



The Old Bradfieldian

The Old Bradfieldian Society Newsletter

Spring 2011



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Peter Francis (D 31-36)

Jumbo Fuller (H 51-56)

Chris Gorringe (E 59-64)

Charles Lepper (A 36-40)

Brian Ling (E 45-48)

Nigel Robson (H 49-55)

Peter Slot (E 46-51)

Michael Stone (E 49-54)

James Tyrrell (G 54-59)

Richard Youard (B 46-51)

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Save Greeker! It certainly sounds alarmist, but I hope when you have read this edition of the Newsletter you will appreciate that the School has reached a decision point with respect to the Greek Theatre. Over the years, various plans have been put forward to resuscitate the auditorium and its surrounds but without exception the costs were well beyond the ability of the School and the wider Bradfield family to raise. The combination of Health and Safety legislation (requiring the demolition of the Temple) and Chris Romer-Lee's (A 86-90) inspirational solution in terms of design, allows a final attempt to bring Greeker back into Performing Arts at Bradfield. I do hope you will support the Bradfield Foundation's campaign being led by Paddy Burrowes (G 78-83), its Chairman.



This is the last Newsletter of Peter Roberts' era as Headmaster. He leaves us for King's Canterbury at the end of the Summer Term having served eight years. Peter has been one of Bradfield's outstanding Headmasters, taking the School through the transition to a fully co-educational school. That journey required immense energy, enthusiasm, meticulous planning, able recruitment and an unshakable vision of the ethos that he wanted to create within the student body – "confident, caring and contributing". On the way, he has significantly improved the overall academic performance whilst maintaining a holistic approach to an all-round education that Bradfield has always represented.

Our good wishes go to Peter and Marie for their future at Canterbury – we hope this is only an 'au revoir', not an 'adieu'!

As many of you know, the Council has appointed Simon Henderson, currently Deputy Head (Academic) at Sherborne, as Headmaster from September 2011. Simon was a boy at Winchester (taught by Peter Roberts!) and became Head of History at Eton before moving to Sherborne. We look forward to welcoming Simon and his wife Ali in our Autumn Newsletter – hopefully with some suitable quotes of first impressions!

As you will see from the Diary of Events on the opposite page, this year we are introducing another new event, Junior Tempus Fugit – this will follow the same format as Tempus Fugit but for those aged 60-70.

Finally, Richard Youard (B 46-51) has been presented with the OB Society Salver in recognition of his long term support and generosity to Bradfield. He was a highly respected Clerk to the Council from 1968-92 and a full member of it from 1992-95.

Martin Young (C 59-64)



Richard Youard (B 46-51) receiving the OB Society Salver. Pictured with Felicity Youard, James Tyrrell (G 54-59) and Peter Smith (Headmaster 85-03)

Greeker will always reside as a very special place in my shoebox of Bradfield memories. It is teaching Bradfieldians in the classroom that has brought me most pleasure during my time here, but as regards a special setting and an inspirational stage, standing at the nexus between the orchestra and the skene within Bradfield's Greek Theatre, delivering a Commem speech, will always abide (sitting on a bench on Pit Bank would come a close second!). I love the art of public speaking and believe that rhetoric is an important element in the education of young people. I have felt frustrated and sad these last two years with Greeker shut through failure to pass modern Health and Safety regulations: as we all know, it is no use bemoaning the exigencies of this working reality we simply have to do something to make what should be a key Bradfield u.s.p. just that.



I am also conscious, as Headmaster, that we have an impressive number of talented actors, musicians, dancers, visual artists and stage technicians amongst our pupil body who would greatly benefit from a return to Greeker. To you, as an alumni body, besides the wider (and community) use proposed in the plans featured in this Newsletter, there is a guarantee that the current generation of gifted artistic young people, directed and inspired by a like-minded staff, will produce real quality for the cycle (Greek Play, Shakespeare and Musical) of the Bradfield summer production. I very much hope that OB families can return for those memorable summer evenings, and I know that you will be greatly impressed by the young performers it has been my pleasure to lead these last eight years.

With best wishes,

Peter Roberts

Diary of Events

Saturday 30 April: **Stone House Opening** (for E House Classes 1980-2010)

Sunday 8 May: **Give It Your Max Tennis Tournament**

Saturday 4 June: **Bradfield Lodge Festival**

Sunday 26 June: **Bradfield Day: Classes 1970-1980**

11.00am AGM

12.00 noon Pimm's Reception (Quad)

1.00pm Lunch (Marquee, Major)

3.30pm Tea (Marquee, Major)

4.30pm Chapel Service

Sunday 18 September: **Armstrong House 20th Anniversary Celebration**

Friday 23 September: **Foundation Golf Day**

Sunday 22 October: **David Moss-Gibbons Charity Hockey Tournament**

Thursday 27 October: **Junior Tempus Fugit: Lunch in Hall for OBs aged 60-70**

Please visit www.bradfieldiansonline.org.uk for more information

Officers of the Affiliated Clubs

Please contact the following Hon. Secretaries for further information:

Bradfield Waifs Cricket Club

Will Kendall (A 87-92)

Tel: 07957 215080

Email: will.kendall@rathbones.com

OB Choir & Orchestra

Catherine Baxter (I 02-04)

Email: cath1eb@yahoo.co.uk

OB Cross Country

Tom Fortune (F 91-96)

Tel: 07798 525011

Email: tomfortune@hotmail.co.uk

OB Fives Club

Chris Thomas (G 84-89)

Tel: 020 8543 1592 (h)

07974 316396

Email: thomases@dsl.pipex.com

OB Football Club

Mike Hutton (A 99-04)

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Email: mlhutton@btopenworld.com

OB Hockey

Mary Bucknell (J 99-01)

Email: marybucknell@hotmail.com

Stuart Robertson (F 95-00)

Email: srobertson@kgs.org.uk

OB Golfing Society

Simon Osborn (A 71-76)

Tel: 020 8876 7339 (h)

020 7152 5159 (o)

Email: simon.osborn@eur.cushwake.com

OB Lawn Tennis

Charlie Billington (H 93-98)

Tel: 07769 678786

Email: cpbillington@yahoo.com

OB Masonic Lodge

Andrew Tenison (A 77-82)

Tel: 020 8995 5870 (h)

07771 998777

Email: andrew.tenison@ic24.net

OB Sailing Club

Chris Bull (F 01-06)

Tel: 07831 370457

Email: chris@selectivemedia.com

OB Shooting Club

Richard Vary (E 86-91)

Tel: 07920 272750

Email: richard.vary@nokia.com

OB Squash Club

Andrew Dixon (C 00-05)

Email: andrew@inetex.co.uk

Bradfield Club in Peckham

Charles George QC (A 58-63)

Tel: 01732 451875 (h)

Email: charles.george@ukgateway.net

Appointment of New Headmaster



Simon Henderson will replace Peter Roberts as Headmaster in September 2011. Brought up in Kent, Simon attended Winchester College as a boarder where, as a very keen footballer, he remembers regularly losing to Bradfield. After a gap year at a school in South Africa, which helped inspire him to become a teacher, he progressed to Brasenose College, Oxford to read History. After staying in Oxford to complete his PGCE, he started his career at Windsor Boys' School where he taught History and Politics and coached sport.

He moved across the Thames to Eton College in 2001 where he was fully involved in all aspects of boarding school life; coaching a variety of sports (including 1st XI football), directing plays, working on school committees and living in the scholars' house as resident Deputy Housemaster.

In 2005 he became Head of History, a role he fulfilled for nearly four years before moving to

Sherborne School in early 2009 as Deputy Head (Academic), his current position.

Simon has been married to Ali (a civil servant) since 2007 and they have two young children. Charlie is a two-and-a-half-year-old who is obsessed with trains. Mary, who has just turned one, particularly enjoys stealing Charlie's trains. They also have a dog, Deefer, who is, by all accounts, less well behaved than Peter's dog.

On being appointed as Headmaster, Simon commented, "I have always felt that having the opportunity to educate young people is an immense privilege and I am extremely honoured to have been appointed Headmaster of Bradfield College. It is a school that has such a strong reputation for all-round education and I very much look forward to seeing for myself all that its pupils can achieve. Ali and I have both been struck by what a happy and welcoming school this is, and we cannot wait to move our family here over the summer."

Remembrance Sunday

The Bradfield family gathered in Chapel for the Remembrance Service which was followed by the laying of wreaths by members of the Bradfield community at the Collingwood Cross. Special tribute was made to John Sanderson (D 94-99) who died last year after he was wounded in Afghanistan. A truly excellent Sunday lunch was enjoyed by all in Hall.



As part of the College's Acts of Remembrance, the Drama Department staged a moving production of *Journey's End*, R C Sheriff's seminal play about life in the trenches during the First World War.

Many audience members remarked that the young cast of boys, from the Shell upwards, made the events seem even more poignant. This was further enhanced by Jamie Brough (SCR), the newest member of the drama department. Jamie's excellent portrayal of the officer everyone called 'uncle' further illustrated how young some of the officers were and he was an invaluable asset during the rehearsal process. James Thomson (A) gave a stunning performance as Stanhope, as did Sam Scott (H) as the new recruit Raleigh. Meanwhile, Rory Boden (C) contributed some much welcomed light relief as Trotter.



This has been one of the most successful seasons for boys' hockey for a long time with resounding block fixture successes over Marlborough, St Edward's, Bloxham, Pangbourne Dean Close, Wellington and Abingdon. The College has run 17 teams across the age groups and the enthusiasm and commitment of pupils has continued to go from strength to strength. This is without doubt a result of having two astro-turfs but also high quality coaching from the teaching staff and our 'professional' gurus in John Shaw and Kali Tachir.

The 1st XI and U14A both qualified for the South National Regional Finals and in the newly formed Independent Schools League, the 1st XI finished runners-up to Radley, whilst the

U14A capped an outstanding season by being crowned champions of their league. County representative success has been gained by many pupils with Toby Heywood-Bourne (C), Sam Lines (F), Reece Williams (D) all being selected for Berkshire U14s and Ali Higginson (D), James Kelly (G) and Scott Wall (D) for County U15s this season.

On Sunday 13 March the College Hockey Club hosted over 24 teams from various prep schools for a morning of high quality coaching from our staff and pupils, which was followed by the annual Festival in the afternoon. We look forward to seeing many of these players at Bradfield in the future.

Roger Wall (SCR)

Hockey



A busy first week of term brought a welcome treat in a performance by *Retorica*. Violinists Philippa Mo (J 91-93) and Harriet Mackenzie began their programme with *Orange* by South African-born composer Robert Fokken. Featuring foot stamping and shouts, its inspiration came from the Xhosa people of Africa.

After this exciting beginning the audience was treated to two Bach *Inventions*, a Telemann Sonata and a Sonata by the eccentric British composer Ernest Moeran, all beautifully played.

More contemporary music followed in the second half with Jim Aitchison's *Syruw: Five Kazakh tableaux for violin duo (2009)*. Written for Philippa and Harriet in response to an exhibition of Kazakh textiles, the tableaux were for many the favourite pieces in the programme.

The bright colours of the textiles came alive in this sound painting and the Kazakh folk song in the last movement left us all wanting more.

The concert finished with an *Etude Caprice* by Wieniawski and a *Passacaglia* by Handel; both exciting pieces exquisitely played. We look forward to welcoming *Retorica* back in a future concert series.

Ann Wright (SCR)



Philippa Mo (J 91-93)

Bradfield has produced a Live Energy Display which gives real-time data about the energy consumption of the Blackburn Science Centre (water, lighting, power and heating) and the



savings achieved as a result of the building's environmentally-friendly design.

The display also includes details of the various construction stages of the project, as well as in-depth explanations of the building's key environmentally-friendly features. For example, a biomass boiler which burns wood pellets sourced from local businesses, the use of photovoltaic cells which convert the sun's energy into electricity, as well as a bat loft and green roof, among others.

You can see the display for yourself by visiting the below website:

www.bradfieldcommunity.org.uk/led

Blackburn Science Centre at work



November

Throughout November, male members of the Senior Common Room were busily growing moustaches in a variety of styles (and with varying degrees of success!), in order to raise more money for testicular cancer, which kills more men aged 20-34 than any other male cancer.

Pupils sponsored teachers to grow moustaches and the results were quite dramatic as the below picture taken at the end of the fundraising month shows. In black and white and with austere poses, the photo echoes a similar

picture of the College's SCR from the early 1900s – I wonder if you can spot who's who?

The Mo, slang for moustache and November come together each year for *Movember*, an event which was started in Australia in 2003. The rules are simple, start on November 1st clean shaven and then grow a moustache for 30 days.

The staff raised more than £3,960 in aid of testicular cancer.

Jamie Brough (SCR)



The Senior Common Room circa 1900



The Senior Common Room 2010

Inter-Schools Real Tennis Championships



On Sunday 13 February Nick Astor (A) and Harry Gardner (F) won the Inter-Schools Colts Doubles Real Tennis Championship, played off handicap, on the Oxford University Tennis Court at Merton College, Oxford.

Harry and Nick only started playing in September, with coaching from the club professional at Hardwick, but have forged strong games which left spectators thoroughly impressed (sometimes disbelieving!) at the quality of shots and on-court demeanour.

In the first round of matches Harry and Nick, playing on an unfamiliar court (they are all very different), comfortably beat pairs from Abingdon and Radley. This saw them progress into the final top grouping, up against heavyweights Radley A and Cranleigh A.

In the first game against Radley A, our boys took a little time to get into their game; feet were a little static and there were too many

unforced errors. However, their composure and self-belief prevailed, and they wound up eventual winners. This ensured that the final game against Cranleigh would determine the eventual tournament winners.

At 3.20pm the crunch match began and from the very first serve everyone was treated to a cracking final. This was Real Tennis doubles at its very best with Nick and Harry working together, with a superb range of serving, volleying, and ground strokes. The Bradfield A pair eventually won 6-4.

Ben Napolitano (E) and Roberto Mackenzie (C) (Bradfield's B pairing), despite losing their opening two games, ended up pool winners after the initial re-grouping.

Congratulations to all boys, especially Harry and Nick on their incredible achievement over such a short period of time.

Neil Burch (SCR)

When Bradfield opened its first girls' house in 1989, there were limited facilities and staff expertise for girls' games. The number of girls was not sufficient to warrant employing someone specifically for girls' games; young female members of the SCR would occasionally take the girls out for a run or a game of tennis.

Before long Bradfield began to attract girls to the Sixth Form in ever increasing numbers and it became obvious that a more formal structure to girls' games was needed. This started with a part time PE teacher running a one hour session twice a week, initially for 16 girls.

From these very humble beginnings and over more than 20 years, that programme has expanded to what is currently in place: a vast programme that incorporates, hockey, netball, lacrosse, tennis, athletics, swimming, aerobics, dance, football, rounders and much, much more.

Games in the Sixth Form had been well established for a number of years when the first cohort of Faulkner's girls arrived in 2004. For the first time we were making junior fixtures! As each year moved through so fixtures for the year groups and the number of teams increased. Hockey, netball and tennis now have full block fixtures on Saturdays and other sports also field teams regularly. Today, male staff and visiting professional coaches take as much interest in and contribute as much to girls games as they do to boys' games.

Lacrosse has been developed hugely over the last few years with a number of junior girls now playing as well as our usual Sixth Form players. We currently have a player in the England Centex national talent development programme. This year at the National Schools Lacrosse Championships we qualified for the top half of the competition for the first time.

On a sunny Saturday afternoon, 12 players made their way down to the Sports Hall to kick off the fun but competitive Charity Football Tournament, in aid of *The Grail Trust* which is an orphanage in India and *Alive and Kicking*, a charity set up to raise the awareness of AIDS and offer employment in the poorest parts of Africa.

The event was kicked off by a number of old faces in the OB team against a team of current pupils, 15 years their junior. The level on display was very high throughout the evening, with many competitive games including one certain staff vs pupil match in which the staff stole the bragging rights!

Girls' hockey has had notable successes recently with the U14A team having an unbeaten season and winning the County Championships. Two ex-England international players have joined the coaching staff to supplement our own home grown coaches; four players have gone through the club and county JDC (Junior Development Centre) programmes while one player has made it through to the JRPC (Junior Regional Performance Centre) England U14 pathway. The U18 squad were also runners-up in the County Championships this year.

Netball has four players on the England Netball Excel programme and has just appointed a new Director of Netball to drive the game forward in the future. A number of girls are playing in a local league where they are currently, at the time of writing, second, and a number also play club netball. The current U15As, who had an unbeaten season last year, remain so this year, as do the U15Bs. The 1st VII have had notable wins against Cranleigh, Bloxham, Dauntsey's and Charterhouse and have lost only one fixture so far this season.

Girls' tennis this year looks set to be one of the strongest sides we have yet fielded, with some very talented players coming in to the Lower Sixth from our German contingent, along with some very competitive players who have come up through the School.

Finally inter-house competitions are now competed in at junior and senior level across all sports.

From an hour twice a week for 16 girls to a vast programme catering for nearly 400, girls' games at Bradfield has evolved and developed in to the extensive programme that is run today.

Sheena Ronan (SCR)

Sunday morning saw the event move up onto the AWP, a location which lacked the warmth the Sports Hall has to offer. A bitterly cold, rainy day greeted those who braved the first morning slot. A classic encounter came in the final match at 4pm. The pupils had their chance to get revenge on the staff that had defeated them in the Sports Hall, and they took this opportunity to set the records straight.

A big thank you to everyone who participated and helped to support the event, which looks set to pass the £1,000 target.

Matt Judge (D) and Hattie Dinger (I)

Girls Sport



Charity Football



Bradfieldians for Life



Peter Gangsted (D 73-77) runs the Management Committee for the Bradfield Club in Peckham. He comes from a successful international career, largely working on investments in retail, leisure and consumer sectors. Amongst others he has worked for Unilever, Allianz Capital Partners (as Managing Director of the Munich office) and more recently for Cinven. Peter believes passionately about the work of the Club.

Over the year Peter has given talks to different year groups at which he has introduced Bradfieldians to the Club and its work, and explains how old boys and girls have helped support the Club financially or with volunteered time. Peter's talks are informative and encourage responsible giving and a commitment to others in the community.

In a recent talk to the Fifth Form he gave an overview of the history of the Club, explaining

the impact of the arrival of the North Peckham Estate in the 1960s and the addition of girls in the early 1980s through to the gang crime that exists in the area today. He highlighted the serious situation of poverty in London, describing it as a "tale of two cities", and explained the effect this has on child development. With the background set he went on to outline how the Peckham Club goes about trying to help young people in the area by means of activities, by providing safety and comfort as a home away from home and by providing support and skills to enable young people to find employment.

Peter returns on Saturday 30 April to talk to Upper Sixth leavers about the special link between Bradfield and the Club and how OBs and the College can support it. Michael Stone (E 49-54), a former member of Council and a trustee of the Club, will also speak at this lecture.

Athena Lectures

During the first half of the Lent Term we welcomed back three Old Bradfieldians to give Sixth Form lectures as part of our Athena programme of visiting speakers. Robert Winder (D 73-76) skilfully wove together themes from the two books that he has published within the last twelve months – *The Final Act of Mr Shakespeare* and *Open Secrets: The Extraordinary Battle for the 2009 Open*. He also waxed lyrical about cricket, impressing the pupils by finding links between pretty much every A Level subject and the gentlemen's game. Chris Gorringe CBE (E 59-64) carried on the sporting theme as he recounted his highly successful years as Chief Executive of the All England Club, a period during which Wimbledon was transformed into one of the biggest commercial sporting events in the world and tennis as a sport underwent great changes. As a prelude to the talk we dipped into the archives with some big screen images of Chris in Bradfield teams of the early sixties and, through the magic of YouTube,

we saw Chris hovering in the background as Borg and McEnroe were presented with their trophies after the 1980 men's final. Our near neighbour, Richard Benyon MP (H 74-78), has represented the Newbury constituency since 2005 and is Minister for the Natural Environment and Fisheries in the Coalition. Having summarised his career journey from Bradfield into politics, Richard gave an informative and personal view of the current UK political scene. The pupils were impressed by his frankness and openness, as well as his ability to respond spontaneously to a wide variety of topical questions fired at him by the audience. As always the pupils greatly enjoyed meeting these Old Bradfieldians and hearing where their careers have taken them. If you feel that you have a good story to tell and that you would like to return to speak to the current cohort of Bradfieldians, please contact me via the OB Society.

Roger Keeley (SCR)



Richard Benyon MP (H 74-78) with members of the Sixth Form

The second History of Bradfield lecture was given by the College Archivist, Adam Smith on Thursday 9 December to over 25 Friends of Bradfield. He outlines his talk below.

My first talk on the History of Bradfield and the College had focused on the pre-College foundations of the Bradfield Community and the circumstances of its founding by the Rev. Thomas Stevens in 1850, followed by the College's tumultuous history until the Great War. This, my second talk on the History of Bradfield, picked up the story with the Headmastership of Rev R D Below (15-28) during the years of the First World War, and described how he carried on the work of the first two Wardens, the Founder, Thomas Stevens, and H B Gray (1880-1910), in steering the College through times of immense difficulty. I described how the rising numbers of boys led to the closure of the Junior School and its opening as a new boarding house, Hillside,

during the 1920s. This was followed by the opening of a brand new house, The Close, in 1926 to accommodate rising demand. We covered Royal Visits and seemingly unstoppable introduction of many new sporting activities, societies and the CCF and its precursors. We followed the Headmastership of Whitworth (28-39) with his 'legendary absentmindedness', famously once asking a boy, "was it you or your brother who was killed in the war?". Headmaster Hills (40-55) takes us through the Second World War, an extraordinary public speaker, who could also "talk the most appalling drivel at inordinate length", but managed to upstage none other than Chief of the General Staff Field Marshal Montgomery during Commemoration speeches in 1947. We covered the leadership of Chenenix Trench (55-63) and Hoban (64-71), and over that span, the introduction of cars, electricity and computers into the Bradfield bubble.

Adam Smith (SCR)

History of Bradfield Part II

On Friday 17 December the whole Council Body met for the final round of interviews for the new Headmaster. This was the first time

the whole of the current Council had met together, a testament to the significance of the decision to Bradfield's future.

Council



On 20 January the Business Studies Society was very fortunate to have Micky Denehy (E 73-78) as guest speaker. The aim of the evening was to explore how the culture of a business can influence the service being provided. We found it most interesting to hear Micky use his personal experience to talk about how the culture of Saatchi & Saatchi impacts on the services it offers to clients.

The engaging presentation was informative and the use of interesting clips left the pupils with much to talk about for the following lessons. For the Upper Sixth, the talk built on what they had learned about Business Culture and for the Lower Sixth it provided a fantastic insight into advertising as they are currently studying Marketing.

Following the presentation some pupils carried on discussions on these topics over supper with Micky and found it a useful opportunity to talk through career opportunities in this field.

Louise Marshall (SCR)

Micky Denehy (E 73-78)





Raymond Busbridge (G 57-63), Viravudhi Vajrabhaya (E 56-61) and Michael Busbridge (G 62-66)

Viravudhi Vajrabhaya (E 56-61), Raymond Busbridge (G 57-62) and Michael Busbridge (G 62-66). Viravudhi (President of the OB Thai Association), Ray and Michael holidayed in Thailand and Hong Kong for two weeks earlier this year. Vudhi at least wore his OB tie!

Nick Smith (E 86-91), Chris Tayton (E 86-91) and Alex Whitbread (E 89-91) pictured alongside with their brood of daughters – two each! From left to right the girls are: Eleanor Victoria Smith (newcomer born 14 August 2010); Louise Smith; Connie Whitbread; Sophia Tayton; Amelie Tayton and Belle Whitbread.



Nick Smith (E 86-91), Chris Tayton (E 86-91) and Alex Whitbread (E 89-91) with daughters

James Donaldson (G 03-08) and Oli Frewin (D 03-08), climbed Mt Kilimanjaro last summer and raised £2,500 for *Help for Heroes*. www.helpforheroes.org.uk/.

Chris Tremlett (A 50-54) is going to be included in the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. Chris is known as an innovative and prolific boat designer and builder. The Dictionary was published on 23 September 2004 in 60 volumes, in print at a price of £7500, however most UK holders of a current library card can access it online free of charge.



James Donaldson (G 03-08) and Oli Frewin (D 03-08)

Gavin Roberts (A 95-99) performed as the pianist, soldier and asylum attendant in *Unknown Doors* in March of this year at the Barbican Pit – created by Iain Burnside for Guildhall Research Works it draws together talent from the Vocal, Keyboard and Technical Theatre Departments of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in collaboration with theatre professionals. He is also the Artistic Director for Song in the City, where over five lunchtimes most of the major plays and poems of William Shakespeare, were performed at St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside.

Will Barrett (F 95-00) ran the Reading Half Marathon on 20 March to raise money for the Duchess of Kent House Charity. The charity was founded in 2001 and is a full service hospice. www.dokhc.org.uk.

Will ran after only four weeks of training, as he'd been unable to train further due to an injury, hard work by all accounts!



Ben Castillo-Bernaus (A 03-08)

If you wish to help Will raise money for this charity, please donate at uk.virginmoneygiving.com/WillBarrett

Ben Castillo-Bernaus (A 03-08) along with three friends from Bradfield and two from Cranleigh, with mixed cycling experience, are going from London to Barcelona from 5-17 September 2011. They aim to raise £15,000 for Cancer Research UK in the process. The group chose this charity as one of the five sadly lost his mother to cancer in the Summer of 2010.

They will be cycling around 1,000 miles along the journey, including the famous *Col du Tourmalet* – a 19km climb which has been included in more Tour de France than any other pass and is the highest road in the central Pyrenees. They have all been training intensely since January and will be taking part in a number of events between now and September such as the *Coast to Coast* challenge.

Their website www.ride4cancer.co.uk contains links to follow the group on twitter as well as a link to their justgiving website where you are able to donate.

Alongside is a photo of Ben with his bike – for any enthusiasts it is a 2010 Orbea Onix!

Joe Goode (F 01-06). Last October Joe launched a new business with his brother Ben. With a combined experience of seven years in the marquee field, they decided to set up their own marquee hire company, Joseph Benjamin Marquees. They launched their website (www.josephbenjaminmarquees.co.uk) at the beginning of January, and are enjoying a healthy number of enquiries and have secured a number of sales for the coming year. They aim their product at the high end wedding and private party market, as well as the corporate market, as it slowly returns.

Claire Trévien's (J 02-04) first poetry collection *Low-Tide Lottery* will be published later in 2011 by Salt Publishing as part of their Salt Modern Voices series. This is a great honour as Salt is an international award-winning publishing house with some renowned authors on its list including major works by leading British poets: John James, Tony Lopez, Peter Robinson, Luke Kennard and John Wilkinson.



Edward Demery (H 60-65)

Low-Tide Lottery is an exuberant collection that rubs history together with the present to create unexpected, wild imagery. Bodies become machines, Minotaurs and ancient Greek gods stalk the streets of Paris, the lost town of Ys erupts in a creperie. Both theatrical and intimate, Claire's native Brittany is a backdrop to many of these poems.

Anyone interested in procuring themselves a copy should keep an eye on www.saltpublishing.com/pamphlets/smv/

Richard Kinder (G 70-75) took part in the Isle of Man Drama Festival over Easter 2009, where his group The Garden Suburb Theatre submitted the wartime play *Breaking the Code* by Hugh Whitmore. Richard received the Best Actor Award for playing the part of Alan Turing, which was originally created by Sir Derek Jacobi. The part required detailed research into mathematical and logical concepts, as well as a full understanding of how the German Enigma machine worked and how the codes were deciphered – no mean challenge he says for someone who was constantly in the lowest quarter of his science set at Bradfield!

He said he had read with interest the article in the Autumn 2010 edition about Simon Annand's book *The Half*. Much to his surprise, he was presented with the book the following day by the director of *Breaking the Code*. He hopes to be able to get it signed when he meets up with Simon at a Bigshotte reunion, where Simon and he were both at prep school.

Edward Demery (H 60-65) takes office as the Captain of the Royal St George's Golf Club on 22 April, Good Friday. It will be a busy year for Edward as the Club plays host for the 14th time to The Open Championship from 14-17 July.

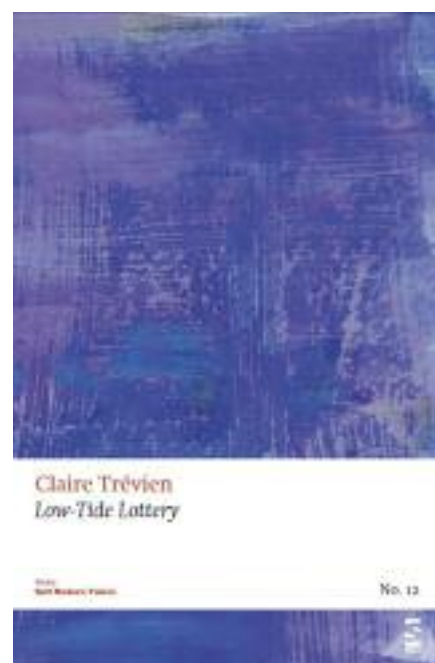
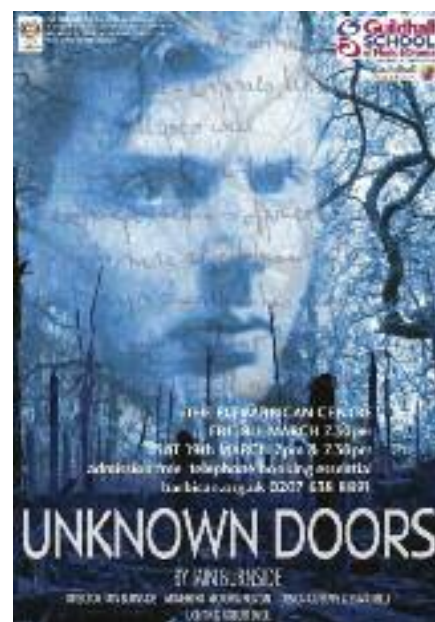
Rachel Hughes and **Aaron Shah**, Club Leaders at the Bradfield Club in Peckham (www.bradfieldclub.org) are to be married this Summer. Congratulations to them and also for the strong impression they made in the *Songs of Praise* programme screened on BBC One in February.

Chris Scott (E 07-09) is being supported by the OB Society on his exchange visit to Australia. Chris, former Head Boy, was awarded assistance after making an outstanding contribution to dance and drama during his two years at Bradfield.

Chris has made a fantastic impression at the London Contemporary Dance School and is now a National Youth Dance England ambassador, as such he was asked to open the annual Youth Dance England Conference in London in September. He was the first person to interview Ed Vaizey MP on stage about funding cuts and currently spends much of his time travelling around the country talking to people about Youth Dance. Last summer he also performed in a small scale opera, an adaptation of *Beowulf*.

Chris has been invited to Australia this summer for an international exchange to include performance opportunities, taking classes and working with some of world class companies such as the Sydney Dance Company and the Australian Dance Theatre.

We look forward to reporting more about how Chris gets on in the next edition of the Newsletter.



Low-Tide Lottery by Claire Trévien (J 02-04)

OB Performance at Edinburgh Festival

August 2011 will see the first Old Bradfieldian production at The Edinburgh Festival. The College has taken productions up to the Festival for the past three years and this year Julia Crossley (SCR) will take an Old Bradfieldian Company. The production will be *Woyzeck* by Georg Buchner. It is regarded as the play that marks the beginning of modern drama as it is the first to have a socially deprived character as it's 'hero'. It is also a set text on the new A level Theatre Studies syllabus so that will help with ticket sales too!

Canon Denis Mulliner (Chaplain 75-00)



On 21 November 2010, at the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace in London, Bradfield's former Chaplain, Denis Mulliner, was intituled and installed as a Canon of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, the first such appointment since the reign of Edward IV in the 1480s.

Denis has been Chaplain of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal at Hampton Court Palace since 2000. In anticipation of the 400th anniversary of the publication of the Authorised Version of the Bible, which was authorised by King James I at the Hampton Court Conference of 1604, Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to revive all three canonries of the Chapel Royal, Denis being the first recipient. It is likely that the remaining two will be conferred on others in due course.

The Service at St James's Palace was conducted by the Dean of the Chapels Royal, the Bishop of London, The Rt Rev and Rt Hon Dr Richard Chartres, during an Evensong, with the music sung by the Choir from the Chapel Royal at Hampton Court. In the beautifully flamboyant wording of the Middle Ages: "... the Chapel Royal enjoys its own proper authority and jurisdiction by ancient and enduring custom

lawfully established and continued down the many wheeling centuries throughout the divers reigns of kings, both before and after the Conquest . . . It is therefore fitting that we who assemble here bear witness to this Intituling and Installation."

In 2010, the Queen's Christmas address to the Commonwealth was recorded at Hampton Court Palace, in the Holy Day Closet of the Chapel Royal, the first occasion on which this venue had been used, again in recognition of the anniversary of the Authorised Version of the Bible. On Christmas Eve, the BBC *Nine o'clock News* included an item on the recording, including film of Denis showing Her Majesty into the Chapel Royal and presenting to her the Director of Music and the Choir: 15 seconds of fame, rather than 15 minutes, but for those who were aware, another first for Bradfield!

Denis has been Chaplain at Hampton Court for 11 years now, and we send him and his wife Chamaiporn our best wishes for the coming decade.

Stephen Bastow (SCR)

Nico de Boinville (H 02-07)

Nico de Boinville was honoured to be selected as the gentleman representative for the amateur jockeys' competition in Qatar in February this year.

Nico is attached to Nicky Henderson's yard and earlier this year played a starring role alongside AP McCoy promoting Austin Reed at Newbury Racecourse (see photo below).

The photograph on the right shows Nico riding his own horse Baodai, the one on the left shows him astride a racehorse called Cheney Manor.

Nico spent the majority of his gap year working for a racehorse trainer in France after which he went to Newcastle University where he read History and Politics. Whilst at university he worked for another trainer near Newcastle, winning his first race as an amateur jockey in August 2008 at Newbury Racecourse. He has also been riding and schooling race horses for Patrick Chamings, father of Emma Chamings (M) and Annabel Chamings (ML), since 2003.



I joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office five years ago and spent two years working in Whitehall, before being posted abroad. My first posting was Cairo and I spent 14 months on intensive Arabic training before my job started in the embassy, where I became responsible for Press and Public Affairs, reporting on internal politics and the human rights portfolio in July 2008.

Cairo is a mad city – chaotic, dirty and crammed full of people; but the longer you spend there, the more attached you become. The muezzin call to prayer ringing out at 4am, the complex mix of modernity and history, the donkeys pulling cart loads of vegetables alongside the vast tower blocks and gleaming hotels. And despite the hassle that many tourists complain of, most of the Egyptians I have met display a humour and generosity that leaves our reserved British habits wanting.

Egypt has been seen for many years as the most stable and moderate country of the Middle East. Each year it welcomes millions of visitors, and international businesses invest billions of dollars. However, despite this veneer of success, for a good thirty years Egypt was also a police state, led by a benign dictator. And although life was sweet for the many expats who flocked to the city and the super rich Egyptians, life for millions of those at the bottom of the pile, and even for the middle class, had become an increasing struggle.

Yet despite trends of growing poverty, inequality and unrest, both Egypt and the rest of the world were surprised when the protests, initiated by youth activists on 25 January 2011 (calling for an end to police corruption and brutality and better living conditions), swelled into the unstoppable display of people power that culminated in the Egyptian revolution. All the factors for social unrest were in place for sure, but many argue that the final, and necessary catalyst, was the inspiration of the Tunisian revolution which made ordinary Egyptians realise that change could happen, that the future could be different, and that, crucially, the impossible was possible.

Leading up to and during the revolution, the embassy was working at full capacity – gathering and analysing information; producing real time reporting to meet the insatiable appetite from the FCO and Ministers in London; assessing the dynamic and fluid security risk; ensuring consular assistance was available for Brits who needed it; and that the hundreds of British journalists who flooded into the country were communicated with, provided with the necessary information and (on a number of occasions) helped out of trouble. We worked to release human rights

defenders, including those from Amnesty, who, caught up in the chaos, had been detained and in some cases beaten by overzealous security services.

Embassy staff members were out on the streets reporting from satellite phones (as all mobile and internet services were down). At one point I was tear-gassed as the police fired canisters into the crowds (it felt like raw onions being rubbed into my eyes, and was very disorientating – hard to run when you can't see!). Yet despite the force used by the authorities, the protestors kept on marching towards Tahrir Square, through the deterrents of tear gas, water cannons, rubber bullets, buckshot and liberal use of police batons. It reminded me of the poem, *The Charge of the Light Brigade* – an uneven battle doomed to failure for the outnumbered protestors. (How pleased I was to be proved wrong!)

The day after Mubarak's resignation (a day that many believed would never come!) a 'new Egypt' dawned. No Egyptian under 30 had ever seen another President, Mubarak had been in power since 1981. And unlike the army coup of 1952, this was a revolution by the people, for the people. The millions who had gathered on Tahrir Square had shown that citizens could have a voice and a choice, even in a repressive society. In the days following the resignation of Mubarak, I saw students sweeping the streets, housewives repainting the bridges that criss-cross the Nile, and ordinary citizens directing traffic – all wanting to contribute to the creation of an Egypt that they, for the first time, had the power to shape.

But as most Egyptians acknowledge, the hard work starts now. Rebuilding a country with a new government, constitution and political forces all in the challenging context of hardship and poverty for the majority. Nonetheless, I still see a bright future for Egypt. The youth I have met, who initiated the demonstrations through Facebook and other social media, have a vision and determination that humbles me. They look to established democracies, which promote fundamental rights and voice for all (despite the many flaws and inequalities), yet recognise that they will need to uniquely shape these to fit with home grown aspirations and Egyptian character. They believe that, despite the inevitable obstacles ahead, they can be part of the construction of a new state which is better than the one they grew up in.

I leave Cairo in the autumn. I'm not sure where to yet, it's quite hard to make plans when events are changing so dramatically on the ground, but this posting will be hard to match!

Becky Stephens (I 98-00)

Our Girl in Cairo



Becky pictured with Prime Minister David Cameron



Dick Laurie (G 48-54)



In my second year at Bradfield I caught a virus which is with me 60 years later. It's called jazz. The then Headmaster, John Hills (40-55), an otherwise exemplary man, thought it was the Devil's music and persecuted those who tried to play it, thus greatly encouraging our tyro efforts. During National Service where I was given command of a platoon of tank transporters, my love of the music and attempts to play it burgeoned. Missing service in Suez by the width of a tank track, I emerged from uniform to continue the downward path in the jazz dives of London, earning a living as a chef, chauffeur and copywriter, with the occasional paid gig.

Dick Laurie's Elastic Band was founded in 1983 and is still playing once or twice a week, having survived over the years trips to Ireland, France and Hong Kong as well as many jazz festivals and many hundreds of weddings. We are very old

people, no strangers to the tents of the Thames Valley, and of them I am still the youngest.

My own magazine, *Allegedly Hot News International*, was founded in 1987. It was intended to be the house magazine of the band but is now exercised with wider – ranging outrages and is written mostly by articulate but grumpy old jazzers. The house style is soi-disant 'New Yorker' humour with an underlying whiff of Putney. Irony with passion, modesty with beer.

I work for Alan Barnes's Woodville Records label where I am billed on the CD credits as Old Buffer, having previously been, for Zephyr Records, Benign Gopher. These mildly derogatory titles conceal the function of sort-of producer, proof-reader and fetcher of every kind of succour for musicians at recording sessions. This is the best job in jazz and it took me a long time to get here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marriages

- CLARKE, Ellie (I 98-00) to Robert James Lanham on 4 September 2010 at All Saints Church, Churchill, Oxfordshire.
- LEE, Eleanor (I 98-00) to James Stebbings on 18 September 2010 at St Matthews, Llandefalle, Breconshire.
- MAYNARD, Helen (I 91-93) to Athanasios Stamoulis on 1 September 2010 at the St John Resort, Mykonos, Greece.
- OWEN, Hamish (A 88-93) to Catherine Beale on 16 April 2011 at St Mary the Virgin, Bucklebury. Tim Luther (A 88-93) was best man.
- WILLIAMS, Mark (C 92-97) to Dr Toni Burke on 5 March 2011 at Adare Manor, Adare, Co. Limerick, Ireland.



Robert and Ellie Lanham



Catherine and Hamish Owen



Helen and Athanasios Stamoulis



Dr Toni Burke and Mark Williams

Births

- FASKERTY, Felix (G 95-97) and Lisa a son Henry Edmund, born on 16 October 2009 in Penang, Malaysia.
- SEALEY, MARK (D 93-98) and Beth (nee Lester) (I 96-98) a son Miles Thomas on 4 July 2010, a brother to Isabella.
- SMITH, Nick (E 86-91) and Kate a daughter Eleanor Victoria Smith.



Henry Faskerty



Miles and Isabella Sealey

Deaths

- ANDERSON, Geoffrey Michael (H 38-42) on 30 October 2010.
- ASH, Brian Henry Dorland (B 50-53) on 8 December 2010.
- BARNES, Simon Morley (B 53-58) on 3 December 2010.
- BROUMPTON, Richard Brian (B 82-85) on 10 February 2011.
- CHAPMAN, Richard Cecil (H 49-54) on 5 December 2010.
- COOPER, David (E 44-48) on 8 February 2011.
- DU BUISSON, John Valentine (G 43-48) on 4 November 2010.
- GODSON, Richard Hugh (F 60-64) on 24 November 2010.
- KEMP, Kenneth Reginald (F 35-39) on 17 December 2010.
- LEWIS, David R S (G 43-48) on 23 September 2010.
- LLOYD, Patrick Llewellyn (E 27-31) on 23 February 2011.
- RAYNER, Rachel Eleanor (J 08-10) on 13 December 2010.

IN ORDER THAT ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THIS PAGE ARE ACCURATE, OBS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE URGED TO SUBMIT THE CORRECT INFORMATION.



Our last chance to Save Greeker . . .

These pages reveal Greeker's truly unique and inspirational qualities – and also how significant a part it has played in the lives of so many people. The pleasure that I took from being alongside friends whilst playing minor roles in productions of *As You Like It* and *Romeo and Juliet*, as well as clanging the cymbals at the wrong moment in concerts, rises very quickly to the surface whenever remembered.

These pages also serve to reveal that something has to be done now – or else Greeker will be lost forever. I very much hope that as many OBs as possible will find themselves able to support the appeal to raise £1.3m and ensure that not only does a totemic part of the fabric of Bradfield survive, but also that an exceptional facility is created to enable current and future generations of Bradfieldians to build upon those rich traditions and to continue to enhance the School's reputation for inclusive and innovative focus upon the Performing Arts as a key part of the curriculum and of life at Bradfield.

I thank you sincerely for your time and support.

*Paddy Burrowes (G 78-83)
Chairman of the Foundation*



Charles Lepper (A 36-40)

Charles Lepper became a professional actor and returned to teach English at Bradfield from 1967-85. In this time he directed 12 plays in Greeker which included Philoctetes (1970), Bacchae (1973), Agamemnon (1976) and Oedipus Tyrannus (1979).

Among the most vivid memories of my life as a pre-war Bradfield schoolboy are performing as a Suppliant in Cecil Bellamy's (SCR 26-53) superb 1937 production of Sophocles' *Oedipus Tyrannus*, and playing Juliet's nurse in his no less brilliant *Romeo and Juliet* in 1939 – both, of course, in Greeker. Indeed Cecil inspired me with a love of drama in general and acting in particular that have remained with me throughout my life. My most vivid memories of my eighteen years as a Bradfield teacher are of the 12 plays for which I was responsible between 1968 and 1979: four Greek Plays, *Philoctetes* (1970), *Bacchae* (1973), *Agamemnon* (1976) and *Oedipus Tyrannus* (1979), as well as eight of Shakespeare's masterpieces. I spent hundreds of hours in Greeker, planning, rehearsing and watching every performance – and I look back on every hour with enormous happiness: every minute well spent. And I have been a member of the Greeker audiences at productions by my predecessors, David Raeburn (SCR 55-58) and Anthony Bowen (F 53-58) (Greek) and Leslie Wilson (SCR 36-65) (Shakespeare); and of the many who have followed me, notably the first female Head of Drama, Hailz-Emily Osborne (SCR 87-98).



So as actor, producer/director, and spectator I have found my life constantly enriched by our Greek Theatre. As I look back on my lifelong association with Bradfield, it seems to me that while the school's soul is to be found in its beautiful Pre-Raphaelite Chapel, its heart is in Dr Gray's (Headmaster 1880-1910) theatre. Long may that heart continue to beat loud and clear in its renovated form for countless years to come.

David Raeburn (SCR 55-58)

David Raeburn taught at Bradfield from 1955-58 and during that time directed two Greek plays, Oedipus Coloneus in 1955 and Agamemnon in 1958. He became Headmaster of Beckenham and Penge GS and later of Whitgift School (1970-91). Currently he is a lecturer in Classics at New College, Oxford.

I am delighted to know that the Greeker Project is now once again well under way. The Bradfield Greek Theatre is a historic asset, vital to the 120 plus-year old tradition for which the College is still specially and rightly renowned.

I was a young master at Bradfield for only eleven terms in the 1950s, but my two Greek productions in the Theatre (*Oedipus Coloneus* and *Agamemnon*) were the foundation of the work I have done in directing, translating or writing about many Greek tragedies over a long career. What strikes me now as most special about those exciting ventures was the extraordinary challenge that they presented to the boys taking part, whether they were learning Greek or not, and the very high level of commitment they inspired. Everybody knew that they had to be really good, not least because in those days the Greek Play was still something of a national event which attracted a notice in *The Times* and was

attended by top academics and other distinguished visitors. The Headmaster's guests in 1955 included Gilbert Murray, T S Eliot and Field Marshal Lord Montgomery.

What matters today, though, is that today's Bradfieldians, girls as well as boys, should have the opportunity to rehearse and perform in this tradition and so to experience the superlatively great drama that we have inherited from ancient Greece – and our own Shakespeare too – and to rise to the high standards which have been brilliantly maintained over the years. The need to replace the old stage building offers a wonderful opportunity to construct a new and flexible milieu for the performance of both classical and modern drama in a beautiful open-air setting. Peter Roberts' plan to ensure that that a unique school tradition and educational challenge can be preserved over the 21st century, as it was in the 20th, calls for the renewed support of us all.

Lawrence Durrell wrote eloquently about 'spirit of place'. When I think about Bradfield in that context two locations come immediately to mind. One is Pit, and the other Greeker. They are separate, but also linked in memory.

At school I was fortunate in that I played cricket and trod the Greek Theatre's (concrete) boards a few times – once, in my final term, combining both on the same day, dashing from Pit at close of play to exchange my whites for doublet and hose, arriving breathlessly on stage in the blind hope that immersion in the character of Petruccio would banish the stinging memory of the catch I had just dropped in front of the sight screen.

Ironically, the batsman in question was Leslie 'Joe' Wilson (SCR 36-66), who was not only the producer of the play but also my stepfather. In many ways he was responsible for my love of cricket and of Shakespeare. I had lived in Bradfield since the age of seven, and in the school holidays we would often sneak into Greeker and play act in the ghostly arena. Even when empty, there was something magical about it, carved as it was out of the hillside and ringed at its summit by those majestic trees from whose leafy canopies might be heard the sudden rippling of a pigeon's wings or the rasping heckle of a rook.

Shakespeare and cricket were intermingled in my Bradfield years. During one of the summer holidays Joe Wilson succeeded in

arranging two cricket matches between his chosen XI and the company of actors from the RSC in Stratford. The first game was played by the banks of the Avon; the return fixture was on Pit. It was highly entertaining, a mix of unexpected quality (one actor had played for South Australia) and unrehearsed comedy (the First Murderer in *Macbeth* ran out the Second Murderer). But the high point for me occurred in the tea interval when we led the troupe of actors to visit Greeker. They were instantly captivated, several of them bounding down the steps to declaim while the others mockingly tossed coins at their feet from above. "Louder, you bastards, louder!" came the Rumpolean barracking of Leo McKern from the top tier as first a bus and then a plane scattered their voices to the wind. But what stayed in my mind was the way in which the theatre's unique spirit of place had enthralled them.

Greeker, and the triennial Greek Play, used to be the features that most distinguished Bradfield from other schools. I know times have changed – in the 1958 production of *Agamemnon*, for example, only a handful of the cast were unversed in classical Greek. But the altered priorities of academia should not automatically signal a severance from a cultural heritage. It was in the hope of ensuring the Greek Theatre's preservation that I became, for a while, a Trustee of the Bradfield Foundation. For it to fall into dereliction is, for me, unthinkable. The gods who inhabit the place will not easily forgive.

Christopher Davis (G 54-59)

After Bradfield, Christopher Davis went up to Christ Church, Oxford. Following a brief spell in the City he has spent more than 40 years in publishing, the majority of them with Dorling Kindersley which he joined as one of its founding members in 1974. There he graduated from Managing Editor to Publisher and Deputy Chairman before retiring in 2005. He is now a publishing consultant and writer.



Performing in Greeker was, without doubt, the best thing I ever did at Bradfield. I have a number of memories still, starting with seeing *Oedipus Rex* and, although not understanding a word, easily following the story and being shocked by Oedipus blinding himself. Gory stuff! I remember being Claudius in *Hamlet* (which definitely helped me with my Oxbridge entry paper) and playing the trumpet in *The Boyfriend* but the most memorable was, without doubt, singing in



the chorus of Sophocles' *Antigone*. I still remember the first line I had to sing, with an outstretched right arm welcoming the dawn, although I suspect the syntax has

become slightly mangled in my memory over the years. I was in my Lower Sixth year and it was a wonderful opportunity, fitting in rehearsals whenever we could. Music was especially written for us and it was very exciting hearing the professional orchestra (including many of the music staff) record it in the Music Schools. I couldn't honestly say whether it was hearing the unreserved applause at the end of each performance that inspired me to become an opera singer but there really isn't anything like it. Nothing has remained in my memory of my time at Bradfield as strongly as being involved in this artistic endeavour, this extraordinary team effort, and I pray that future generations will get the same fantastic opportunity to be involved in this life-changing, unique experience.

Mark Milhofer (C 81-86)

Mark Milhofer was a choral scholar at Magdalen College, Oxford before going on to study at the Guildhall School of Music in London. One of the most versatile tenors of his generation, he has built a strong reputation as a masterful interpreter of even the most demanding musical genres. He has appeared in countless operatic productions all over the world, often taking the title role, and keeps a busy concert schedule.

Claudia Harrison (I 92-94)

Claudia Harrison trained at RADA after which she became a professional actress. Her film and TV credits include The IT Crowd series, New Tricks, Little Britain, Friends, Archangel and Murphy's Law.



What is justice? How is it related to vengeance? Can justice be reconciled with the demands of religion, the violence of human feeling, the forces of fate?

The futility of war, the barbaric treatment of those subjugated by it, the suffering women and children caught in its midst, the agony of a declining faith . . . These are the things my contemporaries and I pondered about on summers evenings in the Greek Theatre at Bradfield. And we did it in Ancient Greek . . .

The Greek Theatre was the reason I went to Bradfield and my memories of performing in it are still vivid. Having to pitch a performance of *Guys and Dolls* to a sea of umbrellas as the heavens opened again, the joy of the long weekend rehearsals in the summer term, sitting watching others work their scenes whilst hiding in the shade pretending to revise for A-levels. Greeker at Commemm, where the experience of the whole school coming together in that epic space (surely more powerful than the grandest school hall)

made even the least keen of us suffer a tinge of reluctant teenage pride.

It is eccentric and daring for a school to have an outdoor theatre, and whilst I am sure that Drama would survive at Bradfield, and Commem still stand without the existence of Greeker, its magic adds something to the school that quietly sets it apart.

It is alongside all the sports halls and science blocks a mystical, slightly bohemian jewel in Bradfield's crown that she would be foolish not to protect.

Performing in the Greek Theatre was so enjoyable that it led me to try the profession for real, which, if you can stand the knocks, isn't all bad. But more importantly than that, the experience of working in that space has stayed with me, and always will. Speak to any of the pupils who worked backstage, school musicians, even staff who directed there and I bet they would say the same. What more can a school offer to a young Arty than that?

Felicity Davidson (J 99-01)

Felicity, having studied French and Spanish at Durham went on to train at Drama Studio London. As a professional actor, she performs in English and French on stage and in film.

Most of my happiest memories from Bradfield took place in Greeker. It was a place to escape from the mundanity of schooldays. It was a place to experiment, to play and perform. Somehow, Greeker managed to remain secluded, the trees making it a well-kept secret.

To reach it was an operation in itself: hop over a rickety gate, scabble down a scree slope and step into this vast, unexpected, serene amphitheatre. A deep breath was a reflex reaction.

A favourite memory of mine was during the first week of rehearsals for *Hippolytus* when each cast member was invited to stand stage left and speak a line of text. We were then asked to move centre stage and say the same line with the same vocal volume. Instantly, each actor was hit with the immense reverberation of their voice bouncing off the rows of carved rock seats.

Having performed in Greeker to an audience of 1,400, it has certainly taken the edge off performing to audiences now!

Piers Barclay (E 99-04)

Piers Directed the Oxford University production of Romeo and Juliet in 2008, a play which he later took to Japan. He currently works as a Management Consultant for Credo.

I was lucky enough to perform twice in the Greek Theatre, in a production of *Cabaret*, and then in *Agamemnon*. I remember making my first entrance on stage in *Agamemnon*, and noticing that not only had an incredible number of people come to watch our performance, but because it was still light, I could see each one of them. When you're on stage in the Greek Theatre, there is a strange combination of scale and intimacy, and I think this is one of the unique features of the space. The setting itself gives each performance a sense of occasion – I remember the slow slide from dusk into darkness mirroring the storyline in *Cabaret* in a way that no indoor theatre could provide.

The surroundings of a performance in the Greek Theatre seemed able to amplify the drama on stage.

It was following those initial performances in the Greek Theatre that drama seemed to capture my interest. Subsequently I went on to direct several productions at university in Oxford, eventually directing the University's production of *Romeo and Juliet* at Tokyo's Metropolitan Theatre. As I watched our show in Japan, I thought back to walking out on stage in *Agamemnon*, in front of a full house on a still summer's evening. I never worked in a theatre as large, or with such character, as the Greek Theatre again. Nor have many people.

One of the first things that people want to talk about when they find out that you work at or study at Bradfield is often the Greek Theatre. It is certainly unique to find such a thing within a school and its location here in West Berkshire may seem surprising at first glance. Bradfield's scenery is very different to the scenery of Ancient Greece and the proximity of our theatre to the Sports Centre, Music School and boarding houses may, to some, make it seem a romantic anachronism within the context of a bustling modern boarding school.

Yet is romance and nostalgia enough to justify the special place of the Greek Theatre within Bradfield? As the stage building has been dismantled, the moss begins to grow across the steps and the path way is reclaimed by the Berkshire foliage and shrubbery, an easy answer may well be that it should remain a romantic ghost-like monument sat in contrast to the vibrant life surrounding it. However, this answer is surely just too sad.

If it is to avoid this fate, it is essential that we reflect on the role of the Greek Theatre not as an anachronism within the context of the College but as a living part of the community. In order to achieve this we must, therefore, redefine the role of the Greek Theatre and put forward a proposal which places it back in the forefront of College life.

There are those who argue that the Theatre has only been used one week a year for a rather strange tradition of performing a play in Greek and that therefore it cannot justify its continued existence. To those people it may well be difficult to justify a fight to renovate it. However, if we are truly going to make the theatre a justifiable luxury it has to become more than a monument to a tradition. The plans being put forward have worked on this

principal. As Classics, Music and Drama are all incredibly strong and growing, both within the College and beyond, this is surely time to redefine the role of the Greek Theatre and return it to a prominent position.

Therefore, we have been working on proposing a Greek Theatre project which creates a space that is usable and beautiful. The theatre we have in mind will become a focal point for Classics teaching, with groups from the College and the wider community coming here to look at the design and layout of Greek theatres. It will also become a location for talks and lectures when the weather permits and a venue for College gatherings, concerts, and plays. The Theatre must return to centre stage and, in addition to satisfying the desire for the continuation of the Greek Play tradition, it should become a home for a wider range of theatrical and performance experiences. Those people who would use the Theatre most have been involved in discussing the plans and are excited that this the new Greek Theatre offers a suitable venue for a wide variety of performances from smaller scale more intimate Greek drama or modern drama through to the spectacle of a Greek play, a musical and a Shakespeare. However, more importantly, it will become a beautiful grove, offering a tranquil and beautiful natural environment – something valued by even the busiest members of the College.

The sad closure of the Greek Theatre has prompted a reflection on its role within the community and could well provide the catalyst for a revival of 'Greeker', not only as a unique feature of Bradfield but also as a central element of this modern boarding school experience.

Rebecca Cann (Head of Classics)

A Classical Greek Theatre for a modern Bradfield



Chris Romer-Lee (A 86-90)



Returning to Greeker in the summer of 2010 was a nostalgic experience. The site has a potent genius locus that is undeniable even for those on their first visit. Nature had taken a firm grip of the theatre and the temple had been removed having become unsafe. As the sun shone through the overhead ocular within the tops of the trees, Greeker was down but not out.

The existing routes into Greeker are memorable, dramatic and mostly treacherous. Anyone who visited Greeker will remember elderly theatre goers descending the perilously steep concrete steps clutching a picnic hamper, umbrella, blanket, sunhat and jeroboam of champagne. Visions of family members wrapped in blankets, hugging a mug of soup slumped in a deck chair are what gave Greeker its unique spirit.

When my architectural practice, studio octopi offered to look at how Greeker could be modernised we drew from its genius loci, this unique spirit. We never set out to cover the theatre, warm the seats or provide elevators. However we did see a magical opportunity for unleashing its qualities in a simple and cost effective gesture.

One of the first tasks we set ourselves was mapping the trees that encircle Greeker. Using existing survey information we produced a very large cardboard model of the theatre. This enabled us all to study the access difficulties and scale of any insertions. It quickly became clear that access via long sweeping walkways that descended through the trees was a viable solution. Accepting that principle access would now be from Hillside path the treacherously steep steps could be removed.



Taking their prompt from Kew's Treetop Walkway, the open mesh walkways' gentle descent into the theatre, brings visitors to rest on the top tier of seating. Level platforms along the walkway provide points to rest or dwell during the journey. Over a couple of years the walkways would become immersed into the spectacular landscape, heavily greened with climbing plants concealing the walkways.

Within the theatre, we've developed proposals for a new timber clad performance building or skene with sedum roof. The front elevation consists of removable louvered panels allowing for an adaptable backdrop. After consultation with specialist theatre consultants, Theatreplan, we were advised the acoustics of Greeker could be improved by raising the orchestra. In addition the new timber orchestra offers better provision for Bradfield's increasing dance fraternity. After considerable study and research into

improving the seating, various options were developed and costed. The democratic spectacle of a Greek Play lies at the heart of the current proposals to cover the lower rows with hardwood decking. There is no hierarchy and the open tiers remain for the audience to inhabit as they see fit.

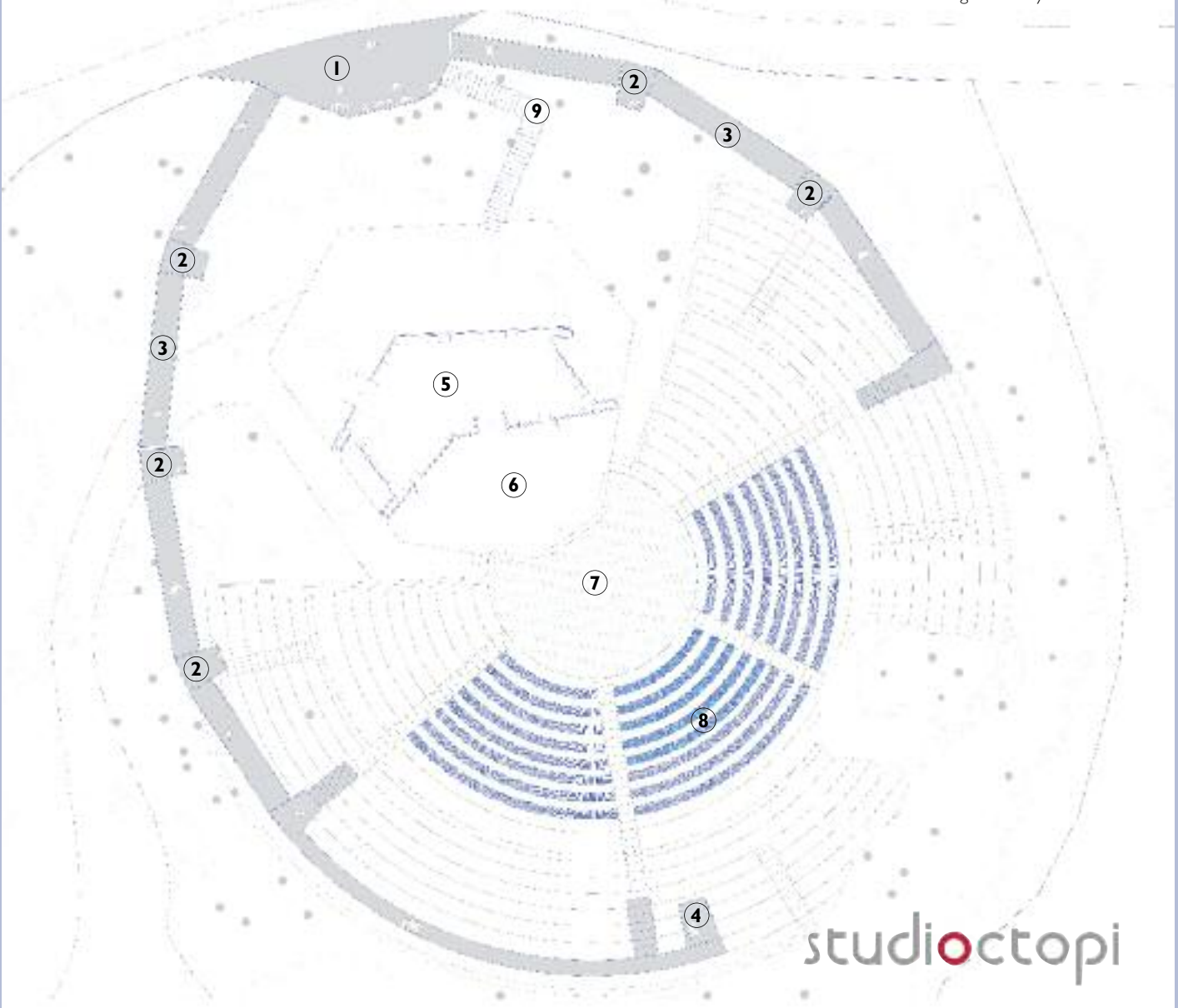
These proposals have started an engaging dialogue between interested parties. Greeker is unique and Bradfield is unique in offering Greeker as an integral part of the school's curriculum. studio octopi have worked to develop and enhance this setting both for the school and use within the wider community. We hope that in 2012 Granny can visit Greeker at less risk and more comfort but ultimately without losing the essence of Greeker.

www.octopi.co.uk

studio octopi is an award winning RIBA Chartered Practice based in London, founded by Chris Romer-Lee and James Lowe.

Legend:

1. main access with entrance platform
2. viewing platforms
3. raised walkways
4. disabled viewing platform
5. skene
6. stage
7. raised orchestra
8. wooden seating
9. backstage stairway





Please help us to raise £1.3 million

As with the Blackburn Science Centre, in addition to the freedom to make individual donations of any size, there is the opportunity for donors to be part of the permanent fabric and legacy of the Greek Theatre. Illustrated are many of the sponsorship opportunities available:

Wooden seats – £500 enables you to sponsor and name one of the 400 wooden seats.

Names of all donors of £5,000 will be displayed.
Patron Status will be awarded to all donors of £25,000 and above.

Sponsorship/naming rights of the entrance platform, walkways, viewing platforms, disabled viewing platform, orchestra, stage, skene and backstage stairway fall in the range of £25,000 to £250,000.

We would be delighted to discuss any of the above opportunities but donations of any size will be greatly appreciated in our fight to

Save Greeker

Please contact: James Wyatt (G 58-63)
Director of Development and Campaign Manager

Bradfield College, Berkshire RG7 6AU
Telephone: 0118 964 4840
Email: development@bradfieldcollege.org.uk



Orchestra and Stage



Wooden Seats



Skene



Walkway



Viewing Platform, Walkway and Disabled Viewing Platform

A Greeker brochure and DVD can be viewed at www.bradfieldcommunity.org.uk

Long-serving chairman of Smith & Nephew who enlivened its AGMs

Kenneth Kemp was an inspirational Chairman of Smith & Nephew from 1976 to 1990, having joined the Company in 1953. He was appointed Company Secretary in 1957 and served variously as Deputy Chairman, Chief Executive and Finance Director.

Kenneth Reginald Kemp was born in 1921 and educated at Bradfield College, Berkshire. He went straight into the Forces at the start of the Second World War at the age of 17, where, for a time, he was the youngest Captain in the British Army. He landed at Arramanches, Normandy, on D-Day +4.

After his war service with the Leeds Rifles and the Royal Artillery, he qualified as a chartered accountant with Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co. He was Finance Director of Arthur Berton Ltd, a manufacturer based in Birmingham, at the time that Smith & Nephew acquired the company.



He joined the board of Smith & Nephew in 1962 where his specialist skills in accountancy and finance led to his appointment as Finance Director for the whole group. A legend with his slide rule, he could calculate faster than the new electronic calculators – and often did so in board meetings.

He had very good relationships with the Smith family, first with Margaret Charlton, daughter of Horatio Nelson Smith. (the nephew of the Smith & Nephew) who was a board member, and subsequently with her daughter, Jean Gooder.

In 1968 Kemp was appointed Chief Executive and was shortly handed a letter from Unilever making an offer for the Company. Together with Stephen Steen, the Chairman (with whom he had also worked at Berton), they persuaded shareholders to back their recommendation to stay independent.

Kemp was appointed Chairman in 1976 at a time when the Company was a conglomerate mainly in lower growth consumer and textile markets with a strong presence in Commonwealth countries but weak market positions in the United States and Japan. Kemp, together with Eric Kinder who was by then Chief Executive, made a strategic move to establish the company's position in the fast-growing orthopaedics and endoscopy businesses. The acquisition of Richards, based in Memphis, Tennessee and Dyonics in Andover, Massachusetts, also brought a market-leading position in the US. These acquisitions laid the foundation for the Smith & Nephew of today, a leading global medical device business.

Kemp was a quiet, reserved man, easy to do business with and highly regarded personally and professionally. His AGMs had star quality about them, with full demonstration operating rooms being set up to show off the company's products.

In 1984 he was appointed a member of the Court of Patrons of the Royal College of Surgeons, and on his retirement in 1990 he was made Honorary Life President of Smith & Nephew.

He is survived by his wife, Frances.

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Kenneth pictured at Smith & Nephew's former headquarters, once home of Lord Astor.

Kenneth Kemp (F 35-39)



John Humphreys (A 43-48)



John was born on 11 October 1929, in Denham, Bucks. His father, a dentist in the RAF, had flown in the Royal Flying Corps in the First World War. He came to Bradfield having been at Gayhurst, a prep school in Gerrards Cross. Being of short stocky build he soon became a reliable member of the Boxing Eight. He had a cavalier attitude to school authority and with his dishevelled appearance, he was given the name, Shambles. Having let off a fire extinguisher in the gym, he won the displeasure of Sgt Hartigan, the jovial PE Instructor and was duly punished.

He achieved the distinction of reading the entire collection of Domford Yates novels in the House library.

Having qualified in Medicine at St Thomas' Hospital he worked as a ship's doctor with the Royal Mail Line, sailing to South America. He explored the dives of Rio de Janeiro and was chased round the deck by a knife wielding seaman who had run amok.

In 1958 he became a colonial medical officer in British North Borneo. Based in the town of Kudat he made expeditions to the interior to bring health care to the indigenous Rungus Dusun people and investigated an outbreak of cholera on an offshore island.

In 1963, having been part of the Beaufort medical group and looking after workers on rubber and timber plantations, he met and married, Alison, a VSO teacher at St Paul's School.

In 1966 he became an MO in Hong Kong, found time to sing in a church choir and in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

In 1969, the family, including a daughter, Sarah and son, Adam moved back to the UK where a second daughter, Pippa was born. He joined a

General Practice in Norwich. In 1989 he retired, moving to a nearby village, Mattishall but continued to work as an Examining MO for the Dept. of Social Security, travelling all over Norfolk, visiting those applying for State Benefit. He became a guide at The Sainsbury Art Centre in Norwich, developing an interest in the Inuit people and the tribes of Papua New Guinea. He was a founder member of the Breckland Artists and helped to restore the Mattshall Gant, a traditional village fair. He opened a bookshop in his home and had to be persuaded to accept payment for purchases.

At an OB Gaudy in 1989 John, Mick Johnson (A 43-48) and Tony Stephens (A then The Close 46-48) decided to spend one week each Summer, walking the South West Coast Path, starting from Minehead, taking nine years to reach Weymouth. Ping Grigson (A 42-47) joined them from Salcombe. Hiking did not come naturally to John but despite his fear of heights, slithering down wet grass into gorse bushes, being attacked by snarling dogs and bitten by a donkey, he was undeterred.

Ill health dogged him for the last few years of his life but he faced the ordeal with characteristic courage.

John, having a strong Christian faith, worshipped and sang in the choir of Christ Church, Norwich, for nearly 40 years.

He died, at home, in his sleep just days after celebrating his 80 birthday with his family.

The full congregation at his funeral heard a number of tributes reflecting his wide interests, his humility and concern for others but above all the firm place he had in the affection of the wider community.

Mick Johnson (A 43-48)

David Cooper (E 44-48)

David Cooper, who died on February 8 aged 80, was a much respected prep school master at Elstree School, Woolhampton in Berkshire, serving there for nearly half a century.

For four decades, Cooper expertly turned his hand to whatever teaching was required, leaving a lasting impression on pupils including Lord Fellowes (former Private Secretary to the Queen); Sebastian Faulks (novelist and former governor of the school); and the pop singer James Blunt. Each in their varied ways held him in high esteem.

Cooper was also in charge of cricket and soccer, and he was dormitory master. In the

latter role he was at first lodged in a small room that had been the headmaster's dressing room. His last meal of the day was high tea with the boys. He was given no supper, so he would fortify himself with cornflakes before retiring for the night.

During these years he never sought to move on, being completely content with his life at Elstree. But he never succumbed to nostalgia, always looking forward to the new term and a new set of faces. Successive headmasters judged him a superb right-hand man.

Cooper was a fund of knowledge about all aspects of the school's history, and served as its

archivist as well as being secretary of the Elstree School Association. Broader cultural matters, however, were not always to his taste: colleagues noted that on holidays in Italy, while they toured the Uffizi, he preferred to clean his car; and that on arrival in Venice he headed with enthusiasm for the Lido.

David Cooper was born in Ealing, West London, on July 12 1930 and educated at Bradfield, where he played in the cricket and football 1st XIs, captaining the latter in 1948. He never took a driving test but, while stationed at Redford Barracks outside Edinburgh when doing National Service with the Royal Artillery, was ordered by his battery commander to chauffeur him into the city. Cooper complied, and was given a document permitting him to drive.

He went on to St John's College, Cambridge, where he read Geography. In 1950, before going up to university, he had joined Elstree under its headmaster, Commander Ian Sanderson, as 'the boy' (or 'gapper', as the role became known), and in 1954, after completing his studies, returned to the school.

He masterminded a popular weaving course for the boys, in which they assembled a wooden stool, varnished it, and then wove the basket seat. Once it was completed, Cooper would collapse contentedly on to the construction to test its strength.

Brian and I met at Bradfield when he was fourteen and I was fifteen, sixty years ago. We weren't in the same house or even in the same forms but we had several interests in common, including heraldry, the writings of the Persian poet and hedonist Omar Khayyam, and shooting. And, of course, music, particularly jazz. In the gramophone room in the Music School he introduced me to Brahms and Richard Strauss while we also surreptitiously listened to the likes of Armstrong, Dodds, Ory, Morton and many other jazz notables, with socks stuffed into the works of the windup record player to muffle the volume, I say surreptitiously because the audible appreciation of such music warranted the same punishment as that for being found smoking, drinking or trying to start a war – namely expulsion.

He was not interested in athletic activities and, suffering from bronchitis and migraines, he naturally gravitated to the comfortable and

He officially retired from Elstree in July 1996. But he continued regularly to attend its church services, plays and matches, and – a committed Christian – he ran a bible class for the Year Eights until last November.

Like many schoolmasters in retirement, he remembered with special affection the school's notable miscreants – in particular the antics of Andrew Birkin, the author and brother of Jane, deemed one of the naughtiest boys ever to have passed through Elstree. But there had been hard moments too. Cooper recalled how youths once set fire to the science school, and that the worst day of his life came when he had to inform the boys that the then headmaster's son had drowned in the Thames.

He kept in touch with many Old Elstreeans, playing golf with them when possible during the summer holidays. He was the first honorary secretary of Bradfield College Golf Club, a position he held for the first 10 years of its existence. He was also a member at Huntercombe.

Not long before he died, David Cooper spoke of how prep schools had changed from the sometimes austere institutions they used to be, welcoming their development into nurturing and caring establishments.

He was unmarried, but it is said that he had as many as 50 godchildren.

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supine activity of competitive rifle shooting. Some of our happiest memories were of sitting on summer afternoons with other outcasts on the open rifle range discussing important matters such as girls, beer and Salinger's just-published *The Catcher in the Rye*. He also enjoyed the superstition of Banger Hill. On the way to rifle meetings at Bisley, armed with uneatable packed lunches, we used to throw our tasteless sausage rolls out of the coach window when we got to a certain hill known as Banger Hill. The superstition was; no bangers out of the window meant no decent scores on the rifle range. The unsuperstitious Brian conducted this event with an enthusiastic countdown at the end of which twenty banger rolls were hurled into the air from the windows. It may still be done to this day.

After National Service we met again over the years, regularly for lunch and irregularly in various jazz clubs and at concerts. And indeed

Brian Ash (B 50-53)





in 1980 he was a leading organiser of a concert himself, which celebrated the 100th anniversary the birth of the jazz pianist and composer Ferdinand Jelly Morton. Of this event he was one of the major producers, using his considerable experience as organiser, diplomat, fundraiser, programmer and print buyer to help bring to the stage of The Barbican in London a terrific show with great success. Of all the jazz musicians he idolised, Morton was the one he held in the highest regard.

His interest in H G Wells sprang from his left-of-centre political stance, a stance which led to one or two adventures. On his way in a high wind to the Speakers' Gallery at the House of Commons one evening to listen to a debate, he was felled by the bough of a tree in St James's Park. Stretched to the nearby St George's Hospital he refused an overnight stay and discharged himself, saying that he had an important speech to make in the House. He was of a mind later to sue the Queen as owner of the Park but was dissuaded,

As Secretary of the H G Wells Society he occasionally gave lectures on aspects of Wells, during which he was prone to adopt Wellsian speech patterns in a high, squeaky voice which appealed to no one except him and possibly Wells's widow. People walked out.

As Editor of the *Esso Magazine*, he brought new life and new writers to what had been a dreary and worthy PR vehicle. My experience of writing for him was one of epicurean and sybaritic sorties into the hinterland of the home counties, where after two days of interviewing,

for instance, the senior management of the Esso Power Station at Fawley, I would return to write a 2000 word article which, when it appeared, had been completely rewritten a good deal better by Brian, who had not taken a note on the whole trip.

He managed to give these excursions gravitas by always being well-dressed, in fact it was rare to see him on any occasion in anything less formal than a lounge suit and tie. And he attributed his staying power over decades of sturdy carousing to the fact that he never forgot to eat.

And so I conclude this very short memory of a very long friendship with an idiosyncratic, infuriating, amusing, aggressive, intelligent, very opinionated and brave man who had a colourful life, which peacefully ended after surgery for cancer followed by a short illness. A man who couldn't drive a car but understood the intimacies of internal combustion, a man who could single handedly install central heating in his home, and an intellectual with an astonishing memory and great enthusiasms,

I wouldn't have missed him for the world.

And now here's a verse from Edward Fitzgerald's translation of the *Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam* which Brian and I agreed once would be an apt and fitting valediction for him.

*And when thyself with shining foot shall pass
Among the guests star scattered on the grass,
And in thy joyous errand reach the spot
Where I made one, turn down an empty glass.*

Dick Laurie (G 48-54)

Dick Chapman (H 49-54)

Dick Chapman was born in Cairo in 1935 where his father had settled after surviving the Second Great War as a spy working with the Long Range Desert Patrol. After attending Hillside Prep School, Dick entered The Close and was soon to show that his prowess was better suited to the playing fields than to the classroom although he showed his leadership qualities later as Head of House. He excelled at Soccer and has often been described by his contemporaries as the best footballer of his generation having played for the XI for four years culminating in captaining the Public Schools' XI against the PFA Youth. Whilst they lost he, apparently, was far from out classed.

Dick was offered a place at Lincoln College Oxford on footballing merit but turned it down after being asked by his father, an academic, whether he intended to do any studying. On

replying "No" it was decided that he should turn down the offer and he instead embarked on National Service to Nigeria. From there he went to work in Peru where he was to meet his wife Heather – he playing scrum half for a Peruvian side while Heather was playing hockey for the Chilean National team. From there Dick's career path working for multinationals in the spirits trade, would take him all over the world from India, where his twin sons Richard and Mark were born (both H 74-79) to Malaysia, Holland, Madrid and Miami.

He finally settled in the UK to Henley-on-Thames where he was to be seen enjoying life to the full with the many friends he and his wife had made around the globe. Tragically Heather was killed in a car crash in 2003 and while he bore this with his typical humility and stoicism it certainly impacted his health.

Dick loved his years at Bradfield and was especially proud that as well as his sons attending Bradfield, he now had one Grandson Jamie in The Close and a second one, Ben due to start Faulkner's followed by The Close, this coming September.

Dick died on 5 December 2010 after a brave fight against cancer and is survived by his twin sister Patsie, his sons, Mark and Richard and his grandchildren Alexandra, Jamie, Ben and Katie.

Mark Chapman (H 74-79)



It is with great sadness that we find ourselves writing this tribute to Rachel Eleanor Rayner, Armstrong House 08-10. Rachel left the College having successfully completed her A levels and tragically passed away during her gap year; she had secured several good university offers to read History of Art. Rachel was beautiful and talented and could be incredibly vibrant, so it is hard to believe that she never fully appreciated the attributes she possessed. She had a finely developed appreciation of the beauty of the world around her, but was at times overcome by its imperfections. We will fondly remember her for her sensitive and intelligent contribution to *Oedipus*, her passionate love of renaissance works, her ability to show genuine empathy and for her illuminating smile. Our thoughts are, of course, with her family at this difficult time.

Sally Beeson (SCR)

Rachel Rayner (J 08-10)

Squash

The OB Squash season runs from October to March and we would love some additional players for the 2011/12 season. Our first match is against the Swans (at our home court at Lords Cricket Ground) and we also play against the School on Festive OB Day.

If anyone would like to join the squash team I would be keen to hear from you, please email me on andrew@inetex.co.uk if you are interested.

Andrew Dixon (C 00-05)



Sailing



Chris Bull (F01-06) takes over this year as Honorary Secretary of the OB Sailing Club. He is keen to raise a boat to enter the Arrow Trophy, a competition for schools. He would like to appeal to any OBs who are interested to make contact with him. His contact details are listed on page 3. In its heyday the team won the Arrow Trophy in 2002, 2003 and 2004 and came second in 2005.

Football

After a ferocious start to the 2010/2011 league campaign, with five wins from the opening five games, Bradfield stood comfortably atop Division Two. Unfortunately, since that early part of the season, both inconsistent squad availability and fixture cancellation (due to chronic bad weather) has seen an otherwise young and talented Bradfield side, falter.

An early exit in the Arthur Dunn Cup, a 6-0 home defeat by a well organised and extremely talented Lancing side, was tough after such a good opening to the season. It did however highlight how much we need to improve as a club to become competitive and consistent in the divisions above us.

Entering 2011, and the business end of the season, Bradfield are still very much in with a chance of regaining a Division One place after a season's absence. Due to Arthurian League nuances, a top three finish (as we are currently placed) is enough to secure us promotion. Obviously our sights are set on the league title and some end of season silverware.

In recent matches, a hard fought 2-2 draw against Eton 2s, has bought renewed belief to

the side after a poor run of form before the Christmas break. This was emphasised by a convincing 3-1 away win against at Brentwood 2s. Normally a very competitive side, Brentwood looked uninterested on what was the most miserable afternoon of the season thus far. Playing on a quagmire, together with freezing temperatures and driving rain, gave Brentwood a reason to be unenthused, as Bradfield bossed the game from start to finish with class and poise, demonstrating our fast counterattacking style.

With remaining fixtures against the top two sides (Charterhouse 2s and 3s) to be played in the coming months, it certainly promises to be an exciting end to an already encouraging season.

The Old Bradfieldian Football Club is always looking to recruit the players to lead the club in the future, so if you've recently left the school and are a talented footballer looking to retain ties with the school, feel free to get in touch with either Michael Hutton (Club Secretary) or Julian Stutley (1st XI Captain).

michaelh@amobee.com
julian.Stutley@huntress.co.uk



For the second year running, an OB Basketball team played the College. The match took place on 22 March 2011, ably organised by Deivydas Simkus (E 04-09) and Dan Clark (SCR).



Basketball

The 2011 season kicked off on Thursday 14 April with a pre-season drinks party in The Temperance, Fulham hosted by our President, Jumbo Fuller. This was a very enjoyable evening and provided an opportunity for members to meet before the season began. A raffle was held with a host of generously donated prizes and Waifs kit and other merchandise was available for sale.

On Sunday 1 May we gather for the inaugural Waifs Sixes competition where several Waifs teams take on an SCR team and one from current pupils. It promises to be a great event.

The rest of our fixture list remains strong with, as ever, Waifs Week shining as the jewel in our crown. The Week (4-9 July) consists of six days of cricket on Pit including two 2-day games (Pelsham and Free Foresters), 1-day games against both the MCC and the Hampshire Hogs and two fantastic dinners. I cannot recommend participating in the Week more

highly and we certainly look forward to welcoming some of the more recent leavers to join in the fun!

Finally, Will Kendall, captain of our Cricketer Cup side, will again be looking for talent and enthusiasm amongst the Waifs ranks to pick a winning squad ahead of this year's competition. Last year we came up against a strong Repton side in the second round and on Sunday 12 June this year, we take on the Old Bedfordians in the first round at Bradfield so please do come down and offer your support.

For full fixture list either visit website, www.bradfieldiansonline.org.uk or contact samoutram@hotmail.com for further details. Whether Cricketer Cup or friendly games, if you are keen to play for the Waifs this season then simply contact the match managers (details at foot of fixture card) with your availability. We look forward to seeing you all on Pit soon!

Sam Outram (A 97-02)

Cricket



Huxham 10 Miler

Mike Rippon (SCR) romped home in an impressive 69 minutes to win this year's Huxham, a hilly ten-mile cross-country run that has been a Bradfield tradition since 1974.

Conditions were very firm underfoot with the sharp frost, ideal for running, but not so pleasant for the marshals to whom our warmest thanks are due. Excellent performances include: Rob Gibson (H), the current pupil record holder, who crossed the finish line in just under 72 minutes; Rhoddy Allen (E) who finished in under 74 minutes; and Gapper, James Osmond, who achieved a time of 74 minutes and 15 seconds.

The fastest OB was Mike Gush (B 62-67) who came home in just over 91 minutes.

Congratulations also to Jichao Feng (H), who struggled on, refusing more than one offer of a lift in a warm car, to beat the sunset and complete the course.



Festive OB Day

On Sunday 12 December the OBs fielded a squash team, shooting team and three football teams against the College with victories claimed by both sides. It was a cool December's day which made tea all the more welcome. A good sized choir performed to a high standard in a beautifully decorated Chapel after which the congregation retired to the Warden's Room for mulled wine and mince pies.



David Moss-Gibbons Charity Hockey Tournament

A magnificent October day dawned for the Mossie Memorial Cup 2010. This year the chosen charity was *Help for Heroes*. With the sun shining on us all, eight teams played this year and the competitive spirit was as fierce as ever.

With a strong supporting crowd of cheerfully vocal spectators the players embarked on two hard fought group games. This stretched everyone's legs, some more than they had been for quite a while, and everyone got a good deal of hockey played before lunch.

A well earned interval and a great buffet BBQ gave everyone a chance to catch up with old friends and members of the Bradfield staff – as well as giving the players a chance to catch their breath! The finals that followed were a battle of Hamilton Huxhams Crew v Dun Cow Vagrants with Paul Armstrongs Dun Cow

Vagrants coming out on top for the second year running. The hockey encompassed all levels and it was great that everyone got involved.

Mrs Nickie Moss-Gibbons presented the winning teams with their cups as well as the runners up with *Help for Heroes* memorabilia and of course the ubiquitous wooden spoon was awarded, this year to Ed Hall (E 95-00) and his "Dream Team". Some further glamour was added to proceedings this year by the addition of a hockey shirt signed by the England Women's Commonwealth Bronze Medalists team which was kindly donated by the London 2012 office that is still up for silent auction. Please contact the OB Society for further details.

In total a tremendous £1,430 was raised.

Will Barrett (F 95-00) and Ellie Clarke (I 98-00)



We must all have thought, "I wonder what old so and so is up to?" In early 2010 I went further and wondered what all the old so and so's who arrived at E House in the Autumn/Winter of 1957/8 had been up to. I had not been a devoted OB, but I was aware of the genteel, but efficient information machine of the OB Society office.

The idea grew among the decreasing little grey cells, "what about a get together?" followed by the thought "what if no one turned up?" Then last Spring's edition of the Old Bradfieldian carried the reunion 1959 Cricket Team, and my concern became – can we arrange something while we can still remember who we are.

I knew that Martin Raymond (G 57-62) and Jeremy Eacersall (E 57-61) had very sadly died many years ago, but, apart from sightings of Jeremy Blackham's (E 57-61) exploits on the high seas, I had scant information on the rest of the team.

Tom Robertson (F 95-00) in the OB office was amazingly patient and helpful as my initial letters and emails winged to unsuspecting recipients. Then came the relief that I would not be dining alone as Andy Loutit (E 57-62), and Jeremy Blackham, contacted me.

In the following weeks and months as the sleuthing, emailing and telephoning plumbed the highs and lows of Crockford's Clerical Directory, a Rotary Club website and joining Friends Reunited, we were enthusiastically joined by Clive Bucke (E 57-62), Michael Dorr

(E 57-62), John Hamilton (E 57-62), John Skidmore (E 58-62) and Peter Spafford (E 57-62). Only Tim Burningham (E 57-62) (keen on the idea – but stuck in the States) and Graham Giles (E 57-62) (firmly ensconced in the French Alps) were missing.

The consensus was for a lunch, and by a weird coincidence the centre point of a circle taking in where we are all now living was – Bradfield! The matter was quickly settled when Tom Robertson offered to arrange something at the College.

So in early November 2010 the eight of us descended on Bradfield and the alarming prospect that most of us had not met for almost 50 years. We need not have worried, the problem became stopping us talking and laughing at countless half remembered tales of long ago, while also remembering those who could sadly not be with us.

The E House of our time is now the SCR and with the College on Half Term we met in what had been our house room, disconcertingly two studies are now loos and we lunched in another ex study. The College's hospitality was superb with the package including a conducted tour by James Wyatt (G 58-63), who we invited to lunch despite his being G House.

Many thanks to James, Tom and all at the College and thanks most of all to the seven other E House Old Boys for making the day. I think we all separated with conviction that we must not leave it another 49 years.

Robert Quiney (E 57-62)

E House Lunch



Tempus Fugit Lunch

The 2010 Tempus Fugit Lunch held on Thursday 28 October proved to be as popular as ever and was attended by just under 100 guests. A large number arrived early for a tour

of the recently opened Blackburn Science Centre, where they were shown the impressive features of the building before being taken up to the green roof and photovoltaic solar panels.

Tours were followed by a drinks reception in the Linnell Room and a traditional lunch in Hall. Martin Young (C 59-64), President of the OB Society and the Headmaster both gave excellent speeches.

The success of this event sees the introduction of Junior Tempus Fugit on 27 October this year. This will follow a similar format but will be for OBs aged 60-70 and will alternate with Tempus Fugit, both events being held biennially.



Class of 2009 Reunion



A new event held in 2010 was a reunion for the Class of 2009 held at the Southern Cross in Parsons Green, London on Monday 20 December. The event was well attended in spite of OBs having to battle through snow and ice and deal with transport disruptions. Unfortunately a number of guests had to cancel at the last minute, however more than 40 OBs did turn up and enjoyed catching up with each other, comparing notes on gap years and universities, all in a festive spirit.



This was a popular event and one which the Society will continue to organise for leaving year groups to reunite 18 months after leaving the College. We hope for better weather in 2011!



Mysteries from the Archives

Are you able to help the Archives Team identify the missing people in the below photographs?



This and many more mystery photos from the Archives are online at www.bradfieldiansonline.org.uk/netcommunity/archives

Please help us solve this mystery!