

Concordia



Merchant Taylors' School

Winter 2016





The MTS 1st XV after beating Haberdashers' 47-0 at Allianz Park on 25th November



Welcome

Dear reader

This issue of Concordia is a reminder of how wonderfully diverse a community we are, not only girding the globe but bridging it so creatively.

Inside several OMTs explain how foundational experiences at school set the stage for later achievements. Guy Morrison recounts his dazzling career as a research scientist via the school's trans-Icelandic expedition of 1963 — a career that culminated in no less an honour than the Order of Canada. Edward Gawne shares his own migratory story:

from the D&T workshop to a grand restoration project in rural China. And we feature an interview with entrepreneur Ryan Kohn, the man behind Propercorn, a revolutionary snack that has enjoyed worldwide success. We also hear from Jani Rajkumar whose courageous appearance on the Channel 4 show SAS Who Dares Wins is documented in these pages.

It is especially rewarding to see the continued goodwill OMTs exhibit towards the school. This is particularly evident

in the readiness of OMTs to found and run alumni associations, one of which, dedicated to classic cars, breaks cover for the first time in this issue.

Many members will already have had contact with Lucia Hull, our new Development Officer. Lucia is very keen to hear of any news updates; if you have anything you would like to report, or maybe an idea for an article, we are always delighted to hear from you.

Aaron Watts
Editor

Concordia

E-mail Concordia at editor@mtsn.org.uk

Sandy Lodge, Northwood,
Middlesex, HA6 2HT
Tel: +44 (0)1923 820644
alumni@mtsn.org.uk
www.mtsn.org.uk
Editor: **Aaron Watts**

Contributing editors: **Jon Rippier,**
Nick Latham, Lucia Hull

Photography: **Ian Rudling, Rohan Gupta,**
Patricia Rayner, Gareth John Smith,
Lucia Hull

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Front cover photo: The cover photo is of the 300 year old Chinese mansion undergoing restoration by Edward Gawne (1999-2004).



Introduction

An introduction from the Head Master:

Life at Sandy Lodge continues to be as hectic as it is exciting. The school is a whirl of activity, both intellectual and physical. As a school, we are known for our scholarship, and for the cultural achievements of the pupils. However, recently we have – more than ever – been able to add sporting achievement.

Pupils have represented England in each of the major sports: in cricket, Andrew Thomas was selected for England U17s in 2015; in rugby, Will Porter was selected for England U17s (and the other week, as a school boy, was in the first team for Wasps); in hockey, Karan Sofat was selected for England U16s. Perhaps inspired by Middlesex CCC's success in first class cricket played at Sandy Lodge, our cricketers are finding great success in national and regional competitions. The 1st XI are North London T20 champions and the U17 side has reached the last 16 of the national competition. For the second year running, the U15s reached the last four nationally in their T20 competition, losing to Millfield, but establishing themselves as the second best side in the country in their age group. The hockey first team made it to the final of the U18 National Plate competition but unfortunately lost on penalty flicks.

We have also had a number of individual

sporting achievements. Hugo Anthony was named U23 freestyle kayaking world champion aged just 17. Alfie Collins, aged just 15, was a fast enough swimmer to make it to the qualifying stages for Rio's 2016 Olympic Games in the 100m Individual Medley. Another swimmer, Bryce Puszet, won Bronze in the national championships in the backstroke leg of the 4x100 Medley Relay and is the Welsh national champion for backstroke.

It is right that we celebrate these elite sportsmen and their wonderful achievements. We should also pause to thank all the other pupils who pull on a shirt to represent their school week in and week out. Sport is for everyone at Merchant Taylors', so well done to all of our sportsmen – and well done to the staff who are tireless in their commitment to fixtures and training.

Every school must continually work to improve its facilities. Having finished the Design Centre, created a History Building, refurbished the Dining Hall, Lun and Senior Common Room, we are planning an ambitious new development – this includes a new Geography Building, new indoor sports facilities and the development of outdoor sports facilities that will secure our place as one of the greatest sporting schools in the country.

Just as it is right to look forward, so we

must also remember our past. As you will read in these pages, the school has created a Memorial Garden dedicated to all those members of the Merchant Taylors' community who have been taken before their time. This is part of our on-going commemoration of WW1. July 1st – a century ago – was the most tragic day in the history of the school. Over the course of the Battle of the Somme, in just four months, the school lost 43 old boys. The school continues to honour our fallen.

As you will see in the Development section of this publication, there are more and more opportunities for OMTs and parents to engage with us at events. Indeed, I write this shortly after attending a gathering at Allianz Park where over 100 OMTs and parents enjoyed a bite to eat and a drink before watching the 1st XV Rugby team beat Haberdashers'. So, not all events are at the school, but please do come back and see us here at Sandy Lodge when you can; you are always welcome.

Finally, I would like to thank our ever-growing group of supporters, listed in our Roll of Benefactors, for their gifts to the school this year. We are hugely grateful to you all.

Simon Everson
Head Master

Winter 2016

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We have made every attempt to locate copyright ownership of archive photography but have not always succeeded in doing so. Any owner of copyright of individual images is invited to contact the editor.

Edward Gawne

Edward Gawne (1999-2004) writes of his life in China and his decision to renovate a 300 year-old mansion into a boutique hotel

I was at Taylors' from 1999 until 2004, and have fond memories of warm summers playing croquet, of lunch times spent bashing bits of metal with hammers in the D&T workshop, and of teachers bursting with character. (Indeed, one could write a book on the CPO legend alone, but nobody would believe it...)

At the time the sciences felt like sensible 'career-y' subjects, and these A Levels took me to University of Sussex, where I read Human Sciences. My passion, however, was Design and Technology, and I'm very thankful to Mr Coleman and Mr Bannister especially: for their commitment, knowledge, and time. Under their supervision I built electric guitars and enjoyed making things with my hands. I remember still the smell of freshly cut mahogany and the satisfaction of chopping things up with the handsaw.

After university I landed a grown-up job at a brand research consultancy in London. Whizzing around Europe, meeting clients and talking adverts, I enjoyed my work; but a senior colleague urged me to take one of the international opportunities available at the company: a route she wished she'd pursued before the mortgage, husband, and kids got in

“ I remember still the smell of freshly cut mahogany and the satisfaction of chopping things up with the handsaw ”

the way. In 2011, I ended up in Shanghai.

If you've never been, Shanghai is one of the world's must-visit cities: a riot of sounds, people, neon lights, food, and smells, all flying past at a million miles per hour.

An expat employment package was a fine, fine thing indeed, but the work itself was challenging. The first obstacle was the language barrier. Although nominally we spoke English in the office, I took daily Mandarin classes. The second barrier was the education system in China, which, subject to the Confucian values of conformity and rote learning, does not reliably produce the most enquiring of minds. The Shanghainese are famously workaholic, and I would sometimes finish work in Shanghai after my friends in London, despite the eight-hour time difference. Comparing notes with grizzled older expats through the bottom of a pint glass, it dawned on me that this experience was common. And I did not envy the downtrodden look of people, many further up the corporate food chain than me, with children, mortgages, and relentless revenue growth targets. I realised that this was not the lifestyle I wanted for my future.

In 2015 I left Shanghai to study Mandarin full time in Nanchang. I



wanted, as much as possible, to get out of the expat bubble. Nanchang is the hometown of my wonderful fiancée, Selina. As is the way with China, it is a huge city of some five million people but few people back in the UK have heard of it. It was nice once again to be a student, riding my bicycle around campus in the sunshine, and finally getting to grips with the Chinese characters. I am comfortably conversational but would not describe myself quite as fully fluent. Having lots of free time, Selina's car at our disposal, and an adventurous spirit, we travelled through the remote countryside, with its booming forests and mountain roads. Whereas the locals often regarded these as symbols of poverty from which they dream of escaping, I saw gorgeous vistas of wild flowers, babbling brooks, stunning architecture, and the slow pace of life I had longed for in the big city.

One such trip took us to Wuyuan: a county in Jiangxi province, famed for its hundreds of beautiful villages. Merchants in the Song Dynasty would leave the village to seek their fortune, leaving behind their families in fabulous houses that stand to this day. We spent a gorgeous day in Yan village's ancient winding alleyways, exploring the grand mansions that have stood for a century. The tragedy is that many of these booming halls, surrounded by rice paddies and nestled in bamboo-covered hills, are falling into disrepair. A mixture of poverty and a headlong charge towards modernity elsewhere means many are on their last legs.

We daydreamed, as one does after more than one cold beer, about what we might do with one of these houses if we had one. Swimming pools, cocktail bars, and croquet lawns, all got a look in at some point.

Nursing a sore head, I was ready to go back home in the morning, but Selina was already marching around the village knocking on doors. 'Hello, is this your house? Will you sell it to me please?'

But getting in front of the local Chinese Communist Party secretary is how you really get things done in China – always through clouds of cheap cigarette smoke, usually during long boozy lunches, punctuated with cries of 'gan bei' ('down it')! After one such lunch, a local secretary showed us around one of the oldest houses in the village in a woozy haze, owned by his family, which was to become our future home.

The outside is built in thick brick outer walls, with smooth limestone floors and a wooden interior. Fine carvings adorn each of our central skywells: tall, narrow courtyards that take the heat out and bring the water in; they symbolise money being kept



“Our dream is to breathe new life back into this 300-year-old mansion that I have come to so love”





in the family. The house used to be called Jinzhichengtang, or 'Jin's House of Wisdom and Success'. But we are naming it simply the 'Wuyuan Skywells', our favourite feature of the house.

We are restoring it to be a fourteen-bed boutique country inn – a tall order for a pair of amateur enthusiasts. We are incredibly lucky to have pulled together a team of beyond first-class people to help us get there. Master local carpenter, YuYouHong, oversees the project. His team are all aged sixty-five or older, as they are the only ones who still know the traditional techniques for wood carving and joinery used in our house. The smell of freshly cut fragrant China fir wood now fills the house. He is patient with me, as he has tried to impart some of his wisdom into my clumsy hands. I've showed him pictures of guitars built in the MTS D&T lab, and he feigns interest with admirable vigour. anySCALE architects in Beijing are helping us to bring a touch of glamour, playfulness, and fine German engineering, whilst lifting the interiors up to Western standards. Qing architecture is all well and good but nobody wants Qing dynasty toilets. The garden will have a

large lawn (for croquet, of course) and a bar and restaurant with indoor and al fresco seating. We have a third-floor library and outdoor deck for sundowners. We open in May 2017.

I now spend my days plodding around the village, keeping an eye on the site. I am still learning Chinese with Jin Laoshi, a local retired teacher, and a textbook. We have friends in the village with whom we regularly meet for lunch or a pot of tea. I often spend my afternoons walking up the ancient paths in the hills that look over the rice paddies in the valley. The neighbours are delighted that I am keen to help out in the garden, learning how to plant and harvest chillies. Our dream is to breathe new life back into this 300-year-old mansion that I have come to so love.

For too many, the China experience is of tour groups charging around the big cities. The real China exists out in the villages, however, where life plods along at the same slow pace it has always done. We are a friend to any OMT in the area, so please do drop in and say hi, or feel free to get in touch via e-mail. Renditions of 'homo plantat' will certainly be looked upon favourably.

Ryan Kohn

Ryan Kohn (1994-2001) Co-Founder of Propercorn recalls his time at MTS and speaks of his career so far.
Interview by Lucia Hull

There are numerous references to Ryan Kohn in the Taylorian archives, documenting his various sporting successes while a pupil at Merchant Taylors' between 1994 and 2001. In 1998, rugby coach Paul Overton wrote that: 'Kohn did a really fine job at full back [...] he had real vision and popped up all over the place in attack, confounding the opposition'. Fast-forward eighteen years and the very same words might be used to describe Ryan's success at the helm of Propercorn, the business he co-founded in 2011. Propercorn is now the most popular premium popcorn snack, selling in high street stores and coffee shops across the UK, not least in our very own Lun. The brand's sales now far exceed rivals Tyrrell's and Metcalfe's, despite both competitors being far longer established and with far greater funds to match. I met up with Ryan to find out more about his journey from the rugby pitches of Merchant Taylors' to Propercorn's vibrant, canal-side offices in Shoreditch. It became clear very quickly why he has been known to refer to himself as a 'serial entrepreneur'.

'I had such a wonderful time at Merchant Taylors' and I'm not just saying that! I'm one of those people who genuinely loved school, and what I liked was that it gave you such a well-rounded experience. I had so many wonderful

experiences, whether it was drama, the CCF, army weekends, doing assault courses and shooting guns, or taking part in sports.

'After school I went to Leeds to study Philosophy and Management. During my first week there I went to football trials where I tore my cruciate ligament. That meant I couldn't play football so I had a lot more time on my hands than most people. The first year of university was quite relaxed, as it is for most people, so I got together with a few friends and started a hip-hop night with break dancers and beat boxers. It started off as a bit of fun and it quickly became really popular. We were soon approached by one of the big leisure companies in the UK and they asked us to organise a club night in Leeds at a much bigger venue than we were used to. We did that night and gradually we just expanded and by the time I was 21 we had about 400 student employees around the country and we were doing about 16 club nights a week in 11 different cities.

'I got to the point where I was trying to run the events business and finish off my degree. I actually left university after my second year to do the business full time. At the time I remember that being a really difficult decision. You are brought up thinking you want to get a degree, it's





“ I’m one of those people who genuinely loved school, and what I liked was that it gave you such a well-rounded experience ”



U16 Hockey 1999

almost like it de-risks you for later life, but I'm really glad I chose the business and I haven't looked back since. However, while I enjoyed it and got a lot out of the experience, I guess running club nights was never something I wanted to do for a long time.

From there I went and worked for a property developer in London and learnt as much as I could about the industry. I worked with a small company in London; there were only about ten people in the team, and that meant I got to learn a lot about the business; the financial side of the deals and understanding the procedures about absolutely everything. I had ambitions to set up my own environmentally friendly property development company, which is exactly what I did after a few years of working with the property developer. I was back running my own business which I loved. We did some great developments and it was quite successful. The last development we undertook was an 8000 square foot house with an underground pool and cinema room. The whole thing ran off renewable energy and our company won an award for best single dwelling in the UK.

While I was running my property business a friend of mine, Cassandra, told me about an idea for a business she'd had. She had been working at BBH, a very

successful advertising agency where every day at around 3pm someone would go out and buy lots of chocolate, cake and biscuits, and inevitably everyone would get stuck into them and consume a day's worth of calories in about ten minutes. Cassandra thought that there must be a way of having a snack that delivers on taste satisfaction but doesn't leave you feeling so guilty. She went home and spoke to her mum about doing flavoured popcorn. Cassandra's dad had died when she was just 16, and during the conversation her mum reminded her that the last gift her dad had given her before he passed away was an old-school popcorn machine. From that conversation, she decided to quit her job and start her own business selling popcorn.

'When Cassandra told me about her idea I got it straight away. It made sense. But I didn't think about getting involved until about a year later, when Cassandra was looking for someone to help her get the business off the ground as she was struggling to make any real headway. At that time the property market was not that buoyant, we'd had the big crash, and even though my business was doing well and we were profitable, I was feeling less inspired by it. It was a very informal start and we decided to just see how we worked together.

'We soon realised that we made a great

team and about a year later we launched our product. Google was our first customer, and because they are such a big company they ordered thousands of packets of popcorn, which enabled us to satisfy our minimum order quantity. At the Google offices, they free-issue all of their food, drinks and snacks. They found that out of the 48 snacks that they offered, Propercorn moved the fastest, so we took that fact and ran with it and approached all these places on the high street. Things just took off from there. It has been a really wonderful journey so far'.

Not only have Ryan's business ventures been a hugely successful, but ever since he got involved with PHAB at school he has always tried to support charities too, usually in his typical innovative and ambitious style.

'I owe Mr Gabitass for PHAB, because he helped me get into it and to this day, it is absolutely one of the best things that I've ever done. It was my first charity experience and a real eye opener for me. It massively put into perspective any issues or complaints I had. I learnt so much from those young people, I definitely learnt more from them than they did from me. I knew how much I enjoyed PHAB and always said to myself that that later on in my life I wanted to be focused on the charity sector.'

In 2009 Ryan set up a charity called

“ For me success is not just about making money, it is about having the minimum impact on the planet and benefitting the people within it ”

‘London for London’. The idea was that anyone who went out on October 3rd 2009, and walked through the doors of a nightclub, pub or bar was asked to donate a pound and all the money raised went to three charities that focused on eradicating violence among young people in the capital. The campaign was extremely successful, raising £50,000 in just one evening.

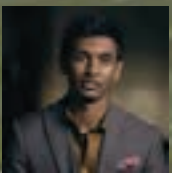
Philanthropy is at the very core of Ryan Kohn’s ambitions. He explains; ‘For me success is not just about making money, it is about having the minimum impact on the planet and benefitting the people within it. I want to be able to look back a Propercorn and see how capitalism can be a force for good. Our philosophy at Propercorn is ‘Done Properly’. What that means is everything should be the best it can possibly be. That obviously starts with the product but extends every possible way throughout our business and that means even as people we should always be striving

to be the best we can be. It is nice to have something to consistently strive for and maybe we’ll never get there but if we keep trying to hit that marker, we’ll get as close as we possibly can.

Ryan credits Merchant Taylors’ with setting him on the right track to achieve this success. ‘I went through quite an interesting learning curve at school. When I started I was one of the naughty ones, I spent plenty of time in detentions. I definitely made my mistakes at school, but I like to think that I turned it around. I got really involved with all the sports teams and by Upper 6th I was a prefect. It was a really lovely journey for me to go on. You take it for granted but actually what you are given in terms of life experience from the age of 11 to 18 is amazing. I am really appreciative and thankful for it. I have to thank my parents; their vision for the school and me was that it would bring out a well-rounded person, which hopefully I am!’



Who Dares Wins



Jani Rajkumar (2007-2012) took part in the Channel 4 programme *SAS: Who Dares Wins* earlier this year. He talks of the huge mental and physical challenges he experienced over two weeks in the Ecuadorian jungle



What made you decide to apply?

Coming from a fitness background, I have always had an interest in the SAS Selection Process, not only because of the high level of fitness and mental strength required, but also due to its extremely high fail rate. Knowing that very few people pass, makes the challenge seem more tempting. After watching the first season, I knew this would be the closest opportunity I would have to experiencing the real-life selection process.

What were your thoughts on arrival?

I remember arriving at Heathrow and meeting the other recruits. I would be lying if I said I wasn't intimidated. The majority of the recruits were gym-built type guys with tattoos. I did not realise it at this point, but soon I'd find out that I was actually in a better position. Since the SAS are the best Special Forces Unit in the World, people have this idea that the typical SAS soldier is built like Hercules. In reality, they tend to have lean physiques and have come from sports such as running, triathlon or cycling. SAS selection is all about endurance and what many don't realise that having too much muscle bulk is a burden for this type of job.

What was the best part?

Being outside my comfort zone. People say if you can survive in the jungle you can survive anywhere. It's difficult to explain what living in the jungle is like since nothing compares to it. Unfortunately, those five 45 minute episodes only managed to show one tenth of what we really went through. For example we had no toilet or cleaning facilities (I won't explain how we went to the toilet) and almost no sleep. We did have, however, tarantulas and snakes to keep us company, 35° heat and 100% humidity to train in. At the time those conditions felt horrible, but looking back at it I'm glad it was as bad as it was because I feel it's only when you're tested in this way that you can strengthen as a person.

And the worst?

The lack of sleep. They structured the course as if we were at war, and of course, there is no 'home time' during war. An attack can happen at any moment and





“ SAS selection is all about endurance and having the mind-set to keep going whatever the situation ”

you have to be ready. Therefore, whenever we finished an activity, whether it was at 2pm or 2am, the DS would always say to us ‘Go back to your room and await the next instruction’. That could be in thirty mins or four hours. Therefore, it was important to take any opportunity to sleep because you never knew when the next ‘beasting’ would begin. Looking back at it I’d say we had roughly two or three hours sleep each day. Our sense of time had completely gone. It’s amazing what two weeks of living on the edge can do to a person. Consequently, it doesn’t come as a surprise when you hear about soldiers who return from war after nine months with mental health issues.

Did you ever think about leaving the show?

Yes, a couple of times. We were given two pairs of kit. Our ‘dry kit’, which we would sleep in, and our ‘wet kit’, which we would use to go out and do exercises in. When we weren’t using our wet kit, we would keep it in a bin bag at the bottom of our Bergen (military rucksack). Having

to put on muddy and wet clothing always gave me chills and it was only in these moments that I said to myself ‘I’m off tomorrow’. However, like most things, it was just about keeping a positive mind and getting on with the mission.

What do you remember most about the trainers?

The DS (Directing Staff) are some of the nicest people I’ve ever met. Of course, on camera they put on the angry tough guy act but off camera they were very friendly, particularly when it got down to just twelve recruits. What is interesting about these guys was that, was although they come from the toughest regiment in the world, they were very keen on emphasising the importance of controlling your aggression in normal daily life and why it is vital to walk away from fights when people are aggravating you. These guys have the skillset to beat up, anyone, yet they would always emphasise how you should only ever use self-defence rather than look to attack. Personally, what inspired me most about the DS was their mental strength to keep

going in any situation. I guess that's why they're SAS.

Did your running experience help you?

Most definitely. SAS selection is all about endurance and having the mind-set to keep going whatever the situation. During my teenage years I ran competitively at National Level in middle distance. This level of fitness meant that I had an advantage over a lot of the other recruits, especially when it came to those long marches with 40lbs on our backs. My step-uncle is an ex-SAS soldier and one piece of advice he gave me was to be the 'grey man'. The grey man is someone who can blend into situations without being noticed. So although I was one of the fittest recruits, I tried to make sure I would keep myself in the middle of the pack. You don't want to do an exercise and try to lead from the front otherwise the DS will notice this and push you even harder than the other recruits just to see you break.



That is one of the reasons why SAS selection is so hard; there's no way of being able to tell whether you're doing well or badly. The recruit who is always at the back has just as much of a chance as the recruit leading from the front because he is showing the mental strength to keep going and not give up. This, essentially, is what SAS selection is about. Elite fitness is just a starting point. They're not looking for the most physically strong but instead the most mentally strong.

Will you stay in touch with the other competitors?

For sure. Although we live in different parts of the UK, we all keep in touch on a regular basis via social media and have met up a couple of times since leaving the jungle in May. When you undergo SAS training you form a special bond with the guys you do it with as it is an experience like no other, which only those who do it can really comprehend. It sounds clichéd but it's true to say that you enter the jungle with strangers and leave as a



band of brothers. As it happens I will be singing at a showcase in Shoreditch in December and several of the recruits will be coming to support, including the DS!

Has the jungle changed you in any way?

Yes, I've become much more proactive. With SAS training, you have to do everything extremely quickly, whether it's physical training or preparing your Bergen. I remember the many times the DS would call us out by shouting 'two minutes in the parade square, wet kit and Bergen!'. If anyone wasn't ready within that timeframe the whole group would be punished with boot camp. Getting ready is much tougher than you'd think when you have to deal with wet socks and boots.

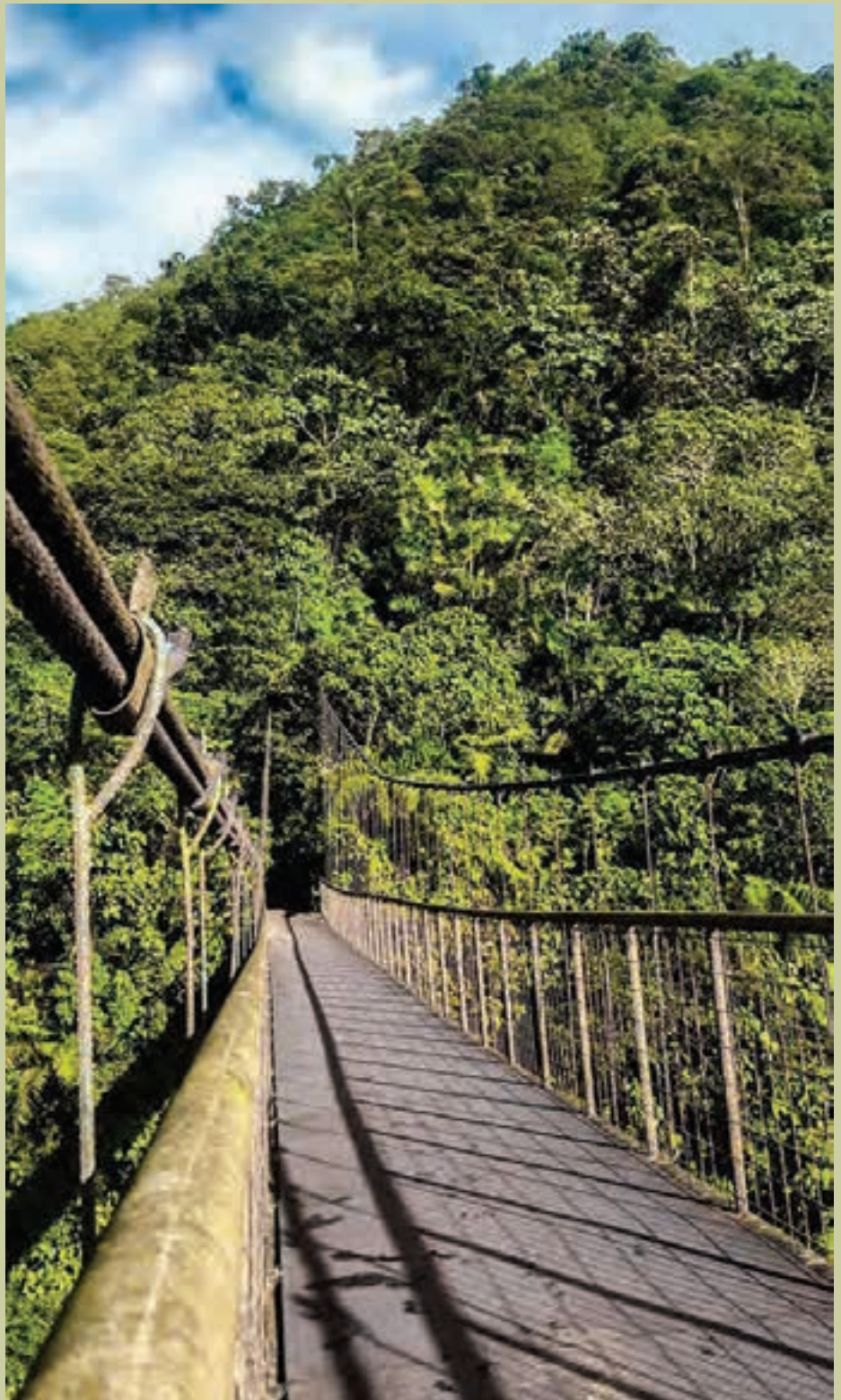
Being more proactive has definitely been a positive attribute, especially when it comes to university work. I used to procrastinate and leave it until a couple of weeks before the deadline. Now, as soon as I get given any piece of work, I just do it.

Furthermore, doing jungle training gives you a great sense of pride and the confidence to know that you can tackle any problem that comes your way. Having this strength in character allows you to approach challenges in a more aggressive manner rather than feel intimidated, whether exams or a rugby game. An SAS career isn't for everyone. It requires a specific mind-set and a real passion for the military. However, the training one does will benefit anyone because it teaches you that success isn't determined by academic results but by your level of desire and will to keep going in tough situations.

Have you got any more adventures coming up?

Indeed. Although I don't race anymore I still do running training regularly. I am much more into mountaineering and am planning to climb Mt Everest in 2020. This will begin with Mt Kilimanjaro and Mont Blanc next summer, along with Mt Elbrus in 2018 and Mt Denali in 2019. It will be tough but I believe my SAS experience will help me through it. I always say to people who ask why, 'If I'm not going to become an Olympian I'll climb Mt Everest'.

“ They’re not looking for the most physically strong but instead the most mentally strong ”



Some Reflections on Life at Merchant Taylors'



R. I. Guy Morrison (1958-1963) writes:

When Nick Latham asked me if I would like to contribute some recollections of my time at the school, I was more than pleased to oblige. After all, I often think of my time at Merchant Taylors', and it was not really all that long since I left...was it? A look at some recent issues of *Concordia* quickly brought me face-to-face with the shocking truth: that it has been more than fifty years since I was at the school, an almost prehistoric era compared to those featured in more recent articles! Although Canadian by birth, I received most of my schooling in the UK. My father, who worked for the Canadian government, was posted to England in 1949, and his search for a family home led him to Northwood. I started kindergarten at Miss Maycock's, and later went to Northwood Preparatory School, known as Terry's after its founder, and now part of the Merchant Taylors' family. We subsequently spent time back in Canada, a year in Australia, and then two years in Ottawa, where

I attended Ashbury College. Another posting to the UK followed and, with my parents planning to return to the familiar surroundings of Northwood, they knew that Merchant Taylors' would be the best choice for me. I duly sat the entrance exams, specially sent over to Ashbury, and was accepted for admission.

And so, in 1958, a somewhat nervous new boy, fresh from an intimidating but welcoming interview with the Head Master (Hugh Elder) and school doctor, I was assigned to Science Division A(i), under Mr Tony Eggleston (who later went on to a distinguished career, including the position of Head Master at the British School in Cyprus). I am sure I was the only Canadian boy in the school, something of an anomaly, perhaps even a curiosity. Mr Eggleston thoughtfully assigned me a 'minder' to show me the ropes and I gradually settled into the public-school way of life. It took a while, as I was not entirely happy with leaving behind my friends at Ashbury in Canada,









but, by the end of the year, I felt fully at home at MTS, Mr Eggleston's end of year report stated that 'I have rarely seen such a pleasing change take place in a boy during a year. Very shy and even hostile at first, he is now a most popular and hard-working member of the form'. The transformation continued and, by the end of the next four years, I was sorry to leave the school I had come to love.

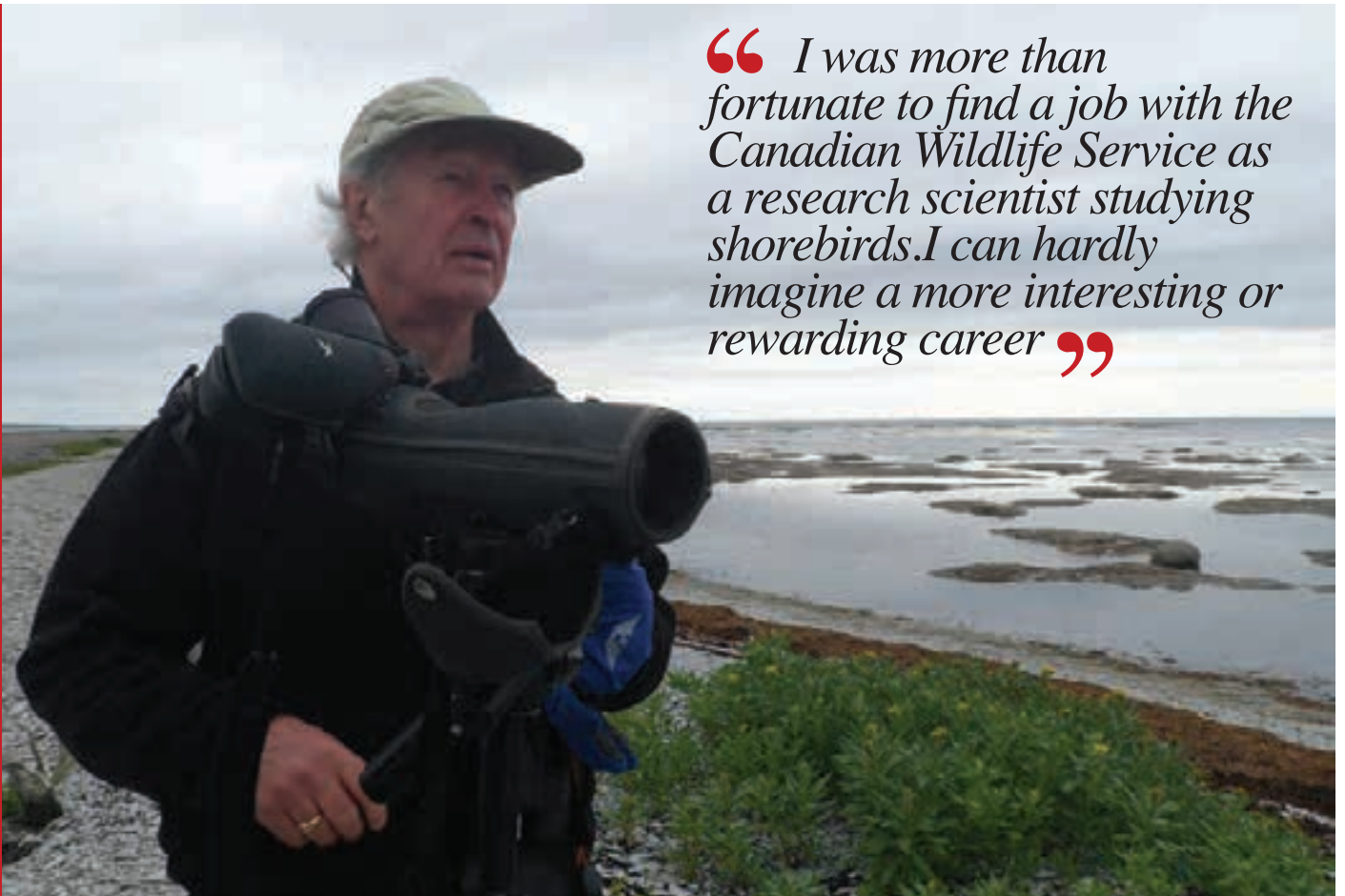
I suppose my temperament was well-suited to the milieu of MTS; there was certainly discipline and expectations, and we were expected to participate in the wide range of both school activities and extra-curricular opportunities. As for discipline, the days of caning had thankfully passed, though corporal punishment was yet to be banned. Monitors and prompters on occasion handed out 'lines' for transgressions such as talking before prayers in the Great Hall, or being caught with one's hands in one's pockets. Learning to use these 'powers' in a fair and humane way was part of the experience. I think the discipline and expectations at MTS have served me well throughout my life, part of the reason being, I think, that when you did make an effort it was generally recognised and rewarded. I recall that when I started at MTS I was assigned to the Colts III rugby squad, two levels below Colts I. We turned out on sports days on one of the far flung pitches, and at that level there was not a lot of effort or enthusiasm amongst the participants. I can still clearly remember the day when I thought to myself, 'if I am going to have to do this, I might as well do it as well as I can, rather than wasting time with a half-hearted effort'. So, I set off about the pitch as though a rocket had been ignited inside me. My efforts were not unnoticed and I was quickly promoted to the Colts I game, where I eventually made the team. I went on to represent the school in the Second and First XVs, getting my colours in the process. It was quite a lesson. Playing on the First XV was memorable. I recall one game at St Paul's where the pitch was so muddy, the two teams ended up completely indistinguishable. And there was my mother, who would attend Saturday matches, and whose loud North American voice rose above all others shouting encouragement, much to the amusement of my team mates and consternation of the rest of us! And then there was the prospect of having to tackle Tony Kitchen in midfield. Tony was tall and very muscular;

it was like having to tackle a freight train in full flight. He went on to become the captain of the England Schoolboys' XV.

Kitchen also featured in the visit of the Queen Mother to the school in 1962. Her Majesty had been scheduled to come to the school for its 400th anniversary in 1961, but owing to an injury, the visit was put off until 1962, by which point I had risen to the rank of Monitor. A highlight, for us, was to be invited to tea with Her Majesty in the Head Master's Study, where we duly and deferentially gathered. When the tea arrived, Kitchen stepped forward and mischievously but politely asked the Queen Mother, 'shall I be mum?'. Her Majesty took over, and 'P.A. Kitchen found himself honoured with a cup of tea poured by royal hands', as The Taylorian of July 1962 wryly observed.

I went on to become Second Monitor in 1962, a reasonable achievement I suppose for that shy Canadian boy who had arrived in 1958. On a recent visit to the school, I noticed there is now a board listing Second Monitors. It was started the year after I left! But I did find the monitors' table with my name carved on it. Reading prayers was another duty that provided useful experience for later life. I recall one occasion when the Head Master entered the Great Hall and turned to me to say, 'remind the school that classes start tomorrow at 8:40 am - or twenty to nine - better say it both ways'. When I did just that a minute later from the stage, the sixth-form wags at the back of the hall erupted in laughter, thinking I was being facetious!

Many of the experiences and skills I learned at school have served me well during my life and career. I somehow managed to avoid playing cricket, because I had done well on a cadet day shooting event and was subsequently directed towards the team. We travelled by coach to Bisley every Saturday to shoot on the world renowned ranges there, our base being the Middlesex Shooting Club, which, I recall, served a seriously inebriating cider. The team was coached by Arthur Bell, the Sergeant Major of the CCF, the epitome of a Regimental Sergeant Major whose memorable tongue-lashings on the parade ground struck fear into the hearts of new recruits. The skills I learned in marksmanship and gun handling would prove extremely valuable during my research trips to the Arctic, where polar bears were a real threat. We were all required to be in the Cadet Corps, or CCF



“ I was more than fortunate to find a job with the Canadian Wildlife Service as a research scientist studying shorebirds. I can hardly imagine a more interesting or rewarding career ”

– no choice – and I chose the Naval Section, ending up as ‘Cadet Coxswain’ in charge. Whereas assembling a Bren Gun may no longer be a useful skill, the knowledge of signals and tying knots was useful in my career in wildlife research.

Music was also a major activity for me at MTS. There was the school orchestra, the band, and lunch time recitals. And of course, Hugh Elder, the Head Master, was a devotee of Gilbert and Sullivan, and I was involved with performances of Ruddigore and the Pirates of Penzance. I also played with the Harrow Symphony Orchestra, and almost left St Andrews to take up music while an undergraduate, before deciding music was probably better as a hobby than a profession. But perhaps the greatest influence was my experience with the Expeditionary Society, which was formed while I was at school. We organised camping expeditions in the Easter and summer holidays, including trips to the Isle of Arran, the Pennine Way (one of the coldest nights I have ever experienced, camping in the snow in shorts and a light sleeping bag), the Pyrenees (followed by a bout of jaundice), Connemara, and the Dingle Peninsula. Following my last year, I led an expedition across the middle of Iceland: the MTS Trans

Iceland Expedition 1963. Experiencing the beauty and isolation of central Iceland was life changing. Indeed the desire to return to Iceland was instrumental in my becoming involved with bird ringing and wader migration studies while at Cambridge. By this time, I had graduated from St Andrews University with a First in Biochemistry and was at Cambridge doing my Ph.D and the opportunity came to undertake another expedition to Iceland to catch and ring waders. We organized three wader ringing expeditions to Iceland in 1970, 1971, and 1972, the final one lasting six months during which we drove some 10,000 miles around the west coast of Iceland, living out of the back of a Land Rover. I therefore ended up after Cambridge with academic qualifications and a lot of field experience in migration studies, and I was more than fortunate to find a job with the Canadian Wildlife Service (Environment Canada) as a research scientist studying shorebirds. I can hardly imagine a more interesting or rewarding career. My work took me from the northern coast of Ellesmere Island on the shores of the Arctic Ocean to the tip of South America in Tierra del Fuego. A highlight was flying around the coast of South America over five years in the 1980s,

doing aerial surveys to determine the main wintering areas used by shorebirds breeding in the Canadian Arctic. Further ‘Atlas’ projects took place in Mexico and Panama. This led to some important conservation initiatives, including the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, which is now an independent non-government organisation and boasts some ninety-five sites in fifteen countries throughout the Americas. Other opportunities arose – large scale banding in James Bay in the 1970s (60,000 birds caught in eight years), twenty-six field seasons in the High Arctic at Alert, and guest lecturing on cruise ships in the Arctic – all providing information useful for conservation.

Apparently these achievements were enough for me to be presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013, and to be appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 2016. I have been deeply honoured and humbled by these awards. On reflection, it is clear to me that the experiences, attitudes, and skills, that I learned at Merchant Taylors’ have been instrumental in shaping my life and career. I look back fondly and with gratitude on those days. They acquire a special, and increasing, significance as the years pass on by.



Valete

Martin Drury, Chris Roseblade, Lesley Slator and Julian Slator gave a combined 120 years of service to Merchant Taylors' before retiring this year. We asked them to name some of their highlights from their time at the school.



“ *Your correspondent is not ashamed to admit the problem he had in suppressing the growing satisfaction with which he waved his arm and raised his hands to mark 4s and 6s* ”

Martin Drury

Two memories as requested by the editor of *Concordia*, one involving schadenfreude, the other sheer chutzpah:

(1) One of my very few less than wholly agreeable duties at MTS in the 1980s was to preside (as umpire) over the annual humiliation of the Under 12 cricket team at the hands of one of our local rival schools (let's, for the sake of convenience, call them Haberdashers'). Given that our opponents were selecting a team of eleven from an intake of well over 100 when we were doing so from between 20 and 30, defeat had become such an inevitability that there was an unspoken agreement that even if we won the toss we would put them in to bat, to prevent the match from ending in under an hour. And so it was in 1989 (I think), when our 11+ intake was at an all-time low of 17, several of our boys were ill, and we were fielding pretty well the only eleven players and scorer available to us. Habs scored 140 or so with their customary insouciance before declaring at tea, blithely confident of their ability to

bowl us out in time to get the coach by 5.00 and be home to watch whatever passed for early Saturday viewing on TV in those days. But no...

Reader, we won – and not only did we win, we put them to the sword. Our opening batsmen, Sapra and Latchman (the latter the son of the MTS cricket professional, Harry), who went on to become highly successful members of the 1st XI but were at this stage unknown quantities, hit the Habs bowlers to all corners of the ground and surpassed their total in less than a dozen overs to win by 10 wickets. (Your correspondent is not ashamed to admit the problem he had in suppressing the growing satisfaction with which he waved his arm and raised his hands to mark 4s and 6s). It is difficult to remember now just what was the most remarkable aspect of that afternoon: the ecstatic dance (and I do mean dance) of jubilation of the MTS team on the boundary as they realised the imminence of such an improbable victory, the gasps of disbelief and sagging shoulders of the opposition as the result became inexorably clear, or the

utter despair of their master-in-charge, who after a limp shake of hands left the field with the crestfallen air of one intent of taking early retirement and assuming monastic orders in the remote isles of Scotland.

If this sounds triumphalist, then so be it. Ignore that Kipling nonsense about not being a man until you've treated those twin impostors the same (and by the way is there any more overrated poem than *If*?) – this victory was both sweet and savoury.

(2) An Upper Third Field Day trip to HMS Belfast in the late 1990s.

An inconsequential question from one of our boys at the Q&A session at the end.

An exasperated reply from the long-suffering speaker – “Well how long's a piece of string?”

An immediate rejoinder from the boy – “Twice as long as the length from the middle to the end.”

A dumbfounded speaker.

The boy's name was Rizwan Ahmed. Destined for a bright future, I should imagine.

Chris Roseblade

“M
emories”, said the editor...
“Light the corners of my mind” completed
the untrammelled, associative voice in
my head: as I was never one for torch
songs (or Streisand) please accept a more
general remark in lieu.

It is a truth universally acknowledged
that everyone who opens a school
magazine does so for one reason and
for one reason only: to rejoice in seeing
their name immortalised in print. The
inevitable corollary is that they feel
entirely crestfallen if overlooked: nay,
more, slighted; and blame the author!
The truth is that there are too many
memories of too many boys and too many
colleagues even to ‘Salvete & Valete’ a
form list of them; and I have no wish to
incur the unvoiced curse of an entire
generation; however, if, in the last decade,
you have received an invitation to connect
with Taylors’ on any social network, you
may take this as proof that your name
is forever engraven on my memory. It
was, in fact, remarkably easy to build
our online presence: the personalities of
OMTs being so diverse and memorable
that barely had the process begun, then
thousands of you sprang effortlessly to

mind. Presuming, for a moment, to speak
on behalf of other retiring colleagues: rest
assured, we remember you all.

To enter Taylors’ in those days was
to enter a world. Arriving on a six-week
contract, I left 21 years and a term later. The
school that I entered was that rare hybrid
of Wodehouse and Waugh: replete with its
full complement of chatelaines, eccentrics,
sportsmen and swots, gentlemen and
scholars, it also had autumnal mists, grey
springtimes when the wind howled across
the wickets, and glorious summer sunsets
over clock tower and pavilion. It had its
own language of Quarters and Luns, its
own quaint rituals of monitors apprenticed,
and its own motives private for urgent
withdrawals that would brook no denial to
Fives courts and lakes. It was sufficiently
laid back for a tramp to sleep for a week
in the War Games room above the drama
studio without anyone noticing. And it
was a setting of great beauty: the austere,
cloistral, haunting angularity of the 1932
building; the chestnuts of the long drive;
the silent swans and flapping herons of the
lakes. And the hush of the lakes, that sense
of nature holding its breath, separated
them by its mist from the immediate life

of the school, yet in another way made
them its central legacy. For while the boys
thought that they only repaired there for
a restorative gasper, in fact they learned
there the lessons of life: of the importance
of a space where you could hear yourself
think; of how to bend, not break the rules,
and they brought each other up, accepting,
with great good humour, the confiscation
of their provender by a teacher himself
pleasantly aromatised with the soothing
smell of tobacco.

It was – and it remains – a special place.
It is a special place in which to grow up
and to grow old. Above all it is the boys
who vivify Sandy Lodge, enrich it, and
define it: boys of great ability, modesty,
and good humour, their initially shrill
laughter modulating into the softer, more
dulcet resonances of maturity, until all
that remain are echoes. Of all those that
I came across, almost all have turned
out to be adults of great character and
distinction. They wear their learning
lightly, carry themselves and their talents
well, and seem, by and large, as happy
as any man decently has a right to be. I
thank you for everything that you gave me
in my life.

“Above
all it is the
boys who
vivify Sandy
Lodge,
enrich it, and
define it”



Lesley Slator

Highlights of my time at MTS are hard to pin down as there have been many memorable times, hence a glimpse of just two amongst many, both within and outside the Physics laboratory.

'Roses of Eyam' was the main school production in 1996, the whole family were involved but it was the effect of the background research that remains uppermost. My husband was set and lighting designer and for any production this entailed much research in the preceding summer. Unusually for this production the then plague-struck village of Eyam could be visited and an album of quite emotional photos resulted, giving a very visual background to the story for cast, crew and audience. It is always a joy being part of the preparation for

artistic productions in Drama and Music and this one had, as usual, great talent in direction, set, on stage and within the crew. Somehow this play was all the more engaging in terms of the emotion of the story than one expects a young cast to achieve and, for me, all the more memorable. Possibly because I had a real touch of the horror of the reality for that plague-torn village? Who knows, but memorable it certainly was, and an excellent production in every way.

The enjoyment in Physics teaching is not just with those who are very able, but it was the most challenging Physics that brought this to the fore. Running the British Physics Olympiad at all levels shows how success in a subject can be met in different ways. Any medal

achievement is excelling nationally but it is not always the most obvious A* students who does so. The papers require independent thinking, as we often say 'outside the box', and a particular challenge and skill that differs from more routine studies. It often highlights our knowledge, for example, that labels such as dyslexia are not a disability but simply a different way of working. I would love employers to appreciate this too! Hence in the Olympiad, the pleasure in seeing many students achieve an unexpected Bronze or Silver medal is as great as those who have achieved a top 50 Gold, and these students will no doubt have gone on to be successful in evaluating problems and finding a positive solution wherever they are.



“ Somehow this play was all the more engaging in terms of the emotion of the story than one expects a young cast to achieve and, for me, all the more memorable ”

“ I am a firm believer that if one can enjoy a task then eventually confidence will grow and success will be the outcome ”



Julian Slator

I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching Mathematics – particularly the applications of such a subject (following on from my degree in Engineering Science). Whether it is to a pupil who may find the subject quite ‘challenging’ or to an Oxbridge aspirant, it is a subject which has many thought processes involved and which forces pupils to think (sometimes quite imaginatively – which can come as a surprise to some). It has always been hugely encouraging to me, especially during the last ten years when I was Head of Department, that so many pupils decided to study Mathematics into the Sixth Form. No doubt there are a significant number of OMTs who still use their mathematical knowledge and ability long after they have left the classroom or the A Level textbook behind. As Head of Mathematics at MTS, I was always determined to ensure that the subject was as enjoyable as possible, both to pupils

and to those who were teaching it – I am a firm believer that if one can enjoy a task then eventually confidence will grow and success will be the outcome. I have every confidence that the Mathematics Department at MTS will continue to thrive – it is a subject which can be combined with, and complement, almost any other on the curriculum.

Outside the classroom, Drama has been my major highlight at MTS. Having designed the set and lighting for 37 productions, as well as directing a handful, I have always been hugely involved. My interest in Drama dates back to my own school days but also includes working in the Oxford Playhouse and taking productions up to the Edinburgh Fringe. Not only have I enjoyed taking a play from the ‘page to the stage’ (that was the title of my General Studies course back in the 1980s!) but also seeing boys and girls develop their own involvement in Drama

whether it is as actors or as technicians behind the scenes. I have no doubt that there will be many reading this who remember taking part in a play or musical; I have memories of a few quite ‘wayward’ pupils (mentioning no names!) who turned up to do a bit of painting, scaffolding construction or lighting programming one day, who then rapidly got more involved and became much more enthusiastic about school life generally.

A particular highlight was persuading the relevant people that the old gymnasium would make a studio theatre and so I became responsible for the conversion of that space (alongside neighbouring storerooms – now the foyer, workshop, etc.) back in the late 1980s. It has been great either being involved in or seeing productions take place in such a flexible and intimate space. Perhaps it is time for a larger theatre to be planned and built?

From the Archive

Hebrew Scholars at MTS



Archive volunteer, **Karen Lush**, had been helping to catalogue the collections when she became intrigued by a number of manuscript volumes referring to the 'Semites' at MTS. The following article is a result of her research into these poignant and fascinating records.

The Semites

The "Semites" was the name given to the small group of older boys studying Classical Hebrew at Merchant Taylors'. They were amongst the academic elite of the school, with most winning places, scholarships and exhibitions at Oxford or Cambridge. The Semites usually numbered about 7-10 and had a strong sense of esprit de corps. The teaching of Classical Hebrew came to an end in 1937.

Records in the MTS Archive

The Semites kept a lively record of their names, achievements and activities in the following books:

- The Semites' Gazette: a hard-backed manuscript book covering the period 1893-1913. The flyleaf notes that this is the 'second edition' but a first volume has not been found. A modern

archivist's note says that a scrapbook was kept from 1883.

- Diary of the Semites, 1896.
- The Semites' Bible, an 1867 edition of the Old Testament in Hebrew, much annotated with notes about the boys themselves.

The Gazette records details for each of the Semites: their dates at the school, their scholarships and prizes, their sporting achievements, and in some cases photographs (though there are many blank spaces where photographs have fallen out). Many kept in touch after they left, as their subsequent awards at Oxbridge have been added. The Gazette also contains numerous funny poems that the boys wrote about each other; accounts of sports fixtures and other events; and records of the group's formal resolutions.

The Diary gives a very detailed and enthusiastic account of the group's doings in the year 1896. The boys were keen to present themselves as being rowdy, naughty and amusing, proudly recording their relatively minor infractions (a broken window; being told off for noisiness) as 'mighty deeds' and 'strange doings'.

The Montefiore Medal

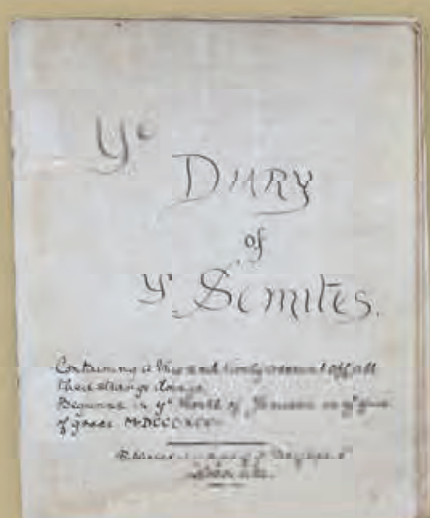
A Montefiore Medal for Hebrew (donated by the famous Anglo-Jewish family) was awarded each year, and the Semites' Bible records the name of each recipient and the group's opinion of him. These range from S. M. Cooke ('very sublime & deeply religious & of such are the kingdom of heaven') and T.H.C. Jackson ('a jolly decent fellow, Hebrew excellent, Footer rotten') to F.A. Ingle ('a sarcastic, mannerless insulting specimen of human(?) nature') and T.H. Bushnell ('a lazy hound but very lucky').

The Chief Rabbi was a guest at Speech Day in 1893.

Hebrew Masters

At the start of the period covered by the Gazette, the class was taught by **Mr George James Spurrell**. Born on 20 July 1859, Spurrell had attended Merchant Taylors' as a boy (joining in 1872) and had won an open scholarship for Hebrew at Balliol College, Oxford. He assumed the post of Hebrew Master at MTS in 1888 and was known to the boys as 'Rabbi' or 'Uncle Dodo'.

The Gazette paints a vivid picture of the boys' not-entirely respectful relationship with him. They mocked his habit of



saying 'Bai the way', and his constant consumption of cough sweets: 'At this time of year the Semitic Sanctum stinks of cough lozenges... it's suck, suck, suck the whole day long'. They copied Spurrell's new red tie: 'The school was considerably startled to-day by the appearance of all the Semites wearing scarlet ties of a Spurrellian hue... Many and insulting were the invectives hurled at us, while strolling round the play-ground arm-in-arm ... rude suggestions concerning "Salvation Army", "Great Northern Railway Porters" "Anarchists" were whispered abroad... simply because we chose to uphold the aesthetic taste of our Rabbi as an example to the whole school'.

Spurrell was the author of a book called 'Notes on Genesis'. The second edition was reviewed in the Gazette in supercilious terms: 'taking the book as a whole we must congratulate the author on the very successful way in which he has taken the cream of the writings of all other authors on the subject except himself, and it is our sincere hope that we may live to see some original works from his pen.'

Spurrell was forced to resign due to ill health and died on 5th August 1897 after a 'protracted and painful illness'. His

obituary in The Taylorian records that 'the success of his pupils both at Oxford and Cambridge was remarkable'.

Spurrell was succeeded by **Rev. George H. Box**, who had a First in Theology from St John's College, Oxford. Box inherited Spurrell's nickname of 'Rabbi' and was known for losing his temper (Gazette, p. 178). He left in 1905 to take up the living of Linton near Ross in Herefordshire. On his departure, the boys presented him with 'a handsome and massive silver cigarette box, subscribed for by past and present Semites'. During his time the Semites won 24 scholarships and exhibitions at Oxbridge. In 1908, Box published an annotated translation of the Book of Isaiah, with a dedication to his former pupils 'in memory of many happy hours devoted to the study of Isaiah during the years 1897-1904 in the Hebrew Class-Room at Merchant Taylors' School, London'.

The post was briefly taken by **Mr Canney**, an OMT and former Semite, in 1905.

Rev. C. W. Mitchell 'assumed the mantle of Elijah' as Hebrew master from 1905 until 1911. On his departure the group presented him with a clock, and in return Mr Mitchell gave them 'a valuable set of stereoscopic slides of Palestine [so

that] we should better be able to realise the atmosphere of the Old Testament'. In 1915 he became a temporary Army chaplain and died of wounds in a field dressing station in 1917.

Notable Semites

H.C. Jackson was killed in the South African war. His name is recorded on the OMTs memorial tablet (Gazette, p. 168).

C.E. Spencer (entered MTS 1902) was appointed Sub. Dean of Shanghai Cathedral in 1920.

R.G. Allen, the School Exhibitioner for Hebrew in 1903, became a Fellow of the University of Chicago in 1912.

C.J.G. Sanders became Bishop of Lucknow in 1928.

W.E. Robinson (left the school in 1897) became the School Missioner.

Semites killed in WW1

J.D. Fry (entered MTS 1908), killed in action October 1916.

H.L. Jeayes, killed in action 26 March 1917.

M.B. Lambert (entered MTS 1907), killed whilst landing in the Dardanelles August 1915.

D.G. Learoyd (entered MTS 1903), killed in action 13th December 1917.

Development and Alumni Relations:

Introduction

In the pages that follow you can read about some of the highlights of the year in Development and Alumni Relations. There have been a huge number of OMTs visiting the school, whether they have been special visits like Alex Preston's, or for large events we have held here such as the Recent Leavers' Lunch. Since September 2015 we have taken 3,400 event registrations through our website for 33 events held at school, around the UK and even overseas in the US, Australia and France.

We are in touch with more OMTs than ever with 4,940 now receiving our publications. OMTs are helping one

another, as well as current pupils, with their careers: over 1,000 people are listed in our online Careers Directory. In these pages you can read about OMT Max Kaye's experiences of using the directory to get his first job. Over 1,600 OMTs now share their details with each other through our website too, so getting in contact with an old classmate is not as difficult as one might imagine.

As well as helping one another, OMTs, parents and friends have been hugely generous to the school. The Roll of Benefactors on pages 38 and 39 shows the growing number who gave this year to support our campaign. In total, 1057

of you have now given £4.3 million in cash and pledges. A further £1.5 million has been pledged by people in their Wills through the 1561 Foundation. We also have 178 regular supporters giving by direct debit, many of whom were contacted through the telephone campaign. You can read more about that, as well as some of the projects the Merchant Taylors' Fund has made possible, in the coming pages.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us in so many different ways.

Nick Latham, Development Director

Spirit Of The Manor Award

A group of Old Manorians from the Classes of 1984, 1998 and 2000 set up a prize inspired by their time at Merchant Taylors', and specifically their time in the Manor in the tenure of Stephen and Jane Cole.

They wished to reward a pupil entering the Sixth Form who embodied the qualities that they felt Manorians in their time had demonstrated – someone with integrity, respect and compassion for his fellow pupils, who made a quiet difference to the School and who fellow pupils would aspire to emulate.

Siddhant Patki (Lower Sixth) was the first recipient of the prize, which was awarded on St Barnabas Day 2016. Of the award, he writes:

"I am deeply honoured that the Head Master and Mr Jenkin considered me when selecting a recipient for this award. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Merchant Taylors' so far. Since receiving the prize, life has been exceptionally hectic! I gained the results from my GCSEs and now I am studying Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Economics for my A-Levels; each of the subjects proving to be a challenge in their own way. I am also heavily involved in many extracurricular activities in the school: I take part in the squash 1st team, run my own badminton club, am part of a school

charity and aim to be a part of a science society.

Whatever the future holds – my current ambition is to study medicine

at university – receiving the award will certainly motivate me, not just to do my best, but also to help future generations of Merchant Taylors' boys."



OMT Support Network

For the 3,400 people who have registered for one of our events in the last year, you will be familiar with the Development and Alumni



Relations website. For those who haven't seen it, please do visit. There are a number of useful resources available to visitors, but particularly to OMTs who log in to the site.

The Careers Directory is a hugely valuable resource for OMTs who are looking for a job and are seeking advice, or planning a change of career or company. There are now over 1,000 people listed in the directory – people who are prepared to exchange emails, take a phone call, or even meet. Many

industries are covered, so whatever career path you are thinking of following, there is likely to be someone who is prepared to offer some guidance for you.

Max Kaye (2005-2012) recently made use of the Careers Directory and contacted us about his experience. Max writes:

"I graduated from the University of Nottingham in Economics with French in July 2016 knowing that I was interested in pursuing a career in financial services, but with no idea of which area I wished to work in and no immediate prospects. I turned to the OMT Careers Directory and was able to identify and contact a huge number of fellow OMTs working in different areas of financial services. I was amazed at the response I received: around 15 OMTs in various roles got back to me and I had phone calls or met for coffee to discuss where I might turn next.

Many gave me advice on what I might be suited to and many passed me on to contacts who might be looking for someone. From these new contacts, I had a handful of interviews. However, the real breakthrough came directly through **Bandish Gudka** (1993-1995). He invited me to meet with him initially and I was subsequently called in for two further interviews at LGT Vestra LLP, a wealth management company in Bank where he is Partner. In early September, I started as an investment trainee at the firm.

By using the OMT network and the contacts available in the Careers Directory, I managed to secure a great job in just over a month and I couldn't be more thankful for the network and the help of all the OMTs I met along the way. I would urge any fellow OMT to use this support network as much as possible because it really can be so valuable".

Alex Preston (1984-1991)

Alex Preston, who currently lives in Switzerland and hadn't been back to Merchant Taylors' for some time, visited the school in June to see some of the changes that had taken place since he left in 1991.

As a keen Design and Technology student in his time here, Alex was particularly interested in the new Design Centre. Here he met up with former teacher, John Coleman, who reminded him of a lesson in which he had 'almost' broken one of the department's lathes. As a result of this conversation with John, Alex very generously offered to buy two new lathes for the school.

In November, Alex visited MTS again to see the lathes in action. He is pictured below with John Coleman in front of one of the lathes, behind which there is a plaque to mark his act of benevolence. The department is absolutely delighted with the new lathes, and liken the step up from those they replaced to driving a new car.

On the same day, Alex gave a talk to Lower Sixth Formers as part of their lecture series. He spoke very candidly about his career and the challenges he has faced

since founding Verivox in 1998. The boys learned a great deal from the talk as well as from the question and answer session afterwards. Alex made a very kind offer, encouraging the boys to maintain their

network after they leave Merchant Taylors'. He also invited them to drinks in London in 2020 to continue the story.

We are very grateful to Alex for his support.



Development and Alumni Relations:

Merchant Taylors' Fund 2015/16

The Merchant Taylors' Fund is all about many OMTs and parents supporting projects that have an immediate impact on the life of the school, by giving an amount they feel comfortable with, to an area they feel passionate about. It is by many people coming together in this way that the Fund can

have a big impact. Over the last eight years it has achieved a huge amount and we are so grateful to all who have supported.

The Fund has now raised over £675,000 and, if you include pledges from regular gifts by direct debit, this year has surpassed the £1,000,000 mark.

Telephone Campaign

This year we ran our third telephone campaign. Our superb team of callers (pictured) spent two weeks telephoning OMTs and parents and talking to them about the school. The campaign was a real success: you gave over £114,000 to the Fund. We are extremely grateful to all those who made a gift and I look forward to thanking many of you in person at Benefactors' Day.

I also wish to thank everyone who took part, whether you made a donation or not. I'm sure the calls you received weren't always at the most convenient time for you, so your patience in arranging for one of our team to call you back is most appreciated. Your time on the phone talking to the team was of huge benefit to them – in terms of the careers advice they received, as well as the enjoyment of sharing stories about the school – and to us.



The beauty of telephone campaigns is that they produce two-way communication in a way that us sending a letter or email rarely does. It means that if someone doesn't feel able or wish to support, they can explain why and we will listen and act accordingly. This was demonstrated clearly this year when we called many OMTs who felt they couldn't give two years ago, and many felt they were now in a position to help. The feedback we received about our events programme and about the school

generally, was so valuable.

Over the course of the campaign, not only were we asking for financial help, but people also signed up to join our growing network of careers advisors. This group has now grown beyond 1,000 and now has a really broad range of professions, companies and experience levels represented. It is a hugely valuable resource for fellow OMTs.

Thank you again to everyone we spoke to, and thank you to our team of callers who did such a good job.

Merchant Taylors' Fund Bursary

For many people who support the Merchant Taylors' Fund, bursaries are their favoured area to support. Each year the Fund has contributed thousands of pounds towards the amount we are able to award.

With such a strong body of supporters and with so many people pledging their gifts over a number of years by Direct Debit, last year we reached a position where we were confident that this income was reliable enough that we could award

a 100% bursary at 11+ entry from the MTF alone.

This is a great milestone for the Fund. While it has always augmented contributions from elsewhere, and has funded numerous boys on bursaries over the years, for the first time it will support an individual recipient for his seven years at Merchant Taylors'.

Thank you to everyone who has committed a regular gift to bursaries – you have changed many lives.

Hardship Bursaries

This year our appeal to the parents of the Class of 2016 to make a gift of their school deposit raised £8,500 for the Hardship Bursary fund. We are very grateful to all who supported this. The school will match this fund 5:1 for the year ahead and will be able to provide bursarial support to those families who, while their son is at the school, due to a change in circumstances, are suddenly unable to meet the fees. Rather than those boys leaving midway through their studies, causing major upheaval, with this Hardship Bursary Fund we can keep the full year-group together.

Taylorian Archive

Anyone who has been to an OMT event over the last few years will know that we tend to put on show items of interest from the school Archive from our guests' time at the school. It has proven to be a really popular feature at events. Therefore when Sally Gilbert, the school Archivist, was seeking support for the digitisation of the Taylorian magazine, it was no surprise that people were interested.

Through the MTF we have invested £10,000 in digitising copies of the Taylorian, dating back to the first

edition. Not only does this provide a secure backup of our full catalogue, it also means that the magazines can be searched in seconds, rather than involving hours of trawling through hard copies.

The next phase of this project is to make it available online, which would mean OMTs could search for mentions of themselves, relatives, or friends, for example, and find every reference to them throughout the Taylorian archive. If anyone is interested in supporting the next phase of this project, please do get in touch.



Memorial Garden

On Friday 1st July, the school held a memorial service on the 100th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme. Following this moving service, it was agreed that a memorial garden should be built to remember all those from the Merchant Taylors' community who fell before their time.

The project was funded by the OMT Society and the school, and the Merchant Taylors' Fund made a major contribution. On 11th November, a short service was held to dedicate the garden. Head Groundsman Richard Ayling and his team have done a superb job and it makes a wonderful new feature at the end of the Rose Garden.

The school and Society have also dedicated benches for the garden and they sit facing one another. A central memorial is planned and is expected to be a pupil-led project.



Development and Alumni Relations:

World War One OMT Grave Visits



David Ellis (1988-1993) writes about the OMT Society's aim of visiting all 310 OMT First World War graves before the 100th anniversary of the end of the war:

"Overall, we are doing well at our grave visits, having visited collectively over 100 so far. However, with a total of 310 graves to visit, we are destined to fall short at our current rate of visits.

The main method of arranging the grave visits is the organised trips to the battlefields of France and Flanders, as organised by Guy Hearn (1953-1957) and Tony Booth. We hope to have more of these trips on which OMTs can experience the moving stories and environment of what was the Western Front, expertly led by Tony Booth. There are many more graves to visit in the Somme area, and then in the Nord departement of France and in Flanders and Ypres, where the Western Front moved towards the end of the war. In truth, we won't manage to visit all the graves without these excellent trips by Guy and Tony, and I know everyone who has been on them so far has found them rewarding and moving.

The other way we have seen visits made is through individual volunteers visiting the locations of individual OMT graves near where they live, or organising specific trips to visit graves. Thus far, this has been led by a small group of interested and willing OMTs, rather than with a more wide-ranging volunteer base.

Paul Collins (1953-1959) and I are among those who have made these visits. We have found this an extremely interesting experience, as well as an emotional one. As you prepare to visit an individual's grave, you find out about their story and background; you learn about their family, and what made them tick. The fact that we have a common link with all of them, as fellow OMTs, makes this particularly pertinent.

But this small group of OMTs will not be able to visit all of the graves, and we need more OMTs to come forward to help. Therefore, with apologies for paraphrasing Lord Kitchener's poster in the First World War, "Your Society Needs You" to volunteer to visit graves of OMTs who laid down their lives for future generations.

However, this does not necessarily involve everyone decamping to northern France or southern Belgium. Certainly there are still many OMTs to be visited there, and I recommend that you take the opportunity, if you haven't already done so, to visit the battlefields and visit an OMT predecessor whilst you do. But many OMT graves are in surprisingly different places, which may be easier to visit or to incorporate into OMTs' busy travel plans. This emphasises the fact that the First World War was a truly global conflict.

We accept that there are some locations which, given the world in its current geopolitical configuration, may be out of reach for us; Baghdad, Basra and Gaza are fairly difficult places to get to currently, and we are in conversations with the

recently re-established British Embassy in Tehran to see if they may be able to commemorate the OMTs in that city on our behalf. Even this might be too tricky.

However, there are OMT graves in many more accessible places and we hope people will come forward to help. For example, several of the OMT fallen are buried in Jerusalem, a number in Gallipoli, Cyprus, Dublin (maybe you are planning to attend the Six Nations fixture), even Brighton and Hampstead.

If you are interested, the database of all the graves of fallen OMTs is online, so you can see who is near you, or near where you plan to be, and whether or not the grave has been visited yet. Please have a look at the database online at:

<https://development.mtsn.org.uk/WW1-OMT-Commemoration>

Please then contact either me directly (david.ellis@station10.co.uk), or Nick Latham (nlatham@mtsn.org.uk) in the School Development Office, so we can make sure that all efforts to visit the fallen are co-ordinated. I can assure you it's a fascinating and moving experience that's well worth doing".



Events Round-Up

As many of you who read this will know, the school has welcomed OMTs to many and varied events that have taken place both at the school and further afield in recent months.

As has become tradition, the Head Master welcomed recent leavers to a barbecue in his garden in early September. OMTs spent a relaxing afternoon on familiar turf before heading off to university, some for the first time. Running in parallel, a group of parents hosted a barbecue for the parents of our recent leavers (or 'MTneSters') in the Exam Hall and Rose Garden. This was the first official 'MTneSter' gathering, and one which we look forward to supporting again in 2017. Both OMTs and parents thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to re-visit the school, to catch up with old friends and take a look at the

developments that have taken place in the school grounds in recent years.

Thanks to the generosity of Governor and parent Deepak Haria, MTS and St Helen's hosted a joint City Network drinks reception at Deloitte's head office in late-September. It was wonderful to see OMTs of all ages getting to know each other. As one OMT who left in the 1960s wrote, 'I spent most of my evening encouraging the young men and women to strive to reach their goals'. Many who attended the evening very kindly volunteered to help current boys and more recent leavers with careers advice and we are so grateful, the input the boys receive from OMTs is simply invaluable.

The ever popular OMT Society Dinner was busier than ever this year with 285 guests in attendance. Plans for the 2017 dinner are already under way, it will take place on 17th November at Merchant

Taylors' Hall. Tickets will go on sale in summer 2017; do keep the date free.

OMTs, former staff, current staff, and friends of the school were stunned by the 1st XV's performance against Haberdashers' when they played at Allianz Park this season. With an exceptionally strong team this year it was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the triumph over long standing rivals together; the final score was 47-0.

As we look ahead into 2017, the OMT Society and Development Office have a busy calendar of both social and career focussed events planned. With regional dinners for Kent, Surrey & Sussex and the West of England in the pipeline, and East of England and USA dinners on the horizon, we hope that wherever you are based, you will take the opportunity to meet up with fellow OMTs and re-connect with the school.



1



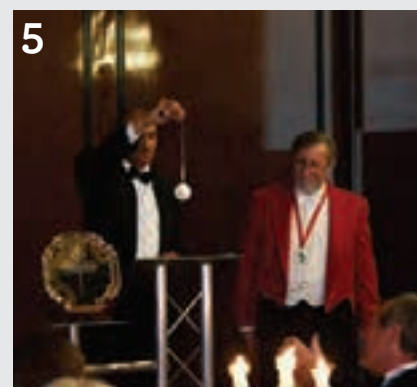
2



3



4



5

1. OMTs who left the school between 2011 and 2016 spent a relaxing afternoon in the Head Master's garden. 2. OMTs and St Helen's Old Girls were entertained at Deloitte's head office at our fourth City Network drinks reception following speeches from Governor Deepak Haria, Head Master Simon Everson, Zoe Baines from St Helen's School and OMT Andrew Rose. 3. Former Head of History and Registrar Jonny Taylor with guests at the Honourable Artillery Company for the 2016 OMT Society Dinner. 4. The 1st XV put up an exceptional performance against Habs to beat them 47-0. 5. Guest speaker Imran Sherwani, 1988 GB Olympic Hockey Gold medal winner, shows his medal. On his right is The new OMTHC Hull-Ascott Memorial Trophy for outstanding achievement in hockey that was presented to Karan Sofat, current School and OMT 1st XI player, and England Under 16 international.

Events

For further details on any of the events below, please e-mail events@mtsn.org or visit https://development.mtsn.org.uk/pages/MTS_Event_registration

The Bulstrode Whitelocke Society Dinner, Exam Hall

Friday 13th January 2017, 19.00 – 23.00

The Bulstrode Whitelocke Dinner is the launch of the Bulstrode Whitelocke Review: the History Department's own academic journal which will include extended essays from pupils, along with contributions from teachers, book reviews and more.

Professor **Alexander Watson** (1992-1997), lecturer and author, will give the address. Tours of the new history building will be on offer from 7pm with the drinks reception starting at 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £30 and include a drinks reception and three course dinner with wine.

Geoff Ascott Memorial Dinner, The OMT Clubhouse

Sunday 29th January 2017, 12.15 – 17.30

The OMT Society is hosting a lunch in memory of **Geoff Ascott** (1944-1949) on Sunday 29th January 2017. There will be a drinks reception from 12.15pm followed at 1.00pm by a three-course Sunday Roast lunch accompanied by wine and coffee. The cost will be £45 per person.



Brian Rees Memorial, OMT Clubhouse

1st February 2017, 18.00 – 20.00

The OMT Society is hosting an evening to celebrate the life of Brian Rees, Head Master from 1965-1973. All those who knew Brian are welcome to come along to share in informal reminiscences of his life and time at Merchant Taylors'.



West of England Reunion, The Clifton Club, Bristol

Friday 24th February 2017, 19.00 – 23.00

All OMTs living in Bristol and the surrounding areas are invited to a reception and three-course dinner at the Clifton Club, 22 The Mall, Bristol, BS8 4DS. Tickets cost £65, or £50 for under 30s.



Kent, Surrey & Sussex Dinner, Spa Hotel, Tunbridge Wells

Friday 10th March 2017, 19.00

OMTs living in the Kent, Surrey and Sussex area are invited for a reception and three-course dinner at The Spa Hotel, Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8XJ. Tickets cost £48.

Afternoon Tea, The Great Hall

Wednesday 22nd March 2017, 14.00 – 17.30

All OMTs who left the school in 1972 or before are invited back to school for tours from the current sixth form and cream teas in the Great Hall. Guests will have the opportunity to meet current Monitors and hear performances from some of our musical scholars.



OMT Classic Car Club, Merchant Taylors' School

Saturday 1st April 2017

If you are an OMT with an interest in classic cars, please put this date in your diary. The day will start with an 'OMTCCC Cavalcade of Classics' parading down the Long Drive, after which the cars will be parked and displayed for everyone to look at in the car park of the OMT War Memorial Clubhouse. Following a drinks reception in the Clubhouse bar, the new OMTCCC will hold its inaugural lunch in the Library of the Clubhouse.

Earliest Vintage Luncheon, Merchant Taylors' Hall

Monday 3rd April 2017

OMTs who left the school before 1972 are invited to the Earliest Vintage Luncheon at the Merchant Taylors' Hall, 30 Threadneedle St, London, EC2R 8JB. The cost is £77 per person, covering pre-lunch drinks, three-course luncheon, wines, port and coffee. Partners are invited and may wish to learn the words of the school song!

University Choices Afternoon, Exam Hall and SCR

Thursday 20th April 2017, 16.00 – 18.00

All OMTs who are currently at university are invited to come back to school to talk about their courses and universities with the Lower 6th. We hope to have representation from a wide range of universities and courses, enabling the current boys to ask questions in a relaxed, informal setting. Following this session OMTs are invited for a drink in the SCR.

Recent Leavers Lunch, The Head Master's House, Merchant Taylors' School

Saturday 2nd September 2017, 13.00 – 16.00

All OMTs who left the school from 2012 onwards are invited to an informal barbecue in the Head Master's Garden.



MTneSters' Lunch, The Exam Hall, Merchant Taylors' School

Saturday 2nd September 2017, 13.00 – 16.00

All parents of OMTs who left the school from 2012 onwards are invited to an informal barbecue in the Exam Hall and Rose Garden.

North American Dinner, New York

Friday 20th October 2017

The date for the OMT reunion dinner in the USA has been set. If you are based stateside, then please do keep the date free. Further details will follow. If you have recently moved to the USA, please send the Development Office your updated details to ensure you receive an invitation.

OMT Society Annual Dinner, Merchant Taylors' Hall

Friday 17th November 2017

Save the date for the Society's showpiece event, which will take place at the Merchant Taylors' Hall. Tickets will go on sale in summer 2017.

Development

Roll of Benefactors

Thank you to everyone who has supported Merchant Taylors' School since September 2015 and to the members of our 1561 Foundation who have made provision for the school in their Will. You have made a wonderful difference to the lives of pupils and staff and we are extremely grateful.

Peter Addison (1950)	Iain and Simone Cameron	Kester Fielding and Jane Hodgson	Brian Holt (1952)
Anike Adewoyin	Oliver Campbell (1995)	Michael Finch (1973)	Geoffrey Holt (1957)
Neeta and Billy Ahluwalia	Victor Campbell (1998)	Alexander Fink (2005)	Julia Honigsberger
Andrew Alchin (1964)	Richard Carleton (1964)	Robert Finney and Melanie Hamilton	Alexander Horsley (1995)
Fahid Ali (2005)	David and Jane Carter	Nick Foley (1949)	Philip Housden (1949)
Zamin Ali and Iram Pirbhai Zamin	Peter Cawdron (1961)	Hugh and Susie Ford	Bob Hurran (1963)
Zuheb Ali (2001)	John Chapman (1982)	Peter Foster (1955)	Arif Hussein (1997)
David Allard (1949)	Colin and Fiona Charlott	Jon Gabitass	Morenike and Gabriel Ige
Louis Allen (2011)	Alan Charters (1954)	Lynn Gadd	Conn and Ella Iggulden (1989)
Gina Allum and Simon Gruselle	John Chatham (1944)	Robert Gardner-Hopkins (1961)	Barry and Jean Ingate (1959)
Andrew Allwright (1981)	Mike Clark (1961)	Robert Garrett (1960)	Peter Isard (1977)
Louis Alvanis and Lidia Amorelli	Jacques and Jillian Cohen	Jeremy Gaskell (1959)	Mary and Rodcachchan James
Robert and Sikin Andela	Chris Coker (1986)	Max Genock (1953)	Ketan and Lina Jani
Kenneth Armour (1984)	John Collins (1956)	Jonathan Gibson (1971)	Kathirgamathamby and Sumathini Jegeswaran
David Arnold (1973)	Paul Collins (1959)	Roland Gillott	Paul and Amanda Jellicoe
Sven Arnstein (1975)	Christina Connolly	Nadarajah and Sivajini Gnanamurali	Brian Jenkins
Hari Arora (2004)	Alexander Cooke (2004)	Satbir and Yasmin Golar	Robert Jennings (1957)
Kunwar and Harmeena Arora	Barclay and Sacha Cooke (1980)	Ray and Nicola Gordon	Mark Johnson (1987)
Kamlesh and Dipti Babhania	Gordon Cooke (1970)	Lyn Graham-Taylor (2003)	Iwan Jones (1986)
Kenneth and Melissa Bailey	Caroline and John Cooper	Duncan Grant (2000)	Nicholas Jones (1980)
Peter Beckett (1965)	Rabinder Cox-Sehmi	Richard Grassly (1978)	David Joynes (1950)
Kunal Benodekar (2006)	Ian Crawford (1965)	Linus Gregoriadis (1990)	Ching-Wen Juan and Ching-Hua Yeh
Jeremy Berenzweig (1990)	Dean Cresswell (1998)	Edward Griffin (1956)	Rajesh and Anuja Karia
Tom Berryman (2000)	Clive and Linda Crocker (1983)	Lancelot Grimke-Drayton (1942)	Charles Kavanagh-Brown (2004)
Adrian and Jennifer Bettridge	James and Alison Cross	Daniel Grundy (1996)	Bob Kay (1955)
Martin Biddle (1955)	Mark Crowther (1979)	Sudheer and Unhar Gupta	Rob Keane (1992)
Vispi and Azmy Birdi	Nigel Curzon (1985)	John Hall (1965)	Patricia and Carlos Keener
Justin Bishop (1987)	Jonathan Dale (1984)	David Hamilton (1967)	Christopher Keljik (1967)
Alan Blackwell (1985)	Christopher Darbyshire and Mary Kohlase	Kevin Hamilton and Adrienne Stewart	Ajay-Neil Kemwal (1998)
Tony Bland (1956)	Leif Davidsen (1985)	Anne Harding	Christopher Keville (1963)
Simon and Catherine Bland (1987)	Adrian Davies (1950)	Roger Harford (1956)	Robert Kilborn (1964)
Hugo Blom and Yvonne Blom-Huibers (1982)	Howard Davies (1959)	Deepak and Bina Haria	Graham Kimber (1954)
Ian Blowfield (1963)	Michael Davies (1950)	Michael Harris (1979)	Jonathan Kingston (1973)
John Blumsom (1951)	Neil and Joanna Davies	Christopher Harrison (1967)	Vahan Krikorian (2000)
Adrian Boehler (1990)	Nigel Davies (1983)	Joe Harrison (1988)	Ashish and Suneeta Kumar
Nadeem Boghani (1997)	Piers Dawe (1977)	Cyril Hartigan and Karen Fletcher-Hartigan	Fahed Kunwar (2002)
Martin Boothman (1955)	Milan and Komal Day	Julian Hartley-Hill (1979)	Jonathan and Phillipa Lack
Tim Bottoms (1979)	Chris and Kate Daykin (1967)	Murtuza Hasnaini and Susan Ait Mesbah	Sangeeta Lakhnapaul and Sanjay Gupta
Gerard and Rebecca Boyle	Puneet and Neena Dhawan	Terence and Erica Haynes	Robert and Siobhan Lalor-McTague
Nick Braybrook (1991)	Thushan Dias (2001)	Brian Henson (1950)	Brian Lascelles (1947)
Rachel and Aidan Brennan	Karima Downey	Peter Henson (1955)	Nick Latham
Peter and Sarah Brook	Thomas Drewell (2000)	Nicola and Gabriel Heskin	Philip and Rui Wen Lau
John and Kim Brooker	Timothy Ducat (1961)	Christopher Hilditch (1986)	Anthony and Dawn Lawes
Gavin Brown (1951)	Charles and Zeina Eid	Charles Hind (1974)	Stephen and Christine Lawrence (1976)
Patrick Brown (1952)	Philip T Evans (1973)	David Hiom (1954)	Spencer Laycock (1972)
Bing Brown (1973)	Caron and Anne Evans-Evans	Steven and Anna Hoare	James Leahy (1956)
Lorraine and David Burling	Simon Everson	Mark Hobbs (2002)	John and Jenny Lee
John Butterworth (1953)	Brian Farr (1949)		Darren and Susan Lehmann
Nicholas Butterworth (1954)	Andrew Fenning (1969)		Spyridon Leoussis (2000)
James Cadman (1994)	Graham Field (1959)		



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
School

Gerard and Angela Loftus
Ronald Lowry (1951)
Nicholas Lowton (1972)
David Lyons (1966)
Stephen Mackinnon and Zilla Huma
Peter Magill
Gerald Mahon (1961)
Sukhvair and Avtar Manku
Robert Marsden (1978)
Andrew Martin (1989)
Charles Matts (1958)
Ian and Heather McCormick
Mark McKinley (1998)
David Meara (1966)
Hamesh Mehta (1998)
Bergen and Suzanne Merey
David and Ilana Metzger
Ciara and Mark Miller
Robert Moore and Lorraine
Softleigh-Moore
David Morgan (1988)
Peter Morris (1961)
Roger Morris (1966)
Michael Morton (1976)
Michael Moryson (1963)
Andrew Moss
Michael Moxon (1960)
Muhamad Jamal Muhammad Hassim
and Eliza Abu Hassan
Bala and Charmila Muralitharan
Philip and Stephanie Murphy
Margaret and Chris Murphy-
O'Connor
Adrian and Claire Murrell
David Naumann (2000)
Gary and Marianne Nicholls
James and Theresa Nicholls
Paul Nicholson (1974)
Alastair Nixon (1969)
Rod O'Donoghue (1956)
Lutfy and Yvonne Ossman
Sean O'Sullivan (1992)
Timothy Owen and Veronica
Chamberlain
Geoff and Gabriele Parfitt
Jai and Alpa Parmar
Peter Parr-Head (1948)
Devendraben Patel
Dilip and Catherine Patel
Nikhil and Preeti Patel
Piyush Patel and Adiba Ghauri-Patel

Prasam Patel (2002)
Varun Paul (2003)
Christopher Peacock (1955)
Oliver Pell (2000)
Alex and Giles Pemberton
Richard Perkins (1967)
Stephen and Karen Phillips
David and Judith Philpott
John Pickup (1962)
Pravinchandra and Anita Pindolia
Chris Pollard (1975)
Alistair and Susan Poole
Marcel Porcheron (2000)
Barry and Christine Porter
Gopinatha and Nandhini Prasad
Brian Pratt (1954)
Alex Preston (1991)
Charles Price (1953)
Jonathan Price (1979)
Anna Prizeman and Ah Tuck Chang
Adam and Elizabeth Rabin
Salman Rana (1998)
John Randall (1974)
Martin Reed (1980)
Mark Rookledge (1984)
Andrew Rose (1977)
Jason Roston (2007)
Christopher Russell (1958)
Oliver Russell (1953)
Simon Ryder (1973)
Raymond Sacks (2006)
Ian Saner (1965)
Robert Sapsford (2005)
Tony Sargent (1953)
John and Nathalie Sargent
Sanjeev and Meera Sarin
Julia Seddon
Rajesh and Anjali Sennik
Amar Shah (2000)
Dipesh and Annie Shah
Hatul Shah (1997)
Nimesh and Bijal Shah
Pradeep and Geeta Shah
Sanjiv and Gemini Shah
Aftab and Kaneez Sham
Vidya Shankar and Sujatha
Panchanathan
Nirmalan Shanmuganathan (1994)
Sen Shanmugasivam (2001)
Anil and Sneh Sharma
Hina and Rajesh Sharma

Waqar and Sobia Sheikh
Barry Sherlock (1950)
Rohit Shukla (1994)
John Sichel
Rayaz and Saira Siddiqi
Stefan and Iwona Sieradzki
Ciaran Singh (2007)
Michael Skinner
Tom Sloan (2005)
Hugh and Marion Smart
Tony Smee (1993)
James Smillie (1946)
Adam Solomons (1988)
Daniel Solomons (1991)
Heinz Srocke and Camilla Stanhope
Nicholas Stebbing (1994)
David and Alison Steene
Derek Stevenson (1951)
Robert Stewart (1983)
Tim and Joan Stubbs
Ash and Nina Suchak
Graham Summers (1953)
Anthony Sutcliffe (1997)
Edward Taberner (1958)
Ashan Taha (1992)
Richard Taylor (1964)
Jonathan and Andrea Taylor-
Cummings
Martin Thomas (1967)
Andrew Thomson (1956)
Andrew Todd (1990)
Ashutosh and Shweta Tokeria
Jonathan Tong (1989)
Zahid Ur Rehman and Ayesha Zahid
Christopher Urmson (1965)
Kamlesh and Hina Vaghjiani
Sarju and Yasmita Vakil
John Van Laer (1994)
Sarah Vawda
Ramamurthy Venkataraman and
Soumya Ramamurthy
Sivendran and Menaka Vettivetpillai
Sarah Wakelin
Graham Walker (1965)
Simon Walsham (1998)
Jeremy Webb (2006)
Tom and Kate Weisselberg
Benjamin Weitzmann (1999)
James Went (1997)
Matthew and Deborah Whalley (1979)
Richard Whinfrey (1965)

Charles Williams (1979)
Christopher and Lucy Williams (1983)
Ian and Debbie Williams
Philip Willoughby (1957)
Simon Wilson (1992)
Kevin Wong (2005)
Stephen and Penny Wright
Thomas Wrigley (1954)
Alex Yule and Nandita Ray
Mohammed Zaman and Penelope
O'Donnell
The Acworth Foundation
The Dudley and Geoffrey Cox
Charitable Trust
The Worshipful Company of
Merchant Taylors

1561 Foundation

John Blumsom (1951)
Richard Brooman (1974)
Gavin Brown (1951)
Michael Christie (1955)
Martin Clarke
Neil Eckert (1980)
David Fraser (1957)
Jeremy Gaskell (1959)
Lancelot Grimke-Drayton
(1942)
Allan Henchoz (1964)
Peter Henson (1955)
Robert Hurran (1963)
Barry Ingate (1959)
Christopher Keville (1963)
Robert King (1947)
Graham Morgan (1964)
David Parry (1959)
David Pollock (1975)
Tony Sargent (1953)
Andrew Todd (1982)
Christopher Urmson (1965)
Alan Williams (1963)
Christopher Williams
(1983)

Class notes

Career Moves

1981-1990



Andrew Allwright (1976-1981) is now Associate Consultant at RGP.

Rod Williams (1977-1981) is now Principal Consultant at Frazer-Nash Consultancy

Andrew Myers (1985-1990) is now CEO at Wheyhey!

Adam Brand (1984-1990) is now Sales Director at Black Book Finance

1991-1999

James Patteson (1989-1994) is now Head of Controlling at Chiesi Ltd.

Mark Salathiel (1990-1994) is now Programme Manager at BAE Systems



Gurpreet Singh (1995-1997) is now Business Mentor at DigitalHealth.London

Neil Ruparelia (1993-1998) is now Interventional Cardiology Registrar at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Rich Venner (1993-1998) is now Business Analyst Team Lead at 1st Central

2000-10



Charles Thornhill (1995-2000) is now Global Innovation Programme - Client Engagement and Collaboration at Linklaters

Yohan Balakrishnan (1996-2001) is now Tax Manager at RSM UK

Amit Shah (1998-2003) is now Oil Trader at ICBC Standard Bank Plc

Aleem Jetha (1999-2004) is now Investment Counsellor at HSBC Private Bank

Kunaal Trivedi (1999-2004) is now Counsel at Two Sigma



Myles Beerman (2000-2005) is now Business Development Manager at Kantar Media

Nick Chapple (2000-2005) is now Associate Brand Manager at Ipsen

Amar Maroo (1998-2005) is now Medical Doctor at Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Chris Walton (2000-2005) is now Sales Executive at Cube Online Services



Oliver Davis (2001-2006) is now Tax Senior Manager at Grant Thornton UK LLP

Niraj Patel (2002-2006) is now Business Development Manager at Affinity Fragrances Ltd

Sundeep Varma (2002-2007) is now Medical Doctor at West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust

Tom Davies (2000-2007) is now Senior Optimisation Manager at GroupM

Nikhil Sangani (2002-2007) is now Audit and Assurance at PricewaterhouseCoopers

Josh Lewis (2001-2008) is now Senior Client Manager at Nielsen

Alex McRae (2003-2008) is now Investment Banking Associate at Rothschild



Humza Samad (2001-2008) is now Senior Consultant at KPMG Boxwood

Tom Sammes (2003-2008) is now Commercial Analyst at European Tour

Keir Sloan (2003-2008) is now Assistant Coordinator at Sarcophagus Films

Ben Beck (2004-2009) is now Asset Manager at Columbia Threadneedle Investments

Michael Holmstock (2002-2009) is now Associate at Herbert Smith Freehills

Alexander Margolin (2002-2009) is now Senior Development Underwriter at Allianz Insurance

Haith Nori (2004-2009) is now Stockbroker at Cornhill Capital

Amin Patel (2002-2009) is now Assistant Project Engineer at Network Rail



Shyam Radia (2002-2009) is now Manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers

Avinash Sethi (2004-2009) is now Senior Consultant at Simon-Kucher & Partners

Akash Mehta (2005-2009) is now Business Development Manager at Adthema

OMT News



Farhaan Keshani (2003-2010) is now Actuarial Analyst at Lane Clark & Peacock

Will Magie (2003-2010) is now Rugby Player at Pro Rugby North America

Rob Marsh (2003-2010) is now Business Analyst at Integration Management

Edward Sheldrick (2005-2010) is now Consultant at Elizabeth Xi Bauer

Ashish Sood (2003-2010) is now Assistant Manager at KPMG

Liam Weeks (2003-2010) is now Senior Policy and Project Officer at Economic and Business Policy Unit, Greater London Authority

2011-14



Benji Hassell (2006-2011) is now Championship Management Graduate at PGA European Tour

Louis Allen (2006-2011) is now Marketing Graduate at Sky UK

Jolyon Brown (2006-2011) is now Change Manager at Vodafone UK

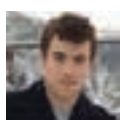
Jacob Collins (2006-2011) is now Operations Manager at Personalise Online

Ammar Ebrahim (2006-2011) is now Trainee Researcher at BBC

Joe Leadbeater (2004-2011) is now Graphic Designer at Socio Design

George Lister (2009-2011) is now Associate at Deloitte Ireland

Lewis Malkin (2006-2011) is now Business Development Coordinator at Baker & McKenzie



Denis Ogun (2004-2011) is now Software Engineer at Amazon Prime Air

Vikas Prinja (2004-2011) is now Dentist at Imperial Dental Care



Tom Westford (2006-2011) is now Future Trainee Solicitor at CMS Cameron McKenna

Jamie Tanna (2005-2012) is now Backend Software Engineer at Capital One



Ryan Byrne (2007-2012) is now Trainee Solicitor at Clifford Chance LLP

Charles Carter (2007-2012) is now Tanker Broker at Affinity (Shipping) LLP

Zaahid Jaffer (2005-2012) is now Assurance Associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers

Max Kaye (2005-2012) is now Investment Trainee at LGT Vestra

Emiel Khakhar (2007-2012) is now Analyst - M & A Execution at HSBC Global Banking and Markets

Rahul Kumar (2007-2012) is now Financial Services Consultant at EY

Lawrence Meats (2007-2012) is now Desk Analyst (Credit) at CQS



Amish Mehta (2005-2012) is now Analyst at Citi

Callum Melliush (2007-2012) is now Language Assistant at British Council

Jonathan Phillips (2007-2012) is now Sales and Marketing Graduate Trainee at KPMG



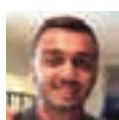
Andreas Schnellman (2007-2012) is now FSO Assurance Associate at EY

Connor Reisepatt (2008-2013) is now Mobile Contract Specialist at Gravitass Recruitment Group

Ali Sarraf (2008-2013) is now Ads Solutions Engineer at Google

Rushab Shah (2008-2013) is now NVH Engineer at Ricardo

James Roberts (2009-2014) is now Data Visualisation Intern at Cambridge Intelligence



Savan Shah (2009-2014) is now Incoming Investment Banking Analyst at Jefferies

Obituaries



Harley Atherton with close friends Iain Hardcastle (1943-1947) and Derek Stephenson (1948-1951)

WH (Harley) Atherton

WH Atherton (1947-1952) was born on 24th January 1934 and died on 10th July 2016

Harley became a pivotal member of the 1st XV while at school and the OMT 1st XV when he'd left. On leaving school Harley undertook national service in the Navy. He was a gentleman with remarkable positivity, competitiveness and wit, and we have lost a great friend.

Terence Brady

Terence Brady (1952-1957) was born on 13th March 1939 and died on 24th September 2016

Terence Brady was a drummer in the school jazz band during his days at MTS. The group were so good

they were invited to play at the BBC radio show at Earls Court. He won a scholarship to St John's College, Oxford where he read History and Political Science. Terence became an actor and playwright, co-writing some of Britain's best loved television sitcoms and dramas including the first two series of *Upstairs, Downstairs* (1971-1972). Terence is survived by his wife Charlotte and their son and daughter.

John Findlay

John Findlay (1941-1947) was born on 2nd October 1928 and died on 31st October 2016

While at school John played in the 1st XV and after he left went on to play for the OMTs and Hertfordshire. In 1946 he obtained an Exhibition to Trinity Hall, Cambridge to read Mechanical Sciences. He graduated with a First

Class Degree and had a very successful career in engineering. He was secretary of the OMT Golfing Society for over 40 years and will be sadly missed.

Martin Pedler

Martin Pedler (1956-1963) was born on 3rd May 1943 and died on 10th August 2016



Martin Pedler died in August after a period of illness that he bore with characteristic courage and grace, as well as a sense of good humour. After MTS, Martin studied PPE at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He enjoyed a very successful career in business, and in particular in the hotel industry. He kept working with his various directorships and governorships until the last year of his life, when he spent more time with his family.

Clive Michael Rogers

Clive Michael Rogers (1966-1971) was born on 12th June 1953 and died on 21st September 2016

Clive gained a BSc and later an MPhil in biochemistry from London University. He briefly joined the military, attending Sandhurst on a professionally qualified officer entry. Subsequently, he worked in the medical and pharmaceutical industries. He is survived by his wife, Myriam, their two daughters and four grandchildren.

Anthony Hayzelden (1945-1951)
died on 17/08/16

David Ian Hinton (1942-1948)
died on 25/10/16

Francis Lacey-Smith (1948-1953)
died on 01/09/16

John Skrimshire (1954-1959)
died on 07/11/16

Harold Wilson (1936-1941)
died on 23/07/16



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Northwood, Middlesex HA6 2HT

www.mtsn.org.uk



Development Office
Merchant Taylors' School
Sandy Lodge, Northwood
Middlesex HA6 2HT
01923 845545
alumni@mtsn.org.uk
www.mtsn.org.uk