



THANKS a MILLION!

'A million by March' was our aim in January and with your help we've done it! In fact, we have raised more than a million and at the time of going to press the total is £1,325,000. This total includes a major grant from the Mercers' Company and a major donation from the Yang family, after who the Science Centre will be named. We should like to say a great big thank you to everyone who has contributed.

At the ground-breaking ceremony on 27 March twenty spades, adorned in Abingdon coloured ribbons, were taken up enthusiastically by representatives from all sections of the donor community who dug a 5m x 5m replica of the floor plan. Building is now underway and the Yang Science Centre is on course to open in September 2015. ■

To read more about the Appeal and how you can make your own contribution see pages 8 and 9.

Morning Rhapsody



In a complete break from the normal timetable Head's assembly on 5 February was extended to enable boys and staff to hear a superb performance of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* performed by First Orchestra with soloist Sebastian Johns. What a way to start the day! ■



02

News



06

Arts



08

Sport



14

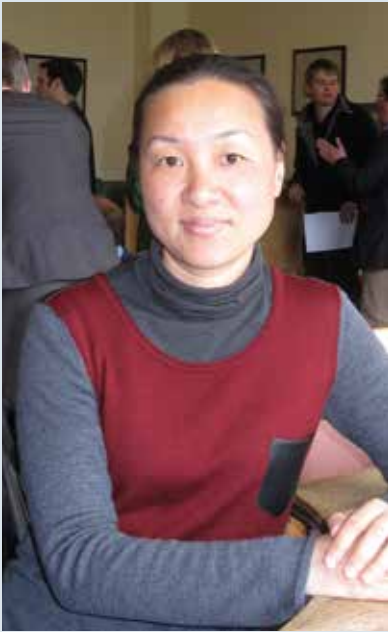
Prep



18

OA Club





Staff Profile: Bishan Huang

This year's Chinese assistant, Bishan Huang, comes from Xiashan, near Zhanjiang in Guang Dong Province, where she lives with her husband and nine-year-old daughter and teaches English at the local sixth-form college.

Having never been abroad before, although she has travelled widely in China, Bishan thought the time had come to learn more about the country whose language she has been studying and teaching for so many years. And she wanted to come to England, rather than go to Australia, Canada or the US, because it is the cultural heart of this language.

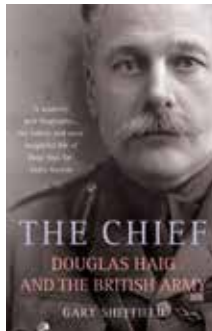
The experience has not only been fascinating in terms of the places she has visited but it has been instructive too. Our extensive use of computers both in the classroom and to communicate with staff, parents and boys is very different from her Chinese school ... as are the boys themselves. She finds them much more independent, always asking questions and wanting to know 'why'. When she returns to China she says that she is going to encourage her pupils to ask questions as she very much likes this evidence of independent thinking. ■



First World War Centenary Lecture

The First World War: Myths and Realities

Gary Sheffield, Professor of War Studies at the University of Wolverhampton, one of Britain's foremost historians of the First World War and author of a number of significant books including *The Chief: Douglas Haig and the British Army* and *Forgotten Victory: The First World War, Myths and Realities*, will deliver Abingdon School's First World War Centenary Lecture on:



Thursday 20 November 2014
7.30 pm Amey Theatre, Abingdon School
All pupils, parents and OAs are warmly invited to attend.
Admission free

Abingdon School Hymnbook

The Chapel is now graced with a new hymnbook, a special collection of all the best-known and best-loved hymns, which have been chosen by past and present pupils and staff, and paid for by donations from the same quarter. The Abingdon School Hymnbook, published with both cerise and grey covers, replaces the old *Hymns Ancient and Modern* and contains hymns that are both ancient and modern! ■

Summer Term Lectures

Thursday 24 April

Chemistry Lecture: Developments in Chemistry and Medicine

Dr Nick Barker, Department of Chemistry, the University of Warwick
4 pm: CMR

Thursday 1 May

Royse Society Lecture:
Why Study the Humanities?

Professor AC Grayling, Master of New College of Humanities, London
6.30 pm: CMR

Friday 2 May

Edmund Society Lecture:
Ludwig Wittgenstein

Dr Stephen Mulhall, Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, New College, Oxford
4 pm: Hospitality Suite

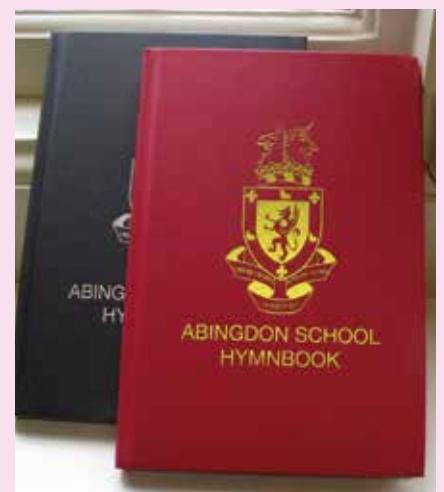
Geography Society Talk

Professor Ian Goldin, Professor of Globalisation and Development and Director of the Oxford Martin School at the University of Oxford
4 pm: Westridge Room

Wednesday 4 June

Geography Society Talk

James Fry, Agricultural Policy Advisor
4 pm: Westridge Room



Robes for the Chapel Choir



The Chapel Choir were able to wear their new, specially commissioned robes for the first time at an Ash Wednesday service in St Helen's church on 5 March, when they sang William Byrd's *Mass in Four Parts* and Victoria's penitential *Miserere* in front of a very appreciative congregation.

Keith Hasnip Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service for Keith Hasnip, Common Room 1954 – 1994, who died in December, on Saturday 21 June 2014 at 10.30 am in the School Chapel.

Tea and coffee will be served in the Amey Theatre foyer after the service. If you would like to attend please let Alison Lester know so that we can get an idea of numbers. ■

alison.lester@abingdon.org.uk
01235 849098



Staff Profile: Matt O'Neill

Matt has been the School's art technician for the past five years. During this time he has seen a considerable change in his job. Once he just helped teachers to achieve their lessons by getting the materials ready, now, with the increasing use of iPads, he gives a lot of technical assistance. He also has a lot more to do generally now that the School has, among other things, expanded the teaching of pottery. However, he likes the variety and enjoys the fact that no two days are the same.

Born and brought up in Abingdon, Matt studied graphic design at university. He has recently become an avid runner and cyclist, enjoying in particular long cycling events. Last half term he took part in the Reading half marathon with a team from the School, which raised over £8,000 for CLIC, the leading children's cancer charity. ■



John Rayson Award



John Rayson, OA 1942, gave a life-time of service to Abingdon School as pupil, parent and Governor. He also served his country as a member of the Army Airborne Division, which successfully piloted troop-carrying gliders across the River Rhine in March 1945.

An award, carrying the value of £500, has been instituted in his memory and all current pupils of Abingdon School are eligible to apply, although preference will be given to sixth-formers.

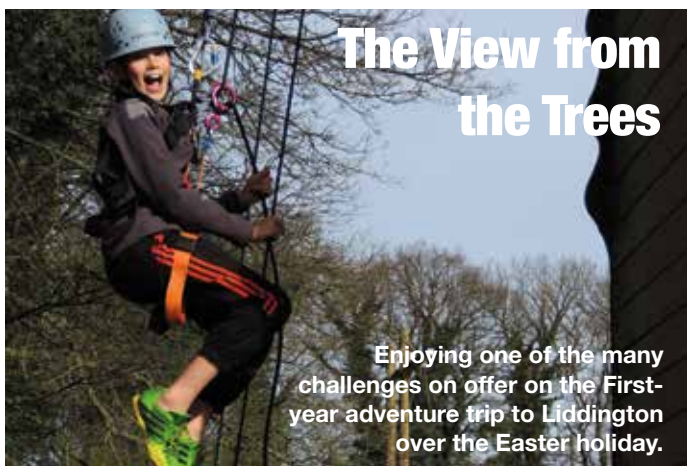
The aim of the award is to help fund a personal project / experience that will embody the defining characteristics of John Rayson himself – courage, resilience and adventure, in combination with loyalty, service and commitment. ■

Applications for the award should be submitted to the Old Abingdonian Club no later than 1 May every year. To request an application form, please apply to the Club:
oa.club@abingdon.org.uk



The team from the school who ran the Reading half marathon raising £8,000 for CLIC

Experiencing the Past, Present and Future on School trips last term



Midnight in the Library

The venue was familiar – the School Library – even if the event was not – a sleepover to mark World Book Day on 7 March. And this was not just any old sleepover but a spooky sleepover with ghost stories by torchlight before hot chocolate and lights out. ■



Approximately 60,000 students apply for a place on the Robertson Scholars Leadership Programme but only 36 are chosen. One of those chosen this year was Henrik Cox. The scholarship offers unprecedented benefits, which include all college costs at Duke University, North Carolina, and full funding for three summers of global travel. The scholarship programme invests in young leaders with the aim of helping them become thoughtful, creative, lifelong contributors to society. ■

Freezing Dawn in the Great Outdoors



It was a cold awakening for the eight boys training for their Gold DofE Award who camped out in sub-zero temperatures in January. But it was all good experience in navigation and camp craft. ■

Hands-on Physics

The School's scientists drew the Market Square crowds on 22 March when they took part in Abingdon's ATOM Science Festival with their demonstrations of hands-on physics activities. The biggest crowd pleaser was the wave machine made from duct tape, kebab sticks and Jelly Babies. ■



Chess Championships

Having won the Zone Finals of the National Schools Chess Championships, beating Radley and MCS along the way, Abingdon's team put in a strong performance against King Edward's, Birmingham at the National Finals on 19 March. King Edward's with their strong chess tradition emerged the winners but the Abingdon team put in a very creditable performance. ■



YE County Finalists

An innovative bird box made by Terra, one of Abingdon's Young Enterprise companies, won two of the four top prizes at the Oxfordshire-Cowley YE Trade Fair on 25 January and then went on to win the South Oxfordshire and Vale area finals on 24 March. Next stop the county finals at the Said Business School in May. ■



Guys and Dolls



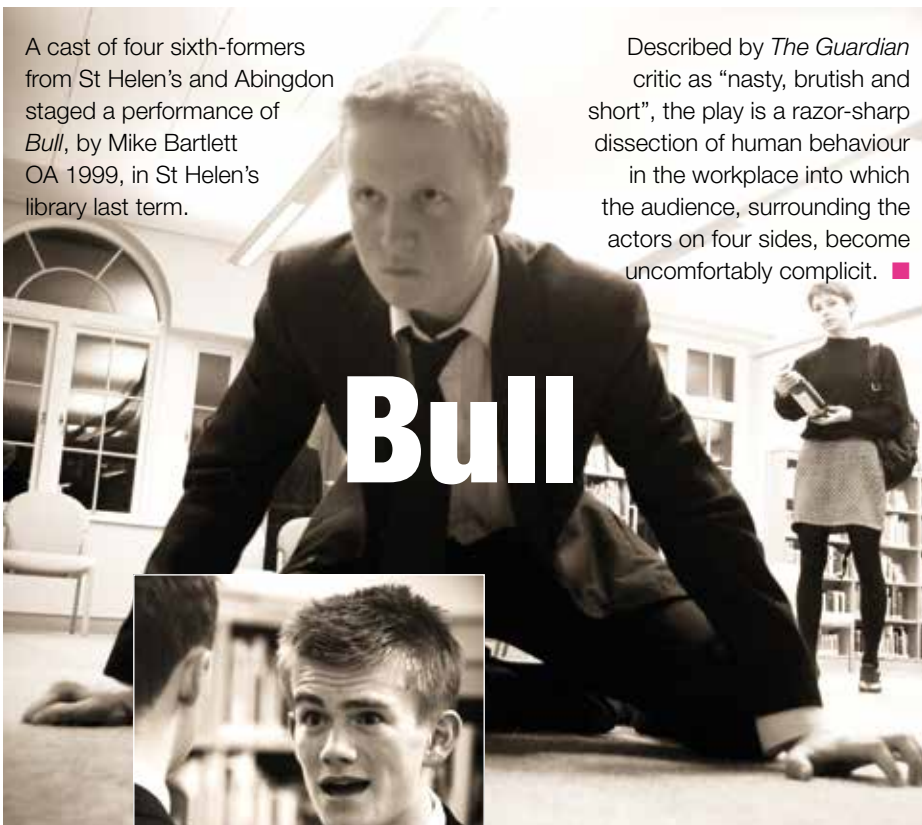
The élan and joie de vivre of this classic fifties' musical was perfectly captured by the cast of 57 pupils from St Helen's and Abingdon in its three sell-out performances in St Helen's Yolande Patterson Hall last February. ■



A cast of four sixth-formers from St Helen's and Abingdon staged a performance of *Bull*, by Mike Bartlett OA 1999, in St Helen's library last term.

Described by *The Guardian* critic as "nasty, brutish and short", the play is a razor-sharp dissection of human behaviour in the workplace into which the audience, surrounding the actors on four sides, become uncomfortably complicit. ■

Bull



News from the AFU

The School made its first music video last term, directed by Robert O'Kelly and Tanishq Sabharwal it featured the Abingdon band *The Doss*.

In another first for the AFU, John Cheung and Rattanan Wonghirundacha are making the first fiction video to be shot on location at the School. Called *Blindside*, they hope to finish it in time for the AFU screenings, which this year will take place in the Michaelmas term. ■



Biggles Flies a Fokker Home



The Third years donned Second World War uniforms, and at one point lederhosen, in this wonderful spoof of a classic Biggles' story, which saw them outwit Oberführer von Spinechiller and steal the prototype of a top-secret Fokker AKE fighter plane. ■

A Talent of Musicians!

Is there such a collective noun? If not there should be so as to be able to describe Abingdon's current crop of musicians, some of whom can be seen in these images from last term's New Year's Concert at the end of January. The term was further enhanced by a workshop for chamber musicians from the world renowned Chillingirian Quartet, who also gave a concert at the School, and a masterclass from the concert pianist Ben Schoeman. A performance of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* in Head's Assembly on 5 February allowed the whole school community to appreciate all this talent. ■

Inspiration from Nature



The shapes and colours of plant life in the rainforests provided inspiration for sixth-form artists when they visited the Living Rain Forest at Newbury in February. ■



Summer Term Arts Calendar

Friday 2 May

Summer Concert
7 pm: Amey Theatre
Tickets: £6, £4 (concessions), £16 family

Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 May

Lower School Drama Production
Who You Gonna Call?
7 pm: Amey Theatre
Admission free

Wednesday 21 May

Junior Music Scholars Concert
7 pm: Amey Theatre
Admission free

Thursday 22 May

GCSE Art Exhibition
5-7 pm: Amey Theatre
Admission free

Wednesday 25 June

Lower School Gala Concert
7 pm: Amey Theatre
Admission free

Friday 27 June

Jazz on a Summer Evening
7 pm: Amey Theatre
Tickets: £6, £4 (concessions), £16 family

Wednesday 2 July

Pre-Music Tour Concert
7 pm: Amey Theatre
Tickets: £6, £4 (concessions), £16 family

Road Relay



The 46th annual Road Relay on 17 March saw a record entry of 600 runners in 150 teams. Christodoulou's Lower 6th group won the race in a time of 35 minutes 36 seconds; Christian von Eitzen recorded the fastest time, 7 minutes 46 seconds but first across the line was the two-man team of Alex Gatenby and Guy Screaton in a time of 35 minutes 16 seconds. However, as only a two-man team they couldn't qualify as winners. ■

A summary of the results can be found by following the link on this page: www.abingdon.org.uk/road_relay_results_2014

Hockey

The full results of all the teams can be found here: www.abingdon.org.uk/hockey_lent_2014



Hockey's excellent term was epitomised by the 1st XI who had 11 wins and one draw. Out of 14 fixtures they only lost to Bradfield College and Marlborough. ■

A Round-Up of Sport from the Lent Term

The full results of all the teams can be found here: www.abingdon.org.uk/cross_country_lent_2014/



The photograph shows Abingdon's senior and intermediate cross-country teams who won the County Championships last term and regularly won silver and gold in their competitions. ■

Cross Country



Golf

Abingdon's golfers are the Independent Schools Golf Association regional champions following their win over Cheltenham College at Burford on 5 March. The final will be held at Carnoustie in Scotland at the end of April. ■

Swimming



A very successful season for the Swimming Club culminated in wins for the U18s in both the 4 x 50m Medley Relay and the 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay at the Bromsgrove Invitational Relays on 11 March. The U15s showed their promise by coming 4th in both these U15 events. ■



Boat Club

Conditions on the river prevented the rowers using it until the last three weeks of term. Nevertheless, at the delayed Schools' Head of the River on 26 March Abingdon's 1st VIII came 5th overall out of the 302 competing crews. The 2nd VIII, 6th in their section, were 38th overall, and the J16A, 11th in theirs, were 51st overall. ■

OAs in National Squads

Ben Bryant, OA 2012, now in his second year at Southampton University reading Mechanical Engineering, is captain of the University Rifle Club and has just been appointed captain of the GB Junior Target Rifle Squad for 2014.

Chris Newman, OA 2008, represented England in the EuroHockey Indoor Championships in Vienna last January. ■



Fencing

A very successful term for Abingdon's fencers saw them return from the Southern Region Age Group Competition, a qualifying round for the British Youth Championship, with seven medals, two of them gold – Greg Davies and Ben Schneider in the U14 and U16 Boys' Epee. At the Public Schools Fencing Championship both Rob MacLennan and Herman Chan won silver medals. ■



Chris Newman



Basketball

Abingdon's newly formed basketball team took on MCS and won 44-34 in their first match on 3 March. ■



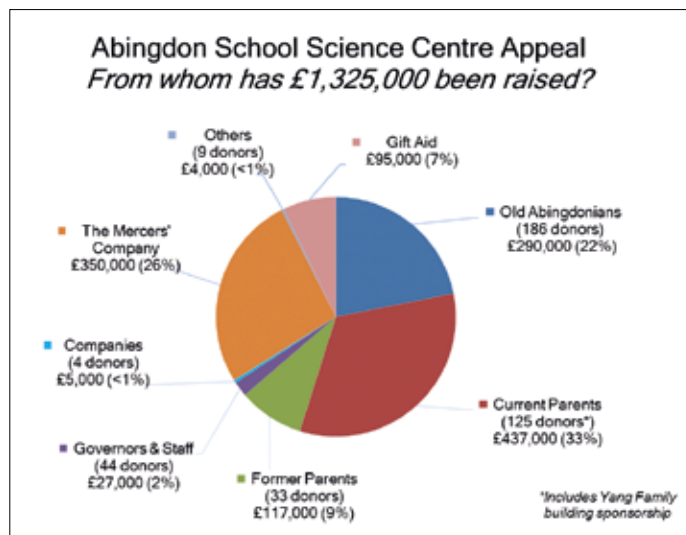
Ben Bryant

Thanks a million... and more!

£1,325,000 raised for Abingdon School Science Centre

In just 12 months, donations from more than 400 Old Abingdonians, current and former parents, and governors and staff, coupled with a major grant from The Mercers' Company and a major gift from the Yang Family, have enabled Abingdon School to raise £1,325,000 for a new Science Centre, to be called the Yang Science Centre.

With the fundraising Appeal completed, on 27 March, boys, parents, staff, governors and donors, with spades in hand, marked the laying down of the new building's foundations. The group, which represented all aspects of the School Community, dug a 5m x 5m replica of a floor plan that had been spray painted into the turf. Construction has now begun, and the Yang Science Centre is scheduled to open for the start of the school year in September 2015.



Abingdon School would like to thank all those who have supported this vital fundraising Appeal:

Anonymous donors (85)
 Abingdon School Parents Association
 Mr Peter K. Ablewhite (OA 1968)
 Mrs Jacqueline M.G. Adams
 Mrs Sara K. Adamson
 Mr John Aguilar (OA 1980)
 Mr Paul Allen (OA 1988)
 Mr and Mrs Richard Ampleford
 Mr David Andrews CBE (OA 1952)
 Mr and Mrs David Andrews
 Mr Mark Andrews Q.C. (OA 1978)
 Mr David Anning
 Mr Stuart Asbury

Professor Brian Avery (OA 1965)
 Patricia and Tom Ayling
 Dr Oliver Bagshaw (OA 1979)
 Roger and Ruth Baker
 Mr Fred Barnes (OA 1967)
 Mr George Barrett (OA 1946)
 Ian, Kathy, and Jonathan (OA 2010) Barrow
 Mr William Beaton (OA 1936)
 Mr and Mrs Rupert Beazley
 Mr Michael Bett (OA 1961)
 William, Thomas and Jonathan Bibby and family
 Mr Sandy Black (OA 1981)
 Mr and Mrs Simon Blackwell
 Mr David Blomley (OA 1976)
 Mr Kingsmill Bond (OA 1985) and the Bond Family
 Mr Peter F. Booth (OA 1960)
 Dr Peter V. Bosley (OA 1966)
 Mr Chris Bovey (OA 1970)
 Dr Humphrey Bowen (OA 1957)
 Mrs Margaret Bowkett



Mr Richard Bradley
 Mr Philip Braithwaite
 Mr and Mrs Neville Brampton
 Dr Jeremy Breckon (OA 1977)
 British Schools and Universities Foundation
 Mr Adam R. Brodie (OA 2001)
 Mr Nicholas D. Brodie (OA 2004)
 Mr Bryan Brown
 Mr Anthony J. Brown
 Mr Chris Browne (OA 2000)
 Dr Deborah Fahy Bryceson
 Professor Timothy D.H. Bugg (OA 1983)
 Mr John Bunce (OA 1962)
 Professor Kathy Burk
 Mr Adrian Burn (OA 1963)
 Mr Roger Burrige (OA 1963)
 Dr Tim J.A. Butler (OA 2000)
 Dr Ian Bye (OA 1979)





Mr Philip Candy (OA 1957)
 Mr Aubrey Capel (OA 1975)
 Mr Neil Carson (OA 1994)
 Mr and Mrs Neil Chadder
 Mr Martin Chambers (OA 1958)
 Mr and Mrs Simon Chambers
 Mrs Adelina Chan
 Michael and Jane Chang
 Miss Penny Chapman
 Ms Jun Chen
 The Chessell Family
 Mr and Mrs Thomas Chow
 Mr Daniel Chung
 Mr Jonathan Clarke (OA 1975)
 Matthew and Melissa Clarke
 Dr Steve Connor (OA 1987)
 Dr Robert Cork (OA 2000)
 Mr Christopher Coupland (OA 1985)
 Mr Robert Coupland (OA 1987)
 Mr John Cowling (OA 1944)
 Mr and Mrs Alistair Cox
 Miss Jane Cranston
 Mr Kenneth G. Cuthbert (OA 1969)
 Dr, Mrs & A. Czaplewski
 Professor Owen Darbishire
 Mr John Davies (OA 1937)
 Mr David Dawswell
 Dr David Day
 Mr Simon de Jongh
 Mr and Mrs Mark Dearden
 Mr Tom Denniford (OA 1958)
 Mr Rodney Deval (OA 1945)
 Mr and Mrs Christopher Dickson
 Mr Hugh Doherty (OA 1979)
 Mr Peter J. Downer (OA 1953)
 Mr Jeff Drummond-Hay

Dr Leo Dudin
 Mr Vitaly A. Dyakonov
 Mr Mark Earnshaw
 Mr Jonathan Eccles (OA 1988)
 Mr Tony Edwards (OA 1962)
 Dr Paul Evans (OA 1975)
 Mr David J. Faires (OA 1967)
 Farrar Foundation
 Mr and Mrs John Farrow
 Mike and Alison Farwell
 Dr Louise Fearfield
 Mr and Mrs Andrew Firth
 Mr John Foden (OA 1959)
 Dr Chris C. Ford (OA 1965)
 Mrs Judy Forrest
 Mr Jonathan Frere (OA 1970)
 Mr Fred Fulton (OA 1989)
 Mr Jon Gabitass
 Piers and Penelope Gardner
 Richard and Natasha Ginks
 Professor Peter Gray (OA 1958)
 Paul and Gill Green
 Mr Ian Green (OA 1987)
 Mr Philip Greenacre

Andy and Alison Halford
 Mr John Hall (OA 1955)
 Major Roger Hamer (OA 1950)
 The Hamilton Family
 Dr Russell Hampshire
 Mr Nicholas Hands-Clarke (OA 1969)
 Dr Katherine Hann
 Mr Gareth Harper (OA 1981)
 Dimitrios and Gail Hatzis
 Mr Philip Hatzis (OA 2007)
 Mr Roger Havelock (OA 1960)
 Mr Colin Hawkins
 Mrs Tanya Hawley
 Mr Martin N. Haycock (OA 1991)
 Mrs Christine Hayden
 Mr James Hearn (OA 2014)
 Mr Paul L. Hedges (OA 1961)
 Mr and Mrs Geoff Helliwell
 Mr Alan Henbest (OA 1961)
 Mr and Mrs Alex Hickman
 Mr Geoffrey Hill (OA 1942)
 Mr Simon Hills (OA 1975)
 Mr Mark Hindley
 Peter and Eve Hitchens



Mr Jun Yang turns the first piece of turf for the future Yang Science Centre.



Mr Roger Hodgkinson (OA 1979)
 Bruce and Debbie Howard
 Mr Tony Howell (OA 1960)
 Mr Michael Howes (OA 1952)
 Mr Michael Hudson (OA 1953)
 Charlie and Jacquie Hughes
 Mr Keith Hume (OA 1944)
 Mr and Mrs Julian Hyde
 Mr Crispin and Dr Lucy Hyde-Dunn
 Mr Mark Hyman (OA 1964)
 Dr Andrew Iddles (OA 1969)
 Mr Martin Iredale (OA 1956) and his sons Mr Edward Iredale (OA 1983) and Dr Mathew Iredale (OA 1985)
 Mr Lindsay J. Irvine
 Mr and Mrs Simon Jefferson
 The Jeffreys Family
 Mrs Fiona Jennings
 Mr Peter Jones (OA 1944)
 Mr Tim Jones
 Mrs Jane Jørgensen
 Dr Andrew King (OA 1962)
 Dr and Mrs Ko Wing Man
 Dr and Mrs Alex C.W. Lai
 Mr Yung Kai Law
 Mr Kevin Lay (OA 1964)
 Mr Neil Leah
 Mr Colin Leigh (OA 1941)
 Mr Richard Lesser (OA 1944)
 Dr Frederick M.L. Leung and Mrs Peggy Leung

Dr David M. Lewis (OA 1977)
 Dr Gavin Lewis (OA 1977)
 Mr Terence Libby (OA 1961)
 Kaye and David Lillycrop
 Mr David Lindesay (OA 1978)
 Dr David Richard Lindgren (OA 1993)
 Mr Mark Lintott (OA 1978)
 Mr Mike I. Litchfield (OA 1994)
 Mr Michael J.H. Liversidge (OA 1966)
 Jane and Andy Lloyd
 Dr Andrew Longstaff (OA 1966)
 Mr Crispian Lord (OA 1992)
 Monica Lovatt
 Mr and Mrs Mark Lovejoy
 Mr Charles Lowe (OA 1976)
 Ms Rong Lu
 Dr Heather Lumsden
 Miss Felicity Lusk
 Dr Bruce G. Mackay (OA 1963/64)
 The Macpherson Family
 Mr and Mrs Richard Maddison
 Mr and Mrs Mario Magé
 The Mallett Family
 Dr Robert G. Mann (OA 1986)
 The Mannix Family
 Lt Col Tym Marsh (OA 1963)
 Dr and Mrs Stephen Matthews
 The Maxted Family
 Mr Graeme May
 Dr and Mrs Paul McCubbin
 Mr David McGill



Mrs Su McRae
 Dr Jonathan Mercer (OA 1981)
 The Mercers' Company
 Mr Ian Middleton
 The Miell-Ingram Family
 Lt Cdr Graham Milton (OA 1970)
 Mr Philip Minns (OA 1968)
 Drs Anthony P. and Zoia L. Monaco
 Mr George Moody
 Mr and Mrs Christopher Moreton-Smith
 Mr Alistair Morfey (OA 1978)
 Mr Ralph Morgan (OA 2006)
 Mr Tim Morgan (OA 1959)
 Mr Gareth Morris (OA 1976)
 Mr Thomas Morrow
 Mr Richard H.R. Mortimer (OA 1983)
 Mr Adrian Mutton (OA 1992)
 Mr George Nasmyth (OA 1969/70)
 Dr Graham Nayler (OA 1977)
 Mr Gerald Nicholls (OA 1952)
 Mr Peter North (OA 1958)
 Michael and Erla O'Byrne
 Mr Ian Oliver (OA 1958)
 Rod and Niki O'Shea
 Mr Chris Owen
 Mr Charles Parker
 Mr Anthony Pavlovich (OA 1995)
 Mr James Peterson (OA 1997)
 Dr Roger Phillips
 Mr Chris Pickup (OA 1960)



Mr Cavell Portman (OA 1965)
 Mr Christopher Potter (OA 2018)
 Mr Richard Powell (OA 1957)
 Chris and Liz Pugh
 Mr Tom Pugh (OA 2013)
 Mr Vyvyan Pugh (OA 1974)
 Dr Supraj Rajagopalan (OA 1996)
 Mr Paul S.M. Ramsey (OA 1963)
 Sir Vivian Ramsey (OA 1968)
 Ms Mara Ranieri Davey
 The Ravden Family
 Mr Nick Rees (OA 1994)
 Mr Garth Round (OA 1953)
 Mr Andrew Rowles (OA 1959)
 Felicity Rutland
 Mr Peter Rutland (OA 1996)
 Dr John N. Sackett (OA 1975)
 Allen and Leonie Salter
 Mr Andrew Saunders-Davies
 Mr and Mrs Carl Savage
 Mrs Alison Scarlett
 Major Colin Scragg (OA 1957)
 Olga Senior
 Rob and Anna Senior
 Mr Steve Sewry (OA 1966)
 Mr Geoffrey Sharpe (OA 1992)
 Mr Peter Sheard (OA 1962)
 Mr and Mrs Paul Sheffield
 Mr Norman Shurrock (OA 1953)



Mr Craig Shuttleworth (OA 1983)
 Mr and Mrs Paresh Sidpra
 John and Nicola Simonson
 Mr Tim Slater (OA 1987)
 Dr Brian L. Smith (OA 1957)
 Mr Julian Spooner (OA 1973)
 Mr Barry Stanton (OA 1984)
 Mr Richard Steed (OA 1978)
 Professor Michael C.G. Stevens (OA 1968)
 Mr David Stewart (OA 1978)
 Mr Colin Stopps (OA 1951)
 Mr Jamie Sudlow (OA 2017)
 Mr Kwok Keung Suen
 Mr Damian Sutcliffe (OA 1987)
 Ruth and Patrick Swain
 Mr and Mrs Amir Taghlo
 Professor Kevin Talbot
 Mr Tan Yoke Kong
 Mr Julian Tanner (OA 1982)
 Mr Nigel Taylor (OA 1966)
 Sam and Raoul Thulin
 The Tilley Family
 Mr and Mrs Edwin TW Ting
 Tonks Brothers
 Mr Michael Triff
 Mr Phoenix T.S. Tse (OA 2012)
 Mrs Lorelyn Tuazon
 Mr Mark Vanhegan (OA 1984)
 Mr and Mrs Richard Venables
 Mr Chris Vernon (OA 1973)
 Mr Krystian Volak (OA 1982)
 W. Lucy & Company, Ltd
 Professor Michael Walker and his sons
 Dr Martin Walker (OA 2001) and
 Mr Alan Walker (OA 1995)
 Mr Nick Warmingham (OA 1998)
 Dr Ben Warner (OA 2000)

Mr Forbes Wastie MBE (OA 1957)
 Mrs Elizabeth Waterson
 Mr Jonathan Watkinson (OA 1994)
 Mr Nicholas Watney (OA 2000)
 Mr Charles Watts
 Mr Richard Watts (OA 1960)
 Professor Sir David Weatherall
 Mr Ken Welby (OA 1984)
 Mr Michael Westwood (OA 1962)
 Professor Nick Westwood (OA 1987)
 Mr Ben Whitworth
 Mr David Wickes
 Dr Colin Wiggins (OA 1953)
 Mrs Jennifer Wiggins (Pulley) 1954
 Mr Roger Wiggins (OA 1961)
 Mr Alan R. Williams (OA 1965)
 Dr Dennis A. Williams
 Mr Richard and Mrs Anna Wilson
 Mr Matt Womar (OA 1960)
 Mr Jolly Wong
 Mr Felix Wood (OA 2009)
 Mr Leo Wood (OA 2014)
 Mr Cyril Woodruff (OA 1956)
 Guy and Harriet Woollard
 Mrs Alison Wright
 Mr Patrick Wyatt (OA 1959)
 Mr Jun Yang and Ms Lin Ma
 Dr Daniel K.H. Yip
 Gary and Sarah Young
 Dr and Mrs Christopher Yu
 Dr Francis Yu



Tudor sailors explore Sulgrave Manor



The Year 4 Tudor explorers arrived at Sulgrave Manor full of excitement for the day ahead and they weren't disappointed. Their first mission was to get dressed up and transform themselves into Tudor sailors. Looking the part in breeches, doublets and caps the boys toured the various rooms discovering the home comforts they would miss once they set sail.

Overheard from an explorer – *"My favourite room was the kitchen where we learnt about what Tudor sailors ate on sea journeys. It was funny when we thought the tack biscuits had chocolate chips in them but actually they were maggots! Yuck!"* ■

House Music Finale



Excitement was building as the whole school congregated in the hall to listen to the final round of the annual House Music Competition. The adjudicator this year was Chris Fletcher-Campbell, who is a familiar face from the senior music department at Abingdon. He gave some very helpful remarks to each performer before choosing the year group winners and then an overall winner. This year Ashwin Tennant picked up the overall prize for his accomplished piano performance of Debussy's *1st Arabesque*. ■



Incomplete is complete



This year's production was a new play called *Incomplete*, a black comedy written by our own Head of English, Simon Littlewood. The ambitious production tackled a number of interesting questions. Could good and evil be reconciled? Are we the orchestrators of our own fate? Are there souls that can inspire global conciliation? All run-of-the-mill themes for a prep school play! I don't think we can be accused of dumbing down our productions! The cast developed their own interpretations and characters with craft and skill and the thought-provoking performances were very well received. ■

Scholarships and Awards

Seven academic, art and music scholarships and awards were won to senior schools this term including the top academic scholarship to Abingdon for the third year running. ■



Abingdon Prep Pups

Hampers full of doggy treats were presented to the three charities the Prep School are supporting this year.

The charities provide dogs to help people with various disabilities; Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs and Medical Alert dogs.

Two members of staff and a parent also successfully completed the Reading Half Marathon, each supporting one of the three charities. ■



Grandparents come to play

As part of Pre-prep's learning about life in the past, grandparents were invited to a tea and games afternoon where they were asked about toys they played with when they were young. The boys learnt about the materials toys were made from and discovered the best-selling toys from past decades - no electronics at all! When asked to vote for their favourites, the boys loved the space-hoppers whilst the grandparents preferred Connect 4 and Snakes & Ladders. ■

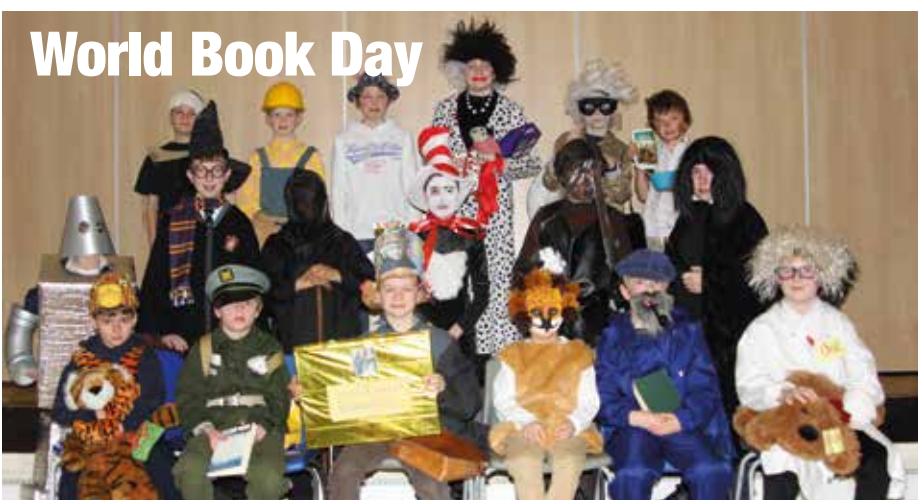
Inter-house Cross-Country

The weather for the annual inter-house cross-country race was unseasonably good – great for running and spectating. Pre-prep began the event followed by the eagerly awaited under 9 race which saw the Year 4 and Year 3 school records broken. The under 11 race was a great spectacle and the grand finale, the under 13 race, featured two Oxfordshire county cross-country runners amongst an impressive field. ■



Oratory School U11 Debating Competition

Congratulations to the Year 5 and Year 6 team of pupils who won the Oratory School U11 Debating Competition against 11 other schools. The boys were given little over an hour to prepare their speeches in support of the motion: "This House believes that the burden of taxation should fall on the rich." ■



World Book Day

It was a daunting challenge deciding the winners of this year's World Book Day. World Book Day supports Book Aid, a charity that improves libraries and literacy in Africa. The boys learnt how the money they raise is spent and they also heard how author, Charlie Higson, creates suspense and intrigue in his writing. ■

ASPA and OA Travel Awards

ASPA and the OA Club have launched a new travel award scheme offering a total sum of up to £2,000 (£1,000 from each association). Awards can be applied for by any member of the upper sixth who is undertaking some form of travel and activity during their summer break between finishing school and starting university or their gap year. The value of the awards will vary according to the activity being undertaken, and the benefits of the received activity to the community in question. Application forms are available online: http://www.abingdon.org.uk/aspa_oa_travel_awards_2014 and must be submitted by 23 April 2014. Interviews will take place on 10 May 2014. ■



One of the past travel-award winners, Na'im Anis Peyman, spent a year volunteering at the Bahá'í Gardens in Haifa and 'Akko in Israel, the spiritual and administrative world centre of the Bahá'í Faith. Na'im was one of approximately 700 volunteers from over 80 countries at the world centre, welcoming over half a million visitors to the site.

ASPA Donations

Although ASPA's prime purpose is to organise social events for parents, one of the spin offs from these events is fund raising. This means that last term ASPA was able to make several donations to various parts of the School including:

- £3,000 to the Science Centre Appeal
- £1,795 for specific science equipment for the new centre. Items include a steam turbine, biological models, hydroelectric power station, molecular models and strong magnets.
- £1,500 towards an outboard engine for the Rowing Club
- £2,464 (50%) towards the cost of a new electronic cricket board for War Memorial Field.
- £250 to each House and Lower School for equipment – to be chosen by the boys– for use at breaks and lunchtimes. Lower School have already voted to use the money to buy a TV for their House Room.

All the donations made will make a real difference to the boys in various parts of the school and school life. ■

www.abingdon.org.uk/aspa

ASPA Quiz & Curry Night

The 7th February saw ten teams – including, for the first time, a team of Old Abingdonians – (gently) battle it out at the annual ASPA Quiz. Jim Bischoff, Senior Master at Pinewood School, returned for a second year as the event's expert quiz master – this year introducing a new, and very popular, alcohol tasting round. Thanks to Jim and also to Peter Garratt (a former parent), who returned to run the scoring and the IT. The CMR proved to be a great location, and after a number of closely contested rounds, the Lower 6 parents at Table 7 were crowned as 2014 winners. Thanks to everyone who came along and to all the helpers for making it such an enjoyable evening. ■

ASPA Lower School Parents' Supper

While boys from Years 1 and 2 braved the Valentine's Day disco at St Helen and St Katharine's, their parents enjoyed a few hours of curry and convivial conversation in the CMR. The gale-force winds and driving rain outside failed to dampen the atmosphere (although a few hairstyles were ruined!) and a pleasant evening was had by all in making new friends and catching up with old ones. ■

The Second-Hand Uniform Shop



The shop has all school and sports uniform available, but we always welcome more. Cricket kit is also available at £5 per item.

The shop is currently housed in a portacabin on Waste Court Field.

Opening times - Summer term 2014:

Wednesdays 12.15 -1.15 pm

April 30

May 7 / 14 / 21

June 11 / 18 / 25

Saturdays 11.00 -12.00 am

April 26

May 10 / 17 / 31

June 7 / 14 / 21 / 28

The shop will also be open from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm on Induction Days, Tuesday 24 June and Thursday 26 June

www.abingdon.org.uk/sus

Forthcoming Events

Friday 23 May

Charity BBQ

School garden next to the Dining Hall
To raise funds to support research & treatment of childhood brain tumours, a charity being set up by a senior teacher at Abingdon School. ASPA will cover all the costs of the event so there will be no charge to parents, but we hope as many parents as possible will support this worthy cause by buying raffle tickets on the night or making a direct donation. Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis by emailing aspa@abingdon.org.uk

aspa@abingdon.org.uk

Friday 16 May

ASPA Dinner, Eynsham Hall

Tickets for the event are sold out, but if you would like to be added to the waiting list please email

aspa@abingdon.org.uk

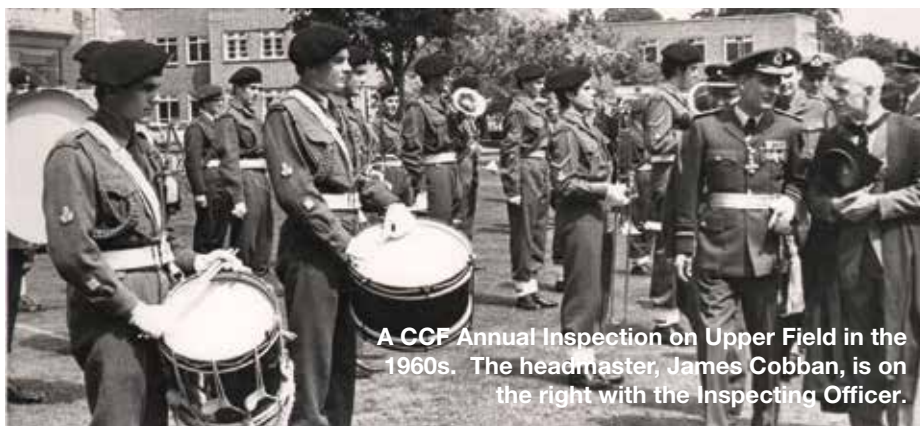
As You Were – Abingdon CCF Over 100 Years



Abingdon's newly formed OTC in 1914 drawn up outside School House led by the headmaster, William Grundy.



The OTC on their summer camp in August 1938 at Tweseldown near Aldershot in Surrey.



A CCF Annual Inspection on Upper Field in the 1960s. The headmaster, James Cobban, is on the right with the Inspecting Officer.



There is no date on this photograph but the length of the hair would suggest that it's probably the 1970s. John Griffin, Contingent Commander of Abingdon's CCF from 1966 to 1988, is on the left.

"No education is complete which does not fit its recipients to take part in the defence of his country," so said the headmaster of Abingdon, William Grundy, at Speech Day in July 1913 when announcing that the School would be forming an Officer Training Corps (OTC). Loud applause and cries of 'hear, hear' greeted his words and Abingdon's OTC was gazetted the following year, on 18 April 1914. The First World War was still not even a speck on the horizon.

In 1942, OTCs became known as JTCs, Junior Training Corps, and then in 1948 the CCF, the Combined Cadet Force, was formed as a Ministry of Defence youth organisation. For many years Abingdon's CCF used to have an army, navy and RAF section, these days there is no naval section. ■



Abingdon School's OTC cap badge



RAF section at RAF Bawdy in 1987. Chris Biggs, Contingent Commander from 1988 to 1996 is on the left.



Remembrance Day 2009

Forthcoming Events Summer term



Friday 9 May

50s and 60s Event: London

Richard Leathem (1964) invites 50s/60s OAs to a guided tour of the Temple (including Da Vinci code crusader tombs), Lincoln's Inn, the Royal Courts of Justice and a fine old ale house followed by a memorable dinner and optional hotel and theatre extension. Tour from 2.15 pm, dinner from 7.30 pm charged at £55. Email: richard.leathem@btinternet.com

Tuesday 13 May

OA Golf Day: Frilford Heath Golf Club

OA golfers of all ages and levels are welcome. For further details, please contact David Blomley (1976) d.blomley@btinternet.com

Saturday 7 June

Year Group Reunions:

See P15 for details



Sunday 8 June

Cricket: OAs & Common Room v Abingdon Vale Cricket Club

Match starts at 11.30 am and lunch and tea will be provided for players. Refreshments available for spectators and a BBQ in the evening (weather permitting) for friends and families. If you are interested in playing, please email: olly.deasy@abingdon.org.uk

Friday 27 June

Tennis: OAs v Oxford Lawn Tennis Club

4.00 – 7.00 pm followed by refreshments. A combination of singles and doubles matches, as current boys and OAs fight it out for the trophy. There is no charge for this event. Please email: oa.club@abingdon.org.uk



Friday 4 July

Henley Royal Regatta

If Abingdon are still in the draw, OAs and parents are invited for strawberries and Pimm's during the afternoon tea break at the FASBC tent in Henley Cricket Club car park. There is no charge for this event.

Michaelmas term



Saturday 20 September

Rugby: 1st XV v OAs, Abingdon School

The current 1st XV will play against a team of recent leavers. Spectators are very welcome to attend. There will also be a match between older teams of OAs. If you would like to play please email: elizabeth.robson@abingdon.org.uk

Saturday 27 September

Open Day

OAs are very welcome to attend the School Open Day from 11:30 am, and to join the Club in a BBQ lunch from 12:30 pm. There will be no charge. If you would like to come, please email: elizabeth.robson@abingdon.org.uk



Monday 29 September

Hong Kong Reception

A reception for OAs, current and former parents, and friends of Abingdon School. 6.30 pm Excelsior Hotel. If you would like to come, please email: elizabeth.robson@abingdon.org.uk

Saturday 11 October

Rugby: Abingdon v Radley

Come along and support Abingdon's rugby teams, kick-off and venues will be announced nearer the time.

OA Club AGM

All Old Abingdonians welcome to attend the Club AGM, starting at 12.30 pm in Lacies Court. If you would like to stay for lunch, please email:

oa.club@abingdon.org.uk



Friday 14 November

London Drinks Reception

Please save the date – details to follow, there will be no charge for this event.

Thursday 20 November

Subject Reception: History

A reception for pupils, parents and OAs interested in history; including military history.

6.30 – 7.30 pm

If you would like to attend the reception, please email:

elizabeth.robson@abingdon.org.uk



London Drinks Reception

On a cold Wednesday evening on 4 December, a hundred and eighty OAs, spanning eight decades, together with current and former staff, descended on the National Liberal Club for the annual London Drinks Reception. As usual, this was an incredibly enjoyable event, giving OAs a chance to hear about the School, catch up with old friends and make new contacts. ■



Hockey 1st XI v OAs

This year's 1st XI v OAs match took place at Tilsley Park on 28 March. The OA team featured players from a number of different year groups, as well as a couple of the current hockey staff. The game was an even contest on the new blue turf at Tilsley Park and, despite the fact that the 1st XI ran out comfortable winners, the OAs created a number of chances which could have resulted in a few more goals. The 1st XI won 6-1. ■

OA team: Charles Lowe (1976), Luke Carter (2013), Kevin Stanton (1978), Kieran Boddington (2013), Julius Coventry (2013), Rory Phibbs (Staff), Henry Chamberlain (Staff), Gregor Hearn (2012), Rhys Cadman (2008), Sebastien Wilson (2008), James Jesper Holland (2010), Oliver May (2008), Jamie Older (Former Staff), Freddy Howe (2010), James Rogers (2013), Bas Marshall (2015)

Year Group Reunions

Saturday 7 June, Abingdon School

Reunions for 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004 and 2009 leavers. Starting at 6 pm with a drinks reception and tours of the School (led by current and former members of staff) followed by a buffet dinner. If you would like to see a particular teacher at the event, please email oa.club@abingdon.org.uk and we will attempt to track them down. Partners are welcome. Booking (no charge) at www.abingdon.org.uk/oa

This year, the leavers of 1989 celebrate their 25 year anniversary and those of 1964 their 50th. How much has School and school life changed since you were at Abingdon? ■



We've lost contact with some OAs – please check the online list and put us in touch with "lost" OAs from your year group: alumni.abingdon.org.uk/groups/lost

Hugh Lunghi 1920-2014



Captain of the 1st XV in 1936



Major Hugh Lunghi, Royal Artillery

Hugh Lunghi, OA 1939, who died on 14 March, was one of the School's most distinguished twentieth-century Abingdonians. A fluent Russian speaker he found himself at the centre of some of the century's most significant events, translating for the British Government at the Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam conferences. This made him one of the few men alive to have been present as Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill – later Truman and Attlee – decided the future of the post-war world.

Appointed interpreter to the Head of the Moscow Military Mission in 1942, Lunghi remained in Russia after the war as Second Secretary at the Moscow Embassy. In 1954 he joined the BBC as head of the Central European Department. On retirement in 1980 he continued his work for freedom of expression as director of the Writers and Scholars Educational Trust.

Lunghi was head boy of Abingdon and was captain of the 1st XV for a record three consecutive years. ■

Two OAs in the Boat Race Squads

Last year's 1st VIII cox, Ian Middleton, in his first year at Cambridge, coxed the Light Blue Boat who lost to Oxford following the unseating of one of their oarsmen.



Felix Newman, OA 2009, rowed at number 7 in the Cambridge reserve boat, Goldie, who unfortunately also lost. ■



An OA in the News

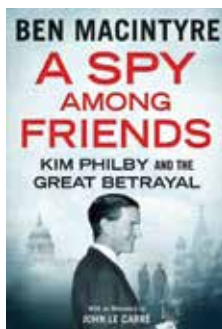


Adrian Champion, OA 2003, has been in demand from television interviewers more than once this year for his expertise in extreme weather conditions. Adrian is a meteorologist currently working at the University of Reading where he did his PhD on improving rainfall estimations from storms passing over the UK in a warmer climate. Currently a member of a team looking into the dynamics of extreme weather events affecting the UK, Adrian warns that extensive flooding and extreme windstorms will become more frequent. ■



Ben Macintyre's latest book

A Spy Among Friends, the latest book by Ben Macintyre, OA 1982, reads like a post-war thriller but tells the true story of how Kim Philby not only spectacularly betrayed his country but also his friends. In a two-part documentary on BBC2 at the beginning of April, Macintyre vividly brought the story to life, as he does in the book too. ■



Miraflores Lake, Panama Canal

Chris Vernon

Chris Vernon, OA 1974, a Planning Manager for huge construction projects, left school following, as he describes it, an "un-stellar academic career" and gained an HND Building. After working in the UK and Saudi Arabia, he went to post-war Kuwait in 1992 to work on oil and gas projects.

1997 brought his first step into mega projects, which over the years have included Hong Kong airport, the "Gherkin", the Dubai metro, the Abu Dhabi F1 circuit and the Olympic Park and Village in Stratford. At the moment he is working on the massive Panama Canal Expansion Project, which is intended to double the Canal's capacity by 2015. ■