

THE OLD Wellingburian NEWSLETTER



Michaelmas 2024 The Old Wellingburian Club

Est. 1897

Welcome from Sophie

Hello, everyone and welcome to the latest edition of the E-newsletter. The end of my OW Presidency is fast approaching and I have enjoyed it immensely.

Since the last edition, there has been lots happening as you will see from all the news in this edition and it is really lovely to see so much activity across clubs and year groups.



I wanted to start by reflecting on some of the changes we are considering in terms of the running of the OW Club. The Club was formed in 1897 and remains a great resource for staying in touch with each other and with the school. We are also very lucky to have the support of the Foundation Office to keep the club going administratively. I personally have valued enormously the support I have had from Graham and Katie during my Presidential year as I try to juggle a busy career, my daughter's GCSEs and the responsibilities of the role. We are all living in an increasingly 24/7 world and the reality of this is that we are finding it harder to find volunteers who can give up their time to lead the Club. As such, we are proposing to the AGM on 9 November that we will have a Chair of the OW Club who will look after the day to day running of the Club and to introduce a more ceremonial President role. Graham has kindly volunteered to assume the role of Chair for 2025, subject to AGM ratification, and I would like to extend my thanks to him for that. We are also on the lookout for OWs to join as new committee members so that we are continuing to provide fresh ideas of what the club can offer. If you think this might be something you are keen to get involved in, please have a look at the details on Page 2 or get in touch with me or any of the existing committee to find out more.

And with that, onto events! It was a summer of sports with the annual OW vs School cricket and hockey matches in June, as well as the Cyril Grey golf tournament. I was also fortunate enough to attend the OW Rifle Club Veterans match and barbecue on a glorious summer's evening in July at Bisley. It was great to see the club so active with OWs taking part across a number of generations. I was offered the chance to take part but, given I could hardly even see the target 600 yards away, wouldn't have fancied my chances of actually hitting it! It's wonderful our active clubs continue to thrive and to have an impressive array of fixtures throughout the year. I was also delighted to hear about the House, the 5-year and 20-year reunions, the OW Summer lunch and the CCF dinner that took place at the school. They all looked like great events and opportunities to catch up and reminisce. As a club, we are very fortunate that the school continues to welcome OWs back and to let us use the fabulous facilities and grounds to reconnect. I very much look forward to the OW Autumn Lunch on 9th November where there will be a further opportunity to see OWs before I hand over the reins. Finally, we have lots of updates from OWs in this edition of the newsletter so we are grateful to those who have got in touch. I hope you enjoy catching up on the news and please do keep them coming.

So, I will close by saying it's been an absolute honour to be your President for the last year and thank you to the committee for their support, insight and wisdom. I am staying involved with the Club and the Committee and am particularly focused on club communications and how we stay as engaged and as joined up as we can. So please do stay in touch, share your news and your views and take great care.



On the left is a photo taken from a RAF helicopter in 1945. On the right is a more recent photo.

Editor's Intro

It has been a pleasure to pull together this edition of The Old Wellingburian. Every day I learn more about the OW community and this is a great way to learn more about the School, its former pupils and what makes it special. With so many changes in our department over the 12 months, we have also had the opportunity to revisit what The Old Wellingburian newsletter is and how often you receive it. As we approach our 430th anniversary in 2025 we are moving to a termly newsletter/magazine instead of once a year.

This will mean we can keep the news and updates as current as possible, be more reactive, and better engage with you throughout the year. As there was no Old Wellingburian Newsletter in Autumn 2023 this issue will feature some news from late 2022, 2023 and 2024 but in the future, we plan to stay more current.

As a newsletter for the Old Wellingburian community we want you as the focus. Please get in contact with us to share your memories, your accomplishments, exciting life events and long-term friendships.

As with so many publications these days the Old Wellingburian Newsletter will be emailed out in a digital format to all those who we have emails for. It will also be uploaded onto the Wellingborough School website. However, we do understand that some OWs will still want a hard copy and so we will post these out if requested.

I do hope that you enjoy reading this edition of The Old Wellingburian Newsletter.

Katie

Photos from the archives



COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED

- Our Club has run for 127 years and creates a lasting link for members of the Old Wellingburian community to each other and to the school.
- Whilst the Club benefits from the generous support of the School Foundation Office in administering and maintaining the OW database and calendar of school and networking events, it is also served by a wonderful committee of volunteers who give their time to ensuring that the club manages its funds, budget and governance process effectively and that we can host events and sports fixtures and that we communicate the latest news to each other.
- Being a committee member involves attending 4 virtual meetings each year and 1 AGM.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE?

If you would like to find out more about joining the OW Club committee please contact Graham on gnp@wellingboroughschool.org



Current committee members: Sophie Timms (82-92, W), Peter Crisp (73-83, P), Clive Westley (59-64 F), Simon Marriot (60-71 PS), Julian Amey (57-67, G), Jon Morris-Smith (76-86, PS), Richard Jackson (70-81, PS), Rosie Turner (05-14,N), Joe Smith (98-05, PS)

Future OW Events

Autumn Lunch

Saturday 9th November 2024

The annual OW Autumn Lunch held at the School. Places are £25pp with limited space left.

Business Networking

Thursday 14th November 2024,
6.30pm

The first Business Networking event of the 24/25 academic year is being hosted in the School's art department. You are invited to join us in the art department to view student work as well as to network & promote your business interests.

Business Networking

Thursday 13th February 2025

The second Business Networking event of the 24/25 academic year is being hosted at Jeyes of Earls Barton. You are invited to join us in the morning to network & promote your business interests.

London Dinner

Friday 28th March 2025

The annual OW London Dinner is to be held on Friday 28th March 2025 in central London. We are in the process of finalising the venue and will update you once booking can be opened.

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 10th November 2024

OWs are welcome to attend the School's Remembrance Service on Sunday 10th November 2024. The service will commence at 10.15am. Refreshments will be served in the dining hall after the service. There will be a collection during the service for the charity, Combat Stress.

Carol Service

Sunday 8th December 2024

Steven Hill, the school's Chaplain would like to invite OWs to the School's annual Carol Service. The 9 Lessons & Carols will commence at 4pm.

Oxbridge Dinner

Friday 7th March 2025

The annual OW Oxbridge Dinner is to be held at Magdalene College, Cambridge.

OW Winter Sports

Saturday 29th March 2025

The annual Winter Sports OW versus the School in Netball and Football. Join us as a player or a spectator. A delicious BBQ lunch will be provided.

School Production

Tuesday 12th - Thursday 14th November 2024

Wellingborough School students will be performing the play **Goodnight Mr Tom** at the Castle Theatre, Wellingborough this November.

Set during the dark and dangerous build-up to the Second World War, Goodnight Mister Tom follows sad young William Beech, who is evacuated to the idyllic English countryside and builds a remarkable and moving friendship with the elderly recluse Tom Oakley. All seems perfect until William is devastatingly summoned by his mother back to London.

Tickets can be booked directly through the Castle Theatre [website](#).



Past Events

Summer Sports

The annual OW vs School cricket and hockey matches were contested on Friday 21st June. Both matches proved to be close encounters and were watched by over 100 appreciative members of the OW Community. A BBQ and drinks were laid on by our catering team for all players and supporters after the matches.



House Reunions

We celebrated 100 years of the house system at Wellingborough School on Friday 21st June 2024. OWs were invited to enjoy a drink in their house with the current Housemaster or Housemistress. This is the first step in reconnecting Old Wellingburians by House at what is likely to become an annual event. Most of the 50+ OWs stayed on to watch the annual cricket/hockey vs School and join the BBQ and drinks.



Summer Lunch

Around 50 supporters of the School gathered on Saturday 29th June in glorious sunshine for drinks on the Headmaster's Lawn prior to enjoying a wonderful lunch prepared by our catering team in the Spencer Room. The Headmaster thanked them for their ongoing support, shared an update on another very successful year for the School and explained why the Wellingborough Foundation, a separate Charitable Foundation, had been established to safeguard donations and legacies going forward. He also updated on progress with Project Copernicus and our exciting plans to grow our Transformational Bursary Fund. After lunch visits to the Sixth Form Centre, School Hall and Chapel concluded a very enjoyable event.



Past Events

5 Year Reunion

On 14th September 2024 we were pleased to welcome back the class of 2019 for their 5-year reunion. Over 30 2019 Leavers attended as well as current and previous staff members.

Headmaster Andrew Holman said of the event, 'It was an absolute pleasure to reconnect with those students who left us just five years ago – and who just escaped having to complete their schooling under Covid. They're all now 23 or 24 years old, and so at different points in their lives, all of which are fascinating to hear about.'



20 Year Reunion

Reunion report provided by Hilary Arimoro (90-04, W)

There is always something rather heartwarming about reminiscing over childhood memories. So, when our new Foundation and Development Director, Graham Papenfus, noticed that it was approaching 20 years since I left the school as a pupil and wondered if I could help organise a reunion, I jumped at the opportunity.

Unfortunately, life events such as the birth of a child, or attending a wedding, got in the way for a few, but the enthusiasm and fun that the eight OWs from the 2004 cohort who did attend made up for the lack of numbers! We were thrilled to welcome back former teachers Mr. Bowe, Mr. Farley, Mr. Askham and former OW liaison officer Debbie Whitmore, and seeing old sport's team photos and Chapel Choir photos, not to mention our yearbook, enabled more regaling of stories.

Following the tour of the sixth form centre, the requests by both the 20 and 5 year leavers to visit their Houses was palpable and we were grateful for this to be facilitated. Finding names on boards and looking for faces in House photographs was special and for some of the boys, stepping into a girls' House for the first time was eye-opening!



OW Visits to the School

The Foundation team are always pleased to accommodate visits from Old Wellingburians to the School. Please do get in touch with Katie or Graham if you would like to visit.

David Trembecki (88-98, F) visited the School with his daughter, Daisy, in December 2022.

David has resided in Perth, Australia since 2009 and so was pleased to be able to show Daisy his School.



Michael Perry (55-61, PS) toured the School in May 24 whilst passing through the area with his daughter, Holly.

During his visit Michael kindly donated some items to the School archives.



Azim Azziz (78-81, P) and his family visited the School in September during a visit to the UK from Malaysia.



OW Rifle Club

Report from John Eady (70-77, C)

Small-bore shooting continues in the School range on Thursday evenings.

Small-bore:

In the NLRTSA Summer League we entered 5 individual members. We are just about to start shooting rounds 1 & 2 of the NLRTSA Winter League (indoor small-bore).

Full-bore:

The Newbery Bowl (shot at 300 and 500 yards) and 600 yard competitions (internal Club competitions) were shot at Bisley on 19th May. The Newbery Bowl was won by Russell Hodgson-Jones with a score of 99 (with 14 v bulls). Henry Sanders was 2nd with a score of 99 (with 9 v bulls) and Martin Whatton was 3rd with a score of 96 (with 12 v bulls). The 600 yard competition was won by Martin Whatton with a score of 48 (with 1 v bull), 2nd equal were Russell Hodgson-Jones and Charles Asquith both with a score of 45 (with 2 v bulls).

The Veterans Match was held at Bisley on 18th July. We had 14 members take part and so entered three teams.

We would particularly like to thank Sophie Timms OW Club president for joining the OWRC at Bisley for the Veterans match. Her support was much appreciated by the members of the Club.

The results of the shoot were:

Our 'A' team scored 242.26 and were placed 10th out of 44

Our 'B' team scored 232.15 and were placed 11th out of 27

Our 'C' team scored 168.8 and were placed 13th out of 17.

We shot the 'Humphrey Long' competition (internal Club competition) on 15th September at Bisley. This was shot at 900 & 1000 yards. We had 12 members turn up for the shoot. A very good attendance indeed. It was won by Charles Asquith on 97 (with 13 v bulls), second was Henry Sanders on 94 (with 10 v bulls) and third was Martin Whatton on 92 (with 8 v bulls).

The Old Wellingburian Golfing Society



The Old Wellingburian Golfing Society have enjoyed another busy year with meets and competitions happening across the Mid and South of England.

The Halford Hewitt Golf Competition continues to get fiercer each year – and they lost to Fettes 4:1 in the first round and lost to Cheltenham in the first round of the plate. They look forward to competing again in the 2025 competition.

The Spring Meeting was held at the beautiful Woburn Golf Club. Won by Chris Balthrop with 43 points even after his friends cut him from 18 to 16 on the day! Chris was a worthy winner who played out of his skin. Stuart Copeland was 2nd with 35, Chris Billson 3rd on 34 and Tim Poole fourth on 33 points respectively. The event was co-hosted by Stuart Copeland and Tim Poole. An excellent turnout of 26 OWs in soft but good conditions with good fun had by all.

In June the OWGS competed in the Cyril Grey Tournament which is held at Worplesdon Golf Club. After reaching the final in 2023, they disappointingly lost in the first round to Taunton and subsequently lost the first round of the plate in a close fought battle with the final pair losing on the 18th green. The squad was not quite at full strength, which certainly makes a difference in this Over 50's format.

The Autumn Meeting was held at Luffenham Heath Golf Club and despite a low turnout was enjoyed by all who attended. The OW Cup for the day was won by Philip Saxby with 34 points and the Wright Cup (combined Spring and Autumn Meeting) was taken by Chris Balthrop with 40 & 30 points respectively.



Richard Jackson receiving the Denton Salver- 38 points, gross 74

In late September the OWGS competed in the Grafton Morrish Trophy held at the Royal West Norfolk Golf Club. Victory over Christs Hospital 2-1 in the first round and lost to Tonbridge by the same margin in the second round in incredibly difficult conditions. The wind blew as it can on the East coast with photos of the greens covered in sand a reflection of the challenge the participants all faced.

The Long Johns is the final OW Golf day of the year held at its spiritual home of Wellingborough Golf club. This year the Autumn weather was kind and the course had stood up well to the wet weather preceding the day. There was a good turn out of 20 OWs including some first timers who all enjoyed the relaxed golf, dinner and AGM. The Hugh Denton Salver was won by Richard Jackson with 38 points with second place going to Philip Saxby with 37 points and third place went to Chris Balthrop on count back with Ed Tate.

OW News

OW plays cricket for England

At the time of this newsletter being released, OW David Howells (11-21, G) will have arrived in Australia ready to play cricket in the Visually Impaired Ashes series. For David this will be his first away tour for England - having made his debut last summer in a home World Cup. The tour will consist of three one day international matches and five T20 matches.

David first started playing cricket for his local club, Stony Stratford. When he lost his sight at the age of 11 the club put him in touch with the Northants Visually Impaired team. David quickly progressed through to make the England academy at just 13 years old, before joining the team squad a year later.

David plays cricket for England alongside his studies at Bournemouth University. He is also a trustee for the Richard Whitehead Foundation.



OWs make it to Britain's Got Talent final

Many of you will already have been aware of the singing success of Northamptonshire choir Northants Sings Out (NSO) which reached the final of Britain's Got Talent this year. Matt Ingram (83-88, PS) & Julian Hunt (70-75, C) were part of the choir, as well as former Headmaster Garry Bowe (01-17) & staff member Ruth Bowe (04-17).

NSO is the first choir to have reached the final of Britain's Got Talent.

Matt Ingram said of his experience; 'Performing in Britain's Got Talent was exciting, bizarre and surreal in equal measure.'

The choir only had a two-day day gap after the semi-final to prepare for the final. Matt added, 'Our performance of Fatboy Slim's anthem "Praise You" was a joy to perform and was well received by the audience and the judges, and we were placed 11th out of 13 - no £250,000 first prize, but memories to last a lifetime, and an experience never to be forgotten.'

Julian Hunt may have sang in the School choir from 1970-1975 but now he is looking forward to singing to a sell out audience this November at the Northampton Derngate Theatre.

Julian said of his experience with NSO, 'An incredible experience that I wouldn't have believed could happen until it was first mentioned in mid-Jan this year. NSO is still riding high on the back of the BGT success & finals, many performances since early June. I'm so glad that I am a part of the journey, even though I'm tired!'

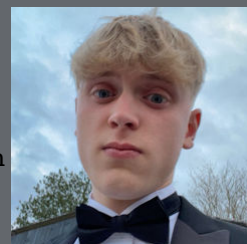
OW seeks work experience

Dear Old Wellingburians,

I'm a first-year university student studying Management BSc at the University of Nottingham. I am looking for opportunities for insight days, internships or spring weeks as I think these will prove invaluable in my academic career. For this, my preference would be working in the financial, operational or marketing sectors.

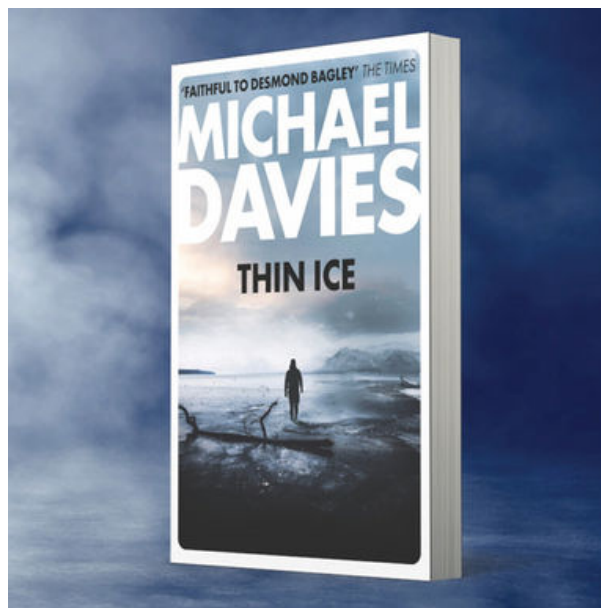
I am an aspiring entrepreneur and so would appreciate any help that can be provided that will allow me to gain real world experience, and to be faced with different working cultures and business environments. Therefore, I was wondering if there are any connections or opportunities available through Old Wellingburians?

Charlie Walker (22-24, G) charles.j.walker14@gmail.com



OW News

OW unveils latest novel



Former journalist turned author Michael Davies (75-81, C) is celebrating the release of his latest thriller to a worldwide audience.

Thin Ice is the latest instalment in a trilogy of novels featuring the protagonist Bill Kemp – described by bestselling author Jeffrey Deaver as “part James Bond, part Philip Marlowe and all hero”.

After subjecting Kemp to a host of trials in the Australian desert with his debut novel Outback, Michael now transports him to central Europe at the height of the Cold War, where Kemp is introduced to the dark arts of espionage on the front line of the Iron Curtain.

A lifelong fan of bestselling thriller writer Desmond Bagley after being introduced to him while at Wellingborough, Michael celebrates the author’s legacy with this all-new adventure featuring his protagonist Kemp. Michael, who completed Bagley’s first Kemp novel Domino Island for publication nearly 40 years after the author’s death before creating Outback in 2023, now spins another original tale of danger and daring.

He said: “It’s been a real pleasure putting Bill through a new set of challenges – physical, mental and ethical – in an environment that’s very different from his last adventure. I really wanted to put a toe in the water of spy thrillers, and the 1970s setting allowed me to explore some of the rich territory that people like John Le Carré and Len Deighton wrote so brilliantly – as well as Bagley himself, of course.”

The novel was released by HarperCollins last month (October), with paperback, ebook and an audio edition, narrated by Michael himself, all available now.

Readers have heaped praise on all the Kemp novels. One five-star review of Thin Ice says: “Anyone looking for a thrilling novel to fill the Le Carré-sized hole in spy fiction could do no better than to look at Michael Davies.” Others have described the series as “unputdownable”, “gripping” and “a delight to read” with “plenty of twists and turns”.

After Wellingborough, Michael worked for newspapers all over the country, eventually editing the Oxford Mail. Since leaving the industry in 2002, he has written for the stage, screen, print and online. His debut play won a national playwriting competition, and subsequent work includes the book and lyrics for Tess – The Musical, an adaptation of Thomas Hardy’s Tess of the d’Urbervilles, which had a workshop production at the RSC’s Other Place in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Thin Ice can be ordered at Waterstones, Amazon, WH Smith and all good bookshops. To sign up to Michael’s regular newsletter, visit www.mrgdavies.com or follow ‘Michael Davies – Author’ on Facebook.

Share your news with us.

Get in contact with your news and achievements at kpo@wellingboroughschool.org

OW News - Celebrations

Wedding

Oliver Storey (04-09, PS) married Sophie Bird at Grantley Hall in Yorkshire on 9th August 2024. Oliver & Sophie met at a house party thrown by fellow OW Alex Price (96-09, P) in 2016. OWs in attendance were Abigail Storey (06-11, M), Alex Price (96-09, P), Alastair Kelsall (04-09, P), Emma Walder (07-12, W), Charles Threadgold (05-09, P), Toby Hemsley (04-09, P), Freja Budd (07-10, W), Tom Holliday (03-08, P), Harry Gray (06-11, C) and Guy McDonald (04-10, G)



Engagement

Congratulations to OW Johnny House (97-07, G) who recently got engaged to his partner, Erin Miskell. Jonathon proposed to Erin in the Prior Park Landscape Garden in Bath.



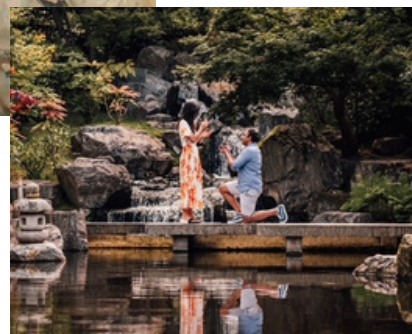
Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to OW Mike Sharp (45-52, PS) who celebrated his Diamond Wedding Anniversary in August 2023 to wife, Pat. (Mike & Pat front row) They were joined for the special event by their four sons, all OWs themselves. James Sharp (78-83, PS), Nick Sharp (78-85, PS), Ben Sharp (79-86, PS) and Marcus Sharp (91-01, G)



Engagement

Congratulations to OW Dr Apoorva Khajuria (07-12, N) who recently got engaged in London. Her fiancé, Sunil, proposed in Kyoto Garden, London. Apoorva and Sunil have recently enjoyed a formal engagement ceremony with extended family in India.



Recently engaged or married?

We would love to congratulate you in our next edition. Email Katie at kpo@wellingboroughschool.org

OW News - Obituaries

Jeremy Lattaway (44-54, G)

Died 9th June 2024

Jeremy grew up in the village of Wilby with his younger brother Phillip. He attended Croyland School before joining Wellingborough in 1944. Coming from a musical family on his mother's side he played the piano, violin & viola. He sang in the school choir and took part in the musical productions. He was a keen runner and once won the 100 yards.

Jeremy spoke fondly of his Wellingborough School days and the friends he made there.

He took over the running of his father's Wellingborough shoe business on leaving college and grew a successful business employing around 800 at its peak. When the shoe industry crashed in the 80's Jeremy ran a furniture manufacturing business for a few years before starting a driving school business with his wife Gill until he retired age 70.

Jeremy was a member of the Wellingborough Rotary Club, Sywell Rifle Range, Nene Valley Aeromodellers and Alwalton Raceway where he marshalled.

In 1979 when Overstone Girls School was about to close Jeremy & his good friend Robert Bainbridge approached the Governors of Wellingborough School about taking in the girls from Overstone as their daughters attended there. Marsh House was built and the school became fully co-educational.

Jeremy passed away peacefully at Northampton hospital after a short battle with cancer.



Jeremy is pictured here in the middle row, first right

Nigel Turner (PS, 44-50)

Died 4th December 2022

The family of Nigel Turner would like to make fellow OWs aware that he passed away in December 2022.

John Beales (74-00, Staff)

Died 29th December 2023



John Beales joined the Senior School staff in September 1974, where he held a job in the biology department, at Kettering Grammar School. Having studied Geology at Nottingham University, he took a master's degree in Biology in 72/73.

His main role was Head of Biology, which he taught with a passion, but in a relaxed style. He would take A-level students on field courses in Wales, Suffolk and Norfolk. In the laboratory, experiments and dissections would occasionally cause pupils to arrive at their next lesson in a nauseous state, reeking of carbolic. One project was digging a pond outside the Science building, which eventually emitted other strong odours.

Graham Garrett, at interview, had also asked John to re-start rugby at the School, which he did with enthusiasm. At away games, he would sometimes need to accompany an injured boy to the local A&E, and once he inadvertently left behind two players!

He also organised squash sessions and was a staunch supporter of other field sports, playing these in his leisure time, too. Pupils would be recruited from Friday lessons, to make up numbers in his teams.

As a tutor in Cripps House, he taught his charges how to play Bridge, rather than discuss their grades or personal problems.

He retired in 2000, but returned briefly for a maternity leave.

He continued to be connected to Wellingborough School, supporting some appeals and the Singers who hosted them.

His love of plants, wildlife, walking and teaching qualified him well for his retirement job of tour leader, taking him to the Lake District, the Alps, Greece and much further afield.

More sedately, he played golf and enjoyed theatre- and opera-going.

Recent years saw a decline in his health, and he died on December 29th, 2023. Attendance at his funeral service reflected the high esteem he was held in by all the different people whose lives he had touched, during his life.

OW News - Obituaries

John Horrell (50-56, G)

Died 16th July 2024

Obituary kindly written by his friend Bill Turney (1957, G)

John was born on the 3rd October 1939 to Alex & Connie Horrell at Glebe Farm, an only child who showed his love for animals and the countryside early in life. He had a happy childhood, and aged 7 went to Wellingborough School, which he loved.

Whilst at the School he joined the choir and played the bugle and could be seen in many local churches on Armistice Day playing The Last Post. He played so well that we would rag him saying "he loved to blow his own trumpet."

John was a keen tennis player and represented the School. He joined the CCF and was put into the rifle team where he excelled, and with regular visits to Bisley he achieved marksman status.

He followed Wellingborough with Agricultural training at Moulton College.

John missed National Service by one month and joined his father on their dairy farm. It was not all work, he joined Thrapston Young Farmers where he met and fell in love with Jennifer Scott. They married on 20th June 1964 at Brigstock Church and moved into Daventry House.

In the early days John joined the Round Table, where he, with fellow OW Robert Beaty (55, G), founded the Oundle and Thrapston branch of the Round Table where his shrewdness and kindness served the area magnificently.

They travelled extensively, including New Zealand, but it was Africa that they loved the most, particularly Kenya. Many friends enjoyed wonderful holidays with them there.

Shooting was John's favourite winter sport, following from his success at Bisley. He proved to be a good shot with his 20 bore. He enjoyed his days on the grouse moors, with John and the late Robert Beaty (55, G), shooting partridge in North Yorkshire, and many days shooting in Norfolk.

His kindness to many, including me, was almost legendary, he lived his life to the fullest, a colourful life full of adventure and sharing good times with friends. He was always well respected and well dressed.

John decided to downsize to a smaller house in 2007 when he gave up farming. After many short stays in hospital during the last year John died peacefully with Poppy, his black Labrador, at his side.

Peter Cullimore (47-55, PS)

Died 10th April 2023

Obituary taken from the King-Cullimore Charitable Trust

After a career working for the electricity board, Peter and his wife Gillian established Universal Care. Over the course of 35 years, the business thrived, providing essential support and assistance to individuals in need of care.

In addition to being successful in his work, Peter was dedicated to his family and his local community. He was a longstanding member of Beaconsfield Rotary and dedicated to the wider Beaconsfield community. He was instrumental in organising the annual festival of lights as well as many other initiatives. Peter was a Governor at The Beaconsfield School, a supporter of Alfriston School and remained dedicated to his old university UCL, remaining an alumnus for over six decades.

A true philanthropist, Peter supported numerous charities and organisations that held a special place in his heart. He did this on both a personal level but also through the King Cullimore Charitable Trust, which Peter founded in 1998. So far the trust has given over £8 million to charitable causes.

Peter's commitment to charitable giving was beautifully reflected in the numerous causes he has supported. There were so many charities close to his heart, each one representing a unique opportunity to bring about change and improve the lives of others. Peter's legacy will forever be intertwined with the noble causes he championed, reminding us of the power of compassion and the extraordinary impact one person can have in creating a better future for all.



OW News - Obituaries

Andrew Dexter (53-63, F)

Died 5th September 2024



(Left) In the Libyan desert in 1968, aged 23

(Right) Angelic choirboy c 1953

Andrew was a Fryer's House prefect in the tough old boarding days, when he was able to keep a brotherly eye on Ian 57-66. He had a brief spell in industry before deciding civvy street was not for him. He joined the Army through Mons Officer Cadet School in 1964 and was commissioned into 4th Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment in 1965, seeing active service in Aden and later with the 3rd Battalion in Belfast in 1972. He transferred to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in 1973, serving again in Northern Ireland, elsewhere in UK, Germany and Zimbabwe before leaving the Army as a major in 1988 for a second career in international logistics in Taiwan, Malaysia and UK until finally retiring to Cyprus in 2004, where he died peacefully at home on 5 September 2024. He leaves his beloved wife Pat, whom he met in Malta in 1968, sons Tim, Ashley and Rupert and eight grandchildren.

A survivor of two 'shooting wars', Andrew was always cool in a crisis. For all the upheavals of an action-packed life, he viewed the world with a degree of quiet equanimity, and liked nothing more than to paint and fish. Above all his family always came first in his life aside from his military duty.

Edward Harold Amey (39-44, PS)

Died 8th September 2023

Ted Amey passed away peacefully at Highmead House, Irthlingborough on 8th September 2023. He attended Wellingborough School (Parkers 1939-1944) along with other members of the Amey family – Robert, his cousin, (Parkers 1933-1940) - Julian (Garnes 1957-1968) his nephew – and Josh Maziak-Amey (2001 -2005) his great nephew.

In 1939, at the outbreak of 2nd World War, Ted was 11 years old and by the end of the war, aged 17, he started National Service in the RAF.

In 1948, Ted's family suffered the loss of his father Harold, who was 48, and at a young age, Ted was given compassionate leave from the RAF so that he could take over the family garage business.

This he did for the rest of his working life and in the 1950's he married Mary Brawn who became his wife and mother of their two sons, Timothy and Richard. Ted was passionate about cricket and became Chairman of the Finedon Cricket Club – also becoming an expert scorer.

Ted is survived by his son Richard, daughter in law Lorraine and granddaughter Clare.

Archive Donations

This term the School has been fortunate to receive several interesting and rare donations for the archives. The below photos were sent in by the Daughter-in-Law of OW H.W.L.T Davies and though not dated, are believed to have been taken around the time of the First World War.



The School also received an Army Officer's Swagger Stick from back when Wellingborough School had an Officer Training Corps. It has now been reunited with the RSM's Cane, a larger version of the stick, in the Commanding Officer's Office.

Schools News

Head's Update



Life at Wellingborough remains good, and we've had a very enjoyable beginning to the School year. Many OWs will remember the joys of House Singing, but I'm pretty sure that the quality today far outstrips some of the (how shall I put this...?) lower echelons from years past. The time and effort put in by our students is fully realised in a huge event that now can only fit in the Sports Hall, so large are the numbers.

This year, for the first time, House Singing was not the first event that brought the Houses and the Senior School together, after one of our Year 13s (Upper Sixth in old money) coordinated a Colour Run to get the term underway. For those of you not aware of the nomenclature, this is a charity fundraising event in which participants have cornstarch-based paint thrown over them as they run around a field. Not your cup of tea? Try telling that to 600 young people, many of whom were in the middle of their first day at Wellingborough. The sense of camaraderie and fellowship that emanated from the event was palpable.

Elsewhere, any passers-by may have noticed the busy-ness within the building compound, as our emergent Technology Centre continues to progress. Steelwork is imminent, at which point it will become far easier to chart our way to a grand opening which will hopefully be next September. Our ability to deliver high quality Design Technology and Computing will rocket upwards from that point, and the School is very excited at the opportunities the new facility will enable.

This time of year is extraordinarily busy, not only with Sport (the 1st XV Rugby team are currently unbeaten, with six wins out of six) and Drama ('Goodnight Mister Tom' premieres in the Castle Theatre after half term) taking the lead outside the classroom, but with a huge amount of work being done in lessons. We've already had the much-loved Battlefields Trip to Belgium and France, and our Artists (New York) and Business students (Paris) will also be engaged in international travel before Christmas.

Christmas – yikes. Carol Concert and our Chapel Service still to come. Does this place ever slow down?!



The Wellbeing service



We wanted to spotlight a service at the School which many of our Old Wellingburians would not have experienced whilst they were in education.

The Wellbeing service at Wellingborough School was founded in 2015, after the recognition of growing needs among pupils to support emotional wellbeing.

Wellingborough's Wellbeing service is a dedicated team, who support the wellbeing of pupils across the whole school. The team provide a wide range of interventions, working both proactively and reactively.

In 2019, the team were successful in winning the Northamptonshire Education Awards Health and Wellbeing Award in recognition for their ongoing work and success.

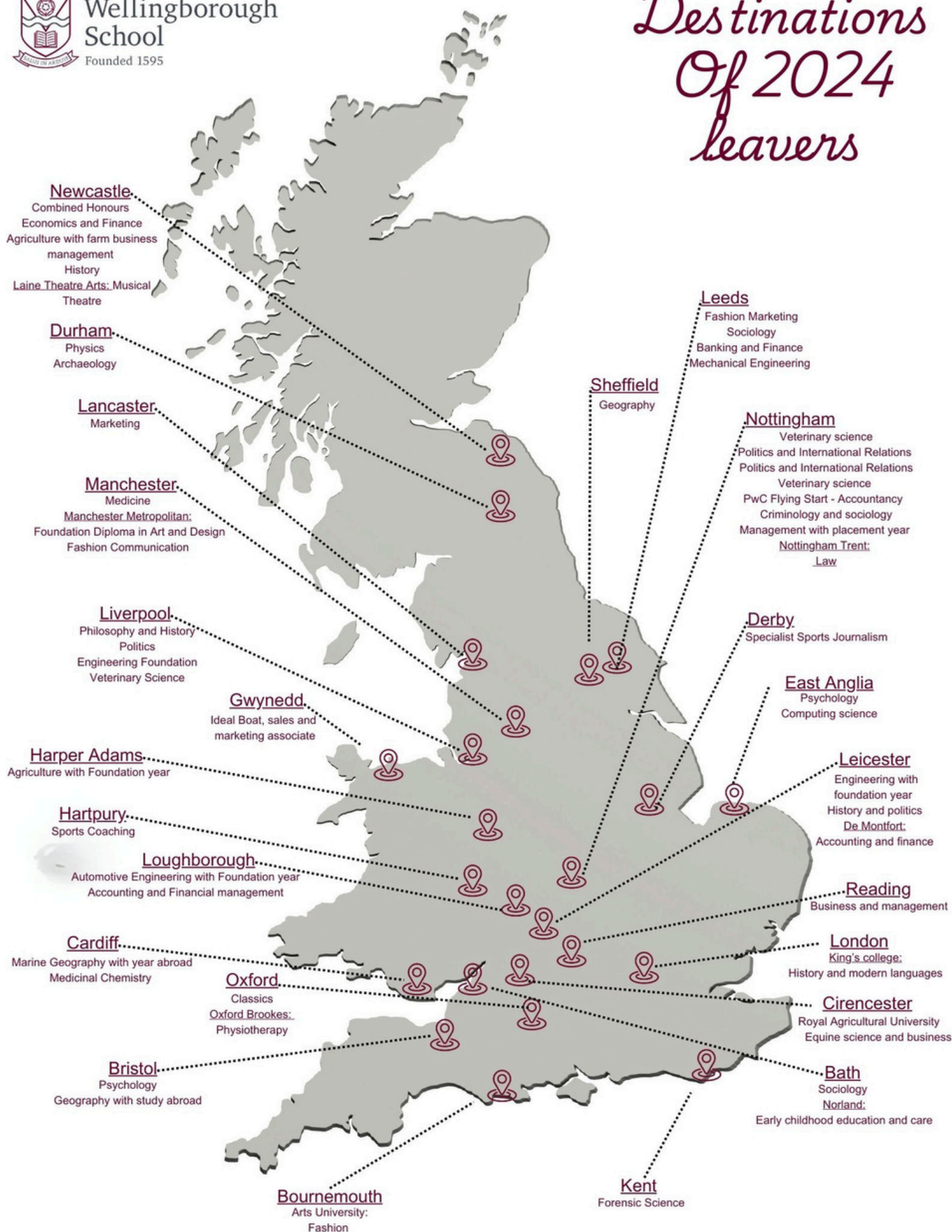
In the decade of its existence support offered within the school community includes:

- One to one intervention.
- Assemblies.
- Supporting Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education. (PSHCE)
- Promoting and engaging with awareness days.
- Group workshops.
- Parent support.
- Staff training.





Destinations Of 2024 leavers



School Careers Service

Wellingborough School Careers Fair will be taking place on Thursday 28th November from 6pm - 8pm. We would very much like to invite you to send a stallholder to attend.

We are set to welcome companies, professions, universities, colleges, gap year and apprenticeship providers to the Fair. As well as our Wellingborough School students, we will also be inviting students from other local schools. Exhibitors will be able to park and set up from 4.45pm onwards and there will be a buffet available for all exhibitors from 5pm. The Fair will begin at 6pm and end at 8pm.

If you would like to discuss anything further, please email me at careers@wellingboroughschool.org or you can call me on 01933 222427 ext 275.

Mrs Alexandra Arber
Head of Careers



The Business Directory

Wellingborough School Business Directory

Following requests from members of our community to advertise their businesses in the weekly Newsletters, we are excited to have launched the Wellingborough School Business Directory.

The directory is published on our website and a link included in each of the Newsletters, every week. Each advert will last for 12 months from date of publication. We are offering full or half page adverts, for inclusion of your own business, or one that you are employed by. Full details and a copy of the current Directory can be found [here](#)

Please contact Jackie Cliffe to find out more - jc@wellingboroughschool.org



Foundation News

My thanks to Katie for compiling this edition of the OW newsletter on behalf of the OW Club. It shows another bumper edition showcasing OW and School news and a wide range of events which have taken place since the Trinity Term newsletter.

I have enjoyed helping organise and host the annual summer sports, summer lunch, five-year BBQ and the new House drinks and 2004 leaver's 20th reunion, meeting a wide range of OWs and members of the Wellingborough School Community.

I also enjoyed joining the OW golfers at the summer and autumn meetings and look forward to playing in the annual Long Johns meeting at the Wellingborough Golf Club over half term.

We welcomed our first Foundation and OW assistant, Bethany Baxby, in September and look forward to her helping us integrate her leaving year, the Class of 2024, into the OW Club as well as supporting Katie on the database, communications and event programme – she has already made a huge impact.

I am working with a number of OWs as we look to share the opportunity for OWs to support my Transformational Bursary Fund. Your gift, no matter how small and whether monthly, annually or one-off will, simply put, change the life of a pupil giving them an opportunity to experience all that Wellingborough School has to offer. I am asking OWs by leaving year to join their classmates funding a pupil collectively, from as little as £25pm (for example), as they enter the Senior School in Year 7 in September 2025.

Andrew reported on progress with the new Technology Centre which we look forward to opening in September 2025. My 'buildings' focus is the new Sports Centre which will follow the completion of the Technology Centre. I look forward to sharing more with you in the next edition but suffice to say it will be a fantastic facility not only for the School but also the wider community. Your gifts will leave a lasting legacy at the School.

Please do get in touch if you would like to find out more about the Transformation Bursary Fund or Sports Centre. I look forward to meeting OWs and their guests at next term's events.

Kind regards
Graham Papenfus
Foundation and Development Director
Email: gnp@wellingboroughschool.org



New Staff Member - Gapper



Bethany Baxby (14-24, N)

I went to Wellingborough School from the ages of 8 to 18, and coming back to the school but this time as a staff member has been a huge difference. I am sure this feeling will never change, but I am extremely grateful for Katie and Graham who have helped me to settle in well as the new Foundation and OW Assistant. So far, this role has been both interesting and fulfilling, learning about the events the OW club hosts as well as the many different stories of each OW's life. Throughout my time at Wellingborough, I participated in many sports, my favourites being Hockey and Netball. So having the opportunity to help coach alongside my role as OW Assistant has been fantastic. I hope to attend as many OW events as possible, being a new OW myself I feel it is important to still have contact with the school and the events it hosts. I am very much looking forward to socialising and meeting you all as well as hearing about your times at the school.

Stay in Contact

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01933 222427

