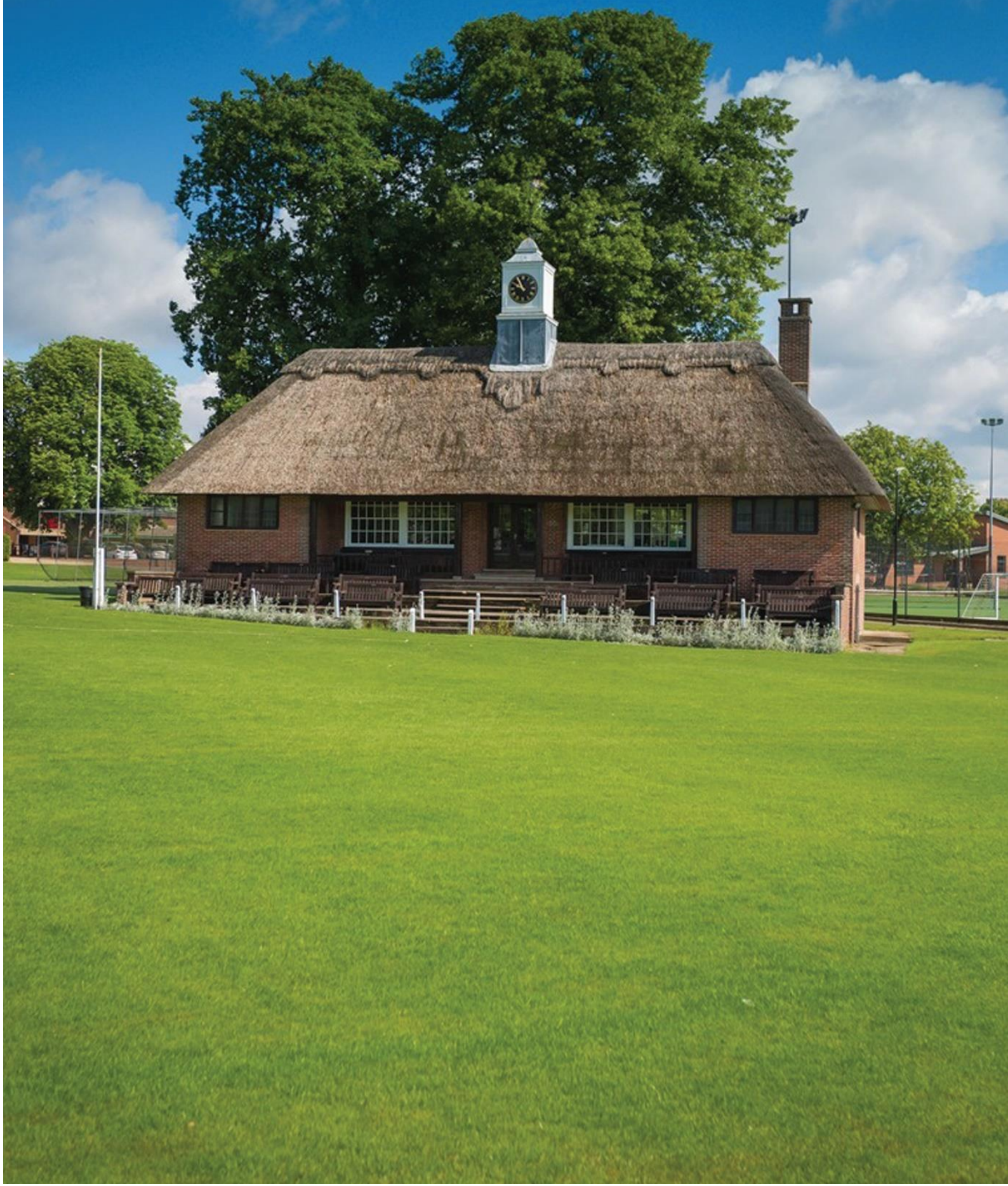




Wellingborough
School
Founded 1595

ALUMNI FAREWELLS



Malcolm Ward (52-59, Pa)

Died on 21st August, 2020, aged 76



Good friend and contemporary, Clive Adams, received the following from Malcolm's daughter, Kirsty.

Malcolm left school and trained initially as a mechanical engineer, but quite soon, his early interest in cars and motorcycles developed into a passion for aviation. He went on to train as an aircraft engineer, working at Sywell, Cranfield and Boscombe Down during the 1960s and early 70s. His passion for aviation continued throughout his career, although he moved into sales and consultative

roles within the industry in later years. He never did relish the thought of retirement and was working until only a few weeks before he died, always enjoying the challenge of a new project.

Malcolm's career and hobbies were closely aligned. After initially being involved in flying gliders, he went on to gain his private pilot's license and flew regularly from Brimpton Airfield, near his home in South Oxfordshire. However, not entirely satisfied with this, he decided that he would like to learn aerobatics as he entered his early 70s. He was proud to have completed this rating just over a year ago and had been looking forward to flying solo. He was also rarely without a classic motorcycle to care for and ride, in which he also took great pleasure.

Malcolm will be greatly missed by family and friends and in particular his partner Jill, daughter Kirsty, and grandsons Jack and Tom.

Clive Adams (52-59, Pa) sent through his own thoughts about his lifelong friend:

"I heard recently that my great friend and ex Wellingborough School pupil, Malcolm Ward had died. Malcolm, myself, together with Peter Wildman (52-50, St) and Peter Dunkley (who died in 2018) started at The School in 1952, so we have known each other and remained good friends for all the intervening 68 years, meeting at least twice a year.

When Malcolm left school he worked for his father, Eric (ex-School pupil) in the motor trade for a few years then went to work in the aircraft industry and was working right up to his death. He was diagnosed with lung cancer early last year and was told as recently as 3 months ago, that it was an asbestos related cancer, which in the end was fatal. He was just 76 years old."

Stanley (Stan) Wilford (39-43, Pa)

Died on 14th June 2020, aged 92

Stan gained a Foundation Scholarship when term fees for day boys were £10!



His father, Herbert, established the well-known family business, Wilford's Auctioneers, in Wellingborough and Stan's first experience of the auctioneer's gavel was in 1939 aged 12, with his father, at Grendon Village Hall selling eggs and other produce donated to raise money to purchase Spitfire fighter planes.

He left school in 1943 to become a pupil at Peacock's Auctioneers and Estate Agents in Bedford but following the death of his father in 1944, he took on management of the family business at the tender age of 16. Though called for National Service towards the end of World War 2, he failed the medical so continued to run the business until a stroke in 1977 forced his retirement from an active role.

His son Tim, (66-73, St) took up management of the business until his untimely death in 1999 when the business was sold. It still operates under the Wilford's Name but the family has no involvement.

Stan lived in Wellingborough all his life and was a highly respected long serving member of Freemasonry and Rotary, and many other Associations. He was a gifted pianist, avid crossword solver, happy fisherman and a wise and constant support to his family, friends and associates.

He leaves behind his wife Jessie, two daughters, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

E. John Woods (46-49, Pa)

Died: November 2019

John Woods passed away in November 2019. At School he was a member of the Soccer 2nd XI and the swimming team.

After school he went to London Nautical College and then joined the Merchant Navy, working his way up to the rank of Captain. At the age of 37 he came ashore to be with his wife, June, and his new-born daughter, Sarah, and took a position as berthing master at Immingham Dock. He eventually landed the position of Superintendent Dock Master for ABP, highest position at the port.

John retired in 1996 to help look after his grandchildren and play golf.



Graham Garrett (Headmaster 1973-1993)

Died: 15th September 2019, Aged 85

GG, known affectionately as "The Plank", was born and raised in Streatham, South-East London. The middle of three brothers, he was educated at Alleyn's School in London, where he ended up as school captain, before gaining a Mathematics scholarship to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

Upon graduating he had three years in the Royal Navy (1952-55) as an instructor officer, and then a short spell in industry. He joined the staff of Radley College in 1961, before being appointed to Shrewsbury School in 1964 as head of Mathematics and, three years later, as housemaster of School House.

In 1973, aged 39, he moved to Wellingborough with his wife Jill and their three children – Caroline, John and Alison – to take up his new appointment.



The Garrett era saw a succession of new buildings – the Modern Languages Block (1974), the Spencer Art Building (1974), the Overstone Building (1979), the Sports Hall (1983), Nevill House (1986) and the Gent Centre (1990). The playing fields were enlarged in 1982.

Inside and outside the classroom, standards were raised. The School benefitted from the abolition of the county's grammar schools in 1975 and the introduction of Assisted Places in 1981. The A Level pass rate rose from 65% to 97.3%. A major change came in 1979: Overstone Girls' School near Northampton closed suddenly, and the decision was made to become fully co-educational. The influx of girls, and the growth of the county's population more than offset the decline in boarding numbers.

GG was very much a hands-on headmaster, involving himself in all aspects of school life. He led a sponsored walk to raise money for a new organ in the Chapel; he appeared in staff drama productions with great aplomb; he could be seen inspecting the CCF in his trilby hat, and playing tennis with the indefatigable Jack Blake. He possessed the remarkable gift of giving time to everyone, from Shell former to governor, giving each person his whole attention - great eye contact, never looking over your shoulder in search of someone more important.

GG was very fortunate in being Headmaster at Wellingborough at a time when independent schools were booming; and Wellingborough was indeed fortunate in having GG at the helm. Working closely with the Governing Body and a supportive staff, he had the great support of his wife Jill at his side. Together they set a self-demanding example of practical Christian service. For two decades GG oversaw great progress at the School. With his characteristically warm charm and his natural smile, he welded together an institution at ease with itself. Discipline was imposed from on high with a sense of compassion: suspending a pupil caught smoking or a group of boarders caught in a pub raid on a Saturday night would be conveyed with a sense of mild regret.

In July 1993 Graham and Jill retired to Cambridge, and his distinctive spidery handwriting on each pupil's end of term reports became a thing of the past. Trademark catchphrases such as "You've got to get it right" and "It's just not on" were consigned to the history books, ditto his reference to "long-haired skinheads".

A busy and active retirement beckoned - working with the National Youth Orchestra and, with Jill, immersing themselves in the University of the Third Age, birdwatching and walking, and GG himself remaining an accomplished pianist. In 2008-2009 he served as President of the Old Wellingburian Club. In 2003 the School renamed the Teaching Block as the Garrett Building in his honour. Alas, the last seven years were blighted by the onset of Alzheimer's, but to the very end he was blessed with the love and support of Jill, their children and grandchildren, and many close friends.

Historians will hail GG as one of Wellingborough's greatest headmasters. And for those who knew him, he will be remembered for his kindness and his gentleness. A great man.

James Sutherland Axe (53-63, W)

Died: 24th August 2019, Aged 74



The first mention found of James in the Wellingburian Magazine is in the Junior School U12s Athletics Finals, winning the Long Jump with a jump of 12 feet and coming 2nd in the 220 yards final with a time of 33 seconds. When he moved up in to the senior school he continued his athletics and was made Vice Captain of the School Athletics Team. James' main love was cricket and he represented the Senior School for the entire 5 years he was there at U15, U16 and then 1st XI level for 3 years. He was elected Vice Captain in his final year. He represented his House in football, rugby, athletics and chess and he captained the House Cricket team. He was also in charge of the House singing competition. He sang in the school choir for 8 years and in his final years was Chairman or member of many school societies such as The Cat Whiskers, Drama and Photography. He was also President of the Records Appreciation Society. Many friendships were forged in the Senior School, particularly with John Marriot, who he usually opened the batting with, Clive and Keith Potter, David Brown, Dudley Wood,

Roger Shelton and Clive Westley to name a few. On leaving School James was one of the founder members of the Old Wellingburian cricket and football clubs.

After leaving school James continued his love of music and turned his hobby of DJ-ing into a business, opening the first disco in Northamptonshire, "The Den" at his home in Loddington. He continued DJ-ing at many venues in Northamptonshire including Rushden Ski Club and the Desborough Rugby Club.

James joined the Institute of Chartered Surveyors' college in Bristol, however after a year decided to leave to take up teaching. He attended Teacher Training College at Kesteven College for four years, obtaining a B-Ed.

James taught History at Jack Hunt School in Peterborough from 1975 until 1995. During this time he met and married Angela and they had one daughter, Victoria. After early retirement from teaching he, went back into education in 2001 as a Boarding House Parent for five years at Peterborough High School.

Sadly James was diagnosed with COPD in 2006. He had major lung surgery at Leicester Hospital in 2014 which allowed him to enjoy a further five years of life. During this time, although his physical abilities were severely restricted, he was able to enjoy playing bridge, watching sport and spending time with his two grandchildren.



David Nigel Warwick (70-76, St)

Died: 17th August 2019, Aged 60

David Nigel Warwick, to us all David, a dependable chap and family man. He was born in Northampton on 30th April 1959.

David went to The Avenue Infant school and then followed in his Father's footsteps to Wellingborough Junior and Senior School. David's daughter Hannah and son Sam followed him to be educated at Wellingborough School becoming 3 generations of the same family to attend. On leaving Wellingborough School David carried out his apprenticeship at Clifton's Menswear in Bedford. It was there he learned his trade and was particularly keen and talented on window display and merchandising.

On his return to Wellingborough he joined the family business, which has been trading since 1868, he was the fifth generation of Warwicks to serve the town. He worked alongside his Grandfather Cyril, Father Alan and was later joined by Brother Neil. David was the inspiration behind the creative window displays which were known as the best in the town for many years. He took a great deal of pride in their appearance and won a good number of competitions underlining his skills in this field. One of David's particular attributes was the ability to visually 'read' your measurements before even reaching for a tape measure.

For 50 years Warwicks were the school outfitters, David along with his colleague Peter managed the school department, David giving his usual efficiency and attention to detail, to each and every customer. He also enjoyed attending trade shows all over the country and organising the buying for his fashion department, sourcing new and interesting pieces to meet customers' needs and requirements. In recent years David and Neil expanded the business, opening branches in Kettering and Northampton. In 2018 the firm celebrated 150 years of trading. David worked there for 40 years and his illness did not stop him from his daily routines until May of this year.

David was a member of IMC. An Independent menswear buying group and was highly regarded and respected within his Industry.

David was a member of Wellingborough Round Table, followed by 41 club, he was Chairman of 41 club in 2004/5 and president of Round Table in 2006/7. Although he didn't really possess the sporting gene, in later years he belonged to Wellingborough Bowls Club, playing for one of the 41 club teams.

Both David and his late brother in law Andrew Bigley were active members of Wellingborough School Friends committee. After the untimely loss of Andrew to bowel cancer in 2011, David worked tirelessly alongside family members to organise charity Balls at Sywell to raise funds for cancer charities.

David very much valued spending time with his family in Norfolk, he would always ensure Susie the dog would be welcomed in the local pubs. He was a self-taught DIY expert and a perfectionist when decorating at home.

He was never boastful of his talents, he was content with good friendships. He was a gentle undemanding character, his priorities were his family and his business, and he was conscientious and efficient in his approach to everything.

David was married to Sara for 30 years, they have two children Hannah and Sam, Hannah married Iain in 2011; they have two children Freddie and Mia.

Christopher Andrew John Higgs (78-88, Pa)

Died: 22nd July 2019, Aged 49



Chris was born in Wellingborough on 22nd April 1970 and entered the Junior School in 1978.

On leaving School he went on to Birmingham University where he obtained a Master of Mechanical Engineering Degree. Whilst there he met his future wife Ellen, and on graduating, they went off on a round the world trip before settling down to married life.

Chris joined the family Engineering business before setting up, additionally, his own

Laser Cutting and Fabrication Company. Outside of work Chris was fully involved in Round Table activities in addition to cycling, gardening, travelling and following the Northampton Saints Rugby. He was a member of Overstone Parish Council and also actively involved in the preservation of the village.

He was much loved, known for his quick wit and sense of fun, and often used this with practical jokes on friends and family. He will be sorely missed.

His untimely death leaves his wife Ellen, daughter Jenna, son Jonathan, his father John (49-58, Pa) and his sister Julia Dale (nee Higgs 82-91, W).

Roy Palfreyman (32-36, F)

Died: 21st July 2019, Aged 99

Roy Palfreyman (32-36, F) died on the 21st July, aged 99, believed to be the oldest OW. Born in 1920 in Crewe, he followed his elder John to Wellingborough, and would later recall the Victorian values, cold baths, meagre food portions and the liberal use of the cane, which would toughen up that generation for the war years ahead.

After leaving the School he joined Lawton's of Crewe, a furnisher retailer. In WW2 he saw action in North Africa in the 4th Armoured Brigade, part of the 7th Armoured Division - the Desert Rats. In 1944 he landed on Gold Beach D-day plus 2, and was sent through the notorious Falaise Gap before the final surrender of Germany. In 2017 he was awarded the Legion D'Honneur from the French attaché at an award ceremony in Stoke. He had mixed experiences during the war, the brushes with death and the losing of friends made him cherish life and want to live life every day to the full.



After being demobbed he followed his father and grandfather into the family pawnbroking and furniture retailing business located throughout the Staffordshire Potteries. He married his wife Mary in 1957 and they had one son, Adrian. He was a keen golfer and freemason, and church warden in the village of Alsager. Widowed in 2003, he lived a full life to the end.

Michael Peter Hainsworth (62-66, W)

Died: 22nd June 2019, Aged 71

More interested in sporting than academic achievement, Mike pursued his love of sport by competing in both Football and Cricket first XI's, as well as the School swimming team, having developed his technique on school holidays in Singapore. He continued his sporting relationship with the School by playing for the OWs at both sports.

His favourite subject was geography, in which he had no interest at all, but it enabled him to learn all about either cricket, or First World War fighter pilots, thanks to the inimitable Murray Witham's teaching prowess. He always claimed the most interesting experiences from his schooling days were watching George Best single handedly demolishing the Cobblers, and the George Brown debacle.

The Daily Express on its own page 3 announced one day that a group of boater wearing public school boys would be up before the head that very morning, for having heckled and abused George Brown, the Labour M.P. and Deputy to Harold Wilson, who had the day before been on a husting by the market square, in the run up to the mid 60's election. All the boys involved, including Mike, argued to the head that all they were doing was attempting to challenge and correct some spurious and ill-informed comments by the Cabinet Minister, who was advocating the Labour Party would abolish all Public Schools for being elitist. Murray Witham (yet again) congratulated all the boys on their common sense, and his pride for what had been done and said! No punishment. It later transpired that George Brown was at that time a Governor of Repton School!

Mike after school initiated his own business selling villas during the 70s/80s in and around Javea, Spain, then went on to build up his own will-writing company, based at his home in Northampton. Being in Northampton also allowed him to indulge his lifelong support for the Cobblers, whom he regularly followed no matter which division they found themselves in!

He leaves behind his wife, Sue, and his daughter Alex, and 2 grandchildren.

Thanks to Noel Tite (60-67, Pa) for providing this obit.



Mickey Prall (Staff 64-02)

Died: 18th May 2019, Aged 77

"Mr S.A. Prall joined the staff as Assistant Master this term. Miss S.E. Blachin took Miss Bawtree's place as Secretary. We wish them both well, and hope they will enjoy working here... The Junior School is full for the year 1964/5 with 53 boarders and 93 day boys".

Thus wrote Roland Bedford in the Michaelmas 1964 edition of *The Wellingburian*, and thus began a teaching career for Mickey Prall at Wellingborough which would last some 38 years.

Mickey was born in India, where his father was posted, and educated at Cranbrook School in Kent. He studied for an IAPS Diploma in Education, and then joined the staff of Lichfield Cathedral School before arriving at the Junior School in 1964, aged about 22. For the next 38 years he ran the History Department in the JS, and countless generations would later thank him for drumming into their skulls the names of the Kings and Queens of England. Favourite classroom howler: "King Harold died when he found an arrow in his eye".



In September 1965 Mickey became President of Lions (one of the JS Clubs) upon the sudden death of his colleague, Lambert Musgrave, a position he held for the next 37 years. From time immemorial he was responsible for organising the games programme three times a week, and the annual Sports Day. His first love was rugby, introducing the game into the JS in 1979 and running the 1st XV for many years. He refereed outside school in the holidays and, in retirement served for many years as a referees' assessor, travelling extensively around the country. He was also involved in JS cricket, running the 1st XI for a time, and in 1981 he succeeded Major Allen as Director of Games.

In his early years at the School he lived at Evington House in Castle Street, and steadily took on responsibility for the JS boarders, at one time over 80 in number. He also helped out in Platt's during the reign of Peter Croft (1960-72). He would serve under seven Heads – Roland Bedford (until his untimely death in 1969), the interregnum of Ian Ferguson (1969-70), Richard Millard (1970-73), Peter Howorth (1973-77), Richard Dyson (1977-89), Hugh Clifton (1989-95) and Graeme Lowe. In 1995-96 he served as Joint Acting Headmaster alongside his colleague Robin Hickling, taking on responsibility for liaison with parents.

In his 38 years he saw so much change in the JS – caps and shorts fading away, corporal punishment becoming a thing of the past, the arrival of girls in 1979, the steady decline in boarding numbers (boarding ended in 1994) and the vast increase in pupil numbers.

By the time he retired in July 2002 it was estimated he had eaten something like 3,300 school meals, courtesy of the Underhills and the Macdonalds. Notwithstanding this Olympian feat he managed to enjoy a very fulfilled retirement, splitting his time between his family home in Kent and his flat in Castle Street, and devoting his energies to the Embankment Golf Club as well as his beloved rugby. Colleagues and OWs often enjoyed the opportunity to see him in town, and to exchange news and reminiscences. To the end he kept in close contact with his old colleague and neighbour, Ian Ferguson (Second Master of the JS, 1955-85), and together they toured many of the finest restaurants and hostelrys in Northamptonshire.

Mickey passed away suddenly this May, aged 77. He will be remembered fondly by his colleagues as a very popular member of the Staff Room, and by countless generations of OWs as a dedicated master on and off the games field – small and rotund in stature with a bark worse than his bite.

Our thanks go to Ian Ferguson (staff, 55-85), Robin Hickling (staff, 62-98) and Mike Askham (staff, 78-13) for helping to compile this obituary.

Lt Col Richard Osborne (36-43, PI)

Died: 7th May 2019, Aged 93



Lt Col Richard Osborne (36-43, PI) died earlier this year, aged 93. His father Leslie had been a pupil here, 1908-10, and had seen action in WW1: Richard would later recall how, to the very end, his father had an enormous fear of water, brought on by the trauma of his ship being torpedoed. Leslie duly became an auctioneer in Buckingham and sent Richard to Wellingborough in 1936.

Richard played for the Cricket XI in 1943, before being called up. He was selected for officer training and was sent to the Indian Military academy at MAU Ranipur, 1944-45, and then served in India until partition, before being posted to the King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

A varied military career followed, including operations against the Mau Mau in Kenya. He retired as Lt Col in 1975, and then gave many years' service to various charitable causes in Shropshire, including a spell as trustee of the county regimental museum, and for over 25 years he was a great supporter of the armed

forces charity SSAFA. Our condolences to his wife June and their two sons and grandchildren

Malcolm Pollard (49-57, G)

Died: 25th April 2019, Aged 79



Malcolm was born in London during the Blitz, his parents were both killed when a bomb destroyed the family home, Malcolm surviving as he had been hidden under the stairs. He was duly adopted, and was sent to Wellingborough by his adoptive father Frank Pollard (21-26, F).

As well as being in the Chapel Choir from 1951 to 1957, he represented the School in Athletics, 1955-57, and was a keen sportsman in Garne's. For much of his career he worked in the family engineering business in Leicester. Widowed twice, he leaves two daughters and a son, and will be remembered by his friends for his strong sense of humour right to the end. Our

thanks to Michael Pearson and Paul Blunt for this information.

Richard Ernest Knight (49-57, Pa)

Died: 18th March 2019, Aged 78

Robert (Bob) Poole (41-47, Pa)

Died: February 2019, Aged 88



Robert (Bob) Poole died in February 2019 aged 88. He entered the Senior School as a Parkers day boy in 1941 where he excelled in elementary and additional maths, physics and chemistry as well as playing sport at the highest level.

Instead of continuing in formal education Bob was recommended by his Headmaster, Tom Nevill, as a most suitable candidate for an apprenticeship with BTH (a large engineering company in Rugby) who sent him on a mechanical engineering course to Rugby College in the evenings. It was because of this course that his entry into National Service was delayed by two years until 1950.

On completing National Service in 1952 Bob returned to the family Business, Utile Engineering. In the evenings he furthered his education with dedication to gain his Engineering Certificate and status as a Chartered Engineer. Bob was responsible for growing the family business from its humble beginnings to a global leader in its field, whilst steering it through two recessions and on to its Centenary in 2014.

Engineering accomplishments aside, Bob was fun loving and always with a smile on his face. He enjoyed socialising, playing golf with the OW's and his "Circus" of friends; as well as shooting and travelling the world on business and pleasure to some of the most far flung places.

Bob married Mary in 1960 and they leave three children William, Sarah and Tim. He was a Parish Councillor and a governor of Wellingborough Technical College. His two sons and four of his grandchildren followed him through Wellingborough School.

Patrick Thomas Sewell (74-81, F)

Died: 21st December 2018, Aged 55



Patrick was a boarder at Wellingborough between 1974 and 1981 in Fryer's House where he followed his grandfather, father and brothers. Richard and Jonathan. He went on to gain an MSc in Transport Technology at Nottingham University and worked for many years at the Highways Agency in Nottingham, Birmingham and London.

He married in 1986 and leaves behind two children – Alice 28 and Michael 24. Patrick, or Paddy to many.

Patrick lived in Nottingham and had been ill for some time.

Thanks to Rev. Jonathan Sewell and Katy Sewell for informing the OW Club of Patrick's death.

Michael John Savage (49-52, G)

Died: 8th December 2018, Aged 83

Michael died on December 2018 aged 83 years. He was third generation of the Northampton Firm of Fine Art Dealers, Framers and Restorers. Michael's grandfather started R S Savage & Sons in 1905, and Michael joined the family firm in 1955. In 1970 Michael and his father developed the original business in Alfred Street into a gallery, studio and workshop where they sold both prints and original paintings and provided a picture framing and restoration service. In 1995 the gallery was sold but work continued from home where he held Exhibitions in a



marquee on the lawn at his home in Haselbech. Michael came back to Wellingborough School to attend the funeral of OW Tony Williamson (42-52, G) and hoped to attend the Memorial Services of past Masters Peter Croft and Geoffrey Till but sadly ill health prevented him from returning.

Eric Bruce Orton (55-58, PI)

Died: 2nd May 2018, Aged 76



Bruce, as he was always called, was born in Leicester on the 12th of June 1942, and I on the 14th. The proximity of our ages brought us together as friends when we met at our Prep School Woodbank in Leicester aged five. At 13 we went to Wellingborough School and found ourselves both in Platt's House.

Bruce was a most accomplished sportsman; 1st XI football team, school record holder for the discus, athlete and cricketer.

Post school, he joined his father in his textiles business, and in our early 20s he and I formed Duplex Plastics Ltd to exploit vacuum forming with a view to producing small boats. The business somehow never made a boat, perhaps because it became very busy with the production of industrial products.

Boats and cars were our main on-off interest for the most of our lives. Our first was a home designed and constructed water-ski boat which took us nine months to build. An interest in vintage cars found Bruce with a 1926 Rolls Royce Phantom 1, he found in

a builders yard. He restored it to perfection. Water and snow skiing, diving and travel were also squeezed in to his busy life.

Bruce married Elaine Harper in 1984. They lived, in rural Leicestershire until Bruce's untimely death. Bruce's business career continued with the formation of Kirkdale Ltd with his new partner John Pickering producing point of display equipment for the retail industry, bespoke kitchens and built-in furniture. This developed in to a very successful business.

His interest in motor racing absorbed him for some years, during which time he raced a Marcos and Lotus. Along with this interest he took up ocean sailing, an interest I shared. He bought the 46 foot yacht Tarita from a yard in Holland. The boat was kept in Weymouth where he had a flat. During 1999 He and I with a friend sailed my boat from Florida to Portugal completing our Atlantic crossing in 28 days.

Illness with Parkinson's disease disrupted his latter years and sadly hastened his demise.

Bruce was remarkable man, with so many interests and successes, and a marvellous lifetime friend.

David Harrison (55-59, PI)

J Peter S Abey (43-51, Pa)

Died: 5th March 2018, Aged: 83

Peter, was born in Bourne, Lincolnshire on the 3rd December 1934, son of Martha and Leslie Abey. At an early age the family moved to Finedon where his parents became Lisencees and managed the Mulso Arms. As Peter was about to commence his education the family moved to Wellingborough. A new challenge beckoned, where the family home became the Rising Sun public house in Mill Road, and a new addition to the family arrived in the shape of Margaret.

At the age of 8 Peter began his time at Wellingborough School. He was a keen sportsman particularly enjoying football and shooting. As a member of the school shooting team he won the St Ival cup at Bisley and proudly received his award from Earl Spencer.

On leaving school, Peter worked for Wilsons Estate Agent in Sheep Street negotiating on property sales and rentals before being called up for two years of National Service and was based in Deepcut, where he was deployed as a prisoner escort. After his release from National Service he became a Rep and travelled throughout the country and married Doreen on 1st August 1957 at All Hallows' Church, Wellingborough.

Their first daughter Sara was born in 1959. They lived in Irchester in close proximity to their good friends Tony and Shirley Lovell and best man Roy Newnham and wife Beryl. In 1963 Victoria was born by which time they were living on the Pyghtle. The family then moved to Whytewell Road, and at this point Peter became Chairman of Wellingborough Round Table.

In 1967, due to work promotion, the family relocated to Ipswich where Peter became Sales Manager for ER Howard selling 3-In-One oil. They returned to Wellingborough in 1977 where Peter established Sarvic Agency Sales and Doreen and Peter were able to reconnect with their old Wellingborough friends.

Peter enjoyed many social activities which included bowling, 41 Club, Rotary, Golf and gardening. He was also president of the Old Wellingburian Club in 2009.

Peter was a member of the John Pyel Lodge and the Old Wellingburian Lodge and became Worshipful Master in 1986. Peter had recently been made an honorary member of the John Pyel Lodge and was honoured to receive a much-cherished golden Jubilee certificate after having completed 50 years of dedicated and faithful service to the craft of masonry, following in the footsteps of his father, Tim.

After 60 years of marriage, their expanding family was a source of great pride and joy to them; they have four grandchildren in Hannah, Harriet, Sam and William and three great grandchildren in Freddie, Mia and Matilda.

William Bigley (00-08 C), Grandson



Phillip Nutt (51-60, Pa)

Died: 2nd January 2018, Aged 75

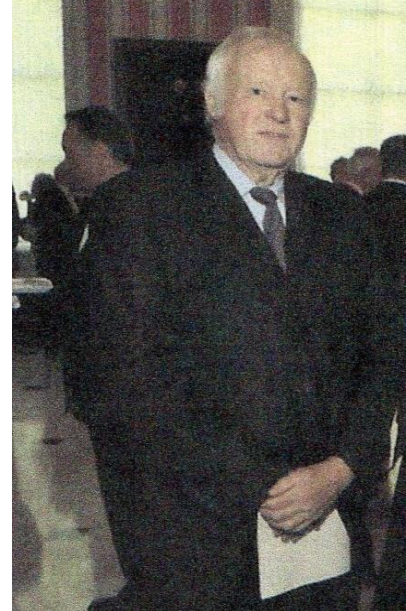
Born on 16th March 1942, Phillip Nutt died in Canada on 2nd January 2018, aged 75 years. A House Prefect in Parker's, all-round games player at school and a member of VI Science, Phillip won an English Speaking Union scholarship in 1960.

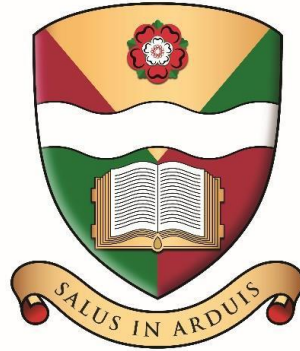
On leaving school, Phillip passed up the opportunity to work with his father who had founded Wenco Footwear in Wollaston and, instead, chose to study at the Northampton Boot and Shoe training college, where he also followed a course in design. He joined BATA in Canada where he met his wife, Joan; together they went out to South Africa with BATA, eventually returning to settle back in Canada.

Phillip later sat on the board of the Toronto Boot, Shoe and Leather Museum and became a much sought after expert witness in cases involving Design Patent infringements. On some occasions he acted for the patent holder, whilst on more than one occasion he acted for companies being sued by Air Wair (Griggs group) for copying Doc Martens designs. The thought of a son of Wollaston taking on the might of Wollaston's great export – Doc Marten – often tickled his sister, still a resident of the village.

Phillip and Joan raised two daughters, Samantha and Phillipa, and dad was particularly proud of Samantha's award of the Order of Canada for her founding of the charity, War Child, and her time spent overseas as a doctor, in humanitarian aid work, and as a writer; her book, 'Damned Nations – Greed, Guns, Armies and Aid' becoming a bestseller.

Acknowledgements and thanks: Susan Fowler (sister) and Peter Phillips [54-65 Pa] (cousin)





- N M Macleod (43-47, Pa) - Died in 2018
- Daniel A E Richards (82-84, G) - Died 1st April 2018, Aged 52
- Basil Norman Fox MA (41-44, G) - Died 7th June, 2018, Aged 90
- Group Capt. D S Lenox OBE (45-55, G) - Died 9th June, 2018, Aged 81
- Jonathan Kim Harris (52-56, Pa) - Died 29th June 2018, Aged 74
- Peter Bernard Dunkley (55-61, Pa & St) - Died 6th July 2018, Aged 75
- David Bitchenor (53-57, Pa) - Died October 2018, Aged 78

Norman M Seabrooke (35-39, Pa)

Died: 29th December 2017, Aged 94

Born on 17th August 1923, Norman Seabrooke, following a brief illness, died on 29th December 2017.

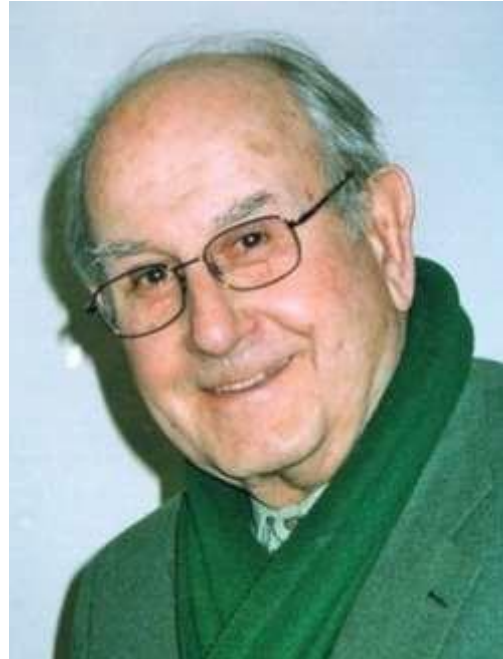
As one of six Foundation Scholarship winners from Victoria Junior School in Wellingborough that year he proudly joined the School in September 1935. After two years in Junior House, he progressed to Parker's House, staying particularly close to three of his Victoria classmates, Oscar Brawn, Bill Bailey, and Terence Faulkner.

His joining of the Chapel Choir as a treble led to a life-long of choral music and he was proud to have progressed from the Junior Cadet Company which he had joined early in 1938.

An illness meant that he missed the whole of the 1937 Lent Term and his personal memoir records that he left Wellingborough without any formal qualifications, but able to acknowledge that the four years he spent in that environment proved valuable.

He joined the London Midland Scottish railway, working at Wellingborough Midland Road until he joined the Royal Signals in 1941, having been taught touch-typing by the railway company. He returned to Wellingborough in 1946 and met Pamela, his future wife. They were married in 1950 at All Saints Church on Midland Road. The family moved to Bedford in 1961 – Norman's railways career continued until 1975, after which he joined Bedfordshire County Council until retirement in 1988.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela, and three children, Alan, Gill and David, his seven grand-children and five great grandchildren.



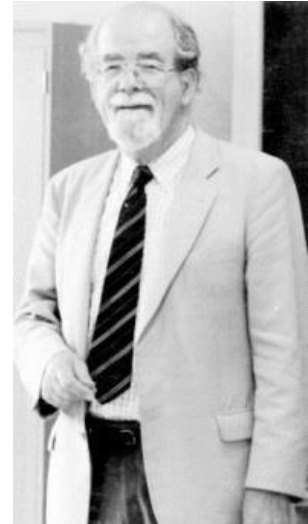
James Hasler (Staff, 57-90)

Died: 27th December 2017, Aged 92

Born on 1st June 1925 in the post office at Good Easter, a small village in rural Essex, James – Jack to many Wellingburians – died on 27th December 2017, aged 92 years.

JH began his education at Good Easter village school, where he was taught to knit! He moved to King Edward VI Grammar School in Chelmsford in 1936, where he did well academically and on the games field, and rose to be Head Boy. In 1943 he gained a university short course place for entry into the RAF. This gave him two terms at Peterhouse, Cambridge, before entering the RAF in April 1944 for pilot training, which he undertook in Rhodesia. Upon being demobbed, he read English at Peterhouse for two more years.

James' teaching career began at Berkhamsted School in 1949 and fifteen, or so, months later married the 'girl from up the road', Irene Craigie, at Chelmsford Cathedral. Then, in 1955, James, Irene, the two-year-old, Michael, and the recently born, Anne, moved to Stanmore in Middlesex for James to take up a post in the Lower School of John Lyon in Harrow. However, it was not long before he was attracted to the Head of English position at Wellingborough, which he began in September 1957, joining the school at the same time as Major George Allen and Geoffrey Till. He remained Head of Department until his retirement in 1990; a tenure of 99 terms.



Apart from inspiring generations of Wellingburians to a love of literature, James' career at Wellingborough will also be remembered for his school play productions – eight of them in all – and the outstanding successes of his Public Speaking teams during the 1970s. He was Housemaster of Parker's from 1967 to 1979, editor of The Wellingburian from 1966 to 1974, Librarian for 25 years, organiser of the prize distribution at Speech Days and organiser of countless theatre trips to performances of the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford, in London and nearby tour venues.

Following his beloved Irene's death in 1999, James regularly attended meetings of Men's Fireside and Probus and read for the Wellingborough and District Talking Newspapers. Long distance trips to visit family members in Canada, Singapore, and Australia provided entertaining material for contributions to the Talking Newspaper magazine, 'Sounds Monthly'.

Former colleagues and family members alike remember his passion for crosswords, puzzles and cigarette card collecting, as well as his love of the natural world. Simple tasks, such as blackberrying, collecting sloes and watching the birds on his garden feeders gave him much pleasure.

With the dawn of the new century and encouraged by his family, James embarked on the world of computing, passing his CLAIT exams and using his knowledge to surf the web and produce those much anticipated home-made greetings cards, which so many looked forward to receiving, especially at Christmas time; 2017 had been no different to the practice of earlier years.

He was an immensely proud grandfather and, latterly, he had become an equally proud great grandfather. A family get together in Norfolk, as recently as November, to see granddaughter, Sarah, perform as part of the Thursford Christmas Spectacular, although difficult for him, had given him much satisfaction. James Hasler believed in the power of humanity, as the many tributes to him testified; not to be forgotten was his highly developed sense of humour, the publication of his selected "howlers" from his previous summer's English examining stint always eagerly awaited by members of the Common Room.

Emeritus Professor Robin M Basker, OBE (46-55, W)

Died: 4th November 2017, Aged 80

Robin Basker, who was born on 26th December 1936 and died on 4th November 2017 aged 80 years. He entered the Junior School as a boarder from where he progressed into Weymouth House under the eagle eye of the indomitable Jack Blake. He rose to be House Captain and School Prefect with specific responsibility for the Chapel Choir with whom he had sung since joining the school.

It was a strong family trait to be passionate about Rifle Shooting and Robin was a member of the School VIII for four consecutive years, captaining the team between 1953 and 1955 and winning the Adnitt Cup in his final year. A member of the Maths and Science VIth, and secretary of the Debating Society, Robin won a place at the London Hospital to read Dentistry.

Following graduation in 1961 and a short spell in general dental practice, he took up a post as Lecturer in Dental Prosthetics at the University of Birmingham and was awarded his MDS for a thesis entitled, 'Dental Amalgam: Clinical measurements and their effect on physical properties'.

After a very successful career at Birmingham, Robin was appointed to the recently established Chair in Dental Prosthetics at Leeds in 1978. He brought a wealth of academic and clinical experience, with interests including prosthetic treatment; the quality of laboratory prescription; and gerontology. He also brought a strong focus upon the quality of the School of Dentistry's curricula and the practical and transferable skills taught to students, radically updating the undergraduate prosthetic curriculum to follow more clinically relevant lines.

Throughout his long career at Leeds, Robin continued to innovate and to enhance the School's student education provision, enriching the student experience. As well as leading curriculum development, he developed an enviable reputation for delivering interesting and pithy consultant sessions to junior staff, demonstrating his outstanding ability to break down and resolve complex clinical problems, an ability from which he gained great professional satisfaction and which he was also able to communicate clearly to others. He contributed to a number of standard texts for undergraduates and produced further books on denture design and removable partial dentures for the British Dental Journal.

Robin was also a diligent and highly effective citizen of the University, serving upon a wide range of internal boards and committees, including as the Senate nominee on the Honorary Degrees committee and the Senate nominee on the Council of Tetley Hall. He succeeded Professor Freddie Hopper as Dean of the School of Dentistry in 1985, serving until 1990. It was a period of significant changes to the structure of primary dental care in the UK, including a significant expansion in the role and number of dental nurses, and a move towards greater teamwork among dental care practitioners, which was an approach Robin championed throughout his career.

With typical energy and determination, he managed to combine his University activities with eminent appointments within the wider dental profession, representing the University on the General Dental Council for almost fifteen years (including membership of that body's Special Purposes, Professional Conduct and Preliminary Proceedings and Registration Committees as well as serving as Chair of its Education Committee as it oversaw the revision of the Undergraduate Curriculum). He was also active in the British Standards Institution (acting as the 'British expert' on international ISO matters); the Nuffield Inquiry into Dental Education and Training of Personnel Auxiliary to Dentistry; the British Society of Gerontology; the British Society of Prosthodontics; and many others, and after many years of contributing at both local and national level to the British Dental Association he was awarded the John Tomes Medal for outstanding service in 2000. Robin retired from the University in 2000, and in 2001 he was awarded the OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for service to dental education.

The university announcement of his death noted that he would be remembered with great respect, by former colleagues and students alike, for his acuity and for his commitment to the continuous improvement of dental education. He was the greatly loved husband to Jacquie, father to Sally and Kate, grandpa to Robyn and Laura and father-in-law to Lin and Alan.



Douglas G Austin (53-60, Pa)

Died: 5th March 2017, Aged 72

From School Doug went to Moulton Agricultural College to study Agriculture, then returned home to farm with his father at Greenfield Lodge, Strixton. In 1969 he married Carol and they had two children, Henry and Emily, both of whom attended Wellingborough School. By this time, they were living at Church Farm, Strixton, and farming both farms.

During their time at Church Farm, Douglas decided the way forward was to 'go organic', never having approved of chemical sprays. Once the farm had been 'converted' in 1986, he and Carol developed an Organic Farm Shop which was to prove very popular, being one of the first in the Country.

When he ceased farming, he spent some time in Yardley Hastings; unfortunately, he developed heart problems and finally retired to Bradden, near Towcester. With a less stressful life, he was able to enjoy his five grandchildren with many trips to the theatre, museums and art galleries, as well as long walks (marches) in the local countryside.

Douglas, born on 10th March 1944, died in Harefield Hospital on 5th March 2017, aged 72 years, after undergoing a heart procedure.

Thank you to brother-in-law David Dicks (51-59, Pa) for his contribution to the above.

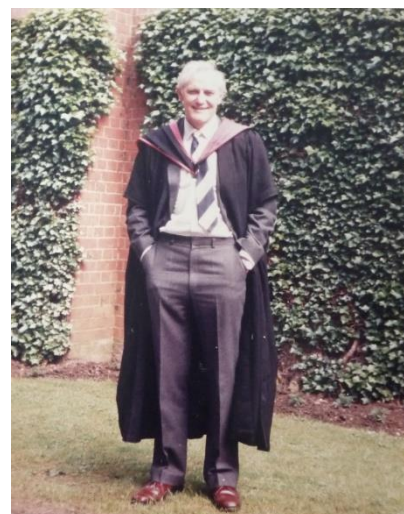


Frank Geoffrey Till (Staff, 57-87)

Died: 12th February 2017, Aged 89

Born in Bilston, Wolverhampton, on 27th November 1927, Geoffrey Till died on 12th February 2017, aged 89 years. It was a 1930s Black Country upbringing, which proudly took in happy and stimulating years spent at Wolverhampton Grammar School before National Service and then three hugely fulfilling years at Brasenose College, Oxford, before he embarked on a career teaching French and German and Games. A man of deep faith, – he contributed a great deal to the churches to which he and Mary belonged as retirement took them to various locations in Scotland – his eventual choice to become a teacher was that profession's gain and the church's loss.

At his Service of Celebration, son Michael enjoyed recalling that Geoffrey's faith was ever more tested than by his lifelong support of Wolverhampton Wanderers, which stretched from the glory days of the 1950s to much more trying times over the last forty, or so, years. However, as a talented games player, Geoff put his heart and soul into his games coaching at Wellingborough, the school to which, after a short return to Wolverhampton following Oxford, he devoted his life's work. The 1964 1st XI, containing the likes of the sharp shooting duo, Phillips and Lock, achieved everlasting fame as the School's first side to defeat the mighty Repton School and they have never forgotten to whom they owed their successes, as their 40th reunion gathering at the now defunct Rushden and Diamonds Football Club testified.



It is generally understood that his love of games led to his meeting Mary Wolfenden at a local cricket club and the rest, as they say, became history. Then in 1966, as a partnership, the two of them, with their young sons, became the perfect fit to succeed John and Nora Oughton in the running of Garne's House, a task which they carried out for eighteen years with the utmost diligence, empathy and encouragement. Many OWs sent in heartfelt tributes on receiving news of Geoff's death, typical of which was one received by former Garne's member, and Head of School, Julian Amey, who wrote that 'Like so many others who benefited from his inspirational roles as a teacher of French and conscientious Housemaster, I will treasure the memory of a man who dedicated his life to educating others.' Similarly, many wrote of their love of French literature which he inspired in lessons that took place in the Garne's Study where he taught many of his 6th Form classes. International baritone, David Wilson-Johnson, who studied Modern Languages at St Catharine's College, Cambridge before progressing to the Royal Academy of Music, wrote, for instance, that 'I owe most of my career to Geoff's teaching, how he opened so many doors to France, the French language and all things French'

Family life was of the utmost importance to them, indeed so much so that Richard and Michael recalled that during term times they inherited 40, or so, brothers! However, during the holidays the family would head off, swapping the confines of close living in the boarding house for an even smaller space during summer holidays, touring Scotland in a caravan where wind, rain and midges often conspired to keep the Tills in close quarters. Nevertheless, they were happy times spent in haunts all over Scotland, the more remote the better. And it was during this period that the Till men's love of fishing developed, which they continued to share for the remainder of Geoff's life. Son, Richard, suggested that it must have been very frustrating in the early stages of their learning, as he would continually be tying the boys' flies and untangling their knots. All this was done with constant encouragement and without complaint, a favour Richard was only too happy to repay in later life when fishing together as Geoff's fingers became less nimble.

Over their many visits north, Geoff and Mary's love of Scotland grew and it was no surprise when they started making plans to retire north of the border. Nearly thirty years of gardening, fishing, and passing on his love of crosswords and literature to their four grandsons were spent, first near Hawick, then in Jedburgh and Crieff, before the last move to Alyth, close to Richard and Carol.

Richard (65-74 C) and Michael (67-77 C) Till

Leo Eadon (41-49, Pa)

Died: 22nd January 2017, Aged 85

Born on 19th February 1932, Leo Eadon died after a long and hard fight against illness on 22nd January 2017 and so ended a near lifetime's involvement with the School; first as pupil, then as OW and, eventually, as Governor.

Leo was a naturally talented games player who enjoyed taking part in all Parker's teams and proudly represented School 1st teams in Football, and Tennis. He represented the Public Schools' Football XI in 1949, and the OW Football XI in the Arthur Dunn Cup Final against the Old Carthusians at Tooting and Mitcham Football Club in 1951 before turning his attention to the game of squash racquets and the building of two courts at the School. In later years, his attention turned to Rifle shooting and the very survival of the OW Rifle Club owes much to Leo's dedication each week in turning up to open the school's Range and in his Saturday morning coaching of young Prep School pupils, determined to pass on his love of this activity.



Although hospitalised by the time of his diamond wedding anniversary with Di in 2016, a family party was nevertheless celebrated in his ward; Leo, described by Di as 'honest as the day was long' touched many people through his varied interests and hobbies, as was evidenced by the very large turn-out at Kettering Crematorium for his funeral.

In the mid-80s, and while Leo was still a relatively young man in his early 50s, his business in Earls Barton was sold, after which a narrow boat was purchased for Leo and Di to spend the next two and half years cruising the English waterways before Di decided that she couldn't face another winter 'on board' and they returned to land in Wellingborough.

The Round Table, and later the 41 Club, provided many hours of friendship and fellowship for Leo, as did motorcycling. From the ages of 17 to 80 Leo remained an active motorcyclist much to the amusement and admiration of one of his grandchildren, Jemima, who reflected that 'Pa was very fulfilled by his many pursuits; a member of a "motorbike gang", he made me ride pillion with him on his 80th birthday to the Cotswolds!'

He was immensely proud of his long association with The School, serving as the Club's President in 1972 and then keeping successive committees in line with his keen sense of fiscal responsibility when serving with such distinction as the Club's Treasurer.

Leo is survived by his wife, Di, his son and daughter, his grandchildren and his great- grandchildren.

Martin Croft (75-85, C)

Died: 11th December 2016, Aged 49

Martin Croft, who died in December aged 49, was the adopted son of Peter Croft (staff, 51-91) and Rosalie. Born and raised in their delightful home of 34 Castle Street, Martin and his younger sister Helen soon became well known to various generations of boys from Platt's and Cripps' during Peter's reign as housemaster.



Martin moved up into the Senior School in 1980, by which time Peter had been appointed as Second Master. He shared his father's love of the classics and excelled in Latin and Ancient History, but also had a fascination for modern technology: on one memorable occasion Martin managed to eavesdrop on the conversation in the Staff Common Room by rigging up an elaborate bugging system down the chimney from the dormitory above. This sense of humour never deserted him.

After achieving top grades at A Level in 1985, Martin read English at the University of Leicester. He then embarked on a career in freelance proof reading, where his proficiency in languages and a keen eye for detail proved invaluable. For twelve years he helped to edit the twice-yearly editions of the Old Wellingburian Club newsletter, and he played a major part in the editing and production of the school history 'Lovers of Learning' (2012).

In recent years Martin devoted himself to caring for Peter and Rosalie in their Castle Street home, particularly after Peter suffered a stroke, and it was a tremendous blow to lose both his parents within a few months of each other in 2016.

Martin's funeral service at the Roman Catholic church in Wellingborough was well attended by many of his old school friends and staff, as well as family and friends, and it was very a fitting touch that the service was led by Father William Massie, son of Peter Croft's close friend and colleague Alan Massie (staff, 55-66).

Neil Lyon (80-85, C)

Alan J. Champion (47-55, Pa)

Died: December 2016, Aged 78

Alan Champion died in December 2016, aged 78, following a short illness from a brain tumour. He was born and brought up at Manor Farm, Ecton, and, following his time at Wellingborough School, he farmed with his father for 5 years.

In 1961 he joined the RAF; he was commissioned as an Air Electronics Officer and was posted to Coningsby to fly in the Vulcan Bombers. He married his wife Margaret in 1963 and later was posted to Singapore in 1965 and then to Northern Ireland in 1970. Now with two young sons, Alan decided to take early retirement from the RAF and settled in Lincoln where he remained for the rest of his life. He re-trained as a Teacher and taught at Ancaster High School for many years. Alan also became very involved with Bee Keeping in the area and published a book for beginners.

After retirement, he enjoyed opportunities provided by the U3a and ran several groups for many years. During all of his time in Lincoln, Alan and his wife were both faithful members of the Cathedral Community helping there in several different ways and he remained a true Christian right to the end.

Alan's Memorial Service was held in Lincoln Cathedral and was a wonderful celebration of his life, the full attendance being a true reflection of his many values.

David Dicks, Ecton (51-59, Pa)



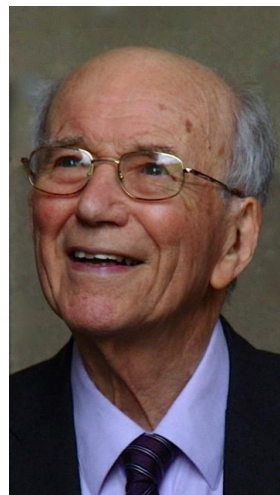
Professor Donald Cecil Pack, CBE (30-38, Pa)

Died: 3rd December 2016, Aged 96

Donald Pack was born on 14th April 1920, the oldest of the two children of Cecil and Minnie Pack. Donald's childhood years were spent growing up in Higham Ferrers. He learned to read music aged 8 – a skill and a passion that would stay with him the rest of his life.

At the age of 10, Donald was enrolled for the County Scholarship exams, and was successful in gaining a place at Wellingborough School. He excelled academically in this new environment, however his father was keen that Donald played plenty of sport too – as he was aware that clever boys weren't always appreciated by their classmates! And so began his love of football and cricket – he followed the successes and defeats of his local and national teams right up until his death.

Donald's love of football remained with him when he went up to New College, Oxford to read Mathematics – gaining colours for the college in 1941. He graduated with a First Class Honours B.A. in Mathematics in 1941 and was then sent for war service, along with three other undergraduates, to the Mathematical Laboratory at Cambridge to work for the Ordnance Board on calculations for anti- aircraft ballistics. This in turn led to a transfer to the (Royal) Armament Research and Development Establishment (A.R.D.E.) at Fort Halstead, near Sevenoaks, Kent, (which later became DERA – Defence Evaluation and Research Agency) a multi-disciplinary establishment where he worked on problems involving armaments and explosives. From there he was made an Acting Captain attached to British Army of the Rhine doing scientific work from 1945-6. He ran a project with a German team using a wind tunnel that was destined for the UK with an interferometer and managed to produce the first experimental demonstration of the Prandtl- Meyer "expansion fan" in two-dimensional supersonic flow round a corner. It was during his time at the ARDE that perhaps his most famous work, on penetration by high-speed jets with Rodney Hill and Nevil Mott was undertaken, and the resulting paper – known as Hill, Mott and Pack – is still quoted on an almost daily basis in laboratories around the world.



Donald left D.E.R.A. in 1946 to take up a lectureship in Mathematics at Queen's College, Dundee, in the University of St Andrews – but remained working for DERA on a part-time basis for a total of 60 years – a truly unique achievement and one which was recognised with the award of a DERA Fellowship in 1999, the first (and possibly the only) such award.

The move to Dundee was to prove significant for Donald's life, as it was there that he met and fell in love with Connie Gillam, a fellow lecturer in Mathematics. They were married in late 1947 and had three children John, Alan and Catherine. Donald was awarded his D.Sc. by St Andrews in 1952 and after a year at Maryland University and a short spell at the University of Manchester, he was appointed (aged 33!) to the Chair of Mathematics at the Royal Technical College Glasgow which would go on to become the University of Strathclyde in 1964. He remained there for the rest of his working life, rising to Vice Principal of the University.

Donald was convinced, through his years of post-war research, that there was a place in the academy for applied, applicable real-world mathematics and so he set about establishing an honours course in Applied Mathematics – including the then novel approach of students having to undertake a 6-month placement in industry or in a scientific establishment. He also believed in the value of students completing an essay or report paper because (as he told his students) in industry non- mathematicians have to be able to understand what you have done ... even if they don't understand the mathematics!

The reputation of the department, and of the research work undertaken, grew over the years – and Donald's contribution to education was marked by the award of an OBE in 1969, and a CBE in 1978. He lectured, and had Guest Professorships, in many of the finest universities of the world over the years and organised conferences and colloquiums on 'The Boltzmann Equation'. He also supervised many PhD students, some of whom went on to have significant academic careers themselves.

Donald took on a number of chairmanships over the years within the realms of mathematics and education more broadly. This was to culminate in the production and publication of what was known as 'The Pack Report' on 'Truancy and Indiscipline in Scottish Schools' in 1977, and he travelled extensively in the months and years that followed to share its findings.

Donald became an Honorary Professor of Mathematics in 1982, and then Emeritus Professor in 1986 – and was awarded a Fellowship as a Chartered Mathematician, and further Fellowships of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, the Educational Institute of Scotland, and the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

In May 2014, at the age of 94, he attended the Jubilee of the Institute of Mathematics of which he was a founder member and was presented to the Princess Royal.

Then in the June of 2014, Donald was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Strathclyde. By this time his eyesight was starting to fail so he memorised the speech which he gave to the graduating students, though there was a somewhat pregnant pause in the middle which gave the family and faculty a bit of a heart attack. But Donald true to form hadn't forgotten what he was going to say – he had realised that something he had been planning to say had already been largely said and so he decided to recalibrate his remarks accordingly!



But to focus solely on his academic life would be to neglect some of Donald's proudest achievements – the establishment of the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland, and most especially his loving marriage to Connie and his beloved children – John, Alan and Catherine and their families.

Donald and Connie moved to Bearsden in 1953, after time in Maryland and Manchester, and this area would remain home for the rest of their lives. Though he wasn't the most practical of people around the house, Donald took charge of the painting, and Connie the wallpapering, when decorating, and he always made sure to clean and polish the children's shoes each week. Even when he was travelling the UK and world extensively with lectures and conferences, he always made sure to send postcards home ... not just one but one to each of his children!

In due course, Donald and Connie were blessed with the birth of their 6 grandchildren, and latterly 5 great grandchildren. A doting grandfather, he always took an active interest in all of their developments and achievements and liked nothing better than a party with the whole family together in his home.

Music was one of Donald's greatest passions in life – from his early school days right up until the end of his life. He played the violin with great skill and enjoyed Saturday night musical evenings in Dundee, and on coming to Glasgow, he formed a string quartet which met regularly for 25 years.

Donald became Chair of Steering Committee in May 1978 and was able to help facilitate grants from the Carnegie Trust and BP to help establish funding for the orchestra. After rehearsals at Glenalmond (involving 100 children!) the first concert took place in August 1979 – much to Donald's delight and pride.

For the ten years he was Chairman of the Council of the NYOS, Donald and Connie tried to attend every concert and as many rehearsals as possible and travelled to Orkney and Shetland and further afield with NYOS and would latterly go to see them on tour whenever they could. NYOS remained close to Donald's heart for the rest of his life – and especially for the opportunities it has given generations of young musicians in the years since 1979. He was proud of having been made the orchestra's Honorary President.

Connie's health was to slip a number of years ago, and after a long and difficult illness she passed away in October of 2010. This was a great blow to Donald and the family, however he got on with life as best he could – being ferried to concerts and events by his many good friends in the church and beyond. Donald's own health continued to be a concern, particularly his failing sight, but he kept going right to the end, with that trademark 'paucky' sense of humour still to the fore!

Donald retained a great interest in Wellingborough School and visited on a number of occasions. He was particularly pleased when his great nephew Barney Beaumont (95-97 G) won a sixth form sports scholarship and played football for the first team.

Contribution submitted by Keith and Sarah Beaumont

W (John) Bambridge JP (52-63, St)

Died: 26th October 2016, Aged 72

Colin Hooton (44-55, Pa)

Died: 15th October 2016, Aged 80

Colin Hooton has died at the age of 80. Born in Norbury, London on 15th October 1936 at the outbreak of war, he and his family returned to his father's boyhood home of Wollaston, Northamptonshire. Colin went on to attend Wellingborough School with his two older brothers (Brian Hooton 40-48, Pa and Derek Hooton 39-45, Pa)

Like many children, he picked up an early interest in magic, but his fascination went far beyond the toy set and soon his talent started to bloom. At 19 he did his first public show at a Sunday school Christmas party; an early review from the 1955 Wollaston and Strixton Parish magazine stating "he succeeded in mystifying us all" made the first proud entry in his clippings scrapbook. When his National Service took him to Paris, his shows delighted fellow servicemen and Field Marshall Montgomery alike.



Returning to civilian life, Colin completed his magic apprenticeship, joined the Magic Circle and International Brotherhood of Magicians and developed his craft. While adept at performing cabaret and close-up, his greatest love was children's magic and he spent the 1960s and 70s touring the county to perform while building a parallel career in journalism and advertising and running a publicity agency in Wellingborough. In the 1980s he re-focused on magic, entertaining at children's parties; social clubs; oil companies in the Middle-East and on board cruise ships. He could even be spotted on occasion in television programmes such as Casualty, Dalziel and Pascoe and the BBC's adaptation of Bleak House.

George Bernard Shaw (Pygmalion) wrote "Happy is the man who can make a living by his hobby" - Colin's love of his job/his art meant that he never really retired; his last public performance at All Hallows Church in Wellingborough was just two weeks before he died.

Neither of his two sons (Andrew 76-86 Pa; Martyn Pa 78-88 Pa) picked up the top hat and wand but his two young grandchildren both received magic sets for Christmas. His guiding hand will be sadly missed.

Colin passed away on his 80th birthday after celebrating with his two sons and their families.

John Barnes Riley (43-47, PI)

Died: 15th September 2016, Aged 88

Joining from Nottingham High School, John proved to be a "stellar" signing ending his Wellingborough School career as Head Prefect, Captain of both Football and Cricket 1st XIs and a star Athlete. In later years, he enjoyed representing the OWs in the Halford Hewitt.



Alan E.M. Britten (46-51, JS)

Died: 25th August 2016, Aged 78

Obit below from The Daily Telegraph – Edition: 1st December 2016:

Alan Britten, who on died on 25 August, 2016, aged 78, was the nephew of Benjamin Britten and worked tirelessly to promote his uncle's music and the Aldeburgh Festival: he was also the first chairman of the English Tourism Council.

Alan Edward Marsh Britten was born at Rhuddlan, North Wales, on February 26, 1938, to the composer's older brother, Robert, a schoolmaster who, with his wife, Marjorie, was running Clive House Prep School in Prestatyn, which they had founded in 1931.

In 1940 Robert Britten became headmaster of Wellingborough Junior School, where Alan and his older brother John spent their Prep School years. "Bright, quick, intelligent, interested" was how his uncle Benjamin Britten described Alan in a letter to Peter Pears. Alan was later educated at Radley College, where he shone at music, tennis and hockey.

After National Service with the Royal Suffolk Regiment in Malaya, he read English at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he captained the tennis and hockey teams, and edited *Light Blue*, the university sports magazine. He spent several of his university holidays with his uncle at Aldeburgh and remembered him working a normal 9-5 day, going into his study to compose just as others would go to the office. He often recounted how his uncle sat down to lunch one day and said: "I've got this piece. It's all done. Now I just have to find the notes."

On graduating from Cambridge, Britten joined Mobil Oil, for whom he worked, managing a number of Mobil's offices around the world, until his retirement in 1997 as vice-president of Mobil Europe.

He initiated Mobil's sponsorship of a series of concerts at Greenwich Chapel, and of Mobil Touring Theatre. He also initiated Mobil's sponsorship of the Transglobe Expedition, Sir Ranulph Fiennes's 100,000-mile circumpolar voyage and later became a trustee of the Transglobe Expedition Trust – a charity that offers grants to young explorers embarking on similarly "mad but marvellous" projects.

When Mobil was awarded a royal warrant, Britten was nominated as holder, and he went on to become Chairman of the Royal Warrant Holders' Association and later of its charitable arm, The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship trust.

After his retirement from Mobil, he became director of the British Tourist Authority and shortly afterwards was appointed the first chairman of the English Tourism Council, where he helped the industry recover from the twin blows of foot and mouth and the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

In 2000 he was invited by Jonathan Reekie, the then chief executive of Aldeburgh Music, to be president of Friends of Aldeburgh Music. He was immensely proud of his connection to the festival's founder, but seemed genuinely surprised to be approached to do the job.

He devoted his energies to supporting young musicians. He believed passionately in the Britten-Pears Young Artists' Programme and he and his wife Jude sponsored the two Britten-Pears Alumni concerts every Aldeburgh Festival.

Britten was appointed to the board of Trinity College of Music in 2001. When, in 2005, Trinity merged with Laban to become Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, he was one of a small number of governors who facilitated the union and transferred to the board of the new organisation. He later became the Chairman of Trinity Laban's Audit Committee, and a member of the governing council of Trinity College London.

Among other appointments, Britten was an independent member of the University of East Anglia's Council for nine years and was on the board of UEA's Overseas Development Group for 10. He was a trustee of Integrated Neurological Services and a trustee and Chairman of Leeds Castle Enterprises, where he developed the estate's hospitality business.

In 2003 he was appointed CBE for Services to Tourism.

Alan Britten is survived by his wife Judi, and their two daughters, Tamara and Sophie



Thomas van Laun (46-50, Pl & Pa)

Died: 20th August 2016, Aged 83

Tom van Laun was born on 13th July, 1933 and entered Platt's House in 1946 before transferring to Parker's for his final year. His younger brothers, William and John, followed him to the School.

Tom was an academic high flier and won a scholarship to the Royal Veterinary College in London. However, National Service delayed his start there, as did the fact that, in addition, he was too young to join the Army; so a year, after he had successfully gained a strong Higher School Certificate, was spent honing his farming and stockman's skills at nearby Moulton Agricultural College.

Following graduation in January 1959, Tom left for two years work in Canada, ultimately returning to the UK to work for a pet food company, but, after not finding commercial life to his liking, he returned to the RVC as a lecturer. That, too, was not what he had dreamed of and he acted as a locum for several mixed practices in the West Country, finding time in 1966 to court and marry Richenda de Bunsen with whom he had three children: Daniel, Cressida and Gideon.

He joined the practice of Hunt and McCaig in Tonbridge, Kent in December 1969, rapidly developing a branch in nearby Tunbridge Wells. There his natural charm and expertise quickly generated enough work to need help and, over time, his tutoring of a string of assistants freed him to become an authority on the ailments of donkeys, so much so that he appeared on national television.

In 1991, he married Bren Cox, an enthusiastic horsewoman and worker of gun dogs, so acquiring two stepdaughters. As a classic country gentleman, he rapidly became a valued resident of the village of Lamberhurst, and, as an enthusiastic gardener, his long-term support of the annual flower show and of his local church, St Mary's, helped in their continued success. Meanwhile, his skill on the stage made him a permanent feature of his local pantomime each winter. Spare moments in long winter nights found him pursuing his enthusiasm for books, his bibliophilia extending to a library of almost 2000 volumes.

Finally retiring to Suffolk, still then truly rural at the end of the 20th century, he enjoyed a few very happy years of country living. He died peacefully on 20th August, 2016, aged 83 years.

We are grateful to Past President, and retired veterinary surgeon, Robert Bainbridge (45-51 F) for providing the above extract taken from the BVA Gazette.

Kenneth F. Lewellen (43-44, PI)

Died: 20th August 2016, Aged 88

We regret to report the passing of Kenneth Lewellen, an old boy of the school from 1943-44. Born in 1928 he died on 20th August 2016, aged 88 years.

Kenneth was the third generation of his family to run a large hardware store, bearing the family name, in Clacton-On-Sea. This had been started by his grandfather in the 1870's who was one of the founding fathers of that new town. The shop still trades under the same name – though now not in the family's ownership.

He joined the Rotary Club of Clacton-on-Sea in 1969 and served as President in 1975–76. Among his many contributions to Rotary and the community, he successfully led the establishment of a centre for people who need mental support and was created a Paul Harris Fellow for his services to Rotary.

Shortly before retirement in 1990 Kenneth qualified as a pilot. Having achieved this life-long ambition he took every opportunity to take to the air in order to demonstrate his prowess at aerobatics to anyone reckless enough (!) to volunteer to go with him.

He was a keen churchman and filled many roles at St Paul's Church, Clacton – including church warden and treasurer for many years.

He leaves his wife, Eva, two children, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Adrian Gray (78-82, C)

Died: 6th August 2016, Aged 52

Alan Lawrence Sharp (34-39, Pa)

Died: 10th June 2016, Aged 92

After leaving school, Alan saw war service as an officer in the Royal Air Force and eventually settled in Scotland. He died peacefully after a long and fulfilling life on 10 June 2016 aged 92 years. He is survived by his son, Stephen and daughter, Ruth, and by grandchildren, Emmy, Becky, Katie and Stephen.



Derek A Scoble (56-59, PI)

Died: 22nd April 2016, Aged 74

Derek did his final year's schooling in America with the English Speaking Union. On his return, after hitch hiking a long way around America, he went back to the family farm in Norfolk. He sat A level at Norwich City College and then started work in Cambridge. He was there for a very short time when sadly his father died and he returned to the farm to run it for his mother.

A year or so later his mother decided that she wanted to sell the farm and take her young daughter (who was 9 years Derek's junior) back to Worthing, West Sussex where she had been born.



Derek had no idea what to do at this point but luckily he got a job in an Architect's office, enjoyed the work and decided to go to college in Portsmouth. He qualified both Part 1 and 2 and became a member of the RIBA.

He worked for some years in the Middle East and on holiday in Sri Lanka met his first wife who was French. They lived for a while in Libourne in France before returning to the UK and settling in Shoreham by Sea in Sussex where Derek set up his practice.

Sadly, Jacqueline died in 1995 and in 1999 Derek moved to Steyning. Derek and I had been friends in Norfolk in our teens and sometime after my first husband (who was also a friend of Derek's) died we got together and we married in June 2006 and had very nearly 10 years of very happy marriage.

Derek was working until nearly the end even though he was so ill. He loved his work. He said it was what he was. Derek had a happy life and a good one, his only regret was not to have had children, but he threw himself into my family life and became "grandpa" to four grandchildren."

The Wellingburian records his exploits on Sports Day and in School matches as a star athlete of his day in 880 yards and mile races. He was also Captain of School Shooting and involved in School Choir and School Drama throughout his time at Wellingborough before he took up his year long ESU Scholarship at Williston Academy, Massachusetts.

Stuart MacWilliam (37-40, F)

Died: 5th April 2016, Aged 92

Stuart first made contact with the School & the OW Club when he returned from Brazil in 2010. He became a member of the Club, and attended a couple of the Annual Dinners at Wellingborough, forming a friendship with the late Brian Huckle.

Stuart joined the Graham Garrett Society and attended a Legacy Luncheon in 2014 before falling ill from a stroke. Despite his inability to attend any more functions, Stuart kept in touch with the Foundation, who was very grateful to receive a substantial donation from him in 2014. OW Liaison, Debbie Whitemore remembers him fondly as a kind and warm hearted gentleman who was clearly delighted to be back involved with his beloved School and OW Club.



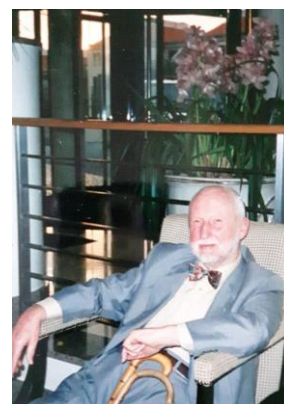
John Anthony (Tony) Williamson (42-51, G)

Died: 1st April 2016, Aged 83

This tribute to John Williamson, who died on 1st April 2016 is written by his son Magnus. Resident in Mears Ashby since 1982, John Anthony Williamson was raised over the family business, Williamsons of Wellingborough. The bespoke premises at 24 Silver Street had only recently been completed when Tony was born in Nottingham on 3rd December 1933.

He joined Wellingborough School's junior department in 1942. At this stage, he was a quiet boy; his History teacher commended the ten-year-old boy's learning in 1943: "He has worked well and, I think, learned quite a lot, but I wish he had more self-confidence. Could he practice SHOUTING in the holidays?" Tony was no shouter – but became an excellent sportsman, a fact noted when he left school in 1952:

'With the closing of the Lent Term we, of Garne's House, lost a very great personality. For we lost J. A. Williamson, who came to us in the autumn of 1947 and was a House Prefect. He was a School Colour for Rugger, and was School Captain of Athletics. He won and held the Harris 100 yards Cup, the Belton 220 yards Cup, and the Long Jump for two consecutive years and, for the same two years (1951 and 1952) ran in the Final of the 220 yards Hurdles. He represented the School in the Relay side at the White City during the last holidays and apart from being the mainstay of the House Athletics Teams, was mainly responsible for our success in the inter-house Sprint Relay at the end of last term. He will be greatly missed and we wish him the best of luck in his time in the RAF.'



The mid-1950s were happy years: the end of war-time rationing; National Service, travel and independence; dinners in London; motor-bikes; fast and furious rugby-playing. But it wasn't just partying; these were years of working, earning, saving, courtship and, eventually, marriage. In 1959 Tony embarked upon a courtship which would lead to a marriage of great longevity. Diane Edwards was 6 years younger than Tony; seventeen years old and convent school educated. Theirs was a closely supervised courtship of curfew and curtailment.

Their happy future was blighted by illness. In the summer of 1959, Tony went with friends to Spain. He returned home, after a fateful sea-swim, to a life changing diagnosis of Polio. Convalescence was long; his sports-playing days were over, and polio became a permanent fact of life. Supported by Diane, Tony applied his considerable willpower to the basics of learning to walk, trained by James ('Mack') McCormack, physiotherapist to the Cobblers. Tony and Diane were engaged in April 1961, but illness had again intervened. Diane had been unwell in 1960, and her condition worsened during their engagement. In fear of death from ulcerative colitis, she endured many long months in hospital, numerous operations and debilitating uncertainty. The marriage took place in November 1961, but hospital treatment continued until 1964.



As the sixties wore on, the anticipated family life took shape with the arrival of Heidi in January 1966 and Magnus eighteen months later. A family home was made in Northampton Road, Wellingborough, and Tony's privileged access to the furniture trade resulted in a house of startling G-Plan modernity. Garish, perhaps, but it was a happy home. At its heart was a rock-solid marriage of mutual respect, mutual reliance. In Diane's words:

'I have increasingly been viewed as Tony's carer. This was not always the case. In the dark days, early in our marriage, he was *my* carer: a wonderful one, who inspired me to battle on. Being the gentleman that he was, he never once mentioned or reproached me for the limitations my frailties placed upon our lives. I never made a decision without consulting Tony first. His level-headed judgement was invaluable throughout the years. Ours was a marriage of equals, but in truth, he was the Leader of the Williamson Pack.'

For his family, Tony provided both the means of living and an example of how to live. His humour shines through in so many of the messages the family were privileged to receive after he died. He relished pratfalls and pranks, and he got into a fair few scrapes. He lived life with a glint in his eye.

Tony was steadfast. Self-effacing, almost to a fault, he lived a life of dashed hopes with exemplary good grace. Ever polite and good company, he made and kept friendships. One of his very rare boasts that he never lost a friend. Tony was a courageous man. He exemplified the virtues of a generation in control of their emotions, who did their duty without fuss, who scorned self-indulgence or showing-off. Always kind; generous in thought, word and deed; a man who kept a promise. He was indeed a man of real character.

Peter Croft (51-91, Staff)

Died: 31st March 2016, Aged 88

Born in 1928, Peter Croft was educated at Cowbridge Grammar School, Worcester Royal Grammar School and then Merton College, Oxford, where he read Mods and Greats. In September 1951, aged just 23, he was appointed Head of Classics at Wellingborough, a position he would hold for the next 40 years – a record without precedent in any other public school.

From 1952 until 1960 Peter served as resident tutor in Platt's under Murray Witham, and they made the perfect double act. In 1960 Headmaster Humphrey Bashford appointed him housemaster, a position he held until 1972. From 1974 to 1979 he served as housemaster of Cripps', and then from 1979 to 1991 as Second Master under Graham Garrett.

In the classroom Peter helped bring the Ancient World alive, and he proved the perfect foil to his close friend Gordon Flex (1951–87). Outside the classroom he helped to promote a civilising influence in countless ways – founding the Cat's Whiskers Club in the Fifties for the promotion of modern music, and organising the Community Service Volunteers programme for 18 years.

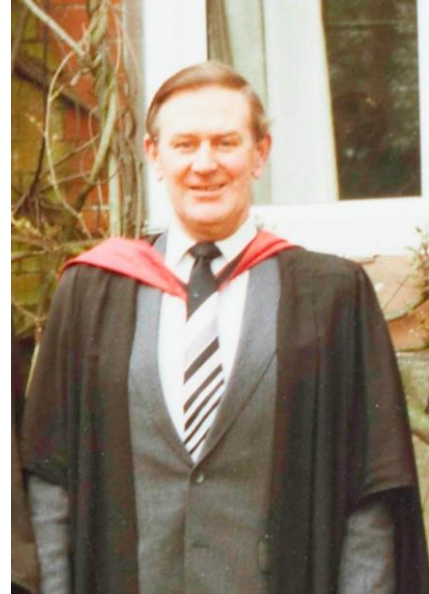
Drama had been a passion since Oxford days, and at Wellingborough he produced eight school plays. He was blessed with a deep, rich, fruity voice, which served him well both on stage and at the blackboard, and in the Eighties he made for an unforgettable Lady Bracknell in one staff play. Peter was also blessed with a deep religious faith; he served as a Lay Reader in the Chapel from 1959 to 1986, and became a mainstay of life in the School Chapel.

Countless generations of pupils will remember his patience and forbearance as they stumbled over the fourth declension or the ablative absolute. Others will recall his extraordinary lemon-coloured suit, a sure sign each year that summer had arrived. And his former Sixth Form classicists will never forget his generosity with the sherry bottle before lunch: imbibing two glasses of Croft Particular in ten minutes was almost enough to make school lunch bearable.

In 1962 Peter married his beloved Rosalie, and their children Martin and Helen were pupils at the School in the Eighties. Countless Old Wellingburians enjoyed making an annual pilgrimage to the Crofts' family home in Castle Street, where a warm welcome was always guaranteed.

Described by Graham Garrett as the 'Colossus of the Common Room', PJAC was a truly great servant of the School.

Neil Lyon (80–85, W), School Archivist



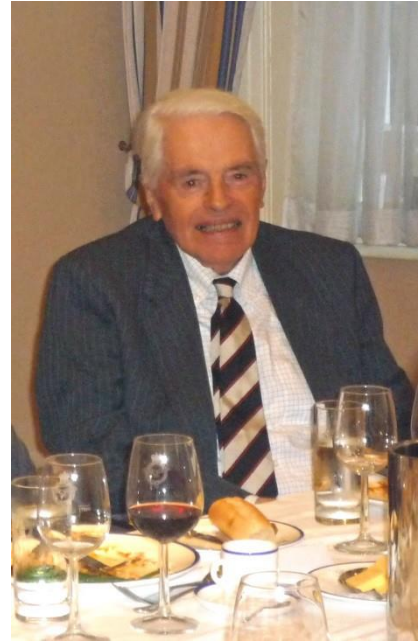
Christopher Staffurth (40-43, W)

Died: 20th March 2016, Aged 91

Christopher Staffurth passed away suddenly on 20th March, 2016 aged 91. He was born in October 1924 in Blandford, and in 1933 he gained a scholarship to Weymouth Junior School. The family moved to Ramsey in Huntingdonshire in 1938 and in 1940 Christopher transferred from Weymouth to Wellingborough. He went on to become head boy at Wellingborough in 1943 before winning a place to read Maths at Jesus College Cambridge.

During the War he trained in the USA as a pilot in Wellington bombers but did not bomb anyone. He was appointed as a Flying Officer in 1949, and his passion for flying later translated into gliding as a hobby and he would travel over much of southern England for gliding

competitions. He was also a keen pianist and organist – and played the organ at Jesus College. After Cambridge Christopher worked as an aeronautical engineer at De Havilland, where he helped to design the Blue Streak missile, and then Hawker Siddeley. He was also a member of the Association of Project Managers, and wrote a book on Project Management in 1974. In 1991 he joined Compunet Ltd as a director and continued to develop his knowledge and skills in computing, being at the forefront of the computer industry for many years.



Christopher was a keen beekeeper, and also a keen sailor: he started an association with Arun yacht club that continued for 50 years, serving as treasurer. Other hobbies included bird watching, astronomy and crosswords. Together with his elder brother Sam (29 – 38) he became a stalwart of the Old Weymouthians' Club, and served on the Committee from the early 1960s until his death. Back in 1967, when the Club had 380 members, Christopher made a forecast about the Club's future, and predicted that the last few Club members "will be jostling in their bath chairs around AD 2010"!

Christopher served as President of the Club in 1969 – 71 and as Hon Treasurer from 1994 until his death. In recent years, and particularly after the death of Charles Boldero in 2011, it was Christopher who kept the Club going. He was determined to see the Club mark its 75th anniversary in style, and organised a splendid final luncheon at the RAF Club last November. In this he was supported always by his wife Heather whom he married in 1952. He leaves a widow, Heather, and three sons, as well as his elder brother Sam.

Peter Hitchman (52-55, PI)

Died: 5th March 2016, Aged 77

Peter, was born on 2nd June 1938, to Harry and Janet Hitchman of Brookmans Park in Hertfordshire and was their first-born. When he was 2 years old his dad joined the Royal Armoured Corps at the outbreak of war, where he remained until discharge in 1946 when his little brother Doug was born.

In 1946, Peter was sent away to Westerleigh, a prep school in Sussex, and from there to Wellingborough School in Northamptonshire, where he remained until 1956. Peter had always been very interested in mechanics and all types of machinery, so it was only a matter of time before he found work in a local

motorcycle repair shop where he stayed until he was called up to do his National Service in the Royal Navy. Peter's two passions were motorbikes and sailing and he owned several badly behaved ancient bikes, one of which was an ex-army Norton 600 with a sidecar that answered to the name of 'Josephine'! Peter had a wonderful time in the Navy, and was lucky enough to join the light cruiser HMS Kenya after basic training with HMS Raleigh. For the remaining 18 months of his service he toured the Mediterranean and Black Seas, making several lasting friendships along the way.

After National Service, Peter went to work for a large firm of insurance brokers called Price, Forbes in London, on the understanding that he could transfer to an overseas position after a year. So it was that Peter found himself on a slow boat to Cape Town and was sent to the Johannesburg branch to learn the ropes. After a while, he fancied a change of direction, so on leaving Price, Forbes he was recruited by British Oxygen in Jo'burg before transferring to their branch in Ndola, Northern Rhodesia. It later became Zambia of course.

The rest, as they say, is history. Whilst there he met and married one Margaret Bush who, it's safe to say was the making of him! A while further on Mike was born, and soon after the move was undertaken to Somerset West to be with Tommy and Madge Bush, Margaret's parents, where daughter Claire was born.

Throughout all these years, Peter and I were like ships that passed in the night. He was eight years older than me, so in the early years we were both away at boarding schools in different parts of the country. We were together in the holidays of course, where my brief was to be a pain in the neck and get in the way of everything! Whilst I was still at Wellingborough, Peter did his National Service and our paths seldom crossed, and no sooner was he demobbed, then he pushed off to South Africa, only coming back to the UK twice in 52 years. I was fortunate enough to visit Somerset West in 1972 and in 2010 for Mike's wedding. His last visit to the UK was to help our Mother celebrate her 100th birthday.

Peter sadly died on the 5th March 2016 aged 77 years following a brief battle with cancer. We are indebted to his brother, Doug Hitchman (59-63 PI) for supplying us with this text.



Denis Harland (40-42, W)

Died: March 2016, Aged 89

Denis Harland died in Suffolk in March 2016, aged 89. He was born on 13 December 1926 in India, where his father was serving with the Army, the family later returned to England, and he was educated at Weymouth for a year before joining the contingent at Wellingborough in 1940. His valet record on leaving school in December 1942 records appearances in his House rugby, soccer and cricket teams.

At the age of 18, although keen to join the Tank Regiment like his father before him, he was allocated to the Royal Engineers, and after spells of training at the School of Military Engineering at Ripon, Brighton Technical College and Officer Training at Sandhurst, he was posted to Germany in 1945 to help with the post-war clear up operation. He continued his studies and soon qualified as a Chartered Mechanical and Electrical Engineer.



Denis married Jay in 1953, and was immediately posted to an Army quarter (which turned out to be a croft with turf on the roof) on the remote island of Benbecula in the Outer Hebrides, where the Royal Engineers were setting up radar stations. Their next posting was Malaya, which they found rather more comfortable. Daughter Penny arrived, followed a little later by Sue, and the family resided at Gordon Barracks in Chatham until Denis left the Army for Civvy street in the mid 60's. The family moved to Sussex, where Denis continued to live for the next fifty years. Daughter Penny emigrated, and Denis and Jay enjoyed marvellous holidays to visit Penny and her family in Australia.

Because of his training and military career, Denis was a wizard at mending all things mechanical – cars, lawnmowers, washing machines, you name it, he could fix it. Denis was servicing his own car well into his 80's. His wife Jay passed away in 1999, and Denis immersed himself in the life of the local church, the Probus Club and British Legion. He loved observing the night sky and became particularly knowledgeable in later years.

In October 2013 when Denis's health began to fail, he moved to a little flat with a sea view in Lowestoft to be nearer his daughter Sue. Denis lived happily there until September 2014, when he moved to St Mary's House, a residential home in Bungay, Suffolk, where he was one of the family until his death in March 2016.

Denis was immensely proud of his grandchildren and their achievements. When great grandchildren (Alfie, Ellie, Isabella and Georgia) came along he was doubly proud.

Special thanks to daughter Sue for providing this information.

C. Bryan G. Major (45-49, F)

Died: 23rd November 2015, Aged 83

After an illness bravely borne, Bryan Major, died, aged 83 years, on 23 November 2015.

He transferred to Wellingborough from Clee Grammar School in 1945 to become a boarder, from where he progressed to Guy's Hospital

Dental School. Following graduation, he joined the RAF as a dentist and served in Libya. His son, Charles, is also a dentist and now practices in Cornwall.



With a love of travelling, Bryan and his wife, Diana, whom he married in 1959, enjoyed keeping in touch with relatives spread far and wide. As a member of the Grimsby Golf Club, he spent many happy hours on its course and was a proud president of both Immingham's Rotary Club and Grimsby's Round Table, taking particular pleasure in the fellowship and successful charitable works in the community of the two groups.

Fellow Lincolnshire OW, James Browne (79-86 W), who clearly still indulges himself in following local affairs in the Grimsby Telegraph, having spotted the article from which the above is derived, added his own typically wry observations about his former dentist. 'This is

C.B.G. Major, who was in Fryer's in the 1940s. Like me, he came from Grimsby. He was a lovely man and very good with kids, though I was pretty scared of going to visit him. On one visit he asked me where I went to school and I said "Wellingborough". When he told me that he had been there as well I almost fell off the dental chair! He told me that he had been taught by "Flogger" Flex and when I said he was teaching me Latin Bryan couldn't believe it. We worked out that he had been taught by Flogger senior, whereas I was being taught by Flogger junior!'

Bryan is survived by Diana and Charles and by his two daughters, Louise and Ginny, and eight grandchildren.

John C. Wood (38-49, Pa)

Died: 10th October 2015, Aged 85

John C Wood (38-49, Pa) passed away on 10th October 2015, having seen the passing in recent years of many Wellingburian friends of his generation. He was born in Wellingborough on 11th October 1930, the only child of Charles Wood (who attended the School up until 1917) and Phyllis. Since his father was manager of the Wellingborough Gas Works, John spent his school days living in the Gas House and playing games with Wellingburians like Ray Whitney, Roger Kilby and Russell "Rusty" Basker on the huge gasometers in the garden. He was Head Boy at the School in 1948-49 and represented the School in tennis and the Colts cricket team. He studied English, History and Latin for his Higher School Certificate and after national service studied law at Nottingham University.



For much of his career John was Managing Partner at lawyers Parker, Groome & Co. in Wellingborough, and he served as President of the Northamptonshire Law Society. Like his father, John was a keen member of Wellingborough Golf Club and he played chess and table tennis competitively until very late in life. He married Elizabeth (nee Pack) in 1963 and they had children Charles (72-83. Pa), Rachel, and Hugh (77-87, Pa). Shortly after his retirement in 1991, Elizabeth became one of the first women priests in the Church of England and for many years he gave her great support as "vicar's wife" in her parishes in the Wellingborough area. After Elizabeth's retirement from parish life in 2000 they moved to Elizabeth's home town of Irthlingborough where he was often surrounded by his children's families which include seven grandchildren. John and Elizabeth moved a year ago to communal accommodation for retired priests and their spouses in Kibworth, Leicestershire. Though increasingly frail, John's mind was as sharp as ever and he was very much enjoying an active life going for short walks, attending history society lectures, reading, listening to music and making new friends at the Kibworth accommodation. On Thursday 8th October he went bowling, attended a poetry reading and made correspondence chess moves.

He became suddenly ill on the 9th October and was taken to Leicester Royal Infirmary that afternoon where his family were able to comfort him before he passed away with only brief discomfort in the early hours of the following morning, the day before his 85th birthday.

Guy Hudson (62-67, PI)

Died: 3rd September 2015, Aged 66

After a career at School, which saw him represent Athletics and Cricket teams, take part in the chapel choir and attain the rank of corporal in the Army Section of the CCF, Guy Hudson became, with his handicap of just 3, a mainstay of the OWs Halford Hewitt and Grafton Morrish Golf teams for a number of years. Golf played a large part in his life and he was proud to have won his Golf Club's Championship on four separate occasions.

He had a very successful work career with an American company, Pride, which sold mobility scooters, his dedicated hard work often resulting in him being named the company's leading salesman.



He died on 3rd September 2015, aged 66 years, after battling cancer, and leaves a wife, six children and ten grandchildren. He will be sadly missed by all his friends and family.

We are grateful to his brother Rod (60-65 PI) for providing us with much of this information.

Freddie Edwards, Old Weymouthian (36-39)

Died: 20th August 2015, Aged 93

Frederick Hugh "Freddie" Edwards, who has died aged 93, was one of "the King's most loyal enemy aliens" (as they were described by the historian Dr Helen Fry in her book on the subject) and, as a German subject, served with distinction in the British Army during the Second World War.

Edwards took part in the Normandy campaign, initially in the construction of Bailey bridges and later, as the need for natural German speakers was identified, as a member of the Military Government looking for Nazis in newly taken German towns and villages. He had numerous narrow escapes from death during the fierce fighting and, as the advance continued into Germany, personally witnessed the liberation of Belsen and Fallingbommel Concentration Camps.

Subsequently he was transferred temporarily to the US army at Bremerhaven and was in charge of repatriating people of many nationalities, many of whom had been used as slave labour. He humorously recounted how one morning a queue of young German women arrived before him, some with children or heavily pregnant, who declared that they wanted to go with their men (non-German nationals who were being repatriated) to their countries but under the Nazi regime they were not allowed to marry such "inferior men". Edwards advised the women that the Nazi regime was no more and that they should go to the Registrar's office to marry the men of their choice.

After hostilities ceased he was transferred to the Military Government in Oldenburg as Chief Interpreter at the British Military Government Court and spent a year acting as an interpreter in the War Crimes Trials. It was only after his release from the army in September 1946 that he was granted British Nationality.

Frederick Edwards was born Fritz Ludwig Meyer in Dusseldorf in 1922. His parents were Katya and Wilhelm Meyer. His comfortable middle class upbringing darkened after Hitler came to power in 1933 and life generally became increasingly difficult for Jews in Germany. His only brother died tragically in a hit and run road accident outside their home which, perhaps because of the family's Jewish background, was never fully investigated. Edwards's parents arranged for their surviving son to be moved to England to study at Weymouth College for Boys where, as an excellent academic, he did very well. His parents were able to join him from Germany in 1938 and they purchased the family home in North London where Edwards was to live for the rest of his life. After the defeat of France in June 1940 many "enemy aliens", including Edwards and his father, were interned on the Isle of Man. Happily this did not last long and at the age of 18, Edwards joined up in October 1940.

After the War, in common with many demobbed soldiers, he found (and this was a tale which he would recount with wry humour) that his wartime experience counted for little in the world of commerce. He applied for and was offered a job at Frederick Eisner Limited, exporters, importers and manufacturers' agents, in Regent Street but as he "had no commercial experience" his salary was set at a mere £3 per week. This, for a cultured, experienced and accomplished young man of Edwards' background and skills, might have been rather deflating but he took, with humour, the underassessment of his skills, and the job. It was not long, however, before he set up in the City on



his own as an export and import agent and remained successfully in that business for the remainder of his working life.

Few who knew him would have known of his experiences during the War but he was delighted on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy landings in 1994 to be invited by the Royal British Legion to take part in the commemorative events and sailed with the Legion on board the SS Canberra. It was a memorable trip and, as he related afterwards, he was one of the few or possibly the only German present who had served in the British Army. The commemorations also brought to mind his time building Bailey bridges in Normandy when the work was assisted by numerous German prisoners who were surprised to be confronted by fully armed British soldiers speaking in German with Berlin, Viennese and Rhineland accents. The prisoners imagined them to be deserters but of course that was far from the truth. Nonetheless Fritz Ludwig Meyer had become Frederick Hugh Edwards before the Normandy campaign began, after advice from the War Office that Germans fighting in the British Army should Anglicise their names for, if captured, and their true identity uncovered, it is very likely that they would have been shown little mercy by their German captors. The surname was chosen in memory of Edwards' grandfather Eduard but was frequently a cause of gentle humour when he was asked if perhaps he was of Welsh origin!



After the death of his mother in 1989 Freddie remained in the family home in North London but enjoyed many trips abroad, particularly to Germany, Switzerland and Austria where he would climb with pleasure the hills and mountains which he had loved with his parents as a boy. As he grew increasingly frail he was unable to continue living at home and spent the last 16 months of his life at Glebelands Care Home in Wokingham.

Richard Chapman (38-43, Pa)

Died: 7th June 2015, Aged 88

We are indebted to his contemporary, D.J. Balmer (38-44 Pa), for informing us of Richard's sad passing on 7th June 2015. The obituary which follows was constructed from a timeline which Richard himself sent through to the Foundation Office a couple of years ago.

Richard was born in Wellingborough 23 October 1927 and joined Junior House in September 1938. The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge beckoned, but, after nearly two years working on the construction of the aerodrome base in East

Anglia for the US Flying Fortress, he chose to enlist in the Army, ostensibly, he told us, to avoid the draft to the coal mines! Time was spent at Edinburgh University on an Army Engineering short course before Sandhurst and then a commission in the Royal Engineers.

Service followed in Egypt and Kenya before demobilisation in 1948 and a job with the new Kenya Survey Department in Nairobi. After numerous projects across the length and breadth of the country, Richard joined the new survey training school at Thika, where he made lifelong friendships. In 1953 he emigrated to Canada and first worked in the Alberta oilfields, moving to Vancouver to work for McElhanney and Associates Land Surveyors; five years later he set up his own business in Penticton, one of his proudest achievements being the development of Pine Hills Golf Course.

A committed family man, Richard was proud to have been a long term member of the Penticton Downtown Rotary Club and supporter of the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra, the Penticton Art Gallery and many other local groups. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Kathie, three daughters and son, plus four grandchildren.

The School's Foundation wishes to record its grateful thanks to Richard for his contribution to its Bursary Fund

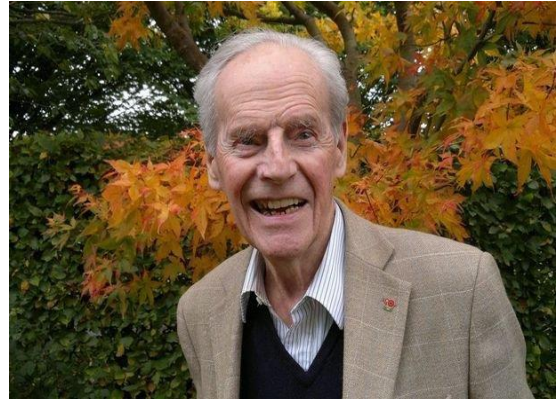


Edward Scott (32-38, PI)

Died: 6th May 2015, Aged 94

Edward Scott formerly of Prestbury, Cheshire died on 6th May 2015, aged 94 years. Along with his brother J.L. (Jimmy), Edward entered Junior House at Wellingborough in September 1932 from where they both progressed to Platt's House in the senior school, the genial New Zealander, F.J. (Tick) Mules being

their housemaster. Particular friends of Edward in those days were H.G. Wallington, R.C. Sanders and G.D. Gray and he recalled memories of golden summers at school; straw boaters were worn, tennis was played on the lawns in front of Garne's House and the boys swam in the rather murky waters of the swimming bath. Fondly remembered masters were Murray Witham, who gave an excellent grounding in Geography and imparted a pretty good knowledge of the air war on the Western Front, Bill Richmond, who encouraged a lifelong interest in Literature, and L.J. Cooke, who inculcated a keen interest in History.



Edward left Wellingborough in 1938 and was articled to a well-known firm of Manchester Solicitors. His articles were interrupted by the outbreak of war and he served with distinction in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). He was trained in mountain warfare, so it was ironic that when he saw action he was sent to Holland! He was the only cap badged Cameronian to be at Arnhem of a 'bridge too far' fame. He escaped across the river and subsequently was sent back to help clear the approaches to Antwerp and then saw action on the Dutch/German border.



Returning after the war, Edward resumed his legal career and qualified as a Solicitor in July 1948. He took up an appointment as Assistant Solicitor with a firm in Macclesfield of which he eventually became senior partner. He retired in 1986, but continued to work part-time as a consultant with the same firm until February 1993. He maintained links with the Army through the TA, rising to the rank of Colonel in the Cheshire Regiment. He also became very much involved with The Royal British Legion, and was a stalwart supporter of the Army Benevolent Fund. Throughout his life he remained a proud patriot, believing that his country continued to be a force for good in the world.

Edward was a great lover of the outdoors and enjoyed walking on the fells of the Lake District in particular. He climbed Helvellyn, after he turned eighty and carried on walking in the Peak District in his eighties and even after a couple of major operations. He was an avid reader and continued to pursue his great love of history and current affairs until the end. He enjoyed a debate and his keen intellect, knowledge and retention of information made him a formidable opponent!

Edward is survived by his wife Beryl, three children Anne, Richard and Sally; and four grandchildren Sam, Joe, Hannah and Alice and we are very grateful to son, Rick, for the majority of the above text.

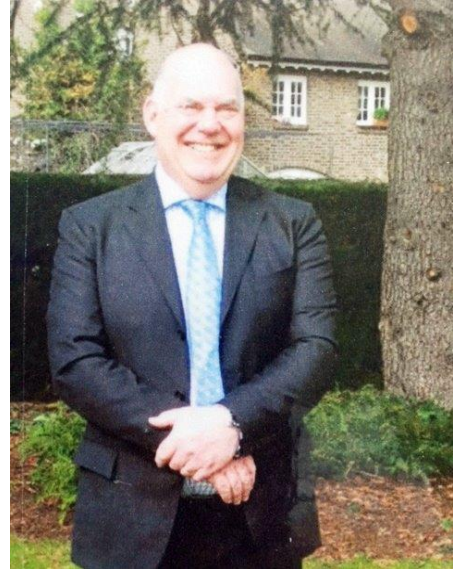
George A. Wortley (62-66, G)

Died: 1st May 2015, Aged 66

George Wortley, aged 66 and recently Manager of the Norwich-based, Norfolk Club, died on 1st May 2015 at Priscilla Bacon Lodge, the Norwich palliative care hospice.

Mr Wortley, who was 66, and had been in ill health for about two years, was also managing director of St Peter's Brewery, near Bungay, for six years, before running other inns and hotels in other parts of the country.

Born in Bungay, Suffolk, he was educated at St Mary's School, Bungay, and Bungay Grammar School, before going on to Wellingborough, from where he progressed to Henley College. During his time in Garne's he represented the House at Soccer, Rugby, Swimming and Water Polo. He enjoyed operating as a stage technician and had a part in the 1965 production of HMS Pinafore. OWs, Richard Dennison (59-67 G) who delivered a eulogy, at and Bob Sears (59-69 F) were present at his funeral service held in Norfolk Cathedral, where George had served as a steward.



His career was in hotel and pub restaurant management. He spent 12 years with Thistle Hotels Ltd, working as assistant manager and deputy manager at various locations within the subsidiary of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries. Later he became general manager of the North Lakes Hotel and Spa in Penrith for Shire Hotels Ltd. Later appointments took in for The Oaklands Hotel at Thorpe St Andrew, the four-star Solent Hotel and Spa at Southampton, and the Cornwallis Hotel in Suffolk, run by St Peter's Brewery Ltd, before he became manager director of the brewery itself. Further posts followed at the Swan Inn, Fressingfield and The George Inn at Babraham, Cambridge, before he moved to the Norfolk Club, and living in Norwich.

A past president of Diss Rugby Club, rugby and swimming were his hobbies, as were wines of the world. George leaves his third wife, Eunice, two sons and a daughter by his first marriage, one grandson, two brothers and a sister. He will be remembered for his business acumen, his sense of fun and a positive outlook on life, even when his health was deteriorating.

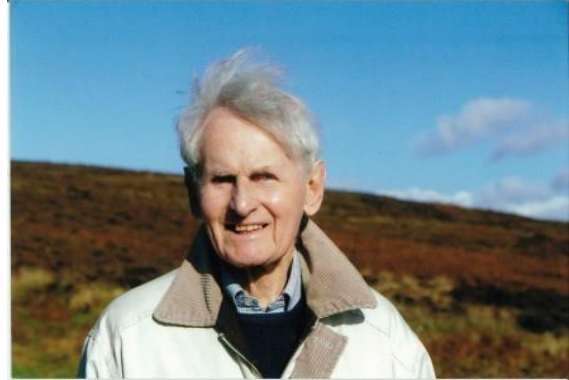
A J "John" Plowman (28-37, Pa)

Died: 8th April 2015, Aged 95

John Plowman was born in Wellingborough on 16th July 1920, and died after a short illness in Shrewsbury on 8th April 2015.

Following appearances in his House Cross- Country and Rugby teams, John served with the RAF in Coastal, Bomber and Training.

Commands during the Second World War. He was in the Battle of Malta in early 1942, and then spent the rest of the war as a navigation instructor in South Africa.



After the war he instructed at Air Services Training at Hamble, before moving to Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) in 1956 to join the national airline.

In 1985 he retired and moved to Shrewsbury. His wife Irma died in 2011. He leaves one son and one grandson.

Philip Harold Miles (42-50, G)

Died: 11th January 2015, Aged 84

Philip was born the eldest of three brothers in Raunds, Northamptonshire, on 25th March, 1931, and died peacefully on 11th January 2015 after a short illness.

He entered the Junior School as a boarder in 1942 and was encouraged in his early love of music by Robert Britten, his headmaster. He moved to the Senior School where his organ playing was developed in the school chapel. He broadened his

musical knowledge and love of teaching under the inspiration of Murray Witham. A sound all-rounder, Philip was at various times Head of House, School Prefect, President of the Literary Society, Chapel organist, chorister, Under Officer in the CCF and house colour at football, rugby and cricket. Indeed, the Choir Notes in The Wellingburian for October 1950, the term after he left Wellingborough, recorded that 'with the departure of Philip (interestingly mere mortals were only ever recorded by their initials in those days!) Miles an irreplaceable person was lost. Being an organist of great distinction, he was also a competent singer, and a genius for general organisation.'



In 1950 he moved to Trinity College of Music, London to study organ, piano and conducting, graduating in 1954 before undertaking National Service. In 1956 he married Elizabeth, a fellow graduate piano student and they were invited back to Wellingborough where Philip became the temporary Director of Music in place of Maurice Pettitt, who was on a two year secondment for the Ministry. On his return, Philip spent a brief period teaching in the Junior School before his next appointment as Director of Music at Ripon Grammar School in 1960. He established a very strong musical tradition there for 17 years before becoming a Senior Lecturer at the Leeds College of Music until 1985. After retirement, he examined for Trinity College, travelling extensively in the UK and abroad.

In 1980 Philip became the Conductor and trainer of Ripon Choral Society, and during the next eighteen years performed many of the great choral masterpieces in Ripon Cathedral, most notably Elgar's "The Dream of Gerontius", which was again performed there on March 21st this year. This performance was dedicated to Philip's memory with many of his former friends and colleagues attending the packed Cathedral, together with his beloved family.

It was a fine tribute to a dedicated musician and teacher, and a much loved man. Many thanks to Mrs Miles for providing much of the above.

Kenneth WF Osborn (28-33, Pa)

Died: 7th January 2015, Aged 99

Born on 17 February 1916 in Wellingborough, the son of a local butcher, Ken Osborn died on 7 January 2015. At the time of his birth, his father was away with the Northamptonshire regiment on the Western Front. During his formative years he resided in Gordon Road adjacent to the family business.

After School, he was articled to the Municipal Engineer at Canvey Island in Essex, progressing to the staff of the Berkshire County Surveyor and then Hornchurch District Council before taking the post of Deputy Borough Engineer at Tamworth in August 1939. For three of the years during the Second World War, he was on the staff of the Civil Engineer Chief at the Admiralty where he worked on classified wartime projects such as Mulberry Harbour and PLUTO (pipeline under the ocean). At Tamworth, he played an active part in the town's overspill expansion and, specifically, helped to develop its sewerage system.



In March 1951, he married Gladys, who worked in the Municipal Offices, and they celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary in 2011. They have one son, Ian, to whom we are most grateful for providing this information, and two grandchildren, Carrie and Stephen.

Ken's family were heavily involved with the Sutcliff Baptist Church in Olney where the Rev. John Sutcliff had a school for Baptist Missionaries and William Carey was one of the pupils. Ken was also interested in computers, photography, oil painting and travel, especially in the Bible lands of Israel where he was baptised in the Sea of Galilee. In addition, he also followed the footsteps of St Paul in Turkey, visiting the Seven Churches of Asia Minor and he attended the 1990 presentation of the Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany.

Despite failing health in later years he still retained a sharp mind and never lost his sense of humour.

John Sugden (65-73, Headmaster)

Died: 27th December 2014, Aged 93

Born on 22nd July 1921, John Sugden was educated at Radley, the Royal College of Music and then Magdalene College, Cambridge, where he read History. He served in the Royal Signals during the War and then embarked on a career in teaching at Bilton Grange Preparatory School, followed by King's School Canterbury and his first headship at Foster's Grammar School, Sherborne.

Mr Sugden succeeded Humphrey Bashford as Headmaster in January 1965, and during his first year arranged a memorable visit to the School by Her Majesty the Queen. From the outset he set out to raise academic standards, and was rewarded with a steady flow of Oxbridge entrants. He persuaded the Governors to commit the School to an ambitious development programme, and his legacy includes the Preparatory School's Bedford Block (1967) and the Music School (1972).



As the population of Northamptonshire grew in the late Sixties, Mr Sugden was able to attract more day pupils, and Cripps' was opened as an additional day House in 1967. Then in 1970 he persuaded the Governors to admit a few girls into the Sixth Form, and this year's O.W. Club President Hilary Poole (née Jackson, 70-72) was one of the first two girls to cross the threshold.

By instinct a strong disciplinarian, Mr Sugden faced the challenge of leading Wellingborough through the age of Flower Power and the permissive society. Against his better judgment he was compelled to loosen the reins, and the era heralded a relaxation of rules on dress codes and prefects' powers. A tangible sign of this came in 1970 with the abolition of straw boaters.

In 1973 Mr Sugden retired to the south coast with his wife Jane, and pursued his longstanding interests in music and the arts. They retained a keen interest in the School, and came back in 1994 for the 50th wedding anniversary celebrations of his former Second Master Jack Blake and his wife Peggy.

Mr Sugden held the reins at a time of enormous social change. He had the conviction to do what he believed to be right, even at the risk of unpopularity in some quarters. History has judged his reign kindly, as an era when the School was significantly modernised.

We offer our condolences to Mrs Sugden and to their two sons, Christopher and Charles.

Neil Lyon (80-85, W), School Archivist

Mike C. McAfee (42-45, PI)

Died: 23rd November 2014, Aged 87

We are very grateful to Mike's widow, Ann, for informing us of her late husband's passing on 23rd November 2014.

Mike, who came from a long established West Kirby family and was the son of a Doctor there, arrived at Wellingborough in 1942, transferring from a Wirral Grammar School. He successfully completed his School Certificate, enjoyed the host of sports and societies, especially tennis and athletics

available to boarders in those days. He was a much valued House Prefect, the School's open tennis champion and record holder for Putting the Weight.

National Service in the army followed school before he went to Bangor University to study agriculture. Whilst there, he represented the University of Wales at athletics, tennis and rugby. A career in animal feeding stuffs led him to be a Crop Inspector for the National Institute of Agricultural Botany at Cambridge. Along the way, further academic recognition followed in the awards of Chartered Biologist, Membership of the Institute of Biology and Licentiate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry.

In the mid-1970s he and Ann committed to a significant career change when they took over the running of Mike's Wirral Prep School, Dormie House. For his successful turning round of this small school he was made a life member of the Independent Schools' Association.

Tennis remained an important pastime for him and, following a long association with Cheshire's Lawn Tennis Association, he was made a Councillor of the LTA in 1976. The eulogy delivered at Mike's funeral in the Lake District, to where he and Ann had retired in later years, referred to him as 'always having been a "do er", an embracer of life. For many years he lectured on natural history and ornithology and was a vice president of the West Kirby Lecture Society. Later, in Cumbria, he worked on the appeals committee for Cancercare, was a council member of Cumbria's Order of St John of Jerusalem, a member of the County Landowners for Cumbria and a member of the Lake District National Park Authority's Agriculture and Forestry Advisory Group. He served on the Winster Parochial Church Council, was a past president of the Windermere Probus Club and most recently had joined the Ambleside and District Choral Society.



Julia Kelly (89-92, N)

Died: 2nd November 2014, Aged 39

Julia Kelly was born on 25th July 1975 and sadly lost her battle with Chronic Pain on 2nd November 2014, aged just 39 years.

During her time at Wellingborough, Julia was an active member of the CCF's Army section and much enjoyed pottery classes with Duncan Ellison. She progressed, via Tresham College, to the University of Central Lancashire where ill health prevented her from completing a Psychology degree. Nevertheless, on her return to the county, she did gain qualifications in social care and counselling.



After taking time out to travel through the Far East to Australia during 2001 and 2002, she returned home and took up a post with Northamptonshire Carers, where she became skilled in many aspects of Child Protection and the safeguarding of vulnerable adults. Surgery in 2010 to try to alleviate back pain from a road accident some years earlier, was not successful and left her unfit for work. However, she resolved to raise awareness of the condition of Chronic Pain and, in conjunction with her father, formed a charity, "a way with pain" (www.awaywithpain.co.uk) where fuller details of her story may be found.

Peter Tilley (36-41, Pa)

Died: 24th October 2014, Aged 89

Peter died on 2nd October 2014, aged 89. He served in Lloyds Bank for 44 years starting in Wellingborough in 1941 and retiring in 1985 as Manager of the Birmingham Computer Centre. He was a very active Freemason and member of the Rotary Club in Birmingham, where he was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship for his outstanding contribution both within and outside Rotary.

He leaves a widow, Mrs Diana Tilley, two daughters, a granddaughter and a grandson.

As Mrs Tilley advised in her email, "Peter had a very good innings in his cricketing terms!"



William Thomas Granger Clifton (38-45, Pa)

Died: 13th October 2014, Aged 87

The School and OW community were saddened to hear of "Bill" Clifton's sudden passing on 13th October 2014 at the age of 87. A packed congregation gathered at St Mary's Church,

Higham Ferrers on the 10th November and heard fellow **OW Arthur Wright (43-51, F)** pay tribute to Bill's full and interesting life, during which he had served in the RAF, worked in the shoe industry, loved sport and enjoyed much fellowship as a member of Rushden's Rotary Club.



It is very much a privilege for me to have been asked by Mollie to say a few words about Bill, his life and the friendship that Anita and I have enjoyed with both of them over so many years. As many of you know, Bill was born in Higham Ferrers as his parents kept The Green Dragon hotel and he attended Wellingborough School via the affectionately known pull and push "Higham Flyer" which gave him a walk to school from W'boro station. Bill said that several boys from Higham and Rushden used this train and that various pranks took place and was not unknown, for example, for a junior, with a bit of cheek to finish his journey in the luggage rack!

In talking to Mollie about their long life together, I was intrigued to discover how they first met – it was an 18th birthday party for Mollie's cousin, Derek Hooton in Wollaston, whom Bill also knew from Wellingborough School; both Bill and Mollie were 17 at the time. Bill noticed an attractive young lady looking for a seat and that three were empty so he had worked out that if he sat in the middle one, she would have to sit next to him, which was the case and from there on romance flourished. Bill did a certain amount of what used to be called "courting" by cycling to Wollaston from Higham Ferrers before being called up for the RAF having turned 18 in the July and having left W'boro in that month. He had hoped to be posted to somewhere like Cardington as he had volunteered for aircrew but at that time the RAF were not looking for aircrew and Bill found himself posted somewhat further away to Japan. It proved an eventful journey lasting over a week by rather elderly aircraft which broke down at various places en route but Bill was able to see the devastation in Hiroshima at first hand from the atomic bomb and they were only just beginning the first efforts at rebuilding. He was able to continue his love of sport in Japan and was pleased to be in a Royal Air Force basketball team that defeated their Australian counterparts. His journey home was by sea and took six weeks. Many people here today will remember Bill's love of sport as at W'boro he had represented the school at both cricket and soccer and been Victor Ludorum using his long legs to good effect in athletics and cross country.

Before Bill was called up he had done a month or so at John White's shoe factory in Higham Ferrers but on return from the RAF aged 21 was persuaded by Wilfred Hawkes, an Old Wellingburian, to join his business selling Fred Hawkes specialist shoe machinery to overseas customers. Bill's return from Japan also meant that he and Mollie could be married in October 1949 and the next few years saw the arrival of David and then Judy. The past October saw them celebrate 65 years of marriage. Work meant a great deal of travel and absence from home but all of us who knew Bill well could attest to his integrity and best efforts on his firm's behalf; nevertheless, travel to far flung places in the 50's onwards was greatly different from our jet propelled methods today. Bill was with Hawkes for over 25 years until it was taken over and, after 2-3 years with new owners, found himself out of a job at 50 which was a most difficult age at which to find further meaningful employment, especially with the contraction of shoe manufacturing locally, together with its associated industries. After a stressful period of inactivity he was able to purchase a small business in Northampton selling components and materials to the shoe repair trade which lasted until the premises were compulsorily acquired for road widening and he sold the business to a competitor as a going concern enabling him to retire. Bill had

always shown a keen desire to serve the local community and help those less fortunate than himself. His interest in sport gave him many happy years of tennis and badminton locally and he was President of Higham Tennis Club at one time. Perhaps his greatest involvement in the community came with his membership of the Rotary Club of Rushden which found him involved in all aspects of club activity – on international projects which saw him go to Hungary with Rotary friends and a lorry load of goods and clothing when that country came out from behind the Iron Curtain.

He entered wholeheartedly into projects within the local community on behalf of the club and his hand was usually the first to be raised for any active involvement. He truly lived the Rotary motto of “service above self” and which today is shown by the esteem in which he was held with the numbers of Rotarians present from many neighbouring clubs. Bill had served as President and chaired all the committees within the club at various times as well as serving at the Rotary District level which included other local clubs.

He had thoroughly enjoyed his school’s days at W’boro, later becoming President of the Old Wellingburian Club and a Governor of the School for many years. He and Mollie had a particular delight in their involvement with the launch of the Pre-Prep part of the school some years ago and they both attended virtually all activities there as honoured guests right up to the present time.

When Bill suggested recently to the Headmaster that it was time for him to retire completely due to age, he was told that he would be informed when his input was no longer valued but would his and Mollie’s involvement please continue. At this time of the year Bill and Mollie would be found very involved with work for the British Legion in selling poppies to schools and local factories and the community. It was also a major task for them to count up all the money after from the various tins with other Rotarians and their input will be sorely missed. Last Christmas they jointly received the Susan Hollowell Annual Award for service to the Rushden community – a richly deserved recognition of their involvement. He was also involved with the local Conservative Party and again had served a spell as President of the Wellingborough branch.

On a purely personal level our two families go back many years. My parents and Bill’s parents were great friends so that I grew up with a fairly complete knowledge of the Clifton family as Bill did of ours. Bill and I spent many happy hours on the golf course with other friends also and for some years had a regular Thursday morning Rotary Club four and I know Bill was hoping that with the introduction of buggies on the Rushden course it would mean he could enjoy a few holes with me after his recent foot operation. Sadly, that is not to be. I know that I speak for everyone here today who knew Bill in saying what a great example of service to others his life has been and I know he would have wished me to say how much of a rock Mollie has been in all his activities and how much his family meant to him. In so many ways Bill will be sorely missed within our Community but all of us can reflect on a life well lived and be grateful to have known him.

Arthur Wright (43-51 F)

Alexia Ilse Anne Brauch (nee Marrum) (79-87, N)

Died: 30th July 2014, Aged 46

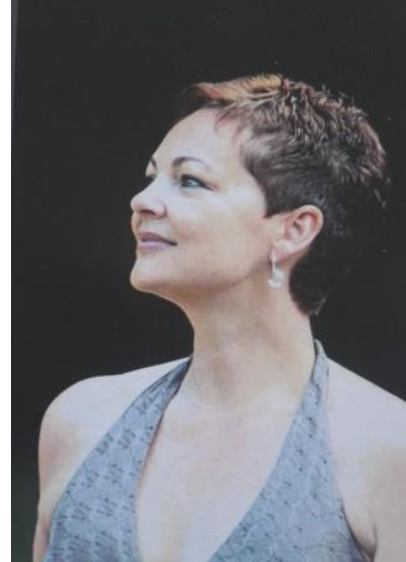
There was a large gathering of OWs for the untimely funeral of Alexia Brauch at The Church of St Mary The Virgin, Little Houghton, on Wednesday 30th July 2014. One of the group of girls to join the Fourth Form of the Junior School in 1979 when girls were accepted for the first time below the Sixth Form, Alexi threw herself into school life from the outset, a trait of positivity which we learnt had stayed with her throughout her adult years.

After Higher Education in Portsmouth, she took herself off to Europe where she was soon to meet her future husband from Germany, Andreas. They moved to Geneva and then back to Dusseldorf.

Alexia's zest for life came through loud and clear throughout the Service – if not out running she'd be teaching English, or cooking, or Facebooking, or - and it was fitting that her former school friends referred to the fun they had had together at last year's Annual OW Dinner in the School Hall, the last time they were all together.

Son, Nicolas, had just completed a most successful nine months in Fryer's House's GCSE year, Alexia being determined that he should have the experience of a year in the English system and at his mother's old school too.

Alexia, after a most courageous fight against illness, is survived by Andreas, Nicolas, daughter, Florence, mother, Anne and brother Chris (75-85 Pl).



David Hawkes (46-57, G)

Died: 15th July 2014, Aged 76

David Hawkes died peacefully on 15th July 2014, aged 76, after a short period of deteriorating health. He was born on 28th April 1938, the only son of W.V. Hawkes of Higham Ferrers, fittingly into a world of shoes following his Uncle's patenting of a process that was used by shoe manufacturers around the world.

David arrived in Junior School in 1946 and moved to the Senior School in 1951, into Garne's House, rising to be

Captain in his final year. He was a good games player, representing Garne's at cricket, soccer, rugger, tennis, water polo and swimming, being, eventually, vice-captain of school rugby and captain of swimming. Among his many interests were the school band, the debating society, the jazz club, the library and the Chapel (prefect).

For National Service (1957-59) David was commissioned into the Northamptonshire Regiment. Posted to Blandford Forum he was attached to R.E.M.E. as an Infantry Training Officer.



In October 1959 he went up to Oxford to read Engineering at Balliol College noted for its reputation for 'effortless superiority'.

Balliol meant a lot to David. These were heady times to be at the College. His contemporaries included Hugo Young (distinguished political journalist), Andrew Knight (consummate henchman to Conrad Black and Rupert Murdoch) and Andrew Macaulay (consummate henchman to Tiny Rowland). This trio dispensed liberal hospitality at 261 Woodstock Road. The Junior Common Room famously purchased an early Hockney for £100, aided and abetted by their Lordships Grey, Gowrie and Tom Camoys: only to sell it a year later for £150. Today it would probably be worth over a million!

One of his tutors was the distinguished physicist Professor David Brink, FRS. The professor was awarded the Rutherford Medal in 1982 for theoretical nuclear physics and his contributions to our understanding of nuclear structure and nuclear reactions. He was the first to demonstrate how electric dipole photo-excitation of nuclei could be coherent, leading to giant resonances.

David remembered his tutor with appropriate awe and remorse. Precision would be a hallmark of his management style in his later career. Unexpectedly, he obtained 3rd Class honours. This may have been due to his third year addiction to swimming and water polo at which he excelled and to the attentions of Miss Emma Naish, daughter of Richard Naish, one-time Ruskin Master of Drawing and Fine Art. They were married in Balliol College Chapel in the snow in February 1963. Michael Orr, a golf blue, was best man and three other Balliol men were ushers, Andrew Beith, Simon Wratten and Colin Wyman.

David was President of the Oxford University Swimming Club and a member of Vincent's.

He was a trialist for the England team for the Commonwealth Games of 1962 in the Derby Baths at Blackpool and narrowly missed selection.

To attempt to swim alongside him was like swimming against a tidal wave.

In 1962, David joined Somervell Brothers (later K Shoes) in Kendal, Cumbria as a graduate trainee. This included time in Paris, where he worked as an apprentice in an atelier under Monsieur Charles Henri, who worked for 48 years as a craftsman shoemaker of exclusive made-to-measure fashion court shoes for Christian Dior, including the wedding shoes for Empress Farah of Persia. By 1968, David was head of men's manufacturing. By 1981 he had been appointed to the Board of K Shoes, ultimately joining the Board of Clark's Limited, as Chairman of K Shoes from 1987 to 1992. Throughout his career he worked tirelessly to protect jobs in Cumbria. Shoe-manufacturing was in David's blood and there was no better steward for Kendalians at a time when the world was turning for UK manufacturing.



He oversaw the introduction of the first computerised sewing machine in UK in 1980 and the DESMA moulding machine, which revolutionised comfort for the sole.

Whilst at K Shoes, David was a non-executive director of Kendal's hospital trust and on retirement became its non-executive chairman.

Of a Balliol cast of mind, regardful of the influence of David Lindsay Keir (Master 1949-65), David was diligent, methodical and disciplined.

He was nicknamed "Hawkeye", as little of significance escaped his notice. He was reserved and did not suffer fools gladly. His steely grey good looks were matched by a steely determination. To some, his outward appearance was intimidating but that was mostly when he was on guard against salesmen's blarney or any sense of prevarication in coming to the point. He was unfailingly courteous and generous.

The Balliol man in him developed effortlessly a taste for fine wine and gracious living. The Ivy or Café Royal Grill Room were among his favourite haunts, often in the entertaining company of his close friend Derek Hodgson, the distinguished High Court Judge. His hair was tended by Mr Christopher at Truefitt & Hill, who stood 6ft 7ins, a Greek Cypriot with a proclivity for racing tips, lost on David.

He had a real love of all sports as well as sports cars. His red Scimitars rejuvenated the Directors' car park, delivering the brand promise – 'K shoes for Men – sleek, masculine, virile'.

His hobbies included skiing, scuba diving, underwater photography and walking in his beloved Lakeland fells and beyond. He was very proud to re-connect with his old school when elected Old Wellingburian Club President for 2002-03.

David had two sons, Simon and the late Edward, with Emma, his first wife. He adored his grandchildren Anna and Natalie. Latterly he lived in Kirkby Lonsdale with his second wife Sheila, who shared his interests in walking and diving. He grew to know and appreciate his step-daughter Kirsty.

He had a keen sense of humour. When I left K Shoes in 1989 to work for Blackwell's in Oxford, he wrote: 'Well done, Tim: you have made it to the Broad at last'. '

Tim Lewis (Worcester College, Oxford '57-60)

John Shrive, FRICS, FAAV (49-54, F)

Died: 25th June 2014, Aged 76

John Shrive, the Norfolk surveyor, auctioneer and fundraiser, born 27th August 1938 in Kettering, died in a car accident on 25th June 2014. He had been returning home from a visit to Cambridge University on School Governors' business, pursuing a potentially significant future development project.

Joining the Junior School as a boarder, John's skills as a "charmer" were soon in evidence with Headmaster's wife, Marjorie Britten, who was delighted to receive congratulatory letters from the old Sixth Form Dorm on reaching her centenary in 2009. He progressed into Fryer's, a house filled more with sportsmen than academics in those days and soon towered over his Housemaster the Rev Basil Pitt. He also imposed his considerable personality on RSM Cornelius, whose military record was renowned. Not in any way intimidated by their authority over him, John honed his talent for mimicry in taking off both, though the RSM got his own back on young Shrive when, caught napping one day, he received a week's marching in double time as punishment. It was the Rugby XV who were to profit most from his height, with fellow "giants", Neil Wright and Rob Toseland, lifting him high into the air to secure possession from lineouts for the more nimble fly-half to run in many tries. Despite extensive corrective eye surgery as a young boy, John went on to become a crack shot in the School VIII – contemporary, Michael Duck, enjoyed recounting how RSM Cornelius, who coached him, was particularly impressed by his highly polished shoes, a legacy from his "fagging" days in Fryer's.



Leaving School prematurely in terms of his academic ambitions at the age of 16, John went to work for Land agents, Messrs Berry Bros and Bagshaw as a clerk in the Northamptonshire cattle markets, where by the tender age of 21 he had qualified as a Chartered Surveyor and where he honed his formidable Public Speaking skills. He served on numerous Professional bodies, was a dedicated Rotarian and supported the fundraising initiatives of such institutions as Kelling and Cromer Hospitals and Norwich Cathedral. In 2000, he was very proud to be elected OW President, taking those fortunate enough to attend, to St Paul's Cathedral for his London Dinner, where they were gloriously entertained by his daughter Olivia's mezzo soprano voice.

He firmly believed that many of life's important lessons were learnt through sport, playing squash, rugby in his JB Shrive XV, which played, annually, against the Gresham's School 1st XV, golf – not very well, he recalled, for his Rotary Club – and, until recently, running, swimming and even playing tennis. Such pursuits gave him many friends, who were wonderfully supportive of him, when in 1984 his wife, Dilys, lost her battle against illness.

He is survived by sons, Rupert and Benjamin, daughters, Victoria and Olivia and a growing army of grandchildren

Robert Harold Guy Oxland (36-44, W)

Died: 27th May 2014, Aged 87

Robert (Bob) Oxland was born in Edgbaston on 8th August 1927 and died peacefully on 27th May 2014 following a period of illness. He had a brother Jack and two sisters, Jane and Sheila.

His father, C.H.Oxland, was the first Master-in-Charge of the Junior House, now the Preparatory School, from 1913 to 1935.

When Bob left the School, he took an apprenticeship as an electrical engineer in Bedford and then in London. While working in London he was part of the design team for the electrical circuits installed in the Shell Building.

Marrying Mary in 1955, the couple settled in Wellingborough where Mary's father owned Brotherton's, a well-established furniture company in the town. He became a Partner of the firm and continued to manage the business for most of his working life. Bob was also a much valued member of Wellingborough Rotary Club, serving on many of the different committees.



Sport was always important to Bob. He had played rugby for Wellingborough Town and served as President for some time. He also loved tennis and enjoyed watching it on television.

As a keen Freemason, he was a very active member of the Old Wellingburian Lodge from 1970 onwards and became Master of the Lodge in 1985 and again in 2001, when, thanks to his significant efforts, the Lodge began meeting at the School.

Bob was very skilled with his hands and had executed some fine *petit point*, was excellent at marquetry and particularly proud of his beautiful garden.

Through his daughter, Wing Cdr. Christine Oxland OBE, RAF, Bob came to love opera. Following Mary's death in 1997, Christine and her father travelled far and wide to visit many of the world's top Opera Houses.

In conclusion, Bob was one of life's 'charming gentlemen'.

Jerry Higgins (57-66, St)

Adam Crosby (87-90, PI)

Died: 12th April 2014, Aged 43

The following has been kindly sent to us by Adam's parents Bert & Jill Crosby:

"After leaving Wellingborough as Deputy Head Boy and Head of Platt's and 1st XI Footballer and Cricketer, Adam moved to Melbourne, Australia to join his family which of course includes Becky (also a Wellingburian). He was soon joined in Australia by his long-time friend Justin Gould; he too a Wellingburian.

Adam pursued a career in technical writing and communications, first with IBM and then other Melbourne companies, also spending 12 months working in Hong Kong. He continued his strong interest in sport playing football and cricket for local teams. He also enjoyed running and through this activity he met his wife to be, Jacinta, in 2004. They married in 2009 but did not have children.

Adam passed away on 12 April 2014 having suffered a seizure from which he never recovered.

Justin read a tribute to Adam at his funeral and a tribute was read on behalf of Becky by her husband Sean.



Adam leaves behind his wife, Jacinta, his parents, Bert and Jill, his sister and husband, Becky and Sean, along with their children, whom he adored, Purdey and Jensen".

Ian Shaw Firth (51-56, PI)

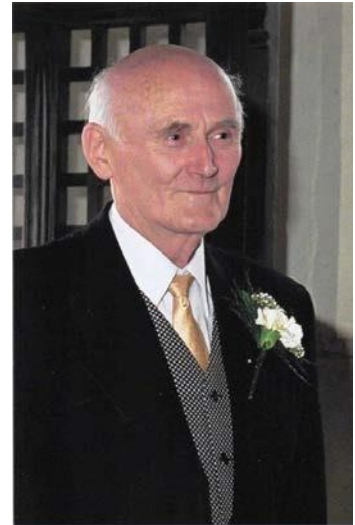
Died: 6th March 2014, Aged 76

Ian sadly passed away on 6th March 2014 after a long battle with oesophageal cancer. He was born on 29th August 1938 in Halifax, West Yorkshire, from where his family moved to Baldock, Hertfordshire, when he was about seven years old. Ian joined Wellingborough School in 1951 as a boarder. He enjoyed his school life and made many friends, described in his last House notes as having been of sterling assistance in many spheres of House life, especially the field of chess.

From School he progressed to Hatfield College where he studied building and architecture, eventually joining his father's building and contracting business. During their time, they built part of the famous Kayser Bondon factory, now a Tesco's and many houses. After 13 years in the trade, and having acquired some land in the countryside, he and his father became very successful market gardeners and supplied (the Old) Covent Garden Market. When Ian's father retired, Ian turned to the wholesale side, buying his flowers and vegetables rather than growing them. He sold them round the shops in Cambridge, Northants and Hertfordshire area.

Ian's wish was never to retire, so with his wife's help, he carried on from his bedside until he died.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela, his three daughters and five grandchildren.



Dr. Sukhum Rasmidatta (54-57, W)

Died: 22nd February 2014, Aged 75

Passed away peacefully in his sleep at his Bangkok home on February 22, 2014.

Born in 1939, he was a lively person who did superbly well at school academically and in sports, becoming a steady member of the school's tennis team in his last year. He went on to University College, London, where he obtained his Bachelor of Law (Hons). He then became Barrister-at-Law at Gray's Inn, and eventually earned his doctorate law degree (Mention Bien) at the University of Paris.

Returning to Siam in 1966, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, becoming First Secretary at the Thai embassy in Bonn in 1977 ; Minister at the embassy in Singapore in 1982, Thai ambassador to Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Greece, and Belgium and the EU in 1997.

I know he is sorely missed by his family, colleagues and contemporaries at school as someone who always kept his spirit and smiled at all times. He is survived by his wife, Amphaisri, and twin sons, Sukhaphat and Sukhavat, age 16.

Sumet Jumsai (54-57, G)



Allen Ramsden, BA Cantab (91-14, Staff)

Died: 28th January 2014, Aged 53

So, is it the wonderfully gifted rugby coach we shall remember most fondly, or is it the talented Historian, or the hidden thespian, occasionally revealed in revues and Keith Hargreaves' fund raising Murder Mystery Evenings? In truth, it is so very much more. None of us who inhabited rooms in Garne's could ever miss the whistling up and down the stairs as he made his way past Garne's Day rooms – he was a tutor alongside me in the House for 22 years – on his way up to his classroom, or office, on the top floor. He was a truly cultured man and derived much pleasure from opportunities provided by overseas school trips to Europe and further afield, both east and west, to broaden his horizons and his acute understanding of humanity.

He was a skilled "number cruncher", an ability honed in his Dad's working men's club in Batley as he kept score of the adults' darts games while having his head buried in some learned tome or other, as an organiser of the School's Enrichment Programme needs to be. There was nobody more appropriate for the post of the School's first Director of Trips, with years of running the History Department's Year 9 Battlefields Trip and other Expeditions, his own experience of long distance cycling proving invaluable as he developed the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold programme. Gritty in the extreme, as any true Yorkshireman must be, he played rugby, football, cricket, squash rackets and golf to much higher standards than he would be likely to admit. The School's recent connection with former Master of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, Professor Brian Johnson, revealed, for instance, that, when an undergraduate there, Allen had been chosen to play an exhibition match against the Master to mark the opening of the College's new squash court.



With a gargantuan memory and finely tuned intellect, he was a true polymath, with visits to the world's great Art galleries high on his list of priorities, as were great works of Literature and dense biographies of historical, political and sporting heroes alike. As a talented schoolmaster, he had an uncanny knack of drawing out the most bizarre details of a pupil, or tutee's interests and activities and there was a fiercesomely dry sense of humour ever lurking beneath the surface of every encounter he had, or witnessed.

But Allen was a proud family man too, and his boys, Joe and Tom, both of whom progressed through the School from the Pre-Prep to study at Sheffield University, were never far from his thoughts. In typically laconic fashion, he made it perfectly clear how proud he had been to learn before Christmas of his lad Joe's engagement to be married. By a cruel twist of fate, Allen's long and courageous fight ended on Joe's 27th birthday.

Mike Askham

Richard Harry Eaton (33-38, G)

Died: 27th December 2013, Aged 92

We are grateful to his son, James, and daughter, Richenda, for informing us of Richard's passing, aged 92 years on 27th December 2013. Richard was born in Rushden and, whilst at School, particularly enjoyed cricket and music, keeping wicket, singing as treble soloist in the Chapel Choir and learning to play the organ. In 1940 he joined the RAF and served for most of World War Two on radar in the North African Desert, Palestine and Lebanon.

On his return to Rushden, "Dick" joined the family shoe factory, which he ran successfully until his retirement in his mid 70s. Chairman of the local branch of the Institute of Directors, he was awarded life membership for his services. He was also active in leading the Bedfordshire Conservative Party for many years and, later, when he and his wife, Barbara, had moved from Bedford to Pavenham, he became Chairman of the local village hall committee, which provided many activities and facilities for the community. He was a lifelong member of Northamptonshire Cricket Club, as well as a member of Bedfordshire Rugby Club.



At the age of 81, after his beloved wife died, he achieved the fulfilment of a long held dream and emigrated to Australia, joining his three sons in Brisbane. He designed and oversaw the construction of a new home by the sea, where many tranquil hours were spent on his deck, looking out towards the beautiful Moreton bay and its many islands, accompanied by his favourite Verdelho.

To his delight, Dick was joined by his daughter, Richenda, in 2008 and lived out his final years surrounded by his children, grandchildren and great grand daughter

David J.T. Piccaver (52-62, W)

Died: 13th December 2013, Aged 69

Born in Spalding, Lincolnshire on 18th August 1944, David died on 13th December 2013 after a short illness.

The Weymouth House Notes for Trinity Term, 1962, paid the following tribute to him. 'David Piccaver, who, in all, spent 9 years at Wellingborough. Although not endowed with exceptional academic ability, he reached sixth form status by continual hard work; on the games field he excelled at rugger and tennis, also showing remarkable dexterity with small bore rifles. He has at last answered "the call of the soil", and hopes to go to Agricultural College after carrying out a year's practical farming.'



It was clearly a wise decision, as the many tributes published about David's career in agricultural industry journals, gratefully received from David Dicks (51-59 Pa), testify.

As well as chairing and working for the specialist lettuce, salad onions and herb producer, J.E. Piccaver, David was a director at horticulture industry labour supplier Concordia and undertook a range of overseas and UK-based voluntary work over many years.

His firm, J.E. Piccaver, stated that he would be greatly missed by all, a well respected figure within Lincolnshire's farming community and indeed, further afield. In addition to his day to day commitments, he was a research foundation director at Stocksbridge Technology Centre. He was a member of the British Potato Council levy board; he was also a director of potato prepacker QV foods, and had chaired Lingarden, a company marketing bulbs, flowers and onions, for 27 years as it grew into a £75 million business.



A modest man, with great warmth, strength, courage and integrity, David is survived by his wife, Saranne, and five children, Stuart, Simon, Lizzie, Mike and George.

Russell Ashbourne Basker (40-48, W)

Died: 19th November 2013, Aged 83

Russell (Rusty) was born in March Cambridgeshire on the 16th March 1930; he died in Aylesbury on 19th November 2013.

In 1940 Rusty was a 'boarder' at Lynfield School, Hunstanton and became one of a group of eleven boys who were evacuated from the East Coast to Wellingborough under the guidance of Mr and Mrs RHM Britten. This move came at a critical time for the health of the School as described in detail by Neil Lyon in his books covering the history of Wellingborough School. Rusty must have been one of the very few boys who were able to tell some of the tale.

Rusty had a particular interest in rifle shooting during his time at school; he represented Wellingborough in team competitions which included visits to Bisley. Subsequently, as an OW, he played an enthusiastic role in the life and management of the OW Rifle Club.



Having undertaken National Service in Hong Kong, Rusty went to the University of Nottingham where he studied law. After graduation he joined a practice in High Wycombe and ultimately became senior partner in that firm. He maintained contact with a number of OWs throughout his life.

Above all, Rusty was a great family man. To his wife, Gerd, his children and grandchildren, many OWs will wish to send their sympathy and will remember the kindness and hospitality, which was in abundance at 'Longacre'.

Grateful thanks to Robin Basker (46-55 W) for providing us with this information.

Robin Capon (69-73, Staff)

Died: 17th November 2013, Aged 71

We are grateful to his daughter, Amanda-Jane, for informing us of her father's passing. Robin Capon taught art at the School between 1969 and 1973 and is fondly remembered by his pupils.

Robin Capon was born in Wrotham, Kent on 6 September 1942 and died at his home in Lyme Regis on 17 November 2013, surrounded by his family.

He studied at University of London Goldsmiths' College School of Art and Brighton College of Art. At Goldsmiths' he won the David Murray Travelling Scholarship for landscape painting, from the Royal Academy; the Adrian Ryan Landscape Prize; and exhibited with the Young Contemporaries. After college he enjoyed a successful career in teaching for 23 years, being at Wellingborough School between 1969 - 1973 and thereafter spending 15 years as Head of Art and Design at Maidstone Grammar School.



In 1988 he gave up teaching to concentrate on his freelance work. This initially included painting, examining work for two examining boards and tutoring for the National Extension College, as well as writing. But it wasn't long before he was able to focus exclusively on journalism and writing books. Over the last 25 years he has written for a variety of publications, although he is best known for his monthly features in *The Artist* magazine (written under the pseudonym of Oliver Lange) and *Leisure Painter* magazine. He also wrote occasional features for *Dorset* magazine. His work included reviews, information features and articles on technique, with his specialism being interview features on the work and working methods of well-known contemporary artists. Additionally, he wrote 36 books. Robin's family is immensely proud of his professional achievements and the respect he holds in his field.

Robin leaves his wife of 49 years, Patricia; his son, Simon and daughters Rachel, Sarah and Amanda-Jane; their partners Joanne, David and Stephen and his grandchildren, Emily, Jagen, Alysia, Estelle, Kobie and Harriet. Additionally, Robin bereaves his extended family and many close friends. He was well loved and will be greatly missed.

Garnet Ramsay Scott (31-42, Pa)

Died: 4th November 2013, Aged 89

Born on 4th March 1924 in Calcutta, Garnet, the "Peter Pan" of his generation, died on 4th November 2013 after twelve months fighting illness.

A keen all-round sportsman, who had arrived at the Junior School in 1931, Garnet left in 1942 to join the Royal Navy. Initially on Atlantic Convoy duty, he progressed to become a gunnery officer and ended the war in the Far East aboard HMS Belfast.

He went up to Jesus College, Cambridge to read English Literature and to take the Teaching Diploma in 1945 and was pleased to be offered the post of Junior

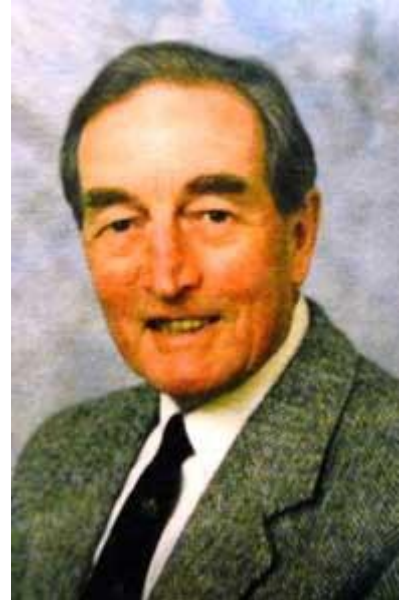
English master back at Wellingborough in September 1948. His position quickly expanded to include the teaching of Mathematics, French and Games in addition to English; many recall his prowess as an athlete, or his exploits on the Grove or his organisation of the swimming programme – he had won a "half-blue" at Cambridge for the latter activity. But it is chiefly for his proud inclusion in the Arthur Dunn Cup Final team of 1951, in the defeat to the Old Carthusians at Tooting and Mitcham's AFC ground and for his long association with the Halford Hewitt golfers that will perhaps be chiefly remembered.

By 1958, 'fearful of turning into "Mr Chips"', Garnet sought pastures new and was delighted to be appointed to Malvern College, where he became the much respected Housemaster of No. 4 House and supporter of the full range of the College's sports programme.

He retired from teaching in 1984 and took up the position of Club Secretary at the Worcestershire Golf Club, where, for many years, he enjoyed hosting the Old Wellingburian Golf Club for their annual Autumn meeting.

Sadly, Kay, his wife of 45 years, died in 1997, but he was delighted to marry Ruth in October 2000, two months before having, as a country member, won the Saunton Plate at Saunton Golf Club, Devon. He was the oldest ever winner at 76 years of age and completed a staggering 11 rounds of golf in 8 days!

He is survived by his second wife, Ruth, and by Carole and Marcus from his first marriage to Kay.



Thomas Geoffrey Walker (22-28, Pa)

Died: 1st November 2013, Aged 101

Geoff Walker of Earls Barton and late of Great Doddington, possibly the oldest living Wellingburian, passed away peacefully on 1st November 2013 at the grand old age of 101.

He entered the School in 1922 and was a pupil during the transition period from Wellingborough Grammar School to Wellingborough School. Geoffrey was the youngest of twelve children. Employed in the family factory until its closure – Walkers' shoes supplied the British Army with boots at the outbreak of the Great War -he later successfully set up an office in Leicester for the importation of shoes with which he supplied many of the country's largest shoe corporations. He was proud to have served his country during the Second World War as a wireless operator in the RAF.

A committed Christian all his life, Geoffrey was a real family man. He is survived by Doreen, whom he married in 1946, and children, Richard, Liz and their families.

Robert William Edwards (32-39)

Died: 23rd October 2013, Aged 92

Bob Edwards, the middle brother of three, was born in Wilby, Northants in 1921, and died on 23 October 2013.

He followed his brother, J.T. Edwards, to the School via a County Scholarship from where he won a place at University College, Nottingham to study for his B.Sc. before the war halted those plans. He was a House Prefect in Parker's and a stalwart of the Science Society.

Commissioned into the Royal Artillery, with many close shaves survived, he found himself out in the Far East in 1945 and spent the next two years with his division re-occupying Malaya, Java and Sumatra after the surrender of the Japanese, fighting Indonesian insurgents.

Following his army service, Bob worked in the Surveyor General's Office in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, spending his working day under a tent completing land surveys. On his return to England in 1957, he finally managed to complete his B.Sc. at Birkbeck College, University of London, and began a long and successful career working at the Ministry of Defence.



In retirement, he enjoyed work as a London guide, wrote regular features for the 'Wilby Whisper' and travelled extensively, notably to New Zealand, a country of which he was especially fond. He was also proud to be an active member of the OW Lodge, serving as Worshipful Master in 1986 and initiating his nephew, Stewart (57-64 S), into freemasonry the following year.

During the 1980s he successfully used his organisational skills and tenacity to lead fundraising campaigns at the School with excellent results achieved. After a long and fulfilling life, he is survived by his wife, Kathleen, his children, stepchildren, grand and great grandchildren.