

# THE OW 2019



## Latest news

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## A New Era

Welcoming Worksop's 15th Head, Dr John Price

## Mental Health Matters

In the spotlight with OW Darren Birch



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## Editor's Note

**2**019 has been a significant year for Worksop College; the year that saw the tenure of Interim Head, Clare Tilley. Clare, the fourteenth Head to grace the cloisters and the first female at the helm of our community, has been a breath of fresh air. Her warmth, humility and openness cascaded through the school and was felt by all. Clare has played a tremendously important role, and will continue to do so, within the OW community and for that, I am incredibly grateful.

With the new academic year, came the succession of new Head, Dr John Price and his family; Jane, Owen and Ffion. John has already made huge strides to meet as many OWs as possible and will be a prominent figure within this community going forward. To find out more about our new leader, turn to page 8.

Whilst welcoming in Dr Price, we also had to say a sad farewell to several key people from the school. Long-standing members of staff, Nick Kitchen (after 39 years), Chaplain, Paul Finlinson (after 20 years) and Senior Deputy Head Tim Halsall (after 15 years). To see the outpouring of warmth that came with their departures was testament to

the type of people Nick, Paul and Tim are; three men who have had a significant impact on the lives of many. I for one, feel incredibly lucky to have benefited from their knowledge and experience at the school and wish them well as they go forth on to their next adventures.

This year, as ever, has been just as exciting as its predecessor. With regular events happening almost every month, I have had the pleasure of meeting even more of the OW community. I really can't express how much I enjoy this part of the job. One particular highlight for me has to be the 50s reunion I organised in December (see page 42). What a joy to welcome 80 guests to the Great Hall for an afternoon of reminiscing. It was quite overwhelming to see so many faces connecting, for some, after over half a century apart. The warmth in the room was unquestionable and it was a privilege to listen to people's stories and memories from their time here. I would love to host more reunions (decades seem to work well) and would be keen to hear from anyone who might be interested in assisting.

2019 saw us launch the Summer Spectacular, a celebratory event that followed on from the annual tradition of Prize-giving day (formerly known as Speech Day), open to all parents and OWs. The sun shone for us as we enjoyed a wonderful day with traditional fair rides, stalls, afternoon tea, a classic car exhibition, rounding off with a magical performance from Bert's Band in the Quad.

September 2020 will mark Worksop's 125th anniversary and as such, there will be a number of events happening throughout the academic year. More information will follow during the course of the year, but if you would like to be involved in any way, or have any ideas, we would love to hear from you – keep an eye out for Project 125!

I hope you enjoy 2019's publication and as ever, please do keep in touch with all your latest news and stories. I am very grateful to those OWs who have contributed to this year's publication, particularly those who have been in the spotlight.

Wishing you well for a healthy and happy 2020.  
Best wishes,

**Lucy Smithson**  
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# In focus

## Paul Heywood

I was absolutely delighted when OW, and all round great guy, Paul Heywood (M 88 – 93), agreed to provide this year's front cover artwork. Each year, I look to capture someone's interpretation of the College, whether that be through a drawing, abstract art or painting. Paul is talented, articulate and has so much to say, that I could have sat and talked to him for hours. Our paths first crossed in November 2018 after he very kindly donated a piece of artwork for our armistice celebrations; the artwork now has pride of place at the base of the library steps. I love the journey Paul has had with his art and the pivotal role it has played in his life.

**Paul talks us through his inspiration for the piece you see on today's front cover, aptly entitled, 'Joy'.**

"All of my work is an exercise in unconscious flow. I start with a base colour, this time it was mixed with water, which creates greater depth and movement. The colours applied on top are representative of free thought.

Ultimately the piece mirrors advice given to me on my first week at Worksop College, in 1989, by Mason Housemaster, John Driver – "Throw yourself in to everything and anything, and eventually you will find your place(s)."

When we find our place, we find "joy", our "flow", where we are in a state of unrestricted wonder – it feels easy, effortless, beautiful and self-fulfilling. John's advice continues to live with me, and whilst Worksop College stills resides on that Hill, for me it's the people that fleetingly lease those walls that create the magic, and every time I find joy, it's probably because I've thrown myself, unconsciously, into something."

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**"Throw yourself in to everything and anything, and eventually you will find your place(s)."**

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Paul in June with former SCR Nick Kitchen and Wendy Bain, on his first visit back to the College since he left in 1993.



A large photograph of Joe Root, a professional cricketer, smiling and holding the ICC Cricket World Cup trophy. He is wearing a dark blue England cricket jacket with a New Balance logo. The background shows a cricket stadium with green seating and a field.

OWs  
in the  
spotlight

# A Golden Summer of Cricket

**W**hat a year for English cricket as OW Joe Root wins the World Cup, draws an Ashes series and makes a test double hundred in New Zealand.

2019 was a huge success for English cricket, as England finally broke the hoodoo of never winning the ICC 50 over World Cup. The fact that it was achieved on home soil in such dramatic circumstances, only added to the theatre. It was a summer where the heroics of Ben Stokes gripped the nation, as England's World Cup final victory over New Zealand came after a super over was tied. While at Headingley, Stokes played one of the all-time greatest innings to lead the hosts to their highest ever Test run-chase, the final 76 runs coming in a last-wicket stand with Jack Leach.

Root told the BBC "It's been phenomenal, that World Cup was incredible, for it to finish how it did, made for fantastic viewing - not just the England games, but across the board.

It was backed up by such an evenly matched Ashes series. We were blessed by brilliant support throughout and the cricket was pretty gripping. It was quite hard to be involved in at times, especially when we were on the wrong end of it.

It has been a huge success for English cricket and a great opportunity to spring the game forward in this country."

After a dramatic Summer, Root continued to lead the Test side to New Zealand and made a fantastic 226 in the final test of the series to cap an unbelievable year in an England shirt – a proud moment for Worksop College and the OW community.

Joe Root has certainly laid the foundations for cricket here at Worksop and we are delighted to announce that, as of April 2020, we will be the first girls' cricket development centre in Nottinghamshire, in association with Notts County Cricket Club.











A NEW ERA

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# DR JOHN PRICE

2019 saw us welcome  
Dr John Price,  
the 15th Head of  
Worksop College



September 2019 marked a new era for Worksop College and Ranby House as we welcomed Dr John Price, his wife Jane and their children Ffion (16) and Owen (19).

John joined us from St James' School in Grimsby, a fellow Woodard School, where he led a significant period of change, including the modernisation of the establishment, enhancing the curriculum through the introduction of innovative partnerships with educational providers, and impressive growth across domestic pupil numbers aged from 2 – 18.

Since taking the helm of Worksop College and Ranby House at the beginning of last term, new Headmaster, Dr John Price has made some bold changes.

From the imminent launch of both Golfing and Cricketing academies in partnership with household names, building links with local sporting groups and reversing the decision to move the Junior School to the Senior site, to changing the structure of the school at the lower end to accommodate children from age 2 – it's been a fast-paced and energetic first term.

And now, as the school heads towards its 125th anniversary, changes to the structure of the school day and week will see the introduction of an innovative co-curricular programme geared up to supporting the development of emotionally intelligent young people who are ready for life in a global society.

Since its inception in September 1895, Worksop College has been a 'Saturday School', seeing pupils take part in academic lessons on a Saturday morning, with the afternoon given over to sport. This tradition has dwindled across the independent schools sector, with more and more schools looking to societal changes as they seek to shape the structure of the school week.

"Family life has changed immeasurably over the last 100 years," says Dr Price. "The word 'family' conjures up so many different permutations and with that comes changes in attitudes. As lives become ever busier and the traditional '9-5' becomes an increasingly outdated concept, flexibility, choice and individualisation is the key to ensuring every young person achieves their potential.

In September 2020, Worksop College will launch its new Co-curricular Programme. Taking place after academic lessons end at 4.30pm from Monday to Friday, with an enhanced programme on a Saturday morning, the programme will be designed around the development of key transferrable skills.

"I am very passionate about the importance of developing emotional intelligence alongside academic achievement," says Dr Price. "It's vital that we provide opportunities for our pupils to gain confidence and become resilient, adaptable and independent. Our new programme will endeavour to fulfil these aims and will include work experience opportunities, exam preparation workshops, curriculum/homework clinics, and our new Life Skills Programme, as well as a wealth of exciting activities using the fantastic facilities and staff expertise we have here at the College."

Development of links with businesses will be key and some of this work has already begun. This term, the school will

invite TED-talker Richard Askam to the school to run a Public Speaking and Coaching Course. Offered to pupils in Year 10 and upwards, course participants will learn the art of stagecraft; including how to engage with the audience and confidence-building techniques.

"A focus on activities that promote and encourage positive mental health will be central," continues Dr Price. "As pressures on young people are amplified, it's our duty as an educational establishment to ensure we're developing healthy minds as well as bodies".

Woven into the activities programme will also be the promotion of 'Life Skills', with outcomes as varied as understanding how to calculate mortgage rates, how to iron, or how to present effectively.

Dr Price believes the programme will ultimately help support future employability.

"Generation 'Z' are often criticised by the popular media for a lack of these skills," he says. "Whether that is true or not we know that globally, industry is crying out for an emotionally intelligent and adaptable workforce. Our programme will be designed to build a life CV that clearly differentiates Worksop College Alumni as people ready to face the challenges that lie ahead.

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**"A focus on activities that promote and encourage mental health will be central."**

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Dr John Price and his wife Jane inside the Chapel





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**PORSCHE**



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# Leavers 2019

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**L**ast year we said goodbye to the following members of staff, some of whom will be remembered by OWs for their contribution to their time at school.



2019 saw us say farewell to **COLIN ANDERSON**, as he stepped down from his position as Custos (Chairman) from the Board of Governors. Colin joined the Board in 2005 and in November 2008 was elected to serve as Custos from the 1st September 2009.

Workshop has very much been a huge part of Colin's life, joining Mountgarret as a pupil in 1964. Colin's three sons; Rob (P 94 – 99), Graham (P 96 – 01) and Hugh (P 98 – 03) all attended the school and Colin went on to become a Committee member and Chairman of the Old Workopian Society for many years.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Colin for his loyalty and dedication to the school and wish him well for the future.

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**SAM BAKER** was brought to the school in January 2014 to revive, support and challenge the teaching of Economics and Business Studies and along the way she has organised the Y11 into Sixth Form transition programme, the Peer Listeners, Careers and been Assistant Head of Sixth Form. In short, she has been busy! She leaves to take up promotion to the Senior Leadership Team at Ackworth School.

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**ELLEN CLIFTON** joined the teaching staff as part of the increasingly successful Graduate programme. In a short space of time, she has been an essential part of life in both Portland and Gibbs, together with teaching an array of lessons from English to EAL, Classical Civilisation to Religious Studies. She has organised theatre and cinema visits to enrich and enhance the curriculum as well as going to Normandy with the Y7s. Her enthusiasm, sense of fun but also her total reliability will be sorely missed as she leaves to undertake further professional training at Durham University.

**PAUL FINLINSON** has, with barely a word of repetition, given homilies, sermons and prayers at school services for 20 years. For the last half of that period, he has also been Chaplain to Ranby. Through a deep care for the young people at the heart of this community, both now and well after they have grown up and left, and for his colleagues, Paul has supported candidates through confirmation preparation, through their



marriage ceremonies and the births of their children, through bereavements and sadnesses as well as through the daily offices of work and study. With a prayer, a kind word, or sometimes with a beer and some crisps, it is a truism that Chapel is the central experience of so many of the community and that, owing to the longevity of his service but also because of the way he has done things, Paul is integral to that experience. He looks forward to what we think of as retirement but which he insists is work in the Diocese of Europe: in the Black Forest, in Spain or Italy, God is everywhere; and so, too, might Paul be some Sunday soon! May God be with him and Rosemary in this new, exciting venture.

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**REY & LEESA GUILLAUD** were the inaugural Houseparents of Portland as a Year 7 & 8 House. Together with James Smith, they devised the 'deer-based' Divisions, created the 'Commander' roles, weathered the challenges of a radical re-structure of the school and enjoyed the highs of the undoubted benefits having those year groups at the Senior site has brought. Rey also taught French and found time to encourage the 6th Form band 'The Publics', while Leesa taught in the Learning Support department and covered a maternity leave at Ranby. We wish them every success as they return closer to family in the South and to posts at The Prebendal School in Chichester.

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**TIM HALSALL** arrived at the College in September 2004, fresh-faced, eager and excited to be taking on his new challenge as Housemaster of Portland. In true Halsall fashion he instilled his sense of passion and humour into every moment, swiftly learning to adapt to the various challenges of supporting, leading and, in his words, 'being father to' 50-plus teenage boys. As a former chorister it was no surprise that Tim joined the Chapel choir, rarely missing a rehearsal or performance despite increasing responsibilities as Deputy and then Senior Deputy Head. A hugely talented actor, Tim's contributions to College drama, in particular College musicals, have



been immense, and rehearsals will not be half as much fun without his range of accents, quips and energy. He is the very essence of a school master in the best sense of the word: he is passionate about passing on his great love of English Literature, Language and Drama; his lessons are always energetic, informative and challenging; he gives of his time selflessly. In short, he will be missed.



**NICHOLAS KITCHEN** has instilled generations of College pupils with a profound understanding of History and so much more. Over very nearly 40 years, he has been tutor, teacher, erstwhile Head of Department, Housemaster of Portland (with a particular enthusiasm for the Dorm Run!) and inaugural Head of Sixth Form, lecture-series host, rugby coach and cricket coach. There can be very few, if any, families (not just pupils) who have not been in contact with him, at the very least via email but more likely in a much more influential way. A fine-wine connoisseur, a Francophile, a UCAS guru, a theatre buff, an accomplished pianist, there is little that escapes his notice or which does not get jotted down in some enigmatic calligraphy on a tiny corner of a well-used, repeatedly-folded sheet of A4. 'Supportive yet challenging' might have been invented by him: only a fool would try to offer anything but the most watertight of rationales for an absence, omission or oversight as they are brought face-to-face with reality and then supported to success by his determination. In a broad-ability environment, young minds have been championed, cultivated and clarified; and it is typical that 'retirement' contains plans for plenty of activity.



**WILLIAM HARVEY's** contribution in the year he has been with us has been widespread. His passion for sport, notably rugby, has infused all that he has done and enthused all those with whom he has come into contact. From his Biology teaching to his role as Assistant Housemaster in Mason House, he has challenged and supported; we wish him well as he moves to Reigate Grammar School.



**COLIN PAUK** gave just shy of 40 years' loyal and dedicated service to the school. Starting out in the kitchens, he left in early 2019 from the role of Enterprise Manager where he oversaw the vast – and growing – Lettings programme and a whole array of other roles. Colin was a bit like the human equivalent of that kitchen drawer where everything is kept: he knew where the key for the hidden cupboard that was only opened once per decade was kept and the name of the person who built it! In short, he was at the heart of College life and equally dear to the College's heart.

**DAVID WILSON** (Governor) qualified as a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and has served on several committees and lectured on tax and numerous finance issues. As a member of the College Finance Committee his sound advice and timely questioning have ensured that many a Bursar and, latterly, Finance Director have been challenged, quizzed and supported in equal measure. David has always been ready with calm, common sense advice and never fails to focus on the fact that the children are at the heart of every decision and in all that we do.



## OWs in the spotlight

# Mental Health Matters

**L**ast November, I had the pleasure of welcoming OW Darren Birch (P 97 – 02) back to the college. Darren, a former Police Officer working in the body recovery unit for Leicestershire Police, left the force after being diagnosed with PTSD.

Darren talked openly and honestly about his time in the Police and the impact this had on his own mental health. I was struck by his warmth and openness and so it was no surprise to hear that, through his willingness to be vulnerable, he is using his own experience to help others.

Just over three years ago, Darren opened his own Barber Shop, as part of an initiative with The Lions Barber Collective - a mental health awareness and suicide prevention charity, designed to encourage men to open up. In a society that tends to err towards adopting a thicker skin, it is so refreshing to hear that people like Darren are working hard to create a culture that encourages people to talk.

**OW:** Former SCRLiz Warner described you as a “sensitive” boy at school, and was surprised when she learnt of your position in the Police – what was the motivation behind your decision to join the force, this area in particular?

**DB:** I was always a sensitive soul - perhaps a little over sensitive at times. I was always interested in doing the right thing, helping people and making a difference. It's slightly cliché, but that was the crux of it, along with a guaranteed

job for life and a great pension scheme. I did some work experience after my GCSEs with Leicestershire Police and that is where I ended up!

It just so happens that the Tactical Support Group I joined after five years offered a number of roles; body recovery, gaining entry into premises, riot and raids, and policing football matches. It was a part of the role I guess, recovering bodies and being temporary mortuary trained. We were often on call as a force area to respond to worldwide catastrophic events, meaning I always had to have my jabs up to date!

**OW:** Did you anticipate the impact such a role would have on your mental health?

**DB:** I didn't have a clue that this role, specifically that of recovering bodies, would have such a negative impact. However, when I think about it long and hard, I should have – the circumstances were harrowing. My mentality was that, if I continued to do it, someone else would be protected from dealing with such incidents.

**OW:** What coping strategies did you use to help you deal with your job?

**DB:** First and foremost, I had a good support network. I was the social secretary for my team and would often head out in to town to let my demons out! I also played rugby for both Leicestershire Police and the British Police team, which was a good release.



**OW:** Some may say it's quite a leap you made, from leaving the police force, to becoming a barber – can you tell me a little more about the journey you have been on?

**DB:** I did some barbering when I was much younger, but never took it too seriously! I was out in Birmingham when I walked into a barber shop; I liken it to when people say they saw God and ended up in theological college, I literally had goose bumps and felt that this was something I wanted to do. I immediately felt at home and thought I could replicate/make better the space and do something a bit more meaningful with it. I felt at ease and thought that this would seriously help with my own mental health - I wasn't wrong!

**OW:** What does barbering mean to you?

**DB:** Barbering for me, is an escape from reality - it's not work, I don't get paid, I volunteer. It's where I can be creative and let my passion flow - I make people feel better and look better and, in turn, my own mental health is better when I'm in the shop. Barbering is an integral part of the community; I sponsor sports teams and will soon be holding drop-ins for people to self-help. I also give out free haircuts to homeless people or people out of work, who have little means to afford a haircut and are going for an interview. How can that not improve one's own mental health?

**OW:** How did you become involved with The Lions Barber Collective?

**DB:** The Lions Barber Collective is a phenomenal charity - we gained status in 2018 and have gone from strength to strength. I felt I could make a difference, as I have personal and professional knowledge. Aside from my PTSD, I also volunteered to go on a triage team with a mental health nurse during my time in the police - we were a diversionary liaison service, taking incidents from police officers, removing the risk away and getting them back to the front line ASAP. I had the skills and the passion and when I heard about the scheme, I jumped at the chance. I've now become a lead ambassador and have been on the radio, in magazines and on TV, with more to come soon. We are barbers that train barbers in mental health - we teach them to recognise signs of poor mental health, ask questions, listen to the answers with empathy and without judgement and then try to help. Talk to your barber, we may be able to change the course of a bad decision that will have an impact on you and those around you for the long-term.

**OW:** Why do you think it's easier for people to open up when in the barber's chair?

**DB:** When you go to a barber's for the first time, generally, most people give us their trust straight away. It is an intimate experience, whereby we touch your ears, neck and face. We make you feel good and I think that helps people to open up quite quickly. I always try to remember one thing about someone, to show I care and that I genuinely have an interest in the people who choose to sit in my seat. That, and the fact that I'm open about my PTSD, gives them a sense of humanity - I'm human and I struggle, so don't be afraid to tell me you do too.

**“Barbering for me, is an escape from reality - it's not work, I don't get paid, I volunteer.”**

**OW:** We can all do our bit in society to help and support others in our community – what are some of the signs people should look out for and how best can we support those suffering?

**DB:** Everyone can access the training that The Lion's Den Collective deliver - you may even see yours truly on a video too! It's a free training platform and only takes minutes to watch, but it's valuable. Just look out for subtle differences, they gradually become less subtle and a person can change quickly. Look out for one another and don't be afraid to talk - I wish I'd faced my demons sooner.

**OW:** Lastly, what does the future hold for you?

**DB:** I'm going to continue cutting hair, getting The Lion's Barber Collective out there and being a father to my three wonderful children. If I can keep helping people to speak out and stay alive, then I've done my part and I can sleep better. We aim for zero suicide, that's the mission, the aim of the charity. You're all touched by a barber, so open up, speak out and please stay alive!

**For more information visit**  
[thelionsbarbercollective.com](http://thelionsbarbercollective.com)

**Darren will be featuring on a Channel 4 documentary later in the Spring.**



Darren with his former House Tutor, Liz Warne





# The Major Allen Travel Award 2019

**P**resented by the Old Worksopian Society, The Major Allen Award is in memory of Major William Barnsley Allen (Mg and M 1902-1909) V.C., D.S.O., M.C. and bar; Worksop's only holder of the Victoria Cross. The Award's aim is to provide a grant of £500, to help fund travel in a GAP year or go towards a worthwhile summer activity.

We talk to this year's recipient of the award, OW James Payne (T 14-19), who is half way through his gap year commission with the army, a much coveted place, with only 14 individuals selected out of 200. As I write, James has just been commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, after completing his first eight weeks of training at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

"The Major Allen Travel Award has allowed me to have what has, so far, been the best year of my life. The Army application process takes around one year and involves many days of assessments and testing, to ensure that candidates have the aptitude to become a British Army Officer.

The year involves completing an eight week reserve course at Sandhurst, covering every aspect of military training, including infantry tactics, drill, orders, map reading,

biological warfare and plenty of digging. The course is a condensed version of the full course and is very intense, with lectures starting at seven and often not finishing until ten in the evening.

Notable highlights would be the four field exercises spread throughout the course; living outdoors with the rain, mud and occasional rays of sunshine, putting into practice everything we had learnt. These exercises, combined with the rest of the training, are designed to teach young officers how to lead soldiers. They also develop leadership and teamwork skills and allowed me to meet some of the best people from all walks of life.





On 23rd November I was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. The Commissioning parade was taken by Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, and can only be described as a military spectacle, with 150 Officer Cadets from all kinds of professions; doctors, padres, reservists, international cadets and dentists, all marching round the parade square in perfect unison. The stands were packed with proud parents, siblings, spouses and loved ones. It is something I will never forget and an event I will cherish for the rest of my life.

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**“The Major Allen Travel Award has allowed me to have what has, so far, been the best year of my life.”**

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I have been lucky enough to be accepted to spend the remainder of the year working with the 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment in Colchester. The Battalion is part of the 16 Air Assault Brigade, which forms the main body of the British Army's rapid response force. This means that I am leading some of the finest soldiers in the British Army, which is both a privilege and a challenge.

In the new year I will be travelling to Kenya with them for six weeks, where we will conduct a training exercise with troops from the USA. I am also booked onto P-company which is the Parachute regiment selection - a brutal test of physical and mental robustness to ensure that candidates have the ability to serve with The Airborne Forces.

Particular thanks must be made to Worksop's Mr Boyd Smith and Maj Simon Payne for their encouragement and support during my application and beyond; also to the rest of Worksop's CCF contingent, both staff and pupils, who have played a huge part in my self-development.”





# 2019 in Review

**T**he Old Worksopian Lodge has enjoyed a resurgence in recent years, with 2019 being both busy and memorable.

## March

In March we opened our doors to ladies and guests for one of the most memorable meetings in the 70 year history of the Lodge, which saw W.Bro Philip Hayman celebrate 60 distinguished years in masonry. The lodge made Philip an honorary member and the Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire presented him with a certificate of merit.

W.Bro Barry Cuttle very generously donated a magnificent Master's silver chain to the lodge, on which are engraved the names of all those who have occupied the Chair of the Lodge since its consecration in 1950.

The Worshipful Master, W.Bro Brian Hawkes, then presented Clare Tilley (former acting Head of the College) with a silver trophy to be awarded each year to the winner of the OW Dorm Run. Members of the lodge participated in the run later that month raising £215 for charity. The first winner of the Old Worksopian Lodge Trophy was Sean Barks in a time of 22:19:00, with the Worshipful Master finishing 35 minutes later in last place!

The evening concluded with an informative and entertaining history of the Lodge presented by W.Bro John Taylor.

## May

In May we welcomed the PGM and his Derbyshire counterpart to the Annual Installation meeting, with our brilliant ritualist W.Bro Brian Hawkes continuing for a second year in the Chair. Following tradition, we adjourned to the College for Evensong in the Chapel and Festive Board in the Great Hall.



W.Bro Philip Hayman  
celebrating 60 years



W.Bro Brian Hawkes  
with Clare Tilley



W.Bro Brian Hawkes with  
W.Bro Barry Cuttle



The OW Dorm Run



### October

In October, we were delighted to welcome, as an Initiate into the Lodge, Bro Howard Jackson, who retired from the College staff as Head of Physics and a Housemaster - we are sure Howard will prove a valuable addition to our membership.

This year the Lodge broadened its membership criteria to include the parents of students, children of OWs, non-teaching staff and people who have a close association with the College. We were therefore highly delighted in October to welcome W.Bro Karl Spencer, parent of a current student, as a joining member of the Lodge.



*Members taking on the iconic Dorm Run*

We would welcome hearing from OWs or anyone who has a connection with the College and an interest in the Old Worksopian Lodge or Masonry in general. Becoming a Lodge member is a great way to stay involved with the School and to keep in touch with former colleagues.

You can contact us via any of the following:

OW Lodge Membership Officer:  
[brian.w.hawkes@btinternet.com](mailto:brian.w.hawkes@btinternet.com)

OW Lodge Secretary:  
[owsec6963@yahoo.com](mailto:owsec6963@yahoo.com)

OW Alumni Relations Officer:  
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A full-page background image showing a golfer in a white shirt and dark trousers completing a golf swing on a green field. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. In the distance, there are trees and a small orange flag on a pole.

# Driving Forward

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**F**ollowing the success of 2018's golf fundraiser, we were able to open a new indoor golf analysis room. The swing room has been a fantastic addition to the school, enabling our golfers to train during the winter months, evenings and bad weather.

2019's follow-up event was just as successful, with twelve teams taking to College Pines' green for a day of friendly competition. In true British style, the heavens opened, making for a very wet and windy round, however, this did little to deter our golfers, who played all 18 holes, finishing with a meal and presentation served in the Great Hall. The day was rounded off nicely with a win for OWs James Stock and Tom Waterfield, along with their Fine & County colleagues Ross and Chris, who were awarded the highly coveted Tilley Cup.

The fundraiser has allowed us to enhance our facilities even further, by upgrading our current analysis system to the Trackman4. This latest version of the world-renowned golf simulator technology means we are now able to obtain maximum quality data to analyse each player's individual game. Students also have the opportunity to select from over x courses, making their experience of golf across the world more realistic.

Golf is an integral part of the school's vision moving forward, with an ambition to position Worksop College

as one of the leading independent schools for golf in the country. One of the Head's first appointments was that of Jonathan Cook PGA Professional and our new Director of Golf.

For any golf enthusiasts amongst you, or anyone that might be looking to have a go, we would like to invite you to experience the new facilities under the guidance of Jonathan and are offering two people a one hour session on the Trackman for a reduced rate of £20. To arrange your session please email [j.cook@wsnl.co.uk](mailto:j.cook@wsnl.co.uk)





# In focus

**O**ur resident PGA professional, Jonathan Cook, has been an avid golfer since joining Retford Golf Club at the age of eight. Jonathan went on to represent both Retford Golf Club and Nottinghamshire Golf Union at junior and senior level.

Jonathan turned professional in 2013 where he discovered a love for coaching, with him even sacrificing his days off as an assistant manager of a national golf retail outlet in order to coach golf. Since then, Jonathan has completed his PGA qualifications and has also become a qualified teacher.

Jonathan and his fiancée, who teaches English here at Worksop College, moved on site in 2016. Inspired by his love of coaching and drive to provide a first class education for our students, Jonathan was eager to get involved with golf at the college and now coaches beginners and established golfers on a weekly basis. Since Jonathan's appointment, the development of our swing room with Trackman has since been completed and the number of students having golf lessons has significantly increased.

In his first year, Jonathan has led the College team to the ISGA National Finals. He has huge ambitions for golf at Worksop College and is excited by what the future will bring.



## OW Golf Society Report 2019

### **BIRKDALE BUCKET**

2019 started with the Birkdale Bucket being played at Woodhall Spa Golf Club on 16th & 17th March. Peter Huddleston as President attended with Chris Sampson, Anthony Burrows and Nigel Sheard.

I understand that the team performed well although there were teams made up of much larger numbers. Anyone interested in playing next year should contact myself or Peter Huddleston for further details.

### **GRAFTON MORRISH TROPHY**

The six man team played at Fixby on Sunday 12th May. Unfortunately we did not manage to qualify for the National Finals this year, but thanks must go to Peter Wheatcroft, Thomas Wolstenholme, Peter Huddleston, John Wilkinson Mark Waddington & George Thompson for their efforts.

### **ANNUAL MATCH AGAINST THE OLD OUNDILLIANS**

David Walker has arranged a match against The Old Oundillians for a few years and this year it was held at Woodsome Hall Golf Club on Thursday 19th September. Unfortunately the team of eight players suffered a whitewash. David has decided to step down from organising this fixture and I would like to thank him for his efforts. In future years, Anthony Burrows will organise the fixture - please let me know if you are interested in playing and I will forward details to Anthony.

### **OW GOLF DAY**

The OW Golf day was held at Lindrick Golf Club on Monday 20th May. The venue proved popular and attracted 31 old boys, together with Worksop's Head of Catering Simon Youngs, Director of Golf, Jonathan Cook and new Headmaster Dr John Price. The Trophy winners were as follows:

Butlin Cup  
Winner - Tim Reaney  
Second - John Drake  
Brian Wilks Cup  
Winner - John Drake  
Second - John Shakespeare  
Blake Scratch Cup  
Winner - Neil Stoddard  
Neville Drake Trophy  
Winner - Chris Sampson  
Second - William Huddleston  
The Portland Cup  
Winner - Geoff Needler  
Second - William Huddleston

The 2020 OW Golf day will be held at Worksop Golf Club on Monday 11th May with tee off times from 2pm onwards. We have arranged for the evening meal and prize presentation to be held in the Great Hall at the College.

If you are interested in playing please contact George Thompson on 07831 446313 or [george.thompson@ferniegreaves.co.uk](mailto:george.thompson@ferniegreaves.co.uk)

**Words by George Thompson, OW Golf Society Secretary**



# Undefeeted

## Old Worksopian helping turn the tide of global diabetes amputations

Words by Peter Alton, Clinical Director of Circle Podiatry and Founder of Undefeeted

"My time at Worksop in Portland House ended in 1985 and certainly played an important part in moulding my future. Looking back 35 years I have some very fond memories of my time there, bizarrely perhaps those of running across the ploughed field, up Fred's hill, along Death Valley and of course the sight of the then Lone tree at the finish line.

On leaving the college and having missed getting into Dentistry by 1 point, I decided to go ahead with my back up plan of studying Podiatry (then Chiropody) and duly enrolled on the course at the Chelsea School of Chiropody. After qualifying, I remained in London for the first 13 years of my career and since then the past 18 years have seen me running two private practices, again in London and Surrey.

Having 31 years' experience, I am now the clinical director of Circle Podiatry (the UK's most award winning private podiatry brand). I also carry out specialist gait analysis and musculo skeletal assessments, providing treatment plans and functional insoles for all kinds of foot and lower limb problems.

In my early career, I worked in a hospital setting helping people with diabetes who had already run into complications – in effect fighting fires. Since then, my association with diabetes has typically been carrying out routine treatments, testing their diabetic foot status, warning them of their risk and giving them advice on how to prevent the initial sparks of problems which can so quickly become full blown fires. My life took a turn when about 10 years ago I was diagnosed with type 2; I soon became aware of how difficult diabetes is to manage and of the problems that people face once diagnosed.



Peter and his wife Tina

## OWs in the spotlight

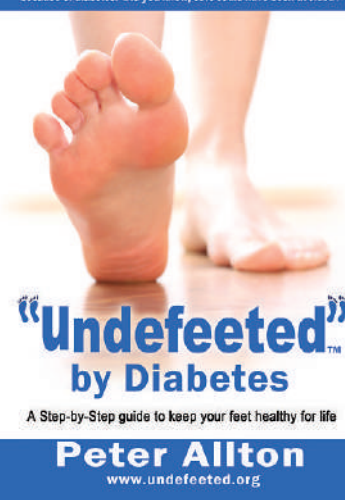
Then, with no warning, my eleven year old daughter was diagnosed with type 1 (after a holiday where she was tired, thirsty and getting up in the night to go to the loo a lot). This really rocked the family and me personally. The magnitude of the potential problems my daughter and myself could face was highlighted by my realisation of the shocking and unacceptable fact that one person every 20 seconds is having a lower limb amputation and that 85% could be avoided.

I became aware that there was not much advice readily available in the public domain to help her. She was lucky I thought, in that she had me to teach her how to care for herself and her feet, but what about everyone else?

Realising that probably I was in the unique position of being the only podiatrist in the world with type 2 and a daughter with type 1, I decided it was my calling to get out of my comfort zone and launch a global awareness campaign which we have named 'Undefeeted'.

Our mission is to help people with diabetes (and their families) understand and prevent the complications with their lower limbs that can lead to ulceration and ultimately amputation.

Every 20 seconds, somebody in the world has a lower limb amputated because of diabetes. Did you know, 85% could have been avoided?



I believe they need three things to stay safe in what I call the diabetic sweet spot:

- Knowledge of how diabetes can affect their feet (via my book "Undefeeted by Diabetes")
- An awareness of their own personal risk (via self-testing and comprehensive podiatric diabetic foot assessments)
- An action plan to prevent the complications ever developing (via on line resources)

I have, since 2016, been clear of my diabetes having undertaken the gruelling Newcastle diabetes reversal diet and strongly believe that a large proportion of type 2 cases can be put in remission or are reversible.

Undefeeted is a not for profit organisation which is run by my wife and I and it is our vision is to see the global amputation rate drop from 1 every 20 seconds to 1 every minute by 2035."

For more information visit [undefeeted.org](http://undefeeted.org)



# Obituaries

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It is with sadness that we learn of the death of the following Old Worksopian members. We pass on our sincere condolences to their families and friends.



It is with sadness that Michael Moorhouse (Mg 54 - 58) reports of the death of **HARRY ABRAHAM** (Mg 53 - 58) in Scunthorpe Hospital on 22nd December 2019. Harry died of heart failure aged 77 years and leaves his wife June and married daughters Helen and Elizabeth.

Harry underwent a heart operation when he was 52 and since then has enjoyed good health until this year when he had been in hospital for short periods, but appeared to be much improved when he attended the college lunch for the 50s on 1st December. This he thoroughly

enjoyed, meeting up with old friends, many of whom he had not seen for many years.

Harry was born in Scunthorpe and attended the prep school at Worksop College, before going to the senior school. Whilst not outstanding at sport, or in class, he was always extremely popular and had a particularly likeable and disarming manner which gained him many friends.

After school, he joined Conoco Oil in Scunthorpe and married June in 1966. He then joined Atlantic Richfield for a short time living in Ixworth, Suffolk, before re-joining Conoco back in Scunthorpe as Area Manager. He joined the OW committee and organised Lincolnshire Dinners before becoming Chairman in the 90s. Harry will be greatly missed by many.

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At the age of 84 years, **OW DAVID BRADWELL (S 45 - 53)** passed away peacefully on 26th March in hospital, of Aston, formerly of Whirlow.

David was a beloved husband to Julie and much-loved father of Johanna, Sarah and Paul and a very dear grandfather - he will be missed by many.

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**OW DAVID BRIGGS (M 39 - 45)** has died at the age of 89. David was Chairman and Managing Director of the Yorkshire textile merchant, William Root Ltd. He was also a leading light within the textile industry and a significant charitable benefactor.

In 1955 he married Enid, whom he met at Heaton Tennis Club. A passionate sportsman, he also enjoyed rugby, skiing, squash and, especially, golf. He had learned to sail during his National Service in the Navy, and spent summer weekends on Windermere and walking the surrounding fells. He is survived by Enid, children Claire and Michael and grandchildren Alexander, William, George and Francesca.

**OW WILLIAM DENYS CATHCART ANDREWS (P 45 - 50)** CBE, WS, Solicitor, Past President of The Law Society of Scotland sadly passed away on 1st July 2019 in Auchairne, Ballantrae, Ayrshire, aged 88.

Denys was one of the foremost Scottish solicitors of his generation. A past president of the Law Society of Scotland and a member of the Lands Tribunal for Scotland, he was for nearly 30 years, a partner of Shepherd & Wedderburn WS and played a major part in the introduction of the system of land registration in Scotland, which is now in operation throughout the country. In recognition of his contribution to the law of Scotland Denys was appointed CBE in the 1980 New Year's honours.

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**FREDERICK DEREK CHANTER** (SH 41 - 47) 1st April 1929 - 6th November 2019. Derek passed away peacefully aged 90, at Southland Nursing Home, Harrogate.

After leaving Worksop College he attended Leicester Technical College to study footwear manufacturing before joining the Bacup Shoe Company as a commercial traveller. He retired in 1990, after serving as Managing Director and Chairman of the Bacup Shoe Company for over 20 years.

On retirement Derek and his wife Anne moved to south west France where they lived a happy and active life before returning to the UK in 2009, settling in Harrogate. His wife of 64 years, Anne passed away 4 weeks after Derek. He is survived by his daughter Alex and son Charles (SH 71 - 77).



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We were sad to learn of **PHILIP CLARKE's** (T 47 - 53) passing on 11th September. We were informed by Philip's dear friend, Jane Porter.

Jane very kindly sent us Philip's blazer from his time at the school - a welcomed addition to our archives, as well as copies of his published books entitled "Comfrey - Symphuo Symphytum, A Multi-Herb" (1997), and "An Organic Gardener's Experience" (2002).





**GEOFFREY EGERTON HOLDING** (S 53 – 58) passed away on 9th March after his health began to deteriorate with dementia in 2012.

Born on 24th August 1939 in Manchester, Geoffrey went away to prep school at Ranby House and then on to Worksop College where he was a member of Shirley House.

On leaving school, Geoffrey joined his father in the family decorating business, G F Holding Ltd, in Manchester. Geoff developed the business over the years in to a very successful contracting business, which is still going today, run by his son, Simon Holding.

In September 1963 Geoffrey married Susan Broadbent and they had 4 children; Sally, Kate, Simon and Lucy - all have married and there are now 7 grandchildren in the family.

During his busy life, Geoffrey learnt to fly aeroplanes and achieved his PPL and an instrument rating in the early nineteen eighties. Geoffrey also enjoyed many years of scuba diving and sailing and in 1992 he sailed across the Atlantic in the ARC Rally crossing.

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We were extremely sad to receive the news of the untimely death of **ALEXANDRA EVANS** (G 85 – 88) who passed away on 23rd February 2019, aged just 46, after fighting bowel cancer for almost a year.

After leaving Worksop, Alexandra studied hard at university and eventually established a career in Human Resources for several large companies: Santander, Asda, Morrison's, finally becoming Retail Head of HR – Petroleum for BP.

Alex was a wonderful, energetic, intelligent and independent woman who lived life to the full. She was loved by her family, friends and colleagues and will leave a great void in all their lives.

If anyone would like to pass a message to the family please email: [isobel\\_rawlinson@hotmail.com](mailto:isobel_rawlinson@hotmail.com)



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Sad to receive the news from Colin McCarraher that his brother, **OW MALCOLM MCCARRAHER (P 46 – 51)**, passed away on 1st August 2019.

After many happy years at Worksop, Malcolm went on to attend Magdalene College, Cambridge to read Law. He served in the Royal Artillery as a gunner during National Service in Germany and also as a TA Captain in the Royal Corps of Transport. He practised as a Solicitor in the family firm in Southampton and Hythe, Hampshire and became senior partner. He has one son, James, and spent much of his spare time on the stage in amateur dramatic productions.

Sad to report the passing of **OW MICHAEL MORGAN (Mt 45 - 52)**. After leaving the college, Michael went on to become a solicitor and was senior partner of his law firm from 1970 to 1999. He also sat as Deputy Coroner for King's Lynn and West Norfolk for nearly 30 years (the Coroner was Old Worksopian William Knowles) and as a part time DHSS Appeals Tribunal Chairman for many years.

Michael had three sons and is survived by two, and three grandchildren. Our thoughts are with Michael's family.



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Former NFU President and **OW SIR DAVID NAISH (Mt 53 – 57)** has died at the age of 78. He will be remembered for his important leadership during the BSE crisis. Born in Nottinghamshire, Sir David was President of the NFU between 1991 and 1998 and followed in the footsteps of his uncle, Lord Netherthorpe, who was NFU President from 1945 to 1960.

Sir David was well respected internationally and was admired for his political skills, which he developed during his career in local politics as a councillor.



During his time as NFU President, he also became president of COPA, the pan-EU farmer representative body, giving the NFU an influential position in Brussels. He was also a relatively regular visitor to the United States and was highly respected by the US farming organisations and the US government.

He was appointed a Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society in 1986 and held the office of Deputy Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire in 1991. He was knighted for services to agriculture in the 1994 Queen's Birthday Honours.





**ROBERT POWLEY** (M 48 – 52) sadly passed away on 15th November, aged 84 years. Bob trained as an accountant on leaving Worksop and lived and worked in Sunderland, his home city, and Kendal with his wife, Dorothy, who survives him. Peter retained a love for sport since his Worksop days and continued to play chess, hockey and squash. His funeral service was held at the Holy Trinity Church, Egglestone, Barnard Castle, where he lived. The address was given by his cousin, and fellow OW, Reverend Bob Powley (Pt 50 – 58). Our thoughts are with Robert's family.



After graduating from St. Andrews University, David ran the family drapers business, Eve & Ranshaw, one of Lincolnshire's last remaining independent department stores. The 74 year-old businessman leaves a legacy of service to generations of customers and patronage of the arts and heritage of Louth. He was also a past president of Louth Rotary Club and president of the town's Chamber of Business and Commerce. David is survived by his wife June and two sons Marcus and James.

It is with great sadness that I report on the sudden passing of **OW CHRISTOPHER TWIGGS (M 79 – 82)**. As well as making a name for himself on the ruby field, much to his grandfather Jim's delight, it was while at Worksop that he also honed his skills for collecting artefacts to adorn his home. Family recall his bedroom being like an exhibit to 1970s design and fashion, with wall hangings including traffic cones, Sex Pistols' posters and a rubber chicken!

After being on the receiving end of his housemaster's cane on numerous occasions Christopher decided the implement should be added to his collection. It was duly smuggled out via an open first floor window on the last day of term. To this day it is in the family's safe keeping. By strange coincidence the common room television also flew out of the window at the same time!

Christopher went on to work and flourish in the meat industry, eventually running his own business. Eager to learn more in the ever-changing food industry, he began a career in auditing where his travels took him to a diverse set of countries and companies.

Christopher was a loving father, brother, nephew, cousin and friend who will be sorely missed by all.



It is with sadness that 2019 saw us lose much loved, former member of staff, **JOHN RICKETTS**. John, once described as "a gentleman who was a gentle man", began his career at Worksop in 1953, to teach a variety of subjects, including French, History and English, going on to become Housemaster of School House. It seems fitting to post part of the tribute published in the 1983 edition of The Worksopian, when John retired from the College.

"We have lost a man whose example has defined more schoolmasterly virtues than you will usually find combined in one person. Worksop has been his life for thirty years, and Worksop, at its best, is what John has been all about.

This community, in what it tries to do, and in how it goes about it, is what John has applied his heart and his mind to. He has never lost sight of his school as a whole and become blinkered, like so many of us, by enthusiasts, pet projects, exam results, sport 'overwork'. His vision has been protected by a philosophy of teaching, an idea of what it is that we should be trying to do, which not only identifies exactly what the Christian ideals of our foundation are, but which is also complete, canny, and tough. Because he has a sustaining faith in the beliefs which he professes, John has been able to set aside, and considerations of self, in a way which the rest of us cannot copy. His gentleness and selflessness have been informed and strengthened by clear, unsentimental thinking. He is a good man, and all who knew him celebrate this."

The OW Society was saddened to hear of the death of **OW DAVID SANDWITH**, who passed away after battling lung cancer for over two years.



**MALCOLM WATSON** (T 48 - 52) died peacefully in the Bristol Royal Infirmary on 13th August of emphysema and pneumonia, after a long illness, aged 84.

On leaving Worksop Malcolm did his National Service in Malaya. He wanted to join the army but his sight prevented this from happening so, on returning home, he undertook articles in a small firm of accountants in Huddersfield, before moving to a large London firm of accountants. On his marriage, he took up a key position in Imperial Tobacco in Bristol and later in Bristol City Council.

He had a passion for travel, photography and growing chrysanthemums. He was President of both the Yatton Photographic Society and Yatton Horticultural Society.





Catch up with the latest news from our OWs near and far.

## March

I ran the OW Dorm Run last March, the previous time being the school run in 1966. The course has changed and was mostly unrecognisable because it is now largely forest and was much less wooded 50 years ago. This may explain why I got lost and ended up running an extra mile! Despite that, it was most enjoyable and I have entered again for March 2020. - **JOHN BATTY** (T 61-66)

Congratulations to OW **TEO HINRICHS** (M 14 - 15) who has now progressed in to the Senior German Hockey Squad, playing in the new Hockey Pro League.

Teo featured in their win over Holland in Rotterdam in March.



Acting Head Clare Tilley was invited to the Old Masonic Lodge to be presented with the trophy for the OW Dorm Run. The Lodge have kindly donated a trophy for the annual run, which we are incredibly grateful for. Find out more on page 16.

We were delighted to receive a visit from OW **RICHARD WINSOR** (P 95 - 98), his first trip back in 15 years! Richard took time out of his busy schedule, touring with the stage version of Saturday Night Fever, to run a Q&A session with our students. Enjoyed by all, Richard gave a great insight in to the performing industry.



Great team effort at the Retford Half Marathon in March. Family, friends and colleagues of much loved former member of staff Tessa Foulds took on the challenging 13 miles, in a bid to raise money for the Foulds' chosen charity, Sarcoma UK. Together they have raised over £7,000 and counting.





Congratulations to OWs **SEAN BARKES** and **JULIAN BRAY** (T 81 – 86), who were first and second Veteran to finish in the Anglesey 10k - great team effort for the Worksoop contingent! Sean went on to take the OW Dorm Run trophy a few weeks later.



## April

April was a good month for OW **TEO HINRICHS** (M 14 – 15), whose team Manheimer took the bronze medal in the European Hockey League. Teo's team took the third spot after beating Real Club de Polo 3 – 1.

Photo credit: Jim Sorsby



Congratulations to OW **LIZ BIRDSALL** (G 97 – 00), who officiated as a Judge at the British Swimming Championships in Glasgow. The competition was fierce and 2019's results saw many British records broken. Liz was one of a number of carefully selected volunteers who have worked tirelessly to gain their position as a British Swimming Official.

## May

On Saturday 11th May, over 300 people attended the England Hockey Awards 2019. Celebrating the achievements of everyone within the sport, there were 15 awards across 13 categories and we were delighted to hear that OW **TOM SORSBY** was one of those recognised, receiving the award for Men's Emerging Performance Player 2018/19. Congratulations Tom – fantastic achievement!



If there was ever a need for a collective noun for a group of OW Dorm Run winners, it is now! Here are three former winners, **REBECCA LICENCE (NEÉ DENHAM)** (G 86 – 90), **NIGEL PORTER** (M 84 – 89) and **OLIVER DANE** (S 12 – 17). Nigel and Rebecca were back for an impromptu visit and warmly greeted by former SCR Nick Kitchen and Wendy Bain.

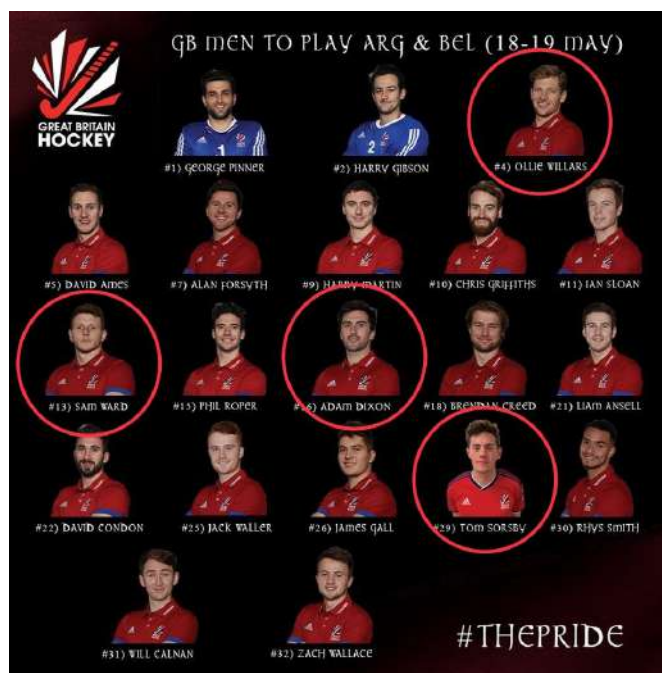
You never quite know when you might bump in to a fellow OW, as **GRACE DELAHUNTY** (SH 11 – 16) found out whilst hosting the Event Photography Awards in Mayfair. Upon talking to one of the attendees, Grace discovered it was a fellow OW, Sarah Holme (G 86 – 88), and they both enjoyed reminiscing about their school years.





What a proud moment for Worksoop College, as the 20 strong GB Hockey team was unveiled ahead of their matches against Argentina and Belgium.

Captain **ADAM DIXON** (S 03 – 05) was joined by fellow OWs **SAM WARD** (P 05 – 06), **OLLIE WILLIAMS** (Pt 05 – 09) and **TOM SORSBY** (Pt 13 – 15) as they played their matches at the Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre on London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.



May saw OW **BILLY ROOT** (Pt 06 – 11) sign for Glamorgan, as he searches for more first-team cricket in the Welsh county. Root, brother of England captain Joe, is a 26-year-old batsman and off-spinner who signed a two-year deal in Wales after agreeing his exit from Nottinghamshire.



## June

**ADAM LOWISS** (M 10 – 15) and **ZHEN LEUNG** (M 13 – 15) took a trip down memory lane last week, when they arranged for a quick tour.

Alex has been doing a Masters in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Hull and is predicted a 2:1. He has a job lined up from July as a Quantity Surveyor, so will be working whilst studying part-time for a Masters in Quantity Surveying.

Zhen has also been studying for a Masters in Mechanical Engineering, at the University of Exeter. They have both finished all work associated with their degrees and thought it was a good time to meet up for the first time since school and come back and have a look at the college, before Zhen flies back to Hong Kong for the foreseeable future.



What a treat to meet this lovely pair when they dropped in to say goodbye to Tim Halsall and Nick Kitchen. **DANNI CHIMANIKIRE** (D 15 – 17) and **KATHRYN EGAN** (D 13 – 18) were a complete and utter breath of fresh air. Thanks for coming ladies!



Former SCR and current archivist, Wendy Bain, enjoyed a heart-warming reunion with OW **KARANJIT BANSAL** (P 06 – 09) at the OW cricket match. Karanjit describes Wendy as "the best tutor ever", going on to say, "Wendy helped me so much, adjusting to life from state school to boarding school. She was always there if I needed something and showed me so much care and love. It was literally like having a Mum at the school."

Karanjit runs his own cricket coaching business called KSB Cricket Coaching and still plays cricket from Lincolnshire CCC and Scunthorpe.



Great picture of OWs **PHOEBE LEACH** (D 12 - 17) and Matt Semple (S 09 - 14), who bumped in to each other at the University of Birmingham's summer sports ball.



## July

A big congratulations to OW **LIAM PATTERSON-WHITE**, who made his first-class debut on Sunday 7 July for Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club, taking five wickets in the 2019 County Championships against Somerset.

Fellow OW **SAMIT PATEL** (T 98 - 03) also featured for Notts as they lost by 132 runs.



Spotted! OW **RICHARD KETTLEBOROUGH** (Pt 86 - 90) officiating the first semi-final of the ICC World Cup between India and New Zealand at Manchester on Tuesday 9 July.



Great to see OW **MARTIN ROSE** (P 14 - 18) selected for Scotland's U21 in the EuroHockey Championships. The boys won their first game 6-1 against Portugal in Plzen Litice, Czech Republic. The boys went on to beat Russia 9-0 in the final to win gold at U21 Men's EuroHockey Championship II.



**DAVID SOAR** (T 92 - 94) continues his successful career as an international singer, mainly in opera, with his work taking him all over the world. This summer he fulfilled probably his greatest role, as the groom at his wedding to Carrie-Ann Matheson, herself a musician of international standing.

The ceremony took place at Southwell Minster on 17th July and was a feast of music, including a piece commissioned by the bride as a wedding present for David. The reception was in a marquee on the lawn of the Old Bishops Palace. Friends and colleagues from all over the world were present, including David's former singing teacher at Worksop College, Gabrielle Burgin Lister, and her husband Martyn Cleasby (seated in photo on right).



Congratulations to OW **LAURA HOCKING** (SH 07 - 12) who graduated from the Royal College of Music - Master of Performance with a Distinction (voice). Laura has just recently performed in the Royal College of Music Opera Studios production of Berkeley's 'A Dinner Engagement', in which she was playing Mrs Kneebone.







Lovely to receive a surprise visit from **DOYLE KWONG** (P 12 - 16) and **CASSIE LIANG** (D 13 - 15). Cassie brought her parents for their first visit to the college (and the UK).

The pair have just graduated from Manchester University in Mechanical Engineering and Fine Art. We wish them much luck for the future!

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July also saw memorable visits from **GEOFF NEWTON** (M 55 - 60) and his wife Cathy (left), along with **CATHERINE FUNG** (G 93 - 95) and fiancée Chris (right).



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Many congratulations must go to OW **DAVID IRWIN** (T 69 - 73) who graduated in July with a PhD in Politics from Newcastle University.



## August

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**HARRIETT CUNDY** (Gibbs 14-16) spent the summer climbing Gran Paradiso (Italy's highest mountain) and Mt Blanc (Europe's highest mountain). She says of her latest adventure, "The main challenges for each climb were the 80km/h winds! I had to ensure that my ice axe was firmly planted into the ground before each step along the 15 inch wide ridge to avoid being knocked off balance. At times we

were on our hands and knees crawling up as we didn't want to risk the 200m fall!

The other main challenge was when we had to cross the Grand Coulouir on Mont Blanc. The 700m vertical rock-face is renowned for falling rocks where most fatal accidents occur on the mountain. On our descent, we were hit by storms causing a mass white out, so were unable to see where the rock falls were. When my guide and I went to cross, we had to listen and trust that any climbers above us would call out to warn us of any falling rocks. We reached 1/3 of the way across when we heard someone shout "rocks", causing us to turn around and sprint back to the sheltered ridge. It was a close call! Sadly we later found out that an American had passed away in the same section hours later.

It was a bit touch and go as at one point, one of our team members had cerebral edema (fluid on the brain) due to the altitude. Luckily he was airlifted off safely, but nevertheless, it threw a spanner in the works as we were now a two man team.

Much to my mother's delight, my next climb will be another of the Severn Summits (seven highest mountains in each continent); hopefully either Aconcagua in South America or Denali in Alaska."



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I had the pleasure of giving a tour to OW **JOHN TURNER** (P 50 - 53) and his wife Annette. John hadn't been back to the school for 35 years and it was lovely to hear his memories as we looked round. John is a Consultant Physician at Aintree University Hospital and Lecturer at the School of Medicine, University of Liverpool. On top of this, John has a Masters in History and is about to begin a Psychology degree.





Exciting times for **BEN SAMPLER** as he made the decision to relocate from the Isle of Wight to India.

Ben and his wife now live and work as teachers (music and maths) and dorm parents to the Std 9 girls (year 9) at Hebron School in Ooty; a mountain station town in the beautiful Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, famous for being the place where snooker was invented!



The school is an international school with over 25 different nationalities of students and almost as many nationalities among the staff. Ben says, "We would love to cultivate any links with Worksoop College that may already exist between the school - one fairly tenuous link is that Hebron has a strong link with Dean Close school in Cheltenham, where ex Talbot House tutor and Hockey maestro Chris Hooper now teaches..... hmmm perhaps too tenuous! We would love to hear of more!"

## September

Septemeber saw the start of the new academic year and we were delighted to welcome new student Megan Davies (Derry) to Worksoop. Here is Megan on International Welcome weekend being dropped off by her Mum, and OW, **MENAKA DAVIES** (née Lok, Derry 79 – 84).

Megan pictured here with Mum and dad Mike too.



A memorable visit from OW **PETER BIGGIN** (S 61 - 66) who arrived with his wife Aileen, daughter Amy and son James. Well, it was a total pleasure to take a trip down Memory Lane with Peter and fascinating, as always, to hear some of his tales. We looked at his old dorm (now the supervised

study space in the sixth form centre), hard to imagine the rows of beds it once housed. I was lucky enough to have my colleague Aidan (the font of all Worksoop knowledge) to tour Peter with me, sharing all his nuggets of historical information.



On Sunday 8th we welcomed back OWs to play our 1st XI Hockey team. The weather was glorious and there was a strong performance all round, but it was our OWs who were victorious with a 3-1 win! An encouraging first match from our 1st XI.



Great to see former SCR **NICK KITCHEN** and **WENDY BAIN** at the reopening of The Portland Collection. The new collection, 'Men, Women and Things: A world of worlds', focuses on the extraordinary women in the family's ancestry and is available to view now.





## October



Congratulations to OWs **SIMON LANGLEY** (T 96 - 01) and **BEN BRASH** (T 00 - 05) who completed the Chicago Marathon – both chaps finished in impressive times of 3.32 and 2.49.

“Still life in the old dog yet”, as Simon put it!

We were also pleased to welcome back OWs **PHILIP JONES** (SH 74 – 77), **SAMIT PATEL** (98 – 03) and **FRASER CUTTLE** (S 89 – 93).



Proud to hear of **ALAN DICKSON**'s news as he was awarded the Paralympic Order at a ceremony in Bonn, Germany, in late October.

Alan was on the Governing Board of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) for eight years and before that, for three years on the Executive Committee, the Governing Board's predecessor. He also chaired the Legal and Ethics Committee of the IPC for eight years.



In addition Alan had been involved with the Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA) from 1993 till 2010; acting as President of that organisation from 2004 to 2010. Before that he was Secretary General and then Vice President.

The Paralympic Order is the highest award given within the Paralympic movement and is given to those who have exemplified the Paralympic ideals through their actions, made remarkable strides in Paralympic Sport or rendered outstanding service to the Paralympic cause. Congratulations Alan.

## November

It's off to Tokyo we go!

Huge congratulations to the men's GB hockey squad who have secured their place in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. As always, we were immensely proud to watch OW **ADAM DIXON** (S 03 – 05) lead the team, with fellow team mates and OWs **SAM WARD**, **OLLIE WILLARS** (Pt 05 – 09) and **TOM SORSBY** (Pt 13 – 15), closely by his side. The team won their two games 4-1 and 5-2, and the result was never truly in doubt once they overcame an early 1-0 deficit in the first match.



Dixon said, “I’m not going to lie, it’s a massive sense of relief. There was a lot of pressure on these two games. We knew that pressure and nerves would come into it, so we tried to tackle it head on and channel it. Nerves are only a human emotion, we took it on the chin and put two good performances in this weekend. To wrap it up with a ticket to Tokyo makes it even sweeter.”





Great to meet OW **JON ARCHER** (M 97 - 02) and his business partner Nick Hird from ViDrate. After meeting Jon earlier on in the year at the OW Dorm Run, I was keen to talk more about all things hydration! ViDrate is the first zero sugar, all natural enhanced hydration product of its kind and what's even better is it comes in an environmentally friendly Smart Sachet. I have taste tested and can confirm the flavours are great! Good luck chaps. For more information see [vidrate.co.uk](http://vidrate.co.uk)



'Marathon Man' **MARCUS SMITH** (P 92 - 97) completes 206.9 km run in 24 hours in Dubai. Marcus has successfully completed an epic 24-hour run of 206.9km to launch the new athletics track at Sports Village, Dubai Sports City.

He received huge support from the Dubai community and local athletes who spurred him on throughout the run, particularly during the latter stages where he had to draw on his last remaining reserves of mental and physical strength.



A warm welcome back to **ROCKY YIP** and his wife Adeline, who visited us on 16th November. This is the first time Rocky has been back since he was a Pelham boy from 1993-97, under Housemaster Warren Lincoln.

**RICHARD RICE-OXLEY's** (T 57 - 62) two musicals The Jesus Story and Peter-the Rock are now freely available for choirs. Both the three-part scores and audio versions can be found on his website - [rev-rice-oxley.uk](http://rev-rice-oxley.uk)

Richard has also set to music a number of World War 1 poems by Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy (Woodbine Willie), and has recently completed a set of songs on the faith and message of St Paul.

The Christmas Market this year was made even more special, with an emotional reunion (after 22 years) between OW **ANGELIKA WALLI** (G 97 - 99) and her former Gibbs Housemistress Wendy Bain. Angelika is pictured here with her boyfriend John, alongside former members of staff Danusia Sawoscianik-Murray and Nick Kitchen.



Congratulations to OW **KATE GRICE** (D 90 - 95) who has recently got engaged to her partner Jason Smith. The happy couple are planning to tie the knot in December of this year.



## December

Congratulations to OW **ANDY BETTS** (Pt 94 – 99) as he takes on the position of CEO for the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation.



The company announced Andy's appointment after launching an in-depth national search to identify the best person to lead the Foundation. Andy has over 15 years of experience leading non-profit executive management teams, and managing development, marketing and volunteer functions for large, non-profit organisations. His skills in philanthropy, strategic visioning and building high-performing teams will be important assets to move the Foundation forward.

Andy joins the PKD Foundation from The Salvation Army of Kansas and Missouri, where he was the Executive Director of Development, raising more than \$50 million annually from 28 cities and 110 counties across a large range of donors. He has also held executive and leadership titles for other prominent non-profit organisations in the U.S. and in Europe such as Outreach International, The Message Trust and UCB broadcasting. Andy lives in Kansas City, Mo. with his wife, Jennifer, and sons, Josh and Ethan.

Lymm based businessman **ANDY CARTER** has been selected as the Conservative MP candidate for Warrington South. The 45-year-old business owner is the deputy chairman of Warrington Conservatives and former Managing Director of Smooth Radio.

Andy, who lives in Lymm, with his family, started his career in commercial radio while at university, before going on to run one of the north west's most successful media companies. He now runs his own consultancy and mail order business.



Congratulations to OW **OLIVER BLACKBURN** (S 17 – 19), who has recently been awarded the Yorkshire U19 Player of the Year for the 2019 season; an excellent achievement considering it is the first season that Oliver has played age group county cricket and still has one more year to play within this category.

An all-rounder, Oliver chipped in with vital wickets with his off-spin, taking 4 for 38 against Lancashire. It was, however, his performances with the bat which stood out - his top score being his unbeaten century against Middlesex, ending exactly 100 not out from 184 deliveries.

Head of Cricket, Neil Longhurst, was full of praise for Oliver's success, "It was a pleasure to work with Oliver during his time here at the College. With the effort and attitude he showed throughout winter training, it didn't surprise me to see his improvement over the past two years. He was a key member of our 1st XI, both on and off the pitch, a very likeable lad with a great sense of humour. We're thrilled to see what he's been able to achieve on a representative level and he's a big loss for our 1st XI this coming season."

Oliver wasn't able to collect his award on the evening as he is currently playing club cricket in Cape Town, with Durbanville CC, alongside Ruben Senekal, one of our exchange students from Paul Roos Gimnasium who represented our 1st XI last year.



A proud moment for Worksoop College and an incredible way to start the new decade as two OWs were recognised in the Queen's New Year's Honours List for 2020

OW, **DR JONATHAN LEACH** (Mg 73 - 78), has been awarded an OBE. Jonathan has been recognised for his services to general practice, after serving for 25 years in the military, helping to provide mental health support for thousands of veterans. As NHS England medical director for military and veterans' health, Jonathan helped create a network of 600 surgeries to support military veterans. He is also joint honorary secretary of the Royal College of General Practitioners.



Jonathan, who currently works as a GP at Davenal House Surgery in Bromsgrove, said he was "stunned, surprised [and] humbled". Jonathan reached the rank of colonel before leaving the military 11 years ago, serving in operational tours of Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia and Iraq.

In addition to this, OW and England Cricket Test Captain, **JOE ROOT**, has been awarded an MBE for services to cricket and rightly so we think! Well done Joe - what a way to round off a phenomenal year.





# We're Staying!

In post during the Autumn term, new Headmaster Dr Price was pleased to announce that previous plans to move Ranby House School to the senior school site at Worksoop College have been shelved.

Dr Price explains why:

"In the short time I've been in post, it's very clear that the Ranby House School site provides an idyllic environment for the youngest members of our community to grow up and thrive in.

"The work of the team at Ranby over recent years has proved that this site, together with its amazing facilities, really does offer the best independent education in the region. And with growing interest in schooling at Ranby - last year we recorded the highest in-year recruitment for five years - this further encouraged us to review the original plan."

"Ranby House School has clearly made a lasting impression on pupils and families past and present, creating so many positive memories. I am delighted that we will be able to continue to create many more."

As part of a commitment to building the school's long-term future, Dr Price and his team plan to extend the provision at Ranby House, with the Nursery taking children from age 2 in the very near future, and provision for even younger children planned as the next phase.

David Thorpe, Headmaster at the Ranby House School site

is delighted with the news:

"Ranby House School has stood at this location since 1948. It has educated thousands of pupils over the last 71 years, playing such a huge part in so many people's lives and seeing generations of families return."

"We are pleased to say that investment in the site continues. At the beginning of this year, we created new classroom areas and play spaces by moving Key Stage 1 (children aged 4-7) into the main school, enabling us to develop bespoke learning areas in a larger Early Years Foundation Stage Centre. We are nearing completion of an outdoor education centre and wildlife fishing pond, as well as refurbishing our school Chapel.

"As well as being a perfect environment for our pupils, Ranby House School's amazing facilities and grounds provide the perfect place for community events and education, such as the Bassetlaw Orienteering, North Nottinghamshire's Safety Zone, as well as other sports groups and organisations.

Chair of the Ranby Parents' Group, Tori Eadington, who was a pupil at Ranby House School herself, has two children at the school and is equally delighted:

"We are absolutely thrilled at the news that Ranby House School is remaining on its current site. The school grounds are second-to-none, and it's a fabulous environment for children to learn in. The decision taken to stay is a very much welcomed one, enabling future generations to benefit from a Ranby House School education in the location it's sat on for 71 wonderful years."





# Tales from the Kitchen

**A**fter nearly 40 years' dedicated service as History teacher, Head of Department, Housemaster and latterly as our first ever Head of Sixth Form, Nick Kitchen took his well-earned retirement at the end of last academic year.

We were delighted to host a retirement party in the summer to celebrate the career of a man who has dedicated much of his life to the college and to the many students who have tread the cloisters during his time. The turnout was testament to the profound effect Nick, or NAKK as he was known to many, has had on so many lives. Here, Nick reflects back on his time at the college.

**"I love it when the pupil becomes the teacher."**

1980. As our dear friend, and supreme winemaker, Monsieur Cotat, put it, "a minor vintage".

I had distinct respect for the Headmaster who appointed me. RJR's wonderful portrait captures his essential shyness. He's a poet. I recall him greeting me and saying "Worksop College will be a very good place to start your career" (!).

The immovable phenomena of 1980: the Cold War, apartheid, Irish terrorism, mining communities, the Beatles, Leicester City's relegation to the second division, Top Table's pear and ginger skillet cake...Top Table...a magnetic timetable board in the Maths Room next to the "Masters Common Room"...House telephones...pen and paper memory...

In my first term, John Lennon was assassinated. Perhaps not so immovable. I was sat in, what is now, the Housemistress



of Derry's study when, in my second year, the lugubrious Ian MacDonald, Ministry of Defence manipulator, announced on television the sinking of the Belgrano in the Falklands Conflict. In the 1984 Miners' Strike, I lost count of the number of times I was stopped by the police late at night at the far end of Windmill Lane, unnervingly situated on the front line between Scargill's Yorkshire militants and Roy Lynk's Nottinghamshire foes. They thought I was a Flying Pickett (sadly, not of the musical variety!).

My career's hardly been without blemish. It occurred to me a few days ago that two of the three Houses in which I've worked have since closed down! Watch out Derry. Come to think of it, the only Hollywood Blockbuster in which I've appeared, over-grand a term as 'appeared' is (Michael Cimino's Heaven's Gate), also flopped. Wendy will testify to the fact that I've merrily driven her and Holly all the way to the NEC for the Good Food Show...on the wrong week... twice!! I seem to have such a persuasive way with Assistant Heads of Sixth Form that the retention record is a whole two years.

Recently, I alighted upon my own school reports, beautifully (!) described by the L6 historians as 'smelling really old'. "His work is good, but he puts in the minimum amount of effort and his behaviour leaves a lot to be desired". That would be Maths. "Capable, but not very interested"...Physics. "Talented, but inclined to waste time in class"...Fifth Form History, would you believe?!

In June, whilst on a visit to the College, OW Marcus Smith (P 92 - 97) made a simple yet profound observation. These are his words: "whilst other rugby coaches were telling people what to do, I learnt by watching you passing the ball."



### Leading by example.

One of my earliest memories is of the Deputy Head, a wonderful man by the name of Ricky Winn, picking up litter in corridors. The teacher who railed against what he perceived as the indignity of this was entirely missing the point. With a little help from St. Francis, OW James Pacey (Pt 97 - 02) articulated it when he came back for Chapel recently: "Preach the Gospel. Use words if you have to".

### I love it when the pupil becomes the teacher.

OW Clare Farrow (S 93 - 97) spoke eloquently in Chapel on Saturday. Her splendid distinction between fake people and real deal people took me back to Nelson Mandela.

There's something very surreal about picking up a telephone in your study at Worksop College and hearing the words 'would you like to meet Nelson Mandela today?'

Sat at the kitchen table, resplendent in multi-coloured shirt, Madiba's face radiated warmth and an almost impish sense of humour. Just him, three of his aides, the pupil with me, and the person whose house it was. The Queen wasn't very impressed he wasn't with her. It was a flying visit en route to Paris.

The overwhelming impression in the intimacy of that afternoon was one of tranquillity and profound reflection, not least on the value of HUMILITY. Madiba reeked of praise for other people: for Walter Sisulu, for African poets,...for little me.

My abiding image of him is the dignified way he later lay resting, in the light from the window behind, fencing in part of his day with stillness. Another priceless half an hour, pretty much just me and him, before our last handshake...and his final words..."a million thanks".

### Generosity of spirit.

My retirement celebrations in June were very special. The most difficult moment was when Irene Cheng walked in. Irene arrived at Worksop College 24 years ago and was Wendy's House Captain 1998-99. She flew in from Hong Kong on the Friday and flew back again on Monday. On the Sunday, she came to our cottage. Having given gifts to others, she came to me. She bowed, and she presented me with a card, apologising for its semi-crumpled state. It was a few seconds after opening it that I realised it contained messages from Hong Kong OWs, which Irene had collected, one by one. She had also photographed them writing the messages.

Irene travels four hours a day on the bullet train into China, where she's a Headmistress. Way more than that, she is an angel, and one reason she's an angel is that she doesn't realise it. GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT PERSONIFIED. The antithesis of entitlement. The extraordinary in the 'ordinary'.





## Tales from the Kitchen

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These are the alumni...and these are the values...Workshop College should celebrate.

### **I absolutely love it when the pupil becomes the teacher.**

And so in 1989 the Berlin Wall came down, in 1994 apartheid bit the dust, in 1998 the Northern Ireland Peace Accord was signed, perhaps most incredibly of all, 5000-1 incredibly to be precise, in 2016 Leicester City won the Premiership... the spectre of electronic memory escalated ...those House phone booths now but whisper their wisdom...if we'll listen...

The last few weeks of term were tough, not because one chapter has come to a close, but because I've become acutely aware of THE PASSAGE OF TIME.

Marcus talked about the metaphor of the "31st day". When doing his 30 marathons in 30 days, only around day 29 (the one when he was running with the Crown prince of Dubai) did he start to think about day 31. Of course he had an end goal, and a framework to achieve that, but, in his words, he 'STAYED IN THE PRESENT'. I guess this is MINDFULNESS.

Thankfully, I realised a long time ago that my joy was in the magical energy, and the beauty, and the challenge, and the power, of each individual day. The extraordinary in the 'ordinary'.

I reckon you just about crack a stage in life when you move onto the next one. Put another way, I've no idea how retirement will unfold! Wendy and I went on a retirement course back in 2014. One point was that, on average, when working, we spend 11 hours a week with our partners. In retirement, apparently that rises to 55!! Cue Charlotte

Lucas' joy in 'Pride and Prejudice' that her husband Mr. Collins spends all day in the garden.

Notwithstanding such 'banishment', now, Wendy, now is our time.

We shall, of course, **continue to seek to be taught by our ex pupils**, Wendy will continue running the Archives...and I'll be one (!)...quite possibly squirreled away down there, trying to 'hear' the school's past in a Keatingesque way.

If you've never seen it, you should make the time to watch 'Dead Poets Society'...

...and 'Reflections of My Life' which, incredibly, Dean Ford wrote at the age of 23, preferably his 2014 version that juxtaposes with him in 1969...

...and consider reflecting on Kurt Hahn's reflection that it is sinful to force young people into opinions...and equally sinful **not** to force them into experiences.

May you all 'go gently' through the lilies of the field...along the way finding the extraordinary in the 'ordinary'.

A million thanks."





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# Special Mentions

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**1**00 years young! What a milestone to reach for OW Lieutenant Colonel MALCOLM HARDING-ROBERTS (T 31 - 35).

Malcolm celebrated his centenary with nephews, and fellow OWs, Peter (pictured 3rd left, T 65 - 70) and Michael (pictured far right, T 64 - 68) Harding-Roberts, along with other family members in Malvern.

Malcolm remains very independent, helping the "old lady" downstairs with her meals and washing and can be seen here wearing his Dunkirk Veteran's blazer. A huge Happy Birthday Malcolm, from all of us at Worksop College.



It was also a cause for big celebrations as OW **PETER BLACKBURN** (T 40 - 45) celebrated his 90th birthday with a party at the Crazy Coqs Cabaret room in London on 24th November.

After leaving Worksop College Peter studied at a branch of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and worked as a professional actor and stage director for three years before switching to a career in Public Relations for the next 37 years.

Some years ago he was awarded Life Membership of the Institute of Public Relations, in recognition of his 50 years' membership of the Institute. We wish you well Peter as you enter your 9th decade.







I joined the choir in 2012 in the alto section. Shy and nervous at the prospect of performing in front of so many people each week, my worst nightmare came true when I sang my first solo and sang the words completely wrong - it's safe to say my confidence came on leaps and bounds after that! Following in my big brother's footsteps, I too was made Head of Section in my Lower VIth year. A particular highlight for me was the tour to Bruges and Antwerp, where we sang at the Menin Gate. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in the choir and miss every aspect of it - even the Psalms! Being appointed Head of Choir in Upper VIth was the icing on the cake and I am proud to have had the opportunity to lead the new and improved choir as we welcomed the addition of years 7 and 8.

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**“Having been in the choir  
for a combined 15 years,  
we have some pretty  
impressive statistics.”**

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Dom began his time in the choir in 2015. His cute cheekiness made him a popular addition to the alto section, where he stayed until he finally grew tall enough to be moved up (or down) to the tenor section and was later appointed Head of Section in his final year. Dom's voice has continued to grow, melting hearts and bringing a tear to the eye of anyone who has had the pleasure of hearing him. Dom has enjoyed touring to Guernsey, as well as singing Evensong alongside 'some truly incredible choirs', including Gonville and Caius and Queens' College, Cambridge.

Having been in the choir for a combined 15 years, we have some pretty impressive statistics. Between us we have sung in 5 different countries, sung nearly 100 Evensongs and 2000 Psalm verses in around 15 Chapels and Cathedrals, a particular highlight being Westminster Abbey. We've performed 30 Carol Services and recorded 2 CDs, yet in all that time we've only sung in the same choir all together 3 times!

## Singing the Same Tune

**2**019 saw the addition of a beautiful new Head of Choir Board, naming all Heads of Choir since 2008. The board was kindly donated by Mr and Mrs S.R. Lloyd, grandparents to OWs Ollie (T 09 - 14) and Phoebe Leach (D 12 - 17) and current House Captain of Talbot, Dom.

Here, Phoebe shares her family's choral history and why the choir has played such a big part in their lives.

“Our choir journey began when Ollie became a member of the choir in 2009, in his first year at the college. Ollie made quite the impression with his talent for music, singing many solos which always turned heads in admiration, no matter the occasion. He even tried his hand at the organ from time to time (with unsurprising success), as well as being appointed Head of the Tenor section in his Lower VIth year. Ollie finished his time at Worksop having enjoyed tours to Florence and Prague, performing with the Swingle Singers, singing in Schola Cantorum and having been appointed Head of Choir in his final year. For Ollie, the choir provided the bedrock of musical experience and education for the career he has today.



We have enjoyed collaborating with many different groups, ranging from other Choirs to orchestras. We've sung with North Notts Chamber Choir at the annual Feast of Christmas Music concerts, the Ranby House Chapel Choir on Founders' Day, as well as many others, but the group that seemed to have the biggest impact on all of us, were VOCES8. We performed with them in both the Chapel Choir and Schola Cantorum and looked forward to it with great excitement every year - my personal favourite was when we performed Skyfall with them the same year they took audience requests and sang a Frozen medley on the spot!



However, the most impressive part of all of this is the unconditional support we've received from our family. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Grandparents, Mr and Mrs S.R. Lloyd, for not only facilitating the Head of Choir Board on our behalf and hosting the 2019 Choir tour to Guernsey, but for their continued support for the last 35 years, seeing two of their daughters and 3 of their grandchildren pass through Worksop, with 2 more currently at Ranby. A particularly special mention must go to our Mum though, who, for 11 years, has given up multiple evenings and weekends to drag, I mean drive, us to rehearsals, and sit through countless concerts and services. We hope our enjoyment and pride of being part of such a prestigious choir has made it all worthwhile and made her proud of us, too.



Finally, the commitment and passion Mr Tim Uglow threw into the choir cannot go unmentioned, without which we wouldn't have been able to experience even half of the many services, concerts and tours he organised, not to mention the annual dinners and BBQs. We were irritating, refused to look at him for our cues and laughed at any jokes he unknowingly shouted during rehearsals, but we hope we performed well every time and all credit must go to him for his patience and persistence. On a serious note, he really has made our time in the choir one to remember and we will always be grateful to him for that.



We hope that future members of the choir enjoy their time as much as we did."





## Pastures New

September saw our Valedictory Evensong take place to mark the retirement of our longest serving Chaplain, Paul Finlinson, after an incredible 20 years.

Joined by many OWs, parents and current students, the Chapel was full to the brim and the atmosphere was incredibly moving. Led by new Chaplain, Father Matthew Askey, thanks and recognition were made to the passion and commitment Paul has shown to the Worksop community over his tenure. The service closed with a final sermon by Paul himself, his insightful words as always giving us all much food for thought.

The evening was made even more special as many of our OWs, and former choristers, joined the choir for the evening - a rare moment in history combining past and present students. Our thanks go to Stephanie Gozney, Ruth Massey, Phoebe Leach, Adele Wright, Wendy Hattrell, Huw Brown, Adrian Hattrell, Philip Hall, Robert Nottingham, Jonathan Beckett, Rosie Beckett, Harry Jacques, Oliver Leach, James Ramm and Edward Armstrong for a sterling performance. Thanks must also go to OW Revd James Pacey, vicar of St John's Church Carrington, who joined Paul for the service.





The OW caught up with Paul on his retirement to ask a few reflective questions ...

OW: Paul, what are your highlights from your 20 year tenuie?

**PF:** The music and the choir - a high standard throughout my time there and there were some marvellous trips, not least to St Peter's Basilica in Rome, St Vitus Cathedral in Prague, Easter at the Anglican Church in Florence and the Menin Gate Last Post Ceremony at Ypres.

The people of goodwill - students, staff, parents and many others who have supported me and the Chapel in so many ways.

The big services - Remembrance, Christmas, Speech Day which have inspired so many.

Confirmation - that many students and, at times staff and parents, have wished to confirm their faith here.

But above all: the celebration of the weekly Eucharist which stands at the heart of all that we do.

OW: What are some of the lessons you have learned personally?

**PF:** To take people as they are and where they are standing in their own personal journeys; that things can go wrong at the most unexpected moments, and to learn how to cope with them.

OW: And finally Paul, what would be your advice for departing students?

**PF:** To remember that the College is always a part of you and that we are here for you;

Remember that the God who is worshipped here is with you wherever you go in whatever you do - celebrating with you in the good times and supporting you in the not so good.

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**“To remember that the College is always a part of you and that we are here for you;”**

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# A Real 50s Knees Up!

**W**hat a joyous occasion; to be treated to the company of over 60 OWs from the 1950s era!

Coming from far and wide, Sunday 1st December was a magical occasion as peers reunited after many years apart. Of course, there were cohorts that remained firm friends upon leaving and it was such a pleasure to see them huddled together reminiscing. Reuniting some of those who perhaps had lost contact over the years was incredibly moving for me. It really brought home the history this group of people have shared and the memories they have to tell.

Alumni Relations Officer, Lucy Smithson explained,

“We enjoyed a three course festive luncheon courtesy of our wonderful catering team (it’s safe to say the food has been one thing to change since this era’s time here) and ate under the watchful eye of former Headmaster Northcote Green, chuckling at the scathing remarks found upon their student record cards.

I really can’t thank everyone who came enough – a day that will remain with me for many years to come.”

If you are interested in hosting a reunion of your era, please do get in touch by emailing Lucy at [l.smithson@wsnl.co.uk](mailto:l.smithson@wsnl.co.uk)

*“Time fell away, and it was if it were only yesterday”*  
Bertie Mather (S 55-59)








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*"The lunch was sublime and beautifully served, a big contrast to the meals we 'enjoyed' 60 years ago."*  
David Monks (S 57-62)

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*"Thank you for today's reunion, quite an experience, thoroughly enjoyed, with lots to reflect upon."*  
Roger Wild (Pt 52-58)

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*"I just wanted to thank you for organising a great occasion on Sunday - lots of old friends to meet and a super lunch!"*  
John Tarbatt (M 56-60)

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OWs  
in the  
spotlight

# Limitless

**O**W Marcus Smith (P 92 – 97) is an entrepreneur, motivational speaker, extreme athlete and coach. Marcus has had his fair share of success, however it was in 2017, after suffering at the hands of a near fatal cycling accident, whilst attempting to set a World Record in Ultra Cycling, that Marcus faced his biggest challenge yet. On the brink of death, Marcus fought for every breath, taking him on a personal journey that resulted in him undertaking 30 marathons in 30 days across Dubai.



The OW caught up with Marcus to talk about his approach to extreme sport, resilience and realising that anything is possible.

OW: Marcus, have you always been in to setting yourself extreme personal challenges?

**MS:** That's a good question. I guess the answer is yes, when I look back. I used to love the second term at school, as it was cross country season and I was allowed to get up early and go running on my own before breakfast. I would arrive at breakfast and my mates would wonder what was wrong with me - I would then run again in the afternoon, so maybe that's where it started. I just believe that we were put on this earth to live amazing lives and the way I define that is by always challenging myself and pushing my limits. I have a weird thirst for finding out what my body and mind can do, so these challenges are a good way to test myself.

OW: What was the number one life lesson you took away from your time at Workshop?

**MS:** Discipline. Warren Lincoln was my Housemaster and he told us from day one that he would be hard on us for our own benefit. Looking back, I am so thankful that he was, as it forced me to adopt habits that I keep today.

OW: After your accident, and during your recovery, how did you maintain such a positive outlook on life?

**MS:** I truly believe everything in life happens for a reason and once something has happened we should not invest our energy in wishing it hadn't, but put everything we have in to ensuring today is the best day of our lives. When I was laid in intensive care, I started thinking 'what if' and very quickly thought to myself, there is no what if, there is only the here and now. At that point, I could not move my left arm and as I looked down, that immediately became my goal. I started to rotate my hand from palm down to palm up, that's all I could do but that was progress and I loved it. Not every day was easy, but every day I woke up with a hunger and desire to be in a better position at the end of the day. If you wake up with that mind-set it's pretty hard not to be positive about life.

OW: It is often said that resilience comes in the face of adversity, how then, if not faced with trauma, can we train our own resilience levels on a day-to-day basis?

**MS:** I totally agree with this, we learn when we are challenged, when things are not going our way and essentially that is what I was doing when I had my crash. I was training to set a world record. I would cycle for 200, 300, 400 kilometres a day.





It was brutally hard both physically and mentally but I grew as a person, I learnt, I became better. That is what these extreme challenges do for me and now that I am not super keen on cycling anymore, I have just changed the mode of transport if you like, to running. Through marathons, ultra-marathons, sleep deprivation and extreme physical pain I am able to continue to learn, grow and love life.

**OW:** Marcus, you have experienced many great achievements in your life already, but surely running 30 marathons in 30 days must sit there as one of the highlights. How do you even begin to prepare for something so unthinkable to the majority of us?

**MS:** Thank you, the 30 marathons was and still is quite surreal - I look back at the photos and videos often as some days I am not sure if I think it was real! I prepared for that like I prepare for anything - I take out a piece of paper and write down why I want to do it, writing everything in my mind, both positive and negative. Then I let it sit with me and very soon I start to engage people that I know can help me in various areas and I talk to them about these things, listen to their advice and then go back and look at my doodlings on the paper. To be honest, once the idea

has been put on paper I am doing it - some take longer than others to prepare for and that's ok.

For the marathons, I obviously ran a lot and the running was important, but at the same time I played around with recovery protocols until I could literally run a marathon and feel totally fine. I remember I was in the UK a few weeks before I started and in the morning I ran a marathon as part of my training and then in the afternoon went on a big walk with my wife and Mum, went to a show and went out for dinner - pretty normal day I thought! The next day I got up and ran another marathon.

**OW:** It must have been incredibly difficult to push your body so hard in such challenging conditions - how much of your strength do you attribute mentally and how much physically?

**MS:** You need to be physically conditioned of course, but it's no use having an amazing body if you cannot control it with your mind, so yes of course, mind-set was huge. In my preparation I was struggling with the enormity of the task ahead, so as I mentioned above, I contacted a friend who I knew could help break things down and after a 10 minute phone call we had it worked out. I would not run 30 marathons, I would be running 1 marathon 30 times! All I had to do each day was focus on waking up and running a marathon, it was quite simple. Then when that was done,



Marcus celebrates crossing the line as he completes 206.9km in 24 hours - his latest achievement



Marcus with his former tutors; Gary Duckering and Nick Kitchen

I would finish the rest of the day and do the same the next day. This is a lot about having a mindset of living life now, not in the past and not in the future, you have to live in the present. When it got tough, which it did on many occasions, all I had to do was get to my next checkpoint, once I was there I would focus on the next steps.

There is one final thing here that is important - failure was never an option for me. Since I came up with the idea I only ever told myself that I would do it. That may sound a bit arrogant, but too often we give ourselves an out, an option to quit. If you simply take that away you keep going.

**OW:** And finally, what does the future hold for you?

**MS:** Great question and I do not have an answer! I get asked this a lot, or what challenge is next. On February 9th 2018 I was training to set a world record in cycling, on February 10th 2018 I was left fighting for my life on the side of the road after being hit by a truck. On November 24th 2018 I ran my 30th consecutive marathon. Come on, how do you even start to write that? You can't. You have to live every day and roll with things whilst always making sure you are having fun, growing and challenging yourself. Someone may send me an e-mail with a link to a cool challenge tomorrow and if it feels right in my gut, I will say yes straight away and the adventure begins again. Life is awesome when you live everyday and don't get too stressed about what's coming and what you cannot control.





# Events 20/21

## **Dorm Run**

**Saturday 25th April 2020, 10:30 – 13:00**

### **Worksop College**

One of the original sporting events at the school, The OW Dorm Run provides a short, but challenging race - food and drink provided afterwards

## **Worksop College Golf Fundraiser Day**

**Friday 1st May, 12:00 – 20:00**

### **College Pines, hot buffet served at Worksop College**

Supporting the ongoing development of the golf facilities at Worksop College

## **Stay Connected – Bawtry**

**Wednesday 6th May, 18:00 – 22:00**

### **Bawtry Hall, Bawtry**

Informal drinks open to all OWs

## **OW Golf Society Day**

**Monday 11th May, 2020**

### **Worksop Golf Club**

Evening meal served at Worksop College

## **Summer Spectacular**

**Saturday 27th June 2020, 13:00 – 17:00**

### **Worksop College**

A day of celebrations for the whole family including fairground rides, traditional stalls and a classic car exhibition

## **Worksop College Golf Fundraiser Day**

**Friday 25th September, 12:00 – 20:00**

### **College Pines, hot buffet served at Worksop College**

Supporting the ongoing development of the golf facilities at Worksop College

## **Stay Connected – London**

**Wednesday 7th October, 18:00 – 22:00**

### **The Parcel Yard, Kings Cross**

Informal drinks open to all OWs

## **Worksop College Christmas Market**

**Saturday 21st November, 10:00 – 16:00**

Come along, browse our stalls and enjoy warm Mince Pies, Mulled Wine and Hot Chocolate  
OW stall holder discount of 10%, prices start from £70  
Email [s.dodsworth@wsnl.co.uk](mailto:s.dodsworth@wsnl.co.uk) for more information

## **50s Reunion Christmas Lunch**

**Sunday 29th November, 12:00 – 16:00**

### **The Great Hall, Worksop College**

## **Stay Connected - Sheffield drinks**

**Wednesday 2nd December, 18:00 – 22:00**

### **OHM Bar, Sheffield**

Informal drinks open to all OWs

**For more details on all events and how to book, please visit - [wsnl.co.uk/owevents](http://wsnl.co.uk/owevents)**



**WORKSOP COLLEGE PRESENTS THE**

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# **SUMMER SPECTACULAR**

**27 June, 2020 | 1 - 5pm  
Worksop College**

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**Live music, fairground rides, classic car exhibition,  
drama performances, bars,  
food stalls and more**

**For more information visit  
[wsnl.co.uk/summerspectacular](http://wsnl.co.uk/summerspectacular)**





**oldworksopians.com**  
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