



THE *Old Bradfieldian*

The Old Bradfieldian Society Newsletter

Spring 2008



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PA to the Director of Development

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Alumni Relations Officer

Jo Best (I 99-01)

Database Officer

Jordan Scammell

OB Society

Bradfield College
Reading, Berkshire
RG7 6AU

E-mail:

obsociety@bradfieldcollege.org.uk

Tel: 0118 964 4840

www.obsociety.org.uk

* *Executive Committee Member*

Another full edition of the Newsletter records both events at Bradfield and news about Old Bradfieldians from many different parts of the world. Please may I encourage you to email or drop us a line to let us know where you are and what you are doing. It is always fascinating to read so many interesting stories in the Snippets section about different lives across the generations.

As some of you know Elizabeth Masters, Director of Development, has now departed on maternity leave. We wish her well as she embarks on motherhood. In her absence I am particularly pleased that the Headmaster has secured the services of James Wyatt (G 58-63) as Acting Development Director and Campaign Director for the Foundation. James is well known to whole generations of Old Bradfieldians and served as President of the Society between 1993 and 2002. James had two sons at Bradfield, lives reasonably locally, and tells me he is really looking forward to playing an active role both in the work of the Society and the Foundation. James retires from his current job as Chief Executive of the Tennis and Racquets Association at the end of April and will begin working in the Development Office by mid May. We all wish him well as he continues the excellent work Elizabeth has been doing.

I am aware that both the School and the Society websites need a substantial makeover. Work is currently in progress to develop both sites and we hope to have sharpened things up by September to coincide with a launch of a new "brand" for Bradfield. It is our vision to have a much more interactive website, giving greater opportunity for postings from both the Society and its membership. We hope the improvement will facilitate communication between Old Bradfieldians across the generations making it easier for everyone to form new friendships and partnerships in both personal and professional areas. Watch this space!



Martin Young (C 59-64) and niece, Sasha Warre

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Young'.

Martin Young (C 59-64)
President



James Wyatt (G 58-63)



Elizabeth Masters (Director of Development)

Dear Old Bradfieldians,

The village of Bradfield and the view up the valley away from the Quad look absolutely lovely on these bright and clear spring mornings. The College community is in very good heart as well: despite the brevity of the Lent Term with the "Celtic" Easter, the girls and boys have crammed in an enormous amount from vibrant drama to accomplished musical performances and top-level sport in boys' hockey and girls' netball and lacrosse. The vision of the well-rounded Bradfield education is as robust as you remember it. Thanks to OB and parental support we have also revived some of the traditional Bradfield country sports; clay-pigeon shooting, horse-riding, polo, and, from the summer, fishing. School has to be fun, particularly at a boarding school, excellent though the academics are here!



There are three key strategic matters that I wanted to share with you in this edition:

- (i) Bradfield's unswerving commitment to extending the access of talented but less privileged young people to our special education: the support from the OB community for our Bursary schemes is most appreciated,
- (ii) The College's determination to increase our support for the teaching of science, the Modern Languages and the Classics, key to the future of our Nation and sadly neglected by successive governments: the support from the OB community for the new Science Centre project has been great,
- (iii) Central to Bradfield's ethos of developing "caring, contributing and confident young people" is to engage them in our wide ranging and pupil driven community service programme. The OBs have helped by inspiring the pupils by lectures and talks about their own community projects and by our joint work in developing the wonderful Bradfield Youth Club in Peckham. It was brilliant to see so many OBs at the "thank you Banquet" at the Club in January and at the joint concert at All Saints Church in March.

With best wishes,

Peter Robertson

Give it your Max Mixed Tennis Doubles

Sunday 27 April 2008 at 10:30am,
Bradfield College All Weather Pitches

Mixed Doubles Tennis event (all ages and standards)
in aid of Give it Your Max Charity Fund

Entry fee £15 per player (lunch included)

Contact Maria Vildavskaya (J) at
tennischarity@bradfieldcollege.org.uk

Officers of the Affiliated Clubs

Please contact the following
Hon. Secretaries for further
information:

Bradfield Wais Cricket Club
Rob C. Pollock (H 81-86)
Tel: 07952 750866
Email: robpollock@doctors.org.uk

OB Choir & Orchestra
Andrew Parker (D 91-96)
Tel: 07769 747551
Email: andrew.parker@rbs.co.uk

OB Cross Country
Mike Bostelmann (A 61-66)
Tel: 020 8876 4966 (h)
020 7306 9100 (o)
Email: mjbostelmann@aol.com

OB Fives Club
Chris Thomas (G 84-89)
Tel: 020 8543 1592
07974 316396
Email: thomases@dsl.pipex.com

OB Football Club
Stuart Dennis (D 87-92)
Tel: 020 7566 3900 (o)
07855 386393
Email: sdennis@ultrasis.com

OB Hockey
Mary Bucknell (J 99-01)
Email: marybucknell@hotmail.com
Stuart Robertson (F 95-00)
Email:
stuart.robertson@royalhospitalschool.org

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 7359 5876 (h)
Email: ed.bowyer@lovells.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
07989 433823
Email: ollieandlisa@blueyonder.co.uk

OB Shooting Club
Richard Vary (E 86-91)
Tel: 07973 239335 (m)
Email: richard.vary@nokia.com

OB Squash Club
Daniel Barnard (C 91-96)
Tel: 020 8977 8011 (h)
07939 538069 (m)
Email: daniel_barnard@johnlewis.co.uk

Edward Wilkinson (D 82-87)

On Monday 4 February Edward Wilkinson, who works for the 'Whitehead Mann Partnership', returned to Bradfield to advise the VI Form pupils about their future Careers. Edward's career has been diverse since leaving Bradfield. He has worked in Investment Banking, Farm sales and Cross Country Construction, before he found his feet Head Hunting in London. Edward spoke with passion about his job which has led him to Australia and Asia for seven years before returning to work in Europe again. Edward was very refreshing in his approach to career advice, emphasising that there is not a 'right way' of doing things when it comes to Career development. He encouraged everyone to look at their strengths, and what they enjoy and then advised them to gain different



experiences; travelling, studying at university, gaining work experience, or talking and communicating with friends and relatives. The pupils enjoyed his lecture and after the presentation he stayed for informal conversations and guidance. Thank you very much for your advice and help Edward.

OB Reps

Congratulations to the following pupils elected as the OB Representative for their Houses for the OB Society; (A) Chris Trenchard, (C) Edward Gillett, (D) Oliver Lewis, (E) Hugh Tomlinson, (F) Ben Herbert, (G) Vincent Wong, (H) Sam Smith, (I) Lucy Munro, (J) Tara Acland, (K) Claire Fryer. The Representatives are the main point of contact between the Houses and the OB Society. In addition they help with Old Bradfieldian events and reunions. They work closely with the Development Office to help produce the Leavers' Book and help to encourage contact between the OB Society and their year when they leave Bradfield.



From left to right; Tara Acland, Claire Fryer, Edward Gillett, Lucy Munro, Oliver Lewis, Vincent Wong, Sam Smith, Chris Trenchard, Ben Herbert

General Studies

With many thanks to the following Old Bradfieldians who have given up their time to come back to Bradfield and give a General Studies lecture to the Sixth Form pupils; Gus Ullstein (H 60-65), Ben Reid (F 86-91), Rob Pollock (H 81-86), Hannah McCracken (I 94-96), Rob Wescott (B 91-96) and Graham Lewis (G 97-02).



BCPA Quiz Night



On the evening of Friday 1 February 2008 Bradfield College welcomed radio and television celebrity, Mr "Diddy" David Hamilton as host for the annual BCPA Quiz night. This year the money raised was donated to the College library. We were delighted by the fantastic response for tickets to what has become one of our most popular events.

This was a fiercely fought competition eventually won by the Faulkner's teacher's team, by only one point. David Hamilton proved to be a cool, calm host, even when

argument raged over the true height of Mount Everest!

Thanks to Ian and Kevin, the caterers, for providing a fantastic meal and also to Penny, Isabel, and the rest of the committee for their hard work. With the great support from all who attended plus the raffle and auction, we managed to raise in excess of £1,600. Sorry to those who missed out this year due to the limited space, but we'll do it again next year so book early!

Ann Scott (Parent)

A mixed group of Lower and Upper Sixth Art, Textiles and History of Art A level pupils set off at the start of Long Leave to New York. They were in the company of Mr Dugdale, Miss Jervis and Miss Cowan. It is the Art Department's third trip of its kind which occurs every two years. Although



the accommodation was rather basic, being situated right on the edge of Central Park on the West Side it had its advantages.

The trip included a visit to the Guggenheim where, as well as the permanent collection, there was an interesting exhibition by Chinese artist Cai Guo-Qiang, a visit to the Cooper-Hewitt Design Museum and some shopping on Fifth Avenue.

The visit to the MoMA; which summarised 20th century Art; was a favourite for many of the pupils. The highlight of the trip though was the serenading we received from a waitress in Elen's Stardust Diner!

The group also visited the Frick, the Empire State building and The Metropolitan Museum of Art. It was an excellent, but exhausting trip.

Ian Dugdale (SCR)

New York Art Trip



Alistair Petrie (C 84-88) met the three pupils acting in *The Maids*, read through parts of the play with them and discussed approaches. I was struck afterwards by the girls' enthusiasm and their insistence of the crucial and too often overlooked maxim that in theatre the fake will always be exposed. Their approach to the text in rehearsal was to tease out and to clarify the motivations and intentions of the characters, which are notoriously obscure. The final results were performances of intensity and precision. I don't know how he managed to communicate his professionalism, but am grateful for it, and very much hope he can return.

Alistair also attended a late rehearsal of *The Beggar's Opera*, which he enjoyed. The pupils were flattered that someone so prestigious should so obviously enjoy their work. I hope they now realise that actors are more likely to be successful if they remain genuine and generous, as Alistair has proved. He was just the same when I taught him.

Tom Foster (D 87-92) came on two occasions. He ran a workshop with UVI Theatre Studies pupils on delivering Shakespeare's language, though he also spent a lot of time on physical and breathing exercises. Pupils complained afterwards in some cases that their thighs ached after the intensive workout, but their laughter rang in the rafters while contorting themselves. The result, however, was that the pupils, invigorated and relaxed, were able to approach Shakespeare's language without inhibition. Moreover, his technique of breaking up a speech among the group and delivering lines to each other as though they were one person achieved the necessary 'attack'.

Tom also worked for three hours with the LVI Theatre Studies pupils on 'The Ultimate Actors' Warm-Up': this was an intense, unbroken chain of physical,

breathing and mental exercises that extended the pupils' sense of what their bodies and voices can do. I hope Tom will return next year.

Gemma Brockis (J 91-93), one of the founder members of SHUNT, also took the UVI Theatre Studies pupils. Astonishingly, she came straight from Argentina, where she has been working and researching, before shooting off to perform in Newcastle. SHUNT are noted for the site-specific character of their work. Gemma therefore talked about some of their work, and watched the pupils perform some of theirs. She then directed them as she would a SHUNT rehearsal, encouraging one group to extend their idea of the families confronting one another in *Romeo and Juliet* into creating a boxing ring among the pillars in *Big School*, and advised on how they can best use the space they created. Gemma is another who I hope to entice back to Bradfield.

All three OBs gained the respect and appreciation of the pupils. It was moving to see pupils I had instructed in my younger days returning, having developed their knowledge beyond my own scope, and sharing it with those still here.

Alan Kilburn (SCR)

Drama Workshops



Micky Denehy (E 73-78)



The Faulkner's Lecture on Thursday 31 January was about Advertising (or, is it now Ideas?) and was presented by Micky Denehy (E 73-78) of Saatchi & Saatchi.

Micky began by showing us some brands he had worked on. They were some of the biggest brands in the world, like Visa, Proctor & Gamble, Lexus, Toyota and many others.

He then went on to show us how a product becomes a 'lovemark'; a 'lovemark' is a term for a product or brand that has emotionally attached itself to a normal person's way of life. He said if a product had high love and high respect from the general public it was considered a 'lovemark'.

We were then shown a multitude of recent, well known, adverts by Saatchi & Saatchi. The Carlsberg pub football team ad, the Visa ad, the NSPCC ad, the T

mobile text your head off ad. All were very clever in catching the customer's eye and this is what Micky said made a great ad.

Finally Micky showed us the promotional bid films used for the 2012 Olympics. He said that part of the reason why Britain had won the bid was due to their successful advertising of the Games. Unlike France, who concentrated on saying how great Paris would be, Britain emphasised how great the Olympics were and the impact it has on individual human lives. The IOC bid made no reference to London at all and appealed to delegates on the basis of the power of the Olympic dream!

This was a very interesting lecture and it has certainly inspired me to think about Advertising as something I may like to get involved with in the future.

George Spooner (G)

Concert at All Saints, Peckham

Tuesday 11 March saw all members of the Bradfield Family unite for a concert at All Saints, Peckham for an eclectic array of Music. The concert was characterised by its huge variety of music. The OBs sang the *Durufle Motets* which were in great contrast to the Urban Speech and Raccoustic raps, lead by rapper Six Days. The rappers, youths from Peckham and the church,



expressed their plight against gang warfare on the streets, and the peace they have found in knowing the Lord Jesus. They were truly thrilling to hear and see being accompanied with a dance. An encore was demanded by the audience. Everyone was captivated by Tenor, Mark Milhofer (C 81-86) and couldn't help but join in and clap their hands as the All Saints Choir performed *Friend of God*. Ann Wright (SCR) had the audience in laughter with the College choir, as they sang *The Goslings by Bridge*, a love story, ending up with two geese married side by side in the oven. Ally Clark's art exhibition of stones, donated by members of the Bradfield Family, and collected by Ally from the River Pang at Bradfield was key at portraying the growing partnership between the College, Club and Church, and the growing vision for the future.

Steve Simmance (G 78-83)

Tuesday 27 November saw a visit from Old Bradfieldian Steve Simmance, of Simmance Partnership Ltd, to give a talk on branding, finding the right career and the world of fast moving consumer goods, or food and drink to the rest of us. Aimed primarily at Business Studies, Economics pupils, the



workshop involved group discussions about what people look for in an employer and how branding and advertising affect our decisions as consumers. This was accompanied by an interesting presentation from Mr Simmance about his experiences in business, with plenty of opportunities for people to share their ideas. Open discussion was encouraged by a group activity in which pupils prioritised different aspects of working life, it eventually coming down to a trade off between pecuniary and non-pecuniary benefits. Though the subject of careers and work may not appear a particularly interesting topic for the average teenager, this together with the format of the evening made for an engaging society.

Alex Robinson (D)



On Remembrance Sunday 11 November, the Bradfield College Family gathered in Chapel to commemorate those who had died in the conflicts of this and last century. Wreaths were laid at the memorial in Quad by the Headmaster, Senior Prefects and representatives of the Old Bradfieldian Society, the Bradfield Foundation and the BCPA. The service, led by the Chaplain, the Reverend Godfrey Hilliard, was attended by past and present members of the College and was followed by a most enjoyable lunch in Hall.

Godfrey Hilliard (Chaplain)

Remembrance Sunday

Under the guidance of our expert parent, Mrs Walsh, and supported by Laura Vat (SCR) the polo players have come on in leaps and bounds this academic year. David Heaton-Ellis is now coaching the pupils twice a week at Burley Lodge in Spencer's. The pupils are becoming more confident, the older players having two years' experience, which is fantastic for the growth of the sport.

Bradfield's greatest success came recently when a group of three Fifth Form girls ventured down to Longdale Polo Club

for the National Girls School Tournament. After a long day, with lengthy gaps in play, the girls walked away as winners of their division, beating local rivals Pangbourne as well as Rugby, Sherborne, Luckley Oakfield, amongst others.

I have great pleasure in taking over the polo reins from Laura as she embarks on another chukka in her life: motherhood. Miranda, David and I hope to take the Polo forward with a match against the OB team as well as new fixtures in the summer term.

Hannah Spencer (K 98-00, SCR)

Polo



Winners of Division at National Girls Schools Championship

On Monday 21 January the 1st XI football team took on Carterhouse in the final of the Southern Schools League. The match took place at the Corinthian Casuals Ground in Tolworth and with both schools taking bus-loads of supporters the atmosphere was exciting. The early stages were evenly contested with Ben Metters (G) strengthening the midfield. Paris Williams

(D) and Matthew Siredzuk (F) looked particularly lively but the Charterhouse defence proved too strong. As the game continued there was nearly an equaliser from Harry Halls (D) but in the end the power of the Charterhouse team proved too much and they ran out 3-0 winners.

Steve Long (SCR)

Southern Schools Football Final

Sunday 9 March was the official opening of the new 'wet dressed' artificial pitch. A delightful spring morning saw over 150 pupils being coached by Bradfield hockey staff, before the official opening ceremony conducted by the Headmaster and Richard Dodds, Captain of Great Britain's Gold

medal winning team at the Seoul Olympics in 1988. With representatives from AMB Sports and Tigerturf, who kindly sponsored the day's social events, distinguished guest, Governors, and representatives of England Hockey, the feast of hockey was enjoyed by all.

Roger Wall (SCR)

Second AWP Opening



Martin Brewer (A 43-47), Jean de Berniere-Smart, Elizabeth Masters (SCR) and Piers de Berniere-Smart (D 38-42).



A Science Centre for Bradfield

Thank you to all our donors who supported the various projects over the past year: the Bursary Fund; the Bradfield Club in Peckham; the Library and Drama Development. Your help and commitment has significantly aided the College's progress.

The Bradfield Foundation is pleased to announce that its next capital project is to assist the College in raising funds for the proposed Science Centre. The Centre will not only aid in the development of science teaching and learning, forming links with the local science community but will also be a fundamental statement promoting science as a key area for current and future generations of pupils at the College to aspire to study at undergraduate level and beyond.

We are pleased to present an architects impression of the building which will house the Biology, Chemistry and Physics departments.

The Science Centre

Rod Dethridge, Head of Science, has worked with his academic team and the architects to ensure that the proposed building will enable our young scientists to learn through experiment and investigation. The fully-equipped new laboratories will provide the opportunity for 'hands-on' science where the theoretical aspects of science are put into practice at every turn. The building itself will provide a source of scientific study to illustrate how energy efficiency, sustainability and ecological awareness can combine to produce a building of the future, for example, the building is to be topped by a

living roof! As a result of the variety of plant species growing on the roof it will encourage biodiversity; it also encourages a natural habitat for insect, bird and butterfly species; it reduces the energy costs associated with keeping a building cool in hot weather and the plants help to recycle carbon dioxide, thus helping to reduce our carbon footprint. Through experimentation and observation, our young pupils can daily experience the awe and wonder of science.

Science as a part of the College Ethos

The Science department, following our academic, cultural and sporting ethos, is currently developing a science-based activity culture. Bradfield College is situated in an area of outstanding beauty and we are laying the groundwork to set up research projects to look at the effect of climate change on our local habitat, with links being forged with local groups and universities. There are also plans to look into restoring the 'nature reserve' located behind the sports complex, which many Old Bradfieldians may remember.

The Centre will provide shared spaces for the teaching staff and technicians to work together as a team, to share ideas and to help each other prepare and lead "inspirational" science. With the science disciplines currently in three different buildings cross-curricular work is practically very difficult. The new team approach will be a vital element in the way that science teaching will be integrated and developed. Shared spaces allow cross-fertilisation of ideas and approaches to teaching for teachers and pupils alike.

Bradfield science in the community

The new building will also be a centre for the local community. Primary schools will be welcomed to experience science hands-on, in a way not possible in their own schools. We hope to further our support of preparatory schools to provide support and training for the way in which they present science to the pupils in their own schools. We see this is an opportunity to demonstrate the importance of stimulating young scientists from a very early age!

Further details will be provided by The Bradfield Foundation later in the year but if you have any questions about the development of science teaching at the College please do not hesitate to contact the Development Office (development@bradfieldcollege.org.uk).

Elizabeth Masters
(Director of Development)

Architect's impression



As Bradfield prepares for its exciting new Science Centre, George Masters (E 94-99, SCR) visits Liverpool, European Capital of Culture 2008, getting a flavour of National Museums Liverpool's dynamic approach to education.

The City of Liverpool has a huge amount to boast about. I am not just talking about 800 years of history going back to the time of King John, including the Titanic, the Beatles, Anfield and Aintree, but a modern and sophisticated city that is today oozing with opportunities to experience culture and education. National Museums Liverpool is made up of eight museums and galleries in and around Liverpool. Last year the city commemorated the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade by opening the International Slavery Museum, described by National Museums Liverpool's Director David Fleming as "the most important new British Museum for 100 years." This is quite a claim, and who's to judge, but a visit to the museum, which opened on 23 August, demonstrates that it just might be true.

The International Slavery Museum is a museum with passion. It is far from the uninspiring and passive museum spaces that some visitors can find themselves traipsing around. Openly and honestly – occasionally aggressively – it challenges and confronts its visitors, ensuring that they are made to reflect upon the role that Liverpool, Britain and Humanity played in the transatlantic slave trade and its relevance today. It is, I think, a space of which Thomas Clarkson, the indefatigable foot soldier of abolition, would have been proud. Clarkson played a critical role in bringing about the abolition of the slave trade but the presence of a 1920s Ku Klux Klan outfit serves as a powerful and horrific reminder of legacies of the trade. As Richard Benjamin, Head of the International Slavery Museum, emphasises, the third stage of the exhibition is key. It is designed to remind visitors of the legacies, racism and poverty, which have affected the development of all the countries involved, as well as the unquenchable spirit of people of African descent, which has helped to shape the society and cultures of the Americas and Europe. While the first stage tells the story of Africa before colonial invasion and the second stage explains the trade itself, emphasising the perhaps

surprisingly detailed and businesslike approach of the traders, the third stage epitomises the focus of the museum: education and awareness. Although the slave trade was abolished in Britain two centuries ago its legacy lives on. Dr Benjamin is keen to ensure visitors recognise this. It is a thoroughly modern museum; an interactive space where issues for today are discussed. Because slavery and particularly human trafficking is a huge problem, with racism and poverty as major contributory causes, the International Slavery Museum has a crucial, international and political role to play. The prejudice, inequality and ignorance left behind by slavery must not be ignored. Indeed Dr Benjamin is working on the National Curriculum Supplementary Material and talks excitedly about Phase 2, which will house the Centre for the Study of International Slavery, planned for completion in 2010/11: a space where the issues will be discussed and addressed head-on. It will provide exhibition and education spaces, an archive, and facilities for researchers and visiting scholars.

Education and relevance are central themes at National Museums Liverpool. In the same way that the International Slavery Museum strives to make people aware of slavery today, all the museums and galleries are focused on making their three million objects and works of art accessible. Visitor numbers soared to almost two million last year, a 139% increase since 2001. Most laudably, since the opening of *Big Art for Little Artists*, the first of its kind in a national gallery, the number of Under 16 visitors has increased by 23% at the Walker Art Gallery. Reyahn King, previously Head of Interpretation and Exhibitions at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, was appointed Director of Art Galleries last July and is concentrating her energy on encouraging people to visit the galleries by meeting their needs and interests. The experiences are tailored for the various types of visitors, including cross-generational family trails and guides. Both children and inexpert adults can therefore be inspired, gaining just as much enjoyment from the galleries as those who are already knowledgeable.

Within the museums and galleries the Rank Foundation, who provide Rank Foundation leadership awards at Bradfield, funds the Youth Arts Programme, which provides opportunities for young people to engage in innovative and creative arts activities. They work in partnership with local community groups and arts organisations to enable young people to explore their artistic talent and showcase their own culture and views. The programme helps them develop their

personal, social and creative skills with the collections providing the inspiration and stimulus to explore a diverse range of issues through the expressive arts.

The National Conservation Centre, "where science meets art", is equally full of opportunities to learn. It welcomes hordes of school groups to find out what the conservators, or 'detectives' as Vivien Chapman, Head of Organics Conservation, describes herself, do, revealing how a whole range of items including paintings, mummies, ship models and even a Cold War spacesuit are conserved. They learn about the conservators' range of specialist skills and experience that are required to clean and treat National Museums Liverpool's three million objects and works of art.

The jewel in National Museums Liverpool's crown is Sudley House, a rare art collection including fabulous works by Gainsborough and Turner still housed in Victorian ship owner and merchant George Holt's original setting, which has recently been refurbished with the support of Old Bradfieldians John Bodie OBE (C 44-48) and Michael Stone (E 49-54). Mr Bodie, Trustee of The Bradfield Foundation and former member of Council, is Vice Chairman of National Museums Liverpool Development Trust and has, according to Amy de Joia, Executive Director of Development and Communications, "consistently been one of our [National Museums Liverpool's] best supporters and advisers. He is insightful, sympathetic, objective and expert". Mr Bodie was instrumental in securing support for the £4m International Slavery Museum project as well as establishing the relationship between The Rank Foundation and National Museums Liverpool. Bradfield counts itself fortunate to have such a worthy man as a supporter, adviser and friend.

George Masters (E 94-99, SCR)

Dr Colin Smythe (G 55-59)



Natalie and Dr Smythe

On Tuesday the 11 December I had the privilege of interviewing Colin Smythe, a well established and known publisher. I entered the interview room, feeling slightly overwhelmed by the task ahead trying vainly to ignore the hard knot of panic kicking me in the stomach – breathe, I reminded myself – but my nerves were soon calmed by the friendly manner in which Dr Smythe greeted me.

Chatting to Colin Smythe and looking over old College photos at his time at Bradfield College, it is hard to believe that 50 years later the college still retains its character and has that same feel to it as it did in the photos he showed me. Obviously the college has grown and almost doubled in size since his time here and is much more spread out. When asked if Bradfield had changed him, Dr Smythe replied “inevitably it did”. He recalled his time at Bradfield as being on the whole enjoyable and the Beaumont library was “a pleasant refuge”. However, Dr Smythe felt he belonged to the wrong house, (G), as at that time houses were very stereo-typically divided with G House being very much sport centred which did not suit him.

For his A levels, to my surprise, Dr Smythe studied physics and chemistry and was accepted into Trinity College Dublin (TCD) by matriculating in Maths and Chemistry. He now believes that languages would have suited him better. His love for writing and exploration of languages is apparent even when he speaks. This showed how life can take us in interesting directions and despite his subject choices his obvious motivation and determination to follow his intrinsic passion is inspiring. What most interests me is how a person's life is shaped by their experiences. I wanted to know what had been of great influence and impact on Colin Smythe. He explained that for him it

The Blue Pool, River Pang, 1958



was his time at university. He read English, History and Geography at TCD, and his first encounter with publishing was there, working for a student newspaper. He became deeply interested in Irish Literature and while the idea of publishing had never initially occurred to him, he was inspired by the great works of Irish authors such as W.B. Yeats and Lady Gregory. Publishing also ran in his family, his great-grandfather having specialised in publishing in the 1870s. He thought perhaps that this may have subconsciously guided his career path.

Moving on to his publishing career, I was most curious about the role of a publisher and what publishing actually entails. I learnt that the processes within publishing are surprisingly quite simple. Dr Smythe explained that you decide whether you want to accept a book, then negotiate a contract, and suggest any editorial changes you think are necessary. It is then a matter of production: type-setting, printing, binding and general design, then marketing, working on publicity for book, and getting the public to buy it. Dr Smythe expressed that for him the difficulty at first was the desire to try and publish all genres of books. He started off publishing a range of books, from fiction to education aids. To survive however, within the competitive field of publishing, he soon learned that it was wise to specialise in a specific genre. Colin Smythe's M.Litt. thesis on Lady Gregory was unfinished when he started his own publishing firm in 1966 and soon decided to concentrate mainly on Irish literature. It is evident that going to university in Dublin exposed him to the major and minor authors of the Irish Literary Revival who undoubtedly shaped this decision.

The next pressing question on my mind was the nature of the relationship between author and publisher. Should this be similar to say a professional office style work relationship or a much more laid-back approach? Dr Smythe explained “yes, it would usually be a very close relationship” and author and publisher could work hours together discussing what, if any, editorial changes were needed. During his publishing life Dr Smythe emphasised how many young, aspiring authors came to him with books which simply made no sense. They were often under the impression that “the more complicated the book the cleverer the author, but this is obviously not the case! The author should write as clearly as possible to reach his audience” Dr Smythe was not only involved with publishing but also found the time to be a visiting professor at the University of Ulster for nine years. I was intrigued to find out which he preferred: lecturing or publishing. He simply replied “I am always happy to lecture” but he did mention that it brought

constraints on his time as it involved a great deal of research to write the lectures. He obviously feels fortunate to be able to combine both his publishing career with academic activities, and was very proud to be honoured by the University of Dublin with an honorary doctorate for his services to Irish literature in 1998.

Most famously, Dr Smythe is Terry Pratchett's agent, and he spoke highly of the author who came to his company as a very young 19 year old reporter, full of energy and enthusiasm and the typescript of his first book, *The Carpet People* under his arm. From the first instant of meeting him Dr Smythe knew that he had great potential, and his faith in him turned out to be justified. He finds all of Terry Pratchett's books compelling and told me of the one he was currently working on, the young adult novel *Nation* which is to be published in September '08. The company had been Terry's publisher for fifteen years before he moved to Victor Gollancz, and Colin then became his agent. I was interested to know what it was like to work with an author such as Terry Pratchett. Dr Smythe emphasised how it was "always great fun and challenging" to be able to act as agent for books from such "an excellent craftsman" as well as admiring Pratchett for being so loyal an author. Nearing the end of the interview I was interested in knowing about Dr Smythe's plans for the future. He replied without hesitation "not to retire". For me this was truly an encouraging way of



Dr Colin Smythe (G 55-59)
with Terry Pratchett

thinking and I believe that we too should never retire simply on our school choices, there is a whole wide world out there waiting for us. . . nothing is set in stone. We should never retire and especially not on life.

Natalie Nakkas (J)

One Crown for a rabbit carcass or One and Six pence for its pelt! It appeared that Tony had spent a good part of his time at Bradfield hunting the local game. He kept his pet ferret, Ferocious, up on the hill close to the present visitor's car park, and his 4.10 poaching pistol in his bedroom cupboard.



Tony, 1945

"I don't think the school knew about it – if they did they turned a blind eye to it!" Tony arrived at Bradfield in the middle of the war, 1943. He recalls that his prep school headmaster thought it would suit him, being "a bit of a free spirit". At that time boys went farming during term time, including spud picking, cutting and stoking. This suited Tony who grew up on a small holding. He would regularly order a batch of small ducklings to be dropped off at the train station for the beginning of the holidays so he could raise them for nine weeks ready for the table. His love of creatures extended to racing pigeons, which he entered into the Northern Route Race from Berwick, and rabbits, including Old English and Dutch which were entered into exhibitions.

Having enjoyed designing and making animal hutches, Tony decided to join a London building company, James Carmichael, to gain experience, and see if he was suited to a career in Building Surveying. Six months later, on 30 shillings a week, supplemented with a pound from his father, Tony wrote to see if he could join up to the forces. In the mean time, his

John (Tony) Venables (A 42-45)





Elanor, Hong Kong



Sketch by a friend, W. D Skottowe



Overlord, Caledonian Canal, Scotland

work with James Carmichael involved the restoration of Battersea Power Station, Madeline Lady's College and the War Office, all of which had been damaged from the bombings.

Tony's OTC experience at Bradfield, including a signalling course with the 11 Hussars at Barnard Castle, Yorkshire, and his war certificate 'A' helped him greatly with his Officer Selection process. He said he felt confident as he approached his six weeks of basic infantry training in Suffolk, May 1946. He then trained as a gunner with the 202 Royal Artillery Training Regiment at Oswestry, involving instruction on 3.7 inch mobile anti-aircraft guns. Tony was made an NCO in charge of the radar stores, and a temporary messing officer, before being posted to Edinburgh as Lance Corporal. Shortly afterwards he found himself on board a troops ship, SS Georgic to go to Bangalore, India. A loud tannoy announcement asked him to report to the Port Commandant, where he was asked if he wanted to become a regular commissioned officer. He had two hours to make the decision and pack his bag before the ship left the dock. Sandhurst, January 1947 he chose.

Reporting to Knap Castle, Horsham for proper selection, Tony says "Maths had been double death, and Calculus . . . !" The command tasks, technical aptitude and English exams were not a problem, "but the last exam, was what, you guessed it, Maths! Do I sit here like a lemon to the end . . . no, I've got to do something." He remembered Churchill's 'Apt Alliterations Always Apply', and wrote "Foxed, Finished and Found out".

The others in the Mess were asking him why he finished so early when suddenly a CO entered and explained that he had to leave and return to his unit. He was then summoned to report to Major General Pratt, who said he admired a man who would never be beaten and over ruled the Education Officer, sending him to Sandhurst.

Tony spent 16 years in the Army, finishing his career as Staff Captain of the ST3 branch of the War Office, dealing with military vehicles, staff cars, infantry carriers, amphibious ducks and water transport. Highlights of his career include: a language course in Toulouse University; managing the largest shoot in Wunstorf, where the game included pheasants, deer, wild boar and ducks; a posting as Ship's Officer to go to a Water Transporting Company in Singapore and Long Flotilla and Long Technical Navigation courses where he continued his childhood love of sailing. He became well known in his role of Entertainments Officer, where he managed to keep the morale of his men by successfully creating water bombs targets from balloons. Teams of five would

fire at them when they were 50 yards from the stern. The team which knocked out all five balloons quickest with the minimum amount of ammunition was the winner.

Tony told me the story about six friends who bought a ship in Hong Kong. It was a Brixham Trawler called Elanor. One evening the friends anchored her off the Kellet Islands and went to celebrate. The ship was hit by a Typhoon, but they couldn't afford to pay for the repairs. A Dockyard recovered her and took her in recompense for the salvage money. The owner, Williamson, left her in his will to the Combined Services Recreation Club and when Tony arrived in Hong Kong, 1953, to command a flotilla of Fast Launches and Assault Craft he was in the right place at the right time and had the honour of skippering Elanor.

In October 1952 the military introduced the Golden Bowlers which entitled Tony to compensation if he left the forces early. He took the decision to accept which enabled him to buy 'Overlord', a 58 foot Windfall yacht which is now owned by the Offshore Cruising Club. Tony formed his own Yacht Club based on the rules of the Army Sailing Club, with initial difficulty in recruiting members. He decided to launch a tie that people could buy, and offered a free weekend of sailing for current members if they introduced a friend. The Overlord Sailing Club was born, and was later re-named the 'Offshore Cruising Club'. Tony also formed the Sea Scamp Sailing Club, the Maribu Sailing Club, no longer in existence and the Suna Sailing Club which has now moved to Liverpool.

Tony is a man of many stories. I am teetering with one more that I would like to mention. Tony was hailed a hero after he managed to bring aid to many people following an Earthquake in Skopje, Yugoslavia. Being a member of the Round Table of Great Britain, his Table, amongst others decided to take caravans to Skopje to provide housing to those who had lost their homes. Using his organisational and logistical skills, he successfully formed an expedition party to drive four caravans 3200 miles and deliver food donated by Schweppes. Tony is a man of action and determination and it seems no challenge is big enough for him.

It barely seems possible that somehow amidst all of these adventures he was able to marry and raise a son and a daughter. Now 80 years old, Tony is busy exploring his family history and collating his evidence to prove that Martin Behem was actually the true discoverer of America and not Christopher Columbus. It is certain that Tony is the man for the Challenge. I look forward to seeing if he is able to change history as we know it.

Jo Best (1 99-01, SCR)

“What are those trees?” I asked as the coach wheeled past them on my very first visit to Bisley Camp.

“Cedars of Lebanon”, said the arboreally more knowledgeable shooter at my side. They were certainly a novelty to my sixteen-year-old eyes, but only one of several revelations I was to encounter at Bisley.

It was the summer of 1953, my last year at Bradfield and my first and last term in the College shooting-team. From a casual practice at the range to discover whether I knew one end of a Royal Enfield 303 rifle from the other, I had progressed rapidly to the status of Marksman – with a Shooting Colour to follow after success in several inter-school competitions.

My only regret was that I hadn't realised I was a shooter many terms earlier. I could have regularly put my name down for target practice at afternoon games-call – and spared myself those interminable cross-country runs. More importantly, there was an appeal for me in shooting which I would have liked to have experienced sooner. Compared with other sports, it required a kind of detachment, coupled with great concentration. There was the obligatory shutting out of all extraneous goings-on around one, the steady bringing of the sights to bear on that distant black circle of the Bull, the first gently press of the trigger, a settling pause, and then the second squeeze to send the bullet home. Finally came a blend of exhilaration, apprehension, and ultimate relief, waiting for the signal from the Butts to indicate one's score. Now we had reached the high-point of the season – the Ashburton Shield – the biggest public schools' competition of the year. Various other events were organised around it, which meant a two-night stay under canvas at Bisley. The fact that this meeting overlapped with my sitting for GCE O-levels could well have increased the general tension.

But we had a way of dealing with tension, us shooters. This was the ritual of Banger Hill – an otherwise undistinguished landmark, where by long association the ‘dripping’ (or pre-match nerves) was judged to begin. At an agreed sign we hurled the banger-rolls from our packed lunches en masse from the coach windows! Whether this touching piece of whimsy actually worked I never knew, not being prone to ‘dripping’ in the first place. But I was rather partial to those banger-rolls and always somewhat loath to consign them to the roadside.

During the Ashburton meeting I had a chance to explore Bisley more thoroughly than on earlier visits. The Thousand Yard Range exercised a fascination all of its own. Because of the distance involved, the rifles could only be properly aimed when the shooters were lying on their backs! Trying to align the sights in the traditional prone

position meant the rifle butts disappearing under their shoulders. It was a paradoxical situation – seeing the contestants apparently relaxed and at ease, with their rifle-slings around the backs of their necks, while they were actually involved in a tricky and highly-skilled procedure.

The weather-gods had determined that the big competition was hardly to be a happy experience. It was dull and drizzling, with a blustery wind that came in fits and starts. Our Armourer and coach, RSM Sandy Munnoch, a bluff and sturdy Scot, shook his head as he contemplated conditions which could scarcely be worse for attempting accurate shooting. With the wind coming in unpredictable gusts, it was hard to calculate how to allow for it with each individual shot. At the 250 yard firing-point things seemed to settle for a time, but when we reassembled at 500 yards for the final part of the shoot they could not have been worse.

I can remember huddling down, partly covered by a ground-sheet, and exhorting myself not to get my ribbon in a twist! (Wearing our CCF uniforms, I had to take care not to snag it while I performed the contortions required to operate the bolt of a right-handed rifle.) But the real handicap, of course, was the turbulence of the elements that afternoon.

Nevertheless, fate which had been so unkind on the previous day had clearly decided to settle matters up, and I ended up with a very respectable score. This was later confirmed as the highest anyone on the Team had achieved and should rightly have earned me some end-of-match celebrations. Those, alas, I had to forgo – I was needed back at Bradfield without delay for my GCE Chemistry Practical.

Chauffeured back ahead of the others, I stood at the lab bench and carried out the designated procedures alone – save for the imposing presence of my supervisor, ‘Blimey’ Price, under whom I had been an eager first-year student. ‘Blimey’ was an essentially kindly man and very strong. According to one of my Maths teachers, a Mr. Sopwith (rather predictably aka ‘Soppy’), ‘Blimey’ could throw a cricket-ball so high into the air that it would all but disappear – a feat which possibly earned him his nickname, although I had heard other explanations. He nodded approvingly as he surveyed the sheet of my answers and I knew that for the second time that day I had acquitted myself with some merit.

A day or two later I was presented with a medal to commemorate my high score in the Ashburton Shield Competition. I think I was a little disappointed to be told, then, that I would personally have to arrange and pay for it to be suitably engraved. Still, looking now at its blank reverse side as I finish writing this, I've no doubt that I'll get around to it in time . . .

Brian Ash (B 50-53)

A Shoot-out by the Cedars

A Memoir

Brian Ash
(B 50-53)



Brian Ash, Summer 1953



Brian and a friend at the College
150th Anniversary



1952 Shell French Class



George Henry Van Der Straeten (G 29-32)



George Burne (A 48-53) and Keith Chaundy



Malcolm Hall-Wright (E 50-54)



David Bollans (C 49-53) and Peter Slot (E 46-51)

Bill Van Der Straeten, son of **George Henry Van Der Straeten (G 29-32)** flew over from Calgary, USA to visit Europe. As part of his tour he wanted to see where his father had been educated. Bill subsequently sent some photos of George who was in the Air Force. He is front row third from the left. He flew Wellingtons over the Atlantic looking for Submarines. After the war he moved to Vancouver Island, Canada and worked as an Accountant in a Logging Camp. Bill says 'he sent a ring home to Reading and my Mother flew out and became his wife. He lived happily till he passed away July 25, 2004 at the age of 86. He is survived and remembered fondly by my sister and myself.'

George Burne (A 48-53) is faithfully maintaining a 112 year old tradition by making a weekly journey to St Leonard's Church, Chelsham, every Wednesday and climbing up a 22-rung ladder into the clock tower of the 12th Century church. George winds up three different parts of the mechanism which allows the clock to work and chime quarterly. George shares this task with Keith Chaundy who does the same every Sunday. Without their continued efforts, the clock which was installed in 1895 would stop. George believes that in the future an electronic device will be installed, however, the funds required will amount to over £6000, which the church presently requires for other projects.

David Bollans (C 49-53) wrote to tell us that one of the pleasant moments for him at the *Tempus Fugit* lunch, held at Bradfield College on 24 October, 2007 was the chance meeting that he had with Peter Slot (E 46-51). He said that they hadn't met for over half a century and despite that Peter recognised him. They both sang in the chapel choir for some time. Flicking through some photos on file, David came across the Choir photo which shows Peter, fourth from the left on the second row and himself again fourth from the left on the back row! He remarks that they have both changed a bit since then.

Malcolm Hall-Wright (E 50-54) and his wife, Anne now live in S E Spain (Murcia) where they enjoy playing golf on the various golf courses in the area. After leaving Bradfield he studied Law and then ran his Legal Practice in Birmingham until he retired about seven years ago. Malcolm has three married daughters and nine grandchildren all living in the UK.

Anthony Lyman-Dixon (C 55-59) is in the process of writing a book *Modern and Medieval Plant Names*. It is available from Anthony in its current form and free updates will be sent to purchasers. It is based mostly on the Brodin's translation of the anonymous early 15th century herbal *Agnus Castus* and the corresponding names in the *Tractatus de Herbis* and Pietro d'Abano's *II Trattato de Venenis*. It will be invaluable to serious scholars of medieval and early renaissance gardening.

George Coleclough (D 55-60) is now living in Australia with his wife Diane. George is retired and is kept busy with his two English Springer Spaniels, whilst Diane enjoys part-time work as a social worker.



George says "I would like to say how much I enjoyed my days at Bradfield, when I made some truly good friends, and I remember fondly my Housemasters of D House, Mr Burton Brown (37-57) and Mr Gimson (57-63) and Mr Chenevix-Trench (Headmaster 55-63)."

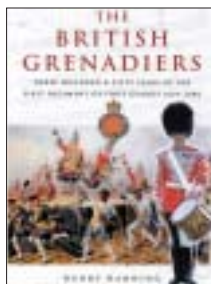
After Bradfield, George spent a year in Singapore where his parents lived, and in 1962 he returned to Melbourne. He had a most interesting career in Area Management, the Pharmaceutical Industry, and working for International Pharmaceutical Manufacturers.

George maintains his membership with the "Australian Institute of Management",

"The Royal Australian College of General Practitioner" and "Probus" (Professional and Business Association). George also represents Bradfield as a member of the "British Public Schools Association" where he meets in Melbourne bimonthly for lunch. George hopes to return to visit the UK and Bradfield in 2009.

Bruce Jamieson

(A 58-62) has written two reviews on books recently published by Old Bradfieldian authors, Henry Hanning (A 52-57); *History of the British Grenadiers, first regiment of foot guards from 1656 to 2006* and Christopher Elgood (F 46-51) *Accidental Assassin*. Bruce says "The latter is about a girl Nsheila Ileloka born in a remote African village. She is initiated into secret rights by the local witch doctor. Subsequently she leaves the village and winds up at college, university and business school in England. By rather circuitous means she becomes a paid assassin using modern methods alongside those of traditional African witchcraft.' Henry's book 'charts the course of the History in a most erudite and entertaining way'. Bruce says 'for any student of literary history I would say this book is an absolute must' he 'cannot help thinking that Henry would have made a most excellent teacher of history had he chosen not to follow his career in the Ministry of Defence.'



James Wyatt (G 58-63) Former President of the OBS and currently Chief Executive of the Tennis & Rackets Association's reports on the latter's centenary celebrations. "The Centenary Dinner at Lord's has thankfully received rave reviews. This involved receptions and dinner for 550, including our new Patron Prince Edward, using both ends of the ground, the Pavilion and the Nursery Pavilion, with rickshaws to aid the movement of guests!' James says 'it was a great pleasure for me to have Edward Demery (H 60-65) on the top table since through historical reasons his company, Justerini & Brooks, donated a large part of the white wine. John Bodie (C 44-48) was also there for the Dinner. A Centenary Week of events in April including the largest Real Tennis tournament ever held, Rackets tournaments, a golf day at Walton Heath and a ball at Hurlingham, will be the climax of a busy year.

Alistair Blunt (A 59-63) left Bradfield and studied sociology at the University of Essex. He then did a Master's degree in Town and Country Planning at Heriott Watt,

Edinburgh. He worked for a few years in Harlow and with the GLC and then applied for work in Tanzania and New Zealand. He chose Tanzania and so started a 'career' of 33 years in development work. Since Tanzania, he has worked predominantly in South East Asia (Philippines and Indonesia), in East and Central Europe (Poland and Russia), Central Asia (Kyrgyzia) and the Middle East (Egypt, Bahrain and for 14 months 2003-2004 in Iraq). He is now back in Africa where he started trying to re-establish the land use planning and management system of Ghana. Alistair says the system has long been neglected, unloved and starved of resources, so the job is a challenge but there are highly intelligent and friendly people, even if sometimes under the surface there is a resentment of the foreign 'expert'-so highly paid but still needing to learn. Alistair says "generally I have been welcomed and Ghana is a good place to live, safe and colourful with some great music, tasty cuisine and with real pride as the first African country to regain independence, 50 years ago this year". Surprisingly, he noted, "wine is a pretty good price, too!" Alistair, when not travelling, lives in Warsaw, Poland, but still has a foothold in the UK, in London where two of his sons still live.

Peter Munn (B 59- 64) left Bradfield and spent three years reading Engineering, obtaining a 2.1 at St. John's, Cambridge in a thick sandwich between two years of shop floor training with Courtaulds in Coventry. He started with SKF (Swedish rolling bearing manufacturers) in Luton and was transferred to Chambéry in Savoy in 1974 with the opportunity to learn another language, gain knowledge about a fascinating product, participate in Europe and avoid the non stop strikes in the UK at that time. Until his retirement at 60, 18 months ago he was an export engineer and visited 30 countries promoting the precision products. Peter describes it as "a most enriching experience; a challenge convincing far away engineers to select our products and learning about different cultures." He has two trilingual children and three grandchildren. He recently celebrated his 60th birthday which included lunch with Andrew Cullen (B 59-64) and Henry Wilson (B 59-64).

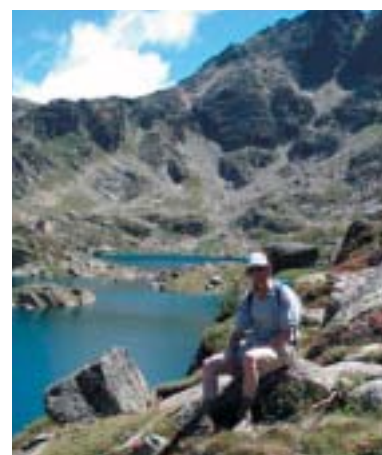
Peter's highlights at Bradfield include very fond memories of the teaching staff on the science side, and the sports which he loved. He still jogs every week. Peter asks if anyone can remember careering down the bendy steep path in Greeker on a vehicle made up of a wheel barrow and two wheeled cart? He said he did this while helping backstage in Greeker. Please email him if you'd like to get in touch. peter.munn@hotmail.fr



James Wyatt (G 58-63)



Alistair Blunt (A 59-63)



Peter Munn (B 59-64) in Andorra



Martin Rose (A 68-72) and family at Moraine Lake, Canada

Martin Rose (A 68-72) is now Director of the British Council in Canada, where he has been living since 2006, after serving with the British Council in Baghdad, Rome, Brussels and London, over almost 20 years. He married Georgina Benson in 1984, and they have three daughters and a son. Their eldest, Fanny, is now reading German at Oxford. Their second (Jocelyn) and third (Elizabeth) are at school in Ottawa, and their fourth, Tolly, is at St John's College School in Cambridge. Much of Martin's work in Canada revolves around the rather different issues of Climate Change, and multiculturalism. He is lucky enough to be able to travel in the Arctic – while it lasts.

Dr Stephen Oakley (D 72-76) taught Classics for nine years at the nearby University of Reading, where he was Head of Department for several years. He has now returned to Cambridge in August 2007 as Kennedy Professor of Latin. The first holder of this chair was the poet and scholar A. E. Housman. Stephen tells us that his successful academic career was possible only because of the inspiring teaching of David Jenkins, David Norwood, Christopher Stace, and Richard Youdale at Bradfield.

Benedict Allen (E 73-78), author and explorer well known for BBC series about his adventures such as *Skeleton Coast* and *Icедogs* – married Lenka Flidrova on 21 June, and now has a little baby, Natalya. Benedict says 'it's too early to say whether she's going to follow in her father's footsteps and head off into the jungle.' Meanwhile he has his hands full, adjusting to life as a father; "Juggling nappies, sterilizing baby bottles and all those disturbed nights! It turns out that being a dad nowadays is just as taxing as any Amazonian swamp!" All this is set to change, however: he's about to head off for two months on his next venture (filming *Unbreakable*, a big new series for Channel 5) and says he already knows just how much he'll miss her, Lenka and this new family life. "Leaving home will never have been as hard for me . . ."

Guy Challis (E 74-79)

After leaving Bradfield in 1979 Guy did what a lot of people do and took a gap year to travel the world. Unfortunately he says "I rather enjoyed it and before I knew it my gap year had stretched to a 12 year gap (financed by various jobs). "At this stage" he says "I had developed a love of trees (a confirmed tree hugger!) and enrolled as a mature student and got a degree in Forest Products Technology from Brunel University." It was a timber based degree and Guy learnt about the strengths, weaknesses and uses of wood but also studied modules on Forestry and non-

timber Forest Products. This made him realise there was far more to trees than just wood and with deforestation a growing problem he decided to open a shop dedicated to Trees and all their products. He has been running his shop in Marlow, Buckinghamshire, for twelve years now with the internet side taking an ever increasing role. www.thetreehouse.co.uk

Mark Milhofer (C 81-86) has spent most of 2007 living in Italy. He started the year at La Fenice in Venice as the Conte di Bosco Nero in Wolf-Ferrari's *La Vedova Scaltra*, and returned in the autumn as Telamone in Vivaldi's *Ercole sul Termodonte* conducted by Fabio Biondi. He has also spent time in Cagliari, Sardinia, singing the title role in *Orpheus in the Underworld*. He also had his first contract from the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as a cover as Pylade in Gluck's *Iphigénie en Tauride*. In Belgium, he played Alfredo in Zomeropera's new production of *Die Fledermaus* – a marathon of 21 performances (and two concerts) in about 25 days! For 2008 Mark started the year back in Venice again singing *Prunier* in Puccini's *La Rondine*. He also has concerts in London, and Poland with the Accademia Bizantina and a concert version (semi-staged) of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre in March with the Oxford Philomusica, conducted by Marios Papadopoulos. We thank him very much for singing on 11 March at the Bradfield Family Concert, All Saints, Peckham.

Michael Foster-Brown (C 84-89) spent seven months of 2007 in Basra City, Iraq commanding C Company, 2 RIFLES. His successful operations included OP PISA an Amphibious Raid and OP THYME the destruction of the notorious IPS Serious Crimes Unit. The latter took place on Christmas Day 2007 and included the rescue of 170 prisoners. Michael was mentioned in Dispatches for Gallantry on 17 July 2007. He is currently serving with his Company in Northern Ireland.

Hannah Iredale (I 89-91) left Bradfield in 1991 to live in London and train as a Montessori Teacher and Nursery Nurse (during this time she shared a flat with Helen Sills (I 89-91)). She later decided on a change career and trained as a secretary working mainly in retail and for many years for WH Smith PLC (this time sharing a flat with William Dixon (C 87-91)). Hannah currently works in Westminster as Private Secretary to the Member of Parliament for Devizes, Michael Ancram, whom she joined shortly before the 2005 General Election. Hannah married Paul Greatrex, an orthodontist from Australia, in March 2008 at Bradfield College Chapel and they live in Richmond, Surrey.



Michael Foster-Brown (C 84-89)



Mark Milhofer (C 81-86)



Chris Parsons (E 89-94), a paediatric surgeon has been approached by an independent film maker with a view to making a 90 minute *Touching the Void* style movie about

his African Adventure. In an unpaid year off from his professional training Chris was privileged enough to be the Expedition Medic supporting a tetraplegic (paralysed from the shoulders down after breaking his neck in a diving accident) in realising his lifetime dream, and accomplishing a world first. He successfully drove a specially adapted Land Rover from London to Cape Town. They travelled 22,000km through 13 countries in 164 days raising just under £1m for Spinal Research, Stoke Mandeville Hospital Spinal Injury Unit and several African Spinal Injury charities.

www.drivinghome.co.uk. Chris continues his side line in Expedition Medicine and his latest trip is another charitable venture also aiming to achieve another world first in disability travel where he is providing medical support for a "mixed ability" (ie disabled and able bodied) team in an attempt to climb Kilimanjaro in July this year. He would be eternally grateful for any sponsorship (monetary or corporate) that anyone might be able to offer him. Please contact him on chriselective@hotmail.com. Amid these adventures Chris has also managed to find time to provide medical support for the filming of American reality TV show *Survivor* (Series 14).

Johnny Huxley (E 89-94) and Emily Mardon Taylor enjoyed their wedding in Cornwall in September 2007 and honeymooned in Mozambique. Johnny works as Investment Manager for Minerva PLC. Many OBs were present at the wedding (see photo) From left to right Adam Hunt (E 89-94) Mark Dorman (G 89-94), Barry Huxley (E 63-68), Peter Christmas (E 58-63), The Groom Jonathan Huxley (E 89-94), David Huxley (E 87-92), Tony Christmas (E 60-64), Alex Raymond (E 89-94), James Christmas (E 91-96), Arthur Wallace (E 60-64) and Father of the Groom Paul Huxley (E 60-64). Also at the wedding was artist Henry Garfit (F 89-94) as best man.

OBs at Johnny Huxley's (E 89-94) Wedding

Hannah Spencer (K 98-00, SCR) enjoyed travelling in South America and Mexico before going to Durham from 01-04 where she read Combined Arts with a focus On English Literature. Aside from her studies, she enjoyed three years of playing hockey on the first team. After graduating, she worked in London in advertising for two years with BBH (Bartle Bogle Hegarty) and lived in London with Bradfield girls. Hannah then did a PGCE and saw an advert for a job at Bradfield. Hannah now teaches English, coaches Hockey and Netball and helps to run Polo. She also is taking an active part in drama at Bradfield and is currently enjoying working alongside her former English teacher, Alan Kilburn (SCR).

Jack Blackburn (G 02-07) has been offered a place at Trinity College, Oxford to read Philosophy and Theology.

Suresh Gupta A 03-07 and his twin brother Jyoti worked together on a fantasy novel from the age of 11 years old. *Conspiracy of Calaspia*, the first book in the *Insanity Saga*, was published in 2006 in India when they were 18. It went through ten re-writes since their first draft at before rising to number two on the Indian bestseller lists.

William Edes (E 97-02), Ian Hart (E 58-63), David Brocklehurst (E 63-67) and Duncan Irens (C 96-01) joined forces for a cricket tour in November 2007 in Nevis. It was a great tour organized by David Brocklehurst who's father Ben sadly past away this year. David decided to organise the tour in Nevis where Ian has lived for many years now. The kit for the tour was kindly sponsored by James Hull Associates.



Suresh Gupta (A 03-07) and his twin brother Jyoti



Hannah Spencer (K 98-00, SCR)



William Edes (E 97-02), Ian Hart (E 58-63), David Brocklehurst (E 63-67) and Duncan Irens (C 96-01)



Please send your Snippets to the Old Bradfieldian Society.
Email: obsociety@bradfieldcollege.org.uk

Kenneth William Osborne (B 31-35)



Born in Reading in 1917, Kenneth arrived at Bradfield in 1931. He continued his education at Imperial College London where he successfully obtained a first class degree in Electrical Engineering. Kenneth started working for English Electric, with an interest in personnel. He married Marjorie Edith Hollis, and had two children; Judith born in 1946 and John in 1948. They met in a hotel in Yorkshire.

The family moved to Caterham, Surrey from Bradford in 1951 and he became director of Reading Garage later called the Penta Group. Following this he was the Director of International Power systems, which involved the construction of power stations overseas. Kenneth sold the family company, Penta to Western Motor Holdings in 1987 and retired from business except for charity work and his father's

chemist shop in Reading. He moved to Marlow close to Henley by the river at the time when Marjorie suffered from Parkinsons disease. This was his introduction to the charity 'Crossroads' through Marjorie's illness. He became involved with it, and was chairman for five years. The accounts format he devised was subsequently taken up by UK Crossroads offices. He trained as a silversmith and enjoyed this as a hobby. He enjoyed many happy holidays in the villa he had built in the Algarve Portugal and also when the children were younger at the sea front house in Hayling Island. Kenneth leaves behind two children, and six grandchildren. He enjoyed good health throughout his life but contracted cancer early in 2007. He was predeceased by Marjorie who died in 1996.

John Osborne (Son)

John De Morgan Campbell Thompson (C 37-41)

John grew up on Boar's Hill, Oxford, and went to the Dragon Preparatory school in Oxford, and later Bradfield College. He read an Engineering degree at Oxford University, New College.

In September 1941 John started a one year civilian wireless course at Oxford University and in November 1942 joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve in Portsmouth. After training, he served in the Pacific on HMS Indefatigable. John

became Lieutenant Commander whilst only 21 years of age and within two years was promoted to Midshipman. He got to this rank as one of the youngest, if not the youngest, holding this rank at that time.

John was demobilized in 1946 and Mentioned in Despatches. He returned to his studies at Oxford and then rejoined the permanent RNVR in 1948. He served for a further 12 years, being awarded the Volunteer Reserve Decoration at the end of it.

John worked in the metallurgical industry culminating in his starting up of H.I.P. Ltd and initiating the development in the U.K. of the HIP (Hot Isostatic Pressing) process. This is probably one of the significant reasons for him being honoured with an O.B.E. for his services to industry in 1985.

Since retirement in 1989, he served as a part time business counsellor for the Heart of England Training and Enterprise Council. He was extremely active in his Oxfordshire village of Kirtlington, serving on various committees to improve the village. He was also a very active committee member of the British Legion and a volunteer driver for Sobell House Hospice in Oxfordshire.

17 April 1923 – 22 September 2007
John died suddenly on 22 September while on holiday in Cornwall, aged 84. John leaves behind his wife, Ann, five children; Bridget, Jane, David, Mike and Liz, and 12 grandchildren.

Jane Vaucher (Daughter)



Peter was born in Hungerford in 1924, spending his childhood at Great Hidden Farm. He entered Bradfield in 1938. One of his lasting school memories was serving in the Defence Volunteers; whilst on his first watch the playing fields were bombed by a stray German bomber.

Following school he enlisted into The Royal Navy. After brief training at Dartmouth he joined HMS Swiftsure, serving as a Cadet, on the North Sea convoys.

With the war over, he trained as a Naval Engineer, a career that involved him in the development of Nuclear propulsion, gas turbine power plants and then in the late 60's the design of new gearing systems.

Rising through the ranks to Commander he became increasingly involved with training, serving at: HMS Manadon, and HMS Collingwood and Sultan respectfully. During his time as Captain he undertook a variety of posts: from being in charge of submarine fleet maintenance in Plymouth, to Director of Naval Recruiting based at the Admiralty, as well as a post in command of HMS Rosyth, a marine engineering college.

By his final post he had reached the rank of Rear Admiral, and served his last commission as the Head of British Defence Liaison in Australia. On his retirement, in 1980, he was awarded 'The Order of The Bath' in recognition of his service.

Happily married to Gabriel (nee Alington, in 1952), and with four grown up children, he settled back into civilian life near Winchester.

In 1981 he was employed by Winchester College as their appeal officer, raising funds to modernize the boarding houses and restore a number of historically significant buildings. A job he was so successful at, that he was offered the position of Estate Bursar, managing the restoration program. It was a job that he loved, and often referred to it as 'his way of shaping up the Wykamists'.

In 1988 he and Gabriel moved to Herefordshire to be closer to their children and grandchildren. Although now officially retired, he was soon recruited by the local ecclesiastical society and served on the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust, The Mappa Mundi Trust, and the Diocesan Advisory Committee. And lastly becoming the Chairman of the Cathedral Fabric Advisory Committee, where he worked closely with the Dean of Hereford Cathedral.

Throughout his life he loved working with his hands, be it restoring antique furniture or mending cars.

He died, a widower, in March 2007, following a stroke, and is survived by his four children and 12 grandchildren.

Gavin Hogg (D 73-78)

Rear Admiral Peter Beauchamp Hogg CB (D 38-43)



Rear Admiral Peter Beauchamp Hogg CB (D 38-43)

Theatre Director Jean-Pierre Voos died in Townsville, Australia where he had spent the last 22 years of his life.

Jean-Pierre was born in Paris in December 1932 and evacuated to Wales at the outbreak of the Second World War. He went on to be educated at Bradfield College, which is where his love for Greek theatre was born. He then studied medicine at his father's insistence, and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. Astonishingly he never practised medicine. He had by then become inextricably seduced by the theatre, and directed in repertory companies around the UK, while also finding other outlets for his creativity, in music and in painting.

After a period as founding administrator with the Hampstead Theatre Club, he began his own International Theatre Club at The Mercury Theatre in Notting Hill, London, a venue he shared with the famous Ballet Rambert. An extraordinary period followed in which Jean-Pierre came to be regarded as one of the foremost avant-garde directors in London for his fine interpretations of modern plays. He also hosted such luminaries as the Polish Director, Jerzy Grotowski, and the La Mama Company of New York.

He soon began to train actors with a view to starting his own theatre company, independent of 'bricks and mortar', and able to wander at will, making theatre wherever and however feasible. It was then that he left the UK, and returned to his roots, forming the Theatre Company KISS in a small stone cottage on a plateau deep in Lot de Garonne, in south-west France.

The memories of the time spent at 'Jean Blanc' were among the happiest of Jean-Pierre's life. It was there that his relationship was cemented with his partner Eva Sigsgaard and who became the mother of Jean-Pierre's only daughter, Cassandra. Both Eva and Cassandra were with him in his last illness.

Jean-Pierre was a man with a demanding style to his work. Those who stayed were changed. They learnt about culture, quality in the theatre, about truth and honesty in acting and the beauty of ideas. It was this extraordinary commitment to the development of actors that was to be Jean-Pierre's greatest legacy, and the reason he will be most strongly remembered by so many.

He will be sorely missed, by his family, his friends and by his own company, The Tropic Sun Theatre in Townsville.

Cassandra Sigsgaard (Daughter)

Jean-Pierre Voos (D 47-51)



Jean-Pierre Voos (D 47-51)

Nicolas James Stilwell (F 59-63)

After leaving Bradfield, and the RAF section of the CCF, Nicolas' wish was to fly. At the first University he attended, he could not join the Air Squadron, due to medical reasons. (He managed to be thrown out of two Universities.) Finally he did persuade the powers-that-be to accept him as a pilot.

From his days as a dashing young officer back in 1968, to the day he left as a dashing mature officer, Nick enjoyed his Air Force life and was proud of his role.

Starting with the tiny Chipmunk trainer, he progressed to the Vulcan bomber (which he flew round the world) and the target-towing Canberra. When at the Research Establishment near Bedford he piloted the Viscount, the BAC111 and aircraft from executive jets to fighters. In his career he flew no fewer than 18 different aircraft. Then in 1981 until the end of his flying career, in about 1995, he flew Wessex air-sea rescue helicopters, with

the exception of two years when he flew with the Luftwaffe.

A RAF colleague wrote "But Nick was more than what he flew. Nick was the same guy in the crew room and as Flight Commander, as he was at home: welcoming, kind, thoughtful – someone who enjoyed life . . . As the new boy I was regularly coached and encouraged by Nick. His enthusiasm was infectious. Nick would also spend the quieter evenings splashing paint and water on to a large piece of paper, the end result, within a few hours, being a fantastic picture, often of aircraft, particularly helicopters. Most of us would have thought that his room in the Mess would have been neat and as tidy as Sandy and Nick's home. But I have it from a reliable source that his room was more like Steptoe's junk yard. It was apparently filled with all those bits and pieces, bought at car-boot and jumble sales that were bound to come in useful for some DIY project some day."

In 2006, both Nick and Sandy, were diagnosed with cancer. She died that year. Nicolas thought he was cured. He bought himself a bright yellow Mercedes open sports car, christened by some friends, after his yellow rescue helicopters, 'The Recycled Wessex'. But the cancer returned, and the day before the one year anniversary of his wife's death, he passed on peacefully in his bed on 22 September, 2007.

Lindsay H. Stilwell (F 57-61)

Nicolas James Stilwell (F 59-63) and 'The Recycled Wessex'



Eileen Rossiter (Matron 66-89)

It was Bradfield College's good fortune when in the mid 1960s Eileen Rossiter, already an experienced Matron, applied for the Close House vacancy. Her phone call to Philip Stibbe (SCR 48-75), was enough to convince Eileen that Bradfield was the place for her. "He sounded so nice" she later commented.

Sadly Eileen had to leave after several years to look after ailing parents but Bradfield did not lose sight of this gem of a Matron, and her return was eventually secured to Hillside, working with Morgan Laimbeer (SCR 68-90) and later Peter Bodkin (SCR 79-94).

Born in 1923 into a farming family in Devon, she was proud of her background. Her schooling at Plymouth College was curtailed by wartime bombing and it wasn't long before she joined the RAF Transport Corps, driving HGVs all over the country. After a spell of helping to run a Guest House Eileen found her niche in boarding schools.

She had high standards, balanced with good humour and kindness – and of course understanding of young people. At one stage Hillside was undergoing a major building refurbishment with all the boys still in residence. The dust and noise created by incessant pneumatic drilling

would have driven a less tenacious person to leave, but Eileen stayed.

Eileen was neither a party person nor somebody who would seek the limelight. She was more at ease resuscitating a Housemaster or Tutor with a well-timed glass and an understanding ear. She would drive a sick boy to hospital at any time of the day or night. She never quite realised what a contribution she had made throughout her working life – modestly replying to any sort of praise with "I was only doing my job" or words to that effect.

It was good for her former colleagues and friends that she retired locally. She was able to garden, read and watch horse racing on TV, leading a much calmer life. In fact she commented soon after retirement, that at last, when she shut her front door at the end of the day, it stayed shut! And although this retirement was back in 1989, she is still remembered with affection: Two of her many long serving dailies, much saddened by her death, said "She managed to keep us up to the mark – but she was very fair". Dr. Peter Bodkin her last Housemaster added "Eileen gave excellent service to Bradfield and was a lovely lady". A sentiment echoed by many.

Denise Hall-Wilton (Bursary 61-02)



Marriages

ALLEN, Benedict (E 73-78) to Lenka Flidrova on 21 June 2007, Yarpole, near Leominster.

ADAMS, Julian (G 84-89) to Emily Alexandra Tiberghien on 2 February 2008, Hart House, Toronto, Canada.

BARRETT, Giles (F 93-98) to Lene Ulsten on 19 May 2007, at Asker Church, Norway.

THOMPSON, James (D 86-91) to Cathy Durbridge on 13 October 2007, Marie de Pech, Southern France.

HUXLEY, Jonathan (E 89-94) to Emily Mardon Taylor on 8 September 2007, at The Church of St Wyllow, Lanteglos, Cornwall.



Benedict Allen (E 73-78) and Lenka



Giles Barrett (F 93-98) and Lene



Jonathan Huxley (E 89-94) and Emily



James Thompson (D 86-91) and Kathy

Births

ALLEN, Benedict (E 73-78) and Lenka, a daughter, Natalya on 15 September 2007.

BURNE, Ben (F 85-90) and Jillian, a daughter Margaret Sylvia on 26 December 2006.

COGHILL, Miranda (J 93-95) and Tom, a son, Alexander Horatio Dalrymple on 24 October 2007.

DE BERNIERE- SMART (D 68-72) and Cathy Gill, a daughter, Sophie Elizabeth Tamzin on 27 January 2008.

GREY, Thomas (H 92-97) and Becky a son, William John on 16 September 2007.

FASKERTY, Felix (G 95-97) and Lisa, a daughter Jemima Rosalie on 29 December.

PERRY, Katherine (G 87-89) and Jake Hardy, a son, Silas Alexander on 24 October 2007.

ROLLASON, Amelia (K 00-02) and Allan Sint Jago, a daughter, Eva Grace Ledgerwood Sint Jago on 2 October 2007.



Lenka Allen with Natalya



Alexander Coghill



William Grey



Silas Perry



Jemima Faskerty



Eva Sint Jago



Margaret Burne

Deaths

AISBITT, George Edward (SCR 38-68) on 23 November 2007.

BARING, Francis William (G 34-38) on 9 February 2008.

CLEMENTS, Norman John (G 26-30) on 2 May 2005.

CORBETT, Arthur Gordon Deryck (E 38-43) on 27 February 2008.

CUMBERLEGE, Jeremy Richard Parbury (E 48-52) on 22 October 2007.

ELLIOT, Arthur Denis Stephen (D 37-40) on 31 December 2007.

GOOD, Alistair (C 79-84) on 7 February 2008.

KIRBY, Arthur Osborne (B 41-45) on 30 March 2008.

MYERS, Peter Charles (F 59-63) on 13 March 2008.

RAYMOND, Neil (H 53-57) on 21 July 2007.

ROSSITER, Eileen Rhoda Mary (Matron 66-89) on 14 December 2007.

SHANNON, Martin John (G 45-50) on 10 November 2007.

STILWELL, Nicholas James (F 59-63) on 22 September 2007.

THOMPSON, John De Morgan Campbell (C 37-41) on 22 September 2007.

TREGASKES, Nicholas Charles (F 58-62) on 13 January 2008.

TREMLETT, Christopher William (A 50-54) on 13 January 2008.

VOOS, Jean-Piere Charles Iwan (D 47-51) on 17 January 2008.

WIENER, Gerald Leopold (E 27-30) on 14 January 2008.

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

National Year of Reading



Fostering a habit of reading for pleasure and purpose has been the central focus of our work in the Garrett Library since it opened in 1999. We would like to use 2008, the National Year of Reading, to ensure that all our pupils acquire the habit of reading for pleasure and use libraries for the acquisition of knowledge.

The campaign at Bradfield College this year includes author visits, library quizzes, recommended reading lists, a Readathon to raise money for books for the Kikunduku Primary School in Kenya and Book Crossing at the Bradfield Club in Peckham.

As part of our activities we asked our Old Bradfieldian authors (pupils and staff) to contribute a piece about what inspired them to develop a love of reading.

Joanie Dyson, Librarian

John Coldstream (E 61-66)

'Blyton, Milne, Johns, Grahame, Ransome – all played their part successively in edging me with ever greater enthusiasm towards the library shelves at pre-prep and then prep school. By the time I reached Bradfield I evidently felt the need for edgier fare, which might explain why I have in front of me an Arrow paperback, the cover of which depicts a violent struggle between a knife-wielding baddie and a tweed-jacketed hero. This latter was Bulldog Drummond, the creation of a retired officer in the Royal Engineers, Cyril McNeile, who wrote under the name of Sapper. The series of adventures in which Drummond is pitted initially against the dastardly Hun, Carl Petersen, is now red meat for the PC police, but in my more innocent time they qualified quite simply as rattling good yarns. My copy of Bulldog Drummond contains a Bradfield College bookplate, stating that it was awarded as the Junior Bullen Prize in, presumably, 1961. I cannot recall how it came my way. However, I know it was a signal honour, if only because the plate is signed by the then Head Master, that renowned classicist, Anthony Chenevix-Trench (55-63), who knew all about the alluring and enduring spell cast by the best storytellers.'

Robert Winder (D 73-76)

'The chief formative influence on my reading habit was not a book but a cupboard. It had a wide, boy-sized shelf behind a stack of cigarette-scented overcoats, and it overlooked the road. Who cared about luxury when you had John Buchan? Hidden in those smoky coats I could flee German spies on Turkish rooftops, poach stags in the Highlands, leap on to hissing steam trains bound for Constantinople, plunge in icy Norwegian

streams, or scurry through Zulu uprisings. It was a big thrill for a 12-year-old on the Surrey/Hants border to discover that the world contained places called Blaauwildebeestfontein. It is just possible that some of the glamour went out of Frimley after that.'

Louis De Berniere (D 68-72)

'At Bradfield I was fortunate to have two inspirational teachers simultaneously. Richard Osborne (SCR 67-88), who introduced us to modern writers such as T S Eliot and made us read D H Lawrence. He made us realise that literature is something that is still alive and evolving.

The other great teacher was Charles Lepper (A 36-40, SCR 67-85), a Shakespearean actor who acted out entire scenes before our eyes. One minute Desdemona was being strangled and the next he was Othello strangling her. His engagement with literature was passionate and total; if he couldn't find the exact concept he would clap his hand to his forehead until he found it. He was slightly deaf, so that when he was listening to you, he would cup his hand to one ear, and lean forward with his eyes twinkling. It was completely flattering that he seemed to find us so interesting. He pointed out privately one day it wasn't enough to think of literature as 'English'. He said that I had to read Tolstoy for a start. Since then I have been a voracious reader of literature from all over the world and I think this shows in my own work, since writers are inevitably influenced by what they read.'

George Chamier (SCR 87-05)

'As a boy, books took me in imagination to explore *Africa* (Rider Haggard) and fight the *French at sea* (CS Forester). Then there was the joy of discovering the wit of Waugh and the shadowy world of Greene. As a young man, ideas in books fired me – Camus's *L'Etranger* and Greer's *Female Eunuch* to name but two. Nowadays it's mostly history and the occasional novel. Best of 2007? Undoubtedly Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, bleak but beautifully written. I cannot imagine a journey or a leisure hour without a book. I'd happily read the cereal packet for lack of anything better.'



If you would like to contribute in any way to the National Year of Reading or the Garrett Library, please contact the Development Office (development@bradfieldcollege.org.uk)

The Waifs have another busy season ahead with sixteen fixtures scheduled between April and August. This year we have drawn the Sherborne Pilgrims away in the first round of the Cricketer Cup on June 15th. Last year we reached the quarter finals of the competition so are hoping to go a couple of steps further in 2008. Any support from OBs is always welcome. The highlight of our season is Waifs week at the

end of the school summer term. We have a couple of two-day games against the Free Foresters and Pelsham and also games against the MCC and the Hampshire Hogs. The Club is always on the lookout for new players so if there are any recent leavers out there who want to come and play for the Waifs, please get in touch.

Rob Pollock (H 81-86)
robpollock@doctors.org.uk

Waifs



Following a successful family-led game of hockey over the Christmas period, it became apparent that there are enough men around to warrant getting an Old Bradfieldian team together. Games are already in the pipeline, with teams such as the Old Carthusians and Shiplake keen to

challenge us. With the superb new surface at the College I am sure that OBs will find their touch and skills flooding back. If you are interested in being involved please contact Stuart Robertson at stuart.robertson@royalhospitalschool.org

Stuart Robertson (F 95-00)

Men's Hockey

1st XI

After a successful season last year, the 1st XI have once again found life in the premier league extremely difficult. Despite struggling in the league the first half of the season produced a couple of good cup runs. The team reached the fourth round in the London Old Boys Cup and the Quarter Final in the Arthur Dunn Cup, where we were knocked out in a close match with runaway league leader Carthusians. Two late penalties conceded saw them finish 3 – 1 winners.

Early league games finished in heavy defeats, however since Christmas our performances have improved significantly and we've picked up points, beating Tonbridge and drawing with Westminster. We are still hoping a run in the last few weeks of the season will see us avoid relegation and remain in the Premier League. There remains a young side and I believe if we can keep the core together, in a few years time we'll have the strongest team the Club has produced for some time.

Special mention this season should go to our new captain, Will Walker (H 00-05) and vice captain Jules Stutley (G 98-03), who have been ever present in the team and have done extremely well to put a team out each week. Tom Storer (A 99-04) has returned from university and made a great impact in the midfield while Ben Biggar (B 89-94) continues to be our main provider of goals. Recent leavers Steve Shields (G 02-07), Will Strang (02-07) and Ryan McGee (02-07) have all adapted to OB football and contributed well to the team in their first season.

Stuart Dennis (D 87-92)

2nd XI

The 2nd XI sit proudly on top of the third division with a real chance of taking the league title for the first time in three years.

Helped by some committed performances the team has got stronger as the season has progressed. To date the season has been hugely enjoyable with some great football being played and some exciting finishes to tight matches. After a slow and unimpressive first half of the season since the win on Old Boys Day the team has not lost and has sustained a run of results that sees the team top of the league!

Noteworthy matches are the last minute victories against Harrow and the 4 – 1 thrashing of Forest. There have been some outstanding player contributions; Marc Duviver (B 90-95) continues his fine scoring record for Bradfield, while in goal Craig Williams (E 89-94) and Ash Patel (A 93-98) have been magnificent.

The return to action of Will Robinson (A 90-95) has been a massive benefit and along with Adam Spencer (F 92-97), Mark Lainas (A 94-99), Simon Jupp (E 02-07), Elliot Hayes (H 91-96), Tom Swallow (B 94-97), Sam Outram (A 97-02), Willem Dinger (B 94-99) have all been key to our success. One final word of note is the fantastic contribution to the team of Chris Stow (F 92-97) both on and off the pitch has been a real credit to us and much appreciated!

Ben Reeves (A 89-94)

Football

We are always looking for new players to join the club, so if you would like to get involved, please make contact through the OB website. We look forward to welcoming next year school leavers and those returning from university.



Shooting

Please visit www.obsociety.org.uk for forthcoming matches or contact Richard Vary who will provide more details (richard.vary@nokia.com)

On a cold December afternoon, the OBSS and College shooting teams met for their annual match in the College's newly refurbished range. With a welcome supply of hot tea, coffee and biscuits laid on by the College, it was a good chance for the OBs to meet the current team. The OBs won the target shooting with a score of 595 to 575. The College also produced some good scores with Ed Mearns (H) achieving 99. Afterwards, we had a chance to shoot the College's SA80 cadet GP rifles, converted to .22 for use in the range. These proved a little more challenging than the target rifles we're used to, but were great fun to shoot.

We wish the best of luck to Tim Bowbrick and the College team for the forthcoming season at Bisley, and look forward to sponsoring two pupils in the Imperial meeting this summer. Tim is doing a good job at bringing shooting back up to the previous standard within the school and on 18, 19, 20 March the College team will be practising full bore TR at Bisley. We will be coaching the boys in preparation for the coming season. Do let us know if you can help.

Richard Vary (E 86-91)

Squash



Colin (G 70-75) and Nigel Ward (G 71-76)

The OB squash team survived the season (October through until March). A total of nine matches were held at some of London's finest squash clubs. Our home games are held at Lord's, and the five of us who played throughout the season were lucky enough to use the England players' dressing room on one occasion while the existing racket changing rooms were being refurbished. Our away matches were played at the RAC Club, South Bank Club and Dolphin Square. These included games against the Wine Trade, John Lewis, the Escorts and the Old Wellingtonians.

All matches were thoroughly enjoyable and some fantastic games were played. The match against the College this year emphasised what Festive OB day is all about. Colin (G 70-75) and Nigel Ward (G 71-76) returned to the College to play 37 years after their last time there. On top of

that Matthew (C 92-94) and Daniel Barnard (C 91-96) also played for the OBs to make the event a brotherly affair. It was a great afternoon that saw the OBs come out on top but it is very clear that the future matches could prove very exciting as some of the College team are developing into very gifted players.

May I ask those of you who are reading this article, to check your sports bag for a squash racquet! We are in need of more players and I am sure that some of you out there can play. Please do get in contact with the Development Office or email me for further information. Daniel_Barnard@JohnLewis.co.uk

Many thanks to Colin Ward, Richard Oscroft (A 86-91), Jonny Haskell (G 87-92) and Andrew Dixon (C 00-05) for their continued enthusiasm towards OB squash.

Daniel Barnard (C 91-96)

Golf



Winter is 'downtime' for the OBGS, recharging batteries for the coming season. We have been reflecting on an Autumn Meeting held at Littlestone in September when one of our senior members, Peter Dubisson (H 39-43), won the handicap trophy against a field of golfers in many cases younger and theoretically more gifted!

John Allday (E 53-57), President OBGS, presenting the trophy to Peter Dubisson (H 39-43)

Peter will be out again at our forthcoming Spring 2008 Meeting to be held at The Berkshire Golf Club on Wednesday, 30th April. If you would like to sample a day with the OBGS on a wonderful golf course, even if you are not a current OBGS member, do please get in touch with the Honorary Secretary, Simon Osborn, on 020 7152 5159 (O) who will be able to provide details.

Martin Young (C 59-64)

Peckham



On Friday 25 January The Bradfield Club in Peckham held a dinner for all those who have contributed to the Club in some way over the last year. It was an amazing opportunity to welcome people from all corners of the Club's spreading network. We were able to celebrate what has been achieved over the last year and look forward to the future years to come. It was a super evening in which we were able to recognize the many contributions and help provided by members of the growing Bradfield family. Over the course of the last

year, volunteers have provided everything from financial aid, to practical help and time spent working with young people. On the night itself, the Club was transformed beyond recognition with the help of volunteers from All Saints Church, one of the Club's partners. Young people decorated the training room with fairy lights, tea lights, flowers and drapes. A talented pianist played live jazz, while over seventy guests enjoyed a home cooked meal.

Rachel Hughes (Youth Leader)

Bradfield Lodge

At the October 2007 meeting, the Worshipful Master, Gavin Merrylees (E 55-59) installed Alastair Henry (C 42-46) into the Chair of King Solomon who then appointed and invested his officers for the year. The guests and members of the Lodge then retired to Beoty's restaurant where all enjoyed a most pleasant evening. In January 2008 the members of the Lodge were sad to learn that our oldest member, Worshipful Brother Derek Stuckey LGR (D 30-35) had passed away in his 91st year. Discussion then concentrated on plans for both the Public Schools Festival, to be held at Bradfield in May 2011 and also the Centenary meeting of the Lodge in October 2011 in London.

For many years the Old Bradfield Lodge has provided an annual Travel Bursary to help current pupils fund educational travel projects. The members of the Lodge received a report from Charlotte Collins (I 03-05) and Alexandra Donaldson (I 03-05) who received the

Bursary in 2006 and had undertaken a two month volunteer teaching placement at a school in Mudurai, Southern India.

In 2007 Philip Smith (E 04-06) was the recipient of the Bursary, choosing to teach English to orphans and homeless children at Kings World Trust for children in Tamil Nadu, India.

Freemasonry in England is experiencing somewhat of a revival at present. Perhaps this has resulted from less Press and Public criticism due to more openness about what we do. We have always emphasised that we are a society with secrets not a secret society. We certainly try not to brag about it but it is understood that Freemasonry gives more to charitable and worthy causes than any other organisation except the National Lottery.

To learn more about Freemasonry see: www.ugle.org.uk or contact Andrew Tenison (A 77-82), Honorary Secretary andrew.tenison@ic24.net

Simon Dixon (C 58-61)

Alumni Race Wimbledon Common

The OB team consisting of Andy Robinson (D 79-84), Tony Henderson (E 79-84), David Bostelmann (A 94-99) and Michael Bostelmann (A 61-66) were in cheerful mood, greatly encouraged by the change in weather from torrential rain to sunshine. They met on 8 December, 2007 for the five mile course. The course was the muddiest it has been for many years, so fast times were not on the agenda. The OBs performed creditably providing fine team results. Andy Robinson romped in first OB for the second year in succession with a time of 30.03. David Bostelmann, not feeling his best, made it in 36.00. Michael Bostelmann and Tony Henderson closed the teams in 40.09 and 44.09 respectively. In the open race, for which all OB runners scored, we finished in 11th place out of 17 teams.

We had four runners who competed and provided very good age representation, assisting our overall result. Runners can score for their age group and any younger age group, thus, for example Michael Bostelmann was able to score in the open race as well as the 40s and 50s. The overall team results were therefore impressive, us being 5th in the Veterans 40, and 10th in the Veterans 50.

Bradfield has been represented in every race since the start 54 years ago. It is organised extremely well by Thames Hare & Hounds, who post the results whilst the competitors are still eating the superb tea provided by Thames (£1 for tea, sandwiches and cakes!!)

Michael Bostelmann (A 61-66)

Huxham Ten-Miler

The Huxham Ten-Mile Handicap on Sunday 2 December was a very enjoyable event this year, despite inclement weather conditions. There were 48 competitors with Stephen Black (D 94-99) as the overall winner. Stephen completed the 10.4 mile course in a very fast 77 minutes, closely followed, a few seconds later, by Simon Cox (G 96-01). The fastest pupil was Harry Gregory (G) who came in at just over 79 minutes, followed 15 seconds later by Edward Gillett (C). Many congratulations to them. The fastest time among Staff was Danny Daniels (SCR) in 82 minutes, with David Palmer (SCR) coming in at 85 minutes. The fastest female pupil was Marlene Mohr (K) at just over 96 minutes: very well done, Marlene.

Adam Smith (SCR)

Cross-Country



Tempus Fugit

On 24 October 2007 nearly 100 Old Bradfieldians over the age of 70 came back to Bradfield for a reunion. The Wardens' Room was filled with old boys reminiscing over pre-dinner drinks before enjoying a hearty meal in the dining room along side the log fire. The oldest OBs present who we were delighted to be able to welcome back were Richard Pearson (A 25-30) aged 95 years old, and Alexander McCurdy (C 28-33) aged 92.

Everyone also had a chance to answer the (Very) Old Boys Bumpf Test, kindly set by the Reverend Christopher Fenton (C 41-46). Many congratulations to Hugh (Bob) Bascombe (D 43-48) for obtaining the highest score. The Reverend Christopher Fenton (C 41-46) set the test which contained 19 questions. Bob scored

26 points out of 37, giving him 70%. Following closely behind was Alan Smallbone (C 43-48) in second position with 67%. James Davis (G 42-46) and John Blake (F 45-49) both came joint third with 65%. Bob received a pair of Bradfield College Cufflinks in recognition of his success and Christopher received some Old Bradfieldian Socks to thank him for his time and initiative in setting the test. There were 39 entries in total. It was amusing to see that 12 were un-named!



Bob Bascombe (D 43-48) - Bumpf Test winner



Christmas Hockey

On 23 December 2007 a group of Old Bradfieldians, parents and friends met to play a mixed hockey match on the New AWP. The tradition has been running for some years, with the organisation in the capable hands of the Robertson family who kindly warmed everyone up afterwards with mulled wine in the pavilion.

From left to right, those present were Beth Robertson (K 05-07), Edward Norris, James Marshall (G 99-04), Lara Palmer (K 02-04), Paul Outram, Guy Robertson (E 99-04),

Oscar Flinton (E 02-07), Gordon Robertson, Stuart Robertson (F 95-00),

Rex Carter, Simon Carter (D 76-81), John Steeds, Brook Sheppard, Victoria Outram, Jo Best (I 99-01, SCR) Tom Robertson (F 95-00), Mary Bucknell (K 99-01), Polly Outram (I 01-03), Dorothy Outram (I 05-07), Rachel Holloway (K 00-02), Chris, Hannah Bucknell (I 03-05), Charlie Holloway, Sam Outram (A 97-02), Zar Palmer, Simon Cox (G 96-01), Sue Carter, Lucy Carter. Great fun was had by all despite the foggy weather which made visibility from one end to the other impossible. Thank you very much to the Robertson family for their organisation and hospitality.





Saturday 22 September saw the return of some old faces to Bradfield College. After six years, a bevy of leavers from the Class of 2000 descended in all their finery to the college for an evening of fizz, friendly chat and of course, a formidable feed. The OBs were joined by the old guard members of the Senior Common Room both before



Ellie Clarke (I) and Polly Dumas (I)

and after the meal. They relived old, half forgotten memories – from the cricket pitch to the classroom and rekindled old friendships. All too soon the evening was over with farewells and a promise to meet again. It was good to see that much of the Bradfield spirit remains!

Tom Robertson (F 95-00)

Class of 2000



Stuart Robertson (F), Anthony Smith (F) and Will Barrett (F)



Jo Dimsey (I), Ed Green (A) and Laura Greenwood (J)



Katie Steward (I), Ed Green (A) and Tom Robertson (F)

Sunday 9 December saw many Old Bradfieldians return to the College to play Football, Squash and Shooting matches against the pupils and staff. The Old Bradfieldian teams beat the College in all three activities, leaving the pupils in admiration of their predecessors but determined to stand their ground next year. Afternoon tea was a warm welcome from

the biting wind and rain. A Candlelit Carol service followed, led by the Old Bradfieldian Choir, who sang beautifully. Mention must be made of Peter J Clark (E 54-58) who travelled over for the occasion from Canada. He very kindly donated archive material and a College Register, and was delighted to be reunited with James Tyrrell (G 54-59) after decades of lost time.


Festive OB Day



Calling OBs in the West Midlands

Anthony Collins (G 56-60) would be delighted to host a reunion.

If any OBs in the West Midlands would like to contact him, please email: anthonyrcollins@btinternet.com. Alternatively please contact Jo Best, Alumni Relations Officer on 0118 9644845 who will put you in touch.



Diary of Events

Tuesday 6 May: **Friends Lecture** by Roger Keeley (SCR)

Sunday 11 May: **College Summer Concert**, Reading Town Hall

22-24 May: **Summer Production – *Twelfth Night*** (Greek Theatre)

Saturday 24 May: **Commemoration**

Sunday 22 June: **Bradfield Day** (Classes 1981-1990)

Sunday 22 June: **OBS AGM**

Monday 30 June – Saturday 5 July: **Waifs Week**

Saturday 2 August: **Class of 1998 Reunion**

Wednesday 17 September: **1850 Society Lunch**

Sunday 7 December: **Festive OB Day**

www.obsociety.org.uk

Greathouse Woods at Sunset,
Photographed by Alex Richardson (C 90-95, SCR 01-07)