



# The Old Eastbournian 2018

The Journal of The Eastbournian Society





# INSPIRING

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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: Patti Clark (Nugent 1983–85)

**Monday 29 April 2019**

**The Waldorf Hilton Hotel,  
Aldwych, WC2B 4DD**

**In the Adelphi Suite  
and Palm Court**

**An occasion  
not to be missed**



In our anniversary year celebrating 50 years of girl pupils at Eastbourne College, we are delighted to welcome as our guest of honour actress Patti Clark who, under her professional name Patti Clare, is best known for portraying 'Mary Taylor' in Coronation Street



We will also be honouring Paul Lowden in recognition of his 32 years at the College before his retirement at the end of the summer term. Paul was a teacher of English, head of department, and housemaster of both Pennell and Blackwater houses, not to mention director of many a school drama production



Formal evening wear ('Black tie') • Champagne reception from 6.30pm • Dinner from 7.30pm • Three-course meal • Half bottle of wine per person • Tea or coffee • Petits fours • Tickets cost £78 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), Headmaster's Office, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX



# 50 years of girls: a celebration lunch



**Sunday 2 June, 12.30pm**  
Dining Hall, Winn Building

This year's summer lunch celebrates 50 years since girls first joined the College in 1968-69.

All Old Eastbournians, former and current staff, and other friends of the College are invited to join us, together with their husbands, wives or partners.

Dress code: Smart daywear/ Jacket and tie.  
The cost is £25 per person for a two-course lunch with wine and coffee.

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 (Girls 50 Lunch)  
Headmaster's Office, Old Wish Road  
Eastbourne, BN21 4JX



## The Old Eastbournian Reunion 2019

**Saturday 28 September**

This year we are inviting Old Eastbournians who completed the sixth form in specific years from each decade.

**2000s**

Leavers in  
2008 or 2009

**1990s**

Leavers in  
1998 or 1999

**1980s**

Leavers in  
1988 or 1989

**1970s**

Leavers in  
1978 or 1979

**1960s**

Leavers in  
1968 or 1969

**1950s**

Leavers in  
1958 or 1959

**1940s**

Leavers in  
1948 or 1949



If you were (or would have been) an Upper Sixth leaver in any of these years you are welcome to attend, and husbands, wives and partners can come as your guests. Members of staff from any of these eras are also invited.

The day's activities include:

- Lunch • Guided tour of the College • 1st XV rugby •
- Tea • Visits to former houses • Evensong in Chapel •
- Evening drinks reception •
- Reunion dinner (Dress code: Smart) •

You can come to as many or as few of the day's events as you wish and there is no charge for any part of the day.

**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),  
Headmaster's Office, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX



Our cover shows how the celebrations of the College's 150th anniversary drew to a close in style with the spectacular 3D video mapping show at the beginning of November. It has been a year to remember, with the completion of Project 150 and a host of other events, which are all featured in the pages that follow. We are so pleased that record numbers have attended our events recently and long may that continue.

We now turn to 2019 and the next significant date is the 50th anniversary of the first girl pupils at the College, which we will be celebrating with our summer Sunday lunch in June. The early years of girls were not well documented, although we have managed to trace a press photo of the very first girl pupil, Susan Craib, in 1968. But we need more pictures, memories and anecdotes to enhance the collection. Please do read the article on pages 48 to 50 and take note of the call for help from the College archives!

A new feature this year is the inclusion of the College highlights booklet, on pages 83 to 95. We feel that this gives a more rounded picture of life at the College for the school year 2017-18. We hope that you find it interesting.

And finally, many of you will no doubt have been moved by Sir David Attenborough's recent *Blue Planet* series which highlighted the terrible effects of plastic waste choking the oceans. This year we have changed the packaging in which this magazine is delivered. There is no polythene in the wrapper; it is made from natural biopolymers (mainly potato and maize starch) and will degrade in garden compost without leaving any microplastics in the soil or watercourse. A small step maybe, but one, we hope, in the right direction.

## Opting in is easy – don't lose touch!

Following the changes to the law on data protection in May 2018, when the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force, we now need your express permission to continue sending you our regular emails about Eastbourne Society events and College news. If you have not yet opted in to emails you will not be receiving advance notice of reunions, dinners, lunches and the many other trips and events that we organise. So please do not lose touch! Opting in is easy. You can let us know 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 Eastbourne 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 Eastbourne 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.



### Cover photo

Three stills from the 150th anniversary 3D video mapping show on 2 and 3 November 2018



The Old Eastbourne 2018 was written, compiled and edited by Michael Partridge, Paul Jordan and David Blake, designed by Martin Bannon ([martinbannon.design@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:martinbannon.design@hotmail.co.uk)) and printed by The Lavenham Press Ltd, Suffolk ([www.lavenhampress.com](http://www.lavenhampress.com)).

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*For further information:*



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# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## Chairman of the Eastbournian Society Hugh Price reviews a year of memorable events at the College

**A**s I write my report for the 2018 magazine, the final 150th anniversary event is due to take place this Saturday in the magnificent new Winn Building. The Winter Ball is a sell-out, and brings to an end a year of truly memorable events marking the completion of the splendid new developments at the College. The new buildings were opened for full use in late April, in time for the summer term. To all those of us who have seen it and attended events there during 2018, it is truly a game changer for the College. Most Old Eastbournians would have loved to have had these facilities during their time here but those now beginning at the College and future pupils will enjoy the benefit of these exceptional facilities. Although being open for only six months it seems that it has been part of the College for years. A demonstration of wonderful organisation by the governors, the headmaster and staff, making an almost seamless introduction of the new development into College life with the minimum of fuss.

2018 has been another full year of activities for the Eastbournian Society and all of these are reported elsewhere in the magazine. However, I must mention three events that stood out for me during the year.

At the end of April we held our annual London dinner at the Waldorf Hotel in the Strand and our guest of honour was Maurice Trapp (Gonville 1962-67), recently appointed President of New Zealand Rugby. Maurice



**Hugh, centre, at the sales and marketing networking event in February, with Lulu McNally (Blackwater & Arnold 2010-15) and Arnold Ferrier (Craig 1984-87)**

made a special trip to London to be our guest of honour at the dinner, for which we are extremely grateful. His achievements as a rugby coach in New Zealand set him up for his appointment as president and we were pleased to be able to hear his views on the modern game played by the All Blacks. Philip Hepburn (Blackwater 1961-66) did a sterling job in gathering many of the 1st XV players, who played alongside Maurice at the College, to attend the dinner and remember their playing days together, which was very much appreciated by Maurice. A great evening!

In early September, the annual OE reunion



**Hugh and Judith Price at the Winter Ball**

took place and was open to all Old Eastbournians, and huge numbers turned up. Over 330 people visited the College during the day to view the new buildings and 225 stayed for dinner in the new dining hall. It was, as always, an excellent opportunity to renew acquaintances by those who had probably not seen each other since leaving the College. The great things about these reunions, as I have said in the past, is that once you attend one and meet up with some of your old friends, you realize what has been going on at the College since you left, and reliving your schooldays can often be a most rewarding experience. Most first-time attendees come back for more!

In early November the College put on a 3D video show which was truly spectacular, the face of the main College buildings being lit up with an array of colourful feature displays. There is a film of the presentation which lasts about 10 minutes and, if you were not present on the day, I would strongly recommend that you watch it on the internet at [www.vimeo.com/299002063](http://www.vimeo.com/299002063).

In late February the careers convention at the College had over 70 delegates, many of them OEs. The extra space provided by the Nugee Building made this convention even better than in the past. Witnessing the many OEs and parents that give up their time to advise Year 11 and 12 pupils on careers that they could follow, has to be applauded. It is now some 30 years since this convention started and those involved in putting it on each year must be heartily congratulated for their sterling efforts.

The very fine team of people that run the Eastbournian Society and produce this magnificent publication that you are reading, are the envy of many other alumni. I can attest to that, by the number of discussions David Stewart and I have with other old pupil associations seeking the formula for our success. That success is undoubtedly due to the quality of the people we have running the office, David Stewart himself, John Thornley, David Blake and Christine Todd, and of course Lulu Brown, our events organiser. Lulu does this as a part-time job, though looking at the list of events that she organises during the course of the year, it looks more like a full-time job to me and she does it very well. On behalf of the entire society we applaud and thank them for the excellent work they do for us.

Michael Partridge has been the College archivist for as long as I can remember and has retired after doing a magnificent job for which we are eternally grateful. He has now handed over his responsibilities in the archives to Paul Jordan who will continue his good work. Michael, we are pleased to say, will continue as a volunteer.

As you will read in this magazine, our school is in excellent health which bodes well for the future.

As ever, I ask all readers to become regular visitors to the Eastbournian Society website, which has details of all our forthcoming events and news. I urge you to come along to our events; you will not be disappointed.

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

## THE EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY COMMITTEE

The AGM of the Eastbournian Society was held on Saturday 24 February 2018. At the meeting the accounts for the year ended 31 July 2017 were approved and the existing officers re-elected unanimously.

During the year changes to College staff have resulted in the following updates to the committee. Sarah Gordon took on the position of Head of Futures in September 2018 and is now the futures representative (previously careers representative) in place of Matt Pringle. Michael Partridge has

stepped down from the committee, following his retirement as College archivist in August 2018. David Blake has joined the committee as the representative for ES database and communications, which includes the OE magazine, the ES website and the Raiser's Edge database.

Two of the parent representatives stepped down from the committee with effect from the committee meeting in September 2018: Alastair Dixon and Simon Virgo.

### Officers

<b>President</b>	David Winn (School 1954–59)
<b>Chairman</b>	Hugh Price (School 1961–66)
<b>Vice Chairman and Treasurer</b>	Darren Meek (Blackwater 1982–87)
<b>Development Director</b>	David Stewart
<b>Headmaster</b>	Tom Lawson

### Committee

<b>Charity (OE)</b>	Eric Koops (Gonville 1959–63)
<b>Database and Communications (College)</b>	David Blake
<b>Events Organiser (College/OE)</b>	Lulu Brown (Nugent 1980–82)
<b>Events (College)</b>	John Thornley
<b>Events (OE)</b>	Alex Brown (Blackwater 1980–85)
<b>Futures (College)</b>	Sarah Gordon
<b>Parents (College)</b>	Alexandra Byatt, Sharon Leek
<b>Sports (OE)</b>	Vacant

## THE EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY OFFICE

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



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

### David Stewart Development Director

David runs the College Foundation and alumni relations. Please contact David if you are interested in making a gift or leaving a legacy, or wish to discuss how you can help with the College's development projects. David has overseen the increasing number of professional networking receptions and visits OEs at receptions in the UK and worldwide.  
01323 452308  
das@eastbourne-college.co.uk

### John Thornley Eastbournian Society Events

John is the Common Room's longest-serving member of staff and a former OEA Secretary. He continues to teach at the College and has a number of other administrative roles, alongside which he plans, organises and helps host Eastbournian Society events.  
01323 452314  
jt@eastbourne-college.co.uk

### Lulu Brown Events Organiser

Lulu is an OE and works part-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

# EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY EVENTS

The Eastbournian Society organises a number of social and cultural trips, talks and events to which all members are welcome. A meeting to discuss ideas for future trips 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 2018.



## Lady Windermere's Fan

London's Vaudeville Theatre was the venue for *Lady Windermere's Fan* by Oscar Wilde, with nearly 30 ES members going along.



## Antiques and furniture talk

On Thursday 22 February, ES member Merton Cox continued with his series of talks on English antiques and furniture, and brought along a few items of silverware for the audience to inspect.

## Grandparents visit the College

Grandparents of current pupils enjoyed a visit to the College on Saturday 12 May where they saw the new facilities in the Winn Building and later attended a drinks reception with Headmaster Tom Lawson in the Birley Centre.



## Dick Whittington

The first theatre trip of the year was to the London Palladium to see the pantomime *Dick Whittington* on Thursday 4 January.



## Quiz night and dinner

The ever-popular annual quiz night took place on Saturday 3 February, with teams also enjoying a curry dinner.



## Furniture, silverware and paintings

Merton Cox finished his series of talks on English furniture, silverware and paintings on Tuesday 22 May, with an overview of design and style changes from late-Victorian times to the present day.





### Wine tasting evening

We held our first wine tasting evening on Friday 8 June, with over 50 ES members, including College staff and parents, coming along to sample a selection of wines provided by Guy Boursot.

### Speech Day reception

The Eastbournian Society held a reception in the Warren Atrium of the Nugee Building on Speech Day, Saturday 30 June, and a number of OEs and others came along to enjoy a drink and look at a display of 150 years of College history in pictures.



### The Moderate Soprano

A theatre trip to the Duke of York's Theatre to see David Hare's play *The Moderate Soprano* proved popular on Thursday 14 June, with 34 ES members in the audience enjoying the story of John Christie, the founder of Glyndebourne Opera House, and his passion for a beautiful young soprano, Audrey Mildmay.



### Project 150 tours

A number of guided tours of the newly opened Winn Building took place over the summer, with 50 people attending on Wednesday 6 June and a further 35, pictured here, on Tuesday 19 June. They had a chance to see the new sports hall, swimming pool, dance studio, gym, dining hall and function rooms, with many commenting how impressed they were with the new facilities.



### Strictly Ballroom The Musical

Another popular theatre trip was on Wednesday 11 July when 40 ES members enjoyed *Strictly Ballroom The Musical* at the Piccadilly Theatre.



### Witness for the Prosecution

The former council chamber in London's County Hall provided a different perspective on a production of Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution*. Pictured here are a few of the ES members who went along on Thursday 30 August.

### Eastbourne Rainbow

Members of Eastbourne Rainbow, the local social group for LGBT residents aged 50+, enjoyed a tour of the College on Wednesday 22 August, which included the Chapel, the memorial panels and the Winn and Nugee buildings.



### The King and I

The *King and I* at the London Palladium was another hit with ES members who enjoyed the classic musical on Thursday 13 September.



### The London walk

The rain didn't deter the intrepid band of 30 ES members who joined the guided London walk round Marylebone, including a visit to the Wallace Collection, on Saturday 22 September.

### Eastbourne in the 1950s and '60s

There was a large turnout for the talk on Tuesday 16 October about life in Eastbourne in the 1950s and 1960s. Nearly 40 members of the society gathered in the Long Room of the Howell Pavilion for the illustrated talk given by local historian and College archivist Paul Jordan.



### Reception for parents of new pupils

With the start of each school year the Eastbournian Society welcomes parents of new pupils to the College community with a reception. On Saturday 6 October, they had a chance to meet Headmaster Tom Lawson and also heard from ES Director David Stewart, pictured, who explained the benefits to pupils of our regular career and business networking events.



### Eastbourne pub evening

An informal pub evening for ES members was held in the bar of the Dolphin in South Street on Thursday 8 November.

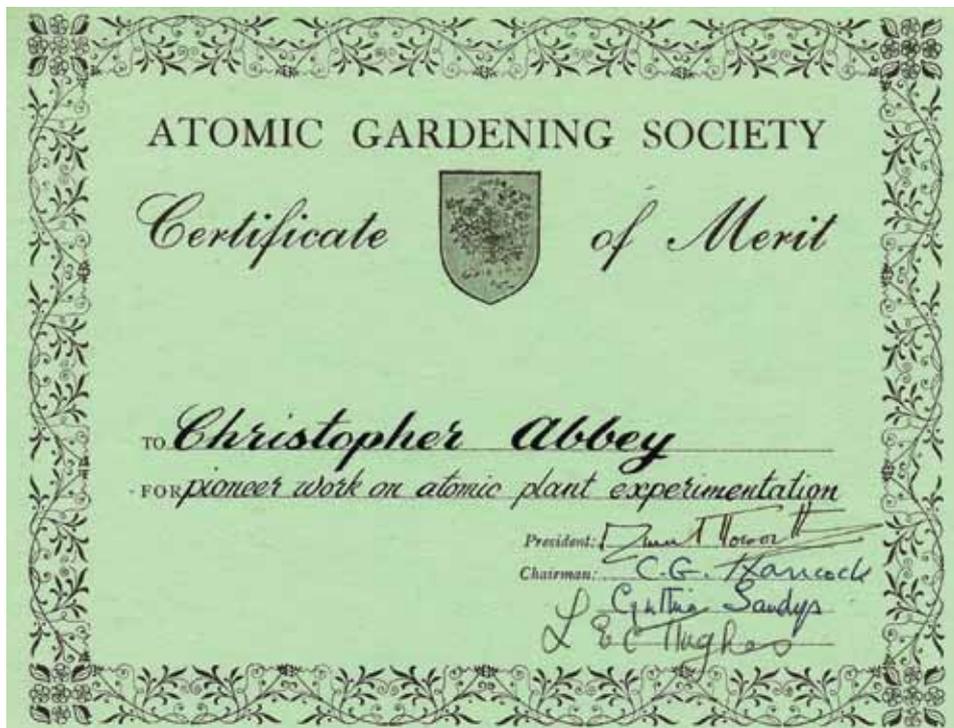


### The Play That Goes Wrong

The comedy *The Play That Goes Wrong* at the Duchess Theatre on Sunday 18 November was our next theatre trip, and it is somewhat ironic that John Thornley's attempt to take a photo of our group itself went wrong, as they had all settled in to their seats while he was waiting patiently outside. So here's his picture of the theatre awning instead.

# THE FUTURISTIC WORLD OF ATOMIC GARDENING

Atomic gardening may sound like something from a 1950s science fiction novel, but it was in fact an attempt by scientists to research peaceful uses for radiation and atomic energy in the aftermath of the Second World War.



Chris Abbey's certificate of merit from the Atomic Gardening Society

Chris Abbey (Powell 1958-63) recently got in touch with us to recount his involvement with atomic gardening and its connections with Eastbourne.

Originally scientists aimed to test the effects of radiation on plant life, but then research gradually turned towards using radiation to introduce beneficial mutations that could give plants useful characteristics, such as increased resilience to adverse weather, or a faster growth rate.

One proponent of this was Muriel Howorth, an atomic activist living in Eastbourne, who founded the Atomic Gardening Society in 1959. She bought the irradiated seeds from America and distributed them amongst members of the society, who would grow them in their own gardens and report back to her with their results.

Chris Abbey takes up the story: *I was the youngest member of the team headed up by Muriel Howorth irradiating and subsequently growing these mutated seeds back in the 1950s.*

*When I think about the procedures used back then, I'm surprised that I don't glow in the dark!*

*I was attending Eastbourne College and, with GCE O-levels out of the way and already specialising in physics, chemistry and maths at A-level, I had a good grasp of radioactive isotopes, the various products of decay and their effects.*

*Muriel lived in the next street to me in Eastbourne. I think she was a little surprised that I was able to converse with her on the subject.*

*The large conservatory at our family home was used to grow her famous peanut plant, and many other irradiated species, which I personally tended on a daily basis.*

*Although the horrors of the atom bomb were well known to us in those days, somehow other sources of radiation weren't considered in the same light. In the early days Muriel would provide me with various seeds to test, including tomatoes, marigold, melon and the famous peanut. The heated conservatory at our home provided an excellent environment to germinate the seeds and once any successful shoots became established as plants, she would take them back to her greenhouse.*

*I hasten to add that it would be generous to say that only 10 per cent or so ever germinated and perhaps just one per cent actually grew into successful plants.*

*I used to see Muriel once or twice a week but probably only met others half a dozen times in total. Very few people I met understood the principles of atomic gardening, although some were fascinated, but I haven't yet met anyone who ever heard of the society! The general public here remain in complete ignorance. Actually, looking back it was all rather hit and miss.*

*However obviously I do remember growing the peanut plant to a height of about four*



Muriel Howorth and her mutant peanuts

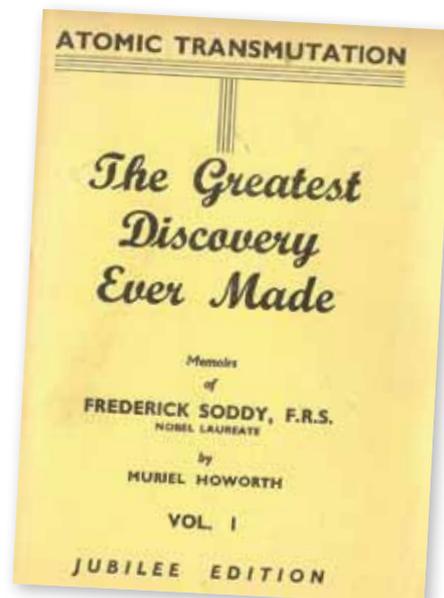
*inches and I remember sweet smelling marigolds which climbed like sweet peas, also some rather large strangely coloured toxic tomatoes!*

Aside from her work on atomic gardening, Muriel Howorth also wrote a book based on the memoirs of Frederick Soddy, radiochemist and recipient of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry. He also happened to be an Old Eastbourneian



Frederick Soddy

(1893-94), a fact that Chris tells us he was unaware of until he heard about the new Professor Soddy Awards for highly academic pupils, which were announced by the College in January 2018.



The book written by Muriel Howorth about the life of Frederick Soddy

## SALES, MARKETING AND PR NETWORKING

A networking event focusing on sales, marketing and PR was held at The Phoenix in Victoria on Tuesday 20 February.

A number of current College pupils made the journey up to London to make contacts, discuss career options and learn more from Old Eastbournians about working in marketing and sales.

The guest speaker was Robin Birn (School 1967-72), Head of Consultancy - Marketing Practice at Imparta Ltd, who spoke on how customer insight gets to the heart of consumer marketing.

Robin has been a marketing professional for 38 years, starting his career in Taylor Nelson, before running his own marketing consultancy Strategy, Research and Action in the UK and the USA. He was also Head of Consultation at the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales and Head of Client Financial Services at Research International, now Kantar TNS Global.

He is a Fellow of the Market Research Society, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing, Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Marketors, and Freeman of the City of London.



A member of the Old Eastbournian Association committee for 15 years, and vice-chairman for 12, Robin was also the inspiration, alongside David Winn, for the annual careers convention and OEA business directory.

OEs and pupils at the marketing event



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wearefathom.com

# CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Head of Careers Matthew Pringle writes about the challenges faced by today's pupils as they consider university and job options.

The labour market is ever-changing. With the demise of 'jobs for life', the average person will work for six different employers in their career and some predict this will rise to ten or more. It is therefore vital that today's Eastbournians learn to appraise their own characters, strengths, weaknesses, likes and dislikes, and gain the transferable skills to enable them to search for and switch to new roles throughout their working lives.

The Careers Department has had another busy year preparing pupils for life in this post-Eastbourne world. Year 9 and 10 pupils have been attending interactive workshops arranged with the Eastbourne Schools Partnership to give them insights into working in key shortage industries across Sussex. Year 10 have also been introduced to the key skills involved in job searching and the importance of beginning to build a CV. Year 11 have taken personality profile tests and have begun to reflect on how they work and think, in addition to the annual careers testing and one-to-one interviews with external advisors.

The sixth form have undertaken testing and research into potential university courses, with many having individual interviews with external advisors. All Lower Sixth attended a number of talks by universities, and a highly successful UCAS day, to aid them in their preparation for higher education. The interview training course was better attended than it has been for many years. Networking events also continued, with record numbers of pupils opting to travel to London to make connections with Old Eastbournians in specific industries, gleaned wisdom from those with first-hand experience, not a few business cards to help them on their way to work experience, and a view of life on the inside of many of the country's largest employers.

The many events organised across the year groups included the hugely successful annual careers convention, attended by around 50 delegates and more than 300 pupils, which gives Eastbournians the chance to talk with representatives from a large range of sectors and discover what a career might hold for them or how they can take the first steps to their dream job. New this year, a number of careers evenings gave pupils from all year groups the chance to attend talks on careers as diverse as fashion, design and screen acting to law, finance and engineering. The department also took steps forward in our support for those considering apprenticeships and other non-graduate routes into work, an option becoming increasingly popular with average student debt now rising to more than £50,000.

One of the most valuable experiences for any school pupil is the opportunity to shadow or work with someone in a career of interest to them. Many pupils completed work experience, but among the highlights were placements at the *Mirror* newspaper, the neuro unit at a major London hospital, and recording albums with an award-winning recording artist.

As ever, the work of the department would not be possible without the generous assistance of many parents and Old Eastbournians. We are enormously grateful for their help, without which the current crop of Eastbournians would not have the opportunity to engage and learn first-hand.

*This article previously appeared in The Eastbournian magazine.*



A chance to get expert advice at the 2018 careers convention

## 2019 futures convention

The Futures Department and the Eastbournian Society warmly welcome offers from anyone who would like to volunteer their time at these events 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 Matthew Pringle (mjpringle@eastbourne-college.co.uk) or Lulu Brown (vlbrown@eastbourne-college.co.uk) or call the department on 01323 452211.

The next futures convention will be on Friday 1 March 2019 and there will be evening talks throughout the year.

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE AT EASTBOURNE COLLEGE

I write to you all from the new Futures Department at Eastbourne College. I am the new Head of Futures and my role is proving to be every bit as exciting and challenging as I hoped it would be. I'm delighted to get the opportunity to speak to you through this magazine to tell you more about my plans for the Futures Department and hopefully, ask for your help.

As the plans for Futures evolves here at Eastbourne College, I am relishing the opportunity to delve more deeply in to the best way to prepare our children for their lives after school. I want them to be as successful as possible, and bold enough and confident enough to achieve their ambitions. I also know that while university is a suitable next step for many, it isn't for everyone, and with the significant changes in degree apprenticeship development and opportunities for employment, I know that my role here will be to support more than just UCAS applications.

Future success for our pupils will definitely encompass more than academic excellence, although a solid A-level performance will certainly help to keep options open for pupils. The robust programme of sports and service in school plays a huge role in developing some of the skills which will be essential in later life. Pupils learn to work as a team, learn to rely on others and lead others, learn to deal with success on the pitch as well as defeat when things

don't go to plan and they begin to understand the more nuanced concepts of hierarchy, leadership and empathy for others, and hopefully that success is almost always a result of significant hard work.

I have been bowled over by the pupils at Eastbourne during my first term, particularly our sixth formers, who are smart, interested in the world, opinionated, hardworking, collegiate, very funny and hungry for more. However, there is something missing. I'm not entirely sure what, and certainly not arrogant enough to think I have all of the answers, but despite their talent, hard work, ambition and previous successes to date, many pupils lack confidence, are not clear how to join the dots between school, university and career options, lack the ability to understand how all of the skills they have gained here can and will translate into the next phase of their lives and undervalue themselves and what they have to give back to the world.

I see this in the personal statements they write, in the university choices they make, in the

conversations I have with them about their future plans. I see it more profoundly in our female pupils, who are often the first to point out to me all of the flaws in their personal statement drafts or say to me 'Miss, I couldn't possibly consider applying to Durham/Bristol/UCL'.

I recently attended a networking event hosted by the Eastbournian Society. None of our girls joined the trip, and the boys who did were uncharacteristically nervous about introducing themselves to new people and starting conversations.

### New programme for Year 12

Lent term sees the Futures Department launch a new programme for Year 12 pupils which will see them work on plans for their future, six months earlier than usual. I hope that this extra time to spend talking with me and colleagues, while researching and exploring what their future could look like, will help start to resolve some of the problems I have identified. I also hope that I can call upon Old Eastbournians to help

me shape this programme both now and in the years to come. In many ways you are best placed to help, having had first-hand experience of moving from Eastbourne College, to university and/or into employment. I am hoping to hear from you if you think you could spend 20 to 30 minutes talking to small groups of pupils via Skype or Facetime, if you have capacity to provide more regular mentoring, in person or via online discussion, perhaps once or twice a term, if you could spare an evening to come and talk to pupils here at school, or if you would be happy to share your tips via email to pupils considering their next steps to help inspire them to be bold.

I have experienced a very warm welcome from staff and pupils since joining the team in September and I'm sure you have many fond memories of your time here too. I would love to hear how your journeys panned out after leaving school. I very much look forward to hearing from you and would be glad to chat via email, over the phone or even in person if you are visiting the school. You can contact me on 01323 452211 or SJGordon@eastbourne-college.co.uk.

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER



“we need to contextualise intellectual skills in real learned knowledge”

I find myself returning to my ‘common-place book’ of programmes and bric-a-brac which I have kept from yet another busy year since I last wrote in the *Old Eastbournian*. At the centre of the picture, and central to all our memories of this year, was the 3D video-mapping show projected by lasers on the Memorial Building. I am sure there will be other articles in this edition describing the show but if you did not get a chance to see it live you really should have a look at the video on the internet ([www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/world-first-3d-show](http://www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/world-first-3d-show)). The video spoke about the future of the College as much as the past, making our 150th anniversary much more than merely a collection of memories. It located our journey in the march of history over the last century-and-a-half, and it showed us as a College that was bursting with pride about our past but intent on using our heritage as an inspiration for the future.

I have been thinking a lot about the future of the College over recent months. The strategic plan for the next five years is now in operation, and given that we have completed the existing ambitious 30-year plan of buildings works ahead of its 2025 deadline, our next phase is about building the intellectual, cultural, communal and financial strength of the College, not bricks and mortar.

replaced by learning machines. Our duty is to prepare them for this by embracing technology in school, by embedding skills like coding, design technology, IT skills, more effectively in the curriculum. But it is also our duty to preserve the rigour of traditional subjects, whether Latin, maths, or English grammar, because the analytical ability they teach are transferable into jobs as yet not invented. And while we need to think about teaching skills, and move further away from rote learning of facts searchable on Google, we need to contextualise intellectual skills in real learned knowledge by our pupils because without that they will not have the critical faculty to understand the complexity they have at the touch of a screen.

But what does all that highfalutin futurology really mean for the College? It means we have to give proper time to lessons in our timetable, and teach them in the most thoughtful way we can, blending modern and traditional methods. It means that we retain the ethos of the College that encourages pupils to enjoy sport, music, drama etc while at the same time getting some pretty decent A-levels.

We will not pursue the path of many of our competitors by putting sports scholars, for example, in a weaker academic stream so they do not ‘sully’ the A-level results. That is not doing the young people any service, at least not for the majority who are gifted amateurs who love being part of a team but will not go on to be professional rugby players, musicians or actors.



## Balance

All Eastbournians need a balance between their academic life, the extra-curricular, and the important business of making friends for life. Looking to the future also means that we understand that the creativity, imagination, and aesthetic sense pupils gain from ‘softer’ art subjects will be the skills that only humans can master, giving them an edge in the competition (with robots) for jobs. It means that the friendships and camaraderie of teams, houses, and happy school life give our pupils the emotional intelligence to get ahead because the economy of the future will prize humanity in humans.

## Tough decisions

Our ethos is everything, but to preserve it in a rapidly-changing world we will have to take some tough decisions. We may have to be more flexible in the kind of boarding we offer to continue to attract British families to the school. We may have to rethink the classroom to continue to deliver the skills that our pupils need to thrive. We may have to embrace modern approaches and technology to provide the pupils the psychological support, to teach them grit and resilience, so they can face the ‘VUCA’ world with as much confidence and self-esteem as their predecessors did.

As I look at these mementos in front of me I see much that would be familiar to an Eastbournian of fifty years ago. Much would be recognisable even to those ‘boys on the arch’ at Ascham-St Vincents, the lost generation of the fallen of the Great War which we have been thinking about in this centenary year. But with laser mapping shows, dance studios, ball-tracking in the indoor cricket nets, all shown in these pictures, I see too that we have changed much to preserve the spirit of a successful and thriving school and home for young people. And much more change will be needed to stay the same. We are ready for the challenge.

Tom Lawson, Headmaster

## Commitment

Our commitment to academic life in the school needs vigorous restatement so that it can stand on its own. Intellectual growth should not need to be justified by ever-more-stressful exam pressures, nor should it be ignored by our pupils in favour of instant gratification. We know that the children of today face a future which is volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous (‘VUCA’), and we know that this will involve instant global connectivity. Our leavers’ careers will not involve repetitive professional tasks because they will be

The Battle of Britain was fought in the air between 10 July and 31 October 1940. It is widely accepted that it was the reason that Hitler cancelled his planned invasion of Britain.



Winston Churchill, in a Commons speech in August 1940, said 'Never, in the field of human conflict, was so much owed by so many to so few'. Thus those 2,937 allied airmen became known as 'The Few' and they accounted for 1,636 German aircraft, the RAF losing considerably fewer. Recent discovery of a book *Men of the Battle of Britain* by Kenneth G Wynn has revealed that five of them were Old Eastbournians. This article will show their achievements and, in three cases, their deaths.



## Roland 'Bee' Beamont

Roland 'Bee' Beamont was in Crosby from 1934 until 1937. He was neither a scholar nor a sportsman, but it was a childhood trip in a de Havilland Fox Moth that made him determined to become a flyer. In January 1939 he was granted a short service commission and joined 87 Squadron flying Hurricanes at Church Fenton in north Yorkshire and Exeter. On 13 May 1940 he destroyed a Dornier 17 and on 24 July a Junkers 88. During August he accounted for a Messerschmitt 110 and a 109 and a Dornier 17. In September he was Mentioned in Despatches.

He went on to have a distinguished war career, gaining a DSO and bar and a DFC and bar, and later the OBE, as well as other awards and the rank of Wing Commander. Following the war he worked as a test pilot for Hawker and later Gloster Aircraft and English Electric. He established a record in a Canberra for the first two-way Atlantic crossing and in 1954 became the first British pilot to fly faster than sound in level flight. In retirement he wrote seven books on flying. Beamont died on 10 August 2001.



## Gordon Leonard Sinclair

Gordon Leonard Sinclair was in Powell House from 1929 until 1934. Gordon was a school prefect, 2nd XV rugby colour, Victor Ludorum and Steeplechase winner in 1934. On

leaving he joined the Union Cold Storage company in London and in February 1935 joined the Honourable Artillery Company, a TA regiment.

On 1 March 1937 he joined the RAF on a short service commission and began flying training at 9 E & RFTS at Ansty in Warwickshire. On 8 May he was posted to 3 FTS, South Cerney in Gloucestershire and then joined 19 Squadron at Duxford on 27 November 1937. There he was the pilot of the first Spitfire to crash on landing. During the Dunkirk evacuation he shot down five, probably six, enemy aircraft, so becoming an 'Ace'. Later on 27 November 1940 he was awarded the DFC. In June he became commander of A Flight in 310 (Czech) Squadron flying Hurricanes. He led his pilots, many of whom could barely speak English, through the Battle of Britain. He accounted for three more German aircraft and was twice compelled to bale out. At the closure of the Battle, he was awarded the Czech Military Cross and, later, the Order of George of Podograd, a rare distinction.

In May 1941 Gordon went on to command a further Czech squadron, No 313. Late in 1941 he moved into the Air Ministry and spent time with the HQ, US 8th Air Force. He converted to the Typhoon in 1943 and took command of 56 Squadron, leading many attacks against sites in the Pas de Calais. In April 1944 he was promoted Wing Commander and joined the staff of 84 Wing. After the war ended he attended Staff College and undertook several leading roles with the RAF and Air Ministry. He retired in 1957 and died on 26 June 2005. Two of his brothers attended the College.



## Colin 'Tony' Hobson

Colin 'Tony' Hobson was in Pennell from 1933 until 1935. On leaving the College, he worked in a City accountant's office and subsequently in a stockbroker's office. He joined the TA as a gunner with the Royal Horse Artillery and enjoyed rugby, rowing and squash. On 10 May 1939 he volunteered for aircrew and joined the RAFVR on a short service commission. He trained initially at the civilian flying school at Redhill and then at No 14 Flying School at Kinloss in Scotland. By 3 November he had gained his 'Wings'. He was then posted to 12 Group Pool at Aston Down in Gloucestershire for

operational training from February 1940; on 4 May he converted to Blenheims and was posted to 600 (City of London) Squadron at Manston. At 3.55am on 3 October he was captain of a Blenheim which had engine failure during a routine dawn patrol in heavy rain. He crashed into high ground at Broadstone Warren, Forest Row, Sussex, where he and his crew of two were all killed. He was 21 and is buried at All Saints' churchyard, Banstead, Surrey.



**William Wright**

William Wright was in Gonville from 1923 until 1928, where he was a house prefect and acting head of house. He went on to the Ecole de Commerce at Neuchâtel for a year and then joined his father's office in London. He joined the RAFVR in February 1940 with a direct entry commission and completed flying training as an air gunner with 604 Squadron at Nothholt in July 1940. After serving in Fighter Command for just over a year, he transferred to bombers. He was killed in action as a Flying Officer over Belgium on 26 August 1941, aged 31, while flying Wellingtons from Alconbury in Cambridgeshire. He is buried at Hanazame cemetery in Belgium. William was married to Inez.



**Dennis Conan Williams**

Dennis Conan Williams was in School House from 1928 until 1932, when he was a 2nd XV and 2nd fives colour. He joined the RAFVR on a short service commission in July 1938 and by May 1940 was serving as a Pilot Officer with 141 Squadron at Turnhouse, Edinburgh. He and his gunner were killed on an operational flight on 4 April 1941. He was cremated at the Perry Bar crematorium in Birmingham.

**SHIPPING INDUSTRY NETWORKING**



A careers and business networking evening was held at the Baltic Exchange in London on Wednesday 7 March.

We are grateful to the Chief Executive of the Baltic Exchange, Old Eastbournian Mark Jackson (School 1975-77) for hosting the event in the Members Bar.

Our guest speaker was Alex Farrow (Reeves 2003-08), who specialises in risk analysis and consulting for Maritime Asset Security and Training (MAST) Ltd. He talked about maritime security and the associated challenges facing the shipping industry. This was followed by a brief plenary discussion led by some of the other experts in attendance.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the nine College sixth formers who enjoyed the occasion, finding out more about careers in shipping and the pathway and skills involved. As ever we would like to say huge thanks to the experts from the shipping world for giving guidance and sharing their wisdom.

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## EASTBOURNIAN MEDICAL SOCIETY

Guy Thorpe-Beeston (School 1972-77) was the guest speaker at the Eastbournian Medical Society networking event on Saturday 17 March, held at the Birley Centre.

Guy graduated from Cambridge University in 1984 and sub-specialised in foetal medicine, obtaining his MD in 1991. He was appointed consultant in foetal medicine in 1996 at Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust and was the obstetric lead clinician for 10 years, and was a member of the team that oversaw the births of Prince George and Princess Charlotte, the children of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

In his talk he spoke about his time at the College, and showed some of his school reports, explaining how he had been inspired by his biology teacher Forbes Wastie to read medicine at university.

He also spoke about the other inspiring people he had met during his training and career, emphasising to the pupils in the audience that with hard work and application it



is possible to achieve your ambitions.

A few weeks after his talk Guy was in the headlines when he was one of the team that delivered the Duchess of Cambridge's third child, Prince Louis, on Monday 23 April.

Guy Thorpe-Beeston (seventh from left) with pupils and OEs in the Birley Centre

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# REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS



**Philip Broadley in front of the panel dedicated to Lionel Rees which was unveiled on Remembrance Sunday 2018**

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.

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 of our approximately 1,000 pupils over the year. Whether in public exams, service to the community or national competition, our pupils continue to show the value of the education we have long sought to provide.

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, including a new initiative where College sixth formers have run an effective homework club for Year 11 GCSE students from local schools.

The College was established in 1867 'to provide a general education of the highest class'. Both schools 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, 154 pupils 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 13 current pupils. We also value the commitment of our Devonshire Society members who have promised to support the Charity in their wills. The Annual Report describes a very substantial legacy from Mr James Groves, an Old Eastbournian, that will help us permanently to support the education of a pupil who would otherwise be unable to attend the College. The first beneficiary of his legacy joined us in September 2018.

The balance sheet of the Charity includes almost £58m of buildings used by the schools. These are conservatively valued at a depreciated historic cost: the current value of the total estate we use is much greater. The balance sheet also includes about £6m of investments in endowed or restricted funds that support our scholarships and bursaries. The Charity's funds increased by £1.1m 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.

During the year we completed the Winn Building, the second phase of Project 150, that is being enthusiastically enjoyed by pupils and staff. It completes what has been a 30-year plan to enhance the fabric and facilities of the College for the benefit of all pupils at our schools and for the wider public who use them. We have over the period transformed the facilities of the College; three-quarters of lessons are now taught in classrooms built since the millennium. At St Andrew's Prep the boarding house has been renovated to enable us to continue to offer competitive and thriving boarding provision. We have also refurbished what is now known as the Wainwright Pavilion to provide a space for meetings and a common room for senior pupils.

The Governors and Heads have agreed the Charity's Strategic Plan for the next five years, building on the strength of what we do today and to ensure we continue to meet our founders' objective.

The Annual Report sets out the key objectives of the plan designed to get the best from our people, our plant and our location.

Finally, on behalf of the Governors, I thank Tom Lawson and Gareth Jones, our two Heads, and Carol Meade, our Bursar, and the over four hundred staff who teach and support the two schools. I also thank the more than one thousand people who have contributed to our fundraising for Project 150 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**  
14 December 2018

**2018** has been a year full of excitement at the College as pupils and staff enjoyed the benefits of the Winn Building and continued the celebrations in our 150th anniversary year, all of which are well reported in the magazine. At the same time the College has continued to serve the wider community, notably by playing a leading role in the Eastbourne Schools Partnership (ESP) ([www.eastbourneschoolspartnership.org](http://www.eastbourneschoolspartnership.org)).

Each year the governors explain in our annual report what Eastbourne College and St Andrew's Prep, the two schools within a single charity, do to provide public benefit. The report is available on our website – just search the internet for 'Eastbourne College 2018 Annual Report'. My introduction is reproduced below and I hope it will encourage you to find out more from the full report. Much of the discussion in the media about the role and charitable status of independent schools is written with limited knowledge about what schools like the College actually do; there is so much for Old Eastbournians to be proud of. I am pleased that during the last year Tom Lawson had the chance to talk about the College and the ESP inside 10 Downing Street. However, we need OEs and other supporters to promote the College at every opportunity. Please do get in touch with me through the ES office if you would like to know more.

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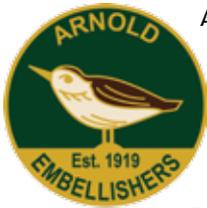
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# 100 YEARS OF THE ARNOLD EMBELLISHERS

The Arnold Embellishers is celebrating its centenary. The original Embellishers League first met on 29 June 1919 under the chairmanship of EC Arnold (who went on to become headmaster in 1924). Once an invitation-only society, this thriving group of College supporters now actively welcomes past and present pupils, parents, staff and friends of the College. The AEs act as fairy godmothers; they try to enhance the life of the school through imaginative embellishments, improvements beyond those that the school might feel essential or affordable. Visit any area of the school and you will be bound to be enjoying the benefits of a century of AE embellishments. There are over 100 different projects from doors, gates, windows and furnishings to prizes, paintings and trees, including some off-campus such as the First World War memorial plaque in Ypres.

This year we awarded the first AE Innovation Prizes. Teams of mixed year groups gave presentations on areas of the campus which they thought could be improved. The winning team suggested refurbishment designs for the



The literature timeline in the English Department corridor

ziers organised the international competition for young artists in this specialist craft and Matthew Clover, Head of DT, was on the technical judging panel alongside Helen Whitaker and other distinguished judges.

Headmaster Tom Lawson, members of staff and Philip Broadley, Roger Sloley and Vicky Henley, representing the AEs, had a very difficult job to choose a winner when all 27 entries were very different concepts and so spectacular. The headmaster explained about the chosen commission awarded to a very talented French artist, Jessica Lambinett: 'the artist captured the spirit of Eastbourne College... [and] ...echoes the Mary Lowndes windows in chapel... We felt the piece *Dancing into the Light* had an early 20th century art deco/nouveau/futurist feel which is a style both classical and modern that is also reflected in the design of our newer buildings.'

special 21st century work of art. The windows will be a major project going into the centenary year of the Arnold Embellishers, thanks to the generosity of the late Colin Macbeth Thomson (School 1959-63).



Olivia Jayaraj, Bella Park and Scott Williams, winners of the inaugural AE Prize for Innovation showing their ideas to Claudine Sinnett, Head of Drama

Dell outdoor theatre. The Dell was originally an AE project in 1978 and in the theatre's 40th anniversary year the AEs are pleased to be working with Claudine Sinnett, Head of Drama, who is driving through the improvements as an AE project, incorporating the prizewinners' ideas. The aim is to extend the season of the Dell and to use it as an outdoor classroom and meeting space as well as a performing arts area.

The school has been chosen as the venue for a set of stained glass windows to be installed in the dance studio. The project will be overseen by award-winning specialist Helen Whitaker who in 2018 created the Queen's Window in Westminster Abbey with David Hockney, and the RAF centenary window unveiled by HM the Queen at the RAF Club. The Worshipful Company of Gla-



*Dancing into the Light* - The winning design of the stained glass windows for the dance studio

Jessica, whose skills are much in demand in France, has already been to the school twice with her mentor Helen Whitaker and is now creating her winning designs alongside her committed workload of commissions. It is hoped that Jessica will run some DT workshops when she is on site installing the two windows. It is very exciting to think that, a hundred years after the Mary Lowndes installation, the Winn Building will feature a very



Unveiling the Nugent Heads of House boards are, from left to right, William Harper, Head of Nugent in 1967; Lucy Ritson, Head of Nugent in 2017; Izzy McIntosh, current Head of Nugent; and Roger Fendall, AE committee member and Head of Nugent in 1958, who sponsored and masterminded the AE project

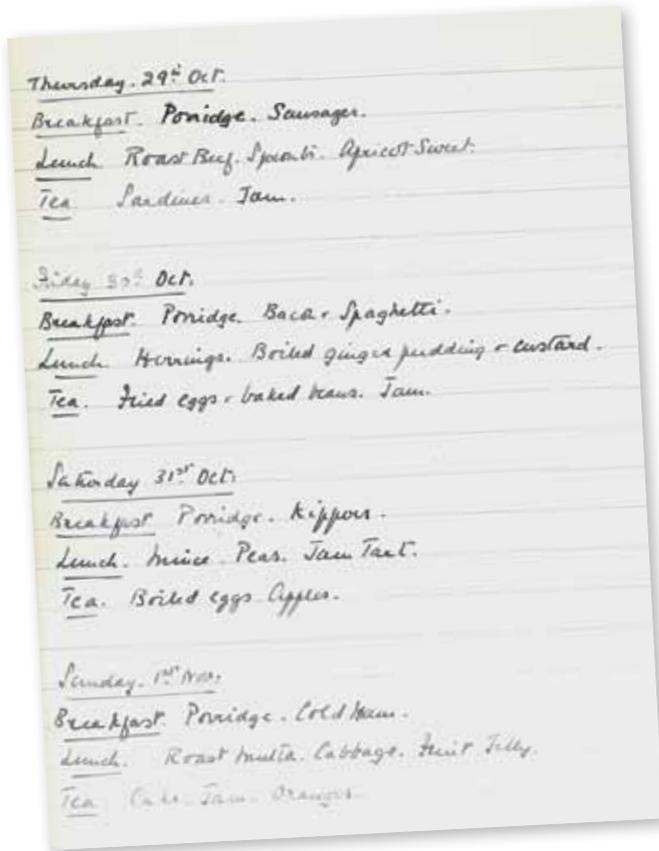
Around the campus the AEs were pleased to sponsor new benches in Old Wish Road and in the Winn Building courtyard and a seating area in front of the cricket pavilion. A literature timeline has been installed along the English Department corridor and Heads of House boards were put up in Nugent. The AEs continue to sponsor the annual Eastbourne College Young Musician of the Year awards. We have plenty of ideas lined up to embellish the College in 2019.

New members are always welcome and never more so than in this anniversary year. Be part of the celebrations which will include our annual lunch and AGM as guests of the College.

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

# FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!

“many will remember that things were a little bit different when they were at school...”



A page from a 1936 recipe menu book written by Millicent Storrs, the wife of the housemaster of Pennell. Breakfast on 30 October included bacon and spaghetti

Peter Durrant writes:

With the opening of the Winn Building in summer 2018, the College's catering facilities were transformed, with the new dining hall, function rooms, cafe and kitchens taking up most of the top floor of the building. As well as being able to cater for a significantly larger number of pupils in one sitting, the new facilities allow for a greater range of healthy, nutritious menu choices, including different dietary requirements, such as dairy/lactose intolerances, gluten free and halal food. Many OEs have already sampled meals in the new building, as a number of Eastbournian Society lunches and dinners, including the 2018 reunion, having already taken place there.



Christmas dinner in Wargrave in 1952

And many will remember that things were a little bit different when they were at school...

Before a central dining hall was first opened in 1965, meals were prepared within each house. But equally important was the tuck box kept by pupils, where they could store tinned fruit, cake, jam and biscuits.

Rationing had been introduced in 1918 and this did limit meals even after the First World War had ended. Hungry pupils could use the tuck shop but those with little pocket money often relied on food parcels from home.

Breakfast consisted of porridge, bacon or sausage, and fish on Fridays, followed by bread and margarine with one's own jam. Some studies also had a gas ring or stove to heat up tins of soup, baked beans and, of course, tea.

In the 1930s 'early morning school' was introduced - a period of three-quarters of an hour before breakfast - and there are memories of boys rising and rushing out, clutching a plate of thick bread and butter. Often uniforms would be plastered or stained with jam, condensed milk, porridge or an egg-like substance.

After the Second World War when the College had returned from exile in Radley, the complexities of providing pupils with food was made worse by the continuation of rationing. The food regulations brought with them a lot of unnecessary paperwork.

Housemasters and their wives struggled to make the small budget of around £1.00 per head per week cover the pupils' needs. Greengage jam was a speciality in those days, and large amounts of bread and mashed potato were intended to make up for the shortfall in protein, vitamins and fat.

Mrs Godden, the wife of the Housemaster of Gonville in the late 1950s, remarked how fortunate it was that she did not to have to deal with any

cooking and housekeeping. The house had a cook, a kitchen maid, three dormitory maids, two dailies, a houseman and a married couple living in the house next door known as Bushey Ruff. Mrs Godden remembered one incident when a severe thunderstorm resulted in the basement kitchens being flooded with six inches of water. When she went to check what was happening she found a houseman eating a kipper with his feet on a chair and the kitchen maid using the electric toaster - while standing in the water.

In 1962 work started on a central kitchen behind Powell House, but in fact there had been earlier plans to centralise catering for the school.

In 1918 Stephen Foot, who would later become bursar, had proposed a central dining hall and kitchens, which he described as 'a new epoch in the history of the school', but his ideas were anathema to the housemasters who felt that they would suffer a loss of income, as in those days parents paid the housemasters for the board and lodging of their sons. During the First World War the housemasters had already found it difficult to make their houses pay on the basis of the existing fees, and they also felt that their own salaries were inadequate.

Gradually the College took over the running of the houses as housemasters came to the end of their tenure, but the pupils still received their meals in house.

In the lead up to the Second World War there were suggestions of converting the old Blackwater House and incorporating a new central dining room for all pupils, but the outbreak of war and the evacuation to Radley brought thoughts of this to an end.

After the war the supply of domestic servants to the houses was becoming more of a problem; and in the late 1940s Blackwater employed young German women as kitchen maids. However, it was hoped that centralising the cooking



The dining hall in the late 1960s with benches by the tables



The dining hall in 2006



The servery in the old dining hall



Healthy choices in 2018



A lighter, more pleasant space to eat

under one roof would lead to reduced staffing costs. The new kitchen opened in 1962 and was initially operated by Practical Catering Systems Ltd until the College established its own in-house catering department. All the old house kitchens were no longer used, but meals were still eaten in the house dining rooms, so the food had to be delivered to the houses by van. Sometimes meals arrived late, with the wrong food, and occasionally there were containers of hot water instead of food!

In 1965 the new dining hall opened and the food could be served straight from the adjoining kitchens. A public address system was also installed so that grace could be said before meals. By 1967 its use as a venue for larger functions was demonstrated with the centenary cocktail party hosted by Headmaster Michael Birley. Some 800 people gathered in the dining hall and on the adjacent lawn, accompanied by live music.

In the run up to the centenary celebrations a cookery book had been published, written by Margot Hopkinson and illustrated by Marcus Lyons, with the proceeds going to the Centenary Appeal. The book had earlier received an excellent review in *The Lady* magazine.

One memory of the new dining hall was that pupils would sit on benches while one boy at the end of each table would have the responsibility of dishing out the meals from large serving containers. This system changed when the serveries by the kitchens opened, with pupils queuing up with trays to be served individually, cafeteria-style, before taking their meals to the tables.

By the early 1990s it was time for some changes to the layout in the dining hall, when the benches were removed and replaced by individual seats. The salad bar was also introduced and, in 1995, Headmaster Charlie Bush commented that food at the College was

being transformed with the first new kitchen equipment for 30 years.

One long-serving member of staff who would have been witness to a lot of these changes was Ben Delaunay who worked in a variety of catering roles at the College for nearly 40 years, finally retiring as catering manager in summer 2013. He would have overseen the ordering, preparation and serving of more than a thousand meals each weekday plus the meals for the boarders at the weekends, not to mention catering for other special dinners and parties and, of course, the annual OE reunion day. And the summer holidays were also busy with foreign students attending English-language schools (who rent College facilities) needing to be fed. Ben's departure coincided with the outsourcing of catering to Holroyd Howe, a specialist schools caterer which now employs 30 staff supervised by manager Rachael Clarke.

Away from the dining hall, each house still has its own facilities such as microwaves for light snacks and drinks, and barbecues and brunches remain popular.

Another informal space for pupils is Tim's Café, adjacent to the dining hall, which is intended as a social area for pupils, who can relax or study over a coffee and a snack. This might be regarded as an evolution from the earlier tuck shop, which was itself an excellent meeting place in its day. In fact, before the central dining hall was opened many day boys would have had their meals there.

The College has seen many developments in its 150-year history, but the new catering facilities are probably one of the most significant. Visitors to the new dining hall have been very impressed with what they see, with the wide range of food available, the modern surroundings and the 21st century cooking technology banishing the long-derided concept of the 'school dinner' for ever!

# THE LONDON DINNER 2018

The Eastbournian Society annual London dinner was held at the Waldorf Hilton in London on Monday 30 April.

**W**ith a turnout of almost 120 guests, comprising OEs young and old, current and former members of staff, and their spouses and partners, it was an enjoyable evening in the elegant surroundings of the Palm Court and the Adelphi Suite.

After reception drinks and a welcome from Chairman of the Eastbournian Society Hugh Price, Ben Pielow (Gonville 1991-96) gave a tribute to his former housemaster David Beer, who was celebrating his 30 years as a teacher at the College.

David replied with his memories of his time not only as housemaster, but also as sports coach, biology teacher and head of science. He has been made an honorary OE and was presented with an OE tie and a commemorative glass. His wife Fiona received a bouquet of flowers.

Headmaster Tom Lawson also spoke about recent developments at the College, and emphasised the importance of the College's unique selling point: a positive attitude to health in a healthy environment. Guests had a chance to see images of the newly opened Winn Building which were projected in a slideshow at one end of the room.

The evening finished with a speech from Maurice Trapp (Gonville 1962-67), the President of New Zealand Rugby, who talked with affection about his time at the College, and the philosophy of training and motivation that has made the All Blacks such a dominant force in world rugby.

The theme of the London dinner is 'celebrating Eastbournian achievement' and the fact that Maurice travelled 12,000 miles from his home in New Zealand to attend the dinner is an achievement in itself!

*Further pictures of the evening can be found in the members area of the Eastbournian Society website at [www.eastbourniansociety.org](http://www.eastbourniansociety.org).*



The drinks reception in the Palm Court



Dinner in the Adelphi Suite



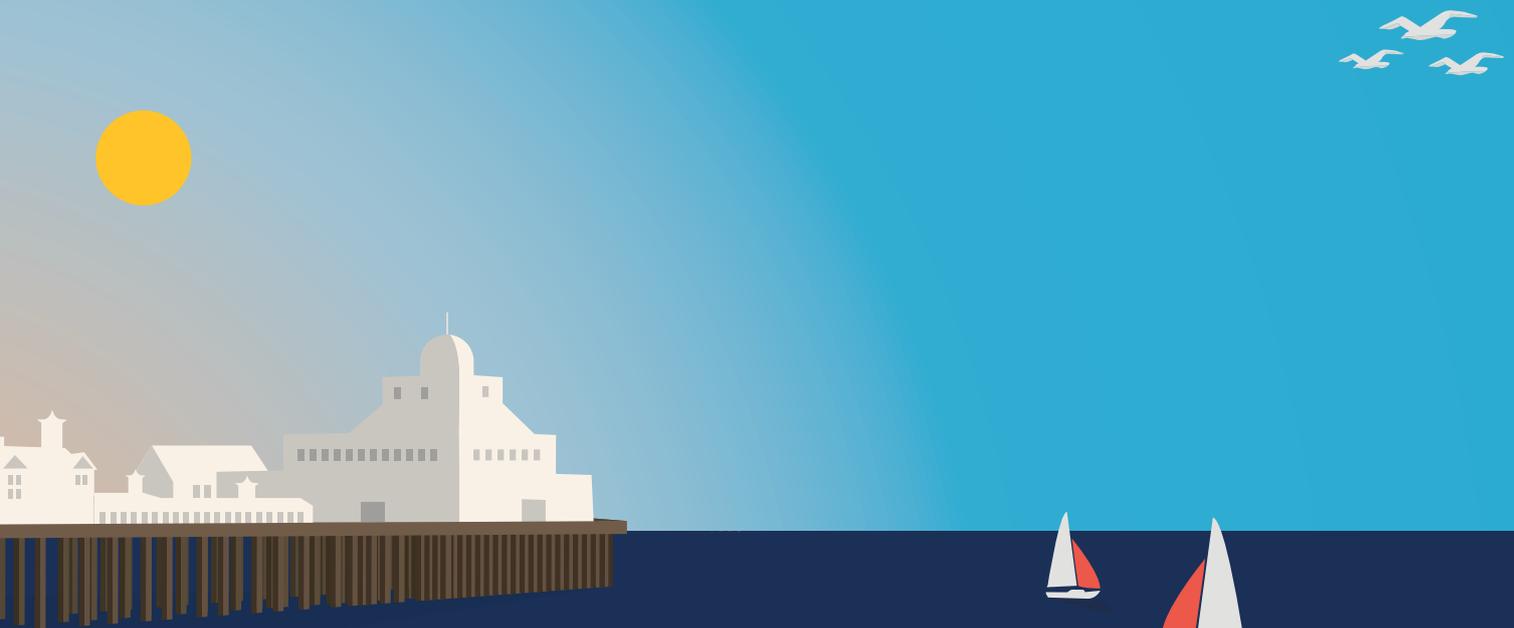
Maurice Trapp, centre, with Bob Rogers (Pennell 1957-61) and his son Andrew Rogers (Pennell 1991-96)



Fiona Beer, Tom Lawson, David Beer and Jess Lawson



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# THE TRIP TO NORMANDY

Following the success of recent trips to the First World War battlefields in 2014 and the champagne region in 2016, the Eastbournian Society's latest venture was to Normandy and the site of the D-Day landings.



The group at Pegasus Bridge

David Stewart writes:

Forty-six members of the Eastbournian Society set off for Portsmouth to catch the overnight ferry to Caen on Sunday 6 May. Supper was enjoyed on a glorious early summer's evening at a variety of hostelrys at Gunwharf Quay before embarkation and meeting our tour guide Philip Pearce.

At 6.15am the following morning we made the short journey to Pegasus Bridge to be served breakfast by Arlette Gondree at Café Gondree, the first house to be liberated in the early hours of 6 June 1944. After a tour of the fascinating Pegasus Bridge museum we went on to the Merville Battery and then on to the

CWGC cemetery at Ranville. A wreath was laid on the grave of Patrick Horton (Crosby 1932-37), formerly of the Parachute Regiment, who was killed towards the end of the battle for Normandy.

We then drove by Sword beach before stopping for lunch at our restaurant overlooking



Café Gondree, the first house to be liberated



The grave of Patrick Horton OE in the cemetery at Ranville

Juno beach. During the afternoon we visited Gold Beach and Arromanches and saw the very powerful and moving film in the 360 degree cinema before arriving at our hotel in the centre of Caen.

The following morning we visited Pointe du Hoc, Utah beach and the American St Laurent Cemetery which features so prominently in the opening minutes of Spielberg's *Saving*



At Pointe du Hoc by Utah Beach



Paying respects at the grave of Monty Horley OE

*Private Ryan.* Lunch was taken in Bayeux after which some visited the famous tapestry and others the magnificent mediaeval cathedral before we gathered in the Bayeux Cemetery to lay a wreath at the grave of Monty Horley (Crosby 1930–32). He was in command of the first British tank that got ashore on D-Day and was killed shortly afterwards.

Before our return through the tunnel we squeezed in a visit to Guy Boursot's wine shop in Ardres and unsurprisingly the boot was rather full by the time we departed back home to the College.

The trip proved to be a huge success and was varied, informative, at times moving, and most importantly great fun. Suggestions for and interest in the next trip are already underway.



Lunch on the final day

## OE VETERANS OF NORMANDY

We are aware of the following OEs who served in Normandy in 1944. Please let us know if there are any other names that should be added to this list.

**James Douglas Haddow Ballantine** (Gonville 1924–28) – Killed in action in Normandy on 10 July 1944. Mentioned in despatches.

**Major Bryan Douglas Carey MC** (School 1927–31) – Landed in Normandy on D-Day and served with the Airborne Division of the Devons. Won his MC in the Ardennes.

**Peter Molison Colvin-Smith** (Wargrave 1923–26) – Oversaw the production of Bailey bridges and latterly, sections of the Mulberry harbour used in the landings.

**David Max Colyer** (Gonville 1933–37) – He crossed to France shortly after D-Day attached to the Guards Armoured Division and took part in the Battle for Caen and in Operation Market Garden, getting as far as Nijmegen Bridge in Holland.

**Major General Glyn Charles Gilbert** (Gonville 1935–38) – Company Commander in 3 Division. Fought with the 2nd Battalion from Caen to the Baltic.

**The Revd Gordon Francis Hulbert Girling** (Pennell 1928–33) – Served with the Essex Yeomanry and landed on D-Day. Fought his

way through France and Belgium. Awarded the Order of Leopold of Belgium and the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

**William Ian Havelock Gwynne-Jones** (Gonville 1937–41) – Killed in action in June 1944 while serving with the Royal Armoured Corps.

**John Hayes** (Pennell 1933–37) – Killed in action on 11 July 1944 in Normandy.

**Lewis George (Tim) Holtom** (Crosby 1935–38) – Landed in France the day after D-Day.

**Montague Bernard Horley** (Crosby 1930–32) – Royal Tank Regiment. Killed in action on 6 June 1944.

**Patrick Crofton Horton** (Crosby 1932–37) – Killed in action in Normandy in August 1944 while serving in the Parachute Regiment.

**Robert Alwyn Howell** (Gonville 1921–24) – Fought in the Battle of the Atlantic for over four years. On D-Day he was Senior Naval Officer in charge of a convoy which landed 10,000 men on the Normandy beaches. Killed while serving on the corvette the *Vervain* which was torpedoed off Iceland.

**Thomas Rayney Jackson** (Blackwater 1928–33) – Killed in Normandy while repairing his tank that had struck a mine.

**Lt-Col George Brian King** (Crosby 1919–23) – Served in the invasion of Normandy. Wounded in August 1944.

**Murdoch Alan Maclean** (Day Boy 1921–26) – Attached to 49th Division from D-Day until the end of the war.

**Kenneth Ohlson** (Gonville 1937–41) – After landing in Normandy in June 1944, he won the MC on 12 February 1945 (see obituary on page 78)

**Major The Revd Donald Peyton-Jones** (Gonville 1928–32) – Assistant Beach Master at Sword Beach in Normandy.

**John Carrol Romer** (School House 1925–30) – Took part in D-Day operations.

**Howard Peter Salmon** (Wargrave 1926–30) – Took part in the D-Day landings.

**David Keith Thomas** (Crosby 1927–30) – Involved in the support phase at Normandy and had been attached to the 6th Airborne Division in Italy in 1943. He went on to cross the Rhine but was later captured by the Germans.

**Richard Hawthorne Wolksel** (Blackwater 1933–37) – Killed by landmine not long after the Normandy landings.

**Colonel Laurence Hallows Worskett OBE** (Crosby 1918–21) – Awarded OBE for his part in the invasion of Normandy. He was responsible for the provision and supply of all ammunition units from the invasion of France until the end of the war.

## THE WINN BUILDING

The second phase of Project 150 was completed with the opening of the Winn Building at the beginning of the summer term.

The building, named after the College's greatest living benefactor, David Winn OBE (School 1954-59), includes a sports hall, swimming pool, squash courts, fitness suite, dance studio, dining hall, café, function rooms and kitchens, as well as a number of new classrooms. It marks the culmination of the £33 million project to bring much-needed state-of-the-art facilities in to the heart of the College campus.

Over the summer the Eastbournian Society was pleased to host a number of guided tours

of the new buildings for OEs, parents and other friends, and our visitors were overwhelmingly impressed by what they saw, expressing amazement that so much had been fitted in to what from the outside appears to be a fairly compact site. We got the same response on reunion day in September when we had to put on extra tours to cope with the demand!

If you have not yet had a chance to visit Project 150, please get in touch with the ES office and we would be happy to show you around.



An early evening shot with the reception area on the right and a new courtyard on the left, which leads through to the Dell and the Science Centre



The new open-plan reception area



The sports hall is Sport England compliant, meaning that the College can stage competitions in a variety of sports. The coloured lines on the floor denote different courts and playing areas, for badminton, basketball, football, hockey, netball, tennis and volleyball, and there are also nets and a bowling machine for cricket practice



The dance studio has a sprung floor and a ceiling recess in the middle for high ballet lifts



The full size of the fitness suite can be seen here, with weights equipment on the left and rowing machines on the right.



One corner of the fitness suite overlooks the corner of Old Wish Road and Carlisle Road

The new six-lane swimming pool has a touch-pad Swiss timing system; seating for 100 spectators is on the left





The glass skylight lets sunlight flood in to the dining hall; in the evening the ambience can be enhanced with a variety of mood lighting effects



The serving area in the dining hall where a large variety of hot and cold food is available



Tim's Café, a relaxing social space for pupils



The state-of-the-art kitchens can serve 600 in one sitting

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## THE OVER-60S LUNCH

The annual lunch for senior OEs and other members of the Eastbournian Society was held on Monday 21 May at St George's Hill Club in Weybridge.

The host was Peter Jamieson (Blackwater 1960-63), chairman of the club, and we are grateful once again for his assistance in providing such a popular venue. With a record number of attendees, perfect weather for al fresco pre-lunch drinks, and a superb meal, the occasion was much appreciated by the guests.

Peter was also the guest speaker this year, and gave a witty and interesting account of his life and career as a senior executive in the music and television industries in seven countries.



Host Peter Jamieson on the left, with Pip Kirtley, Eric Koops (Gonville 1959-63) and Keith Ross (School 1958-63)



It was perfect weather for drinks on the terrace

# Sunday Lunch

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# THE WARGRAVE ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

A special celebration lunch was held on Saturday 2 June in honour of the 130th anniversary of the founding of Wargrave House in 1888.

Wargravians young and old, together with former housemasters and house tutors, gathered in the Winn Building for a drinks reception and carvery lunch.

It was fitting that the meal took place in the newly opened Christopher Kirk-Greene function room, named after a former teacher who was house tutor in Wargrave from 1952 to 1962.

Around 90 guests attended and they also had an opportunity to look at a display of photos chronicling the history of the house from its beginnings in 1888 to the present day. Our thanks go to the College archives team for researching and mounting the exhibition.

Following the meal some of the guests were taken on a guided tour of the new buildings which make up the Project 150 development, before having a chance to look around Wargrave with the present housemaster Rob Hill.



Housemasters and tutors: from left, Liz and Nick Russell (2005–12), Charlie and Clare Bostock (1998–2005), Rob and Evie Hill (2014–present), David and Ann Charman (1985–89), John Thornley (resident tutor 1978–95), and David Stewart (1989–98)



Enjoying a pre-lunch drink



An illustrated history of Wargrave over the years was on display



A group of Wargravians who all had Alan Gardner as their housemaster; unfortunately Alan was unable to attend but passed on his best wishes



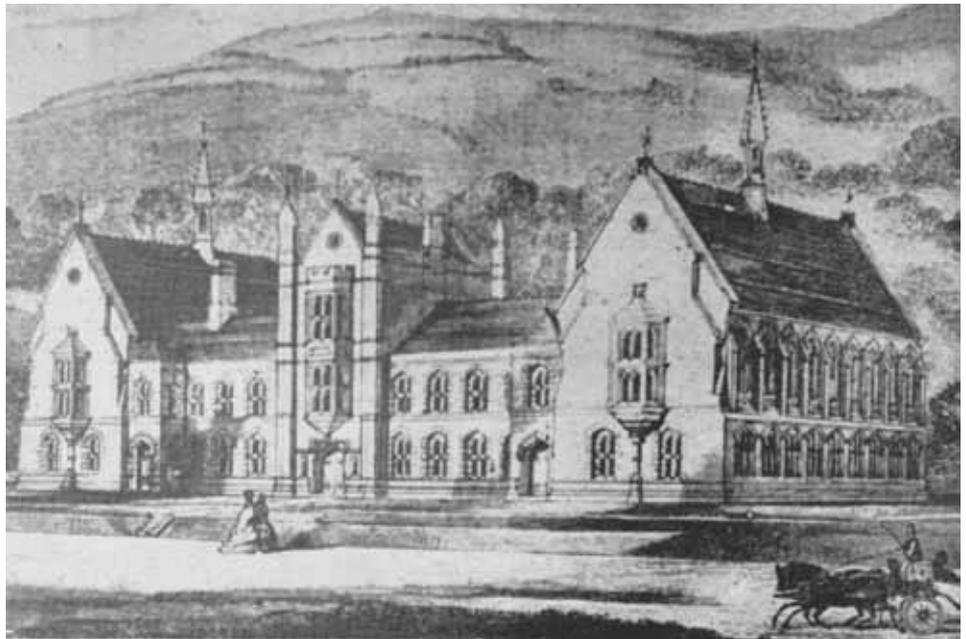
Enjoying lunch in the Christopher Kirk-Greene function room

## THE COLLEGE AS IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN

With the completion this year of Project 150, one of the largest developments ever undertaken at the College, we thought it would be interesting to look back at some other grand (and not-so-grand) schemes that were proposed but never realised.

In the late 1860s, while the College was still located in its original home in Spencer Road, the initial plan was to site a new school building on the west side of Grange Road facing the current College Field. Instead the decision was made to build on Blackwater Road and the first new school building was School House (still there today with some later additions). Houses were built on Grange Road, and these were subsequently acquired by the College, and are now occupied by staff accommodation, Reeves House, Arnold Lodge and Watt House.

In 1919, the *Eastbournian* published a drawing of the proposed Memorial Building. A modified plan was executed in the 1920s, but one element, common to both designs, was never completed. In both plans it was proposed to extend the cloisters (on a ground floor level) across the façade of Big School, now the College Theatre. If you look at the end wall of the Memorial Building closest to the College Theatre, you can see the marks on the wall where the cloisters would have continued.



The original plan for the new school building would have seen it on the west side of Grange Road, facing College Field



The same view across College Field today with, left to right, Reeves House, Arnold Lodge and Watt House



This watercolour of the Memorial Building shows the arches of the cloisters extending to the left and to the right, in front of Big School

Shortly after the outbreak of war in 1939, the school, wishing to economise, drew up a list of potential alterations to be made to College properties. One proposal was to convert Blackwater House into a central dining hall. The existing dining hall, the ground floor rooms and first floor dormitories were to be converted to dining rooms and the

kitchens extended. Only a few months later this plan was rendered obsolete as the College was evacuated to Radley.

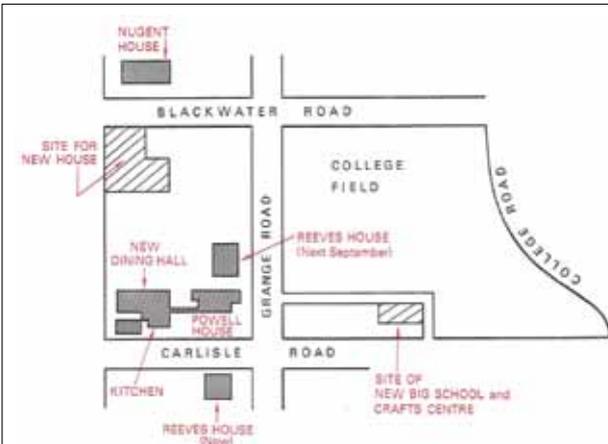
By the 1960s, big plans were afoot. As part of the centenary appeal launched in 1964 it was planned to demolish the Headmaster's House and replace it with a new assembly hall and crafts centre. The former Big School (now the

The end of the cloisters today; a small part of the brickwork between the arch and the window is not flush with the rest of the wall, showing where the cloisters could have continued to extend to the front of Big School (College Theatre) on the right



College Theatre) would then be divided in two, with the Cavendish Library on the ground floor and a reading room (which could also be used for an exams hall) on the first. The old library would then be converted into classrooms.

A new pupil house was planned for the corner of Grassington and Blackwater roads. This was designed to replace Nugent and to



A map published at the time of the centenary plans showing the position of the proposed new house on Blackwater Road which was never built

A flyer for the centenary rebuilding plans, but only the dining hall (top) was built; the new assembly hall (centre) and crafts centre (bottom) would have required the demolition of the Headmaster's House

**EASTBOURNE COLLEGE**



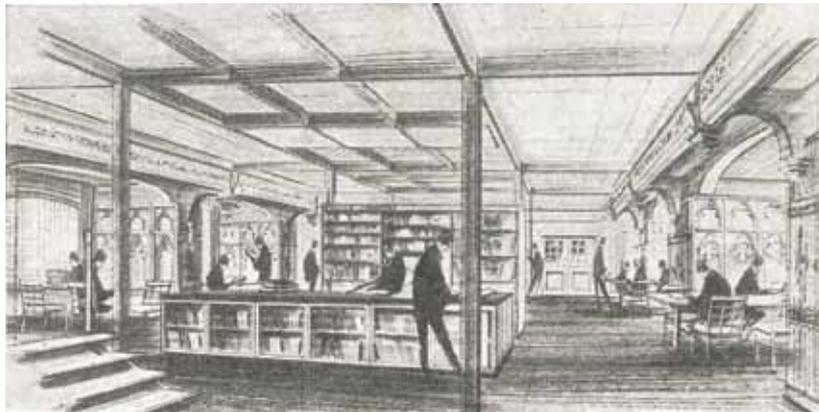
**CENTENARY**



**REBUILDING**



**CAMPAIGN**



The plan for the new library on the ground floor of Big School; the alcoves with wooden carvings can be seen at the sides



An aerial view of the 2009 proposal for extensions surrounding the old dining hall; Grassington Road runs across the top of the picture from left to right and the back of Powell House is at bottom right



The 2009 plan for new sports facilities when the old swimming pool and Rule Centre would have been retained. In fact Project 150 was much more ambitious and the Winn Building now covers the entire site up to the Birley Centre at top right

lower the numbers in School, Blackwater and Wargrave to 60 boys each. Of these initial plans, only two were executed, the new dining hall (1965) and the technical activities centre in the Wish (1968).

During the 1980s, discussions were held about the rebuilding of the old Pennell House, then at the Meads Road end of Grassington Road. Initial plans show that the College were planning to extend its property on the corner of Grange and Blackwater and locate a new Pennell there. But the plans were changed and the new Pennell finally opened in 1986 on

the site of the old Tenby Lodge on the corner of Blackwater and College roads.

In 2009, ambitious plans were announced to build a new music and arts facility to be known as the Birley Centre, which in due course opened in 2011. Alongside the project were plans to extend the old dining hall (effectively wrapping the 1965 building in a new structure) and for new sports facilities and a new teaching block to be built. The plan also proposed a retention of the 1976 swimming pool with a new sports hall, squash courts and gym built around it. Entry to the sports complex would

have been where the current entrance to the Winn Building is today. The former Masters' Lodge on Old Wish Road was to be replaced by a new block of classrooms with a foyer linking it to the College Theatre. The pavilion would have been unaffected by the 2009 plan.

Project 150 superseded these proposals, and new facilities for dining and sport were concentrated on one site (the Winn Building), with a new classroom block (the Nugee Building) and a rebuilt pavilion connected to the College Theatre by the Warren Atrium.

Paul Jordan

# FOUNDATION DAY 2018

Headmaster Tom Lawson and his wife Jess were delighted to welcome guests to the College's annual Foundation Day on Saturday 23 June.

**F**oundation Day is the College's way of saying thank you to generous benefactors and members of the Devonshire Society who have pledged to leave bequests to the school in their wills.

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.

During the reception, guests were treated to a variety of musical delights provided by current College pupils, which were greatly appreciated.

They then moved to the Christopher Kirk-Greene function rooms in the Winn Building to enjoy luncheon. Upper Sixth pupil Eleanor Chapman (Blackwater), the current beneficiary of the Trevor Pescud Award, spoke about the opportunities she has had in her two years at the College and about her plans for the future. She also thanked, on behalf of all recipients of bursary and scholarship funding, all the guests for their generosity.

Following lunch, a number of attendees took advantage of the chance to have a guided tour around the Winn and Nugee buildings, which make up the Project 150 development.



A good vantage point to watch the musicians



Luncheon in the Christopher Kirk-Greene function rooms



College pupils provided a musical interlude in the Warren Atrium

## 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.

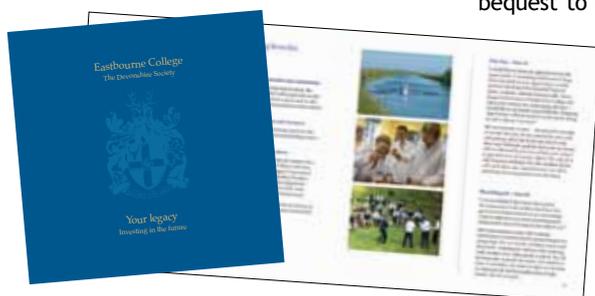
The Devonshire Society was created in 2002 and is Eastbourne College's legacy club. Bequests made to the College help fund bursaries, awards and scholarships, as well as providing funds for capital projects.

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 legacy*, a copy of which

will be sent on request. Alternatively you can download or print it from the Eastbourne Society website.

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 2018 FOUNDATION GOLF CHALLENGE

The annual Foundation Golf Challenge was held on Friday 6 July at the Royal Eastbourne Golf Club, helping to raise bursary funding for a pupil showing sporting prowess.

**E**ighteen teams took part and had an enjoyable day's golf in very hot and sunny conditions. The day had started with registration and coffee and bacon rolls before the shotgun start at 12.30pm.

The players were kept refreshed on the course with supplies of water and beer, before returning to the club house for the traditional group photo.

Prizegiving followed, with the winning team being announced as AFC. This led in to the evening dinner, during which there was a charity auction, to help raise money for the Peter Bibby Award, which provides bursary funding for a place at the College for a talented local cricketer. The total amount raised through the auction, sponsorship and entry fees was over £14,300.

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



A hot and sunny day



AFC, this year's champions, collect their prizes from Mirren Mace, Peter Bibby's daughter



## 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 Joe Pocklington, who joined Craig House in Year 9 in September 2014. In September, Joe was made joint Head of School for the 2018-19 academic year.

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.

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and David Lockyer  
John Ryley  
David Stewart  
James Tredwell  
The Twine family  
Wingrove House**

If you would like to be a sponsor or donor for the 2019 Golf Challenge please contact Christine Todd at [ctodd@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:ctodd@eastbourne-college.co.uk) or 01323 452316.

# OLD EASTBOURNIAN LODGE NO. 4946

£46 million. Quite a tidy sum – and you may well ask: ‘What has this got to do with the OE Lodge?’

Quite a lot as it happens, for this is the amount given to charity by English and Welsh Freemasons last year, with the OE Lodge members contributing some £4,000 to that total. Next to the National Lottery the Masons regularly give away more money to charity than almost any other organisation in the country, and the general public rarely hear about it. Sadly the media do not seem to be interested in our good news stories, preferring to paint us as a somewhat dubious secret society, which is far from the truth. We support hundreds

meeting in Eastbourne. Have a look at the United Grand Lodge of England website at [www.ugle.org.uk](http://www.ugle.org.uk), or the Sussex Provincial YouTube link which can be found at <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.

One of the OE Lodge’s latest donations was in August this year when Nick, who is our current

Worshipful Master in January after serving as Lodge Secretary since 2012, but only because our Senior Warden, John Cottenham passed away unexpectedly in August 2017. Although John was not an OE he may be remembered by those of you who enjoy stock car racing, as he was one of the top drivers in the country thirty to forty years ago and drove regularly at Arlington Stadium.

The Installation Meeting at the Eastbourne Masonic Centre went off as well as usual with over fifty members and their guests present, all of whom enjoyed an excellent dinner at the Cumberland Hotel following the meeting. John Thornley was able to be at this meeting for the first time for

Joey is Philip’s grandson and also the brother of Jasmine (Blackwater 2010–12). Once again Philip demonstrated his skill and expertise when it comes to masonic ritual and we all enjoyed another happy evening.

At our October meeting it was Geoff Diamond’s turn to be raised to the Third Degree, but this time the ceremony was conducted by the Worshipful Master, ably assisted by Rob Wicks. This is the longest of our masonic ceremonies and by the end of it the candidate has been made a Master Mason. This means that he is then able to move up the Masonic ladder until he becomes Master of the Lodge and we hope that both Joey and Geoff will be able to progress into the chair over the next few years.

Forbes Wastie (College staff 1961–98), Eastbourne College’s equivalent to a ‘National Treasure’, who has been as active in the OE Lodge as he has in other parts of College life, is now one of our most senior members. He was our Millennium Master and has been continually in office for the past ten years, first as Lodge Secretary and then as Lodge Almoner. Sadly he has finally decided to take a back seat as



John Thornley and Geoff Diamond (Gonville 1997–2002)



Nick presenting the cheque to Dame Jane Whiteley and Jill Parker.

of charities across the country, in particular the hospice movement, air ambulances, St John’s Ambulance, medical research and disaster relief across the world.

If you might be interested in joining this philanthropic group, 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 convivial dinner after the meeting. As we are now an open lodge we are no longer restricted to OEs and staff, but also have parents, grandparents and friends as members, with ages ranging from the twenties to the eighties.

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, with a local lodge

Worshipful Master, presented the JPK Project with a cheque for £900, which included a matched funding contribution from the Sussex Masonic Charity.

JPK is an Eastbourne charity which is building a supported living centre for adults with learning disabilities. Nick presented the cheque to Dame Jane Whiteley (formerly Gow), patron of the charity, and Jill Parker, the chairman, who is also the mother of John Parker (Reeves 1990–95).

Nick was installed as Wor-

shipful Master in January after serving as Lodge Secretary since 2012, but only because our Senior Warden, John Cottenham passed away unexpectedly in August 2017. Although John was not an OE he may be remembered by those of you who enjoy stock car racing, as he was one of the top drivers in the country thirty to forty years ago and drove regularly at Arlington Stadium.

The Lodge has been busy again this year and in June we enjoyed seeing Philip Kavanagh (Reeves 1952–55) occupying the chair, by request of the Worshipful Master, so that he could conduct Joey Williamson-Persh’s Third Degree Ceremony. For regular readers of this column you may recall that



Jasper Brown (Reeves 1980–85) with Forbes Wastie at the June meeting

he enters his ninth decade, but his influence will continue well into the future, not least in the number of new members he has introduced over the years. We will still of course be able to enjoy his company at our meetings but will miss his comprehensive reports on the health and welfare of our members and the Lodge widows.

And so on to the next year, which we hope will be as happy and fulfilling as this one. Do come and join us, share in the fun and help us to make the world a better place.



Rob Wicks (Powell 1974–79) with Philip Kavanagh

Nick Clive-Matthews

# THE 2018 OE REUNION

This year's reunion was a special one - as a means of celebrating the College's 150th anniversary, we invited Old Eastbournians and former staff from all eras to come to the school for a day of activities, culminating in a reunion dinner in the newly opened dining hall.

Over 330 people turned up throughout the day, and as well as watching 1st XV rugby on College Field (we beat King's Canterbury 32-17), guests had a chance to explore the Winn and Nugee buildings, which make up the Project 150 development.

We soon realised that the one guided tour that we had originally planned would be overwhelmed by numbers, so we laid on a number of additional ones, all of which

proved very popular.

Lunch in the new dining hall and tea in Big School (College Theatre) also attracted many visitors, and we were pleased to see so many taking advantage of extended opening hours at the school shop, where they could buy 150th anniversary merchandise and College clothing and gifts.

An exhibition of 150 years of College history, prepared by the archives team, was

on display throughout the day and evening in the dining hall.

Following an evening Chapel service, over 225 guests came to the drinks reception and dinner. After a welcome from Eastbournian Society Director David Stewart there were speeches from Headmaster Tom Lawson and ES Chairman Hugh Price.

At the end of the meal, there was a surprise thank you from OE Alan Roberts, who told us that, as he is profoundly deaf, he had been unable to hear the other speeches, but wanted to tell everybody how much he had thoroughly enjoyed the day, a sentiment that was echoed by many others who gave him a rousing round of applause.



Headmaster Tom Lawson welcomes the guests to the evening dinner



OEs and partners from the late 80s and early 90s



Former staff and OEs meet on College Field



Donald Perrens (College staff 1946-81) at the front, with Michael Tripp (School 1951-55), Carol Wines, Pip Kirtley, David Burston (Ascham staff 1970-77) and Patrick Coulcher (Reeves 1950-54)



In the dining hall at lunchtime, part of the archives display of 150 years of College history



Alan Roberts (Gonville 1946-51) with Lulu Brown during the dinner



Alan Mornement (Gonville 1955-61), John Wilmot (School 1954-59), Peter Higton (Pennell 1949-53), Maggie Higton and David Thomson (Gonville 1955-60)

# ARCHIVE VISITORS AND ENQUIRIES

The College archives receives a number of enquiries and visitors each year. Here are just a few that we have dealt with in 2018.

## Nigel Rose

Nigel Rose (Blackwater 1954–59) and his wife Carole visited the College in October. They were given a tour of the Winn Building and also came into the archives. Nigel spent time looking through his own file and images of Blackwater House groups. He later very kindly emailed copies of some of his own photos including one of Donald Perrens flying a glider, a CCF guard of honour for Prince Bernhardt of the Netherlands and photos of a College production of *The Ghost Train*.

## The Korean War

Dr Jade Lee visited us in June to explain her project to acknowledge the lives of British veterans of the Korean War. She was particularly interested in the College life of David Hockridge (School

1946–51). David was serving in Korea as part of his national service and was killed in action in 1952. An article about David appears on page 42 in this magazine. We showed her house photos and took her to the chapel where a wooden plaque commemorates his death. We also showed her the plaque in the Memorial Tower which includes his name.

## The Halford Hewitt golf tournament

Chris Walker (1968–73) came to the archives in November to research the names of OEs who had played in the Halford Hewitt golf tournament. The OE College team first played for the cup in 1932. During the research we found that a couple of OEs had won a Halford Hewitt cup in 1971 but for skiing rather than golf!

## The Merton Brothers

Serena Merton contacted us about the Merton brothers, both OEs. She is writing a book about her great uncle by marriage, Cecil Merton (Gonville 1921–27) and his brother, Walter Merton (Gonville 1919–23).

## Arthur Montague Hepworth

Arthur Montague Hepworth MC was a boy in Blackwater 1899–1904. We were recently approached by the Marlow Rowing Club, where Hepworth was a member, and who were planning a memorial to their members who died in the First World War. Hepworth had coxed the Town Cup Four at the Marlow Regatta in 1897.

In 1914 he had enlisted in the Queen's (West Surrey) Regi-

ment. He served in the Gallipoli campaign in 1915 in the landing at Sulva Bay and the battle of Chocolate Hill; he was wounded and awarded the Military Cross with a mention in despatches. He then served in Egypt as an acting captain. In September 1917 he transferred to the Royal Flying Corps and was posted to 113 Squadron based in Palestine. On 4 May 1918 while flying a Nieuport Scout on a reconnaissance mission he was shot down in combat and lost his life. He was buried at Ramleh (now Ramla) cemetery which is now in Israel.

## Eastbourne Local History Society

In August we hosted a visit by the Eastbourne Local History Society. The group were shown the older parts of the College including the chapel and Larkfield (now part of School House) and finished the tour with a look around the newly completed Winn Building.



## Chris Brangwin

Chris Brangwin visited the College in June, the first time since 1946, and was accompanied by his wife Jenelle. He attended Ascham on an informal basis while his father was based at HMS *Marlborough* (the Royal Navy occupied most of the College site from 1942 to 1947) and was made an honorary OE in recognition of his time here.

Jenelle had been a school librarian and was introduced to Phil Martin at the LRC. Later in the tour, they met Rob Hill, Housemaster of Wargrave, where Chris was based (when the house was used as a temporary overflow for Ascham) and Chris regaled us with memories of his time there.

Chris and Jenelle Brangwin



## Duncan Ferguson

Duncan and his wife Beverley visited the College in March 2018 to see the stained glass window and memorial plaques dedicated to his uncle James Duncan Ferguson (Gonville 1907–12). Duncan's father Henry (Gonville 1907–14) later became a member of the College Council.

The window in the chapel depicting Sir Galahad was gifted by James's parents in 1917, a year after he was killed in action during the First World War. They also provided another window, again with the Sir Galahad motif, to the Manor Road Presbyterian Church, Stoke Newington, London, where both they and James had worshipped. Unfortunately, the window was destroyed during the Second World War and the church was demolished in the late 1960s. James is also remembered on the plaques in the Memorial Tower and on a marble plaque in the chapel.

Duncan Ferguson by the College war memorial bearing his uncle's name



Brian Cleave with the scrapbooks he donated

## Brian Cleave

Brian Cleave (Powell 1953–58) visited the archives in September and very kindly donated three scrapbooks which had been compiled by him during his time at Ascham and the College. They provide a fascinating snapshot of College life, covering such events as the All Blacks' visit in 1953, College plays and the 1957 CCF flypast over College Field.

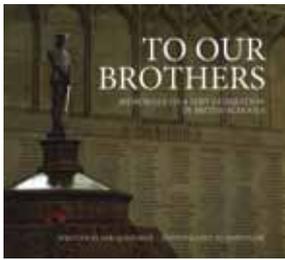


The Revd James Wood, the College's first headmaster

### The Reverend James Wood

In September 2018, Nicholas Howell of the Eastbourne Society, the local heritage organisation, visited the archives. The Eastbourne Heritage Centre is currently reorganising its own archives and Nicholas was seeking our advice. Nicholas, in a casual remark, asked if we had ever had a member of the Beatson family (his mother's maiden name) attend the College. Through further checking, it came to light not only that a family member

had come to the College but that Nicholas was related – through the Beatsons – to the Revd James Russell Wood, the College's first headmaster.



### To Our Brothers

Sarah Wearne, archivist of Abington School, came to the College in June with her colleague, James Kerr, to record and photograph the school's First World War memorials. She was compiling the information for a forthcoming book, now published, entitled *To Our Brothers – Memorials*

to a Lost Generation in British Schools. The College's entry merits four pages and includes a description of the plaques in the Memorial Building tower and the stained glass windows, designed by Mary Lowndes, in the College chapel.



Ian and Liz Green

### Ian Green

Ian Green and his wife Liz visited the College in February 2018. Following a tour of the school, Ian kindly presented the archives with a number of objects which had belonged to his grandfather, Ronald Edwin Green (Blackwater 1902-03). These included a badge from his blazer, pencil sketches of the school and Eastbourne and a snap-shot album which included some delightful images of the College gymkhana.



Some of the photos and the blazer badge donated by Ian Green

### Stephen Foot

Stephen Foot, himself an OE, played a significant part in the recovery and development of the school following the First World War, particularly as the College's first bursar and careers master. He felt strongly that for the sake of the boys he should play a number of roles: 'parent, teacher, friend and father confessor'. In October we were approached by Christopher Mann for information about Foot's life. We supplied him with a photo and numerous pages from our files. Only later did he reveal that his mother, Barbara Southam, was Foot's niece, and that Stephen Foot was his great uncle. Christopher showed the photo and material on Foot's life to his mother who, he says, burst into tears when she saw it. He also introduced us to a website – [www.reubique.com/foot.htm](http://www.reubique.com/foot.htm) – produced by a retired American Colonel, Edward De Santis, which describes Stephen's life in extraordinary detail but which scarcely mentions his time at the College. We have had an amiable correspondence with the Colonel and sent him lots of material which he will use to update the website. Previous articles about Stephen Foot appeared in the *Old Eastbournian* in 2009 and 2014.



### Anthony Mitchell

Tony Baker contacted us about his research into an OE, Anthony Mitchell (Pennell 1942-45). A constable in the Palestine Police Force, Anthony was killed during a Tel Aviv bank raid in 1947. We were able to supply Tony with information about Anthony's College career and send him a photo of the plaque in the Memorial Building which records his name. Anthony's brother, John, also attended the College (Pennell 1939-41).



Anthony Mitchell is commemorated in the Memorial Hall at the College, as is David Hockridge (see Korean War item opposite)

### Golf in 1950

James Sellick (Wargrave 1948-52) sent us this photo of a group of College boys at the Royal Eastbourne golf course in 1950, who had taken part in the first game of golf for pupils after the war. An accompanying newspaper clipping from the *Eastbourne Gazette* says that golf was now a recognised sport at the College, but that a planned Adults v Juniors match at the club had been cancelled because of a rule forbidding College boys to play organised games on a Sunday.



# THANK YOU, THANK YOU AND THANK YOU AGAIN

Since the Winn Building opened for business in April a great many of you have seen for yourselves the transformative impact that Project 150 has had on the College. It was wonderful to see so many of you from across the generations at the reunion in September and again at the Winter Ball; the culmination of the 150 anniversary celebrations. The new facilities lend themselves to a range and quality of events that have not been possible before and we look forward to welcoming you to such occasions in the future. Thank you so much to the 1000 plus of you who have contributed so generously to the successful fundraising campaign and who have helped make this possible. The completed project is a very visible and tangible example of how teamwork and the loyalty of the Eastbournian Society community can achieve great things. By supporting the College we can make a real difference to the quality of education the school provides and to the lives of current and future generations of Eastbournians - bravo!

The Foundation's focus now inevitably turns towards funding for bursaries. We want to be able to help as many talented children as possible who otherwise would not be able to enjoy a College education. Due to the strength of our A-level provision there have never been so many local boys and girls from the Eastbourne area wanting to join in the sixth form. As a result the demand for funded or partly-funded places has never been so strong.



Eleanor Chapman (Blackwater 2016–18), the recipient of the Trevor Pescud Award, with Graham Robinson, executor of Trevor's will, on Foundation Day

Thanks to the very generous legacy of James Groves (Pennell 1949-54) a girl who started in September in the Lower Sixth is the first beneficiary of the 'Sevorg' Award. A boy in the Lower Sixth is also the first recipient of the Grand Hotel Rotherwick Foundation award and this year 14 pupils will be supported through the Foundation. Our aim is to grow this number year by year. Eleanor Chapman, the first recipient of the Trevor Pescud Award, left in the summer and is now on a tennis scholarship in the USA, and Joe Pocklington, holder of the Peter Bibby Award, is this year's

Head of School. The pupils who benefit from these awards give back an immediate return on the investment in them and are tremendous ambassadors for the College.

During the course of 2019 we will be re-launching the Devonshire Society; those who bequeath a legacy to the Charity in their will. In an increasingly volatile and unpredictable political and economic environment this is the way that members of the Eastbournian Society can help future-proof a College education from the risks presented by the financial headwinds. The stronger our community, the stronger and more able the school will be to ride out these challenges. And after all the school has survived and thrived for the last 150 years during more even challenging times. At key moments in the past, key people have made critically important contributions and that is why the names of Powell, Reeves, Nugent, Rule and now Nugee and Winn, will continue to be part of the College's vocabulary.

Thanks to all those who volunteer and contribute to make the Eastbournian Society what it is today. To those of you who encourage friends to come together and enjoy our events please continue to do so. In 2019, and as we celebrate 50 years of girls at the College, we hope to recruit as many female OEs as possible to our events. However we need year group leaders who are willing to play the role of recruiting sergeants! Please do get in touch if you would like to gather a group of friends and the annual London dinner at the Waldorf and the summer lunch in the Chris Kirk-Greene function rooms will be special occasions.

Finally thanks to the fabulous team here in the office who keep all the plates spinning and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in 2019.

**David Stewart**  
Director of the Foundation and the  
Eastbournian Society



Ben Twine (Craig 2013-17), Joe Pocklington (Craig, Upper Sixth), Mirren Mace (daughter of Peter Bibby) and David Stewart at the Foundation Golf Challenge in July. Ben and Joe are both Peter Bibby Award recipients

# HAPPY IOOTH DONALD!



Donald's daughter Pip Kirtley helps him blow out the ten candles on his birthday cake - one for each decade!

**W**g Cdr Donald Perrens DSO OBE DFC was 100 on 1 January 2019, and the following week he enjoyed a special celebratory lunch at the College as the guest of Headmaster Tom Lawson and his wife Jess.

We were delighted to pass on a large number of cards and congratulatory emails that had been received in the ES office from Old Eastbournians and former staff worldwide.

Donald was appointed to the College staff by Headmaster John Nugee in 1939 but the Second World War intervened before he could finally take up his post in 1946. He was on the staff until 1981, during which time he ran the RAF section of the CCF before becoming commanding officer in 1954.

He was also at various times head of science, housemaster of Blackwater, acting headmaster and second master in the early 1970s, as well as a coach for tennis and hockey.

In the war Donald was initially commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment in 1940 and posted to France with the British Expeditionary Force, but managed to escape on one of the last allied boats to leave Cherbourg. By November 1941 he had transferred to the Royal Air Force and, after basic flying training, went with 225 Squadron to North Africa, where he provided reconnaissance support during the Tunisian campaign.

Later the squadron moved



Present at the lunch, with Donald at the front, were, left to right: Col Anthony Lamb MBE DL VR, Contingent Commander of the CCF; David Stewart, Director of the Eastbournian Society; David Winn OBE (School 1954-59), President of the Eastbournian Society; Jess Lawson; Headmaster Tom Lawson; Pip Kirtley; and Forbes Wastie MBE, College staff 1961-98 and Contingent Commander of the CCF 1968-73

to Sicily, then by the winter of 1944-45 he was flying Spitfires with 208 Squadron, based near Florence. During a reconnaissance mission near Bologna Donald's plane was hit by enemy fire and he managed to crash-land in the allies' forward defence lines, where he was dragged from the wreckage with a fractured spine and skull. After hospital treat-

ment he returned to operational duty in March 1945, shortly before the end of the war.

Donald has been a regular visitor to the College in recent years and has been particularly interested in the Project 150 development, the culmination of many changes he has witnessed in his 80-year association with the school.

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# MICHAEL HOCKRIDGE

## AN OE CASUALTY FROM THE KOREAN WAR

By Michael Partridge

The war in Korea began on 25 June 1950 when 75,000 North Korean troops poured over the 38th parallel into South Korea to impose communism on their neighbours. David Michael Hockridge (School 1946-51), always known as Michael, was one of 90,000 British service personnel sent to support the American-led UN forces in the peninsula. Many, some say a majority, of those 90,000 were national servicemen, including Michael.

National service, or peacetime conscription, was begun in the UK in 1949 when healthy males 17 to 21 years of age were required to serve in the armed services for 18 months, later raised to two years. This only ceased in 1957.

A number of others who served in Korea will have been OEs, all now 80+ years of age. British deaths in the war were 1,078 and more than 1,000 British servicemen fell into enemy hands, some never to return. 2,600 were wounded. The war ended on 27 July 1953.

Commissioned into the Sherwood Foresters on 4 August 1951, Michael Hockridge served as a 2nd Lieutenant with the 1st Battalion the Royal Leicestershire Regiment in Hong Kong and then Korea. He died of wounds while on patrol in Korea on 6 February 1952, aged 20. First buried in the UN military cemetery at Tanggok in Korea, his final resting place is in the UN cemetery at Pusan, Plot 23, Row 11, Grave no 1679. His Report of Interment states that he was wounded by a missile in the right shoulder and his upper right arm. He weighed



The memorial to British soldiers killed in the Korean War is in the Victoria Embankment Gardens in London and was unveiled in December 2014; it is a bronze statue with a Portland stone obelisk on a Welsh slate base and was a gift from the Government of South Korea



Michael Hockridge in the 2nd XV in 1949

ten stone and was 5ft 9ins tall. It goes on to say that he was wearing a field jacket, a wool OD shirt, a wool OD sweater, a pair of field trousers, a pair of combat shoes and a pair of woollen socks.

Born in November 1931, Michael was the son of Harry Hockridge and his wife of Reading in Berkshire. He joined the College in Lent 1946 and soon made a name for himself on the rugby field. A Stag in 1950, he was renowned for his tackling and falling, throwing himself at the feet of opponents. He became a school prefect in 1950 and was a close friend and colleague of Beresford Parlett (School 1946-51), now Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley.

Beresford remembers Michael well and writes: 'Michael was a free spirit who joined the ranks of the prefects for, I think, our last two years at school. He was fair, good looking and fearless. He was musical, played the organ and had a quick intelligence. My memory says that he was studying the classics (that already makes him special) and was destined for Oxford. However he was no bookworm and did not study more than needed. I admired his carefree style more than I admitted. Skills seemed to come easily to him. As a prefect, he would often come into the house late, around 11.00pm, having spent the evening across the road in Clovelly Cottage with Vin Allom, a College teacher. Billy Bett [his housemaster] never caught him. I also remember him fooling around in the chapel when he was 'playing the organ'. Allom later told me how much he loved Michael and how devastated he was by Michael's death. Michael left school to do his military service a little before I did. Those who knew him well recalled his fearlessness that bordered on recklessness'.

Michael Partridge (Blackwater 1946-51) writes: 'He was a good friend of mine (unusual for boys in different houses) and we captained Mr Allom's Erratics (3rd XI) cricket team together in 1951. He would bowl something akin to 'donkey drops' with surprising success. He was a great friend or protégé of Mr Allom's and we were both taken out to dinner at Chez Maurice in Seaside at the close of the cricket season. As a rugby player he was the bravest, whether tackling or throwing himself onto the ball to halt a dribble by the opposition. We played 1st XV rugby together in 1950.'

John Peck (School 1946-51) writes: 'Michael and I entered School House on 9 January 1946, together with Alexander James (Wargrave & School 1946-49) and John True (School 1946-

50). The house at that time occupied the Wargrave building, because the Navy still occupied School House. Our housemaster was a kind and popular gentleman, 'Aggy' Belk. Within days Michael and I were in the choir and choral society. Initially I was not a good music reader, but Michael had been at New College Oxford Prep where he had been head chorister, and possessed a treasured recording of himself as a young treble singing the solo in *O, for the wings of a dove*. Needless to say his voice was very good, his reading quick, and an inspiration to us all, especially me. We both became tenors and sang side by side for most of the rest of our time, becoming founder members of the Glee Club which specialised in madrigals and songs for small groups. Vin Allom was also a member. About 1948/49 Michael took up the euphonium when I started French horn, playing in the house orchestra (for prayers) and the school orchestra together.

In May 1946 School House moved back home. Sadly Mr Belk died on 31 May; I remember crying at the news. In the junior dormitory Michael and I had adjoining beds. His was immediately under a window through which the street light cast a bright rectangle onto the opposite wall. Using his fingers he would create lively puppet silhouettes complete with voice-over commentary to entertain us. A simple but happy memory.

On the rugby field he was totally fearless, his tackles always seemed to be round the ankles. I can see him now, slightly crouching to launch himself, mud all over his knees and body, some blood on his face, a weary determination, no smile. They shall not pass me! - they rarely did.



The memorial plaque to Hockridge in the UN cemetery in Pusan

Was he insensitive to pain? In School House we made frequent use of the Dennys Library. (We were always impressed by the remains of a Second World War German cannon shot on one of the interior walls). We played a dice-type cricket game called Howzat and talked and challenged each other. Suddenly Michael decided to test his own ability to stand pain. He produced a razor blade and proceeded to cut lines across the back of his hands. With blood flowing he fortunately decided to stop before severing his tendons, talking calmly throughout.

When I left Eastbourne I lost contact with my contemporaries and did not know of Michael's death until 1954/55 when I met Chris Roper (School 1946-50) on a London station, who told me. Coincidentally I had a great aunt who lived at Reading who went to the same church as the Hockridges and knew



1st XV rugby in 1950, left to right: Ian Cazalet (Gonville 1947-51) at extreme left of photo, Christopher Harding (Gonville 1947-50), Michael Hockridge, Ian Symington (Pennell 1947-51), Robin Ginner (Blackwater 1946-51), John Cooper (School 1947-51), John Kelly (Powell 1947-51), Beresford Parlett (School 1946-51), Julian Hill (Pennell 1946-51), Giles Langton (School 1947-51) (hidden), Michael Partridge (Blackwater 1946-51), David Arnold (Blackwater 1946-50), Roger Carter (Gonville 1946-52)

the family. The loss of their only child was of course devastating and they did not survive themselves for many years.

Michael's name is recorded in the College chapel, in the Memorial Hall, and on one of the highest panels of the 1952 section of the memorial wall at the National Arboretum. We go every couple of years, and I think of a fine young man, always kind and a good friend to me. It was my privilege and good fortune to have known him.'

His obituary in the *Old Eastbournian* carried an anonymous and moving tribute, almost certainly written by Mr Allom: 'Michael Hockridge will always be remembered by all who were at school with him for his remarkable courage, and for that true honesty which refuses to let a man blind himself to his own faults. Many may have thought that he was peculiarly insensitive to pain, and that fear was unknown to him; those of us who were privileged to be his friends know that he suffered from the same frailties as the rest of us, and that his courage was but the fruit of a lifetime endeavour to overcome them. But besides courage he possessed loyalty and devotion, and it was this, perhaps, more than anything else that enabled him to achieve his ambitions on the football field though not a very skilful player. The lessons which his friends have learned from him in his life will help them to bear his death; for, as one looks back, one can see that all the time he was in training to die nobly.'

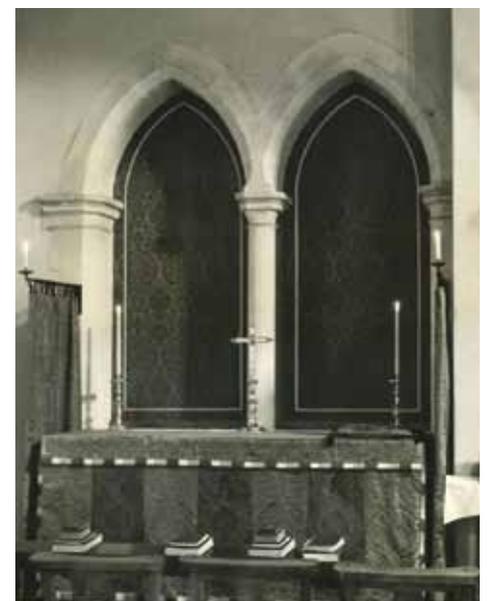
Peter Homburger (School 1942-47) served in Korea with the US Forces in a non-combatant role, having been assigned to a camp at Yong Dong Po about 10 miles from Seoul. In May 1952 he wrote to the *Eastbournian* from Korea, underlining the cohesiveness and collaboration demonstrated by the several diverse groups of soldiers from the Commonwealth, South America and the Middle East who were serving there. He closed with a short paragraph:

'Michael Hockridge will always live in the hearts of his parents and friends. His memory will always be honoured by his house, his College and his country. His sacrifice will stir the hearts of men of all countries, creeds and colours to a renewed fight for the freedoms for which he laid down his life. His soul will live eternally with his God, who also gave His life as a sacrifice. In the words of a famous battle hymn:

*As He died to make men holy  
Let us die to make men free  
While God is marching on.'*

On Sunday 20 June 1954 The Bishop of Chichester dedicated a new altar in the north aisle of the College chapel. This remembered not only Michael but also John Vincent (Wargrave 1944-49) who was killed on 20 August 1952 while flying a Canberra jet bomber. Sadly the altar has been removed and there is now a plaque recording the deaths of these two OEs.

*Note: In May 2018 we were contacted by Dr Jade Lee, a professor from Korea, who is the mother of a pupil at the College. It was through this connection and her interest in UK soldiers who had taken part in the Korean War that the story of Michael Hockridge came to light. We are extremely grateful to her for providing us with additional information regarding Michael's death in Korea.*



The altar in the College chapel that was dedicated to the memory of Hockridge and John Vincent

## SOCIAL GATHERINGS



### A London get-together

Iqbal Gelu writes: Jon and Gaby Thompson arrived in the UK this summer on their biennial visit and a few of us got together in London where, as usual during Jon's visits, the champagne flowed. Left to right around the table: Wayne Morris (Pennell 1963-68), Iqbal Gelu (Pennell 1964-69,) Tony Muskat (Blackwater 1965-70), Richard Haining (School 1964-68), Jon Thompson (Blackwater 1962-67), Gaby Thompson, Olga Barr and Jonnie Barr (Wargrave 1963-68).



### Meeting in Malawi

Iqbal Gelu met up with Toby Lewis-Donaldson (Gonville 2003-08) and his wife Grace in Lilongwe, Malawi, where Toby works. They were joined by Tom Rickaby, a doctor and good friend of Toby who was volunteering at the main hospital in Lilongwe at the time. Left to right: Tom, Toby, Grace and Iqbal.

### New Zealand reunion



Nigel Betts (Gonville 1961-66) was disappointed to miss the 2018 London dinner where his house contemporary Maurice Trapp (Gonville 1962-67) was the guest speaker. Nigel is on a two-year round-the-world sailing trip (the Oyster Yachts World Rally 2017-19), but on Easter Sunday he was able to catch up with Maurice in New Zealand. Nigel told us: 'Fortunately we were able to meet up at the Man O' War beach on Waiheke Island where Maurice lives a few days before I continued on my sailing circumnavigation. Wine was not available in single bottles so we had to get through a magnum. Very fitting for a 52 year reunion! It was a lovely day catching up on old times.'



### Thompsons at The Tiger

Another get-together for the Thompsons during their summer visit was at the Tiger Inn in East Dean, when a few OEs met up with Jon and Gaby and their children and grandchildren. Back row, left to right: Jenny Muskat, Andrea Barr (wife of Nick Barr), Jonnie Barr, Charlotte Thompson (Nugent 1988-90, wife of Jason Thompson), Jason Thompson (Powell 1984-89,

son of Jon), Fiona Thompson, Gaby Thompson, Wayne Morris, Jake Thompson, Elliot Mitchell, Imogen Mitchell, Miranda Mitchell (Jon's daughter), Will Mitchell, Arabella Mitchell and Tony Muskat; front row: Jon Thompson and Iqbal Gelu with Max, the dog.

### Four Families and Other Animals

Jenny Trott (Nugent 1988-90), who is married to Craig Trott (Powell 1983-88), wrote to us in February: 'Craig and I remain good friends with three other OEs and their families, and try to meet up regularly. In 2017 all four families met up in August in Fort William where most of the group walked up Ben Nevis, and then later in the year we all spent Christmas together. With seven children and three dogs between us there is always a lot of laughter, dog walks and good food.'

At Fort William, back row, left to right: Jenny Trott (née Edwards), Charlie Moon, Julian Hodgson, Izzy Hodgson, Craig Trott, James Deasy (Powell 1983-88), Rosie Hodgson, Julia Hodgson (née Harrison) (Nugent 1986-88), Charlotte Deasy, Richard Moon (Wargrave 1983-88), Ilsa Moon; front row: Billy Moon, James Trott, Emma Deasy; dogs: Lilly Hodgson, Lola Trott, Dave Deasy



At the Eastbourne parkrun two days before Christmas 2017, back row, left to right: Craig Trott, Ilsa Moon, Charlotte Deasy, Izzy Hodgson, Julia Hodgson, Rosie Hodgson, Charlie Moon, James Deasy, Richard Moon, Lilly Hodgson the dog, Chloe Trott, Jenny Trott; front row: Dave Deasy the dog, James Trott, Julian Hodgson



### Hannah Butler wedding

Hannah Butler (Blackwater 2001-06) married Douglas Matthews at Birling Manor on Saturday 4 August 2018. Alex Tuttielt (née Flavell) (Blackwater 2001-06) was maid of honour, together with three other bridesmaids, including Hannah's sister, Lydia (Blackwater 2011-16). The photo shows Ellie Ramsey (née Furber) (School 2001-06), Maria Henty (Blackwater 2001-06), Charlotte Courtney (Blackwater 2002-06), Hannah, Katie Gann (née Evens) (Blackwater 2001-06), Alex and Lauren Ions (Blackwater 2001-06). Laura Clarke (Nugent 2001-06) was also at the party and Ollie Clarke (Craig 2001-06) sang during the ceremony.



## Lewis-Donaldson/ Rimmer wedding

Harry Rimmer (Craig 1999–2004) married Nathalie Lewis-Donaldson (School 2001–06) at St George's Church, Brede, near Rye on Saturday 18 August 2018. The couple met at Eastbourne College in 2001 aged just 13 and 15 and have



been together ever since! There were a great many Old Eastbournians in attendance, with Alex Rimmer (Craig 1998–2003) as best man, Joe Horton (Wargrave 1998–2003), Aaron Saunders (Craig 2003–08) and Toby Lewis-Donaldson (Gonville 2003–08) among the groomsmen and Georgina Gibbs (School 2001–06) among the bridesmaids. Pictured are, left to right, Aaron Saunders, Joe Horton, Alex Rimmer, Melanie Wesdorp (not an OE), Georgina Gibbs, Nathalie, Harry, Krisztina Lupis (not an OE), Grace Lewis-Donaldson (not an OE), Toby Lewis-Donaldson, Ben Lewis-Donaldson (not an OE) and Oliver Lewis-Donaldson (not an OE).



## The Oriental Club

A number of OEs got together for a lunch at the Oriental Club in London on Thursday 25 October, among them three successive heads of Pennell House: Michael Dix (Pennell 1957–62), Bob Rogers (Pennell 1957–61) and Paddy Geoghegan (Pennell 1956–61).



## The Mole Club

The Mole Club, a group of OEs who left School House in the early 1960s, has met every year since for a meal at the Royal Society of Medicine in Wimpole Street, London. This year they met for lunch on Tuesday 6 November. One of the attendees, Peter Woods, told us that although numbers were down on previous years he expects more to attend in 2019. Left to right are Dougal Graham (School 1957–61), Robert Gabriel (School 1957–62), Keith Ross (School 1958–63), Peter Woods (School 1957–62), Hywel Thomas (School 1957–62) and Chris Buckland (School 1956–61).



## Lunch for 1996 leavers

A group of 1996 leavers met for lunch with David Stewart at the Heddon Street Kitchen in London on Thursday 22 November. Left to right are Ben Pielow (Gonville 1991–96), David Stewart, Nick Gebbie (Wargrave 1991–96), Chris Keane (Wargrave 1991–96), Mark Ackred (Pennell 1991–96) and Simon Cockcroft (Wargrave 1991–96).

## Sydney lunch

A lunch for OEs in Australia was held at the Occidental Hotel pub in Sydney on Thursday 29 November. Pictured



are, left to right, Tony Booth (School 1957–61), James Crowther (Gonville 1997–2000), Richard Duncan (Wargrave 1978–83), Hugh Mappleback (Wargrave 1974–79), Rupert Bairamian (School 1975–80), Martin Benge (School 1957–61) and Sam Miller (School 1960–65). Also present at the lunch were John Penn (Pennell 1949–52) and Kenneth Raphael (School 1957–62). Sam tells us that it was a smallish but fun affair, enjoyed by all. Unfortunately Tony Hilton (Blackwater 1955–60) was unable to join them as he was recovering from a major operation but the group wished him a speedy recovery.



## 1979 reunion lunch

On 22 November a group of 1979 leavers and others in that cohort met at The Surprise, a gastropub in Chelsea, which has become the popular venue for their annual get-together. Pictured are, left to right around the table, Ted Young (Blackwater 1974–79), Sarah Simpson (Nugent 1977–79), Kiu Samii (Pennell 1974–79), Richard Schofield (School 1974–77), standing: Tim Ashley (Pennell 1974–79), Chris Porter (Gonville 1974–79) and Caroline Fraser (Nugent 1974–79), behind (seated) Bill Baxter (Gonville 1974–79), Steven Crawshaw (Craig 1974–79), Rosalind Hall (Nugent 1977–79), Mark Jackson (School 1975–77) (hidden) and Jane Hole (Nugent 1977–79).

## BANKING, BROKING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT NETWORKING

The financial services networking event for OEs, parents and current pupils was held on Wednesday 10 October.

It focused specifically on the banking, broking and asset management sectors, and professional services firms serving those sectors.

We are grateful to OE and College governor Darren Meek (Blackwater 1982–87) for once again hosting the event at the offices of PwC near London Bridge.

The guest speaker was Mark Ackred (Pennell 1991–96), co-founder and CEO of Dabbl, the new mobile app which allows potential investors to make cost-effective investments in the companies behind the brands that they see every day. Dabbl has



recently been selected as part of the UK trade mission to San Francisco, one of only five companies chosen.

As well as hearing from Mark, current

pupils were able to chat about career prospects with those in the financial world and gain some useful insights into the professions involved.

## Beautiful farmhouse in Tuscany



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## INSURANCE NETWORKING

The Eastbournian Society held a networking event focusing on the insurance industry on Wednesday 14 November.



Thomas Morris (Reeves, Year 12), Henry Williams (Wargrave 2001–06), Jodie Adoki (School 1997–2002), David Sibree, Pip Canning (College teacher) and William Wilson (Wargrave, Year 12)

The evening get-together was held at Davy's at Plantation Place in the City of London, and gave current pupils, Old Eastbournians and parents a chance to meet and discuss careers in insurance.

The guest speaker was David Sibree (Pennell 1969–74), board director of Alwen Hough Johnson, an independent re-insurance broker, who has some 35 years' experience of the industry. In an inspiring talk, David spoke about the importance of developing good working relationships, and stressed that trust and integrity were a vital part of building a successful and profitable career in insurance.

A number of pupils travelled up from Eastbourne to take advantage of the chance to learn more about the industry.

# THE COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Michael Partridge has retired from the post of College archivist and now works in the archives as a volunteer. He continues to research and compile the obituaries and other feature articles in the OE magazine.

**P**aul Jordan took over as archivist in September, working 20 hours a week. Volunteers Pat Larkin and OEs David Atkins and Peter Durrant continue their excellent work carrying out research and day-to-day archives admin.

Since February, the archives team has created an exhibition for the Wargrave lunch, which was well received, and for the reunion in September the 150th exhibition was set up (with updated panels). The TV screen in main reception was used to show a variety of photos from the college's history and OEs seemed particularly to enjoy looking through and taking away free copies of surplus *Eastbournian* magazines that were on display in Big School. For Foundation Day, panels were created to celebrate benefaction at the College.

The archives made a considerable contribution to the 3D video mapping show held on 2 and 3



The archives team: David Atkins (Gonville 1949–54), Pat Larkin, Michael Partridge (Blackwater 1946–51), Paul Jordan and Peter Durrant (Reeves 1967–71)

November by providing many historic images of the College buildings, activities, staff and former pupils. The work of the archives was also demonstrated in the film shown before the main show took place.

Our Service@School student, Adam St Paul, completed his project on Rugby Stags and another pupil, Abi Planterose, transcribed details of Nugent leavers from a ledger which dated from the 1970s and 80s. Abi Disu has joined us this September and is working on a project about the history of the College.

A number of surplus copies of the *Eastbournian* will also be archived at the Keep (East Sussex

archives in Falmer, near Brighton).

Digitisation of the collection continues and within the next year, photographs and scanned copies of the *Eastbournian* should be available to access on the internet, so allowing greater access to the College's history.

David Walsh from Tonbridge School contacted the archives asking if we would complete a questionnaire about former OEs and College teachers who served in the Second World War. We were able to provide him with a list including information about their decorations and actions. David is hoping to publish a book containing this information together with facts from other public

schools. This led to the discovery of OE Henry Klug whose life story appears on page 54.

We were also contacted by the HMC (Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference) asking if we would contribute to their 150th anniversary pamphlet. In response to their enquiry we provided a list of books, pamphlets and magazines which cover aspects of the College's history and which have been written by OEs, teaching staff and the College.

As well as contributing articles to this magazine we are also gathering information for an exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of girl pupils at the College, to be held in 2019.

## Donations and acquisitions 2018

**Bob Barnard** (Wargrave 1958–63)

Photos of Adrian Pettman (1958–63) on the Crumbles and of the Wargrave Rifle Team of 1962. Also a shooting cap and tie.

**Mrs Elaine Burrett**, daughter of **John Chaplin** (School 1925–30)

Trophy oar which records the her father's role as stroke in winning the July 1930 Roland Gwynne Cup for his house. Numerous records of her father's career in the RAF.

**Brian Cleave** (Powell 1953–58)

Three scrapbooks (one Ascham and two College) containing photos, newspaper clippings and programmes.

**Marina Davies**, Matron of School House

A batch of house and sports photos mainly dating from the 1920s or 30s together with a photograph album containing earlier images of the boys. She had discovered them in a blocked-up cupboard.

**The Revd Robin Elphick** (Reeves 1951–55)

Two Reeves house photos (1952 and 1954).

**George Eve** (Pennell 1951–55)

Two Blue Books, OE flyer dated 1960. Three photos of a College rowing crew taken on the Cuckmere c. 1950s.

**Ian Green**, grandson of **Ronald Green** (Blackwater 1902–03)

Three photos of his grandfather. 1902 school report. A blazer badge. A snapshot photo album dating from about 1902 containing photos of the College gymkhana. A small note pad containing sketches of College, Eastbourne and London scenes.

**Andrew Lester** (Blackwater 1945–48)

Radley and Eastbourne Group photo 1945.

From the **Andrew Murray** bequest to **Richard Crook** (Powell 1966–70)

Architect's drawing of a proposed wall clock for the newly built Big School.

**Chris Thomas** (Wargrave 1960–65)

Collection of Wargrave and sports group photos.

**Brian Wilson** (School 1949–53)

Books: *Ex Oriente Salus*, *Memories of Andrew Devonshire* and *Wait for Me* (both by Deborah Devonshire) and *Chatsworth, a Guide*.

## Purchased

A plated trophy inscribed *Eastbourne College, 1st Class High Jump 1900*.

Purchased by the archives team from Mrs Joan Westwood.

Book: *Tank Tales* by **Stephen Foot** (Wargrave & Gonville 1901–06) and another.

Ten original photos of the Prince of Wales' visit in 1931.

# 50 YEARS OF GIRLS

**S**usan Eccles (née Craib) was the first girl pupil to enter the College in September 1968, albeit for one term only. Having completed her A-levels elsewhere she needed to study classics before taking her university entrance exams, and it was arranged for her to do so at the College. She appeared in the school roll in the Blue Book that term, but was not officially attached to any house. Sensing the changing times, the *East-bournian* magazine in November 1968 welcomed her to the school: 'Susan Craib, the first girl to become a member of the College – but not, we prophesy, the last'.

However, this wasn't the first encounter with girls that the boys had experienced. A number of boys took part in a concert with Moira House girls in Big School in



Girls now play an equal role in the CCF: RAF cadets on a field day in 2010

May 1947 and, by the 1950s, girls from a number of schools in East Sussex were attending dances at the College. Boys also had the chance to meet girls unofficially. The female students (known as 'Cookers') attending the Eastbourne School of Domestic Economy (nicknamed 'Rannies') in Silverdale Road provided an opportunity for illicit meetings, but the headmaster, Mr Nugee, was adamantly averse to such liaisons and punishments could be severe. Harold Snoad (Reeves 1949–51) remembers being reprimanded for talking to a girl in

It is 50 years since the first girls joined the College, and we are looking forward to celebrating this milestone with our summer lunch on Sunday 2 June. Here Paul Jordan takes a look back at how co-education came to be introduced and the impact and benefits that have resulted.



The first girl pupil in Eastbourne College: Susan Craib in Old Wish Road in October 1968 [Topfoto]

Silverdale Road, but in fact she was simply a neighbour who lived in the house next door.

In 1967, Ascham, the College's preparatory school, opened a nursery department for boys and girls aged 2½ to 5 years and by the following year it was reported that girls were being taken into the pre-preparatory section of the school. There was even talk of making Ascham's Granville House into a senior boarding section for girls. This approach seems to have been prompted by a fear of falling numbers of male boarders.

College headmaster Michael Birley could also see the advantages of co-education. He believed it would be in the school's interests to encourage parents to send their daughters to a neighbouring girls school (such as Moira House or Beresford) and ultimately complete their A-levels at the College; that it would strengthen the College's sixth form; provide better education in the widest sense if there were girls in the classroom as well as in plays and concerts; and provide day girl teaching for pupils who had been away at boarding school but had now returned home.

With these ideas in mind, in February 1968, he began informal talks with Miss Foxon, Headmistress of Moira House. They agreed that the teaching of girls in the sixth form, on an experimental basis, should begin in September 1969.

However, the March 1969 *East-bournian* pointed out that some girls were already being taught at the College:

'We do not even have to wait until September to see the scheme in practice. Already, five girls are studying English and



Moira House girls shared the stage with College boys in Big School in a concert in 1947

Geography with the Lower Sixth and three others come to lectures. Members of Moira House come to the College chapel on Sunday mornings [and]... the two schools' hockey teams are entertaining the German teams here this term. A mistress from Moira House is teaching Spanish at the College and three girls are acting in a play in Room 20. The association is well under way already, and there can be no doubt that it will be a good thing for both boys and girls to be working together.'

At the same time that the Moira House girls joined the sixth form in September 1969, six full-time girl pupils started. There were five day girls, Anitra Swallow, Clare Underhill, Christina Jackson, Mary O'Brien and Sheila Wadley, while the sixth, Sara Richards, was a weekly boarder. Both Anitra and Clare, who had attended Eastbourne High School for Girls, had appeared in a College production of *The Crucible* earlier in the year.

They were based at the original Tenby Lodge in College Road (now the site of Pennell House) where they were looked after by Forbes Wastie and his wife Di. While the Moira House girls were listed in a separate 'Moira House' section at the end of the Blue Book, the Tenby Lodge girls appeared in the main list, alongside the boys, and so appear to have been regarded as full members of the College, all in the Lower Sixth.

This must have been the first true test of the suitability of co-education as Tenby Lodge was used at this time as overflow

accommodation for Blackwater, then a boys house.

It was then decided that Nugent House, formerly a boys 'holding house', would be converted to provide day facilities for the Moira House girls.

The mixing of boys and girls inevitably led to concerns from both the College and Moira House. If a boy wished to see a girl after 6.00pm, he had to get permission from Miss Foxon herself. Times were limited for boys to visit Nugent House, Tenby

Lodge was out of bounds, and if a girl wanted to visit a College house she would have to get the permission of the housemaster (and this would only be given in exceptional circumstances).

One of the main issues that arose in the early days was that the girls were not regulated in the same way as the boys which led to a lot of confusion. Uniform was one notable difference – while the boys had to adhere to a strict dress code, there was no uniform for the girls.

According to Miss Foxon, the girls' clothes 'should be respectable, modest and neat' and 'corduroy slacks are acceptable clothes regardless of climatic conditions prevailing'. It wasn't until 1990 that a uniform for girls, blue skirts and white blouses, was introduced.

There were other concerns too, mainly about girls visiting coffee bars (regarded by some of the older generation as dens of iniquity). From time to time both the Lobster Pot and Ffinch's in Grove Road were made out of bounds.

Despite this, the arrangement between the College and Moira House seems to have worked well.

An article about co-education appeared in the March 1969 edition of the *Eastbournian*. A pupil from Moira House wasn't happy about the proposals. She said about the College boys: 'they think we're snobs and we think they're wets, so what's the point?'. Despite this, the article ended on a positive note stating that it was a good thing for girls and boys to work together.

The November 1969 *Eastbournian* featured a survey of boys in the sixth form; of those who replied only 10% believed that the College should not have allowed girls to join the College. One boy, in favour of full co-education, replied 'why should the sixth formers have all the fun?'. The report suggested that the boys and girls should become more integrated by having more dances and parties and for the girls to visit the houses more freely. There were very positive comments such as there was 'a brighter atmosphere' at the school and that there 'were great expectations for the future'.

In response, Kate Gill, one of the Moira House sixth formers, thought it was 'no big deal', that it was time that full co-education was introduced. She said that discussions in class were more interesting as boys had different viewpoints.



The pioneering group of Year 9 girls who joined Watt House in September 1995

Girls joined in with College activities such as helping with the social commandos, working in the pottery and enjoying the sports facilities on offer which included tennis, hockey, fencing and shooting.

With the arrival in 1970 of a new headmaster, John Kendall Carpenter, the situation changed. He appeared to regard the arrangement with Moira House as unsatisfactory and by the following year there was a suggestion that the College should become fully co-educational and the links to Moira House be cut. The situation deteriorated to such an extent that in 1975, Miss Foxon severed all ties with the College.

The early 1970s brought further changes. In 1971, Tenby Lodge closed and all girls shared the facilities of Nugent House whether they were Moira House or College pupils, and in September 1973 Nugent reopened as a boarding and day house for College girls and as a day house for Moira House.

Jill Goulder (Nugent 1969–71) deserves a particular mention at this point as she was not only the first girl school prefect to be elected but also the first girl sub-editor of the *Eastbournian*.

The girls were fully integrated by 1977, as reported by the *Eastbournian*:

'Nugent has produced a house concert for the past three years, arranged an exhibition of arts and crafts, provided willing and talented actresses for the various College dramatic societies and contributed to both choir and orchestra.'

The girls were engaging in an ever-increasing number of sporting activities as described in an article

in a 1976 *Eastbournian*. Aside from hockey (including mixed), a new rowing team was started as was a Nugent swimming team. Tennis was also played, moving from the informal 'court' in Nugent itself to proper outdoor tennis courts and coached by Donald Perrens. Other sports at that time included athletics, netball and squash and golf. Jane Meanley (Nugent 1976–77) was described as 'our star golfer' and by the 1990s, a girls rugby team had been formed.

In September 1991, Nugent became a boarding house only and a new house, Watt, was opened

education Co-ordinator, praised the spirit of the first girls. He told how one pupil, Lisa Chave (Watt and Blackwater 1995–98), went on stage in a 3rd form drama performance, having arrived at the College just 24 hours before.

Nugent as a girls house celebrated its silver jubilee in 1996 and Annabel Williams (née Mynott) (Nugent 1979–81) recalled memories of the dining hall in the 1980s: 'Not slipping on a stray pea or loose shoelace was the greatest concern... and desperately trying to avoid the critical eyes of the third-formers... Blue Books in hand, jotting down marks out of ten against your name.'

Headmaster Charlie Bush noted in his 1996 Speech Day address: 'We are aware of the need for more female role models, the need to address male attitudes and change terminology. If we are to educate boys and girls properly, in challenging harmony, to prepare them for a world where attitudes and expectations are changing, it is at the grass roots of a school that we must get the atmosphere right.'

With the influx of girls, considerable alterations had to be made to several of the College houses. Nugent House was extended and Blackwater House was rebuilt as a girls day house.

School House went through a more unusual change, having



Nugent House leavers celebrating in summer 2006

for day girls. Barely three months later in December, ironically on Friday 13th, Beresford School for girls closed without warning and a number of their former pupils arrived at Watt House, nearly doubling the numbers!

Full co-education for the College was to come in September 1996 but nine 'pioneer' day girls arrived at Watt House a year before. Richard Harman, Co-

been a boys house since 1871. It was planned to be opened as a girls boarding house in September 1998. But the decision was made to allow boys (those due to take their exams in summer 1999) to stay on in the house. School became briefly a co-educational house with the girls based in the old building and the boys living in the 1987 annexe, the new Tenby Lodge. As housemaster David



Girls rugby in 2006

Hodkinson reported: 'The senior boys looked after the younger girls as brothers and the experimental co-educational house was a real success.'

The 1999 boy leavers entered into the spirit of the experiment by appearing in a photo in the *Eastbournian* wearing borrowed tartan skirts.

Watt House too, has had a varied history, having opened as a day house in 1991, it then became a boarding house before changing to a boys annexe for Wargrave, finally reopening as a girls day house in 2003.

Arnold House has had the shortest history of all the girls houses. Opened in 2014 as a day



School House boys marked the transition to a girls house in 1998-99 by parading in skirts

house, in September 2018 it became Arnold Lodge, providing overnight accommodation for both day girls and boys.

Over the past fifty years, many former pupils have become successful in the worlds of drama, science, journalism, business and sport: Patti Clare, Dr Stephanie Constant,

Serena Allott, Alison Richards and Camilla Kruger to name but a few.

The bold move made by Birley in 1969 to embark on co-education has proved to be an overwhelming success with girls now playing an integral part in College life whether it be academically, in sports or in the arts.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**We are celebrating the anniversary of 50 years of girls with a summer lunch on Sunday 2 June**

We are planning to mount an exhibition showing the history of co-education at the College. However we do not have a lot of photos in the archives which give a rounded picture of life for girl pupils, particularly in the early years of the late 1960s and early 1970s. So this is an appeal to you to send

us any photos and memories that you would like to be included in the exhibition. They do not have to be formal house or team photos; we would welcome informal snapshots as well. Anything in fact that you feel sums up co-education, whether from a female or male perspective.

**Please contact Paul Jordan, the College archivist, by email at [archives@eastbourne-college.co.uk](mailto:archives@eastbourne-college.co.uk) or by phone on 01323 451901.**

## THE LONDON BUSINESS LUNCH

The annual London business lunch was held at the Phoenix Victoria gastro pub on Friday 5 October.



Old Eastbournians and College parents enjoyed an informal meal and were informed and entertained by Nik Askaroff, whose children went to the College, about his experiences in business.

Nik is EMC's founder and CEO, and has extensive experience of running companies of all sizes in numerous sectors. He is the leading corporate financier in the South East, having won the prestigious 'Dealmaker of the Year' title in 2015/16 and '17. He is pictured here on the right of the group.

Nik spoke about how he started out in business and the challenges he had faced as an entrepreneur, the importance of flexibility and the need to have a good business plan.

As well as hearing from a guest speaker, the lunch also offers an opportunity to make new contacts and for young OEs a chance to talk about career prospects.