

## THE CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Welcome to the latest Old Wymondhamian Newsletter. It does seem strange that we are back into the Autumn term and I'm inside sheltering from a 30 degree sun. But I do remember the summer of 1949 (three years before I headed to Wymondham) and getting sun stroke from too many days on the beach at Heacham under a tropical sun!

Last year was another very successful year for the college on all fronts. My wife, Jane, had major heart surgery early in the year (very successfully I'm pleased to say) and didn't feel she could make the journey to the Lincoln lecture. I, therefore, had the pleasure of bringing a friend and ex solicitor along to the event. He knew nothing of the College and was rather disparaging as we wended our way through the Norfolk lanes to get to Morley.

He was astounded by the scale and facilities at the College, the erudition of the speaker and the adult politeness of the pupils that he met. It certainly makes me proud to know that we were in at the beginning of something so significant for Norfolk life. I live in an area surrounded by some of the elite of the public schools – Oundle, Uppingham, Oakham to name a few, and in no area do they exceed what is achieved at Wymondham, with the obvious exception of the size of their foundation funds!

The Bob Rowell golf and dinner was another major success with over 60 people attending. It was good to have a younger face there, with Sean Cunningham, from the 70's, winning the Bob Rowell trophy. He will obviously be back to defend his title next year and it would be excellent to have a few more players from later years taking part.

**Mike Herring**  
Chairman

## HOW TIMES CHANGE...NETBALL

So far we have seen 'how times change' with Cricket & Rugby. How about something for the ladies...



### U14 - 1958/59

**Back row:** Pat Fuller, Joy Reynolds, Barbara Winter, Shelia Payne, Susan Oxley

**Front Row:** Vanessa McCafferty, Shelia Calver (Captain), Janet High-Caston



### U15 - 1984/85

**Back row:** Hazel Still, George Jones, Sharon Fagg, Niki Stewart

**Front Row:** Sue Daykin, Marie Smeed, Dawn Butler, Katy Monvid



### U16 - 2016

**Back row:** Modupe Obideyi, Helena Geere, Jasmine Franklin-Brown, Annabel Jones, Millie Mumford, Abby Drew

**Front Row:** Natene Ogberahwe, Kirstin Angus, Caitlin Rump, Lizzie Norton

## THE 100 CLUB - JULY

### July Report

The July OW 100 Club draw was carried out at The Gin Trap in Ringstead and this month's winners were:-

John Mayes - resident of Thetford & Chris Chamberlin - resident of Harold Park, Essex Cheques to the sum of £55.00 have been sent.

We were joined by Alan Bridges, Sandra Howard, Jennie Foster [Clarke] & a new attendee – David Tudor - who lives close by in Dersingham and is married to fellow Wycol pupil, Hilary Garrard. David kindly carried out the draw for us. Alan kept us entertained with stories of Ringstead village life as he spent most of his childhood there.



The Gin Trap was taken over by new owners last year and they seem to be doing the right things judging by how busy it was for a Wednesday evening. But maybe that was due to the start of the summer holidays now that the schools have broken up. A good selection of East Anglian beers were on offer including Adnams Southwold bitter, Woodfordes Wherry & Greene King IPA.

To the right is a photo taken on the evening of (from left to right going clockwise): David Tudor; Jennie Foster [Clarke]; Phil Robinson; Alan Bridges; Steve Read and Sandra Howard.

## RETURNING TO WYMONDHAM COLLEGE

What an exciting experience returning to Wymondham College with my wife Helena on 5th September 2016, my first return since leaving school in 1964! Exciting to see the growth in school facilities, to hear about the growth in performance, and to flashback to events and experiences crammed into those important five years of my life as I wandered along well-worn paths.

Did Wymondham College prepare me for my professional life? It certainly provided me with a sound educational grounding for my progression to university, as although I was not a straight A student, my performance was sufficient to get me unconditional offers to read veterinary medicine at both London and Edinburgh universities; I chose the latter. And it did expose me to rugby, the opportunity to be part of a home-grown musical group, and to act in the college theatre (then a Nissen hut!), all of which pastimes I continued to pursue later in life.

- **Brian Perry** (Photo to right of Brian and his wife)



## THE OW TRAVEL AWARD

Each year the Old Wymondhamians provide a Travel Bursary to a current Year 13 student. Pupils undertaking some form of travel and activity after leaving the College, either in their gap year or before going on to further education, are encouraged to apply for the award. The activity should, ideally, have some purpose or benefit for persons other than the student and is awarded at the end of the Easter term.

This year Lottie Mountford was successful in her application.

Lottie is going to Masaka in Central Uganda for 10 weeks between January and March 2017.

She still needs to raise some money for the trip and if you would like to donate, however large or small, you can do so via her Just Giving website : [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lottie-mountford](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lottie-mountford).

Below is a photo of Lottie with Justin, Director of Marketing & Development presenting the cheque on behalf of the Old Wymondhamians.



## SOME SAD NEWS...

We have been advised of the passing of Allan 'Fuzzy' Chilvers. Allan was part of the Grammar School intake in 1951 and he used to operate the projector for the Saturday film shows we had in those early days. He passed away in Dorchester Hospital and the funeral is in Belper, Derbyshire.

We have also been advised of the passing of Michael Gooday on 27th June aged 79 years. He was a former Vice Principal of the College, retiring from the College around 1993 after some 22 years' service.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Anne Horton (Kidner) is looking for Dyllis Deitch. They were at WC together 1967 – 1972. Please email Anne if you have any news - AMH2510@aol.com.

Jennie Foster (Clarke) would like to try to trace her fellow boarders from 1967 in Wakefield as it was then before the New Hall Reunion this month. She is looking for Liz Browning, Virginia Campbell, Prue Curry, Sally-Anne Derbyshire, Selena Hogg, Frances Scarratt, Judith Tye, Amanda Morse, Sandra Willmott. She is still in touch with Sandra (Partridge) Deacon - jennifer.foster1@sky.com

Jan Turner is looking for Simonie Kirkman. Please email [julie@wremembered](mailto:julie@wremembered) if you have any news.

Dawn Urry (Eade) ([xxtigger@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:xxtigger@hotmail.co.uk)) 1976 - 1983 Newhall then Lincoln is looking for an updated email address for Scott Wedderburn.

## THE SIXTIES BUNCH - THEIR WEEK IN BRISTOL

On 18th April 2016 we travelled by train to Bristol, all arriving around lunchtime. First thing after unpacking was to have a drink in the bar, and plan what to do! We strolled to the Waterfront, went over the foot-bridge, crossed the green, passed a few pubs on backstreets leading to the river and a good looking burger-restaurant, before turning into the narrow streets that housed the indoor market! Finally back to the hotel for a soak, wash and brush up before strolling back to Wetherspoons V-Club on the waterfront for a delicious supper.

Tuesday after breakfast we took the bus to Clifton Bridge. A nice coffee break was taken on a terrace overlooking the gorge and bridge prior to the stroll around Clifton Village. The bus then took us back to the city to visit the indoor market. Once refreshed we strolled beside the river to the Old Market area where there was nothing much at all. There was time for afternoon tea in a nice café before back to hotel for wash and brush up / taking time out in the nearby garden and visiting the oldest church in Bristol which was close by. Dinner was in the Brewer's Fayre attached to the hotel followed by a night at the theatre for four, to see Mama Mia.

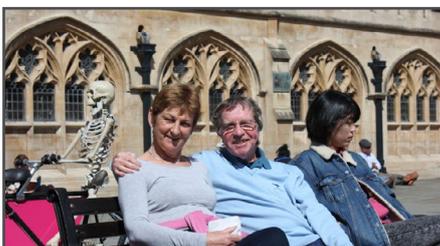
Wednesday it was Bath all day and Cosmo by night. First stop was Costa for coffee. We then made our way to the Crescent where we met up with others joining our group. Sometime later we emerged to take the air in the square and listen to the buskers / visit the cathedral. After Dave and Jan had said their goodbyes we took afternoon tea in the gardens by the river – very pleasant. In the evening we went to Cosmo – a pay one price / eat as much as you like establishment with some 150 dishes from around the world – ‘you gotta eat there!’ We enjoyed Mojito cocktails, wine, etc. to celebrate Steve’s birthday. To work off the calories we strolled back to the hotel looking out for Banksy artwork, and there was some to view.

On Thursday we visited the Museum, Cabot’s Hill, the Cathedral (nice lunch) and of course a drink in a pub. A walk by the other side of the river down to the steel steamship Great Britain, We were invited to join a short lecture about a ship named the Royal ??? before catching the shortest ferry ever across the river. Back to the hotel for the usual wash and brush up and off to Wetherspoons VClub for an early supper so we could watch the lighting of the beacon to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday.

Friday morning was spent in the M Shed museum which was well worth the visit. Then it was time for us to head home.

Another enjoyable few days away with good company and the weather was very kind.

Below are some photos from the trip, if you want to see all the photos please visit the [wcremembered](http://wcremembered.com) website.



## AN UPDATE FROM THE COLLEGE

### A LEVEL & GCSE RESULTS

#### A-Levels

At 'A' Level 32% of grades were A\*/A and the overall average grade was a B. An incredible 134 students achieved 1 or more A grades.

Principal Jonathan Taylor stated: ' I would like to congratulate our Year 13s on a great set of results. Students across the ability range have performed really well, reflecting their hard work and the dedication of our staff. We wish all of our leavers the very best for the future.'

'AS' level results are excellent, showing a significant year on year increase. At 'AS' 32% of grades awarded were 'A' and a further 20% 'B' grades.

Jonathan Taylor added ' Our excellent AS results are very encouraging for the future, reflecting a significant increase on the previous year. This should provide our Year 12s with a great platform for further success next summer.'

#### GCSE

Congratulations to all of our students who collected their GCSE results in the Summer holidays. All the hard work, effort and dedication is clear to see and we're delighted to announce another set of stunning results.

89% of students gained Grades A\* - C including English and maths.

College Principal Jonathan Taylor remarked - "This is an exceptional set of results. Congratulations to all of our Year 11 students who have worked so hard to achieve such fantastic outcomes and to staff and parents for their amazing support. 32.4 % of all grades awarded are A\*/A and the overall average grade is a B.

These results confirm Wymondham College as one of the of the very highest achieving schools nationally."



### SUMMER HOLIDAY REFURBISHMENTS

The estates team have managed another full programme of works over the summer. Work in boarding houses included double-glazing (New Hall – this work means that all external windows of main school houses are now double glazed with a few ground floor windows in the courtyards to be replaced over the coming year) carpet replacement (several houses) and decoration (several houses and school areas). The full refurbishment of Cavell has started and we completed the extension to the Head of House flat in Cavell and a new Cavell car park layout with additional parking spaces. In addition the Lincoln kitchen has been fully refurbished with new ventilation system and new catering equipment. This work, plus a number of other upgrades in the catering department over recent years represents an investment in catering infrastructure at the College in excess of £250K. We also carried out a number of statutory safety tests including an inspection by the Norfolk Fire Officer.

### HALLOWEEN BALL

#### HALLOWEEN BALL - 29TH OCTOBER!!

Tickets on sale now for our inaugural Halloween Ball, a fundraising event to support our campaign to replace the cricket pavilion with a new multi-sport pavilion for College and community use.

A spectacular evening with live music courtesy of Captain Scarlett, a 5 course dinner, magician, silent auction, photo booth and much more. Corporate sponsorship packages available too.

Tickets available from College reception, individual tickets can be purchased, or come with friends (tables seat 8). This promises to be an incredible evening - the Sports Hall is being transformed into a halloween theme with coloured effect lighting, drapes and dry ice - a spectacular night for parents, former students and staff.

AN UPDATE FROM THE COLLEGE

CRICKET FUNDRAISING EVENT

A wonderful day was had earlier this year as we officially launched our cricket coaching initiative with England International Heather Knight. This programme is entirely funded by former students - their donations being used to bring in professional cricket coaches and support our first girls team. Additionally £4,000 has been attracted from Sport England to purchase much needed equipment.

England Vice-Captain Heather was very much involved with our boys and girls coaching and masterclasses. Over 30 students and 25 guests enjoyed the event and a special lunch, courtesy of Bob Bales and the Catering team.

Guests were told of College plans to fundraise for a multi-sport pavilion and ways they can donate to support the coaching programme.

Huge thanks to Norfolk Cricket Board, Heather Knight and Chance to Shine, our programme sponsors Brancaster House, coach Peter Hunt, the PE team at the College and our Old Wymondhamians who are raising significant funds to help support our youngsters.

This model is proving so successful we're exploring ways of rolling out a similar programme for Hockey.



THE SAPIENTIA EDUCATION TRUST

'The Sapienia Education Trust was established in 2016 with the purpose of bringing like-minded schools together to work in partnership to deliver the highest standards of education to young people in Norfolk and Suffolk. The term Sapienia comes from the logo of the founding school, Wymondham College and means wisdom.

We are committed to delivering high academic standards in our schools, combined with a view of education that is child-centred and holistic. Our schools have a strong commitment to personal development and extra-curricular activities are strongly promoted.

Our work is cross-phase and involves a strong commitment to staff development and on-going training for all staff in our schools. We believe that collaboration and partnership work helps raise standards and we work with a range of schools within and beyond the SET Trust.

Wymondham College is one of the highest achieving state schools nationally and was ranked in the top twenty schools nationally in 2016. Old Buckenham Primary joined SET in September 2016 having secured a 'good' judgment from Ofsted in Summer 2016. Our vision is to build on our success to develop a medium-sized Multi-Academy Trust where we make a real difference to the students we have the privilege of educating.'

**Jonathan Taylor - CEO/Principal**

