

THE GILBERT CONSORT: A JOYOUS 40-YEAR REUNION

LIQUID GOLD: HOW WE MADE THE COVID VACCINE HAPPEN

MEMORIES OF HRH QUEEN ELIZABETH II

FIRST GIRLS JOIN CHORISTER CLASS AT HCS

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

OH MAGAZINE 2022

A YEAR TO REMEMBER

I write this in the period of mourning for HRH Queen Elizabeth II, so once again history is in the making as we await the funeral and coronation of a new King Charles III. This has been another hard year for many people.

Pat Broome's words on page 21 (Letters) resounded with me: "Although I may not have achieved high academic levels, the school gave me a good grounding for the life ahead, teaching me how to interact with people and giving me the confidence to make decisions." I'm sure many of you feel the same. It's lovely to see so many happy gatherings, and the Development Office team have worked their socks off.

The fondness with which so many reports from the various reunions (arriving like buses after the fallow years of the pandemic) mention loved teachers, form rooms and friends: "It made us realise how lucky we were in many ways to have enjoyed such a rich, quirky, colourful and generally happy time together at school" — Clare Scotcher (Reunions, page 30).

Ruth Todd (Liquid Gold, page 13), from my own vintage, exemplifies everything HCS continues to offer pupils in their reach for life's goals — whatever they may be.

Julie North (OH 1987), Editor
oldherefordian@herefordcs.com





"The school gave me a good grounding for the life ahead, teaching me how to interact with people and giving me the confidence to make decisions"

Photo (above): HM The Queen visits Hereford Cathedral in 1976 to present the Royal Maundy. Editor Julie North in red.

Photos (left): Class of 1987 reunion with Julie in stripes, top right.

Front cover photo © Cath Proctor

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This issue's highlights











DIVE

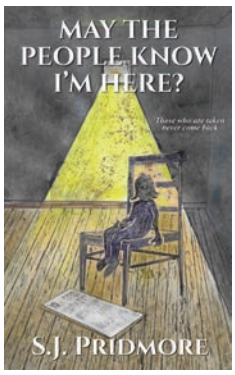
SIMON PRIDMORE

My wife Sofie is Belgian, and we were sitting at dinner with her grandparents one evening a couple of years ago when her great aunt Johanna, a Dutch lady, sat down next to me. During a lull in the conversation, she leaned over and said:

"I haven't told you my story, Simon, have I?"

That's how the book was born. I felt that the tale she told of her early childhood was so moving, meaningful and unusual that it deserved to be shared with a wider audience. Fortunately, she agreed to my idea to use it as the basis for a novel.

It took me 18 months of research and countless rewrites to get it into shape. It was only when I finished it and presented it to her and her children and grandchildren that I realised that I had not only created a book for that wider audience, I had also produced a family heirloom that would be passed down through generations. This is something that I hadn't considered while writing it, but that I now find highly rewarding.



May The People Know I'm Here? is my first novel, but I have been writing books for the past ten years or so, mostly about travel and scuba diving.

My life journey can be seen as a series of unconnected threads, but with hindsight and perhaps a little wishful thinking you can see how the threads eventually tie together.

In Pauline Acheson's A-level French class, I was assigned an essay on a King Lear quotation: "There is a tide in the affairs of man that, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." I can't remember the topic of any other essay I wrote while I was at school, but that quote has stayed with me forever.

> "There is a tide in the affairs of man that, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune"

I studied French and Spanish at university – spent my year abroad teaching English in Algeria, learned a bit of Arabic and, on the basis of that, landed a job in Oman with the Sultan's Air Force. This gave me mornings in the classroom and afternoons at the beach, where I learned to scuba dive.



Two years later, itching for new adventures, I responded to a newspaper advertisement for the Royal Hong Kong Police Force (RHKPF), to the astonishment of everyone who knew me as an undisciplined young man with long blond hair and a history of rebellion. I went to the barber, passed the RHKPF interview and off I went.

I ended up staying in Hong Kong for 15 years. It was a fascinating place to be, with the handover to China looming, and became even more interesting when I was moved from my police job into a post as an Assistant Political Adviser. In this role, I had to deliver reports that were succinct and present complex issues in a such a way that they were simple to grasp. This was not because the senior officials I was writing for were a bit dim; they were just very busy and didn't have time to read anything that wasn't clear and precise.

I had continued to scuba dive and was teaching diving in the evenings and at weekends. I knew years in advance that my time in Hong Kong was limited and that I would be out of a job in 1997, so I made plans to turn my hobby from part-time to full-time.

On leaving Hong Kong, I moved to Guam in Micronesia and set up a dive centre there. I had been one of the first people to get into what was then a new type of scuba diving using mixed gases instead of air, and I started teaching people how to do this. Not only did technical diving, as it was dubbed, give me a good business niche; it also gave me unique opportunities in the sport. Over the next few years, scuba diving took me around the world and even back to England where I ran a diving company in Dorset for a time.

When I eventually sold my last diving business, I was free to embark on a new project. At the time, most diver training manuals were desperately dull course texts that nobody ever really looked at. I wanted to write books that told people how to scuba dive well and safely, but that were also entertaining and interesting; in short, books that divers would actually enjoy reading. Sofie and I had a long list of places on land and sea that we wanted to visit, so it seemed like a good idea to start writing travelogues too.

Over the past ten years, I have written a five-volume Scuba series, with some of the books translated into several languages. I have also written five travel guides, a biography and even curated a couple of diving cookbooks. *May The People Know I'm Here?* opens the door to a whole new writing world, so that is where I would like to go from here, although I do have a few more diving and travel projects pending as well.

As you see, the various threads — travel, language, diving, writing — have come together, and taking the tide at the flood — seizing opportunity — can indeed lead on to fortune, as long as, in my case, you interpret fortune as freedom and fulfilment, rather than hard cash.

On a final note, I am always happy to help with advice on writing, publishing, scuba diving or travelling so feel free to contact me at any time at divebooks@simonpridmore.com.

Simon Pridmore
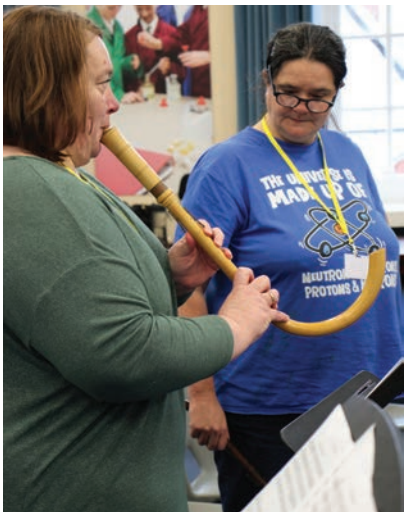
OH 1976














THE GILBERT CONSORT

A 40-YEAR REUNION



For the first time in 40 years, a reunion of the Medieval music Gilbert Consort took place on 24 October 2021. Facilitating at the Reunion was Robert Hollingworth (OH 1984), director of solo-voice ensemble I Fagiolini.

A Cathedral Chorister under the directorship of Roy Massey, Robert was an early member of the Gilbert Consort as well as having formed a vocal group at the school called Strongbeaux (!) inspired by the King's Singers. With Rhodri James, Alan Dodson, Andrew Fowler and others they performed "quite 'hardcore' early music, full of character and fun which you really had to invest yourself in: it didn't sing itself," Robert said on the day of the reunion. "I was also (as a 16-year-old) drawn to the often obscene lyrics, which you could get away with singing in school concerts if they were in French or Italian but which otherwise would have seen you outside Barry Sutton's study."

Busy with life as both director of I Fagiolini but also on the staff at the University of York, this was Robert's first time back at HCS, which seems hard to believe since his father was Bursar during the 1970s–90s and his mother, Julie (see obituaries on page 40) taught music theory. "The family's lives did rather revolve around Castle Street — my brothers were choristers too so we were all either in the school, the cathedral or — in my case — playing cricket in the school yard."

While studying Music at New College, Oxford, he formed his own professional ensemble but credits Richard Rhodes for much of his pleasure in early music. "Introducing me and so many others to the illicit pleasure of the double reed... There is an earthiness to the sound and I still search it out, collaborating particularly with expert William Lyons, who runs The City Musick." Robert applauded the success of the reunion and said, "The strength is in actively making music together rather than just remembering and celebrating."

Aside from I Fagiolini, Robert is currently Reader in Music at York University and Director of the early music festival, Stour Music.



"I was drawn to the often obscene lyrics, which you could get away with singing in school concerts if they were in French or Italian but which otherwise would have seen you outside Barry Sutton's study"

A selection of memories of the Gilbert Consort...

HESTHER SOMERVILLE (NÉE TINA GRAY, OH 1980–82)

There is something delightful and profoundly moving about reconnecting with people from the past, especially when those people were known from such a highly significant and character-forming stage in life as one's schooldays. In my case the Gilbert Consort reunion was very much a positive experience, and going by the smiles, chats, and lit-up faces on the day, I think I can safely assume that my experience was shared by everyone attending.

Hereford Cathedral School welcomed me in for two far too short years, during my Sixth Form A-Level stage, but those two precious years were life-changing for me. I am grateful to the generous person(s), sadly unknown to me, who kindly offered me a scholarship based on musical ability. I can't claim to have done the school proud by my academic results, but I hold dear those two years. They were a pivotal transition into adulthood.

My Cathedral School experience (1980–82) is now a concoction of memories: dutiful and preoccupied facial expressions leaving one class and heading for the next; the smell of wood-panelled classrooms; wide floorboards that creak in places; the privilege of assembly in the Cathedral; treading the footsteps of our ancestors along the cloisters; quick-witted banter in the common room; the black cloaks of the Masters fluttering along Castle Street. I was awe-struck by the larger-than-life Mr Rhodes, whose figure strode imposingly beneath his flapping black Batman-esque cloak: my embarrassment and shame: "What if he finds out his nickname is 'Batman'?!" I didn't know back then that he took it all with good grace and humour, and over time I came to know how warm and encouraging a man he is, and how unfounded my fear of him was.

The Gilbert Consort played a key part in my experience of the school. Being reclusive and shy, I couldn't believe my good fortune when I was invited to join the consort. It was fortuitous to attend the Cathedral School, and join the Gilbert Consort, just when the school was celebrating its 600th anniversary. Not only did it provide a superb opportunity to play Medieval and Elizabethan music, using the instruments in Mr Rhodes' collection (my favourites were the nasal-sounding crumhorns, and the recorders with their contrasting sweet resonance), but also the opportunity to dress up in period costume and take Medieval and Elizabethan dancing classes.

> "I couldn't believe my good fortune when I was invited to join the consort"

The troupe of musicians in the Gilbert Consort has constantly changed as players come into the school, tarry a while, and move away as lives unfold. The reunion provided an opportunity to witness the legacy that we had been a part of, all made possible by the generosity, dedication and passion of its founder and presiding genius, Richard ('Batman') Rhodes. The day was enormously enjoyable. I might have felt ill-at-ease having spent such a brief time at the school, but I was warmly welcomed. It was marvellous to see familiar faces, albeit etched by the testing of time, and how extraordinary it is that the essence of someone is recognisably present, despite the challenges and triumphs that four decades of life experience chisels into our facial features. Hearts genuinely leapt (especially seeing one who I first knew when we were both six!), and catch-up conversation flowed with ease over the tasty pastries and delicious sandwiches.

Central to the day, of course, aside from the joy and excitement of seeing comrades from the past, was the playing of music. The Gilbert Consort, under the tutelage of Dick Rhodes, has provided an enjoyable opportunity for emerging musicians to exercise skills in making music together. To have the opportunity to play music with highly trained and skilled musicians was utterly delightful. In my own case, after teaching flute and recorder for many years, with occasional professional playing, the standard of musicianship at the reunion was exhilarating to experience. To come together as almost complete strangers, having only a brief time to catch up with each other over coffee and buns, before mucking-in and getting-on, to produce a scratch concert, which proved to be more than half-decent, to an ample audience, was enthralling. Even my 18-month-old grandson was captivated by the sounds of the wind-players, the singers, and the string-players. I was on Cloud Nine for several days after this reunion, and I suspect I wasn't the only one who went away feeling fortified by bringing into the present memories from the past, and sharing our current-day skills to create a memorable and celebratory day.

LIZ PORTER (OH 1982)

The Gilbert Consort, or 'Giblets' as we affectionately called it, was my introduction to Renaissance music, which I remember as being mostly very jolly with dashes of melancholy and just the occasional hint of menace. Under Mr Rhodes' expert guidance we explored the works of Dowland and Susato and Holborne; we learned how to blend, count like mad and, crucially, breathe — Annie Roberts and I could get all the way through 'Now is the month of Maying / When merry lads are playing, / Fa la la la la la la la, / fa la la la la la' in a single breath. Such lung capacity we had in those days! And what a lot of fun we had.

We were often called upon to provide background music for various school events, including the Medieval Fair to celebrate the school's 600th anniversary in 1981. (Strictly speaking, our repertoire was a few hundred years too young — but what's a century or two when your school is so old?) The fair was held on a Saturday and on the Friday eve there was a massive row involving costumes — "I thought you were doing the costumes?" "No, I thought you were doing the costumes" — that kind of thing. We must have managed to source costumes from somewhere, because there I am in the photos (see page 9 opposite), wearing a sort of turquoise brocadey velvety get-up. Hesther is wearing tights and a principal boyish jerkin. Liz Rhodes looks as if she has stepped out of a Holbein painting. Annie looks sweet in a little white lace cap. And, as befits the aesthetic of the time, the male members of the ensemble have the best outfits: Alec Harding is spectacular in pink; Mr Rhodes resplendent in green and gold. We played in the Old Deanery front garden, while all across the Close and down Castle

Street mummers mummed, bulls were weighed, wet sponges were thrown at those in the stocks and merchandise was flogged. It was fantastic.

Fast forward to 1982, preparing to play at the Royal National College for the Blind on Venn's Lane. My diary entry reads:

Evening – Gilbert Consort – panic, panic. Was very nervous and wore awful red dress with blue and white swirls. Tried it with belt but from behind looked like the back of a bus, so wore it loose. I made lots of mistakes. Mr Rhodes in jovial mood; shook my hand after 'Vecchie Letrose' and the audience laughed. Very relieved when concert was over. Drank a glass of wine and ate crisps...

And here's the entry for Friday 19 March 1982:

"Busy day. Drizzling damply and a Giblet rehearsal first thing in the Shirehall, which largely involved me running all the way back to the Deanery to fetch Peter's crumhorn, and then feeling really silly because I could see people staring at it and wondering what on earth it was... The beginning of the concert was a scream because, the door of the Green Room being closed, we couldn't hear Mr Heald's introductory speech so the Giblet didn't know it was supposed to be on stage until John Padley was sent up to tell us. I really liked the second half; the Giblet played the Holborne, and the orchestra wasn't nearly as bad as we expected. Robert Hollingworth kept talking to me and making me laugh, especially when his shoulder-rest fell off in the middle of the Debussy. Afterwards lots of people said how good we were, but Mr and Mrs Lancaster didn't think much of the crumhorns: 'Such a funny, bleating noise!' Returned home exhausted but jubilant."





I should make it clear that I never actually played the crumhorn myself, although I lied on my UCCA personal statement and claimed that I did — I thought it would make me sound like a more interesting person. (I may have had the odd try, but never got my head around the counter-intuitive instruction: "The harder you blow, the more in tune it will be.") Perhaps fortunately for me, Mr Rhodes fact-checked my statement. "Well, that's a bit of a fiction, isn't it!" he said. I gracefully conceded.

At our reunion in October 2021 it was wonderful to see that over the decades numerous members of the Consort have taken it from strength to strength, all the way up to the current Gilbertians who are astonishingly good. There were singers and drummers and violinists and viol players; Andrew Fowler entranced us with his collection of Renaissance instruments including the ethereal gemshorn; Annie Roberts played the tiniest, cutest recorder I have ever seen, the garklein; and under Robert Hollingworth's superb direction we all came together to give a concert which included those golden oldies: 'Now is the month of Maying' and 'Vecchie Letrose'. How very, very lucky we were. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to bring about this special day, and of course thanks above all to Mr Rhodes, without whom...

KATHERINE HAWNT (OH 1997)

I thoroughly enjoyed heading back to HCS for the Gilbert Consort celebration. It was a lovely opportunity to catch up with old friends such as Sarah Davison (née Lingard) and Nick Martyn, as well as celebrating all that Mr Rhodes did for us.

As a professional specialist singer in Early Music, and cultural historian of the Early Music Revival, it was fascinating to discover more about the history of the Gilbert Consort and be reminded of some of my own early musical influences. It was also wonderful to work with Robert Hollingworth, who I've had the privilege of working with professionally in the past. He certainly helped make the day entertaining and the music-making was immensely gratifying, and sometimes hilarious. A sense of nostalgia took over while wandering the corridors of HCS and nearby streets of Hereford; it was lovely to be back for a visit.

DICK RHODES

STEPS DOWN FROM THE GILBERT CONSORT

Dick Rhodes, 86, stepped down from leading the school's exceptional Gilbert Consort in 2022. Here are some musings he has shared with OHs from across the decades.

When the Gilbert Consort got going would you have believed you'd be still involved over four decades on? Did you think it had potential to run and run?

No, definitely not. Along the way I never really thought about an end; I'm still not really thinking about an end to it. It's really a hobby! I wouldn't have been doing it but for that. When I was asked to open the Gilbert Room (in the Music School) a few years ago, I worked out how long we'd been going. Before that I hadn't realised. In 2015, when we did a concert as part of the Three Choirs Festival Fringe, it became apparent that we'd appeared for the first time in 1974. I'd never really done the maths.

Which musician(s) have inspired you?

David Monro (1942–1976) is the principal guy that lit the fire of my interest in music with his Early Music Consort of London – he was a pioneer of this musical niche. He took me into a world of music that I'd never imagined. He'd travelled widely and taught himself loads of musical instruments that he'd picked up on his travels, principally wind instruments; a band of things like the sackbut (early trombones) and the cornets.

They made recordings on radio and TV, introducing music to kids in a wonderful way. He'd come up with this groundbreaking musical group and written a book about early instruments – he achieved so much in such a short time. He was a real prophet, an iconic figure. I found an instrument in the Early Music Shop in Bradford that had belonged to him.

Other, more local musicians that have played an instrumental role in my life are Peter and Kay Garlick. Kay was the Chaplain in the Cathedral and a former teacher. From the 1970s till 2015 I performed with them in Vox Praeterita – literally, voice of the past – all over the country, sometimes in full Tudor regalia. They were very influential in what I was doing with the Gilbert Consort as there was a cross-fertilisation of ideas and repertoire. They had a strong influence on me.

Another key player would be Alan Crumpler (recording engineer, shop-keeper, performer with the Forbury Consort) in Leominster. There is nothing he doesn't know about music. Crispin Fisher, GP at the Marches Surgery in Leominster, was important too. He set up the Junior Recorder Group. The Directors of Music at school such as John Williams and David Evans helped feed students into the Consort, and Anthony Rooley, artistic director of the Consort of Musicke, wrote a book that inspired us a lot with our group and how we would approach pieces.

Who are some of the characters who have participated in the Gilbert Consort that stick in your mind and have gone on to make music their livelihood?

Most of the students who did well with me also had contact with the Cathedral organists, like Roy Massey and Geraint Bowen, so there were other people who were involved in their musical journeys. But there's a list of characters who remain in my memory, including:

- Two brothers in the 1970s, **Roger and Alan Bluff**, who went on to be organ scholars at Cambridge.
- **Robert Hollingworth**, who set up his professional group while he was at Oxford, I Fagiolini. He's doing really imaginative things with his consort.
- **John Robinson**, who at the moment is the Director of Music at Blackburn Cathedral (formerly organ scholar at Canterbury Cathedral and John's College, Cambridge).
- **John Challenger**, Assistant Director of Music at Salisbury Cathedral, in the news recently with his soothing play during early vaccination clinics.
- **Patrick Dunachie**, Counter Tenor with the Kings Singers.
- **Laurence John**, Organ Scholar at Exeter Cathedral (formerly Queen's College, Oxford, and Hereford Cathedral).
- **Michael D'Avanzo**, organ scholar at St David's Cathedral, currently organ scholar at Southwell Minster in Nottingham. He assisted the Consort in recording Music for Manhattan, produced during the lockdown.
- **Kate Hawnt** certainly had a lively performing career after a spell at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Switzerland and, I think, is still performing as well as teaching.
- **Andrew Fowler** – a leading exponent of Early Music, creating his own ensembles and running Early Music instrumental courses both in Kent, where he was a headmaster until recently, and in the Durham area, where he now is. At the Reunion, he was Robert H's right-hand man, looking after the wind section and making his collection of assorted instruments available to the wind players. A vital cog!





WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL HIGHLIGHTS WITH THE GILBERT CONSORT?

- A **live appearance on BBC Wales** from High Town in the 1980s, which we were pitched into by Roy Massey (Cathedral organist at the time).
- A concert in Hereford Cathedral in celebration of the **Samaritans**, Herefordshire.
- A concert for the **Arts Appreciation Society** in Croft Castle.
- A concert in Old Court, Bredwardine, in **Tudor garb**.
- Ewyas Harold Village Hall concert in full garb **with a jester**!
- Roy Massey invited us to accompany the Cathedral Choir in a concert they gave in Bodenham Church, where **the music stands fell over** but we managed to carry on playing.
- **Three Choirs Festival Fringe** in 2015 in the Conningsby Museum, standing room only.
- **Hoarwithy Church** in 2016.

"I'm very happy for the Consort to carry on doing what it's doing. What it's doing is never the same for very long. When people leave, new people come in with different instruments and different abilities and therefore the repertoire will have to adapt to suit them."

- Lots of **school performances** in the Bishop's Palace and the Shire Hall.
- A recent stand-out moment was a concert in Madley Church in June 2021, which was the first concert in the area that had taken place **after lockdown** and was really magical.
- We were invited by Robert Hollingworth to a performance of **the Striggio Mass** in Tewkesbury Abbey and we went instead to the rehearsal, where we could walk about.
- **Alan Crumpler brought his consort** to the Old Deanery and the sharing of musical experience led to new pieces in the Consort repertoire.
- **Opening the Gilbert Room** in the Music School in 2018.
- Dore Abbey on a Sunday afternoon **with no audience**, just to experience the setting.


JAMES SCOTT
DUKE OF MONMOUTH

LIQUID GOLD

THE COVID VACCINE AND THE WOMAN WHO 'MADE IT HAPPEN'

Ruth Todd (OH 1987) was Commercial Director for the Submarine Delivery Agency in 2020 — working for the MOD and battling to work out how to get people safely on and off submarines to service them while faced with the threat of Covid-19 — when she got the call from her permanent secretary asking whether he'd remembered correctly that she'd built a factory. From that point on her life changed.

She'd assumed she was going to give 'a little bit of advice' to the guys in the Department of Business (BEIS) who were working out how to build the plans for developing, producing and deploying vaccines across the UK, but she swiftly became Programme Director for the Vaccine Taskforce (VTF) and it is this speed of start-up that is just one of the things about the Taskforce she feels is worth celebrating.

The Vaccine Taskforce was set up by the UK Government specifically to drive forward the development and production of a Coronavirus vaccine as quickly as possible and brought together Government, industry and academia.

Ruth was awarded a CBE in 2021, which goes to show how key she was to the whole operation. Dame Kate Bingham is the name we associate with spear-heading the show but, as we all know, behind every good woman... there's another one! Ruth's job was 'to make it all happen'. "We had all the skills around us to do that but my job was to drive it over the line," she said.

> "We acted with pace, we spread our bets and we had this 'no regrets' philosophy throughout"

"We knew that Oxford University was in great shape, and they made a lot of good choices.

"By July we had heads of terms with most of those suppliers, which distinguishes us from most other nations." Heads of terms — also know as a letter of intent — is the first step on the path to a full and legally binding agreement or contract.

Photo: Ruth receiving her CBE from the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire

HOW DOES A VACCINE GET TO MARKET?

An overview of the route the VTF took to get the Covid-19 vaccine rolled out successfully.

Ruth puts this down to the team of scientists involved, who ran a normal due-diligence process but at breakneck speed.

"We used conventional methods, we just did them very quickly and had the right people in the right place and that power of the team is something that is characteristic of the Taskforce," she said. They watched the science, monitoring vaccine development worldwide. In addition, the UK offered to run clinical trials for the best candidates (the UK is world renowned in this area).

She explains how the team was selecting vaccines in parallel with enabling the capability to deliver vaccines.

The first thing that happened is that the BioIndustry Association (BIA — the trade association for innovative life sciences in the UK) ran a survey in February 2020 to understand the competence and capability that was available in the UK to produce vaccines — and these results were used by Ruth's team.

The UK invested in seven vaccines: each were assessed by the team of scientists. She explains this is pretty practical stuff: "Is the science good enough behind this one? — is there any data yet to support them? — can they make it or can't they? Do they have a means at which they can produce it at volume? And is it coming from a place where the UK will be able to regulate it?"

"The fact three vaccines were regulated so early was really unexpected and so welcome, an absolute relief."

The vaccines were spread across the four modalities, creating a portfolio from which we hoped one would be successful.

Viral vector — Oxford–AstraZeneca

mRNA — Pfizer and Moderna: uses a copy of a molecule called messenger RNA to produce an immune response

Inactivated viral vaccine — traditional vaccines (well established)

Protein subunit — GlaxoSmithKline

"I think HCS taught me that if you apply yourself to any challenge you can make it happen. I also think I learnt to be confident and to communicate well — singing helped with both of those!"

Concerned that its buying power was less than the US or the EU, which was buying on behalf of a number of nations, VTF had to act swiftly, get ahead of the curve and get a contract in place.

"We got our hands on glass vials early, which we subsequently used with AstraZeneca. We worked with PHE (Public Health England — now the UK Health Security Agency) who had stocks of glass already in case of a flu pandemic. Everyone collaborated to find solutions to really gritty problems.

"When we wrote our original business case we thought there was an 8–12% chance that any vaccine would be effective... We are all benefitting from the judgement calls made by the scientists who were calling on a lifetime of knowledge.

"Our aim was to stop death, the idea of getting back to normal life was an aspiration but nothing that any of us were practically following."

"We knew which vaccines weren't going well but the information around the science is hugely commercially sensitive. Until the regulators had agreed, then that information was nothing we could use.



Photo: Ruth Todd on the steps of No.10 Downing Street

"The conversations were always around 'if we get 50 or 60% efficacy that will be great' and then when Pfizer, Moderna and AZ came in and they'd all absolutely nailed it, it was amazing. You have no idea how excited we all were, first of all how much relief we felt."

"Let's be frank, I was late — I wanted to be there sooner. But I feel incredibly proud of what we achieved and I feel relieved."

All of the teams involved with looking at the vaccines were working their socks off to be ready to go, the minute the green flag was waved. Whether that was to build a factory or find a solution to a shortage in the supply chain, across seven vaccines.

"We called it a programme but really we were managing a supply chain; we did a lot of risk management and we were swift to do the deals. Primarily we were managing relationships. The contract management that sat behind that was simple. Everybody did their level best to get things over the line.

"I was just Mrs Grumpy the whole time! Asking people to find a better, faster way to do things. I had to keep remembering to demonstrate a sense of humour."



Photo (above): The whole taskforce, hosted by Kew Gardens. Dame Kate Bingham is pictured centre behind the man in the brown jumper.

"Everybody did their level best to get things over the line"

Ruth worked on the VTF from June 2020 to July 2021. She is now working for HS2. She left HCS to work with Jaguar Landrover, who sponsored her degree in manufacturing engineering.

Photos (right, top): Ruth made it a priority to ride for one hour every Sunday morning throughout the period when she was working on the VTF, as her breakout time to relax and think. She learnt to ride when growing up near Eardisley.

(Right, bottom): Ruth with Dr Gray at Speech Day 2022

(Below): Ruth, centre, with peers from her Class of 1987







OH NEWS

CHORISTER CLASS



For the first time in HCS history girls have been invited to join boys at the same age in order to receive musical training and education from the age of seven. This was due to a substantial, anonymous donation which enabled a mixed top line to be established in a sustainable way.

Canon Geraint Bowen, Director of Music said: "We are very excited to be starting the search for the chorister class of 2022: these boys and girls will make history in Hereford as our choir begins this new phase of its centuries-old existence."

Photo © Kath Proctor

SAMANTHA LEWIS



Samantha Lewis (OH 1995–2002) has been appointed Chair of the Herefordshire Veteran Support Centre. Being the daughter of a veteran, Samantha understands the difficulties some veterans face when they leave the military, and is passionate about providing the different levels of support that may be required. Sam is also the HR Director at NMITE, who are just as passionate about supporting military leavers and veterans, and have received the Gold Award via the Employer Recognition Scheme.



FRONT LINE EFFORTS REWARDED

Two OHs working as consultant dermatologists at Hereford County Hospital have lead the dermatology team which in late 2021 won the most prestigious award available nationally for a dermatology department, the BMJ Dermatology Team of the Year Award.

James Powell and Samiya Rahman (who featured in the 2020 OH magazine) went to the Covid wards to help face the initial Covid wave. After that they went back to their out patient department and battled in maintaining and improving services — which they did. "It was nice to have our and the teams achievements recognised with such a prestigious national award," James said.

The duo implemented Telederm-atology — enabling images to be sent from primary care so they could advise on diagnoses, treatments and triage into secondary care hospital care if required. They now deal with around 400 cases per month like this and have been topping national tables since starting up this service.

Photo of award-winning team © BBC

DR JOHN WALLACE



John Wallace (OH 1955–63) has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Theology and Ministry at the University of Durham for his thesis on Anglo-Catholic Church Planting.

MAJOR PATRICK KEATING MBE



Major Paddy Keating (OH 1997–2006) has been awarded the MBE. Paddy, who serves with the Rifles, received this award from King Charles at St James's Palace in July 2021. His MBE was in recognition of his exceptional service while serving in Iraq in 2019.

MICHAEL TOMLINSON FIRST KC OH



Michael Tomlinson (OH 1991–96), MP for Mid Dorset and North Poole, was appointed Solicitor General under Liz Truss's new government in September 2022.

He will become the first new KC since George VI's reign. He was previously a Vice Chamberlain of HM Household (Government Whip).

Michael described his role as a "privilege and honour" after the death of Her Majesty was announced on 8 September 2022.

Photo: MP Michael Tomlinson (right) with Rory Turnbull (OH 2007–14) in Westminster Hall at the war memorial. Rory won the same Middle Temple scholarship as Michael, the Queen Mother Scholarship, and went on to be a pupil at 3 Hare Court, London.

ENSURING ALL OUR PUPILS ARE REAL-WORLD READY



What does it take to thrive in a rapidly-changing world of massive technological, demographic, environmental and geopolitical shifts? How can we equip today's young generation for the opportunities and challenges of tomorrow, while grounding them in the timeless Christian values that underpin our Cathedral School? These are the big questions with which we have been grappling at HCS over the past twelve months during the first year of my headship. Thankfully, these have not just been conceptual musings but rather the stimuli to enable us to move the School forward so that every pupil leaves real-world ready.

Qualifications remain an integral part of modern society; they provide the passport to progress to the next stage of education or employment and our impressive examination results remain something on which we continue to put considerable focus. Yet once we have secured that job, how many of us have been asked about the number of A*s that we achieved at A Level or the classification of our degree? Instead, success is principally determined by having the requisite aptitudes, skills and dispositions.

These can generally be distilled into three key components: digital literacy, social literacy and cognitive literacy. In other words, pupils need the technical skills to navigate the modern world – for example, the ability to understand metadata, the power of algorithms and how to harness the benefits of artificial intelligence. They also need the cognitive abilities to think critically, creatively and innovatively – to communicate effectively and to problem-solve efficaciously. Social literacy requires them to exhibit emotional intelligence, foster relationships and demonstrate values-based leadership. Our strategic focus at HCS has been underpinned by these principles and aspirations.

Characteristic of that is our exciting digital strategy. From September, every pupil from Year 6 upwards will bring their own device into the classroom. At the most basic level, these laptop computers will allow them to work independently on project-based work and on research from any geographical location, either at home or at School. At a more advanced level, platforms such as Microsoft's OneNote will allow pupils to work collaboratively with each other and with their teachers, sharing and annotating written work. With its advanced functionality and varied utility, OneNote is the platform through which pupils arrange their notes, complete activities and prep, which can then be viewed and marked in real time by their teachers. It also acts as a repository for all class notes from the teacher, which is invaluable in instances of pupil absence. All teachers now use the Microsoft Surface Pro, harnessing the power of technology into their teaching. We have also begun investing in virtual reality headsets as we look to develop our robotics, AI & VR centre.

In addition to the technological changes, September also sees the launch of our HCS Diploma, an exciting Sixth Form programme which complements the A Level courses. Students will take a large number of short non-examined elective courses in subjects such as personal finance, introductions to cooking and how to have difficult conversations. Alongside these, they will complete independent projects, engage with work within the community, and develop their skills in leadership and service. Students will graduate from the Diploma with a digital transcript of their skills, accomplishments and experiences, evidence of their real-world readiness.

We are also introducing two new departments into the School. The Futures Department replaces the Careers Departments and focuses on future-proofing all our pupils from the age of 3 to 18. Our Learning Skills Department replaces our Learning Support Department and will ensure that all learners can develop the study skills and techniques to make the most of their learning.

Delivering a sector-leading education that ensures all pupils are real-world ready means investing in our estate and facilities. Renovations of our Sixth Form centre are soon to begin, as well as capital expenditure projects in the Junior Schools. We are also exploring a number of exciting and innovative commercial opportunities to help support our ongoing efforts.

There has never been a more exciting time to be a part of the HCS community; the demand for places is exceptionally high, the boarding house is buzzing with pupils both from the UK and around the world, and the calibre of staff we are able to attract is second to none. As an OH, we do hope that you will continue to engage with the journey we are on: you could listen to our new podcast series *HCS: Helping Children Succeed*; you could come and visit us in the Close; or support our efforts through the giving of your time, treasure or talent. We are committed to every pupil at HCS leaving real-world ready, not as an end in itself, but so that through their service to society, they can add value to the lives of others and help to make the world a better place.

Dr Michael Gray

Headmaster

Photo: Head Dr Gray speaks to Trish, daughter of former Head Jack 'Hoppy' Hopewell


THE STATESMAN


Hereford Cathedral School
Boat Club, 1972
JUNIOR COLTS 'A' VIII





LETTERS

MARTIN EVERETT

It was so good to see Barry Howard (BJS Howard, OH 1955–59) yesterday after these many years. As we were only in Scarborough for a short time, he drove me 'around the bay' in his late wife Jenny's 1973 Mini. His grand gesture was 'the icing on the cake' for my grand day out. As the Pullman train travelled back south, at each station we passed, there were many photographers recording us passing. There seemed to be a lot of interest in just an old diesel Pullman train. I decided to look it up. 47593 (formerly D1973) 'Galloway Princess' entered service with BR in 1965. It seems it is an icon of the early days of diesel traction that still running on GBR (although in private ownership). You can even buy as a model from Hornby! So yesterday we have touched a bit of railway history. Sadly, not steam.

Martin Everett (OH 1959)

Photo (top left): Martin Everett and Barry Howard at Scarborough station

MARK WOOLLEY

My name is Mark Woolley and I read with interest the 2020 OH magazine. I was a boarder at School House from 1970 to 1975 and remember the first girls.

Though after my time, I was interested in Sandra Finch's article as it refers to dropping off a key at Ted Pannell's. Ted was verger at the Cathedral and my hobby is church bellringing. Both Ted and his wife Edna were bellringers, but due to Ted's Cathedral duties had less time to ring than Edna. Edna used to take me out on Saturday afternoons to ringing practices around the county. I continued to correspond at Christmas with Edna and Ted, although Ted died aged 100 in 2021. Cathedral bellringing practice was on a Wednesday evening and Pete Skinner gave me permission to attend the practice, so I avoided prep that evening.

By coincidence the person who taught me to ring at Reigate in Surrey was also an OH. His name was Ambrose Shelton; he died in about 1980 in I think his eighties so probably went to Hereford somewhere around 1910. I remember when I came home for the first half-term he asked me if Big School still existed which I was of course able to confirm it did.

A further OH connection with my bellringing is that one Saturday morning at School House I was told that there was a man in a crash helmet by the tuck shop asking to see me. That person was a Cathedral ringer John Eisel (OH) and he wanted me to ring that afternoon in what would be my first peal (that's ringing without stopping for about 3 hours). I had to get permission from Pete Skinner, which was easily forthcoming, confirming the way in which many of the teachers encouraged extra activities.

A couple of other articles caught my attention. I remember the junior entrance exam in 1973 as Ege Parker (my house tutor though he never taught me as I did not do history) asked me to help sort the marked scripts. I recall him commenting that girls tended to score more highly than boys in exams at that age. What that meant for the marking system, I am not sure.

Though he did not teach me maths, I am fairly sure I remember Martin Nicholson. He lived at a house near the bottom of Castle Street and had an old Rolls Royce. He allowed some of us to try our hand at cooking and my parents were somewhat surprised when I went home and said I had made chocolate eclairs.

Both Martin and Ege liked classical music and I went with Ege (who played the oboe) to hear Leon Goossens at the Shire Hall. A group of us also went with Martin to a concert in Monmouth at Monmouth School. We all went to the dressing rooms at the end of the concert and got Antal Dorati's autograph (which I still have).

That's probably enough ramblings from my time at Hereford.

Mark Woolley (OH 1975)

Photos: (top right) Boat Club 1972, (centre) Coxing the Colts VIII and (bottom) School House 1973



NICK WALLIS

I nearly fell off my chair when I turned to page 22 of 2021's OH magazine and found myself looking at a very tastelessly dressed young man in a silly white hat of some 45 years ago: me!

I remember the photo being taken and my recollection is that it was reproduced in the *Hereford Times*. The trip was hugely enjoyable and educational in ways I could not have foreseen. I have sadly lost touch with all those in the shot...If you are interested I can name all those in the picture, though can offer you little else.

Nick Wallis (OH 1970–76)

Photo: 'Ready for departure to Istanbul' from OH magazine 2021


HOP FIELDS
CIDER ORCHARDS





MEMORIES OF THE 1950s

Excerpts of a letter from Patrick Broome...

My intake had first use of the new building between Deanery and No 1 Castle Street, which not only having classrooms but included a shower room and woodworking area, all fitted out with brand new equipment. In my third year I moved into the old school with desks and seats that had seen better years but understanding that after the world war finances were tight for everyone. Some lessons were held in Big School with long desks that could seat four pupils at least. If possible I would sit at the back, especially in winter to benefit from the heat of the cast iron radiators.

Mornings always began with service in the Lady Chapel and then lessons with a break around 10.30. This began with our daily intake of 1/3 pint of milk, crates of which had been stacked just inside the gateway near to the building containing the cloakroom and above it the armoury. I do not remember it being offered after my 3rd year. Break-time itself was either kicking a tennis ball between two walls chalked with goalposts or cricket in area that was adjacent to Quay Street. The only problem being that many a stray shot would be over the wall making its way to the Castle Green...The one positive that I can recall is that no windows were broken.

I joined the CCF after a talk with E R B Gray (known as Erbie). I say 'talk', it was more a lecture. It was in my third year and he moved through the class urging students to join. He approached and asked me to which I replied I was not interested. His response was to lecture me how he and all the other forces had suffered and given their lives for us (he was a retired Colonel). In hindsight I can understand his position as at that time we young ones were not aware of all the horrors that happened. Having joined the band as a bugler (not a very good one), I changed to tenner drummer. I recall one day all marching back to school along King Street, happily beating the drum and twirling my sticks when one vanished in the air. It was recovered by Capt.Lush who was heading the rest of the contingent.

Cricket was another of my interests and under Mr Lancaster as 1st team coach had two sessions with him. I was a batsman and slip fielder. Tony Howgate (good bowler), was also in the team and we had a saying between us — 'you bowl 'em, I'll catch 'em'.



The day that OH Peter Richardson scored a century against the Australians Mr Hopewell announced a half-day holiday in recognition.

On Sports Day masters would officiate with Pooh Bayliss on his shooting stick at the finishing line, who together with Arden Davies between them recorded names and times of winners. In my last year I won the Victor Ludorum and my brother, Peter, won the Junior Ludorum. As one master cynically observed, the Broomes has swept the board!

I left school in December 1956 and was awarded rugby colours in a note from Stephen (Tiger) Bell signed as Acting Headmaster in the absence of Mr Hopewell, who had been taken ill and sadly died the following January.

On a more personal note, there is a reference in Howard Tomlinson's book Hereford Cathedral School: A History Over 800 Years to the felling of two beech trees in the playground in an area that had many uses including ogling of passing girls. I was one of those that 'ogled' a girl, but in my case I spent 62 years of life with her and married for 57 of them.

My years at HCS were enjoyable and although I may not have achieved academic levels the school gave me a good grounding for the life ahead teaching me how to interact with people and giving me the confidence to lead and make decisions.

Patrick (Pat or Patch) Broome (OH 1956)

Photos, opposite page: (top) Setting off from Hereford railway station in July 1956 for World Scout Jamboree at Niagara Falls, Canada (Patrick on far left).

(centre) Pooh Bayliss on his shooting stick judging the long jump.

(bottom) Patrick Broome winning the 100 yards at Cathedral Sports Day 1955 (also in picture are competitors Roger Brown and Eddie Evans and teachers Mr Arden-Davies (left) and PC Bayliss (seated).

(this page) Patrick Broome's trophies.

AN ENDURING LOVE OF SINGING

I joined Hereford Cathedral Choir/School in January 1961, aged 10. I was a chorister in the time of Dr Melville Cook whom I remember as a stern and demanding Organist and Master of Choristers. I passed my audition and Common Entrance Examination in 1959, aged 9, but I had no musical instrument and, unusually, couldn't even read music but I did have a remarkable ability to learn by ear almost instantly, so although I did learn to read music I was slow and relied mostly on my memory for musical notation. After my voice broke at aged 14 I didn't sing again in an organised choir until I was 62, but the detailed memory of the music I sang between January 1961 and December 1964 stayed with me.

Last night I was at a rehearsal for some summer concerts performed by my current chamber choir, Torbay Singers. One of the pieces we shall be performing is 'I Was Glad' by CHH (Hubert) Parry. When I was a chorister at Hereford Cathedral Parry was one of my favourite composers and I especially loved 'Never Weatherbeaten Sail' and 'My Soul, There is a Country…' from Parry's *Songs of Farewell*. I can still remember the treble part of them intricately.

Our choirmaster at Torbay has a background with some similarities to mine in that whereas I was Head Chorister at Hereford Cathedral in the 1960s, he was Head Chorister at Gloucester Cathedral in the 1980s. He told us last night that the middle section of Parry's 'I Was Glad' was normally omitted except on occasions such as a 10 (20, 30, etc) year anniversary or Jubilee concert, but we would be including it because this was the Queen's 70th anniversary. As we rehearsed I became aware that I knew this section too, quite intricately. Why did I know it so well? Then I realised that the last time I had sung this anthem was in Hereford Cathedral in 1962 and it would have been the Queen's 10th Anniversary of Accession. It struck me that this was a peculiar distinction: to sing the same anthem 60 years later including the middle section, although last time I was a treble and now I'm a bass!

I wonder if anyone else has an anecdote like this.

Howard Davies (OH 1961–68)

Ed: if you do have a similar musical anecdote please share it with us!

CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Peter Fairman-Bourne (OH 1959) shared with us this photo featuring the Cathedral Choir and clergy outside on the lawn beside the Lady Chapel, dated July 1953 (the year of HRH Elizabeth II's accession to the throne), and also an old photograph dated 1955 featuring the young choir members standing on the rostrum down by the West Door rehearsing with the main Festival Chorus for that year's Three Choirs Festival. The BBC recorded this performance.

Photos: (top) The Cathedral Choir in July of the Coronation year 1953.

(centre) Three Choirs Festival: rehearsal in 1955 with Conductor Meredith Davies. Choristers lined up along the front left-hand side of the cathedral are: Robert Hall; Barry Pugh; Richard (Pip) Vaughan; Richard Joyce; Malcolm (Archie) Greenwood; Ian Harwood; Brian Lewis (only his face visible behind shoulder of conductor Meredith Davies). Front row (left to right): Peter Bourn; Michael Tansley (wearing short trousers); Roger Ridler; David Jarman; Peter Hargraves; David Anwyl.

(bottom) HMV van in front of the West Door.









COME FLY WITH ME

During the late 1950s it became apparent that there was going to be a shortage of ex-military pilots who would be available to crew British civil aircraft. The two (then) state owned airline corporations, British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) and British European Airways (BEA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Aviation, proposed a flying school based loosely on the Royal Airforce's officer training college at Cranwell.

The site chosen was a small airfield at Hamble, Hampshire, near Southampton and the first course of cadets began training in 1960. By 1967, the year I started training, the programme had expanded to include training schools at Kidlington near Oxford and at Perth in Scotland.

Competition for places was intense and consisted of two interviews, a group session, a medical and finally a flying test and I was accepted onto an eighteen-month course at Kidlington. On the course we alternated ground school and flying training, initially on single engine Piper Cherokees and then twin-engine Piper Twin Comanches. Ground training included aerodynamics, astronavigation, meteorology, propulsion, and many other associated disciplines.

I left Kidlington in1968 with a British commercial pilot's licence and a 'frozen' airline transport pilot's licence, which could be converted into a full airline transport pilot's licence after further examinations and having accumulated the requisite flying hours.





I joined BOAC in October 1968 and by March 1969 after ground school and simulator training I was flying the Vickers VC10 as a Second Officer under supervision. The transition from flying a light twin with a cabin the size of a small saloon car to flying a one hundred and fifty seat airliner had taken just four months.

In the airline, training was continuous and included gaining a flight navigator's licence. This was before the time of inertial navigation systems, as used in the Apollo programme, and a very long time before the introduction of GPS. I spent many a long night over the world's oceans using a periscopic sextant to fix the aircraft's position by the stars and during daylight hours using the Sun, Moon and Venus.

With a flight navigator's licence and fully cleared to operate on the VC10 without supervision I earned my second stripe and was able to unfreeze my airline transport pilot's licence and so was fully qualified.

I spent ten years flying the VC10, travelling all over the world, visiting every continent and in 1976 I was assigned to the Abu Dhabi Royal flight for four months carrying Sheik Zayed and his entourage around the Middle East.

Then in 1978 I transitioned to the Lockheed Tristar which was a step forward in technology with full 'Autoland' capability and an inertial navigation system. So my days of star-gazing and astronavigation were over. The Tristar was a much bigger aircraft seating over three hundred passengers and in 1982 I was seconded to the RAF flying troops between Brize Norton and Ascension Isle in the aftermath of the Falkland's war. The troops were transferred to the SS Uganda for the final leg of their journey to Port Stanley.

Promotion to the rank of Captain was strictly by seniority and in 1984 I gained my command flying a BAC 1-11 and then transferred to the Boeing 747 in 1987. This was to be my home for the remaining twenty-five years of my career and in 1992 I was invited to join the training department. This involved overseeing pilots on their six-monthly simulator checks, training pilots who were new to the B747 and being part of the team that looked into pilot's behaviour and interactions on the flightdeck.

After the 1977 Tenerife airport disaster in which two Boeing 747 aircraft collided on the runway killing 583 people, a programme called 'Crew Resource Management' was introduced to address failings.

While retaining a command hierarchy, the concept of Crew Resource Management was intended to foster a less authoritarian cockpit atmosphere in which co-pilots were encouraged to question captains if they observed them making mistakes. In short, a cultural shift to a more cooperative style of operation. The training in British Airways covered communications including questioning and listening skills, decision making and situational awareness.

This was without doubt the most rewarding part of my career and my contribution to the programme was recognised through the Honourable Company of Air Pilots when I was granted the Freedom of the City of London. My contract with British Airways passenger operations ended in 2002, but I continued flying with the Cargo Section for another ten years, retiring on my 65th birthday in 2012.

Richard Hartley

Old Deanery, 1958–65

IT'LL BE ALRIGHT ON THE NIGHT

I was a pupil at the school from 1954 to 1959 under my birth name of Michael Wilkins. My mother was determined to revert to her maiden name so I went to Sandhurst as Michael Parker.

I joined my wonderful Regiment, the Queen's Own Hussars, in 1959 in Germany. I had a great time and organised a number of very large events. I woke up one day and decided that I didn't want to be a General so put in my 'papers'.

Before I knew it I found myself Producer of the Royal Tournament. I was approached by the Major General of the Household Division and asked if I would be interested in producing a major event (or two) for the upcoming Silver Jubilee.

Jubilees only happen every 25 years of a sovereign's reign, so this was going to be special. I agreed and started working on the first major event — an intervisible Chain of Beacons (just like those that sent the alarm at the time of the Armada).

With the help of men of the Royal Park at Windsor we built a huge beacon some 50 feet high. It was so large that you could walk inside it and climb a ladder to the top. It was situated by the Copper Horse at the end of the Long Walk at Windsor.

By that time I had only met the Queen a few times... and never before with a live television audience. I was petrified!

The 'experts' said 'nobody would come; they would all watch it on the television'. So I organised 600 or so of the Sealed Knot (a Civil War re-enactment society) and 800 or so of the Lewis Bonfire Society (wonderful pyromaniacs with large torches)... so we would not be alone.

On the night over 40,000 of the people 'who would never turn up', did... and we had no facilities (except trees!).

The whole Royal Family were coming and we had Lord Hunt and Sir Edmund Hillary from the Conquest of Everest, which had been announced on Coronation Day, in the Royal Box.

I was worried that the beacon wouldn't light quickly enough so I had it stuffed with electrically ignited fuses and put a Royal Signals Major (who I thought would be sensible) on the button.

The Queen, having been held up by the huge crowds, was arriving late. I was introduced. I said: "Ma'am, I'm afraid we are running rather late — we need to hurry", which we did, but as we turned a corner I noticed that the 1948 Olympic Torch, which was to be used to light the fuse, had gone out... they were madly trying to stuff another bit in.



So I said: "Ma'am, could we slow down a bit please?"

"Make up your mind!" Her Majesty responded with a large smile!

When we got to the little boy who was to present the now-lit Torch, he was crying. The Queen took the Torch and said, with another smile: "You should be in bed!"

The Queen then lit the fuse, which flared up... and the idiot Major pressed the button and the Beacon lit as the flaring fuse was still going along the ground.

The Queen turned to me and said: "I can't think why you asked me!"... I groaned.

After a short while there was a large bang quite near us. "What was that?"

"Well Ma'am, that is a flare that I have given to each of the Beacon sites in case the visibility is bad." We both looked up. There was a large bang. They had put a maroon in the tube by mistake rather than a flare.

"What are they supposed to do... listen to that?"

I groaned again. "Your Majesty, I have to tell you that everything that could possibly go wrong, is all going terribly wrong!"

'Oh good! What fun!" she said, with a very broad smile.

Great relief... when the Royal Party had left I had a very, very large drink!

Major Sir Michael Parker (OH 1959)

Photo: The Queen at the Silver Jubilee Fireworks in 1977

IN GHANA

TEACHING & CHILDCARE PROJECT



We had spent the last year working with children: Rose at university as an undergraduate student studying Primary Teacher Education, and Imogen as a Hereford Cathedral Junior School Gap Student. So we were both extremely excited to take part in the 'Ghana Teaching and Childcare Project' for two weeks.

This opportunity offered us an introduction to Ghanaian society. The two charities involved were the Dream Africa Care Foundation and the Rising Stars of Africa. We were mainly involved with the former, which aims to provide care for vulnerable Ghanaian people until they are integrated into the community. We were lucky enough to see first-hand the positive impact that the charities have made.

We spent two weeks there, volunteering in an orphanage based just outside the capital, Accra. The shelter was home to thirty children, the oldest being eighteen years old and the youngest only two and a half. The children were looked after predominantly by two women: Auntie Mary and Grandma. Alongside the volunteers, they ensured the day-to-day running of the orphanage: making sure the children were fed, washed and dressed, and showing them care and compassion. The older children were also keen to help; however, this was often challenging as they would either be at school during the day or be working long hours to build their independence. This meant there were always plenty of ways in which volunteers could help.

Our main role was to spend time, entertain and interact with the children. Their playful sense of humour led to regular tug of war competitions and hand clapping games such as 'Rockin' Robin' and 'Tick-Tack-Toe'. The children were also fond of plaiting our hair and painting our nails, with the older children keen to instruct the younger ones. Some taught us how to make beautiful bracelets out of tiny beads and one piece of wire — these would then be sold in the small roadside shop at the front of the orphanage, recently set up by Grandma.

At the shelter, they could all speak basic English. We supported their word recognition and language comprehension with the limited books available. It was interesting to compare their school textbooks and content with textbooks that we used at school. It was noticeable how the progression of their learning was unstructured in comparison to the UK but there was a great shared love for learning, nonetheless.

Throughout the whole experience, we noted how appreciative and positive each person was. All the children were hard-working and shared ambitions for their future. The Rising Stars of Africa is an important sports development charity which aims to give children the chance to fulfil their sporting potential. One of our afternoons involved a visit to the football academy to see the progress being made among the young athletes.

As volunteers at the orphanage, we were keen to organise special day events for the children. We arranged for a dance instructor to come into the shelter to teach everyone a few different routines. The session was full of laughter and delight.

We stayed in a shared volunteer house which was a ready-made social scene located roughly a half an hour's drive outside the vibrant capital city. This meant we were able to experience both the culture of the suburbs of Accra and the more urbanised city centre, giving us a greater understanding of the way of life and of such a wonderfully welcoming and friendly country. It was fascinating to learn about the lives of the volunteers and form friendships with people from around the world, including Germany, the Netherlands and Spain. We also lived with locals; Mary cooked the most delicious meals for us, Ishmael gave us all the knowledge we needed for the area, and David and Elijah, who were both still in school, taught us key phrases in Twi (the local language).



During the weekend, we had the opportunity to visit Cape Coast, the capital of the Central Region, in southern Ghana. Known for its role in the transatlantic slave trade, we were able to learn about the pre-colonial local history, slave trade and traditional crafts by visiting both Elmina Castle and Cape Coast Castle. And we also had the opportunity to complete the canopy walk at Kankun National Park and stroke a crocodile!



On our final day we took part in an organised walk to raise awareness of child neglect and abuse. Incredible memories were made, and valuable life lessons learnt. We would like to express our gratitude to the Evolva Award and the OH Club for supporting us to make this experience possible.



Imogen Blyth &
Rose Goodfellow

OH 2021

COMMON ROOM SHUFFLE

MATT BUNBY

Teacher of Physics (2021–22)

Matt joined HCS as an Early Career Teacher from a background in the events industry as an audio-visual and IT engineer. In addition to teaching physics across the age range, he has been involved in the RAF section of the CCF where he will continue next year as a volunteer. Matt's wide-ranging technical expertise has been called upon on countless occasions, and he is commonly found in the Drama Department helping with practical assessments or leading the production teams. Matt leaves HCS to take up the post of technical project manager with the aim of returning to teaching in the future.

LEX COULTON

Teacher of English (2021–22)

This is the third time Lex has left HCS; once as a student and twice now as a teacher.

In between, she has taught in a number of prestigious schools and become a published novelist. Her love of horses and labradors brought her from London back to Herefordshire where she has twice helped out the English Department when we have needed her expertise in teaching exam classes. She is an inspirational teacher who will be missed. Lex leaves with our renewed thanks and warmest wishes.

PATRICK DALEY

Teacher of Classics (2021–22)

Patrick has been an invaluable member of the Classics Department since rejoining us in September 2021; he has brought with him a wealth of teaching experience as well as a lively, humorous and erudite approach in the classroom, and his Sixth Form students have benefitted hugely from his wisdom and kindness. Patrick has also provided fantastic extra support for GCSE Latin pupils, going over and above the call of duty. His tireless efforts in producing detailed, thorough and immensely helpful revision resources for exam classes have been greatly appreciated by his students and colleagues alike.

> "Students have benefitted hugely from his wisdom and kindness"

TYLERI FITZGERALD

Teacher of Classics (2020–22)

Tyleri, an Old Herefordian, joined the Classics Department in September 2020, although she had previously provided support with Year 9 teaching and Classics Club. She immediately showed how adaptable she was, rising effortlessly to the challenges of online learning during lockdown, and has been an invaluable member of the team ever since. She has inspired classes with innovative teaching tools such as the 'imperfect sheep' and supporting departmental trips and clubs such as Beginners' Greek. She has also made significant contributions in the fields of DofE and rowing.

SAMANTHA HICKS

Transport Co-ordinator (2018–22)

Samantha was first employed at Hereford Cathedral School as the Facilities Administrator, working closely with drivers and parents, co-ordinating transport. Previously she worked in an estate agency as a senior negotiator and sales manager. In 2019, Samantha moved to an administration role in the Accounts Department. She was a valuable member of staff, who has left us to become a cover supervisor for Bishops School. We wish her all the best for her future.

RACHEL LAVENDER

Teacher of Maths (2009–22)

Rachel joined the Mathematics Department from an engineering background. During her 13-year tenure, she has also taught physics and computing. In addition to her work in the classroom, Rachel has made a significant contribution to the wider life of HCS, including the CCF and her work with the School's charitable endeavours. She has helped to raise significant funds for a number of well-chosen charities. Rachel has also played an important role in the lives of tutees as a Year 8 and Year 9 Tutor in Langford House. We wish Rachel well as she joins the Mathematics Department at Bredon School.

AMANDA LLOYD

Headmaster's PA (2019–22)

Amanda joined Hereford Cathedral School as PA to the Headmaster and Office Manager shortly before the pandemic, and played a vital role in supporting the School through the challenges of Covid. Amanda has been integral in ensuring a smooth transition of Headmasters, supporting Dr Gray in his first year with professionalism. Her caring approach has been valued by all. The role inevitably involves liaising with lots of people, both inside and outside of HCS. Amanda's good humour and flexibility has always been much appreciated and enabled things to move forward effectively. Her friendliness and warmth will be missed by all and we wish her well.

DAVID EVANS

Director of Music (1996–2022)

David has been an extraordinary and charismatic Director of Music who has ensured a flourishing and rich musical culture at HCS since his arrival in 1996. A natural and intuitive musician, David has led the large and vibrant Music Department from the front and raised the standard of the School's music-making to ever-higher levels.

David's special power is his ability to relate to each and every pupil and instinctively know what it is they need in order to develop as both musicians and personalities. His is an incredibly motivating presence and there will be many former pupils who will know that they owe him a huge personal debt of gratitude for his efforts on their behalf.

He has a passion for outreach and spreading the musical gospel to all corners of the county, founding the Saturday Morning Music School and thereby encouraging and managing the junior choir as well as personally running the adult choir at the other end of the age spectrum. This step has greatly widened the access for those young people who have not yet benefitted from a musical education, and created more interest and participation in Herefordshire.

David has fantastic relationships with pupils, parents and colleagues. He presides over the Music School with a great sense of humour while nourishing the professionalism of the peripatetic music staff. It's lovely that he will not be disappearing completely and will continue to teach piano from September. And everyone will be only too aware of his famous philosophical dictum:



"Be in the right place, at the right time, wearing the right clothes!"

Photo: David Evans (left) with Dick Rhodes

BRIAN McAULEY

Teacher of Geography (2020–22)

Brian joined HCS in September 2020 and quickly became a much-valued member of the Geography Department and also of Wilmot House, becoming Assistant House-master there the following year. As a geography teacher, he has always exhibited a calm, positive and patient approach, which has gained him much popularity with pupils, and his focus on integrating current affairs into his teaching has really brought the subject to life.

Once trips returned post-Covid, his involvement on field trips studying rivers, cities, woodlands and wet-lands was also significant, and both colleagues and pupils have benefitted from and appreciated his skills, knowledge and pragmatic approach. Brian will be sorely missed in Wilmot House, too, for his enormous contribution to the life of our boarders. He has organised countless activities in a meticulous manner, with positivity and generosity of spirit. Throughout these busy two years, and necessitated by Covid, Mr McAuley has managed to maintain a long-distance relationship with (and, indeed, marry!) his wife, and we wish him success as he moves to Hong Kong this summer to join her there.

MARY McCUMISKY

Careers Officer (2011–21)

Mary was appointed to Hereford Cathedral School as Head of Careers and Higher Education in 2011. Educated at St Mary's College of Education, University of London, she studied French and English, going on to teach in London before moving to Worcestershire where, alongside bringing up her family, she undertook a PGCE in MFL at the University of Worcester and subsequently a postgraduate qualification at Homerton College Cambridge, 'Leading and Managing Careers Work in Schools'. Prior to taking up the post at HCS, Mary taught French and was Head of Careers and HE at St Mary's School for Girls in Worcester. In her time at HCS, Mary developed and delivered the Careers and Higher Education Programme, working closely with the team of UCAS advisers and Head of Sixth Form, as well as occasionally undertaking some French teaching in the Modern Foreign Languages Department.

Mary retires to spend more time with her family and grandchildren, but still continues to work locally as a careers adviser in Worcestershire.

"He will be sorely missed for his enormous contribution"

JILL PATTISON

Teacher of Maths (2005–22)

Jill Pattison joined the HCS Mathematics Department in 2005, but her association with the School started back in 1996 as the first of her three children passed through the school. Having originally only taught up to GCSE level, she honed her mathematical skills to become a superb teacher of A-Level and Further Mathematics. In her subject, Jill has also run numerous mathematics competitions including the UKMT Maths Challenge and the local primary schools' mathematics competition over a number of years. In addition to her expertise in the classroom, Jill has made a significant contribution to the pastoral life of the School in her role as Head of Somerset House (2017–21) and as a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (2016–21). Jill has also supported many school trips, including multiple residentials: several languages trips to France and economics trips to New York, and a ski trip. Jill has also served on the Common Room Committee, supporting her colleagues on the staff. We wish Jill a very happy retirement.

JO PETERS

Head of Spanish, UCAS Co-ordinator (1994–2022)

Jo Peters has been instrumental in bringing Spanish to the School and the MFL Department, and in ensuring that its uptake is so successful at both GCSE and A-Level. For many years, Jo has run the immensely popular biennial Spanish trip for Years 8 & 9, on which they are given the chance to experience the language and culture in action.

Jo has enjoyed her role as Sixth Form tutor and has helped to encourage and support many of the students in her care as they prepared for the UCAS process. Jo's role as UCAS Co-ordinator has meant that she has given hours of her time in supporting personal statements, references and university applications as well as attending many results days and university open days for Sixth Formers over the years. We wish her well as she takes up the role of Personal Tutor at Hereford Sixth Form College.

LOUIS PROVIS

Teacher of English, PSHE Co-ordinator (2019–22)

Louis' academic pedigree is impressive, with degrees from both Oxford and Cambridge; he once even appeared on University Challenge. The English Department staff will miss his unflappable good humour and willingness to share his many profound insights into teaching and literature. He has been instrumental in building up basketball as a sport in the school, which is particularly popular with our international students and will hopefully be an abiding legacy. Anyone who has been in his lessons will know Louis is also a talented artist and his whiteboard is often a display of creative genius as well as demonstrating a skilled grasp of language. He is a popular and inspirational teacher, always probing and challenging students to expand their ideas. This year he has been in charge of PSHE for the senior years. Louis leaves HCS to take on the role of Head of Sixth Form at Hillcrest School in Birmingham.

LISA STEVENS

Study Support (2008–22)

Lisa joined HCS in September 2008 from Priory Solutions, a private childcare provider, where she had been Head of Education across two schools. She came with a wide experience of working with children and a determination which saw her achieve her Level 7 Qualification alongside working in her role. She established excellent relationships with staff so that they became ever more part of a united team. Study Support in Room H became the place to come for teachers needing guidance as well as pupils seeking reassurance.

Lisa's kindness as well as her meticulous attention to detail meant that pupils blossomed under her care, many carrying on to exceed all expectations. The numbers of pupils being referred to the department rose exponentially so that HCS became the school to turn to for many in need of additional support. Lisa has also been a mainstay of the English Department, contributing enormously to successful results for significant numbers of the more reluctant English students. Besides this, she widened in-class support for many curriculum subjects, gave administrative support to the DofE, contributed to various in-house committees, as well as the PTA, and enthusiastically joined trips abroad for sports teams and Spanish. Her passionate commitment has ensured that HCS offers excellent access to the full curriculum for all.

REBECCA STEVENS

Boarding (2020–22)

Rebecca has been a calm and dependable presence as a Graduate Assistant at Wilmot House this year. Her patience has been a valuable virtue which has benefitted both staff and students, particularly when encouraging punctuality and organisation among a large group of teens! She has also made an enormous contribution to the Drama Department, not only in lessons, where she has independently taught a number of Year 7 classes and supported the teaching of exam classes, but in co-curricular provision, where she assisted backstage with *Macbeth*, musically directed *Treasure Island*, and created and directed an entirely new event, *A Night at the Musicals*. She is moving on to Eastbourne College and we wish her luck in the next steps of her teaching career.

DIANA SUMMERS

Examinations Officer (2016–22)

Diana Summers leaves us this year having led our Examinations Department since 2016. In this important role, she has overseen all our GCSE and A-Level examinations, ensuring that all our pupils are entered for the correct examinations, having been briefed accordingly, as well as leading our team of invigilators. That examinations have run smoothly for so long demonstrates her contribution to the school. We wish Diana every success in her new role.

LYDIA TAYLOR

Teacher of Music (2020–22)

Lydia joined HCS after graduating as a French horn player at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and completing a PGCE as a Music Specialist. As a leading French horn player, she had been encouraged to go into the orchestral world, however had always had her mind set on teaching. During her time here she has had an enormous influence on the wind and brass sections in particular, and has enhanced the provision for high-level chamber music. As a class teacher, Lydia's attention to detail and meticulous preparation has produced outstanding experience for all of her pupils. We wish her well as she moves to John Kyrle High School in Ross.

JAMES TERRY

Head of Sixth Form (2005–22)

James originally joined HCS from Shrewsbury School in 1991 to take up the role of Geography Boarding Tutor. After seven years, he left to become Head of Geography at Monmouth Girls School. James loved HCS so much that he couldn't stay away, and rejoined us in 2005 as Head of Sixth Form.

James's contribution to school life has been extremely significant and it is undoubtedly true that he will be remembered with incredible fondness by those pupils who were fortunate to be taught by him, as well as those in the Sixth Form. As a geographer, James has always demonstrated a real passion for his subject, and his support of A-Level geographers with their coursework and projects has been much appreciated. He has always given up huge amounts of his time, often in the holidays, to oversee their work.

As Head of Sixth Form, James has supported the students, both from an academic and pastoral perspective. Of principal importance has been the work that he has done in supporting pupils in their university applications, giving them advice and guidance in their efforts to achieve places at some of the country's leading institutions. James is ever-present in and around the Sixth Form Café, keeping spirits high, particularly at times of need, for example in the season of public examinations. James will be much missed by staff and pupils alike; he will be fondly remembered and we wish him a very happy retirement.

"Of principal importance has been the work that he has done in supporting pupils in their university applications, giving them advice and guidance in their efforts to achieve places at some of the country's leading institutions."

DR ZAC WATKINS

Teacher of Biology (2016–22)

Zac joined HCS from Millfield School, moving back to his family home in Herefordshire. Zac is an Old Herefordian who has a deep affection for the School. He joined us as an experienced biology and psychology teacher.

The School had started Psychology A-Level a couple of years before Zac joined us, but it wasn't until he arrived that the department really took off in terms of numbers and results. This year, there are two A-Level Psychology sets in Year 12 for the first time.

Zac has organised the very successful trips to Kenya in recent years. He has also been involved in rugby coaching and has made a huge contribution to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme including the trips to the Pyrenées. His kind-hearted approach was characterised by the fact that he lent Mrs Burdett his warm coat on one of the Pyrenées trips when she hadn't realised how cold it got in Spain in July, and he kindly wandered around in a T-shirt! We wish Zac every success in the next chapter of his journey.

CHARLIE WATT

Boarding (2020–22)

Charlie Watt's CV certainly caught our attention with a season as 'Chuckles the Elf' in Lapland, and he has certainly lived up to this expectation by injecting enthusiasm and energy into all he does. He has contributed to the Drama and Games departments in addition to his busy role at our boarding house.

Mr Watt has proved to be a good listener and source of advice for many teenage dilemmas, as well as demonstrating a keen eye when analysing a variety of sports. I am sure that Mr Watt will agree that he has learned a lot during his two years at HCS, and we wish him luck as he moves to Eastbourne College.

REUNIONS

LEAVERS OF 1978, 79 AND 80

The Castle Pool basked in the warm glow of a September sunset as, one by one, travellers from far afield entered the poolside terrace and, instantly recognising one another, took their places. At last, when all were assembled and duly refreshed a voice was heard to ask; "so, where are we going for this curry, then?"

And so began a weekend of merriment (and not infrequent refreshment) and that utterly unique experience of seeing a once-familiar face for the first time in forty years and, unhesitatingly, recalling everything about them, still able to see the same boy or girl in a face mellowed by the passage of time, as if all the intervening years have served only to make them the 'echt' version of themselves.

The School's Development office were wonderfully hospitable and ensured that Saturday afternoon passed most enjoyably. It was particularly notable that there was barely a building or room in the school still serving the same purpose as it had in the 1970s and yet it all remained, indisputably, HCS (plus ça change....) Also notable was the number of buildings in Castle Street now bearing the school plaque; how long until even the hotel is absorbed, one wonders.

Sunday morning brought fond farewells and sworn undertakings to do it all again next year. We shall see.

Damon Holliday

LEAVERS OF 1981

Forty years after leaving HCS a group of Old Herefordians decided to meet up again. The pandemic scuppered our initial plans and delayed the gathering which eventually took place on a sunny afternoon in June 2022. Old friends came from far and wide, including Paul Hollingworth from California and Ian Meadowcroft from France. Dave Croll had to cancel his plans to travel from Japan but sent a consignment of his award-winning gin, so was forgiven for his absence.

We met in the Herefordshire garden of Clare and Steve Scotcher, where a delicious lunch was masterminded by Sally Riding and Tilsley Peck. Most people were recognisable versions of their 18-year-old selves and very soon the old stories and reminiscences started flooding back, aided by a 'slide show' put together by Gary Withers. There were plenty of photos to embarrass everyone!

The next morning the OH team had kindly offered to arrange a tour of the school. A few of our number were a little worse for wear, but those of us who made it to the gathering in Number One were hosted in style and given a real treat. The new headmaster Dr Michael Grey kindly dropped in to meet us and was subjected to some rather lurid tales of misadventures, which he appeared to enjoy, and then the OH team took us on a tour. The highlight for many was scampering around School House finding their old studies and other haunts, visiting the classrooms and library of New Block to reminisce together and looking around the art centre where our first-year classrooms had been.

The reunion was an opportunity to rekindle old friendships and to share memories of our school days together. It made us realise how lucky we were in many ways to have enjoyed such a rich, quirky, colourful and generally happy time together at school.

Clare Scotcher

LEAVERS OF 1992

It was fitting that upon entering No. 1 Junior House, the first person I greeted was Mrs Lawrence, a Hereford Cathedral School institution and much loved for her dedication to the students who passed

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1978/79/80


1981


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through the school. In many ways, for all of us who were educated within these walls, a return to HCS was also a return home. For myself, as a boarder between 1985 to 1992, HCS was both school and home. This is due to the staff who made an incredible contribution to students, such as myself, as we grew up. So a nod of respect and thanks to Mr Parker, Mr Rhodes, Mrs Lawrence and their families who worked tirelessly in making our formative years so special.

But back to the present and to the twelve leavers of 1992, who travelled far and wide, to gather together to remember and renew friendships and exchange stories of the 80s and 90s. The anecdotes and memories flew like sparks. It was wonderful to hear about everyone's adventures. Thank you to the Old Herefordian Club's Development Office, led by Claire Morgan-Jones and Helen Pearson, the catering staff and members of the school teaching staff, both past and present, who turned up to reconnect with our year. It was truly heartwarming to see the school continue to thrive and expand. We also had the opportunity to meet and hear from the new Headmaster, Dr Michael Gray, who took the time to be with us and share the vision for the school under his leadership – one where digital strengths and preparing for life after school will be a cornerstone of an HCS student's journey. (Yes, I was paying attention at the back of the room...)

The gathering ended with a wonderful dinner at The Green Dragon. We left the room in good spirits, walked across Cathedral Close, to another establishment for just one more for the road...or maybe two.

Aaron Yip

LEAVERS OF 1999

It was a pleasure to meet up with old friends and return to HCS this year after a near 23 year break. The afternoon began with fizz and nibbles hosted by Claire Morgan-Jones in the entrance hall of No 1. It was great to see and catch up with some of our previous Teachers: Mr Dunn, Mr Parker, Dr Tomlinson, Mrs Lawrence and Miss Zammitt. There then followed a tour of the school including both old and new buildings. Particularly impressive was the new sports hall and library. It was great to visit the old sixth form studies which certainly stirred up some strong memories and lively stories. We then returned to No. 1 for tea and cake. Afterwards we moved to The Lichfield Vaults in time-honoured fashion to finish the day off in style!

Kevin Williams

LEAVERS OF 2012

On Saturday the 25 June, HCS held a ten-year reunion for the sixth form leavers of 2012 (and GCSE leavers of 2010). Despite seeing some initial nervous faces across the main foyer of No 1, these soon turned into smiles and laughter as old friends reunited. Some people had stayed in touch with one another; others had not seen each other since they were last sharing the school corridors. As Sue (yes - she still works there!) kindly handed out the drinks and nibbles, we shared significant life updates from the past decade. We were then invited for a tour of the school with some of our old teachers showing guest appearances, such as Mrs Burdett, Mr. Priday and Mrs Wooderson. Every block and every classroom sparked another story. It was clear how nostalgic we all were over the years spent at HCS and the great memories that were formed there.

I am very thankful to the school for inviting us back and allowing us to reconnect with long-lost friends which we may never have naturally crossed paths with again. Numerous people commented afterwards (over a drink in The Barrells, of course) how nice it had been to see everyone again. I think it is easy to forget that we grew up in one another's presence and our most formative years were sculpted by each other. Despite the years that had elapsed, I was surprised by how familiar it felt being surrounded by those we shared those experiences with. I know that we are all looking forward to the twenty-year reunion, and hopefully we are joined by even more of us next time.

Ali Slater

LEAVERS OF 2015

On 11 June, a very sunny Saturday, the 2015 Cathedral leavers came back to school for a (very belated, thanks to Covid!) five-year reunion.

Joined by Mrs Wooderson, Mr Priday and Mr Jackson, we toured around the school after catching up over a few glasses of fizz, and were thrilled that the school felt as though we had left only yesterday. There was lots of laughter as we regaled the teachers with the stories we couldn't tell them while we were students, and utter confusion for Mr Priday upon entering his old classroom and finding all the furniture had been turned 90 degrees.

In the evening, we enjoyed a meal, drinks and music at the Left Bank, as well as looking over old photos of everyone. There were lots of comments along the lines of: "I don't remember that?", "What DID I look like?", and "We look so young!"

It was a great day, and I was so pleased to catch up with so many of my year group and for us all to share what we've been up to since leaving school, and our plans going forwards.

Here's to the 10-year reunion!

Ella Cockerton

Contact the Alumni Officer if you'd like to arrange a reunion for your year group!

MATCHES & HATCHES



1 Felicity Hughes (OH 2010) married Nicholas Chamberlain at Coddington Church, Herefordshire on 14 August 2021. Family and friends continued the celebrations at the reception held at Coddington Vineyard. Maid of Honour was the bride's older sister Holly Hughes (OH 2006) and bridesmaids included Emma Lewis (OH 2010) and Felicity Padgett (née Hunter-Choat, OH 2010). Other Old Herefordians in attendance were Polly Haydn Jones, Livvy Smith, Jess Baker (née Hickey), Sam Davies and Miranda Otter-Barry Ross (who attended virtually from Australia!).

2 After three postponements due to Covid-19, **Miranda Haydn Jones** (OH 2008) married Harry Heartfield in Hereford Cathedral on 4 September 2021. It was the day they had dreamed of with family and friends and was well worth the wait. They were married by The Revd Canon Andrew Piper and Revd Pam Rowe. Edward Lifely (son of David and Freya Lifely, OH 2008), Albert Clark (son of Emily Davies, OH 2008) and Aiobheann Donnellan (daughter of Anna Taylor, OH 2008) performed their Page Boy and Bridesmaid duties beautifully.



3 Ash Phillips (OH 2006) married Francesca Suaria on 21 May 2022. After postponing their wedding twice across the last two years due to Covid-19, they finally tied the knot in Francesca's home town of Polignano a Mare in Puglia, Italy, on a beautiful sunny day surrounded by 100 friends and family.

4 Sam Scotcher (OH 2009) and Emma were married on 10 July 2021. There were many OHs present, from two generations. Sam's best men were his two brothers Charlie and Tom, and there were several other OH friends including Rory Bowen, who performed a solo during the service. Sam's mother Clare is also an OH, as are her siblings David, Colin and Alison who were also present.

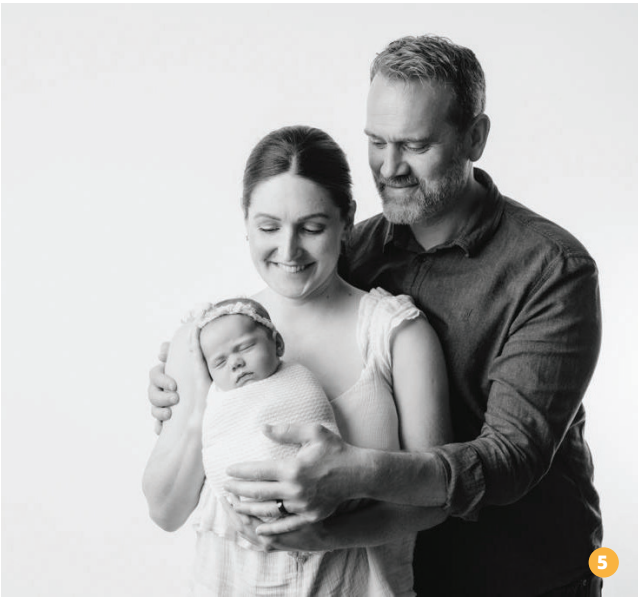
Congratulations to Sam and Emma, who recently became parents to daughter, Eliza, born on 3 April 2022.

Facing page, top right: Tom, Clare, Sam and Charlie Scotcher (all OHs!)

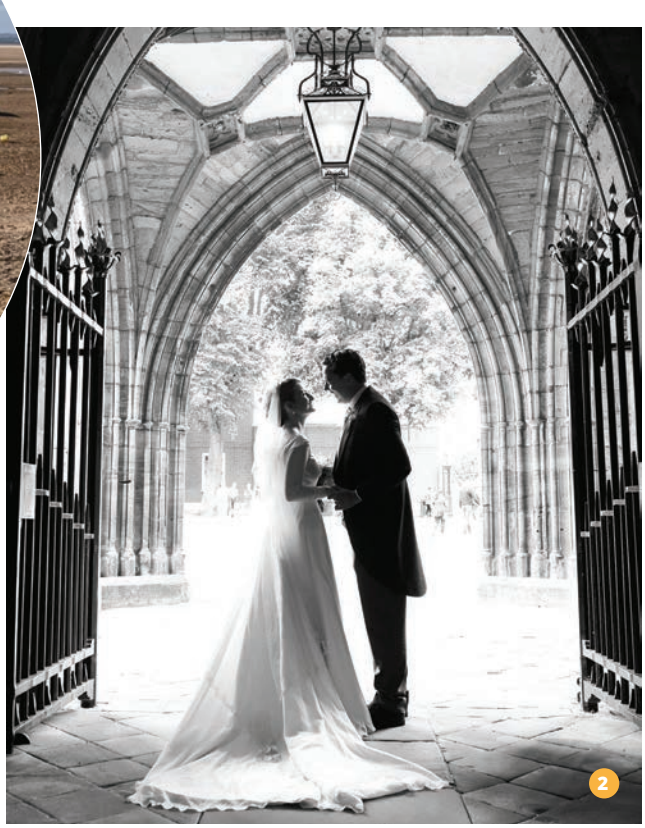
Facing page, middle right: Sam and Emma

Facing page, bottom right: Sam and his best men, brothers Charlie and Tom (all OHs!)

5 Amy McMurray (née Moffat) (OH 2003) and **Frank McMurray** (OH 2004)'s new addition Evelyn Mave McMurray was born on 15 June 2022. Both parents are currently serving in the Armed Forces.

















OBITUARIES



CLARENCE 'CLARRIE' EDGAR ATTFIELD OH 1937–44

Clarence 'Clarrie' Attfield, who sadly passed away on 30 May 2022 at the age of 95, had a great curiosity for life. He collected historic objects and antique books, made award-winning wine, enjoyed poetry and was an expert cabinet-maker. He loved the natural world, music, singing and social gatherings.

He was born in 1927, the youngest of three children, and after primary school he gained a chorister's scholarship to HCS. The chorister's life was busy, combining the demands of choir and schoolwork. Clarrie worked hard to achieve his school certificate, his Headmaster describing him as "a young man of first class character and industry whom I can thoroughly and unreservedly recommend".

Clarrie received his wartime call-up to the Worcestershire Regiment; as Sergeant Attfield he served in the Sindh province (then in India), and Egypt, with duties including administration of soldiers' leave and German prisoner of war welfare.

On being de-mobbed, Clarrie's first choice, Forestry, wasn't available so he chose Public Health, training in Leicester where he met Ursula. They married in 1952, and Clarrie became a Leicester Public Health Inspector. In 1954 they moved to Hereford for Clarrie's new job with Hereford City Council. He and Ursula went on to have a big family, with Clarrie receiving promotions, finally becoming Chief Environmental Health Officer for the City.

He was devoted to and loved his family, of whom he was very proud. He gave his time and skills to many clubs and societies while working and in retirement, being twice President of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, and Chair of the Archaeological Research Section. He was part of the parish field name survey project which, in 1994, received the Pitt Rivers award for 'best educational project'. He was the Burma Star Association's Branch Secretary, and an active member of many other local clubs and committees.

As the years went by Clarrie's sight began to fail but he always made the best of everything and appreciated the support of those around him. He will be much missed.

by Amanda Attfield



ROGER BERRETT OH 1970–75

After leaving school Roger ('Rog') went to Harpar Adams Agricultural College and then worked for a potato merchant. After a spell in the Royal Engineers he settled in the Scottish borders with Rosemary, a teacher from Edinburgh. He worked as a seed rep, and for a while ran his own seeds business. He then returned to potatoes, eventually acting for a consortium of farmers supplying major supermarkets and the likes of Baxters.

Unfortunately Rog inherited a rare condition known as Von Hippel Landau's syndrome and gradually over the last 30 years faced an increasing number of health issues. Anyone who remembers him from school will know he was a fun-loving character with a great sense of humour and a real zest for life. He played rugby at school, hockey later on, skied, and tended his allotment. He enjoyed trips to Murrayfield as an England fan among Scottish friends (provided we won, of course) and was even seen on occasion on a curling rink.

Only in the last five years was he restricted in what he could do — he was effectively in lockdown a couple of years before the rest of us. The various problems he'd faced, and medications he'd taken, left his immune system seriously weakened and he was unable to resist infections that set in early this year. He died on 12 June 2022 aged only 63. He leaves his widow Rosemary and three grown-up children. He was a brilliant brother, dad, and uncle to my daughter, and we all miss him terribly.

The last piece played at his funeral was 'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life', which summed him up perfectly.

by Keith Berrett (OH 1969–72)



KEVIN BODY OH 1959–63

Kevin Body, former mayor and community stalwart in Wymondham, Norfolk, died aged 76 on 30 October 2021. He was well-known in the town, having been a town councillor in the 1990s.

The father of three was involved in causes throughout

Wymondham, and in particular was a keen supporter of Wymondham Town Football Club.

He campaigned to bring a swimming pool to the town, saw street lights switched back on in Tuttles Lane and was part of efforts to bring ramps for those with disabilities to the town's rail station.

He married in 1967 and moved to Wymondham in 1975 to begin work at City Hall in Norwich, where he stayed until his retirement.

His family said: "He just liked to help people, he devoted himself to Wymondham and helping people. He knew everybody and everybody knew him."



TRUDY BROOKES

Music Teacher at HCS

Born Sara Gertrude Eluned Rich, Trudy was full of fun and lived out an idyllic childhood, first in Brecon until she moved with her family to Lancashire, home for the next 29 years. It was here that Trudy gained her love of nature and at school it soon became clear that she was musical. Much of her childhood was taken up with travelling between music festivals in the north of England where she, Gertrude Rich, soon became well-known as the one to beat!

While at Colne Grammar it became clear that music was going to be her future. Her dream was to attend the Royal College of Music at Manchester but this was going to be very expensive. In true 'Rich' style, Gertrude worked like no other and was awarded full scholarship for her studies in both piano and singing and spent a very happy four years studying at Manchester.

On a visit back to Brecon Trudy had been introduced to John Brookes, who was teaching at Hereford Cathedral School, and in his words, he was "totally smitten". As luck would have it, Trudy's parents retired back to Brecon in 1956, so during school holidays romance blossomed and in 1959 they were married, for a long and happy nearly fifty years.

Both John and Trudy loved the closeness and camaraderie of HCS and made many lifelong friends there. Trudy had a constant stream of pupils to whom she taught piano and singing, in particular from the Red Cap School and HCS. Her pupils always did well and she was a strict task master.

Trudy died in December 2021, aged 92, after a long and happy life.

by Anna Brookes (OH 1982)



SHEILA COULMAN (NÉE BALDWIN) OH 1977–84

Our gorgeous mum Sheila passed away on 8 October 2021, aged 54, from pancreatic cancer. A beautiful lady inside and out, she stayed courageous and kept her fantastic humour until the very end.

Born in Hereford in 1967, she attended the Red Cap School before joining Hereford Cathedral School in 1977. From then, she moved to Oxford & County Secretarial College and then settled in London, where she met her husband, Stephen Coulman. They went on to have three children together — Ed, Georgie and Sophie — to whom they were the most fun, loving, natural and caring parents.

As a family they moved around — from Reading to Paris and then Surrey, before ultimately settling in Cambridgeshire, where Sheila and Stephen ran a manufacturing company together.

Sheila and Stephen both loved to travel, and as a family they were fortunate enough to visit many incredible places and create some hilarious and priceless memories, that will forever be cherished.

Sadly in 2008, Stephen passed away after a very short illness. Although heartbroken and devastated, Sheila was determined to keep going for the sake of their three children. She worked tirelessly to forge herself a new career at Rapleys, working her way up to become Head of HR, a Senior Associate and also gain her CIPD qualification. She was a much-loved and very well-respected colleague.

In 2015 Sheila moved to Stamford, Lincolnshire, which she loved, and made the most of living in a vibrant market town. It also marked the start of many new travel adventures, including Bali, Singapore, Cuba and New York. She always had the next fantastic holiday planned.

In 2018 Sheila decided to get a puppy called Moose — a long-haired mini dachshund whom she adored. Despite saying she would never be that dog lady, she became that dog lady and was always out and about with little Moose. The two made such a glamorous pair.

In early 2020, Sheila was over the moon as she found out she was going to become a grandmother for the first time. Tragically, this elation was shortlived as Sheila was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer just three months later. After receiving her prognosis, she was determined she would meet her first grandson. Sheila's determination and bravery during such a horrible illness meant she not only got to meet Milo, but had a wonderful 10 months with him, sharing Christmas and Mother's Day together.

Milo always gave her the biggest and brightest smile, and even on the hardest days, brought Sheila so much joy and happiness.

Sheila passed away surrounded by her family who so loved and adored her. A true hero and loved by so many, life for those left behind will never be the same without Sheila. She really was a one of a kind, a simply incredible, generous and beautiful lady, with a wonderful smile and a real zest for life. Sleep tight Mummy.

by Sophie Coulman



MALCOLM DAVIS OH 1958–65

Malcolm was born in Mordiford in 1947 and lived in Herefordshire all his life. After Primary School at St Paul's Tupsley, he went on to the Cathedral School, where we became lifelong friends as day boys in East House. Sadly, he suffered from Parkinson's disease for several years, before passing away on 14 October 2021.

He and I often reminisced about our days at the school, but particularly the time when, as members of the school's Cadet Force, we went on a fortnight's camp at Pirbright near Aldershot, where the amenities were not 5-star!

I think it is fair to say that neither of us were academically minded, no doubt to the frustration of 'Billy' Glover, 'Pablo' Bayliss, 'Dotty' Morse et al. However, there is no doubt that the school imbued something in Malcolm at least, judging by his subsequent achievements and will to win.

In 1980, with his work colleague and friend Michael Lloyd, he formed what became a very successful company, Davis and Lloyd Ltd, in the same line of business as his previous employer (asphalt).

Like many OHs, Malcolm had a love of football and particularly Hereford United/HFC. He was at Edgar Street when Hereford beat Newcastle over 50 years ago, with Ronnie Radford scoring that wonderful goal, shown even now on TV.

His other major passion was rallying, winning numerous events, culminating in his most notable success when he and co-driver Paul Watts became the Welsh Road Rally Champions in the 1300 class in 1985.

Malcolm was a proud, hard-working family man who was loved by many. He always strived for perfection, and he loved nothing better than seeing others reach their potential. He was a true gentleman with an enthusiasm for getting perfection from everything he did: I feel sure the school played its part in building those character traits.

After 56 years of marriage, he is survived by his lovely wife Rosemary, his two children Paul and Karen and four grandchildren.

by Peter Sell (OH 1959–65, East House)



JOHN CHARLES EEDE OH 1951–58

My father, John Charles Eede, was brought up in Cardiff (Rhiwbina) and attended Hereford Cathedral School between 1951 and 1958. He was in Old Deanery House and played rugby and rowed for the school. After A Levels, John studied English and Economics at Cardiff University (where he met my mother, Judith Evans-Jones) and then joined IBM for several years before he was invited by my grandfather, John Eede Senior, to join the family aerial and schools' photography firm, H. Tempest. Lafter, after periods living in Portsmouth and then Henley, John and Judith settled in Shirenewton, Monmouthshire, where they raised my brother Justin and me.

In the many letters we received after his death, my father was described as upstanding and honourable, dashing with a natural charm, a quintessential gentleman, a good raconteur with a great sense of fun, a loyal friend and an excellent companion on the fairway.

I am obviously biased, but I do know that my father was all those things as well as warm, big-hearted, quick-witted, loving, wise and well-read. A blithe spirit with a huge capacity for joy. He was always courteous. Always punctual. He was an enthusiast – he loved Cornwall, sea swimming, reading (I rarely saw him without a book in his hand), opera, jazz, a good party, a peaty whisky, a Cabernet Sauvignon and a black-and-white American B-movie.

He adored his friends and his family and his interest in people's lives was entirely genuine. He was a lifelong sportsman — an accomplished rower, golfer and swimmer. He was a gardener, a wordsmith, a Classicist and an excellent storyteller.

We miss him hugely, every day.

by Joanna Eede

Photo: John Eede in HCS 1st VIII in 1958



MICHAEL HANKINSON OH 1957–62

Michael sadly passed away at the end of October 2021 after fighting a short illness.

Conductor and organist Michael was a Boarder in the Deanery at Hereford Cathedral in the late 1950s, where he was an organ and choral scholar. As a student at Trinity College of Music, Michael studied organ performance with John Webster of Queen's College Oxford and conducting with Charles Proctor. He emigrated to South Africa in 1970 as Resident Composer to RPM Film Studios.

In 1980 he moved to Durban where he was City Organist and later City Music Advisor. While in Durban Michael formed the 'Soundwaves' contemporary music group, an ensemble that performed more than thirty South African première performances of contemporary music under his direction. He later revived the Durban Philharmonic Orchestra, originally formed in 1885, which still functions today as the Durban City Orchestra.

He composed numerous film scores, a full length ballet, several choral works, and created critically acclaimed scores for Ladysmith Black Mambazo with the English Chamber Orchestra, for Lucky Dube (Symphonic Reggae) with the National Chamber Orchestra and for Kabelo (Kwaito Meets the Symphony) with the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra.

In July 2006 Michael made his London debut conducting the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in a gala fundraising concert hosted by Lord Richard Attenborough. From there Michael travelled to Dublin to conduct the European première of 'Queen at the Ballet', for which Michael wrote all the arrangements and orchestrations.

From 2012 as a resident of Kings Lynn, Norfolk, Michael became musical director of the King's Lynn Male Voice Choir and founded the King's Lynn Sinfonia, which staged its inaugural concert at Lynn Minster in 2015.

Photo: Peter Broome (left) with Mike Hankinson (right)



JOHN HELME OH 1960–67

John died tragically in a farming accident on 11 January 2022, aged 72 years. The business is continuing to operate, as John would have wished, upholding the traditions and standard of service that John and his team have set over many years. A tribute to John from some of his friends in farming:

John's first call at 7 each morning was to Mr Fix It, Steve Methven: "Oooh, so sorry, I have broken it again!"

It is a strange thing about this industry that relationships are like roots in the soil that go deep below the surface. Garnered over many years, good days and bad, weather and seasons of all descriptions and machines not always working as they should.

It's a farming thing that when people live and work together over many years, friendship is earned out of respect, track record and integrity. John, as part of the DNA of Herefordshire, formed friendships and fellowships with generations of farming families over a big area.

But most of all he was the go-to man around Monmouthshire Show: the Show was important to John and it was one of the few days he blocked out in his diary.

John's legacy outside his family was as the developer of young people, their skills, their characters and their careers. John was also a great sharer of information on which farming innovation is based, exemplified by this year's January article in the *Farmers Weekly*.

And, of course, we shared a journey with the Mzuri drill. Most were infatuated by who owned the drill — this was largely irrelevant, the smart bit was two farming minds who wanted to do a good job and reduce costs through simple two-way co-operation.

...if you fell out with John, you probably deserved it.

Excerpts from Bill Quan's address at John's funeral



PETER HILL OH 1959

You think of Peter and you immediately think of laughter, fun, exuberance and the sheer pleasure of being alive. He lit up the lives of so many of us who knew him. I knew him as a contemporary at HCS where we were both in East House. There will doubtless be many tributes and memories of him that will come pouring in. I offer a few humble reminiscences below.

I was a founding member, with Peter, of The Satellites. You will notice that the 'double bass' (see photo), was a tea chest converted into this coffin-like construction made by Peter's father, in an effort, no doubt, to upgrade our status in the world of skiffle. Sadly I have to report that no offers from Tin Pan Alley came flooding in. There was also, most certainly, little improvement in my musical ability on this new

model. But it was great fun while it lasted, as you would expect under Peter's leadership.

In our time at HCS there was an annual inter-house one-act play competition and in 1959 I directed and acted in the winning play for East House with Peter in the cast. He and I were awarded the best actor prize to share.

Peter's sporting prowess at HCS has been mentioned, but a little-known sporting event took place virtually every day at the end of school. Once released from the classroom Peter and I, joined by Keith Edwards and Tim Greenland, would colonise the concrete play area beneath Big School to take on a team of five at football played with a tennis ball. No doubt this was frowned upon by boarders as yet another example of 'day bug' behaviour, beneath their dignity to take part in. But it was the perfect antidote to a day of lessons. The next logical step from here was, of course, for Peter to become the Chairman of Hereford United FC.

I last saw Peter at one of the reunion occasions that Peter FB organised at The Doggett's Pub in London. We had been to an earlier one with our mutual friend, Bev Smith, who passed away some years ago.

At these reunions it wasn't long before Peter had gathered around him a group of friends from the past and held court with humorous stories, embellished with his quick wit and humour. Once again he brought fun and laughter to the proceedings.

Peter was a good man who will be sadly missed but leaves behind the gift of having brought joy to so many lives.

by Terry Prince (OH 1960)



JULIE HOLLING-WORTH

Piano, Strings & Music Theory Teacher at HCS

It is with much sadness that we record the death in July 2021 of Julie Hollingworth, following a stroke in 2020. Anyone who knew her will recall a gentle, kind and loving person who was always smiling. She was the discreet cornerstone of our family, wife to Tony (HCS Bursar 1972–86) and mother to Paul, Robert and Simon (all of whom attended the school and were Choristers at the Cathedral in the period 1972 to 1982).

Julie was an exceptional musician and music teacher with legendary amounts of patience, who quietly made an enormous contribution to the musical life of the school and indeed the city for more than 25 years. Having previously been Head of Music at Rosebery School in Epsom while still in her early twenties, Julie eventually became a peripatetic piano and strings teacher at HCS and taught music theory to the Cathedral Choristers. She also taught music at Barrs Court Special School for many years. Alongside all of this she ran the Monday Singers, was conductor of Hereford String Orchestra and regularly sang with Hereford Choral Society and as part of the Three Choirs Festival chorus.

Julie was a very gentle yet formidable teacher with an ingrained passion for music and a strong belief that everyone should be given the chance to experience and learn about it. Her experiences teaching music theory led her to write and self-publish a book on the subject, *Between the Lines*, copies of which are still available.

Julie & Tony moved to Buckinghamshire in 2001 and then in 2018 moved to Lincoln to be nearer to members of the family. Hereford and in particular the School and the Cathedral always remained a huge part of Julie's life and it gives us great comfort to know that she had a quiet but profound effect on the lives of so many people.

by the Hollingworth family



TONY HOLLING-WORTH

HCS Bursar 1972–86

In July 2022, just six days after making a brief visit to the Hereford Three Choirs Festival, our father, Tony Hollingworth, passed away in hospital in Lincoln.

He was 91 and, perhaps not surprisingly, had a number of ailments, but also not surprisingly for those who knew him, he made almost no allowance for any of them and absolutely lived live to the full, right to the very end. Indeed, fewer than 10 days before he died he could be seen cycling round the Lincolnshire village where he lived on his electric trike!

He was born in London, spent much time during the war years on a farm in Dorset, and after the unexpected death of his own father in 1950, trained as an accountant in London. He undertook company audits across the south and east of England and also did National Service in the late 1950s (an experience he rather enjoyed and which would later lead him to taking a role within the CCF). He met Julie in an amateur musical production in Surrey and they were married in 1962. When, ten years later, he spotted the job of Bursar at Hereford Cathedral School — now with three young sons in tow — the idea

appealed to both of them enormously and the whole family moved to Hereford.

Tony was appointed as the school's very first Bursar by the Headmaster David Richards, and as no one seemed quite sure what the role ought to be, his role quickly expanded beyond overseeing the school's finances to include almost everything non-teaching related, including the upkeep of the school's many buildings. It was not uncommon for him (once on Christmas Day) to be unblocking a drain or — along with the school's next Headmaster Barry Sutton — on school roofs, clearing snow.

For many years his office was in Number One (the tiny single storey room at the left-hand side of the building), but in the early 1980s he moved to Old College, after he negotiated its purchase and it became part of the school. As the school's bursar, he had a reputation for frugality and we often got complaints from our schoolmates about him not turning the heating on before November (at the earliest!).

He was well known for recording concerts and services in the Cathedral, regularly slinging a Heath Robinson-esque microphone arrangement between the pillars or poking out over the organ loft. Many of the choristers from the 1970s and 80s have told us that some of their most prized possessions are the tapes that he made of them singing in the Cathedral. He sang in the Choral Society, the Three Choirs Festival Chorus, the Monday Singers (a group run by our mother that met at our house on Hinton Road on Mondays) and was a natural performer, as could be observed from anything from his renditions of Flanders and Swann songs to his outrageous contributions to family charades.

He had a work ethic that meant we almost never saw him sit down and stop except — and quite often — falling asleep between courses at dinner, having finally 'stopped' for the first time in the day. Helen Hammond, a great musician, family friend and long-time cello teacher at HCS, paid tribute to our parents' extraordinary relationship and their sometimes ridiculously full lives, noting that she once came round to the house at around 10pm to collect something and was astonished to find them both picking apples in the garden by torchlight, as that was the only time they could fit it in.

After he stepped down as Bursar at HCS he continued to play a significant part in school and cathedral life and also began using his carpentry and craft skills, including many years working with local bassoon-maker, Jeremy Soulsby, a job he absolutely loved.

Anyone who knew our father will remember a kind, genuine and immensely hard-working man who would go out of his way to help and do the right thing. He was an inspiring father, strong-willed and firm, but also incredibly supportive, and he became a much-loved father-in-law and eventually, a deeply admired and loved grandfather. He will be greatly missed, though also forever present in all of our 'Grandpa' phrases and habits.

by Paul Hollingworth, Robert Hollingworth and Simon Hollingworth



BARRIE REX TILSLEY JENKINS OH 1955–62

Barrie, together with his brother Clive (OH 1955–59), joined HCS on transferring from Kings School Gloucester in September 1955. He left in July 1962 to become a pupil auctioneer.

A serious traffic accident resulted in a lengthy hospital stay, recuperation and a career change.

Barrie joined the RAF and trained on Inertial Navigation and Attack Systems, leading to a long posting at RAF Wittering.

He and Penny were married in April 1970 and settled in Stamford where their two children, Andrew and Philippa, were born. On leaving the RAF a variety of employments ensued, including export sales and much travelling. A further change of employment resulted in a move to Alveley, Shropshire, where they settled. A final career change resulted in a move into education as a lecturer in Electronics and Engineering.

Hearing 'the call', Barrie trained and was licensed as a Reader by Bishop John Saxby, serving the parishes of Alveley and Quatt.

On retiring he enjoyed gardening, holiday travel, reading and general DIY. He always enjoyed challenges and attacked each one with thoroughness.

Barrie's health began to deteriorate with a diagnosis of nasal cancer. Unfortunately, the successful treatment left related problems including deteriorating hearing. The Covid pandemic and resulting shielding and isolation were tough and his health continued to worsen. Finally, on 1 March 2022, he suffered a severe cerebral bleed and died peacefully a day later aged 77, surrounded by Penny, Andrew and Philippa, in hospital.

Barrie is buried, wearing his OH tie, in Much Cowarne churchyard in company with his mother, brother and several relatives. A beautiful, peaceful place to spend eternity.

Adapted by John Scally (OH 1956–62) from a eulogy given by Barrie's son Andrew



DAVID KEYTE OH 1965–72

Former Chairman of Hereford United, David Keyte died overnight on 6 April 2022, aged 68. David was chairman of the club between 2010 and 2014 and played for Hereford United Reserves in the 1970s and Westfields FC. An all-round sportsman, he was also a cricketer, playing as wicket-keeper for Worcestershire 2nd XI. A businessman and an accountant by profession, in 2000 he was appointed Bursar at Bredon School, an independent school near Tewkesbury. Quickly promoted to General Manager, he bought the school in 2002 and became Principal. In 2009 he sold the school while staying on as Principal until his retirement in 2010.

Photo: Former Headmaster Paul Smith with David Keyte, Speech Day guest in 2011



IAN KING OH 1973–80

Ian King was born in Hereford in 1962 and always wanted to be a composer. He was fortunate to spend much of his childhood as a chorister at Hereford Cathedral, where he began a lifelong love of cathedrals, churches and choral music, as well as learning to play the organ and piano.

He was organ scholar at St Peter's College, Oxford, from 1981, where he started his composition journey writing minimalist music for small ensembles. For over 25 years he was the principal piano tutor at Worcester Sixth Form College, enjoying accompanying many talented pupils for exams and recitals, and writing piano music for his pupils. His compositions spanned many genres — classical, jazz, blues and folk — many of which were written for his band 'Kings & Folk' which he formed with colleagues and his wife Claire, a fiddler from Scotland. He released three CDs of his music combining the classical/folk genres — one of which, *A Worcestershire Song Cycle*, was commissioned by the Three Choirs Festival and depicts his deep love of nature and the Herefordshire/Worcestershire countryside, most especially the Malvern Hills. Ian wrote for singers, organists, pianists, violinists and choirs. One of his piano pieces appeared on the ABRSM syllabus and one of his tracks has been remixed as a backing track to a multi-award-winning video game. He had three sons, James, David and Michael, who all shared their father's musical talents.

In a return to his spiritual roots, for the last 10 years of his life he dedicated himself to composing sacred choral music, receiving commissions from Gloucester, Worcester, Brecon and Hereford cathedral choirs for carols, collects, anthems, Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis and a St John Passion. This culminated in his final CD release of music he wrote for Gloucester Cathedral Choirs, recorded just a few months after he passed away in December 2020.



MICHAEL JOHN LYKE OH 1958–65

Michael was born on 21 December 1946 to John Henry Lyke, Director of Russell, Baldwin and Bright, and Gwyneth Lyke. He attended the Hereford Cathedral Prep School and followed on to HCS in 1958. He became 'Man of the House' and grew up quickly when our father passed away in 1960.

He played rugby and cricket for the Junior Colts, Colts, rugby for the 2nd XV 1963 before the 1st XV in 1964 under 'Tank' Voss. He was the only player from HCS to play for the combined Counties XV in 1964–65 and was a very good prop forward! His cricket career at school was even better and he played for the 1st XI for three years 1963–65 and was an excellent wicketkeeper. Mike also did well academically and, having got his A Levels, went on to City University in 1965, studying Civil Engineering.

He married his wife Janet in 1968, having met her about eight years earlier at Youth Club. His first job was a traineeship in Walsall and then in 1970 Mike and Janet moved to Newton St Cyres in Exeter. Here Mike worked on numerous road schemes and achieved membership of the Institute of Civil Engineers. While Mike and Janet were in Exeter, they had two daughters, Sam and Pip.

In 1980, the family moved to Scotland, to Strathclyde and later South Lanarkshire. He worked on many road schemes as well as town centre revitalisation and forward planning. He loved mountain walking and then bird and wildlife watching followed. He loved the scenery and wildlife, especially the golden eagles!

Mike retired in 2005. He kept himself busy with gardening, DIY (where he had all the family genes) and Rotary, where he became President. Mike and Jan enjoyed their big holidays, especially going to visit their daughter Sam with her husband and three daughters in Australia. They also loved seeing their

other daughter, Pip, and her husband and two sons in Yorkshire and America.

Mike and Jan moved back to Wellington, Hereford, in 2012, where they became fully involved in village life. Mike joined City of Hereford Rotary and served as Secretary.

He was a gentle, kind soul who was modest and helped many people without seeking recognition. He was a very patient, calm man who firmly stood up for what he believed to be right and correct. His diagnosed illness was short and he showed incredible strength throughout. He passed away on 2 April 2022. He will now be soaring with the eagles.

by Graham Lyke (OH 1962–69, East House)



PETER JC MURRAY OH 1948–55

When I first met PJC in 2006 at one of our casual OHiL evening reunions in the Square Mile, he said he liked to be known by his third forename Carl, which was how we always addressed him at each subsequent London event he attended.

Carl came from Putson, Hereford, and by the time he reached the Sixth Form, had gained several O Levels and A Levels plus two S Levels, winning a distinction in Greek & Latin. He had as his tutor the feared Mr Stephen Bell, whose nickname was Tiger. SB was appointed Deputy Head by the then Headmaster Alan FJ Hopewell, who was himself an OH at the beginning of the 20th century. Following the sad passing of AFJH (known as Jack but we boys nicknamed him 'Hoppy'), Tiger reluctantly took over as Acting Headmaster, by which time PJC had left HCS to go up to Oxford to study Classics. Jack Hopewell, being a keen cricketer himself, must have encouraged Carl to take up the sport because he gained Half Colours in 1953 and 1954, finishing up with Full Colours in his final year — season 1954–55.

Apart from becoming a House Monitor, then a School Monitor, Carl was also appointed Head of West House and eventually Captain of School.

As well as taking part in many extra-curricular activities, clubs and societies, Carl was also a GILBERT Librarian and sub-editor of *The Herefordian*. Academically speaking, he had already won several Speech Day prizes, finishing up gaining a State Scholarship (Domus Exhibition) to Brasenose College, Oxford.

After marrying his lovely wife Carol, they lived in Loughton, Essex, before he finally retired, and in about 2019 they moved to a smaller property in Coggeshall. He was a keen participant in the OHiL gatherings at Doggetts and enjoyed catching up with his former contemporaries.

Carl died at Colchester Hospital of Covid after a very short illness in November 2021.

by Peter Fairman-Bourne (OH 1959)



GEOFF PINCHES, HCS MAINTENANCE TEAM 1976–97

Geoff Pinches was one of the best. A skilled craftsman, he led the maintenance team with distinction for the first 10 years of my headmastership, until his retirement in 1997. That he led such a successful and happy crew — which in those days included senior pupils in the summer holidays — was in no small measure due to Geoff. HCS owes him a considerable debt of gratitude. And he was also, of course, an enthusiast for vintage cars, which he painstakingly restored. On CCF inspection day, he chauffeured the headmaster and inspecting officer down to Wyeside in his immaculate green, polished Lagonda, and this always made an impressive start to the day and was invariably the prelude to an excellent report.

I last met Geoff at Barry Sutton's funeral. Naturally, he had aged a little but, as ever, I was cheered by his presence.

by Howard Tomlinson (HCS Headmaster, 1987–2005)



DAVID PROSSER OH 1946–52

William David Prosser was born on 20 May 1936 at the family home, Brilley Court, Herefordshire. From an early age David was always a fun person, busy, very independent and always did everything to perfection.

He went to Brilley School where he loved football. At school he was called Dai — perhaps there was some Welsh in him after all. At nine years old he went to Hereford Cathedral School as a full boarder. He settled in, becoming involved and excelling in both rugby and rowing, which he continued to support for the rest of his life.

David left school at 16 to work on the family farm, joining Kington Young Farmers where he met what were to become lifelong friends. David excelled in stock judging, and it was at a training camp to select members for the England team that he met a fellow young farmer, Jill Clarke from Buckinghamshire.

David and Jill married on 1 October 1959 and moved

to Cedars Farm, in Buckinghamshire. Daughters Barbara and Rosemary arrived and they have gone on to produce five grandsons and three great grandchildren, of whom David was very proud.

Over 62+ years, David and Jill have farmed pigs, cattle and sheep. The pigs went in 1963 and the last of the cattle in 1995. Sheep have been David's main passion and he experimented with many breeds over the years, the easycare being in top place as he got older and wanted less work. He was involved with the National Sheep Association for many, many years, being a lifelong member, and was Chairman of the South East area for a long time.

by Barbara Seamark



GRAHAM REES OH 1947–52

I first met Graham when we moved into Wellington Village in 1948. I had started at HCS a year earlier, but we only became friends after our move, firstly as we shared the same bus journey to and from school and secondly I enjoyed helping at times with him on his father's farm in the village. We were also in the Church Choir, Village Youth Club and, with his father's permission we together, with a few village friends, each year made a cricket pitch on one of his father's fields, taking on other villages as well as the Chichester Crusaders.

He was a great character and a very good and loyal friend. At school playing football in the height of summer he showed an inexhaustible amount of energy, as well as in any other games he took part in.

During my time there he was not selected to take part in the junior (Colts) team, as this was more for the Boarders and those who lived very locally to the school. I was surprised when the wife of another OH, Keith Evans (who passed away a few years ago), handed me a photo of the school Senior Rugby Team in which Graham appeared.

I believe he served in Germany during his National Service in the Hussars, coming back to his father's farm and later having his own farm just outside the village, which he would have run very successfully. He had two daughters who had no wish to continue farming, so he rented the farm out when he retired.

When he came back from serving he joined the Old Luctonians Rugby Team and played with them for a few years (his elder brother went to Lucton School).

We both lost contact when I left the village in 1951 to start my training in farming.

by David Bland (OH 1951)



TERRY SIMMONDS OH 1949–53

Terry Simmonds was born on 28 June 1935 in Chipperfield, Hertfordshire. He lived in Chipperfield his whole life and was a treasured member of the community. Terry attended several local schools, followed by a school in London. He later boarded at Adelaide College in Devon. At 14 he spent six weeks travelling in France as part of a student exchange programme. He then won a scholarship to HCS, where he began A Levels in mathematics and Latin, which he later changed to botany and zoology in addition to physics, chemistry and a correspondence course in horticulture. He went on to study a BSc in Horticulture at Reading University and later ran the family business, which was a garden centre.

Terry grew up surrounded by horticulture. His grandfather, Herbert Simmonds, began what would become Simmonds Nurseries Ltd in 1907. When the garden centre changed ownership in 1993, Terry continued to work there as a consultant. He loved meeting and chatting to locals, who appreciated his warm and kind spirit and his encyclopaedic knowledge of plants. He also loved spending time in his own garden and growing his own vegetables.

Terry was a highly curious person who wanted to see and do everything. He was passionate about history (particularly local history), horticulture, film and exploring new places. He was keenly involved in local history groups and was an avid collector of many things, in particular antiques and books.

He regularly wrote a column for the *Chipperfield News*, providing advice about gardening at various points throughout the year, and served as chief judge of the Kings Langley garden competition in 2021.

He died in Watford, Hertfordshire, on 23 November, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Jacky, his children Christine, Nicola, Emma and Mark, and his grandchildren Sienna, Leif, Grayson, Zack, Jasmine, Alfie and Ryan.

by Dr Christine Simmonds-Moore

JEFFREY NORMAN SPINKS OH 1945–50

Jeffrey passed away peacefully at Hereford County Hospital on 12 September 2021, aged 87 years.



PHIL STILLIARD OH 1956–61

(Nicknamed 'Stilly').

OHiL was informed of Stilly's death on 26 February 2022, aged 76.

Having left HCS where he was Head Chorister and received a choral scholarship, Phil trained as a teacher before setting up his own computer consultancy in Twickenham, where he lived his life.

Photo: Phil saying farewell to former HCS Language Master Alan 'Dotty' Moorse and Anne at inaugural OHiL gathering in 2003.



KEITH HARMAN WALLIS OH 1940–45

Keith Harman Wallis was an only child, born on 10 January 1932, in Streatham, South London. He spent his early years in the family house in Carshalton with his father, Edward, who was a chartered surveyor and architect, and his mother, Carola.

Their house was compulsorily purchased shortly after the start of the war and the Wallis family moved north to Hereford where Keith's father spent his time rebuilding the munitions factory after it was bombed.

From 1940 to 1945 Keith went to Hereford Cathedral School. Keith took his School Certificate in 1945 at the age of 13. From 1945 to 1949 Keith lived with his parents in a second floor flat in Ramsgate. Keith took his Higher Certificate in 1947 at the age of 15; and obtained a scholarship to go to Cambridge at 16.

Keith joined the RAF to do his two years of National Service before taking up his place at university. He used his experience from school to teach mathematics to the pilots and navigators. During this time Keith also became a Church of England lay reader in the Chester diocese.

In 1951 Keith attended Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and studied Economics, where in 1954 he obtained a First Class degree.

In his second year at Cambridge, while writing a paper on economics under communism to be presented to the Marshall Society, of which he was secretary, Keith travelled by train and bicycle to Yugoslavia, which at the time was under the dictatorship of Tito. There he interviewed a professor at the University of Ljubljana, who played his radio sufficiently loudly to ensure those bugging his office could not hear what was said.

On 1 August 1954 Keith started a job at Union Corporation in London in the Intelligence Department at a salary of £510 per annum. By 1959 Keith was Head of the Intelligence Department, going on to become MD. By the end of the 1970s Union Corporation had been bought out in a merger by General Mining (a South African company).

Keith was married to Margaret Eldridge on 22 October 1955 at King Charles the Martyr Church in Tunbridge Wells. Keith is survived by two of his sons, Chris and Bob (the youngest, Ken, died in 2016), and four grandsons.

by Anthony (Tony) Jepps (OH 1945)

Photo: Keith Wallis on the middle row, right end



CHRISTOPHER J WILLIAMS OH 1954–62

Christopher Williams joined the school in 1954 as a boarder in Deanery, but later became a day boy in West House. On leaving school in 1962 he went to Bangor University where he took a degree in English followed by a Diploma in Archive Administration. He then pursued a career in Archives, initially working in Derbyshire before moving to north-east Wales and eventually becoming the County Archivist for Clwyd. Marrying in 1982, he had two sons and was a devoted father.

Christopher loved to delve into the archives, and conducted historical research into a wide variety of topics, particularly in the field of metal mining in North Wales. He wrote and co-wrote many publications, particularly related to the history of the mining industry, and also lectured at universities on archive administration. Living near Wrexham, he was very active in local historical societies and wrote on many aspects of local history. But he had many interests beyond the world of archives, and regularly enjoyed a pint with friends in his local pub — although even there his love of history crept in, and the pub owners commissioned him to research and write the pub's history.

He died on 2 July 2017 of prostate cancer, aged 73, and is sadly missed by family and friends.

by Tim (TC) Williams (OH 1957–64)

OLD HEREFORDIANS IN LONDON (OHiL)

Before the days of social media, once a student left HCS for the final time and became an Old Herefordian, he or she might have lost touch with their former contemporaries, unless they lived close by. Once they chose further education, gained a place at Oxbridge (or other good unis across the UK!), maybe emigrated, obtained a commission in the Armed Forces or just went straight into the 'world of work' to pursue a career, they inevitably made new friends and moved on. Equally, those who got married and started a family would have had many other commitments preventing them from keeping in contact with former classmates!

A chance encounter led to the formation of a sub-alumni group in 2003

After a gap of 40+ years, it was a pleasant surprise (chiefly due to social media) when two ex-Cathedral choristers met up for the first time since leaving school. They had both been boarders during the 1950s, one from Deanery and the other from School House. It was now the C21st and they were attending the official Old Herefordians' London Dinner in 2003, a reunion organised by the OH Club and staged annually at the East India Club in St James, SW1.

Following the end of the function, as guests began to leave, the two descended to the main members' bar to continue chatting about old times. Before going home, it was suggested that they meet up again in a pub somewhere across the Capital in a much more casual setting. The idea was to try to encourage many more OHs to take part. The outcome: an informal gathering of just four OHs took place in a Wimbledon Village pub one warm summer evening in 2003. This led to the formation of our splinter group, known as Old Herefordians in London (OHiL).

We can now proudly declare that, for the past twenty years, our vision of organising regular reunions in Town has been achieved. To find out more, please visit our website **www.ohil.org.uk**.

A twenty-year anniversary in 2023

To celebrate our success, and to mark exactly 20 years since the formation of OHiL, we now plan to stage a special Anniversary Dinner in 2023 (see inside back cover for details).

Note that this proposed semi-formal function (gentlemen — lounge suits; ladies — smart outfits) will be open to anyone who attended the Cathedral School, regardless of your HCS vintage, year group or whenever you quit school for the final time.



AUTUMN GATHERING 2021

After a gap of two years, we were finally able to meet up again at our customary venue, Doggett's Coat & Badge, located on the south bank of the Thames next to Blackfriars Bridge, SE1 and close to Tate Modern. The reunion, of 19 in total, took place on 19 October 2021.

The numbers were made up of 15 OHs, chiefly from the 1950s and 1960s HCS era, together with four ladies, including Claire Morgan-Jones and Helen Pearson from the Cathedral School Development Office. On this occasion we were delighted to welcome for the first time Nicholas Martyn (OH 1997), a solicitor who came over from his office across the other side of the river to join us.

Peter Fairman-Bourne (OHiL)



SPRING REUNION 2022

On 12 May 2022 we returned to Doggett's Coat & Badge to stage our 18th Spring Buffet Luncheon after a gap of two years. We were delighted to welcome the new Headmaster, Dr Michael Gray, for this, his first ever attendance at Doggett's. It enabled him to meet even more OHs since taking up his post in charge of HCS in September 2021. After a brief 'Welcome to everyone and thank you for coming' introduction by Peter Fairman-Bourne (co-host of the event jointly staged with Ian Harwood) we offered Michael an opportunity to 'take to the floor' so he could make various announcements about several interesting initiatives he has introduced.

There were a total of 22 people present on this occasion, made up of 18 OHs plus the HM and three ladies as guests. It is hoped that we may derive a much greater turn-out for our Annual Autumn Lunchtime Reunion already scheduled for 20 October 2022.

Photo (left to right): Will Mason, Martin Everett, Peter Fairman-Bourne, Jim McLuskie, Tim Pringle

GOOD NEWS!



Please do share your results with the Alumni Office — we are always happy to trumpet your successes!

JULIE HARRIES (OH 1987)

achieved a Masters from Aberystwyth in Creative Writing and has become a bookseller in Hay-on-Wye

CRISTINA HIGGINS (OH 2017)

achieved a First in Psychology from Bath University

LAURENCE JOHN (OH 2016)

gained a Masters from Oxford in Music and takes up a post as Assistant Organist at St David's Cathedral, Wales

JOSHUA ROBY-WELFORD (OH 2017)

gained a First Class degree in Business and Marketing at Greenwich.

Illustration by Rosanna Gamble, Art Scholar

OH ENQUIRIES

If you require information about the OH Club, please contact Alumni Officer Helen Pearson at:

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Please note that any personal opinions expressed in this publication are not the views of the Editor, the OH Club and Committee, or HCS.

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DIARY 2022–2024

10 DECEMBER 2022
OH DAY
See insert for details.

28 APRIL 2023
OHiL 20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY DINNER
See advert below.

18 MAY 2023
OH GOLF DAY
Burghill Valley Golf Club – see advert on page 30.

22 JUNE 2023
LEAVERS OF 2022 REUNION
In sixth form café, from 6pm.

18 MAY 2024
LEAVERS OF 1984 REUNION
Save the date!

OHiL
OLD HEREFORDIANS *in* LONDON

Why not come along to our anniversary dinner to mark 20 years since the formation of OHiL in April 2003?

We plan to meet on **Friday 28th April 2023** at **The Duke of Sussex** (No! Not him!)

It's a licensed **Hippo Inns** establishment close to **Waterloo** railway station.

Members will rendezvous in the public bar for **pre-dinner cocktails*** from 6.30pm before moving upstairs to The Chichester Room for a **three-course meal with wine**.

* Cash bar open throughout the event
Cost £50 pp payable in advance by BACS

For more details about this event please visit **www.ohil.org.uk**

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