

Abingdon

News

The Newsletter of Abingdon School

April 2006

No 11



ABINGDON 750

A Fine Tradition



As if in recognition of the School's 750th anniversary, Abingdon's musicians are in fine form, as was evident at the two public concerts they gave last term. How appropriate that the first of these anniversary concerts should have been held in the Royse Room, the schoolroom of the old Grammar School from 1563 to 1870. Isocrates' words, *If you love learning, you will be learned*, can be seen behind the musicians' heads. They were carved onto the Library Gallery in 1743, where they remain to this day as a reminder of the Room's history.



Flying the Flag!

The new 750th anniversary flag greeted a BBC television cameraman who visited the School on Founders' Day at the end of last term. He spent the morning filming lessons, interviews and the annual service in St Helen's Church, in which we commemorate our Founders and Benefactors. The fruit of his morning's labours, mixed with footage of a film shot at the School in 1954, was broadcast that evening on *BBC South Today*.



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Abingdon Boys are *Worldwise*

John Morgan, Tim Middleton and Alex Corps showed their excellent knowledge of geography when, for the second year running, Abingdon School won the Oxfordshire heat of the Geography *Worldwise* Quiz. Organised by the Geographical Association, the quiz consisted of questions ranging from an *In the News* round to an *Alphabet* round. Abingdon remained in first place throughout the whole of the five-round competition, fending off strong competition from Radley, St Helen's and a further six schools.



David Attenborough with the winners of the Oxfordshire Science Writing Competition.

An Incredible Journey

Congratulations to Jianghao Zhu, who came first in the 14 - 16 age group of the Oxfordshire Science Writing Competition on the theme *An Incredible Journey*. In this competition, run by Oxford University and *The Oxford Times*, this is the second consecutive year that Abingdon School has won first prize in this age group. Jianghao's winning story, *The Comet Chase*, also won the Editor's prize of one week's work experience on *The Oxford Times*.

European Youth Parliament

Abingdon School has won a place in the national finals of the European Youth Parliament event, to be held in Durham in September, in which teams debate pre-written resolutions on a wide variety of current topics. Chris Lillycrop, Robert Marsh, Alan Beaumont, Will Hall, Alex Hyde, James Wallis, David Rawcliffe and Jason Davison won the Thames Valley heat, the largest of the English regional heats, with debates on such topics as *Renewable Energy Sources* and *Immigration*. Eighteen schools took part in over three days of hard-fought competition.



Easter Tea Party

Guests consumed a splendid feast of sandwiches and cakes at the Community Service tea party on 21 March. In addition, the boys laid on entertainment consisting of music, conjuring tricks and a quiz, all of which ensured there was never a dull moment. On behalf of the guests, Mrs Jean Jones thanked the boys and the staff involved for a most enjoyable afternoon.

Roman Baths

The second-years enjoyed a trip to Bath to visit the famous Roman baths, the best preserved of all the Roman religious spas from the ancient world. The boys, seen here at the Great Bath, were fascinated by the history of the buildings and of the city as a whole.



Cirencester

The Lower School Classics Club visited Prinknash Abbey to see the *Woodchester Mosaic*, a superb reconstruction of the largest Roman mosaic to have been discovered north of the Alps. Members of the Club ate their lunch in the remains of the amphitheatre at Cirencester, and attempted mosaic-making and other ancient skills when they visited the Corinium Museum.



Paris

Paris was the destination for thirteen sixth-formers who spent four days in the French capital city. They enjoyed studying the varied architecture, art and culture, epitomised by such places as Notre Dame, the Louvre, Versailles and the Stade de France. They also acquired an appreciation of the delights of French cuisine!



Bielefeld

A group of sixteen fourth-formers joined forces with girls from St Helen's for the 39th annual exchange to Abingdon's partner school in Germany, the Ratsgymnasium in Bielefeld. As well as spending time with their host families and at the School, the pupils enjoyed many outings and events, especially watching the Bundesliga match between Armenia Bielefeld and Stuttgart.



CCF



Fourth-year CCF cadets endured a survival exercise in freezing conditions in Wiltshire last term. Valuable survival skills were learnt, including how to light a fire naturally, how to prepare a meal from the surrounding fields, how to camouflage yourself without the luxury of cam cream, how to trap animals and how to construct a practical camouflaged shelter. Among some of the morale-lowering exercises were those undertaken as part of a hostage scenario.

Bouncers



A performance of John Godber's comic but thought-provoking play, *Bouncers*, in early February saw the first-ever production in the Amey Theatre Drama Studio. Edward Wilson, Max Hutchinson, Huw Parmenter and Francis Gater played a variety of demanding roles, each depicting the late-night culture of 90s Britain. Directed with energy and flair by Jonathan Barker, *Bouncers* played to full houses on all three nights. By popular demand, a further set of performances is being planned for the end of the Summer term before *Bouncers* travels to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August.

Haydn's Creation

On Sunday 5 March, The Joint Schools' Choral Society gave a spectacular performance of Haydn's oratorio to a large audience in the Sheldonian Theatre. The performers, comprising pupils from St Helen's and Abingdon, together with members of staff and parents, were conducted by Michael Stinton, Director of Music at Abingdon. The orchestra was led by Mariette Richter and the soloists were Lianne-Marie Skrinari, Andrew Yeats and Henry Herford.



Chamber Music

A packed audience in Abingdon's old schoolroom, now the Roysse Room in the Guildhall, enjoyed performances from some of the School's finest chamber musicians at a concert on 8 February. Nine of the musicians that night made up the two chamber music ensembles that won through to the finals of the National Chamber Music Competition on 19 March. David Ridley, Arjun Kingdon, Henry Scarlett, Timothy Barrow and Timothy Chu played the first movement of Dvorak's Piano Quintet in A, whilst Edmund Lo, David Ridley, Clive So, Arjun Kingdon, Henry Scarlett, Matthias Schmidt, Timothy Barrow and Laurie Barrow played the first movement of Mendelssohn's Octet for double string quartet.



Dramatic Talent

Talented fourth-year pupil Rory Copus found himself filming in Los Angeles just before Christmas. Rory plays Dylan, the boyfriend of Michelle Pfeiffer's daughter Izzie (Saoirse Ronan), in the film *I Could Never Be Your Woman*, which will be released later this year.





Road Relay

This year's Road Relay was won by Franklin's, whose upper sixth, lower sixth and third-year teams all took first place. The overall winner was Neil Housby in a time of 8:23 and the runner-up was David Ridley, whose time was 8:45.



Hockey

The 1st XI had a good season, finishing with a 5 – 1 victory over King Edward VI's School, Southampton, which brought their tally to seven victories, one draw and two losses.

1st XV Results

St Edward's	D	3 – 3
Pangbourne	L	0 – 2
Shiplake	W	8 – 1
Dean Close	W	1 – 0
Stowe	W	2 – 0
Merchant Taylors'	L	1 – 2
Bloxham	W	6 – 0
Bradfield	W	4 – 1
MCS	W	1 – 0
KES	W	5 – 1

Cross-Country Champions

Abingdon has two Cross-Country County Champions, U15 Alex Muir and U13 Alistair Duff, who both won individual first place in the County Championships held at Cokethorpe last term. All three Abingdon teams, U19, U15 and U13, took first place at the same event. The U19 and U13 teams were also placed first at their Marlborough and Radley competitions.



Schools' Head

All seven Abingdon crews performed competitively at the Schools' Head of the River on the Tideway on 9 March, with the 1st VIII coming second to Shrewsbury out of 180 crews. The previous day, two J14 quads came 8th and 10th out of 44 crews at Henley. These were strong results for all the crews, especially for the J14s who had begun rowing together only six weeks previously.



Head to Head

Two Abingdon boys, Jamie Copus and Chris Green, came head to head in a County Under 13 hockey match at Wellington College recently. Jamie, who turned 13 in January and lives near Marlow, was representing Berkshire, while Chris, 12, from Abingdon, was playing for Oxfordshire.

Chris was all smiles on the day as not only was he playing on the winning side but he also won Player of the Match. Oxfordshire beat Berkshire 1-0.



The Medieval School

Abingdon is one of a number of English towns to have a school which pre-dates the Norman Conquest - towns like Canterbury, Rochester, York, and Worcester, where the establishment of a cathedral or an abbey went hand in hand with the establishment of a school. King's, Canterbury dates from 597, the year the cathedral was founded; King's, Rochester from the creation of the See in 604; St Peter's, York from the founding of the Minster in 627 and the Royal Grammar School, Worcester from the establishment of the See in 680. Abingdon Abbey was founded in 675 and reformed by Aethelwold in 955. It would have been most unusual if a school had not been established in the town by this later date.

Many of these schools have records documenting their existence: the earliest reference to St Peter's, York dates from 633 whilst Beverley School has a record of its Headmaster in 704. The earliest surviving documented reference to Abingdon School dates from 1256, when the Abbot of Abingdon, John de Blosneville, created an endowment for the support of thirteen poor scholars. However, by the time of this first reference, the School could well have been in existence for at least three hundred years.

There is only circumstantial evidence for the existence of Abingdon School before 1256, this includes an 1100 reference to a man called Richard the Pedagogue (teacher) and the fact that the early rectors of St Nicolas were referred to by the title magister (master). This paucity of information about the School can probably be explained by the fact that in 1327 rioters set fire to the Abbey buildings and in the process destroyed many of its books and records.



© Abingdon Town Council

A section from a 15th century map of Abingdon painted on vellum by a monk from Abingdon Abbey. After the dissolution of the Abbey in 1538 the map was over-painted to show the Abbey, in the top right corner, as a ruin.



St Nicolas' Church and the Abbey gateway in 1803. During the 12th and 13th centuries it is thought that the School was housed in the Church itself but by 1372 it was known to have been located in a separate building to the north of St Nicolas'.



These illustrations of 14th and an idea of what it would have School during these years.

The Medieval School



By 1372 a legal document, concerned with a dispute between the parishes of St Nicolas' and St Helen's, places the School to the east of *Stert Street*, between the open *Stert Stream* and the Abbey wall. This document, by referring to the *Master of Abingdon Grammar School and his servants and all the scholars living with him and also in the house of a certain Dionysia Mundy*, provides us with evidence that by 1372 the School was a flourishing institution with two boarding houses. Dionysia Mundy was still running her boarding house in 1412 but by 1450 Dionysia Iremonger had taken over.

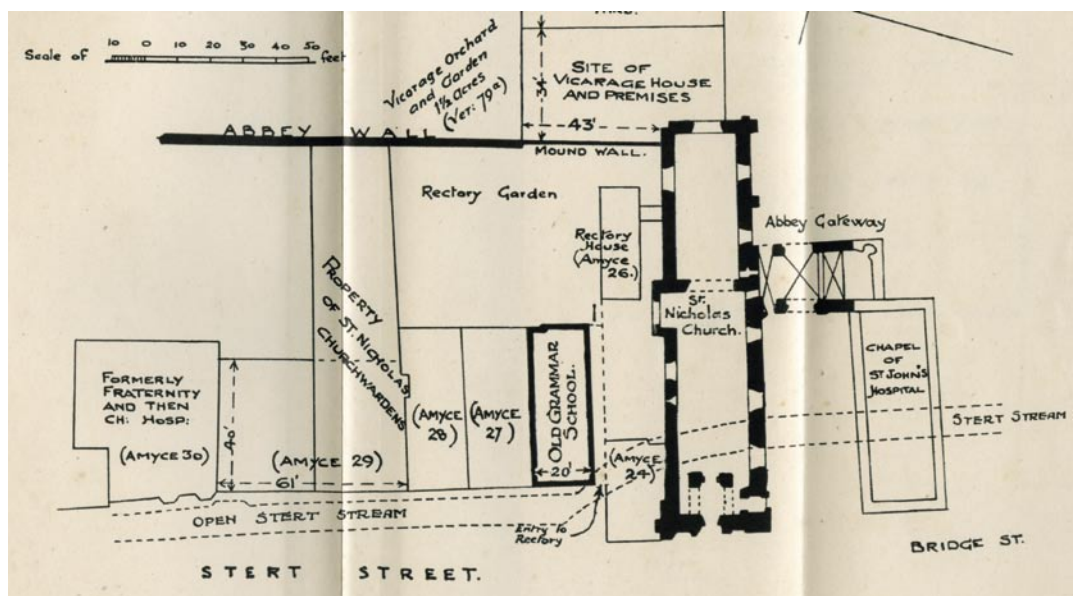
In February 1538 the Abbot of Abingdon surrendered the Abbey to the King, removing at a stroke the centuries-old endowments that had supported the School and the Abbey officials whose sons' fees had provided it with an income. After at least five hundred years, Abingdon's medieval grammar school faced an uncertain future, which was only alleviated when John Roysse was persuaded to re-endow it in 1563.



John Roysse, a wealthy London Mercer, had been educated at the medieval grammar school. In 1563 he endowed the School with property in the City of London and gave £50 towards the building of a new schoolroom.



15th century grammar schools give been like at Abingdon Grammar



Sketch map showing the location of the medieval grammar school. *The Church and Parish of St Nicholas, Abingdon* Arthur E Preston 1929.

The Abingdon School Society - TASS



Go on - make a difference!

All Abingdon parents are automatically members of TASS (The Abingdon School Society), a parent-body which supports the School's aim of educating boys in as full a sense as possible and raises money for Other Half activities and travel awards.

The committee is composed of parents and staff and there's always room for any parent who would like to join.

Ten Reasons to Join TASS

- Make new friends- we all have something in common - our sons' welfare and education - and you'll meet people across the year-groups.
- Help out at SUS (School Uniform Shop), which has the added bonus of helping you find items of your son's lost clothing.
- Get that feel-good factor from knowing that you are supporting a good cause.
- Get access to events that you otherwise might never attend and hear of events before they are published.
- Become acquainted with the inner workings of the School.
- Set your son a good example – do some voluntary work.
- A vigorous parent-body plays a valuable part in the running of a school – get a say in TASS decisions
- Membership of the committee is fun - we hold only three meetings a year at which we consume wine and sandwiches.
- TASS provides a forum for your own fund-raising initiatives and an opportunity for airing your suggestions.
- Show your son that you care about his School.



7th TASS Burns Night Supper

*To give them music was his charge:
He screw'd the pipes and gart them skirl,
Till roof and rafters a' did dirl.
Tam O' Shanter*

The elegant chambers of Oxford Town Hall reverberated to the sound of bagpipes as TASS celebrated Burns Night in magnificent style with champagne, haggis, tatties and neaps, songs, eloquent speeches and dancing.

Rose Gill writes: On behalf of TASS, I would like to thank everyone who helped make the evening such a wonderful success: Philip Hatzis for the essential bagpipes; Moira Brodie for the *Selkirk Grace*; her husband Ian for his *Address to the Haggis*; MC Andrew Hall for keeping us to schedule; the Headmaster for his Loyal Toast; Henry Kirk for his *Immortal Memory*; Mike Martin for his highly amusing *Toast to the Lassies* and finally the organizers who not only laid on a superb evening but were brave enough to sing the *Reply from the Ladies*.

*A last request permit me here, -
When yearly ye assemble a',
One round, I ask it with a tear,
To him, the Bard that's far awa'.
A Farewell*

The event raised over £1300 for TASS funds.

Christmas cards 2006!

Yes, we know it's only April but in preparation for all those who buy their Christmas cards in the summer we have started the ball rolling by asking your sons if they would like to enter a competition to design the official school Christmas card for 2006.

A panel of judges, including the Headmaster, Mr Nairne and two members of the TASS Committee, will decide the winning entry, which will attract the handsome prize of £100.

Closing date is 5 June so urge your sons to pick up their paintbrushes!

How we spend the money – the TASS Development Awards for 2006

TASS's main aim is to raise money to support other half Activities. Spring is the time when the Committee chooses which causes to support and this year the following have been selected:

- Woodturning – purchase of materials and specialist equipment: £300
- Squash Club – squash coaching: £500
- Kayak Club – trip to Norway: £500
- Service and Citizenship – music stands: £427.24
- Cricket Club – coaching (Henry Olonga): £500
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme – tents and converters: £750
- Sailing Club – courses, coaching and exam fees: £500

TOTAL = £3,477.24

Forthcoming events to which everyone is warmly invited.

23 June

Jazz on a Summer's Night

A concert by OA jazz stars, with champagne and strawberries by TASS.

1 July

Griffen Ball

7.30 for 8 pm Carriages 1 am
Tickets: Adult £55
Upper VI and Staff £40

Pink-fizz reception, dinner to include the new dessert 'Abingdon Glory', live entertainment – casino, magicians, dodgems and fireworks, jazz band, 'live' music and disco.

To buy a ticket, sponsor an event, advertise in the programme or donate a unique raffle prize, visit the Griffen Ball tab on www.abingdon.org.uk.

Tickets also available from tr.halls@googlemail.com

Anthony Slinn

Anthony Slinn, the internationally renowned art critic and commentator visited our Year 3 children in January to present the work of three Impressionists. The information and discussion points he raised with the pupils have formed an excellent basis on which they have produced some inspired work. It is always a pleasure to have such a well informed speaker at school.



Cross Country

The inter-house cross country event which takes place annually was again a very competitive affair. The Bull brothers dominated the event with Will winning the U9 event and older sibling Josh taking the honours in the U13 event.

Roves Farm



The Pre-prep 'hands on' trip to Roves Farm was enjoyed by Years R, 1 and 2.

Science Day



Josca's scientists fared well during the Year 6 Abingdon School Science Day.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



Josca's Preparatory School performed *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* as part of the School's 50th anniversary celebrations. The production took place in the Amey Theatre in February 2006 and involved a cast of over one hundred boys, with the three leads being of exceptional ability. Willy Wonka was played by Charlie Beirouti with fine precision and poise. The affable Grandpa Joe was given convincing character and colour by George Glister and the experience of Tommy Siman was always evident in his excellent all-round portrayal of Charlie Bucket. Many congratulations to all who were involved in this ambitious school production.

Misericordias Domini in Aeternum Cantabo

As a school motto, Abingdon's has its problems. *Ingrederet ut Proficias: Go in to get on*, found over the entrance into Big School, or Isocrates' *If you love learning, you will be learned*, carved onto the Library Gallery in the old schoolroom, could both seem more appropriate. *Misericordias domini in aeternum cantabo: I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever*, the opening of Psalm 89, doesn't appear to have much to do with education.

But perhaps the purpose of education isn't just 'to get on' or become 'learned', but rather to learn to appreciate the wonders of the universe and retain a sense of awe and respect when regarding them.

The motto made its first appearance in 1763 when Henry Bright, Headmaster from 1758 to 1774, presented the School with a painted wooden board to mark the bicentenary of John Roysse's re-endowment. The board, now in the Headmaster's study, displays the motto below Roysse's arms impaled with those of Bright's wife. The motto appears on a memorial to John Kent, a 15th century Winchester scholar, which Bright, who was educated at Winchester, would have been familiar with from his own schooldays.



The memorial to John Kent



The painted board, now in the Headmaster's study, on which the School's motto first made its appearance in 1763



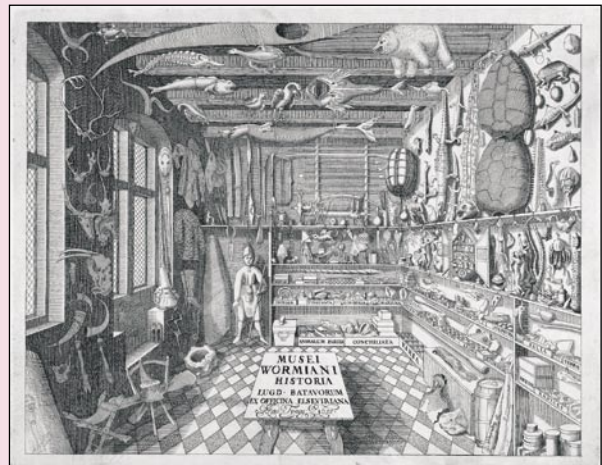
Thomas Tesdale

The Pembroke Connection

In 1610 Thomas Tesdale (OA 1565) bequeathed £5,000 to enable Abingdon boys to receive an education at the University of Oxford. Thirteen years later, Richard Wightwick, Rector of East Ilsley, offered to augment this bequest. These two endowments were manipulated by the then Headmaster, Thomas Godwyn, to create a new college, named after the Chancellor of the University, William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke. Pembroke College came into being on 29 June 1624 for the purpose of receiving ten Fellows and ten Scholars, all of whom were to have been educated at Abingdon School. On 29 June, a reception at Pembroke will celebrate the 382nd anniversary of the founding of the College. The evening will open with a lecture in the College Chapel given by Michael St John Parker, former Headmaster, on *A Disputed Inheritance: a History of the Pembroke-Abingdon Connection*.

Tickets: £12.50 (wine and canapés) All welcome

Available from the Headmaster's Office 01235 849001 hm.sec@abingdon.org.uk



The OA and the Dodo

William Huddesford (OA 1749) was a highly regarded Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, credited with rescuing it from almost certain closure. As part of his reforms he took full advantage of the Visitors' permission 'to remove the decay'd and trifling things', and was thus responsible for throwing out the Museum's two rotting dodos.

On 11 May, Dr Arthur MacGregor, Assistant Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, will give a lecture on Huddesford in the Museum of the History of Science, the original Ashmolean building. Not only will he talk about Huddesford's rescue of the Museum but also about the Museum itself, which at that time was displaying an unclassified mixture of natural and cultural objects that put a rare sea-shell beside the wing of a phoenix!

William Huddesford and the Rescue from Oblivion of the 18th Century Ashmolean.

Dr Arthur MacGregor

Museum of the History of Science, Broad Street, Oxford
7 pm, All welcome, Admission free

The Museum will remain open after the lecture so that guests can visit the galleries where exhibits from Tradescant's Cabinet of Curiosities will be on display as they were in Huddesford's day.

Hugh Randolph 1936-2006

It is with great sadness that the Club announces the death of Hugh Randolph. Hugh passed away very peacefully on 20 February at the age of 69. He will be sorely missed by many of us. He was a great support to me personally – always cheerful, kind and willing to help with the everyday running of the Club. He had a phenomenal memory for names and an encyclopaedic knowledge of old boys, historical facts and traditions of the School as well as the Club. For me, it is the end of an era. *Marilena Kaye*

A copy of the Michael St John Parker's address is available from the office or the website.

OA City Lunch

Matthias Bader's 1st City Lunch took place on Friday 17th February in the East India Club and was attended by a record 35 OAs! From 1966: Nigel Taylor; 1972: Noel Crosse; 1975: Simon Hills, Andrew Jackson; 1976: Gareth Morris; 1978: Robin Joy, Russell Taylor; 1980: Phil Paddon; 1982: Julius Green; 1987: Dominic Cunliffe; 1988: Duncan Buck; 1989: Jonathan Crick, Tony Edwards, Guy Peddy; 1990: Barry Marnane; 1991: Ben Williams; 1992: Alistair Abbott, Nicholas Myatt, Richard Stone; 1995: Chris Upham; 1996: Peter Rutland; 1997: James Peterson, Jack Whibley; 1998: Hans Allnutt, Euan MacDonald, Chris Stockford; 1999: Matthias Bader, Adam Benson, Josh Morse, Harry Ronaldson, Simon Rutland, Howard Watkinson, Adam White; 2000: Ben Ashworth, Robert Rothkopf.

If you are not currently on the City Lunch list and would like to receive notice of the next one, please contact Matthias: matthias.bader@hawkpoint.com. There has been a suggestion of arranging a Dinner too! Let us know what you think.

2006 Alligators Cricket Fixtures:

Sunday 2 July: v Downside Wanderers
War Memorial Field, 11.30 am

Friday 7 July: v Lord's Taverners
War Memorial Field, 2 pm

Saturday 8 July: v HM's XI
Upper Field, 2.30 pm

Monday 10 July: v Old Whitgiftians
War Memorial Field, 11.30 am

Sunday 16 July: v Radley Rangers
Radley College, 11.30 am

Contact: john.bunce@anite.com or Club Office

OA Weekend 2006 7th to 10th July

President's Dinner

Saturday 8 July

The Lord's Taverners Match, which takes place on Friday 7 July, will launch the 2006 OA Weekend. There will be a further two cricket matches on Saturday 8 July and Monday 10 July as well. The highlight of the Weekend is this year's 750th Anniversary President's Dinner on Saturday evening. Julius Green (1982) will be hosting an exciting evening, which will begin with drinks in the Foyer of the Amey Theatre, followed by Dinner in the School Dining Hall. The evening will end in the Pembroke Room. Tickets for the dinner will be £30 per person (includes wine). Accommodation will be available in School House with a full cooked breakfast on Sunday. We hope you will take this opportunity to organise a reunion of your year group and book a table. We will be seating people with their contemporaries, so individual bookings are also very welcome! The Club Office is very happy to help with contact details for your contemporaries.

OA 1960's Club Event

Sunday 1 October 2006

Richard Bampton (1961) is looking forward to welcoming all those who attended last year's event (and more!) on 1 October to Old Warden Park in Bedfordshire for lunch and then to enjoy the air display in the afternoon. Gates open at 9 am (for the keen ones!). Richard is hoping to organise reserved parking for OAs. Partners are welcome. For more details, contact: angelarichard@hotmail.com or the Club office.

Lost Members of the Club

Derek Button, 1968; Jeremy Cave, 1995; George Dodd, 1991; Stuart Gould, 1992; Timothy Howard, 1983; Nicholas Jefferson, 1974; John McCullough, 2000; Christopher McGarry, 1996; Benjamin Moss, 1995; Roger Parsons, 1963; Richard Percival, 1996; Alastair Ross, 1991; Abdulrasheed Sagaya, 1999; William Seddon, 1996 and James Waldron, 1999.

Deaths

David J Meakins (1958), Anthony E Reeve (1948), David C S Rendall (Retired School Doctor) and Hugh Randolph (Former Member of Common Room 1963-93, Honorary Member)

Send us your favourite OA photos!

The Club is keen on gathering photos of OAs getting together so please send us yours! Like this one of Andrew Sweeting, Paul Lamaison, Nick Myatt and Richard Stone (all 1992) taken at Nick's wedding last September.



Professional Development Awards

These awards are designed to further an individual's development at any stage in his career. OAs are now able to apply for these awards throughout the year. Forms are available on the website or from the Office.

Open Day

Saturday 30 September

All OAs are invited to visit the School on its Open Day on 30 September, and especially to attend the OA Club AGM which begins at 11.00 am.

We hope to continue seeing as many of you as possible at the various events marking the 750th anniversary of the School!

If you have any news, or would simply like to make contact, the OA Office details are:

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The Old Abingdonian Club,
Abingdon School, Abingdon, OX14 1DE

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Fax: +44 (0)1235 529517

Email: administrator@oaclub.org.uk

Hugh Randolph 1936 – 2006

Following the brief announcement in the last issue of the Abingdon News to say that, owing to ill health, Hugh had resigned as Membership Secretary of the OA Club and as Editor of *Griffen*, it is hard to believe that we are now announcing his death. Following a rapid decline, Hugh died on 20 February from a rare form of vasculitis.

Born in Calcutta in 1936, Hugh grew up in Hampshire and at the age of eight won a Choral Scholarship to the Pilgrims' School, Winchester. He went on to Marlborough and then to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge to read Classics and Ancient History. His first teaching post was at King Edward VI School, Southampton. In 1963 he was appointed as classics master to Abingdon, where he stayed until he retired in 1993.

'Retired' is an inaccurate word to describe Hugh after 1993, since his programme of visiting and his attendance at events multiplied to the point at which they represented a full-time job, not to mention the hours and hours he dedicated to parish work at St Michael's.

There isn't a day that goes by that we who knew him don't lament his loss, for not only was he a great friend but also the fount of all knowledge on so many subjects, including the School, OAs and grammar!

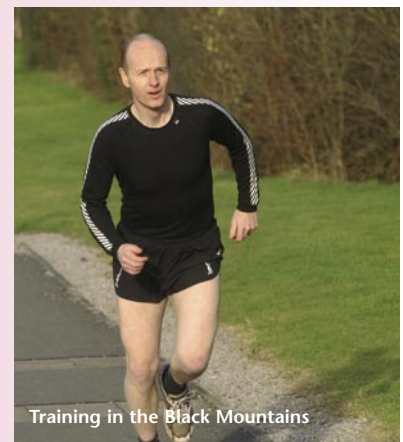


All Quiet on the Western Front

This year's Linbury Biennial Prize for Stage Design has been awarded to Philip Brunner (OA 1995). Philip originally studied architecture at Glasgow School of Art before completing a BA in Design for Performance at Central St Martin's. The Prize was awarded for Philip's designs for a production of *All Quiet on the Western Front* at the Nottingham Playhouse. A proficient set builder, Philip has recently worked as Technical Stage Manager for a touring production of Howard Barker's *The Fence in its Thousandth Year*.

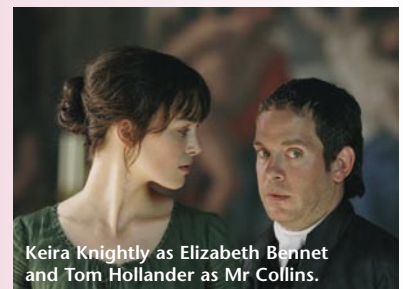


Everest Marathon



In just a couple of weeks, Tom Perkins (OA 1989) will take part in the Everest Marathon, a full distance marathon run at very high altitude in the Nepalese Himalayas. Tom, who is a serving officer in The Royal Scots, is aiming to raise money for *The Army Benevolent Society*, a Charity which supports badly injured soldiers, former soldiers and their families. If you would like to help sponsor Tom, please visit his website: www.justgiving.com/tomperkins.

Tom Hollander Wins Critics' Award



Tom Hollander (OA 1984) has won the 2006 London Critics' British Supporting Actor of the Year Award for his performance as Mr Collins in *Pride and Prejudice*. Tom will appear as Lord Cutler Becket in the forthcoming *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* and is currently filming *Pirates of the Caribbean 3*.