



Newsletter of the Tiffinians' Association No. 237 September 2008

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From the Head's Study

Dear Old Tiffinians,

This summer's examination results saw the best ever school performance at GCSE and A-Level. *'The Times'* School League Table listed Tiffin as the second best boys' school in the country for GCSE and fifth best for A Level. The headlines are as follows (with last year's figures in brackets) :



At **Key Stage 3** the percentage achieving Level 7 and above was as follows: in Maths **100%** (100%); in Science **95%** (76.4%) and English **62%** (51%).

At **GCSE** **83.1%** (70%) of all grades were at A*/A, with **64 (59)** students gaining 10 or more A*s/As and **92% (73.6%)** having 5 or more A*s/As. This is a fantastic performance, smashing all previous records and placing Tiffin above the majority of comparable boys' schools in the country.

At **A-Level** **83.4%** (83.6%) of the grades were at grade A/B. **56 (71)** students achieved at least three grade As and **20 (22)** students gained places at Oxbridge. This virtually equalled the School's best ever performance at A-Level in 2007.

This is a stunning achievement and reflects so well upon the hard work of our students and staff.

Over the summer holidays considerable work has taken place at the School to improve its physical and learning environment. If you have passed by the School you may have noticed work progressing on the corner of Queen Elizabeth Road and Birkenhead Avenue to create a stunning new entrance into the School and vastly improve the safety for students and other pedestrians on this busy corner. It is particularly pleasing that, in return for Tiffin donating a small area of land on this corner, all of the work is at no cost to the School.

OTA Old Boys' Dinner



Friday 14th November 2008

School Boathouse

Cost: £25 again



We are not at our usual venue, but we are pleased to have secured the Tiffin Boathouse, Canbury Gardens. David Tyrrell will again be providing our meal. Please contact us immediately to secure your place:-

Contact - Huck Wright 020 8337 8965, Dick Rumble: 01342 843663,
Stu Vidler 01590 678789 or Jack Foster: 01372 813021

Alternatively you can make contact or make your seating preferences clear by emailing us at: johnwright@clifton66.freeserve.co.uk

Please post off your cheque as soon as possible for £25 per person (payable to "The O.T.A.") to John Wright at his home address:

1 Delta Road, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 7HP.

We will send full details and tickets in due course. Hope to see you there!

OTA Dinner Committee

Two members of staff have taken up key positions at Tiffin this year: Helen O'Sullivan and Ian Keary have joined the Senior Leadership team as Assistant Heads. These appointments are a very welcome strengthening of the Leadership of the School and will be much needed, as we make plans to move towards 'vertical tutoring' whereby each form has boys from all years. More of this exciting development later !

Sean Heslop

NEWS FLASH

Tiffinian Association Ltd has now been granted
Charitable Status by the Charity Commissioners.

Chairman

Dear Old Tiffinian,

I am delighted to tell you that Tiffinian Association Limited (TAL) was registered with the Charity Commission on 3 September 2008 with the number: 1125708. Why not go to their website and see the registration entry yourself.

You will have received a letter from Mark Darby, our Treasurer, inviting you to change your standing order arrangements and to make a Gift Aid declaration. If you have not already done so, please respond to his letter.

Charitable status is a momentous event in the history of Tiffinian affairs. There is much more to our new situation, though, than the fiscal benefits that flow from being a charity. We remain a society of Old Boys of Tiffin School and this newsletter – note that we have moved seamlessly from its being that of the OTA to being of Tiffinian Association – reflects a crucial need to have an organ of communication. Equally, a charity needs to communicate with its members, and 'Tiffnews' remains for this purpose in Brian Holden's good hands.

The playing sections remain as before and untouched by the selfless act of the members – the endowment of TAL by the gifting of their land at Grist to it – because the first objective of TAL is to promote, by the provision of sporting and recreational activities, the participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of former and present pupils of Tiffin School and others connected with the School and their families. No change there then, but the laws of economics are not suspended by what we have done. Our playing facilities are badly under-used and the intensification of sporting use at Grist is something we must see, preferably with our playing sections fulfilling a central role by expanding their membership, from outside the ranks of Tiffinians if necessary.

TAL will be close to the School in future. I have established a new venue for meetings of Trustees (as the new directors of TAL will be known) and also the executive and other committees: generally, meetings will be held at the School. So, nearer in body, but in our minds too. Our new mindset is – outreach – and everything that TAL does will have an angle which benefits the School, whether directly or indirectly.

For us to be effective in meeting our objects we shall need to have even greater resources than we have at present. We shall need to expand our membership and develop fund-raising initiatives that exploit Gift Aid. New initiatives in this direction are being worked up now.

Whereas the OTA was controlled by its Council, whose members were elected by the members, TAL is controlled by its Trustees. Much of the business of TAL is conducted through a committee structure the details of which were given in the June 'Tiffnews' (No 236). This structure has been put in place since the members' historic resolutions of 7th April last. The executive committee is where much of the business will be done and this will be a smaller group than the old Council.

There are two names that I should mention in connection with the absorption of the Old Tiffinian Memorial Fund by TAL. John Glasscock and David Baron have been a Trustee and Secretary respectively of OTMF for many years. John kindly agreed to become a founding trustee of TAL at my request because of the need to capture threads of corporate memory. The objects of TAL being settled, John wished to retire from any office, and he does so with my thanks for being available for support and counsel when required. David's role as secretary became redundant, but I have not felt able to give him a complete release: he has been co-opted to the outreach committee, where his knowledge of OTMF affairs and the Charity Commission will be valuable.

The first AGM of TAL will be held in November next year. This will follow the seasonal pattern of OTA meetings, the last of which will be held at the Dean Pavilion on Wednesday 19 November next (at 7.30 for



8.00 pm). This will be the last, or the last substantive meeting of the OTA as such. There may not be much business to transact, but the opportunity is yours to catch up with friends and to exchange views. There will be an open session in which I will encourage a general airing of views. Please come.

During the summer I have had great enjoyment with my Tiffin blazer. Its first outing was to the Skiff Marathon. Then I wore it to the School versus MCC and Staff cricket matches and the Founders' Day service. I suppose its most spectacular use was at Henley Royal Regatta where David Evans and I had a good day, being approached by Old Tiffinians because of the 'badge', which we were wearing with pride. (Ken Jenkins was going to do the same but was indisposed on the day – bad luck Ken!) I would encourage other members to get into the habit of owning and wearing a Tiffin blazer; at the right occasion it is delightfully English. The School Shop stocks striped blazers that grown men can wear (up to size 44, but enquire first on 020 8255 8600 open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday).

The dress code for the Annual Dinner (don't forget to buy your ticket now) has been changed to include Tiffin blazers. Any questions ?

Yours in fellowship

HOWARD MALLINSON

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 9th October

- OTA Social Lunch

Thursday 16th October

- House Drama finals

Monday 27th October

- OT Golf at Betchworth
School Half Term week

Sunday 9th November

- Tiffin Choir at Royal Albert Hall

Friday 14th November

- OT Annual Dinner

Wednesday 19th November

- Association AGM

Saturday 22nd November

- Oratorio Concert (*Verdi 'Requiem'*)

Wednesday 3rd December

- X-Country Judge Cup

Thursday 4th December

- OTA Social Lunch

10th – 13th December

- School Play (*'Don Quixote'*)

Wednesday 17th December

- Carol Service (7.30pm Parish Church), followed by the usual Reunion at School (Walden Hall) from 9.00pm.
Parking available all evening at the School

Friday 19th December

- School Term ends

Monday 5th January

- Spring Term begins

(Further details of School events can be found later in this newsletter or at www.tiffin.kingston.sch.uk.)

Old Tiffinian Social Lunch

Our fifty-fifth lunch was held on Thursday 3rd July, at our usual venue, viz. the Ristorante Sorrento, 379 Ewell Road., Tolworth --- meeting at 12.30, for lunch at 1.00, departure usually at 3pm.

The 23 present were :-

Jim Aston, Alan Bain, David Baron, Bernard Davies, Jim Dixon, David Evans, Graham Fitchett, Hugh Fletcher, Dan Godfrey, Brian Gosling, Brian Holden, David Ingall, Ken Jenkins, Greer Kirkwood, David Larmar, Howard Mallinson, Gordon Mylchreest, Bob Neville, John Philips, Roy Rathbone, Jim Swift, Chris Towlson & David Tyrell.

Our Summer Lunch was very well supported, with nearly our largest

gathering. It is always pleasing to see new faces. This time Hugh Fletcher popped over from the Isle of Wight to join his colleague Bernard Davies, also David Ingall from Nottinghamshire.

After the usual excellent lunch a few of the party nipped over to Grists to encourage the School Cricket team versus the MCC.

Apologies were given from several stalwarts wishing us well on the day.

The Autumn date will be **Thursday 9th October**. Also the Christmas date is **Thursday 4th December**.

All are welcome and, if you wish to attend and bring guests, please let me know on 01483 850705.

GREER KIRKWOOD



Editor



Many Old Tiffinians have cause to be grateful to two stalwarts on the Tiffin Staff who retired this summer. **Dave Morris** served for 32 years and was the architect of many great rugby successes, amongst his other achievements. **Tim McCann** was at Tiffins in all for 39 years and made an enormous contribution to the sports teams he was involved with, as well as

having a very full timetable in the History Department. Behind the scenes he spent many hours dealing with placements for work experience, as well as organising the House Public Speaking and recently editing the school magazine. We offer our best wishes to both these men — a fine example of long Tiffin service.



May I remind members that the **Annual Old Boys' Dinner** is fast approaching. Do send off your cheque NOW, if you haven't already done so. Let us make the Dinner Committee's job easier, if we can.

All UK members will by now have received from our Treasurer a Gift Aid form and Standing Order form for completion. We hope most of you returned this in mid-September. However, if it slipped your mind then, please do it NOW.

Finally, an apology for a printing error in the June 'Tiffnews' (page 3). The heading should of course be Tiffinian Association Limited (with the abbreviation TAL).

BRIAN HOLDEN

All Old Tiffinians and Friends

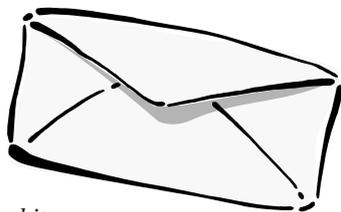
are invited to the School Carol Service
in Kingston Parish Church, at 7.30 pm
on Wednesday, 17th December
and afterwards at a

Reunion Gathering

in the Walden Hall from around 9.00 pm

LICENSED BAR - PARKING AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Letters



Dear Brian

What is the connection between ancient members of the Old Tiffinian Rugby Club, The Wagon & Horses at the bottom of Surbiton Hill and Wolumia NSW? The answer is Tony Taylor.

Tony, a mere boy when he emigrated to Australia in 1966, returned to the UK for a family wedding with his wife Jenny and asked Keith Goodwin and Pete Smith to endeavour to arrange a watering-hole meeting with Michael Minihan, Stan Slinger, Denis Atkins and other stalwart members of the OTRFC of the early 1960s.

Always keen to show hospitality, the above gentlemen, together with Keith Plummer, Huck Wright, Greer Kirkwood and myself, met to share memories of yesteryear and to hear unlikely stories of tries scored and old foes vanquished.

It also transpired that Tony had spent a vacation with some of us in Newquay, transported in Tom Ringham's van, and, none the worse for the journey, enjoying touch rugby on the beach and learning many dark arts from Stan and Mike.

What a great time was had by all.

As is the custom, Tony and Jenny invite any OTs to visit at 264 Old Mill Road, Wolumia NSW 2550 (email: jatart@ihug.com.au) — with a big difference; they already offer Bed and Breakfast!

Yours,

John Ebenezer (1955)

Dear Brian

As always, may I express my thanks for your production of 'Tiffnews'. I am always eagerly awaiting the next edition. The picture of the School Canteen in the June issue brought back strongly for me the waiting outside for lunch. I recall Brig. Harper on one occasion talking about 'getting a good square meal in the Canteen', but I am bound to say that I found the food served in the early 1960s to be pretty unappetising, to put it mildly! Perhaps I was just too fussy, expecting potatoes to be cooked beyond the crunchy stage! Many thanks.

Best Wishes

George Knappit (1964)

(The following are selected extracts from a long and interesting letter received from Edgar Jones, who was a popular member of the English Department from 1955 till 1960. We have tried to exclude the worst of the libellous comments!)

Dear Brian,

In 1955 I left a hellhole called Westminster College of Commerce, which was headed by a demented tyrant misnamed 'Frank', for civilised Tiffs. There I stayed teaching English and Latin until 1960, when I left for what had always been my spiritual home — Academia. This was the Education Department of the University of Aberystwyth.

It was JJ Harper who appointed me. During the whole of the interview I spoke only one word — 'Yes'. The rest of the time he held forth, while demonstrating cricket strokes all over his study carpet with his furred umbrella. This 'Yes' I had uttered with some misgivings, for he had suddenly barked at me: 'Edgar, do you want to sit where I'm sitting now?' A doubly disconcerting question this, for at the time he was standing near the door, polishing a quick snick past the wicket-keeper. And what went through my head? 'If I say "No", he'll think me a wimp; if I say "Yes", he'll think I'm after his job.' Well, better be damned for a potential usurper than a wimp, so I said 'Yes'. 'Excellent! Excellent!' It was the right answer.

I had barely settled in, just long enough to make myself unpopular with a recalcitrant 4D, when the preparations for Ted Key's Grand Tiffinian Fete & Carnival got underway. A giant marquee having mushroomed in the grounds overnight, one sunny afternoon JJ, Dr Chapple (Deputy Head), Ted Key, who was Ringmaster, and Ben Lyon, plus one or two others of the elect, sat themselves down in it with the Upper School and, in true military fashion, gave the latter their Battle Orders for the Big Push. All lessons having been suspended for the afternoon, the

rest of the school were ranging over the grounds like Huns on the rampage west. 'Edgar', JJ blithely popped out for a moment, 'keep the rest of these chaps quiet, will you?', and then disappeared again inside the marquee. The rest of the chaps were, as I said, all the rest of the school, from the fags to the Fourth inclusive. My experience of generalship was negligible: my last three years since leaving University had been spent teaching LCC Major Establishment and Civil Service Executive day-release students five subjects at A-Level. I never got anything but a sycophantic peep out of any of them. Now, in one sunny afternoon, I had been pitchforked from the sheepfold into the packs of Running Wolves. My enemies 4D of course made the most of my inexperience — as well as the impossible situation I found myself in. One master in charge of over half the school, while the rest of the Staff were playing cards in the sleepy comfort of the Staff Room. . . .

What a fine body of eccentrics we on JJ's Staff were!

When next year I took over 2B, after I had introduced myself and laid down Jones's Law and read out the Jones Riot Act, one timorous hand crept up.

'What is it, whoever you are? You all look the same to me.'

'Seaton, sir, please sir. Please sir, will you be keeping us in every day at four o'clock like Mr Enion did last year?' (Mr Enion taught Scripture.)

'Come over to the window, Seaton. Now, cast your eyes down into the playground. Can you see a green car parked there?'

'A small one, sir?'

'Never mind about the size, Seaton.'

'Yes, sir. I mean, no, sir. Do you mean the Austin A30, sir?'

'I do indeed. Well, Seaton, at five past four every afternoon that car, with me driving it, will be streaking out of the gate into Queen Elizabeth Road and making it for home!'

Tumultuous applause — and that 2B my friends for life. . . .

Pass to a 3B, to whom I was one afternoon holding forth about something or other — poor Pip it was, of 'Great Expectations'. And I noticed plump cherubic Stone paying not the slightest attention but engrossed in drawing something under cover of his desk.

An adept now in the wily schoolmasterish arts of subterfuge, creeping up to within an inch of the innocent lad, I suddenly pounced on him like a leopard. . . . to find he had been drawing a fair and fairly naked female on a pad resting on his knee.

I held up the (I nearly wrote 'offending') article.

Silence. Most horrid silence.

Stone, pale as the paper on which the fair female had been taking voluptuous shape, waited for the outraged order to take it to the Headmaster — which, I thought, Mr Enion would have given him, after reading him a pious passage or two from Job or Ecclesiastes — or more likely both.

'Well, Stone,' I said after a thousandth of an inch's thought, 'it's a good job she's on that pad and not on your knee!'

3B's expulsion of breath nearly blew me out of the room. Thereafter I could not put a foot wrong with them either. . . .

About this time a most fearful scandal broke out. At some fête run by Kingston Parish Church a haughty Lady Somebody or Other broke off in the middle of her opening speech to hoick up her skirt and rummage in her knickers for a handkerchief. After noisily trumpeting into this, she hoicked up her skirt again and hooked the hankie back into her knicker elastic. Confusion! Aghastitude absolute! Followed by Outrage, when the noble Lady Somebody or Other unveiled herself as the Vicar in jocular drag (see our photo on the De Mortuis page). As well as being the Vicar he was also, which was unfortunate in view of what followed, one of the School Governors. The most vociferous of the Most Outraged was Mrs Enion, who wrote an Appalled Letter of Protest to the 'Surrey Comet'.

Two major developments came in quick succession. Male amateur comedians in their dozens took to ringing the Enions' home to enquire if they could speak to 'Purity Jane' or 'Chastity Kate'. And, inevitably, the 'News of the World', which scours the local papers for salacious items such as this, got a sniff of it. So it quickly made the National Press. . . .

Regards,

Edgar Jones

Blazers

Old Boys' blazers are shortly to be produced in Old Boys' colours.

Full details to follow.

Please watch this space.

Oxbridge Dinner

The next dinner (for Tiffinians in residence and School Staff) is to be held on Saturday 7th March 2009 in St John's College, Cambridge.

OTA 200 Club

Geoff Chivers wins £500 !

Yes, Geoff (no.50) won the big half-year prize in the summer. We have £10 prizes drawn every week as well. We have spare numbers if you would like to join the 200 Club.

We draw two £500 winners each year and £10 winners every week – £13 gets you annual membership. The next £500 draw will be in December. If you would like to join, then please contact me – my details are on the front page. Since the last newsletter the £10 winners are:

3 J Ebenezer	44 Mrs J Smith	5 N W Angus
122 Mrs J Smith	130 Mrs A Glasscock	108 D R Mardon
172 H R Seymour	53 Mrs L Hainsby	157 P Holden
143 G W Dixon	51 D J Henson	148 J Wright
23 C B Hunt		

Many thanks to all Club members – this provides important additional funds for the Association.

MARK DARBY

Tiffinian Lodge

With our summer recess drawing to a close, we are about to embark on our 98th year as a Masonic Lodge, and we know it will certainly be both an exciting and an enjoyable year. Our first Committee Meeting of the year is to be held at Surbiton Masonic Hall on Tuesday 16th September, preparing the way for our most important meeting on October 23rd, when we shall install our new Master.

The Installation Meeting is always looked forward to by all members, for not only is our new Master installed, but the Officers for the year ahead are invested, and the ceremony is always well conducted and highly enjoyable. Our new Master will be George Dryden, who was our 79th Master in 1989, and who will now become our 98th Master this year. George is a highly experienced and very popular Mason who was unanimously elected by the Lodge members, and we are looking forward with great pleasure to his installation. We are all confident that his direction of the Lodge for this coming Masonic year will be marked by his usual excellence.

We are, indeed, looking forward to a very full year. In November we shall have a ceremony to raise Ravi Kamineni, who was initiated only last year, to the rank of a Master Mason, and it promises to be an excellent and enjoyable occasion. In January we look forward to our annual official visit, and hopefully on that day we shall initiate a new member into the Lodge. There will be an Open Evening in March, after the regular meeting, when friends and family of Lodge Members are invited, together with anyone who may be interested in Masonry, to a very convivial dinner, which is always enjoyed by all.

We are confident that more new members will wish to be admitted to the Lodge in the near future, and we look forward to welcoming them. Freemasonry is highly rewarding, thoroughly worthwhile, and socially satisfying, and anyone who may be at all interested is invited to phone me as Lodge Secretary on 020 8979 0107, or to email me at MJB2@talktalk.net

MIKE BECKERMAN

OT Football Club

The new season is almost upon us, and we invite all members of the Tiffin community to come and play for us. We offer players across the spectrum of playing ability and age the opportunity of more serious or less serious amateur football, week in and week out across the season. We currently run four league sides and a Vets team. **Any new players looking to play next season are invited to contact Club Secretary Errol Walker on 07984 473074 or to join us for pre-season training at Grists which is currently being held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm.** Pre season fixtures have started and provide the opportunity to get to know other players within the Club and ascertain appropriate playing standard.

The first team kicked off its league season on Saturday 13 September, with the other league sides starting their competitive matches the following week. You can follow our fixtures and success or otherwise by visiting the comprehensive league website at www.amateurfootballcombination.com on a weekly basis.

We also need qualified referees to officiate for the lower team games, and we would be pleased to hear from anyone in a position to help out. Please get in touch.

STEVE JOHNSON

Kingston's railway: 'Everybody must suffer for their ancestors'

Following the great success of his book on the Guildford–Cobham railway (see newspaper tribute below and our review of the book in the December 2006 'Tiffnews'), Howard Mallinson has, at our request, provided the following article on an intriguing aspect of the story.

Train-loving author picks up award for rail history book

A TRAIN-LOVING author has won a prestigious award for his informative account of the history of the Guildford via Cobham railway.

Howard Mallinson from Claygate was awarded a framed certificate, a silver cup and a cheque for £500 after winning the 2009 Railway Book of the Year.

Year in a competition run by the Railway & Canal Historical Society.

Guildford via Cobham: The Griffin and Aspend of a Country Railway tells the story of how the line, opened in 1865, came to be built.

The 276-page handbook beat more than 60 transport works to the accolade.

Local history expert Howard, who designed and published the book himself, said he was delighted that his efforts had been recognised.

"I set out to write a book that would appeal to local people, to users of the line and to people who were curious about its origins," he said.

"I had no idea that I was producing an award-winning book."

Commenting on Howard's work, the judges said: "This is no ordinary railway book. Certainly it is about local and railway politics, but what is so illuminating is that it is about agricultural economics, demographics and geography."

"It is a social history as much as a railway history."

Today, the historical line is a popular route operated by South West Trains serving commuters to London from stations such as Hinchley Wood, Claygate, Cobham and Cobham and Stoke D'Abernon.

Guildford via Cobham: The Griffin and Aspend of a Country Railway is available, £25, from Regency Bookshop, Victoria Road, Surbiton; The Cobham Bookshop, Anglade Road, Cobham, or from the author by e-mailing howie.reid@btinternet.com.



Howard Mallinson with his trophy and award-winning book.

The railway came to what grew into Surbiton in 1838. Kingston's first station opened 25 years later in 1863. Norbiton station and the route to Waterloo via New Malden did not open until 1869. Thus did the town establish itself into the railway age: inadequately and very late compared with the other big towns of Surrey (Croydon, 1839; Guildford, 1845).

The 1840s saw an unsustainable boom in railway prospectuses, and it is probable that the depression which followed the mania contributed to the continuing neglect of Kingston, the largest town in Surrey; neglect which had started when the town had been avoided by the London & Southampton Railway in 1834. There must have been some good reason why the first main line railway in the area should avoid a town as big as Kingston and be driven instead through a deep cutting in what we now know as Surbiton – a cutting requiring the removal of 500,000 cubic yards of clay. The original promoters of the Southampton railway were to hold a meeting in Kingston in order to garner support for the line: seemingly there was no support, only opposition. It is said that Kingston strove to keep the railway away from the town in order to protect its coaching business. Although there is no primary evidence to confirm the story, the anecdotal evidence supports it strongly; unfortunately, the relevant minutes of Kingston

Council are missing and no contemporary record of the circumstances exists.

W D Biden, who wrote *The History and Antiquities of the Ancient and Royal Town of Kingston-upon-Thames* in 1852 talks of the directors of the South Western Railway being 'compelled by the opposition' to divert the intended route. F S Merryweather was active in civic affairs and Mayor for a period but not at the relevant time; in his 1887 book, *Half a Century of Kingston History*, he wrote:

...Kingston grumbled and fought against ... [the railway] with the obstinacy of old conservatism. It was ... [however] flushed with a fatal and barren victory. Its Corporation had beaten off the Railway! Hurrah! The precincts of the ancient borough were preserved from the defilement of the iron road. The proposed Kingston station had been forced right away to Surbiton hill.

Writing a year later in 1888, Rowley Richardson in his 'Surbiton: Thirty-two Years of Local Self-Government 1855-1887' puts it like this:

Although no authentic record is obtainable of the measures adopted to prevent the line approaching the town, and although the earliest plans for the formation of the railway now procurable show only the route actually taken, there is no doubt that the people of Kingston, sharing in the general prejudice, were frightened at the prospect of their trade being destroyed and their property ruined by the substitution of the railway for the stage-coach.

Richardson surmises that the intended line of the railway, as first cast, was to maintain the level ground at the foot of Wimbledon Hill and Coombe Hill, and go more or less straight to Kingston. Richardson recalls the story that Lord Cottenham, through whose land (on the present site of Atkinson Morley Hospital) the line would have run, took offence at the intrusion. Whether Cottenham made common cause with Kingston is unknown, but the railway company considered it more prudent to avoid the cost and delay of confrontation.



Kingston: 1903



Surbiton's second station, with the Southampton Hotel on the left: early 1900s

Two pieces of new evidence have come to light. In 1860 a Select Committee of the House of Commons considered the London South Western Railway (Kingston Extension) Bill. It was told by the Solicitor to the LSWR that when the Southampton line was originally projected, he had heard that 'the people of Kingston did petition, as a great many towns in the Kingdom did, to drive the railway from them'.

The other new evidence tells us that the story was seared as if by a branding iron into the fibres of the corporate memory of both Kingston and the LSWR. Even 45 years after the event, the directors of the LSWR still had their own corporate scar-tissue over the episode: this is the story. In 1879 a deputation from Kingston, including Frederick Gould, the Mayor, met the directors of the LSWR. Their mission was to seek major improvements in Kingston's train service. They wanted faster trains: 'It takes 55 minutes from Kingston to Waterloo' they complained: 'I have a mare in my stables, which would do the distance in the same time' grumbled the Mayor. Knowing that Kingston's service was bad but that Surbiton's was excellent, one of the directors, seeking to get on to the front foot with a slap, observed that: 'Kingston compelled the company to go a mile and a half away from the town hall, and then as soon as the railway came through Surbiton, Kingston was not satisfied until it had a station of its own'.

Recovering from this diversion, one of the delegation pointed out that the event was from 45 years previously. A director replied: 'Yes, but everybody must suffer for their ancestors'.

In fact, whatever Kingston did in 1830 – embrace the railway or reject it – its status as a coaching town was doomed, and, by rejecting the railway when it was first offered, the town's prospects for having a main line railway were negated. Kingston had to wait until 25 years after Surbiton before it got its own station – even Hampton Court only had to wait 11 years – and that Kingston got a railway at all was no thanks to the LSWR but to competitive threats from other operators. It really looks as though the LSWR had given up on Kingston. Evidently, its proposal in 1859 to make a branch to Kingston from its own Richmond–Windsor line at Twickenham was only promoted 'after opposition railways were constantly being projected from the north of

London to join the southern railways' and in the process threaten the LSWR monopoly. But, as if to add insult to Kingston's injury, this railway was to terminate on the north bank of the Thames at Hampton Wick. Gould could not take this insult to Kingston, which still left it without a station: he appears to have had some influence on the LSWR's decision to bridge the river, which it later did. A Select Committee was also told that there had been a scheme for a Kingston to Brighton railway, which the LSWR had declined to support; this confirmed the town's relegated status. Kingston's anomalous position in railway terms was painful to the town's self-image; it was an important town and its branch railway arrived in the town by the back door: it was paying a heavy price for what was either its folly, or this combined with Lord Cottenham's intransigence.

Its back-door branch line was upgraded to a loop in 1869, when the town was connected to Wimbledon. This is not to say that Kingston was then supplied with a good service; on the contrary, there was a considerable amount to complain about, such as having to change trains at Wimbledon on the way to Waterloo; bad punctuality and dirty and infrequent trains. Although there was some diversity in the destinations that could be reached through connections via Twickenham with the North London Railway, such as Moorgate and Ludgate Hill, the trains were painfully slow. 'Where are the cheap fast trains?' demanded a correspondent in the 'Surrey Comet' in 1864.

For those men who were in public life in Kingston in the 1870s it was only by complaining to and about the LSWR that anything could be done. When the opportunity came for a new railway to serve Guildford, Kingston and London to be operated by a competitor of the LSWR, it is obvious that their support for it should be open-armed. In 1880/81 the town of Kingston fought vigorously in support of this proposed new railway to connect it to Fulham and then on to Mansion House. This proposal, which would if successful have redressed Kingston's lowly railway status, was alas doomed to failure. The only thing to come out of the project was the 'New Line' to Guildford – a line that reinforced Surbiton's place on the railway map – and the certainty that in Kingston: 'everybody must suffer for their ancestors'.

Howard Mallinson

People



TOM BLOXHAM (1983), was this summer elected Chancellor of The University of Manchester in a ballot and took office from 1st August 2008 for a period of seven years.

The property developer was elected in the ballot of University staff, alumni and General Assembly members, who were eligible to participate in the election. Voting began in May and ended on 4th June. The electorate comprised 40,000 registered members of the

University's alumni, as well as 11,000 current staff and the members of the University's General Assembly. Tom is being installed as Chancellor at a special ceremony at the University in the autumn.

Since 2004, the role has been carried out jointly by broadcaster and journalist Anna Ford, the first woman Chancellor in the Victoria University of Manchester's history, and Sir Terry Leahy, the Chief Executive of Tesco and former Chancellor of UMIST. This was the first election of a Chancellor since the establishment of the University of Manchester in 2004, and alumni from as far afield as America, Australia, Malaysia and Hong Kong cast votes in the ballot.

The Chancellor is the officer of the University fulfilling the function of non-executive Chair of the General Assembly and presides over Congregations of the University for the conferment of degrees.

Tom (44) is Chairman and co-founder of Urban Splash, the innovative property developer that has received 237 awards to date for architecture, design and business success. The company is responsible for regeneration projects in Manchester and Liverpool, and is expanding across the country with offices in Birmingham, Bristol and Bradford. It made its name in the North, but has since undertaken projects in Birmingham – where it transformed Fort Dunlop, an industrial site that had lain derelict for 25 years – and in Plymouth, Swansea and Scotland. Now is the worst time in 30 years to be in property, but so far Urban Splash has not had to lay off staff or freeze projects. Tom says that Urban Splash started by finding new uses for old buildings, bringing back to life the fantastic forgotten legacy of Victorian buildings in Manchester and Liverpool. Now that many of these opportunities are used up, they are looking at Sixties tower blocks, while at New Islington, Manchester, they took on a Seventies estate with boarded-up homes.

Tom graduated in 1986 in Politics & Modern History and in 2007 received an Honorary Doctorate from The University of Manchester. He was appointed MBE in 1998 for his services to architecture and urban regeneration, and he has also been a Trustee of the Big Issue charity, the Big Step. How many bosses advertise for a PA in *'The Big Issue'*?! However, that is where his recently appointed PA spotted the advertisement. Tom chairs Arts Council England (North West) and sits on the Arts Council England.



PETER ELLIOTT (1964), is to be congratulated on the award of an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to medicine. This arose mainly from work he undertook with refugee doctors, helping them 'to go through the hoops' necessary to get on the medical list. Peter took early retirement in September 2007 and is now doing some locum GP work in Suffolk.



'HERBIE' FLOWERS (1952), began his musical life in the 1940s as a dodgy tuba player (E flat bombardon actually) in the Tiffin Band. This was so that he could get out of rugby and cross-country! In the 1950s he and his tuba joined the RAF Far East Band, the RAF Central Band, with occasional gigs as an even dodgier double bassist in the Squadronaires. His

list of credits on 1960s records is impressive. They include Elton John (Tumbleweed Connection), David Bowie (Space Oddity), David Essex (Rock on), Paul McCartney (Give my Regards to Broad Street) – plus stints with the likes of Harry Nilsson, Tom Jones, Dusty Springfield, Shirley Bassey, Henry Mancini, Jools Holland, George Harrison & Ringo. During the 1970s, after hitting the British charts six times with Blue Mink, the first successful band made up of 'session musicians', Herbie left to work for Bowie on the 'Diamond Dogs' album and US tour, Lou Reed's famed LP 'Transformer' ('Take a Walk on the Wild Side' and 'Perfect Day'), both tracks becoming iconic rock songs). Then came two happy years as a member of Marc Bolan's T-Rex. Come the 1980s, Herbie formed the band SKY with John Williams & Co. That's when Richard Durrant was getting rave reviews as a solo concert guitarist. He and Herbie 'for the fun of it' teamed up as a duo. The Hawth Studio Theatre proved to be the perfect venue to try out their hybrid music, classical guitar and electric bass. They are still, after twenty years, composing and working together. In the 1990s Herbie got back into playing jazz, and running music workshops ('Rockshops') in schools, prisons, colleges, and centres for disabled young adults. Now considered an elder statesman, he is still in demand – his style and sound haven't dated.



DAN (aka E E) GODFREY (1941), is best known to many of us as a member of the Tiffin Maths Department in the early 1950s. After five years here, he was for ten years Head of Maths at Kidbrooke School, London's first purpose-built comprehensive (2200 girls). Then came fifteen years as Tutor at Borough Road College of Education (where, years before, George Spriggs had trained). Dan's last post was at St George's College, Weybridge, as Acting Head of Maths.

He keeps very busy in his 'retirement'. Chairmanship became a habit: firstly of the Wraysbury Village Club, then Chairman of Governors of the Wraysbury Combined School, and now of the Wraysbury Musical Society.

He still helps young people with his maths coaching, and even found himself recently helping with A-Level French a student, whose father Dan had taught for Maths O-Level! This 'summer' he spent 17 days helping to run a Forest School camp near Llandrindod on a hilltop 360 metres above sea level with 65 children between 6 and 18 years. Dan finds life in retirement so busy that he feels rather like the frog who sighed: "So many Flies, so little Time!". It is of course thanks to him that we have a good supply of photos of Old Tiffinian dinners and lunches that he attends.

PATRICK HOBSON (1951), has recently been awarded by Oxford Brookes University a degree in History of Art, BA Upper Second Class Honours.

BERNARD LAMB (1960), a distinguished Reader in Genetics at Imperial College, London, has again taken up the fight against the trend to ignore students' failure to spell correctly. He claims in an article in the *'Times Higher Education'* magazine that students from Singapore and Brunei made fewer mistakes than British students, despite English being their second language. He said many British students appear to have been through school without having their errors corrected.

TOM SOLOMON (1998) and his run in the London Marathon were reported in the June issue. In the same issue, in the article on Chairman of Governors Stuart Lester, whose three sons have attended Tiffins, the question was raised concerning the record aggregate attendance at the School. As things stand, we reckon the Solomon family hold the record, with three brothers at the School for 17 continuous years from 1991 to 2008. Any further contenders ?

ANDREW SMITH (1972), continues his distinguished academic career as Professor in the Department of Plant Sciences at Oxford. At a summer party in Magdalen to commemorate the College's 550th anniversary he encountered IAN COOKSEY, who left Tiffins recently to take up a post as Vice-Principal of Tomlinscote School in Camberley. His colleague in the Biology Department at Tiffins, WILL DIXON, has recently left the School, to take up the position of Head of Department at Nonsuch School. Both were contemporaries at Magdalen and pupils of Andrew, without knowing they would later be teaching at Andrew's former school ! Currently VICTOR JONES (2007) is also studying biological sciences at Magdalen, so it is becoming a Tiffin tradition.



ALEC STEWART (1980), former England Cricket Captain, was this summer a commentator for BBC's Radio 4 during the Test series. He was heard on the 'Today' programme, giving his views on the Third Test and Michael Vaughan, just before Kevin Petersen took over as England Captain.



FRANK WEBB (1966), began work in June 2008 as Executive Director / CEO of a non-profit organisation called Engineering World Health. EWH has just started up and has been run almost entirely by volunteers, mostly from Duke University. There is need for much organisational change and a five-year plan for programme growth and development. Readers can get some idea of EWH's portfolio of activities from the website www.ewh.org, which is being redesigned. This job enables Frank to continue his teaching at the Duke Centre for International Development at the Sanford Institute of Public Policy.



RODDY WILLIAMS, a former Tiffin Choirmaster (1998-91), took the lead role at Sadler's Wells in 'The Pilgrim's Progress', which has been described as the most complex and the least stageable of Vaughan Williams's operas. Although a 'Christian agnostic' himself, the composer was much taken by Bunyan's tale and spent a good deal of his life crafting an opera around it. Roddy was described in a review in 'The Independent' as "a revelation, offering a light yet round sound and conveying in depth the emotional trajectory of Pilgrim's journey".



ROHAN YOGANATHAN (1997), was invested in May 2008 as the new Deputy Mayor of Kingston. Rohan (28) is British Sri Lankan and son of former Mayor Councillor Yogan Yoganathan. Rohan, who is a Liberal Democrat Councillor for Berrylands Ward, said in a statement: "Young people are the future, and I believe in empowering and encouraging them to believe in themselves". Our congratulations to him on this honour.

Membership Matters

Yes, it is the end of yet another Old Tiffinian membership year and I have to remind you that your subscription became due on the 1st October.

All members living in the UK should have received a letter from our Treasurer, Mark Darby, asking that subscriptions should now be payable to **Tiffinian Association Ltd** (instead of the Old Tiffinians' Association). If you are resident overseas, then if you contact Mark by email on Mark.Darby@ukgateway.net or at his address (81 Thorkhill Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0UQ), he will send you an amendment form to your standing order which has a Gift Aid form, which we would be grateful if you could complete if you pay UK tax on income, dividends or capital gains.

We hope that you will pay your dues by Standing Order, as this method greatly simplifies our administration. I shall definitely be helped considerably, as I shall not have to send out hundreds of late payment notices ! The rates of payment are unchanged and are outlined in Mark's letter and set out again below :

Ordinary Members, wherever resident	£20.00
Pensioners (i.e. 65+ on 1st October)	£15.00
Young Members (i.e. under 25 on 1st October)	£15.00
Those receiving full-time education	£10.00

All of the above **less £5**, if payment is made before the end of October. Should you not feel able to set up a Standing Order, you may of course pay by cheque or cash. Provided you are a UK taxpayer, we can still claim through the Gift Aid system the Basic Rate tax you have paid. Please therefore make sure you complete the Gift Aid section of the form, even if you make payment by an alternative method. If you have mislaid your Gift Aid form, one can be sent to you by post or email on request.

Please send your remittances (cheques or cash) to me at **40 Bramshaw Rise, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5JU**.

I will forward any accompanying Gift Aid form to our Treasurer.

If sending from abroad, please ensure that the cheque is drawn on a UK bank. Clearance charges on cheques drawn on foreign banks can be somewhat excessive, even exceeding the amount being paid. An alternative method would be for you to mail the equivalent in local currency notes.

DENNIS BARNARD

Book Column

'Jack in the Box'

by *Graham Ison*



This is the eighth in the Brock and Poole series.

DCI Harry Brock is called to Ham Common early on a Sunday morning. But when he arrives at the murder scene, he learns that this killing is far from being an ordinary sort of murder. To his amazement, he finds that the victim has been stabbed to death, locked in a wooden box and set alight. This very public demonstration of murder leads Brock and his assistant, DS Dave Poole, to believe that there might be some gangland involvement.

East End villains, an artist, porn actresses, a photographer who makes pornographic DVDs, a French golf professional, and a couple of Italians all feature in Brock's enquiry. But after many tortuous twist and turns, the killers are eventually brought to justice.

Published by Severn House. (ISBN 978-0-7278-6690-5)

'Hardcastle's Mandarin', the seventh in the Great War series, is due to be published towards the end of the year. Do visit Graham's website at www.grahamison.co.uk.

De Mortuis



JONATHAN MARK EDGLEY-SMITH 1955 – 2008)

Mark arrived at Tiffins from Hollymount County Primary School in Wimbledon and joined Scott House. When he reached the Sixth Form he produced his house play for the annual competition, but otherwise his extra-curricular efforts were directed towards music, being a member of the school band and the orchestra. He was a student of A-Level Music and even composed a piece for the 1971 School Concert. Bert Seaborn (Head of Art at the time) was a considerable influence on his life. It so happened that Bert had studied at the Slade with both Mark's parents, and both families later chose to settle in Wimbledon. Mark lost his mother (aged 44) to cancer at the early age of 15, and he was fortunate to benefit from the support and influence of Bert & Tas. At A-Level Mark gained three B Grades, including Music. His sister, Kate, recalls that at the early age of 15 Mark composed the musical score for a play she was in at her primary school. The then Head of Music at Tiffins, David Nield, gave Mark composition classes in the Sixth Form and prepared him for his composition scholarship. While still at School, Mark came third in a national competition, which resulted in his piece being performed at the Royal Festival Hall. On leaving, Mark went to study Music at Queen's College, Oxford, from which time his first acknowledged compositions date, though as a composer he remained mostly self-taught. After graduating, he did some tutoring at Oxford, including harmony & counterpoint. While at Oxford, he was chosen to play a fanfare on a 16th century silver trumpet to honour the entrance of the visiting Queen Mother. Then he went back to London and worked at the RNIB, where his duties included transcribing music into Braille notation. He also played bass guitar in a rock band called Flex and composed a number of songs for them.

During his undergraduate days he first met his first wife Gillian, though it wasn't until later that they got together and married. Shortly afterwards they moved to North Devon in search of rural peace and quiet. They had a daughter, Anna, but split up shortly after her birth, although they remained friends for the rest of Mark's life. Oddly enough, they both found themselves afterwards living in Cheltenham (Gill's childhood home); Mark was working for the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust in Stroud as a graphic designer and illustrator. During this time, he met the lady who was to become his long-term partner and eventual second wife, Ruth (married 2002). It was actually through Gill that he met Ruth, whom she knew from teacher training. Gill suggested Mark as an accompanist for Ruth's clarinet performance at a local concert, and friendship and romance blossomed from there. Some time after his job at the Wildlife Trust came to an end, he started work in the same department as Ruth at the BBC in London, in Radio 3 administration and programme planning. They were both made redundant from here in about 1996 and returned full-time to Cheltenham, Ruth to become Education Officer for the Cheltenham Festivals, Mark to pursue a full-time career in composition. The two of them also wrote a book together, which we gather continues to be the standard work on the subject: *'Careers in Music'*, part of the Kogan Paul 'Careers in' series.

Mark and Ruth's son Milo was born in 1999; then in 2001 Ruth was diagnosed with breast cancer, which killed her three years later (coincidentally aged 44 – the same age as Mark's mother, when she died). Almost at the same time as she died, Mark's own cancer was diagnosed, and four years later, despite all the best treatment, he died. His last weeks were spent in the beautiful setting of the Sue Ryder Hospice at Leckhampton Court near Cheltenham, where he enjoyed daily visits from his many friends right up until the end.

Mark never made much effort to promote his music, believing that its intrinsic merits should win it admirers (which they have, but far fewer than it deserves). There have been a number of professional performances, including that of his brass quintet *'Go-Round'* by the Fine Arts Brass Quintet, his *'five madrigals to poems of e e cummings'* by the Schola Cantorum of Oxford (winning a competition for new choral music and issued on Hyperion CDA67575), his String Quartet by the Tippett Quartet and his overture *'Songs My Auntie Taught Me'* by the BBC National

Orchestra of Wales. Pieces have also been performed on several occasions at the Cheltenham Festival. In 2001 the Festival commissioned his setting of Lewis Carroll's *'Jabberwocky'*, which was premièred by members of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. He was able to compose in many different styles, from the complex and inward-turning manner of his most serious works such as *'The House of Sleep'* (described by Mark as highly complex and chromatic) and *'In Nomine'* to the immediately attractive tunefulness of the pieces he wrote for amateurs, such as the two volumes of the *'Vancouver Songbook'*, a project of part-songs for Bruce Pullan's Vancouver Bach Children's Choir, and the wedding anthem *'Until the Day Break'* – and not forgetting the often outrageous humour and campness of his rock songs.



Mark also very much enjoyed writing stories for children, a number of which have been accepted for publication as *'Seven Stories of Kirtle Damask'*, and which are currently being prepared by his daughter Anna.

The more up-to-date photo of Mark was taken on his wedding day in 2002, and the much younger one will remind contemporaries of how he looked in the Sixth Form at School.

(We are most grateful for much of the above information to Mark's sister, Kate, and to David Fraser, Mark's Musical Executor. Since none of Mark's music has actually been published, David is currently acting as his posthumous agent, so if anyone is interested in performing any of Mark's work, David (hdfraser@btinternet.com) is the first point of contact for performing materials.)



IAN MASON HILL 1940 – 2008

Ian Mason Hill, who died on 16 July 2008 at the age of 68, was one of the crowd of Tiffinians who in the 1950s came into Kingston from Richmond and East Sheen by bus and train — among others, John Maynard, Bill Newson, Mick Jago, Peter Thompson and Dick De Lissa (aka Count Ricardo Delisiano): a memorable gang of public-transport lightbulb removers.

Invariably the wearer of a cheeky grin, skew-whiff school tie, a tightly buttoned striped blazer and shapeless trousers, there was nothing then to suggest the memorably stylish and splendidly eccentric dresser that Ian was to become in later life, as a successful antiques dealer and passionate countryman.

Eee (as he was always known) went on what might have been the first-ever school trip abroad, to the Yugoslav island of Rab, under the care of Denis Bloodworth; and as a 17-year-old was quite possibly the first Tiffinian to drive to and from School, in a 1937 Morris Eight convertible, painted red and named *Baruti* (Swahili for dynamite — or so he said).

Ian went on to Kingston Tech to study physics and maths, and on again to Borough Poly, before moving with his parents from East Sheen to Crawley, where he started work as a trainee plastics technician with Bowthorpe's — and where he was to remain for 18 years, not as a plastics technician but as head of the unit that he was invited to set up to handle the company's commercial photography.

Ian's first solo venture was a wedding photography business in Crawley, but its unchanging weekend demands tested his patience and, always a keen collector, he determined to carve out a career as an antiques dealer.

Though he remained a very good photographer, his creativity lately refreshed and extended by digital technology and professional work for his middle daughter's PR consultancy, it was difficult to see that any occupation could have suited Ian better than dealing in antiques: he loved meeting people, handling rare and precious things, haggling in the politest of murmurs, discreetly displaying his extraordinary and extensive knowledge.

Never a musician, Ian was nonetheless intensely *musical*, with catholic tastes. He laboured to play a variety of instruments, from the concertina to the Northumbrian pipes; flung himself into folk singing; and was a

founding member of The Broadwood Morris-men. His great love of brass was evidenced by his request that a brass ensemble should play at his funeral.

Perhaps because Ian was brought up in suburbia, his enthusiasm for rural matters and pursuits knew no bounds: on any country stroll he would delight with his knowledge of flora and fauna, and especially bird life. And how well he looked, on and off-duty, in his moleskins and corduroys, funny hats, waxed coats, checked woollen shirts — and, always, oversized bow ties.

Unfortunately, for 28 years Ian was a martyr to rheumatoid arthritis, which seriously reduced his mobility and demanded that life be lived on a cocktail of drugs that inevitably had disabling side effects. Against such a burden, his brave and rapid recovery from major heart surgery in 2002 was nothing short of astonishing ... and it is immensely sad and cruel that at the last, when struck down by leukaemia, he was required yet again to draw on his immeasurable depths of inner strength and grace.

Ian was courting Delysia while still a Tiffin schoolboy. They married in 1962, and their long and wonderfully happy marriage, their daughters Vanessa, Tanya and Victoria and their three boisterous grandsons – the strong, resourceful and self-supporting family unit that mourns him – is Ian's outstanding legacy.

As for me, Ian Mason Hill was my friend for life. He was, quite simply, the best thing that Tiffins ever did for me.

A S P

RICHARD CHARLES IMBER 1913 – 2008

Son of a schoolmaster, Dick arrived at Tiffins in September 1924 from Bonner Hill School. He left in July 1929, and therefore spent all his time in the 'Old School' on the Fairfield. A member of Gordon House, he joined the Scout Troop, a connection he maintained after leaving School. In the 1930s he assumed the role of Rover Scout and assisted with the running of the Troop.

In 1939 Dick joined Tiffinian Lodge and progressed to various offices. He was elected to be the Lodge's 44th Master in 1954, and was appointed Provincial Grand Officer in 1962.

Shortly before the war Richard married Marjorie Porter, daughter of the then Head of English at Tiffins, who at the time lived in Wolverton Avenue.

We presume it was the demands of his career that prompted Dick and family to move away to the Bristol area in the 1950s. He maintained contact with Tiffinian Lodge, however, and fairly recently was granted Honorary Membership.

G A W B

PETER MUNRO JOPP 1928 – 2008

Peter transferred to Tiffins at the age of 14 from Chipping Norton County School, when his family moved to Bodley Road, New Malden. He soon made his mark on the sporting scene, representing Livingstone House in Cricket, Boxing and Soccer. He appears in the 1st XV rugby photo in the 1944 magazine. He also joined the ATC.

When Peter left School in December 1944, having gained his General Schools Certificate (with Matric), he went to work for British Oxygen Company as a clerical assistant.

Little is known about Peter's life after leaving Tiffins. He died peacefully in his sleep on 13th August, leaving two sons and five grandchildren.



ANTHONY WILLIAM NICOLLE OBE 1935 – 2008

After Kelvinside Academy in Glasgow and then Tiffins, Tony went on to a Law degree at King's College, London and National Service as a commissioned officer in the Royal Artillery. He spent most of his service in Germany, after which he decided that neither Law nor the Army offered the right future for him, and he joined the Bank of England in 1958.

His career at the Bank of England followed a typical path and involved stints on secondment to the National Economic Development Office, working in the economic intelligence department, and to the Diamond

Commission on Income & Wealth. However, his real expertise developed in the Banking supervision division where he worked from 1977 to 1980 and again from 1983 to 1987. These were critical times in banking supervision, with the 1979 Banking Act following on from the secondary banking crisis of the 1970s.

In 1987 he became Commissioner of Banking in Hong Kong and helped to position the banking rules and regulations for the final handover some years later to the Chinese. He was appointed OBE in 1991 for services to banking. He later became general manager of Standard Chartered Bank, responsible for Hong Kong and China 1991–94, and on various assignments as a consultant for the IMF. This involved him in a great deal of travel, including Palestine, Syria, Indonesia, Papua new Guinea and a notable three months in Bhutan, the tiny kingdom sandwiched between China and India, which only introduced the concept of money in the 1960s.

Tony's final years of retirement were spent in Petworth, West Sussex. He died after a long fight with motor neuron disease, which he handled with characteristic determination and dignity. He is survived by his wife Jo and by a son and daughter.

(For the above we are grateful to the 'Times' newspaper.)



JOHN VOON 1981 – 2008

When John was born, he was diagnosed with a congenital heart defect so severe that the doctors had not expected him to live beyond a few months. Miraculously he went on to live a full and brilliant life, bringing great joy to family and friends. He was a great academic and gifted artist. Having attained straight As at both GCSE and A-Level, he left in 1999 and took one gap year working, then did a year at Chelsea College of Art, before completing a BA Theology degree at Regent's Park College, Oxford University.

He then spent the last few years of his life helping persecuted Christians in other countries through his work at Christian Solidarity Worldwide. When his health began to deteriorate rapidly earlier this year, he showed great patience in spite of his suffering. John went to be with the Lord on 3rd May 2008 at the age of 26, and he will be greatly missed.

(For this tribute we are grateful to John's family.)

Following our obituary on Ted Key, we received the following personal tribute from Prof. Roger Zetter (1964) :

I was saddened by the news of Ted Key's death announced in the June 'Tiffnews'. This prompted some personal reflections on a true Tiffinian which were alluded to, but not explicitly mentioned, in the insightful obituary highlighting his many talents and his amazing contribution to the School.

One quality was his remarkable patience and understanding. I can never recall him losing his temper with a pupil or even showing frustration. His approach to teaching always stressed the positive achievements and the potential we each had; he never resorted to detentions, anger or dismissive comments – at least in my experience. We respected him greatly because he so obviously respected us.

Consistent with this side of his personality, he seemed to know us all as individuals. He always had time for an informal and personal word of encouragement or advice, or a question about one's aspirations – perhaps when walking back from chapel in the morning or walking between classrooms. This individual care and dedication to each of us is the more remarkable given the range of responsibilities he carried in the School, many of which I, and I dare say most of us, were not aware of at the time.

I got to know him well in 1964, when he taught the S-Level geography class and then a smaller group studying for the Cambridge entrance exams. Ted was a remarkable foil to Ray Taylor – the bright young teaching star of the geography department, right up to date and incredibly enthusiastic. Ted was more 'donnish' in his approach – breadth of vision and coherence were his contributions; he calmly instilled self-confidence in our understanding of the subject. These were vital qualities for the Cambridge entrance exams and especially the selection interviews. He was such a kind and understanding man.

Our obituary on the Revd Canon Pat Magee prompted the following contribution from Peter Boshier (1960):

I was very sorry to read in the June edition of 'Tiffinews' that Canon Pat Magee had died in March. As you suggest, I am sure there are many Old Tiffinians who have cause to be grateful to him. I certainly am one. When my parents moved to Kingston in 1955, Pat was instrumental in arranging for me to enrol at Tiffin, and for my brother and I to become members of the Parish Church choir. As I gradually moved from the choir front row to the adult back row, and later became an assistant organist, Pat was always encouraging and supportive.

Pat Magee had a fine voice, and his solo performances in Gibbons' 'This is the Record of John' were greatly enjoyed. He also, as you indicated, played several roles in the performances we in the All Saints Youth Fellowship mounted regularly.



You referred to Pat's appearance as 'Lady Margaret' in 1957, for which performance he borrowed a dress from my mother.

I attach a photograph of the occasion (taken, I believe, by the 'Surrey Comet'), showing Pat Magee with Miss Puddycombe, one of the excellent and long-serving church wardens of All Saints at the time. This appearance was but one indication of his strong sense of humour. (See also our Letters page.)

We should also like to record the death at the age of 81 of **JEAN COOKE**, wife of our famous Tiffin painter, John Bratby. She died in August 2008 and was a Royal Academician in her own right. Her landscapes and figure-drawing reveal her as a first-rate draughtsman, and her subtle understated sense of colour contrasts strongly with her husband's tendency to the brash and garish. One of her portraits of John Bratby, painted in 1955 and depicting him seated by a table covered with a checked tablecloth with a cat at his feet, is in the collection of the Royal Academy. Her work is also represented in the Tate and National galleries. For many years she had a cottage at Birling Gap by the Seven Sisters in Sussex, where she enjoyed painting the sea and cliffs. It was at her cottage there that she died, looking out of a window to the sea that had featured in many of her paintings. She is survived by three sons and a daughter, all of them artistic.

(For this information we are grateful to the 'Telegraph' newspaper.)

We regret to announce the sad premature death of **NEIL DESAI (2005)**. He was a well-liked and much respected student, and is remembered with affection by Staff and contemporaries. We hope to have an obituary in our next edition.

We have to report also the deaths of **RALPH BURROWS (1927)**, **GRAHAM FITCHETT (1963)** and **DAVID WOOD (1945)**.

Thought for Today . . .

The man who is a pessimist before 48 knows too much.

The man who is an optimist after 48 knows too little.

– Mark Twain

OT Golf Society

The weather could hardly have been better for our match in May against Old Kingstonians at Tyrrells Wood. Last year we outnumbered OKs by 18 players to their 9, but since then they have had a recruiting drive, and this year they outnumbered us by 16 to 12! I regret to report that we lost the match by quite a margin. On a more positive note, we were joined by four Tiffin boys who all acquitted themselves very well indeed and, if we had been allowed to include their scores, then the result would have been quite different. For the 'Men' Dillwyn Rosser played his Captain's role well, coming in with 35 points – our best score of the day, Allan Piggott took second place, with John Ebenezer third. John Pitchford also took a prize for our best 9-hole score of the day.

We then played against Old Surbitonians at The Drift on Monday 9th June. This time, although we were again outnumbered, we won quite easily. Geoff Howes led the way with 37 points, just beating Allan Piggott on 36 and Dillwyn Rosser with 35. Alan Daunt and Ian Langrish took the nine-hole prizes.

Readers will recall that last year we won the Surrey Schools Old Boys' Golf competition, and so this year our victorious team represented us again and made a valiant attempt to defend the trophy in July. Nine schools entered the competition, but unfortunately we ended up in our more familiar position of third (this time behind Old Rutlishians). We did however provide the joint best individual score of the day – Geoff Howes accumulating a magnificent 42 points.

Much to my relief, Allan Piggott has agreed to take over as Secretary of the Golf Society – we could not have asked for anyone better to run our affairs. The first meeting he has arranged is at Betchworth on Monday October 27, and we have invited some KCS Wimbledon OB to join us there with the possibility of starting an annual match with them. This will be followed by our winter meeting to be held on Friday 2nd January at Effingham Golf Club. Allan has arranged these superb courses at very reasonable prices, and I do hope that both meetings will be well supported.

ALAN (GUS) DAUNT

OTA 100 Club

Since the last report draws have taken place as follows :-

			Previous win	
May '08	£50	Sid Millar	Huntingdon	'06
Jun '08	£50	Peter Davies	Sellindge	'95
Jun '08	£1000	Mike Taylor	Hampton	'02
Jul '08	£50	Lisa Hother	Haywards Heath	'03

The above draws were held at a 'Tiffinian Association Ltd' meeting in July last.

Mike Taylor's big win may be considered a 'thank you' after relinquishing recently his role as Chairman of the School Governors. In the case of Peter Davies, it is always nice to see a long-standing member at last win something.

Congratulations to the winners and thanking others for their support.

The 100 Club makes a major donation towards the Association's income, so do please consider becoming a member. The cost is £60 per annum or £5 per month by standing order. The prizes are £50 each month plus half-yearly major prizes of £1000. Further information can be obtained from me at 28 Raiton Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 9LX (Tel: 01483 850705).

GREER KIRKWOOD

Tiffin History

RECENT ACQUISITIONS FOR THE ARCHIVES

We acknowledge gratefully the following additions to the Archives :

- From Mike Burrage (1960) a copy of one of Percy Silley's geography books and a termly calendar from 1958.
- From Brian West (1952) a very good copy of the whole school photo taken in May 1947.
- From Jim Aston (1941) a complete set of his School Record Books from his years at Tiffins (1935–41). These contained an enormous amount of work detail in the Lower School.
- From David Wood (1945) an OT silk scarf purchased in 1945.

REQUESTS

Some of our senior members may be able to help with the following queries :

- At one time there were tassels on Prefects' caps. The velvet Senior Prefect cap was introduced in 1932 approx., but did they have a tassel at that stage ? Certainly by 1938 they were being worn, but probably not by the end of the war. Maybe they were stopped by the regulations that killed off the school Australian-style cap and took pleats out of girls' skirts (around 1943 or 1944). Is that so ?
- The first Groundsman we have a record of is Mr Hunt in the late 1930s, probably the son. The father became Caretaker in 1939, when the Hydies retired. Does anyone know of any previous Groundsmen ?

SCHOOL SECRETARIES

Brian Bunker's researches have come up with the following list of early Tiffin School Secretaries. If you disagree, please contact us.

Miss Rose Grantham started under Charles Grist and at one time ran an infants' school of her own, one pupil being Gordon Blacktop, we believe, possibly the School's first OT to enter the Church. (She was appointed, we think, around 1913 and left around 1928/29.)

Miss Wynne-Williams (left Autumn 1930)

Miss Templeman (?)

Miss Greenhouse (died Spring 1931)

Miss Alden (Spring 1931 and Summer 1931)

Sister of Miss Alden above (?)

Miss Longley (appointed approx 1937)

Mrs Carr (1950-1973), mother of OT Barry Carr (1958).

Mrs Pamela Parry (1973-1983), mother of OT Neil Parry (1973)

Mrs Joan Downs (1983-1985)

Mrs M Stevens (1985-1989)

Mrs Jane Legg (1989-1992), wife of OT Nigel Legg (1984)

Mrs Lesley Jelf (1992-1997) and Pat Chesters as Head's P.A.

Mrs Rooie Thomas (1997-2004) (both roles)

Mrs Hilary Pitts (2004-) and Helen Edwards as Head's P.A.

Mrs Caroline Everson (1987-2007) should be mentioned in connection with the above listing, as she played a key role during her lengthy service. Appointed Clerical Assistant in 1987, she spent much of her time on Reception and was the welcoming face of Tiffin School, as far as Visitors and Old Boys were concerned.

TRIPS OUT OF SCHOOL

The first one I remember was a trip to London in about 1948 to an exhibition concerning coal mining. I remember in particular crawling through a replica coal mine, a darned site cleaner than the actual ones, I'm sure, but it made quite an impression on me.

It was pouring with rain and did so all morning when the whole (?) school marched in forms down to the cattle market to have a chest x-ray in a mobile machine parked there. Rumours as to how much clothing had to be removed turned out to be false as we only had to strip to the waist. We got soaking wet both ways – a good thing I had a rain coat. Some boys didn't. As a matter of interest, the first known visit of a mobile x-ray machine to Tiffins was in 1932 approx, resulting in half a dozen boys going down to a sanatorium near Guildford for a closer examination; I don't think any TB cases were found, however. There was also a trip after the war to Hawkers' on Richmond Road for the same purpose.

For some years, on the afternoon of the Oxford-Cambridge rugby match, the whole school again travelled by train to see the game. To my eternal shame I remember very little of the matches and a great deal of the train journeys. How many years did that occur, I wonder?

To Richmond Theatre, to see OT Alan Wheatley playing Hamlet in the Shakespeare play. This was before Alan found fame on TV as the villainous Sheriff of Nottingham. At the end of the play he came to the edge of the stage to say how pleased he was to see so many boys from his old school in the audience.

1948 again, a very short journey to outside the gate, where we lined up to see King George VI and the Queen driving through, to open the now demolished power station on Canbury Gardens — most memorable for the abuse hurled across the road at a certain school opposite. We were hosting primary school children (which ones?) and certain boys were chosen to act as their guides; the sight of these unfortunates with three or four youngsters on each hand was a sight to be seen.

When I was in Form 4B in 1950/51, the school doctor decided that I had a curved spine which resulted, after examination at Kingston Hospital, in my trip every Thursday afternoon to have physiotherapy at the hospital. To do this I had to miss last period Maths with GWS. Now I felt the gods were smiling, as Maths and myself had no meeting points. I don't know how many boys were not entered for Maths, but I was one. Rumour had it that 25 boys were sent to the hospital by the same doctor for the same problem; I know of one and strangely I never saw him nor any other at the hospital.

Any memories stirred — over 50 years ago now !!

BRIAN BUNKER



Science Class in 1979

This photograph was taken on Friday 11th May 1979 (Period 4) and shows Form 2b enjoying a Chemistry lesson by the late Trevor Sugar in the then Room 18. The photograph was taken by an 'Observer' photographer, Nobby Clark, and was used that weekend to illustrate an article about the future of grammar schools by the 'Observer' education correspondent, Auriol Stevens (later Editor of the 'Times Higher Education Supplement').

If you were a contemporary, here are some names to re-awaken memories :-

Front Row: Layng, Jones Galloway Ison, Kinsman, Second Row: Leung, Hannis, Nesta, ? Harrison,

Third Row: Dober, Holmes, Pickering, ? Gawley, Tinwell, Brockwell, Fourth Row: Collini, de Brunner, Southey, Bouillot,

Back Row: Zaleski (The above information available thanks to the memory and records of Russell Ison)

95th OT Skiff Marathon

This year's race took place on Sunday 18th May with lovely sunshine and a slight breeze. Four crews competed with another new recruit, John Roberts. The spectators on the launch provided excellent support, with special thanks to a 20 strong Prior party.

All crews being of a similar standard, setting the handicap was going to be difficult. Recent tradition has given new recruits a generous handicap. Peter Lawson and Ashley Tilling were the first crew to set off from Hampton Court Palace with a 2-minute head start. Last year's handicap winners, Tim Pitt & Andy Ward, set off shortly thereafter. Tony Ellis & Julian Kapica followed in quick pursuit, with last year's overall winners, David Gattey & Mike Abbott, the final crew to set-off.



*Ashley Tilling & Peter Lawson
on their way to winning the Handicap Trophy*



*Dave Gattey & Mike Abbott
pass Tony Ellis & Julian Kapica on their way to another victory*

It was soon clear that Ashley & Peter were not going to be caught, as they were only visible with the binoculars on the distant horizon; however, the other three crews had a close tussle. The spectators could see the pain and suffering on their faces as David & Mike passed Tony & Julian, then Tim & Andy. Tony and Julian soon caught Tim and Andy, and the crews finished at Kingston Bridge within a short span of time.

It was commented that the race this year was one the closest for many years. The Captain of the spectator launch from Parr boats was readily impressed, and he has seen a fair number of races over the last 30+ years !!

The Chairman of the OTA, Howard Mallinson, kindly presented prizes after the race.

Dittons Skiff and Punting Club continue to provide their support for the event. It is a great day out, and I encourage any Tiffinians to try the sport. The event will be held at a similar date and time in May 2009.

If you are interested in competing, please contact me on tony.ellis@ge.com.

Results:	Race time	
Mike Abbott David Gattey	22.43	Fastest Crew
Tony Ellis Julian Kapica	23.11	
Tim Pitt Andrew Ward	23.36	
Ashley Tilling Peter Lawson	23.27	Handicap winners

TONY ELLIS



Dave Gattey & Mike Abbott approach Andy Ward & Tim Pitt

Queen Elizabeth Road / Birkenhead Avenue corner

Anyone driving around Kingston since the end of July will have seen significant road and building works taking place on the above corner. The scheme of improvement has come about as a result of the number of cars crashing through the school fencing over the past few years. There have also been a large number of low impact car crashes as the road lanes narrow at the junction of Cromwell Road with Queen Elizabeth Road (fortunately there have been no fatalities.)

The Royal Borough of Kingston came up with a solution to take a narrow sliver of land from the school site to widen the road lanes. However, the School had its own plan prepared by our architect, Simon Tupper (and an Old Boy). This plan envisioned giving up a slightly larger sliver of land, providing a set-back pedestrian entrance to the School, a new vehicular gateway in Birkenhead Avenue and railings instead of fencing for the school boundary. The pedestrian entrance includes a sliding gate, a brick wall with a prominent school logo as well as a new tree planting.

Our scheme managed to tick a significant number of Health & Safety issues for RBK, as well as for the School. The negotiations to develop the scheme have taken over 16 months, but the scheme is on schedule for completion by about mid-October.

In return for the Governors 'giving' the land to RBK, the School will gain a 'signature' entrance and also an improvement to the Kingston townscape. The cost of the entire scheme has been covered by RBK and Transport for London.

JOHN KING

Queen Elizabeth Road News

Boat Club

The Boat Club had a great year in terms of numbers students participating, fleet improvements (replacements), and also on the water success. We were delighted too by the camaraderie that built up between the boys throughout what had been an extremely tough year.

One of the highlights was the end-of-year House Regatta which, aside from being immensely competitive, was also attended by the Mayor, who had the pleasure of pouring champagne across the bows of the latest additions to our fleet. The great surprise of the day was the Janousek 8 which was named after one of the sterling supporters of our Boat Club, Senior Assistant Head, John King. Despite the eight's being used during the House Regatta, we had managed to keep the name covered. We had also invited John's wife, daughter and son-in-law (conveniently over from Canada) to the event — John couldn't quite figure out why they were there, nor so many senior staff, all apparently taking a keen interest in the regatta. Once the Mayor uncovered the name and all was revealed, none was more surprised (and delighted) than John!



We also named our new double / pair ('Remenham') and four / quad ('Thirty-two') both purchased through an extremely generous donation to the Boat Club and very, very much needed, as we look to move the boys into smaller boats to develop their basic water skills. (We'll explain the naming of 'Thirty-two' to those of you who venture down to the boathouse). Additionally, the parents had their new double / pair named in memory of Terry Reid, whom I'm sure many of you will remember as a long-standing Boat Club contributor



Last but by no means least, we were able to present to Cancer Research UK a cheque for £1000, generated through the OK Row Event, held last October.

Finally, as ever, all of you ex-Tiffs are very welcome at the Boat Club any time, especially those of you who have just left the School. You can also stay in touch via the new Boat Club website — either Google TSBC or go to <http://www.tiffinsmallboatshead.co.uk/tiffinrowing/> Keep in touch! Regards to all.

CAROL CORNELL

Performing Arts

A busy end of the Summer Term saw many Arts events. BoysDance@Tiffin, our superb Dance company, triumphed in the National Dance Festival at the Peacock Theatre in London. Selected out of hundreds of companies all around the country, the boys gave mature, sensitive and energetic performances of an outstanding choreographed piece to the music of tabla player Harkirat Ghatray. Two days later, a full School Hall acclaimed over 120 boy dancers in one of the popular Dance & Gig Night series. As Kenneth Tharp OBE, Chief Executive of The Place, was to say at the Leavers' Celebration in September, Dance is flourishing at Tiffin.

A wash-out on the final Friday of term meant that Tiffin in the Garden became Tiffin-in-the-Garden-in-the-Hall, with the entire plant collection of the Biology Department creating the Eden Project illusion. The dancers were busy limbering up at the Peacock Theatre at the time, but we had performances of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' from the whole of Form 7CR and a further performance of Jack Stigner's outstanding 'Animal Farm' in the Drama Studio. All of the school ensembles performed, the Big Tiffin Orchestra was formed and did the '1812', very loudly, and this current generation of the Tiffin Swing Band gave their final set. An exceptional band: a CD is coming out shortly featuring Abtin Sadeghi as singer – look out for the promotional material: it will make an excellent Christmas present. As also will the Choir's CD, which comes out at same time (at the end of October)!

The choir ended the year by travelling to Dresden and Leipzig for a ten-day concert tour. A major highlight was gaining the biggest concert audience for seventeen years at Bach's church, the Leipzig Thomaskirche, home to one of Europe's finest choirs. 1300 people heard our choir perform English Renaissance Music: Britten 'Rejoice in the Lamb' and Bernstein 'Chichester Psalms', with Tom Batstone giving a superb treble solo in the central movement. The broadsheet newspaper reviews were highly complimentary.

This term's major event is the Oratorio performance of the Verdi 'Requiem' on Saturday 22nd November at 7.30 pm in the Sports Centre. Rehearsals are underway and we have our largest choir yet – of 350 boys, girls and adults – who will be joined by soloists Ilona Domnich, Miranda Westcott, Dominic Natoli and Robert Rice, together with the Brandenburg Symphony Orchestra. Accompanied by imaginative art work, this is not to be missed. Ticket applications will begin in mid-October.

The School Play is a version of Cervantes' 'Don Quixote', updated to 1940s Los Angeles, and featuring the Swing Band live on stage every evening. This will be a fun event for the whole family, with the first night being Wednesday 10th December at 7 pm in the School Hall. Do come, and bring the whole family.

The House Drama Competition has been moved earlier in the school calendar, so that it becomes the first major event in the House Championship. Rehearsals are feverishly intense at the moment, and the final should be as entertaining as ever. This takes place on Thursday 16th October.

We have now moved to offering the multi-disciplinary Performance Studies for A-Level, and the twelve boys in the set will be presenting their first showcase on Wednesday 22nd October at 7 pm in the Drama Studio. This should be an inventive piece incorporating Music, Dance and Drama, and we are all excited about it.

There is much going on in the Music world this term – instrumental competitions and masterclasses in the first half of term, during the daytime, which will involve most of the boys who learn musical instruments; the Year 7 Inter-Form Music Competition on Thursday 23rd October, in which each Year 7 form sings a song, plays a brass

ensemble piece and submits a couple of solo items; the trebles of the Boys' Choir take part in a special performance of Britten's *War Requiem* at the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 9th November, commemorating the 90th anniversary of the end of World War 1, and broadcast live to cinemas across the UK and Europe; and 14 boys will join with 14 girls from our Children's Chorus to sing in a new production of *Hänsel und Gretel* at the Royal Opera House in December, conducted by Sir Colin Davis and also broadcast live to cinemas and on TV. The final week of term sees the End of Term Concert, featuring all the school ensembles, including the newly-reformed School Orchestra, on Monday 15th December and the Public Carol Service on Wednesday 17th December. I hope we may see you there.

SIMON TOYNE

Tiffin Children's Chorus

This is a choir open to boys and girls from 7–13, which rehearses in the JLT on Monday afternoons from 4–5 pm. There are currently around 45 children (including 20 boys) from local schools in the chorus, and membership is open to everyone, subject to audition. This term alone sees 14 of the singers taking part in *'La Bohème'* at the Royal Opera House, a further 14 girls singing in *'Hänsel und Gretel'* at the Royal Opera House, and the whole chorus singing in the BT Christmas Concert at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday 16th December. The chorus is conducted by Joanna Korzinek and myself, and for both of us it is a highlight of our week! We should like to get the number of children involved up to 100, so please get recruiting!

If you know of anyone interested in joining, download the application form from the website and simply turn up to a Monday afternoon rehearsal. We usually ask the boy or girl to attend the first rehearsal and sing a short prepared song to us once the rehearsal has finished.

Notice of 2009 Choir Tour to New Zealand

The Boys' Choir will be touring New Zealand in February 2009, and any Old Tiffinians living there might like to come along to a concert! The itinerary is currently being finalised, but includes the Cathedrals of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, with further concerts being given in Taupo and Timaru. Check www.tiffinboyschoir.org.uk for further details. Simon Toyne was conducting in New Zealand this August and was interviewed on Radio New Zealand about his work at Tiffin.

The interview can be heard online at:
www.radionz.co.nz/audio/concert/upbt/sharon_thorburn_and_simon_toyne.

School Cricket



Neil Desai on Cricket Tour

The end of another highly fruitful cricket season has been overshadowed by the sad death of Neil Desai, who is very much in our thoughts at this time. Neil accompanied us on the Tits Tour of Devon back in July, where he had a marvellous week of cricket and convivial company. His last game against Axminster saw him hit a remarkable 151* to set an all-time record individual score for the Tits. We shall miss him enormously.

School cricket saw many successes both for teams and individuals. At the top of the school, the 1st XI capped a fine season with a brilliant tour of Holland, in which three wins were secured from the three matches played. The most satisfying of these was the remarkable win over HCC The Hague, who saw the match slip from their grasp, as Michael Harris and Kumara Mallikaaratchi, former Head Boy and current Head Boy, stole the match from under the noses of this very good Dutch XI. The 1st XI had been led spectacularly well by Bill Geiringer, who opened the season with four half-centuries and bowling figures that were to serve him well throughout the summer. Ali Ayyub was destined to have just one season with us – a brilliant one in which he scored his maiden century against Lord Wandsworth College and a

Performing Arts Calendar

Thursday 16th October

7.00 pm, School Hall, House Drama Competition Final

Wednesday 22nd October

7.00 pm, Drama Studio, Performance Studies Showcase Evening

Thursday 23rd October

7.00 pm, School Hall

Lower School Concert and Year 7 Inter-Form Music Competition

Sunday 9th November

7.30 pm, Royal Albert Hall, Tiffin Boys' Choir (trebles)

The Royal Opera Chorus, Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

Antonio Pappano (conductor), Britten *War Requiem*

Saturday 22nd November

7.30 pm, Sports Centre

The Oratorio Choir, Brandenburg Symphony Orchestra

Simon Toyne (conductor)

Verdi *Requiem*

Wednesday 10th – Saturday 13th December

7.00 pm, School Hall, The School Play

Cervantes *Don Quixote*, featuring the Tiffin Swing Band

Monday 15th December

7.00 pm, School Hall

End of Term Concert including School Orchestra,

Second Orchestra and Concert Band and all instrumental ensembles

Wednesday 17th December

7.30 pm, Kingston Parish Church, Tiffin Carol Service

Saturday 20th December

7.30 pm, Kingston Parish Church

Thames Youth Orchestra Christmas Concert

with Kingston Parish Church Choir

Thursday 29th January

7.00 pm, School Hall, House Singing Competition

second against John Fisher. The batting remained good throughout the season, and James Caddy, Bilal Khan and Richard Hunt all found useful middle-order runs. In the bowling department, Muhunthan Harinath again bowled more overs than anyone and topped the averages with 37 wickets at 14 a-piece. Bill Geiringer's 35 wickets complement his aggregate of 491 runs to make him one of Wisden's finest all-rounders in schools' cricket in the country.

The 2nd XI also had a very good season with plenty of runs and wickets for the principle players, Mallikaaratchi, Theverajan, Mehta, Grewal, Sandher, Gilani and McLaughlan, whilst the 3rd XI's results reached unfathomed territory with resounding success. The latter had the best season for a generation, winning five out of seven matches, with one drawn. The Captain, Chris Fish, ensured all had a game and moved the field with slide-rule precision. Vinoth Ravi had the best bowling figures of the year: of six overs, one maiden, 20 runs and a six wicket haul at St George's. The best batting performance was from David Chauvin, scoring 51 not out away at Lord Wandsworth.

Elsewhere, results were more modest but the Under 14 XI was one of TM's best – a fitting tribute to someone who has given so much time to the present and the future of the school's cricket. We wish him well in his retirement, whilst at the same time being well aware that he will never be far away from the action here!

MARTIN WILLIAMS
ROBIN SHAW