



# Newsletter of Tiffinian Association No. 244 June 2010

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Copy for  
next edition  
by  
24th August

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## From the Head's Study

Since April I have been talking to each new boy, and their parents, who will be joining the School in September 2010 as part of our 145 new Year 7. We have a very promising and talented group of boys coming to join us. They are already active in sport, music and have a wide range of interests that will enrich the School. Their keenness and enthusiasm is apparent and they offer the prospect that our 131st set of Year 7 pupils will carry on the rich tradition of the school in many fields of achievement.



The Year 11, 12 and 13 students are now leaving to go on study leave, as the main examination season for GCSE, AS and A-Levels starts on Monday 17th May and goes on until late June. Our best wishes go to the students for what will be a taxing time. I am sure that the hard work of the students and staff will result in another very good summer of results.

One can never predict what can happen in a school. Having got ready for an expected swine flu outbreak which didn't happen and cold weather that did happen, we were not expecting to open the school after the Easter holiday with 90 students and 10 staff stranded in many different corners of the world, owing to the volcanic ash halting air flights just as we were due to restart the term. The electronic age came to our aid, as we were able to email work to students who I am sure were grateful for the far reach of Tiffin School round the world! Our staff struggled to get back to this country and, like many people, sought out varied and imaginative ways of completing their journeys home.

I hope that you will take the opportunity, if you are in the Kingston area, to wander down to Grists this summer to watch the School cricket teams on Saturdays and Wednesday afternoons. Our rowers are enjoying a successful lead up to the National Schools competition at the end of May. The website shows all the details of the many activities this term in the school. Do look at the dates for the concerts given by the Choir in Kingston and at Southwark Cathedral prior to their tour this summer of Estonia and Latvia.

Best wishes

HILDA CLARKE, Headteacher

## Book Column



'All Quiet on Arrival' by Graham Ison (1950)

Graham has now signed a contract for this next book in the Brock & Poole series, which is due to be published by Severn House in July.

(See his website at [www.grahamison.co.uk](http://www.grahamison.co.uk))

*When police are called to a house in Chelsea, following a neighbour's complaint of a noisy party, all seems to be quiet, but a short while later flames are seen coming from the house. In the main bedroom, the fire brigade find the body of Mrs Diana Barton, who had been stabbed to death in a frenzied attack.*

*DCI Harry Brock and DS Dave Poole are assigned to the investigation, and discover that, far from being the reserved housewife she seemed, Diana was a fun-loving promiscuous woman, who made certain that the party developed into a sexual orgy. Eventually the two detectives trace and interview most of the partygoers. But which of them is the murderer.*

*However, Diana Barton's murder is not the only killing, and, in a complex enquiry that stretches as far as Darwin in the Northern Territory of Australia, Brock and Poole have their work cut out solving the mystery.*

## Tiffin Association

### Annual Dinner

Friday 12th November 2010  
at 7.30 pm in the School Hall



Come along for an enjoyable evening, to join old and new friends. Pre-Dinner drinks from 6.30pm in the new Judge Lecture Theatre. A tour of the School will be available. Entry via London Road gate. Plenty of parking.

Please book early as spaces are limited  
Tickets at £30 each can be reserved through any of the following:

Jack Foster - 01372 813021  
Stuart Vidler - 01590 678789  
John Wright - 020 8337 8965

Alternatively, contact us by e-mail at: [j.foster@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:j.foster@ucl.ac.uk)

# Dates for your Diary

## Monday 14th June

- OT Golf Society at Guildford

## Thursday 24th June

- School v. MCC cricket
- Performing Arts Dance Evening

## Saturday 26th June

- School Choir at Parish Church 7.30pm (Berlioz Te Deum)

## Thursday 1st July

- OT Social Lunch
- Summer Reunions (see article)

## Friday 2nd July

- Golf Society at Clandon Regis
- Tiffin Choir at Rose Theatre (Arts Festival)

## Saturday 3rd July

- Tiffin Dance at International Youth Arts Festival

## Monday 5th July

- Tiffin Choir at Parish Church 1.15 (Lunchtime Concert)

## Thursday 8th July

- Tiffin Choir at Southwark Cathedral (Gala Concert)

## Friday 16th July

- Tiffin-in-the-Garden

## Monday 19th July

- House Rowing

## Tuesday 20th July

- House Swimming
- Summer Choral Concert

## Wednesday 21st July

- School Sports Day

## Thursday 22nd July

- Founders' Day  
Widger cricket match

## Friday 23rd July

- Term ends

## Wednesday 11th August

- Golf Society at Royal Wimbledon

## Monday 6th September

- School Term begins

## Friday 10th September

- Tours of Elmfield etc. (Kingston Heritage)

## Thursday 30th September

- OT Social Lunch

## Thursday 28th October

- Golf Society at Cuddington

## Friday 12th November

- Association Annual Dinner (School Hall)

## Wednesday 24th November

- Association AGM

## Thursday 9th December

- OT Social Lunch

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

# Chairman's Letter

Dear Fellow Tiffinian,



The major activity over the last three months has been to install the software that I mentioned in my previous newsletter. We have been very fortunate to have a dedicated team of Stuart Lester, Phil Phillips, Alex Swift, Phil Bennett, James Strong and Gareth John plus several others, who have put in many, many hours to make sure the database and the new website function effectively. At the time of writing, it is anticipated that it should all be operational by the end of this week. By the time you receive this edition of 'Tiffnews' all members should be able to log on to the new website and register at <http://www.tiffnfriends.org> - give it a try and see what you think. Access will also be possible via the School website <http://www.tiffin.kingston.sch.uk>

Technology has moved on so quickly in my lifetime, and the internet is now the most widely used medium for communication, so introducing this software is a very important step. In particular, it enables the Association to keep in touch with all Tiffinians and for them to maintain contact with each other, with few barriers to stand in the way. Historically, to participate in the Association it was necessary to join and pay a subscription and, unless there was an interest in playing sport, the benefits were limited – as a result recruitment was hard work. Now it can all be done on line in literally seconds and with a number of facilities on offer. The new website is called Tiffin Friends, as the Association would like to more overtly encourage anyone with an association with the School (e.g. parents, teachers, etc.) to enrol.

The email bulletin and 'Tiffnews' will be available to view on line, and we would encourage everyone to use that facility rather than relying on post, as it means the Association saves a lot of money on postage which can be better used to serve our Charitable Objects - and also paper, which helps the environment !

We do appreciate that not all members have, or wish to have, internet access, and hopefully we have been able to accommodate their needs too, as it will still be possible to receive 'Tiffnews' and 'The Tiffinian' in the traditional way.

These two publications represent a significant part of the Association's costs, which of course have gone up in recent years (particularly postage). I hope you would agree that it is reasonable to expect the costs of printing and postage to be borne by the beneficiary and therefore have to review how these elements are funded. Now the Association's role is that of a charity, it receives donations (hopefully gift-aided) from you rather than subscriptions. In the very near future we shall ask members who wish to continue to receive 'Tiffnews' and 'The Tiffinian' by post to review their donations so they at least cover the cost of printing and posting. I hope you will all see this as a fair move (we are not talking about significant sums of money) and a way to help the Association better achieve its charitable purposes. We will be in touch with the details in due course.

The last three months tend to be a quieter time for Tiffinian affairs, so I have nothing further to report for now. Our views of future direction of the Association are supported by Hilda Clarke, which makes for a progressive relationship. She is developing some exciting plans for the future development within the School, and we would want to help wherever we can, consistent with our charitable objectives. More on this subject in future editions of 'Tiffnews'.

With kind regards and best wishes for the summer,

IAN REDINGTON, Chairman

# London to Paris Charity Bike Ride for MIND - May 2010

## by David Larmar (1955)



David has returned, safe and well, (albeit a bit sore!) from his epic 300 mile bike ride from London to Paris over May 5th to 9th in aid of MIND, the Mental Health Charity.

The first day, from Crystal Palace to Dover (90 miles) for the Ferry was the hardest and longest, having to be at the Start by 6am! The 104 riders, all bedecked in colourful Lycra racing-type gear, crash hat and backpack, rolled off cheerfully on their 300 mile joyride! to Paris, soon becoming a 20 mile long stream of riders of all shapes, sizes, sexes and ages to catch the Ferry to Calais, then to their

Hotel somewhere south of Calais, where we were expected at about 9pm. Then Day 2 onward and upward across Northern France's mostly long, straight, upward and exposed country roads, but passing through pretty countryside, via Desvres, Montreuil, 75 miles, to our Abbeville Hotel. Day 3 through many villages (no one about!) to Beauvais, 70 miles, for another very welcome Hotel stop.

Still enjoying clear sunny weather throughout with a mostly friendly encouraging following breeze, David was beginning to feel the nature of the challenge, manfully helping the rear end of the pack. He pushed on, with welcome pace assistance on Day 4 towards Paris, 75miles.

Every day there were roadside water and superb hot & cold buffet lunch stops, brilliantly organised by the overall Promoter Skyline with its three support roaming vans carrying mechanics, first aid, spare bikes and crews giving limitless, tremendous personal help and encouragement where needed.

Arriving into Paris was a thrilling and emotional last 30 minutes, a bunched-up mass of 104 blue T-shirted riders, with bells, whistles, shouting, singing etc. at full blast – much admired by the cycle sport-loving French at every roadside by standing crowds – they processed through the Paris Boulevards to the Eiffel Tower, where a Champagne Reception burst upon them. More emotional congratulations all round and eventually the last 4km ride to the Hotel Concorde for a well-earned Celebration Meal and evening of jollifications.

*A huge thank-you comes from David for all the sponsorship support received (now reaching £2000) and admin/on the road help from Skyline and MIND Teams. And this was a holiday.....?!*



# Tiffin Alumni Summer Reunion

Leavers from 1970-1975, 1985-1990, 1997-2003 & 2009

Thursday 1st July 2010 — 7.30pm to 9.30pm at Tiffin School

Did you leave in any of the above years? If you did, put the 1st July in your diary! It will be a great opportunity to see the School and meet old friends and teachers.

The Tiffinian Association and the Head, Hilda Clarke, are hosting the reunion for alumni and others associated with Tiffin School (such as alumnae of Tiffin Girls' School or other contemporary friends). The evening is focused on the above years in order to limit numbers. It is intended to have other year group combinations in future.

There will be drinks in the garden, the Tiffin School Swing Band and informal tours of parts of the School for those who would like to revisit old haunts, or see how things have moved on! It is

assumed that some groups will make their own arrangements to continue the evening in or around Kingston after 9.30pm.

There is no admission charge, but places are limited. If you would like to attend, please book via the Events Page of the new website <http://www.tiffinfriends.org/>. You will be emailed a confirmation of your place. Please also get in touch with as many people as you can from your era and encourage them to register on the website, come to this event, and contact others they are in touch with too. We want to try to get as many people registered on the website as possible.

ALEX SWIFT  
tal@tiffin.kingston.sch.uk

# OT Golf Society

Our rescheduled winter meeting at Effingham Golf Club took place on Thursday March 4th on a cold but dry and bright day. After all the February rain and snow, it was good to see some green grass again, the fairways were in good shape, but the greens were inevitably very soft and rather bumpy. 15 OT golfers (plus one guest) competed for the Winter Trophy. The winner by some margin was Geoff Latham with 40 points. Having played with him that day, I can assure you he played some excellent golf. In second place was Ian Redington with 38 points, and third was Nick Wright with his usual 36 points. Front and back nine prizes went to Chris Towlson and Dillwyn Rosser.

After an excellent lunch we held our AGM, chaired very ably by Alan Daunt, who seemed very perky given his recent heart attack. It was good to see him back. Dillwyn was presented with a new knock-out trophy (kindly provided by Dillwyn!!), and your Secretary (Allan Piggott) and Treasurer (Peter Robinson) were re-elected. Geof Howes was duly elected Captain for 2010, and he will let us know in due course who his vice captain will be.

Then later in March we met at the New Zealand Golf Club, and most of us found the course difficult. The starter gave us a pre-match briefing and advised us to take our medicine, if we went in the heather, taking a wedge to get out. I saw many of us (including me) attempt to be more ambitious with disastrous consequences. The greens were also lightning fast, so many of us three putted regularly. The scoring was low on the day, but congratulations to David Lester who showed us all the way, winning the Spring Cup with 35 points.

Second was Mike Goodbun with 32, and third was Chris Towlson also with 32 points. Front and back nine prizes went to John Pitchford and Norman Mayes.

The match against Old Hamptonians (whom we outnumbered 13 to 10) was won by OTGS, and Geoff Howes accepted the Ford Trophy from Gary Hide. I know Gary is considering going back to NZ next year, so maybe we will play better next time !

## OT 100 Club

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

				Previous win
Jan '10	£50	Don Richardson	East Molesey	'95
Feb '10	£50	Kevin Hother	Haywards Heath	'05
Mar '10	£50	Peter Smith	Thames Ditton	'99
Apr '10	£50	Mike Ford	Uckfield	'01

The above draws were held at the Social Lunch in April.

The last time I mentioned the draw to Don he thought I had lost his number, but after 15 years he has won again. Anyway, all the above have been solid members of the Old Boys and thoroughly deserve their luck. Remember it will not be long before the next 'Big One'.

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 Railton Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 9LX (Tel: 01483 850705).

GREER KIRKWOOD

Our next meeting is at Gatton Manor on Tuesday May 18th against Old Kingstonians, and we have the tee from 1.00pm, with coffee and bacon rolls being served from 12.00. After the golf a three course carvery will be served around 6.30pm. We are expecting a great show from the rhododendrons even if the golf is poor ! Let's hope we outnumber OKs for the Over the Road Cup.

The remaining 2010 fixtures are as follows:

**Monday 14th June pm: versus Old Surbitonians at Guildford**

**Friday 2nd July pm: Surrey School Old Boys at Clandon Regis (team of 6)**

**Wednesday 11th August pm: versus KCS OBs at Royal Wimbledon (team of 10)**

**Thursday 28th October am: Autumn Meeting at Cuddington**

If any OT would like to join us for any of these fixtures, you will be made very welcome. We have golfers of all abilities. Please contact me on 01483 282411 or email allan.piggott@btinternet.com for full details.

ALLAN PIGGOTT

## OT Football Club

Despite the long disruption to the season caused by the snow and arctic conditions, the last league fixtures of our football season were played on Saturday 15th May, not dissimilar to previous seasons, although the 1sts were compelled to play several mid-week games and double-headers. The fortunes of the various teams varied after the long lay-off, but all showed great spirit and enjoyed getting back to playing.

The 1st team had looked to be heading for a mid-table position after Christmas, but the late return of several of the youngsters from last season boosted the team's fortunes and gave a much needed injection of pace. Despite losing twice to league winners Old Tenisonians in a double header, the momentum built up and saw the team finish in a promotion place.

Following on from the last report the 2s climbed out of the relegation zone to finish a creditable 4th in a very tight league, with most teams capable of taking points off each other. The highlight of the season was the Cup game away against HAC at Mottingham. With five new players and playing a team six divisions higher in the league, the team led until the last few moments of the game, when HAC scored twice in quick succession to steal the win. The low point came against St Mary's when the team lost badly to only ten men. All in all, the side had an enjoyable season and played very well, and even in defeat still managed to keep their heads up and are looking forward to next season's challenges.

The 3s' season was a bit of a disappointment, as they finished 2nd from bottom of division 8, after losing the last game of the season 4-1 to champions Old Wokinians, when a 1 goal defeat would have secured safety. The team consistently fielded a full squad of players and on a number of occasions had to leave players out. A new influx of players, particularly of Old Boys from the school, proved to be a real bonus in keeping the numbers up, however it was a struggle to get a consistent starting line-up (no fewer than 45 different players played a match for the 3s this year), and the team was unable to find the cohesion necessary for success.

The highlight of the year came in February, when a first victory of the season was secured (yes it took that long!) by beating Mickleham

Old Boxhillians 3-2 with only 10 men. The low point was losing to Sedcopians on penalties in the LOB Cup, especially when the opposition had only managed to equalize after a strategic substitution by the skipper who came on with 15 minutes remaining, only to give away a penalty. The prospects for next year should be good, as a number of younger players are becoming more actively involved and we can take encouragement from the fact that the spirit of the team was never really dampened by the results. Becoming League champions is the target for next year!

### LEAGUE RESULTS TO 16th May 2010

P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Position
21	11	4	6	49	42	7	37	2nd out of 12

#### 2nds – AFC Division – Five South. Captain – Paul Cotterell

P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Position
18	6	5	7	43	55	-12	23	4th out of 11

#### 3rds – AFC Division – Eight South. Captain – Ralph Stadie

P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Position
16	3	3	10	30	49	-19	12	8th out of 9

If you are interested you can obtain details of all our league and cup fixtures and results on a weekly basis from the league website [www.amateurfootballcombination.com](http://www.amateurfootballcombination.com)

The Vets played a fixture list of 25 friendlies, despite losing several fixtures to the weather, thanks to the efforts of Jon Kent and Dave Burrows. Highlights include a comprehensive 5-0 victory against old rivals Maori, when our football was at its best, and an 8-0 victory over a poor KPR side, when Brendan Dougan turned up having bought a new pair of boots an hour before the game and proceeded to score seven. On the stats front 24 players turned out for the Vets during the season with 17 players playing in more than ten games. Steve Johnson played in the most games (22) followed by Ben Loader who played in 21. Ted Wightwick played 15 games and in a voting system not unlike that favoured by the Lib Dems secured a joint player of the year award alongside Brendan Dougan, who was also top scorer with 19 goals.

#### VETS - Friendlies

P	W	D	L	F	A	GD
25	11	2	12	60	55	5

**FINALLY PLEASE NOTE:** New players of all standards are always welcome. If you would like to play Saturday afternoon football, then please contact Club Secretary Errol Walker in the first instance on 07984 473074 and join us for pre-season training.

STEVE JOHNSON  
Chairman

## Letters

Dear Brian,

A short addition to Ray Hewitt-Taylor's appreciation of the late Wyn Hughes, who was, I believe, the oldest surviving Chairman of the Association, which doubtful honour must now pass to another!

I played as a much younger man than Wyn and Ray in the OT rugby side post-war, which boasted some quite high profile fixtures left over from the pre-war glory days. Wyn's son may be right in saying that Wyn broke his leg playing rugby for the School, but I have a clear recollection of his breaking his leg in an OT rugby game at Weston-super-Mare — we left him behind in hospital!

He was a modest and delightful companion. I also have some recollection of his being involved in OT cricket. It is good to know that Ray Hewitt-Taylor is still going strong — another rugby and cricket stalwart of another age.

Incidentally I find the 'Tiffnews' correspondence columns quite fascinating and, together with Brian Bunker's articles, for many of us a strong link with our younger days — as long as we attract no unfavourable comment from our past — e.g. prefect punishments etc. ! Keep up the good work.

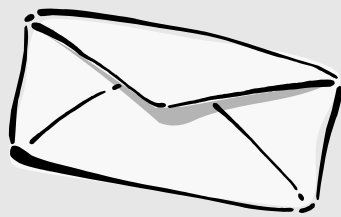
Yours sincerely,

John Glasscock (1946)

Hello Brian,

I hope you are well and maybe as surprised as I was to see Tiffins — well a flyer for an Open Day, I think — on a Channel 4 TV programme on a Thursday evening in March. We were mentioned in the same breath as Harrow, Eton and Kingston Grammar.

Reverting for a moment to the Meshenberg correspondence, one (possibly two) of the texts that he used in his Maths teaching was by someone called Snell (I think). In 1965, while I was working at St



Luke's in Exeter, a retired teacher joined the department, and it was the same author of these textbooks, who had spent his life teaching at Harrow. A most charming man, who had a string of maths textbooks to his name.

Best Wishes,

Michael Farrington (1956)

Brian,

I've been enjoying the historical items in Tiffnews, particularly in recent times the life of Charles Grist. Will Dean follow in due course?

Another area I'd like to read about would be TMDS. In all fairness to Eric Griffiths, it does seem to me that, for all his apparent lack of performance in school, he did conduct the TMDS orchestra, brought in good soloists and was musical director to Roy Knight's production of light operas. After your time I sang Filch for them in 'The Beggar's Opera'. I have programmes still from the 1950s but have no idea myself of how far back (or onwards) TMDS went.

Yours,

David Ingall (1959)

(Note: On our History page can be seen the start of the story of Tiffin music.)

## TOUR OF ELMFIELD

This year the School will again be supporting the Kingston Heritage Open Day programme by offering two tours of Elmfield (and other points of interest)

**on Friday 10th September**

John King will be available for these at  
**11.15am and 2.00pm.**

Meet at the London Road gate just before these times.

## People



**ADAM BARRETT (1999)** is now a postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Sackler Centre for Consciousness Science at the University of Sussex. This was founded only this year, with the official opening on 21st April.



**RICHARD COOKE, Tiffin Choirmaster 1974–81**, celebrated his 60th birthday in April with a concert at Canterbury Cathedral. Called 'Divine Inspirations' it featured a small chamber choir, conducted by Richard, and music from 16th century through to the 19th and 20th centuries, including works by Byrd, Schutz, Bach, Rachmaninov & Schönberg.

Richard became a chorister at St Paul's Cathedral when he was five, and later at King's College, Cambridge. He is now in his 26th year as conductor of the Canterbury Choral Society. He has also been musical director of the Royal Choral Society in London since 1995 and music director of Essex Choir for almost 30 years. Richard also conducts choirs in Sweden.

**JASON DENVIR (1985)** trained at Wimbledon School of Art and has since designed for stage, screen, museums and exhibitions in the UK, Japan, Singapore and New York. He is now the Designer for *'The Revenger's Tragedy'*, directed by Frank Whately, playing in the main house at the Rose Theatre, Kingston, during the first week of July as part of the International Youth Arts Festival. This is the first production of a new acting company, Picklock, for young adult actors, founded by award-winning directors Frank Whately and Joanna Horton. Their productions of *'The Ragged Child'* and *'Pendragon'* have already played at the Rose to acclaim, as well as in theatres throughout the world, including the West End and on Broadway. For Picklock they work with young adult actors to create productions which are nimble-footed, challenging and exciting, showing the best of brilliant youth.

Jason also lectures at Middlesex University, New York University, Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, and the City Literary Institute.



**MAX FREEDMAN (1997)** had the thankless task of standing as the Labour Candidate for Kingston & Surbiton in the General Election. The seat has been held for some time by Edward Davey (Lib Dem), who has gained a reputation as a good constituency MP. Max gained 5,337 votes and came third.

**ROY HAWKEY (1966)** is Faculty Fellow in the Department of Education & Sport at the University of Brighton



**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS (1986)** is to be congratulated on winning the seat of Daventry in Northamptonshire for the Conservatives in the May elections. He increased the Conservative majority by a decent margin to have a majority of 19,188, receiving 56.5% of the vote. Judging from his conscientious work as MEP over several years, the electors of Daventry are lucky to have him as their representative. (*Historical note: The town of Daventry gives its name to Danetree Road and its School situated in West Ewell, Surrey*)

**ANDREW LISTER (1975)** on leaving School went to Nottingham University and took a First in Biology, before moving on to a studentship split between the University of York and the British

Antarctic Survey. He later landed a job with Oxford Scientific Films as a trainee cameraman in their wildlife group. Unfortunately this did not result in much expedition work, though he did get to join a six-week trip to Kilimanjaro, including a week camping near the summit plateau, shooting time-lapse sequences of the sunrise and night-time solifluction freeze-thaw cycles. He then went on to gain his D Phil in 1984. Following three years in the University of Nottingham Botany Department, Andrew settled in Miami with his American wife, Diana, just in time to have his house partially wrecked by a hurricane. They now have two daughters at secondary school and are living near Nottingham, while they contemplate what their next move should be.



**SUTHA SATKUNARAJAH (1995)** was working for HgCapital until December 2008, when he decided to take up a one-year Fellow position as Operations Manager at the Akanksha Foundation. Akanksha is a 140-person strong, 20 year-old organization that focuses on improving the literacy and numeracy rates of over 5,000 slum children in India. Moving to a slum town in Mumbai and dealing with Indian government bureaucracy posed some challenges and required copious amounts of patience. Over the year, he managed to secure two of the largest grants ever received by the organisation (raising over \$750,000 from the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation), developed a five year financial model and a strategy plan for school expansion, and installed new processes to control spending across the schools. He is confident that he left the Foundation in a much better shape than when he joined (all schools are now fully funded for three years). In February, Sutha wanted to continue his efforts at social enterprise and moved to South Africa to help a fellow Harvard Grad start an entrepreneurship incubator for people in townships of Johannesburg. They face similar grime to that of the slums of India, but – unfortunately – far more guns! This latest Fellowship is for six months and ends in August, after which he will return to London to start his job search in the world of business again. His work in South Africa has caught the attention of some national government policy makers, and he has met with members of Nelson Mandela's cabinet.

Sutha has recently been in touch and has sponsored a Harvard Book Prize to be awarded at the School this year.



**TRISTAN SHARPS (1982)** is getting a great deal of positive press coverage at the moment. He is Artistic Director and creator of the company dreamthinkspeak, which creates theatre in all sorts of spaces all over the world, and the space and its architecture are integral to the production. Dreamthinkspeak have spent the last eight years staging projects abroad, including *'Don't Look Back'*, a piece inspired by the Orpheus & Eurydice myth that has played everywhere from an old hotel in Kuala Lumpur to a disused paper factory in Moscow. 'The Guardian' published a major review in May of his production of *'Before I Sleep'* (based on Chekhov's *'The Cherry Orchard'*) in the husk of an old Co-op building in Brighton.



**ALEC STEWART (1980)** was guest at the first of a series of Know Your Stuff Evenings organised by Young's beers in conjunction with the *'Evening Standard'*. Following a beer-tasting at the Lamb in Leadenhall Market, Alec was bombarded with questions by his knowledgeable audience. His openness and honesty delighted those present, who felt they had spent a memorable evening with one of cricket's greatest ambassadors. Alec is not only England's most capped test cricketer of all time, but also the second most capped player in one-day internationals.



**ROOIE THOMAS**, a key member of the Tiffin admin staff 1997–2004, has now returned from Wales to live again in the South-East. She moved to Kent in 2009 and now works as P/A to the Senior Pro-vice Chancellor at Canterbury Christ Church University. She has taken the opportunity to join several local choirs.



**ROGER ZETTER (1964)** is now in his fourth year as Director of the Refugee Studies Centre in Oxford. It is the leading centre in the world for the study of forced migration, with 25 staff, a large research and teaching programme, and extensive outreach and dissemination. He travels quite a lot – in the last nine months NY, Rome, Paris, Geneva (five times), Oslo and Nairobi. He has been privileged to address

high level UN meetings in NY and Nairobi, in the former case to address the executive directors/heads of seven of the UN organisations most involved with humanitarian affairs.

They have an exceptional range of visiting speakers. Two years ago HRH Prince Hassan of Jordan gave a 25th anniversary lecture for RSC. He is well known for his humanitarian, peace building and interfaith work and is chair of the patrons. This year their public lecture was given by Jan Egeland, the Norwegian former UN Under-Secretary General and Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs. Roger says it was good to host an intern there some time ago, recommended by his Tiffinian contemporary Frank Webb.

Amongst other research items, he is undertaking a large research project on the environmental impacts of climate change on migration, focusing on issues of rights protection for those who may be displaced in the developing world by climate change.

## Social Lunch

Our sixty-second lunch was held on Thursday 8th April at our usual venue, viz. the Ristorante Sorrento, 379 Ewell Road, Tolworth, meeting at 12.30 for lunch at 1.00pm, departure about 3pm.

The 21 present were :-

Dennis Barnard, David Baron, David Chaffey, David French, Brian Gosling, Dick Hackman, Willy Harper, Derek Higham, Roger Keep, Greer Kirkwood, Laurie Knottley, David Larmar, Peter Robinson, Stan Slinger, Roger Stickland, Jim Swift, Ron Truin, David Tyrell, Stuart Vidler, Howard Watson & John Wright.

Our Spring Lunch was well supported, as seen above. This time there were only 10 who had attended the previous Christmas Lunch, showing a good turnover. Of the 21 there were two newcomers, who actually knew each other, namely Dick Hackman & Roger Stickland. The usual excellent varied lunch was enjoyed by all, with the drinks being paid for by Peter Robinson who had won the Big Prize in the 100 Club draw last December.

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

The remaining Thursday dates for 2010 are **Summer 1st July, Autumn 30th September, Christmas 9th December.**

All are welcome and, if you wish to attend and bring guests, please let me know on 01483 850705 or email: [r.greer.kirkwood@ntlworld.co.uk](mailto:r.greer.kirkwood@ntlworld.co.uk)

*GREER KIRKWOOD*

## Editor

As you see from our Chairman's Letter, big changes are afoot in our Association and in its relationship with all former students and others associated with Tiffin School. Do read his Letter again, to take in the details (more in our next issue) and then register without delay on the TiffinFriends website.

Notice that our Dinner Committee have arranged this year's Annual Dinner to take place at the School, as often requested by Members. A good chance for those of you not recently in touch to view the important changes that have taken place in the premises since you left. **Please book your place early.**

Do help our hard-working Membership Secretary by responding straight away, if you find enclosed a letter pointing out that you appear to owe some arrears.

*BRIAN HOLDEN*

## Membership Matters

I must firstly prod those members who are in arrears with their payments. Should you be one of these, you will find a reminder enclosed.

Now to subscriptions, which become due on 1st October annually. The current rates are :

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

All of the above **less £5**, if payment is made before the end of October

Please note that the £10 Student Rate does NOT include a copy of 'The Tiffinian'. If students wish to receive a copy of the School Magazine, they should send an extra £5 towards the cost and postage.

If writing from abroad, please ensure that your cheque is drawn on a UK bank – or simply mail local currency notes, as these can be cashed by us at no charge.

My address is **40 Bramshaw Rise, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5JU. (Telephone : 020 8942 9768)**

*DENNIS BARNARD*

# De Mortuis

## ERIC CHARLES PETER ASHFIELD 1923 – 2010

Eric died peacefully in March at his home in the Midlands aged 87.

He arrived at Tiffins from Richmond Road School in September 1934. He was a member of Drake House and, when in the Middle School, proved to be a stalwart in the teams for rugby, soccer and cricket. When he left school in July 1940, his school record shows his plan was to take up a clerical post with Surrey County Council. However, he volunteered for the Navy during the war and was selected for officer training as a pilot in the Fleet Air Arm. This took him to Canada for training and then back to the UK for commissioning. He then joined HMS Ameer until the end of the war in Japan. He then decided to apply for selection as a regular officer and was duly accepted. Subsequent postings followed, and he was on the Ark Royal at the time when he met and married his wife Cynthia in 1956.

He retired in the early 1970s after 32 years' service, having reached the rank of Commander.

Eric attended Tiffin School a little before me, but I got to know him in the Old Boys Soccer Club and remember him for his great fun and humour during our Easter Tours to the Isle of Wight.

Eric was a great character and a very pleasant companion to all of those who toured with him.

Our sympathies are extended to his wife Cynthia and to his three sons.

*J W W*



## EILEEN DENTON MARTIN 1921 – 2010

Eileen was known to several generations of Old Boys through her support of social events. Her late husband, Philip, was a prominent member of the OT Football Club and long-serving member of the OT Council. He also served as Chairman of the School Governors. Together with Bert Saunders, he was the first of our Association Life Vice-Presidents. Following his death 25 years ago, Eileen continued to take a great interest in OT and School events, and she attended all she could.

Eileen's love of clothes was fostered by her mother, an accomplished milliner to the gentry in London, and by her grandmother, who had made clothes for the royal children. Consequently Eileen adored clothes and had a very large wardrobe of clothes, all with matching hats, jewellery and shoes.

After leaving school Eileen joined Lloyds Bank in London, where she was spotted by Philip, a dashing good-looking manager quite a lot older than her. Eventually they were married in a simple wedding at St James Church, Piccadilly. This was followed by a brief honeymoon in St Ives, Cornwall, away from the wartime bombs. They bought a very large house in rural Oxted, which Eileen ran as a small residential hotel despite all the restrictions imposed by rationing.

In 1946 Cheryl was born, and Glenn two years later. In the early 1950s the family moved to the house in East Molesey, where Eileen lived very happily, until she had her stroke last November.

Eileen's passion was music. She inherited a lovely soprano singing voice and enjoyed singing in the Tiffinian Musical & Dramatic Society and the Kingston Operatic Society, where she was a member for 25 years and made some good friends.

Eileen suffered a lot of illnesses and setbacks during her life, and she

fought them all with great bravery. She was determined to get to every social occasion where possible. She was a devoted mother and grandmother, and she took a great interest and pride in all their activities.

Eileen Martin will be sadly missed – and not just by her family.

## LAWRENCE VICTOR MAYHEAD 1926 – 2009

Laurie was the elder, by four years, of two brothers, born in Park Lane, Teddington, and later moved to Kingston. His father owned a radio parts shop, which must have seemed like an Aladdin's Cave to Laurie, and he spent a lot of time rummaging through the parts, conceiving and building projects of his own. This all clearly shaped his career, which was to be in Electronics.

He arrived at Tiffins in September 1937, where he excelled at most subjects, with the exception of sport. Living near the Thames had a big influence on Laurie, as did the writings of Arthur Ransome. With the help of his father he built a boat from scratch and named it 'Swallow'. This was good enough apparently for Shepperton Studios to hire it for a film, rather than pay for the cost of construction. In the 1970s he set himself an even more daunting task, taking a fibreglass hull for a 32ft cruiser and fitting it out after work and at weekends.

When the war broke out, Laurie was 13. All the Wireless Radio Amateur radio sets were confiscated. However, some were later returned as part of Churchill's secret army of listeners trying to detect enemy spies operating in the UK. Laurie's father was one of those listeners and, although it was meant to be a secret, he couldn't keep Laurie from helping out. At one time they were reported to the police by neighbours as spies, but a short phone call to Whitehall soon convinced them. At 17 and with several months of the war ahead, he left school and joined the radio operators at Bletchley Park intercepting coded messages. Later he became very interested in very low frequency transmissions, and in 2001 became the first to successfully send and receive a message across the Atlantic on VLF (136KHz), for which he shared an award.

After the war he could have joined the embryonic GCHQ, but he decided to go to EMI and work on the new-fangled Radar. Around this time he started up a Sea Scout troop with a friend from service. This troop progressed from meeting in an old storeroom to an old coal barge, which they of course fixed up. This got to the attention of Ralph Reader of the Gang Show, who set up a successful fund in a London showbiz pub to buy a war surplus MTB. As if the Sea Scouts weren't enough, Laurie helped Ralph set up a River Scout troop and served as Assistant Scoutmaster. During this time they did a lot of work for the Gang Show, meeting many interesting people. He was living in a wooden shack not far from the Swan pub in Thames Ditton, and it was there he met his wife, Kathleen, whom he married in 1956.

After EMI Laurie joined Solartron in Farnborough, and it was here he met friends who had a yearning to start their own company. Thus Digital Measurements was born. Eventually he set up another electronics company with a partner, specialising in equipment for the broadcast television industry. This won the prestigious Queen's Award for Exports. They sold the company in a management buy-out before retiring to the South Coast. This proved to be a very active 'retirement', as he undertook numerous other projects, including restoring antique aircraft and learning to fly. In the midst of all this activity he devoted a lot of time to his extended family – and indeed was inspired to write a series of short stories for children.

A Man of Many Parts, who lived a fulfilling life, respected and loved by those around him.





### JACK MINNITT 1919 – 2010

Born in Kingston, he was christened John, but was always known as 'Jack'. His father died when he was only ten, and Hal, his elder brother by ten years, became the 'father' of the family. When their mother died, Hal and Jack remained in the family home in Wolverton Avenue. When Hal died in 2000, Jack remained in the house until moving up to

a care home in Oxfordshire in 2003 after a fall at home.

In 1927 Jack entered Tiffins, where his academic work was outstanding, and by the time he left in December 1935 he had passed his General Schools (with Matric) and the Higher School Certificate, specialising in Arts subjects. He showed little interest in sport, but contributed to school life as Secretary of the School Debating Society and Sub-Editor of the magazine. He also showed ability at chess.

He decided on a career as an actuary and joined Sun Life, remaining with them for the whole of his career. He was their publishing manager and archivist, and he wrote the history of Sun Life. Jack was much respected by his work colleagues and was a great supporter of a number of charities. He will be greatly missed.

Jack was one of the few surviving OTs who were at the Old School on the Fairfield, and as such supplied us with much useful information, as well as making occasional contributions to 'Tiffnews'.

*(We are grateful to Jack's cousin, John Hendry, for much of the above information – and to 'Sun Life Magazine' for the extract that follows.)*

**Jack Minnitt** was an irreplaceable individual who influenced so many. A larger than life man, whose enthusiasm for so many things was infectious. Whether you agreed with him or not wasn't the point – he was a man true to his word, and words and photographs were his passion. Only a few days before he died peacefully at the age of 90, I received a letter from him in his instantly recognisable handwriting. It was written with one of his many fountain pens in that purple-black ink that defined his style. I will miss that regular correspondence that we had kept up since he retired along with his witty and incisive comments on all that I wrote about to him.

Jack was a man of the Arts in all that it encompasses. He single-handedly created a niche job in Sun Life that previously never existed. In his role as Manager in 'S&P' he created the forerunner of 'Marketing', and he was greatly instrumental in producing some of Sun Life's classic literature and style. His models were all members of Sun Life and, although he asked me to be one, I declined, although I did go on some photo-shoots with him, and he used my new Ford Escort car as a prop on one occasion. He was also the Editor of 'Sun Life from Within' and provided a large amount of its content, both written and photographic, for many years. When it subsequently changed to 'Broadsheet' after he retired, his remarks were not flattering. His interest in architecture was also of the traditional, and his observations on the new Sun Life building at Stoke Gifford were such that he declined to visit it. Jack liked things his way, and it is to his credit that his comments were honest and candid.

Jack didn't learn to swim until he was 40 years old and about that time I had just joined Sun Life and also the Swimming Club. Thus, I became friends with Jack and enjoyed his company and unique observations on Life. His interest in Photography was what we had most in common. Mention that word to anyone of a certain age and his name is recalled as The Photographer. Over the years he gave me several opportunities to stand in for him, photographing the

Swimming Club Gala, Branch openings and other events when he was 'double-booked'. Thus it is with pride that I was able to carry on the photographic tradition that he started.

Jack was a man of the Old School and was a stickler for detail. Perfection was what he wanted and strove for, and invariably he achieved it. His many Sun Life leaflets are an example of this and he culminated that ability in the superb book he produced of Sun Life's first 175 years in 1985. He was very knowledgeable in all the Arts and had a wide interest in books and films and places of history. Equally, he enjoyed photographing people and places, as well as documenting anything of interest. He alone set up the original Sun Life Archive and without his insistent involvement, much of our history would have been lost. Jack is, of course, part of that archive with the many artefacts he contrived or created.

I recall calling upon Jack and his brother unexpectedly one Sunday afternoon, when he lived in Kingston near to me. He invited me in – "we are just having tea" he said, in his inimitable tongue. Both he and his brother Hal, who lived together, were smartly dressed with jacket and tie in place. The table was properly laid and a cake on a stand with tea made in a teapot in the correct way. They had done this, not because they were expecting a visitor but because, like all things Jack did, it was the proper and correct way to do it. This was Jack's Life – one of Style but also substance, skill and dedication. I shall certainly miss him and I know that all those that knew him will remember him with the affection, gentlemanly kindness and infectious enthusiasm that he portrayed to us all.

T J G



### ALAN JOHN PICKNETT 1921 – 2010

Alan attended Tiffins from January 1930 (starting in the Juniors) until July 1938 and always remembered his schooldays with pride and pleasure. Like most older folks, he could relate his masters' nicknames and their subjects, but could only vaguely recall what he had for dinner the previous night! His school record shows that he played chess in the school team, as well as being a member of the 2nd rowing IV. He was captain of the rugby 1st XV and of the cricket 1st XI. He belonged to the Scouts and had been awarded a bronze medallion for life-saving.

Alan spent 30 years in the RAF, joining on the day war broke out in 1939. He belonged to the University Air Squadron (London), where he had hoped to study engineering. After the war he was granted a permanent commission and served in various countries, including Australia and Cyprus.

He retired from the RAF in 1968 with the rank of Wing Commander and having been awarded the DFC. He then joined the Construction Industry Training Board and retired from the Board in 1986. He married in 1969.

Alan was always immensely proud of being an Old Tiffinian and read the newsletter with interest. The one thing that made him mad, however, was when Tiffin Girls regularly beat the boys in the exam ratings.

We extend our condolences to Alan's wife, Chris, and to his extended family in their loss.

*We owe a big apology to GEOFFREY WILLIS (1949), whose death was mistakenly reported in our last issue. In fact he tells us he is very much alive, having retired last Christmas from his London surveying practice after 50 years.*

# Tiffin History

## MUSIC IN THE NEW SCHOOL

### Part 1: Pre-war

A facility that the Old School lacked was a place where musical shows could be put on with enough room for an audience to sit and watch. Thus, it appears that there was no band or orchestra in the Old School. However the part-time music teacher, S C Philpot (1891–1923), was the organist at Hampton Court Palace, and it seems to me that it is unlikely that he should hold that position and not have a school choir, but there is no evidence to support this case. Certainly, boys from the school did sing at Hampton Court, and this continued at least up to the war, when at least one boy on being invited said "No" on the grounds that he was already working a five and a half day week and wanted his Sundays to himself.

The New School, on the other hand, was built with a reasonably large hall, which could be and was filled for a number of evenings when shows were put on. It is true that the financial cutbacks which were made as the school was being built resulted in the stage not being built to the size originally intended, and the same cutbacks meant that the new gymnasium was never built. One little musical item that has never been explained is the matter of the Music Room in Elmfield. Dean had promised such a room, and in fact in the programme of the official opening of the New School it is stated that the guests would have refreshments in Elmfield in the dining room and in the music room. Despite all this, it has never been possible to locate where in Elmfield this room was designated or whether it ever operated.

The first musical event described in *'The Tiffinian'* was on 31st March 1931, when the school hall was filled to capacity to listen to what was termed a musical evening, presented by the newly formed Tiffinian Musical Society. The magazine states that the orchestra was good, but not perfect, as parts were ragged. The school choir is described also as good, but not as good as they'd been in the past, while a part of them, termed the Tiffin Singers, sang, and their efforts were greatly appreciated. The evening was conducted by Mr G W Spriggs.

On the 14th May 1931 the school was visited by the famous conductor Sir Adrian Boult. The orchestra performed, as did the Tiffin Singers, and both impressed Dr Boult.

Again the choir and the orchestra combined in the second Musical Society evening, which was held at the Surbiton Assembly Rooms on the 12th & 14th November 1931. This event was again conducted by Mr Spriggs.

The Musical Society returned to the school hall for their third musical evening on the 5th, 7th & 9th April 1932. The dramatic section of the Society also performed in the form of an excerpt from *'Dr Faustus'* by Marlowe.

The same type of programme occurred in the Autumn Term of 1932, at a date and venue not stated, with orchestra and the choir also performing. A new entrant was the military band which had been formed only a few months earlier; they were apparently led by Lieut Julian LRAM. Can anybody tell me more of this gentleman? The dramatic section performed *'Antigone'*, a Greek tragedy in translation. While on the subject of the choir, it should be noted that they regularly sang in school assemblies and in the service on Armistice Day, to a high standard. They were made up mostly of younger boys with unbroken voices, but some boys of a more senior age stayed on after their voices had broken.

Another musical evening occurred on the 5th, 6th & 8th April 1933, when the orchestra, choir and military band performed, the band being again conducted by Lieut Julian.

## OT 200 Club

We draw a member's 200 Club number each week for a prize of £10. There are two special prizes each year of £500 and the next special draw will be made shortly. We still have some available numbers. 200 Club membership costs multiples of £13 per year per number. Please contact me if you would like to join. My details are on the front of this newsletter.

Since the previous Tiffnews the following members have drawn a £10 prize:

<b>190 R G Hamper</b>	<b>38 M G Powell</b>	<b>130 Mrs A Glasscock</b>
<b>94 P Osborne</b>	<b>82 R C Rumble</b>	<b>140 J Stockdill</b>
<b>22 R Hewitt-Taylor</b>	<b>159 P M Anderson</b>	<b>94 P Osborne</b>
<b>52 S Slinger</b>	<b>69 Mrs M Redington</b>	

Many thanks to all Club members. Your subscriptions provide important additional funds to the Association.

MARK DARBY

At this particular point we must stop our ramble through the 1930s and consider rebuilding in the school hall – particularly of the stage. By 1934, the Musical Society were becoming more and more concerned as to the inadequacies of the stage. The School Governors decided to provide some money for such a rebuilding, though far from enough to provide for a professional firm to carry out the necessary work. Within 24 hours Mr Mitchell, father of the three Mitchell brothers, had offered to lead the project and, with the major aid of three more parents, drew up a model to show what had to be done. What happened to that model? They were aided by many unskilled volunteers, and for almost a term the work was carried out. Another problem was 'new' seats for the bulk of the hall. Led by Bargee Lambert, older boys attached bases to acquired cinema seats, to enable them to be moved more easily. Can anyone who aided Mr Lambert tell us what exactly was done? But even though labour was provided free of charge, the cost of necessary materials was considerable and donations were gratefully accepted from those willing to give, mostly parents.

The result of all these efforts was *'The Dogges of Devon'* for that was the first production to benefit from the new facilities. The selfsame Mr Mitchell who had led the rebuilding of the stage now produced this first major production. Mr Spriggs was the musical director, and Mr Sumner led the orchestra as first violin. The production took place on 7th, 9th, 11th & 12th April 1934. The school magazine of Summer 1934 had pages 19-23 reviewing the production. Large numbers of players ranging from teachers to pupils are named and thanked for their efforts. Also named, for it was the first time they had appeared at the Boys' School, were the girls and ex-pupils of Tiffin Girls' School who took part. At the end of the final night Mr Spriggs was presented with a gold watch. Is that watch still within the Spriggs family? Also in the same magazine are named, on pages 17-19, those who were the main directors of the rebuilding scheme.

In summer 1934, the military band under the new leadership of Mr Hind, whose musical qualifications had been lauded by the school magazine, played, not for the first time at the Borough Regatta, where their standard of playing led to an invitation to play at Gate House School in aid of funding a local hospital.

BRIAN BUNKER . . . (to be continued)

TOUR OF ELMFIELD - see page 5

# Queen Elizabeth Road News

## School Boat Club

It's been a busy spring for TSBC! In the second week of the Easter holiday, the team headed off on training camp to the Bosbaan rowing lake in Amsterdam, Holland, with high hopes for building a strong racing team come the summer. The team were welcomed with warm weather, beautiful water and long days training alongside the Dutch national squad. Upon our return we were ready to face the upcoming spring races, and get stuck in to side-by-side sprint racing.

The season started with Chiswick regatta on the first of May, and a number of successes there started our season off with a bang. Stand-out winners were Eddie Rolls, who won his IM3 singles category, Richard Clarke winning the Junior 16 singles, and the J16 quad of Nathan Holt, Richard Clarke, Jack Claydon & Joel Nulsen, who showed great promise for success in larger races to come.

The team's most recent racing at Thames Ditton Regatta saw more successes; the results were so improved on those of last year that the

day gave us even more confidence going into the busy racing month. TSBC dominated several events; the most exciting race of the day came in the form of a Tiffin v. Tiffin final race in the J18 doubles event, with George Nottidge (Upper Sixth) & Jonathan Williams (Lower Sixth) narrowly beating the Lower Sixth pairing of Aaron Moran & Greg Street. Special mention must be made of George Nottidge's extraordinary performance in winning both his doubles and singles events – after four races in two hours, he certainly earned his trophy! Nearly all of the competitors made the semi-finals or finals, showing the entire team to be on fine form.

The next hurdle for TSBC is the all-important National Schools Regatta, held on May 28–30 at the Holme Pierrepont rowing lake in Nottingham. We have eight crews competing, our four quads and four singles attempting to better the most competitive schools the country has to offer. We continue to appreciate all of the support, wish us luck this weekend!

*KRISTINA FERRARO*

## School Cricket

This has been a difficult start to the season for the 1st XI, which lost all of its bowlers at the end of last season. With a number of calamitous batting collapses added to the equation, it has not been a pretty picture so far. The first four hours of the season were sensational, with the XI racking up 190 for 4 at a terrific pace against Reed's. Both opening batsmen, Captain Bilal Khan and Kushal Gor, struck half centuries and after 35 overs had launched Tiffin into an indomitable position. What happened next directly affected the course of the next two matches, as a collective confidence was knocked out of the side. Somehow Reed's recovered from an impossible position to scramble a win from the last ball of the match. Tiffin had played all the cricket for the best part of 68 overs, only to throw the match away at the death. There followed 5 losses from the next 7 games, a scrambled win over KCS Wimbledon and a nail-biting draw with Kingston Grammar School.

From a point where things could get little worse, there have been some very positive improvements. Gevindu Liyanage has shown tremendous character in the middle order, frequently having to bat in a crisis and ensuring respectability for an otherwise flagging batting performance.



He was awarded his School Colours for Cricket as a result of his heroics. Chris Belcher has stepped gamely into the opening bowler's slot and has already taken more wickets for the 1st XI than he took in the entire 2nd XI season last year. Priyesh Patel, young as he is, looks like a real prospect for the future as an off-spinner. Whilst the batsmen struggle with their form and the bowlers struggle with line and length, the season has at least been competitive, and we look forward to a more successful post-examination run.

Lower down the school, the U12 side contains some excellent players in the making. They lack match awareness, but they will learn so much during this first year. We owe much to former 1st XI left-armer, Rathulan Gnanendran, who has taken on much of the day-to-day coaching and has begun to perform wonders with the U13 side, who have now won three games of cricket! The U14s go from strength to strength, with an already impressive record. Accompanying this article is a photo of Hamish Robertson who holds the season's top score of 89 versus Emanuel. The U15s have lost their off-spinner to the 1st XI, but they have played some brilliant cricket and finished the first half of the season with a terrific win over Reigate Grammar. The remaining Tercels fixtures take place on June 20th, August 5th and August 17th. Do write to MW if you would like to play. The Tis tour has proved problematical this year, but it has been decided that the tour will take place in a reduced state, with fixtures taking place solely over the first weekend. It means that long-standing relations with Budleigh Salterton, Axminster and Cullompton will cease for the time being. We hope that in future years we might be able to return to a full week's list.

*MARTIN WILLIAMS*

## Tiffin all-star 3rd/4th XI

As ever, the objective is to play an open game, and results so far are one win for the 4ths and a draw for the 3rds against Reeds at the appropriate level. The 3rds excelled themselves, beating Emanuel 2nds for the second year in a row. As our seconds had no game, we only borrowed one player from them in our victorious squad. Leading stats so far – Batsmen: Senior player Krishan Neelendra 111 runs 5 innings average 22.2; Asanka Abeyratne 126 runs 5 innings average 25.2. Highest 47 scored along with game making Victor McConnell 28 not out against a Strong Lord Wandsworth 3rd XI. Bowlers: Taran Nagpal 17.5 overs 75 runs 6 wickets at 12.5 each; Shree Patwari 18 overs 3 maidens 79 runs 8 wickets at 9.875 per wicket. There have been three losses, but each time a good game resulted. The side has been captained by Rudi Navendran of Year 11.

*ROBIN SHAW*

## School Tennis

The Tennis season has begun in earnest, and the School Captain is Callum Edser in the Upper Sixth.

The Road to Wimbledon competition was won by Edward Hubner in Year 7. A really talented player.

The Surrey League competition has started with wins at Under 12, 13, 14 and Seniors. More detailed results later.

As ever we are grateful to Coombe Wood and New Malden Tennis Clubs for their courts. Any suggestions for the repair of the courts at Grist's would be gratefully received!

PETER WILLIAMS

## Tiffin Rugby League

Having won their regional competition and then the London and South East final, Tiffin qualified for the knockout stages of the National Champion Colleges Cup for the second year in a row. At the quarter-final stage, despite a fantastic performance on the day, the experience of the opposition, New College Pontefract, proved too much for the boys. In a close hard-fought game, Pontefract ran out winners by 44 points to 30. The Tiffin side consisted of a number of boys from Lower 6th and Year 11, and the experience will stand them in good stead for next year.

STEVE CATHCART

## Performing Arts

The Spring Term was exciting and eventful across the Performing Arts. Both House Drama and House Singing competitions were entered into with real energy and commitment from everyone involved, and the two evenings in the Main Hall, playing to a capacity house, were great occasions. The Dance Company has continued to flourish – a Dance evening two nights after House Singing astonished everyone, and this has been followed by performing at the Peacock Theatre at the end of March (this following an intensive half-term week's rehearsing at Sadlers Wells Theatre). The Year 11 production of Arthur Miller's *'Incident at Vichy'* was highly moving, with some extremely promising performances from all the boys; an informal concert at the beginning of March brought a number of first public performances by students learning instruments, followed shortly afterwards by some great performances in the Gig Night. The term finished with a successful End of Term Concert featuring all the school's ensembles (the Percussion Ensemble and Samba Group being a welcome new addition to our provision) and the choir singing Music for Holy Week in Kingston Parish Church.

The Summer Term kicked off with the School Concert, and tickets for all three evenings sold fast. Simon Ferris's new Jazz cantata *'Marco Polo'* went down a storm with the Year 7 boys and the choir; and, in addition to the Swing Band and Samba Group, the concert had at its centrepiece Lower Sixth form musician Patrick Milne playing Gershwin's *'Rhapsody in Blue'* with an expanded Swing Band.

Also earlier this Term was a choir concert at Kingston Parish Church on Saturday 8th May, with several events yet to come: Drama, Dance

and Music participation in the International Youth Arts Festival, Tiffin-in-the-Garden (our end of term Performing Arts Festival) on Friday 16th July, and a Gala Choir Concert in Southwark Cathedral on Thursday 8th July. For more information on all of these events, visit the website, where you can download the term's Arts calendar.

Finally, at the end of July, the choir will be touring the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) and giving concerts in Tallinn, Pärnu, Riga, Kaunas and Vilnius. Our new website, [www.tiffinboyschoir.com](http://www.tiffinboyschoir.com) gives further details of this, plus information about how you can get involved with the fundraising process. Do please pay it a visit!

SIMON TOYNE

### Dance events for the Summer Term:

**Thursday 24th June 7pm:**

Dance evening with live music in Main Hall

**Saturday 3rd July 7.30pm:**

International Youth Arts Festival with dance performances from Tiffin and Tiffin Junior Dance Companies

### Report on the Encounters dance project performed at the Peacock Theatre

**Saturday 29th March:**

Over February Half Term Tiffin Dance Company worked with Random Dance Company to create original choreography. Below you can read part of the review which can be fully accessed from [http://www.londondance.com/reviews\\_details.asp?C=Ballet%20Russes%20Encounters&P=&V=Peacock%20Theatre](http://www.londondance.com/reviews_details.asp?C=Ballet%20Russes%20Encounters&P=&V=Peacock%20Theatre)



"Sadler's Wells community and education department **Connect** joins forces with **English National Ballet** and two of its Associate Artists and their companies — **Russell Maliphant** and **Wayne McGregor** | **Random Dance** – to present work by world class companies alongside work made with community groups – all in response to the Ballet Russes centenary anniversary."

"The evening's highest praise, however, goes to **Tiffin Boys' Youth Dance Company** with *Salvage*. Using **Wayne McGregor's Dyad 1909** (also part of *In the Spirit of Diaghilev*) as a starting point, the young boys produce a fabulous eruption of movement set to skitter-clatter beats, which burst out like earthquake tremors. They tumble over one another, jumping in geometric patterns and soldier crawling out of the space in a highly challenging movement vocabulary that is intent on focus."

KAROLINA CZERNIAK