

The Old Warwickian



SPRING/SUMMER 2023 | ISSUE 43

www.oldwarwickians.org
www.warwickfoundationconnect.com



Forthcoming Events

OWA President's Dinner

Saturday 13 May 2023
– Leamington Tennis Court Club

Jim Button (WS 1978-85) invites all OWs and their wives, partners and friends to join him at the prestigious and historic Leamington Tennis Court Club on Saturday 13 May for the 2023 OWA President's Dinner.

Tucked away in the heart of the town, the Leamington Tennis Court Club is the oldest tennis club in the world. The club has a thriving membership of over 400 from across the world, including a number of OWs who relish playing this high-strategy indoor racket sport which is essentially unchanged since the Middle Ages. Lawn tennis, the modern derivative of this ancient game, was devised and first played in Leamington in 1872.

Past members of the Club include four Victoria Cross holders, Ambassadors, the Earl of Cardigan who led the charge of the Light Brigade, a renowned member who went to sea aged nine and was captured by the French aged 11, other members who breached the Official Secrets Act, were accused of stealing the Irish Crown Jewels and were involved in the aborted glider escape from Colditz!

The President's Dinner

The 2023 President's Dinner offers a unique opportunity to enjoy friendship and camaraderie in an extraordinary and historic setting. Enjoy pre-dinner drinks and discover more about both the game and the fascinating history of the Club. Then take your seat for a fabulous four-course dinner.

Wine and additional drinks

The Club's wine list offers an excellent choice of award-winning wines to enjoy with your meal. Card payment only.

Booking deadline: 31 March 2023.



Tickets

£78 per person to include pre-dinner drinks and dinner. Tickets can be booked individually, in pairs or small groups, or for tables of 8 to 10. Wives, partners and friends most welcome. Book your place now on www.oldwarwickians.org/presidents2023 or call 01926 776404.

Dress: Black tie.

Timings

- 19:00** Welcome drinks with the opportunity to explore this prestigious Club
- 19:45** Call for dinner
- 20:00** Four course dinner with speeches
- 22:00** Continue to enjoy the company of friends
- 23:45** Bar closes
- 00:00** Carriages

Location and Parking

The Leamington Tennis Court Club is located at 50 Bedford Street, Leamington Spa, CV32 5DT. There is plenty of parking nearby. Nearest car parks: Bedford Street and St Peter's Car Park (CV32 5EL, access via Augusta Place).

OWA President 2023

Jim Button (WS 1978-85)

Born in Leamington Spa in 1967, Jim Button followed his father (Bob) and three older brothers (Nick, Simon and Tim) in joining Warwick School in 1978.

Jim's fondest memories of school are from the rugby pitch, being Greville House rugby captain and going on the school's first ever rugby tour to Zimbabwe in 1985.

Following school, Jim went to Trent Polytechnic to study quantity surveying and qualified as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor in 1991. In 1994 he joined fellow OW Richard Starkey in his practice in Leamington Spa and later became a partner. Jim has assisted Warwick Schools Foundation on all major construction projects since 1994, including the Bridge House Theatre, Warwick Hall and, most recently, he acted as the project manager for Project One Campus which involved the construction of the new King's High School, the 3G pitch and new music rooms at Warwick School.

Jim met his wife, Nicky (a Kingsley girl and daughter of OW Brian Bassett) in 1990 and they will be celebrating their 30th Wedding Anniversary this year. Jim and Nicky live in Warwick and have three children – Samuel (25), William (23) and Emily (20) who all attended the Foundation from Nursery through to the end of sixth form.



Jim (with Lola)



Jim in the school rugby sevens squad
(back row, far right)

Jim continued his rugby after school, playing for Trent Polytechnic, Old Warwickians and Old Leamingtonians. Since turning 40, he sings in a rock covers band with two fellow OWs, David Rankin and Chris Hunt.

Warwick School has always been a major part of Jim's life as a pupil, parent, consultant and work colleague and, latterly, being OW chairman 2015-20. Jim is hugely honoured by the privilege of being OWA President in 2023 and hopes to meet many other OWs and current pupils over the year to celebrate together what Warwick School means to us all.

OW Anniversary Reunions – 1973, 83, 93, 2003 and 2013 Leavers

Saturday 10 June 2023 – Warwick School

1973, 83, 93, 2003 and 2013 leavers, and many of the staff who taught them, are warmly invited back to Warwick School for our OW anniversary reunions on Saturday 10 June. These anniversary reunions are for those who left at the end of the U6 in those years, plus classmates who left earlier.

150 OWs have already registered. While there is no charge to attend, pre-registration is essential so we know who's coming and can cater appropriately.

Please register at www.oldwarwickians.org/2023reunions



Wessex Old Warwickians Lunch and Tour of Salisbury Cathedral

Friday 17 March 2023

35 OWs and guests living in Dorset, Wiltshire, Somerset and Hampshire are booked to attend the next WOW gathering. Sam Samwell and Mike Huntley have very kindly organised lunch in Sarum College and an afternoon tour of Salisbury Cathedral.



©Ash Mills

OWs and OGs in Dubai

OWs and Old Girls in Dubai are looking forward to gathering with Warwick Schools Foundation Principal Richard Nicholson when he visits on 14 March.

OWs in Hong Kong

Zooms are proving a great way for OWs in Hong Kong to stay in touch with Boarding House parents David and Katy Bull. If you would like to be invited to the next Zoom and/or a proposed in person OW gathering in Hong Kong in September, please email Anne Douglas on a.douglas@warwickschool.org.

1940s-60s Lunch and Film Show & 1963 Leavers Anniversary Reunion

Saturday 25 March 2023

Fifty OWs and guests from the 1940s, 50s and 60s are booked to a film show from the Warwick School archives, followed by lunch. The occasion also provides the perfect opportunity for our 1963 leavers to mark 60 years since leaving school.



1960s Quad

Regional and overseas gatherings

If you would like to meet fellow OWs in your area for drinks, lunch or perhaps dinner, please get in touch with Anne Douglas on a.douglas@warwickschool.org. We would be delighted to help co-ordinate one-off, occasional or even regular gatherings.

Recent Events

West Country OW Lunch

15 October 2022

OWs enjoyed an inaugural West Country Old Warwickians Lunch at Lewtrenchard Manor near Okehampton. Steeped in history, Lewtrenchard (now a luxury country house hotel) is a Jacobean manor dating back to the early 1600s. For many years it was the home of Rev Sabine Baring Gould... a 'fleeting' Old Warwickian!

By the time Sabine Baring-Gould died, just short of his 90th birthday in 1924, he had amassed over 1,200 publications, as well as having achieved eminence in a wide variety of other fields, such as archaeology, collecting folk music and translating hymns from an astonishing variety of languages. He had little formal schooling, having spent much of his childhood travelling around Europe with his family. He had a succession of private tutors and spent a short while (a couple of terms) at the King's School, Warwick, in 1846.



Godfrey Shiner, Richard and Fiona Haddon, Matthew and Marissa Boulter, Jackie and John Osmond and Gervald Frykman

Sabine inherited the 3,000-acre estate of Lewtrenchard in 1872 and did a lot of restoration work at the manor house and the church – both of which OWs enjoyed exploring.

Jesus Christ Superstar ten-year anniversary

Members of the Warwick and King's High 2012 cast of *Jesus Christ Superstar* were invited back to enjoy a performance of the 2022 production in the Bridge House Theatre at Warwick School.

Many remember the brilliant 2012 production and 2022 was equally impressive. Both will live long in the memory of those who both performed and watched the show. A number of cast members from 2022 were especially pleased to meet their counterparts from ten years ago.



2022 rehearsal



Members of the 2012 and 2022 casts with Mike Perry



The 2012 production with James TW as Jesus



Caiaphas – Flynn 2022 with Jon Wylie 2012



Judas – Eugenio Cappuccio 2012 with Hope 2022



Mary – Lottie 2022 with Lucy Harries 2012



Simon – Tommy 2022 with Bailey Fear 2012

OWA Annual Dinner

3 December 2022 – The Pyne Room, Warwick School

It was great to welcome so many OWs from different decades to the OWA Annual Dinner, which was held in the Pyne Room.



2003 Leavers: Simon Doherty, Tom Hamnett, Owen James, Michael Cheung, Hugo Doyle, Kieran Millar, Sandip Dhillon, Nick Grey, Loz Foster, Paul O'Grady and Tim Jacques.



Brian Schwieger, Julian Green, John McCulloch, Bruce Irving, Matthew Bevan and Will Morris



David Rankin and OWA Chairman Steve Tubb



David Skinner, Eric Hadley, Niall Skinner, Tom Shattock and Martin Green



Brian Davies, Jon Stone and Geoff Tedstone



2022 OWA President Peter Varnish OBE and Phillip Rothwell



Liz Finlyson and Brian Emmerson



Mike Bartlett and John Pascall



Mike Benfield and Dave Phillips MBE

OWA AGM

3 December 2022 – Conference Room, Warwick School

The 2022 AGM took place in the Conference Room at Warwick School on 3 December. Reports were received from the Chairman, Head Master, Treasurer and Alumni Relations Officer. Sincere thanks were extended to 2022 OWA President Peter Varnish OBE and to the many OWs who support the school in so many ways.

OWA Committee 2023

President – Jim Button (WS 1978-85)
Chairman – Steve Tubb (WS 1971-82)
Treasurer – Arun Sachdev (WS 1991-2002)
Head Master – James Barker (WS 1991-97)
Secretary – Anne Douglas.

The committee proposed to retain the option to co-opt members and Adrian Keeling KC (WS 1975-85) and Owen James (WS 1993-2003) were co-opted for 2023.

President Elect 2023 (to serve as President 2024)

The AGM appointed Brig James Cook OBE (WS 1982-89) as President Elect 2023 (to serve as President 2024).

Memorable moments of Warwick School

Martin Green (WS staff 1970-2005)

Warwick School legend Martin Green, who taught at the school for 35 years from 1970 to 2005, was persuaded to give the after-dinner speech at the OWA Annual Dinner in December.

Martin was Warwick School's first Economics teacher, appointed by Pat Martin in 1965 with Martin's proviso that he be allowed, after Saturday morning school, to continue playing rugby for Moseley on Saturday afternoons. He played, captained and then coached Moseley until 1979. He then coached Warwickshire, the Midlands (with a famous win over the All-Blacks), England U23s and then England from 1985 to 87 – all while balancing his post as a teacher and Head of Economics. Upon returning from coaching England he became Head of Sixth Form (and regularly coached the U16Bs).

Martin reflected on the five most memorable elements of his Warwick School experience.

A seismic shift in allegiance

In his time at Warwick, Martin always regarded himself primarily as a teacher of Economics, but he did also spend considerable time on the games field and competitive rugby has always been part of his life – Oxford vs Cambridge, Moseley vs Coventry, England vs Wales, and, most importantly of course, Warwick School vs Solihull School. Taking up a teaching post at Warwick therefore provided a welcoming haven for his competitive instincts. The only trouble was that he had been a boy at Solihull from 1953 to 1964 and had been indoctrinated into believing that Warwick were the arch enemy. So, in the 1963-4 season, with the Solihull XV undefeated and Warwick having a dismal season, the only topic was the size of the Solihull victory. Against all the odds, Warwick won 6-5 and Warwick headmaster Pat Martin came into the Solihull dressing room afterwards to offer (very patronising) condolences, which produced a torrent of abuse once he had left the room. Little did Martin realise that the next time he would meet Pat Martin would be at a job interview!

Green's the name, Economics is the game

Martin was the first economist to be appointed at Warwick and Economics was an under-nourished – and probably unloved – off-spring of the History department. He set about the task of giving Economics its rightful place in the Sixth Form Curriculum, and also to bring some joy to the learning of Economics – the 'dismal science'. He realised that it had been mission accomplished when – at the height of the Truss-Kwarteng partnership – he bumped into an OW he had not seen for twenty years who greeted him with "You were right – fiscal and monetary demand-side policies do need to be kept in concert, and how can anybody rely on supply-side snake-oil to raise productivity and growth?!"

Fresh opportunities in the Sixth Form

Martin wanted to give the opportunity of a Warwick Sixth Form education to as many as possible and so there were no barriers to entry to A Level Economics. He says, "As a result, we inevitably picked up all the usual suspects, often with dubious academic credentials and lengthy disciplinary records, but my crusade was to demonstrate that any student could achieve success. This also lay at the heart of my role as Head of Sixth Form".

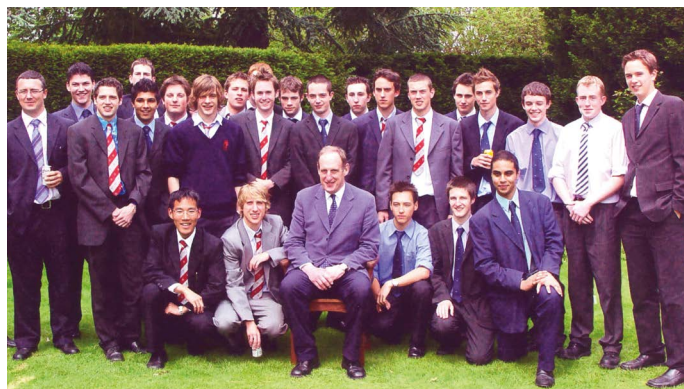
Parc des Princes to Pitch Nine

Martin was always very grateful to the School for enabling him to continue with his playing and coaching career, culminating in the privilege of coaching England, including a tour of New Zealand in 1985 and the first World Cup in 1987. Similarly, considerable gratitude goes to his fellow economists who covered for him. He remarks that the best ever set of economics results occurred while he was away at the World Cup!

This was the era of amateur sport, and coming back to Warwick School after a week-end of coaching the England rugby squad was, he says, a very grounding experience. He vividly remembers returning one Monday after a France-England game at Parc des Princes, when the next time he put on a tracksuit was to take an after-school Under 16 'B' coaching session, on Pitch Nine, in half light and pouring rain. Worse than that, he had faced the interrogation from the rugby brains trust that occupied one corner of the staff room. This was a far greater ordeal than facing the world's rugby press 48 hours previously.



At the 2022 dinner Martin shared his five most memorable moments at Warwick School



Economics and Business Studies students on Martin's retirement in 2005



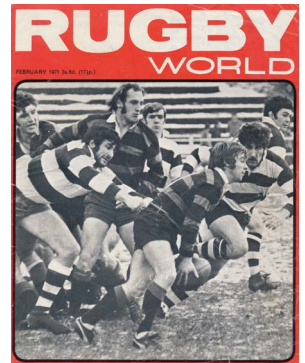
1981-82 Sevens Squad, victors in the Windsor Sevens



Martin, as England rugby coach, meeting OW Tim Dalton at the New Zealand Test in 1985



Staff Inset day – a session on First Aid. Ian Armstrong applies a bandage to injured economist



Front cover of Rugby World: playing for Moseley against Coventry, 1971

The friendship of colleagues

Martin's fifth most memorable ingredient of working at Warwick was the advice, friendship, tolerance and humour offered by his colleagues at Warwick School. He says "As you can imagine they were a melange of teaching ability, diligence, eccentricity, reliability and sense of humour – and that was just the Headmasters!"

Little did he once think that he would be at Warwick for 35 years when he arrived as a rather unreliable 25 year-old. Ralph Thornton soon had him summed up by hauling him into his office to inform him that he was "the most irresponsible member of staff ever to be appointed at Warwick School". The only compensation Martin had was that, seven days later, Ralph used the same description for Brian Emmerson!

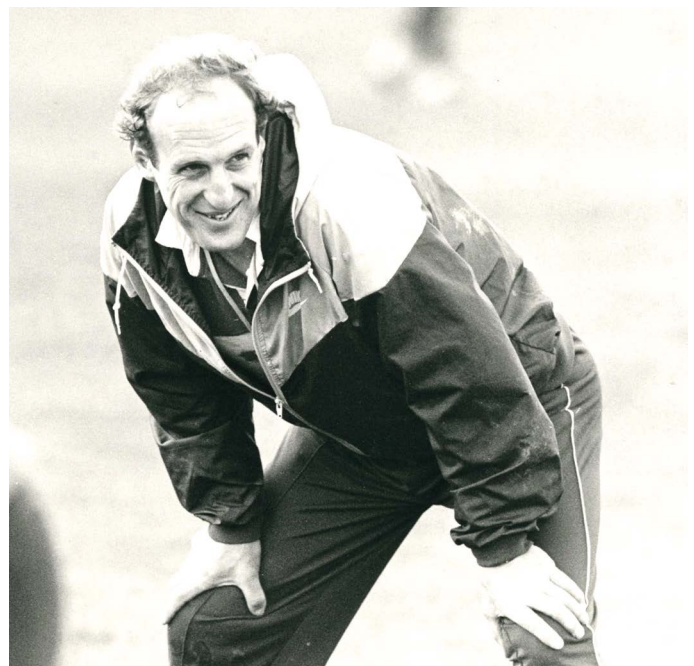
Martin had 35 wonderful years at Warwick and he hopes he was able to repay the School for the opportunities it gave him. In the end, his Solihull origins caught up with him when a Junior School lad stopped him under The Limes one day and asked "Are you Mr. Martin Green from Solihull?" He confirmed and the lad responded "You used to go out with my Grannie". It was time to retire!



1982 Charity push – with Percy Harris and Phil Calverley



1976 Staff play 'The Thwarting of Baron Bollingrew' – Martin Green, Jack Swindlehurst and Ellis Owen



In the England squad tracksuit

School News

Warwick School continues to strive to deliver its vision of becoming the most inspiring, rounded and caring boys' school in the country.

Independent Boys School of the Year

Warwick School was named Independent Boys' School of the Year 2022 at the national awards ceremony for Independent Schools. The judges cited the school's ability to combine pride in its long history and traditional values with an innovative approach that prepares pupils not only to achieve outstanding results but to go on to enjoy successful careers and happy fulfilled lives. They also praised initiatives like the Wellbeing Hub, which offers a safe space and access to a wellbeing professional for all pupils, at any time of day.



The Climbing Club takes the boys to new heights



DofE expeditions have tested resilience and character



Lab based experiments have returned



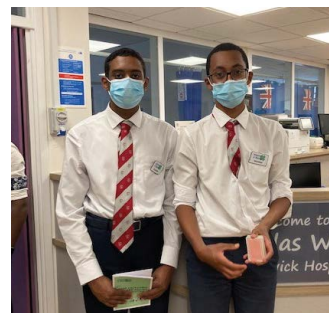
The 2022 summer Sports Day gave many the opportunity to participate



Drama excels and 'Joseph' made a welcome return to the stage in 2022



Sports teams bring the boys together at every level



Sixth Formers have returned to hospital wards with regular charity work



Inspirational lectures and workshops support the curriculum



The Art Department offers space for individual creativity



CCF cadets enjoy being out in the field



The annual Y7 Bonding Trip brings many together for the first time



Strong competition continues on the rugby pitch



Debating and speaking competitions give new opportunities



The school delivers excellence in teaching and learning

Music fills the air

The sounds of individual lessons, bands and a full calendar of amazing concerts fill the Warwick School and wider Foundation campus. Warwick School Music, our Foundation choir Canticum and resident orchestra the Orchestra of the Swan continue to bring an amazing collection of concerts and performances to Warwick Hall and the Bridge House Theatre.

To see 'What's on' and book tickets for forthcoming productions please see www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk



Oxbridge offers

Eight U6 boys have received offers of places at Oxford or Cambridge, subject to A-level grades in the summer. Oxford offers are for Engineering at New College, Chemistry at Oriel, Earth Sciences at Exeter, English Language and Literature at Lincoln and Materials Science at Trinity. Cambridge offers are for History and French at Churchill, Music (with Organ Scholarship) at Sidney Sussex and Philosophy at Sidney Sussex College.



Town Crier visit

For the first time ever, the traditional visit of the Town Crier (to officially ask the Head Master, on behalf of the Mayor, for an extra week of holiday at October Half Term) was held inside due to rain.



Mock Speed Interviews

Thank you to all those OWs who gave their time and expertise to support our Careers Mock Speed Interviews for Year 13 pupils. The recent Foundation Careers Fair was also a great opportunity for our students to explore gap year, university and employment opportunities.



The Heaton Podcast

The discussion of History and Politics from teachers and Warwick School continues.

Recent podcasts include 'Lawrence of Arabia', 'Is Globalisation Dead?' and 'Devil-Land: Tudor and Stuart England'. Listen to these and others podcasts in the series at www.theheatonpodcast.buzzsprout.com

Encounters

Pupils, parents and OWs continue to relish the opportunity to hear presentations from an extraordinary array of speakers in our Encounters series. Recent Encounters have included Mindu Hornick (remembering the Holocaust), Prof Philip Burrows (an Encounter with Subatomic Particle Accelerators) and Ziauddin Yousafzai (An Encounter with an Educator, Social Activist and Father).

The Mulley bow tie

Congratulations to the first boys who were awarded the Mulley bow tie for intellectual achievement. This award, named after Fred Mulley (WS 1929-36) recognises sustained and persistent pursuit of knowledge, and goes one step further than the already-prestigious Mulley tie with its distinctive blue, yellow and green stripes.



Recipients of the bow tie are pictured with philosopher Prof David Papineau, who delivered a fascinating Encounter on Mind and Brain

Meet Agatha

Agatha, our Warwick School dog, brings much pleasure to the boys and is a regular visitor to the Wellbeing Hub.



Agatha joins the Junior School cross country runners



Agatha enjoys some welcome attention in the Junior School

Remembrance

The tradition of remembering Old Warwickians who have lost their lives in the service of their country is as strong as ever at Warwick School. Owen James was honoured to give the address during this last year's Remembrance Service in Chapel. He emphasized the importance of the occasion for the nation, the school and OW community and for him personally.

Owen was a pupil at Warwick from 1993 to 2003. He enjoyed inspirational teaching and many sporting and musical opportunities. He values the lifelong friendship of many, close OWs (three of whom are now godparents to his children). Both his children are now benefiting from the outstanding education that Warwick Schools Foundation offers.

Owen's final few years at school were pivotal in terms of his future career, as he joined the CCF and won an Army Scholarship, securing, post university, a place at Sandhurst. 9/11 also happened while he was in the Sixth Form, setting off a chain of events that would see him step off a helicopter into Afghanistan some eight years later.

After reading Philosophy, Politics and Economics at university he went to Sandhurst and undertook the 44-week commissioning course to become an officer in the British Army. He commissioned into the Welsh Guards as an infantry officer and, after further training, took command of a platoon of 30 Guardsmen.

After ten months of pre-deployment training, he deployed in early spring 2009 for a six-month tour in Afghanistan during the peak of hostilities for British forces in the country.

Owen reflected on his experiences in the army and in Afghanistan – one moment engaged in a firefight or searching for improvised explosive devices, the next engaging with locals and providing security for reconstruction and development of communities. Two of his soldiers were shot and two others lost limbs. His battalion, tragically, lost seven killed in action during the six-month tour, including his close friend Mark Evison and inspirational Commanding Officer Rupert Thorneloe.

Owen left the Army over ten years ago. He looks back on his service with the Welsh Guards with very fond memories and pride. He knows the resilience and fortitude of the human spirit and the impact of good leadership and teamwork. He reflected that Remembrance is a time which those who have served find particularly difficult and spoke movingly about remembering those we have lost through photos, reminiscing, battlefield tours, services and memorials.

Owen concluded by talking about courage, discipline, respect for others, integrity, loyalty and selfless commitment – the values of the British Army which he first started to develop while at Warwick School and which he knows the Foundation still seeks to foster in its pupils today.

The Chapel Service concluded with a reading of the names of all the Old Warwickians who lost their lives in the service of their country in the two world wars and other conflicts past and recent. The last name remembered was Joe Whittaker (WS 1999-2005), killed in action in June 2008 while serving in Afghanistan with the Parachute Regiment. Joe was 20 years old.



Joe Whittaker, killed in action 2008



Owen on patrol, 2009



The First World War Memorial



The Second World War Memorial



The Head Master, Head of School and Owen James



The tragic 1st XV of 1912-13, of whom nine lost their lives in the First World War



Owen with fellow Welsh Guards officers in Brookwood Military Cemetery in Surrey. The grave in the centre is that of Mark Evison, who was a friend and fellow platoon commander in the Welsh Guards who was killed in action in Afghanistan

Development News

Warwick School Bursaries – changing lives



Warwick School relies on the support of OWs, parents and friends to make the school accessible to a wide range of pupils who would otherwise be unable to afford the fees. Many generously support bursaries with one-off or regular donations. A growing number of OWs are providing 100% bursaries plus additional extras such as uniform and funding for trips. Warwick School also benefits from the support of Old Warwickian Trust, which generously funds several bursaries for boys at the school. To date, donations from the Trust have supported six pupils on full bursaries.

Your support makes a life-changing impact on young people at Warwick. They, and the school, are more grateful than can possibly be expressed adequately here.

We are excited to report that Warwick School, and the other schools in Warwick Schools Foundation, will soon be embarking on a significant new fundraising effort to grow our long-term bursary and access provision to our schools. Watch this space!

To find out more about supporting our Bursary Fund please visit www.oldwarwickians.org/support or contact Director of Development Phillip Rothwell on p.rothwell@warwickschools.co.uk

Floreat!

On Wednesday 1 February, Head Master James Barker hosted a lunch in the Portcullis Room at school for some of our Floreat Society members.

The Floreat Society allows us to thank those who are planning to leave a legacy to Warwick School by making a gift in their Will. Members of the Society include OWs and friends of the school.

Legacies are making an enormous difference to the lives of students who would not otherwise have been able to afford a Warwick School education. If you would like further information on joining the Floreat Society and making a legacy gift to Warwick School after providing for loved ones, please contact Director of Development, Phillip Rothwell, at p.rothwell@warwickschool.org or 01926 776402.



A Celebration of Giving



Warwick Schools Foundation's inaugural Celebration of Giving Report celebrates the many ways in which members of our Foundation community support our schools.

Read the report at www.oldwarwickians.org/support

CCF Corps of Drums



1980s CCF Band

Thanks to the generosity of 23 Old Warwickians and a grant from the CCF Cadet Expansion Fund, our appeal to raise funds to re-establish the CCF Corps of Drums has reached over £11,000. We are delighted to report that we will take delivery of new instruments over the coming weeks and the Corps of Drums will begin training in the new academic year. The Corps of Drums will be available to Foundation pupils from Warwick School and King's High School (over 150 KHS students are now CCF cadets!).

Huge thanks to all those who got this initiative rolling plus those who have supported so generously.

We look forward to seeing... and hearing... the cadets on parade!

For the latest news and a list of supporters please visit www.oldwarwickians.org/corpsdrums

England fly-half Fin Smith



Fin Smith and Alex Bywater

Rugby journalist working with the Daily Mail Alex Bywater (WS 2001-08), interviewed “one of English rugby’s brightest prospects”, Fin Smith (WS 2013-20), after his move to Northampton in October 2022 following Worcester’s collapse. The talented fly-half made his Worcester debut at 18 and has already experienced a junior Six Nations grand slam with England and selection to the 2023 England Six Nations squad. Many OWs still recall watching Tim Dalton (WS 1952-59) – the first OW to gain a full England cap – when he came on as a replacement for England against Scotland at Twickenham in 1969. Tim made his Coventry debut in the 1960-61 season and made 249 appearances for the club.

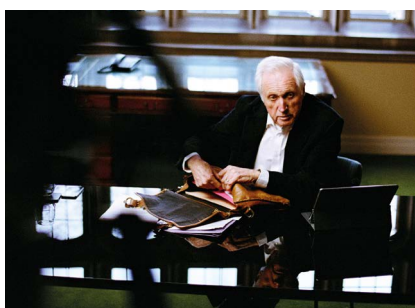
Eggheads

Will Rogers (WS 2008-19), president of the University of Birmingham Quiz Society, enjoyed a closely contested encounter on Eggheads.



Days that shook the BBC

Working with a wonderful team, James Parris (WS 2003-10) produced the three films in the *Days that shook the BBC* series. The series is a critical examination of the BBC’s place in public life, told through moments of challenge and crisis like the Hutton Enquiry, the Diana-Bashir interview and the events surrounding the discovery of Jimmy Savile’s abuses.



Days that shook the BBC

James directed the third film himself – a film which explores how the BBC has wrestled with its promise to reflect all of us, impartially. The story spans the Falklands, the rise of Rupert Murdoch, racial unrest from the 60s to the Oldham Riots in 2001 and Nick Griffin’s controversial appearance on Question Time.

Our King’s Singer

King’s Singer Edward Button (WS 1997-2008) recently returned to school to run a choral session with the Chapel Choir and give a masterclass to some of the Foundation’s choral students. Edward also recorded a podcast with John Jefferies and Simon Chapman, in which he discussed his musical journey, from his formative years as a chorister at Warwick, his time with King’s College Cambridge choir, the Chapel Royal at Hampton Court and, latterly, the King’s Singers.



John Jefferies, Edward Button and Simon Chapman

Brokering success

On leaving school Joe Jones (WS 2007-14) took an alternative route and started working in the City as a currency broker. Joe shares news that Cornerstone, a cloud-based provider of international payment, currency risk management and electronic account services to SMEs, acquired Pangea FX, a specialist FX and Treasury consulting firm which Joe co-founded in 2017.

In the interests of national security

Former National Security Adviser Sir Stephen Lovegrove KCB (WS 1978-85) relinquished his role to Sir Tim Barrow GCMG LVO MBE (WS 1977-82) in September. Surely a first!

Christmas meet-ups

Friends from the mid-1980s were one of many groups who met for a festive drink.



Mid 1980s leavers

Leavers from 1990 enjoyed getting together in Leamington over the Christmas period.

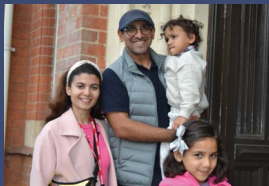


1990 leavers

Welcome back and thank you

It is always great to welcome OWs back to school for reunions, events and individual scheduled visits. A special thank you to all those who help with our Podcasts, Encounters and Careers programme. Recent visitors have included:

Tauseef Qadri
(WS 1999-2001)



Matthew Lambert
(WS 1994-2003)



James Uffindell
(WS 1992-97)



Darren Yam
(WS 2017-19)



Peter Walker
(WS 2013-20)



Andrew O'Kelly
(WS 1989-1996)



25-year reunion

Chris McNee (WS staff 1992-2017) was delighted to meet up with two fellow staff from the 1990s – Simon Morris (former Head of German, 1988-95) and Steve Brook (teacher of Maths, 1990-97). The trio hadn't seen one another for 25 years.



Simon Morris, Chris McNee and Steve Brook

OW weddings

Rev. Andrew Gough (WS staff 1996-2018) was pleased to officiate at two OW weddings last year. Nick Bevan and Tom Bend are both friends of his son David (WS 1997-2008).



Rev Gough officiated at the marriage of Tom and Bea Bend

Birmingham Bash

1960s leavers held their annual Birmingham Bash at San Carlo Italian Restaurant and toasted Warwick School, as 'Independent Boys' School of the Year 2022'.



Malcolm Eykyn, Nigel Robinson, Steve Chamberlain, John Hill, Peter Baird, Ian Thorpe, Richard Gething, Nick Willson, John Davidson, Martin Newman, Clive Boast, Bob Iveson and Nick Madeley



Nick (right) gamely attempts to master the selfie with Richard Gething (left) and Ian Thorpe



Members of the 1960s Escape Committee who managed to evade matron and fetch up at RAF Changi Grammar School in Singapore. L-r Bob Iveson, Clive Boast and Nigel Robinson

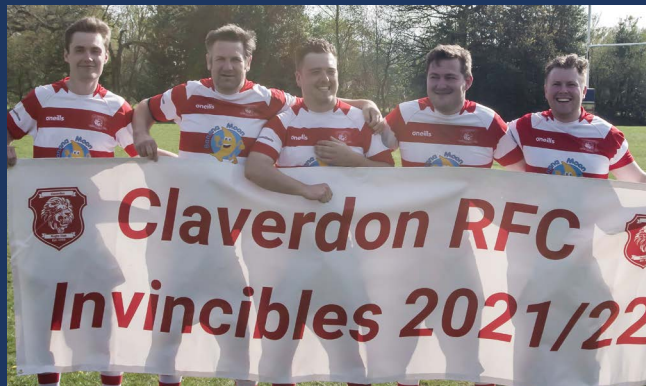
CCF Senior Cadets past and present

In response to a request from Robert McNeill-Wilson (WS 1967-74) seven cadets and two staff from the CCF helped at the Willersey fete last summer. Rob was senior cadet in 1973-74 and was delighted to meet current senior cadet, Ed. The cadets were especially pleased to witness a flypast by the City of Lincoln Lancaster bomber.



Senior cadets past and present Rob and Ed

OWs at Claverdon RFC



Regular OWs in the Invincibles 1st XV. L-r: Hilton Garner-Jones (WS 2008-15), Matthew Dunster (WS 1986-97), Will Jackson (WS 2004-15), James Williams (WS 1997-08) and Josh Smallwood (WS 1999-2010)

Many OWs continue playing rugby long past their school and university days. Claverdon RFC is one of a number of local clubs which welcomes OWs who either return to live locally or never leave.

Matthew Dunster (WS 1986-97) reports that, in the 2021-22 season, Claverdon's 1st XV enjoyed an unbeaten league campaign, winning all 20 of their games and gaining promotion to Counties Level 2. The regular starting XV often includes four or five OWs from different years and generations. Other OWs have been playing for the Club's 2nd XV and for social sides.

Our men in Washington

Current Head of School Josh met 2009 Head of School Will Todman in Washington DC during the school's first overseas trip since 2019. Will is a Fellow in the Middle East Program at the Center for Strategic & International Studies.

Development Director Phillip Rothwell (WS 1994-01) reconnected with Dr Mark Li (WS 1966-68) on a recent visit to the States. Mark was the first ever WS boarder from Hong Kong.



Josh with Will Todman on the New York and Washington trip



Dr Mark Li and Phillip Rothwell

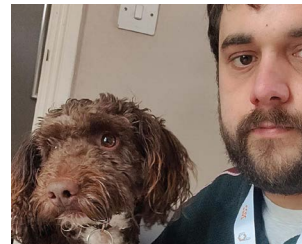
James TW

James TW (WS 2005-15) started his exciting Another Heart tour in Dublin on 7 March. James will be performing concerts in Glasgow, Leeds, Manchester, Bristol, Birmingham and London before heading overseas to European cities.



Walkies!

Congratulations to Matt Fowler (WS 2000-09) and dog Coco who walked 100 km in thirty days in November to raise money and awareness for bone cancer.



Coco and Matt

Jouons au golf

OW golfers from the 1960s were spotted by a passing French photographer on a golf course in Le Touquet!



Jon Gregory, Andrew Sharpe, Malcolm Eykyn, Mike Barnwell and John Elson

The Brigadiers' Boat

Brigadier Jules Buczacki (WS 1981-92) and Brigadier (Des) Jaish Mahan (WS 1985-92) rowed for the Army at last autumn's Joint Services Regatta. Jules and Jaish proudly sported their Warwick School socks! Since the regatta Jules has been appointed Major General. We congratulate him on taking over as Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff – Military Strategy on 1 December.



Jaish and Jules

District Judge appointment

The King has appointed Matthew Montanaro (WS 1993-99) to be a District Judge on the advice of the Lord Chancellor, the Right Honourable Dominic Raab MP and the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, the Right Honourable The Lord Burnett of Maldon. Matthew has been deployed to the Midland Circuit, based at Coventry Combined Court Centre.

Fair Play

Watch out for *Fair Play*, one of the buzziest movies to premiere at this year's Sundance Film Festival. The film, co-produced by Leo Hughes (WS 1999-2006) has sold to Netflix in a massive \$20 million deal. It will air in the autumn.

Follow and Like Old Warwickians



Follow Old Warwickians on Facebook and Twitter, join us on LinkedIn and check out the latest images on @oldwarwickians. Please like us!

Portcullis Club Reunion

The Old Four Penny Shop Hotel in Warwick, offering coffee, butties and a bar, was a great venue for a Portcullis Club Reunion organised by Nigel Robinson (WS 1955-66). A great time was had by all and it is hoped the coffee morning will continue more regularly. Email nigel@rcomms.co.uk if you are not currently on his email mailing list and would like to receive details.



Nigel Robinson, Malcolm Eykyn, Val Eykyn, David Wilkinson, Roger Wyatt, Mike Smith and Mike Harwood



Clive Mason, Mick Wilshire, Pete Bonehill and Mike Wilson



Nick Wilson, Susan Hart, Pauline Elson, Judy Wilson, John Elson and Val Eykyn



Mike Smith, Janet Langston and John Elson



Malcolm Eykyn, Chris Kaye and Nick Wilson

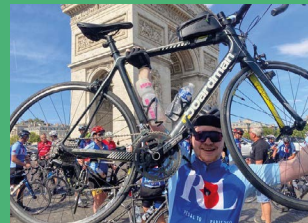
An Encounter with Ameet Gill OBE

Ameet Gill OBE (WS 1989-2000) spoke to students about the highlights of a remarkable career which took him from Warwick to Downing St in just ten years (Ameet was David Cameron's Director of Strategy).



Ameet Gill

Pedal 2 Paris



Guy Dixon



Joe Perks, Roy and Guy Dixon

Father and son Roy and Guy Dixon (WS 1973-81 and WS 2009-20) cycled to Paris in the Pedal2Paris four-day ride from Eltham Palace in London to L'Arc de Triomphe in Paris, a distance of 284 miles. The ride is organised by the Royal British Legion. 220 riders set off, with Roy and Guy very much committed to Group 4, the social group – leaving the fitter and more enthusiastic riders to Groups 1-3! They were delighted to bump into (not literally) Joe Perks (WS 1981-88).

The four-day ride, complete with challenges, fun and, most importantly, acts and services of Remembrance, culminated with a magnificent pedal into Paris with a peloton. The Royal British Legion were permitted the tremendous honour of holding a Remembrance service alongside the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Roy says, "It was a wonderful experience to do the ride with Guy – I know he enjoyed it as he has already signed up for 2023! It was brilliant to meet up with Joe too – perhaps we could expand the OW peloton for 2023?"

Three times Mayor of Marlborough

Congratulations to Nick Fogg MBE (WS 1952-59). Already twice Mayor of Marlborough, Nick will become Mayor for a third term in May. Nick is a respected author, fellow of the Royal History Society, acclaimed authority on the Bard, impresario, creator of the renowned Marlborough International Jazz Festival and former long-term Wiltshire Councillor. We look forward to holding the next Wessex Old Warwickians gathering in Marlborough!

Gun salute marks 50 years

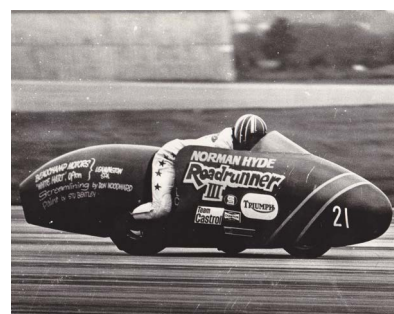
Rob Taylor (WS 1964-73) and Tim Harry (WS 1963-73) met for lunch in the officers' mess and enjoyed a private viewing of the one gun salute at Edinburgh Castle.



Rob Taylor and Tim Harry

Speed record anniversary celebrated

Legendary Leamington motorcyclist Norman Hyde (WS 1956-63) was honoured by fellow bikers to mark the 50th anniversary of his land speed record. Norman piloted his home-built Roadrunner III to an average speed of 161.8 mph at RAF Fairford in 1972 to clinch the World Sidecar Land Speed Record – a record that remained unbeaten for over 35 years.



In conversation with...

Our Atlantic rowers

Duncan Nealon (WS 1989-96) is training to become the third OW to row the Atlantic. He will join the ranks of Dan Byles (WS 1985-92) and Roy Dixon (WS 1973-81) who have completed this exceptional challenge. One ocean, three OWs, 3,000 miles of rowing.

2024



Duncan (right) with Daz and Rod

With two friends (one of whom – Rod Adlington – is a WS parent) Duncan will row, unsupported, from Gran Canaria to Barbados, to raise £250,000 for charity. Rod lost his son Barney to Meningitis in 2005 and a large part of the driving force of this amazing challenge is to raise funds and awareness for Meningitis Now. Barney would have been 23 years old when Duncan, Rod and friend Daz set out from Gran Canaria in early January 2024. They are rowing independently, as a solo, unsupported crew.

Duncan loves an adventure. He is an ultra-marathon veteran, well accustomed to challenging his physical and mental limits having completed the world's toughest foot race, the Marathon des Sables, running seven marathons in six days through the Sahara Desert.

He has zero rowing experience but their boat, Mrs Nelson, has five successful Atlantic crossings under her belt. Training is going well, although spending hours in the gym and on a rowing machine during the cold winter months hasn't been much fun. Much still needs to be done and learnt before January to ensure their minds and bodies are totally prepared.

So far, the crew have raised over £60,000 for their charities. Donations are very welcome – big or small. **Please visit www.thebrightsidesrow.com to follow their epic story and support them if you can.**

1998



Dan Byles – the first OW to row the Atlantic

Former British Army Officer, MP, explorer and adventurer Dan Byles (WS 1985-92) was the first OW to row the Atlantic. In January 1998 Dan competed in the Port St Charles Rowing Race and rowed from Tenerife to Barbados, a distance of approximately 2,500 nm, in a 23-foot wooden rowing boat, with his mother Jan Meek. The incredible journey took more than 100 days. At the time, Jan was the oldest in the race and Dan, at 22, was the youngest. They entered the Guinness Book of Records as the first mother and son team to row the Atlantic. The adventure of a lifetime, in their boat *Carpe Diem*, included a week of horrendously bad weather with waves the height of houses.



Mother and Son ocean rowers

2020



Journey's end in Antigua



Still smiling



A Christmas Day glass of port

Roy Dixon (WS 1973-81) endured 50 days and 19 minutes at sea to row with three fellow ex-servicemen, the Atlantic Mavericks, in the 2019-20 Atlantic Rowing Race. For the Mavericks it was more a challenge than a race. A challenge to row 2,732 nautical miles while staying safe, enjoying the experience and staying friends.

Their journey started with a baptism of fire. By the end of the first day they had faced a Force 7 storm, all four men were seasick, their dagger board had snapped, the navigation light didn't work and they were completely off course. Giving up was not a consideration. Instead, they tackled each challenge and drew on their military experience, character and skills to overcome what needed to be tackled and to accept what couldn't be changed.

Their boat measured 8m by 2m. For a month and a half they rowed in pairs, two hours on and two hours off. The two hours 'off' were spent house-keeping, eating, catching up on WhatsApp and snatching sleep. They had a glass of port on Christmas Day – but enjoyed the accompanying cheese more!

The biggest challenge was the sea. Roy says *"The sea is in charge. Nothing prepares you for the strength and vagaries of waves, which were like mountains coming out of the sea. We got soaked"*. Towards the end of the journey, when they were approaching Antigua, things were even tougher when the weather dropped and calm waters meant they didn't get anywhere very quickly.

What did he enjoy most? Rising to challenges, the camaraderie and banter, the pod of dolphins and orca whales. Rowing at night was amazing, especially if they could see the moon. Despite hallucinating about turtles, Roy is proud to say he didn't fall asleep while rowing. He lost both 8 kilos and his calf muscles (walking little more than one metre a day for 50 days). The team kept their calm, their sense of humour and their friendship.

It is amazing to think that three OWs will have separately completed this amazing challenge. We wish Duncan well in his training, fundraising and epic journey and look forward to sharing his story in a future Old Warwickian.

Royal Encounters

To record the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II and as we look forward to the Coronation of HM King Charles III, we invited OWs to share images and memories of their own royal encounters.

1953 Coronation



Col Whitlam raised the flag for the 1953 Coronation



The flowering cherry planted to mark the Queen's accession

Many OWs remember the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953 and recall Col Whitlam raising the Union Jack at the front of the school.

A flowering cherry, which was planted at the front of the school to mark the Queen's accession, is still growing strong.

2014 Warwick School Anniversary Celebrations

HRH The Prince of Wales visited Warwick School in 2014 as part of the school's 1,100th Anniversary Celebrations. The Prince of Wales was greeted by Head Master Gus Lock and was given a Royal Salute by the CCF at the front of the School. He signed the same Visitors' Book that his grandmother, the Queen Mother, had signed when she visited the school in 1958. He met captains and coaches of the rugby teams that played in the Twickenham finals, he listened to Parry's 'I was glad' in Chapel, observed a Physics lesson and spoke to Sixth Formers about their Science and Technology projects.



Walkabout at the school



Meeting the U15 NatWest Cup captain



Signing the Visitors' Book

A quiet snooze

No mention of encounters with Her Majesty would be complete without the image of Fred Mulley (WS 1929-36) having a quiet nap during the Silver Jubilee Review at RAF Finningley.



Fred Mulley takes a nap

New Year and Birthday Honours

We are currently in contact with 46 OWs who were honoured in Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday or New Year Honours. They include two BEMs, one CB, five CBEs, two CMGs, one CVO, six KCs, one KCB, ten MBEs, one MVO and 17 OBEs!



Nicholas Fogg receives his MBE



Meeting the Guard of Honour

Impressive introductions

When Angus Lapsley CMG (WS 1981-88) was the Foreign Office director for the Americas he was introduced to President Obama by HM Queen Elizabeth II. With a twinkle in her eye she said "and this young man is in charge of America". To which Obama's response was "I kinda thought that was my job".

Equerry to HM the Queen

Wg Cdr Sam Fletcher MVO (WS 1992-99) was former Equerry to HM Queen Elizabeth II. Sam was one of a number of service personnel who escorted Her Majesty's coffin at Windsor last year.



Sam with Her Majesty at the tomb of the unknown warrior in Westminster Abbey

Accidental encounters

Lt Col Mike Whelan (WS 1977-1989) has some great stories. In 2007 Mike was halfway through a two-year tour as an Army staff officer in the British Embassy in Washington DC. Mike was responsible for keeping guests at a reasonable distance during a visit by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the establishment of the first British settlement in America.



Royal Dinner at the British Embassy, Washington

The Garden Party was a resounding success and Mike and members of the team were invited to support a banquet planned for later the same evening. Their role was to meet and greet guests and escort them from the Embassy main entrance to the garden. Mike recalls *"This appeared to go smoothly and just before the team departed for a well-earned rest, the Queen's Private Secretary raced up to me and asked for one more favour. The guests were now waiting to file in for dinner and be introduced to the Queen, the President of the US, the First Lady and then the Duke. However, the 'prompt cards' containing the names of the guests needed to be quickly passed from the Queen's Private Secretary (once he had announced them to the Queen) to the Duke's Private Secretary, before the guests reached him along the line. So, for 30 minutes, while standing behind the Queen, I undertook the most random of roles as the Royal Senior Card Passer! Once the last guest had been ushered through to the Banquet Hall, the Duke and the First Lady were escorted in and I made my move to depart. At that moment, the President decided to close off my only way out, leaving me stranded in the area behind him and the Queen. At this point, the American press took their once in a lifetime photo opportunity. The resulting photo appeared in a number of local and national publications. I believe the correct caption should have read: Two of the most influential people in the West... and the President of the US"*.

Royal posies

Nine-year old Edward Button (WS 1997-2008) presented a posy of flowers to Her Majesty when she visited Coventry. Years later, as a chorister aged 26, Edward was privileged to sing in her choir at HM Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace.

Royal florist Simon Lycett (WS 1974-85) made many flower decorations for Her Majesty, ranging from the simple, to the stunning.



A simple posy at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2016

Visits to RMA Sandhurst



The trial run



The painting at RMA Sandhurst

Unsurprisingly, many of our OWs in Defence have had royal encounters. Dr Edward Flint (WS 1982-87) met Her Majesty on several occasions at RMA Sandhurst, including at both of the Sovereign's Parades for OCdt Wales (Harry) and OCdt Wales (William). Ed was asked to help commission a painting of OCdt Wales (Harry) with the Queen and the immediate family at his Sovereign's Parade. Ed's photo shows the practice positioning of 'stand-ins' with the two OCdts. Ed says *"We asked the two Princes to invite 'Dad', 'Granny' et al to stand in this arrangement on the day. They did and it worked perfectly"*. Ed's second photo shows the painting on display at RMA Sandhurst.

Queen's Award for Enterprise

John Wallace (WS 1969-76) and Craig Wallace (WS 1998-2008) met HM The Queen at a reception at Buckingham Palace when their company, Spencer Feeds Ltd, won The Queen's Award for Enterprise and International Trade. Their agricultural export company has won the award twice – in 2001 and in 2013.



Craig Wallace



John Wallace

Official openings and garden parties

Joe Dunstan (WS 1946-54), while working for East Somerset NHS Trust, organised a visit by Prince Charles in 1995 to open the Douglas Macmillan Cancer Care Centre at Yeovil District Hospital.



The opening of the Macmillan Cancer Care Centre in 1995

Architect Michael Heath (WS 1948-53) renovated the Mayoral Suite for a royal visit to Coventry Cathedral in 1962. In the 1980s, while working for the South Australian Government, Michael was also responsible for preparing Carrick Hill for its public opening by HM the Queen and Prince Phillip.

Gavin Neath CBE (WS 1961-72) worked closely with the then Prince of Wales between 2005 and 2012 to curb tropical deforestation.

OW Sport

OW Golf Autumn Day

Wednesday 19 October 2022

The 2022 OWGS Autumn Golf Day was a challenge to organise. Sadly, the initial date of Friday 9 September had to be cancelled – the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II had been announced and the weather forecast also suggested severe thunderstorms.



Back: Malcolm Lines, Richard Simmons, Iain Simmons, Clive James, Andy Dunnell, Tim Shenton-Taylor, Tim Priest and Phil James. Front: Mike Barnwell, Rob Kay, Julian Marcus (Hon Sec), David Phillips (Capt), Peter Gedge, Peter Baird and Myles Collett.

Malcolm Lines kindly scheduled an alternative day. With a great response from the OWGS, 14 golfers and two spectators enjoyed bacon rolls, 18 holes of top competition, a great meal and a presentation ceremony at Leamington & Co GC on 19 October.

It was fabulous to see some new faces in Phil James, Tim Priest and Adrian Robinson, who all received their commemorative OW ball markers from Captain Phillips – a warm welcome to them all.

The main event involved 18 holes of stableford golf for the OW Salver and the OW Golfer of the Year trophies.

OW Salver

An individual stableford played off full handicap.

- Winner: Malcolm Lines on 36 pts
- Second: Phil James on 35 pts (back 9)
- Third: Myles Collett on 35 pts
- Next: Iain Simmons, Andy Dunnell and Mike Barnwell on 34 pts.

OW Golfer of the Year

- Winner: Myles Collett on 66 pts
- Second: Andy Dunnell on 61 pts
- Third: Peter Baird on 59 pts (back 18)
- Fourth: Julian Marcus on 59 pts.

Nearest the Pin

- Hole 11 – Andy Dunnell
- Hole 18 – Peter Baird.

OW Spring Golf Day

Tuesday 16 May 2023 – Tadmarton Heath GC

OWs are warmly invited to the Spring Golf Day which will follow the usual format of Edinburgh foursomes in the morning and an individual stableford in the afternoon (to allow those who only wish to play 18 holes the chance to participate in the afternoon). £105.00 for 36 holes or £87.50 for 18 holes (including lunch, two course dinner, green fees and prizes).

OWs under 30 years of age are warmly invited to the day for the princely sum of £30 thanks to a legacy from Mrs Joan Marshall (limited places so please sign up quickly).

Please email arkvets@hotmail.com if you would like to play.



Tadmarton Golf Club

Save the date

OW Autumn Meeting – Friday 8 September 2023 at Leamington & County GC

Come on your own or bring a friend. Spectators welcome if you cannot join us with your clubs! Everyone always welcome.

Thank you and new appointments

A special thank you to Julian Marcus for his long and continued service as Hon Sec.

Special thanks too to David (Taff) Phillips for his extended reign as Captain of the OWGS (he took up his post in 2018).

Malcolm Lines (WS 1960-67) has accepted the Captain's nomination and Richard Simmons (WS 1961-72) has accepted the position of Vice Captain for 2023.



An early start



Fifth hole

OW Racing Club



Midnight Reflection in the winners' enclosure



Hill gallop

Former Warwick Junior School Headmaster Guy Canning is looking to establish an OW Racing Club. Club membership will be open to OWs, past and present parents, staff and all friends of Warwick School.

Guy says, "Our National Hunt jumps horse will be trained from the start of the 2023-24 season by Cheltenham Festival winning trainer Ben Case (former OW parent) and, whenever possible, will be ridden by his son Charlie (WS 2011-18). Ben's stables are in the village of Wardington, based on the stunning Edgcote estate – five minutes from Junction 11 on the M40. Club members will always be

welcome to visit the yard, see our horse on the gallops – followed by breakfast – receive regular updates, enjoy hospitality at the track and, above all, enjoy the thrill of seeing our horse run".

The aims of the OWRC are firstly to promote fellowship and secondly to share in the special excitement that racing offers. If you are interested in finding out more and arranging a stable-visit please email one of the following: Guy Canning (WJS Headmaster 2004-16) – g.canning@outlook.com or Charlie Huggins (WS 2007-18) – chuggy173@gmail.com.

OW Cross Country

Saturday 16 September 2023

Congratulations to Martin Garrett (WS 1965-72) and brothers Simon (WS 1994-01) and Dom (WS 1998-05) Bostock who competed for OWs in the Thames Hare and Hounds Alumni Race over Wimbledon Common last September. Martin was delighted to be placed third in the V65 group.

This year's five-mile cross country race across Wimbledon Common will take place on Saturday 16 September, starting at 15:00. Please get in touch with Anne Douglas on a.douglas@warwickschool.org if you'd like to take part and/or receive details. All welcome.



Simon, Martin and Dom

OW Cricket and OW Tennis

Saturday 17 June 2023

The annual OWs vs School cricket and tennis matches are scheduled for Saturday 17 June.

If you're interested in playing cricket please join OWs Cricket on Facebook or email a.douglas@warwickschool.org.

If you'd like to play tennis for OWs please contact macvie3@yahoo.co.uk.



Warwick School Archives

New books

Warwick School Archivist Gervald Frykman is delighted to publish two new books from the WS Archives. The Master's Books of Warwick School, 1881-1906 and Man and Boy are available to order now!

The Master's Books of Warwick School, 1881-1906

This is a juicy collection of the writings of all the headmasters, some good, some not quite so good, in the late Victorian era, and just going into the 20th century. Notices to be read out, expulsions to be made, pleas for less noise to be made in the dining room, warnings not to upset sheep. It's all there – how to run, or not run, a small-town grammar school 140 years ago.

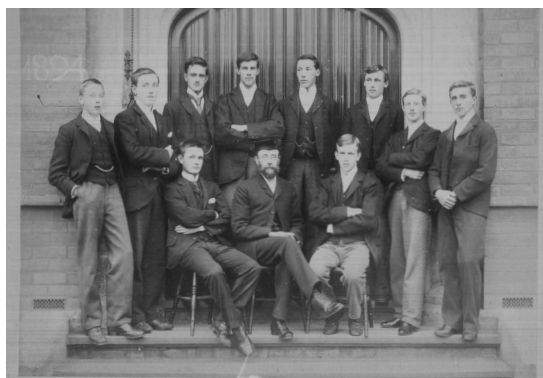
Man and Boy

Twenty years ago Gervald was lucky enough to be sent the diaries of G. A. Riding, headmaster from 1928 to 1933. The diaries covered the years 1927 to 1930, and feature, in amazing detail, how he tried to cope in the immediate aftermath of the Pyne era. 'A new broom sweeping clean' he certainly was, but his obsession with vice, and his own private life, are dealt with in great detail by combining the diaries with the recollections of a boy who was at the school at exactly the same time, Dennis Castle. Dennis describes why Pyne left the school, why the school was over-run with rats, and how they were dealt with, and the two arson attacks of 1930. There is much, much more.

These booklets are available in A4 (£12 each) or A5 size (£10 each) and can be posted or collected by prior arrangement from the Alumni Office at Warwick School.

Book	Size	Price	Post and packing
The Master's Books	A4	£12	£2.00
The Master's Books	A5	£10	£1.50
Man and Boy	A4	£12	£2.50
Man and Boy	A5	£10	£2.00

Full details on: www.oldwarwickians.org/books



1894 Warwick School Prefects



1900s The Dining Hall



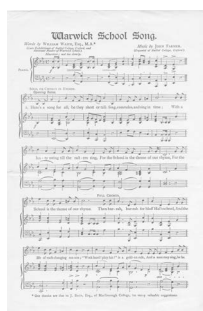
1923 Boarding cubicles



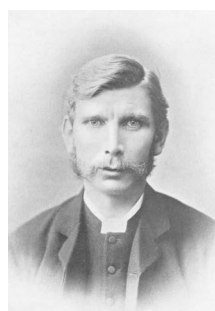
Rev R P Brown, HM 1896-1902



G A Riding, HM 1928-33 and F G Macaskie



1892 School Song music



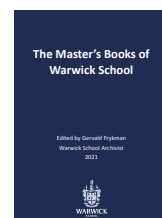
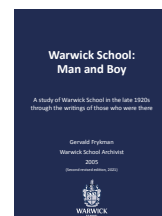
Rev W Grundy, HM 1881-85



1906 Warwick Pageant



1906 Pageant



Warwick School Boarding

Boarding has long been an integral part of Warwick School. For many years we have been keen to develop our boarding provision in terms of improving our facilities, increasing the size and diversity of our boarding community and, more recently, introducing boarding for King's High pupils now that the two schools share the same site.



A new sitting room in the boarding house

We are delighted to share our plans to expand, refurbish and enhance our boarding provision. As part of an extensive refurbishment of boarding accommodation, School House will expand to incorporate the accommodation which was formerly the Head Master's house. This will enable all Warwick School boarders to be housed together in one larger boarding house.



A very spacious new bedroom!

Alongside this refurbishment of boys' boarding accommodation, from September 2023, Way House (formerly Junior House) will offer boarding for Sixth Form girls at King's High. The introduction of King's High boarders will add a new and important dimension to our school communities and will be a further milestone in our 'best of both worlds' vision.

From the archives – OW boarders' tuck



Recently, WS Archives were extremely grateful to receive from John 'Spud' Taylor (WS 1952–58), his school tuck box, complete with a leftover stick of sealing wax, a couple of bicycle brake blocks, his pen-knife, a hair brush – and a 'boot mud remover' which he made in a woodwork class with Jack Swindlehurst.

No mother, wrote Roald Dahl in his childhood memoir *Boy*, would send her son off to prep school without, at the very least, the following in his tuck box: a home-made currant cake, a packet of biscuits, a couple of oranges, an apple, a banana, a pot of strawberry jam, a bar of chocolate and so on. To these the boy would add 'all manner of treasures', such as magnets, pocket knives, balls of string, clockwork racing cars, lead soldiers, tiddlywinks, catapults, stink bombs and Mexican jumping beans. The tuck box allowed each boy a private space in a regimented world.

WS archivist Gervald Frykman was delighted to hear from a number of OWs who sent details about what they kept in their tuck boxes.



George Revill, WS 1949-54 – *Looking back, I find it hard to imagine life without my school tuck box, it was indeed the one private place where I could lock away those knick-knacks that were mine. I still have the key and the box has pride of*

place in my 'Den' with photos of my school days that I now look back on with pride. My tuck box contained my cricket ball, table tennis bat, letters from home and, best of all, the home-made sponge cake and other goodies including jars of jam and marmalade sent by my mother. The goodies were especially important as I believe I was the only vegetarian boarder in the school.



Nigel Harper, WS 1959-66 – *My tuck box is in my shed, still locked with my 63-year-old combination lock. Two prized items that had to be locked away: a table tennis ball Duggy (Mr Dugdale) gave me when I took a game off him.*

Second were, bizarrely, large blocks of cooking chocolate which I could just tolerate but nobody else wanted!

Malcolm Eykyn, WS 1958-66 – *In the early years my tuck box was full of homemade apple pies at the beginning of each term. They were so popular with other boarders I was able to swap for higher value snacks like chocolate. Our matron, Ros Pulford, found out eventually and tried to put a stop to it in her gentle way. Trading continued, albeit in a more surreptitious manner.*

Guy Stanton, WS 1977-88 – *I still have my and my brother's tuck boxes, complete with AC/DC graffiti. Mine was filled with Mexican sweets!*



Paul Weighell, WS 1963-64 – *My tuck box was shared with my young brother. Mother had, of course, made sure we were liberally supplied with chocolate and other sweet comestibles. It is a painful admission to make public that I ate all mine on day one and then all my brother's on day two. I had the key.*



Dave Harrison, WS 1985-92 – *Tuck boxes in my younger years contained sugary drinks like Five-Alive and Panda Pops, crisps including Nik Naks, Wotsits and Monster Munch, and chocolate like Wagon Wheels, Penguins and Clubs. In Senior Boarding House you might also find packets of Cup A Soup with much prized crouton calories.*

You'd also find valued items inside, such as electric 'hot-rods' which hung over the cup to heat your soup. Later, in Senior Boarding House, you might also find illicit things such as Marlboro 100, Players No 6 and Embassy Filter cigarettes, as well as alcohol palatable to teenagers' taste, such as Campari, Malibu and Thunderbirds. However, these were more likely to be found hidden in the cavities above the false ceilings, as you could be forced to open a tuck box.

Peter Rawlins (WS 1947-59) – *I think Dahl's list of tuck box items is rather fanciful for the time I was boarding. Just after the war and for some time after most things were rationed, including sweets and biscuits. The only fruit we had were home grown apples and pears – we wrapped them in grease proof paper and stored them in the attic over winter – and fruit growing wild such as blackberries. I remember my excitement when I first saw a banana. My tuck box was not overflowing, although I seem to remember I always had Marmite.*

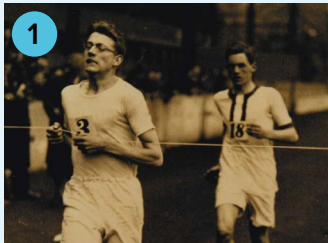
Who do you think they are?

OWS Nigel Harris, Rupert Griffiths, Steve Chamberlain, David Phillips, Nigel Robinson and Martin Green kindly answered the call to help sort some of our Warwick School archives. In the process, they unearthed some great photos from years gone by.

Here are 15 random photos spanning the decades featuring OWS, staff and visitors. All you need do is to name as many faces as you

can. They include a Swedish Viking, two Olympians, Warwickshire batsman, a Field Marshall, marathon runner, four maths teachers, two sports teachers, three Head Masters, a magician, a School Marshall and a famous musician.

Answers to: alumni@warwicksschool.org by Good Friday. There will be prizes! Answers will be revealed in the next Old Warwickian.



www.warwickfoundationconnect.com

Recent leavers and all Old Warwickians are invited to join and engage with our free, online networking platform.

- Join the dedicated group for Old Warwickians plus your own specific year-group
- Connect with alumni, parents and friends of Warwick Schools Foundation
- Request or offer mentoring opportunities
- Promote your business on the Business Directory
- Advertise or search for job opportunities or work experience.

Sign up in two minutes at www.warwickfoundationconnect.com or download the  Graduway Community App and enter 'Warwick Foundation'.

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