



**ST EDMUND'S  
SCHOOL**  
CANTERBURY



Old Edmudian Newsletter

**2020 Edition**

# Head's Welcome

Dear Alumni and friends of St Edmund's,

In these times of uncertainty, it feels rather strange for the school to write about the changes within alumni relations, but it is something that we wanted to share with the Old Edmudian community and to reassure you of the importance that we place in all of you, which includes the support that you have so unstintingly provided to the school.

We have now created an External Relations Department which is comprised of Admissions, Marketing, Events and Foundation, headed by our new Director Victoria Stears. Victoria comes to us with a wealth of experience in admissions, pupil recruitment, and alumni development, and, along with other duties, will be overseeing a rejuvenated Foundation Department, which will engage with the alumni community, ensuring that your legacy continues to live on at St Edmund's.

Further details on the exact structure of the Foundation department will soon be available, but in the meantime, we would welcome your feedback on this newsletter, and suggestions as to how you would like our engagement with the Old Edmudian community to develop. There is an invitation within the newsletter to take part in a survey about past Foundation events in order for us to find out how you, as a community, would like to see future events and activities unfold.

We sincerely hope that you will take part in it, so that we may then provide an exciting range of events that you will all appreciate.

Once again, many thanks for all of your support, and we look forward to seeing you in the future.

Best wishes,

Edward O'Connor  
Head



## Members' News

**Paul Abbott ('87)** and Fiona Patterson were married in the School Chapel in October 2019. Other past pupils there were Sean and Shara Thompson, Andy Wiltshier, Andrew Nurse, Martin Nurse, Matthew Sutton, John Martin, Angus Hellier, Neil Martin and Pat Butler.

**David Applin ('64)** David and Anne still live in Cambridge, with their girls, Ruth and Rebecca, each involved in different types of music, now flown. Not being a retiring type, David dabbles in poetry and continues to write Biology course books, teach international students and lecture for continuing education in the university. Writing and illustrating children's picture books is a recent new venture with some trepidation. Anne continues to teach piano. David is LinkedIn and always delighted to hear from contemporaries wherever they are in the world.

**Michael Archer ('67)** continues to work as a professional actor under his stage name Michael Sadler. In 2018 he was in a pretty avant garde film called YUGEN, directed by Martha Fiennes, and then in the World War Two comedy musical DOODLE and in March he starts rehearsals for Wagner's 'Tristan und Isolde' at the Royal Opera House. He still bowls left arm spin for the Stage Cricket Club and has been its secretary and then treasurer since 2000. His wife Barbara continues to be hired by the Royal Ballet for minor roles. They met in 'My Fair Lady' at the Adelphi Theatre. Their son Graham, with a 1<sup>st</sup> in Music Technology from Belfast, got married last September.\*

**Andrew Barnes ('81)**. After 17 years as a freelance IT and Business Change Consultant, Andrew has decided that it is time for a change of direction and is dissolving his limited company. Since 2017 he has been into property renovation/letting. His marriage to Jackie for 30 years sadly ended two years ago, but they remain good friends, with two sons and a daughter. He has a new relationship with Hayley, who has accompanied Andrew to two Northern Dinners. He still plays squash and tennis and also enjoys running and cycling, as well as being involved in an active church.

**Martin Benning ('72)** and Chris had a long campervan holiday in Spain in 2019 and also had trips to La Gomera (Canary Islands) – where they discovered Padel Tennis -, Holland and Ireland. Martin continues to volunteer at Citizens Advice in the library in Southampton and is also treasurer of two local community organisations. He and Chris both continue running.

**Paul Bewers ('70)** lives in Buckhurst Hill with his wife June and enjoys walking and cycling in Epping Forest through the gate at the end of his garden. He is still running a commercial property development business (part time) with projects in Liverpool and Nottingham and remains involved with Crostyx Hockey Club despite having stepped down as Chairman. He recently achieved his Level 2 hockey umpires badge for the East Region, enjoys social tennis and goes skiing as often as possible. He has two daughters, one a management consultant, the other a commercial interior/workspace designer. He meets up regularly with Dee Clarke, Paul Hamilton, Colin Whipp, Stu Adams and Jon Baddeley and they plan to get together this year to celebrate 50 years since leaving SES.

**Richard Cadman ('65)** and Yolanta managed a tour of New Zealand last year. He reports on the extraordinary weather in Melbourne, 42C one day, 18C the next (always been 'four seasons in a day'), but this year smoke from the bush fires has blanketed the city to a hazardous level. Golf ball-sized hailstones which broke car and house windows and a red dust storm followed by torrential rain have been just some of the local hazards.

*\*Michael provided this news earlier in the year, but all who knew him, and others, will be distressed to hear that he contracted coronavirus and died in hospital in London on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020.*



**Ralph Carter** ('62) says that the Cricket Club, The Rogues, founded at St Edmund's in 1961 is still active both on the cricket field and the golf course. The cricket team is now composed of younger relatives of myself and co-founder **Robert Pettit** ('60) but will hope to play 2 games in 2020. Old Boy **Ed Cartwright** ('98) distinguished himself in an all-round capacity last year and **Oliver Green** ('66) opened the batting. I am in contact with Robert Pettit who now lives in Genoa. I now attempt pilates every week and on the adjoining mat is **David Hopper** ('57).

**David Clarke** ('75) has been in shipping ever since leaving school. He moved to Johannesburg in the mid-80s, returned to the UK after two years and within seven years moved to Athens where he has been living ever since. He retired early three years ago, but is not sure that that was a good decision. Currently he is doing a lot of heart-searching about whether to return to the UK and finds many arguments for and against – and is clearly upset with the UK's decision to leave the EU. He has not visited the school since playing football and cricket for the Old Boys in the early '80s.

**Martin Dismore** ('64) continues living in happy retirement in St Albans, mainly occupying himself with being assistant to his biographer author and wife, Jane Dismore, as well as looking after the interests of his children, Harriet, Mark and Alexander, the first two of whom attended St Edmund's in the 1990s. In his spare time he is gainfully employed as an exam invigilator for his local college and is also President of the Hertford & Ware Sea Cadets unit.

**David Greenfield** ('78) spent 16 years in the Army with the Queen's Regiment and Princess of Wales's Regiment, serving in Northern Ireland, Germany and Belize. Retiring as a Major, he then became a headhunter in Consultancy and In-House Public Relations from 1995-2004, since when he has managed his own successful Garden Service business in West Sussex. He has travelled extensively, with two sons working in Australia and New Zealand, and for 10 years also looked after his local cricket club ground, but is now just running the garden business.

**Brian Hale** ('64). This year we had Christmas in Dunedin with our son, partner and 3 grandchildren under 5, which was a little chaotic in their small house, and as December was cooler than usual we noticed the difference in temperature in Auckland where we live. Summer temperatures have really kicked in January though, with no rain for weeks. We are spending a few weeks at our beach property on the water's edge just north of Auckland and I commute to work from there, only a 40-minute drive. Joan, my wife, retired in the middle of last year, but I am still running our Copy Centre shop 5 days a week.

**Hugh Haslehurst-Smith** ('71) and Gill had an extended trip of over two months last year during which they visited son Andrew in New York, where they managed to get tickets to the US Open tennis, Paris, Amsterdam, from where they embarked on a week's cruise on the Norwegian fiords and then a week in England split between the Lake District and Yorkshire as well as time at Gill's family home in Gloucestershire. It was the sad death of Gill's mother at the age of 96 which led to a longer time away than intended. Back in Sydney, Hugh has been busy organising the rebuilding of the golf course at Castle Hill Country Club, where he is President. He also managed golf tours to Thailand, Vietnam and Hawaii. Other than drought, they have survived the bushfires and remain busy helping with Katie's two sons, aged 5 and 2.

**Darren Henley** ('91) is now Chief Executive of the Arts Council after being in charge of Classic FM for 15 years. He was awarded the OBE in 2013.



**Theo Hughes** ('90) says that having lived in Australia now as long as he lived in England, he now definitely calls Australia home, especially enjoyable when the Aussies beat the Brits at anything! His wife Sammantha/Samm periodically disappears on marathon length trail runs and mountain bike adventures, while Jasper (14), Charlotte/Charlie (13) and Emilia/Milly (12) enjoy various pursuits from sports to drama. Theo recently left Monash University to start his own education company – Level 98. He's also enjoying playing hockey with Jasper and "starring" in plays with Milly, while Charlie might be the only one to follow her father and do something vaguely scientific (possibly marine biology).

**Manzoor Ishani** ('68) graduated from the University of St Andrews with an MA in Political Economy. He qualified as a Solicitor (England and Wales), joined city firm Adlers and was elected a Senior Partner in 1980. He specialises in International Franchise and Distribution Law and EU Competition and anti-Trust Law. He was appointed International Development Director of Stagecoach Theatre Arts Plc 2002-2012 and is now a non-executive director of various companies. He was also elected a Freeman of the City of London and a Fellow of numerous institutions and he is a published author of three business/legal books and co-author of seven. He is married and has two sons and lives in Surrey.

**Robin Jackman** ('62) has fought off both cancer of the throat and a heart attack in recent years. He says that sadly he is no longer broadcasting on the game of cricket, either in South Africa where he has lived in Cape Town for 35 years, or elsewhere around the world. He had a good run and thoroughly enjoyed his time as a broadcaster, allowing him to enjoy his passion into his 70<sup>th</sup> year. He now plays very sub-standard golf and enjoys midweek lunches with friends, cryptic crosswords and especially snooker on Monday mornings. He is an Ambassador for Lords Taverners South Africa, providing Table Cricket games in schools for handicapped children and he and his wife also support Grace Vision, an eye-care programme in Eastern Cape's most rural areas where the poorest of the poor live and go to school.

**Tom James** ('67) is currently in full remission from leukaemia in 2015, thanks to King's College Hospital, having initially been given a year to live. He retired in 2008 from the University of Winchester (formerly King Alfred's College), but is still at work on the medieval Royal Palace at Clarendon near Salisbury. The leukaemia finally put an end to his project to restore the 1928 Rolls Royce from Sergeant's scrap yard in Canterbury, pointed out to him by Stephen Frost and Ahmed Kaiksow all those years ago.

**Andrea Brunetti Leach** ('83), following university at Brunel, for 10 years became Sales Director of Dainese. He has always been able to travel extensively for both work and play and thoroughly recommends this. His mother was Italian and he has family in Bologna and Florence. For over 15 years he has worked in the Beverage and Food Sector and travels regularly to Italy as a consultant to Britain's oldest brewer Shepherd Neame. One of his proudest moments was helping to lead Demelza Children's Hospice to raise £6.5m towards building the first Children' Hospice in South London.

**Tom Leonard** ('64) left St Edmund's to go to the International School in Hamburg (ISH) when his father retired from the Royal Navy as a chaplain and became the English Chaplain/Missions to Seamen Chaplain in Hamburg. Periodically former pupils of ISH hold reunions and this time former pupils from Indonesia hosted one in Bali which Tom attended and was a great success. He then went on to Australia, visiting Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth, meeting up with 24 relations. Tom retired from the Nigerian Insurance Company consultancy in November 2018 although he still acts as a consultant to a close Nigerian friend who is setting up his own firm.



**Tim Lewin** ('65) was a commodity trader in the City for many years and also did much writing for financial magazines and also the Daily Telegraph. He has been involved with Russia for 27 years. His company was the first to be hired by the FCO to assist the Russian Government in the transition from the Command Economy to a Marketing Economy. In addition to his day job, Tim has developed a theme bequeathed to him by his father when he died in 1999 – a request to look after the Veterans of WW2. He has created the Memorial to the US Volunteers in the Naval College at Greenwich, the Malta Siege Memorial on Tower Hill, replaced both masts on HMS Belfast as a memorial to the Arctic campaign (paid for by the Russians), persuaded the Trinity College of Music to compose a Requiem for the Falklands, and every May organises a hoolie for veterans from Russia, Norway, Canada, the UK and Jamaica on board HMS Belfast. Tim's father was Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin.

**Christopher Long** ('67) studied law for a time at Inner Temple, but then trained in market management and as a copywriter for advertising agencies in Britain and overseas before working as a journalist from 1978. He was one of the longest-serving war correspondents during the Balkan wars from 1991-99. In 2001 he and his wife Sarah moved to Normandy in France where he worked for French papers and magazines as well as raising a small flock of Dorset Down sheep. In 2008, with the help of Royal Engineers, he rescued a WWII Bailey Bridge, and in 2016 a WWII Whale, both from the 1944 Mulberry 'B' artificial harbour at Arromanches, the former now in use at Pont Farcy and the latter at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. Since 2018 he has been working on the construction of an oak-framed hall, using mediaeval techniques at home at Le Bouquet, Pont Farcy.

**Claire Brady Lowe** ('92) has been happily married for 14 years to Jason Lowe and has two lovely children, Oliver (16) and Gabrielle (14). She lives in Canterbury. After working in the travel industry, she didn't work when the children were young and went to every imaginable club for kids, but 6 years ago she started working with Aldi Foodstore – the best in the world! She has worked her way up to a senior position in the Special Buys Department. She continues fundraising for Teenage Cancer Trust, Dogs Trust and the Dementia Society and would love to be contacted by any old boys or girls at [clairebradylowe1@gmail.com](mailto:clairebradylowe1@gmail.com).

**David Mackie** ('60). After retiring from Actaris Metering Systems in 2007, I did a further 5 years consultancy, visiting India and Indonesia where my designs were being manufactured. In 2013 I had a replacement for a left knee, probably worn out from playing Saturday football until I was 52. In 2017 I had a minor heart attack and had a coronary stent inserted, but now have better blood stats than ever with all the tablets! I still enjoy foreign travel (just back from South Africa), listening to music, astronomy as a hobby and lager sampling at my local. I did meet John Parry-Williams and Michael Milan (died 2014) who were local. Would be happy to hear from anyone from my era.

**Martin Milward** (Staff 1977-79) retired from teaching in 2018, having spent 27 years at St Faith's School, Cambridge. He celebrated the arrival of his granddaughter, Elodie, in March 2019.

**Jonathan Moore** ('74) still lives in Birmingham, mostly producing Limited Edition Prints in collaboration with his Artists and Printmakers. They have 40 galleries selling paintings, sculptures and multiples. In his spare time he has his own Art practice, working on a portrait project, vaguely on the theme of migration. He went to Bristol in February with his daughter to hear Greta Thunberg.

**Robin Morris** ('68) is now living with his wife, Laura in Saint Aignan, Brittany. They sold their house in Lincolnshire in November 2018 and it has taken a year, viewing about .50 houses, to find their new home. Two of his sons still live in Jersey and a third in Exeter. He is still in touch with Ricky Kaufman on Facebook. He asks anyone passing by to email him and have a glass of wine! [robinmorris164@gmail.com](mailto:robinmorris164@gmail.com)



**Tom Mount** ('50) fears that he has nothing of interest to say, but, now 87, he is married, retired and has four children, all in their fifties, and 7 grandchildren. He gave up growing things (didn't make enough money out of it) 47 years ago and spent the last 20 years of his working life as the bursar and clerk to the Governors in a school for children with special needs ('one must use the correct terminology', he says).

**Rob Nettleton** ('84) joined the Army after leaving school and was with P Company in the Parachute Regiment, having signed up for 7 years. However, a leg injury led him to be discharged after 6 months and he then went to live in London and began a lifetime career selling houses. He now has his own estate agent business in Lewes in East Sussex with his Chinese partner, Joyce. He continued running for some time and once ran the 100 metres in 10.46 seconds (15<sup>th</sup> in the UK at the time) as well as training alongside Linford Christie at Thames Valley Harriers. He lives in Lewes with Joyce and their three children, who keep him young, he says. He also says that St Edmund's gave him an education in life for which he will always be thankful and gives special thanks to Guy Hawkins who taught him never to give up and was his mentor in life.

**Peter Nicholls** ('68) writes 'using my 35 years' experience in managing events and exhibitions both in the UK and overseas, I have recently been volunteered/co-opted/coerced by Whitstable Maritime on to the organising team for the annual Whitstable Harbour Days event taking place on Saturday and Sunday, 1-2 August. Over 10,000 visitors attended the event last year, so I look forward to seeing you all there this summer!'

**Chris Nickols** ('74), Chairman of Governors at the school, has also recently taken up the position of Receiver General at Canterbury Cathedral as an interim for up to a year to help the Cathedral through a busy period which will include the Lambeth Conference and Becket 2020 commemorations.

**Rachel Nunn** (née Tyson '87) is living in France Lynch near Stroud, working as an editor on archaeological books for various publishers including the British Museum, Historic England and Thames and Hudson, and as a specialist on archaeological glass, currently disentangling the mysteries of the post-Roman glass from recent excavations at Tintagel Castle. Her children are now teenagers, the eldest going to university next year to read civil engineering, and the youngest a keen violinist. Rachel still sings, with a local capella group 'The Lynchpins'.

**Philip O'Brien** ('70) is now a fully retired Finance Director. He spent most of his working life in the soft drinks industry finishing with an organic energy drink start-up company. Sadly, Philip is now a full-time carer for his wife Jenny, who he met at university, but who is now living with Early Onset Alzheimer's.

**Bill Owen** ('66) and his wife Georgie live in Cranbrook. They have two married daughters and two grandchildren. Bill is the retired senior partner of Baker Tilly, chartered accountants in Tunbridge Wells. He is a member of The Worshipful Company of Farriers, The Honourable Artillery Company and Littlestone Golf Club (but a lousy golfer, he says) and is also on the investment committee of The Printing Charity, a Trustee of Hawkhurst Community Hospital and a committee member of Cranbrook U3A. He enjoys drinking wine, walking, tinkering with his classic cars and generally socialising.

**Hugh Perkins** ('77) continues to run his own media planning and buying business in Westminster. Despite the best that the politicians could do to derail business in the UK, White Spider Media continues to flourish. He still lives in Reigate and both he and his wife Rachel are members of Walton Heath Golf Club. He's a regular at The Stoop to watch Harlequins and at The Oval to watch Surrey. When not playing golf, working or generally messing about with sport, the Perkins spend increasing amounts of time in the Rhone Alps both in winter and summer.



**Alastair Rattray** ('55). After spending 30 years working with IBM, the last 10 years as Account Manager for NatWest (before RBS took over), he retired in 1994. While working with IBM, he trained with the FA as an "FA Physio" and was a physio with a semi-professional football club for 10 years in the evenings and at weekends. In 1997 he trained to become a Bowen Therapist and when he treated a very sick child with asthma, she made such rapid improvement with her wheezing, which stopped immediately, never to return, that he set up a 10-year study. He is still working with both asthma and many other conditions for some 10 hours a week.

**John Rees** ('63), formerly Headmaster of a primary school in Cambridgeshire, still lives in Cambridge, but still has Welsh links. He has recently joined U3A, which he thoroughly recommends to senior former pupils. He says that John Brough's former dictum "more haste, less speed" is a reassuring memory from St Edmund's.

**Tim Reynish** ('56), the Royal Northern College of Music, was awarded the MBE for services to music in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2019.

**Peter Rupp** ('86), who is Audit & Assurance Partner with Deloitte in Perth, Australia, has been appointed President of Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (CAANZ) with effect from January 2020. Stepping up from his role as Vice President, Peter has been an active CAANZ member and passionate advocate for many years. He was a member of the WA Regional council (Chair in 2015) for 7 years, and most recently had a 4-year stint as National Councillor. Peter moved to Perth from the UK in 2003. His son Toby is currently working in School House in Junior School as Resident Tutor.

**Surya Scott** ('90) still lives in France on the outskirts of Bordeaux although he returns to Canterbury regularly. He has two daughters, Eloise-Jane in her final year of exams and Alice, nearly 15. Instead of doing general gardening work Surya is now looking after a graveyard.

**Keith Smith** ('70) and Maureen visited Western Australia last August from their Sydney home and enjoyed the golden beaches, rugged coastline and wineries. Back in the east of course they have had massive drought and bushfires.

**Michael Stewart** ('53) and Elizabeth, his wife for 55 years, commissioned a magnificent stained glass window from Canterbury Cathedral Studios which was installed in Bridge Church in August 2019 just as Michael became 80 and was dedicated by the Archbishop of Canterbury on 29 September. Elizabeth sadly died on 23.10.2018 and Michael was remarried on 11.01.2020 to Julia Saunders of Lapworth, Warwickshire who was widowed in 2011 after 47 years of marriage. The Stewarts' and Saunders' families first met in 1969 at the South Sands Hotel in Salcombe and remained good friends ever since. Michael and Julia have just had their honeymoon there! The idea for the window in Bridge came from the lovely Window of Hope in the Lady Chapel in Lapworth Church and Julia and Michael were married in front of it by the Rector.

**Mark Strudwick** ('63), following his long and successful military career, is now a Knight of St John and Prior of the Order of St John Scotland, a great charity with extensive outreach.

**Piers Strudwick** ('90) is currently the Defence Attaché to Turkey. He was appointed on promotion to Colonel in August 2019 and moved with his wife Jane to Ankara. Piers' previous appointment was the Chief of Future Operations at the NATO Rapidly Deployable Corps – Turkey, based in Istanbul. Their three children are in education in Scotland and visit Turkey during the school holidays.

**Michael Tause** ('51) has now had to leave his house in Northumberland and move into a Care Home. His former home was called 'Harbledown A', after the signal box at Harbledown near which he spent many happy hours when he was at school because of his love of railways.



**Chris Taylor** ('74) recently moved to Sheldwich near Faversham with his partner Amanda. Still working in property, Chris has three granddaughters (with another on the way) and although still attempting to play cricket wear and tear dictates he is probably better off spectating. Luckily Amanda has a role at the Spitfire Ground, Canterbury, where Chris met up with JAB on a couple of occasions last year. Late in 2019 Chris took part in a 100km+ trek in Cambodia in aid of the Bobby Moore Fund for Cancer Research.

**Robin Tyson** ('89) is running the artist agency at classical musical publishers Edition Peters, from where he is manager for vocal ensembles, choirs (including the Canterbury Cathedral Girls Choir), conductors and composers. He is also Head of Choral Publishing across the publishing group, which has offices in London, Leipzig and New York. He regularly sees former SES pupils Matthew Penry-Davey and Rupert Skilbeck as well as former Junior School pupil Nicholas Cartmell.

**Lee Wilkinson** ('91) has been in the Metropolitan Police now for 19 years, 15 at Croydon and the last 4 at Westminster. He has one son, George, who is in his GCSE year and nearly as good at football as his dad!

## St Edmund's Alumni in Cape Town: Warwick Hamilton, Mark Hamilton, Paul Hamilton, Raf Saidi, Emma Hamilton



## James Lee

Throughout my career in the RAF, I have always reflected fondly on my five years at St Edmunds. My overwhelming desire to join the military came from my time with the CCF (which was mandatory in the Middle Fifth). That experience taught me the importance of friendship and camaraderie, and ignited a spark that inexorably drew me to a life of service.

It also brought the regular visits by the RAF Careers Officer to my attention and it was the impression made by an eccentric and charming wing commander, who waxed lyrical about his time in the RAF, that tipped the balance in favour of the light blue. It was also the era of Top Gun, but that's a rather more embarrassing element of my story! Most importantly though, at a time when my academic performance was – to put it mildly – average, I finally found a purpose and became single-minded in my ambition to fly. It was to be the defining period in my life and I remain forever grateful to those staff at the school who shepherded me along those unsteady early steps.



Having left St Edmunds in 1988, it was to be a long time until I visited again. In 2012, I had the privilege of returning (along with Em Rickards, with whom my career has frequently overlapped, as described in a separate article in this edition) to give a presentation on our time in the RAF to a group of the next generation of would-be airmen and women. Our desire to make this visit stemmed from the deep gratitude we felt for the school and the opportunities it had given us as we had realised our shared goal of being a fast-jet pilot. Back then, we spoke of our different adventures flying on operations and exercises, travelling around the world and being part of an extraordinary team of people. This journey has continued to the present day and I have now been serving for over 20 years, during which time I have been fortunate enough to fly the Jaguar, F16 and Typhoon aircraft. My most recent tour allowed me the great honour of commanding Number II(Army Cooperation) Squadron, leading it on operations in Iraq and Syria twice, Romania and in the skies of the UK. At the heart of flying combat aircraft and helping keep the country safe are the men and women who serve in the RAF, and the opportunity to lead, guide and care for them was the greatest privilege so far.

In recent years, I have reconnected with a number of people from my year and we held an impromptu reunion in Canterbury in 2018. It was wonderful to see some once familiar faces and reconnect. Hopefully we can do so once again around a future St Edmunds' event and with the rebirth of the newsletter, more old friends can come together after so many years. After all, as my career has taught me, achievements in life are but a small part of the journey; the real joy comes from the people that you meet along the way.

## St Edmund's at Lossiemouth

What must be an almost unique story is the 21<sup>st</sup> century connection between St Edmund's and RAF Lossiemouth. In January 2000 **Chris Nickols ('74)**, then a Group Captain and now retired Air Marshal, took over as Officer Commanding RAF Lossiemouth, a position that he held for the next two years. As a Wing Commander, he had been in command of II (Army Cooperation) Squadron from 1993 - 96, during which time the Squadron operated the Tornado GR4 aircraft at RAF Marham. In 2017 another former pupil, **James Lee (93)**, took over the same Squadron, which by then had moved to RAF Lossiemouth and was equipped with the multi-role Typhoon FGR4 aircraft. During his three years in command, he led the Squadron on operations to Iraq/Syria and the Baltics, as well as continuing to hold the Quick Reaction Alert capability in the UK and the Falkland Islands. He is now in Washington as Chief of the Defence Staff's Liaison Officer, having handed over command of II (Army Cooperation) Squadron to **Em Rickards (96)** in July 2019. Em's elder sister **Jess (93)** is also working as a part-time reservist on the Squadron as a programming officer. Jock Asbury-Bailey was lucky enough to spend a few nights with the Rickards family in September 2019, during which he was given a tour of II(AC) Squadron and was able to sit in the cockpit of a Typhoon.



## Alumni Event Survey

The External Relations department is keen to hear your thoughts on Foundation events you have attended in the past and what you would like to see in the future. We have created a brief 8 question survey which should only take a few minutes to answer. Our aim is to ensure the events we host for our alumni community are what you would want to attend and to schedule these at convenient times. If you have a spare few minutes to complete this survey, please visit [this page](#). Alternatively, if you would like to provide email feedback on alumni activity please contact Victoria Stears at [ves@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:ves@stedmunds.org.uk).

## Unique St Edmund's Father/Son Honours Appointments

Piers Strudwick ('90) was appointed Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the June 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours List for his outstanding leadership and effective community engagement during his tenure as Commanding Officer 7 SCOTS, an Army Reserve Battalion with bases throughout the Highlands of Scotland. Piers is currently a Colonel, serving as the British Defence Attaché to Turkey.

Mark Strudwick ('63) was appointed Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1990 for his leadership on operations in Northern Ireland. Mark retired from the Army in 2000 with the rank of Major General, having served for his last two years as GOC Scotland and Governor of Edinburgh Castle.

This is believed to be the only case of two Old Boys, father and son, having been honoured in this way.



## Enid Burnside's paintings of St Edmund's

Enid Burnside was the fourth and youngest daughter of Canon Walter Burnside, Headmaster of St Edmund's from 1908-1932. She would have done these paintings in the mid to late 1920s and they are of some historical significance in that the third daughter of the Canon, Aileen, was the first person ever to be married in the School Chapel, by special licence, on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1928, over 90 years ago. The painting of the chapel may well have been done by Enid for her sister and her husband to celebrate that occasion. Aileen married a local farmer, Jim Rickards, and their three grand-daughters were pupils at the school during the years 1984-2002. The girls' parents, Dick and June Rickards, continued to live at Hoath Farm, Bekesbourne until about 14 years ago when they moved up to Scotland where all the girls are based, and they now own the two paintings.

It was an initial enquiry about another painting done by Enid Burnside which led me to start investigating what she had done and which in turn led to my writing my latest book, entitled "The Canon", which is a biography of former headmaster Burnside, with details of other family members, and copies of which can be obtained from me, price £10 plus postage and packing, if anyone is interested ([jockab@sky.com](mailto:jockab@sky.com)).

Jock Asbury-Bailey



## Andrew Walton

After happy memories at St Edmund's, especially winning the Frank Mason Cup in 1984 and scoring a record number of runs for the 1<sup>st</sup> XI (634, including two centuries) as well as heading the bowling averages (34 wickets at 13.18), I did a diploma in Sport and Recreational Management at Loughborough. Whilst there I played 1<sup>st</sup> team Cricket, Hockey and Rugby, something not done by many people.

After Loughborough I worked as Manager of an indoor sports centre where I was introduced to indoor cricket, and as an agile and quick all-rounder, I found that the game suited me well. I was first selected to represent England in 1989 and played continuously until 2007, gaining a record 89 caps. At the same time I played traditional cricket for Bromley 1<sup>st</sup> XI and on a few occasions for Kent. I was also still playing hockey for Hounslow 1<sup>st</sup> XI and had taken up rugby seriously, playing for the Old Beccehamians, where a highlight was qualifying for the finals of the Middlesex Sevens at Twickenham in 1988. Playing there in front of 46,000 people as fly half was an amazing experience. We got through the 1<sup>st</sup> round, but lost in the quarter-finals (the winners that year were Harlequins with Will Carling).

On my numerous tours, playing international indoor cricket, I fell in love with Australia and in 2002 I decided to move to Perth, Western Australia, where I now live. I had to qualify for permanent residence and then citizenship and so in that period I was still playing international indoor cricket for England until 2007, but, once qualified, I could play for Australia, which I did from 2010 to 2019, when I retired from indoor cricket. 31 caps for Australia meant that I retired with a total of 120 caps for England and Australia, making me the most capped player of all time. I have played in a total of 12 Indoor Cricket World Cups, winning the gold medal on 5 occasions.

Behind the scenes I was still playing traditional cricket for Applecross in Perth and hockey for Hale. A lovely moment was when I was selected to play hockey for Zimbabwe in the 2018 Masters World Cup in Barcelona where I played in 6 Tests. For those who don't know I was born in Zimbabwe and played schoolboy cricket for Rhodesia, hence my representing Zimbabwe. This is also why I have recently been selected to represent Zimbabwe in the Over 50s World Cricket Cup to be held in Cape Town in March 2020. This will be the end of international sport for me as I need new knees, but I may well take up golf more seriously. I have a handicap of 7 and hope to target 'scratch' in a few years.

On the work front I have always had a job and have dabbled in a few areas – from Sports Management to car sales, the construction industry, coaching cricket and currently in the architectural world of specification in the construction industry.



## Brother Christian, S.S.F. (David John Pearson)

Many former pupils and staff will be sad to hear of the death in 2018 of Brother Christian of the Society of St Francis. Over a long period of time from the 1970s until early in the 2000s Brother Christian was a regular visitor to the school, usually staying with the Headmaster for 2-3 nights and talking with many members of the school. Born in 1942, he was received as Novice in 1972, First Profession in 1975 and Life Profession in 1978. He died in Newham Hospital on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018. May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

## Two Much-Loved Former Chaplains

Following the deaths of Christopher Gill and Roger Ellis (as reported in 2015), two events took place in 2017 to remember their lives and the 16 years which each spent as School Chaplain.

On 20<sup>th</sup> January a Memorial Service for Roger was held in the School Chapel. The chapel was packed. The Eulogy was given by former headmaster John Tyson and tributes were also paid by Roger's elder son Jonathan ('86) and by former member of staff Margaret Clarke (1981-96) and pupils Charles Pickersgill ('03) and Elizabeth Lawson (née Thompson '01). The service was followed by refreshments in the Dining Hall and following this occasion the family decided to put into print the stories which Roger used to read to Junior School pupils at bedtime. This little book, entitled "Thirteen and a half Stepping Stones into the Mystery of God" by Roger Ellis is available from Amazon (ISBN 9781983016165), price £10, with the proceeds going to Christian Aid.

Philip and Tim Gill ('74) preferred not to have a Memorial Service for Christopher, but instead decided that Tim, a stained-glass artist, should produce a window in Christopher's memory. This was installed and dedicated on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and is a lovely window showing the three St Edmund suns and is above the door leading into chapel (see photograph). There is also a memorial plaque for Christopher to the left of the door.





## Obituaries

The following deaths have been noted since the 2016 edition of the newsletter. If anyone knows of any others who have died, please let us know.

**Archer**, Michael (62-67) 14/04/20, **Bates**, Maxwell L.H. (87-90, aka Spiers) 16/07/16; **Bell**, Neil A. (67-74) 11/03/18; **Bevan**, Richard J.W. (31-39) 13/03/18; **Boarman**, William J. (46-51) 19/12/18; **Boreham**, Trevor E. (54-64) 20/09/16; **Burdett**, John G. (50-55) 30/12/16; **Burton**, John R. (62-71) 13/06/16; **Clark**, Hugh A.C.T. (48-51) 05/10/18; **Cork**, Philip M. (66-76) 01/12/16; **Cotter**, John F. (55-60) 29/06/11; **Dähn**, Wiebke (93-94) 12/11/18; **Dunn**, P.Jeremy R. (48-57) 17/09/19; **Elvy**, Peter D. (46-50) 25/08/19; **Fennell**, T.Roger F.W. (35-42) 10/11/18; **Ford**, Martin E. (29-38) 02/11/16; **Goulden**, John H. (36-42) 05/02/19; **Harvey**, Martin C. (66-69) 07/08/16; **Haynes**, Anthony C.J. (45-52) 21/03/18; **Heini**, Oscar F., (62-71) 12/12/16; **Keir**, David J. (56-65) 25/03/17; **Leppard**, Barrie D.J. (52-60) 20/11/17; **McVarish**, Roderick (34-42) 09/09/18; **Miles**, Richard W. (56-60) 16/09/18; **Minter**, Edward P.G. (89-99) 11/06/16; **Morton-Williams**, D. Peter (33-41) 13/05/18; **Nicholas**, Richard J. (80-83) 21/01/17; **Panton**, Angus A.F. (46-48) 16/04/18; **Paylor**, Richard H. (26-34) 30/07/16; **Pearce**, David R.A. (47-57) 11/11/16; **Roberts**, John H. (1899-1908) 24/09/1918 (WW1); **Stewart**, David B.G. (53-57) 21/01/18; **Touch**, Andrew H.L. (48-58) 26/09/17; **Tyndale-Biscoe**, Roderick N.L. (55-60) 26/07/19; **Wilford**, Horace H. (33-41) 27/02/06, **Willoughby**, Keith C. (65-68) 08/05/20. Staff : **Hall**, Martin C. (73-84) 05/06/2010, **Nickols**, Herbert A.('Nick') (49-79) 03/02/17; **Oxley**, Clive W. (62-64) 20/04/19; **White**, Nancy (47-95 'Cello teacher) August 2019, aged 101; **Christian**, Brother (David John Pearson) – Visitor 05/07/18.

Please note that Obituaries will soon feature once again on the website, behind a new password-protected portal. We hope this website will be ready for the start of the new academic year.

## Teaching Staff Departures

The following staff, with five or more years' teaching at the school, have left since the last newsletter.

Jon Dagley	1985-2016
Richard Austen	1998-2017
Mike Brewer	2006-2017
Julia Mitchard	2007-2017
Fran Martin	2010-2017
Catherine Lawrence	2000-2018
Amanda Johnson	2002-2018
Stéphanie Thelliez	2007-2018
Danella Ford-Wilson	2009-2018
Andrea Corby	2010-2018
Louise Moelwyn-Hughes	2011-2018 – to be Master of Marlborough College
Rebecca Jones	2011-2018
Sandra Williams	1999-2019
Richard Comfort	2001-2019
Sue Newton	2004-2019



## London Lunch

The London Lunch was started in 1996 and was organised alternately by Tony Zinopoulos ('63) and Martin Dismore ('64), a situation which continued until 2011 when Tony took over every year. The event, which usually takes place in April, has been a great success and now attracts about 50 people. The majority are Old Boys who left in the 1960s and 1970s, but people in their 90s and their 30s have attended as well as some Old Girls. This year the Lunch has been postponed until Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September. If you are on Tony's email list you will have received the invitation. £35 per person for a two-course lunch including wine with the meal, coffee and service. Venue near Tower Bridge. If you are not on his list, but would like to receive the information, please email him at [tonyzinop@googlemail.com](mailto:tonyzinop@googlemail.com)

## Northern Gathering

The Northern Gathering was started in 2004 and has taken place in every year since, except two. It consists of an excellent three-course Dinner on a Saturday evening and takes place in May. Four or five different people have organised it in the past, but John Walker ('65) has done so more than anyone else, latterly at the St George's Centre in Leeds. About 20 people normally attend, with a wide age range. They include wives/partners and it is an extremely friendly occasion. Cost is about £25 and bring your own drinks for the meal (drinks included before and after). If you have attended before, you will automatically receive the details, but if you have not previously been and would like to come, please contact Jock Asbury-Bailey at [jockab@sky.com](mailto:jockab@sky.com)

This year, because of coronavirus, we have decided to cancel the dinner, but hopefully we shall all meet up again in May 2021.

## Debbie (Bersey) and Julia (Campbell)

Following a period of reorganisation in some of the Support Staff at the school, we are sorry to report the departure in February of both Debbie and Julia. Debbie joined the staff in 2010, taking over responsibility for the St Edmund's Society within the Foundation, producing newsletters and organising events, and Julia succeeded her in 2015, when Debbie decided to move into Marketing, although for 12 months, when Julia was on maternity leave, Debbie held the fort in her absence.

During these years many of you have got to know Debbie and/or Julia really well and we all thank them most sincerely for all that they have done for Old Boys and Old Girls. If any of you would like to make a small donation towards a leaving present for either of them, please do send a cheque, payable to me, Jock Asbury-Bailey, at 107 Old Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3PG, and I will arrange for the money to be given to them. I should be grateful to receive any contributions as soon as possible.

*Jock Asbury-Bailey*

## 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations for Jock Asbury-Bailey

We were delighted to host the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations of Jock Asbury-Bailey in our theatre in May 2019. Jock has been an instrumental part of the school community and has also been a key leader in the development of this newsletter.





## Forthcoming Events

In more normal times, we will have a varied list of events for our Old Edmundian community to attend. Given the current social distancing measures in place, we are unable to plan too much at this moment in time. However, provisional dates for your diaries are as follows:

- **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September** – Alumni Sporting Fixtures (email [mer@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:mer@stedmunds.org.uk) if you would like to attend)
- **Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September** – London Lunch (email [tonyzinop@googlemail.com](mailto:tonyzinop@googlemail.com) if you would like to attend)

## Notices

- Mr James Clapp, Baker Housemaster and Miss Sharon Scally, Acting Deputy Housemaster are currently collating and sorting Baker House Photos to store them collectively in a traditional style photo album for visitors of the school to view however, we are missing few. The missing years are as follow: 1964, 1968, 1969, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983. If you are in possession of a Baker House photo from the missing years mentioned above, please could we copy the photograph or if you feel you would like to kindly donate it to Baker House, please contact Sharon Scally [sas@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:sas@stedmunds.org.uk)
- We would welcome feedback on this newsletter and would also appreciate news items for the next edition. Currently the plan is to produce one per year, however if we find there is demand for more newsletters we will increase the frequency. Please send any feedback or news items through to Victoria Stears at [ves@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:ves@stedmunds.org.uk)
- Flat to let in Canterbury: the flat above Jock Asbury-Bailey on the Old Dover Road in Canterbury will be available to let from mid-August. This is a light, airy, two-bedroom flat with balcony, garage parking and within easy walking distance of Canterbury. If interested, contact Charles Bainbridge Limited, tel: 01227 780227, e-mail: [lettings@charlesbainbridge.com](mailto:lettings@charlesbainbridge.com)

## And lastly...

For the school to maintain our position as a top independent school with an excellent reputation, regular investment and continuous improvement are crucial, and, in these challenging times, we depend more than ever on your help and generosity in order to fulfil our mission of providing a nurturing yet challenging environment which attracts pupils from wide ranging backgrounds.

A donation (which can be Gift-Aided), no matter how small, is welcome, so, if you can, please help by donating either online at <https://www.stedmunds.org.uk/support-st-eds/how-to-donate/> or contact our Development Manager Mrs Giselle Campeau-Durnford at:

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