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# from The president

The invitation to be President of the Association came as a surprise. I am well past the age of expecting further honours and have for some time, as a matter of common prudence, been divesting myself of executive responsibilities. But having reflected on my close involvement with the affairs of the Association for the past 25 years and out of respect for the honour implied in the invitation, I readily agreed to serve.

During that quarter century, the declared objectives of the Association have not changed; its purpose is to further the interests of the School and its past and present members and to promote social and sporting activities among them. At the same time there has been an important and deliberate shift of emphasis from the latter activities towards supporting the School. Thus, for instance, we have worked with successive Headmasters to encourage greater support and participation from OEs in three key events in the School calendar – Founder's Day in the summer term, the Annual Dinner in the autumn term and the Dinner Debate in the spring term – a joint School/OE event we revived in the 1990s.

We have also given greater prominence to the work of the Endowment Fund and set out to ensure that within the terms of its Trust Deed it serves and supports the core interests of the School and is not at variance with it. Quite critically in 1999, under the terms of the Education Act of that year, the School was in jeopardy of losing its hard-won autonomy and selective status had there not been an associated “land-owning charity” which enabled it to be designated a Foundation School. The Endowment Fund, which owns Stapylton Field, met that requirement and has since then been responsible for nominating five Foundation Governors to the Governing Body of the School.

Then, as is well known, in recent years we have amended the Constitution so as to enable all school-leavers to be given automatic membership of the Association. It is in the interests of the School, as well as its alumni, to keep in touch with all Elizabethans. Modern means of data storage and communication make this feasible and it has made sense for the School to assume responsibility for the Association's web-site and membership database. Exactly how those changes will work out in the long run remains to be seen. The membership is rising as some 180 or so leavers are enrolled each year; the School issues an electronic bulletin under the Elizabethan name at the end of each term; meantime this Elizabethan, the valued traditional magazine, comes out twice a year to those of us who pay our subs and have been elevated to Fellows of the Association. Like the School itself, the Association is on the move.



**Elizabethans**

from the president

During this time there have also been significant changes at the Memorial Playing Field. If its viability seemed open to doubt after the OE Rugby Club moved away to join forces with Barnet RFC and after the momentous EGM at which the membership roundly rejected thoughts of selling the lease, events have proved otherwise. Since then the OE Cricket Club has developed materially in the range and strength of its activities and the ground has been opened up as a community sports facility for the benefit of a number of football clubs. Alongside this, as many of you will know, the facilities in the Clubhouse and around the playing fields have been greatly improved. Much credit for this is due to the Playing Field Company and the leadership first of Don Christie and more recently of Peter Goring, assisted throughout by Mike Woolf as Secretary. They, and the current committee, have made sure that the Playing Field Company effectively pays its way from year to year, although the challenge persists of raising capital to finance future developments.

Finally a word of thanks for all those who volunteer their services to help keep the Association, its various Sections, the Social Club and the Playing Field Company running. Especially I am indebted to Maurice Slough and Alan King for their tireless work as Secretary and Membership Secretary for most of the time I was in the Chair, and to Martyn Bradish and Daren Norris who are now leading strings. And honourable mention is due also to David Farrer for his amiable and robust double term as President. As long as I have spirit to sing "...till we have built Jerusalem..." I shall aim to follow suit.



Ken Cooper



# A Life in a Minute

*By Maurice Slough*

Born 1932

The youngest of six – the baby and spoiled rotten!

Attended Byng Road Infant and Junior Schools

Scholar-shipped to Queen Elizabeth's School at Barnet (founded 1573 by the reverend Edward Underne don't you know!) in 1943 until 1950

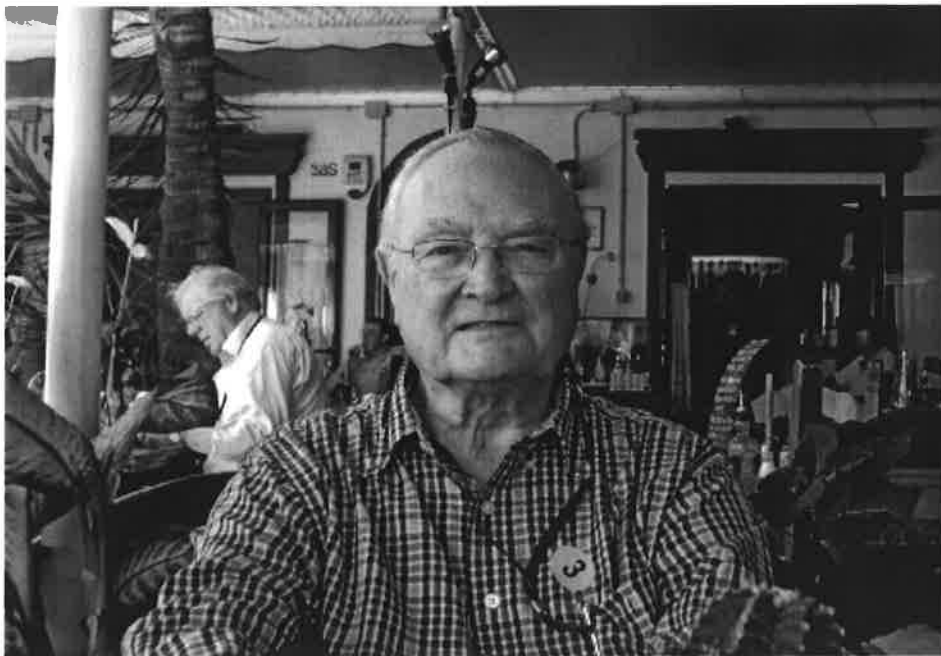
Failed my Army medical because of damage to my left hand caused when I fell through a window at a Halloween Party

Same year Joined Coutts Bank where I worked for 33 years leaving as a Senior Line Manager in 1983 on a full pension. The same has been index-linked ever since and I now earn more than I ever did when working. Bloody lucky I say

Much owed and so many thanks to my old Headmaster, Ernie Jenkins, who introduced me to his old school chum Mr C E L Cooke, the then Office Manager of Coutts. I worked my way by sheer hard bloody labour to the top without treading on anybody

A very happy time - and not many people can say that these days, and I met some very interesting people on the way – the Duke of Wellington for one, and I have shaken hands with the Queen, lunched with Princess Margaret, (who smoked her way through all the courses!!) and have been welcomed into the homes of many celebrities

I have been most fortunate and never cease to count my lucky stars



news & views

# Ise-jingu out of season

*By Sir Leslie Fielding*

I am not a great one for dialogue with the spirits of the dead. Only one of the latter, and then with slight misgiving, have I ever directly consulted.

In my undergraduate years (in a psycho-scientific rather than superstitious sort of way – with instruments of detection and measurement), I was an investigator of haunted houses, as a member of the Cambridge Society for Psychical Research. Later, I was the occupant of three such houses myself. But they held no fears for me and were – almost all of them, anyway – psychically dead. From my mid-forties onwards, as a lay minister of the established church, I have lingered little in country churchyards, and certainly composed no elegies there. The Cenotaph, for me, is no more than a lump of limestone in Whitehall. The Pyramids of Egypt and the pharaohnic monuments of the Upper Nile, though fun to visit, nevertheless convey no supernatural thrill or sense of continuity with an unseen world. The Valley of the Imperial Tombs of the Ming Dynasty, outside Beijing, lights no particular light bulb. The ruins of Graeco-Roman antiquity, *idem* – although, as an admirer of Rome at its apogee, I tend to feel a little sad in Hadrian's Villa or strolling among the ruins of the Roman Forum or standing amid the remains of Leptis Magna.

Ise, in the Kii Peninsula in Japan, was different. Throughout my four years as the EC representative in Tokyo, I had never previously been there. Partly because I had other things to do and professionally more relevant places to visit; but also because of a certain mistrust of Shinto, Japan's oldest religion, the “Way of the Gods”. Despite being overlaid by Confucianism, Buddhism and the many Modernisms of the scientific and technological era, Shinto was nevertheless part of the Emperor worship and militarism which had inspired, in my lifetime, the invasion of China, the assault on Pearl Harbour, the suicide missions of the young kamikaze pilots, the cruelties of the Imperial Japanese army in South East Asia, the savage and sadistic disregard of the Geneva Convention. Furthermore, Japan's unwillingness to follow Germany's example, admit her past misconduct, and face the truth rather than repress it, is something which I have never been able fully to understand, let alone forgive. On occasional visits to the Yakusune Shrine, near my official residence in Tokyo, my purpose was solely to push my little daughter in her pushchair in spacious surroundings, not to venerate the spirits of Japanese war criminals. True, the Emperor of Japan is today considered by no one – except a small under-class of extreme right wing illusionists – to be descended from the Sun Goddess Amaterasu. Nevertheless, the latter's shrine, and those of some ancestors of the Imperial family, are located at Ise, the Mecca of the Shinto faith, the recipient of much national respect and many pilgrimages.

One day, I learned that I was to leave Tokyo for Brussels – where working life, on promotion, would be decidedly difficult; normal married life, a miracle.

It was then that I had second thoughts about Ise-Jingu. I had long been a student of comparative religion. I liked to think that I felt personally at home whenever, wherever and through whomsoever the spirit of God whispered to creation. If only in terms of respectful farewell to the country in which I was still living but was soon to quit, and in which I had felt happy and at home, I concluded that I should be better able to depart in peace by making some sort of pilgrimage to Ise. In the event, I found the shrine and its surroundings of remarkable aesthetic appeal; but also quite moving.

It was midweek in late spring. I was accompanied as guide by one of my Japanese staff. But she was silent as she paced behind me along the riverbank, through the trees, across the humped-back bridge, and into Geku, the outer shrine. (The mysterious inner shrine is not normally open, even to Eurocrats). We wandered among the various wooden temple buildings, all of them endowed with strong, pure profiles, in the mode of the Fourth and Fifth centuries AD – the pristine essence of ancient Japanese architectural inspiration, innocent of the Chinese models which were to influence Japan in subsequent eras of artistic evolution. Uniquely, these remarkable temples had always been – and still are, to this day – rebuilt and replaced every twenty years – always identical and unchanged – in order to preserve their ritual purity, and in celebration of the bounty as well as the beauty of nature.

That day, the setting was special. Light wind, soft rain, the shifting play of light and shadow, the noble lines of the cedar timbers, the gentle curves of the roofs, all came together for me, without my asking. The place was plangent. It being out of season and at the wrong hour, almost no one was about. But somewhere, an unseen visitor clapped hands at a shrine, no doubt before bowing and praying, as so many Japanese generations had done at Ise, over fifteen past centuries.

There was nothing spooky about Ise. Yet here was the essence of the Japanese aesthetic genius – simplicity, elegance and restraint. Here too, nobility, loyalty and honour. But I also picked up something else, which I had not expected. Was it my deep Celtic response to a common, prehistoric, transpolar Shamanism? Was it some wider commonality, to do with simply being human? To me as a Christian, it was the presence of the Holy Spirit, observing, sustaining, interceding – as in all ages, at all places and with all men, outside as well as within the catholic and apostolic community. Perhaps Cardinal Koenig, Archbishop of Vienna and the Belgian Jesuit, Jacques Dupuis, had they been present, would have felt this too. And the words in the back of my mind, at Ise, were those of the psalmist:-

'If I take the wings of the morning,  
And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
Even then shall thy hand lead me,  
And thy right hand shall hold me'.

I stood quietly. This was the still point of the turning world. But my colleague shifted uneasily. Maybe, as a Westernised, foreign-educated young Japanese, she felt embarrassed and out of sympathy with the whole thing. Of perhaps she was afraid that I would simply dismiss Ise, as a mere exercise in off-piste tourism. Or perhaps even thought that neither of us should be there at all. I did not find it in me to ask her. So we took our departure.

I shall never go back; but I shall never forget.



# Elizabethan Desert Island

## Mike Harrison

Born in Southgate in 1942 during the Second World War, the only recollections I have are the Morrison Shelter in the front room which after the War my mother used for growing her tomatoes up. We were evacuated to my grandparents in Godalming, Surrey and I am told a buzz bomb went over the top of the train as we left Waterloo Station. Being brought up after the War with rationing and other hardships with my eldest sister was no real problem as we knew no different.

I went to Osidge Primary School in Southgate where in the year we sat the eleven plus I was in the B stream and so sat the exam with no great expectations (having put QE as my first choice school). I did ok but did not get a place straight off but had to go for a competitive interview in the QE Library run by no less than EHJ himself. Quite daunting, and the first few questions went well. However, from about half way it started going downhill. So to the last question, by which time I had almost given up and EHJ telling me that this question carried a high percentage of overall marks. All I heard was that he was carving a duck from a block of wood weighing six pounds and that he had taken off half the wood. There was more information available which, if you followed it, begged a response of four and a half pounds. I was however not listening by this stage and when prompted to give the weight of the duck I blurted out "three pounds". To my utter amazement Jenkins banged the desk and shouted "the only fellow to get it right today!" I got into QE on the strength of that "magic moment" which has totally changed my life since.



*Geoff Fox, Eddie Pratt, Yours Truly and faithful dog Fella and Norman Woodford*

So to September 1953 and I can picture it as clear as yesterday, strange how you remember what happened more than sixty years ago but not what happened last week!! I was told I was going into 1C under a certain ENH Shearly. There we were in brand new uniforms standing outside Room H when from the far end of the corridor a booming voice, which we subsequently learned was just one of his whispers, told thirty petrified newcomers to stand straight and keep quiet. So started a long and by large fruitful relationship with probably the greatest Elizabethan through both School and Old Boys.

Academically for me life was hard but I successfully worked my way up to and through O level. Advanced level was far harder and though Syd Clark eased me through Chemistry, I did not achieve what was necessary for my provisional university place. On the other tack I found the sport wonderful, starting with rugby and cricket and then athletics. I had two years in the Colts rugby; the second year George Jones was captain and we won every match, then up to first thirty, with one year in the seconds and then two in the firsts (of which I was captain in the second year).

Now a job and career choice were required. My father had a friend in Westminster Bank and he suggested this to me.



MH: Why?

Dad: Cheap mortgage

MH: But I live at home and do not need one

Dad: Good career prospects

MH: OK

Dad: Don't forget the non-contributory final salary pension scheme

MH: What on earth do I want that for?

Now I know just why I want that so perhaps my old man was right all along?

Anyhow I passed the bank selection process and was sent to the Cockfosters branch where initial duties included shovelling the coal down the hole and stoking the boiler!!! Just what an A level education was for... Before I got totally fed up and left I was, after six months, transferred to a large West End Branch in Harley Street. This had many advantages and started me on a successful career lasting thirty two years covering a largely interesting range of roles. I had various jobs in large West End and City Branches with a spell in Personnel which led to me looking after and selecting Graduates for the Bank's Management Development programme. My best jobs came at the end when I was Senior Manager of the Bank's Kings Road, Chelsea Branch, where I had a really good mix of well-known personal and business customers with whom I built a good and satisfying customer-client relationship.

One of the advantages of being transferred to Harley Street Branch was that I met Anne, my wife, who also worked there. In January 2017 we celebrate our Golden Wedding. We have two sons - Simon aged 47 and Dan aged 46. I was also very pleased that by secondary school time we had moved back to Barnet and both attended QE where they were fortunate to have the guidance amongst others of Eamonn Harris with the school starting to move back into its pomp. It was shortly after the boys left that Eamonn invited me onto the panel of Governors of the School - a role I had for a number of years. It was also very comforting that both Syd Clark my old tutor and a friend from rugby Eric Houston were serving and it was good to catch up with them again.

Sport has always played a very big role in my life and after my school years when I moved back north of the river I became very involved at Gypsy Corner. Rugby was my first love and I played some three seasons in the 1st XV when Old Elizabethans were one of the big sides in the county. Satisfying as playing 1st XV was, I then had some seven years in the A XV and that definitely provided some of the most enjoyable times. Under three different Captains - Trevor Davies, Andy Bell and Miles Snazell we had a core of competent players who by themselves would not reach dizzy rugby heights, but who had such a varied eclectic range of skills that merged really well together and we regularly won in excess of eighteen games a season. The players ranged from the crunching tackling Centres John Wells and Bryan Verral, to brute force Toddy on one Wing, Trevor Davies scoring interception tries for fun ( though living offside), Norman Woodford at Full Back, me as Scrum Half, and last of all Eddie Pratt who even if he never actually tackled, did kick goals from everywhere at will. We all got on really well socially and those who still survive are still all good friends today, as are many other contemporaries from the Rugby Club. Some ten of us go away each year on a golf tour and have been doing it for nearly forty years; the likes of Charlie Eggington, Mike Wormald, Ned Tarry, Richard Newton, John Hume, Derek Ingham, Roger Edrupt and John Keeley. These relationships are treasured and highly valued and a result of time spent at QE and Old Elizabethans.



*Dunbanking done proper!*



Cricket I also played but not to a very high standard, mostly in Geoff Fox's 2nd X1 (See picture). Again a highly social side with Happy Morris and Tony Lane to rely on for runs and terrific bowlers Taffy Price and Eddie Pratt, who really should have been playing 1st X1 backed up by ENHS whose arm by this time was getting lower and lower.

Once I gave up playing rugby I took up refereeing for Herts RFU Referees Society. I got reasonably well up the ladder doing regular 1stXV fixtures both in and outside the county. When my joints got too creaky to continue running around, I took up Referee Assessing which involves grading and writing a report on the particular referee watched. As a bit of casual name-dropping I have assessed two International Referees (albeit on their way up); JP Doyle and Luke Pearce. I still undertake a game each Saturday for Herts RFURS and still very much like the involvement.

By this time the Bank had decided it no longer wanted Managers in branches and I was given early retirement in 1994. In 2000 we moved to North Devon, which is a wonderful part of the world. Here again I kept up the involvement of rugby assessing for Devon and down there the standard was high. Additionally I had got into golf at that time and for nine years was a member of the wonderful Saunton links Golf Club. However in 2009 we decided, with the growing collection of grandchildren, that we should be back closer to them and found a place in Melbourn (just outside Royston), where both Anne and I are now fully involved. The grand kids are 16, 14, 12 and 8 (both sons having a boy and a girl and we get on well with all of them). The eldest Ben is a seriously good swimmer having won medals in his age group at the British Championships and has just got a swimming scholarship at one of the country's top swimming schools, Kelly College in Devon.

I have however pointed out to him that despite ENHS making us go in the unheated QE outdoor pool from May to October, he gets none of his swimming genes from me!!!!



Favourite Film: The Coen Brothers classic award winner “**No Country for Old Men**” with one of the most evil baddies in Javier Bardem came very close. However as a youngster I had been brought up on a diet of westerns on TV and saw many on the big screen. So I probably have to go for the far lesser cinematic quality with one of my heroes John Wayne as the one eyed Marshall Rooster Cogburn in “**True Grit**” - the only film that won him an Oscar.

Favourite Music: I am not a classical man and there is only one choice- **Francis Albert Sinatra**, but dear oh dear which one? My Way, Gentle on my Mind or Little Green Apples. As a bet hedger Chris Rea's Auberge was considered.





Country: **New Zealand**. Stunning scenery, great people and everybody wants to talk about rugby.

Book: I came at this from a number of angles. I love things that make me laugh and a standard Christmas present for many years was the book of Giles Cartoons. I still have six of them and the characters are just fantastic (especially grandma) and they still make me laugh. However I passed those over and I really enjoy thrillers but could not make up my mind between Lee Child's Jack Reacher books, John Sandford's Lucas Davenport detective novels or Michael Connelly's Harry Bosch. So in the end I have gone for John Reason's volume entitled **Victorious Lions** which was the story of John Dawes and Carwyn James stunning test series win for The British Lions rugby side in New Zealand as long ago as 1971.



Musical: Well it has to be a Lloyd Webber one. I enjoy most of his but **Evita** to me stands head and shoulders above the rest with Eva Peron played preferably by Marty Webb but I would accept Elaine Page who went to Southaw School in Russell Lane and was there the same time as my sister.

Favourite Person in History: Not one but a group, **the pilots of the RAF during the war**. The fighter pilots from The Battle of Britain and later the pilots of Bomber Command without whose skill and bravery I would certainly not be here today. As an aside if you have the chance to visit the fairly recent memorial to Bomber Command Pilots in Hyde Park do so and I challenge you not to be deeply moved.



NEWS & VIEWS



Elizabethans

# Friends of the Memorial playing field

In recent editions of the Elizabethan, John Olney has provided us with his fond memories of the Memorial Playing Field. These memories have inspired many of the members, led by Michael Woolf, to look at ways in which we can take John's wishes to ensure the War Memorial status of the ground is not forgotten, as the focus of the playing fields shifts to providing a sporting facility for the community. As the country is currently remembering the Centenary of the First World War, it is an appropriate time to reinforce this aspect of Gypsy Corner to younger generations.

The Memorial Playing Fields were established in the 1950s by the Old Elizabethans Association for the benefit of former pupils of Queen Elizabeth's Boys School. As John remembers, it was felt that a sporting facility would be a fitting tribute to the memory of the staff and pupils of the school who had lost their lives in both World Wars.

Over the years, rugby has moved elsewhere whilst the cricket club has survived and flourished. This is mainly as a result of opening the club membership to all the young people of Barnet. Many of the youngsters, who fill the ground on sunny summer Friday evenings, have progressed into the senior teams. These teams are now playing the highest grade of cricket in the club's 75 year history. Many of the pioneers would probably be horrified at the sight of the football pitches, but these are the facilities that keep us going.

Sporting interests have changed significantly over the last ten years with team sports struggling to maintain their status. This has resulted in several local clubs merging with their neighbours and some sports grounds being abandoned or used for housing. There is competition from gyms, all weather multi-sports facilities and running or endurance events. Personal challenges or a midweek kick around with friends have progressively replaced regular weekend team sports. The post-match social has also changed, whether it is social responsibility or a shift in habits, the bar takings no longer provide a significant income.

The Playing Field Company (PFC) is tackling these issues, whilst also maintaining the sports facilities in the best condition in history. Work has started on an all-weather training pitch and Boreham Wood FC Academy, with their partners at Barnet College, use the ground during the week in term time. The Summer Soulstice was established in 2007 as an annual music festival in memory of Andy Weekes, a much missed OE, and now opens the ground as a vibrant celebration to the whole of Barnet and beyond, raising significant sums for Cherry Lodge Hospice.

Nationally, volunteers are harder to come by and so the days of self-preparation of pitches are largely a distant memory. John Olney has written about how he and others excavated the clubhouse foundations, Michael Woolf has an unhealthy affinity with the cess pit and Paul Barnfather tells me how he and Peter Mackay extended the old square. Many recall Eric Shearly cutting the field and rolling the square, but even he found this too much and called in the services of Gordon Moody, who looked after the school playing fields. Gordon's son, Andy, who runs a successful commercial sports grounds management company, now maintains the ground as part of his business.



However, it is increasingly expensive to maintain the playing areas and clubhouse to suit the current needs. As a consequence there is a very limited reserve to carry out further improvements or as a contingency.

Michael has advocated that a fund is established called "The Friends of the Memorial Playing Field"; where those who have benefitted from the Memorial Playing Field, past and present, contribute a fixed annual sum with the objective of helping to ensure that the ground remains a fitting and worthwhile memorial. We are hoping to get as many subscribers as possible willing to pay £50 through a bi-annual or annual banker's standing order.

The fund will not be used to subsidise the day to day running of the ground, but will provide a reserve that will be used to make improvements to the facilities and equipment. The fund will be administered by a small group of trustees will allocate the funds, independently of the Playing Field Company.

Following in the traditions of Cyril Winchester's brainchild for "Founders' Sunday", there will be an annual summer buffet for subscribers to enjoy, with a field day for the sporting community and an opportunity to see how the money is benefiting the ground.

We have made a start with an early launch of the Friends of the Memorial Playing Field at the Forty Society lunch in April 2016. Many of the attendees at the luncheon became our initial subscribers and we now have our first thirty Friends. There is a draft constitution, which will be approved by the trustees by the end of the year and provided to all subscribers.

Peter Yates, Tristan Smith and David Coombes have offered to become the first trustees of the fund and have met with directors of the PFC to set an outline strategy. Peter and Tristan will be well known to most visitors to Gypsy Corner over the last few years and to readers of the Elizabethan. David can be credited as one of the triumvirate of OECC cricketers, including Paul Barnfather and Joe Festa, who recognized the plight of club cricket and established the now thriving junior section, which has breathed life and success into what had been a team struggling for numbers.

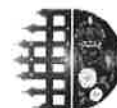
We will be approaching all those associated with the playing fields over the years, current tenant clubs and other users to build up the database. We will promote the Friends through the Elizabethan magazine and are targeting as many subscribers as possible, so if we achieve our target of 300 subscribers paying £50 per year there will be a fund of £15,000 per annum to allocate to approved projects and retain in the Friends reserve fund.

We will use traditional bank standing orders so if you are willing to support this initiative please fill in the standing order printed below. Alternatively, please contact Peter Yates: [peter\\_mary\\_@btinternet.com](mailto:peter_mary_@btinternet.com)

We are also investigating the possibility of registering the ground as one of the Fields in Trust's Centenary Fields to recognise the contribution made by OEs and the citizens of Barnet to their country in conflicts over many years. The Playing Field Company will work closely with the Association to determine the most appropriate way forward on this.

We are hoping to get as many subscribers as possible; please give generously to help us achieve our goal of creating a fitting memorial and a Sporting Facility for the Community.

*Peter Goring, August 2016*



Elizabethans

# friends of the M.P.F. standing order

(DETAILS OF ACCOUNT FROM WHICH PAYMENT TO BE MADE)

To: ..... **Bank Plc/Building Society**

Branch Address .....

.....

.....

Name of Account.....

Sort Code.....Account Number.....

Please pay the sum of £25 (Twenty Five Pounds) on 1<sup>st</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> August in each year, until further notice to:

Bank: HSBC, plc

Branch: Hendon Central

Address: 1 Central Circus, Hendon, London NW4 3JU

Name of Account: Old Elizabethans (Barnet) Playing Field Company Ltd

Sort Code: 40-03-26

Account No: 51563475

Date of first Payment: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017

Signature.....Date.....

NAME IN CAPITALS.....

Address.....

.....

Email address.....

[Form to be returned to Jonathan Smith, 74 Cedar Lawn Avenue, Barnet, Herts EN5 2LN]



# from the Headmaster

Over the past few months, we have been living through turbulent times politically, but life at Queen Elizabeth's School progresses calmly as normal. We continue to hold steadfastly to our values and will ensure that QE remains an open, tolerant community in which all can express their views.

The highlights of the Summer Term included, as ever, our Founder's Day. The day's formal elements proceeded smoothly, starting with the thanksgiving service at Chipping Barnet Parish Church, followed by the procession of staff and boys back to School and the reading of the Roll Call and School Chronicle. There was then the chance for everyone to relax at the afternoon Fête on the Stapylton Field.

It was a pleasure to welcome many Old Elizabethans during the course of the afternoon, including the cricketers who narrowly lost against our current First XI in the annual Stanley Busby Memorial Cricket Match towards the end of the day.

In the morning, our Guest of Honour for the Founder's Day thanksgiving service was an old boy, Edmund Watson. Since then, I have had the pleasure of welcoming another alumnus as a guest speaker: Benjamin Lichman presented the awards at our Junior Awards.

This summer saw the departure of three senior members of staff who will be remembered by many Old Elizabethans.

Fauziah ('Gee') Scarisbrick was appointed by Headmaster Timothy Edwards in January 1983 after graduating from the University of Kent. She became Assistant Head of Mathematics in 1994 and then Head of the department in 1999. As the longest-serving teacher, Mrs Scarisbrick had for some time been Mother of the Common Room and was the only member of staff to have worked with four Headmasters.

Her long career at QE saw the Mathematics department excel, even by the high standards of this School. She demonstrated great diligence and firmness of purpose, but also a genuine care for the boys in her charge. In June 2014, her service was recognised with an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Also departing were Tim Bennett and Mark Peplow. Tim joined us in 1996 and rose to become Assistant Head with responsibility for Pastoral Care. Mark had been with us since 2002, rising to be Head of Games. They have been two huge presences in the PE and Games Department over the years.

Mark, with his trademark dry wit, presided over QE Games during a period in which we have had many successes in a variety of sports. He took a lead role in our major sports, as well as athletics and Eton Fives.

With responsibility for pastoral care and therefore discipline, Tim was well known for his toughness when necessary, but always tempered with a sense of humour and the ability to defuse a difficult situation with his charm.

Both Mark and Tim were involved in the Read Cricket Trophy, which we won again this year. Both have been key figures in the running of the QE Rugby Sevens competition. And both went

# around the school



Elizabethians

on the first Sri Lanka combined cricket and rugby tour in 2014, with Mark also joining this year's tour in the summer.

All three colleagues have with my very best wishes for the future.

As the roll-out of our 2012–2016 School Development Plan drew to a close, our subject heads and senior staff spent a considerable time in the Summer Term visiting lessons to evaluate them, and the staff as a whole reflected on the progress made in the past four years. Now we look forward to the implementation of our new School Development Plan, covering 2016–2020. Full details are being announced this month, but it is already clear that the importance of character attributes such as resilience will be to the fore.

Giving time to causes greater than ourselves is one of the ways in which resilience can be developed. We seek to encourage this through our voluntary service programme and, more broadly, in our mission to produce young people who are responsible as well as confident and able. Our emphasis on enrichment through extra-curricular activities also assists greatly in the fulfilment of that mission, with pupils' wider involvement in School life outside lessons contributing heavily to their development as rounded individuals.

An important innovation last term was the launch of our Enrichment Week. This featured a number of special activities outside of the normal curriculum, with the aim of developing in Years 7–10 boys a range of academic, personal and thinking skills. I am pleased to report the week included contributions from Old Elizabethans. Poet and performer Anthony Anaxagorou (OE 1994–1999) led two workshops for the English department, while artist David Shillinglaw (OE 1994–1999) ran a competitive, inter-House Art activity.

In order to deliver our enrichment programme we need high-quality facilities, and we continue to invest in our Estates Strategy. I am delighted to say that work started on the Heard Building in June. When complete, the building will be entirely reorganised and structurally strengthened, and will incorporate a new link with the Fern Building. It will provide a self-contained home for our English Department, with eight classrooms and offices.

The project costs of more than £1m are being met exclusively by charitable giving through the Friends of Queen Elizabeth's – another remarkable feat of organisation and generosity by FQE and our families and supporters. The Heard Building is named after George Heard, Chairman of Governors before our current Chairman, Barrie Martin MBE. It dates back to the 1990s and was, in fact, one of the very first projects to be funded by FQE. This extensive refurbishment therefore bears testimony to some 20 years of liberal and resolute support for the School on the part of the Friends.

My best wishes go to all our alumni.

*Neil Enright*

# O.E. forty society

*Secretary R D Parker  
(until and unless a much needed successor is found!)*

The Society's Spring lunch was held at the Memorial Pavilion on the 28th April 2016, attended by forty two members. A further eleven apologies for absence were received, including one from David Farrer who had been detained by the Law in some way. He had been due to chair the lunch and Ken Cooper kindly agreed to step into the breach, for which we thank him.

After lunch the Society held its Annual General Meeting at which Mike Harrison presented the Accounts for 2015, which showed a Bank Balance of £1542 at year end, and he mentioned that in addition to the £500 donated to the School for the purchase of Library Books, we had committed a further £500 to the Playing Field Company towards the purchase of chairs for the tea room (upon which we were in fact sitting!) The present committee, consisting of Mike Harrison - Treasurer, Bob Parker - Secretary and Keith Jackson, Bob Paget, and Jerry Golland, all being willing to stand again, were duly re-elected. There being no other business for discussion the meeting was closed. We then had an interesting talk from Peter Goring, the Chairman of the Playing Field Company on the subject of the future financing of what has usually been known as Gypsy Corner but what is, in fact, the memorial to Fallen Old Elizabethans, as forcefully argued by John Olney in a recent copy of the Elizabethan. The proposals are as set out elsewhere in the magazine under the heading "Friends of the Memorial Playing Field". You are urged to read this carefully and then sign up!

After the Raffle draw the Secretary remembered this time to thank Celia for an excellent lunch, Jonathan Smith for tending to the Bar etc., and, perhaps most important for his own comfort, Liz Parker for organising the Raffle!

The next Meeting will be for the Autumn Lunch and this will be held on Thursday October 27th 2016. Mike Harrison would be ever so grateful if you would send your applications to him in very good time using the Application Form below.

All former pupils of Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet, who left forty or more years ago, i.e. in 1976 or earlier, are eligible to attend and, as those of you who have attended before will know the lunch is very informal....good food, good wine and, above all, good company.

It would be helpful (I am told) if you would add your e-mail address on the form for future correspondence.

Many thanks and best wishes

Bob

# clubs and societies



Elizabethans



# O.E. forty society autumn luncheon application form

The Autumn Luncheon will be held on Thursday 27th October 2016 at the Old Elizabethan (Barnet) Memorial Pavilion (Mays Lane) commencing at 12.45pm.

Please return to:

**M.T.Harrison 12 Greenbanks, Melbourn, Royston, Herts SG8 6AS**

**Tel: 01763 261775    mhdunbanking@gmail.com**

Please reserve a place for me at the Lunch on 27th Oct./ I regret I am unable to attend.

I enclose my cheque for **£25** payable to "The OE Forty Society"

Name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode ..... Tel. No .....

Dietary Requirements: .....

## 'BOP' BOOKS

I have been communicating by letter with John Wakelin in recent months. It is good to be back in touch with the man who I can genuinely say taught me how to think during my 6th form years at QE. It has been pleasure to be able to tell him that I owe him a real debt of gratitude.

John has written to me about books he has had published in recent years. Intriguingly they reflect the views he had back in 1960/61. As member then of the Conservative Party's Bow Group he held really quite radical views (he once told me that the Tories were far more radical in their thinking than Labour) and this encouraged me to make up my own mind on political matters.

His first trilogy of books published in 2009 and the years thereafter are entitled 'The Good Life in the Good Society an ideology for the 21st Century'. He states that 'no political party in Britain is currently putting forward an ideology that provides a direction, framework and coherence for political action'.

He followed these three volumes with 'Education - purpose and control' and this year he has produced 'Welfare Without Benefits'. None are exactly easy reading, but the ideas he expounds are genuinely thought-provoking and, maybe, should be read by the architects of our ever-changing society and by the politicians in Westminster who hold our destinies in their hands.

Bop's books are challenging stuff, but for anyone who cares about the way our country is going and who shares my affection for John Wakelin I recommend them.

*Richard Davies*



# o.e. golf society

*Hon. Secretary: Robert Printemps*    *Assistant Secretary: Ian Louis-Fernand*  
 printemps@btinternet.com                      ianlouisfernand@googlemail.com

Porters Park G.C. was the venue for the O.E.G.S. Spring event which was held on Friday 6 May. Attendance was lower than expected due mainly to work and other social commitments with thirteen OEs attending the event.

In the morning we played for the Captain's Cup albeit the cup has not been seen since its alleged transfer from King's Lynn to Totteridge a couple of seasons ago... The format was an individual Stableford competition played over 18 holes.

At 6'9" Andy Wheelans makes most things look small and Porters Park G.C. was no exception! Playing off a handicap of 12 Andy played majestically, carding 35 points to win the 'phantom' trophy and a bottle of champagne. Andy made it a clean sweep in the morning winning the nearest to the pin competition and picking up a nice bottle of red as his prize. He then took off post lunch to ~~clean out another unsuspecting Golf society~~ work.

I had the pleasure of playing in a four ball in the morning alongside John Keeley, Paul Nash and Ian-Louis Fernand. John was on great form and it was like playing 'a round with Ustinov' – playing golf whilst delivering witty and informative anecdotes. As the kids of today would say there was lots of 'bants' (teasing or joking conversation) going on. However, everybody developed a temporary hearing impairment when John started telling us that he attained his third 'colour' at school for that exciting 'Blue Ribbon' event known as the Shot Put!

There was a 'Texas Scramble' team event in the afternoon which was won by Team 3 with a -2 gross score: Rob Printemps; Ian Slade; Jon Nash and Ian-Louis Fernand.

The recently donated 'wooden spoon' (hickory shafted club) which is presented to the player who cards the lowest Stableford score in the individual competition went to Danny Harrison. Proud Dad Mike was unavailable for comment although I'm comforted by the knowledge that his response would have been unprintable!

Having contacted us after seeing the O.E.G.S. tee reservation on the member's noticeboard we were pleased to welcome Graham Taylor to his first event. Graham must have enjoyed his day with us as he's subsequently booked to join us at East Sussex National.

Porters Park G.C. attendees: Robert Printemps; Paul Lawrence; Grant Scheffer; Ian Slade; Keith Menezes; Jon Mays; Danny Harrison; Andy Wheelans; Graham Taylor; Jon and Paul Nash; Ian Louis-Fernand and John Keeley.

The autumn event is booked and the O.E.G.S. is going 'on tour' to my home county of Sussex. The event will be held over two days at the East Sussex National G.C. on Friday 30 September & Saturday 1 October 2016. If you would like to play in this event and meet up with some old friends then please send an email to either or both of the following:

- § Robert Printemps: printemps@btinternet.com
- § Ian Louis-Fernand: ianlouisfernand@googlemail.com



Elizabethans

## O.E. Business club

The last few months at the OEBC (hosted on LinkedIn) have been pretty quiet. LinkedIn have changed their dashboard and there has been a move away from the obvious 'groups you belong to' function. It has been placed in the 'Interests' section which is not as straightforward as before.

We will be pursuing a more active role in adding to our 638 members. There are over 124 ex pupils on LinkedIn who have not joined us so we will write to them to encourage their involvement.

The most prolific contributor this year has been Daniel Freedman, an Investment surveyor at RIB in London. I am sure we will organise a few drinks after work in W1 area and all are welcome to join us.

We can be found at <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2685149>

If we can help an OE to get a start in the job market or mentor the current pupils just get in touch. We are here to promote OEs in the workplace.

Thanks to all members for their support over the last 6 years.

*Michael*  
*michael.gallucci@mpgqs.com*

**grub up!**

where will you be on the evening of  
friday 18th november?

at the Association's Annual Dinner

where else?

held in the school hall,  
it's the perfect chance to revisit OE and  
break bread with old friends and new  
good times...good food...good fellowship

See booking form at the back of this issue



# o.e. cricket club

*Hon Secretary OECC Jonathan Mackman [www.oeccbarnet.co.uk](http://www.oeccbarnet.co.uk)*

As the 2016 cricket season heads for its conclusion, it has been a summer of consolidation for Old Elizabethans, but with the prospect of success still very much a possibility. With just three games to go, the 1st XI, having narrowly missed out on promotion from Division 3A of the Saracens Hertfordshire Premier Cricket League last year, are again just outside the promotion places in third spot. However, wins in their final games against lower-ranked opposition could still prove enough to overhaul the teams above them, and hopes remain high of yet another promotion. The 2nd XI, playing in Division 8A, also lie in third place, but with only 60 points separating the team in second from the team in eighth, it is very much all to play for in an extremely tight contest. And after two divisional titles in three years, the 3rd XI have enjoyed a steady season in Division 10B, and will finish their campaign in a very respectable mid-table position. Unfortunately Sunday cricket has struggled this year, with too many games cancelled due to reduced interest in playing on Sundays, both from OEs and from opposition teams. Nevertheless, the club has continued to hold its own in Division 1 of the North Herts Sunday League, and are respectably mid-table with just a couple of games to go.

In Colts cricket, the club's teams have again performed admirably at all age groups - despite the weather not being kind for much of the season! All teams are playing at relatively high levels after recent promotions, but all held their own against many of the region's biggest clubs, including a thrilling tie for the u-13s against Winchmore Hill! The u-15s are playing in the very top division of Colts cricket in the area, and despite a shortage of players in that age-group this year, the younger players stepped up with enthusiasm and ensured a mid-table finish. The younger teams struggled a little to live up to the success of previous years, but all avoided relegation, and with a lot of promising younger cricketers coming up through the ranks, hopes are high for further success over the next couple of years. Girls' cricket also continues to flourish, particularly in the younger age groups. A full series of fixtures were fulfilled, and with a lot of younger girls joining, there is great promise for the future. As ever, the club is extremely grateful for the hard work put in by all the coaches, parents and other volunteers in keeping Colts cricket running so smoothly. Unfortunately Ladies cricket at OEs has been the one real disappointment of the season, as the departure of a number of key players meant that the team was no longer sustainable and was forced to disband. This was a huge shame, given the amount of work many people at the club have put into trying to make the team work, but with a number of girls coming up through the age groups, hopefully this will only be a temporary setback, and the team will return to competition at some stage in the near future.

In addition to the usual programme of league and friendly fixtures, the club has also played host to a variety of other cricket over the summer. The club has twice hosted games between the UK-based old boys' sections of Sri Lanka's most prestigious colleges, in a one-off game early in the season and a T20 tournament in late-July. These were not just games of cricket, but were big events for the friends and family of everyone connected with those colleges, and were greatly enjoyed by all concerned. The club also hosted its own 8-a-side tournament in July, welcoming teams and players from OEs and elsewhere in what was a highly enjoyable, hard fought and very successful competition. The club has also played host to three county matches for the Hertfordshire junior teams, with games at u-11 and u-15 level. All were extremely good games, and showcased the Memorial Playing Field at its very best – hopefully there will be many more opportunities to come.



Elizabethans

After many years of improvements to the facilities at Gypsy Corner, this season has been one of relative stability. The new cricket squares, now a few years old, continue to play well, and provide excellent surfaces for the game, and although the outfield suffered alarmingly in June after the rather wet Summer Soulstice music festival, the subsequent work to remedy that damage should help to improve things for both cricket and football in future years. In addition, recent painting work in the Clubhouse has helped to provide a fresher and more welcoming atmosphere for everyone using the ground.

As ever, events at the club can be followed on our website at [www.oeccbarnet.co.uk](http://www.oeccbarnet.co.uk), and senior league fixtures and results appear on the Hertfordshire League website, [www.hertsleague.co.uk](http://www.hertsleague.co.uk). We are always pleased to welcome new players, officials, volunteers and spectators to Gypsy Corner, and would urge all of you to come down and watch the teams in action next season, whether it be a senior league match on a Saturday or Sunday or a Colts game on a weekday evening – your continued support is always welcome!

*Jonathan Mackman*  
*Hon. Secretary, OECC*

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## editor's note...

Hello All

I hope you've all had a good summer, enjoyed some sun, avoided some rain, watched some cricket (at Gypsy Corner?), taken in a festival (so popular these days). As I write, yet another mini-heatwave beckons and I wearily reach into the loft for the fans (again).

I do hope you're getting what you need from The Elizabethan. If not then please do let me know – I appreciate that the running order is in permanent danger of stagnation...

Thanks to all our contributors...I am indebted to you all.

And to any of you tempted to put pen to paper, finger to key (you know what I mean)...

*daren.norris@ntlworld.com*

# Barnet Elizabethans Rugby Club Limited

*Hon Secretary: Nigel Moore*

*47 Garthland Drive, Barnet, EN5 3BD, Telephone: 020 8441 7534, email: njlmoore007@yahoo.co.uk  
(Club website: www.barnetrfc.com)*

After all the Rugby World Cup hype, in September and October 2015, followed by subsequent disappointments at the Group stages for all Six Nations teams, the focus moved to the Club's Annual General Meeting in June 2016 with all Senior, Junior and Mini playing team records under scrutiny.

Sadly, I must report a poor 2015/2016 season, in every respect for the Senior XV's: the 3rd XV suffered from a severe shortage of players early on and had to withdraw from their Herts/Middx Merit Table before end October; the 2nd XV also fared badly for players, both in numbers and abilities, as they gained only one autumn "win" when their opponents cried off, although Tabard 2nds were also affected so, at the end of January, the two Club teams merged to play out the season: this proved a great success and the combined team reached the Plate Final in the Merit Table Cup at the end of April but lost to a strong experienced Bishops Stortford side. The absence of a settled 1st XV, again down to player numbers, although with some injured, meant a disappointing League season (no Cup games), ending in 8th place with the lowest total of bonus points. Our thanks to James Oram for all the hard work he put into captaining the Firsts.

However, on a more upbeat note, the Club's Academy team, which replaced the old U18s/Colts, had a very successful season, in both their Saracens League (Division 2 Champions) and Finalists in the LV Life Cup Competition, beating Hitchin 29-12 to win the Plate. This success follows on from previous year's successes in lower age groups so they are the top side in the Club, by far. The good news is that many of the team will move up, after the summer, into the Senior section. Sincere thanks to Chris Strack for his sterling efforts over the years: success breeds success and I hope he will continue to play an active part in Senior Rugby.

The other Junior teams, in their respective Saracens Leagues, have had mixed results. At one stage, Simon Harrison's U15s were vying with Simon Coombes' U16s for team of the year. A healthy position to take up for next season's age groups. Ultimately, however, neither gained end of season promotion.

The Mini Section had a good ratio of wins against matches played and were instrumental in organising the Mini Festival in October as well as attending other Festivals around the County and beyond. A special thanks to Adi for all his hard work. The Junior and Mini Section teams all play or train on Sunday mornings and, given good weather, the sight of hundreds of children and their parents at the Club every weekend is a very uplifting sight. When adverse conditions dictated, training was often relocated to Allianz Park which has become a regular facility provided for the Club and our appreciation goes to Saracens for its use.

The bad weather played a big part in disrupting the playing and training for all teams in the winter months although all scheduled League matches were completed, eventually, by the two senior sides, the Academy team and the four other Junior sides. A significant knock-on effect from the poor weather was a loss in the Club's finances so we hope 2016/2017 is better.

John Duncan has had his most successful year in gaining grants for the Club. The Rugby Football Foundation has been instrumental in supporting the floodlights, Clubhouse



re-decoration and a new cooker. Sport England have supported the training pitch and car park works, whilst the London Borough of Barnet provided the grant for the Gents' toilets and Awards for All (Big Lottery) the grant for the Ladies' toilets. The newly laid former training pitch looks very good after last year's restoration and renovation. We are immensely grateful to the RFU for their support and for the attendance of their President and other Senior Officials at the Club in the build-up to the Rugby World Cup.

A great deal of thanks must go towards all the team Coaches: Bobby Graham for the Seniors, Chris Strack and Nick Gouley with the Academy and to the vast army of coaches and parents who support the Junior and Mini teams week in and week out, often providing transport for away games. Off the field, Peter Treadwell keeps the Clubhouse very clean as well as looking after the bar most weekends; thanks also to Shaun Harris (he of the original OE Football Club) who helps out in so many ways and so often; and to Nick and Lorraine for their excellent post-match catering as well as for pre-match lunches. A lot of work goes on, in the background, before matches and on match days, so thank you everyone, including all the Committees who oversee the Club's affairs. Barnet Elizabethans is a grass-roots Community Club that is thriving in the Mini, Junior and Academy. Overall, whilst we have had a few set-backs, I am sure that the Club, with its new facilities and renewed enthusiasm, will do well in the coming years.

**Summary of Results:**

1stXV: Played 22; Won 9; Drawn 1; Lost 12 Pts For 319, Pts Agst 547 Position 8th  
 2ndXV: Played 21; Won 3; Drawn 1; Lost 17 Pts For 221, Pts Agst 618 Position 9th  
 (These results include matches played with Tabard in the Merit Table and the Merit Plate)

U13 XV: Played 6; Won 0; Drawn 0; Lost 6 Pts For 22, Pts Agst 236 Position 6th  
 U14 XV: Played 7; Won 2; Drawn 0; Lost 5 Pts 104, Pts Agst 186 Position 7th  
 U15 XV: Played 8; Won 3; Drawn 1; Lost 4 Pts For 164, Pts Agst 175 Position 6th  
 U16 XV: Played 6; Won 3; Drawn 0; Lost 3 Pts For 108, Pts Agst 99 Position 5th  
 (All these results are in the League only and exclude Friendlies)

ACADEMY Played 11; Won 7; Drawn 1; Lost 3 Pts For 368, Pts Agst 241 Position 1st  
 (This record includes League and LV Life Cup and Plate fixtures)

At the AGM on 7th June 2016, the aforesaid SHAUN HARRIS was elected President in place of Maurice Martin.

*Peter Yates (OE) on behalf of the Rugby Club  
 August 2016*



# Ronald Harry Craddock

1918-2015

Ronald was a friend of my Dad's in Sidmouth and was an OE (though not a member of the Association). He died just over a year ago and was a keen reader of the Association magazine passed on by either me or one of my three OE nephews. If I recall correctly, he began his school life at the old building in Wood Street and finished in the 'New' building in Queens Road. At 97 years of age there probably won't be many readers left who remember him, but my Dad said he had incredibly fond memories of his school days.

*Simon Stockdale*

# Denis Frank Robert Gilson

1934-2016

Dennis passed on the 22nd January in Montreal, Canada. He was born in London but grew up in East Barnet. He won a Scholarship to QE and started there in 1945 as a member of Broughton House, where he was later joined by his brothers Ian and Noel. His main hobby was cricket, and he continued to play for the IOEs after he left school. In 1953 he went to study Chemistry at University College, London, and graduated with a BSc in 1957. He moved to Vancouver, Canada and the University of British Columbia (UBC) where he obtained both an MSc and a PhD. He was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of California, Berkeley, USA, from 1962 to 1964, then returned to UBC as a lecturer for one year.

In 1965, he moved his family to Quebec and joined the Faculty of McGill University in Montreal. From then until 2015, he became a full Professor and Dean. He was a Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Canada, and the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK). He retired in December 2003 but continued to go into his office every day until December 2015, continuing his research as an Emeritus Professor in the Chemistry Department. Dennis is survived by his wife Patricia Goodwin Gilson and sons Michael and Stephen.

Although the Gilson boys did not seem to make a great mark at Q E s, not being very sporty (the more important accolade for most of us!), they did all, I believe, go on to do the school proud academically and in their subsequent professions. As Noel Gilson said, "not bad for a little Grammar School" of, in those days, just 360 or so boys.



*Michael Deller, with thanks to the Gilson family and M*



Elizabethians



# Arthur Herbert perks

QE 1935-40

Born on the 6th October 1924 Arthur was the first born child of Herbert George and Marion Millicent Perks. Several years later a sister arrived named Beryl with whom Arthur shared a very loving and special relationship. Although born in the Fulham Road, London, Arthur spent the majority of his life living in and around East Barnet and Oakwood.

From 1935 to 1940 he was awarded a place at QE where he represented the School both as a pupil and as an old boy winning many awards, particularly in athletics. In 1946 Arthur rose to become county champion by completing the two-mile walk in record breaking time. He had many fond memories of his association with QE and wore, with pride, his old boys' blazer and tie on special occasions.

Arthur had a strong faith and St Mary's Church, East Barnet, was always a big part of his life. He sang in the church choir for over 50 years and in 1990 he was presented with a special certificate celebrating his service to the choir. His strong association with St Mary's choir enabled him to sing at St Paul's Cathedral.



It was also through St Mary's Church that some very special friendships were formed. Arthur met Reverend Frederick Wood and his three sons, David, Freddie and Bernard there. David became his best friend and they were in the same class together at QE. A lifelong friendship formed between David, his brothers and their respective families contributing to Arthur becoming Godfather to David's daughter Sheila.

Through the choir at St Mary's, Arthur also met Phil Norris and yet another strong friendship was made, in particular with Phil's daughter Pat. Pat's family eventually moved to Folkestone where her parents opened a guest house and Arthur spent many happy holidays with them there, and later in Bournemouth where they had ventured to open their new guest house.

Whilst on one of these holidays he met Maureen, a very good school friend of Pat's and another special friendship was made, their passion at the time being amateur dramatics. They performed in many plays and pantomimes together which Arthur excelled at having been a member of the St Mary's Players for many years.

Arthur met his beloved wife Evelyn in East Barnet through the choir connections and they were married in St Mary's on 16th March 1957. Once married they moved to Oakwood and finally settled in a beautiful detached house at 2 South Lodge Crescent where they were to happily reside for the rest of their lives.

After school Arthur was recommended and put forward to do an apprenticeship with a firm of solicitors in London, however this was cut short as he signed up to do his National Service in the RAF where he qualified in 1944 as a navigator. He was posted to South Africa and France, where he loved to entertain his fellow airmen singing and playing the piano. On one occasion he was given sole responsibility to guard a cargo ship travelling back from South Africa to England with a rifle containing only a single bullet. At the end of the war he was responsible for investigating air crash sights and identifying and repatriating lost airmen.

After the war Arthur was finally able to return to London to continue studying his Articles to become a solicitor and had speedily qualified by 1950 when he was appointed a member of the Law Society. His legal work commenced in Fetter Lane, London, with a long respected firm of lawyers called Braikenridge and Edwards. Each day, after a kiss from Evelyn, Arthur would leave his home in Oakwood, walk to the underground station to catch the Piccadilly Line surfacing at Holborn a short walk away from his offices. Working in the City for most of his life he rose to the rank of partner where he became great friends with another partner of the firm called Joe. The elders of the firm were looking to retire which enabled Joe and Arthur to take over the practice. The practice thrived with new branch offices opening in Oakwood and East Barnet. Unfortunately, much to Evelyn's disappointment, this meant Arthur had to work on Saturday mornings, relinquishing his duties as loving husband and chief children's entertainer! Eventually, after Joe's retirement, the underground commute to London became rather less appealing with bowler hats changing to baseball caps and broadsheets to tabloids. With this Arthur made the decision to close down the firm's Fetter Lane office. The other two offices continued to prosper until, with Arthur's shrewd retirement planning, the Oakwood office was closed followed by the sale of the East Barnet office a few years later in August 1987 to Mark Thomas who continues with the same good name of Braikenridge and Edwards today. Much to the delight of both Evelyn and Arthur, early retirement had arrived!

Arthur had many interests outside of his work and had been keen to retire for some time. He and Evelyn loved their touring holidays and spent many hours planning them, spreading maps of France, Germany and Austria over the sitting room carpet, planning routes and choosing fabulous chateaux to stay in. He had a keen interest in cultures and foreign languages and spent a lot of time perfecting his French and German to help him enhance these holidays.

Salcombe held a very special place in his heart where he and Evelyn enjoyed many happy holidays walking along the cliff tops and taking in the breath-taking scenery. In fact in May 2014, at the impressive age of 89 and a half, he drove himself back down to Salcombe to revisit some of his favourite places, stopping on the way, of course at the Little Chef for his mandatory full English breakfast! It was in Salcombe that they first met their very dear friends Colin and Dorothy; this resulted in another love of a different English Countryside in the form of the Lake District. Consideration was in fact given to retiring to the Lakes, but it was decided that too many extended family and friends would be missed from their lives if they moved from their Oakwood home.

Arthur thoroughly enjoyed watching sport, although, in his modest way, he would be the first to admit he wasn't all that good at playing it! However, he spent many hours playing cricket and football in the garden with his children and was a huge Arsenal fan and also enjoyed watching the rugby always with a large bar of fruit and nut chocolate by his side! He attended as many of the children's school matches as he was able and loved every minute of them. Cricket was his absolute passion and the highlight of his year would be his trip to the test match with a fine picnic hamper and several bottles of his trademark red Italian Amarone wine in tow. Conversation flowed whilst the cricket offered the perfect back-drop for many a memorable day spent at Lord's.

It has to be said that Arthur's main passion was music which he was able to enjoy right up to the day he peacefully slipped away to the beautiful sounds of Gilbert & Sullivan. In earlier years, one of his favourite days of the year was when he and Evelyn packed up a fantastic picnic and headed off down to Glyndebourne to meet up with friends to enjoy a wonderful evening of music. In latter years he took up playing the piano again and he would practise for hours,



whiling away a pleasant afternoon, usually with a glass of red wine or two to help loosen up the fingers – or so he said!

Most sadly for Arthur and indeed us all, in January 2006, Evelyn was to pass away after a very difficult illness which Arthur had wonderfully and lovingly nursed her through for seven precious yet challenging years. Although his inner grief never left him, Arthur displayed his characteristic “stiff upper lip” and realised that life must go on making the best of his life without his beloved Evelyn, but with all those around him whom he dearly loved and who loved him in return.

The final months of Arthur's life were at Kestrel Grove Nursing Home where Paul Tripp and his devoted staff tended to his every need. Despite the strongest of hearts, he finally gave up his fight on Sunday 21st February to be reunited with his beloved Evelyn.

It is true to say, from this short account of his life, that Arthur had a long, fulfilling and happy time on this Earth. Apart from his natural talents in athletics, music, languages, his academic tenacity and ability to talk to all people on all subjects, his wonderful sense of humour and many other attributes we may remember him for, he was inarguably a true gentleman, a loving husband, an incredibly loyal friend to so many and a wonderful Godfather. He will be missed by us all.

John Olley (Godson)



## Hew purchas

Master, QE 1956-1987

I joined the Staff of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Barnet in September 1961. There were, I think, 32 of us in the Common Room. I do not remember exactly when I first spoke to Hew or he to me but I do remember when we had our first proper chat.

At the beginning of term I had moved into a flat-share near The Quadrant in Hendon from where it was but 25 (in those days) minutes to School in my very second-hand Morris Minor. It so happened that my car was to be in dock and I was asking round if anyone knew how best I could make the potentially tortuous journey by public transport. “Ask Hew!” said Bernard Pinnock, Head of Maths. “He lives in Hendon!” And so I did, and he did; in fact he lived less than half a mile away from me. With characteristic kindness he arranged to borrow his parents' car and gave me a lift. On the way home, he suggested that we stop off at “The Gate” for a jar. Thus began a friendship of 55 years.

Hew was educated at Mill Hill School and Chelsea College of Art. The slightly unusual spelling of his Christian name was, he used to say with a chuckle, taken from a novel his father had been reading. He was appointed by Mr. E.H. Jenkins in January 1956 as Art Master teaching two days a week and sharing the Art Room with the Music Department. Two further days each week were spent teaching at another Hertfordshire school, Borehamwood Grammar School. Friday and Saturday (the latter then also a school day for the rest of us) were for

painting and the regimen that he developed for his own “work” on those days remained with him for the rest of his life. In the early 1960s he became full-time at QE and, as the School expanded during the next decade or so, Head of Art within the Faculty of Design and Technology.

Always very interesting to talk to, Hew had a wealth of knowledge about art and artists and he was himself passionate about his own painting, until latterly mainly in oils. In those early days he was very much into portrait painting and he was commissioned by the Old Boys to paint a portrait of the retiring headmaster, E.H. Jenkins, sittings for which took place after Saturday school lunch when, according to Hew, post-prandial torpor was for both of them hard to resist! Many will also remember his copy (with permission from the National Portrait Gallery) of Nicholas Hilliard's “Phoenix” portrait of Queen Elizabeth the First. The minutiae of the lace, jewels and embroidery in this portrait have to be seen to be believed and Hew reproduced these with consummate skill. Both portraits, together with his large painting of the Tudor Hall (the original School building) complete with gates and lodge, were hung prominently in the School Refectory and are now to be seen in Reception and in the Conference Room at the School.

As we appreciate Hew's skills as a painter, I am sure he wouldn't mind if I tell a little story about one of his paintings. It was a still life of articles on a table in his studio including a plaster torso. Once, when Hew was away during the holidays, burglars struck and in the course of their nefarious intents cut the picture from its frame, carefully rolled it up and were away. It was later recovered by the Police, still rolled up in a tube and otherwise undamaged. Hew was very amused that villains should have had such good taste. Perhaps they knew that they were dealing with a potential exhibiter at the Royal Academy!

Hew made sure that the joys of art were brought to the attention of as many of the School community as possible, regularly changing the picture displays in the corridors and taking groups of pupils to exhibitions and on occasions on what would now be called “field trips” with the Geography Department to North Wales. He was so convinced of the value of practical painting experience and going to see first-hand the wealth of art and culture that was on offer that he jumped at the opportunity of helping the late Eric Crofts to set up Holly Tree Hostel in Theberton in Suffolk as QE's own Studies Centre. It was even used as a base for Rugby training. And if any proof of Hew's generosity and commitment were needed, I wonder how many know that he went halves with Eric Crofts in buying the first School minibus to enable groups to get there.



Anyone who went to the School plays from the late 50s to the mid-70s will remember the brilliant sets. As much as he could, Hew encouraged his pupils to make a major contribution to the designs, but their inspiration came from him. Painstaking research, meticulous planning and sheer ingenuity in co-operation with his D&T colleagues produced some of the most remarkable outcomes. I well remember in the Billy Budd production almost physically feeling the cool night air come out to meet me as the flats above the tween-decks lifted to reveal the night-watch pacing the quarter deck and experiencing the contrasting luxury of the captain's cabin at another scene change. With amazing skill Hew had transferred what he had observed on HMS Victory to the confines of the minute stage in the School Hall. And this was just one instance. Every year the set design was a great success and he was ably helped and spurred on by an army of helpers.

Old Elizabethans have described Hew as a much loved teacher, a mild and kindly man who inspired his pupils to achieve their potential with careers within the art world or more simply to



obituaries

develop a capacity to appreciate art as part of their life's enrichment. He remained in contact with a remarkable number of his former students and he was always delighted to welcome any who cared to call on him at his home in Wells.

Colleagues too will remember him with much affection. He was a personal friend to many and a staunch one too, especially in time of need. He was a good host, a good cook, good company and, whether at home or abroad, good at picking out a good restaurant and choosing a good wine. He was well-travelled in Western Europe and had many an anecdote to tell about his adventures and the places he had visited and the artists who had lived there.

One year in the late 1960s Hew spent the Summer holidays in North Norfolk and, realising that this was his spiritual and artistic home, he acquired an 18th century cottage in Wells-next-the-Sea. From then on this was his base outside term-time where he could concentrate on what he liked doing best, painting. It was therefore only natural that, when he retired in 1987, it became his permanent home. He had already made friends with members of the artistic and cultural community, for which Norfolk is well-known, so he was able easily to immerse himself fully in their activities. And it was during this time he met Frances, herself an accomplished musician and keen amateur painter. They married in 2003 and were a perfect, devoted and well-matched couple.

Hew is and will indeed be sorely missed by all who had the good fortune to have known him. He died in King's Lynn Hospital on 16th February 2016 in his 83rd year.

*Neil Kobish AM 1961-91, Clerk to the Foundation 1992-2016)*



*Some of Hew's paintings and drawings are to be displayed in a Retrospective Exhibition in the Sackhouse Gallery, Wells-next-the-Sea from Saturday, 3rd September to Wednesday, 7th September, 2016 from 11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m..*

*It is also hoped that it may be possible later in the academic year to mount an exhibition of a small selection of Hew's paintings at the School.*

***We have had a lot of messages from members on hearing of Hew's passing which I include anonymously here (Ed):-***

—†—

Very sad about Hew Purchas, though he seems to have lived to a good age, whatever that is. I think one reason so many will remember him with affection is that he was one of the few members of QE staff in the 1960s who believed encouragement, rather than coercion, was the right approach for teenage boys. He was prepared to nurture even the most modest of talents; I remember him throwing up his hands in frustration when I told him I'd been sentenced to 3X where frivolous things like art weren't allowed. But I went to his Art Clubs instead and they were good fun. He even, somehow, managed to get round Miss Paine's ban on boys from QE and girls from QEGs having any contact, via some joint art clubs.

Rest in peace, the world will miss you.

—†—

We all seem to have fond memories of Huw (sic) Purchas, and the battle he had to teach us art. I can recall that at age 11 we found it very funny to ask if we could "purchase" a rubber or other piece of art material, which he made available to us.



I also remember an early project in which we had to paint ourselves in our adult occupation. My very "primitive" art attempt showed me in a laboratory, a prediction that came true!

—†—

I thought Hew would have been older, but of course when we were 11 someone aged around 30 was fairly ancient!

I had not great artistic talent, but he did inspire in me a love of art which serves me well to this day, and a determination to do the best that I could.

It is at least in part due to his teaching that I now am a regular visitor to art galleries around the country.

—†—

I too remember Hew Purchase with affection, as a mild and kindly man.

I recall feeling sorry for him doing his best to teach the history of art to a class of whom the majority had no interest in. I must admit to being one of those who had no interest in the theory but did enjoy the practical side.

—†—

Sad news, indeed. Huw Purchase was such a decent man and he hated bullying and bullies - as CT discovered to his cost! I remember Huw with fondness even though I was a hopeless art student.

—†—

I am sorry to hear of the death of Huw Purchas. In truth I would have assumed that he had died some time ago as he seemed relatively old when teaching us (though probably about half the age we all are now!). Like many of us I expect, I regarded art lessons as a break from serious schooling and behaved accordingly. I recall having one of those heavy board rubbers thrown at me for messing about which I am sure I deserved ...but which would probably lead to criminal proceedings and the sack nowadays.

Teaching most of us art must have been a difficult task. But to his eternal credit I did manage grade 6 O levels (a pass..just) a distinction which remains to me a true indictment of the exam system, and a mystery, as I was hopeless.

—†—

Sad to hear of dear old Huw Purchas' demise today. Considering he was an Art teacher, he had a big place in our schooling, mine certainly. Happy days...

—†—

## Ralph wadge

QE 1938-1944

Ralph was born on 19th March 1928, and grew up in Totteridge. He started at the School on 20th September 1938 and left in December 1944. He was in Underne house. His school notes mention him as "a good natured boy" who was a "Sea Cadet attached to ATC for instruction Sep'43". He was a regular attendee of Forty Society lunches.

*We have received the sad news of the passing of Per Smith QE 1942-52 whose life we hope to commemorate along with any other details for OEs in future issues. (Ed.)*





# from your secretary

*Secretary: Daren Norris,*

*To try to frame and enhance the discussion of the future of the OE Memorial Playing Fields I include for your reference and address given by Chair of the Association Committee Martyn Bradish at the sparsely attended AGM in April this year. I hope that this, together with the contribution from Peter Goring in this issue will spark a constructive response to this important topic:-*

## **Address by Chairman Martyn Bradish to the AGM held on Wednesday 20th April 2016**

You will have heard from this evening's speakers of the continuing success of the Playing Field Company in maintaining and improving the Memorial Playing Fields at which this meeting is being held. You will also have heard of the struggle to raise sufficient cash to fund those improvements.

You will be aware that the actual ground, which is on a long lease from Barnet Council, is held within the Playing Field Company. In turn the Association owns the shares in the Playing Field Company. Some years ago, an approach was made from another Association with a view to buying the Memorial Playing Fields. Your Committee put the offer to a vote of the Association's members which was in favour of retaining the Playing Field and declining the offer. As a further matter of record, the Committee undertook in the future to ask the membership for their views before any action was taken in connection with the ownership of the Memorial Playing Fields.

I have recited the history but is now necessary to start to address the future. There are two issues which have encouraged me to bring this to you for comment.

The first issue is the membership of the Association. The Association has two grades of membership which are Fellows and Members. Fellows pay a subscription and get a vote but Members do not have a vote and do not pay a subscription. This means that any changes to the Memorial Playing Field's ownership rests with the Fellows.

When I look down the years of attendance at the School the great majority of the Fellows left before the 1970's. In other words, most of our Fellows are over 65 years of age. Nature forces us to accept that the number of Fellows will decline in the years ahead and that it will not be that long in the future that our Fellow membership could be quite small. It follows that any decisions of substance on the Memorial Playing Fields should be taken sooner rather than later.

The Board of the Playing Field Company has spoken with the Association Chairman and the Secretary concerning obtaining grants. Grant making bodies appear to have an issue with the ownership of the Playing Field Company. That issue relates to what would happen if the Playing Field Company were to be in trouble, would the monies given to it by the Granting Body continue to be reinvested in sport? Given that the only real way that the Memorial Playing Field can be improved for the benefit of the local community is by gaining grants, this is a block to the aspirations of those who manage the Memorial Playing Field.

It is to some extent a situation that might be explained away but the feeling is that it would be better to make plans now to avoid further grants being denied.

I am therefore canvassing your views as to what should be the way forward?

The Board of the Playing Field have put forward a document to gift the lease to a national charity called Fields in Trust.

A second option would be to gift the lease or indeed the shares in the Playing Field Company to the Endowment Fund of the Schools of Queen Elizabeth the First of Barnet, with a direction that if there were ever any income arising, it should be used for the Boy's School.

Another route is to leave the ownership as it is.

I am conscious that it is becoming harder to attract volunteers to run our structure: be that the Board of the Playing Field or the Association. I would therefore be pleased to hear your views so that your Committee can put forward timely proposals rather than be hurried into decisions which may not reflect what our membership would want to endorse.

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## from your membership secretary

### Deaths

Mr R	Ralph	Wadge	1938-44
Mr P	Per	Smith	1942-52

### Amendments to Yearbook (see website for changes to telephone and email)

Mr A G T	Andrew	Harrower
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Mr P	Peter	Allen
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Mr N	Nevan	Chellen
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Mr D	David	Greenfield
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Mr M W	Michael	Back	New telephone number
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Lt Col (Retd) R	Roy	Beavis
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Mr R J	Robert	Payne
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Mr S T	Simon	Lincoln
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association business





annual dinner

# 121st annual dinner booking form

Dear OE,

The OE Annual Dinner will be held at the School Hall, Queens Road, Barnet on Friday 18th November 2016. Dress code is dinner jacket or lounge suit.

The price will again be £30 to Fellows and £35 to Members and guests, inclusive of wine, with a superb meal and of course, great company! Please make cheques payable to 'OE Association'.

You can also pay by Paypal at mail@bradish.co.uk, please reference with your name and years at QE. Also, the school shop will be selling tickets <http://www.fqeshop.co.uk> from 1 September 2016.

The sherry reception will take place at 7.15pm with sit down to table at 8pm sharp!

Our guest speaker this year is Dr Dominic Roberts (1989-94) a Clinical Director for Islington Clinical Commissioning Group as well as a columnist for Innovait, the Royal College of General Practitioners' journal for trainees.

If you are intending to attend, please complete the slip below and return it to me ASAP. The latest notice for bookings is Friday 11th November 2016.

Regards

*Simon T Lincoln, Honorary Social Secretary*  
17c Marriott Road, Barnet. EN5 4NJ  
Tel: 07957 170 630  
e-mail: stlincoln@sc33.org.uk

## 121st annual dinner

Name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Tel. No ..... Years at School .....

Email .....

Special Dietary Requirements .....

I wish to be seated with (if it can be arranged) .....

Please photocopy and send this slip back to:  
**Simon T: Lincoln, 17c Marriott Road, Barnet. EN5 4NJ**  
*Payment details above*



# dates for the diary 2016 - 2017

Event	Date, time & place	Contact
OE Golf Society Meeting	30th September East Sussex National GC	Ronnie Printemps <i>rintemps@btinternet.com</i> Ian Louis-Fernand <i>ianlouisfernand@googlemail.com</i>
OE Forty Society Luncheon	27th October at 12.45pm Gypsy Corner	Mike Harrison <i>01763 261775</i> <i>mhdunbanking@gmail.com</i>
FQE Quiz Night	12th November, 7.30pm start The School	Alan Solomon <i>alansoloman1@gmail.com</i>
Association Annual Dinner	18th November at 7.15pm The School	Simon Lincoln <i>07957 170630</i> <i>stlincoln@sc33.org.uk</i>
OE Annual Dinner Debate	25th March The School	<a href="http://www.fqeshop.co.uk">www.fqeshop.co.uk</a>
Association AGM	19th April at 8.00pm OE MPF Pavilion	Martyn Bradish <i>mb@bradish.co.uk</i>

# dates for the diary



