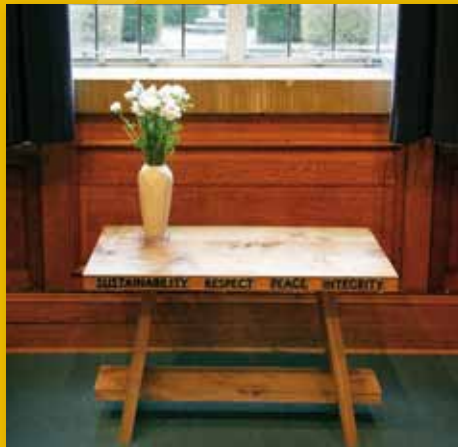




# OLnews

The Old Leightonians Magazine 2014-2015



125  
years  
1890 - 2015

Leighton Park  
School

# Reflections from the Head



I am delighted that Leighton Park's 125th Birthday on 22nd January has given us such a great cause for celebration in 2015. This birthday was marked with events as diverse as 'breathers', gowned staff in Collect and sports against local schools, accompanied by birthday cake and balloons. It was a pleasure to welcome so many members of our community, past and present, for afternoon tea and a spectacular light show which created a magical atmosphere throughout the Park.

Other events commemorating our 125th year which will stay with me for many years have included the presentation of a beautiful Table of Testimonies (picture on the front), by one of our parents, talented furniture designer Kathryn Sumroy; a Peace Pole carved from an oak from the park; the 125 book-crossing sending 125 books out into the wider world and the magnificent production of Phantom of the Opera.

In particular, we have established the Bursary Fund, as a fitting legacy of this landmark year

for the school, to provide financial support to prospective and existing students. Thanks to a generous gift in a will from an Old Leightonian, who himself benefited from a Bursary, we aim to improve accessibility to students, who on financial grounds, would otherwise not be able to benefit from a Leighton Park education. I am determined that more students should be able to join the school on the basis of their ability and potential, rather than on their financial background. Find out more on page seven.

The 125th celebrations have not just concentrated on the traditions and history of the school. Leighton Park is continuously developing to provide our students with the best opportunities to prepare them for a fast changing world. The class of 2015 are heading off to top universities in the UK and abroad. All students are taught Mandarin from age 11, with excellent GCSE results. A Music and Media Centre is planned which will offer state of the art facilities for digital technologies. On the pastoral side, the Houses have an ongoing refurbishment programme.

It is a joy to witness the ever increasing closeness between the Old Leightonian community and the school. Students are benefiting more and more from careers advice and from inspirational speakers such as OL **Jon Beale** (2006) from Standing Voice and **Richard Wilkinson** (1960) leading researcher in social inequalities in health and the social determinants of health. I have enjoyed meeting so many of you at events, both on and off the Park.

I look forward to Leighton Park continuing to build on its success in the future.

Best wishes  
**Nigel Williams**, Head

## Archives

Visitors to Old School House can now enjoy a fascinating display recording the early days of the school, in the new Archives Gallery in the basement. Thanks to the hard work of **John Allinson** (Archivist) and **Graham Carter** (Honorary Assistant Archivist), treasures from the school's past are being brought out to share. A major digitisation project is under way which we plan to bring live in 2016.

**"Great Ideals: Leighton Park and the First World War"** by **John Allinson** and **Charlotte Smith** (2013) is now in a third reprint; it is a fascinating read. Copies are available to buy from school and the Book Shop at Friends' House, price £6.50 + p and p.

An Audio Book version will shortly be available.



*The first students and staff at Leighton Park.*



## Dates for your Diary

Saturday 19th September:	Old Leightonians 125 Day, from 10.30-5.00pm
Saturday 3rd October:	Leighton Park Annual Open Morning, for prospective students
Thursday 12th November:	Linkedin Training event for OLs from 6.30pm
Tuesday 1st December:	Over 60s Afternoon Tea from 3.00pm – 5.00pm
9th-12th February	Senior Production: Sweeney Todd
Saturday 6th March:	OL Hockey and Football
Date TBC:	London Law Networking event

For further details, visit [www.oldleightonians.com](http://www.oldleightonians.com)

Telephone 0118 987 9630

Email [Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com](mailto:Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com)



# Fundraising into the future



In our 125th anniversary the school has recruited a Development Manager – **Celia Blakeway-Phillips**, to work across the whole school community and lead on a fundraising development strategy. Celia will be raising funds through a variety of income streams, such as Trusts, regular giving, major gifts and legacy fundraising. All support to the school will enhance and enrich the experience of our students and help ensure the continued strength and success of Leighton Park into the future.

Celia says *"I am so thrilled to be working at Leighton Park School and setting up fundraising, particularly as we celebrate our 125th year! I look forward to meeting many more of the school community over the coming months."*

## Focus Groups – We greatly value your views!



To aid Celia with her research, she set up two days of Focus Groups. In June, Old Leightonians from across the decades generously gave up their time to share their views on being asked to offer support to Leighton Park School. We are looking at ways to increase our funds in the future so that we can plan ahead to provide the best education integrating the Quaker traditions and history, for future generations of LP students. In this context the meetings were very much to explore OLs' personal views on how the school might go about making such requests from within the LP community and the potential sources of this funding including different types of donations.

Celia says: *"Thank you to those committed OLs who gave up their time to ensure that we develop the best plans which will help us ensure any expenditure is well spent and that we give ourselves the best opportunity to succeed in raising funds for the school."*

If you were unable to attend the meetings but

are keen to share your views, you still can! She would love to hear from you (contact details below).

## Your Support

Members of the school community already support Leighton Park in so many ways. We were thrilled recently to have **Gifts in Kind** from two OLs. They say:



*"I felt I would like to do something for the school. By donating a projector it is more of an appropriate gift from me... It makes me happy to make a gift in a small way."* **Tony Searle** (1956)



**David Ellis-Jones** (1960) said *"I wanted to find a good home for my art book library collection and the first place I thought of was my old school. I am thrilled the collection has been accepted. On visiting LP, I was impressed with the art department; it is so much more creative than when I was at school. All the work that I saw was very impressive. I am very glad to be back in the heart of the school again and to have supported it in such a way. I am grateful to Leighton Park and enjoyed my time there."*

*"I left 55 years ago and I think it is very nice to be able to recognise much of my school. It obviously has changed and has become more of a campus."*

## Other Support

Other OLs support the school by giving their time (through for example, careers advice), and others donate in different ways. Thank you! Soon there will be the possibility to support the school financially if this is something you would wish to do.

Celia can be contacted about any area of Development at [celiabp@leightonpark.com](mailto:celiabp@leightonpark.com) or on 01189 879 641.

# Awards



Leavers' Day marks the transition of the Upper Sixth from Leightonian to Old Leightonian. The Leavers' Awards acknowledge students' commitment to the ideals and values of the school.

The **Jorge Hortal Award** is presented to the student considered to have had the most outstanding all round achievement and was presented to **Alex Hitchins** by OLs **Nick Wood** (1995), **Eric Beauchamp** (1995) and **Nicole Burns** (2014 winner).

The **Mary Triddon Award** for outstanding contribution to music: **Ellie Mead** and **Martin Dixon**

The **Paul Dowdell Award** for natural aptitude for art: **Dan Wu**

The **Old Leightonian Award**: **Alex Angwin** and **Aimee Fullbrook**  
The **WH Scarborough Award** was presented to **Ayesha Tandon** by OL **Phil Samuels** (1993) on behalf of the Old Leightonian Judging Panel.

The **Travel Scholarship** was awarded to **Alex Granville**.

A new Award for Drama was awarded to **Jack Collins**.

The **Matthew Pott Peace Award** is open to all age groups, with students encouraged to submit a creative interpretation of peace. It was presented to **Max Jennings** for his stunning artwork. Matt's parents, Wendy and Graham were at the Collect.

A new JB Fryer House Award was awarded to **Owen Say**.

The **Reinstein Alldis Music Award**, donated by OLs Prof **Dan Reinstein** (1980) and **Dominic Alldis** (1980) was awarded to **Hugh Macdonald** and **Niamh Green**. Hugh's musical talents have been regularly showcased at school events and on the Reading music scene, and he is heading to the USA to Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts. Hugh is excited about developing his musical career in such a prestigious and creative environment.

Niamh has the most unusual musical ability; despite no traditional music training, she plays brilliantly by ear.



# Events

## Down your way



Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester, Cambridge, Oxford, Cotswolds, Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter and London are all locations where the OL team have arranged get-togethers in recent times. It was also an opportunity to meet up with students at the universities in Oxford, Cambridge, Exeter and Bristol.



Following the event in Cambridge, **Miguel Calvo** (2000) and **Simon Dry** (1978) have stepped up to volunteer to form an **East Anglia OL Network**.

If you'd like to give them a hand or just come along to events in your area, contact [Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com](mailto:Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com)



# An international community



## Brunei

Twenty Old Leightonians met up with former Head **John Dunston** in Brunei.

*"This was possibly the largest gathering of OLs ever held in Brunei" wrote John. "I was delighted to be able to host it on behalf of LP on a return visit to the Sultanate. The affection felt by all for their old school, and just as much for their former houses, was palpable, giving the reunion a real joy and buzz. Altogether twenty OLs attended, in some cases with parents, partners and children, ranging from the first ever cohort (left LP in 1996) to those who left in 2010. It was an exceptionally happy occasion."*

## Australia

**Jonathan Wolf** (1969), **Angus Jaffray** (1987) and **Peter Woodman** (1981) got together for a bite to eat in Perth, Western Australia on July 11th, a lovely bright warm day in the middle of Southern Hemisphere



winter! Jonathan writes *"We hope to get together again and would encourage other OLs in Perth to come out of the woodwork and join us! We three were from different eras of LP history; I brought along the 1967 School Photograph and this sparked the talk and helped us remember some of the teachers, commenting that once they arrive at the school they do not leave until they retire and even when they retire they often remain in contact and involved! We did not know each other previously, so there were no uncomfortable elements of competition. We all felt this was an enjoyable meeting and we hope other OLs in Perth and around will join us next time – and there WILL be a next time!"*

## USA

Live in the New York area? Do get in touch as we plan to set up a New York regional group with the help of **Alex Dresner** (2004). Contact [Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com](mailto:Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com)

# Reunions

Record numbers of OLs and their families came back for the 5s Reunion on a glorious June weekend, with some coming back from the USA, Canada, Spain and France. This was particularly successful and we are so grateful that a number of OLs made a huge effort to help trace their peers: the more truly is the merrier.

**Morag Pine** (nee Bibby) (1995) *"Thank you ever so much for organising a fantastic reunion day. It was so lovely to come back to the school and meet up with so many old friends who I hadn't seen for years. It was also so lovely to feel so welcomed and to feel back 'at home' again at LP – despite it being many years since I was last here! It was great to show my family round the school I have so many fond memories of. The day was so well planned, catering was fantastic (don't remember being this well fed 20 years ago!) and the kids were thoroughly entertained! So thank you!! I will definitely make the effort to come to any other events you put on if we are available."*

**John Foley** (1975) *"We much appreciated your welcome, just as we enjoyed inspecting the school pictures trying to recognise ourselves not to mention many other familiar*

*characters. In sum, a very special day. My only regret being not having access to the gymnasium; would have liked to bounce a ball about. Nevertheless we found a shining new cricket ball whilst crossing the cricket pitch with still its delightful pavilion. Whilst passing the nets, rediscovered the graceful gesture of a good friend practicing his left arm bowl, the speed of delivery, the batsmen defending & the thrill of being with a team."*

**Next summer will be the 6s Reunion for the cohort of 1946, 1956, 1966, 1976, 1986, 1996 and 2006. If you left after O Levels or GCSE in years ending 4, this is your cohort too so do join in! Can you help us rally some of your year-group?** Contact [Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com](mailto:Oldleightonians@leightonpark.com) to get involved.



# JBH 100



The great Leighton Park tradition of the JB Hodgkin Speech Competition reached its landmark 100th birthday in 2014. An opportunity to reflect on the past speakers as well as to celebrate public speaking in school.

Jonathan Backhouse Hodgkin, a passionate educator, was the school's first Chair of Governors. He was determined to develop the boys' skills of public speaking and especially "thinking on their feet", and set up the outlines of the competition. Speakers must speak for 3 minutes uninterrupted, withstand 7 minutes of heckling whilst continuing and then sum up in a further 2 minutes. A panel of judges deliberates on the argument, delivery, management of heckling and the ability to sum up after the heckling. **Michael Foot** described the competition once as "a number of boys being butchered to make a parents' holiday".

The list of topics of the speeches since the beginning of the competition puts a mirror up to the history and social changes of the UK. From "Now is the time to make peace" by Joseph Fryer in 1915, to Anglo-Egyptian relations (1951), the Euro (2001), the ordination of women (1989), nuclear deterrent (1959) to prison reform (2010). Not only this, but the Archivist uncovered some fascinating stories: in 1955 Hollywood

goddess Marlene Dietrich was on the judging panel; in 1943 the unfortunate **Hugh Beesley** fainted while competing and one of Britain's acknowledged greatest ever orators, **Michael Foot** MP, only managed second place in 1931.

In anticipation of the competition, the five finalists, **Finbar Aherne, Alex Angwin, Nat Dean-Lewis, Victoria Roberts** and **Manu Sidhu** were afforded a very special glimpse into parliamentary debate with a whistle-stop trip to Westminster. They were given a workshop in speech writing and performance with OL **Sir Tony Baldry** (former MP for Banbury). As a past winner of the JBH speech competition, on his third attempt, as well as nearly 30 years' experience as an MP and parliamentarian, Tony was able to give the group excellent insight into the development of an effective speech, whilst giving them some inside tips and tricks on dealing with difficult and persistent hecklers. The group were also briefed on Prime Minister's Questions for the day before watching PMQs with Tony's senior parliamentary researcher.

There was a special celebration dinner at school attended by 100 OLs, teachers, parents and the 2015 competitors. It was a joy to give a special round of applause to the 30 past winners and participants who were present, one of whom, publisher **Nick Hudson**, lives in Sydney. The after-dinner speaker was OL **Sir John Adye** (1958), former Director of GCHQ, and the evening was hosted magnificently by Sir Tony Baldry.



## Good sports

The twice yearly OL fixtures keep growing with more wanting to take part or just come along and watch. Thanks so much to **Neil Pipe** (2002) and **Hollie Williams** (2003) for running the Hockey group via the Old Leightonians Facebook Page, and also to **Nick Hayles** for coordinating the rugby and football.

The OL Rugby 7s and Mixed Hockey v LP rounds off the summer holidays beautifully. Last year around 80 OLs came along and stayed on for a BBQ up at the pavilion afterwards.

The spring Mixed Hockey v LP was a tense match with high quality play by both sides, the school team sneaked a goal in the last minute of play to secure a 5-4 win over the OL team. However in the football, the



OLs were victorious in both matches, with the A team winning 4-1. In classic Leighton Park spirit, friends and families enjoyed a fun morning of sport, rounded off with the traditional match tea in Oakview.

## Careers

Now in its third year, the 2015 Careers Fair was the most successful yet, due to parents, Old Leightonians and people from local businesses generously giving up their time to inform, advise and inspire.

The fair, organised by Head of Careers, **Elaine King**, and the Old Leightonians office, saw a wide range of fields represented including experts from the world of finance, law, film, drama, and engineering.

After the event OL and Multimedia Journalist for BBC Business and Economics, **Jonathan Frewin** (1995) commented "I can't tell you how much I enjoyed coming back to Leighton Park to meet some of your current students and talk about their possible future careers. Thank you so much for inviting me to take part; it was an honour."

Thanks so much to **Ben Sessa, Tim Yap, Richard MacLennan, Phil Dunster, Jonathan Frewin, Rauf Bayraktar, Matthew Morris, Tom Bonner, Joey MacMillan, Michael Fox** as well as current parents and friends of the LP community for generously giving up their time.

## Standing up for Standing Voice

Film maker **Harry Freeland** joined OL **Jon Beale** (2006) at a screening of the award-winning film "In the Shadow of the Sun" at school. The evening left the audience in no doubt of the human rights abuses and challenges suffered by people with albinism in Tanzania. Discrimination, ostracism, debilitating health problems and most horrifically, the threat of being killed or dismembered for use in witchcraft. Jon's former Housemaster **Mark Simmons** urged the audience at the end to give every support to the charity Standing Voice, which Jon now manages.

Head of Sixth Form Ken Sullivan wrote "The film is beautifully made, with love, over six years and the care and attention to detail, the sheer patience of the project shows. I found it engrossing and saddening. The bravery of Josephat is quite extraordinary and his indomitable spirit is a counterbalance to the spite of the villagers, the greed of the fisherman and the witch doctor. It is a source of pride that an old Head Boy has taken this case upon his shoulders and he deserves our backing, both in words and with open wallets. The forgiveness of Josephat seems to have no limit. I suppose that is another lesson."

[www.standingvoice.org](http://www.standingvoice.org)



# News from Leighton Park

## Exam results

Leighton Park's students have their sights set on a global future achieving an average of 34 points out of a maximum score of 45 in the International Baccalaureate Diploma. It continues to build on the excellent success achieved by students over the last 5 years since its introduction (alongside A Levels) in 2010. The world average is 29.9 points. Three students also gained the bilingual diploma.

Deputy Head and IBDP Co-ordinator **Karen Gracie-Langrick** said *"In times of considerable and unsettling A Level reform, the IBDP continues to provide an excellent, broad and relevant apolitical educational experience. Evidence from our own students strongly reflects that the IBDP has provided them with the best preparation for the most competitive worldwide universities and the global workplace beyond. I am again, thrilled with the fact that the vast majority of our students this year have earned their places at first choice universities."*

At A Level, 62% of candidates achieved A\*-B grades, an increase of 6% on 2014's results, and the average points per student rose by 7% to 301 points.

At GCSE, with 90% A\* to C grades, students were particularly successful in the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), which traditionally have a reputation for being the most academically challenging. 84% of Physics students, 82% of Chemistry students and 82% of Maths students were awarded A\*-B grades with an impressive 91% of Design Technology students celebrating the same achievement. Mandarin, which is studied from Year 7, gained 100% A\*-C grades, with 73% A\* to A; a phenomenal achievement for so many non-native speakers in the class of 22.

## News in Brief

- We are so grateful to OL **Chris Gillett** (1948) for his support and his energy in the revival of Young Enterprises.
- The Fryer Orchard is being redeveloped with raised beds for growing vegetables. Do you have any regular spare time to come along and help with the project? Contact the Development Office.
- The swimming pool has had solar panels installed to provide a sustainable source for its heating.

## Phantom of the Opera

*"It is a real challenge to ensure the iconic moments live up to the audience's expectations within the constraints of resources a school has to offer, even Leighton Park, where we have some fantastically talented individuals."* commented **Geraint Thomas**, Head of Drama and Phantom's Designer and Stage Director. *"Achieving what the show demands is a massive, massive stretch. It's a hugely demanding, monster of a show requiring extraordinary range from the principals."*

It's not just the principals and the cast who have given their all. With 160 costumes, 62 lighting cues, almost 40 stage movements and a 27 piece orchestra in the pit, over 100 students have been involved. Pupils contributed to the technical crew,

choreography, set design, the costumes, make-up as well as the musical and dramatic performances over the four night run in February.

In 2016, the production will be "Sweeney Todd". Keep an eye on the website for details of ticket sales.



## Pianos

You might have thought your eyes were deceiving you, seeing nineteen brand new pianos on the grass outside Old School House!

The delivery of the pianos, including three grand pianos and sixteen uprights, signals the start of an exciting and mutually beneficial partnership between Leighton Park and Yamaha, under their Music Education Partner Programme.

**Rosemary Scales**, Director of Music, commented *"In looking to replace the stock of existing pianos, the quality of the instruments was clearly a key factor but we also wanted to find a partner who was equally passionate about making music accessible, irrespective of individual capabilities, and Yamaha very much reflected this approach."*

The delivery of the pianos is an important corner stone of sustaining and growing the school's musical reputation in producing both excellent musical scholars and



providing opportunities for the all students to discover their musical talents. The CFX Grand Concert Piano is the first to be purchased by an educational institution in the UK, and was selected by Rosemary with the assistance of Julian Joseph, the globally acclaimed jazz musician. Julian commented *"I was thrilled to be invited to help the school select the pianos that best suited the demanding and varied musical settings of their musical education curriculum; inspiring school, inspiring teaching and now inspiring instruments."*

## Africa Live

All Sixth Formers have the opportunity to take part in community service in Africa. In 2014, the groups went out to Malawi, Uganda and Tanzania working with Livingstone Tanzania Trust, set up by OL **Julian Page** (1985).

Julian writes *"The BIOGAS project to which LP contributed through the building of the cowshed and accommodation has started to produce gas. It is the first primary school*

*in Tanzania to have such a facility. The cows provide the waste as well as milk which pays for the farm-hands and generates surplus income used for the building maintenance. By using less fuel-wood, this has a positive impact on slowing down local deforestation. Our aspiration is that the community will be inspired to have domestic versions; the Officials will see the model we have created as a sustainable way to manage deforestation, which can cause soil erosion which can lead to conflict. As a Quaker school, LP has been part of a process to tackle conflict in a peaceful and sustainable way."*

# Bursary Ambassadors

Meet some of our Bursary Ambassadors. You can read what a difference receiving a bursary made to some of these OLs. Also, they update us with what they have done since school. Others will be featured in future OL publications.

*"Receiving a bursary quite simply changed my life. I came from a family of Quakers, many generations of whom, have been to Quaker schools. But, had it not been for a bursary the chain would have stopped with me because my family could not afford to pay the full fees for me.*

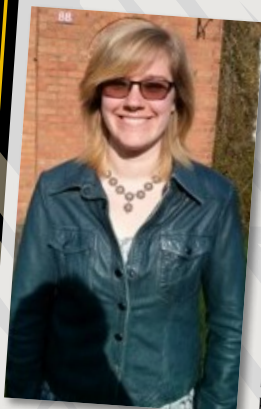
*Leighton Park transformed my life and set me up for so many successes and achievements that have come since."*



Ben is now a doctor, specialising in paediatric mental health and psychopharmacology research. Ben says he owes it all to Leighton Park and the opportunities given to him as a result of his bursary.

**Dr Ben Sessa** (School, 1990)

*"I wouldn't have been able to attend LP without a bursary. While I was always aware of that fact, it wasn't until I was 14 or 15 that I really began to realise how lucky I was. This made me keen to give back to the school where possible, especially when it came to tours for prospective students and open days and when I was elected to be a prefect. While the bursary did make a difference while I was at school, I really feel the benefit of it in my adult life".*



Harriet now lives in Edinburgh and works in publishing after doing her first degree in English Language at Glasgow. She says, looking back, having a bursary at LP really is the reason she is where she is now, with a career in an area she is passionate about.

Talking about school experiences with friends she realises how many opportunities she had while at LP, none of which would have been possible had she not had a bursary.

**Harriet Leslie (née Jackson)**, School, 2007

*"As a result of receiving a bursary, I was given the opportunity to expand my horizons well beyond what would have been possible if I hadn't gone to Leighton Park. The sort of things LP taught me were: self-discipline, not being uncomfortable with silence and confidence. I learned that the best way to get the most out of life is to be the best you possibly can be at everything that you do."*



After gaining a degree from Cambridge, Colin went into law in the oil and then the finance industry. Following a stroke twenty years ago he changed career to become a violin

maker and publisher. He met his wife through Scottish country dancing which he learnt at school and taught for about forty years.

**Colin Garrett** (Grove, 1960)

*"I was fortunate enough in my last years at Leighton Park to be awarded a bursary owing to an unexpected financial situation. It made the difference between staying at LP or facing a sudden and potentially disastrous change of schools in my crucial A-level years. I am most grateful".*



Since leaving LP, Jonathan went first to the London School of Economics, where he studied sociology, whilst also being closely involved in the launch of a student

radio station, PuLSE. That experience enabled him to become firstly a sound engineer at the BBC World Service, then move through a range of roles in journalism, most recently spending two years as a BBC Middle East business correspondent, based in Dubai. He lives in London with his partner and two daughters.

**Jonathan Frewin** (School, 1995)

## Did you receive a bursary at Leighton Park?

If so, Celia would love to hear what a difference receiving a bursary made to your time after school. Please contact [celiabp@leightonpark.com](mailto:celiabp@leightonpark.com) or call her on 0118 987 9641.



# Cricket News

The OLCC is a wonderful club, and at school, we are so grateful to its volunteers who put in such hard work to arrange all the fixtures, events and so on. At the Annual Dinner, three Life Vice Presidents were created: **Charles Allan** (debut for OLCC in 1982), **Phil Samuels** (debut for OLCC in 1993) and **Richard Newell Price** (debut for OLCC in 1984).

Special thanks too to **David Bibby** (1997) who has done a first rate job as Treasurer and Secretary. He has handed over to **James Barratt** (2009) and **Nick Hayles** (2008). Of course, we must thank **Graham Carter** (1964), OLCC President (and living legend) for all his time and energy in supporting the school.

## In memory of Dominic



Friends and family of **Dominic Beer** (1974) returned to the Park for a special Memorial cricket match.

Naomi, Dominic's widow wrote "I just wanted to say that we had an absolutely splendid day yesterday. Our gracious God provided the most perfect weather as well as generous friends and supporters who together made this celebration and remembrance of Dominic's life and connection to the school so joyful and memorable. We had a marvellous lunch in Oakview, followed by a marvellous tea and the family wish to extend our thanks again to the school for their generosity. Almost £1000 was raised for the Dominic Beer Memorial Trust which seeks to help those suffering from severe mental illness."

## OLCC Argentina Tour



The OLCC played their first matches in the southern hemisphere: **Chris Straw's** (1995) blog records the adventures of the intrepid travellers and captures the fun, the ups and downs and camaraderie of the tour. <https://olccinargentina.wordpress.com>

Three matches were played, and one match won by our heroes: Buenos Aires South XI at Lomas Athletic Club, Buenos Aires North XI at The Belgrano Club and at the iconic Hurlingham Club.

The group packed in some great experiences and sightseeing too, with a

boat trip to the Iguazu Falls, going riding on a ranch and a memorable evening in Buenos Aires learning to tango.

Chris sums up "After 11 days of wonderful hospitality, spectacular backdrops, glorious summer sun, mouth-watering grilled meat, free-flowing Malbec and Quilmes, countless empanadas, our first three matches in the southern hemisphere and best of all a host of new friends made, the adventure is over."

## Mark Simmons: 35 years not out

A certain amount of plotting went on to spring a special surprise on Mark to celebrate not only his

35 years at Leighton Park, but also his 60th Birthday. At the 20-20 Cricket match, Mark was delighted to discover he was playing with a Field House "All Stars" Team.

Lots of lovely messages have come in for Mark: "LP in general and Mark in particular turned around my son's life and we can never thank him enough."

**Steve Dawe** (1999) wrote "Many congratulations Mark. Great coach. I still use the values I learnt on the rugby field and as captain every day. Here's to many more."



## School blazer revival

Our first delivery of the beautiful made-to-measure blazers has arrived; the fabric had to be specially woven in the Leighton Park blue, brown and gold, and hand made by Collier and Robinson in Henley.

For more details, contact **Cathy Harman** in the Development Office on 0118 987 9630

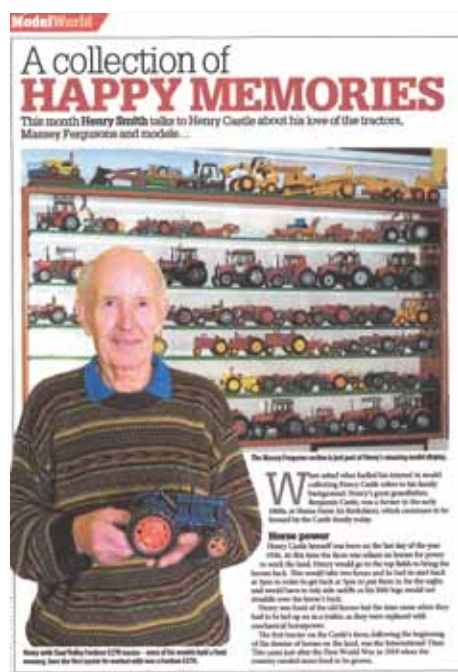


# Your News

**David Hamilton** (1948) is a retired Professor of Cardiac Surgery from Edinburgh University and former Chief of Cardiac Surgery, Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool. His fascinating Memoirs "Mission Improbable" are available to buy and feature an excellent chapter on his time at Leighton Park in the 1940s. David was a first class sportsman and one of the legendary 1948 rugby team. Profits from the sale of the book go to the British Heart Foundation.

To purchase the book, please contact Myra Hamilton: myra.hamilton@uwclub.net or 0151 632 4481

**Henry Castle** (1955) is a retired agronomist. After National Service, Henry joined Twyford Seeds as a Trials Officer, then joined ICI Plant Protection in 1969.



He retired from his role as Senior Technical Manager at ICI Agrochemicals in 1992. He had his own business Hill of Health for 10 years. Henry has a lifelong love of tractors and owns four vintage tractors, as well as owning a huge collection of model tractors with memories of tractors from his farming family and those he has driven. He enjoys attending agricultural shows and ploughing matches, and is a stalwart of the Ferguson Club.

**Ian Ricketts** (1955) has taught at the Guildford School of Acting for 42 years before going into semi-retirement. Oscar winning actress Brenda Blethyn commissioned a bust of Ian. She said "The Guildford School of Acting was the making of me. One of my tutors, Ian Ricketts, who's still there, is a wonderful man who inspires everyone. He gave me the confidence to feel worthwhile."

Ian was thrilled to find out that one of his current students is OL **Lucy Heath** (2012); Lucy has been performing at the Edinburgh Fringe.

**Vernon Gibberd** (1958) is a "liberated agriculturalist". His LP Travel Scholarship set him off on fifty years work in sub-Saharan Africa with a lifelong interest in sustainable agriculture. Do visit his interesting website [www.themicrofarm.com](http://www.themicrofarm.com)

**Antony Barlow** (1959) has written a book "He is our cousin, cousin" covering 400 years of Quaker history. It includes many well-known Quaker names such as George Cadbury, Elizabeth Fry, Jonathan Carr, William Cash and leading 19th century scientist Professor John Barlow. It also talks about Antony and his brothers David's, Stephen's and Nicholas' time at LP in the 1950s. plus other OLs such as Michael Foot, and contemporaries, Dr Jan Piggott and Dominic Gill, along with the late Colin Fox, Richard Kay and John Hoyland. It is a vivid picture of Quaker life in general as well as one family's story.

The book is available from Quacks of York ([info@quacks.info](mailto:info@quacks.info)) or from Friends House, price £15.00 plus £2.00 p&p.

**Peter Pheils** (1962) is a retired Consultant Surgeon in East Kent. Previously he was a lecturer at St Thomas's Hospital, Senior Registrar at Barts & Royal Marsden. He is married with a son and daughter; Peter enjoys wine tasting, sport and gardening.

**Brian Jenkins** (1963) is founder and Principal of the Sholai School, Centre for Learning, Organic Agriculture and

Appropriate technology in TamilNadu, India. He received the Rashtriya Ekta Award from the Global Economic Council for "Outstanding Individual Achievement and Distinguished Service to the Nation."

**Richard Griffin** (1964) is a self-employed semi-retired Architectural Consultant. Previously he was Director at YRM Architects, Associate Partner at Stanton Williams, Vice President at Genster and Partner at Sheppard Robson. He is married with 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

**Jim Pickles** (1964) enjoyed a visit back to school with his wife Wendy. Jim is the former Head of the Hearing Unit, University of Queensland, Brisbane. He was previously Reader in Auditory Physiology in the Department of Physiology at the University of Birmingham, UK, and moved to the Hearing Unit in 1989. Before that, he was an Australian Senior Research Fellow of the Australian Research Council. His research concentrates on the function, development, regeneration, and pathology of the hair cells of the cochlea.

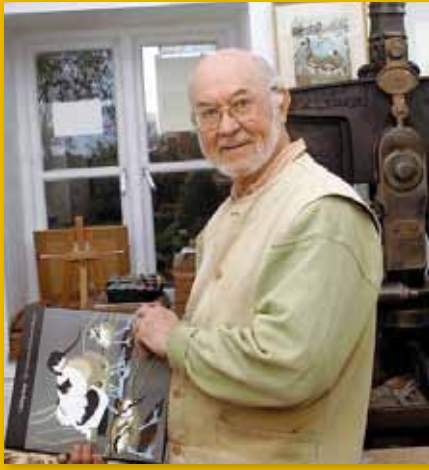


Jim met up with **David Berk** (1964) in Washington: they have been friends for 54 years.

Emeritus Professor **Ian Mills** FRS (1948) was appointed OBE for services to Chemistry and Metrology: the science of measurement. Teaching in the Chemistry Department at the University of Reading from 1957 to 1995, Ian is now Emeritus Professor of Chemical Spectroscopy. In 1996 he was elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society.

Professor Mills persuaded his peers that the basic units of the world's main system of measurement should be based exclusively on the fundamental constants of physics. He was the lead author of two papers which proposed that the *Système international d'unités* (SI) to be liberated from the variability of the metal cylinder currently defining the kilogram: a material artefact whose mass, by its very nature, cannot be absolutely stable. An immediate benefit of this advance is that the SI - used across science, technology and commerce - becomes more stable, precise and useful, and that the worlds of atomic and cosmic physics can be united.

Ian said: "Most scientists collect a few medals over the course of their career - but the Queen's medals have a particular significance. The product of my spectroscopy research is an improvement in our knowledge of the structure and properties of molecules, which lead to applications in many different fields. It certainly gives me a warm and humbling feeling to be receiving an OBE."



**Robert Gillmor** (1954) and former art teacher has been awarded an MBE for his services to wildlife art. He founded the Society of Wildlife Artists in the early 1960s which has played an important role in encouraging new artists. Robert is also President of the Reading Ornithological Society, where he has been a member from childhood and has designed the cover for its annual report without a break since 1949. You may have seen one of the 42 British stamps, with his linocuts of birds and animals. He has also illustrated over 200 books. The Museum of Reading hosted a splendid exhibition of his works in 2012.

**Chris Sewell** (1965) was a Quaker VSO after leaving LP and went to Madagascar for 15 months 1966-7 before going to university. *"I have supported the charity 'Money for Madagascar' for many years and am an active trustee and fundraiser through talks and the sale of crafts and greetings cards which I produce from my photos of Madagascar. I returned in 2009, going back to the school where I used to teach and also returned in 2013 on a monitoring visit. I have been involved in trying to twin Sekoly Sewell with a state school, Sewell Park College, in Norwich but with limited success. I hope to go again in 2016."*

**Andy Nicholson** (1968) works for Somerset County Council with Future4 as a support worker with adults with learning disabilities. Prior to that he worked overseas for the charity Goal Ireland in Malawi, as well as for

Save the Children as Emergency Programme Manager in Malawi, Christian Aid in Burundi, Lutheran World Federation in Zaire, Rwanda, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

**Roderick Griffin** (1971) is a Landscape Design Consultant with his own business. He is married, with 3 children.

**Henry Beakbane** (1971) is Production Control Manager at Beakbane Ltd; he is married and has two children. Henry would be curious to meet up or hear from old friends. The Development Office will pass any messages to him.

**David McKee** (1973) is a Chartered Surveyor at Scanlans Consultant Surveyors, Manchester. He is married with two grown up children; he still enjoys sailing. David has many happy memories of growing up on the

Park; his father Gordon was Housemaster of Field.

**Uday Mehta** (1975) is a renowned political theorist whose work encompasses a wide spectrum of philosophical traditions and is now Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. He has worked on a range of issues including the relationship between freedom and imagination, liberalism's complex link with colonialism and empire, and, more recently, war, peace, and nonviolence. He is the author of *The Anxiety of Freedom: Imagination and Individuality in the Political Thought of John Locke* (1992) and *Liberalism and Empire: Nineteenth Century British Liberal Thought* (1999). In 2002, he was named a Carnegie Foundation scholar. Prior to arriving at CUNY, he was Clarence Francis Professor in the Social Sciences at Amherst College.

**Mark Leonard** (1976) set up The Mindfulness Exchange to deliver mindfulness training based on cognitive science to the workplace. Mark has been involved in developing the Oxford Mindfulness Centre since it was established in 2008. Mark taught the first training programmes using Mindfulness: A Practical Guide to Finding Peace in a Frantic World by Mark Williams and Danny Penman as a course book for both Oxford students and corporate clients. He has been active in Oxford to make mindfulness relevant to today's society for around ten years. This came out of his long held view that mindfulness could bring much needed benefits to today's busy lifestyles. <http://mindfulness-exchange.com/>



**Mark Walker** (1966) wrote "last year I was the guest of the Oba of Benin when I went to Benin City to return two "bronzes" that had been taken by my grandfather in 1897 during the looting after the Benin Punitive Expedition which deposed the present Oba's great grandfather."

Mark inherited them in 2013; *"I was surprised, having coveted them for so many years that when I finally came in possession of them I found myself asking what their future was,"*

he says. His children weren't interested in them and he did not want them sold at auction after his death.

Mark contacted the Richard Lander Society, an organisation that campaigns for the Benin artworks to be returned to the royal palace in Benin City. It helped him contact the right people and last year he travelled to Nigeria to hand the bronzes to the present Oba, the great-grandson of the King deposed by Herbert and his colleagues.

*"It was very humbling to be greeted with such enthusiasm and gratitude, for nothing really. I was just returning some art objects to a place where I feel they will be properly looked after," says Mark."*

See [www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02k61z6](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02k61z6) for a piece by BBC World Service and there is also an article in the BBC online magazine [www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-31605284](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-31605284).

**Nat Parker** (1980) won the prestigious Olivier Award for his portrayal of King Henry VIII in the RSC's productions of "Wolf Hall" and "Bring up the Bodies" (1980). After the sell-out run in the West End, Nat joined the rest of the cast for a run on Broadway, where he was also nominated for a Tony Award. Somehow he found time to play Dickie in the BBC's recent drama series "The Outcast". He is shortly filming a TV drama series for ABC Network "Of Kings And Prophets".

**Alice Hudson** (1981) is enjoying a stimulating role as Executive Head of a Multi Academy Trust in West London. The second school (William Perkin) opened in 2013. Both schools, which have very mixed urban intakes, have developed an institutional habit of silent reflection which owes a great deal to the Collect experience from LP!

**Peter Nienow** (1981) is Professor of Glaciology at the University of Edinburgh. He writes "Dr Brian Knapp and Jo Thompson teaching Geography at LP really stimulated my interest in physical geography. We moved to Birmingham when I was 16 and that interest remained and I ended up going to Cambridge to study Geography. My favourite courses were



always the glacial but after graduating and doing a PGCE, I then travelled for 6 months before starting work in London as a management consultant - yeuch! I hated it from day 1, switched to a job in marketing with Thomson Holidays but 9 months later, I was back in Cambridge starting a PhD in glaciology. Fieldwork in the Alps, Canadian High Arctic and more recently Greenland plus enjoying the teaching (apparently increasingly rare in academia) ensure that I've pretty much always enjoyed the job. Hence off to the Alps for a holiday to visit my beloved (and rapidly disappearing!) Haut Glacier d'Arolla where I did my PhD and have spent two years of my life camped at 2500m.

**Helen Salisbury** (1982) is a GP, Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer in Communication Skills at Oxford University Medical School and Medical Advisor to the Health Experience Research Group. This year, Helen stood as National Health Action Party candidate in Oxford West & Abingdon at the General Election.



She said *"The NHS is valued and relied on by all my patients, whatever their politics. The medical students and junior doctors I teach do not want their future to be in multinational healthcare corporations but in the NHS, publically provided, free and fair. The NHS represents British values at their best - fairness, compassion and the*

**Jon Moss** (1983) was awarded an OBE in 2014 for his work as part of the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Helmand, Afghanistan. In Helmand, Jonathan was appointed to provide governance advice to the UK and US civil and military missions. As part of a Coffey managed project, he worked to develop techniques that better understood the contextual underpinning of Afghan society and their influence on governance practices. This led to the formation of the district accountability model that more accurately represented local concerns and brought transparency to local government bodies. Helmand was seen as an example to donors and other provinces in Afghanistan of what could be achieved through building stable government institutions on the back of understanding local contexts.

*"I am a great believer in properly understanding context and in hybrid models of governance – at the heart of this lies a recognition that some level of trust between citizens and the state is a pre-requisite for local stability, and that this, which might be termed popular legitimacy is as, if not more, important than providing good levels of local services."*

*"I feel very humbled to be receiving this recognition. My late grandmother was also made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for her work for the British Council in the 1950s, so there is a pleasing family symmetry to this,"* he said.

*best care for all people regardless of their circumstances. I am proud to work for a service where I can concentrate on what is right for my patients, whoever they are, and although they may worry about being ill they do not need to worry about paying for medical care...The NHS is not perfect: we spend less than any other developed country on healthcare and it is not enough. We need increased collaboration across health and social care to provide well organised, safe and comprehensive care for all."*

**Helen Cadbury** (1983) has written her second novel "Bones in the Nest", following on from her debut novel "To Catch a Rabbit". Helen was chosen as an Amazon Rising Star in January 2015 and WH Smith readers voted To Catch a Rabbit in their top 12 crime books they would like to see on screen.

**Andrew Bull** (1984) wrote: *"I spent 21 years in the car industry with all incarnations from BL through Austin Rover; Rover Group, BMW and MG Rover before the Midlands manufacturing boat hit the rocks. I then joined HMRC for nine years - the last three running the large scale IT Operations that collect the taxes that pay for UK public services and pay the targeted benefits to those that need additional help."*

*Working in IT gives you in depth exposure to all those business activities. Combine this with the economics I learnt first from Geoff Shaw and later as part of my engineering degree and MBA has given me great grounding for most businesses. I am now Director of Infrastructure Services for Aviva with the challenges and opportunities of the regulated insurance sector."*



**Leaving a gift in your Will to Leighton Park Trust is a wonderful way to make a difference to our students' futures**

If you would like to know more please contact, in confidence:

**Celia Blakeway-Phillips** Development Manager  
e: celiabp@leightonpark.com t: 0118 987 9641



**Leighton Park**  
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## Laura Marling (2008)

With five albums, three Mercury Prize nominations and one Brit Award to her name, Laura Marling is an artist of unquestionable talent. Her new album *Short Movie* was released to rave reviews and she has had a busy year touring the world, including several nights at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Written during a sojourn in Los Angeles and recorded on return to London, *Short Movie* reflects a time of great exploration and reflection – and so encompasses doubt, magic, hope, humanity, salvation, rage, peace, place and being alone. But it also reflects striking new confidence. Laura produced *Short Movie* herself, spurred on by a desire to “demystify production”.



*foundation in Munich that looks after children affected by acute traumatic stress. Most of the children we work with have experienced the loss of a close relative or witnessed the sudden death of a stranger. I started this project in 2007, only last year we finally managed to establish a foundation to ensure our work's future.”*

[www.aetas-kinderstiftung.de](http://www.aetas-kinderstiftung.de)

**Angela-Claire McDonald** (2000) studied BA-Psychology Dip. Ed at Macquarie University (Sydney); she then worked in various government schools in Sydney before moving to Berlin in 2011. She is now Head of the English department at The Platanus School, a bilingual primary school in north-east Berlin.

**Sameer Maini** (1996) is a Consultant Geriatrician at Great Western Hospital, Swindon. He is keen on road cycling and cooking, and is married with three children.

**Nathan Haley** (1998) has been on a five-year bicycle journey down the Americas from Prudhoe Bay, Alaska to Ushuaia, Argentina. Read his blogs from the amazing journey on <http://velofreedom.bike>

**Helen Langwick** (nee Langford) (2001) is Head of Interpretation at the Royal Armouries, the national museum of arms and armour. She leads on temporary exhibitions, the development and maintenance of all permanent displays and the Royal Armouries' digital offer, across all three sites (including the Tower of London and Fort Nelson). She recently enjoyed managing the Waterloo Bicentenary programme which has included a major temporary exhibition, redisplay of the permanent gallery, a conservation project for the Siborne Model and Waterloo Battery, two publications, an online offer and an events programme.

Before joining the Royal Armouries Helen worked for a brief spell with the Audience Agency and prior to that at the Household Cavalry Museum, Leeds Museums and Galleries in curation, development and delivery of exhibitions, project management and partnership brokering. Helen has an MA in Museums Studies from the University of Leicester.

*She writes “I think about LP the way most people think back with hazy sun washed memories of their childhood home. A place of warmth and friendship where I did most of my growing up and learning how to be in, and enjoy, the company of others. As well as teasing out some academic qualifications from my initially reluctant brain LP nurtured the seed of self-confidence. These two foundations are so important later in life at both work and home. LP is part of me and will always be so.”*

**Ed Sugden** (2004) is a Lecturer in American Literature at King's College London now, having completed his doctorate at Oxford in 2013. Incidentally, Ed comments - that this was precisely the path Nigel Williams (Head) predicted for him on the day that he left school!

**Sami Kanza** (2008) is enrolled on an iPhD, including a Masters year (MSc Web Science) and a three year PhD at the University of Southampton in Computer Science and Chemistry. Her research title is “The application of semantic web technologies to chemical data and systems”.

**Will Fraser** (2009) writes: *“I took a strange route to get to Augusta Westland. During my Engineering degree I did a year in industry working for Portsmouth Aviation, returning there after graduation as a Project Engineer/Project Manager. I then applied to the AW graduate scheme and started in October last year. I would always recommend doing a Year in Industry to anyone considering studying Engineering or Product Design as it gives you a feel for what you do or don't want to do within engineering and really helps when applying for jobs after graduation.”*

**Hayden Hillier-Smith** (2010) A skilled & keen film-maker at school, Hayden now specialises in Web Content on YouTube with six million views on his own YouTube channel and as Cinematographer on other Channels. In 2014 BBC's *Apprentice* had an episode dedicated to YouTube and Online Video Channels; Hayden was shown on camera filming and editing the winning team's work. He won “Best Film Award/Uplift Excellence” for *Recurrence* at Buffer Film Festival 2014. He has now graduated from Ravensbourne University. [www.youtube.com/user/HillierSmithStudios](http://www.youtube.com/user/HillierSmithStudios)

**Phil Dunster** (2010) was recently in the world premiere of *Pink Mist* at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre.

**Geraint Thomas**, Head of Drama writes: This play by Owen Sheers has been hailed as a vitally important new work and gathered excellent reviews. The play concerns the experiences of three young soldiers in Afghanistan. It looks at the effect on their lives and of their families lives back home. It is a wonderful blend of storytelling, character and humour expertly staged using the physicality of the young cast who are

**Dr Jonathan Boulter** (1987) tragically lost his fight with brain cancer in May 2008. In order to acknowledge his contributions to biomedical research at Cardiff University's Institute of Infection and Immunity, the South Wales Immunology Group created the Jonathan Boulter Memorial Lecture. This series provides a forum for distinguished international speakers to visit Cardiff and present outstanding achievements and scientific advances. Jon's pioneering work enabled the targeting of specific peptide-MHC complexes at the cell surface with extremely high specificity and affinity, and provided the platform for a number of keenly anticipated therapeutic interventions.

**Adam Boulter** (1989) is currently an Anglican Chaplain and also a painter in Aqaba, Jordan, at the Mission to Seafarers. This year there has been an exhibition of his work at Westminster Abbey. He is married with two children. [www.adamboulter.co.uk](http://www.adamboulter.co.uk)

**George Ehret** (1989) is a Cardiologist at Geneva University Hospitals; he studied at universities in Geneva, Heidelberg and Freiburg. George is interested in genomics and biology, and was inspired by his LP Biology teacher. He is married with two daughters.

**Tita Kern** (nee Rinne-Wolf) (1993) studied Psychotraumatology at University of Krems. *“I am nowadays head of a charitable*





**Lizzie Benedikz** (2009) is a PhD student at the University of Birmingham's School of Immunity and Infection, studying viral-bacterial co-infection, specifically at epithelial barriers – the entry sites of the body for pathogens. Previously she studied Biochemistry at the University of Leeds.

In March 2015 Lizzie volunteered for the International Medical Corps Makeni Ebola Treatment Centre (ETC), in Sierra Leone, a lab run by Public Health England. Here are extracts from her diary and a photo showing her in the isolator.

6 am: Arrive at the ETC, catch my first whiff of incredibly strong chlorine as shoes are sprayed; I change into freshly washed scrubs and wellies. Once in the lab, there are more layers of protective clothing to be worn and a checklist of jobs to be done before any new samples can be tested, including mixing up 5000 ppm chlorine (the strongest concentration used in swimming pools being 3 ppm!). The most important step processing samples takes place in a flexible film isolator, the clear plastic box with gloves reaching in. We need to check there are no holes in the plastic and everything inside is clean

before putting any potentially ebola-containing blood or swabs in.

8 am: Samples may arrive from patients and we check patient details, before opening the samples in the safety of the isolator and inactivate any virus present before bringing samples out in to the lab and testing with PCR. We can also test for malaria but no other viral diseases. By now the air conditioners are struggling to keep the lab cool and it's reaching 30 degrees C!

11 am: Positive and negative results are taken to the medics and emailed to important members of the community. Once a confirmed ebola patient has 2 samples test negative within 48 hours they can be released to recover at home. When this happens music is blasted around the ETC and everyone who can, takes a break to dance with the survivor as they walk out of the red zone. This was the most amazing experience and I'm happy to say we got to see many people leave.

1 pm: Grab some fried chicken and spicy rice for lunch and keep processing samples until the late shift arrives at the lab – they will be working until 10 pm. Our team worked for 5 weeks and processed over 1000 samples, as we were there during a spike of infections, so although we saw a relatively high number of Ebola survivors leave, there were many deaths that the lab technicians didn't witness. The medics and locals who volunteer and go in the red zone are the heroes, but I'm so glad I could help in some way.



superb in their commitment to the play and each other.

It was a very moving experience for me to see Phil using all the skills and experience he has gained at Bristol Old Vic Theatre school. To be achieving work as innovative as this so early in his professional career bodes well for his future success. Phil's first theatre experiences came in Senior productions such as *Under Milk Wood*, *West Side Story* and most memorably as John Proctor in *The Crucible*. We are immensely proud of all our Music and Theatre students who are now making their way in the professional world."

**Finty Kelly** (2013) has been awarded a scholarship at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts to study in New York. This is a fantastic achievement as past students read like a Who's Who of American Theatre and Cinema.

## Teachers' News

Each year we say goodbye to teaching staff and other colleagues; some are retiring, while others are heading for new challenges. We are grateful for all that they have given to the school community during their time on the Park. These are some of the teaching staff who you may remember:

**Jane Ireland**

**Pete Bulteel**

**Zenon Bowrey**

**Francoise Wilson**

**Ann Line**

**Nicky Philipps**

**John Woodings**

**Corin Gurr**

**Rachel Chapman**

**Trevor Craddock** has retired after 35 years teaching at the school.

**Rosemary Scales**, Director of Music writes "When I arrived at LP one of the first sounds I heard was Trevor's booming voice introducing himself to me! A voice, I soon learnt, belonged to one of the kindest and most thoughtful colleagues you could ever wish to work with. After a mere 35 years, Trevor is retiring from Leighton Park having taught singing, piano and theory to hundreds of students and staff! Over the years, Trevor managed to combine his work at Windsor Castle as a bass lay-clerk in the choir of St. George's Chapel, with his teaching at LP. A few of us were privileged enough to attend concerts Trevor organised at Windsor Castle for his students with a nice cup of tea afterwards! We have received numerous tributes for Trevor: they all speak of a kind & thoughtful man who is an outstanding musician and a wonderful, inspirational teacher."

Trevor was a boy chorister at St. Alban's Cathedral, going on to study with the celebrated baritone John Carol Case, and piano tuition with Iris Loveridge. From 1970-1977, Trevor was a member of the Temple Church Choir. He was awarded the Medal of the Royal Victoria Order by H.M. The Queen for service to music at St. George's Chapel. Trevor has sung as a soloist at many cathedrals, churches, universities and concert halls throughout Britain. His performances have included oratorio works, opera roles and recitals.

# Obituaries

We are saddened to inform you of the deaths of the following Old Leightonians:



**Terence Bassett** (1937) graduated from St Bartholomew's Hospital, London and in 1939 served in Burma as a ships' surgeon; he served as Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corp until 1946, when he went to Tanzania with the Colonial Medical Service. He returned to London as an Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat surgeon at the Royal Eye Hospital. He met his first wife June and moved to Lethbridge, Alberta in 1952 as chief of the Eye Department at St Michael's Hospital. He retired from surgery aged 65 but continued ophthalmic practice until aged 79. A devout Church goer, he was an altar server and lay reader for a time. With a movie camera he filmed animals all over the world and attended snow leopard conferences worldwide, at one of which he met his second wife Tatiana. Sadly in 2004, Terence developed Alzheimer's and died on 18th September 2014.

**John Allen** (1938): John spent his working life in Albourne and Woodmancote, moving to Henfield with his wife Jose in later life. A progressive farmer, he was twice Chair of the local NFU branch. A keen birdwatcher, he was also passionate about sport, playing rugby and cricket in earlier years, and bowls latterly. He was a member of the parish council for some years, Chair for a time. John will be remembered also for provision of the playing field and cricket ground, now used by Sussex Youth Cricket Academy and partially sighted cricketers.

**Herbert Levi** (1938) emigrated to the USA during the war, becoming an eminent biologist and Professor at Harvard. He was a world renowned expert in spiders, helping identify over 1500 species, and receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society of Arachnologists. He acknowledged that he had not solved the mystery of why spiders do not get caught in their own webs.

Herbert kindly left the school his superb collection of drawings and watercolours from his days as a student here.



**Colonel Richard Butson** GC (1940) died 24th March 2015

Dick joined the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey in 1946, and was awarded the Albert Medal for his courage for rescuing another Antarctic explorer from a crevasse in 1947. (The extraordinary story is available in the obituary on the OL website). All surviving Albert Medal holders received the George Cross, for "acts of most conspicuous courage of extreme danger".

Dick emigrated to Canada in 1952, settling at Hamilton, Ontario, and practising as a surgeon. He married Eileen in 1967. In 1970, he joined the McMaster University Medical School, being appointed Clinical Professor in the Department of Surgery. He was head of general surgery at St Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton for many years including two as Chief of Staff. Dick was an honorary surgeon to the Queen in Canada between 1977 and 1979.

Dick qualified as a parachutist at the age of 55. In the late 1980s the ridge between the McClary and North-East Glaciers in Antarctica was named "Butson ridge" in his honour.

**Martin Orde** (1940) died 2nd January 2015

Martin read Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Christ Church, Oxford. He saw active service in Italy, where he was mentioned in despatches. Martin joined the Colonial Service in Northern Nigeria and the Gambia. In 1952, he married Jane who took in her stride the climate, the language difficulties, travelling round a huge district with small children in tow, and broken bones



*Second Cricket XI with Martin Orde*

**Brian Bassett** (1935)

**Hugo Powell** (1937)

**Jeremy Dixon** (1937)

**Colin Mounsey** (1938)

died in March 2015

**Jagat Mehta** (1940)

died 6th March 2014

**Peter Gittins** (1943)

**Andrew Chaundy** (1945)

died 13th January 2015

**Kenneth G Wormsley** (1945)

**John Cheney** (1947)

**John Best** (1947)

died in December 2014

**Charles Gillett** (1948)

died 20th September 2014

**Jeremy Roffey** (1949)

died 8th January 2015

**Richard Crosfield** (1964)

**Bill Lovell** (1964)

died 30th March 2014

**Andrew McClelland** (1965)

died 26th March 2015

**Roger Stevens** (1950)

**David Nicholson** (1951)

**Nigel Boase** (1952)

died December 2014

**Roger Christy** (1953)

**Andrew Pearson** (1989)

died in 2013

**Graham Little**, Leighton Park Drum Teacher died August 2015

suffered by Martin while playing polo. In 1963, he was awarded the OBE and in 1964 he found a post in the Scottish Office in Edinburgh, enabling him to enjoy the local musical and cultural opportunities, singing in the Edinburgh Bach Choir, and the Edinburgh Royal Choral Union. Martin was recruited to help oversee the first general elections in the then Southern Rhodesia.

He retired aged 60 then joined the board of Queen Margaret University, and soon became chairman. He volunteered for the



Citizens Advice Bureau but his great interest was sailing. After Jane's death, Martin moved to Newcastle to be near his eldest daughter. He joined the Newcastle Bach Choir, in which he continued until increasing deafness made it impossible for him to continue. Though frail in his later years, he still enjoyed going to concerts, listening to Radio 3, and receiving visits from his four children and seven grandchildren.

**Jan Viktor White** (1945) died 30th December 2014.



Jan was an architect who became one of the world's leading magazine designers. Born in Prague in 1928, he left Czechoslovakia for London with his mother to join his father who had left earlier. He received a full scholarship to Leighton Park, where his talents in drawing and sculpture were quickly recognized. Upon emigrating to the United States in 1947, he studied architecture at Cornell and Columbia. He worked in magazine design at Time Inc., ultimately leaving to start a very successful independent magazine consultancy and practice in Westport CT. He wrote 21 books on various aspects of magazine design including *Editing By Design*, the seminal book in the field. He was twice married, first to Ruth Kessler with whom he had two sons and then to Clare Mallon, with whom he also had two sons. He was a renaissance man in the truest sense. Among his many passions were writing, travel, sculpture, and drawing. He was the family historian, producing a dozen meticulously researched, detailed, and illustrated books on the subject. He was a very proud member of the Century Association where he served actively on several committees and was a dedicated participant in the Sketch Club. He is survived by four sons and seven grandchildren. His professional impact and influence on the field of magazine design, and more importantly the irreplaceable impact he had on his family and friends, will be profoundly missed.

**Lord Robert Gavron** (1948) died 7th February 2015

After reading Law at St Peter's College, Oxford, Bob became a barrister, called to the bar by Middle Temple in 1955. His first wife, Hannah died in 1965 and in 1967 he married Nicky; they had two daughters; after a divorce, Bob married Katharine in 1989. He founded the St Ives Group in 1964, serving as Chairman from 1964-93. The company became Britain's largest independent printer, known as one of the most efficient operations



in the industry. Bob had many other interests, serving as chairman of the Folio Society from 1982, director of the Royal Opera House (1992-98) and as trustee of the National Gallery (1994-2001) and chairman of its publishing arm. He was chairman of the Open College of the Arts (1991-96) and a trustee of the Scott Trust and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. Bob was a governor of the LSE from 1997 and chaired his own charitable trust which dispensed millions of pounds to good causes.

Bob was appointed CBE in 1990 and entered the House of Lords in 1997.

**John Hoyland** (1959): a writer and journalist, with three books published, two plays (co-written) performed and many articles published in various periodicals. He wrote for *New Scientist* magazine, editing the *Feedback* feature and *The Guardian*. He worked in politics including at the Greater London Council and as an organiser of political and cultural campaigns and events. He was proud of a clash that he had with John Lennon in the 1960s; his article in the *Guardian* regarding the story can be found online. He was also famed for coming up with the phrase "Nominative Determinism".

John's involvement in CND began at LP. He wrote *'A group of us from school truanted to go on the first Aldermaston march (in 1957/8). The teachers were nice about it - they told us that if we did this they wouldn't try to stop us but we wouldn't be made prefects - so we did it and we weren't.'*

**Chad Buckler** (1953) died 18th January 2015: **Sir John Birch** writes *"Chad and I were in the same year and became good friends at Crosfields and at Reckitt where he boarded despite living in Reading. Chad was an athlete and keen tennis player. Chad left after O levels to join his father's business. Colin Fawcett, our Housemaster, did not think Chad was keen enough and they fell out. Chad was also good at drawing and vied with Richard (Rodney) Bennett at annoying Fawcett with scrawls and captions. In one biology lab taken by Ricky Schardt, who had big ears, Chad managed to draw a rabbit on the blackboard. There was a brief "own up" moment before Ricky and the whole class laughed.*

*Chad joined the Royal Marines for his National Service because he wanted to be a naval diver. He never explained why! It was through a mutual Marine friend that Chad wrote to*

*me some 60 years later and we renewed our friendship by letter and on the telephone. I am so glad that I came to the reunion in 2013, if only to meet him. He was a splendid fellow."*

**Andrew Froude** (1955) died 19th December 2014

Andrew was a highly respected Chartered Surveyor. He recently retired from Jackson-Stops & Staff where he was appointed Chairman and saw the business more than double during his term. He stood down as Chairman in 2013 after 50 years with the company. A keen sportsman at school, Andrew played county cricket for both Berkshire and Montgomeryshire before moving to Cheshire. He was a keen and able golfer, for some years playing off a single figure handicap, and captained the Chartered Surveyors Golf Society and the City of Chester Golf Society. Andrew had a keen interest in the countryside and country sports. In 1998 he married Pat and together they shared their love for golf and the countryside. He had two sons and four grandchildren.

**Christopher Yates** (1956) died on 21st November 2014 after a long debilitating illness.

Christopher had a long and distinguished career in the world of music. After leaving Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge as a Choral Exhibitioner, he joined the Sadlers Wells orchestra as flautist; where he met his wife Celia. In 1965 he moved into orchestral management with the New Philharmonia Orchestra, followed by a move to Newcastle as General Manager of the Northern Sinfonia Orchestra. In 1980 he was appointed Chair of the Northern College of Music, Manchester, as Dean of Postgraduate Studies, later becoming Vice-Principal. In 2000, he was appointed Chairman of the Musicians Benevolent Fund. Other responsibilities included being Governor of Live Music Now, the Manchester Camerata, Lunchtime Concerts at the Bridgewater Hall.

**William "Bill" John Finch Hill** (1956) died in October 2014.

Bill followed his two older brothers to Leighton Park and ended his time as a prefect at Frensham House. He attended Aberdeen Agricultural College and later Reading University, following which he worked as an agricultural advisor in Uganda and as a principal of a farmers training centre in The Gambia. Back home he was married, had two sons, and worked as an overseas agricultural project officer in Kent before moving to the Cotswolds as an Agricultural contractor. He was for many years chairman of his local parish council, always enjoying the outside life he was a keen supporter and organiser in his local scout group. His biggest pride in life was The North Cotswolds Canoe Club which he formed and organised for over thirty years. He encouraged youngsters to learn the skills of canoeing, taking them to Symonds Yat, Woolacombe in North Devon and elsewhere.

**Paul Bowser** (1967) **Mark Wells** (1967) writes "Paul and I were in the same year but different Houses and class sets but were brought together by both being Chelsea supporters. We would sometimes go to Stamford Bridge but more often we would be at Elm Park to watch Reading. We both became Chartered Accountants, Paul articulated to Cooper Brothers (later PWC). I saw him most weekends and we would be at football depending on who was at home. Paul, David Furst and I all qualified in 1973. Paul stayed at Coopers for a year or two and then went on a short term contract with them to Azerbaijan, then Rhodesia (as it was still then) and Liberia! I think his earnings must have been pretty high but to me the lifestyle seemed a pretty high price to pay for that. Paul was a very funny person with a Private Eye/Monty Python sense of humour. We didn't have the same tastes in music: being a Rolling Stones person I could never understand why anyone would want the latest Captain Beefheart album!"

**Michael Burrell** (1972) died 6th September 2014 after a two year battle with cancer.

Michael went to Leighton Park as a day boy following his brother John and settled into life on the park immediately. He excelled in athletics, particularly the high jump, and at that discipline under the coaching of Richard Coleman was Southern Counties Champion for his age group. His favourite subject was Art and he made large sculptures which were displayed in the park. He studied fine art at Newcastle University. Michael worked in the family business in Reading, and he had lived in Silchester since 1982. He leaves a wife and four children. Despite the sadness of funerals it was good to see several Ols present, a compliment to him and the school.

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**Roger Morgan** (1950)

Roger was a leading figure in the field of international relations from the 1960s onwards. He read history at Downing College, Cambridge, returning to complete his PhD after studying in France, Germany and the Netherlands. In Germany, he met his first wife, Annette. They settled in London, where he worked as a lecturer at the Workers Educational Association, and had four children.

From 1959 onwards, he held a succession of academic posts in international relations at Aberystwyth, Sussex, and Loughborough universities; at Loughborough, in the 1970s, he first obtained a chair. He alternated teaching with research posts at Chatham House and the Policy Studies Institute. He also taught at Harvard, Cornell and UCLA, at the European University Institute in Florence and at the University of Bonn. A committed internationalist and a fine linguist, he maintained a lifelong conviction that European unity provided the best guarantees for prosperity, respect for human rights, peace and international understanding. An avid reader, writer and an accomplished broadcaster, he commented regularly on Radio 4 and the World Service.

Roger had contracted polio at the age of 14, after which he spent a year in hospital. While the consequent disability was something that everyone who knew Roger remembered about him, his uncomplaining stoicism, willingness to overcome tiredness and pain and his determination to concentrate on what he could do rather than what he couldn't, ensured it was never what they remembered most. Roger's first marriage ended in divorce in 1982. In 1988 he married Catherine. She survives him, as do his children and nine grandchildren.

**Nick Hudson** (1951) wrote: "Roger was given the bed next to mine in the dormitory and I was asked to look after him. Needless to say, he needed no looking after. He walked on crutches, but somehow joined in everything. Not able to play cricket, he became the scorer for the First XI matches, he played the violin in the orchestra. Our biggest shared enthusiasm was Gilbert & Sullivan operas. Roger had spent his year in hospital learning all the words by heart. We knew The Gondoliers backwards, so we sang our way through it on many occasions. Our party piece was the duet 'Replying we sing as one individual'."

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