



# The Old Bradfieldian

The Old Bradfieldian Society Newsletter

Autumn 2006

**A new boarding house  
for The Close**



## Officers of the Old Bradfieldian Society

### *Past President*

James Wyatt (G 58-63)

### *Vice Presidents*

John Bodie (C 44-48)  
Paul Brader (C 45-48)  
Martin Brewer (A 43-47)  
John Coldstream (E 61-66)  
Peter Francis (D 31-36)  
Jumbo Fuller (H 51-56)  
Chris Gorringe (E 59-64)  
Charles Lepper (A 36-40)  
Brian Ling (E 45-48)  
Nigel Robson (H 49-55)  
John Silcock (G 43-47)  
Peter Slot (E 46-51)  
Michael Stone (E 49-54)  
James Tyrrell (G 54-59)  
Richard Youard (B 46-51)

### **General Committee**

#### *President*

Martin Young (C 59-64)\*

#### *Hon. Treasurer*

Martin Latham (D 56-61)\*

#### *Chairman Sports Committee*

Richard Vary (E 86-91)\*

#### *Bradfield Club in Peckham*

Charles George QC (A 58-63)

---

Ted Garrett (F 63-68)  
Mike Jones (F 67-71)  
Richard Oscroft (A 86-91)\*  
David Shilton (C 60-64)  
Annabel Walker (J 91-93)\*

#### *Director of Development*

Elizabeth Atkinson

#### *Alumni Relations Officer*

Jo Best (I 99-01)

#### *Database Officer*

Jordan Scammell

Bradfield College  
Reading, Berkshire  
RG7 6AU

#### *Email:*

obsociety@bradfieldcollege.org.uk  
Tel: 0118 964 4840

\* *Executive Committee Member*

A very warm welcome to the Class of 2006 to the Old Bradfieldian Society. I was fortunate to be invited as one of the guest speakers at the Leavers' Lunch in June at the College. It was a lovely farewell to the Sixth Formers: the Leavers' book was given out; pupils, parents, SCR, members of Council and OBs had lunch in the marquee; and then went on to the afternoon's activities of dodgems and games to complete the day.

September 2006 marked the completion of the changes to the boarding houses at Bradfield to enable the College to become fully co-educational. The old Close has now been refurbished and renamed Stanley House, after Richard Stanley (Warden 1989-2001). It is now occupied by girls in Years 10 and 11, who move up to the Sixth Form Houses when they reach Year 12. There are now 12 Houses at the College and a pupil population of 665. By 2009/10 the College is estimating a capacity of 700 pupils and moving to an equal balance of boys and girls. The recent exam results were excellent this year and the sporting and drama achievements continue to go from strength to strength. As a consequence the Headmaster tells me that he is now "closing his book" for new entrants much earlier than in previous years.

The OB community should also be aware that the scholarship and bursary programme is growing significantly at the College in order to enable gifted students to come to Bradfield. The College is also actively supporting the Bradfield Club in Peckham. As ever, if you would like to become involved with the Club, please contact the Development Office.

Sir Colin Lucas, our new Warden, was guest speaker at the recent Biennial Dinner of the Society in London. He spoke passionately about education being a preparation for life. Bradfield is aiming to be one of the leaders in co-education and the College provides a first class environment where boys and girls develop together. If they are willing to "seize the day" the College certainly provides them with an educational experience second to none.



The College has embarked on the new academic year in good heart and with renewed confidence. "Shakers" took place in the Quad on the first night of term as a beautiful late harvest moon came up across the valley. The Upper Sixth leavers from the summer of 2006 were a fine bunch, gifted in a whole variety of ways and committed to the broad and balanced education we offer. They were a typically sociable and friendly group who excelled on the games field, in the Greek theatre and in choir and orchestra. They have also achieved the best ever public examination results at Bradfield. The perspective of the school League Tables might be a false and narrow one, but it has to be significant that the percentage of A level grades at A or B gained at the College went up by 7%, hitting 72%. *The Financial Times'* table, one of the more meaningful ones, recorded us as rising up 70 places. Bradfield is on the up!



The strong reputation Bradfield has been building in the Prep schools has meant that we are currently bursting with pupils: 665 girls and boys this September, the number of girls well over 200 for the first time in the College's history. Fortunately, we have been able to open the wonderfully refurbished former Close as Stanley House, Bradfield's fourth girls' house, a splendid building that was officially opened by former Warden, Richard Stanley, on Saturday, 30 September. The boys' soccer teams inflicted a whitewash on Chigwell on the first full games weekend and a Senior boys six-a-side team got through to the Semi-Final of the National Knockout; the girls' hockey began promisingly with a full block fixture against Bloxham. The Chapel Choir, after a successful summer tour to Venice's churches, performed in Chapel on the first Sunday of term, and we welcomed back the OB choir to sing for the second Sunday, a reflection of the close relationship of the current music-makers and the heroes of old!

*Peter Kobenz*



The Chapel Choir in Venice

## Officers of the Affiliated Clubs

Please contact the following Hon. Secretaries for further information:

### *Bradfield Waifs Cricket Club*

Rob Pollock (H 81-86)

Tel: 07952 750866

Email: robpollock@doctors.org.uk

### *OB Choir & Orchestra*

Andrew Parker (D 91-96)

Tel: 07769 747551 (m)

Email: Andrew.Parker@rbs.co.uk

### *OB Cross Country*

Mike Bostelmann (A 61-66)

Tel: 020 8876 4966 (h)

020 7306 9100 (o)

### *OB Fives Club*

Chris Thomas (G 84-89)

Tel: 020 8543 1592 (h)

07974 316396 (m)

Email: candc@bronsonroad.freereserve.co.uk

### *OB Football Club*

Marcus Liddell (G 82-86)

Tel: 01344 887208 (h)

01344 882717 (o)

Email: marcusliddell@tinyworld.co.uk

### *OB Hockey*

TBA

Email: obsociety@bradfieldcollege.org.uk

### *OB Golfing Society*

Simon Osborn (A 71-76)

Tel: 020 7152 5159 (o)

020 8876 7339 (h)

Email: simon.osborn@eur.cushwake.com

### *OB Lawn Tennis*

Ed Bowyer (A 86-91)

Tel: 020 7295 3224 (o)

Email: ed.bowyer@traverssmith.com

### *OB Masonic Lodge*

Andrew Tenison (A 77-82)

Tel: 020 8995 5870 (h)

07771 998777 (m)

Email: andrew.tenison@ic24.net

### *Bradfield Club in Peckham*

Charles George QC (A 58-63)

Tel: 01732 451875

Email:

Charles.George@ukgateway.net

### *OB Sailing Club*

Ollie Meats (D 86-91)

Tel: 020 7254 1915 (h)

07989 433823 (m)

Email: oliver.meats@orange.net

### *OB Shooting Club*

Richard Vary (E 86-91)

Tel: 07973 239335 (m)

Email: richard.vary@linklaters.com

### *OB Squash Club*

Daniel Barnard (C 91-96)

Tel: 020 8977 8011 (h)

07939 538069 (m)

Email: Barni@waitrose.com

## Retiring Staff

After five happy years as College Chaplain, Cathy Pynn has been appointed by the Bishop of Reading to be part of the parish team at Kintbury, a famous and beautiful Medieval church near Hungerford: no question of retirement for Cathy with her tremendous energy and pastoral gifts! Links between the current Chapel community and the OB choir have strengthened under her guidance. I am sure that many Waifs will have turned out for the good cricket and much fun of the annual Charlie Waller Trust Cricket Day at Bradfield: Lady Waller retired from the teaching staff in the summer after a very distinguished decade when her inspiration and gifted team established the Support and Study Skills Department at the College as one of the very best in the country. Charles Baxter, doyen of innumerable productions in the Greek Theatre, retires this Christmas. His set for the well-received *Medea* in June was typically apt and clever. Generations of talented DT students speak warmly of his

technical brilliance and supportive teaching. After a distinguished academic contribution to the Geography Department and willing leadership with the CCF and the shooting club, Ken Urquhart has retired: it is great that his new home in Caversham will mean that he will remain in touch.

On the boarding house front, Roger Keeley, the Senior Housemaster, has come out of Loyd House after thirteen happy and rewarding years as a Housemaster: James Harding, the former Head of English, takes over. Duncan Gillies was promoted to be Head of Classics at Hutchinson's Grammar in Glasgow: Alastair MacEwen, whom many OBs will have met in the context of hockey and cricket, takes on 'G' house. Bev Eldridge, married with two children at Prep School, is the new Housemistress of Armstrong House, following the promotion of Linda Smallwood to be Deputy Head of Bruton School for girls.

## Land's End to John O'Groats

On Sunday 9 July Chris Peters (D 99-04) and friends set off from Land's End to cycle across mainland Britain to reach John O'Groats. On Friday 21 July, having cycled over 950 miles, they crossed the finish line at John O'Groats with a great sense of achievement.

The ride was completed for personal achievement and to raise money for three charities: Give It Your Max (in memory of Max Stotesbury (H 99-04)); Motor Neurone Disease; and New Life Mexico. Over £13,000 was raised for the chosen charities with money still coming in, which made the ride even more rewarding for the three of them.



## Charity Ball



Bradfield College resonated to the sound of disco music and peals of laughter as parents, staff and guests made a success of the Bradfield College Ball. A small group of parents, with the help of the Bradfield College Parents' Association and the goodwill and hard work of many members of staff had worked together to produce an event that will be remembered for some time. The dance floor, once opened, was never empty. The revellers were captured on film and video and the images were instantly displayed on the large digital screen beside the dance floor! The marquee had been skilfully decorated with flowers by Richard Elder (current parent) and his team completing the party atmosphere. Raffle and auction items included a

helicopter ride and a week in a French chalet. Other entertainment included a casino, where all those who played could pit their wits against Lady Luck. One of the marks of a good Ball is when it is increasingly difficult to get the last few revellers to leave and go home, needless to say this was the case on 29 April. The buzz was fantastic and the party went with a swing. Thank you to everyone who helped and to those who supported the Ball either through sponsorship or donations. A considerable amount of money was raised for the charities supported that evening, which included The Berkshire Air Ambulance and Buscot Ward at the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

David Lines (BCPA Chairman)

During the summer holidays a squad of seventeen pupils selected from Years 10 to 13 went on a three-week hockey tour to Singapore and Malaysia. The squad adjusted very well to the heat and humidity of South-east Asia, winning six of the nine matches and scoring 30 goals in the process. The most exciting games were a narrow defeat by a well-drilled Royal Military College side, played in the Commonwealth Games Stadium in Kuala Lumpur; a gritty 5-4 victory against the 30-50 Club, a men's side from the old tin-

mining town of Ipoh; and a nail-biting 2-2 draw against a Sabah State XI in Borneo. The boys were excellent ambassadors for their College and for the UK. They received superb hospitality in each location, notably from Azlan Yeo (B 98-99). The boys appreciated many of the cultural highlights of this fascinating region and, in the final week, they climbed to the peak of Mount Kinabalu (4,100 metres). A well deserved rest at a beach resort on the South China Sea ended a memorable tour.

Roger Keeley (SCR)

## Hockey Tour



Bradfield College boys on tour

On Wednesday 10 May, George Burne (A 48-53) attended an Economics Society meeting with Sixth Form Economics pupils. Mr Burne, a retired director of De



George Burne (A 48-53)

Beers, began a discussion of the diamond industry, the market significance of diamonds and how the company existed for over 100 years as the only private monopoly. We learnt about the different types of diamonds and how they are valued. Lastly we were shown replicas of his most brilliant finds. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the interesting presentation that was given. The night concluded with an enjoyable dinner in which we discussed the diamond industry further and Mr Burne's experiences as a pupil at the College. The evening was thought-provoking, fun and amusing. It was a healthy insight into the diamond world and a successful international company.

Patrick Berry (E)

## George Burne

On Thursday 22 June Gemma Brockis (J 91-93) came to give a drama INSET.

Gemma is a member of SHUNT Collective, a company that has produced its own original work for the last six years, and which has gained a sufficient reputation to be incorporated into the National Theatre season. She is one of a number of theatre practitioners to enter the

profession via a first class honours degree in English from Cambridge (Peter Brook and Peter Hall in particular). As one of the founding members of the company and still only in her early 30s she is part of a group that is beginning to exercise a serious influence on British Theatre; an exponent of a kind of 'total theatre.'

Alan Kilburn (SCR)

## Gemma Brockis

On Tuesday 3 October, the *Schola Cantorum* travelled to Reading to sing for the Crown Court Judicial Service at the invitation of Old Bradfieldian John Miller (F 54-57), this year's High Sheriff. The service took place in the restored Minster church of St. Mary and was attended by the Mayor, Mayoress, Town clerk and Sheriff as well as two High Court judges and ten circuit judges in full regalia. The clergy consisted of The Bishop of Reading, who preached on justice in the light of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, The Dean of Reading, The Rural Dean, The Sheriff's Chaplain and Bradfield College's new Chaplain. The Schola Cantorum, who numbered 60 for this occasion, gave an impressive performance of the Kyrie (Lord have mercy) from Widor's Mass for two choirs and two organs. The French style

was maintained in Claire Cousens' stylish playing of Widor's Marche Pontificale for the procession of the civic and sacred dignitaries and the first movement of Vierne's third organ Symphony for the recessional. This spectacular occasion was a privilege and a delight to take part in.

Malcolm Harding (SCR)

## Schola Cantorum



## Work experience



Tim Dellor (G 89-94)

Even though he left over ten years ago, Bradfield College is still one of Tim Dellor's (G 89-94) favourite places. Now, he is a News and Sports Commentator and Reporter and can be regularly heard on BBC Radio Berkshire. If you can't hear him, chances are he's working behind the scenes as I found out when I spent a week's work experience with him.

On my first day, I went with Tim to interview Steve Coppell, the manager of Reading Football Club, who was presenting a bus to a local school for which he had helped fundraise. Luckily for Tim, he managed to get Steve on his own long enough to get the recent football gossip, the real reason we had gone to the ceremony. For the next couple of days I was in the studio, it hadn't occurred to me before the vast amount of work that goes into

supporting the presenters. Tim demonstrated to me how to edit interviews so that they could be used in the broadcasts; he had the ability to make even the most awful speech sound interesting. I got to watch Tim broadcast his Friday night sports show, the amount of buttons that surrounded him made the room look more like the cockpit of a plane. The shows are all edited so seamlessly that you would never be able to guess the extent to which sometimes they are pre-recorded. My work experience ended with a free press pass to the Newbury Races where I witnessed how radio shows are broadcasted from a location using just a back pack, albeit one full of very expensive equipment. I would like to thank Tim for this invaluable opportunity and showing me an insight into the life of a busy journalist.

Josephine Murray (J)

## Stanley House Opening

After days of rain, the sun finally shone on the Stanley House opening ceremony. After months of preparation and hard work I was extremely proud of all involved as Stanley House was officially opened by the Honourable Richard Stanley, Warden of the College from 1989 until 2001. The fabric of the building is impressive and it already feels like home. The kitchens, social areas, mirrors, vanity units and cosy TV room make it a very comfortable place to be. As I said in my speech at the opening ceremony, the building is, of course, very important. What makes a House such as ours work, however, is the close community spirit and the general 'feel' of the place when it is packed with groups of friends. Those of us who live and work in Stanley

House agree that our home is a lively, happy and secure one where everyone feels able to express themselves freely.

Sue Duff (SCR)



The Honourable Richard Stanley opens Stanley House

## Reading Half Marathon

After the successful first gathering of Old Bradfieldians, pupils, staff and parents for the Reading Half Marathon in 2005, it was great to have at least 10 OBs joined by 6 others representing all the other branches of the Bradfield Family this year for the 2006 race during the Easter Holidays.

Four OBs managed to come in the first 500 finishers (out of almost 9,000). Graham Lewis (G 97-02) led the way, taking more than 8 minutes off his 2005 time to finish in 117th place in 1:21:43. Graham was using the race as a warm-up for the London Marathon two weeks later, as were Paul Burton (F 94-99) and David Palmer (SCR). The Headmaster Peter Roberts gamely took part again, improving his time to finish in under two hours. Jon Lines (H 97-02) was joined by his father David (Chairman, BCPA).

The Reading half marathon course is a well organised event on relatively flat terrain that has the added attraction of finishing in a premiership stadium in front of thousands of people, which helps tired legs to muster a final sprint for the line. Those OBs that did manage to meet up on the day seemed to have enjoyed the experience and many agreed that they would be back again next year (the race is currently scheduled for 25 March 2007). In the meantime, many also expressed interest in the Huxham 10 miler, which will take place at the College on Winter OB Day (10 December). Anyone interested in that splendid cross-country run should contact Michael Bostelmann (mjbostelmann@aol.com) or Alex Richardson (arichardson@bradfieldcollege.org.uk).

David Palmer (SCR)

Andrew Thompson (D 85-90), son of the former Head of Biology and Housemaster of Armstrong House, Malcolm Thompson (SCR 64-97), came down to Bradfield on Commemoration Day to judge a biology competition involving the Year 9 pupils at



**Andrew Thompson (D 85-90) judging the competition**

the College. The competition centred on any aspect of the ecology of the River Pang. The pupils were required to work in groups of three and had a brief that was open ended with each pupil to produce an individual A3 poster of their project. The resulting pieces were displayed in the biology labs at Commem. Andrew judged that Liam Hess (G), Helena Lambert (M) and Tom Marsh (H) had produced the best investigation. Andy came down to Bradfield on the evening before the judging day and entertained the Biology Department with stories about his own school days! Andy is currently a freelance photographer working on projects such as making natural history programmes and comic relief.

Rod Dethridge (SCR)

Despite gloomy predictions of heavy showers, the weather held off and Sunday 14 May saw a very successful second BCPA cricket day. Building on last year's success, no fewer than four Bradfield sides were assembled for the occasion: a team made up of fathers and sons from Faulkner's; another made of fathers, sons and daughters from the College; an OB side; and the reigning champions, the SCR. The cricket was particularly exciting this year; the Senior Parents' team gave the OBs an early scare in the first match, and the Faulkner's XI, with some talented young cricketers to watch in the future, made

impressive totals against the SCR and the senior parents. The crunch match of the day turned out to be the game between the OBs and the SCR, the result of which was decided by only 7 runs, with the SCR retaining the trophy.

Many thanks must again go to Tim Chaloner, Elizabeth Atkinson and David Lines for their organisation, and to Ron Curtis and all the ground staff for preparing the grounds so beautifully. It was great to see so many Bradfield families and friends supporting the event.

Paul Armstrong (SCR)

## Andrew Thompson

## BCPA Cricket



A dozen "Treehuggers" went to Germany during the second weekend of September in order to learn more about the protection of climate by the use of renewable energies. The Solar Centre near the village of Mecklenburg in northern Germany proved to be the ideal place to do so. The old manor house (previously providing accommodation for 21 families) was converted for several million euros into a state of the art Solar and Conference Centre that now produces many times more energy than it uses. The reason for this is the solar roof consisting of photovoltaic and solar thermal cells attached to a 10,000 litre reservoir (at the same time with 9.3m the highest beer table in the world), intelligent insulation and quadruple glazing, a meticulous analysis of every single one of the 252 lamps in the building, an attached wind park with four wind generators, solar cars, a waste water recycling scheme in the basement together with rain water collection, heating with wood pellets and the theme of the entire centre: "LICHT IM KOPF" (ENLIGHTEN THE MIND).

We were immediately captivated by the beauty and 'sense of sustainable future' in and around the centre and spent the next 48 hours in a mixture of lectures and hands-on activities. We learned about the wider energy issues of today's world, incredible solar projects in Dubai, the pros and cons of solar cars and the advantages and disadvantages of wind generators. We produced energy for a CD player, a toy train and even a kettle for a cup of tea with an energy bike, gained a symbolic driving licence for a solar car and visited the wind park. We enjoyed amazing home cooked food, walked in the adjoining forest and played games on the beach of the Baltic Sea. Above all however, we saw and experienced what is possible in terms of addressing the real issues of sustainable life in current society.

We look forward to sharing some of the ideas that we gained during the weekend at the School Assemblies. We want to switch on some more lights in some more heads!

Tom Krueger (SCR)

## Treehuggers



**Tree Huggers Solar Trip, Germany**

## A new boys' boarding house



**Peter Roberts (Headmaster)**

On Sunday 18 June, members of The Close, old and new, gathered for the formal opening of the new house by the family of Alan Young, who was Housemaster of The Close (for a daunting 18 years), from 1947 to 1966. They were, by their presence, able to link the new building to the great traditions of the house through the past decades. Also present was Peter Arnold, the son of the first Housemaster, Bening Mourant Arnold (1920-40) whose continued interest in the house since the days of his father's tenure has always been so warmly maintained.

It is not every Housemaster who is provided with the opportunity to work with such a talented project team, ably led by Nigel Taylor from Gotellee Orchard Lyle co-coordinating Feltham's Construction and many of those who worked on the project's conception, design and construction were present at the opening to wish the community well at the start of its new era at the top of the hill. The home team, Sean Ryan and the Works Department all contributed generously to the detailed planning of this huge but also exciting venture. Change and the management of change is often a challenge and the transition that we have encountered as a community over the past months has been entirely a smooth one thanks to detailed planning.

It has also been an exciting time for our community. Only a few pupils had seen the building in its final stages before completion and therefore it was a great pleasure to see the boys arrive in their new accommodation on 19 February. The expression on the boys' faces as they explored their new building and found their incredible new ensuite rooms was a moment that I shall not forget in a very long time.



It has been a pleasure too to see the building fulfil its design criteria; the large communal rooms combining to provide expansive areas for doing what this community does best, be a community, providing the space for Play Rehearsals, House Song Practices, Informal Pool competitions, Meetings, Film Screenings, Lectures and presentations as well as entertaining guests and parents at our various annual functions and allowing the pupils, in the recent wonderful weather, to work outside in their very own courtyard garden. School IT network access is now hard-wired to every bed-sit desk in the house, and our (very) old ablutions blocks are now replaced by sparkling ensuite bathrooms in every room.



Our thanks should extend most warmly to the Chow and McGee families who made possible the wonderful Armillary Sphere sundial at the centre of the courtyard, the new house motto inscribed onto it in Greek, Latin and English.

*'To strive mightily but  
eat and drink as friends'*

The old 'unfounded' jibes about The Old Close gradually slipping, falling and sliding down the hill are obsolete now that we are firmly founded at the top of the hill. H House in those days signified H Block, with its institutional brickwork and cavernous old rooms; now the H complements the strength of the community and holds resonances perhaps of Hotel, Hilton and certainly now Home. The pride that the boys have for their new building is not a boastful or selfish pride but is the same pride as they have always had for the strong community at their centre. It is inclusive and generous.

Other members of the community gave generously of their time and energies to make this project entirely possible. Our wonderful Matron, Hazel Nash and her husband Fred, worked tirelessly to make the transition from the old house to the new so smooth. It is not just the physical structure of a building which changes when moving to a new boarding house, all of the policies and protocols which ensure that the community runs effectively have to be refined, discussed and altered. Hazel has been the pattern of all patience with the snagging list and her team of ladies gave generously of its time in getting the house ready. They are a fun and caring group of ladies and I have valued their patience and dedication to the house over the past few months.

It is always with mixed emotions that one moves from an old building which has been peopled for so many years with memories. The Close is very happy in its new vestments and its future looks very bright. Built in 1926, The Close has always had an impressive history and it is good to see Old Close Boys sending their sons to the House in the next generation. I was overwhelmed by the number of letters that I received from those Old Close boys, who are still in contact with the school, talking with so much warmth and fondness of their time at the College and in the house. I assure them that the good times will continue long into the future. Here's to the next eighty years!

Edward Balfour (SCR)



**Edward Balfour  
(Housemaster, The Close)**



**Richard Benyon MP (H 74-78)**



**Lord Iliffe and Elizabeth Atkinson**



**Richard Adams (H 33-38)**

## The 1850 Society

On 29 September the second 1850 Society Lunch was held to thank Old Bradfieldians for remembering Bradfield College in their Wills. The Society meets once a year for a private lunch in the College, hosted by The Bradfield Foundation and the Headmaster. Pupils and members of the SCR joined us to thank OBs for their support. The

Society has an annual lunch and next year there will be a guest lecturer for our members. If you would like further information about leaving a legacy, please contact Elizabeth Atkinson for a brochure or a confidential discussion. Many thanks to all our supporters.



## Tree planting

Prue and Dr David Wright (E 48-53) chose to have a tree planting ceremony at Bradfield College to celebrate Prue's 80th Birthday and their 35th Wedding Anniversary. The *Gledista Sunburst* tree was planted next to Blundells, a site chosen by David as it overlooks the playing fields where he competed in Athletics, Cricket,

Football and Hockey as well as being close to where he spent his sweet coupons right up until 1953 when sweet rationing ended!

If you would like to give a tree to the College in honour of a special occasion, please contact Elizabeth Atkinson in the Development Office.



Many thanks to all those who contributed to this year's Bradfield Foundation Annual Fund Appeal – the Bradfield Club in Peckham. We have been overwhelmed by the generous support from our OBs. In response to the appeal brochure over £11,000 has been donated in the last few months, a fantastic achievement!

As we hope many of you are aware, the Bradfield Club in Peckham is currently engaged on a major upgrade to the building which requires significant funds to be raised. Phase one of the project has been done and completed. This incorporated a major refurbishment of the toilet area as well as bringing back the use of the shower and changing room. Phase two will incorporate the major expenditure as it requires a significant refurbishment of the gym as well as the other ground floor rooms. The gym requires a new roof as well as improved ventilation and this will account for the main costs. Money has been raised from four main sources for the phase one works: a significant anonymous donation; the Bradfield Foundation; the College; and the Old Bradfieldian Society have all generously supported the project.

This allowed the phase one works to be completed using our own internal resources. With your help from the Annual Fund the Club is progressing towards raising the money for phase two. It will also be necessary to seek funds from large charity organisations such as the Sports Council.

Overall, it has been a good period for fundraising for the Club, which has major expenditure ahead and considerable further commitment is still needed. The Club would like to thank you all for your generosity and commitment.

Iain Clark (B 63-68)



## Peckham



Thank you to all our OBs who contributed a recipe to the Bradfield College Recipe Book and to those who have already bought a copy. Proceeds from the sale of the Book go towards the Studio Theatre Project fund. If you would like a copy please email [development@bradfieldcollege.org.uk](mailto:development@bradfieldcollege.org.uk).

They make perfect Christmas presents for only £10! The Studio Theatre project is in the planning stages and we look forward to informing you how the project develops.



## Recipe Book

The Bradfield Foundation is holding its third highly regarded Golf Day on 18 June 2007. Bernard Gallacher, former Bradfield parent, is the host for the day and will also play. Teams will compete by playing in the Texas Scramble for excellent prizes. The putting and longest drive competition will

run throughout the day. All funds raised will go towards the current Foundation project – the building of a Studio Theatre. If you are interested in supporting or competing in the Golf Day, please contact the Development Office ([development@bradfieldcollege.org.uk](mailto:development@bradfieldcollege.org.uk)).

## Golf Day 2007



## Guy Bigwood (E 40-42)



After leaving Bradfield College Guy obtained a City & Guilds in Civil Engineering and in 1945 was called to the Royal Engineers where, because of a bout of pneumonia, he got lost in the shuffle and emerged studying railway operating at Longmoor, which basically involved having fun driving trains on the military's private line! He was then posted to the Middle East where his knowledge of Railways was unfortunately wasted because they had no railways to operate, thus retraining for general engineering, led Guy to a post in Athens as a Garrison Engineer where his qualifications were put to good use supervising the maintenance of married quarters' toilets!

After demobilization Guy took a Concrete Technology post graduate course, courtesy of the government, which coincided with the early use of prestressed concrete. Blaton Aubert, Belgian contractors who were marketing the Magnel post tensioning System, needed an English engineer both fluent in French, and knowledgeable in prestressed concrete. Guy fitted the bill having spent his youth in Belgium, until the Germans moved him out in May 1940, and hence French was his first language.

His interest in amateur theatricals led him to the Brussels English Comedy Club where he met his future wife, Jill. She was from the US and was working at the American Embassy. Guy proudly exclaims "She got the part, I got the girl". Guy left Blaton Aubert, when he was hired by ACEC (a Belgian electric company) to represent them in the US; the product was not competitive (a dictating machine) so the job didn't last but it gave him a taste for international trade and marketing.

Guy's BSc (Eng) ACGI was not recognized in the USA then, but he liked living there so stayed on, working first for Reynolds Fasteners, marketing steel tubing, then for Dresser Mfg. of Bradford, PA as foreign business manager, then Standard Metalwerke, a German producer of non ferrous tubing hired him to run a US subsidiary (International Standard Tube), and finally he started his own company, Ameropean Corporation. His basic philosophy was to find technical products in Europe that didn't have a market in the USA, and then create one.

His greatest success was the introduction of the gas spring to the US car manufacturers. These were used to open hatch back doors and hoods. General Motors insisted that they be built in the US so he had to find investors to underwrite the cost of establishing a US based plant operating under license from Stabilus the German manufacturer. A three hour commute led him to step down, but Stabilus eventually bought the company and they are now producing close to 100,000 pieces a day in North Carolina.

His company also sold a few low ground pressure excavators produced by Smalley Excavators of Lincolnshire. These were used in mosquito control work for digging drainage ditches in coastal marshland. As retirement grew closer, Guy felt it would be fun to introduce the English leather bookmarks to the US tourist gift shops where they were virtually unknown. It did not attract that particular market but did find a perfect niche as a recognition item for the fundraising community.

Guy is now 81 and living in Palo Alto. He and his wife Jill, have celebrated their 50th wedding Anniversary.

---

## Nigel Webb (C 52-57)



Butterfly-hunting cycle rides are Nigel's strongest recollection of his time at Bradfield – no, it was not just an excuse for a quiet smoke in Great House Woods. The Army House Moat was packed with caterpillar cages belonging to Nigel and his Army House contemporaries Mike Braid (C 52-57) and Tony Irvin (C 52-57); their ever-patient Housemaster John Swinbank (Housemaster C53-73, SCR 53-81) was pleased to tolerate a powerful ultra-violet-bulb moth trap in his garden.

After Bradfield, Nigel read Mechanical Sciences at Cambridge, and then went to Tanzania to teach Maths and Physics. In 1967, with his wife Caroline, he returned to England and taught at Oakham School for the next 32 years, becoming Head of Maths, a Housemaster and finally Second Master. Their two daughters went to Oakham School which became co-educational just in time, introducing girls in 1971. Nigel was delighted when

Bradfield followed this lead, if belatedly – the one dimension which had been missing during his own school days!

Retiring in 1999, and having been a co-author of School Mathematics Project textbooks, Nigel was ready for his and Caroline's latest initiative: a book, which they have researched, written and published called *The Earl and his Butler in Constantinople*. It features the diary of an ancestor of Nigel's, the butler to the British ambassador in the 1730s. Having failed O-level History despite (or because of) having his hair pulled by John Mouldsdale (Housemaster G25-53, SCR 24-65) for not learning dates, Nigel is particularly delighted to have been described as an 'ideal historian' of the ambassador!

Nigel and Caroline are rather hoping some OBs might fancy their book as a Christmas present –if so, it can be ordered from bookshops or is available from [www.leginipress.co.uk](http://www.leginipress.co.uk).

I left Bradfield and did two years National Service in the Royal Signals, and then went on to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge where I studied Natural Science, and went on to Medicine, ending up as a medical missionary in Pakistan in 1963. We returned in 1981, having had various minor hospital posts until retirement, but including several return visits to Sindh. I was still keen to take an interest in the progress of the Christian Gospel there and worldwide.

To be honest, it hardly entered my mind to send our children to Bradfield. By the time our oldest boy was big enough, with three more boys and a girl trailing behind, we were living and working abroad, and the children were attending Murree Christian School (MCS). This is a boarding school in the hilly North of Pakistan, taking mostly children of missionary parents, from primary to nearly university entrance. It was about a thousand miles from where we were working in the south of the country, but that was a short distance compared to the 7,000 miles from England.

A generation or two earlier, sending the children to England for their education would often have been 'Hobson's choice', and a very sacrificial choice it often was. You may have had personal experience of it, though I did not, as my parents lived only a county away from Bradfield. But not all the students at MCS lived in Pakistan; some came from neighbouring countries and their parents had to fly them in and sometimes faced anxious problems of communication. This was forty years ago – the internet and the mobile phone have since made a great difference, and normally parents and children can keep in constant contact with each other.

This was demonstrated recently. A massive South Asian earthquake took place on 8 October 2005, with its epicentre only some sixty miles from Murree. A friend of ours working in Sindh was desperate to hear news of his two eldest children at the school. In spite of the fact that phone lines

were down and cellphone lines jammed, he managed to get through, to hear that the school buildings were intact and no-one injured. Soon after his oldest boy managed to send an email home; when the quake struck he was on the top floor of the school, which "swayed like crazy", but held fast.

Someone has written that the many prayers for MCS were holding the buildings together, and that brings me to explain why the school should have been a particular focus of prayer. You may have heard on the news that a Christian school in Pakistan was attacked by terrorists in 2002. It was Murree Christian School.

There followed what might be a record for school migrations. The whole school was boarded up, and the senior school with its teaching staff relocated to Chiang Mai in Thailand, some 2,000 miles away, where they were hospitably taken in by another international Christian school for two years. Meanwhile the younger students were cared for nearer their parents or home-schooled. The last year it was decided that the school should return to Murree. The terrorist threat was by no means over, but nevertheless it was considered sufficiently contained to return, albeit with added security measures. It meant a real sacrifice for the children – gone are the days when our children enjoyed freedom of the town, the woods, the lakes and rivers in the 60's and 70's. Now everyone is much more confined, but there is a good spirit there for "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" and security guards at iron gates do not a prison make, nor high walls a cage.

Recent terrorist threats on MCS have been real, and taken seriously. But the missionary community and their supporters have prayed, and when the earthquake struck, there was a wall of prayer already in place. "As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people from this time forth for evermore." I'm sure we sang that at Bradfield. It is still true.

## Ralph Heaton (D 42-47)





Monty inspecting the Guard of Honour

**John Garfield (G 43-48)**

As a postscript to Roger Butters' (E 44-48) piece on Bradfield in the 1940's here is a photograph of Monty inspecting the Guard of Honour in June 1948. What Corporal Butters probably does not know is that the hapless SUO, having got his motley crew in order, marched up to Montgomery, saluted, and said "Thank you. How many men in your guard of honour?" SUO did not have a clue, but was saved by Owen Roby Jones (SCR 37-66) (Master i/c Corps behind Hills (Headmaster, 40-55) in the photograph) who, behind Montgomery's back silently mouthed the number. "Fifty-two-Sir".

So passed a mercifully private exchange on Major which the admiring crown in front of Grubs never heard, while OR Jones and SUO nearly died in public.

**David Antrobus (E 53-58)**

After 42 years in General and Business Aviation, and flying piston, turboprop and jet aircraft worldwide, he was retired at age 65 in May 2005.

Since then he has been undertaking consultancy work under his company title "Air Avia", but sadly is no longer flying.

On 17 June he was delighted to be honoured with the OBE, for services to aviation. David is happy to offer advice to any youngster trying to get into Civil Aviation.



John Miller (F 54-57)



David Antrobus (E 53-58)

Fiona Gimson, Judy Ricketts and Joy Stibbe were reunited at the funeral of Michael Ricketts in April 2005. Sadly all their husbands, who were Housemasters, (Clive Gimson, D 57-63, Michael Ricketts, E 61-67, Phillip Stibbe, A 53-66, H 66-77) have now passed away, but the three of them have remained friends throughout.

In total the three ladies have spent 32 years between them supporting Bradfield College and its pupils.



Fiona Gimson, Judy Ricketts, and Joy Stibbe

**Richard Banks (D 55-60)**

In April 2006 Richard was installed as High Sheriff of Bedfordshire. His Under Sheriff is Tim Sills (D 55-60). Tim is also Clerk to the Bradfield College Council.

Richard Banks was Head of School in 1960. As well as being contemporaries in D House, he and Tim opened the bowling for the 1st XI and also played together for the Waifs in Cricketer Cup matches.



Tim Sills (D 55-60) and Richard Banks (D 55-60)

The Office of High Sheriff is at least 1,000 years old. Originally the Office held many of the powers now vested in Lords Lieutenant, High Court Judges, Magistrates, Coroners and even the Inland Revenue.

The High Sheriff for each county holds office for one year and is appointed by the Queen. He or she is second in precedence in the county to the Lord Lieutenant.

Nowadays much of a High Sheriff's role in the county is ceremonial, but he still has various duties connected with law and order and the courts, supporting and encouraging local voluntary organisations, working with young people, attending Royal visits and acting as the Returning Officer at parliamentary elections.

In addition to Richard Banks, Lieutenant General Sir John Foley (F 53-57) for Hereford and Worcester and John Miller (F 54-57) for Berkshire, are also current OB High Sheriffs.

Each county also has an Under Sheriff who traditionally has been a Solicitor because there was legal work involved. Tim Sills has been Under Sheriff for Bedfordshire for approximately 20 years – his is not an annual appointment. Before the death penalty was abolished it was the responsibility for the High Sheriff and Under Sheriff to organise and supervise the execution of any murderers hanged in their county!

Various types of High Court writs were also administered and enforced by the Under Sheriff in the name of the High Sheriff. A local example was the Writ of Possession issued against those who protested against the A34 Newbury Bypass. It was the duty of the Under Sheriff of Berkshire, Nicholas Blandy, to evict "Swampy" and his colleagues from the Bypass site.



**Pete Bostelmann (A 57-61) and Edward Demery (H 60-65)**

**Bruce Jamieson (A 58-62)**

Bruce recently graduated as a chartered Financial Planner, one of the first 600 in the country. He runs his own small business in Bognor Regis and has a few OBs and people with Bradfield connections among his clients.

**Edward Demery (H 60-65) and Pete Bostelmann (A 57-61)**

Congratulations to Edward Demery who has become Master of Vintners and to Pete Bostleman who has become Master of Grocers.

**Simon John Young (F 63-68)**

Simon has been awarded Deputy Lieutenant for Dorset. He was awarded an MC in Northern Ireland

**Dr Robin Buxton (A 64-68)** has received an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for Wildlife Conservation.

A venture Robin has been involved with is a Farm Africa community forestry and catchments protection project on the Tanzanian Rift Valley wall south of Lake Manyara in 2005.

**Guy Chapman (B 74-75)**

Guy Chapman was Head of Marketing for the Royal Court Theatre for seven years, orchestrating the marketing campaigns for all the Royal Court's productions and their West End transfers. In 1994 he formed Guy Chapman Associates to offer a comprehensive marketing, management and press service to all art forms. He has just expanded his company to include a new media company: Guy Chapman Media.



**Dr Robin Buxton (A 64-68) in the Tanzanian Rift Valley**



**Bruce Jamieson (A 58-62)**



**Mark Taylor (F 77-82) finds a post card**

**Neil Thompson (H 75-80)**

A former Fleet Street tabloid scribe Neil Thompson joined LWT's Factual & Current Affairs team in 1989 and is currently the Managing Director of ITV Anglia; living on the Norfolk/Suffolk border with his wife Emma and three daughters: Lily (12), Maddie (10) and Bella (6).

He is in varying levels of contact with the following of his peer vintage: Sholto Douglas-Home (H 76-80); Justin Whitfield (H 75-80); Lal Dalamal (H 75-80); Hugh Blackman (H 75-80); Dominic Lutyens (H 75-80); Nick Coller (H 75-80); Jon Holdsworth (H 76-80); Justin Hardy (H 78-83); Jim Phillips (D 75-80); Mike Keegan (D 75-80); Tim Sandys-Renton (D 75-80); Andy Hooper (D 75-80); and Ben Thomson (D 76-81). He is in reassuringly consistent contact with his brothers Ian (H 74-78) and Alex (H 78-83); all three brothers better known by some as "Bas".

In July he attended the wedding in Madrid of Mike Keegan to Gillian Gibson. Where with a small glass or two of sweet Spanish sherry OBs toasted the wedding couple and re-lived a few memories.

**Mark Taylor (F 77-82)**

In the course of business Mark picked up this very old postcard which was posted from Singapore in November 1896 to Bradfield College! It reads 'Hearty good wishes from a strange land!'

**Andrew Belshaw (F 79-84)**

Andrew recently graduated from City University with an MSc in Air Traffic Management. The graduation was held at the Central Methodist Hall, London. He has just moved to Brussels and is working with Euro Control and welcomes contact with OBs in the area.

**William Lyons (H 89-94)**

*Scotland on Sunday* wine correspondent, William Lyons, was shortlisted for the prestigious Glenfiddich Wine Writer of the year award. This is the top award in the UK for wine writers; past winners include Jancis Robinson MW and Hugh Johnson. William beat off stiff competition from *The Sunday Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Financial Times*, *The Daily Telegraph* and *Independent On Sunday* to reach the final three. He was nominated with two Master of Wines; *The Observer's* Tim Atkin MW and Martin Moran MW for work in *Food & Wine Dublin*. He was runner up behind *The Observer's* Tim Atkin MW.

**Tom Swanston (E 91-96)** founded Wysiwyg which won the CANNES 24 Film Challenge at the Festival this Year.

He originally trained as an anthropologist, but soon after university transferred to film to produce a comedy feature. He has worked in accounts, marketing, insurance, and publishing. As a philanthropist and cinephile Tom has a desire to see independent film shown to the widest possible audience, while filling a huge gap in the market for independent film. Wysiwyg increases the viability of independent film by teaching and advising new talent, innovating new methods of distribution and encouraging the use of modern filmmaking techniques.



**George Masters (E 94-99, SCR) - Head of Religious Studies**

**George Masters (E 94-99, SCR)**, who has taught at Bradfield since 2002, was appointed Head of Religious Studies at the beginning of the academic year. The beginning of term also saw the announcement of his engagement to Elizabeth Atkinson (Director of Development).



**Gareth Corbin (B 95-97)**

**Gareth Corbin (B 95-97)**

After leaving Bradfield Gareth studied at UCL in London and then moved back to Guernsey in the Channel Islands to start work for an International Bank.

He decided to move to Switzerland in 2004, and in September 2005 established Nerine Fiduciaire S.A. in Geneva which specializes in Trust & Company Management for both Private and Corporate clients all over the world. The expertise of his business is in the management of complex structures for Estate and Tax Planning purposes, but also



**Andy Belshaw (F 79-84) and his wife Sally Belshaw**



**Will Lyons (H 89-94) and Sean Connery**

in the management of a number of Charitable Foundations and Offshore Investment Funds. Gareth is happy for anyone visiting Geneva to look him up.

**Sam Hancock (D 93-98)** took part in the 24 hour Le Mans race – his team came 38th.

**Ben Watts (C 95-00)** was commissioned at the Sovereign's Parade at the Military Academy Sandhurst on Friday 11 August. The Parade was inspected by HRH Abdullah II of Jordan.



**Jo Best (I 99-01) – Alumini Relations Officer**

Jo Best (I 99-01) joined the Development Office in August as Alumni Relations Officer. She recently graduated from Exeter and is now responsible for supporting Old Bradfieldians.

**Sean Godley (H 95-00)**

Killegar native and winner of last year's Leitrim Guardian Literary Award Sean Godley has won first prize in the Listowel Writers' Week Originals Short Poem Competition sponsored by Bank of Ireland.

His poem *Sitting Still* won first prize which was officially awarded to him by actor Jeremy Irons.

Sean read the poem to the large assembled company and it will be published in the *Writers Week Winners Anthology 2006*. Sean adds this award to his "Leitrim Guardian" Literary Award for his short story *Flying the Nest* which appears in the 2006 issue.

**Max Stotesbury (H 99-04)**

On Tuesday 6 December 2005, a small family group consisting of Michael (E 56-60) Tara, Freddie (C 93-98) and Brook (95-00) Stotesbury, David Moss-Gibbons (SCR 71-05) and Edward Balfour (SCR) were given a tour of St James' Palace followed by a private audience with HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who presented, posthumously, Max's Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. They were very honoured that HRH took time out of his busy day to present the Award individually to the Stotesburys. It was a moving tribute to a talented and committed young man.

**Philip Smith (E 04-06)** spent three weeks over the summer at the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre, located on the Kapama game reserve in South Africa, which borders the Kruger National Park. The centre mainly focuses on breeding and releasing cheetahs into the wild, and they have 80 of the big cats, and a medley of other animals, from lions and wild dogs to a pair of Bengal tigers retired from the zoo. He was one of seven volunteers at the centre, who were given the responsibility of preparing the food for a set of cheetah cubs whose mother had died in childbirth.



**First Prize Winner Sean Godley (H 95-00)**



**Philip Smith (E 04-06)**



**HRH The Duke of Edinburgh presents Max Stotesbury's award**

Please send your Snippets to the Old Bradfieldian Society.  
Email: [obsociety@bradfieldcollege.org.uk](mailto:obsociety@bradfieldcollege.org.uk)



**Darran (B 85-88) and Adebusola Ade-Ojo**



**Laura (J 94-96) and Matthew (H 90-96) Lee**



**Rachael (I 97-99) and Alex Churchill**



**Hannah Iredale (I 89-91) Best Woman, Gareth Davies (C 86-89) Master of Ceremonies, William Dixon (C 86-91) Amanda Visagie, Justin Khaksar (G 86-91) Best Man.**



**The family Stainton**

In order that announcements on this page are accurate, OBs and their families are urged to submit the correct information.

## Births

HECKELS, to Kiloran (nee DACRE LACY) (B 85-87) and Edward, a son, Thomas Edward Dacre, born on 10 May 2005, a brother for Katherine and grandson of the late Alastair Dacre Lacy (E 42-46), great grandson of the late Edward Dacre Lacy (16-19).

STAINTON, to Roger (F 78-83) and Kerry Looney, a daughter, Reme, on 25 January, 2006, a baby sister for Lorca and Pierse.

THOMAS, to Chris (G 84-89) and Claire, a daughter, Hannah Ruth Paget, on 12 January 2006.

WILLIAMS, to Adam (E 87-92, SCR 98-01) and Karen, a son, Alexander Hugo, on 29 April 2006.

SCHEELE, to Sarah (nee BURNETT), (J 91-93) and Alexander, a son Anthony Michael, born 18 September 2005, and a brother for John-Paul Alexander, born 22 April 2004.

DE COURCY-BOWER, to David (B 92-97) and Laurie, a daughter, Lia Louise on 6 June 2006.



**Thomas Heckels with sister Katherine**



**Hannah Thomas**



**Anthony Scheele**



**Hugh Williams**

## Marriages

BILLINGTON, Harriet (J 92-94) to Jeremy Burnage on 3 June 2006 at Bradfield College Chapel.

DIXON, William (C 86-91) to Amanda Visagie on 21 January 2006.

HEAD, Tristan (D 86-91) to Mary Daly on 25 August 2006 at Bradfield College Chapel.

HEEL, Jenny (I 93-95) to Douglas Branson on 30 September 2006.

LEE, Matthew (H 91-96) to McClUE, Laura (J 94-96) on 1 April 2006.

LUCKETT, Rachael (I 97-99) to Alex Churchill on 29 July 2006.

SKUSE, Darran (B 85-88) to Adebusola Ade-Ojo on 26 September 2006 at Bradfield College Chapel.

TURNER, Gayle (I 91-93) to Sam Moore on 19 August 2006.



**Harriet (J 92-94) and Jeremy**

## Deaths

BAILLIE, Charles Patrick Forsyth (C 43-48) on 11 August 2006.

BARWOOD, Giles Stephen (D 62-66) on 3 June 2006.

BUNFORD, Michael John (G 45-49) on 5 July 2006.

COOPER, Vincent John Cochran (C 27-32) on 13 February 2006.

EWART, Alan Charles (B 42-45) on 22 August 2006.

HATFIELD, David William (B 43-48) on 7 February 2006.

HELM, William Harding (C 32-36) on 19 May 2006.

LOMAS, David (SCR 71-96) on 14 July 2006.

MARSHALL, Robert Michael (A 43-48) on 6 September 2006.

PRENTICE, John Oscar (G 39-43) on 30 March 2006.

PRIDHAM, Anthony N B (B 33-38) on 20 June 2006.

QUICK, A O H (Headmaster 71-85 ) on 2 October 2006.

SAYER, John (guest lecturer) on 16 March 2006.

SUTTON, John Ormerod (F 39-43) on 5 May 2006.

TANNER, Joseph Russell (G 41-45) on 6 April 2006.

TREGONING, Ronald Geoffrey (C 29-33) 10 April 2006.

WATSON, Nigel Graeme (F 29-33) on 22 August 2004.

WAUD, Guy Pierre D'Alzac (E 45-49) on 4 March 2006.

YOUNG, Betty on 30 August 2006.

Bill Helm died on May 19th 2006 aged 87. He began his career as a doctor treating, like his father before him, Allied and German casualties on the battlefields of northern Europe. Although both arrived at the front aged 25 and recently qualified, young Bill had the advantage in Normandy of being able to draw heavily on the experiences of his father: Colonel Cyril Helm, DSO, MC, who had served on the Western Front in 1914, and was taking part in the north-west Europe campaign 30 years later.

In his diary Bill recalled his own “baptism of fire” during the brutal fighting at Caen. His advanced dressing station started to receive 50 wounded every 10 minutes, a daunting challenge for someone who had qualified only months before; and he was soon to see 700 wounded in 36 hours.

“I went on duty soon after the German counter-attack started at dawn”, he wrote, “Casualties began to arrive in great number and it looked like we might be swamped. There were large groups waiting to be assessed in reception-some already dead, some dying-some in urgent need of transfusions-a group of terrified disorientated lads, jittering and yelling in a corner . . . Several SS wounded came in-a tough and dirty bunch-some had been snipers up trees for days. One young Nazi had a broken jaw and was near death but before he fainted he rolled his head over and murmured “Heil Hitler”.”

Helm recorded the acute shortage of blood for transfusions, and the immense ignorance among the troops about how best to handle the wounded, particularly those with broken limbs. It seemed to him that the mass of invaluable knowledge gained by his father's generation in the Great War had not been properly passed on.

Father and son met when Colonel Helm, who had set up 60 General Hospital about 17 miles away at Bayeux, came to inspect Bill's unit and make recommendations to improve its operations.

Later Bill sped off on his beloved motorcycle to see his father, periodically pausing to take cover in ditches as enemy aircraft swooped overhead: “I arrived in a filthy state, and my father was about to reprimand this dirty slovenly soldier in front of a group of top brass colleagues when he recognised me, and I felt there was perhaps a touch of pride in the introduction of his son from a forward unit”.

William Harding Helm was born on August 30 1918 and educated at Bradfield College. His grandfather also W H Helm (1871-1876) helped dig the Greek theatre! The Bradfield tradition is strong in the Helm family; in total fifteen of the family attended Bradfield. William grew up

familiar with his father's experiences at Ypres, Inverness Copse and Passchendaele and did his medical training at the Middlesex hospital before joining the Royal Army Medical Corps.

After serving in Belgium and Holland, Bill Helm returned to London to see the celebrations for the end of the war in Europe, and then was posted for two years to military hospitals in India. For his last six months in the country where he experienced the thrill of big game hunting in the Billigirirangan Hills while on leave, he was the only specialist in charge of several thousand British troops stationed in Bangalore. At the time he feared that he would miss out on the promotion ladder as the new National Health Service was being born.

Following his return to England Helm became a thoracic specialist at the Middlesex, the London Chest and the Brompton hospitals, and then went to Lancashire and York; his father settled as a GP in the West Country, where he died in 1972.

As a senior consultant with the Leeds Regional Hospital Board, Bill Helm helped to redevelop chest services across most of Yorkshire, publishing numerous ground-breaking papers on respiratory and other chest conditions. He was leading expert in asbestosis, treating many patients who had acquired the condition at the British Rail carriage works in York. He served as President of the Yorkshire Thoracic Society and the York Medical Society and became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Physicians in 1971.

Helm was also a prominent figure in the sporting life of North Yorkshire as a keen fisherman and racegoer. He was a first class squash player until his mid-fifties, and was later vice-chairman of York City Football Club. He prided himself on building one of the finest private grass tennis courts for miles around – it was carved out of the hillside at the family home in the Howardian Hills-and was chairman of the Ryedale branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England.

On retiring as a consultant in 1981 he studied at the Open University, and produced an acclaimed paper on tuberculosis in the Bronte family, which appeared in *Bronte Studies* (2002).

Bill Helm married Diana Beazley in 1949. They had two daughters and two sons who went to Bradfield College Toby Helm (G 73-78) and Nicholas Helm (F 68-72).

## Dr William Harding Helm (C 32-36)



## Betty Young



Betty married Alan Young in December 1946 and in the summer of the following year they re-opened the Close (which had been closed during the war) with a small number of boys recruited from the other houses. There followed many happy years during which she was often to be seen (generally a dog beside her) supporting the boys at cricket, football, golf, athletics, tennis and swimming, not to mention house singing competitions and House plays, in all of which she took a keen interest. New boys' teas and prefects' Sunday breakfasts were also a feature of life at The Close in those days.

Betty was a notable gardener both at The Close and later at Highwood and she became adept at taking over every bit of ground she could on which to grow plants. On one occasion wishing to get rid of a group of laurel bushes at the side of the Close garden, she set fire to them and the resulting flames brought Edward Aisbitt (SCR 38-68) hot foot from Nutters Furlong (now Stevens House) with his fire extinguisher.

In 1966 on leaving The Close, Alan took on the role of Second Master and the family moved to Highwood where the annual inter-SCR croquet tournament became a hotly contested feature of the Summer Term. With the local Pony Club – of which she had been Secretary – finally off her hands, Betty was able to enjoy her

golf again and at her best (played off a handicap of 8). She was Captain both of the Huntercombe Golf Club Ladies and also of Oxfordshire Ladies and acted as Secretary to the South East division of the English Ladies Golf Association. She was involved as Wardrobe Mistress with many of Charles Lepper's (A 36-40, SCR 67-85) memorable productions in the Greek Theatre and accompanied Alan on the very first Greek Play Tour to Cyprus in 1970 where *Philoctetes* was performed at Salamis.

In 1974 when Alan retired from Bradfield they moved to Betty's family home in Jersey where they spent more than 20 years in retirement creating another beautiful garden, playing golf and entertaining friends from Bradfield in the summer holidays.

*"We praise and thank God for Betty's generous, welcoming, including, kind life with Alan, with her children and grandchildren and her wider family, with so many friends, with generations of boys and their parents; we thank God that her accepting, gracious, amused and amusing, peaceful way with those around her remained her character to the end of her life."*

The Bishop of Winchester, The Right Reverend Michael Scott-Joynt (D 56-61)

Collette McCombe, Jacqueline Young

## John Oscar Prentice (G 39-43)



John Oscar Prentice was born in Birkenhead on the River Mersey, in 1925. After preparatory school in Wirral, which memorably included an afternoon playing rugby, where his forehead was trodden on by an opponent Peter Kinninmonth, and resulted in him spouting an egg, causing damage to his singular good looks for a time (Kinninmonth went on to Captain Scotland). John arrived in G House at Bradfield in 1939 under the wise command of John Mouldsdales (SCR 24-65). He rose through the ranks to become Head of House, enjoying soccer, cricket and the college-cheese.

In 1943 he played Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*, and told the moustached Headmaster, John Hills (Headmaster 44-55), that Antonio resembled him. Needless to say JDH was not amused!

John won an Open Scholarship in Classics and went to Clare College, Cambridge. He was speedily called up and was enlisted in the Intelligence Corps. John had to grasp the Japanese written language, in order to interpret signals and codes. War was thus passed in the Orient. John was the first Englishman to set foot on Japanese soil immediately after Armistice, in total breach of orders.

John then went to Clare College again, but this time to study Economics.

However, he found that was too dull and he enlisted in the "royal" Lloyds broker, Willis Faber and Dumas. He soon became Deputy Chairman and perhaps was the most skilled, explicit and diplomatic Hull broker in the room.

During this time, dinghy racing in Chichester Harbour had begun with his brother, James (G 40-44). They sailed international fourteen foot dinghy's obsessively in the Prince of Wales Cup Week. Thence, it was into ocean racing in 'Battlecry', and he raced across a brace of decades, which included two Admiral's Cup encounters in the team captained by the late Edward Heath. John then participated in the Fastnet Races. The horrors of one in the late 1970's meant that ferocious winds all but massacred the fleet. John became Rear Commodore of Royal Thames Yacht Club.

John married twice and had three daughters by the first marriage. After retiring from Willis Faber and Dumas, he founded an underwriting agency, *Wellington* (the warrior Wellington being his favoured figure in military history). He resided at Gentilshurst, between Haslemere and Midhurst. He was the most remarkable, darned good-looking, intellectual man, and a Classical Scholar which was thanks to Bradfield College.

James Kniveton Prentice (G 40-44)

Joseph Russell Tanner was a printer who embraced revolutionary changes to create one of Europe's largest private book-printing firms.

The Somerset Company of Butler & Tanner is one of the last of the great British book printers to survive from the early part of the 20th century. Responsible for titles ranging from Jamie Oliver's cook books to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, it has six times been Print Week magazine's Book Printer of the Year.

The company was founded in 1863 and became a technical innovator in its first decades, introducing photogravure, for instance, before 1900.

That it hung on for a grim decade until the economic turnaround of the middle Thatcher years was due in great part to Joe Tanner, managing director since 1964. With the help of a management team he prepared it to flourish again by offering digital origination and full-colour printing for today's very different international market.

An engineer at heart, he appreciated every technical innovation that enabled Butler & Tanner to print and bind in greater quantities, with better results, more quickly, at lower cost, or with less wastage. Investing in progress required a sure vision and a steady nerve.

Yet for all this, Tanner focused as much on people as on profit. The company had long been an enlightened employer and was run as an extended family. It even bought houses to let cheaply to some of the employees.

Joseph Tanner was born in 1928, and educated at Bradfield College, where the classical traditions particularly appealed to him.

His career was never in doubt, so after National Service in Palestine, he studied at the London College of Printing (now the London College of Communication),

which in those days gave a vocational training that was among the best in the world.

When "Master Joe" joined Butler & Tanner in 1948, it was essentially a book printer, used by most of the leading publishers.

But the 55 years of Tanner's working life were to see transformations, as offset litho, phototypesetting and colour presses were introduced.

Another innovation was so expensive that it had to be underwritten by the Department of Trade and Industry; a computer.

In 1970, the year he became Chairman, Joe Tanner was advised by his bank manager that if he sold the company, he would never have to work again – advice he scorned at the time, but which must soon have sounded bitter-sweet. For with the coming of filmsetting as a rival to hot-metal setting, 1973 began with a loss, which was followed by union troubles, 15 per cent rises and enforced early retirements. As in many British factories, there was suddenly talk of closure.

Several rivals succumbed to the same pressures. But in the long run, this put Butler & Tanner in a stronger position. Throughput of 100,000 books a week in 1984 was increased tenfold in three years.

He retired in 1993, when annual turnover was £30 million, he continued to represent family shareholders in one of the largest privately owned printing companies in Europe.

A cultured, affable, generous man, he loved paintings, and subsidised the printing of catalogues for the Holburne Museum of Art in Bath. He was a constant patron of galleries, museums and local events.

He was married twice, first in 1956 to Fanny Fleming, who died in 1981 and then in 1993 to Gerry Akerman.

## Joseph R Tanner (G 41-45)

John Sayer spent a good deal of his life in and around schools and universities. He was a born teacher and an outstanding lecturer.

In the late 1960s, he developed an anthropologically and historically based course of lectures for Sixth Form students called 'Quest'. Not all schools had the courage to give him his head, but the one or two which did – Bradfield College, for instance, which turned over the entire LVIIth to him for a week at the end of every Lent term – were richly rewarded. In a series of morning and afternoon lectures he took 120 16- and 17-year olds through world history: from the 'Big Bang' and the origins of life on earth, through the civilisations of Ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, the Incas, the Italian Renaissance,

and on to the present day – a compelling lecture of the lifestyle of remote tribes in Nuristan, the Cold War, and space exploration ('Quest' was conceived around the time of first moon landing).

The lecture style was 'hip' (very Sixties!) and thrilled the students as much as it irritated some old-guard academics.

For many of the students who were lucky enough to experience 'Quest', it was the single most thrilling educational experience in their lives. In some instances, it changed their lives. One of the leading writers on present-day Afghanistan, Matthew Leeming (E 78-82), was originally inspired by John's lectures. John died on 16 March 2006.

Richard Osborne (SCR 67-88)

## John Sayer

## Robert Michael Marshall (A 43-48)



Sir Michael Marshall, the former Conservative MP for Arundel and junior minister who died on September 6 aged 76, was also a prolific author and a passionate devotee of theatre and cricket.

Michael Marshall won the new seat of Arundel in February 1974 – having previously fought the safe Labour seat of Hartlepool – and made his name in opposition as an expert on industrial issues, having spent his earlier career as a manager of steel and engineering businesses. He was vice-chairman of both the Conservative parliamentary industry committee and the all-party committee on management, interesting himself particularly in the problems of British Steel, the weaknesses of the Ryder plan for British Leyland and the “veil of secrecy” which surrounded the affairs of Labour’s National Enterprise Board.

When Margaret Thatcher came to power in 1979, Marshall was appointed parliamentary under-secretary of state at the Department of Industry – under Sir Keith Joseph, Bt – with a portfolio that included aerospace, telecommunications, shipbuilding and steel. He was never a front-line Thatcherite, but was certainly at one with the prime minister in seeing the importance of new technology; when he returned to the back-benches in 1982 he was asked to chair the parliamentary space committee, where he championed British involvement in the Ariane project and the development of satellite television. He also chaired the parliamentary IT committee, declaring it his aim to “drag parliament kicking and screaming into the 20th century”, through computerisation and data networking.

A quiet man – with a touch of the *matinée* idol reflecting his theatrical interests – Marshall was genuinely liked by all sides of the House. His emollient ways enabled him to get things done without ever having to have a row. “He always left people smiling,” one colleague observed.

These attributes made him a natural choice in 1987 to be chairman of the British group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which he described as “the UN of parliaments”; he was the organisation’s world president from 1991 to 1994, and subsequently life honorary president.

Robert Michael Marshall was born in Sheffield on June 21 1930. His father had a printing business, and his mother was a singer and performer of music-hall monologues and recitations. Michael was educated at Bradfield College and joined the United Steel Companies in Sheffield in 1951. He was the group’s branch manager in Calcutta from 1954 to 1958, took an MBA at Harvard in 1960 and was then managing director in Bombay until 1964.

These years were also devoted in part to cricket. Marshall claimed the unusual distinction of having played for Harvard and Nepal, and saved up his annual leave in India so that, when England teams toured, he was available to join the visiting BBC commentary team as the extra man the Corporation could not otherwise afford. He was also a test match commentator for All India Radio.

Returning to England, he became commercial director of United’s Workington steelworks. In 1967 he moved to join the engineering group Head Wrightson as managing director of its export business, and two years later he became a management consultant with the firm of Urwick Orr. During his political career, he maintained his connections with the business world as parliamentary adviser to British Aerospace and Cable & Wireless, and as a non-executive director of a number of high-tech companies. He also launched one of his own, Direct Business Satellite Systems, which sought to offer companies a cheap messaging service using spare satellite capacity, but it did not flourish.

Throughout his public career, Marshall produced a stream of writings on the topics which most captured his imagination; the theatre, the benefits of technology, and cricket. His first book, *Top Hat and Tails* (1978), was a biography of Jack Buchanan. This was followed by *The Stanley Holloway Monologues* (1979) and other slim volumes in the same genre.

He published *The Timetable of Technology* in 1982 and co-authored *No End of Jobs*, arguing that advanced technology would create rather than destroy jobs, in 1984. Later works included *A Celebration of Lords and Commons Cricket* (1989). He also wrote for television and radio, and took to lecturing on the history of comic monologues in the QE2 and elsewhere. He was a member of Equity and Bafta and a parliamentary adviser to the Society of West End Theatres.

He was knighted in 1990 and was appointed a deputy lieutenant of West Sussex in the same year. He retired from parliament at the 1997 election and in his later years was very much an elder statesman of the county, whether supporting cricket at Arundel Castle or helping to rescue the finances of the Chichester Festival Theatre, of which he was the devoted chairman and president. Having been diagnosed with cancer eight years ago, Marshall sought treatment in America and became very involved in cancer charities. A late convert to Rome, he was also a non-executive director of the Catholic Herald.

Michael Marshall is survived by his wife, Caroline, whom he married in 1972 and who had two daughters by an earlier marriage.

This has been an important year for the Club as we make a start on significant improvements to the infrastructure and at the same time reinvigorate its activities. As chronicled in the Foundation pages the first phase of the Club's refurbishment has now been completed which has improved its overall appearance. The normal traditional activities have continued but there have been three particular new introductions to note. Firstly, table tennis coaching. We have been joined by two coaches one of whom had previously been a member of the Club. Secondly, bike workshops and road safety classes have been introduced with some success. Lastly, in the kitchen, we have introduced a healthy eating programme, the latter no doubt helped by Jamie Oliver's high profile on improving food quality. After a year's lull we brought back the summer scheme. Numbers were relatively small but this enabled more focus on each individual. The usual visits were made to the seaside and London attractions as well as a successful visit to the College. This was

hosted by the Headmaster, and the Development Office, and included lunch in Hall, swimming, basket ball, indoor football and table tennis. We are currently in discussion with two local churches to enable us to work together on bringing more people into the Club. In addition, the Club is likely to be used during the day by a group working with children excluded from school. Thus, as well as providing activities for our own members, we are assisting the local community as well. Finally, the Taekwondo group continues to thrive gaining a number of medals in both local and international competitions.

As always, there is a need of additional support at committee level. We have been joined by Tim Ashton (E 83-88) this year who is providing significant help with the financial administration. If you feel you can make a contribution please get in touch with Charles George (A 58-63) [george@ukgateway.net](mailto:george@ukgateway.net) or telephone 01732 451875.

Iain Clark (B 63-68)

## Bradfield Club in Peckham



A regime change during the summer months saw the departure of Harriet Cross (I 89-91) as OBCO Secretary. Harriet has been an outstanding secretary – her enthusiasm has been infectious, her commitment unstinting and her standards remarkable. Thank you for all your hard work, Harry!

In amongst all of that, the choir sang evensong at Summer OB Day to a packed congregation. Bruckner's *Ave Maria* and Herbert Howells' *Collegium Regale* setting of Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis featured in amongst the school psalm and rousing congregational hymns. As the sun set over Rectory, one was able to realise what a magnificent setting Bradfield has.

The programme for the recent September concert is typically more challenging and this year proved no exception. A good mix of *Rejoice* in the

Lamb by Benjamin Britten, Welsey's *Ascribe Unto the Lord*, Handel's wonderful *Hallelujah Chorus*, Finzi's delicate *Welcome Sweet and Sacred Feast* and excerpts from Rheinberger's Mass were joined with wonderful readings from Charles Lepper, and Elgar on the organ, played by Peter Jaekel.

The programme was very taxing and there were moments where some of us thought that we had bitten off more than we could chew. Oh ye of little faith! The OB Choir performed magnificently, with great style and quality to a respectably sized and appreciative audience.

My thanks go to all at Bradfield College, most specifically to the Music Department and to the Development Office, for assisting in the production of the events. Additionally, my thanks to the members of the Choir who put body and soul on the line for a whole weekend – their dedication and commitment is truly superlative.

Finally, Cathy Pynn retired as College Chaplain in July 2006. She has been a remarkable source of support to OBCO over the years. Her wise counsel and sense of fun will be missed by all of us and we wish her and her family well. This invitation is widened to all of you for the forthcoming OB Carol Service on Sunday 10th December. We look forward to seeing you all in Chapel.

Andrew Parker (D 91-96)

## OB Choir and Orchestra



# The Cricketer Cup 2006



The first round at Felsted was a tricky tie against a young and competitive side. Having done a decent job with the ball, the spinning duo of George Trewby (G 00-05) (on Cup debut) and Peter Came (D 77-81) applying the brakes with some crafty stuff, the batsmen found it hard going on a slow pitch. With the required rate creeping up and wickets falling steadily, a first round exit looked a distinct possibility. However, where there's a Came there's a way, and the veteran produced an astonishing display of hitting to get us home with little to spare: Felsted Robins 214 for 7, Waifs 218 for 8.

Two weeks later at Charterhouse, our opponents in the 2005 Final were demolished in another day for Waifs followers to relish. With several absentees and no opening bowlers to speak of, the Waifs produced an extraordinarily dominant display. Early wickets fell as the Friars were lulled into a false sense of security against some innocuous seam bowling, though Nick Woodroffe (D 99-04) upped the quality coming on first change and taking a wicket with his first ball in the competition. The Carthusian middle order were once again mesmerised by Came's variations and crumbled to 158 all out.

Trewby and Rob Pollock (H 81-86) assisted in the mental disintegration with fine spells of spin bowling, backed up by a magnificent display of fielding and catching. To complete the rout Stuart Seymour (F 87-92) and Charlie Russell (E 98-03) smashed some lacklustre bowling to all parts in an unbroken (and record-breaking) first wicket stand of 162, completing the demolition just before the rain swept in.

For 75 overs of the third-round tie on Pit against the Eton Ramblers it could have gone either way. A strong wind from the Rectory end made bowling tricky, especially for our spin trio on whom we relied a little too heavily. However, the Ramblers batsmen never got away from us and, though a total of 219 was just better than par given a sluggish outfield and slow pitch, we had every chance. At 80-odd for 2 with 25 overs to go we were well in touch, but this rapidly changed in the face of some probing spin bowling from Loudon and Chetwood. A spectacular collapse ensued, five wickets falling for three runs and before one could do a lap of Pit the match was over: 117 all out.

Rob Stallard (G 57-62)

## Waifs Week 3-8 July

Waifs Week was as convivial and smoothly run as ever, despite indifferent weather at times. However, John Bodie's (C 44-48) generous contribution of the fine wine for the dinners on Monday and Wednesday nights helped the smooth running of the week, with Rob Pollock (H 81-86) and Mark Taylor (F 77-82) also having a lot to do with it.

The first match, the two-day game against the Free Foresters, was a high-scoring draw with three hundreds including a two-hour one by Peter Came (D 77-81) and five wickets for Rob Pollock's off-breaks in the Foresters first innings. The rain-affected Pelsham match was an extraordinary one, Charlie Ellison swept Pelsham away single-handedly with figures of 9 for 23, seven of his victims being bowled or lbw. Have there been

better figures in Waifs Week before, or for that matter a lower score of 66 in only an hour's batting? In response the Waifs were 96 for 2 when the dinner gong went, and as is the convention in these games overnight they declared – 'in order to make a match of it!' Pelsham then took the opportunity to make 251 in their second innings. However, the Waifs, chasing 230 surrendered abjectly, losing their last six wickets for fifteen runs in half-an-hour to be all out for 140.

A similar collapse happened the next day: a good MCC side came in the mood to avenge last year's narrow defeat, declaring on 253 for 2 admittedly with substantial contributions from two Old Bradfieldians, Duncan Irens (C 96-01) and James Morris (G 98-03), and then bowling the Waifs out for 100 in under two hours, only Will Chaloner (G 00-05) with two sixes and five fours in his 46 did something notable.

There was a positive result on the Saturday with a win over the Hampshire Hogs by 82 runs. Fifties by Seb Brain (A 97-02), Sam Outram (A 97-02) and Peter Came helped build up a score of 268 for 5. The end of the Hogs' innings was notable for two sixes by the convivial veteran of Waifs Week, Nigel Goodeve, hit onto the tented fields of Major and Max, nearly dispersing the occupants before the wind did the next day.

Will Kendall (A 87-92)





The Captain of the OBGS chose Bordeaux and Arcachon as the venue for this year's Tour and 33 members attended for at least part of the week. Sensibly, many members chose to drive down to Bordeaux with the idea of making the tour part of a longer trip (and undoubtedly taking the opportunity to fill the boot with wine).

The location had been suggested by French resident, Peter Eacersall (E 53-58) and his local knowledge of the courses, hotels and restaurants was invaluable. Having done so much excellent organisation Peter, unfortunately, was unable to play following a shoulder operation. We played at Seignosse – quite excellent – Medoc, Gujan Mestras and Arcachon in glorious 35 degree weather (for once) and spent our afternoons recovering by the swimming pool!

This year's tour boasted a strong lady golfer contingent and on the Thursday at

Gujan Mestras the first mixed event was staged, sponsored by Edward Demery (H 60-65). The Captain was fortunate enough to be provided with so many generous prizes to compete for during the week and each day's golf was keenly contested. Lionel Freedman (A 47-51) won the overall Captain's prize for each day and the Captain won the President's prize. The magnificent Cooper Tankard was also won by Lionel Freedman at Seignosse.

But it wasn't all hard work. Fortunately, time was found for some 'degustation' at Chateau Kirwan and the party enjoyed the golf, local produce and excellent food. The next tour has a hard act to follow!

Simon Osborn (A 71-76)



## OB Golf Society



**Tom Kerevan (C 97-02), Nick Robinson (A 74-79) and Mike Stotesbury (E 56-60)**

In the holiday golf competition for schools held annually each August at the Trevoze Golf Club in Cornwall, Bradfield again came out on top. The win in the Trevoze Hewitt, was our fourth in five years and the third in succession. Pictured are three of our winning team.

James Wyatt (G 58-63)

## Trevoze Hewitt Cup

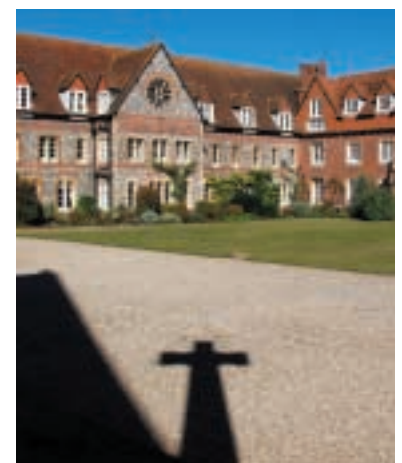
### Service of Remembrance

On Sunday 12 November there will be a Service of Remembrance in our College Chapel. The Service will commence at 10:50am in Chapel, moving then to the War Memorial at which wreaths will be laid by the Old Bradfieldian Society, the Bradfield Foundation and the Bradfield College Parents' Association. Lunch will be served in Hall from 12 noon.

I hope you will be able to attend the Service and lunch in Hall. If you are able to join us please RSVP to [chaplain@bradfieldcollege.org.uk](mailto:chaplain@bradfieldcollege.org.uk), stating any special dietary requirements you may have.

I very much look forward to seeing you on 12 November.

*Reverend Godfrey Hilliard  
College Chaplain*



# Bradfield Day Classes 1961-1970



On Sunday 18 June over 200 Old Bradfieldians joined staff and pupils for luncheon in the marquee on Major. During the meal the Headmaster and President of the OB Society addressed them, reporting on the exciting developments at the College and in the Society respectively. The OBs were then treated to tours conducted by Sixth Formers who showed them all the changes upon which the Headmaster had reported.

After lunch, members of The Close new and old gathered for the formal opening of the new boarding house by the family of

Alan Young, The Close's longest-serving Housemaster (47-66). Guests of honour were Richard Benyon MP (H 74-78), Richard Adams (H 33-38) and A W (Jumbo) Fuller (H 51-56), Chairman of the Bradfield Foundation from 1999-2003. The Headmaster, Richard Benyon and Ed Balfour spoke briefly and wished the community a long, happy and prosperous future.

Following this, OBs made their way back down the hill to watch the closely-fought cricket on Pit or to attend Evensong in Chapel, sung by the OB Choir.



# OB Biennial Dinner

On Wednesday 4 October the Old Bradfieldian Society Biennial Dinner was held at St Stephen's Club, Westminster.

The Club was packed with OBs ranging in age from 18 to over 80, with old friends being re-united and new friendships forming.

Sir Colin Lucas, Warden was the guest speaker and gave an excellent speech on his vision and plans for the College. Sir Colin, the former Vice Chancellor of Oxford University, is now Warden of Rhodes House and Secretary to the Rhodes Trust, the charitable organisation responsible for bringing some of the world's finest scholars to Oxford. During his seven years as Vice-Chancellor, Sir Colin led the modernisation of the University and saw it ranked fifth in the world, outranked only by four US institutions.





## Medea – an appreciation

I am honoured to be invited to contribute this article to the Old Bradfieldian Newsletter. I am not a Greek scholar and, although the legend of Jason and Medea intrigues me, I have never seen the play acted in Greek or in any other language: I believe, incidentally, that Ovid wrote a Latin version. I was, therefore, delighted to be able to see it at Bradfield in a setting I have known and loved for many years.

I do not offer a critique in the theatrical meaning of the word: I am not qualified to do so and I shy away from analytical discussion of individual performances; that is the business of Grecians. I do, however, offer an overall appreciation of a bold enterprise carried through with impressive imagination, dedication and skill.

As an introduction to, and accompaniment for the action of the play, we enjoyed the benefit of a succinctly written and dramatically illustrated programme, which explained clearly the unfolding of the intricate story. During the action we had the single advantage of electronic supertitles in English enabling at a glance understanding of on-stage speech. This was a classic example of modern technology used to enhance the presentation of ancient themes and spectacles. The music, especially composed for this production by Brian Craib, was a compelling audio aid and fitted perfectly the action and its scenery. The seaboard setting of the play, with real water, was an inspired idea, reminding the audience of place, time and distance factors underlying the plot.

As for the non-ancient-Greek players, many of whom were coping with the pressures of academic studies, theirs was collectively a remarkable performance. The decision to cast three actresses in the part of Medea, in view of the demands of the role, was a wise one and entirely successful. I was hardly conscious of the fact that three different people were portraying the complicated and sometimes contradictory mood swings of one personality; to me, she was always the same Medea suffering the stresses of her forlorn situation. The acting of the cast generally was convincingly fluid,



as life usually is, and none could be dubbed 'wooden'.

The young Chorus, though numerically weak, was strong in effect. The choreography by Abby Hatch of its minimal movement was strikingly powerful and illustrated well the mounting tension of the situation, especially the horror of Medea's growing resolve to kill her own children. Numerical weakness was irrelevant.

Since this is not a critique simply of on-stage performance, it is fitting to record appreciation of the elaborate array of back-stage organisation, without which no production is possible. The undoubted success of this production of *Medea*, no easy task, is eloquent tribute to everyone behind the scenes: their ingenuity and devotion to the project made a major contribution to that success.

In summary, having come to enjoy the play and not to seek aspects of it to criticise, I was enthralled by what I saw and learned. My wife, who is not a Greek scholar either, shares my feeling about it. John Taylor and his entire *Medea* team deserve thanks for this fine production of an ancient play with strong relevance to modern times. It was excellent entertainment and I am naïve enough to believe that a prime function of theatre is to entertain, in the widest sense of the word. I am glad I was in the Greek Theatre once more for a memorable evening. Major R Piers De Berniere-Smart (D 38-42)

## OB reception for *Medea*

The Old Bradfieldian Society hosted a reception for the highly successful summer production on Saturday 24 June.

The event brought young and old Bradfieldians together for drinks and a talk given by the Director, John J Taylor (SCR).



# Winter OB Day

- 1.45pm Huxham Ten Miler (Major)
- 2.00pm OB 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th XI Football Teams v The College  
OB Squash v The College
- 3.00pm OB Shooting Club v The College
- 3.15pm OB Girls' Hockey v The College (AWP)
- 3.45pm Tea in Hall
- 4.45pm Blundells open
- 5.30pm OB Choir: Carols by Candlelight in Chapel



## Diary of Events

- 12 November 2006: Remembrance Sunday
- 18 November 2006: 10 Year Reunion – Class of 1996
- 10 December 2006: Winter OB Day
- 21-22 April 2007: 24 Hour Charity Football
- 18 June 2007: Bradfield Foundation Golf Day
- 24 June 2007: Bradfield Day – Classes of 1971-1980
- Coming soon: Class of 2001 Reunion