Olympic medals, Dame Katherine is Great Britain's most decorated female Olympian. She is a 2012 Summer Olympics gold medallist, four-time Olympic silver medallist and six-time world champion, and captured the hearts of the British public during the London 2012 Olympics when she won a convincing gold in the double, partnered by Anna Watkins. The pairing had previously broken the Olympic record during the semi-final heats with a time of 06:44.33, one that has stood ever since. She is currently backing the *Daily Telegraph's* 'Girls, Inspired' campaign, is working on the possibility of another London Olympics in 2036 and aims to create a legacy that will see sport enshrined in British culture forever.

Dame Katherine began her visit with a tour of the school's new Winn and Nugee buildings. Led by Aimee Helyar and Joe Pocklington, the head girl and head boy, the tour gave her a taste of how the redesigned campus has transformed the learning environment for the whole school community.

The first stop on the tour was the new dance studio where she met artist Jessica Lambinet, the French designer behind the College's most recent installation, two award-winning stained glass windows, produced in Paris and inspired by Da Vinci's Vitruvian Man.



Next up was a visit to the College's new sports facilities which Dame Katherine was very keen to see. She was clearly impressed that all pupils can use the new facilities, not just the top teams, and enthused about the College's expansive and inclusive physical activity programme. Viewing the top-spec fitness centre overlooking the new Olympic-grade 25-metre swimming pool, Dame Katherine must have been reminded of the many sacrifices she made on her road to Olympic glory, and the many hours spent in training.

The large multi-sport sports hall, built to Sport England standards, also tied-in with Dame Katherine's vision, as it provides adaptable space opening up myriad opportunities for pupils to sample different sports and physical activity.

Moving on to the Nugee building, which has brought 32 new classrooms and bright exhibition spaces to the College, Dame Katherine visited pupils working diligently on their mathematical problems before moving on to the new pavilion building where a Model United Nations class was in session.

Just before lunch, Dame Katherine took the opportunity to address pupils of the College and St Andrew's Prep. The pupils were captivated from the outset as she spoke about her sister having to deal with unkindness when they were growing up, which was her inspiration to make a positive change to the world. Dame Katherine studied Law at Edinburgh University where she had to be persuaded three times to try rowing. She described her disappointment when she didn't make the top 16 squad out of 52 women and how, although upsetting, it only drove her to pursue her passion further. The Olympian said that the path to success is often paved with difficulties and set-backs and recounted the time she was beaten to silver medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, despite being tipped to win.

She then turned to the awe-inspiring nature of the Olympic Games, painting a wonderful picture



Heads of school Aimee Helyar and Joe Pocklington with Dame Katherine and the headmaster in the gym



With stained glass designer Jessica Lambinet in the dance studio



Dame Katherine gave an inspiring talk to College and St Andrew's pupils



The headmaster introduces Dame Katherine to a packed audience of pupils in the College Theatre



with her words about the 2000 Sydney Olympics and the emotional impact of Cathy Freeman lighting the Olympic flame that was to unite the Australian nation, and later her gold medal 400m run in front of over 110,000 spectators at Stadium Australia.

Concluding her address, she urged the pupils to be open to new ideas and said that it was important for them to take every opportunity they get and nurture it. After the talk, Dame Katherine unveiled a plaque to mark the formal opening of the Winn building, in front of an audience of Project 150 donors including David Winn OBE, after whom the building is named. Local dignitaries were also present including Stephen Lloyd MP, the Mayor of Eastbourne, the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex and the CEO of Eastbourne Borough Council.



David Winn OBE with Dame Katherine



Dame Katherine, standing fifth from left, with sports staff and pupils, and Headmaster Tom Lawson at right

## Sussex Heritage Trust award winner



**The Nugee and Winn Buildings have won a 2019 Sussex Heritage Trust Award in the Public and Community category.**

Sussex Heritage Trust is a registered charity established in 1977 to preserve, improve and encourage the appreciation of the architectural and natural heritage of Sussex.

The Public and Community category recognises projects which provide or improve facilities for the community. As well as providing the College with a number of new facilities, the buildings have also been used by other organisations. One recent example of this was during the 2019 Nature Valley International Tennis Championship at Devonshire Park. The College welcomed players to use the fitness suite and treatment room, while the dining hall served-up healthy food to the 200+ coaches, officials and ball crew throughout the week.

In making the award, the judges said: 'A landmark and transformative development providing extensive facilities for this school. The architects and client have worked brilliantly together to produce an enviable new building to fit with the older buildings of the site. Brilliantly conceived.'

The architects, who accepted the award, were Miller Bourne and the contractors VINCI Construction.

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## 1939: THE COLLEGE PREPARES FOR WAR



Sandbags in front of the bricked-up arches in the Cloisters

2019 marked the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War. College archivist Paul Jordan takes a look back to see how the school prepared for the conflict

Much of the College's planning had been done a year before war broke out, during the Munich crisis (Germany's plan to invade the Sudeten territory of Czechoslovakia). In September 1938, Headmaster John Nugee wrote to all parents stating that in the event of war, the College would stay where it was as 'we do not think the town of Eastbourne will ever be an objective for enemy air raids.' In fact, by 1945 the town had earned the dubious distinction of being the worst bombed town on the south-east coast.

However, Nugee went on to reassure the parents that the boys had all been fitted for their gas masks (which would be arriving shortly) and that there were plenty of areas of the College which could be adapted as shelters.

In a memo dated 29 September 1938, the bursar, James Bowman, advised the housemasters that Bindon's (an Eastbourne house furnishers) had been asked to measure up for blackout blinds and curtains and to let him know what heavy timber they required (presumably used for the construction of air raid shelters). The December 1938 edition of *The Eastbourneian* reported that some of the pupils 'showed their patriotism' by knocking down parts of Temple Grove in order to provide wood for ARP (Air Raid Precautions) purposes. Temple Grove was a prep school, where Gildredge House Free School now stands. The College had owned the site since 1927 but Temple Grove had moved elsewhere in Sussex in 1936, leaving the buildings empty.

The ARP made several recommendations in relation to the likelihood of bombing: 'splinter proof rooms' were to be located in the Arnold Wing of

the Memorial Building, the east side protected by sandbags in the Cloisters and the windows facing west to be reinforced with wire.

In April 1939, the College received global publicity when a copy of the 1939 *Eastbourneian* was put on display in an exhibition of school magazines at the New York's World Fair.

In the following month, Walter Homburger was enrolled into School House. There was nothing unusual about the arrival of new pupils except that Walter was one of three Jewish brothers who had escaped Nazi Germany by means of the Kindertransport scheme. Headmaster John Nugee had written to all parents asking if they had any objections to the College offering places to Jewish refugees. None were raised and Walter (School 1939-40) joined the College in the summer term of 1939. Two years later his brother Wolfgang (School 1941-44) joined while the school was based at Radley and finally, Peter (School 1942-47), first at Radley and then at Eastbourne. Peter revisited the College in October 2019 and you can read more about that on page 30.

Boys returning from their summer holidays in the September (a few weeks after the outbreak of war) found their dormitories and living rooms 'blacked out' with black paint and black cloth. Before half term, all the windows in the New Buildings (now the D & T Department) and the Chapel had been covered as well. The instigation of the blackout meant that rugby matches were now held before lunch to prevent the team having to travel back in the dark.

William (known as Denis) Browne (Gonville 1938-41) has told us: 'I cannot remember that the war made a great deal of difference to us apart from the blackout. I do remember at Gonville the

fire brigade coming and supervising the [practice] evacuation of the top floor dormitory by a primitive rope device fixed to the eaves which lowered one boy at a time the three storeys to the ground. There were about 14 of us in that dormitory and it took well over an hour before we were all out.'

Rooms on the ground floor of Arnold Wing of the Memorial Building were converted into shelters. To accommodate them, the Arnold Bird Collection was moved to the corridor above on the first floor, much to the annoyance of the Art School who previously used it as an art gallery. Several members of the Art School 'helped' the war effort by making models of platoon tracks and other army equipment, for the use of the Corps (now the CCF).

These shelter rooms had to be protected from bomb blast so the arches in the cloisters opposite were infilled with sandbags. *The Eastbourneian* reported that over 5,000 were needed and that they were transported to the site by past and present members of Powell House. However, due to heavy rains, the bags began to rot and collapse, so the arches were later bricked in.

So great was the need for sandbags for protecting other parts of the College that a pupil Labour Squad was formed. It operated in the afternoon and consisted of boys who had a free day. Other duties included moving a listening post for the Observer Corps on Beachy Head, felling trees in Ratton Wood, collecting driftwood off the beach for the WTS (Women's Transport Service) and unpacking babies' gas masks for the police. The squad also worked on the College allotment on the Royal Eastbourne Golf Links.

The library did its bit too by cutting expenditure; periodical subscriptions were cancelled and the number of books bought reduced.

But the biggest change would have been noticed by the boys in Crosby House. They returned in September 1939, not to their former building in Blackwater Road (this had been commandeered for evacuees in August), but to the former Ascham St Vincent's school in Carlisle Road. The College had purchased the former prep school following



A Civil Defence leaflet on how to prepare for gas attacks



Happier times seen in a snapshot dated 1939; on the left, George Brown (Gonville 1938-43), on the right, Denis Browne (Gonville 1938-41)



the sale of Temple Grove to the Duke of Devonshire's estate.

One pupil was particularly enthusiastic about his new house, describing it as 'palatial'. He continued, 'we have a real garden and hope eventually to supply ourselves with vegetables and flowers; our chickens already lay sufficient eggs for our needs'. Other delights included a gymnasium and two billiard tables, 'one in the hall, another in the prep room'. One oddity was that part of the former chapel had been converted into a senior changing room, 'its stained glass windows are most incongruous'.

The College also gained a new sports ground at the Ascham site which was named Arnold Field. It was here, on 18 November 1939, that Eastbourne beat the Radley College team at rugby (15-0). Seven months later Radley would of course play host to the College as part of the school's evacuation plan.

Just prior to the College purchasing the site, the former school had one last role to play. On 14 May 1939, St Cyprian's (a prep school next to the current Gildredge House School site) was destroyed by fire. The staff and boys were temporarily moved to the former Ascham St Vincent's buildings before relocating to West Sussex. Ironically the fire broke out on the same day as the local civil defence were dealing with the consequences of a mock air raid in the town.

The first real effects of the war were brought home to the College when OE, Arthur Miles Eady (Day Boy 1925-27) was killed in an RAF flying accident on 20 November 1939. Although employed



The College v Radley rugby game played on the sports field at Ascham in November 1939

by British Airways, Arthur (the wireless operator) and the pilot had been seconded by the RAF to carry out, according to *The Eastbournian*, a 'secret RAF mission'. Their plane hit a barrage balloon cable shortly after take-off and he and the pilot were killed. Arthur became the first College casualty of the Second World War.

The editorial in the December 1939 edition of *The Eastbournian* ended on a positive note: 'We

would like to congratulate the School on the way in which it has responded to war-time life and the cheerfulness with which it faces and overcomes all its difficulties.'

The College would have greater challenges to come. With the fall of France in 1940 and the threat of invasion, Nugee made the decision to evacuate the College to Radley in Oxfordshire, a story which we will be exploring in next year's magazine.

# Sunday Lunch

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# PETER HOMBURGER

## A LOYAL AND GENEROUS EASTBOURNIAN

The College was delighted to welcome back Peter Homburger (School 1942–47) and his family from Denver, Colorado, when they visited in the autumn. For nearly 75 years Peter has been one of the school's most loyal and generous supporters, having donated on a number of occasions to the Foundation. He was also one of the longest-serving OE overseas reps, having taken on this role from 1961 until he stood down last year.

On Thursday 10 October Peter toured the new buildings which make up the Project 150 development and visited the economics classroom which bears his name, following his donation to the P150 appeal. There is also a Homburger room in the Birley Centre, in

honour of Peter and his two brothers.

Later that afternoon he took part in a 45-minute question-and-answer session with boys and girls from across the year groups. Twentieth century history was brought alive as Peter answered questions about escaping from Germany on the Kindertransport



Peter sitting by the Cloisters with his four sons, Dave, Phil, Steve and Drew

programme with his two brothers, Walter and Wolfgang, who also attended the College. His parents were taken away to be interned in a concentration camp, before they managed to escape to America. Peter's story of how he survived and then coped with being separated from his parents for eight years from the age of eleven onwards before subsequently going on to have a successful career and life in the USA, is compelling.

One inspirational moment came when Peter was asked by a pupil if, having seen the worst excesses of Nazi rule in Germany, he still had faith in human nature. Gesturing towards his four sons and their wives at the side of the room, he explained that he did have faith, because of his loving and supportive family. Peter clearly holds no bitterness, despite all that he has

lived through.

Peter also talked about life at the College, part of which was spent at Radley during the wartime evacuation, and partly in Eastbourne. He remembered that he had not been made a prefect at school, something that was put right by Headmaster Tom Lawson, who duly presented him with a prefect's tie, albeit nearly 75 years late.

On Thursday evening Peter and his family hosted a dinner at his hotel for the headmaster and his wife Jess, along with other members of staff from the Eastbourne Society. The next day the family set off to visit Devon, where Peter had spent his summer holidays while at the College. Everybody who met Peter during his visit was honoured to have done so and inspired by his story, his wisdom and his compassion.



Peter chats with Head of Economics Jon Bathard-Smith in the Homburger Room, one of the new classrooms in the Winn Building

### Here, in Peter's own words, is his life story

I was born into a Jewish family 91 years ago. We were shot at and thrown out of our school and finally, on Kristallnacht, my father's bank was destroyed and he was sent to Dachau, because he would not sign the bank over to the Nazis. When he had stood naked in snow and rain, he finally signed and was released.

In England, the Red Cross with some rich families decided to rescue the Jewish children on the continent. It was called the Kindertransport and in May 1939 my two older brothers and I were transported to England. A distant relative who was not married said he would take care of us. So after one night at his home in London we all went to Eastbourne where my oldest brother Walter was enrolled in Eastbourne College and brother Wolf (Wolfgang) and I were at a prep school. The reason our guardian chose Eastbourne I never found out. One guess is that he met the College's headmaster John Nugge in the military.

My parents were interned in a camp in the Pyrenees and finally bought their way through to relatives in New York - on the last ship to leave Europe for the USA. During holidays in England I

was boarded at a home in South Devon.

After the war, under the rules of the Kindertransport, I had to join my parents in New York. I had fallen in love with a girl in Devon and had asked her to marry me. But the prospect of living in New York did not appeal to her. However the one thing she accomplished was my conversion to Christianity. In fact, the first time I saw her I followed her and she went to church.

Fast forward - I stayed in New York where I rented a room and by Christmas 1947 decided to move to Denver where I had won a scholarship to the University of Denver and also got a job. I got my bachelor and master's degree from DU and became a CPA.

In September 1950 I received my draft notice and was assigned to the 45th Infantry Division. I passed all the officer tests but had not lived in the country the required five years to become a citizen. So I spent my whole two years as a chaplain's assistant. We were sent to Japan as occupation troops over Christmas 1951. The chaplain and I were assigned to a camp at Yong Dong Po [in Korea]. At this time, this town was about ten miles from Seoul

and the only paved road I ever saw was from Incheon to Seoul. The chaplain and I were assigned to our base, but we served 23 smaller units and tried to hold services in all of them at least every ten days. I also had many other duties such as securing supplies for all 15 chaplains in the division. I came home in 1952, got married and raised four boys. I retired from the electric utility in 1984 after 33 years' service. On 21 May I celebrated my 91st birthday.



The three Homburger brothers shortly after they arrived in England in 1939: Peter, Walter (School 1939-40) and Wolf (School 1941-44)



# FOUNDATION DAY 2019

Foundation Day was held on Saturday 22 June; the day is an opportunity for the College to say thank you to the many College benefactors and members of the Devonshire Society who have donated or pledged a legacy to help fund bursaries, awards and scholarships, as well as providing funds for capital projects.



Headmaster Tom Lawson welcomes the guests in the Warren Atrium

The day started with a service of thanksgiving in the College Chapel, followed by a champagne reception in the Warren Atrium of the Nugee Building. After the drinks there was a musical interlude provided by pupils and staff, with choral singing, a violin solo and the College jazz band supplying a more up-tempo end to the proceedings.

Luncheon in the Christopher Kirk-Greene function rooms was next, with a welcome from Chairman of Governors Philip Broadley (Wargrave 1974-79). During the meal, the guests also heard from Joe Pocklington, one of the current heads of school, and recipient of the Peter Bibby Award. Joe expressed his thanks to all the benefactors who enable him and many other pupils to have access to a life-changing education at the College.



Luncheon in the function suite



The day was also an opportunity for one of the guests, Tim Freshwater (School 1958-63), to visit Tim's, the cafe next to the dining hall which is named after him. He is pictured here with Jenny Lush, widow of John Lush, master-in-charge of cricket from 1951 to 1976. The photo behind them hangs on the wall of the cafe and is of the 1962 1st XI cricket team; Jenny is pointing to John and Tim to himself!



The College jazz band

## Leaving a legacy to the College

The College has been built and developed through the generosity of supporters and benefactors over 150 years, with each generation of pupils inheriting the opportunities provided by their predecessors.

The Devonshire Society was created in 2002 and is Eastbourne College's legacy club. Bequests made to the College help fund bursaries, awards and scholarships, as well as providing funds for capital projects.

If you tell us that you plan to make a bequest to Eastbourne College, and do not request anonymity, you will automatically become a member of the Society and will be invited every year with your spouse or partner to a luncheon as a guest of the Headmaster.

More details about leaving a bequest are in the brochure *Your will, our legacy*, a copy of which will be sent on request. Alternatively you can download or print it from the Eastbournian Society website.



## Contact us

If you would like to discuss any aspect of making a donation or leaving funds for the College in your will, please contact **David Stewart** or **Christine Todd**.

**David Stewart**  
01323 452308  
das@eastbourne-college.co.uk

**Christine Todd**  
01323 452316  
ct@eastbourne-college.co.uk

# THE 2019 FOUNDATION GOLF CHALLENGE

The annual Foundation Golf Challenge on Friday 5 July proved to be a great success, helping to raise funds towards a College sports bursary, the Peter Bibby Award.

The Royal Eastbourne was once again the venue, and 19 teams from across the Eastbournian Society and local community took part.

The day began with registration, coffee and bacon rolls in the clubhouse, before a shotgun start at 12.30pm. With the weather warm, sunny and dry, conditions were perfect for an enjoyable afternoon's golf. Once all the teams had returned a group photo was taken and prizes were announced.

Mirren Mace, the daughter of Peter Bibby, presented the prizes. The overall winners were Identity, with AFC in second place and HASbeens in third. Other prizes were awarded to David Twine (Team Twine) for the longest drive on the 1st, Sam Southon (Identity) for the longest drive on the 12th, Alicia Parris (Identity) for nearest the pin on both the 8th and the 18th, and Nick Richards (Gatland's Red Army) for nearest the pin on the 15th.

During the evening dinner a charity auction was held, helping to raise money towards the Peter Bibby Award, which provides bursary funding for a place at the College for a talented local cricketer. In excess of £20,000 was raised on the day.

Our thanks go to all who took part, donated prizes and auction items, and sponsored the event, including main sponsor M-Tech Systems.



Team Identity were overall winners, with Mirren Mace on the right



Conditions were perfect for an enjoyable afternoon's golf



## The Peter Bibby Award

This was set up by Peter's family, friends and sporting colleagues to honour and celebrate his life. The aim is to give a local youngster, who has a clear aptitude and passion for cricket, the chance of an education at the College by providing bursary funding. The latest recipient is Tom Hinley, who joined Wargrave in Year 12 in September 2019.

If you would like to donate to the award please contact Christine Todd at [ctodd@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:ctodd@eastbourne-college.co.uk) or 01323 452316.

## Donors and sponsors

Thanks go to all those below who generously sponsored a hole or donated a prize or auction item.

Main sponsor:

### **M-Tech Systems**

Brewers Decorator Centres

Buxtons Flooring

Caffyns

Club Class Chauffeurs

Ben Dawson Art

Desert Springs Resort and Golf Club

LJ Edwards

Fieldskill

Full Event Management

Ed Giddins

Holroyd Howe

Hotchkiss

Kileys Carpets

La Locanda del Duca

Lansdowne Hotel

Tom Lawson

Lloyds Bank

Richard Lock

Martin Lulham

Middlesex CCC

Miller Bourne

Montague Livestock and Wildlife

MPF Scaffolding

Richard Pinner

PlayerLayer

Richard and Sue Pocklington

Ravilius Hotel

Royal Eastbourne Golf Club

David Stewart

James Tredwell

The Twine family

Wingrove

Anthony Wreford, President of the MCC

Stephen Yorke

If you would like to bring a team, or be a sponsor or donor for the 2020 Golf Challenge please contact Christine Todd at [ctodd@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:ctodd@eastbourne-college.co.uk) or 01323 452316.



# OLD EASTBOURNIAN LODGE

Well, here we are again and another year has flown by for the OE Lodge. They say that time seems to go faster if you're enjoying yourself and we certainly have no trouble doing that.

If you are interested in joining this group of like-minded souls, which is known for its strong social side as well as its charitable giving, or would like further information about Freemasonry in general, then contact Nick Clive-Matthews (Pennell 1962-66), at [nickc\\_m@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nickc_m@yahoo.co.uk).

The OE Lodge meets at the Eastbourne Masonic Centre on a Friday evening four times a year and we then go for a very convivial dinner after the meeting. We are no longer restricted to OEs and staff as we are now an open lodge and also have parents, grandparents and friends as members. For the younger OEs who are at university there are now university schemes throughout the country, with lodges in each area allocated to bringing younger men into Freemasonry. There are also two Grand Lodges for Lady Freemasons, again with lodges all over the country and even a local lodge meeting in Eastbourne. Have a look at the United Grand Lodge of England web-site at [www.ugle.org.uk](http://www.ugle.org.uk), or the Sussex Provincial YouTube link at

at the Cumberland Hotel, where we held a raffle which raised £350.00 for Eastbourne's St Wilfrid's Hospice.

As was mentioned last year the English Freemasons donate huge sums of money each year to good causes and 2018-19 has been no exception, with nearly £45,000,000 (yes, that much!) being distributed to a wide range of charities both large and small over the past 12 months. The hospice movement is always one of the regular beneficiaries and this year the main charitable donation from the OE Lodge has been to Eastbourne's St Wilfrid's Hospice and, partly as a result of the installation meeting raffle, together with further contributions from Sussex Masonic Charities arranged by our charity steward, David Barrett, we were able to present them with two cheques for a total of £1200.00. Later in the year and as a result of an appeal from a blind Lodge member, Leslie Robinson, we were able to arrange for a further £600.00 to be sent to the Eastbourne Talking Newspaper



John Seldon and Luke Flanagan after the ceremony



Luke with John Thornley and Rob Wicks

of whom are long standing Lodge members. Although John retired from his teaching duties in October this year, he was the longest serving member of the College teaching staff when he proposed Luke, one of the newest staff members, into Freemasonry. All the Lodge members hope that our newest recruit will enjoy his time both at the College and in the Lodge, as much as John has.



Keith Kirby with his 50th Certificate

Fifty years in Freemasonry is a milestone not achieved by many and this November Keith Kirby (Blackwater 1957-61) celebrated his 50th at Freemasons' Hall in London. Keith

is a regular visitor to the OE Lodge and has given sterling work to the Masonic movement during those 50 years, achieving high rank. Keith was presented with his certificate at the Grenadiers Lodge meeting at Freemasons' Hall at Great Queen Street, London, and then had a celebratory meeting with the Lodge members and many guests at the Ambassadors Bloomsbury Hotel. Nick Clive-Matthews was there as one of Keith's guests to represent the OE Lodge and witness this memorable occasion.

Our next major event will be the Installation of John Howlett (Blackwater 1971-74) as Worshipful Master for the year 2020 and this will be on



John Howlett and Geoff Diamond

Friday 24 January. If you would like to be with us that day then just contact Nick, whose email address is given above. If you are a Freemason and are free to come along, then you will be made very welcome. Geoff Diamond (Gonville 1997-2002) is now firmly on the promotion ladder as one of our junior officers and was one of the many present at our October meeting who were able to congratulate John on his election as Master. We now look forward to another year of fun and fulfilment with John at the helm, so do try and join us at one of our meetings over the next year both to catch up with old friends and have the opportunity to make some new ones.

Nick Clive-Matthews



David Barrett and Nick Clive-Matthews presenting a cheque to Hospice staff

<http://youtu.be/czXLHudYG6Y>. If you think you might like to find out what it's all about, or are already a Mason but would like to join a local lodge, then Nick will be more than happy to have a chat or put you in touch with a lodge meeting in your area.

Our year 'kicked off' as usual in January with the Installation of our new Worshipful Master, Andrew Board, who many will know from his time as a senior partner at Cornfield Law. He was installed in fine style at the Eastbourne Masonic Centre by his predecessor, Nick Clive-Matthews, in the presence of some 50 members and guests. Afterwards we all went for a very happy and friendly dinner

Association to pay for badly needed new microphones.

The highlight for the Lodge this year though was to welcome Luke Flanagan (Staff from 2018) as our first initiate from the College teaching staff for several years. By coincidence John Seldon (Wargrave 1949-53), the longest serving member of the Lodge who was initiated in 1960, was able to travel down from Nottingham for the meeting and agreed to stand in, at the last minute, as our Junior Deacon for the evening; conducting Luke through the ceremony. Luke was proposed by John Thornley (Staff from 1978) and seconded by Rob Wicks (Powell 1974-79), both



# TRIP TO THE FIRST WORLD WAR BATTLEFIELDS



The Thiepval Memorial



The CWGC cemetery at Tyne Cot



The group in Poperinghe



At Langemark German Cemetery



In St George's Church, Ypres



At Sunken Lane



Dinner in Ypres



The battlefield walk from Railway Wood to Hooge

David Stewart writes:

Thirty intrepid members of the Eastbournian Society (OEs, parents of former pupils and friends of the College) set off from the College at 8.00am on Sunday 8 September on a First World War battlefields tour.

Our first stop was at the small town of Poperinghe, back a little from the front line, and where the British Army in the Ypres sector 'refreshed' themselves when relieved from front line duties. A visit to the condemned cells and firing post was an early reminder of the terrible psychological toll the war had on soldiers as they struggled to cope with the privations of life in the trenches.

A visit to the Langemark German Cemetery followed with our guide Nick Keyes giving accounts of the many battles fought in that sector. The visit to this extraordinary site culminated with our group standing in the very same place on which Hitler stood on

his 'victorious' and vengeful visit to the cemetery back in early June 1940.

From our hotel in Ypres market square and opposite the Cloth Hall, Monday began with a visit to St George's Church where we saw the plaque in memory of the OEs killed in the Great War.

Having driven down to the Somme we visited the site of the terrifying action involving companies from the Lancashire Fusiliers at Sunken Lane on 1 June 1916. This was followed by lunch at a front line dressing station and RAP (Ocean Villas) and a stop off at the huge Lochnagar Crater.

Our time at the Somme ended with a visit to the massive Thiepval Memorial. The names of the 17 OEs (out of 73,000) whose names appear on the Memorial were read out and a wreath laid on behalf of the College.

On return to Ypres we attended the nightly cer-

emony at the Menin Gate after which we were ready for a hearty dinner at a nearby restaurant.

On our final day, Tuesday, we visited the superb Passchendaele Museum and then did the battlefield walk from Railway Wood to Hooge. During the walk we visited the smallest Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery before finishing the tour in the afternoon at the largest CWGC cemetery at Tyne Cot. The beauty and calm of the immaculately cared-for graves were in vivid contrast with the mud-drowning horrors of that Third Battle of Ypres.

After a brief visit to Guy Boursot's wine shop in Ardres we arrived back safe and sound at the College. We had had a wonderful three days full of sobering thoughts on the sacrifices made a hundred years ago and better informed on the two great British battles fought on the Western Front.



## SALES, MARKETING AND PR NETWORKING

The first of the Michaelmas term's networking events concentrated on sales, marketing and PR, and a number of current College pupils travelled up to London to benefit from talking to Old Eastbournians and others about career prospects.

The event, on Wednesday 18 September, was held at the offices of global PR firm Weber Shandwick in Waterhouse Square, Holborn. The guest speaker was Joe Walton, who heads the company's UK B2B and technology practice, and manages a 40-strong team of B2B marketing specialists.

Joe gave a superb talk on the future direction of travel for those who work in the communications industries. The catastrophic collapse of public trust over the last decade in the corporate world, our institutions, those in authority and the growth of 'fake news', means that communicating with 'authenticity' will be the key to success. Aligning what we say we are with who we really are and what we do, will be increasingly important.

It was a great opportunity, not only for the College pupils but also for a number of OEs currently at university, to meet PR professionals, establish contacts and get a better understanding of the sales and marketing industry.



## THE 2019 OE REUNION

Old Eastbournians from across the generations returned to the College on Saturday 28 September for the annual OE reunion day.

This year we wanted to celebrate the significant anniversaries of 10, 20, 30 years etc since leaving the College, and invited former pupils who had left school in years ending in 8 or 9 from each decade from the 1940s to the 2000s. It was

good to see a number of former staff from these eras also turning up.

Lunch and tea were on offer, as well as the chance to take a tour of the new buildings which some OEs were seeing for the first time. At 4.00pm the OE Stags rugby team played on College Field against Merlins RFC, a close hard-fought game which they unfortunately lost 14–10.

After evensong in Chapel, a drinks reception was held in the Christopher Kirk-Greene function suite, next to the dining hall in the Winn Building.

This was followed by a superb carvery dinner, attended by Headmaster Tom Lawson and his wife Jess.

In his speech the headmaster spoke passionately about the benefits of a College education, explained how fully-funded bursaries were giving opportunities to numerous pupils, and stressed the important role the school plays in the Eastbourne Schools Partnership, which covers some 15,000 local schoolchildren.



## BANKING, BROKING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT NETWORKING



There was a very big turn-out for the networking event on Wednesday 9 October, with around 60 OEs, parents and current pupils attending.

Over 20 sixth form pupils travelled up from the College to the offices of PwC near London Bridge, where they were able to meet with professionals in the banking, broking and asset management sector. These networking events are a great opportunity for pupils to get advice and hear about the experience of working in specific professions.

The guest speaker was Simon Cloke, father of an OE, who has spent nearly 30 years in the banking industry. Formerly Global Head of Industrials at Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein, he was appointed Managing Director of HSBC's Diversified Industries Group in 2005 and is currently responsible for managing HSBC's business with some of its largest house building and building materials clients as well as a number of HSBC's largest UK corporate relationships.

Simon has also been involved in the governance of several other private and public companies during this time and in particular is a non-executive director of The Restaurant Group plc and a director of a small property development business.

Our thanks go to Darren Meek (Blackwater 1982-87), OE, parent, governor and treasurer of the Eastbournian Society, for arranging for the event to be held at the offices of PwC.

## POST-WAR COLLEGE MEMORIES

Alfred van Lennep (School 1947–51) tells us of life in post-war Eastbourne

I came to Eastbourne in September 1947 being one of the very few foreigners there at that time, with some oral but effectively no experience in writing English. So when, after two or three weeks at school, our class was told to write an essay I spent considerable time first writing it in Dutch, translating that in my English and rewriting that in what I thought to be proper English. When these were returned, corrected, I was told that while my subject was of some interest the real interest was my English! Needless to say that was hardly encouraging but no suggestion was made that I should perhaps get some extra lessons. English spelling is the most illogical language spelling I am aware of and, while fluent in speaking, I still have the greatest of difficulties in spelling.

It was shortly after the war and what was served as food would, by modern standards, be judged to be quite atrocious, but having survived the 'Hunger Winter' of 1944/45 in Holland I was not critical. To the delight of my housemaster I gained a stone that first term and 10 pounds each of the following two terms, although it should be noted that we were weighed in the late afternoon just after sports during the first week of term and just after lunch at the end of term.

In Holland I had always been interested in Dutch and European history but was totally baffled by history concerning an Ethelbert or an Ethelred and so was directed to the maths department under the very inspiring direction of a very young double first from Oxford, Mr Hirst, and to physics under the direction of the much-honoured Spitfire pilot Mr Perrens. The school had just returned from their exile to Radley and the grounds were still covered with tarred black Nissen huts from the time the school had been occupied by the Navy. These were used by the scouts, some handicrafts etc. The CCF was very active... we were wrapped



Paul Hirst, seated on the ground, with a later group of 'Pseudos' from 1955

in war-time battle dress and hoisting old Lee-Enfield rifles dating back to the Boer War. It was a once-a-week event with the very occasional field day which I quite enjoyed, especially later, when being part of the Air Wing, I had my first flying experience in a Piper Cub, a small biplane then flown by an old RAF pilot making up his flying hours to retain his licence, and this entailed going



Field Marshal Montgomery of Alamein visited the College on Speech Day in June 1948; in the background is Headmaster John Nugee

through three-point landings, various loops and flying upside down at which point the engine would stop.

There was also a very great parade with buglers on the tower for the visit of Montgomery, the hero of El-Alamein who, after a strict inspection, told a rapt audience how he had won the war (of that I was not quite so sure). Personally, having seen the Hitler Jugend (Hitler Youth) during the war I felt uncomfortable with the training of the CCF and was later excused of partaking as long as I stayed inside my study, but was very much surprised when I heard the Mr Perrens, our great RAF hero, did himself have misgivings of such early militarism.

I was and am not a particularly sporting type though did my best as a wing in a minor team in rugby, as wicket keeper in an equally minor cricket team, and some sailing, but managed to play tennis for the school which gave me access to Devonshire Park which was otherwise out of bounds as so much of Eastbourne town itself. As such it also made me an important link of 'billets douces' between one of the senior prefects and a young lady from the School of Domestic Science.

Perhaps the most successful innovation was the introduction of the 'Pseudos', a small group of mainly sixth-formers who, under the guidance of Mr Hirst, tried to make sense of the then very modern physics of Einstein and Eddington. The often late return to our houses was at first frowned upon until several of our little group got entrance and even an exhibition to Oxford or Cambridge.

After finishing A-levels with time to spare, the hon sec of the tennis club and myself were given tickets to Wimbledon and at the same time a visit to the Festival of Britain on the South Bank and in Battersea Park, a great optimistic and inspiring event of modern design, new techniques and hope for a better future.

*Editor's note: Alfred has also told us of his career in geophysics after he left the College, and this is featured in the OE news section on page 59.*



## THE LONDON BUSINESS LUNCH

The annual business lunch was held on Friday 18 October at a new venue, the Rail House Café in Sir Simon Milton Square, close to Victoria Station.

The lunch is an opportunity for OEs and parents in business to meet for an informal meal. Younger OEs are able to talk about career prospects and it's also a good way to build up business contacts. As it was a slightly smaller gathering than in previous years, everybody had a chance to introduce themselves and talk about their experiences and current challenges in their respective fields.

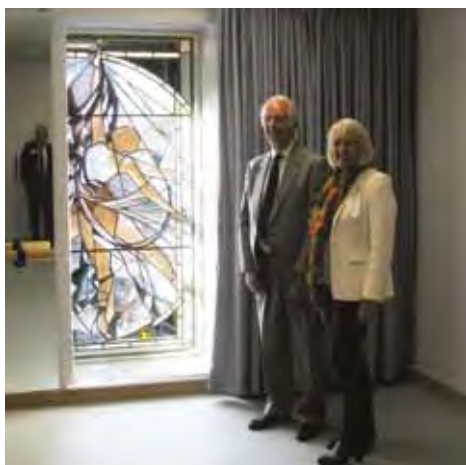


## ARNOLD EMBELLISHERS' CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Members of the Arnold Embellishers gathered in September for a special centenary AGM and a tour of AE projects over the years. The society was started in June 1919 by EC Arnold (a teacher, and subsequently headmaster in 1924) to enhance the life of the school through imaginative embellishments, improvements beyond those which the school might feel essential.

Guests for the celebrations included the family of Godfrey Bunbury (School House 1908-12). The Bunbury Door on to Chapel Yard, a memorial to Godfrey who was killed in action in 1917, was the society's first ever embellishment. This summer, as a centenary project, the worn memorial stonework was taken down and replaced with new carvings created by a gifted stonemason, Chris Pellett, who also attended the celebrations.

Other special guests included representatives of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers and Painters of Glass, Michael Holman and Vivienne Lester. The stained glass Thomson Windows in the Jill Emslie Dance Studio were a result of an



Michael Holman and Vivienne Lester by one of the Thomson Windows



The new poster showing some of the society's embellishments

international competition, the Stevens Competition, by the Glaziers. Philip Broadley, Chairman of Governors, an AE and also a member of the Glaziers, could see the potential benefit to the College community of an inspirational piece of art. It was a perfect centenary project for the AEs, funded as part of a generous bequest from Colin Thomson (School House 1959-63). The design commissioned, *Dancing into the Light*, was by young French designer Jessica Lambinet who also crafted and installed the windows.

Headmaster Tom Lawson toasted the Arnold Embellishers, warmly thanking the society for its imaginative enhancements over the past century and its enthusiasm in supporting exciting projects in the future.

A tour of various AE projects was followed by a presentation by AE Brian Polden (School 1948-51) to the LRC and Photography Club of his new book *Photography at Length – an authentic history of panoramic cameras* with a talk about his craft developed over 40 years with some of the unusual cameras, lenses and pictures he has collected.

Other embellishments in this centenary year include installing a clock on College Field and embellishing the corridor between the sports hall and the swimming pool with 12 pictures of recent OEs with interesting careers to inspire the current generation. Michael Partridge identified another Second World War casualty, Cecil Thomas (Blackwater 1925-28), and had his name added in Memorial Hall (you can read more about this on



Embellishers Secretary Jenny Lush, Brian Polden, Sam Martin (teacher in charge of photography) and College Librarian Phil Martin

page 40). Paul Jordan has arranged for a picture of Headmaster EC Arnold hanging in the Memorial Building to be restored and reframed. A poster illustrating some of the 80+ embellishments over the past century has been produced for the LRC staircase.

New members are always welcome and never more so than as we look towards the next century of embellishments.

Vicky Henley, Chairman  
vhenley@eastbourne-college.co.uk



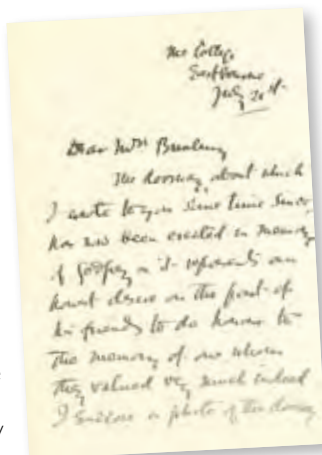
## RESTORATION OF THE BUNBURY DOOR

The Bunbury Door, the eastern door to the D & T Building, formerly known as the New Building, has enjoyed a major restoration this year. This has been financed by the Arnold Embellishers, who were founded in 1919, as a centenary celebration project. The door was their first embellishment and was erected in 1921. It had become more than slightly dilapidated.

Godfrey Hugh St Pierre Bunbury was a Devonshire (Entrance) Scholar and was in School House from 1908 until 1912. He was the youngest son of Lieutenant Colonel W St Pierre Bunbury, paternal grandson of Colonel Henry William Bunbury and maternal grandson of General the Hon Sir Henry Ramsay. Godfrey excelled in cricket, rugby, athletics, gym, swimming and boxing, and was named 'the best bowler in the team' and in rugby 'when soft tackles were the order of the day, he always scorned them'. He was also an editor of the *Eastbournian* and a sergeant in the Officers' Training Corps. He passed 1st into Sandhurst where he was an under-officer. He also passed 1st into the Indian Army and won the King's Medal, awarded to the cadet who achieved the highest score in military, practical and academic studies. He also won the Norman Medal, awarded to the Indian Army cadet highest in the Order of Merit, and the Anson Memorial Sword, awarded to the cadet who achieved the highest marks at the end of his course. After serving on the Indian Frontier, Godfrey was attached to a battalion at the Front. He also received a special commendation from the Army Commander for an important reconnaissance mission. As an Acting Captain in the 15th Ludhiana Sikhs attached to the 36th Sikhs, he was killed in action near Kut al Amara in Mesopotamia (now Iraq) aged just 22, on 1 February 1917. He is buried in Amara War Cemetery, Iraq, where the headstones have been removed due to decay and have been replaced by engraved panels. Godfrey is also commemorated in St Paul's church, Bedford.



Godfrey Bunbury while at the College



The letter from Headmaster EC Arnold to Mrs Bunbury

In 1918 the Arnold Embellishers decided to commemorate Bunbury's distinguished life by the erection of a memorial door to what is now the D & T Building. This took the form of a double door with an ornamental stone surround. It was designed by OE Geoffrey Wilson ARIBA who was also responsible for the design of the Memorial Building. The construction was by Mark Martin, one of the town's finest builders, and the stone carving by George Alexander. There is in the College Archives a letter from Mr Arnold, then headmaster as well as the founding father of the Embellishers, to Mrs Bunbury, mother of Godfrey, informing her of the creation of the door and of the Sir Percival window in the Chapel which commemorates Bunbury as well as seven other OEs who lost their lives in the First World War. This window, with several others, was created by the distinguished stained glass artist Mary Lowndes.

The restoration has entailed the replacement of three carved stone panels, the central Bunbury Family coat of arms and the two label ends - the arms of the College and of the 15th Sikhs. The motto *Esse-quam-videri* translates as 'To be, rather than to seem'. The

big cat is believed to be a cross between a lion and a pard; the lion is a symbol of strength; the pard represents the devil. Impaled on two swords, the crest depicts Bunbury fighting and conquering evil. The restoration workmanship has been of a high order and we are indebted to Chris Pellet, proprietor of Albourne Stone and Marble of Whitesmith, near Lewes, for this. The total cost of the restoration was £10,273. The Embellishers annual meeting on 28 September was attended by Veronica Bunbury, her daughter Victoria, and Chris Pellett with his wife Jenny, who all visited the door with the attending Embellishers.

The project has been researched and managed by Roger Sloley and Michael Partridge, both members of the Arnold Embellishers committee.

Michael Partridge



Roger Sloley (Powell 1954-57), Michael Partridge (Blackwater 1946-51), Victoria Bunbury, Veronica Bunbury and Chris Pellett

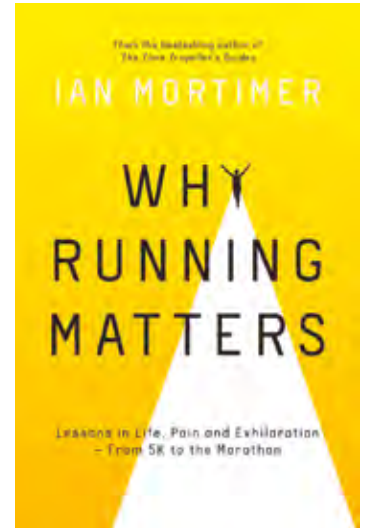
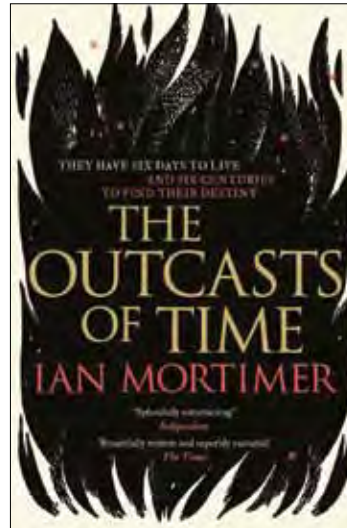
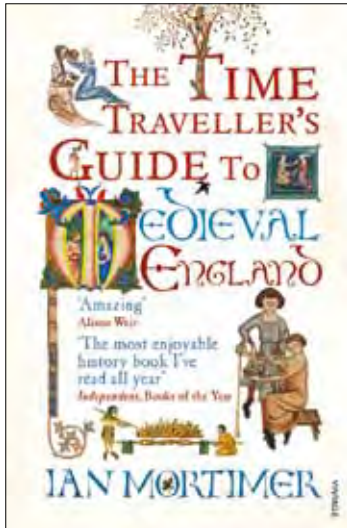
## INSURANCE NETWORKING

College pupils joined Old Eastbournians at the business and career networking event on Wednesday 20 November, which focused on the insurance industry.



The guest speaker was Richard Harries, the chief executive of Atrium Underwriters, which hosted the event in the Lloyd's Building in the City of London. Richard started at Stewart Wrightson in 1987, and then had a variety of roles with Willis before joining Atrium in 1997. In 2012 he became active underwriter of the merged syndicates of 570 and 609. He was promoted to CEO effective from July 2014. Richard gave a brief introduction to the insurance industry, giving the pupils an insight into a career in the profession. They then had a chance to talk with him and other colleagues, as well as with Old Eastbournians who are currently working in insurance. The pupils were also taken on a tour of the Lloyd's trading floor.





## Dr Ian Mortimer (WARGRAVE 1980–85)

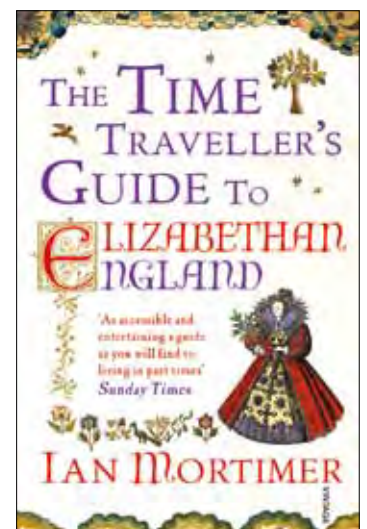
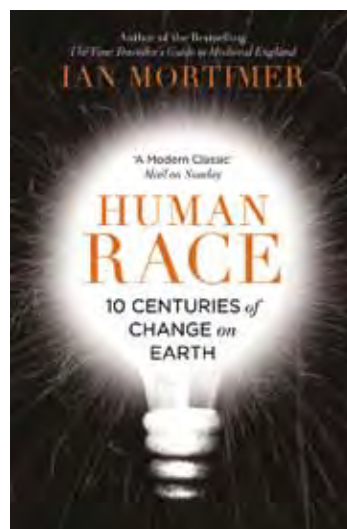
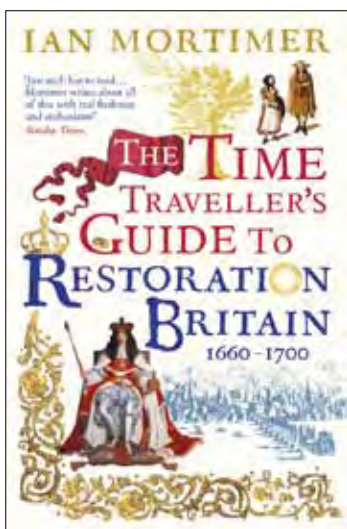
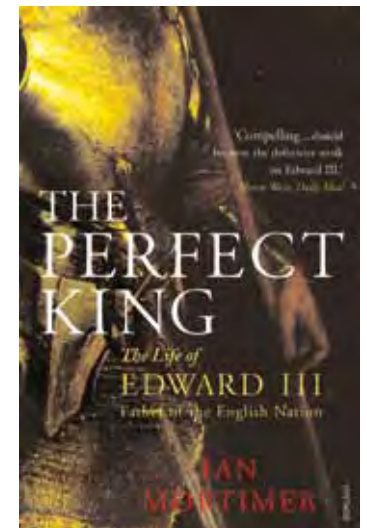
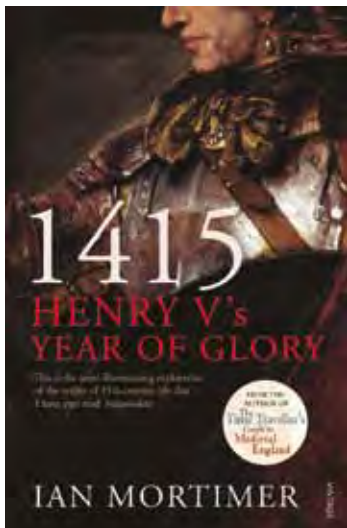
is one of the country's leading historians, with total book sales now in excess of a million copies. He is best known for his *Time Traveller's Guides* to Medieval and

Elizabethan England, and Restoration Britain; a guide to Regency Britain will appear in autumn 2020. In addition, he has written four medieval biographies; and, *Human Race*, a survey of the fifty most significant social changes of the last millennium.

Unusually for a popular writer, he has also won major prizes for his academic research and an experiment novel, *The Outcasts of Time*, in which two medieval brothers sell their souls in order to escape the plague and live each of their last six days ninety-nine years apart, across six centuries. Now, adding to the colourful mix, he has written *Why Running Matters* – a memoir

about running in the year he turned fifty – exploring what we learn about life from running with our children and other people, and collectively battling against time.

More information about him and his writing is available at  
[www.ianmortimer.com](http://www.ianmortimer.com)



# FLIGHT LIEUTENANT CECIL GEORGE THOMAS RAFVR

The archives were this year asked by Philip Baldock of the Friends of Tunbridge Wells Cemetery for information about an Old Eastbournian casualty of the Second World War. This was Cecil George Thomas, born in November 1910, who was in Blackwater from summer 1925 until summer 1928 and whose death in 1943 was previously unknown to us. His father George, a dental surgeon, had served in the First World War as a Major with the Royal Sussex and was awarded the Military Cross. After leaving the College Cecil went to Palestine to serve with the Palestine Police. He returned to England in 1933, soon after his father died, possibly for his funeral. Around this time he served as a 2nd Lieutenant with the 5th Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment TA.

His brothers Eric and Bruce both flew in the Battle of Britain; neither were OEs.

There are a few missing years but Cecil must have joined the RAFVR on the outbreak of war. Posted to a bomber squadron, no 49, based at Fiskerton in Lincolnshire, he was the lead pilot in a Lancaster and had already flown a remarkable 19 missions over Hanover, Munich, Hamburg, Berlin, Nuremberg, Munchen Gladbach and other cities. During the night of 3-4 November 1943, in a raid against Dusseldorf, Thomas's Lancaster was shot down by a night fighter and crashed in flames. Only three of the crew of eight survived. Cecil was buried in a Cologne cemetery but soon after the war ended his remains were moved to Rheinberg Commonwealth War Graves cemetery, 85 km north of Cologne. He was 33.

During 2019 the Arnold Embellishers added his name to the plaque in the Memorial Hall at the base of the tower.

Michael Partridge



Cecil Thomas's gravestone in Rheinberg Commonwealth War Graves cemetery

## NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

College archivist Paul Jordan writes:

Once again it's been a busy year in the archives. Apart from the time spent researching and producing an exhibition celebrating 50 years of educating girls at the College, we have hosted a number of visitors, dealt with many enquiries, given talks relating to the College's history and hosted groups on tours of the College campus. Our latest project is the creation of a comprehensive roll of honour for those OEs killed or serving during the Second World War.

We have also arranged to have another batch of back copies of *The Eastbournian* digitised which means that you are now able to search magazines online from 1949 to 1991.

As ever, we couldn't carry out the work so successfully without the support of the archive volunteers; Michael Partridge, Pat Larkin, Peter Durrant and David Atkins.

### Enquiries

The archives has had a variety of enquiries this year:

Dr Chris Jeppesen has compiled, with our help, a list of Old Eastbournians who had careers in the former Colonial Service.

John Hamblin is researching the lives of two OEs, Michael Granville Brown (Pennell 1935-39) and Michael Patrick Lyttleton Roche (Blackwater 1934-39), both of whom were killed in action during the Second World War. They appear on the war memorial for Worcester College, Oxford. We have supplied him with school photos of the men and he is sending further information about them for our files.

Ann Fletcher is researching the life

of Francis Souper and believed, based on the 1881 census, that he was teaching at the College at the end of the 19th century. We were able to correct her and advise her that Souper was the second headmaster of St Andrew's and sent her further information about him.

A family member contacted the archives about her grandfather Richard Steward Marsden (Blackwater & School 1885-95). We were able to provide her with his years and houses.

Gregory Butcher asked for details of his father, Darrell Standish St Aubyn Butcher (School 1922-25). Butcher went on to become a leading expert in radionics in the 1950s and '60s.

John Foster (not an OE) got in touch with us regarding Philip Smart (Gonville 1958-63). At Lancaster University, he and two friends, one of whom was Eric Koops (Gonville 1959-63), started a formal dining club, which they named after the Belle Tout lighthouse, and which still flourishes. We sent John the material we have regarding Philip.

Sharon O'Connor is researching the lives of the Smallman family who lived at Carlton House, Herne Hill, London. She is writing an article for the Dulwich Society newsletter and asked if she could use the image of former pupil Arthur Smallman (Blackwater 1906-09), who was killed in action in 1916, which appears in the College's First World War Roll of Honour.

Stuart Gray (School 1950-54) has been in contact with the archives regarding his time at the College. He is compiling his school memories and we were able to supply him with copies of house group photos and extracts from Blue Books.

The daughter of an OE asked if we

could supply her with mementoes of her father's time at the College. We were able to supply house photos, a copy of an *Eastbournian* and even an extract from a house diary listing the members of the 1st XV (including the OE) and the match in which they played.

Another enquirer had recently purchased a couple of books which had been presented as prizes by Field Marshal Montgomery to a College pupil. The books had been signed by Montgomery and the enquirer wanted to know the year in which this had happened. We were able to tell him that it was 1948 and that the *Eastbournian* mentioned that Montgomery had 'autographed' a number of the books.

An enquirer contacted us about a distant relative of hers, whom she believed attended the College. Through our research we were able to provide her with a family tree and details of the three Selby brothers who boarded in Wargrave House during the 1920s and 30s.

### Archives online

Over the past year the archives has been adding more material on the Eastbournian Society website at [www.eastbourniansociety.org/college-history](http://www.eastbourniansociety.org/college-history). Exhibitions that have been on display at recent events can be viewed or downloaded; there are details of how to access the digital copies of the *Eastbournian* magazine; and there is information about OEs who served in the First World War, together with a link to the Roll of Honour. We are planning to add more pages to the website over the coming months. In the meantime if you wish to contact the archives, you can call us on 01323 451901 or send an email to [archives@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:archives@eastbourne-college.co.uk). We welcome enquiries about the College and its people, both OEs and staff.

## The Second World War Roll of Honour

Michael Partridge writes:

The original Roll of Honour, published in 1965, records the lives and deaths of those 163 Old Eastbournians who gave their lives in the Second World War. Sadly it is short of specific detail of their families, of where they served, how they came to lose their lives and where they are buried and remembered, although this is not surprising given the shortage of such information at that time.

I have undertaken to update and extend this moving record, using the extensive information now available on the internet, but also with the assistance of several distinguished and able helpers, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, professional organisations and Oxbridge Colleges as well as members of the College archives team. The task is almost complete and the results will, I hope, be complete in 2020. There are now 165 names, as OEs Edward Crosse and Cecil Thomas have recently been discovered and added both to the Roll of Honour and to the panels in the Memorial Arch. I shall add dates of birth, parents' names and the location of cemeteries, as well as the specific location of graves and memorials, so that friends and relatives will be able to visit and find their loved ones. The resulting document will be published on the Eastbournian Society website. If any reader has information about any of these OEs, then please send it to me at [mp@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:mp@eastbourne-college.co.uk).



### Eastbourne and Wealden U3A visit



The archives hosted a visit by the Eastbourne and Wealden U3A in April 2019. Over 20 members attended and we showed them the new facilities and followed this with a tour of the older parts of the College including the Chapel and the Memorial Building.

### Women's tennis coaches talk



The College hosted the Women's Tennis Coaching Association (WTCA) for a conference in the Birley Centre in June 2019. The WTCA is associated with the Lawn Tennis Association and Nature Valley (sponsors of the Eastbourne tennis tournament). As part of the conference, Paul Jordan gave a 15-minute talk about the history of the College and the contribution girls have made in all areas of the school since their arrival in 1969. The picture from the talk shows the girls tennis team in 1982.

### Eastbourne Local History Society



The Eastbourne Local History Society visited the College in August 2019. As well as being shown the Winn and Nugee buildings, the group were guided through the older parts of the College. The stained glass windows in the Chapel drew a lot of attention.

### Christopher Mackintosh



Sarah Macintosh and Zinnia Thicknesse, relations of Christopher Macintosh (Blackwater 1917-22), celebrated sportsman, visited the archives in May 2019. They spent several hours with us and were impressed with the amount of information the archives had managed to assemble on Christopher. They also kindly allowed us to copy some of their own material.

### Jack Mackintosh

In June 2019, Ian Mackintosh, son of Jack Mackintosh (Blackwater 1919-25) and nephew of Christopher Mackintosh, paid us a visit. Jack was a member of the SOE during the Second World War and died in mysterious circumstances in Istanbul in 1945.

### Imperial War Museum

John Miller, a volunteer with the Imperial War Museum, visited the College on 17 September 2019 to photograph the School's collection of war memorials. The images will be held on the Imperial War Museum's website [iwm.org.uk/memorials](http://iwm.org.uk/memorials) where the database can be searched either by memorial or name of the individual.

### East Dean Local History Society

On 26 June 2019, we gave a talk about the history of the College for the East Dean Local History Society. Michael Partridge covered the earlier period (1867-1939) and Paul Jordan took the history up to date, finishing with the completion of the Project 150 development. The talk was well attended and there were several questions asked following its conclusion. A number of copies of the *150 Years in Pictures* book were sold at the event.



**The 150 anniversary book is still on sale – see advert on page 108**

### Victor Godfrey

Doug Godfrey came to the College in September 2019 to take photos of the war memorial both in the tower and the Chapel. He was carrying out research into his cousin, Victor Godfrey (Wargrave 1910-13) who was killed in action on 1 July 1916, aged 20. Victor's brother, Jack (Wargrave 1913-15) also attended the College.



## Arts Society Eastbourne

In October 2019, members of the Arts Society Eastbourne visited for an afternoon exploring stained glass old and new at the College. First stop was the Jill Emslie Dance Studio in the Winn Building, where two stained glass windows have been recently installed, thanks to the generosity of the Arnold Embellishers. The group then proceeded to the Long Room where Paul Jordan gave an illustrated talk about the history of the College and the stained glass in the College chapel (with special attention paid to the work of Mary Lowndes). From there we went on a tour of the chapel, spending time looking at the windows before returning to the Long Room for tea.



## An unorthodox escape

A fascinating story of life in northern China in the 1920s surfaced while we were carrying out some other research. A letter from an OE and medical missionary, Dr Douglas Stephen Bryan-Brown (Day Boy 1902-06), described the scene at his hospital during the siege that took place at the city of Tatungfu in 1926. He and his family were living at the Mosse Memorial Hospital which was situated outside the city walls.

Fighting broke out between two rival Chinese factions in May of that year. One group (Shansi) firing from within the city, the other (Kuominchun) firing from an area to the north with the hospital in-between. The situation worsened when the Shansi placed machine guns along 20 feet of the hospital wall resulting in the building being hit by more than 20 shells sent over by the opposing forces. After this attack, it was decided to evacuate the hospital to a Catholic Seminary some distance away.

However, Bryan-Brown had had no news of his family who had been evacuated to the city early in the conflict. It later transpired that following an intervention by the American Consul, his family had escaped safely from Tatungfu but in a very unorthodox way - his wife and four children (the youngest was about a year old), were placed in sacks and lowered one by one down the city's walls.



The Mosse Memorial Hospital in Tatungfu



A newspaper headline from August 1926 tells of the dramatic escape

## Jazz in the 1920s



roped in from the highways and byways: what they might lack in the 'hot' type of playing of the American band, the players amply made up in their dresses, which were multifarious and ill-fitting.' There is also a reference in a copy of the *Eastbournian* to a jazz band (including a saxophonist) performing at the College concert a year earlier.

Peter Nelson sent in a series of school photos belonging to his late father Richard Peel Nelson (School 1925-28), including this wonderful image of a College jazz band performing in Big School sometime in the 1920s. Richard Nelson is seen playing the banjo. Unfortunately, we don't know the names of the other musicians. Possibly it was taken at the time of the 1927 College concert. The *Eastbournian* reported: 'Every admirer of the modern school of dance music brought his instrument to play, and a pianist was

## Michael Hockridge



Dr Jade Lee and documentary film maker Mr Chang visited the College in October 2019. Dr Lee, who is a current College parent, has been liaising with the archives for some time regarding Michael Hockridge (School 1946-50), who was killed during the Korean conflict in 1952, and who we featured in an article in last year's *Old Eastbournian*. She presented copies of her new book, *A Young Englishman: Michael's Korean War* to Michael Partridge and Paul Jordan. The book describes the effects of the war on British soldiers and of her own father's experiences as a refugee from North Korea. Michael Partridge was interviewed and then went to the war memorial under the tower where Hockridge's name is remembered, before the group went to the College Chapel to see the plaque which bears his name.

## Eastbournian magazines online



Another batch of historic Eastbournian magazines is now available to view online. The archives have worked with the digital scanning company SDS Heritage, who have loaded copies of the magazine from 1949 to 1991. Also available is the very first edition from 1870. You are able to browse through issues on screen or search for specific text to retrieve an individual article. More editions will be added over the coming months.

You can access the archive at [www.eastbournecollege-archive.daisy.websds.net](http://www.eastbournecollege-archive.daisy.websds.net) and log on by entering the username: digital and the password: EbC1867! – please note that the password is case-sensitive, so you need to enter a capital E, lower case b and a capital C, followed by 1867 in numbers. The final character is an exclamation mark.

If you have any problems using the online archive please contact David Blake at the ES office on 01323 452262 or [drblake@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:drblake@eastbourne-college.co.uk).



## The hazards of flying in the 1930s

Flying in the 1930s could be a hazardous affair. One such accident claimed the life of Richard D Wilson-Dickson (School 1923-28) when the flying boat in which he was travelling crashed into the sea off Crete in August 1936. A lieutenant in the 5th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, Richard was travelling from India to England and had boarded the Imperial Airways flying boat, Scipio, in Alexandria. An SOS was sent when the plane developed engine trouble and tried to land on the water in the Bay of Mirabella. As the plane came down, a gust of wind caught it and it crashed into the sea. By the time rescue craft reached the site, the aircraft had sunk, claiming the lives of two passengers, one of whom was Richard. He is buried in Mirabella, Crete. The *Eastbourne* said of him:

'He was a most likeable boy... and as a prefect did service to the School which will not be forgotten... the country has lost a promising soldier and a fine man.'

Coincidentally, one of his fellow passengers (who survived) was Charles Gilbert Davies-Gilbert, part of the great landowning family of Eastbourne.



The flying boat Scipio, G-ABFA. As well as taking passengers it was also carrying mail, which was recovered after the crash, dried out and later delivered with labels saying 'Damaged by sea water'

## West Side Story - an appeal



Marguerite Bellin has contacted the archives asking if it would be possible to view a film which was made of the production of *West Side Story* performed at the Congress Theatre in 1967. Former pupils will remember her as Marguerite Causley, a lecturer in dance at the

Chelsea College of Physical Education in Eastbourne. She was the choreographer, and the musical was a joint venture between the College and other Eastbourne schools. The production formed part of the College's Arts Festival which was organised to celebrate the school's 100th anniversary. Over 20 pupils took part, as well as a number of staff including the catering manager, Victor Wilde, as Officer Krupke. So far, we have been unable to locate the film and wondered if any OEs remember seeing it or if they know the whereabouts of any surviving copies. Please contact us on 01323 451901 or [archives@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:archives@eastbourne-college.co.uk).

## Henry Stuart Beville Whitley

We were contacted in November 2019 by a Mr Kendall who was researching the life and career of Henry Stuart Beville Whitley (Home boarder 1892-94, School House 1895). After leaving the College, Henry completed his articles as a civil engineer with his father's practice (his father was also land agent for the Davies-Gilbert family who developed large parts of Eastbourne). He then joined the staff of the Great Western Railway in 1899 where he spent his entire working life.

Resident engineer on a number of major schemes, including the construction of the huge Canon's Marsh Goods Depot in Bristol (one of the earliest examples of the large scale use of reinforced concrete in the country), he also held the posts of divisional engineer for the GWR at Gloucester, Plymouth and, finally, Wolverhampton, between 1919 and December 1939, when he retired.

Long a member of the Territorial Army, he was called to service in the First World War, and had a distinguished war record as a major in the Royal Engineers. He retained this rank until he resigned his commission in September 1939.

The archives were able to provide Mr Kendall with a copy of a carte de visite photograph of Henry taken while at the College and a scan of a page from a ledger giving his details when he entered School House. Here is the mystery – why would the family of a home boarder (day boy) who lived 15 minutes from the College suddenly decide to enrol him as a boarder for the his last two terms? We may never know...



## Donations and acquisitions 2019

**Mary Bowden**, widow of **Bill Bowden** (Wargrave 1961-65)

A boater, OE tie with tie-pin and one of a pair of OE cufflinks (Bill was a well-regarded member of the archives volunteer team)

**The Revd Canon Nicholas Crawford**

Booklet – *All Saints Blackheath – The War Memorial Screen*, which contains a reference to **R G Dyer** (School 1909-12), killed in the First World War. (Prizes were endowed in his memory and are still presented at the College today)

**Celia Evans**, daughter of **Roger Blackburn** (Wargrave 1954-59)

Four Wargrave house photos; photo of Wargrave Xmas dinner, 1956; Wargrave house team 1954; photo of College in the snow, 1953; photo of flypast, 1957; four photos of CCF general inspections 1957 and 1958.

**Richard Goulden** (Powell 1962-64)

Several sheets of typed information relating to Chapel services, uniform and timetables. Sent to Richard's father from **Michael Birley**, Headmaster 1956-70

**Peter Graham**, son of **James Eric Graham** (Pennell 1922-26)

Two College knitted vests, a College sweater, an OE scarf, braces and tie

**Robin Hinnell** (Blackwater 1958-62)

Rowing blazer and cap; scarf (blue and grey stripes), six ties including a sixth form tie, a school prefect's tie and a Blackwater House tie. The estate of the late **Michael Keall**, Headmaster of Ascham 1969-77

A large amount of material (minutes, notes and personal correspondence) relating to Ascham prep school

**Peter Nelson**, son of **Richard Peel Nelson** (School 1925-28)

Scanned images of a 1925 School House group with all boys named; a pupil dance band performing on Big School stage c. 1928; winners of the Senior House Challenge Cup, School House rugby XV, 1928; group photo of running team c. 1928

**Michael Partridge** (Blackwater 1946-51)

Book: *Believe Me, A Memoir of Love, Death and Jazz Chickens* by **Eddie Izzard** (Pennell 1975-80)

**Tim Partridge** (Powell 1977-82)

Booklet: *Old Radleian Day 1990 Programme*; Gonville House Group photo c.1980

**Roberta Reeves**, daughter of the late **Christopher Reeves** (School 1945-49)

Three house photos; pages from a 1940s snapshot album illustrating College buildings, school friends and the Concours d'Elegance car rally in Eastbourne; newspaper cuttings re: Princess Margaret's visit to Eastbourne in 1949, General Montgomery's visit to the College in 1948 and undated reports of the problems of College boys mixing with girls in the town

**Simon Wood**

Copy of *The Boys on the Arch* by Liz Maloney

## Acquisition

*War Amongst the Clouds* by Gp Capt Chris Granville White. The book covers the career of his father, **Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Granville White** (School 1913-14) and his uncle, **Herbert White** (School 1910-14), killed in action in 1917

# SOCIAL GATHERINGS

## Reunion in Antwerp



Trevor Hardy (Gonville 1965-71) met up with Graham Shrosbree (Gonville 1966-71) and his wife in January 2019, when they were visiting Antwerp from their home in Venezuela. They were joined for a reunion drink by Peter Jansz (Blackwater 1965-60), who also lives in Antwerp. Left to right, Peter, Graham and Trevor.

## Surprise party for Philip and Sally Le Brocq



A surprise party was held for Philp and Sally Le Brocq on Friday 8 March to help celebrate the fact that they had both recently had their 80th birthdays. Arriving at the Rex Whistler Restaurant in Tate Britain for what they thought was a small family gathering, they were delighted to see a host of OEs and former College colleagues and friends. After a number of amusing speeches, plenty of reminiscences and lots of good food and wine, the evening ended with a cappella singing by OEs from School House, their first group performance for 38 years. Philip taught English at the College from 1962 to 1988, and was housemaster of both Craig and School houses. Pictured here are, left to right, daughter Emma Garrett, Sally, son Mark, Philip, daughter Belinda, Mark's son Flynn and Mark's wife Becky.

## Lunch at the Delaunay



Eastbournian Society Director David Stewart met three OEs for lunch at the Delaunay Restaurant near Covent Garden on Friday 3 May. All leavers from 1992, Oli Hunt (School 1987-92) was head of school, Paul Divito (School 1987-92) captain of cricket and Will Green (Gonville 1987-92) captain of rugby. They enjoyed themselves so much they hope to make the lunch an annual occasion! Left to right: Oli, Paul, Will and David.

## Hinchliffe-Elletson wedding



Charlie Hinchliffe (Reeves 2002-07) was married to Laura Elletson at The Holy Cross in Wilcot, Wiltshire on 20 October 2018. The joint best men were OEs Oscar Orellana-Hyder and Tom Copeland, and among the groom's men were OEs Lewis Monroe, Sam Collet and Alex Hinchliffe. There were many other OEs present to celebrate at what was a very big wedding set in the beautiful grounds of his in-laws' home. The couple had a short week of honeymoon in Positano due to work commitments, followed a few months later by three weeks in Sri Lanka.

## The Windsor Ten

The 61st gathering of the Windsor Ten took place in March, with seven of the original members. The group of School House OEs started meeting in 1958 at David Winn's suggestion, the original location being the Windsor Dive Bar in Victoria Station, hence the name. Pictured here, left to right around the table, are Pat Colbourne (School 1955-59), Duncan Wheeler (School 1953-57), Neil McWalter (School 1955-59), David Winn (School 1954-59), John Wilmot (School 1954-59), Alastair Graham (School 1954-59) and Tim Riordan (School 1954-58).



## A night at the opera and brunch in Dubai



Members of the Eastbournian Society and friends of the College gathered in Dubai on Thursday 21 March to see Mark Le Brocq (Craig 1979-84) sing at the Dubai Proms with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. The performance of Beethoven's 9th 'Choral' Symphony, at the magnificent new Dubai Opera, received a standing ovation and was very well received.

Pictured here afterwards are David Stewart, Mark Le Brocq, Nigel Wheeler (College staff 1976-2006), Emma Garrett (Nugent 1984-86), Felice Hurst, Ed Atkinson (Pennell 1979-84), Belinda Le Brocq (Nugent 1986-88) and Mark's son Flynn Le Brocq.

The following day, in true Dubai style, an ES brunch was held for members of the society living in the Middle East. Old Eastbournians and parents of both former and prospective pupils were in attendance and they were warmly welcomed by Ed Atkinson, the ES rep in the UAE, and then given a short College news update by David Stewart.

## 70 years on

A group of OEs and their wives got together for a meal at Eastbourne's La Locanda del Duca restaurant on Friday 10 May to celebrate 70 years since they had first met at the College. Left to right are Michael Morley (Gonville 1949-53), Simon Hubbard-Ford (Gonville 1949-54), Maggie Highton, David Atkins (Gonville 1949-54), Carolyn and Geoff Harry (Gonville 1950-54), Karin Hubbard-Ford, Peter Highton (Pennell 1949-53) and Ingrid Morley.





### 1997 leavers reunite

James Hackett sent us this photo of OEs and their families taken in June in Bookham, Surrey, when he and his wife hosted a reunion gathering for Paul Prior (Gonville 1992-97) who was visiting from New Zealand. Along with James and Paul, other OEs who were there included Anna Hollick (née Bentley) (Watt & Blackwater 1995-97), Fiona Halsey (née Wetzki) (Nugent 1995-97), Will Stevens (Craig 1992-97), Charlie Sargent (Wargrave 1992-97) and James Carrington (Wargrave 1992-97).



### Evans-Matthews wedding



Amy Evans (Blackwater 2002-07) was married to Ross Matthews on 31 August 2019 at Hyde House in the Cotswolds, and she sent us this photo of the OE guests who attended. Left to right: Olivia Hughes (née Askaroff) (Blackwater 2003-07), Hugh Wilkinson (Powell 2002-07), Izzi Highett (Blackwater 2002-07), Lydia Toy (Blackwater 2002-07), Ross (the groom), Amy (the bride), Matt Wennington (Powell 2002-07), James Thrower (Craig 2002-07), Prashant Shanmuganathan (Powell 2002-07), Ibiye Crook (née Adoki) (Blackwater 2002-07), James Crook (Craig 2002-07) and Katie Gann (née Evans) (Blackwater 2001-06).



### 70th birthday celebrations

Jonnie Barr (Wargrave 1963-68) celebrated his 70th birthday with around 40 family and friends at the French Table restaurant in Surbiton on 26 September 2019. The guests included a number of OEs, including Iqui Gelu (Pennell 1964-69), who tells us that he made a speech about Jonnie's College days, 'especially his antics as a senior student and his many accolades and achievements in the Combined Cadet Force.' Jonnie is pictured standing at the back, immediately behind Iqui.



### 1979 leavers reunion

A reunion lunch marking the 40th anniversary for those who left the College in summer 1979 was held in London on Wednesday 20 November. Chris Porter (Gonville 1974-79) organised the lunch at The Tappit Hen, a wine bar and restaurant in the City, close to Cannon Street station. He told us: 'We had a very enjoyable anniversary lunch... Many stories old and new and much merriment had by all!' He had also compiled a suitably appropriate late-70s soundtrack to play in the background.

### Room for the Friends of Blackwater

The Friends of Blackwater is a group of OEs who generously sponsored a room in the Project 150 development. In December four of the group were taken round the Winn and Nugee Buildings by David Stewart, and were shown the room in the English Department which bears the group's name. Pictured, left to right, are Philip Hanbury (Blackwater 1977-82), Stephen Yorke (Blackwater 1977-81), Miles Quitmann (1977-80) and Ian Fletcher-Price (Blackwater 1976-80).



### Forbes Wastie at the Friends of Blackwater annual lunch

Forbes Wastie, who was housemaster of Blackwater from 1972 to 1983, was delighted to attend the Friends of Blackwater annual lunch on Friday 6 December 2019. The lunch, at La Locanda del Duca restaurant in Eastbourne, was also attended by a number of other OEs from the era. Seated from left around the table are: Philip Hanbury (Blackwater 1977-82), Annabel Williams (Nugent 1979-81), Martin Hole (Blackwater 1976-81), Mike Brown (Blackwater 1976-81), Stephen Yorke (Blackwater 1977-81), David Stewart, Forbes Wastie, Ian Fletcher-Price (Blackwater 1976-80), Fiona Bottomley (Nugent 1979-81), Miles Quitmann (1977-80), Guy Farrant (Blackwater 1975-78) and Jeremy Wastie (Powell 1976-81).



## A LINK TO THE COLLEGE – IN DEEPEST MANCHURIA

*Mike Scott (Powell 1964-69) recounts how he found a College connection in the most unlikely of places*

Recently I became aware of a 'six-degrees-of-separation' experience that linked my College past with my partner Lucy's cousin, a retired chauffeur living in far north-east China, close to the borders of Mongolia, Russia and North Korea. What was the connection, and how did it come about? It's quite a story...



'Our last port of call in Inner Mongolia was Shiwei, a tacky Chinese tourist village whose attraction is that you can stare at Siberian Russia across the Ergun River. The roadsides along this border display notices warning you not to stop or get out of your vehicle, at risk of being shot. In this photo Russia is in the background, just across the river. In the middle-ground, connecting China and Russia, is the 'Friendship Bridge', sealed off with fencing, and Chinese tourists are taking photos. The police officer is alerting his superiors that a Westerner (me) is in the vicinity. That's Lucy explaining where we are staying'

Lucy and I set out immediately after I retired in 2016, to travel across the world for three months from our adopted city of Melbourne. Our plan was to travel overland from her home city of Changchun, in north-east China, to my home town of Eastbourne, via Inner Mongolia and the Trans-Siberian railway. Changchun was the Japanese capital of Manchuria from 1931 to 1945, the seat of the Last Emperor, the puppet Puyi.

First stop was Harbin, the home of Lucy's cousin, nowadays an easy one-hour hop north from Changchun on a bullet train. This cousin's family had looked after Lucy when, as a six-year-old, she was evacuated from Changchun to escape street fighting during Mao's Cultural Revolution. Two years later in 1969, while I was doing nothing more challenging than A-levels and editing *The Eastbournian*, Lucy's family (her parents were intellectuals) were sent to live with, and learn from, a peasant community near the border with North Korea. But that's another story...

Harbin was established by the Russians when they extended the original Trans-Siberian railway to Vladivostok, in 1898. Today it is one of China's largest cities, well known for its winter ice sculpture festival. Lucy's cousin lives in a 40-storey block of flats on a new estate sandwiched between a tiger park and a high-speed rail line. The tiger park is actually China's Siberian Tiger refuge and breeding centre, which has been overtaken by urban development. To visit the tigers, you must first endure a circus show in which performers do unconscionable things to a pair of captive bears, a procedure that draws hoots of laughter from the audience.

At a special dinner his family laid on in our honour, with silk worms, Harbin red sausage and other north-east Chinese delicacies, the cousin

announced, looking at me: 'You are the second Westerner I have ever met in my life. I met the first one when I was at school.' As he is aged in his late-50s, this meant he had met a Westerner in the dark days of the Cultural Revolution. This was intriguing: How could an ordinary Chinese have encountered a Westerner at a time when there were none in China? At that time, any form of contact with Western culture would have been grounds for disapprobation or worse.

I asked him who he had met, and how it came about. 'It was an official friendship visit from the leader of the Albanian people,' he replied. This made sense – after the Second World War, Albania became a Stalinist state, and he had met Enver Hoxha, its leader for four decades.

Lucy's cousin had offered to drive us in his family car across Inner Mongolia to the Russian border at Manzhouli, where we would pick up the first of a series of trains across Russia. He drove us for hundreds of kilometres and several days, with roads and sanitary facilities becoming increasingly primitive. We had some amazing adventures.

Our stay in Harbin had come to an end just as my stomach began its customary rebellion against Asian travel – so my diet from then on consisted of rice, tea and not much else. After ten days I was too weak to carry the suitcases, but a few hours on a hospital drip in Manzhouli eventually settled things down.

A year or two later I was reflecting on the dinner table conversation in Harbin, and made one of those mental leaps, only explicable in hindsight, to an obituary I had read in the *Old Eastbournian* several years previously. The obituary was for my art teacher at the college, Marcus Lyon, who died in 2007.

Contemporaries of mine at the College in the late 1960s will recall Marcus as a gentle, generous, big-hearted man. Along with other art specialists, I was entertained by Marcus on one prep night each week with slide shows on the history of European architecture. I recall him taxiing a select handful of us to Lewes, rolling around in the back of his Bedford Dormobile, for life-drawing sessions that were of eye-popping interest to a hormonally hyperactive teenager. He took us to London galleries, and created opportunities for me to develop my skills in graphic art by designing programmes for College plays, and working as art editor of *The Eastbournian*.

Marcus was not the most organised of people, and the obituary nicely captured this aspect of his character: he was never quite sure whether it was Tuesday or Piccadilly Circus. He looked uncomfortable and slightly shambolic wearing the army uniform



Art teacher Marcus Lyon, left, with Sir Hugh Casson (School 1924-27) at the opening of the new College art centre in 1980





'Our first stop in Russia was Irkutsk, near Lake Baikal, an outpost of the Russian empire that is a melting pot of ethnicities – Slavs, Mongolians, Cossacks, Central Asian Muslims, native reindeer hunters, Chinese (who once occupied the area), and representatives of the many European communities forcibly transplanted by Stalin. Here we stayed with a school teacher whose family had to survive for 18 months with no income, after the Gorbachev/Yeltsin revolution of 1989. In the photo, I'm in conversation with a very friendly local'

he was obliged to don on CCF Inspection Day.

So it was with astonishment that I read this magazine's obituary, which announced that Marcus had been a member of the wartime Special Operations Executive (SOE). He had been trained to parachute into German concentration camps to stop the guards slaughtering their starving inmates, though the war ended before he was called to perform this hazardous duty. Before that, he had parachuted three times into Albania to foster resistance to King Zog and the Germans. He became acting senior SOE officer with Enver Hoxha's partisans, and was the only officer to accompany Hoxha into the Albanian capital Tirana, when the Germans left.

Marcus Lyon was therefore at the forefront of implementing the Churchill government's policy of supporting the communist resistance against the German occupiers. This policy vouchsafed Albania

to communist rule in the post-war period, a rule that was to last four decades. Marcus clearly had close dealings with Hoxha, and must have known him well.

So a Stalinist dictator, facilitated into power by an art teacher at the College, was the only Westerner my partner's cousin had ever met – until, 50 years later, a second Westerner entered his life, a Westerner who had been taught by the same art teacher at the same school.

Lucy and I had set out to traverse the geographical link between our two homelands, located at opposite ends of the great Eurasian landmass. At our first stopping place, in deepest far-north Manchuria, we had stumbled across a Chinese chauffeur for whom Eastbourne College provided a link between the only two Westerners he had ever met. A little tenuous perhaps, but by my count that's only three degrees of separation, not six...

## THE CLASS OF 2019

The latest group of Old Eastbournians are the Upper Sixth who left the College in summer 2019

### Blackwater



Aziza Aubin



Krystelle Banfield



Honey Curtis



Freya Gordon



Elizabeth Green



Henrick Phoebe



Cerys Herbert-Stott



Ellie Hughes



Abigail McNally



Katie Meikle



Bethany Piper



Sophie Stephenson



Olivia Sykes



Abigail Thompson



Alexandra Williams

### Craig



Oscar Boulter



Alex Lock



William Meikle



Hal Mills



Joseph Pocklington



Thomas Stewart-Blacker



Benjamin Walker

### Gonville



William Alston



William Bearcroft



Kai Cheng



Nicholas Crowther



Cameron Davidson



Barnaby Flint



Shieh Goh



Jacky Liu



Alexander Pollock



Felix Qian



Oliver Williams



Marcus Winston



Boris Yushin

## Nugent



Ana Alonso  
Gorgojo



Charlotte  
Chatterton



Tess Donnelly



Cecilia Mann



Isabel McIntosh



Gianna Quinn



Phoebe Watton



Annabel Wilson



Clem Xu



Marta Zayas Soto

## Pennell



Bill Cao



Aidon Chan



Ian Chee



Pablo Lavin Colas



Raúl Sanchez  
Martin Ampudia



Adam St Paul



Jack Thompson



Maximilian Walker



Cole Warren



Steven Yuen



Haoran Zhang

## Powell



Noah Canby



William Dawkins



Charles Down



Edward Flowers



Oliver Gent



Joseph Gurden



Louis Heywood



William Jeffrey



Nikita Malkov



Joel Pearce



Murray Trott



Luca Wells



James Young

## Reeves



Mohammed  
Al-Schama'a



Miles Bedwell



George Edwards



Wen He



Harry Hodieme



James  
Holman-Dine



Harry Jachuck



Benjamin Kremer



Joe McIntyre



Joe Parish



Joseph Pratt



Max Redman



Daniel Toole



## School



Leia Ballim



Abigail Buxton



Louisa Gray



Aimee Helyar



Eliza Houchin



Rose Kelly



Carla Maddison



Lucy Martin



Christy Ng



Maho Okada



Ulyana Sukhinina



Paniz Tayebi



Almudena Torres  
Rubio



Charlotte  
Underwood



Lianna Yuen

## Wargrave



Charles Carr



Finlay Dexter



Barnaby Furlong



Remus Gong



Jock Henderson



Montgomery  
Hinge



Joshua Lord



Max Marsden



Edmundo Ortiz  
Alvarez



Samat Shagdamov



Lennox Unützer



William Wright

## Watt



Camilla Barker



Lauren Bennett



Liberty  
Carpenter



Jessecca  
Chapman



Freya Couranane



Helena Drew



Holly  
Fletcher-Price



Helen Grout



Leah Hallinon



Eleanor Long



Daisy Mayhew



Megan Meeks



Sahara Moshref



Isabelle Newton



Olivia Nurse



Anidampurva  
Paruchuri



Imogen Smith



Sian Sulke



Annabel Symes



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