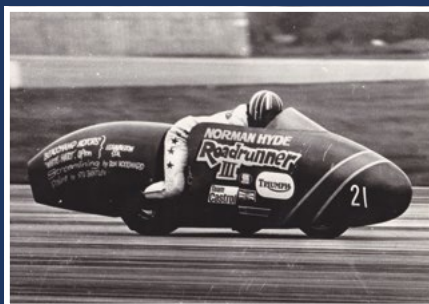


The Old Warwickian



SPRING/SUMMER 2025 | ISSUE 47

www.oldwarwickians.org
www.warwickfoundationconnect.com



Warwick Foundation Connect

We are delighted to relaunch our free, online networking platform which brings together and capitalises on the collective strength of our alumni and communities of Warwick School, King's High and also, now, The Kingsley School.

www.warwickfoundationconnect.com is exclusively open to the communities of Warwick Schools Foundation, including alumni, former parents and friends.

www.warwickfoundationconnect.com offers you the opportunity to:

Connect

Find, connect and reconnect with fellow Old Warwickians and other alumni, parents and friends of the Warwick Schools Foundation community.

Expand

Access a professional network to find people you should know. Look for or offer advice, work experience or job opportunities.

Give back

Introduce, employ and/or offer to act as a mentor or give a bit of support to fellow members of the community including recent school leavers.



Download the App

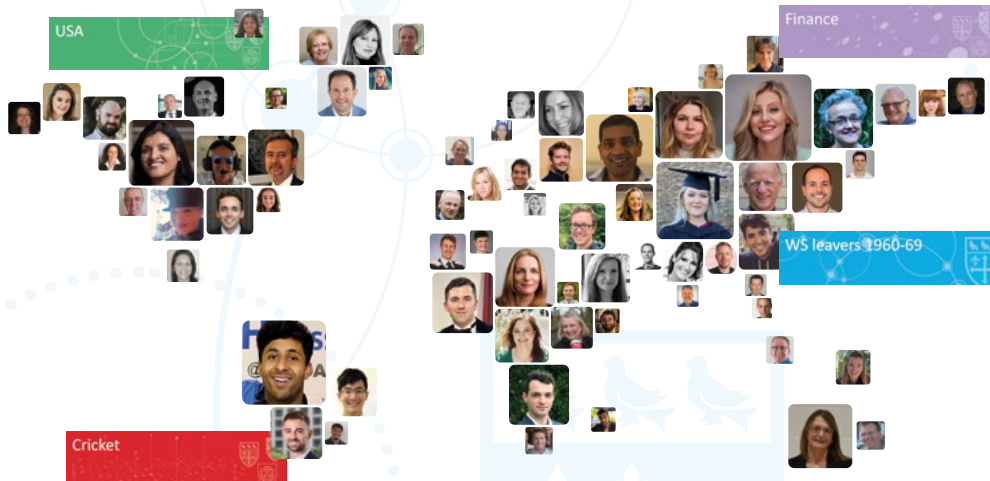
To access Warwick Foundation Connect on your mobile device download the Graduway Community app. When you are prompted to enter the name of your institution, enter: Warwick Foundation.

WK



Geographical Groups

Living or visiting abroad? Check out and/or join our geographical groups to connect with fellow alumni overseas or simply search the directory for OWs in a particular country.



Special Interest Groups

Join our sports groups to check out the latest news on events and matches. See what our Foundation Book Groups are reading!

Getting started

Joining the new platform only takes a few steps – you can join using your email address or make it even simpler by connecting your LinkedIn or Facebook profile.

Once registered, you can update your profile, tick what help you might be seeking or are prepared to offer and then start exploring the platform. You can message people through the platform, add photos, post in any of the group feeds and search the directory of over 1,600 members already registered.

Professional Networks

Join one of our first professional networks to exchange industry insights, develop collaborations and make new connections.

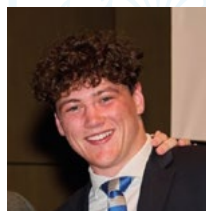
- Law
- Finance
- Biotechnology and Medicine
- Entrepreneurs
- Property and Construction
- Armed Forces.

More networks coming soon!

Decade and Year-Groups

Join the Old Warwickians group – an area for OWs to connect with each other, share photos, updates and hold group chats. Join your own or any OW decade group – there are groups for leavers from every decade since the 1940s.

If it is your anniversary year, join your year-group. We currently have year-groups for OW leavers from 1965, 1970, 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005 and 2015.



Cameron Collie (WS 2018-23) says:

"I signed up to Warwick Connect to aid my search for a summer internship as a second year on an undergraduate degree. I reached out to lots of OWs for advice. Many came back offering CV advice, interview prep, insights into their sector and even the offer of some

work experience, with lots of people more than willing to give up some time and take a call with myself. And I've been successful in receiving an offer for a summer internship!"

Forthcoming Events

Bridge House Theatre 25th Anniversary Showcase

Saturday 10 May 2025

The Bridge House Theatre's 25th birthday is a great opportunity to celebrate all the incredible theatre experiences it has provided over the years. The Anniversary Showcase – on Saturday 10 May at 19:00 – will feature students past and present, in short extracts from plays, musicals and sketches, alongside images and displays recalling many of the incredible shows the BHT has hosted.

Those who have been involved in any productions over the years are especially invited to join us (with a guest) to celebrate this wonderful place, to spend some time reminiscing and catching up with others for whom the BHT has provided such an amazing *stage* in their lives. Theatre staff and teachers will be attending too, so you can finally get some closure on that role you should have been given all those years ago!

If you'd like to join us please complete the form <https://forms.office.com/e/UdmiZva5ii>. And if you cannot, we'd love you to share some of your memories and even pictures, for us to include in the celebration – there's a place on the form for you to write a few words and please email any images to a.douglas@warwickschools.co.uk.

Space is limited, so don't delay and secure your place at what promises to be a wonderful evening.

"The chance to reach out one's hand in a dark room, hoping that it might be grasped."

Barney Whittaker (WS 2006-17)



Bugsy Malone 2012



Amadeus 2010



Mary Poppins 2020

"A place that became a sanctuary for me to express myself and experience the joy of performing and portraying a whole range of wonderful characters! The Bridge House Theatre is full of so many wonderful memories, filled to the brim with the amazing performers, directors, musicians and creative people who have made it what it is today."

Edward Robinson (WS 2012-19)



Don Quixote 2008



Romeo and Juliet 2009

OW Anniversary Reunions

1965, 70, 75, 85, 95, 2005 and 2015 Leavers

Saturday 7 June 2025 – Warwick School

Don't look back and wonder

"I had thought that the past was best left alone until that evening when, after a most pleasant dinner and a couple of frames of snooker, my old school-friend, Richard and I realised that we were on the verge of being 40 years on from our student days at Warwick School. We knew not what had become of any of our contemporaries. And there we might have left it until curiosity got the better of us.

Six months later and with much trepidation fifty of the class of '69 assembled, with some of our former (not old) teachers. Many of us were wondering how we'd let this happen and if it would have been better to let sleeping dogs lie.

In the event, initial awkwardness having passed, we discovered

that forty years was no time at all and that what we had once shared and things we value and have in common, are far greater than what we'd missed in the meantime.

Ten years on, we did it again. Some of us have kept in touch and remade old friendships – and some new ones. All of us look forward to gathering again. We know that we are blessed in many ways. We recollect those lost along the way and value the opportunities we have had as we approach our threescore and ten.

On another day, like many of those who read this, I might have said 'No thanks' but the reunion we had and those meetings we've had since have been a source of great pleasure and reassurance. What chance 60 years on? Let's not get ahead of ourselves."

Graham Powell, WS 1962-69, written in 2019

135 OWs and many staff are already signed up for the Anniversary Reunions on Saturday 7 June and we are expecting many more. Enjoy a relaxed and informal afternoon back at school with drinks, a welcome from the Head Master, tours of the school and complimentary refreshments. There will be a card bar.

Time: 14:00-17:30

Venue: Warwick Hall
(formerly Guy Nelson Hall)

Dress: Casual.

These anniversary reunions are for those who left at the end of the U6 in those years, plus classmates who left earlier.

While there is no charge to attend, please register in advance on www.oldwarwickians.org/2025reunions.



Wessex Old Warwickians

Saturday 31 May 2025 – Alderbury

Mike Huntley (WS 1962-69) and wife Anne kindly invite Wessex Old Warwickians to the next WOW gathering at their home in Alderbury, a village just outside Salisbury on Saturday 31 May.

Wessex Old Warwickians was formed from a conversation in 2019 between Tim Harry (WS 1963-73) and Mike Huntley (WS 1962-69) who discovered they both lived in the South West. They speculated about how many other OWs might live in the realm of "Wessex" and whether there was any mileage in organising regional get-togethers as "WOW" or Wessex Old Warwickians.

The first WOW gathering was a BBQ at Mike's house and, since then, successful WOW gatherings have been held in pubs and restaurants in Shaftesbury, Sherborne, Winchester, Marlborough, Salisbury and, most recently, Sparkford. The meet-ups have been organised by different OWs on their home patch. Whether you have been to a WOW gathering before or not, these get-togethers are always welcoming, friendly and convivial occasions.

The summer WOW gathering will take the form of a lunchtime BBQ on Saturday 31 May. The invitation extends to spouses/partners with a request for contributions for drinks/salads/BBQ items, rather than a charge.

Please register at www.oldwarwickians.org/2025wow.

Do you have children at one of our schools?

Informal drinks at The Craftsman Café and Bar, Warwick – Thursday 15 May, 19:00

Owen James (WS 1993-2003) and Arun Sachdev (WS 1991-2002) are some of many Warwick Schools Foundation alumni who currently have children at Warwick, King's High, Warwick Prep or The Kingsley School. Owen and Arun invite fellow alumni parents to join them for informal drinks at The Craftsman, Warwick on Thursday 15 May, from 19:00. No agenda, just an opportunity to get together.

Run by Harvey Brown (WS 2014-21), and father Paul, The Craftsman on Smith Street in Warwick offers independent, real craft beer (16 taps!) and there's a good selection of other drinks for those who would prefer something different. Card payment only accepted.

If you're an OW, KHS or Kingsley alumni with a child or children at any of our Foundation schools we would love to see you on 15th May!

If you could register your interest at <https://forms.office.com/e/PCaijd47zz> as soon as possible that would be brilliant so we can give The Craftsman an idea of numbers.

OWA President's Dinner

Saturday 17 May 2025
The Cavalry and Guards Club,
127 Piccadilly, London

Last few tickets remaining!

OWA President Jamie Barr TD (WS 1971-78) has the pleasure of inviting Old Warwickians to join him at The Cavalry and Guards Club on Saturday 17 May. This is our first London President's Dinner for nine years. Spouses, partners and friends most welcome.



The Cavalry and Guards Club occupies 127 Piccadilly, a gracious building at the Hyde Park Corner end of Piccadilly. It overlooks Green Park, so we will have glorious views of London in late spring, be able to admire myriad pictures of generals, soldiers, battles and horses, while enjoying good conversation, fine dining and the bar.

Timings

19:00 Welcome drinks
19:30 Four-course dinner. A cash/card bar will run until 23:00
23:30 Carriages.

Dress: Black tie.

Tickets and booking

£85 per person to include pre-dinner drinks, a four-course dinner with coffee and dinner wine. Please book now and payment details will be shared with booking confirmation.

www.oldwarwickians.org/2025PresDin

Booking deadline: 17 April 2025.



Young OWs Special Discount – for those who left WS 2017-2024

Many younger OWs gravitate towards the city and Jamie is particularly keen to encourage them to start to enjoy the lifelong camaraderie, friendship and networking opportunities offered by the OWA. He is therefore pleased to offer those who left Warwick School in or after 2017 a specially discounted ticket of £50. This offer is available to the first 25 OWs booked, on a first come, first served basis.

Cancellations

Tickets are for named individuals only and are non-transferable. If you wish to cancel your ticket(s) please advise Anne Douglas on a.douglas@warwickschools.co.uk so that they may be reallocated to those on the waiting list. No tickets are refundable after the booking deadline unless we are able to reallocate them.

OWA President 2025

Jamie Barr, WS 1971-78

Jamie joined Warwick School from Coten End, having won a bursary at 11+ in the golden days when the local authority funded 45 places in every year-group.

"I benefited from the classically rounded education at which Warwick excels. When not doing academic stuff, I was a regular in the 3rd XV, represented the school in athletics and did a bit of acting. Chairing the Community Service Unit was one of my more formative experiences. I am not sure how well I did the job, but it was a great early experience.

Despite not joining the CCF, after 7th term Oxbridge I was accepted for the Army's Short Service Limited Commission scheme. This gave me six months' service with the Regular Army in Germany and Cyprus and led to my joining the Territorial Army, in which I served for 15 years.

I read Jurisprudence at Oxford – Merton College – and became a corporate lawyer focused on mergers and acquisitions and equity capital markets. I had a six-year flirtation with investment banking which, while entertaining, convinced me that law was my real vocation.

I moved to Hong Kong in 2000 and ultimately ran Hogan Lovells' Asia corporate practice for ten years. During this time, we grew



the practice from four partners and five associates in two offices to 17 partners and 100 lawyers in eight offices, including one in Mongolia.

On retiring from legal practice in 2015 I set up a business to train lawyers. As an honorary professor at Queen Mary University of London I have been developing an online training programme in M&A.

I am an enthusiastic explorer, hiker, cyclist and scuba diver, and a lover of opera, theatre, music and fine arts and have been married to my wonderful, long-suffering wife, Alex, for over 30 years.

Education is a real passion, and I hope to support the School's ambition to grow its bursary programme during my term as OWA President. I am also keen to foster greater interaction and engagement among the OW community and plan to support a number of initiatives this year."



2025 OWA President Jamie Barr

Recent Events

OWA Annual Dinner 2024

7 September 2024 – The Pyne Room, Warwick School

It was great to see OWs of all ages at the 2024 Annual Dinner.

Long serving member of staff John Jefferies was pleased to give the address on behalf of the Head Master, reflecting on thirty years teaching at Warwick School. With his distinctive great insight and dry humour, John recounted key lessons he had learnt over the years, from near-misses with uncooked sausages to encounters with Russian police.

John spoke about the key values of Warwick School, most notably modesty and humility. He reflected on future challenges, including the imminent increase in school fees, and affirmed that Warwick School will continue to go from strength to strength because the generous spirit of the education we offer is unchanged, unrivalled and truly priceless.

2025 OWA Annual Dinner

Saturday 6 December 2025 – save the date!



Eric Hadley and Paul O'Grady



Jim Button and Adrian Keeling KC



John Hill and John Pascall



OWA President 2024 James Cook passes on the Presidential chain to OWA President 2025 Jamie Barr



David Stevens, Tony Sparks and Steve Tubb



Nick Grey, Paul O'Grady, Owen James, Eric Hadley, Sandip Dhillon, Tim Jacques, Hugo Doyle and Simon Doherty



Dave Phillips, Don Hanson, Peter Gedge and Chris Davis



Matt Harry, Ben Howard, Alec Shoesmith, Greg Moreton-Smith and Chris Smith



Members of the U6 with OWA President James Cook and Tony Sparks



OWA AGM: Jim Button, Will Milner, Treasurer Arun Sachdev, Adrian Keeling KC, Chairman Steve Tubb, Owen James, 2025 President Jamie Barr, Head Master James Barker and 2024 President James Cook OBE

OWA AGM 2024

12 December 2024 – Warwick Arms Hotel

The OWA AGM took place in the Warwick Arms Hotel on 12 December 2024. Reports were received from the Chairman, Treasurer and Alumni Relations Manager.

Brig James Cook OBE said what an honour it had been to serve as OWA President in 2024. He had supported the school and OWA on no less than 11 occasions during his Presidential year and every time he had returned to school he had been impressed by the students. He was pleased to hand over the Presidential Chain to Jamie Barr, OWA President 2025.

The Chairman thanked the President for his tremendous work and support throughout 2024.

The following were elected to the OWA Committee 2025

President – Jamie Barr (WS 1971-78)
Chairman – Steve Tubb (WS 1971-82)
Treasurer – Arun Sachdev (WS 1991-2002)
Head Master – James Barker (WS 1991-97)
Secretary – Anne Douglas.

The committee retained the option to co-opt members.

President Elect 2025 (to serve as President 2026)

James Uffindell (WS 1992-97).

The Minutes of the 2024 AGM are available at www.oldwarwickians.org/2024AGM

Recent Leavers' Drinks

17 December 2024

It was wonderful to welcome back many Warwick, King's High and Kingsley School recent leavers from 2024, 2023 and 2022 for festive drinks. This event will be repeated in 2025 – details to follow.



Eowyn Charman, Imogen White, Mia Evan Cook, Phoebe Hales, Freya Laycock



Tom Bosworth, Freddie Turner, Izzie Gore, Maya Mulder-Qureshi, Ashley Frift, Jemima Hunt, Gemma Whitfield



Sam Martin, Ollie Crabtree, Noah Saxton



Will Wilkinson, Elliot Smith



Adrian Frift, Ed Pollock



Will Murden, Charlie Hopcraft, James Coplestone-Crow



Aidan Everett, Isabella Brading, Vijay Mehta, Will Dodsworth, Kristian White

"The friendships forged at school are among the most precious things I leave with. Coming to the drinks event is a great way to stay in touch."

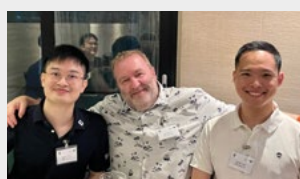
OWs in Hong Kong

22 September 2024

OWs in Hong Kong enjoyed a Warwick Schools Foundation alumni gathering at the Indian Recreation Club in Causeway Bay. Very special thanks to Bob Chapman (WS 1997-2004) for hosting.



Chris Lee, Eddie Cheung, Bryan Chan, Alaric Chan and Alvin Yeung



Aaron Fung, David Bull and Jordan Yim



Samuel Cheung, Chris Lee, Bryan Chan, Eddie Cheung, Alaric Chan, Alvin Yeung, Bob Chapman, Aaron Fung, Jordan Yim, David Bull, Tayma Page Allies, Rachel Desgouttes and Gail Southward

Alumni Armed Forces Dinner

The Pyne Room, Warwick School

OWA President 2024 Brig James Cook OBE (WS 1982-89) was honoured to host a dinner in the Pyne Room for serving and retired Old Warwickians plus alumni of King's High and The Kingsley School (invited but unable to attend).

Head Master James Barker (WS 1991-97) emphasised how proud the Foundation is of those who go on to serve in the Armed Forces. He highlighted the strength and popularity of today's joint CCF, which develops leadership, teamwork, initiative and self-reliance, helping our students become more confident and independent.

The Head Master also remembered and honoured John Pipitone (WSS staff 1989-2012), who sadly passed away in 2024. At John's funeral Maj Gen Jules Buczacki CBE (WS 1981-92) said *"John Pipitone is the reason I joined the Army. My first role model; his way of compassionate leadership and humanity has guided me through my career. I am not alone. His professionalism, selflessness, and mischievous sense of fun touched his many comrades in the Army; the 70 or so of us who joined the Armed Forces from his time at Warwick School; and the thousands of boys, parents and staff who had the privilege to know him."*



Lt Col (Retd) Roy Dixon, Brig James Cook OBE and
Lt Col (Retd) William Withers



Lt Col (Retd) Roy Dixon and Mrs Harriet Dixon, Brig Mark Banham MBE
and Mrs Sally Banham



CCF staff in the 1990s with John Pipitone front,
second from left



Lt Col RM (Retd) Jim McLaren OBE,
Drs Helena and Alex Wollaston



Maj Edward Cobham, Lt Col Elliot Shale
and Surg Lt Cdr Adam Griffiths



Maj Richard and Mrs Angela Greenway,
Revd James Holden



KHS students Sophie and Alex and
Off Cdt Ben Watson



Lt Col Keith Davenport, Lt Col (Retd) William Withers
and Contingent Commander Chris Grant



Lt Col (Retd) David Summers, Head Master James Barker,
Lt Col Keith Davenport, Mr Olly O'Brien and Maj Richard Gething



Henry Fifield, Charlie Hopcraft, Brig James Cook OBE,
Dr Edward Flint and Off Cdt Ben Watson

Wessex Old Warwickians

With sincere thanks to Jimmy Flynn (WS 1970-77) the autumnal gathering of Wessex Old Warwickians was held at the impressive Haynes Motor Museum in Somerset. The UK's largest collection of cars and motorcycles was an amazing discovery for many who had not visited before. Exceptional volunteer guides added insights into the superb collection of vintage cars from the dawn of motoring onwards. Morris, Ferrari and Williams F1 complemented a full range of vehicles with great British marques and others from around the world.

A short drive in more modern wheels transported everyone to a splendid lunch at the 18th century Montague Inn.



Joe Dunstan, Sam Harry, Sue Dunstan, Tim Harry, Bob and Pauline Stoney, Sam Samwell, Anne and Mike Huntley, James Cook, Jimmy and Alison Flynn, John Vaughan, Magdalena Slavikova, Tim Cullen and Martin Kennard

1960s Birmingham Bash

OWs from the 1960s enjoyed another Birmingham Bash with drinks at The Old Joint Stock, followed by lunch at San Carlo Italian Restaurant.

Despite horrendous weather 14 hardy souls attended from as far afield as Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Somerset.

Many thanks to Clive Boast for organising these great gatherings.

Malcolm Eykyn, David Summers, Steve Chamberlain, Richard Gething, Clive Boast, Ian Thorpe, Peter Turner, Nick Willson, John Davidson, Martin Newman, John Hill, Geoff Thorpe, Nick Madeley and Nigel Thompson



OWs in Norfolk (NOW)

OWs in Norfolk gathered for the first time at The Gin Trap Inn in Hunstanton on 5 March. Kindly organised by Richard Thornton (WS 1963-74) and Tony Crockert (WS 1962-73), the lunch was a lovely opportunity to connect and reconnect.



Geoff Davis, Jan and Andrew Sawyer, Tony Crockert, Lisa Jones, Richard Thornton, Tim Harris, Nigel Evans and Marcus Flint

OW Coffee Mornings



Malcolm Eykyn, Chris Ward, Dave Phillips MBE, John Hill, Nigel Robinson, Tony Sparks and Jonathan Meredith

Two OW coffee mornings, where we opened the Warwick School Museum, put out archives not usually on display and had a sale of Warwick School fine bone china, raised over £2,000 for Warwick School bursaries.

The Floreat Society

Members of our Floreat Society enjoyed a traditional school lunch in the Halse Pavilion at Warwick School. The annual Floreat lunch is held to thank and celebrate members who have chosen to leave a gift to their school in their Will. The society includes alumni from Warwick, King's High and Kingsley. Last year, legacy gifts across these three Warwick Foundation Schools totalled £347,000, supporting current and future students by increasing access to an education at one of our schools.

Thank you to all our legacy supporters and their families, whether at the lunch or not, who have chosen to support their school in this special way.

If you would like to learn more about the Floreat Society, or discuss leaving a legacy gift to Warwick School, please contact Emily Gladman, Head of Philanthropy, at e.gladman@warwickschools.co.uk or 01926 776403.



Thank you to some of our Floreat Society members

OW News

Pedalling to the pitch for Parkinson's

Warwick School rugby coach Marko Stanojevic (WS 1991-98) and current WS parent Stephen Gray undertook a 100-mile bike ride to Allianz Stadium for the Six Nations Rugby England vs. France match, raising money for charity. The epic challenge raised funds for Parkinson's UK and Cyclists Fighting Cancer – a local charity helping young people living with cancer regain their physical fitness, confidence and independence through the power of cycling.



Marko and Stephen

Buckle up for the Fin Smith era



Fin Smith in action against France

OWs around the world held their breath as Fin Smith (WS 2013-20) made his first international start for England in the Six Nations match against France. Fin's impressive contribution then and in performances since have been applauded by the Warwick School and OW community. Iain Hacking (WS 1952-63) sums up the view of the OW community: *"The senior members of the squad are delighted with this young man's leadership. May he avoid injury and have a very long international career. Cheers for Warwick School!"*

OW Rugby Internationals



Charlie Hayter and Ben Howard
at the Hong Kong 7s



Tim Dalton

Fin Smith follows in the footsteps of other OWs who have gained international rugby caps. Tim Dalton (WS 1952-59) gained a full England cap in 1969 when he was on the winning side against Scotland at Twickenham. Marko Stanojevic (WS 1991-98) represented Italy in the 2007 RWC and 2009 Rugby Sevens Cup. Charlie Hayter (WS 2000-07) made his Commonwealth Games debut in Glasgow in 2014 before going on to represent England in 30 HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series rounds over five years. Ben Howard (WS 2001-11) represented England in the World Rugby Sevens Series 2017-18. Many OWs will also remember WS former staff Roger Hosen who played at full back for both England and the British Lions in the late 1960s.

The first OW who played rugby for Great Britain was Sidney Nelson Crowther (WS 1887-92). If the search is widened to who first played for their country, the winner is Robert Challoner (WS 1885-91). Challoner had emigrated to Australia and played for that country in a match against Great Britain in Sydney in 1899. The Australians lost 11-0.

Film Club



Aimee Lou Wood and Ralph Davis

Watch out later this year for Ralph Davis (WS 2003-14) in the six-part romantic comedy-drama Film Club – the screenwriting debut from Ralph and Aimee Lou Wood.

Lou stars as Evie, who hosts a film club for her friend Noa every Thursday at 9.00pm. Each week, she transforms her garage into the perfect setting to watch the film of choice – for *Wizard of Oz*, a yellow brick road, for *Alien*, a spacecraft. They're there for the love of the movies. Or at least that's what they tell themselves. Ralph plays Dominic, Noa's slightly strange but well-meaning flatmate.

Ralph says: *"I couldn't be more excited about this. Aimee and I have been speaking about making something together since we met at drama school. To be doing this together is a dream."*

Film Club will air on BBC Three and iPlayer later this year.

Cheaters

Joshua McGuire (WS 1999-2006) starred in the second series of *Cheaters*, the sexy, funny, romantic and niche cult show which returned to BBC One before Christmas – with all bite-size episodes available on iPlayer.



Joshua McGuire, *Cheaters*

In contrast, Josh also appeared in the Steve McQueen historical war drama film *Blitz*.

Freeborn Shield comes home

Rory Stride (WS 2015-22) refereed the U15 final at the recent Warwick 7s. The Warwick U15 captain is pictured proudly holding the Freeborn Shield, named after Ken Freeborn (WS Staff 1957-92).



Rory Stride (WS 2015-22)

Christmas Drinks

Good to see familiar faces from the 1960s enjoying a catch up at the Old Fourpenny Shop Hotel in Warwick.



John Elson, Nigel Robinson, Pauline Elson

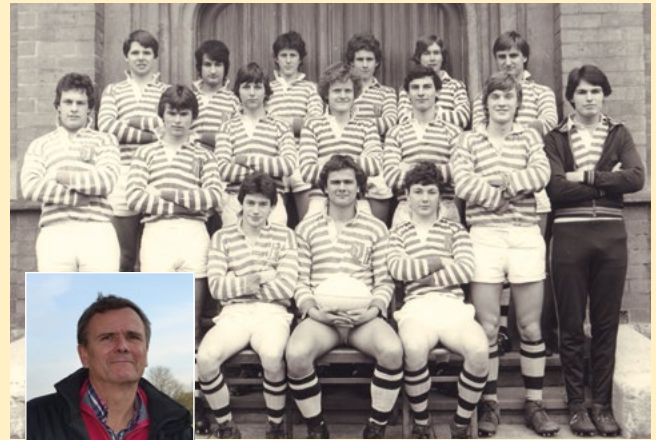


John Hill and Dick Grindal



Tony and Lyn Sparks

1978-81 1st XV record book



Ian Harris (Capt) and the 1979-80 1st XV

Ian Harris (WS 1970-80) returned to school to kindly donate a 1978-81 1st XV record book to the archives. As Honorary Secretary for the 1978-79 season Ian was tasked with recording all the games played. As he was appointed Captain for the following season (1979-80) and stayed on for Oxbridge exams (1980-81) he continued to maintain the book across these three seasons.

NATO appointment for Angus Lapsley

Angus Lapsley CMG (WS 1981-88) has been appointed as the UK's Permanent Representative to NATO. Former Head of School, Angus went on to read English Language and Literature at Oxford. He has spent over 30 years as a diplomat for the UK, serving as Director General Strategy and International in the Ministry of Defence, as Ambassador to the EU's Political and Security Committee, and working in the private offices of two Prime Ministers. He has served as NATO's Assistant Secretary for Defence Policy and Planning since 2022.

Reflecting on his time at Warwick School, Angus says *"I think I blame Simon Wheeler's European history courses, but Warwick has had a lock on senior roles dealing with our political and security relationships with Europe in recent years. I'm following in the footsteps of Stephen Lovegrove and Tim Barrow, while Pete Squires and Jules Buczaccki are very much around as well"*.



Angus with NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe General Chris Cavoli and former National Security Advisor Sir Stephen Lovegrove GCMG KCB

Degree congratulations

Congratulations to all our OWs who graduated last summer, in a staggering breadth of studies and at a huge range of universities and colleges. They include Harry Ratcliffe who graduated from Rose Bruford Drama School, Paddy Parfitt who graduated in Chinese from the University of Edinburgh, Rudy Yuen who graduated with a MEng in Mathematical Computation from University College London, Luke Barker who graduated in Modern Languages from the University of Birmingham and Alex Harrold who graduated in History from Robinson College, Cambridge.



Alex Harrold



Harry Ratcliffe

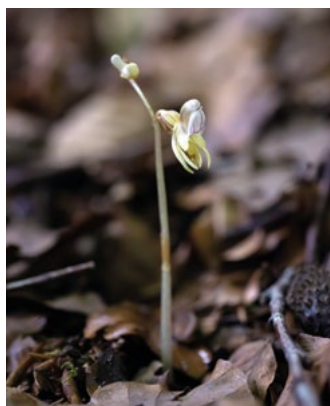
Ghost Orchid rediscovered

Dental surgeon and Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland member Richard Bate (WS 1994-2001), a keen botanist since his early years, has rediscovered the ghost orchid (*Epipogium aphyllum*) in the UK.

Described by the BSBI as being 'the most arduously sought British plant', it had not been seen in the UK since 2009 until Richard's rediscovery in August 2024.

Richard, who also works as a tour leader for a specialist company, was inspired to start searching for this plant on his tenth birthday and after three decades of searching in the UK he finally found one plant at a site in southern England.

Richard said: "Those who knew me during my time at Warwick School will know just how much this important find means to me, especially after searching for so long. I hope that those with a lifelong passion or ambition of their own are inspired by my perseverance. However, the greatest satisfaction has come from the knowledge that this delicate species still persists in our country."



The Ghost Orchid rediscovered by
Richard Bate

Anti-vaping campaign

Doctor and DJ Kishan Bodalia (WS 2002-13) is teaming up with influencer Big Manny in the first official initiative to try and dissuade under-18s from using e-cigarettes. Ministers have decided to launch the YouTube and Instagram campaign after evidence showed the number of under-18s using vapes has soared in recent years. The campaign is accompanied by a £62m research project to investigate how vaping affects young people's health.

Did you see?

Tom O'Grady (WS 1990-2001) on keyboards at BBC Proms 2024 – *Disco at the Proms*.

Tom McKay (WS 1993-98) as Eric Mercer in the three-part Channel 5 detective series *Ellis*.

Maanuv Thiara (WS 2001-12) in Channel 4's six-part zombie series *Generation Z*.

World Masters Hockey

Brig Mark Banham MBE (WS 1965-76) still enjoys competing at the highest level in international hockey.

Mark recently returned from the ten-day WMH World Cup in Cape Town, representing Alliance International Hockey with the over-65s.



Mark Banham at the WMH World Cup
in Cape Town

Wild about Wildes



1988 1st XI



Wildes Bar

OWs enjoying the newly opened Wildes wine bar and business club in Leamington may be unaware of the strong Warwick Schools Foundation connection. Guy Stanton (WS 1977-88) bought 7 The Parade and Wildes as a home for his leading web and mobile app development company Appoly and has transformed the venue into Wildes – a business club, wine and cocktail bar.

Guy was a boarder at Warwick from the age of seven when his family were in Mexico. A keen sportsman, the school offered him a range of sporting opportunities which he relished and still cherishes. He is proud to have sent six children through the Foundation – three through Warwick School, two through King's High and one through Kingsley. He is always active and feels fortunate to have many OW connections and lifelong friendships.

Guy says "You will probably come across quite a few of the family at Wildes and we want the school, Foundation and OW community to know they are always especially welcome. Whether you need Appoly's services, want to come to one of our events or are looking for a great night out or slow Sunday lunch, we'd love to see you!"

News from Down Under



Tristan, Mags and Derek



Glyn Edwards and family with WS student Will



Derek Shield and Richard Reynolds



Lachlan and Scott with their children

Tristan Shipsides (WS 1991-99), living in Victoria, is pictured at home with mother Mags (WS staff 1992-2015) and Derek Shield (WS staff 1985-2015).

Derek was also pleased to meet up with Richard Reynolds (WS 1988-99) when he visited Sydney. Derek and Richard are pictured at Taronga Zoo, looking across Sydney Harbour.

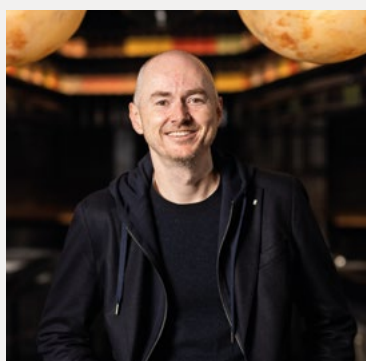
Glyn Edwards (WS 1986-89) 1st XV captain 1988-89 was pleased to meet up with Warwick School on their rugby tour to Australia and New Zealand.

On the 2008 Warwick School Australia and New Zealand Hockey and Rugby Tour Scott Reynolds (WS 2002-09) stayed with the host family of Lachlan Brown. Scott and Lachlan have remained firm friends since, meeting up many times, including most recently when they introduced their young children to each other.

Lessons from Gin

After three years studying Economics, Matt Jones (WS 1987-94) found himself working as a government economist. He says *"I wasn't very good at that. I moved into politics, writing speeches and developing campaign strategies. I never won an election!"* In 2005, he moved from the UK to Australia and from the world of politics into the world of brand strategy. In 2013, he took what he had learned from eight years of advising other people and applied it to his own start-up, Four Pillars Gin. Within a decade, Four Pillars was outselling Hendrick's in Australia, distributed in thirty markets worldwide, and had been named the world's best gin producer an unprecedented three times. In his book, *Lessons From Gin*, Matt reflects on what businesses of all ages, sizes and categories can learn from his gin-soaked journey. Part business memoir, part creative strategy how-to guide, Matt's book is an essential read for anyone looking to leverage the power of strategic thinking, storytelling, experiences and creativity to grow their business.

Lessons From Gin by Matt Jones, published by Wiley, available in all formats (print, digital and audiobook) from Amazon and in print at Waterstones and WH Smith.



Matt Jones (WS 1987-94)

Piping award

Keith Wellings (WS 1968-1979) was awarded "Highly Commended" and won second place honours at the 2025 Scottish Wedding Awards in Glasgow in the Piper of the Year category.

Boarders at Warwick in the late 1970s may remember Keith's fledgling days with the pipes which culminated in leading out various School House rugby teams for house matches and a recital at School House Supper.

Keith says, *"I am delighted to have received this recognition for piping and when I first picked up the instrument at Warwick I could only have dreamed that this would be the result one day!"*



Keith Wellings

University news

Special thanks to Alex Fakatou, Ted Bromwich and Max Stanton who returned to school to talk to Sixth Formers about university life.



Alex, Ted and Max

Welcome back

Alex von Behr (WS 1967-73)



Paul Budd (WS 1969-76)



Ross Carswell
(WS 2004-06)



Luke Hanrahan
(WS 2002-04)



Prof Dr Zamros Yuzadi
Mohd Yusof (WS 1987-89)



Matthew Zimmerman
(WS 2012-19)



It is always great to welcome back OWs, many of whom enjoy revisiting Warwick School with their families.

Good to also see Chris Byrne (WS 1998-2003) at General Sir Simon Mayall's Encounter at Warwick School on 15 January. Listen to Sir Simon's Heaton Podcast with John Jefferies and Olly O'Brien at <https://theheatonpodcast.buzzsprout.com/1781158/episodes/16444799-bonus-an-encounter-with-british-army-in-the-middle-east>.



Chris Byrne, Sir Simon Mayall and students

Wedding bells

Congratulations to Alexander Rogers (WS 2006-17) who married Charlotte Gale in September. Alexander works as a Lead Business Analyst for TriOps Workforce Management.



Alex with brothers Jonathan (WS 2003-14) and William (WS 2008-19)

Great Central Plastics

Kiron (WS 2006-12) and Zan Phillips (WS 2007-13) were pleased to revisit school with mother, Bal. The brothers reflected on how the opportunities they had enjoyed at school had been the foundation of their resilience, confidence and entrepreneurial spirit that contributes to their success today. The family visited the Cheshire Science Centre and the Great Central Plastics Chemistry laboratory, which they generously supported in 2007.



Mark Forth Head of Chemistry, Bal, Zan and Kiron Phillips

Captured on canvas

Nick Fogg MBE (WS 1952-59) has been captured on canvas by leading royal portrait artist Rupert Alexander. Nick served an unprecedented three terms as Mayor of Marlborough, during which time he created both the Jazz Festival (regarded as one of the biggest events of its kind in the UK) and the Literary Festival. He is also a historian and author of great acclaim, a leading authority on the works of Shakespeare, a former master of religious studies at Marlborough College, and an advisor to the InterAction Council on European, Middle Eastern and British politics.



Warwick School cricket match 1947

We were interested to see a copy of an original oil on board by Prof Robert (Bob) Bluglass CBE (WS 1943-48), depicting a school cricket match in 1947. Bob, who died aged 91 in 2022, was a pioneer of modern forensic psychiatry in the UK. He was also a keen painter.

Obituaries

We record with regret the passing of former staff and Old Warwickians mentioned below and pass on our sympathies to their loved ones, families and friends.

Depending on the wishes of family, obituaries will also be included on www.oldwarwickians.org/obituaries.

This is a password protected page. The email login is obituaries@oldwarwickians.org and the password is **AltioraPeto**.

Rob A Ashmore, WS 1958-66	Richard (Dick) Oldfield, WS 1945-50
Ian J Blakey OBE, WS 1948-55	Mark D Osborne, WS 1973-81
Nicholas John Cooper, WS 1959-68	Derrick (Dick) A Pears, WS 1963-70
Bryan Diamond, WS 1946-54	John Pipitone, WS Staff 1989-2012
Robin E R Evans, WS 1965-72	Trevor Pritchard, WS Staff 1969-89
Guy Hallifax, WS 1961-67	John K Rudgard, WS 1947-57
Paul Huband, WS 1950-57	David Shakespeare MA FRCS, WS 1961-68
Charles Kay ('Piff'), WS 1944-47	Richard G Smith, WS 1950-58
Margaret Keighley, née Tingle, WJS Staff 1947-62	Nick C R Walker, WS 1957-64
Pauline Norton, WS Staff 2000-12	

The lasting appeal of industrial heritage – and effective revision!



Brian Joseph (WS 1960-71) and Martin Green (WS staff 1970-2005) are pleased to announce the release of their new book – N.C. Joseph Ltd, The Aluminium Works & Stratford Produce Canners – two companies established by members of Brian's family. They form an important – but largely neglected – part of

Stratford's twentieth century industrial history. In its heyday, N.C. Joseph was one of the town's principal employers, supplying, for example, 43 million percolator bodies to the American market, whilst the Canners distributed 41 million cans of food to the armed forces in World War Two.

Anybody interested in purchasing a copy should contact Martin Green on wiaschairman@gmail.com.



WS Industrial Archaeology Trip 1978

Coincidentally, Paul Wormald has sent in a photograph of Martin's Industrial Archaeology trip to Bristol in 1978, with Martin standing on the original platform of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's train shed. This was accompanied by a copy of Martin's hand-written 1979 A Level Economics Revision and Exam Preparation notes that Paul had retained as a reminder of the importance of getting one's act together prior to any sort of exam!

Evensong reunion

Leo Sun (WS 2016-21) met up with Melvin Cooley, his former Greek teacher and WS chapel choir colleague on Oxford's Saxon Tower when both were on the way to sing evensong at different colleges. Leo is majoring in classical Greek at Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, and is currently on a year abroad at Lady Margaret Hall, where he has joined their chapel choir. Melvin was with Warwick School Chapel Choir en route to sing at Exeter College.



Melvin and Leo

Northcote Equity

Scott Fairlie (WS 1997-2002) shares news of raising £160m for new Private Equity Fund, Northcote Equity. Northcote specialises in technology and services investments in the UK

and Ireland. Taking a high-conviction and flexible approach, the team can support both minority and majority structures, investing up to £30m of equity in buyout and growth capital investments.

Prior to co-founding Northcote Scott spent nearly a decade with co-founders Matthew Charman and Charles Dale at one of Europe's best-performing private equity funds. He says "Our ethos is to keep investing simple and focused. For us, the simplicity comes through supporting the founders we find truly exciting, and the focus is in sticking to what we know. Today, we're humbled and proud to be backed by the founders we've backed in the past who are investing their own hard-earned capital and are now on hand to guide the next generation of entrepreneurs".



Northcote Equity

Speaker of the year

Magician, host and speaker Ben Hanlin, (WS 1999-2004) was honoured to receive three awards at The Speaker Awards 2024. Ben was awarded 'Best Newcomer', 'Best TEDx Speaker 2024' and 'Best Speaker of the Year'. His keynotes, focussing on how we can create better engagement and connection, resonate well with leaders, managers, sales teams and any business wanting to improve their culture. Hear more at <https://www.benhanlin.com/speaking/>



Ben Hanlin

Keep calm and ski on

Maj Gen Jules Buczacki CBE (WS 1981-92) and Toby Clark (WS 2006-15) were pleased to meet up at the Royal Armoured Corps and Army Air Corps alpine skiing exercise and championships in Sölden, Austria. Jules is President of the club and Toby, with 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, was running the exercise. Jules is pictured presenting Toby with first prize in the President's Race.

Jules recently joined forces with British comedian Mark Steel for an unforgettable evening of humour, resilience, and personal storytelling at the Always Be Comedy venue in Kennington. Both Jules and Mark have faced head and neck cancer and, through their unique perspectives, they showed how laughter and light can come from even the darkest times.



Toby and Jules



Jules and Mark

Coffee with a King's Singer



It was great to catch up with Edward Button (WS 1997-2008) during a small break in his busy touring, recording and performance schedule as Second Countertenor with The King's Singers.

Edward shared insights into the role he loves and his amazing journey with the group. He talked about the steep learning curve he has tackled in being a partner in the business, the progress he has made with his voice and singing technique and the incredible venues in which he has sung.

Edward travels for about seven months of the year, performing 100-120 shows annually across Europe, North America, Asia and Australia. Highlights? Three encores, a live broadcast from St Mary's and performing with a full orchestra in front of 2,000 Icelanders. Occasions when he is upgraded to 1st Class are also rather special.



View from the 'office' on tour in Shanghai

OWs in NY and Washington



Stuart O'Kelly



Will Todman with Eric Hadley, Odile Thomas and John Jefferies

Two OWs kindly welcomed Warwick School students on their annual Politics trip to New York and Washington.

In New York, students were delighted to meet Stuart O'Kelly (WS 1992-99). Stuart works in Prime Finance Transition Management at JP Morgan Chase and Co.

In Washington, students enjoyed meeting Will Todman (WS 1998-2009) Senior Fellow and Deputy Director in the Middle East Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Mind the gap

Peter Turner (WS 1956-63) flew the Warwick School flag on one of his many commemorative trips to France.

Peter is pictured en route to Arnhem for the 80th Anniversary of Operation Market Garden.



Kissing It Better

Empowering our young people to be positive contributors to society is at the heart of our educational offering, and we encourage students to take part in charity work during their time at Warwick School and beyond. One example of this is our work with the Kissing It Better charity, whose mission is to positively impact the lives of older people and those with chronic and terminal illnesses.

Over the years, hundreds of OWs and former pupils of King's High have volunteered with Kissing It Better. We know that, for many, their experience has been transformational and has given them greater insights, understanding and confidence in all manner of ways. To celebrate this 15-year partnership we are looking for testimonials from alumni to share with our Kissing It Better and wider Foundation community.

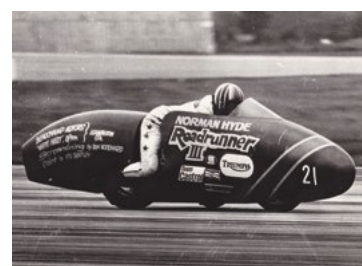
If you volunteered with KiB and are happy to provide a testimonial on what the experience gave you, please email a.douglas@warwickschools.co.uk.

Fastest man in the world on 3 wheels

An anniversary shirt, celebrating Norman Hyde's World Sidecar Land Speed Record, is now on display in the Portcullis Room at school. Norman (WS 1956-63) broke the land speed record on 24 September 1972, riding his home-built Roadrunner III motorcycle to an average speed of 161.8 mph. His record remained unbeaten for over 35 years. He has also, at one time or other, held 13 different world records... all relating to motorcycles.

Norman's passion for motorcycles was born the summer before he left school, when he got a job at Jack Butler's motorcycle shop in Leamington. Leaving school after A levels, he worked as an apprentice with Triumph Motorcycles, where he worked as a development engineer. His redundancy package of £604.11 in 1975 was used to start his own business supplying spares and modifications for Triumph motorcycles – a business which he ran successfully for forty years.

Norman's enthusiasm for motorcycles is unwavering and over the years he has enjoyed a fantastic range of social events with fellow members of the Triumph Owners' Motor Cycle Club, of which he is patron. Giving talks and selling signed copies of a special commemorative postcard, he has so far raised over £3,000 for Prostate Cancer UK. He recently celebrated his 80th birthday with a new Triumph Speed 400 bike!



Norman Hyde 1972



Norman's anniversary shirt

OW Sport

OW Autumn Golf Meeting

Friday 20 September 2024 – Stratford on Avon GC



Back: Phil Cooper, Tim Harry, Peter Gedge, Iain Simmons, Richard Simmons (Capt), Rob Morris, Carl Formstone, Mike Barnwell, Tim Shenton-Taylor, Myles Collett, Brian Woodham, Clive Boast and Chris Kaye. Front: Chris Harrison, Carrick Waldron, Harry Abell, Oliver Bates, Julian Marcus (Hon Sec).

The Autumn 2024 Golf Day moved to Stratford on Avon GC for the first time. Breakfast baps consumed, golfers enjoyed a warm day on the greens and finished off with a fantastic carvery roast dinner!

OW Tankards were played as foursomes over 9 holes in the morning and the usual 18 hole individual main event, the OW Salver, was played in the afternoon.

OW Tankards

Winners – Iain Simmons and Harry Abell on 20 pts

Second – Carrick Waldron and Richard Simmons on 19 pts.

OW Salver

Winner – Tim Harry on 38 pts

Second – Chris Harrison on 37 pts

Third – Peter Gedge on 32 pts (back 9)

Fourth – Phil Cooper, Julian Marcus and Oliver Bates on 32 pts.

OW Golfer of the Year

Winner – Iain Simmons on 68 pts

Second – Peter Gedge on 67 pts

Third – Tim Harry on 66 pts (back 18).

Nearest the pin

Hole 10 – Chris Harrison; Hole 16 – Phil Cooper.

It was great to see some newcomers and special thanks to 2024 Captain Richard Simmons and Hon Sec Julian Marcus.

OWGS Captains 2025-2026

Many thanks to Tim Shenton-Taylor who has accepted the OW Captain nomination and Mike Barnwell who has accepted the OW Vice-Captain nomination.

OW Spring Golf Day

Tuesday 20 May 2025 – Tadmarton Heath GC

OW Autumn Golf Day

Friday 19 September 2025 – Stratford upon Avon GC

Everyone is always very welcome. Please get in touch with Hon Sec Julian Marcus on arkvets@hotmail.com if you are interested in playing.

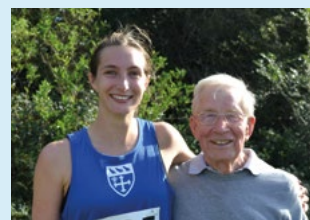
OW Cross Country



Thank you to our Magnificent Seven cross country runners who ran in the Thames Hare and Hounds Alumni Race over Wimbledon Common. 199 runners from 32 schools took on the tough and challenging five-mile course in September.

The OW team of Henry Malby (WS 2004-15), Matt Packer (WS 2002-04), Oliver Johnson (WS 2016-23), Clive Allen (WS 1974-81), George Stingemore (WS Staff) and Martin Garrett (WS 1965-72) were joined by guest runner Izzy Thornton-Bott, grand-daughter of Jack Thornton (WS 1951-58).

The team ran brilliantly, pushing themselves hard and finishing 11th out of 32 schools. Special mentions for Henry, who finished 16th out of 199 runners, Clive, who just made it on the No.85 bus and who finished third in the V60, and Martin who was placed third in the V70. Jack Thornton was proud to watch his grand-daughter Izzy compete wearing his OW vest and see her placed third in the Ladies open race.



Jack Thornton and grand-daughter Izzy

2025 Race – Saturday 13 September

OWs can enter a team of unlimited numbers, so if you are interested in joining the 2025 race please register your interest with Anne Douglas on a.douglas@warwickschools.co.uk.

OW Cricket

This year's School vs OW Cricket match takes place on Saturday 14 June. Please get in touch with OW Ben Howard on benhoward_16@hotmail.co.uk if you'd like to play.



OW Tennis

Please get in touch with Joe Chapman on chapmanjoseph21@gmail.com if you're interested in playing in the annual OWs vs School tennis match this summer. Date tbc.

School News

We share some of many special news and event stories. The sheer scale of extra-curricular activities undertaken by our students is enormous. During the Michaelmas term alone Warwick School ran 37 school trips, had record numbers participating in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (113 Bronze, 62 Silver and 53 Gold), ran 161 clubs, staged 14 music concerts, ran 74 sports teams and had 172 pupils in the CCF.

Aim for higher things

The core of Warwick School's education centres on our motto *Altiora Peto*, aiming for higher things. We are teaching our students to:

- Aspire to excellence
- Embrace life's challenges
- Find belonging
- Seek new horizons



Warwick School Careers

A big thank you to all those who provide invaluable help to our Warwick School Careers Department. We want to offer Warwick School students the best opportunities to develop their skills, research their career options and spread their wings.

Thank you, most recently, for giving your time and feedback at our Mock Speed Interview Evening and also for helping at our very busy and useful Careers Fair.

If you are able to offer a Business Lunch, Work Experience or general careers advice please get in touch with Noel Tapper Gray, Head of Careers and Volunteering on n.tappergray@warwickschools.co.uk



Charlie Rudge

The Heaton Podcast

Check out the latest Heaton Podcasts on <https://theheatonpodcast.buzzsprout.com>

Exceptional entrepreneurship

Warwick and King's High School students were treated to an inspiring Careers Talk and Q&A by hugely successful entrepreneur and businessman Denys Shortt OBE (WS 1975-82). Denys shared insights into his personal journey and motivation, encouraging students to 'aim higher' and always look for the next opportunity.



Unfortunately the fields were a little wet for Denys's regular helicopter



Entrepreneurship Business Lunch with Denys Shortt OBE founder and CEO of DCS Group UK

Sweeney Todd

Audiences were invited to step into the dark world of Sweeney Todd, our joint Senior School production with King's High School.



Encounters

Friday is Encounters Day! In our Encounters series we welcome a range of inspiring speakers for diverse, exciting and thought-provoking talks. As well as those provided by OWs (mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter), recent Encounters range from an intriguing and many-storied Encounter with Brown's Hotel (Andy Williamson) to a fascinating account of Richard Nixon from his friend Revd Jonathan Aitken. Dr Sukhvir Wright spoke brilliantly on brain fires and Peter Dumbreck provided a profound and personal insight into motor racing. Encounters are open to all our community and take place from 16:15-17:30 in the Warwick School Science Lecture Theatre. www.warwickschool.org/encounters



An Encounter with leadership



John Jefferies and Dan Sleat

Dan Sleat (WS 1997-2004), currently Senior Policy Advisor at the Tony Blair Institute, returned to school to give an Encounter with Leadership. Having graduated from King's College, London with a degree in Politics and German and then an MA in International Relations, Dan has been following an amazing career. He talked about some of the lessons in leadership he has learnt from those he has worked for, including David Miliband, Jack Straw and, currently, Tony Blair. He was pleased to see the school again, 20 years after leaving, and especially to see some of the teachers including John Jefferies and Eric Hadley who played such a big role in mentoring and guiding him. The key themes on leadership he touched on in his talk are available at <https://lnkd.in/eTzW3qGt>.

Warwick Voice

Our student committees continue to work with enthusiasm, insight and commitment to bring about change within the school and to serve the community. The Anti-Bullying Committee ran its awareness week, the Religious and Racial Equality Committee led an incredibly rousing online assembly and, thanks to the work of our Charity Leaders, huge amounts of money have been raised for student-chosen charities including Stop Hate UK. Movember alone raised a whopping £9,000. Project Ponta continues to drive towards its goal of funding the construction of schools in Mozambique.



Music everywhere!

Music lies at the heart of the school and offers all our students so many opportunities to sing and play. The gala concert in Butterworth Hall was probably our most ambitious whole-Foundation music event yet! The concert demonstrated an amazing depth and breadth of music talent and ambition within each of our schools.



Remembrance

At the Remembrance Service in Warwick School Chapel and the whole-school assembly we remembered all OWs who have given their lives in the service of their country. The talk focussed on Australian OWs killed on the Somme.

Once again Warwick boys did us proud in the local community with their music, providing trumpeters for Remembrance Day at a number of locations.

Ambulances for Ukraine



In 2022, soon after Russia invaded Ukraine, pupils and staff at Warwick School and King's High School, ably supported by the CCF, undertook a long-distance Charity Walk, raising sufficient funds to purchase two ambulances for service on the Ukrainian Frontline.

In 2025, as the suffering enters its fourth year and with international politics less stable than it has been for 80 years, our students are once again keen to do something positive.

Pupils and staff undertook another one-day Charity Walk, covering 20 miles, on 23 March. As in 2022, the aim is to raise money to buy life-saving ambulances which will be driven from the UK to Ukraine for frontline action saving soldiers' and civilian lives.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/noel-tapper-gray-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

A Vision for International Education

When you walk through any Warwick Schools Foundation schools, you can feel it – the energy, the ambition, the heritage.

With a combined educational legacy of over 1,500 years, our schools have shaped minds and built futures, but what's next?

How does a centuries-old institution evolve in a rapidly changing world?



Professor Chris White



Richard Nicholson

Foundation Governor, Professor Chris White, and Richard Nicholson, Foundation Principal, discuss here the next phase of development – international schools and global expansion, what makes a Warwick education truly exceptional in an international context, and how alumni, our schools communities and partners can be part of the journey.

Warwick Schools Foundation has an incredible legacy. How will expanding internationally build on that legacy, what excites you most about expanding globally, and why?

The values of our schools and the Foundation are universal. Whilst the charity of Warwick Schools Foundation and the schools within it have changed over time, the commitment to outstanding education has never wavered. Indeed, successive governing bodies have embraced opportunities to extend education to more and more children over the years, be that through founding King's High in 1879, by welcoming The Kingsley School in 2021, or by establishing a Multi Academy Trust, announced last year.

What I'm most excited about is how we can offer a Warwick Schools Foundation education to even more pupils, and how our pupils and staff here in Warwick and Leamington can have their experience enriched by new partnerships.

What does global expansion actually look like? Are we talking new schools, partnerships, online education, or something else entirely?

There are a number of models where UK schools develop partnerships abroad. Most likely, ours will be a form of franchising arrangement where we work with existing businesses to operate schools, rather than building schools ourselves.

Sometimes existing schools can be re-franchised, and online education opens up other opportunities – not least between overseas schools and here.

Establishing international schools fulfils key elements of our strategic plan in building a wider, international community and, as international schools will bring in new revenue which will be invested back into the charity, they will help support our aim to remain as accessible as possible.

In order to help us realise our ambitions, we are delighted to be working with Ayham Ayche of Incyte International, a highly respected consultant on international schools.

“It is in our DNA to want to collaborate – to work with and learn from others.”

Chris White

Chris has been a Governor since 2023 and serves on the Finance and Resources and King's High Committees.

He lives locally and has enjoyed a close relationship with Warwick Schools Foundation since moving to Warwick in 2003.

Chris was the Member of Parliament for Warwick and Leamington between 2010-2017 and is passionate about the area and its strong sense of community; the Saturday Market, the Lord Leycester Hospital, and The Collegiate Church of St Mary's, to name a few.

But, beyond traditions and history, Chris is similarly passionate about the future, and the role that towns can play regionally, nationally, and even globally.

As MP, Chris sat on the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and International Development Select Committees. With this experience, and his current role as Chief Advisor at the Manufacturing Technology Centre, Chris is delighted to be appointed Chair of the Overseas School Committee – and is looking forward to exploring the opportunities this initiative might bring.

You've often talked about balancing tradition and heritage with innovation. How does that philosophy apply to global expansion?

There is no doubt that heritage and tradition can be great burdens – they can obscure current and future needs through the opaque or rose-tinted lens of the past. But they can also be enablers. Successful institutions have learnt how to respond to the times in which they find themselves, safe in the knowledge that each successive generation has drawn strength from the past, giving them the confidence to plan for the future. We most certainly fall into that category and see it everyday in the curriculum developments at all our schools – Design Thinking at Warwick, alternative GCSEs at King's High, and our commitment to the wider educational debate through our 'Future Fwd' conference.

While we understand there are always risks in new ventures, it is in our DNA to want to collaborate – to work with and learn from others. The extension of our very particular model of education to an overseas audience is simply the next step in our journey, which we believe will be good for our pupils both internationally and at home here in Warwickshire.

Why now? What makes this the right moment for Warwick Schools Foundation to go global?

International education is something the Governors have explored over a number of years but recent events have brought the conversation back to the fore.

There are so many changes happening in every corner of the globe, and a shifting landscape in the education sector at home, which have given us renewed energy to want to go out and be part of the solution of creating a peaceful, interconnected world where everyone is given the opportunity to thrive. That is why we created a Multi Academy Trust to serve even more pupils in our community, and that is why we want to expand our impact outside our borders and provide our unique educational offering to families who want values at the heart of their children's education.

Which regions or countries are you focusing on first, and why?

There is already much activity in the UAE, China and Asia, and increasingly in Africa. Rather than location, the most important thing for us is to find partners who value the unique education we offer our current pupils and who can see the transformative impact it will have overseas.

In a competitive and crowded space, what can international students gain from a Warwick education that they might not find elsewhere?

Our commitment to outstanding holistic education – offering truly unique opportunities both inside and outside the classroom – sets us apart. Our pupils have a rich variety of experiences, which prepare them not just for their immediate life beyond school but to make a positive contribution to the world around them. That is in no small measure because of our deep roots in the towns of Warwick and Leamington, nurtured year on year through educational projects which enable our Foundation pupils and other pupils from the local area to work together.

Fundamentally, we want our international schools to stand out as leading the way in educating pupils who impact their communities. The social responsibility that engenders is more important than ever in our rapidly changing world.

How does this expansion impact alumni? How can those reading this support or be part of this journey?

We are very proud of the international links we already have with our boarding alumni, which are especially strong in Hong Kong and mainland China.

Many international projects come to fruition through relationships with former pupils or members of the school community. Whilst Ayham is currently exploring opportunities and working with potential partners, we would be delighted to hear from any alumni who may be able to support.

However, everyone connected with us can help by talking positively about this ambition.

What's the one thing you want everyone to take away from this global expansion initiative?

This offers an amazing opportunity for us to share the unique benefits of a Warwick education internationally and in turn, for those schools to benefit our historic schools here.

Do you have any final thoughts?

These developments often take years to come to fruition – so we all have to be patient!

Please follow developments on the Foundation website: www.warwickschoolsfoundation.co.uk

“Fundamentally, we want our international schools to stand out as leading the way.”

Warwick
Schools
Foundation
International



The Changing Face of Warwick School

As seen through aerial photographs



Long-serving Warwick School groundsman Garry Delday took some fabulous drone images of the campus just before this year's Rugby 7s tournament in early March. Archive aerial images show the changing face of Warwick School.



The 2020 aerial photograph of Warwick School was taken to mark the completion of Project One Campus and shows Warwick Hall, the shared Sixth Form Centre, the whole of King's High and extra facilities shared with Warwick Prep, as well as the peripheral road system and car parks uncharacteristically empty! New sports pitches, both hard-surfaced and grass, and the main King's High building are clearly visible, the latter on what had been Warwick School's 2nd XV rugby pitch.

An important record of the school was taken in 2009 with the Guy Nelson Hall in the centre of the school and the 2007 Cheshire Science Centre fully in use. The large King's High/Warwick Prep Sports Hall, with a white roof, looks out onto a field which would, within a few years, reveal the foundations of a second-century Roman barn. The Junior School has a complete quadrangle while a patch of darker grass to the south of the Science Block marks the location of the compound for the Thornton Building.

The 1971 photograph, taken from an army helicopter which had visited the school as part of a CCF Field Day, affords a magnificent view over Warwick. On the left is the newly built Guy Nelson Hall, with Bridge House and its associated outbuildings, as well as the CCF HQ and rifle range. In front of the 1957 Science Block on the left lie the 1919 New Buildings, which were demolished in 1974. Behind New Buildings lies the 1957 Science Block, with one of the two 1902 Coronation Oaks partially screening it.

Three aerial photos from the early 1930s (copyright Historic England) offer further fascinating insights. The athletics track can be seen on the left, as can three cricket practice nets just to the right of the hallowed cricket square. A biology pond appears near the top right of the photograph. A tennis court on the right – for staff only, it is believed – gave way to the Guy Nelson Hall in 1969.



© Historic England



© Historic England



© Historic England

One 1931 aerial photograph is the only one known to have been taken from this particular angle. The buildings on the extreme left are the original 1879 Sanatorium and Caretaker's Cottage, which made way in 2007 for the school's Science Block. Vegetable plots which take up the majority of the photo are now the site of King's High School. To the right of the enclosed school swimming pool stands the new pavilion of 1928. Victorian terraced houses are visible at the top of the photograph, as well as the area of widening of the far side of the River Avon, which was the site of the swimming baths beloved of 19th century pupils of the school. There is a factory at the extreme top left. This can only be where Healey sports cars were made. Designer Geoffrey Healey, Donald Healey's son, was a pupil at Warwick School from 1937 to 1939. This photograph clearly shows that there were originally 16 lime trees planted in 1887 – nine now remain. The old Sanatorium is on the extreme right of the photograph, where the 2007 Science Block now stands. It is surrounded by vegetable plots, necessary for feeding boarders and resident staff.

G N Frykman, WS Archivist

Warwick School Archive

Sevens

Thank you to Jonathan Bacon (WS 1979-86) for these wonderful recollections from the mid-1980s. In his words...

Six sevens competitions. Six wins. A very successful team!

"The unbeaten Warwick School 1986 Sevens squad. Crikey. It seemed to start in a very relaxed fashion... "what's going on here, oh yeah, sevens – we'll give that a go" and we went off to Solihull in the minibus and then (blink and you'll have missed it) we only went and won every tournament we entered. Must have got serious at some point. Pretty impressive really (and we made the papers). I was a squad player, not a star player. I remember playing the Oxford final but I was ill for Rosslyn Park. I went along as a spectator (and took some photos). It was a good team. Fond memories."

Results: The Solihull Sevens, The Leamington Sevens, The North of England Sevens, The Worcester Floodlit Sevens, Oxford National Sevens, The Rosslyn Park National Sevens. Played (and won) 36 matches, points for 919 (against 58).

Watch out in the next Old Warwickian for Jonathan's recollections on the Zimbabwe rugby tour of 1985.



A player in the lineout jumping (unassisted) and his opponent is also attempting to secure the ball for his team



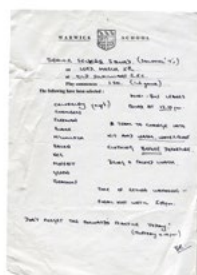
A scrum-half putting the ball into the middle of the tunnel with the hooker hooking



Note the kicker has created his own tee from the dirt – an art form in itself



Winners – Back: Brian Emmerson, Steve Ker, Jonathan Bacon, Julian Green, James (Jim) Blake, Justin Beachus. Front: Christopher Freeman, Alastair Moffatt, Mark Calverley, Paul Chambers and John McCulloch



Rugby World article and team sheet

See Jonathan's other images from the 7s era at www.flickr.com/photos/captainuncertain/albums/