

SENNOCKIAN

NEWS AND REVIEWS FROM THE SCHOOL AND ALUMNI 2009-2010



SEVENOAKS SCHOOL



A small but meaningful service to the community

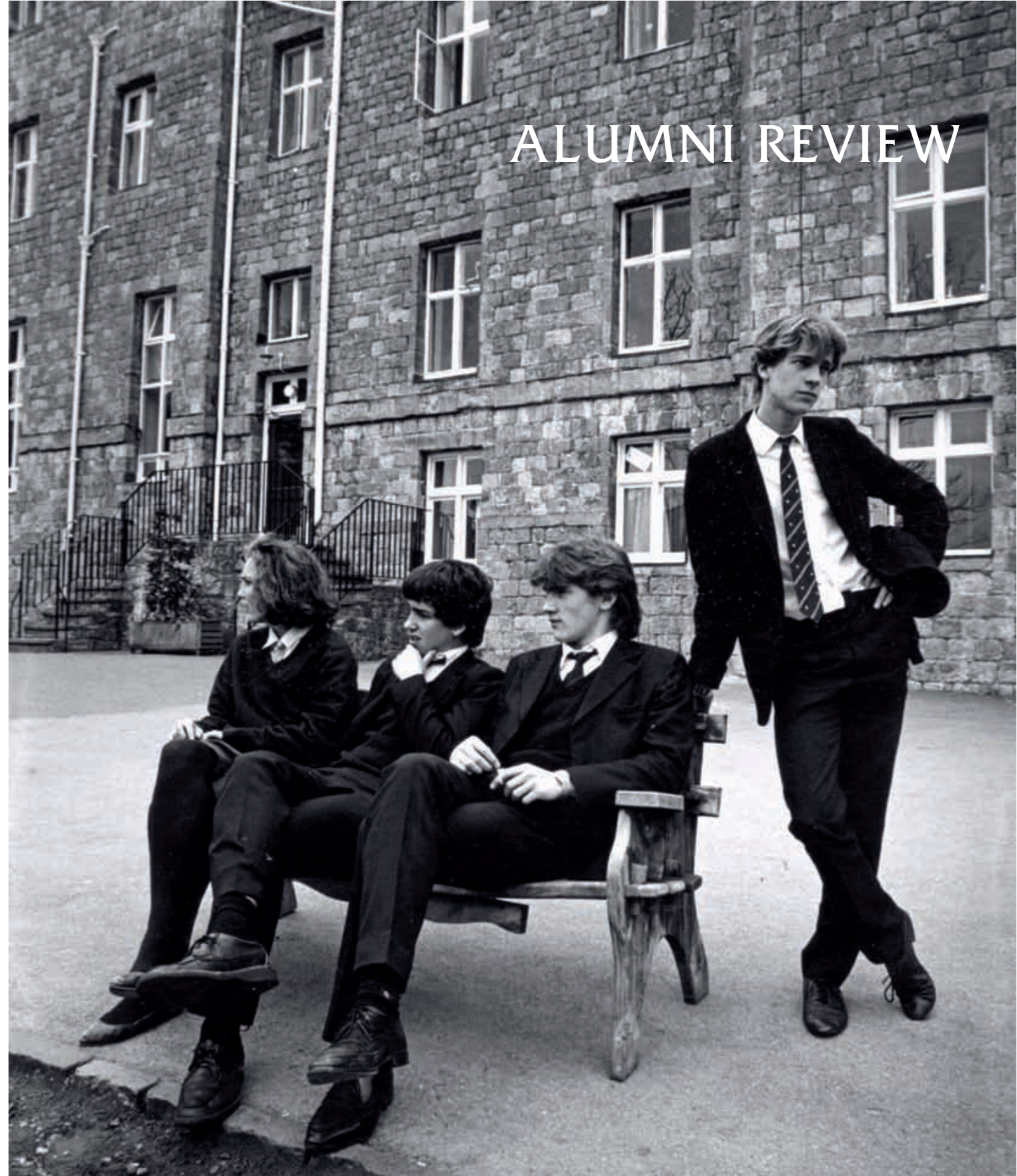
While Sunny Club cannot guarantee rays of sunshine every week, our volunteers make it part of their remit to provide a fun-filled hour to local primary school children who visit us every Thursday to enjoy a range of craft activities and games. Sunny Club takes great pride in being able to offer a small but meaningful service to the community where children with different needs and of different backgrounds are invited to attend weekly sessions created, coordinated and managed by our Sixth Form volunteers.

The volunteers are talked through various issues to do with child welfare and health and safety before the sessions start. Once the children have been invited to attend, volunteers and children alike are asked to compile a set of rules by which each member of Sunny Club should abide. Democratic in design rather than being castigatory, this exercise is undertaken to engender an atmosphere of respect and communal responsibility. Volunteers and attendees alike learn much from each other and the club definitely widens everyone's understanding of the diversity of our society and the needs and challenges that this creates. Our volunteers learn and adapt accordingly, as do our Sunny Clubbers!

I am sure that our volunteers would agree that the endless rounds of 'Sleeping Lions', 'Wink Murder', 'Doctor, Doctor', 'Grandmother's Footsteps', 'Duck, Duck, Goose' and outdoor football; the dizzying array of coloured card, glitter, sequins, paint, face masks, papier-mâché and squidgy air-dry clay; the never-ending supply of custard creams, raisins and orange squash, all accompanied by resounding choruses of 'Who's getting three stars today?', have made for an utterly fulfilling and challenging service option.

Saadia Rahman

ALUMNI REVIEW



SENNOCKIAN CLUB EVENTS



10TH REUNION – CLASS OF 2000

Even with volcanic ash disrupting flights and generally causing chaos, we still welcomed over one hundred OS and their partners from Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the UK for their tenth reunion on Friday 23 April. Drinks were taken in the spectacular surroundings of the Recital Room in the Performing Arts Centre and provided a great opportunity for friendships to be renewed. The Development Director and seven teachers attended. Following a welcome by Mike Bolton, dinner was held in the Dining Hall where Katie de Wit replied to the welcome.

50TH REUNION LUNCH FOR THE CLASSES OF 1959 AND 1960

On 14 October 2009, 45 OS from the classes of 1959 and 1960 and their wives came to celebrate 50 years since leaving the school. Lunch was a noisy affair encouraged by the warm greeting from Mike Bolton and the spontaneous reply given by Chris Birch. A tour of the familiar and the new stimulated yet more excitement. By the time the group reached Manor House, many had fallen by the wayside but others pressed forward to the boarding houses where the Matrons of Park Grange and Johnsons were incredibly welcoming. It was a wonderful day.



Above: OS from the classes of 1959 and 1960 at the 50th Reunion.

Far right, above and below: OS from the class of 2000 at the 10th Reunion.

Right: The Manor House by R S Reid, 1957



Right: 20th Reunion

Far right: Central London Reunion



20TH REUNION – CLASS OF 1990

On Friday 14 May Katy Ricks welcomed the class of 1990 back to the school for their 20th Reunion in the foyer and Recital Room of the Performing Arts Centre. As drinks were served, OS from as far afield as Belgium, Germany, France and Spain mingled with their former peers and teachers Mike Bolton, Alex Smith, Nigel Connell, Graham Lacey, Peter Kino and Roger Woodward. Between courses, Jonty Hoad replied to the Head's welcome. The evening, everyone said, was truly memorable. One OS commented that it was a '... delightful evening that brought back such wonderful memories of my time at school and reminded me how privileged I was to be a pupil at Sevenoaks'.

JOHNSONS SPRING LUNCH

An intrepid group of OJs, mostly from the vintage Ernie Groves period, again found their way to Edwards Brasserie in Weald for their regular spring luncheon on Thursday 29 April. We were delighted to have wives in the 26 roll-call of 26 and by all accounts the venue and menu received high marks for quality and service. For information about future lunches, please contact Chris Castle through the Sennockian Club Office.



CENTRAL LONDON REUNION

Friday 11 June 2010 found Alex Smith, Mike Bolton, Helen Tebay, Arabella Stuart, Paul Bassett, Paul Harrison and Gillian Williams at The Cooperage at London Bridge. OS did themselves proud with a record turnout from 1955 through to 2008 in attendance. For many it was the first time they had attended a reunion and they enjoyed it immensely.

SENNOCKIAN CLUB EVENTS



FOUNDER'S DAY

Saturday 3 July 2010 dawned with the promise of a lovely day and it delivered perfect weather, full of sunshine, with a gentle breeze that kept conditions comfortable. A small group of OS were welcomed to Manor House where drinks were served. Old acquaintances were once again renewed and new ones were forged. The memorabilia on display jogged a lot of happy memories, particularly of the visit of Prince Philip in 1966.

Richard Gunner (Wordsworth 60) submitted an article about the *TS Foudroyant* which many pupils at the school in the 1950s may remember. Some OS may even have spent a week on board during Easter holidays. Information about the ship can be found at www.hms-trincomalee.co.uk. Founder's Day 2011 will be on Saturday 2 July; pre-1961 OS are warmly invited to come for a picnic lunch.

Above: Oliver Barratt and Di Day.

FRIENDS OF SEVENOAKS SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS WORLDWIDE



SINGAPORE

The Friends of Sevenoaks School association in Singapore held another successful drinks reception on 19 May 2010. The event attracted parents of current students, parents whose child was due to start at Sevenoaks in September 2010, and alumni. Attended by the Development Director, it was the last event to be hosted by Jon and Jan Gray before they leave Singapore and hand over the role of coordinator of the group to Olaf Venema, an OS.

HONG KONG

The Hong Kong Friends association organised a reunion dinner on 5 December 2009 for early graduates from Sevenoaks living in Hong Kong. On 17 July 2010 a summer reception was held at The Helena May in Central, Hong Kong. This popular annual event planned by Mabel Lau was attended by about 55 guests, with current and new students and their parents enjoying the opportunity to become acquainted before the start of the school year as well as meeting alumni and hearing about their experiences of life at Sevenoaks and after.

UNITED STATES

James Samford, OS, succeeded as the leader of the Friends association in San Francisco, following on from Alison and Karen Berresford, OS.

In New York, Roshan Bharwaney, OS, succeeded Ben Baglin, OS, as the leader of the association there following Ben's relocation to Texas. The New York group enjoyed their summer gathering at a bar in midtown Manhattan in August 2010.

GERMANY

The North Germany Friends association saw Patricia Schieckl, OS, take over the role of coordinator from Isabelle von Runstedt following the arrival of her first child. This group held their first event in Hamburg on Saturday 21 August 2010.

Listed below are the coordinators of groups contactable through the Development Office:

Brussels	Mr Edward Rodger
North Germany	Miss Patricia Scheickl
Munich	Mrs Gioia Pelzer
Italy	Mrs Laura Barbieri
Kuala Lumpur	Mr Robert and Mrs Angie Cheong
Hong Kong	Ms Mabel Lau
Singapore	Mr Olaf Venema
South Korea	Ms Sung-Yeon Kim
Mumbai	Mrs Rashmi Jolly and Dr Swati Piramal
New York	Mr Roshan Bharwaney
San Francisco	Mr James Samford

A new Friends of Sevenoaks School association is about to be established in Seoul by Sung-Yeon Kim, mother of a current student, following a visit to South Korea by the Development Director in November 2009. It is hoped that an association will be established in Nigeria, following a visit to Lagos by the Development Director in February 2010.

John Walton

SENNOCKIAN CLUB SPORT



FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

The OS football teams returned to the Sennocke Centre for the third annual football tournament on Saturday 1 May 2010. Twelve teams competed to be the victors of the Sennockian Football Cup. The competition was fierce between all the teams but it finally came down to four qualifying teams. Last year's winners, James Fraser's class of 1995, were beaten on penalties by Lucian Weston's class of 2004; Andrew McKay's class of 2001 beat Sam Ladbury's class of 2002. The nail-biting final went to penalties with Lucian Weston's team finally winning. This is the second time Lucian's Trojans have won the Sennockian Cup. They are a team whose stylish play is matched by their equally stylish attire. The cup was presented by Alex Smith who also thanked referees Mike and Dave for ensuring that the games were played fairly and Peter the medic for attending to the wounded and weary! The five-a-side football tournament is great entertainment and everyone is welcome to attend.

RUGBY

Four mixed teams of OS and current students played touch rugby on Sunday 13 September 2009. Sudden death had to be played as each side won two games. In the end the green team captained by Will Ellis won with Sam Stevens scoring the try. The main rugby match followed and was won 46-34 by the Blues, captained again by Will Ellis. Some 50 spectators and participants enjoyed the autumn day with splendid support from Alex Smith, Phil Hulston, Sean Holden and the referee, Richard Snowden.



Above and right: Alumni Rugby.

Far right: Lucian's Trojans, Alumni Football winners.



SENNOCKIAN CLUB SPORT



CRICKET

1st XI v Old Sennockians

Ben Richardson won the toss and decided to bat, and Nick Tunnell led the Old Sennockians onto the field in hot and sunny conditions. The school started well, taking advantage of some slightly wayward bowling by Joe Corneille and Tom Farrant, to reach 50 for no wicket from the first seven overs. However, the wily Will Wilkin then asserted the brakes and bowled an excellent four-over spell, taking the wicket of Tom Nickols and conceding only 9 runs. The school managed to accelerate slightly against the bowling of Jamie Dunnett, Sahil Sharma and Ollie Jones, finishing on 124-2 off their 20 overs, with Max Thorpe 49 not out.

The Old Sennockians then began their innings briskly, with Dan Haley (44) and Dave Franklin (17) hitting 38 off the first five overs. Ben Spokes (26) and Stuart Seldon (20 not out) then batted sensibly to pass the school's total with 11 balls to spare.

It was excellent to welcome back Old Boys from the past ten years and the 1st XI will be looking forward to exacting some revenge next year!

Chris Tavaré and Phil Hulston



OLD SENNOCKIAN GOLF SOCIETY

Our first event of the year was a match against Wildernesse Golf Club. We were fortunate to enjoy a magnificent spring day at one of Kent's finest parkland courses and the hospitality of the members. We presented the Club with a mature oak tree and commemorative plaque in recognition of the 20th anniversary of our association, and Paul Kempton donated a trophy, for which the teams will compete each year. The host club were the winners on this occasion. We welcomed Andrew Cox, back in the fold after a spell in New York, and Guy Norgrove, newly retired, to the OSGS team.

The Spring Meeting was again held at Littlestone Golf Club, where we had another fine day on a good links course. Hugh Llewellyn-Jones retained the Lark Tankard with another strong performance, with Alan Radcliffe and Chris Horncastle joint runners-up.

The Grafton Morrish qualifier at Knole Park was the next event, and the OS were represented by Jon and Simon Barker, David Gellatly and James Howie, Hamish Jackson and Rob Whiddett. Exceptional performances from Jon, Simon, Hamish and Rob meant that we qualified second of 17 schools and head to Norfolk for the Finals at the beginning of October with optimism, although shorn of some of our major talents by the clash with the Ryder Cup (attending, not playing) and a family wedding. Our limited resources will be fully stretched on this occasion.

We are suffering reduced numbers at our Society days, relying on a core of loyal support to hold on to our bookings at the fine golf clubs at which we are privileged to play. We need more members – please spread the word amongst your friends, and contact me via the Sennockian Club office for details of forthcoming events.

Jeremy Smith, Secretary

TWENTY20 TOURNAMENT – VINE CRICKET WEEK

The Sennockians (OS) enjoyed a close run victory against the Vine to win the three-way Twenty20 competition between the Vine, Old Sennockians and Old Tonbridgians (OTs) in July. A blazingly hot day and a parched Vine cricket ground saw the third annual Twenty20 competition between these local rivals. The OTs won the first game against the Vine, chasing down their total of 126. The second match saw the Sennockians overcome the OTs' score with Stuart Seldon scoring a free-flowing fifty and Shami Iqbal's sparkling cameo seeing the Sennockians home. The final match had the Vine and Sennockians competing in a close-run affair which ended with scores tied when the Sennockians failed to get the single run needed off the last over to win the match outright. The Sennockians won the resulting bowl-off with Will Wilkin and Chris Fletcher both hitting the stumps. The team, captained by Shami Iqbal, were Paul Eversfield, Dave Franklin, Ed Grant, Will Wilkin, Kassim Ramji, Dan Haley, Alex Kirkpatrick, Josh Parker, Chris Fletcher and Stuart Seldon.

MARRIAGES

Alexandra Gabrile Bayston (00) married Scott Arnott on 3 October 2009

Kate Beaumont (Fenton 99) married Peter Fearnley on 3 July 2009

Helen Biddle (00) married Gordon Margary on 13 June 2009

Pippa Bone (00) married Christopher Pollard (00) on 5 July 2008

Sarah Bryant (02) married Ben Bishop (02) on 7 August 2010

Ben Clarke (SH 90) married Henrietta Banbury in May 2010

Sarah David (00) married Simon Cullen on 14 February 2009

James Dilley (GTU 90) married Bridget Barry on 25 April 2009

Anna Evans (Tammadge 99) married Ben Williams on 2 October 2010

Kiran Gill (00) married Kit Wilkins on 8 August 2009

Emma Godfree (01) married David Flower on 22 August 2009

Laura Griffiths (01) married Dan Wells on 26 September 2009

Inderraj Hanspal (IC 96) married Nicole Davie on 4 July 2009 with a Sikh ceremony on 3 October 2009

Christina Hodgson (Sennocke 98) married Timothy Naughton on 17 October 2009

Carmen Homorogan (00) married Zorislav Stojanoic on 13 June 2009

Katie Ingman (Wordsworth 99) married John Cawdery on 12 September 2009

Sarah Jack (00) married Noah Honch on 3 July 2009

Marina Johns (06) married Luke Johnson on 28 August 2010

Jo Knight (Hardinge 99) married Matt Stollery on 3 July 2010

Pip Lough (00) married Rich Tennant on 25 July 2009

Keith Maclean (Hardinge 97) married Marketa Beranova on 26 September 2009

James Read (00) married Elizabeth Starren on 13 June 2009

Cara Sinden (00) married Martin Williamson in March 2010

Peter Welton (Grote 97) married Elizabeth Montagu on 11 July 2009

Jack Woodhouse (02) married Emma Woodcock on 12 September 2009

DEATHS

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of the following former pupils and staff of the school:

Richard Barker (Head 81-96) died on 5 December 2009

Cyril Best (former staff) died on 6 May 2010

Ian Carmichael (Grote 49) died on 4 November 2009

Martin Carr (former staff) died on 30 December 2009

Peter Chard (former staff) died on 5 July 2009

Stanley Dale (Wordsworth 40) died on 28 February 2010

Bert Dinham (former staff) died on 25 September 2009

Bernard Flack (Grote 38) died on 18 May 2009

Brian Harris (Johnsons 38) died on 14 June 2010

John Martin (School House 57) died on 26 April 2010

Gordon Munton (Grote 39) died on 29 July 2009

Jack Munton (Wordsworth 36) died on 21 January 2010

Tony Newson (Wordsworth 50) died on 4 December 2009

Harold Peel (Grote 38) died on 5 January 2010

John Smartt (Wordsworth 32) died on 21 November 2009

Derry Stallard (Johnsons 47) died on 18 August 2010

Roy Sutton (former staff) died in August 2010

Kenneth Watters (School House 58) died on 25 February 2010

Christina Webster née Martin (Sackville 80) died on 3 May 2010

Frederick Wooldridge (Sackville 85) died on 12 January 2010

OBITUARIES



Richard and Imogen Barker

RICHARD BARKER 1939-2009

Between 1981 and 1996 Richard Barker transformed Sevenoaks School: 15 years that in so many ways consolidated the creation of the extraordinary school Sevenoaks has become. Educated at Repton and Trinity College, Cambridge, Richard Barker might well have joined the family business but for a passion for education. After teaching at Bedales and a Housemastership at Marlborough College, he was appointed to the Headship of Sevenoaks in 1981 at the age of 42.

Under the gifted leadership of Kim Taylor the school already had a reputation for innovative experiments in education: the appointment was a clear signal the Governors wished to maintain that course. Significantly, he came with a detailed grasp of business and management, having been the driving force behind the Business Studies A-Level course that so many Sixth Formers follow today.

It was an exciting, almost turbulent time. Richard wanted change and he wanted it fast: co-education – something of whose merits his first job at Bedales had convinced him – new buildings, tennis, the Summer Festival, the IB: all were enthusiastically pushed forward. Decisive, firm, always courageous, ideas tumbled out of him. He knew how to get the best out of people, running a very effective Management Team precisely because he allowed, indeed welcomed, debate and disagreement: he recognised that the best schools are not always those where everyone agrees but where there is creative tension.

Likewise, he sought always to keep the Common Room on its toes with forceful and energetic new

teachers; in particular he appointed exceptional, clever and outspoken women. Seldom conformist, they questioned and challenged and it is a measure of Richard's skill in handling such an effervescent crowd that at the last count eight of his appointments are now serving Heads. His appointments moved the centre of gravity in the Common Room away from Bloomsbury and towards the City. Some deplored this, perhaps forgetting that Richard created one of the finest Classics departments of its time in the country.

Richard was firm but also capable of exceptional kindness, something he achieved quietly, indeed self-effacingly. His manner was always calm and controlled, and he seldom raised his voice. In particular he was always interested in our families and our children. He was blessed in Imogen whose kindness, generosity, intelligence and style made so much possible; and whose loyalty in the latter years of Richard's illness was so moving. Richard's steel was cloaked in velvet, so much so that you didn't always realise what was happening. There is a no doubt apocryphal story of a colleague emerging from Richard's study and when asked how he had got on, replied, 'I had a really good chat with Richard...the only thing is...I think he sacked me.'

If I were to put Richard's achievement in a nutshell it would be that he created a remarkable heterogeneous school, one in which all sorts of people and ideas found their place. Balancing these diverse strands, or rather juggling them, required exceptional skill. Richard Barker's legacy has become so much a part of the fabric of the school that one pauses to recollect it in its fullness: the development of the IB when many of the HMC schools were profoundly sceptical; full co-education; Sennocke House and the expansion of boarding for girls; the recruitment of so many talented international and especially German students; above all a recognition that Sevenoaks has always been an unusual school striking out on its own distinctive path. He was an exceptional Head and we who served under him miss him greatly.

John Guyatt

CYRIL BEST 1921-2010

Cyril Best, a former staff member, lived most of his life in Grange Road, Sevenoaks. He served in World War Two and spent several years in a German prisoner-of-war camp. On his return he worked as a postman in Sevenoaks. After retiring he kept busy using his skills as a handyman, and worked for the Housemasters at Sevenoaks School until the late 1990s. His daughter Belinda Stewart said, 'He will be fondly remembered by staff and pupils alike. He also spent a lot of time as a church warden for St Nicholas, Sevenoaks. He will be sadly missed by family and friends.' Mr Best, a widow after his wife Gladys died more than 10 years ago, was a father of three and grandfather of two.

Belinda Stewart



Martin Carr

MARTIN CARR 1931-2009

Martin Carr had a long and distinguished teaching career. He was educated at Reigate Grammar School, Goldsmiths College and Loughborough University. He joined Cray Valley School in 1960 and became Head of PE before joining Sevenoaks School in January 1973, where he taught until 1992. In his youth he was a talented sportsman at boxing, weightlifting, rugby and athletics. He played rugby for the Army and Combined Services and was light-heavyweight Army boxing champion. He represented England at swimming and water polo as a schoolboy. He also played a prominent part in the development of Kent Rugby and was an England U16 selector.

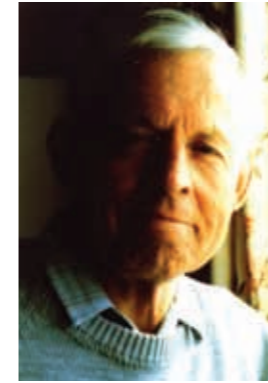
Hope Pym

PETER CHARD 1933-2009

Peter Chard was an assistant housemaster to Ernie Groves in Johnsons. He was a Welsh boy from Pontypool Grammar School and read Biology at Cambridge. His first teaching job after National Service was at Sevenoaks School. It was a complete contrast to his own schooling, but National Service had prepared him well. During my last

conversation with him, shortly before he died, he mentioned the cold baths that had to be endured and getting summoned from bed at the beating of a gong. On one occasion, he was left in sole charge of Johnsons when all the other staff had gone down with flu. Mr Groves summoned his daughter Bidy, who was acting in a repertory company, to assist him, and as a consequence of that epidemic Peter and Bidy got married sometime later. His first teaching was in General Science as well as Biology. His experiments in Chemistry delighted us but terrified him. He had to teach Physics as well and it was not his long suit. He was equally terrified of the Physics staff who were tidy to a fault and lashed out with board rulers, not always at the pupils. He was always kind and understanding, and well able to laugh at himself. After three years at Sevenoaks, Peter went to teach in the state sector, ultimately becoming headmaster of a comprehensive school in Gloucestershire, and spending some of that time in an exchange scheme with an Australian school. One of his greatest achievements was to gather four schools into one large comprehensive with 1500 pupils. The grammar school and secondary modern staff had to be united into a coherent outfit which needed the diplomatic skills of an expert. I believe he felt it was the most difficult task of his career; however, he had learnt all about diplomacy during his apprenticeship years at Johnsons. Peter was particularly keen on helping underprivileged children, whom he took on several trips to the Yorkshire Dales. He spent his last years campaigning in the Forest of Dean, for the environment and against the granting of quarrying rights to big companies. He was predeceased by Bidy, in whose memory he had planted a woodland. He is survived by four daughters and his second wife Ann, who always made me welcome when I called in to chew over the old memories of those rose-tinted days.

Richard Jacoby OS



Stanley Dale

STANLEY DALE 1923-2010

Stanley Dale graduated in 1940 and volunteered for the RAF as soon as he was old enough. After 15 months of training in the UK and Canada he joined 540 Squadron where he flew as a Photo-Reconnaissance Navigator in Mosquitos. He rose to the rank of Flight Lieutenant and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He stayed in the RAF into the 1950s and during this time also played rugby for Sevenoaks School, captaining the team in 1948-9. After being demobbed he acquired his Engineering qualifications at Regent Street Polytechnic and got a job in the Traction Department at English Electric in Bury. He was there until he went to South Africa to install some locomotives in Durban in 1955. It was on his return from this trip that he met his future wife, on the *SS Rhodesia Castle*. He and Dorothy were married in 1960 and promptly departed for Kenya, where Stanley had been appointed the East African representative for English Electric. He stayed in Kenya, where his two sons were born, for six years, but then decided he would rather have the boys educated in England, so moved to the English Electric branch in Preston. When English Electric was acquired by the GEC he moved his allegiance to British Aerospace. As he approached retirement he was offered a job with Eurofighter in Munich, where he learned to ski and carried on with his lifetime love of squash, a game he continued playing well into his sixties. Stanley had a long, active and happy life and was described as 'one of life's gentlemen' by an old friend recently. He always attributed to his time at school the values by which he lived and raised his kids.

Dorothy Dale, wife

BERT DINHAM 1920-2009

Bert Dinham began as a carpenter at Sevenoaks School and went on to become Head of Maintenance. He taught woodwork and coached the Junior Cricket team. His legendary cricketing skills (100 wickets a season for several years) in Otford will long be remembered.

Hope Pym

TONY NEWSON 1933-2009

Tony Newson belonged to the generation who came of age precisely after the Second War. By 1953, at the age of 20, his address was Assistant Inspector, Thompson's Falls, Rift Valley, Kenya. In 1957 he commented in his note to the *Old Sennockian News* that communication from classmates was getting rather thin and he would be very pleased to hear from any of his contemporaries who found themselves in East Africa. By 1960 he had been promoted to the 'dizzy heights' of factory manager within the Brooke Bond Organisation. He never returned to live in the UK, retiring to Durban, but continued to visit his parents. He would pay an annual call at the school and had been known to take the Head's Secretary and the Alumni Administrator out to lunch. His London residence was the Naval and Military Club in St James' Square and a copy of the *Sennockian* magazine would be waiting for him on his arrival. He was a charming person who loved his time at Sevenoaks, which was his link to his younger self and his life in England. He left a substantial legacy to the school and is remembered by the naming of a Practice Room in the Performing Arts Centre.

Hope Pym

HAROLD PEEL 1923-2010

Rosemary Peel, Harold's widow, wrote: 'It is with heavy heart I have to tell you of the death of Harold Peel, who was in Grote House and held Sevenoaks School in high esteem. He couldn't remember anything due to Alzheimer's but could sing the school song up to a very few weeks ago.'



Above: Jack Smartt in recent years.

Right: Jack Smartt with school sporting awards.

JACK SMARTT 1915-2009

John Smartt, known to everyone as Jack, joined Sevenoaks School in 1926 as a day boy in Wordsworth. His father was head gardener at Ovenden, part of the Chevening Estate, and Jack was encouraged by Lord Plender to apply to Sevenoaks School. He sat the scholarship exam and was able to answer how an act could be passed in Parliament but could not tell the examining panel what an adverb was, thereby missing the scholarship. Jack excelled academically and at cross-country. He joined the Prudential where he worked until his retirement in 1970. His long service was interrupted by six years in the Army (1940-6) where he was a Captain in the Royal Signals Sixth Armoured Division in both North Africa and India. Following his death, his silver cups, blazer, cap and various published items were donated to the school.

Michael Smartt, son



1958 1st XI, with Kenneth Watters (back row third from right). The other team members are: Bill Hoad, Jonathan Langdale, Brian Russell, Timothy Langdale, John Barber, Colin Hogg, Roger Alwen, Brian Sedgwick, Tony Howcroft, Colin Smith.

KENNETH WATTERS 1942-2010

Kenneth Watters was described in the Summer 1958 Sennockian as 'a very good on-side player... he was the only one in the team (apart from Smith) to score a half-century, which he did in an invaluable innings at Rochester'. Ken pursued his love of cricket throughout his life, playing and coaching in Penshurst where he lived. A month before his death, he visited to show the school's archivist his 1958 1st XI photo (above). He attended the 50th reunion lunch for the classes of 1959 and 1960 in October 2009. He expressed interest in all the changes since his time with wonder and pride. He is survived by his sister, two OS brothers (also former members of School House), two sons and a daughter.

Hope Pym

FREDERICK WOOLDRIDGE 1968-2010

Frederick Wooldridge had been a Senior Political Affairs and Planning Officer with the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti since 2007. He was 41 years old when he was tragically killed in the earthquake in Haiti on 12 January 2010. Fred had worked for the UN since 1997. He was among the first to join the United Nations Mission in Liberia. In 2004 he was appointed Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary of the UN Compensation Commission, based in Geneva. Born in Tasmania, Fred returned to England with his family in 1970 and spent most of his early life in Kent. He studied International Relations at the School of Oriental and African Studies, gaining a distinction in his Master's. A colleague said, 'Fred leaves behind Teamar Melle, his wife (and our colleague) whom he met and fell in love with while serving in Liberia.' Fred married Teamar in a seaside ceremony in Positano, Italy in May 2009. Teamar is still stationed in Liberia. David Harland, a Director of the United Nations Department of Peace-Keeping Operations stated: 'He was the epitome of the very best that Britain contributes to the UN: broad-minded, utterly committed to making the world a better place; super-educated, super-effective; just a great person.' Fred, son of a fruit farmer in Kent, was a much-loved member of a close family. He is missed by Teamar, his parents, Judith and Harry; his brother, sister, grandmother and extended family and his many friends in the UN and beyond, particularly in Geneva where he loved skiing and mountaineering.

James Wooldridge, cousin

1936-1969

Clive Dunn (School House 36) wrote to us about his time as a student at Sevenoaks, his subsequent wartime experiences and his career as an actor. He had three successful years playing an old codger in *Bootsie and Snudge* followed by 80 episodes of *Dad's Army* where of course he played another old codger. Now that he is aged 88 and an actual old codger himself, he feels he has plenty of advice for anyone wanting to find out more about that particular condition!

(Hector) Pat Munro (School House 43) was spurred to write when he saw that his diamond wedding announcement in the *Daily Telegraph* appeared below an announcement of another OS, Michael Coigley. Pat and Betty are living in Valencia. He has had an exciting and varied career in the Army and working for Shell and has many memories of OS he encountered in India during and after World War Two.

Keith Terry (Fenton 44) writes, 'I read the obituary notes in the 2009 *Sennockian* and saw a connection between 'Snooky Sunnucks' and one of the Everitts; I believe it must have been Robin Everitt. There was a school concert, and the small Sunnucks teamed up with the rather large Everitt to sing the Gilbert and Sullivan song "The Gendarme Duet". They rewrote the last chorus as "we are the school prefects". I don't know if any of my contemporaries can remember, but it brought the house down.'

Stan Kerr (Hardinge 46) continues his role as secretary of his local community centre. He works for the church and still enjoys his golf.

Graham Brill (School House 50) writes, 'I had six happy years at the school but have only been back once, with my wife, who has since passed away. The school for its time had great sports facilities. I did in fact spend rather more time on the sports side of my education than my studies. I played for the 1st XI cricket and 1st XV rugby sides. I won the odd boxing match, managed to get into the tennis doubles and played some fives. As for my final

academic year, best left to my memory! Since my day the school has made major advances and I read it is one of the best. I hope for your continued success and may try to get down from Dorset next year.'

Alan Tremain (School House 51) published a book, *Without Reservation – the Ribald Memoirs of a Famous Hotelier* in January 2010. Alan lives in the USA.

Frank Brett (Hardinge 54) retired after 33 years in the electricity supply field. His memories of Sevenoaks School include being caned four times, once by 'Jimmy' Higgs-Walker, for such crimes as forgetting to wear a tie and for getting lost in Knole Park. He remembers finding the school flag at half-mast on the death of George VI and walking to school seeing boys ahead doffing their biffs at a black Rolls Royce. It was the Queen Mother, the only time he ever saw royalty. Though a self-confessed poor scholar, he received an above average education in the classic style.

Douglas Moloney (Sackville 59) was pleased to see the school and old friends at the 50th reunion. As a schoolboy he formed a small lawnmowing company, three men in white overalls with 'The Power Lawn Mowing Service' emblazoned on their backs, and was hired by the school to cut the lawns. When the Head, L C (Kim) Taylor discovered that one of his schoolboys was the proprietor of the company, Douglas was summoned into his study. Expecting expulsion from the school Douglas was astounded to be congratulated on his enterprising nature and was commended in front of the whole school in an assembly.

Anthony Miles (Fryth 62) won a prize in the *Times Literary Supplement* Poetry Competition. He was awarded third prize in the TLS on 14 May 2010 for his poem 'The Rose Bush'. The poem is available on the TLS website:
www.extras.timesonline.co.uk

Jonathan Fay (Wordsworth 67) writes, 'My wife Daisy and I have been living for the past six years in the Dominican Republic (DR), working for Scotiabank. I am the Chief Auditor for the DR; an important and interesting role. Certainly not a position that I had ever envisaged when I was finishing at Sevenoaks School! The DR is a big tourist destination and last year British Airways started direct flights here – so we hope to see more OS visitors! The DR is in the hurricane area and we have had a few, but none really catastrophic. We have had the odd tornado and earthquake, and the recent earthquake in Haiti was felt in Santo Domingo (capital of the DR, and where we live) at about the 3.5 level, enough to shake our apartment building.'

1970-1979

Peter Gist (Sackville 70) is a director at Arup. He is the project manager for the team developing the Heathrow Hub, a proposal, three years in development, that aims to deliver a multimodal transport interchange located at Heathrow Airport.

Simon Mansfield (Johnsons 70) and Oli Harris competed in the Henry Leaf Public Schools Old Boys' Real Tennis tournament at Leamington Spa in April. Simon writes, 'This was the first time Sevenoaks had been represented since the tournament began in the 1950s, and we did not let you down! We managed to reach the semi-finals in both the Open and the Handicap events, mysteriously (and very narrowly) losing to Charterhouse in the Open. Oli and I play most of our real tennis (and rackets) in London at The Queen's Club. We are looking for more OS who play either game. I would be happy to arrange an introductory evening of real tennis and rackets with Oli. Please contact me via the Sennockian Club office if you would like more information or can help make up a second pair in 2011.'

Simon adds that he was sorry to read of Nigel Luby's death in the 2009 *Sennockian*: 'While Nigel's taste in music stretched further to the esoteric than my own at that time, we went to a few London parties and concerts together. I always recall that

he had been to some of the first sessions of Jimi Hendrix at the Marquee Club in those days, and there was nothing cooler than that. He was a very kind and generous person.'

Tim Nottidge (Fenton 70) writes, 'After over 20 years' service I have just left BT. The escape into unemployed freedom is excellent. I am doing some consulting and coaching based on my long experience in management, helping with my wife's new accountancy business and pursuing other interests, such as off-road motorcycling, helping at my local church, and DIY. I keep in touch with a few OS, particularly Chris Miller and Jonathan Samways.'

Mark Stevens (Grote 72) is Technical Advisor to Sinar Mas, the largest insurer in Indonesia. He has one daughter in Sydney and another at Southampton University. He gave up cricket due to a slipped disc and now plays a reasonable round of golf off 7.

Peter Finnigan (Caxton 73) was recently appointed QC.

Matthew Diebel (Caxton 74) enjoys life in New York where he has lived since 1993. He has been in the USA since 1982, first in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri, then Boston and Philadelphia. Since September 2009 he has spent more time in the USA than the UK. He currently lives in Manhattan with his wife Barbara, who works in the banking industry, and their two children, Lydia and George. Since January 2004, he has worked at MSNBC.com where he runs the home page on the East Coast. Prior to this he worked for Time Inc. and Rupert Murdoch's organisation. On weekends he can be found at his family's cottage in Connecticut. He plays guitar a bit (and still badly). He remains in touch with long-time OS pals Nigel Scragg, Tom Wilkinson and Mark Laver, and has recently been in touch with OS Ian 'Jim' Bruce, Chris Horsburgh and Nick Parnell-Smith to share stories of goings-on at Eynsford Village Hall. He would welcome visits or emails.

Please get in touch via club@sevenoaksschool.org

Michael Steele (IC 74) assisted with the set up for the Wilson Trophy (The British Open Team Racing Championships) at West Kirby Sailing Club on 8 and 9 May 2010.

Andrew Ingram (Groves 75) having spent 30 years doing casual sing-alongs with friends, has decided to offer it as a service: www.mistersingalong.co.uk "They say one should do what one enjoys, and helping middle-aged people bellow out songs like "Can't Buy Me Love" is more fun than putting Excel spreadsheet data into PowerPoint. As many OS of my era will attest, without the coaching of Fuzz Townend at Sevenoaks, I wouldn't be able to do the Mister Singalong thing."

Richard Gilbert (Groves 76) had an exhibition of 14 huge heads at Wallspace in the church of All Hallows on the Wall in the City of London as a run-up to Easter 2010.

Kevin Hickey (Hardinge 77) joined Daptiv, the on-demand leader in collaborative business software, as chairman. Kevin recently served as CEO of NetPro, prior to its acquisition by Quest Software. He started his career at IBM, where he spent 12 years in a range of sales and executive roles.

Daniel Flynn (Sackville 79) starred in the National Theatre production of *The White Guard* in 2010.

1980-1989

Matthew Cawthorne (IC 80) spent 27 years in the Royal Marines and is now doing reconstruction projects in Iraq.

Andrea Simoncini (Groves 81) visited the school in February for the first time since he left. He is a photographer in Milan.

Simon Wergan (Hardinge 82) has left the Royal Yachting Association to take up a new role with the Youth Sport Trust.

Raymond Ooi (School House 83) writes, "My wife Karina gave birth to Zechariah Wei-Jen Ooi on 30 July 2009. The little fellow weighed 6.5lbs and measured 50.5cm at birth. He is a blessed bundle of joy to us."

Thomas Heatherwick (Lambardes 84) exhibited his Seed Cathedral at the Shanghai World Expo (see Features). Images are online at: www.treehugger.com

Tom Connolly (IC 85) is a film director working in commercials, shorts and features. He recently completed a feature screenplay, *The Brothers John*. His first novel, *The Spider Truces*, was published in April 2010.

Nathalie Man (Grote 85) was in the UN building when the earthquake struck Haiti. She wrote to the school regarding the death of her colleague, OS Fred Wooldridge, who was the first Briton to die in the quake.

Ed Bussey (Taylor 86) spent the last year on an intensive endurance training programme in preparation for an unsupported attempt to reach the North Pole on foot in May. Before the trek, he wrote, "I will be skiing and walking across the ice, pulling my kit on a pulk (sledge) in one of the harshest climates on earth. More people have climbed Everest than have successfully reached the North Pole. The biggest challenges are going to be the physical endurance, the cold, polar bears – and missing my wife Dilek and baby daughter Thalia. I will ski 12-14 hours per day, in temperatures ranging from -20 to -60°C, depending on the wind chill. The proposed route cuts across an area which is home to 80 per cent of the world's polar bears, including one stretch called "Polar Bear Alley". I hope to raise money for two inspiring Global Angels projects." Ed successfully completed his expedition and a film will be released on the Global Angels website: www.globalangels.org.

Charlie Stickland (Park Grange 86) is Commanding Officer of 42 Commando and has been awarded an OBE for his work in Afghanistan.

Patrick Muirhead (Barker 87), a former BBC Radio 4 newsreader and journalist, re-trained as a helicopter pilot at the age of 39. He is now a charter pilot and instructor for Thurston Helicopters in Headcorn, Kent.

Sarah Sanders (GIH 87) has worked for the RSPB for the last six years, coordinating their programme on the UK Overseas Territories. She was recently made Head of the Global Country Programmes Unit and moves from the UKOTs to support their BirdLife Partners in Kenya and Tanzania. In her words it is "a dream job".

Paul Kutchera (Fryth 88) opened a bar, Players Sevenoaks, on 18 June 2010 (61b London Road, Sevenoaks. www.players-sevenoaks.com).

Hannah Maschler (GIH 89) lives in New Zealand with her partner and three gorgeous children, Ruby (11), Te Miri (6) and wonder-boy George (3). They run an indoor climbing wall, hang out in cafés and loll in the sunshine.

Alex Meshechok (IC 89) married Rinna and has three children: a son Marcus, plus two sons adopted from Russia: Robert and Joshua. They live in New York and would be pleased to hear from any OS in the area.

1990-1999

Erika Bertin (GIH 90) is the Executive Producer of *Living in Emergency: Stories of Doctors without Borders* directed by Mark Hopkins.

Lt Col Marcus Evans (Tammadge 90) is commanding the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, and deploying to Afghanistan with 16 Air Assault Brigade this year.

Mark Hopkins (IC 90) was shortlisted for the Best Documentary Oscar® by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences as one of 15 outstanding films for *Living in Emergency: Stories of Doctors without Borders* (see Spotlights).

Simon Lemon (Caxton 90) has taken a year off to sail in a round-the-world race on the Edinburgh with Clipper Ventures. There is a professional skipper and an amateur crew of 18 sailors.

Alice Maschler (Park Grange 90) founded the Tiruvannamalai Learning Centre in Tamil Nadu in July 2009. They have 20 children aged between three and nine years old enrolled, including her daughter Amelia (www.tirulearningcentre.com).

Nic Masters (Wordsworth 90) performed surgery on a shark at a Dorset sea life centre in what is thought to be the first such procedure out of water. Florence, a 6ft (1.8m) nurse shark, was taken ill at Weymouth Sea Life Park. She was anaesthetised while still in her tank, then lifted onto an operating table. Sea water was pumped across her gills to keep her breathing. Nic cut out a rusty fishing hook that had become lodged in her upper jaw. The operation is also believed to be only the second time a surgical procedure has been carried out on a shark and was featured on the BBC News in September 2009.

Laura Pearson (GIH 90) has been in Geneva at the World Health Organisation (WHO) since 2000. She is the Publications Manager of the Patient Safety Programme.

Alex Purves (Wordsworth 90) is a Professor of Classics at UCLA. Her book *Space and Time in Ancient Greek Narrative* was published in March 2010.

Louisa Williams (Caxton 90) is living in Hong Kong. The biggest event in her life was the birth of identical twin daughters, Ava and Amelie, on 14 November 2008.

Nyree Pinder (GIH 91) is music and score coordinator at Hot House Music and is currently working on *The Wolf Man*. Previous productions include *Skellig*, *The Meerkats* and *The Duchess*.

Dominic Reber (Plender 91) worked in Switzerland for four years. He travelled the world for eight months with his future wife Diana. After his marriage in 2007 he studied for an MBA at Cambridge University. He is now working for a start-up company developing medical devices.

Alex Steinbeis (IC 92) is an orchestra director of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester in Berlin.

Justine Montgomery (Sennocke 94) has a new job as a report writer with the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. She finds the job fascinating and is bringing her French up to scratch after years of it getting rusty.

Tristram Stuart (Hardinge 95), a writer and activist concerned with the negligent waste of food in the world, staged an event, 'Feeding the 5000', in Trafalgar Square on 16 December 2009. He cooked meals using produce which would otherwise have been binned. Crowds were addressed by the Bishop of London, the CEO of FareShare and others.

Inderraj Hanspal (IC 96) is a Specialist Registrar in Ophthalmology within the East of England Deanery and enjoying it very much.

Mike Haskamp (IC 96) put together Hong Kong's first-ever mixed martial arts tournament in 2009, under the banner 'Legend Fighting Championship'. In January he and his associate brought together 18 of the best MMA athletes in the Asia-Pacific for the first of an annual series of tournaments. The goal is to create a platform to give the best Asia-Pacific athletes an opportunity to compete against one another, and in so doing elevate the sport to the level of recognition it deserves.

Laurel Smith Pardue (GIH 96) writes, 'I'm back at MIT, a grad student at the Media Lab working in a group that does sensors. Who knows what I'll get up to but I love it. It's back to no sleep and continual stress, and serious learning, which is awesome.' (See Features.)

Simon Harding (Johnsons 97) will be joining Kitty Jack (Sennocke 98) on the Great Britain Rifle Team which tours Canada in 2010. They will take part in the Canadian Rifle Championships in Ottawa, including the prestigious Governor General's Prize. This is Simon's first full GB cap.

Jonny Lattimer (Hardinge 97) wrote the lyrics for Ellie Goulding's recent hit song, 'Starry Eyed' (see Spotlights).

Nik Steinbeis (IC 97) completed his PhD (on how music affects the brain) at the Max Planck Institute and has moved to Zurich for postdoctoral research.

Helen Zaltzman (Fenton 97) co-hosts the *Answer Me This!* podcast. Her first book is being published in November 2010.

Lars Blackmore (Johnsons 98) works at the NASA Jet Propulsion Lab at the California Institute of Technology where he develops control and estimation algorithms for NASA's future space missions.

Anna Callan (GIH 98) is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Environmental Exposures and Health at Edith Cowan University in Western Australia. She is involved in projects measuring people's exposure to contaminants in the environment, such as metals, pesticides and plasticisers (from drinking water, air, food, soil) and the effect these have on health (see Features).

Bruce Douglas (Sackville 98) is a journalist and producer for Radio 4's *World at One* programme.

Erin Gardner née Lepper (Groves 98) has been working at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland on the use of thalidomide as treatment for several disease types, ranging from inflammatory conditions to cancer (see Features).

Vera-Nina Gotz (Park Grange 98) studied Medicine at Guy's and King's, graduating from St Thomas' Hospital in 2005 with an MBBS and BSc (Hons) in Endocrinology and Diabetes. Vera has worked as a doctor in various hospitals across the UK. She is a Medical Registrar in Acute Medicine and is hoping to complete her postgrad training in four to five years with a view to becoming a Consultant in Acute Medicine. She lives in north-west England with her husband.

Kitty Jack (Sennocke 98) has secured a place on the Great Britain Rifle Team to tour Canada in 2010. This is her second tour of Canada as a member of the GB Team. She is accompanied by Simon Harding (Johnsons 97).

Leonie Liebenfrost (GIH 98) changed career from being a Sales and Marketing Manager for an accessories company in New York to a graphic designer in Munich: 'Thanks to Oliver Barratt, who always encouraged me to remain creative, I am very happy with the changes of the last two years.'

Caroline Steinbeis (GIH 98) has become the 12th winner of the annual JMK Award named after James Menzies-Kitchinthe. This is the UK's most coveted accolade for young theatre directors. She directed Caryl Churchill's play *Mad Forest* at the BAC.

Olivia Cole (Fenton 99) writes for the *Spectator* and the *Evening Standard*. Her first book of poetry, *Restricted View*, was published in December 2009 (see Spotlights).

2000-2008

Martin Aveling (00) emailed about his involvement in this year's London Elephant Parade, the largest public art exhibition the capital has hosted. He designed one of the elephants in the parade, which proved incredibly successful in raising awareness for endangered Asian elephants. All 30 elephants were auctioned through Sotheby's in July. The money raised will be used for conservation projects around the world. You can watch a video about the elephant he painted on YouTube.

Simi Dosekun (00) went to the African Gender Institute at the University of Cape Town for a Masters in Gender Studies following university in the US. She has moved back to Nigeria and works at Kachifo Ltd, an independent publishing house.

Saleh Saleh (00) is nearing completion of his PhD thesis at the University of Dundee on International Petroleum Law and International Groundwater Law.

Carmen Stojanovic née Homorogan (00) spent her honeymoon in the UK at the home of Bob and June Wilkinson who were her guardians while at school. She and her husband Zorislav met while working for the regional office for Cross-Border Cooperation Timisoara, an organisation which manages cross-border cooperation funds from the European Union in the area between Romania and Serbia.

Sinchai Tsao (00) is a doctoral candidate concentrating on Medical Imaging at the University of Southern California. He also co-teaches a course on magnetic resonance imaging at an inner city charter school in Los Angeles. He uses medical images to motivate students to learn key physics concepts such as the behaviour of waves, electricity and magnetism. He finds the experience invaluable in helping develop confidence in presenting fundamental ideas: 'My students help me question key concepts that I take for granted. They challenge me to express complex concepts in an intuitive and logical manner, which are key skills central to my training.'

Antonia Wilmot-Smith (00) started a lectureship in 2010 at the University of Dundee in the Maths Department. It is a mixture of lecturing and research.

Buky Alakija née Sofola (01) and her husband Lanre have a son, Oladipo, (my blessings are plentiful) Olusegun (God is victorious) Oluwanifemi (God loves me) Christopher Alakija. He is Dipo for short. He arrived on 11 December 2009.

Vicki Brown (01) was awarded a Skillset Minority Fellowship at Focus Features for 2009.

Advait Chaturvedi (01) and his brother Ambuj Chaturvedi (IC 00) both work for Overseas Infrastructure Alliance in Mumbai, a project development and management company executing infrastructure projects in Africa.

Tom Copple (01) is on an Overseas Development Institute (ODI) Fellowship. Originally in Madagascar for six months, he worked for the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. He was evacuated and relocated to Kenya following a relatively non-violent coup. He works at the Ministry of East African Community in Nairobi, providing research assistance, mostly on trade matters, to the negotiators before they go to regional talks. He writes, 'It's a really dynamic

Ministry with lots going on, but desperately understaffed so we never find ourselves with no work to do. Nairobi is a great place to live. My weekends are divided between going on safari, music festivals and avoiding monkeys while running through the park.' ODI sends young graduates with a Master's in Economics to work in Ministries in the developing world, predominantly in Africa, for a two-year fixed term contract.

Andrew Gourlay (01) has been appointed the next Assistant Conductor of the Hallé Orchestra under the leadership of Sir Mark Elder (see Spotlights).

Dora Jeje (01) was awarded a Skillset Minority Fellowship at Cameo Productions for 2009.

Laura Wells née Griffiths (01) took a gap year after university before starting work at PricewaterhouseCoopers in public sector assurance. She works in audit and financial consulting for large charities and local authorities. She has a secondment to the Conservative Policy Unit where in the run-up to the general election she advised on the cost implications of future policies.

Jay Barrymore (02) is based in Hyderabad, India and is working on the renewable energy portfolio of Acumen Fund.

Ben Bishop (02) spent two years following graduation working in Market Research at BPRI. He decided to change career while on holiday in Sierra Leone last December and applied to do a PGCE Geography at Goldsmiths in London. He absolutely loves it.

William Burrard-Lucas (02) with his brother Matthew (08) had a photographic exhibition displaying 17 of their wildlife images from around the world at Terminal 4 Heathrow Airport. Their work can be seen at www.burrard-lucas.com

Andrea Carter-Bowman (02) is a professional photographer. She has just shot the catalogue for Emma Watson's clothing range for People Tree Ltd.

Robby Swift (02) was in Chile during the earthquake at the end of February. He was unharmed but stayed on to help with the relief effort in the local village of Matanzas that suffered from both the earthquake and subsequent tsunami.

Hatty Morris (03) had an exhibition of her drawings at London Zoo in January and February. Inspired by the work of schoolchildren in a competition of how climate change might affect animal life, Hatty's drawings of 'extreme animals' were done in charcoal.

James Roche (03) co-designed 'Arthur' the skeleton bob sleigh which guided Amy Williams to gold medal victory in Vancouver (see Spotlights).

Oliver Beer (04) (known as Oliver Butler at school) won the New Sensations Award sponsored by Saatchi and Channel 4 in October 2009 (see Spotlights).

Jo Dixon (04) received her MFA from Sotheby's Institute and had her first public exhibition of her paintings at the Knapp Gallery in March 2010.

Chris Roche (04) will begin his medical training at St George's Medical School in September having read English for his first degree.

Wayne Chim (05) is doing a Master's degree at Nottingham in Chinese Language and Culture. He will spend three months in China as part of his course.

Nicola Colson (06) is working in Brussels as a language assistant in a school with the British Council. She is also hoping to obtain some work experience in or around the European Parliament.

Alex Hickling (06) plans to move to Hong Kong in August after being contacted by Kowloon RFC to play rugby for them in the 2010-11 season. This is a great opportunity and he would like to make contact with any OS located in Hong Kong for advice about his move and seeking work.

Matt Wright (06) received his degree in Music Business and is currently applying to take a PGCE in Primary Education.

Laura Lam (07) graduated from Durham in June 2010 with a Combined Honours Arts degree in English and Art History. She rowed for Durham University, winning North of England Head of the River, the Newcastle-Durham boat race and Tyne Regatta. She competed at BUSA and Henley Women's regatta and was Social Secretary for the University Boat Club.

Latifah Hamzah (08) co-won the 2010 MIT Concerto Competition. She writes, 'Since joining MIT, life has taken many new and exciting directions. I committed to play an hour-long recital; however I did not bargain on winning the Concerto Competition I entered as a warm-up. This led to complications of playing another concert and substituting a different work into my recital programme and made this my busiest semester musically. Additionally, having spent the summer at l'Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium, I won a MISTI 2.0 grant to research population connectivity in the Great Barrier Reef. I have been service vice-president of the co-ed service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega. It was rewarding to organise weekly projects of varying scope, and we raised \$3,893.73 for Partners in Health, a charity involved in the rebuilding of Haiti. Next on the agenda is a year-long exchange at Cambridge University. I hope it will be equally exciting.'

Miriam Longmore (08) was awarded a Nuffield Exhibition in Medical Science by the Education Committee of Somerville College in October 2009.

Milly Simon (08) had a week's work experience at the *Financial Times How to Spend It* office and has helped Damian Foxe's assistant on several fashion shoots for the magazine during the university holidays.

Henry Wardley (08) played for the US against Australia, South Africa and Ireland in the first round of the U19 World Cup Cricket in New Zealand.



JOHN FRITH, OLD SENNOCKIAN, SCHOLAR AND MARTYR (1503-33)

Some explanation is needed, perhaps, for writing in the *Sennockian* 2009-10 about an OS of the class of 1520. John Frith appears as a minor character in *Wolf Hall*, Hilary Mantel's historical novel which won the 2009 Man Booker Prize. He was also the subject of an illustrated public lecture by Brian Raynor (left), held at the school in July under the umbrella of the Tyndale Society. Brian (former staff 1969-81) is the author of *John Frith: Scholar and Martyr*.



Top: a 1980s view of John Frith's house, the Old Post Office, once *The Three Cats*, where Frith's father was innkeeper. It was the school's tuck shop in the 1800s, and is now 'Mr P's'.

Frith was born in Westerham in 1503, his father an innkeeper. When John was seven, his father took on a 'hostelry' right opposite the then Grammar School in Sevenoaks. Of course, we have no school lists for so remote a period, but presumably (since no other school then existed anywhere in the neighbourhood) John began to learn here the Latin and Greek which took him on a scholarship to Eton in 1520, and two years later to Queens' and then King's College at Cambridge.

Wolsey picked him as a tutor for his grand new foundation, Cardinal College (now Christ Church)

at Oxford. At both universities John Frith consorted with groups of 'reformers'. Sir Thomas More harried such 'heretics' mercilessly and Frith was arrested and imprisoned in Oxford. When released, he went to Antwerp and then to Marburg to collaborate with William Tyndale in translating the Bible into English. One hundred years later this translation was incorporated wholesale into the Authorised Version; at the time, however, it was printed in serial parts which were smuggled as contraband into England.

Frith was caught by Thomas More's spies in 1532 and put in the Tower. There he continued his pamphlets, attacking the teachings of the Catholic Church as unbiblical, such as those about transubstantiation and purgatory. Inter alia, Frith is reputed to have composed the phrases still used to this day when clergy share the bread and wine with communicants in an Anglican church.

Some months after his arrest, Frith was condemned to die as a heretic. A tailor's apprentice, who had shared a cell with Frith while awaiting his own inquisition, asked to go to the pyre with Frith and the two were burnt together at Smithfield in 1533.

John Foxe in his classic *Acts and Monuments* ('Foxe's Book of Martyrs') refers to Frith among others martyred prior to the reign of Mary I. Foxe, whose book was published in Elizabeth's reign with government assistance and approval, kept references to Henry VIII's executions tactfully brief; his purpose to arraign 'Bloody Mary' and her Catholic associations, not to point an accusing finger at the Queen's father.

Wolf Hall is essentially an account of the rise to power and the exercise of it by Thomas Cromwell, who became Secretary to Cardinal Wolsey and then, after Wolsey's fall, Secretary to King Henry himself. The narrative describes Cromwell visiting Frith in the Tower, hoping to persuade him to avoid a trial, then asking Thomas More to persuade Henry to let Frith, 'a pure soul...a fine scholar', live, and later hunting with the King on the day of Frith's execution.

Kim Taylor

CLUBS

In common with all HMC Schools, OS can join three clubs in London which also have wide-ranging reciprocity agreements.

Under the J7 scheme, a one-off fee will cover OS men up to the age of 25 at the East India Club in St James's Square provided membership is taken up within 18 months of leaving school. The Lansdowne Club in Fitzmaurice Place offers the 18-24 membership for men and women. A one-off payment is valid up to the age of 24. This must be taken up by the age of 21. OS women can join the University Women's Club off Berkeley Square.

Further details of club membership can be obtained from Barbara Claase.

All Sevenoaks School alumni, and Pipemakers' Scholars in particular, are most welcome to apply for membership of the Livery. Once you are granted your Freedom of the Company you are automatically eligible to apply for your Freedom of the City of London – after which you can exercise the right to walk your sheep across London Bridge! Members of the Livery have the opportunity to dine with their guests and fellow members in the surroundings of the wonderful City Livery Halls and the Mansion House. If you are interested in this or would like further information about the Pipemakers or the Livery Companies in general, please contact Barbara Claase.

Barbara Claase

The Sennockian Club

01732 467708

os@sevenoaksschool.org

FOR SALE THROUGH THE SENNOCKIAN CLUB

Enamel cufflinks with a chain fitting, designed in school colours of red and silver and featuring the school crest. Each pair comes in a presentation box.

Silk ties in school colours, 9 x 150cm.

Pashminas made from a mix of wool and silk in school colours, 164 x 62cm.

For further information contact Barbara Claase.





Nick and Ellie Alchin and family.

ELLIE ALCHIN

On first meeting Ellie, you are instantly struck by her warmth and professionalism. She approaches everything she does with the same impeccable standards, whether it is writing a university reference or guiding a student through difficulties. Irrepressibly cool, Ellie is mum to three children, Geography and TOK teacher, IB examiner, wife, Assistant Housemistress and Sixth Form Tutor. That's an awful lot to balance, yet she does it all with a smile.

As a member of the GIH boarding team, Ellie really helped turn this building into a home. Ellie is popular with students because they know that she can be trusted, and more importantly they never doubt that she has their very best interests at heart. You will find her all over the boarding house, deep in intellectual discussion, or deep inside the dishwasher in 18 kitchen, catching up with those chores that are such a key part of boarding life. And that is one of the things I like best about Ellie. She is equally at home in all her different roles, and throws herself into everything with compassion. She is creative too; her ability with a few sheets of cardboard, some paint and the odd inflatable have worked miracles, transforming GIH into Cleopatra's palace, St Mark's Square, and a home of the seven deadly sins, to name but a few of the events we have held in the last four years.

Ellie leaves Sevenoaks with her family to embark on an exciting adventure. She is destined for the Aga Khan Academy in Mombasa, a school with the sort of educational ideals that we can all believe in. She will take up the post of Head of Humanities, where she will continue to inspire those she teaches and make new friends.

Nichola Haworth

NICK ALCHIN

The IB is many things: a programme of study, a philosophy, an academic laboratory, a bureaucracy. The fact that Nick Alchin made so many significant contributions to all of these aspects is, in itself, remarkable. As Director of IB, he did more than merely direct: he studied, he thought, he experimented and he streamlined, and as a result the school's understanding and implementation of the IB Diploma has been deeply enriched.

Nick joined us as Head of Mathematics in 2003 after stints at major international schools in Singapore and Geneva, and was quickly promoted to Director of IB and Head of Theory of Knowledge. In both positions his experience as Vice-Chair of the Examining Board and Chief Assessor for TOK Worldwide gave him particular insight. Somehow he found time to complete an MEd during his tenure, and this detailed exploration of values and practices in teaching came to inform everything he accomplished, not least his management of the Theory of Knowledge course.

Of all the departments in the school, TOK is by its nature the most heterogeneous, and for several years Nick gave it cohesion through his unfaltering commitment to, and belief in, the value of the programme. As the author of the definitive TOK textbook (now approaching its third edition), Nick can safely be considered an excellent teacher and communicator. But his colleagues will particularly remember his unflagging support, his exemplary curiosity about all things and the multi-dimensional resources that he developed. We have all taken more than we will admit from the treasure-house of Nick's portal.

He is moving on to become Dean of Studies at Aga Khan Academy, Mombasa, where his experience, efficiency and advice will quickly become invaluable. He leaves behind a better school, a grateful department and a generation of smart and sceptical students.

Andy Waldron



SUE ATKINSON

Sue Atkinson retired in January 2010 after 17 years service. During that time she saw huge changes. When she arrived at Sevenoaks, the examinations office was separated from reception by a screen about shoulder height, making it very difficult to keep the examination results confidential. Always the problem solver, Sue endeavoured to get what is now the examinations office cleared of old equipment, and promptly settled in. Sue has never been one for a quiet life – she spent several years as the Claridge House Ladies Social Secretary, organising trips often preceded by staff supper. Food was always involved somewhere whenever 'Two-puds Sue' was organising the event! We will certainly miss her wonderful cake-baking. On leaving Sevenoaks Sue headed off for the Galapagos Islands for four weeks to do conservation work with giant tortoises. We will miss her and wish her all the best in her retirement.

Audrey Franks



John Attwater

JOHN ATTWATER

John Attwater accomplished a great deal in the relatively short time he was at Sevenoaks, but always seemed destined to move on to realise his ambition of running a school. He left us in December 2009 to take up the Headship of King Edward's School, Witley.

John was educated at Prebendal School in Chichester before moving to Rugby School. He learned the piano and cello and developed a real passion for singing. He subsequently won a Choral Scholarship to Queen's College, Oxford and went on to gain a First in Philosophy and Politics. He spent a year at York University qualifying as a teacher, and then took up a post teaching Religious Education at Wells Cathedral School. It was not long before he was running his own department, then taking over a boys' boarding house at the age of 27. He soon put to good use his organisational flair and skill for managing people by organising choir tours to France, Belgium and the United States and during the summer he helped run the Oxford Contemporary Music Festival.

At Sevenoaks he was responsible for the increasingly rich and diverse co-curricular programme. He played a major role in restructuring the Music department and worked closely with Governors, the Bursar and architects to plan and steer the new Performing Arts Centre towards virtual completion before his departure. There will be many Sixth Formers who will also testify to his impressive teaching of Philosophy.

John has a first-rate intellect. He is a man of integrity, good humour and compassion and his vision and strength of purpose will serve him well for the next stage of his career. We wish him, Victoria, Imogen and Phoebe every happiness in their new home across the border in Surrey.

Mike Bolton

GRAHAM COUPE

In 1986 Graham was finishing his MA in Critical Theory at Goldsmiths, pencil behind ear, when Bob White, then Head of Art, invited him to join the Art department at Sevenoaks. Graham really took to teaching and developed a remarkable, though straightforward approach: he was always challenging, took his students' work extremely seriously and demanded the highest standards. The results were impressive. What is more impressive, however, is the number of artists inspired by Graham to pursue art in their adult lives – all of whom are still in touch with him. He taught Turner Prize winner Simon Starling; Alastair Bullock, who went on to design sets for the Harry Potter films; Karin Andreasson, picture editor of the *Guardian*; Matthew Tabram, now an architect; and jewellery designer Stina Richardson.

A painter by training, Graham oversaw painting in the department, but he also ran the darkroom, introduced the use and teaching of Photoshop and developed the teaching of printmaking. He was a quite brilliant teacher of the skills; a teacher who demanded that his students find a way to express their ideas. But Graham was not only a practitioner, he was also responsible for encouraging conceptual development in the Sixth Form. Many alumni, such as Suzy Freake, who is completing her PhD in Critical Theory, still turn to him for advice and guidance. Graham has become more and more interested in photography and kept in touch with Andrew Parrish and Neil Shirreff, both of whom are now professional photographers. Graham is now focusing on his own work as photographer and graphic designer and will continue to teach part-time. Passionate and devoted to the teaching of Art at Sevenoaks for 23 years, few teachers are as skilled and as dedicated to their students as Graham. We wish him every future happiness.

Lydia Jones



Gerda Frank-Gemmill

GERDA FRANK-GEMMILL

On a Fulbright scholarship, Gerda was studying in the United States when she met her English husband. Marriage in 1974 brought them to the UK where Gerda adjusted to the idiosyncrasies of English life, and brought up two very personable and highly successful sons, as well as developing her teaching career. It was a balance that only an individual with Gerda's reserves of energy, organisation and commitment could successfully strike.

Gerda was appointed as a German teacher here in 2002, having established her reputation at her previous school, St Michael's Otford, as first Head of Modern Languages and then Academic Deputy Head. It was thus no surprise when a year after arriving at Sevenoaks she was appointed Head of Careers.

A significant measure of a school's success now lies in the quality of its careers advice and its track record of university entry. If it had not been for Gerda, it is very unlikely that we would have distinguished ourselves so much in this area recently, at a time when such success relies on an enormous investment of resources, knowledge and expertise. Her knowledge, attention to detail, administrative abilities, commitment and energy were all brought to bear in a job that requires real strength of character.

Gerda leaves the Careers department with a reputation second to none. The amount of help and advice that the modern-day student receives from the department would flabbergast the previous generation of school careers advisers. Gerda has done so much to contribute to this transformation. As she adjusts to a well-earned retirement, in which she will no doubt pursue her interests even more vigorously, her service to the school and to the thousands of individuals whose careers – and lives – she has enhanced, should be fully recognised.

Graham Lacey



Graham Lacey

GRAHAM LACEY

For 24 years, since joining us from St John's Leatherhead, Graham Lacey has promoted an interest in History among students at Sevenoaks, teaching them to value the lessons of the past, inaugurating the battlefields trip and taking trips to Russia and Eastern Europe.

In his spell as Head of Careers, he modernised the department and raised the profile of Higher Education within the school. As a Divisional Head, he always had the best interests of the students at heart. As Director of Studies and then Academic Deputy Head, he managed the difficult transition to an all-IB Sixth Form, oversaw the restructuring of the academic management, and presided over an unprecedented rise in academic standards and public examination results. More recently he has laid the foundations for the Centre for Innovation and Excellence.

Along the way, he has also seen employment as a rugby and football referee, proved an outstanding tutor to Upper and Middle School pupils, and found time, too, to raise two daughters, pursue a year's exchange in Australia and take a sabbatical on which he gained his qualification for headship.

The level of dedication and commitment Graham shows is extraordinary. He has been the academic conscience of the school as long as I can remember. He's also a man with a big laugh and a big heart, a passionate family man, a fanatical Chelsea supporter, and a committed educationalist. And a man who, not content merely with interpreting the world, is determined to change it. We thank him for all he has done to further the success of this school, for his friendship, for his professionalism. We wish him, Sara and his two girls every happiness in their new home and their new life as Graham takes up the headship of the British International School in Berlin.

Chris Greenhalgh



Marta Ochoa

MARTA OCHOA

A first-class educator, passionate and opinionated, Marta Ochoa was a very charismatic and popular teacher of Spanish. Renowned for her wit, she was a very well-respected and inspirational member of the department. Marta had the power of immediate seduction, with an extraordinary sense of friendship. Her warmth and generosity made her an ideal colleague, as well as an outstanding classroom teacher, who gave her time generously and uncomplainingly. Students benefited enormously from lessons with Marta as she brought a wealth of cultural and linguistic knowledge to classes.

Marta was involved in every aspect of school life. Her organisation of the Salamanca study trip over many years was thorough and efficient; and having such a lively, humorous and passionate group leader on the trip made it tremendously popular with the students. In addition, Marta was an exceptional Assistant Housemistress in Sennocke for four years. Her tutees quite simply loved her, and she brought a highly successful mixture of tenderness and firmness to the role.

Marta possessed four qualities in particular. Firstly, she was completely fearless, secondly, she seemed to have more energy than anyone else, thirdly she had an unshakeable sense of humour and finally she had a near religious sense of duty to those for whom life had been less kind. This led her to accompany the annual Romania trip to an orphanage in Iasi for five consecutive years. Her dedication to the ideals of Amnesty International saw her fight hard to see the organisation remain vibrant within the school.

Marta leaves us to return to her family in Madrid. Her departure leaves a big gap in the Spanish department, where her larger than life character, her generous-spirited affection, her utter dedication to her students and her quick-witted sense of humour will be greatly missed.

Ruth Greenhalgh



Hope Pym

HOPE PYM

Hope Pym, who retired in April 2010, joined Sevenoaks School as the Alumni Administrator in January 2003 after working for almost 20 years in the accounts office of the satirical magazine *Private Eye* in London. She made the transition with little difficulty.

Hope was immensely happy in her job and greatly enjoyed talking with OS of all ages, answering their queries on the telephone and encouraging them to keep in contact with the school and give it their support. Having two of her own children at the school, she was of course admirably suited to this work. Her attention to detail and the pleasure she derived arranging reunion events ensured their success. She made a significant contribution to maintaining and improving the information on the alumni database. We wish Hope every happiness in her retirement in Brasted Chart and our good wishes go to her and her husband, Johnny.

John Walton

JOAN TRUSLER

Joan Trusler, who retired in May 2010, joined Sevenoaks 23 years ago, in 1987, as the assistant to Mark Pyper, Deputy Head, Registrar, Housemaster of Johnsons and organiser of the Sevenoaks Festival. Joan has supported a total of five registrars in that time and has been a tower of strength to us all; she was extraordinarily hard-working on behalf of the school and had outstanding organisational skills. Her loyalty and dedication to Sevenoaks are completely unrivalled and her encyclopaedic knowledge of the Admissions department will be greatly missed. We wish her a very happy retirement and hope she will enjoy spending more time with her son, Oliver (OS) and her granddaughters in Australia.

Arabella Stuart



Joan Trusler

**JOHN WALTON**

John Walton retired in August 2010 after over eight successful years as the school's Development Director. His experience of managing large-scale projects, liaising with architects and construction companies and fundraising, including an £18m regeneration project at the Royal Artillery Museum, made him an ideal person to establish a new Development Office with the task of assisting the school to realise its long-term strategic development plans.

John has worked tirelessly to promote the school and explain its ambitious plans for the future.

He has visited at least 24 countries, holding receptions and meeting current and former parents and alumni, many of whom had lost touch with Sevenoaks. Their affection for the school and generosity has led to over £7m being raised, which has enabled Sevenoaks School Foundation to embark on and then complete the Sennocke Centre and the recently opened Space. We also hope that the newly established Bursary Fund will receive support and enable a growing number of students to join the school who otherwise could not afford it.

John has also been instrumental in developing the school's alumni association. Headed formerly by Hope Pym and now Barbara Claase, the alumni team are working hard to keep OS in touch with the school and each other.

John has set up flourishing Friends of Sevenoaks School associations in 11 countries and, closer to home, a series of regular reunions now take place at the school drawing back large numbers of former students to meet their contemporaries and former teachers. The school has been very fortunate to have John as its first Development Director and we are immensely grateful for everything he has achieved, not least in establishing a culture of giving which will ensure the school continues to flourish and provide a top-class education for generations of students to come.

Mike Bolton

We also say goodbye to the following members of the Academic staff:

Mrs Janey Carden

Miss Lorna Lucet

Miss Genevieve Nesbitt

Mr Geoff Piper

Miss Patricia Sanz Gil

Mr Anthony Remy

Miss Ariane de Waal

Mr Shane Williams

And the following peripatetic music teachers, sports coaches and members of the Support staff:

Mr Ernie Cranenburgh

Mrs Jane Tandy

Miss Kathryn Warne

Mrs Kerry Browne

Mr Terry Collier

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: SCHOOL AND SENNOCKIAN CLUB

Friday 3 December	13.00	Junior Knole Run
Wednesday 8–Saturday 11 December	19.30	Middle School Production – <i>The Elves And The Shoemaker</i>
Friday 10 December	16.00	Christmas Reunion for OS of 2007-10
Monday 13 December	19.00	Carol Service, St Nicholas’ Church
Wednesday 15 December	14.30	End of Michaelmas term
Wednesday 12 January	08.30	Beginning of Lent term
Saturday 15 January	14.30	38th Knole Run and 16th Girls Knole Run
Monday 7 February	19.30	Chamber Music Concert, Pamoja Hall
Wednesday 9–Saturday 12 February	19.30	Lower School Production – <i>Two Noble Kinsmen</i>
Thursday 17 February	19.30	Gospel Choir Concert, Pamoja Hall
Friday 18 February	19.00	10th Reunion for the class of 2001
Friday 4 March	18.30	OS Spring Function, London
Friday 18 March	19.00	20th Reunion for the class of 1991
Friday 18 March	19.30	Music at Sevenoaks Choral Concert, Pamoja Hall
Thursday 24 March	19.30	End of Lent term
Saturday 2 April		OS Golf Society Invitation Match v Wildernesse Golf Club
Thursday 14 April	08.30	Beginning of Summer term
Friday 6 May	19.00	30th Reunion for the class of 1981
Saturday 7 May		OS Golf Society Grafton Morrish Regional Qualifier, Knole Park
Monday 9 May		OS Golf Society summer meeting, Littlestone
Saturday 14 May	10.00	OS Five-a-side Football
Friday 20 May	13.00	OS Inaugural Social Golf Day
Friday 27 May		Leavers’ Day
Sunday 5 June	12.00	OS Cricket v the school at Solefields
Friday 10 June	19.00	40th Reunion for the class of 1971
Sunday 12 June		OS Golf Society Invitation Match v Royal Cinque Ports, Deal
Monday 27 June (tbc)	13.30	Middle School Sports Day
Friday 1 July (tbc)	09.00	Lower School Sports Day
Saturday 2 July		Founder’s Day picnic for OS pre-1961
Saturday 2 July	16.10	End of Summer term
Thursday 7 July	10.30	Twenty20: OS v the Vine Cricket Club and Old Tonbridgians
Thursday 1 September	08.30	Beginning of Michaelmas term
Saturday 10 September	10.00	OS Rugby, OS Hockey and OS Football
Monday 19 September		OS Golf Society autumn meeting at Rye
Saturday 24 September	19.00	50th Reunion for the class of 1961
Friday 14 October	18.30	OS Autumn Function, London
Sunday 11 December	12.30	OS Inaugural Christmas Lunch
Friday 16 December	16.00	Christmas Homecoming for OS at university (2007-11)

All dates are correct at the time of going to press, but may be subject to change.