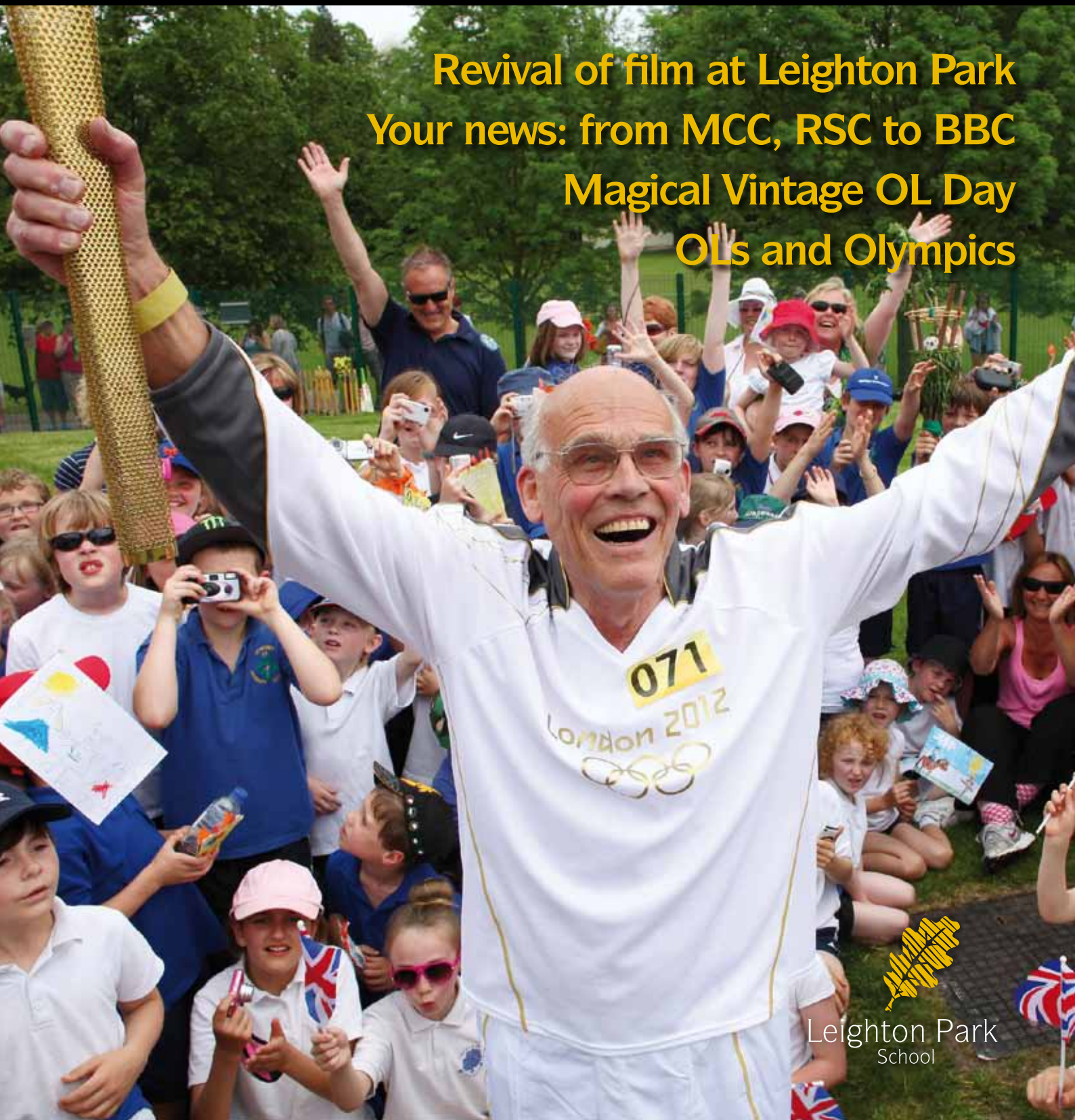




OLnews

The Old Leightonians Magazine 2012-2013

Revival of film at Leighton Park
Your news: from MCC, RSC to BBC
Magical Vintage OL Day
OLs and Olympics



Leighton Park
School

Reflections from the Head



Whenever I speak to Old Leightonians I am always struck by their warm affection for the unique qualities of our school; whether they are students who left us within the last decade or the members of our senior alumnae I had the privilege of meeting at our recent memorable Vintage Old Leightonians Day. Having been at Leighton Park since 1994 I believe that I understand how the Quaker testimonies inspire and shape the wonderful open and calm ethos and atmosphere of the school, whilst allowing it to evolve to meet the challenges of each year. As Head I am determined to ensure the continued success of Leighton Park by academic innovation and improvements to the facilities.

This summer I am delighted that the stage in Peckover Hall has been revitalised by having its audio-visual resources upgraded, making

it a better teaching area for music and drama which remain some of the school's many areas of excellence. I know many of you have fond memories of performing there - whether when participating in dramatic and musical productions or in the annual JBH Speech Competition. An ongoing refurbishment programme is rolling out across the Boarding houses and IT Facilities and equipment for control and coding technologies are being expanded. In addition, plans for the introduction of food technology are progressing well.

Leighton Park looks to meet the challenges of the future and with the strength of our community, of which the Old Leightonians play no small part, we are confident of the continued success of the school. In difficult economic times, increasing numbers of

families are reliant on Bursary support to give their children the all-round development that a Leighton Park education offers. We would love to be able to offer more than we are currently able to. Another way in which Old Leightonians can contribute to the school is by coming to speak at our annual Careers Fair. It is always particularly inspiring for our students to learn about professions first-hand from Old Leightonians who have a successful career in a particular field, and we would welcome any suggestions or offers of help.

It has been a joy to meet so many Old Leightonians this year, I love hearing your anecdotes and news. Old Leightonians are a vital part of the school community and I hope that you are as pleased to learn of the improvements to the school's facilities and curriculum as you are to know that the values and ethos of the school remain as strong and relevant today as they were when you were students. The increasing number of Old Leightonians whose children are now at school is testament to this.

This annual magazine gives a wonderful overview of the richness of our wider community and the staggering variety of paths taken by our Old Leightonians. Please do keep us up to date with your news, and do come and see us at the events or if you are in the area. Pupils and parents often talk of the sense of family, friendship and community here and I aim, with the work of the Old Leightonians Office and Committee, to continue this important relationship.

In Friendship
Nigel Williams, Head

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 5th October
Monday 14th October
Friday 1st November
Wednesday 6th November
Tuesday 3rd December
Wednesday 13th November

Date tbc 2014
Tuesday 11th February
Saturday 1st March
Saturday 28th June

Annual Open Morning from 10.00am
Sixth Form Open Evening 6.00pm
Hong Kong OLs event: Excelsior Hotel 6.00pm
York OLs Event at Betty's. 6.00pm. Tickets £10
Over 70s Afternoon Tea 3.00-5.00pm
Old Leightonians AGM 5.30 for 6.00pm. Followed by Jazz Infusions Concert at 7.15pm
OLCC Golf Day
Senior Production "The History Boys": Pre show drinks
OLs v LP Football and Hockey
4s Reunion and Music for a Summer's Evening

Further events are still in planning so please keep an eye on www.leightonpark.com/old-leightonians or contact the OL Office: Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com or call 0118 987 9611.

Event information is also posted on our social media feeds:



Remembering London 2012



It is hard to believe that a year has passed since the extraordinary glow of the London 2012 Olympics that touched so many of our lives in many different ways.

John Simpson (S1948), a retired farmer, grew up in Horsehay, Shropshire and has a strong athletic background originating from his time at Leighton Park. In 1948, the year of the last London Olympics, he competed in the high hurdles at the National 3 AAA Junior Championships at White City in London. Then later in the Inter-services Championships representing the Navy, and also at Cambridge University becoming a Half Blue. He was Midland Counties Champion in the early 1950s before his career in farming took over. John retired fully from farming in 2002 and today aged 83, he still keeps fit walking and swimming.

John came to farm near Much Wenlock in 1955 and was Town Mayor in 1976. The following year he joined the Wenlock Olympian Society, founded in 1850, and assisted in the rejuvenation of the Wenlock Olympian Games. In 1989 John accepted the position of President and his first official task was to escort HRH The Princess Royal at the 1990 Games which celebrated the centenary of Baron Pierre de Coubertin's visit to Much Wenlock. In 2000 John stepped aside and in 2011, when Olympic Gold Medalist Jonathan Edwards accepted the Presidency, John became Vice President.

In 2012 after carrying the Olympic Torch John said, *"I am proud and honoured to have been chosen to represent Society members past and present."*

I would like to express my thanks to the Wenlock Olympian Society as it was they who were asked to nominate a member in memory of our founder, William Penny Brookes, and to represent all the hard work that's been done to promote his place in Olympic history. Perhaps what gives me the greatest pride is to hold the Olympic flame which has travelled from Greece and to carry it to the school which bears his name here in Much Wenlock."

Masters of Ceremonies

Piers Sheppard (G1989) had the extraordinary task of being Technical Director of the Opening and Closing ceremonies for the Olympics and Paralympics. John Allinson and Penny Wallington spent a fascinating afternoon chatting to Piers, hearing about the processes and challenges in creating such an event. Piers fondly recalls the school giving him the time, freedom and encouragement for developing his passion for technical effects, creating lighting for school productions such as *Peer Gynt*.

Piers also had discovered that **Richard Sharratt** (S1978), a top industry sound engineer was front of house engineer for both opening ceremonies at London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games.



Not only this, but OL **Remy Archer** (2009) was flying high in the ceremonies too, floating above the stadium with a jet pack or taking off on a flying bicycle. Remy is an acrobat and gymnast, part-time circus performer and videographer, currently studying circus arts at The Circus Space, specialising in aerial straps.

Louise Powell, Leighton Park's Marketing Manager, was one of the flame dancers, accompanying ballerina Darcey Bussell in the phoenix sequence of the Closing Ceremony.

Support us

Connections between Old Leightonians and the school are flourishing, but despite the best efforts of Penny Wallington and Cathy Harman, and the OL Committee, we need your support to help continue to expand services and events for OLs. We now are in email contact with about 2000 OLs and in total with around 3000. However there are still so many who we have lost touch with, and do need your help. In the last 3 years, over 900 OLs have attended different events.

From experience, the best reunions are those when a core group of friends get behind the event rounding up their old classmates. We are therefore hoping to develop a network of year group reps, to help spread the word about events and liaise with the OL office. This need not be onerous; we know time is a precious commodity and we find that the more fun involved in event management, the better!

Our network of overseas and regional groups is starting to grow, with two events in Birmingham so far and one planned in York, plus also a Reception in Hong Kong. We are hoping to develop a Co-ordinator role, again to liaise with the OL office. Equally if you have an idea for a specialist group, let us know, whether it be business or sport related. This year an OL Hockey Club has been set up, for example.

The Committee meets about once a term, and we are exploring ways to harness new technologies to enable OLs who do not live near Reading to be able to get involved. It primarily supports the work of the OL office, and provides a valuable vehicle for providing input and viewpoints from OLs of a range of ages regarding services and events. Come and find out more at the OL AGM on 13th November, and stay on for some great music at the Jazz Infusions Concert from 7.15.

Please contact Penny or Cathy for more information about how you can help on 0118 987 9611 or email OldLeightonians@leightonpark.com.

Events

What a Vintage!

Vintage Old Leightonians Day in May proved to be a really magical day, reuniting old friends over spans of decades, introducing the current pupils to the past of their school and creating new audio-visual for the Archives. As if this wasn't enough, the event saw a screening of the digitally remastered 1959 school film "A School in a Park", the reuniting of three out of the five film-makers **Malcolm Brahams** (G1 1959), **Peter Thorpe** (G1 1959) and **Tony Searle** (R1 1956); pupil film-makers filmed them as they reflected on how the film was made, in order to produce a film about the film. It will shortly be available on the Old Leightonians website. We are grateful to Malcolm for paying for the conversion of the original film and audio reels into the digital format. Copies are available from the OL office, £10 plus £1.50 p & p (UK).

Richard Brown's (R1 1957) letter sums up the day far more eloquently than we can:

Thank you all for a day of magic in a time-machine: and what a strange day it was!

"I thought I had arrived at my familiar home of five long years but had seemingly dropped into the future, with new buildings, far more comforts and equipment and a striking change in atmosphere - which I attribute to the civilizing presence of women and girls. It was strange too to find oneself among what looked like a group of grey old dodderly strangers, and then have them turn out to be old friends disguised as old men but still the same boys underneath.

The age-changing disguises did not stop there, for the pupils who interviewed us and took us around were clearly responsible adult staff disguised as children. They proved very professional as interviewers, and tactful and efficient



A spot of lunch in Oakview



Peter Thorpe, Malcolm Brahams, Tony Searle

as guides: explaining when we wanted information, or letting us reminisce quietly among ourselves if so we wished - and all the while they kept us to the programme and on schedule with relaxed self-confidence. Strangest of all, there seemed to be no age-barrier between us visitors and them, so they too must have realised that we were only disguised as old buffers and inside we were just people like them. We were most impressed as we were not so socially mature and confident with adults when we were at LP!

Thank you all for a really memorable day, transcending any magic ever achieved at Hogwarts."

Class of 2013

Tears of happiness as well as the sadness of leaving a much loved school marked another really special Leavers' Day. Parents joined students and staff for a lunchtime Reception in Peckover, lunch and Leavers' Meeting. Old Leightonian **Nick Masters-Waage** (2007) reflected on the impact that school had made on him, before presenting the Old Leightonian Award to **Alex Hall** and the WH Scarborough Award to **Ben**

Singer. Nigel Williams presented the Paul Dowdell Award for Art to **Natasha Elcox**; the Mary Triddon Award for Excellence in Music was shared between **Natasha Elcox** and **Alex Hall**, not only for their musicianship but for their energy in supporting younger musicians and also the huge range of activity in the department.

The **Jorge Hortal** Award was presented to **Henry Ireland**. We will never forget the sadness of Jorge's death at the age of 22 but we are always happy to see his parents,

family and friends loyally supporting this annual event and celebrating the success of the winner.

For three years now, students leaving Leighton Park automatically become Old Leightonians, without any extra membership charge. A life membership fee has been added to the Acceptance Fee for all pupils to the school. This, along with a budget from the school, allows for a range of OL services, communications and events to be available.

Reunited

The 3s Reunion this year was a really successful day: the key is having a core of friends who will help with searching out their old classmates and gently nip at their ankles to encourage them along. We are so grateful to our "terriers" **John Birch** (R1953), **Adrian Boulton** (S1993) and **Phil Samuels** (S1993) for achieving such a great turn-out. Special prize for dedication to **Stephen Collins** (1993) for travelling from Brazil to be there and also to **Chad Buckler** (1953) for the 300 mile round-trip from the Isle of Man.

The best part of the day for most is the chance to wander round, try and find studies or scenes of particularly notable episodes, many of which would cause Health and Safety to flinch. A leisurely lunch sampling the delights of Oakview is always popular, and this year, we ensured that families were also entertained. **Adrian Studd's** two week old baby girl unsurprisingly was a hit, especially with "Uncle" **Mark Simmons**.



Another first, we held the event on the same day as the end of school year outdoor concert "Music for a Summer's Evening". On a perfect summer night, OLs joined the school community to enjoy some wonderful performances, partook of the PTA BBQ and Bar, and extended a very special day into the golden evening.



Reaching out

The Birmingham Botanical Gardens were the venue for a very enjoyable evening for Midlands OL event last November, despite torrential rain. OLs from **Lili Dreikhausen** (2011) a student at the University of Birmingham to **John Best** (G1947) and **Tom Greeves** (G1949) mingled and chatted until the staff were trying to turn the lights off. All were surprised at the number of OLs in the area, and semi-regular meet ups at one of **Angus McMeeking's** Black Country Pubs are planned.

Next stop will be York on **6th November** with drinks and delicious canapés at the lovely Betty's tea-room from 6.00pm. Rail enthusiasts can enjoy two reunions for the price of one: the only six preserved A4 steam locomotives in the world are together at the National Railway Museum, York for one last time in November. An unmissable but optional bonus! Rail buff John Allinson will be on hand to meet OLs at the museum in the afternoon.

We were delighted to hear that a group of OLs in **Canada** have got together, via the LinkedIn Social Network and met up for drinks in Toronto. Thanks to **Tom Beakbane** (R1975) for starting this ball rolling.

Kelvin Lai (S2010), **Azrin Adnan** (2010) and **Nabil Abdullah** (2010) from Brunei came to visit in the summer. **John Dunston**, who visited Brunei on a number of occasions when Head, came back to meet them too. Kelvin and Azrin have now returned to Brunei and Kelvin has set up a Facebook Group for OLs in Brunei and plans to arrange a meet up.



Finally, **Nigel Williams** will be in Hong Kong at the end of October following a school trip to Beijing. We are delighted to host a Reception for OLs and for the parents of present pupils at the Excelsior Hotel on 1st November from 6.00pm.

We have lost touch with many OLs overseas so please encourage any friends who haven't heard from us, to get back in touch again.

Leighton Park News

Careers Fair

It is heartening to witness the warmth with which OLs are now helping current pupils and recent leavers by sharing advice and their experience. At the Careers Fair, we were delighted to welcome back:

Terence Ngai (R2004) from NATS to talk about his training and work as an Instrument Flight Procedure Designer.

Louise Aston (G1980) Director of Business in the Community.

Wendy Adler (R2004) with her own business as a personal trainer, Eagles Elite.

Neale Jackson (G1985), Lead Partner at Duncannon Executive Search, giving advice about choosing a career.

Simon Clemison (F1995), BBC News reporter and presenter, talking about the media and journalism.

Duncan McMeeking (F1976) Group MD of Nottingham Textile Group.

Gary Shacklady (F2004) Teacher at Hawkedon Primary School.

Alina Tuerk, (S2003) Transport Planner at Mott McDonald.

Chef Jesse Dunford Wood (G1996) found that handmade chocolate truffles attracted visitors to his stand!



A number of current parents and Governors also gave up their time to talk to the pupils and their parents.

The Careers Fair will become a regular event so please do contact us if you would like to be involved. Work experience is always hard to come by so a heartfelt plea to anyone who might be able to help out either a current pupil or a recent leaver: the experience could have a life-changing impact.



Leighton Park Films: Then and Now

Film making is increasingly popular in school and recently the Leighton Park Film Production Company was set up by teacher **Chris Mitchell**. Film making is part of the curriculum offer for years 7s and 8s, and older pupils enjoy it as a lunch-time and after school activity. A tech suite has been set up with I-Macs and Finalcut-Pro software: find out more at <http://lpfilmprodco.weebly.com>. The school now has a Youtube channel for sharing films made by pupils or highlights from school plays or concerts: www.youtube.com/user/LeightonParkReading

OLs who are on our E-Mailing list enjoyed the first ever OL Electronic Christmas Card, a totally pupil-led production, directed by Sixth Former **Braze Leung** (2013) with **Kester Campbell** (Year 11). Staff and pupils threw themselves into the Christmas spirit for a nostalgic festive tour of the

Park. It is still available to see on Vimeo: <http://vimeo.com/55277607>.

Simon Clemison (F1995) BBC News reporter and presenter hosted a party of Sixth Formers who are interested in journalism during a visit to the BBC South TV studios. Simon, who is also a Leighton Park Governor, also ran a film editing workshop in school. He commented "While they may not have let the facts get in the way of a good story - they learnt a huge amount about how to transform a few sketchy details into a full-blown television report, in just a few hours. Their drive and enthusiasm for the task was impressive and will carry them forward in a world where video content is in evermore demand."

Liz Collier (1996) is a successful TV film producer who came in to share her expertise with student film makers planning the filming of "Music for a Summer's Evening" and also a shoot in the Music

Department. Liz was able to give technical advice and suggest some unusual ideas to explore. She recalls trying to make a film in one of Ken Lovesy's English lessons in the Pavilion, with a huge camera. Contrast that now with the technological capacity that pupils have on their mobile phones and ipads, so they can easily share their film making with a global audience online.

Liz worked on a major documentary series on BBC2 "**Keeping Britain Alive**", recording a day in the life of the NHS. On Thursday 18th October, 80 film crews filmed across the UK in hospitals, GP surgeries, ambulances, clinics and on the streets. The feat of editing the output of 80 cameras was a mammoth one for Liz and the team.

See Page 4 for the revival of the 1959 and 1938 school films.

“Miss Saigon” lifts off



Superlatives run out when describing school productions, and the 2013 production of “Miss Saigon” almost did raise the roof with an almost life size replica of the “Huey” helicopter that took off to leave the heroine Kim behind. It was built by current parent Martin Elcox, and operated with a hydraulic jack and a great deal of dry ice. However the special effects did not steal the show, with a deluge of

letters of congratulations received. Here is part of just one: I am sure that you will receive a tsunami of congratulations and praise for the production, but please know that you have left a Year 7 boy astounded, proud and eager to get involved, and a parent who could not be more certain of his choice of school for his son. In these times, where too often we have to settle for ‘lowest common denominator thinking’ and pandering to the unimaginative and under-ambitious, last night was truly refreshing, inspiring and invigorating.

Visit the school YouTube channel to see a clip from the show. Congratulations again to **Geraint Thomas** (Head of Drama), **Rosemary Scales** (Director of Music) and the full cast, orchestra and crew.

In 2014 a double bill, of “Daisy Pulls It Off” and “The History Boys”. Keep an eye on the website for details. A drinks Reception for OLs before “The History Boys” on 11th February.

Global Communications

Among recent changes to make the lower years curriculum more holistic and to inspire a love of learning, the new Global Communications programme has been causing excitement, recently winning the prestigious EU Language Award. The course, created by **Karen Gracie-Langrick** (Director of Studies) and MFL teacher **Sarah Ledger** aims to help students gain an understanding of and to develop positive attitudes to other languages and cultures.

The European Language Label is an award for innovative language-learning projects. It rewards creative ways to improve the quality of language teaching, motivate learners and make the best of available resources. To be successful, projects must demonstrate creative thinking and lead to improved teaching provision and learner achievement. They must be innovative, effective and replicable by others in the UK and other countries. The European Language Label was previously known in the UK as the European Award for Languages until 2010.

Sixth Form: Project Africa

Ken Sullivan, Head of Sixth Form writes: “The people we went to help were themselves inspirational, their smiles were contagious and their country enticing, the warmth of its people a perfect match to the climate. We went to help “the poor African people” with our Western riches and came away in the realisation we had much to learn from their spirit, outlook and approach to work. We were taking part in projects that the local people wanted, alongside local workers. This was not a touristic experience, but a real taste of life in small African towns or villages. By working with local charities The Bujagali Trust (Uganda), The Livingstone Trust (Tanzania) and the Joshua Orphanage Trust (Malawi), we were able to provide genuine help that the people actually wanted and needed. We were welcomed to their villages and homes as co-workers, in friendship and respect.”

The Livingstone Trust was set up by OL **Julian Page** (G1985).



Building a school hall in Malawi

YPI



For the first time, Leighton Park took part in the global Youth Philanthropy Initiative. This excellent programme saw teams of year 10 pupils competing in teams to win £3000 for a nominated local charity. Dragon's Den style, they had to pitch their charity to a panel of teachers, who judged them on their research, as well as on their presentation skills. It culminated in a grand final, attended by some of the charities as well as a representative from YPI. The winner was the Reading Refocus team which helps predominantly black minority ethnic young people achieve and attain a good education and a happy worthwhile life. They work with young people to divert them from crime and harmful attitudes and behaviour, using models of befriending, mentoring and youth development. This sum of money will make an enormous difference to their outreach work.

As if this wasn't enough, the LP teams secretly nominated teacher **Rachael Martin** for the YPI Teacher of the Year Award, which she won! Congratulations.



YPI: www.goyopi.org

Your News

Arthur Pedlar (S1949) writes: I'm very lucky with my health and strength. I've visited Sarawak where I performed and lectured at the World Clown Association's convention in Kuching. I turned 80 last September. It all started on Peckover stage on the 3rd April 1948.

Bob van Ingen (R1955) writes: I recently found my school letters from LP sent home to India. At LP we were compelled to write home and my letters were mainly of sports. One is a request for a motor cycle. Neither subject was of any interest to my parents.

Most important for me was the Guidance Counsellor's advice when my last term was almost ended. It was just a short interview and I don't even remember anything about him except his advice and confident manner. "You could become a geologist", he said, and added-"you could try your luck in Canada or Australia". I took the bait. I chose Canada because it was closer to LP. My parents did not know anything more than I did about geology but were probably glad that I wanted to do something with my life other than play games and once more generously paid the way. This was by boat to Montreal accompanied by my rigger boots.

At McGill University I played rugby and made new friends and met my wife and earned a BSc. We went on to Dartmouth College, USA, for the M.A. degree and later migrated to Toronto where I was permanently employed as an exploration geologist. There have been lots of ups and downs in my life but no regret that I chose to study geology. My only regret is that my 3 children could not also have benefited from schooling at LP."

His Honour Judge Derwin Hope (S1963)

"I left LP in 1963 not having any idea of what to do as a career. My father ran a Quantity Surveyor's practice and advised acquiring the best qualifications in his line of work so I studied for a degree in Estate Management. I studied property law as part of the course and the law took hold of me. Inspired by reading biographies of great lawyers particularly Rufus Isaacs QC, I decided to try and qualify as a Barrister as he had. Study at the College of Law was another three years, so I ran law tutorials at the College of Estate Management to try and put some money together. I was eventually called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1970.

To find work as a self-employed Barrister, I joined the Western Circuit Chambers, who at the time did mainly criminal law, and began my first day there, sent to West London Magistrates Court to prosecute a shoplifter. In due course, as well as an advocate working in the London courts including the Old Bailey, I began to travel widely on the Western Circuit, appearing in the Crown Courts on behalf of both prosecution and defence, as well as doing specialist Town and Country Planning Law work at Planning Inquiries.

My cases began to be reported, and I became very busy. I appeared for 21,000 objectors at the Archway Road Inquiry and one of them, Yehudi Menuhin, gave a concert for my fees, I also flew



to Germany to appear in Court Martials which I was happy to do as I had met a German girl Heidi, who became my wife. We married in 1979 and have a son Matthew (now a lawyer) and a daughter (an Estate Manager in Paris). We moved from London to Winchester and in due course I helped to set up an annex of our London Chambers there.

In 1988, ill health prevented me from working for two years; as part of my recovery, I wrote the definitive book on the Town and Country Planning Acts, which became the official law book for the Royal Institute of British Architects. Once back at work, I became very busy again, dealing with large Planning Inquiries and serious crime, up to and including Murder, and also sitting as a Recorder (Deputy Judge). In 2002 the Lord Chancellor offered me the job as a full time Circuit Judge, initially in Bolton, then Portsmouth and then as Senior Resident Judge in Southampton, where I now sit. I have been made the Honorary Recorder of Southampton, which means I participate fully in the main Civic Ceremonies, as well as running one of the busiest courts in the country. I have also been appointed as one of two Judges representing the UK at the International Association of Judges. I have had a wonderfully fulfilling career in the law, but will be required to step down when I reach 70. I plan to travel, engage in my passion for classic cars and do more writing. I have published a book on the early life of Charles Dickens, which has now been adapted as a play and I intend to continue pursuing things to the full that I enjoy- which I have found is the secret to the happy life that I am fortunate to have had since my equally happy times at LP, all those years ago.

Michael Burton



(S1971) recently celebrated a quarter of a century covering news about the UK government sector with a reception at the House

of Lords, organised by his employers, publishers the Hemming Group, to mark his 25 years as editor and now editorial director of The MJ (formerly the Municipal Journal) and its associate online and offline titles and events. Among the 200 guests at the occasion were Hilary Armstrong, Hazel Blears, Hilary Benn and Eric Pickles. Michael says it was 'a wonderful occasion' and added: 'I was a bag of nerves days beforehand at the thought of having to

make a speech to such a distinguished audience including my own family in the august surroundings of the Cholmondeley Room. Normally I'm the one in the audience listening to politicians. Here it was the other way round. But in the end it was all very informal. I even managed to get a few laughs reminiscing about the politicians I'd met.'

Michael has also just published a book '*The politics of public sector reform from Thatcher to the Coalition*'. It explores how reform has been attempted across public services from Margaret Thatcher to the Coalition, where and how it has failed and what lessons there are to be learned for the unprecedented changes the public sector faces in the next decades. The book addresses what taxpayers and consumers can and should expect from the political and managerial leaders of their public services despite the spending reductions that will continue for a generation or more.

Roger Gaitley (C1963) recently retired after 30 years in social work and 10 years as a public health specialist (smoking cessation) in the NHS in Hertfordshire. He works part time as a speaker for McNeil Pharmaceuticals on Nicotine Replacement Therapy.



Tony Baldry MP (R1968) has been made a Knight in The Queen's Birthday Honours list. Tony was a former aide to Margaret Thatcher and MP since 1983 was awarded the title for public and political service. He received the knighthood from Prince Charles at an investiture ceremony at Windsor Castle in recognition for services to political and public life.

Peter Cotton (S1957): was educated at Cambridge University and St Thomas Hospital Medical School (London) where he graduated in 1963. He became interested in endoscopy in the late 1960s with the introduction of flexible fiberoscopes, and developed endoscopy units at St. Thomas' Hospital and at the Middlesex Hospital, which pioneered and evaluated many diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. Peter has been elected as Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (1978), Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (1998), and Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, (2002). He was awarded the Rudolph Schindler award of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in 2004.

In 1986, Peter became Professor of Medicine and Chief of Endoscopy at Duke University, North Carolina where he developed a state of the art endoscopy centre there. He moved to Charleston, South Carolina in 1994 to initiate and lead a Digestive Disease Center at the Medical University of South Carolina. Peter helped form the British Society for Digestive Endoscopy, became its president, and served the British Society of Gastroenterology as its vice president and treasurer. He was secretary of the European Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, and president of the Pancreatic Society of Great Britain.

Peter has written his memoirs, memorably called "The tunnel at the end of the light; my endoscopic journey in six decades", proceeds from which support training in advanced GI endoscopic techniques. Details at www.peterbcotton.com. He also has written two children's books about Fred the Snake, available at www.petercottontales.com

Colin Garrett (G1960) writes: In June 2012 I celebrated my 70th birthday with a lunch party for 66 guests held at Berkhamsted School. I was a lawyer for about 35 years but my main hobby was violin-making. Since having a stroke and retiring from the law, I recovered my health and went back to school for three years full time at the Newark School

of Violin Making (Mecca for violin-makers in Europe). The big thrill at my party was a short concert performed by four of our friends, the Guest Leader of the Hallé Orchestra and his family - all playing instruments that I had made and sold but borrowed back for the occasion. At the time, the two violinists played Strads when they are at work!



Also in attendance were OLs **George Bateson** (R 1950), **Ian Garrett** (G 1957) and **John Garrett** (G1960).

Stephen McClelland (S1971) is Chief Technical Advisor for the Ghana Project of the International Labour Organization. In a recent interview Stephen said that fighting child labour is about protecting children's dignity, but is also about national development. Eliminating child labour is "important for countries that are developing. If you ignore the development of your children, then you are condemning your country to difficult development challenges ahead," he said. Working children perpetuate a cycle of uneducation and poverty."

Geoffrey Spedding (G1974) is a Professor in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering at the University of Southern California. He is an expert in animal flight, the aerodynamics of bats, birds and micro air vehicles. He originally received his doctorate from the Zoology Department at the University of Bristol, England, where his thesis won the national Thomas Henry Huxley prize for original contributions to zoology.

He came to work at USC to investigate mechanical models of insect wings, and then branched out into the field of Geophysical Fluid Dynamics. He now conducts research in GFD with application to submarine signature detection, and also in fundamental aerodynamic problems in small-scale flying machines. These studies include investigations of simple fixed wing shapes and a collaboration with a group of biologists at Lund University, Sweden, where birds and bats are trained to fly in a special-purpose wind tunnel.

In teaching, Geoff has been most closely associated with a lecture-lab course taught to all juniors in mechanical and aerospace engineering, Mechoptronics. The name was chosen to express the importance of combined expertise in mechanical, optical and electrical engineering methods for the modern engineer. In 2001 he was elected an honorary member of the engineering society Sigma Gamma Tau, and in 2005 received the Viterbi School of Engineering/Northrop Grumman Excellence in Teaching Award.



Cedric Quayle

(S1959) writes "Following the splendid Vintage OL day in May, felt prompted to mention another link to long times past.

Michael Baker (Grove 1954-1959) and I received a Beta Travel Scholarship to travel, by bicycle, through the Low Countries, Denmark Sweden and Norway with the study of glaciation as the *raison d'être*. In 2008, exactly 50 years after the trip, Michael suggested that we return to the mountain hut in the Jotunheim in Norway where we had carried out most of the glacial observations. We did this and spent 10 days at the same hut and went back to photograph the same glaciers (at exactly the same time of year) and were able to once again climb Galdhøpiggen, Norway's highest mountain, which we did, encouraged by our sons who happily are both experienced mountaineers. Incidentally, the glaciers there have barely receded at all, unlike the Alpine glaciers which are disappearing quickly.

Stephen Shrewsbury (F1975), has just written his first non-fiction book. After working as a GP in Evesham until 1993, he joined the pharmaceutical industry and for 20 years has progressed up the career ladder, moving to the US in 2000 and Canada in 2013. His book is based on his experience as Chief Medical Officer for a biotech company developing oligonucleotide drugs for rare diseases which he claims will be one of several advances to herald the Golden Age of Medicine.

Lethal childhood diseases such as Duchenne muscular dystrophy as well as the killer Ebola virus and others may be effectively tackled with this new exciting generation of drug based on tiny snippets of synthetic DNA. They can be designed and built within days, dramatically cutting development time, and targeting diseases and deadly germs that hitherto have been impossible to tackle. In parallel with the ability to unravel our own personal genome now in days for under £1000, both of which will soon be cut, these new medicines are only one of a series of advances that Stephen claims will change forever the way medicine is practised and healthcare is delivered. He can be reached via www.defyournabook.com, [Facebook.com/defyournabook](https://www.facebook.com/defyournabook) or [Twitter@SBSShrewsbury](https://twitter.com/SBSShrewsbury).

Nat Parker



Photo by Johan Persson

(R1980) Nat has been exceptionally in demand, with TV, audio and theatre work. As well as being the evil Agravaire in BBC's Saturday night *Merlin*, he was also on BBC 1's sitcom *Me & Mrs Jones*. He will be back on international TV screens as Canadian Chief Inspector *Armand Gamache* in the made-into-film debut novel by Louise Penny, *Still Life*, produced by the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

2013 saw Nat's return to the stage for the West End production of *The Audience*, starring Dame Helen Mirren, written by Peter Morgan (The Queen) and directed by Stephen Daldry. The play had a successful four month run at the Gielgud Theatre in London from February 15th to June 15th, 2013 and has been transmitted worldwide via National Theatre Live with more than 110,000 viewers in the UK and USA alone.

Nat will be joining the The Royal Shakespeare Company's double bill adaptation of Hilary Mantel's Man Booker Prize winning novels *Wolf Hall* and *Bring Up The Bodies*. After more than 27 years of absence from the RSC, Nat will be starring as Henry VIII. Both plays will run in RSC's winter season from December 11, 2013 to March 29, 2014 in Stratford-Upon-Avon.

Brian Eberhardie (G1977) runs Moussa Minerals & Fossils, a wholesale supplier of fossils, minerals, crystals and Moroccan handicrafts, supplying museum collections, shops, web merchants and markets.

Derek Brewer (S1977): last year Derek was appointed Marylebone Cricket Club Chief Executive. Previously Derek had been Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire Cricket and had overseen the development of Trent Bridge. In one interview, Derek describes his role as starting "with a clean sheet of paper" to devise a 10-year business plan that will decide the future of the club's controversial project to rebuild Lord's.

Mark Leonard (G1978) has recently co-founded The Mindfulness Exchange. Mark was involved in setting up the Oxford Mindfulness Centre (OMC) and led their Mindfulness in the Workplace Project. He taught the first training programmes using "*Mindfulness: A Practical Guide to Finding Peace in a Frantic World*" by Professor Mark Williams and Dr. Danny Penman. He has been working with companies and organisations as varied as workplace training for GPs, CVS (Veterinary Services) and an international shipping company.

Before working for the OMC, Mark's career explored means to manage natural resources sustainably. His breadth of knowledge, personal experience of meditation practice combined with his background in Zoology

and Fisheries Biology, along with his experience in training and other work in government and non-government organisations, give him a broad platform of knowledge and skills to make mindfulness understandable and accessible.

Around ten years ago he came to the conclusion that wisdom from Buddhist tradition would provide the means for achieving sustainable development if it could be applied in contemporary society. Through his involvement with the OMC, he has been able to realise his vision, applying the scientific

Jason Hawkes (R1985) has specialized in aerial photography since 1991. His clients include the BBC, HP, Citi, Siemens, Nike, Coca Cola, Nokia, BT, HSBC, NatWest, Ford, American Airlines, Rolex, Toyota, Smirnoff, Mitsubishi, Samsung, National Geographic, O2 and BP. Jason has produced over 50 aerial photographic books, from his first "London From The Air" to most recently "Britain From Above Month By Month", published by Dorling Kindersley.

He first took to the skies in a microlight in 1991, but since then Jason has clocked up thousands of hours in the air covering landscapes to cityscapes, architecture to abstracts, people to nature, building up a huge stock library that forms a major part of his business. After a photography degree

understanding of mindfulness developed in Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT), to mindfulness training in the workplace. www.mindfulness-exchange.com

Helen Cadbury (1983) has been appointed Chair of the Barrow Cadbury Trust. Helen said "Over the past century the Barrow Cadbury Trust has had a powerful record of tackling injustice and structural inequality, and I am proud to represent that radical tradition. From grassroots experience I know what huge challenges we currently face as a society, which is why I am so excited to take on the responsibility of chairing the Trust." Helen joined the Board in 1998, serving for ten years, before a sabbatical for post-graduate study. Professionally Helen's background is in the arts and social justice. She has worked as a teacher, Education Director and consultant on young people and the artistic sector. She has spent five years working in prison teaching. Helen is also a lead trainer for Artswork, a national youth arts development agency.

Having previously had her poetry published, Helen's debut novel "*To Catch a Rabbit*" has been published in 2013, receiving excellent reviews and being joint winner of The Northern Crime Competition 2012.



Andrew Forbes was surprised by a number of OLs and former LP staff at a special retirement concert at Oundle School. He worked at LP as Director of Music from 1988 – 1997, living with his family at 2 The Crescent.



in London, he worked as an assistant for a few months after graduating and intended to become a studio photographer. However after flying one day in a microlight, he determined to buy one. When he finally started getting commissions he switched to helicopters. To see more of his stunning work, visit www.jasonhawkes.com.

Marianne Hattig (Buchwald, 1985) still lives in Berlin with her family; she works at KPMG as a lawyer in their internal risk management. Her children are 16 and 18 and will soon be leaving home. **Simon Mawby** came to stay in February with his family, and **Crispin Branfoot** also visited with his 12-year old daughter Maya- so two reunions with LP friends in just a couple of months.

Lawrence Owens

(F1992) is a bioarchaeologist specialising in the understanding of ancient lifestyles through human remains. He trained at the universities of Durham (BA 1996), Liverpool (MSc 1998) and University College London (PhD 2004). His fieldwork and research have taken him to the Middle East, Southern Africa and the Mediterranean, and he is currently researching mummies and skeletons from a large site on the Peruvian coast (Pachacamac). Lawrence is also excavating the earliest neolithic remains found in Qatar and in Egypt as Director of physical anthropology and bioarchaeology team at the Old Kingdom to Graeco-Roman multi period site at Minufiyeh.



At Birkbeck College, he has taught beginner's and advanced bioarchaeology since 2004, and is a visiting lecturer at the Universidad de la Villareal, Lima. He introduced a new module Advanced Bioarchaeology, and has also taught the Environmental Archaeology course. Lawrence takes a very wide approach to the subject of human remains, incorporating human and primate evolution, archaeology, genetics and palaeopathology into his lectures, supplemented with specialist talks by visiting lecturers; his organised field trips include visits to museums, pathology collections and London Zoo.

Steve Dawe (1999) writes: I now live in Spain and work as a project and activity coordinator in a bi-lingual school there. I am married to a Spanish lady called Carmen and have a daughter called Julia Elma who is 7 months old.

Richard Bliault (2003) is working for a Swiss based company, ECOM, as a Sustainability Manager (in coffee) in Southern Tanzania. For a few months he was in Kenya, where he also did the research for his MSc last year. He expects to be based in Southern Tanzania, between Mbinga and Mbeya for the next two or three years.

Stephen Southall (2004) ran the London Marathon for The Big Issue Foundation, raising just over £1900. He'd like to say a huge thank you to the OLs that sponsored him and if anyone else would like to, they can through www.justgiving.com/stephen-southall.

Mike MacLennan (2007) is a composer, conductor and arranger based in south-east London. Having originally started out as a pianist and drummer, he then focused on composition and studied at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance. Mike has since gone on to compose soundtracks for advertisements, Films and TV both in the UK and Europe. Recent credits include campaigns for Ribena, Sainburys, the Portuguese Red Cross and DFDS Seaways, plus the theme for STV's film review show, Moviejuice. Mike also works as an orchestrator, having recently orchestrated Mcasso's new BBC Local Radio jingles and conducted the BBC Concert Orchestra at London's famous Angel Studios. Other orchestration credits include the Boots' 2011 Christmas advert – "Here Come The Girls". For more information, www.mikemacLennan.com.



David Kirk (2005) has been selected for Great Britain Duathlon team. He recently came 5th in the World Championships in Ottawa, a podium place thwarted by technical bike problems. Follow David on Twitter @DKirk2012.



Kristian Callaghan (2011) has represented Great Britain in pistol shooting many times, including winning Gold and Bronze at the Australian Youth Olympic Festival, in 25m Rapid Fire Pistol and 50m Pistol respectively. Now studying Integrated Mechanical and Electrical Engineering at the University of Bath he was selected to represent Team GB at this summer's World University Games. Kristian also competed in the 11-strong British shooting team for the World Games, in Kazan and earlier in the year, came eighth in the 10m air pistol at the European Championships in Odense, Denmark.

Naomi Alderson (G2011) has been working this summer at John Allinson's language school, Parkland International. John said he is delighted to have had Naomi looking after the administration and tackling a variety of activities with great aplomb. Parkland has been based at Ampleforth College in North Yorkshire since 2010, but it is closing after this summer. John recently also met up in Yorkshire with former English teacher **Ken Lovesy**, **David Harker** (2005) and **Helen Cadbury** (S1983).

Laura Marling (G2009) continues her phenomenal worldwide success, with another album *Once I was an Eagle* and touring extensively. She performed at the BBC Proms in August performing alongside the London Sinfonietta Orchestra. Laura also composed the music for the RSC's production of *As you Like It*. www.lauramarling.com.

Eliza Bennett (G2010) played the lead role of Holly in the new musical *Loserville* at the Garrick Theatre, London, and was nominated for the Best Leading Actress in a Musical in the Broadway World West End Awards. Eliza has made numerous films from *Nanny McPhee*, *Inkheart* (performing with OL Jim Broadbent) to horror film *F* and recent psycho thriller *Confine*. We look forward to finding out what she is doing next!



Thanks to Annabel Vere photography for rehearsal image.

Jordan Luke Gage (R2010) is an actor/singer and aspiring model and has been studying at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts. During his training he was a recipient of the BBC Performing Arts Fund, The Peter Coxhead Memorial Award and the Lionel Bart Foundation. His theatre credits includes Marilyn in *Taboo* (Brixton Clubhouse), Soloist in 'Been on Broadway' (Pheasantry) and Ensemble in 'Songs Of My Life - An Evening with Peter Polycarpou' (Garrick).

Obituaries

We are sad to inform you of the deaths of the following Old Leightonians.

Christopher Stagg (1938): 24/5/2012
Robert Rabett (G1938)
Bertel Clothier Hutchinson (R1948): 6/3/2012
Brennan Soane (G1948)
David G Stevens (S1949)
Graham H Kay (S1951)
David Roberts (R1951)
Dr Alum James Bryan Edwards (G1952)
Anthony Martin Barnes (R1953)
Derek Parkes (R1955)
Michael Seddon (R1960)
Oluwele Adebo (S1963)
Colin Geall (G1963): 13/1/2013
Michael Taylor (S1963)
Ian Archibald (G1965)
Adrian Wrigley (S1985)

Thomas Lo (F1998) : Thomas was tragically killed in a car accident in China. Many teachers and friends have expressed their sadness; Nigel Williams is one of many who will miss Thomas' beaming smile.

Paul Rice (1939) was the son of a Czech solicitor, sent to LP just before the outbreak of war and subsequently joined by his brother Karel who became a successful film director. After school, Paul joined the Pioneer Corps, and eventually took up selling machinery for cotton mills. He married Henny, who had escaped from Holland at the outbreak of war. Paul was a very sociable chap, much loved by acquaintances in Marple.

John Cotes

David Roberts (R1951) died suddenly on 14th August 2012. Though not a Quaker,

he spent many Christmases helping at the Quaker Homeless Action.

Martin "Peter" Hall ((R1956): 27/10/2012. Peter battled cancer for over two years and fortunately the end was quick. He loved his time at Leighton Park and his experiences there very strongly influenced the rest of his life. His daughter, Susie, spent her 6th form at LP having been strongly influenced by her father's wonderful experience over his most formative years.

James Buckle (S1937) spent his early years in Hampshire, before moving to Reading where he went to prep school and then to his great dismay was sent the ten minutes walk up the Shinfield Road to board at LP. James seems to have particularly enjoyed gymnastics and his time spent playing cricket, rugby and tennis. He passed his matriculation but his father declined to fund his hoped for place at university and coerced him into following him into the Royal Insurance Company.

Realising that war was inevitable James enlisted with the Territorial Army at Didcot in May 1939 on his way home to Reading one evening 'so he could at least get some training'. He survived the horrors of Dunkirk, which he very rarely mentioned, and went on to serve through the campaigns in North Africa and Italy. His son Adrian found James' Service Pay Book along with letters from some of his closest pals who also survived.

After the war, he resumed his career with 'The Royal' marrying Sylvia in August 1949. In his spare time he helped re-kindle the 'Wanderers' (later Reading Rugby Club) and was secretly rather proud when his son Adrian and grandson Ben, wore the Reading jersey for a while. He bought the family home in Emmer Green in 1954 and created a fabulous garden and his beloved

vegetable plot. The garden was always his sanctuary from the rigours of commuting to the City where he enjoyed a successful career in the insurance market.

Robert Harwood Graham (S1968) lived in South Africa from 1972 and was very proudly an Old Leightonian. He brought his wife Julie on a visit to the school grounds a number of years ago. Bob passed away suddenly on 1st May 2010, in Durban after a brief battle with Leukaemia. He is still very much missed by Julie, his two daughters and son and his brother John Ogilvie Graham (F1969) now living in Johannesburg.

M Dominic Beer
(1974 G)

Dominic was a great all-round pupil who excelled both academically and on the sports field. Having been introduced to sport at an early age at home, he became an accomplished games player at LP in the school 1st teams at cricket, football and hockey. He was the first XI cricket captain in 1973 and 1974, (a rare honour), as well as Head of Grove House and Head Boy. Dominic studied Modern Languages and Modern History at Wadham College, Cambridge, then studied for six years at Guys Hospital to become a Bachelor of Surgery and Bachelor of Medicine. He then spent three years at London University to become a Doctor of Medicine, specialising in the History of Psychology. From 1993 to 2011, Dominic was a consultant psychiatrist in south east London, publishing a number of papers.



Dominic was a Governor of Leighton Park from 1988 – 1994 but his main involvement as an OL was through the Old Leightonians Cricket Club. He had the distinction of facing the first ball in the club's history in May 1977 and went on to play 214 games over the following 35 years, playing on 33 tours. He was an opening batsman and the club's regular wicket-keeper as well as a useful outswing bowler and athletic fielder. He also took on the time-consuming role of club secretary for 10 years. He scored 3,782 runs, took 78 wickets as a bowler and claimed 85 wicket-keeper dismissals in addition to 54 outfield catches. When his illness was more advanced and he could no longer play, he continued to ensure his attendance on our main tour each year bringing his family and treated the annual dinner as a priority in his diary. For his long service to the club he was made a Vice President in 2009.

Dominic Beer was a true Old Leightonian, a pillar of the Old Leightonians Cricket Club, a thoroughly nice man who gave his time and wisdom to others with a welcome and a smile. He maintained his strong Christian beliefs and died aged 56 on 19 April 2013. He leaves a loving wife Naomi and four children, Charlie, Josh, David and Esther. He will be sadly missed by OLs but particularly in the cricket club to which he gave so much.

Graham Carter

Philip Russell Headley

Philip Headley, (S1938), died peacefully on 6th January 2012, aged 92.

Philip was the fourth boy in the Headley family, all attending the school. He subsequently went to Emmanuel College, Cambridge to study for the Natural Science Tripos. With the onset of war he switched to medicine and in 1941 enrolled at the medical college of Saint Bartholomew's Hospital. In 1947 he married Diana Veale (a Bart's nurse) and entered General Practice first in Hayes and then in Sevenoaks, Kent. Philip and Diana had three daughters. In 1989, Diana died and Philip bravely bore his life without her, until in 1992 he met his partner, Mary Morrison, who provided him great care and comfort for the last twenty years.

Philip was not only a doctor, he was also a wonderful musician. He was a talented pianist who could play anything, even without the music. He composed beautiful songs and all kinds of other music, including a very short operetta - which he called an

operetta-ette. Always involved with music, he became Chairman and then President of the Sevenoaks Music Club and President of the Sevenoaks Players. He was an excellent singer and performer, mainly of Gilbert & Sullivan, including several performances at Leighton Park School, which he remembered with great pride – including every word of some of his solos.

A life long Quaker, he was deeply influenced by the weekly visits with the school to Meeting for Worship, and continued to remember some of the ministry which had captured his imagination. Part of a large Quaker family, many of whom were involved with Leighton Park School, he developed a keen interest in the family history, and in later years he kept the record of the family tree on his computer. As if medicine, music and faith were not enough, Philip was also known for his love of learning and his great sense of humour. For his whole life he was interested in everything and everyone around him. He is greatly missed.

David Schofield Jeffery

The term 'Renaissance Man' could justifiably be used in an account of the life of David Jeffery, OL and former school governor. It would be a valid term if it could, as well as his wide range of achievements, reflect David's gentle, generous and unassuming character.

David left Leighton Park in 1939, having been Head of School House, Captain of the 1st XV, and recipient of the Stansfield Board and W.H. Scarborough Scholarship awards. He had excelled in the sciences, and he had developed a number of practical skills which were to serve him well in later life, making the bookshelves in the school library and a hut for the use of the scouts. One of his best memories was the cycling holidays with Roger Moore, his housemaster, and other boys. The school, he used to say, cemented his Quaker faith firmly.

He began a university course in Civil Engineering in 1939, but this was soon interrupted by the war. He was a member of the Friends' Relief Service from 1940 to 1946, and for much of that period, as a skilled craftsman, he was involved in reconstruction work following bombardments. After the war he was admitted to St John's College, Cambridge, from which he graduated with a first class degree (Natural Science Tripos) in 1949. After training at University College Hospital he qualified as doctor and spent his whole professional life as a GP in Englefield Green and Old Windsor.

David's interests were many and varied. He was a keen sailor and even built his own boats. He generously donated one of them to the school. Woodwork and gardening were of great importance to him, and his craftsmanship was highly regarded.

David gave many years of service to the school as a governor. Initially, his brief was to support those involved in the medical care of pupils, and he also took a great interest in the work of the pastoral staff. Perhaps his most noteworthy contribution to the school, however, was his involvement with the school's centenary in 1990. As Chairman of the committee, he not only gave an overall sense of direction, but spent a great deal of time updating the records of former pupils. Such was his determination to get the lists as complete as possible that he was renowned for interrupting holiday travels to look up local Old Leightonians. He was the right man to chair the school appeal later in the 1990s. His assiduous devotion to duty, supportive manner and quiet charm were great assets in that role.

Crispin Aubrey

John Nicholas Crispin Aubrey (R1963) passed away suddenly on September 28th.

Crispin won a scholarship to read English Literature at Christ Church, Oxford, and then began his journalistic career as a general reporter on the Hampshire Chronicle. He joined Time Out magazine in 1974 as one of the first investigative reporters to focus on the environment and nuclear energy. In the late 70s, Time Out became involved in exposing British and American government secrecy; as part of their investigations, Crispin and two colleagues were arrested. The trial took place at the Old Bailey in 1978, with Crispin charged with unauthorised receipt of classified information. Mid-trial, the prosecution dropped the more serious charge under section one of the Official Secrets Act. Crispin was convicted on a lesser charge and given a non-custodial sentence. This led him to write *Who's Watching You? Britain's Security Service and the Officials Secrets Act*.

By then, Crispin had moved with his wife, Sue, and their young family to a smallholding in Nether Stowey in Somerset. He worked as a freelance journalist, writing and campaigning about environmental issues. He also wrote, *Meltdown: The Collapse of the Nuclear Dream* (1991) and *Thorpe: The Whitehall Nightmare* (1993), about the Sellafield nuclear processing plant. From the early 90s, he was involved with the Glastonbury festival as a press officer. Michael Eavis, the founder of the festival, greatly admired Crispin and described him as "a resolute campaigner for green issues".



Crispin was a key member of the "Stop Hinkley" group for 20 years, taking a lead role in the public inquiry and co-ordinating the campaign, which was heralded a success as the reactor was never built. Katy Attwater from the group was impressed by the manner in which Aubrey fought for his beliefs. "He was a completely dedicated environmentalist. He understood the issues, guided wisely and wrote and spoke eloquently. An honourable man respected by everyone, even the other side. He has left us in a very strong position to make sure that no nuclear power station is ever built again."

A man of unswerving principle behind a genial and laidback exterior, Aubrey had a sharp sense of humour and a complete lack of self-regard. He enjoyed country life and was a keen ornithologist, gardener and cyclist. He is survived by Sue, his daughters, Kate, Meg and Rosie, and four grandchildren.

Dorothy Button has died aged 98.

Dorothy was married to Frank Button, a very long-serving member of staff who retired in 1977 and died in 1995.

Alastair Graham-Bryce (S1953)

Alastair came to Leighton Park in 1948 and enjoyed many hobbies at the school including bookbinding and electronics. He became a prefect and also played rugby in the first team. Alastair then went to the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology to study Production Engineering later obtaining a PhD at Salford. There he met his wife Veronica du Feu, a linguist specialising in Slavonic Languages.

I really got to know Alastair well when we both turned up as graduate apprentices at Rolls-Royce in Derby, having now a common bond of owning vintage cars – his being a Silver Eagle Alvis. During his career in production engineering he worked for many different companies and travelled all over the world. Many long trips were taken with Veronica in the Alvis all around Europe.

It was good to attend David's Memorial Meeting in Kingsbridge, Devon last September. He had retired to the area some years before. Poignantly, former patients had travelled from Berkshire to attend and express their gratitude for his care and companionship. David's close family will miss him sorely, but they can rest assured that David's was a life very well lived.

This piece would not be complete without a mention of David's long marriage with Marion. I know that they were introduced through ballroom dancing and a love of opera. I am sure they lived in harmony ever since, and the example they have given us of love, affection, sharing and concern not only for each other but for the wider community is indeed evidence that they have been the 'patterns' that George Fox exhorted his followers to be.

John Allison

In retirement, apart from working on his Alvis cars (he had found another identical car), he was very involved with the Imagineering Foundation which is devoted to encouraging young people to take a practical interest in Engineering. He died in March 2012 after suffering from cancer for some time.

All the family miss Alastair and Veronica and remember the wonderful hospitality at their house in Leamington Spa.

Richard Wood (G1954)

Sir Richard Rodney Bennett

Few composers nowadays manage to avoid being 'pigeon-holed'; **Richard Rodney Bennett** (R1953), however, was a fine exception.



As well as writing for the opera, theatre and the concert hall, he was a distinguished soundtrack composer, a versatile pianist and above all, a talented and prodigious composer. In recognition of his services to music, he was appointed CBE in 1977 and knighted in 1998.

Coming from a musical family, Richard's musical destiny was already clear when his mother contacted Leighton Park. **John Ounsted** wrote: Richard's mother explained that she was interested in LP as it might be a school that could cope with a genius, rather

than condemn him as a nuisance. Personally unable to tell a sol from a fa, I sent the candidate to John Russell, the Director. He reported that the child (aged 12) improvised freely in the style of Delius. I thought "Goodness! This mother may be the one who is right." After all, I said to myself, it may be that this is a future Mozart." The school archives are peppered with references to his compositions or performances.

Richard last visited LP in 2006 and was amused to read a letter from John Ounsted to his mother: We believe that Richard has sufficient ability academically on subjects besides music. In view of this ability and the uncertainty of music as a full time living, we do feel we should aim to provide him with a qualification while continuing to foster his musical bent. Richard however has displayed his determination to make music his first, and possibly, only choice. He has undoubtedly been lazy about his other work...this does raise the question whether we shall have to give way and let him instead take risks of becoming a musical specialist.

Leaving school, Richard won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music. Earlier training from Elizabeth Lutyens, had instilled in him a curiosity for the avant garde, and with a scholarship from the French Government, he went to study with Boulez for two years. He developed what has been termed a 'neo-Romantic serialism'. He wrote three operas in the 1960s: as well as the children's opera *All the King's Men*. Richard also composed

works in a wide range of other genres: large-scale works for choir and orchestra as well as symphonies, concertos, a cappella choral works, song-cycles and instrumental solos.

At the same time, Richard enjoyed a prolific career as a jazz pianist and singer, an interest dating back to his student years, when he earned much-needed cash playing jazz. In the 1990s he began touring the world as a solo cabaret act, as well as with outstanding jazz singers, including Cleo Laine, Annie Ross, Marion Montgomery. His *Jazz Calendar* (1963-64) was choreographed by Frederick Ashton for the Royal Ballet, and his music accompanies the Northern Ballet's recent production of *The Great Gatsby*.

Having contributed to some 50 films, and been nominated for three Oscars for *Far from the Madding Crowd* (1967), *Nicholas and Alexandra* (1971) and *Murder on the Orient Express* (1974), he won a BAFTA for the latter. In 1994 he enjoyed high profile success with his score for *Four Weddings and a Funeral*. He also worked in television, on programmes such as *Gormenghast*, *Tender is the Night* and *The Chancer*.

We are pleased that Richard spent some time in school as part of his seventieth birthday celebrations. He worked one to one with a number of music students, an unforgettable inspirational opportunity for them. There was a special birthday concert for him, and he and his partner Claire Martin performed their Café Cabaret to a packed hall.

Timothy Richard Newell Price (1931-2013)



Tim was a towering oak of a man, whose physical stature was at least matched by his intellect, his moral character and his deep commitment to his family, to the school and to an extensive range of interests in

the wider community. He truly was a man of real substance.

Tim was educated at Blundell's School in Devon and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. After a period of teaching at King's School Rochester, Tim joined the headquarters of the Student Christian Movement and became its General Secretary. Here he gained experience in the organisation of conferences for Sixth-formers on a range of topical and social issues, and helped establish Community Service Volunteers. After seven years as Head of Department of Religious Studies at Bulmershe College of Education, now part of Reading University, he had a two-year stint as General Secretary of the Christian Education Movement. In assessing Tim's application in

1974 for the post of Head of Divinity, it must not have been difficult for Bill Spray to identify the relevant experience in his curriculum vitae!

Tim's contributions to the school community were many, various and significant. His approach, his attitude, his utterances all revealed layers of scholarship, wisdom, insights and understanding that equipped him so well for his post as Head of Divinity. The subject was re-named 'Beliefs and Values', reflecting Tim's personal eclectic interests and concerns. He was a curricular visionary; he was an enthusiastic supporter of 'Fifth Special', a unique programme enabling pupils to take some 'O' levels and then experience the joys of deepening some areas of their knowledge unfettered by the constraints of an examination syllabus. He was a natural choice to run the Social Responsibility programme and Sixth Form General Studies.

Tim's talents extended well beyond teaching; one of the founding members of the acclaimed Phoenix Choir; he was a stalwart of LP's choir. Irreverent as it may seem to say so, there was that of Tommy Cooper in Tim, counterbalancing his usual gravitas. His portrayals of Widow Twankey in a 1970s staff pantomime and the police sergeant in

'Pirates of Penzance' were examples of his comic genius. As a cricketer, Tim was a fine batsman, and his immaculate cover drives stick in the memory. He was a loyal devotee of the OLCC, often watching matches, enjoying the company of the cricketing community, even following them on tour.

In 1988, Tim retired early from teaching, returning as Honorary Archivist, toiling painstakingly to keep the service in working order, a prodigious amount of work. Frequent requests for information often involved a lengthy process of unearthing information in different tomes, files and periodicals. He believed passionately that the Archives deserve well-resourced care and attention, and represented this point of view on numerous occasions.

We have so much to thank Tim for, and certainly one of them is that, without him, we would not have known his wonderful wife, Penny. They unselfishly helped and touched so many people, and above all taught us so many lessons about looking after and loving each other. Penny, Richard, Paul and Rebecca can be sure that we are all going to miss Tim very much.

John Allinson

WILLIAM H (BILL) SPRAY 1921-2012

Headmaster Of Leighton Park School 1971-81

Bill Spray played a major, determining role in the history of Leighton Park. He died, aged 91 on Tuesday July 24th 2012 in Oxford.

He was not the first Head of a Quaker school, nor will he be the last, to seek to explode the myth that the pursuit of excellence is in some way incompatible with the prevailing compassionate, tolerant and non-competitive ethos of Quaker schools. He committed himself to the task of ensuring that the aspirations of pupils and staff at the school were directed towards the highest standards, and he regarded the supportive environment of a Quaker school community as a crucible for excellence in education in the widest sense. Under his direction, the academic and the creative life of the school prospered.

It was not easy to maintain the momentum in the turbulent period of the seventies: many of the influences coming from the world beyond the Park were unhelpful, and Bill clearly saw it as his duty to deploy all his resources of rigour and vigour to keep the school on a steady course. He rode the rapids successfully but not without discomfort, and he was ever conscious of the dangers of just letting go. In the 1975 Annual Report he wrote in a characteristically elegant yet unequivocal way: *Emulating the best has always been more difficult than gravitating towards the lowest common denominator, and the cult of sloppiness is an enervating danger. Yet neither difficulty nor danger has defeated us.*

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Bill came to Leighton Park after many years as a teacher and housemaster at Marlborough College. He had also been Principal of a large Methodist secondary school in Nigeria. For four years during the Second World War, he had worked, as a conscientious objector, in the Friends Ambulance Unit. Following their work alongside the Free French Army, Bill's section received a special tribute from General Leclerc: *'... they have contrived in their thankless and obscure work to show*

themselves worthy of their pacifist ideal in the very centre of the vast machine of war'. Though aware of the incongruity, Bill was proud to receive a Croix de Guerre. The FAU experience brought him to feel a great affinity with Quakers and Quakerism. In later life he described himself as an 'ecumaniac', reflecting the ease with which he worshipped with members of different denominations.

Bill loved his family life, and Leighton Park benefited enormously from his and Christine's generous sharing of their family home. The many social occasions were much appreciated opportunities to get to know the family and indeed other members of the community; the fact that Heads of Department and Housemasters' meetings were held at the Headmaster's House brought an informality which nevertheless did not impede the progress of the serious business.

George Fox would have liked Bill's assertiveness and consistency. While remembering Bill's firm, decisive leadership and high moral standards, we recall also his pacifism, his sense of social responsibility and his interest in issues concerning developing countries. After his retirement he founded the Marlborough Brandt Group and became Chairman of the Marlborough Christian Aid Committee. He set up a link between Marlborough and Gunjur, a Muslim community in The Gambia. Other noteworthy contributions to the good of society at that time were his five-year tenure as Grants Secretary of the King's Trust, a charity devoted to healthcare, and his involvement in action to enable his local hospital to remain open.

Countless pupils and staff have benefited from Bill's warm and genuine interest in them. It was an interest which he and Christine sustained right the way through his retirement. He took pleasure in learning of others' achievements and was quick to send a comforting word if an illness, misfortune or

bereavement befell them. His children, son and daughters-in-law and grandchildren were a source of justified pride and delight. Bill the loving family man was fused with Bill the skillful educator and manager.

Bill enjoyed many different forms of entertainment, and it was in the seventies that numerous talented musicians and actors had their careers, or at least lifelong interests, launched at Leighton Park. The New Hall was officially opened while Bill was Head, and his



pride in it was palpable. After greeting me at my interview, his next sentence was 'Come and see our magnificent New Hall'. He loved the building and what it represented as a focal point for the whole community. Bill's own thespian skills were occasionally displayed in productions like 'Sweeney Todd' or the hitherto top secret appearance as an elegant, prim and somewhat disgruntled 'mother' bringing sweeties to the poor children of Fryer House at their Christmas social!

Given the revelations in the previous paragraph, it will be unsurprising to learn that, at his farewell staff party, Bill chose to sing a song that epitomised his period of headmastership. He sang Frank Sinatra's 'My Way' with not a hint of irony.

John Allinson



Former colleagues, students and family remembered Bill at a Memorial Meeting at Leighton Park. It was fitting to remember Bill's passion for both the Hall and for music, that OL musician **Dominic Alldis** (R1980) gave a performance after the Meeting. Amongst the many guests who attended, **Arnold Ip** (R1981) flew over from Hong Kong for the weekend to attend. **Peter Allwood** who had been Director of Music at the time also spoke eloquently about working with Bill.

OL Sport



Some of the most popular events for OLs are the sports fixtures. Football, cricket and hockey matches against the school are regular favourites.

The OLCC continues to involve OLs of all ages and is a vital part of both the OL and school communities. A huge "thank you" to the OLCC committee for their sterling work. We can not pass mentioning the very special Lunch hosted by **Graham Carter** (G1964) to commemorate his 500th appearance for the OLCC. Graham's

passion and knowledge for the school and especially the cricket, is beyond match. It was a joy for so many of his friends and family to join him and for **John Chapman** to present him with a special certificate of appreciation on behalf of the school.



This year the annual OLCC President's Match was combined with **Andrew Moss'** 70th Birthday Match (following on from 20 years ago - 50th and 10 years ago - 60th !!!!!) As usual lunch was served at the Pavilion at LP.

The OLs Rugby 7s tournament has really developed into a firm favourite, now moved to the first weekend of the school term, in order to enable OLs who are at university to round off the summer holidays back at the Park. Almost 100 OLs came along, either to play or to support the teams, as well as chatting to teachers and current pupils. The 2012 Leavers won last year, the first time that the recent leavers have beaten the

old guard! A trophy was presented and by moving the tournament to the afternoon, we were able to round the day off with a splendid barbecue at Oakview.

The OL Football and Hockey, played on 3rd March, epitomised what being an OL is all about. Two teams of footballers, hockey players and friends and parents enjoyed a wonderful morning of sport with the current school players, now competing for two splendid trophies. The OLs won both football matches, one on penalties after a 1-1 draw, while the valiant hockey players lost 5-3, though the OLs didn't have a goalie! Match teas provided a good social back in Oakview.

OL Hockey is gaining momentum now; thank you to **Matt Rado** (2003) for setting up an Old Leightonians Hockey group on Facebook, and **Neil Pipe** (F2002) who set up a Facebook event for the OL Mixed Hockey match on September 7th.



The Leighton Park School Archives – a past to treasure!

The Archives Department could be said to be the repository of the tangible collective memory of the school. The school does indeed have a past to treasure, and it is pleasing to see how many important documents, photographs and other materials related to the history of the school have been collected and preserved over the years. Although it is a daunting experience to follow in the footsteps of such great men as **Richard Coleman** and **Tim Newell Price**, I am enjoying the inherent challenges of being the School Archivist. Having been on the teaching staff from 1974 to 2009, I can at least lay claim to having known quite a few of the people who have been part of the school's history – but I still feel the need to wear an Archivist's L-plate on my back! Naturally, I work closely with Penny and Cathy in the Old Leightonians' office, and it is hugely enjoyable to work as a team.

We see it as critically important that our stock is well protected and preserved, and over the next two years, as funds allow, we also aim to re-organise the facility in such a way as to make material more available to visitors and other enquirers. Our somewhat utopian aim is to follow the lead of several other independent schools that have successfully digitalised parts of their stock. How wonderful it would be to press a button on a computer and find all the references to, for example, prags. I only found out myself what prags were a few weeks ago!

I expect the next two years to be very busy ones for the Archives Department. 2014 is, of course, the anniversary of the beginning of the Great War, and research on Leighton Park's role during that time is well underway. Later in the year, we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the launching of the unique JBH Speech Competition. It is fascinating to chart its history. Undoubtedly, the 'big one' is the landmark we reach in 2015 – 'LP125' as some of us have dubbed the 125th anniversary of the opening of the school.

If any readers have, in their family history collections, any material relating to the Great War, particularly if it relates to a former LP pupil, I should be very pleased to hear from you.

I am at the school one day a week. Enquiries are best sent by post or by email to johnnallinson@leightonpark.com. For telephone contact, please leave a message with the OL office, and I will ring you back.

John Allinson



www.leightonpark.com/oldleightonians

The OL newsletter is printed using paper from a sustainable source.

OL Merchandise

As well as our splendid range of OL scarves, silk ties, mugs and silver oakleaf charm, we are reviving the old school blazer. For a wool/cotton mix blazer, the price would be £160 plus p and p. If you would like to order one, or for more details, contact the OL office: we need to collect 20 orders before we can place the order with the supplier; we will also need to collect a £50 deposit.



Facilities Hire

Looking for a venue for a party or reception, for a meeting or conference, or are you organising a residential or sports event? Why not talk to Leighton Park Enterprises who let out the school's facilities?

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