



THE ARCH

OLD REPTONIAN NEWSLETTER



OFFICERS OF THE OLD REPTONIAN SOCIETY 2010

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Francis W.S. Russell (Orchard 1969) – Pilgrims

John F.R. Hird (Priory 1960) – Masonic Lodge

Cathy Twigg – Staff – Marketing & Development Director

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Deadline for articles for the next edition (May 2011) is March 31st 2011

Front Cover: Susie Gilbert (F'02), Charlotte Craddock (A'04) and Georgie Twigg (F'03) at the Samsung FIH Champions Trophy at Nottingham.

Back Cover: The Garth, Leavers 2010.

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY 2010 JOHN N KIRKLAND (O'51)

I hope you all have had a most enjoyable summer.

My year of office has been thoroughly enjoyable, meeting so many ORs.

Due to a family wedding, unfortunately I was unable to attend the Gaudy in June, one of the highlights of the year, but I understand that it was very well attended and a most enjoyable event. Many of the ORs who were there have since commented on the interest, courtesy and enthusiasm shown to them by all the escorting pupils.

In fact our family wedding, with two members of the Governing body and numerous ORs in attendance, was almost like a mini Gaudy.

Prior to the General Election I attended the Question Time Debate, which the School hosted. This was a very interesting evening, the pupils who conducted the whole debate were very professional and it was good to see so many people from the village as well as the School involved in the event.

I also thoroughly enjoyed the Speech Day, which was superbly run in a warm, friendly, family atmosphere.

This year's Annual Dinner will take place on Saturday, 13 November in Pears School. The Reception commences at 6.45 pm with Dinner at 7.30 pm.

I am also pleased to confirm that Barry Cryer will be the guest speaker and I am much looking forward to hearing him speak. Prior to the Dinner the Annual General Meeting will take place, at 6.00 pm, in the High Chamber and all are welcome to attend.

The last General Committee Meeting confirmed a number of events for the future. Drinks in the City will take place on 22 February 2011, and following the success of this year's event will again be held at The Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge - a superb location.

It is also planned to arrange a Cambridge Dinner and one to be held in the West Country. We are also planning another Dinner in Paris around Easter time.

In early October a number of representatives of the Governors and the Headmaster are visiting the Hong Kong Branch and are hoping to meet up with many of the ORs in that location. I wish them a most interesting and successful visit.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the Annual Dinner, which should be a very enjoyable evening.

With kind regards

John Kirkland



John Kirkland, 2010 President

DIARY OF EVENTS 2010/2011

OCTOBER 2010

- 15th Half-term begins, 4.30 pm
31st Half-term ends

NOVEMBER 2010

- Winter timetable begins
- 2nd Boys' 1st XI, 2nd, U14A v Wolverhampton GS (a)
Boys' U16, U15A v Wolverhampton GS
- 3rd Girls' 1st XI v Matlock Ladies (7.30 pm)
- 4th Chamber Concert, Music School, 7.30 pm
Round the World by Bike, Beldam Hall, 7.45 pm
- 6th Sale of Work
- 10th Chapel Choir Sing Evensong, Lincoln Cathedral, 5.30 pm
- 11th Girls' 1st XI Midlands Zone Round
- 13th Boys' 1st XI, 4th, U16A, U15A, U14A v Thornleigh
Girls' 1st XI, 2nd, 3rd, U16A v Cheltenham
OR Society AGM, 6.00 pm followed by OR
Society Annual Dinner, Pears School, 7.30 pm
- 14th Remembrance Sunday: Morning Service 10.05 am
- 16th Boys' 1st XI, 2nd, U16, U14A v Thomas Alleyne's
Girls' 1st XI, 3rd v Trent (a) dep. 1.15 pm
- 17th Subscription Concert: Alexander Romanovsky
(piano), Music School, 7.45 pm
- 18th School Play *Macbeth*, Pears School, 7.30 pm
- 19th School Play *Macbeth*, Pears School, 7.30 pm
- 20th Boys' 1st XI, U16, U15A v Bolton
Girls' 1st XI, 2nd, 3rd, U16A v Bromsgrove
School Play *Macbeth*, Pears School, 7.30 pm
- 23rd Boys' 1st XI, U16A, U14A&B v Manchester GS
- 25th Informal Concert, Music School, 9.15 pm
- 26th Repton Lecture Series and B Block - *Ice Dogs and Mongolia*, Beldam Hall, 7.45 pm
- 27th Boys' 1st XI, 2nd, 3rd, 4th v Liverpool Ramblers
Girls' 1st XI, 2nd, 4th, 5th v Rugby (a)
- 28th Repton School Music Society Concert
Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Pears School 7.45pm

DECEMBER 2010

- 1st Subscription Concert: *Opus Anglicanum: Figgy Pudding*, Chapel, 7.45 pm
- 4th Boys' 1st XI, 4th, U16B, U15A,B&C, U14A&B v Shrewsbury (a)
Girls' 1st XI, 2nd v Dean Close
- 5th Carol Service for Parents, Staff and Parish, 6.30 pm followed by reception in the Library
- 8th Christmas Band Concert, Pears School, 7.30 pm
- 9th Christmas Band Concert, Pears School, 7.30 pm
- 10th End of term

JANUARY 2011

- 5th Lent Term begins

FEBRUARY 2011

- 4th Half-term begins
- 13th Half-term ends
- 22nd **OR Society Drinks in the City**

MARCH 2011

- 18th Lent term ends

APRIL 2011

- 11th Summer term begins
- 21st Easter break
- 26th Return from Easter break

MAY 2011

- 27th Half-term begins

JUNE 2011

- 5th Half-term ends
- 11th The Gaudy - Years 1973 to 1996

JULY 2011

- 2nd Summer term ends

Dates correct at time of publication

CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIETY - James Ross (H'68)



Another school year has started and it is pleasing to see that despite the continuation of the economic downturn the number of pupils has reached a record level. There are 663 in the main school and numbers are also at their highest at both Foremarke and Dubai. These figures reflect the esteem with which Repton is held and the high quality of education on offer. At a recent OR committee meeting **Robert Kirkland (O'59)**, Chairman of the Foundation, commented that he attended a dinner prior to the start of term for all members of staff. What struck him was the feeling of team spirit within a happy and well motivated Common Room. That commitment rubs off on the pupils and hence the ongoing successes and the warm welcome always extended on a visit by all concerned.

Within days of a new term there is already headline news of Reptonians current and of the immediate past who have excelled on the international sporting front. On a Friday evening in September current 1st X1 footballer Johnnie Gorman (C) gained his fourth full international cap for Northern Ireland in the European Championship qualifiers. Two days later he was playing for the Repton side in the ISFA six a side tournament that lifted the trophy for the third time in our history. Recent leavers, **Georgie Twigg (F'03)**, **Susie Gilbert (F'02)** and **Charlotte Craddock (A'04)**, represented England in the Hockey World Cup in Argentina, winning bronze medals.

These achievements are of much merit but it must not be forgotten that one of the great strengths of Repton is that it is committed both in and out of the classroom to extending the abilities of pupils of all levels. There are many who will not have had the publicity afforded to those mentioned but whose achievements are no less worthy.

Finally I hope to see many of you at the OR Dinner. Thanks to the generosity of an OR, the guest speaker will be the scriptwriter Barry Cryer. It should be a memorable evening.

James Ross (H'68) Chairman OR Society

ANNUAL DINNER 13th NOVEMBER 2010



We are delighted that Barry Cryer OBE has agreed to be our guest speaker at this year's annual dinner. Barry was born in Leeds and educated at Leeds Grammar School then Leeds University. While appearing in a University revue, he was offered a week's work at the famous City Variety Theatre, home of The Good Old Days, the longest-running television entertainment show in the world. In later years, he was to appear on the show many times. He appeared all over the country in what were known as 'the Number Threes'

His variety work led him to the Windmill Theatre in London, a club and legendary school for comedians whose graduates include Sir Harry Secombe and Peter Sellers. The Windmill at that time showed comedy acts in between nude shows, and this later took Barry to theatres around the UK.

Barry performed in *Expresso Bongo*, a musical savaging the pop music scene of the day, starring Paul Schofield, Millicent Martin and Susan Hampshire. It was during this period he started making records and had the rare distinction of having a Number One hit in Finland. Barry believes that this may have had something to do with the fact that they gave away a car with each record. After this, he commenced writing for revues at The Fortune Theatre, home of *Beyond the Fringe*. This led to writing and appearing in night club shows with Danny La Rue, an association that was to last for thirteen years.

Highlights of his career include night club shows with Danny La Rue, charity shows at the Players' Theatre Old Tyme Music Hall and In 1990 Barry teamed up with his old friend, the late Willie Rushton in their own show, *Two Old Farts in the Night*. They played for two seasons at the Edinburgh Festival and a forty-date UK tour as well as releasing a video, performing to full houses until Willie's untimely death in 1996

Barry Cryer has successfully combined two careers in show business - as a writer and a performer. As a writer he has written for practically every top comedian, past and present in the country, including Morecambe and Wise - Bruce Forsyth - Tommy Cooper - Kenny Everett - Stanley Baxter - Dick Emery - Dave Allen - Frankie Howard - Les Dawson - Ronnie Barker - Ronnie Corbett - Mike Yarwood - Billy Connolly - Russ Abbot - Bobby Davro - Jasper Carrott, and many others.

He has contributed to some of the top entertainment shows, which have won many awards including the Pye Light Entertainment, BAFTA, the Royal Society and The Press Guild. As a performer he has appeared on practically every panel game on television and radio including *Countdown*, *That's Showbusiness*, *Blankety Blank*, *Punch Lines*, *I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue* - which recently completed its 30th series and has won the Sony Radio Award for Best Comedy Programme, amongst other accolades.

Over the past few years, Barry has regularly performed his own one-man show and has established a reputation for nurturing new comedy talent, having hosted *The Stand-up Show* on BBC Television and the BBC New Comedy Awards.

In November 2001 Barry was awarded an OBE.

Barry is one of the country's most popular after dinner speakers and hosts for corporate events. **Tickets to the Annual Dinner are £41. The evening will commence at 6.45pm with a drinks reception. Dinner is a three course meal in Pears School. You are also invited to the AGM of the Old Reptonian Society at 6.00pm. Please complete the enclosed booking form and return to the OR office.**

Or go to www.orsociety.com / Old Reptonians / Forthcoming events for a downloadable booking form.

AUSTRALIAN REPTON REUNION 2011

Kait Hall (A'88) and **Adam Staples (B'86)**, invite all Antipodes-dwelling Reptonians to the inaugural Australian Repton Reunion on Saturday 15th January 2011. The reunion venue will be the Riverland Bar (www.riverlandbar.com), Melbourne from 1pm. Kait and Adam are absolutely appreciative of the fact that Australia is rather large and should this reunion prove to be of some significance, the next one will be in another state or capital territory.

For further details and/or RSVP, please contact Kait Hall (kait@hotmail.net.au) or Adam Staples (adam.staples@acu.edu.au).

DRINKS IN THE CITY 2011

Over 100 ORs attended a very successful 2010 Drinks In The City at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge and we have decided to return there for the 2011 event on February 22nd. It is a splendid venue and we hope to see you there. Please complete the enclosed booking form and return to the OR office.

Or go to www.orsociety.com / Old Reptonians / Forthcoming events for a downloadable booking form.

Andrea Ballance (née Sutton) (A'79) has been made Housemistress of Worcester House, Clifton College.

Rebecca Batten (G'93). Reba served on several ships of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (including a tanker) and at three 'Theatres of war' and became a Master Mariner. She was then Mate and Cargo Officer on several B.P. contracted Tankers. Next she read for an LLB at Southampton University during which time she was an Assistant Warden of Hall and also a Chief Officer on the Isle of Wight ferries. Then she was an Oil Cargo Surveyor before becoming a trainee with top London maritime Solicitors and being admitted to the law society in 2009. Reba now has a Public Service Appointment. With compliments of her father **John Batten (P'52)**.

Martyn Beckett (B'64)

recently celebrated his 60th birthday with a day at Trent Bridge to watch England v Pakistan. A group of ORs attended - **Simon Bell (L'68)**, **Frank Russell (O'69)**, **Nick Smith (B'69)**, **Tim Pywell (B'63)**, **John Crane (B'67)**, **Richard Body (H'63)**, **Martyn Beckett (B'64)**.



Matthew Bullock (L'86) graduated from the University of Bath in July 2010 with a Masters of Business Administration (MBA).

Edward Burrell (L'98) has passed out from The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and has been awarded a commission in the Royal Artillery Regiment.

Suzie Chamberlain (A'02), has gained a Class 2:1 in Biological Sciences from Oxford University.

Owen Dacey (S'97) has qualified as a Solicitor at city firm, Kennedys, into the Professional Negligence Litigation Department.

Catriona (Kitty) Dann (F'00) graduated this year from Glasgow University with a First Class Honours MA in Italian and French. She is moving to Merton College Oxford to start a Master of Studies in European Literature in October 2010.

Kenn d'Oudney (B'59) has given over 1250 concerts at town and music festivals, Stadtfeste, etc. in Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and France, and is writer or co-writer of the songs and music performed. Kenn is the producer of a new album of a selection of his songs, now out on the Scorpio Recording Company label. They feature Astra, his professional musician daughter (450 concerts), who, in the recording studio sings the lead and backing vocals and plays all the variety of backing and solo instruments. You can hear clips by visiting www.astramusic.org "*Great songs that stay in your mind. Fascinating and moving lyrics, versatility of style.*" Nicholas Pirson, D.J., Radio Panach France. The CD is available from www.CDBaby.com/astratunes or downloadable from Amazon, iTunes, etc.



Blair Dunlop (S'05) is currently on a nationwide tour with Bill Kenwright's revival of the 1978 National Theatre dramatisation of Flora Thompson's "Lark Rise to Candleford", in the part of Musician. The music for "Lark Rise" was originally written by Blair's father Ashley Hutchings, founder member of the legendary folk-rock group Fairport Convention, as well as of Steeleye Span and The Albion Band. Three decades later, the son now performs the father's music.

He has recorded a six-track CD on the Talking Elephant label (TECD EP 101). Entitled "An E.P.", and is the first example of a recording originally made in the Repton studio to be released professionally. Initial reception of the disc has been highly encouraging, with one of its tracks gaining recent airplay on Radio Two's popular Mike Harding Show.



Trevor Dunthorne (P'76) and **Godfrey Turnbull (P'77)** met up in Trevor's 'home city' of Pittsburgh.

Sarah Fearn (F'01) has graduated from Durham University with a Class 2:1 in Modern Languages (French, Spanish and Arabic).

Charles Harris, QC, (B'58) is this year's President of the 600-strong Council of Circuit Judges, those who handle the bulk of the serious cases. He will have an interesting time, seeking to maintain judicial independence as an arm of the constitution at a time of budgetary deficit. Delays in proceedings, staff shortages, judges' pay, are issues which will almost certainly be occupying his time.

Rev'd C.M. Jones (M'70) has completed his 13 year term as Housemaster at Eton. He will continue as Housemasters' Representative and take up Assistant Chaplaincy duties once again.



This summer saw the retirement of **Andrew Li (H'63)** CBE from his position as Chief Justice of Hong Kong. In that post he has fulfilled a particularly important role in his country's legal history, ensuring that the rule of law and constitutional rights have been held in place since 1997 when Hong Kong became an administrative region of the

People's Republic of China. He was able to establish the basic principles of his country's legal system, a claim that few judges can make.

It is said that Andrew Li's achievement is to have built the foundation stone of constitutional law in Hong Kong in the most sensitive of political conditions. His judgements have been widely appreciated on a wide range of issues including the meaning of a fair trial, the right to travel, free speech and privacy. Perhaps the greatest tribute to Andrew's work is that the Hong Kong legal system is in excellent health and hopefully will remain so.

Anthony Matthews (L'56) was artist in residence at the Mémorial Du Souvenir "Dynamo" Museum at Dunkirk from May 26th to 31st and as part of the 70th anniversary of the Dunkirk evacuation held a small exhibition, entitled "My Uncle Fred". The exhibition consisted of prints of a "Carnet de Voyage" that Anthony drew a few years back of that momentous event.

In pen and watercolour it was dedicated to Anthony's father's elder brother, whose exploits are described in the exhibition, but who sadly died in the battle. Before moving to France

Anthony worked as a freelance illustrator in London, and drew for many companies and publishers. Anthony now lives in France and is retired, but still paints and draws.



Ruth Millington (F'00) has graduated from Durham University with a First Class Honours Degree in Classics and Art History.

Alastair Needler (N'82) has been appointed Chairman of Governors at Bramcote School, Scarborough.

Julian Nowell (C'59) has had a selection of his photographs from the '70's printed in a book written by Christopher Hilton, a well known sports author, called 'Grand Prix Battlegrounds'. This is a very comprehensive book about all the Formula 1 circuits ever used for a World Championship Grand Prix, since the first one at Silverstone in 1950 to the present day in Abu Dhabi.

Sarah Parker (F'02) has gained a Class I degree in Experimental Psychology from Oxford University.



Terjinder D.S. Purewal (P'01) graduated from Nottingham Trent University with a First Class BSc Honours Degree in Real Estate Management. Terjinder has successfully secured a position as a Graduate Estates Surveyor in the property department at Holland and Barrett Retail Ltd.

THANK YOU

To Mr **J L Mayall (H'46)** for donating to the Old Reptonian Office copies of 'A Public School Looks at the World' issues March 1917 June 1917, July 1917, November 1917, December 1917 and a picture titled 'SOME OF THE STAFF, REPTON' drawn by J.Wendell in 1915. The artist was Mr Mayall's father's (**JB Mayall H'1912**) fag.



One of the visitors to Repton this summer was **John Reddington (C'47)** who dropped into the School to view the recently completed portrait of The Rev. Michael Clarke, Repton's former Headmaster. John was most influential in the initial campaign to have the portrait done and upon viewing it expressed great satisfaction with the outcome.

Dan Reeve (L'01) gained a First Class Honours degree in his finals at Oxford University and is returning to do an M.St. in English 650-1550. He has secured funding from the Jeremy Griffiths Studentship for a candidate with a research interest in the history of the book.

Michael Rushton (M'61) has been awarded a PhD at Manchester University.

Matthew Shaw (B'81) was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in June 2008 and will take up the post of Commanding Office of Oxford University Office Training Corps in December 2010.

Emma Smith (F'07) has graduated from Liverpool University having achieved a Class 2:1 BA Honours in Architecture.

Shuang Song (S'03) has gained a Class 2:1 degree in Biochemistry from Bristol University.

Joe Steele (P'00), after leaving Repton, went on to study Fine Art at Newcastle University where he graduated with a First Class Honours Degree. During his time at Newcastle he began to exhibit work in 'pop up shows', exhibitions held independently in abandoned industrial spaces, for which he won multiple awards.

Now living and working in London, Joe began to develop the 'Blast' series of works in January 2010. The concept is a take on the 'automatic art' methods of artists such as Damien Hirst, but the explosive format stemmed from creating a release from his artistic frustration! The police had to be notified of his unusual activities and the artwork was created with help from a special effects explosive expert. Joe has launched a new art exhibition in New Court Gallery.



BIRTHS

Johanna McBurney (née Green) (G'91) and Calum a daughter Emilia Anneli on 14th August 2009.

David Dews (H'80) and his wife Amy are delighted to announce the arrival of their son Theo on 4th June 2010. Cousin for Clara and Charlie (children of **Peter (Norman) Dews H'84**).

Hugo Garton (O'92) and his wife Rebecca are delighted to announce the birth of their third child, Jacob James, on 29th March 2010.

Jennie Hulett (née Cox) (A'93) and Russell are delighted to announce the arrival of Bethan Iona on August 18th.



Ruth Shaw (nee Fletcher) (G'92) and **Matthew Shaw (B'81)** are delighted to announce the birth of their second daughter, Alice Sophie Daisy on 22nd May 2009 in Belfast. A sister for Millie.

CONGRATULATIONS

The engagement has been announced of **Max Henderson (L'92)** to Natasha Coombes. The wedding will take place on 4th February 2011 in Zermatt, Switzerland.

Charles Wells (B'55) and his wife Jan, recently celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary. ORs attending were **Jeremy Tomlinson (B'54), Humphrey Barrett (B'55), Julian Davies (B'55)**. **Justin Wells (P'86)** managed everything. **Michael Rolf (B'57)** could not make it due to a previous engagement. Charles reports "all have changed surprisingly little, except perhaps they have less hair!"

MARRIAGES

Tom Bennett (N'86) and Anna Goodfellow were married on 24th July 2010 in Exeter Cathedral. Old Reptonians who attended the wedding were: Best man **Richard Hadwen (B'86), Nick Hadwen (B'85), David Bennett (M'88), Luke Bennett (L'94), Ania Lipinski (G'94), Chris Smale (C'94)** and **Emily Smale (née Bennett) (A'98)**

The photograph shows Tom and Anna with Bishop Michael Langrish.



The wedding of Fiona Harding (A'93) and Tom Harold took place on 5th June 2010 at Repton School Chapel followed by a reception on the Paddock.

ORs in attendance were: Back row (left to right) -

Tori Murphy (A'93), Verity Tate (née Jordan) (A'94), Angela Walker (A'93), Caroline McGuirk (née Hyde) (A'93), Sarah Jones (née Harding) (A'91), Tom Harold, Fiona Harold (A'93), Lizzie Lumsden (A'96), Mary Elliott (née Tate) (A'93), Georgina Burke (née Bailey) (A'93), Fiona Jackson (A'93), Sarah Smith (née Berisford) (A'96), Clare Chambers (née Harding) (A'95), Niki Harding (A'97), Rebecca Smith (A'93), Victoria Bavister (Foremarke only)

Front row (left to right) - **Paul Tate (N'91), Tim Burke (Foremarke), James Shaw (O'93), Chris Cavey (P'96), Ben Cavey (P'92), Mark Elliott (Foremarke), Tom Chambers (N'90), Guy Levesley (H'75), Alex Kington (N'91)**

Missing from photograph - **Rob Fish (N'91), Rachel Hill (née Kington) (Foremarke)**



MARRIAGES Continued

The wedding took place of **Louise Howarth (G'96)** and Theo Trayhurn on 12th June 2010 at St Peter's Church, Edensor, Chatsworth Estate, Derbyshire followed by a reception at Losehill House Hotel, Hope Valley, Derbyshire.

Old Reptonians who were present (left to right):

Naomi Bowman (G'96), Elizabeth Hussey (née Parker) (A'96), Richard Steele (P'94), Lucy Chilton (G'96), Andrew Silvey (P'96), Amanda Fallon (G'96), Louise Allen (G'00), Catherine Rang (A'96), Ben Whitehead (P'96), Lee Alderman (Staff), Mark Thompson (P'99), Amy Lovett (G'96), Ben Steele (P'96). Also in attendance was **Edd Stanton (L'96)**



Omar Hadeed (P'99) married Danielle Brennan in Port of Spain, Trinidad. Present at the wedding were Omar's brothers **Luke (P'00)** and **Scott Hadeed (P'04)** and his sister **Brooke Hadeed (A'09)**. Other guests included Mike and Clair Stones.



Michael Kirkland (P'93) married Katherine Hannah Dawson on 12th June 2010. ORs in attendance were, from left to right, **Roger Litchfield (B'60), Charlie Daley (B'93), Robert Kirkland (O'59), Michael Kirkland, Katherine Kirkland, John Kirkland (O'51), James Stevenson (P'95), Chris Kirkland (P'95).**



Duncan Mills (B'86) married Linnea Jonsson at Vatnass in Sweden. Best Man was brother **Alastair (B'88)**, Master of Ceremonies was **David Hall (B'86)**. Other ORs in attendance were **Bruce Millar (M'86)** and **James Jefferson (C'88)**.



The wedding of **Richard Talbot (P'89)** and Hilary (née Coleman) took place near Winchester on 10th April 2010. They had a lovely sunny day and lots of family and friends were there. ORs in attendance were **Ian Hall (N'90)** and brother **Peter Talbot (P'93)**. Richard and Hilary honeymooned in South Africa, Botswana and Mozambique.



Note: In the May edition of The Arch we announced the wedding of **Nick Hart (H'88)** to Sarah McGinnes in Thurlstone, Devon on 9th May 2009. Nick would like to issue a grovelling apology to **Alison West (A'85)** who was also in attendance. Ali introduced Sarah to Nick who is eternally grateful.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BROOK

Colin Robert Ravensdale Eagleton (B'45) on 28th October 2009.

Michael R Parker (B'32) on 7th March 2009.

Dr Mark Richard Towndrow (B'76) on 29th June 2009.

CROSS

John Derek (C'31) on 3rd April 2010 in Nyanga, Zimbabwe.

Ken Gregory (C'47) on 10th September 2010.

FIELD

Lucy Whitehead (M'04) on 1st September 2010.

HALL

Edward Grant-Ives (H'41) in June 2010 at home in Somerset.

LATHAM

Ashley Dunn (L'61) on 22nd August 2010 in Cape Town.

Canon Christopher Tubbs (L'39) on 18th April 2010.

MITRE

Thomas Eaton (M'67) on 18th March 2010.

Gilbert John Wheat (M'30) on 20th March 2010.

NEW

Michael James Arthur Britten (N'44) on 14th April 2010.

Joseph Edge (N'54) on 7th June 1994.

ORCHARD

John Nicholas Denham (O'67) on 6th April 2010.

Charles Eaton Anthony Hammond (O'56) on 8th January 2010.

PRIORY

Brian Bartley (P'33) on September 8th 2010 aged 91.

FORMER STAFF

Elsie Bowen, Former matron in the Hall, on 8th July 2010.

ERRATUM

The May Issue of The Arch printed the death announcement of **Peter Gessie King (P'51)**. The correct text should have been **Peter Geoffrey King (P'51)**. The Editorial team would like to pass on their apologies to Peter's family for any distress caused.

OBITUARIES - ROBERT DIXON (N'39)

Bob's passion was flying and he was lucky enough to command two Squadrons:- 92 Squadron which took on the role of the RAF acrobatic team "The Blue Diamonds" and the 58 PR Squadron. He also enjoyed three tours as Air or defence Attaché in Finland, Sweden and Japan.

In retirement he kept busy with lobster fishing, golf, travelling, entertaining and gardening.

OBITUARIES - MISS BARBARA M. FOSTER (New House Matron 1981-96)

A Life Cheerfully Led

That motto which appeared on the service sheet for her funeral aptly summed up her life. This began on 26th September 1931 and, after attending the National School, Southwell and then Newark High School for Girls, she went on to training as a Nursery Nurse in Southwell and Leicester eventually becoming a qualified Nanny.

She then worked for two families caring for their respective children. She accepted a position in this second family initially for six months but stayed for 18 years. Once the family had dispersed she looked for a new position and was appointed resident Matron at New House January 1981 under Mr and Mrs French.

The change from looking after just one or two children in a family to a House of around sixty adolescent boys must have been of a seismic proportion. However, she coped magnificently and stayed for fifteen years. In many ways she was the archetypal House Matron – one of the last of a dying (if not already dead) breed. She would breakfast in her own room before morning surgery; have lunch daily on the 'B' block table and supper with us during the week on the private side. She would attend Chapel each Sunday morning with Mrs Muir, sitting in the now defunct 'Hen Pen' in the North transcript with other Matrons and Housemaster's wives. After Chapel there was the regular coffee and gossip with other Matrons as well as another day during the week.

She liked walking and was a keen supporter of New House on the games field from First House cricket on The Square (her favourite) to 4th House football on Sale Flats. She was particularly keen that the boys were always properly turned out and there were frequently frantic notes left for her in the sewing room "Dear, Darling Magger, please could you wash these cricket whites for tomorrow? Love, Johnnie". When the House did a play she would invariably help in the Green Room with any alterations or mending that needed to be done and she also helped at School Plays.

She was never too familiar with the boys but treated them in a kind, sensible and firm way. They had much to be thankful for and so did we.

J.R. Muir

OBITUARIES - JOHN OLIVER (O'30)

His Daughter writes:

I write to advise you that my father, John Oliver, who was in Orchard House from 1 Sept 1930 to 1 July 1934, passed away peacefully at his home in Stilfontein, South Africa, on 21 June 2010, aged 94.

Sadly I know very little of my father's time at Repton, save for a few stories of his duties as a 'fag' and of pupils aged 14 to 18 swimming in a large open-air pool wearing nothing at all. A framed print of The Arch and Old Priory remained a cherished possession that he kept throughout his life.

After Repton, my father obtained a B.Sc. (Hons) degree in Chemistry, Botany and Zoology from the University of Manchester, attended the Bible Churchmen's College in Clifton, Bristol, and obtained a B.A. and a Licentiate in Theology from St John's College at Durham University, before being ordained in Southwark Cathedral in 1942.

His first appointment was as curate of Christ Church in the parish of New Malden & Coombe. Thereafter he was a curate at St Andrew's Church, Gorleston-on-Sea, in Norfolk. In Gorleston he married his first wife, Gladys Kirchoff. Their first child, a daughter, died in infancy before they emigrated to South Africa in 1947. During his time as resident rector of Holy Trinity Church, Bramley, Johannesburg, he took up stock-car racing and big-game hunting as recreational pursuits, and undertook expeditions into Central Africa, climbing Kilimanjaro on one of them. He bred the first Red Point Siamese cat in South Africa at his Bramley Cattery. His second child, a son, also died in infancy, and he and Gladys subsequently divorced.

He left the ministry as a full-time profession in 1958 (though he remained active as a lay preacher and Sunday School teacher), becoming a science master (and later Vice-Principal) at Highlands North Boys' High School in Johannesburg. There his legendary demonstrations and tricks included detonating a large bell-shaped jar filled with methane on the rugby field, and running a current through the door handle of his lab so as to shock any latecomers to his classes. He was actively involved in coaching the school's cricket, hockey and shooting teams. As a member of the (then) South African Cricket Umpires Association, he also umpired cricket at first class level.

He married my mother, Primrose Hansen, in 1962, and they had three children – Andrew, myself (Marian) and Timothy – between 1963 and 1969. Sadly, his younger son Timothy died in a motor vehicle accident while doing his National Service in 1989, and his elder son Andrew died tragically in 1995. My father retired, nominally at least, leaving Highlands North in 1976, but he continued teaching science at other Johannesburg high schools until his 'real' retirement, when he ceased working altogether, in 1995. My parents moved to Stilfontein in South Africa's North West Province the following year, and there he was still actively cycling around the village into his nineties.

My father was always proud to be an Old Reptonian, and it never ceased to amaze and delight him that he continued to receive the Society's publications and correspondence so long after having been a pupil at Repton. So on his behalf, I'd like to thank the Society for its efforts to keep its connection with my father throughout his life.

Marian Oliver

OBITUARIES - MAURICE STOCKDALE (H'27)

5th June 1913 – 26th May 2010

Maurice was born in Mauritius, hence the name 'Maurice', in June 1913, as the world was moving inexorably towards war. His father was an agronomist with the colonial office and Maurice's formative years were those of a child of an ex patriate family moving from one overseas posting to another.

He spent the first 8 or so years of his life in Ceylon, until he was old enough to be sent back to England to prep school at Edgeborough in Surrey. From then on his life moved between school and the house of his guardian, a Yorkshire vicar, seeing his parents at most once a year when their home leave brought them back to England or time and distance permitted him to visit them in their current posting. After Edgeborough, Maurice went on to Repton, where his Housemaster and the Headmaster was the legendary Geoffrey Fisher, who was later to become Archbishop of Canterbury. Good at games, he had a distinguished sporting career, playing in the 1st XI at cricket and ultimately becoming Head Prefect.

He left Repton in 1932 and, rather than continuing going on to University, opted for a career in the city. He joined Harrison Crossfield, then a major commodity trading house and plantation owner specialising in commodities such as tea, coffee and rubber in many parts of the world including Latin America and the Far East. After about 5 years in the city, Maurice decided on a change of career, joining the RAF to train as a pilot. His training took him to India, where he learned to fly on bi-planes such as wapitis and tiger moths.

In 1943 he returned to England to fly heavy bombers in the European theatre and married his first wife, Bobby. He was soon promoted to Squadron Leader in 12th squadron, initially flying Wellingtons and ultimately Lancasters. He flew over 90 missions and was awarded both the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Silver Star, for conspicuous gallantry, the latter while on secondment with the USAAF. After completing his 3rd tour, he was promoted to Wing Commander and became Base Commander for over 200 bomber pilots.

OBITUARIES - MAURICE STOCKDALE (H'27) Continued

After the war, Maurice joined and became a director of Booker Brothers, an agricultural produce company with interests in East Africa and British Guyana. After spending time in both places, he returned to England and moved to the merchant bank, Anthony Gibbs & Co, which also had major interests in Latin America, including financing the trade in agricultural products. In 1954 he made what was to be his final career move. He became the Managing Director of what was then known as 'The London Produce Clearing House', a company in which Anthony Gibbs had a significant interest. Subsequently renamed the 'International Commodities Clearing House', the company specialised in clearing and matching trades in soft commodities and at that time was already one of the leaders in its field.

Maurice remained the MD of the clearing house for over 24 years, until his retirement in 1978. During his years of running the company, he presided over a major expansion of the business, widening the range of commodities and transactions cleared.

In the late '60's Maurice's first wife, Bobby, tragically died shortly after they had celebrated their silver wedding. In 1969 he married Anne, with whom he shared the remaining 40 years of his life. After a fulfilling and successful career, Maurice was blessed with a long and active retirement, spanning some 32 years, during which he pursued his many interests. He and Anne shared a love of travel and enjoyed many trips, both business and pleasure to all corners of the world. She also went with him on the many fishing trips when he indulged his great passion for fly fishing. Throughout his life Maurice had an abiding interest in politics and for many years was an active member of his local Conservative branch.

A fortunate man, his was a long, happy and fulfilled life, particularly blessed by a loving and caring wife and his loving pride in his daughter Susan, his grandchildren, Debbie and Guy, and his great grandchildren, Charlotte and Ellisia.

James Stockdale (Nephew)

OBITUARIES - WALTER ALLAN – FORMER STAFF

Walter Allan had a versatile publishing career. He latterly produced a solid list of textbooks in Economics and Accountancy for Elsevier, but by his many friends he will be more warmly remembered for his wide range of outside interests, from convivial dining to Hibernian Football Club.

Allan was educated at Hawick High School before going on to Heriot-Watt University, where he captained the 1st XI football team and graduated in Economics in 1978.

After making a start in financial services in Edinburgh and then in teaching at Repton School, he found his true vocation when he went to work for the academic publisher, Allen & Unwin in London, where he was to commission more than 60 titles for the Economics list. In 1986 he moved to Macmillan to gain the broader experience that prepared him for the big step in his career, when he became publishing director at the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) in 1990.

Walter never lost touch with Scotland. His first wife, Sylvia and family still lived in the Borders, where he returned to Scotland in 1996 to set up an economic consultancy. In recent years he travelled widely in the former Soviet Union to sell books and educational materials about the wonders of capitalism. But his health broke down at the end of last year and he died on 5 March 2010 in Manchester, where he had been teaching at a business college.

Allan is survived by his mother; by his first wife Sylvia and their two sons, Christopher and Martin; by Cameron, his son from his second marriage to the late Kate Miskin; and by his third wife, Eunice.

TRIBUTES FROM FORMER PUPILS

Adrian Pepper (H'83) writes: Walter Allan taught economics at Repton between 1981 and 1984. The son of a postman from Melrose in the Scottish Borders who spent much of his later adult life mixing with influential City and political figures, Wally typified the Man who (as Kipling put it) could "walk with Kings nor lose the common touch".

He was determined to ensure that his pupils also understood that there was a world beyond the public school system. **MSH Smith (M'78)** recognised that "he invigorated and enriched our lives at that important time in a way that Repton could not have done without him". Many Sixth Formers saw him as a friend and mentor as much as a teacher. **ASJ Pass (H'79)** recalls the quality of the sausage rolls that Wally's wife, Sylv, would provide to boys calling in at their Repton home.

Wally was highly entertaining and witty company. He was prone to the use of the vernacular, which many of us as schoolboys found hilarious because so few other teachers used language as colourful as his. The anatomical analogies he produced to question **RG Hodgkinson's (M'81)** inability to find a golf course on a map on the way to a school match are the stuff of legend but unprintable as direct quotes.

My own earliest memory of him is the encouragement he gave on the touchline of San Hall to **Hussein Yardimci's (H'83)** silky football skills. The passion of a genuine football fan, bred on the terraces of Hibernian's Easter Road ground in Leith, had come to Repton in full, broad Scots voice. When living in London in the 1990s, he was reunited with many ORs when he volunteered to run midweek training for the ORFC.

OBITUARIES - WALTER ALLAN – FORMER STAFF Continued

As a young man, Walter was not only a very talented footballer (captaining Heriot Watt University) but a keen cricketer and rugby player. Back in Scotland, he ran St Boswell's Cricket Club in Galashiels and wrote "*A History of the Melrose Sevens*". He was the author of several books on economic themes but the texts Reptonians will probably remember him best for are "*Concise A Level Economics*" and "*Concise O Level Business Studies*", revision guides sold through the School Shop.

I got to know him well when we were both pursuing careers in London in the nineties. Wally - or "Big Wal" as he had come to be known by then on account of his fondness for beer, Chinese food and curries – had left Repton to pursue a career in publishing, first with Allen and Unwin and then MacMillan. By 1991, he had been installed as the Publishing Director of the Institute of Economic Affairs, the public policy think tank described by the BBC's Andrew Marr in his *History of Modern Britain* as "undoubtedly the most influential think tank in modern political history." On the last Friday of every month, the Institute would host a convivial lunch bringing together journalists, politicians, businessmen and economists to discuss public affairs. As a Scottish economist who championed the idea that resources must be used efficiently, Wal would gather up all the unfinished bottles of wine after lunch and invite friends and colleagues to join him for a drink for the rest of the afternoon.

Adam Philips (B'79) writes: I was shocked and saddened to hear of Wally's untimely death. Wally taught me Economics at Repton School in 1983-1984. He was a good teacher, but he was much more than that in lots of ways. He ran the school 2nd XI football team and was passionate about his football. He instilled enthusiasm in everybody that knew him on and off the field. He was never scared to flout the rules and blur the boundaries of a normal pupil/teacher relationship – for instance, taking many of us to the pub after a school match and for this we loved him. Personally, he greatly influenced me in a number of ways, but one story sticks with me (and many of my peers no doubt) more than any other.

In the summer of 1983, Wally tried to organise an official holiday football tour, but was refused permission by the Headmaster. Not one to let authority get in the way of his plans, he organised the trip anyway. Hence, about 15 of us piled into a bare transit van in the Midlands and headed up north to play various games of football in Edinburgh. It is probably fair to say that this 6-7 hour journey may well be one of the most eventful journeys of our lives. We stopped for a few beers in Sheffield and then headed north to Newcastle. Boys being boys, we made the error of making some rude gestures to a menacing gang of skinheads in the middle of Newcastle and only just managed to get away from the mob by Wally crashing a red light. Buoyed up by our near escape, a certain member of the crew decided it would be fun to sit on the front window of the transit van and play the drums on the roof while Wally did 70 mph up the A68 towards Jedburgh. We all saw the police car coming in the other direction too late and I can remember my mouth becoming dry as we watched the said police car do a u-turn in the distance and start to chase us down. We were pulled over and Wally was taken out of the van. We watched with horror as Wally was breathalysed in the back of the police car. Then suddenly Wally got out of the car and got back in the driver's seat of the transit. Someone spoke, but Wally snarled at them to shut up. The police car drove off. After about 30 seconds which felt like an eternity, someone else tentatively asked Wally what had happened. He had passed and his reply was unprintable, saved to say the roof came off the transit and we partied all the way to Edinburgh. Many football games followed over the next few days and there were far too many beers sunk. For me, the damage had been done and I fell in love with Edinburgh. Over the next 12 months, Wally convinced me to follow in his footsteps to read Economics at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh.

So, it is fair to say that Wally had a huge influence on my life. Despite the fact that I saw him infrequently over the past 25 years, he was always exactly the same when we did catch up – full of life and humour. He was a lovely man and he will be missed.

OBITUARIES - PAT NORWOOD (1931-2010), REPTON 1960-91



Pat Norwood served Repton for many years in a remarkably varied range of roles. He made many friends among pupils and staff alike and will be sorely missed by those who were fortunate enough to know him.

Coming from a schoolmaster's family (his father was Headmaster of Kirkham Grammar School) he won the top scholarship to St. Peter's School, York after spending earlier years at Manchester G.S. Later he was to gain an Exhibition to Hertford College, Oxford where he read Mathematics. His teaching career began at Sedbergh but it was not long before he moved to a soccer-playing school, starting at Repton in 1960, football being one of his great loves and in particular Preston North End!

Extremely thorough in the classroom, Pat quickly earned respect as a teacher whose sets always enjoyed good results in public examinations. He was Head of the Maths Department from 1965 for 9 years, during which time in 1971 he was appointed to the position of Second Master, with specific responsibility for the A Level exams. He was to hold this post as Second Master for 8 years and for two separate spells was acting Headmaster during that time.

Pat's patience and hard work ensured that the school ticked over nicely, firstly during a Headmaster's Sabbatical leave, then in a period of Inter-Regnum. He would say later that he was tempted to make radical (and in his view much-needed) changes but wisdom prevailed!

After experience as a House Tutor in The Orchard, he took on the job of Housemaster of The Mitre in 1979 where he and his wife, Paddy, were to spend 6 years, devoting much time to the boys in their care and supporting them in many ways. As a schoolmaster he was characteristically cheerful and patient, notably willing to take an active part in all aspects of the school ranging from sport (where his rather long shorts often provoked comment when he was refereeing or playing staff football) to CCF where he attended frequent camps and adventurous training. In the latter capacity he attended pioneering CCF camps abroad, specifically in Belgium, and was also Master i/c Shooting. At the time the climbing, abseiling, death slides, assault course (including one particularly fearsome one!) and boat work were all new to the Repton CCF. Perhaps it took him back to his National Service days in the Royal Navy (where he would jokingly boast that his overseas travel had got him as far as The Isle of Wight!)

On retirement Pat and Paddy lived in the village of Honington in Suffolk from where they would frequently make trips to their beloved Ireland and at times to Whitby where for a time they had a home. Paddy's sudden, untimely death threw Pat on his own resources for some time but he always maintained a close link with Repton and was a frequent supporter of Old Reptonian events such as a Gaudy or Drinks in the City, occasions which were always brightened by his smile and his friendly conversation. After battling with cancer for some time, Pat succumbed to the illness in March of this year but not before he had made a huge effort to attend the last of these OR occasions. He will be sadly missed.

Mike Stones

BRANCHES OF SOCIETY - FOOTBALL

OLD REPTONIAN FOOTBALL CLUB

Arthurian League Captain – **Richard Wynne (P'92)**
 Arthur Dunn Cup Captain – **Ollie Ford (O'97)**
 Chairman - **Nick Walford (B'69)**

The Arthur Dunn Cup, second only to the FA Cup as the world's oldest football cup competition, will always be the yardstick by which the Old Reptonians Football Club will be judged. As one of the most successful clubs in the Cup's long history, it is fitting that the first signs of an exciting new era for the ORs can be seen in their performance in that competition.

Last season's January 4-5 loss to eventual winners Eton felt like a huge disappointment at the time, but in hindsight it seems the new, young side on show were barely showing their potential. With new recruits such as **Tim Lambert (P'04)** and **Will Boot (S'04)** now making their way south and into the Arthurian League team, there is every reason to believe that this could be the ORFC's year.

Outside of the cup, last season was full of the ORFC's characteristic thrills and spills, with an opening day 5-1 victory over Radley a highlight, along with two fixtures against Malvern which yielded a combined total of 16 goals.



ORFC 3rd XI

Fantastic performances against the school in September – 4 victories, with a particular highlight being ORFC 1st XI beating last year's ISFA Cup finalists 3-0 – pay testament to this, and the team can only get stronger as players gel and systems fall into place.



ORFC 1st XI

2009/2010 SEASON RESULTS

Division 1 Final League Position: 9th
 Arthur Dunn Cup Last 16 defeat to eventual winners, Old Etonians

This season it is hoped we can transform this unpredictability into the ruthless efficiency shown by the school last season, in both League and Cup. With recent leavers now flocking to London, and the club most definitely on the up, there is no reason to believe the ORFC can't emulate the school's recent success.

The Old Reptonian Football Club plays in the Arthurian League, a League of Public School alumni teams based in London, and also competes in the illustrious Arthur Dunn Cup. We always need players for our main Arthurian League teams, the prestigious Dunn side and our Veterans team, so please get in touch if you would like to play.

If you would like to get involved in the ORFC please contact Dale Bilson (L03); dalebilson@hotmail.co.uk 07763837896

Or join us on Facebook: ORFC – Old Reptonian Footballers

**Veterans' team Captain Nick Walford (B69)
 walfordn@yahoo.co.uk 07590828719**

BRANCHES OF SOCIETY - GOLF

SENIOR DARWIN TOURNAMENT

Having at long last fielded a strong team Repton succeeded in reaching the semi-final of the Senior Darwin Tournament. We defeated Eton in the first round and Wellington in the second before losing to Marlborough in the semi-final.

Tim Sale (C'53)

The team comprised, left to right:- **David Pepper (H'53)**, **Patrick Franklin-Adams (H'58)**, **Tim Sale (C'53)**, **Roger Ellwood (C'50)**, **Richard George (H'57)** and **John Beddington (N'57)**.



BRANCHES OF SOCIETY - CRICKET

REPTON PILGRIMS 2010

After reaching The Cricketer Cup final in 2009. It was a shame that we did not go one better this year. But once again availability was an issue and the captain never had a full squad to pick from. In fact in the game which ended tied against Old Malvernians the side included only four of the team that reached the final last year. Having said that, some quality talent was unearthed and it was good to see **Tom Cosford (L'05)** from this years XI and **Chris Murrall (O' 05)**, who left last year, make their debuts along with **Hamza Siddique (S'07)**, who showed some class as he accumulated a more than useful total against Malvern.

The Week

The Week was rather fragmented this year. All seemed okay on the Monday when we took on the Lincolnshire Gents and lost and then we played the Staffs Gents on the Tuesday and won. We then discovered that we had no side to take on the Warwickshire Imps and had to cancel and then on the Thursday Ashby Hastings failed to appear.

The future

One thing seems certain and that is there is a good ground swell of Reptonians wanting to play Pilgrims cricket but not much opportunity for them to do so. The pinnacle might be The Cricketer Cup but the club is much more than that. Perhaps we should play two games on Speech Day? Perhaps we should organise a short tour; Monday to Thursday so league cricket is not interfered with? All things are possible but there is no point in organising fixtures and then failing to fulfil them.

RESULTS:

The Cricketer Cup

1st Rd v Winchester (away) WON

Old Wykehamists 254-5; Pilgrims 256-5, **Charlie Sindrey (C'03)** 81 off 84 balls. 14 fours in a stand of 99 for 2nd wicket with **Tom Swerling (H'92)** 42 off 57 balls.

Luke Lacey (C'07) bowled 6 overs, 3 maidens, for 8 runs but 0 wickets

2nd Rd v Bradfield Waifs (Home) WON

Pilgrims 275-7; **Ross Whiteley (N'05)** 109 off 67 balls, 17 fours and 4 sixes in a stand of 118 for 3rd wicket with **Ed "Woody" Bridgeman (N'01)** 58 off 79 balls, 8 fours
Jack Lamb (O'01) 6 overs, 1 maiden, 4 wickets for 31 runs literally took out the middle order helped by some smart catching.

3rd Rd v Old Malvernians (Home) LOST on wickets.

Hamza Siddique (S'07) on debut 71 not out off 107 balls, 7 fours.

Pilgrims 173-8 Old Malvernians 173-7

Jim Blackwell (P'00) was the pick of the bowlers with 10 overs, 1 maiden, 3 wickets for 34 runs. The team did really well to defend 174 until the final ball, fielding very strongly and bowling tightly until the last 6 overs.

The Week

Pilgrims made 211 All out. J Blackwell 51, C Paget 45 and A Paget 34. In reply Lincs Gents scored 212-5

v Staffs Gents WON

Staffs Gents 242-5; Pilgrims 243-2, C. Murrall 145*, C. Sindrey 46

The games against Warwickshire Imps and Ashby Hastings were cancelled

Thanks to **Chris Paget (P'01)** for his work in raising sides for The Cricketer Cup and the match managers that raised teams and to the groundsman and his staff for excellent wickets, also the catering staff at the school who have looked after us this season.

Finally I would like to thank the President **John Hutton (H'59)** who has worked very hard on behalf of the club during his two years particularly in relation to subscriptions, where, with the help of the Hon Treasurer, has sorted out many of the anomalies. He also attended most Pilgrim games during his presidency. I look forward to his successor **Peter Gill (H'61)** being as active.

Frank Russell (O'69)

OR EVENTS - GAUDY 12th JUNE 2010

A fine June day saw almost 200 Old Reptonians and partners arrive at the school for another Gaudy, this time a mixture of 2 age-groups, 1962-72 and pre 1950. Another bumper crowd, therefore, and another most enjoyable day was had by all. The School jazz band entertained guests over pre-lunch drinks in The Garth. The Headmaster delivered an entertaining and informative speech about the current state of the school. This was then followed by a guided tour by volunteers from each House. The day ended officially with tea back at your old House.

I had a really good time, helping to serve the lunch guests in Pears School and chatting to some of them", said Harriet Hunt (L6F).

"It was fascinating hearing stories from ORs who reminisced about their time at The Hall" was the comment of Josh Benn (L6S).

"They all seemed to appreciate us showing them round and were really friendly and chatty" added Laurence Webster (L6L).

A winning formula if ever there was one ! I get so many positive comments about Gaudies from ORs, school and House staff and pupils. What is more I really enjoy the day too ! When you see lots of smiles on lots of faces you know that all is well with the world and that Repton continues to thrive.

Mike Stones



Stephen Baines (B'59)

"The Yorkshire Mary Rose, the ship, General Carleton of Whitby".

Although much is known and written about battle ships in the Age of Sail, much less is known about the men and vessels of the merchant navy, which comprised the majority of men and shipping. Stephen Baines' recently published book *"The Yorkshire Mary Rose, the Ship, General Carleton of Whitby"* seeks to redress this: it tells the true story of an 18th-century merchantman, probably built by the same Whitby shipyard as Captain Cook's Endeavour, which mainly traded with the Baltic, but she also acted as a transport ship during the American War of Independence, was threatened by John Paul Jones, suffered from the press gang, and was eventually shipwrecked in a storm off the coast of Poland in 1785.

Stephen Baines' account...is quite brilliant...It is beautifully written." *Ronald Blythe*

Published by Blackthorn Press, 2010. ISBN 978 1 90625920 4

Structures for the Church: Reshaping the Christian mission to our ancient western nations by **David Berry (C'53).**

Within 5 years of leaving Repton, David Berry realised that his parish church in West London was failing in its mission. With its outlook still frozen in a distant rural past, the church was not reaching out to the highly mobile population all around it. His long quest for what needed to be done resulted in his book appearing 46 years later in 2008. The book is about the reshaping of mission for present-day conditions. Historic denominations have many fine old buildings, but it can be a struggle to fill them and pay for their clergy. In many places the Parish System or its Free Church equivalent is being stretched ever nearer to breaking point. Clergy, Church Wardens and other lay leaders are often in thick of this process. Over large tracts of the landscape here and on the Continent their churches are being clustered together into unwieldy groups. Resources are being ever more thinly distributed to cover the ground.

David believes we need to seriously regroup. We need to use the Christian resources that we still have, in a more mobile and strategic way. Montgomery of Alamein, who inspected the Repton CCF when David was in the ranks, taught this very same principle. David has now produced a short article showing how the Church needs to follow Monty's lead. This will soon be available free on www.GileadBooks.com (ISBN 978-0-9558099-0-3). 90 page paperback with 26 diagrams and pictures available from Gilead Books, 01944 758777. £10 incl. P & P.

The Perfect Match by **Neil Hingorani (B'79)**

Have you ever wondered what life would be like if there was a formula for attracting women? Not only that, a formula that is based on football. Does that appear to be too good to be true? Well let's take it one step further and throw into the mix a few lively nights out and here is a book you been waiting your whole life to read.

To purchase a copy or contact the author go to:

www.yourfirsteleven.com

Kenneth McAlpine (H'38) - *"We Died With Our Boots Clean"*

Kenneth McAlpine left Repton in 1942 when, as he puts it " I pushed off to become a schoolboy war hero". He became the youngest member of an elite fighting force of Royal Marines and was soon pitched into the battles for the Normandy beaches. He tells the story of his military career in a breezy tone but, beneath the anecdotes and his moving evocations of camaraderie, lurk the bleak realities of fighting. This fascinating book once again proves that the truest records of the Second World War lie in the memories of the ordinary soldiers who fought on the ground.

Published by The History Press, ISBN 978-0-7524-5189-3

REPTON - MEMORIES

REPTON MASTERS CANE LANCS

Two Repton schoolmasters, R. Sale and J.D.Eggar, turned Dick Pollard's benefit match at Old Trafford into a benefit for Derbyshire's batting.

Off the Lancashire attack they hit 158 in two hours twenty minutes for the third wicket. Earlier Eggar had been associated with Elliott in a second wicket stand of 56 in 75 minutes. His chanceless 68 contained seven 4's, but his effort was overshadowed by that of Sale; who reached a brilliant century in two and a quarter hours, driving and pulling with grace and confidence. It was not until Sale began to tire that he gave a chance. When 138 he pulled a ball from Grieves to deep square leg, where Washbrook just failed to make a catch, Then Ikin

almost caught him at deep mid-off, and finally, at 146 he drove the ball hard into the hands of Tattershall at mid-off. One of the best innings seen at Old Trafford for a long time had lasted three hours and included a 7 (four from overthrows), a 6 and nineteen 4's.

With the dismissal of Sale, D.B. Carr, former captain of the school, carried on the good work of the Repton masters. He and Rhodes both reached their 50, Rhodes being the first to go, lbw to Ikin, with Derby nearly at the 400 mark. Skinner then joined Carr and the pair were still there with 405 on the board at the close.

A collection for Pollard brought £250 from the 12,000 crowd.

Copied from *News Of The World*, Aug 7 1949

EDITOR'S CHALLENGE -

Can anyone remember where these pictures were taken and what they were of and when?



Pic A



Pic B



Pic C

FROM THE ARCHIVES

THE RAPIER - Extracted from June 1932 issue, which cost Sixpence

"The Rapier tries to give expression to opinions which, because of their unorthodoxy or novelty, cannot be printed in its contemporary "The Reptonian". That periodical, the word goes forth, is official. The school magazine must be in dignified harmony with the authorities on any policy. Consequently all expressions of opinion in opposition to that policy are ruthlessly suppressed from its pages. The Reptonian then, can in no way be said to be representative of any but the official view. The Rapier, however, is deliberately provocative. It has a policy of its own, and it will readily give expression to new ideas and opinion. It is not official; it is not intellectual; it is not a Reptonian; it is not a Phoenix, and it has not so far been suppressed. It says nothing of the form of second hours; it has no brilliant paradoxes of the politics of the works. The Rapier is a commentary on Repton, and on all things pertaining to Repton. It is a free vehicle for candid criticism and literary merit. It strives not to inform, but to entertain, its fate is in the hands of its public. Its public are all those who are interested in Repton and in its affairs. Its justification is spontaneity"....

"In conclusion we must confess that the matter is this, our first number, is destructive in character. In subsequent issues, however, we hope to put certain constructive proposals before our readers. Here we must admit to having been over exuberant in our spirit of criticism, but rest confident in the certainty that intolerance will lead to temperance..., that the work of pulling down the 'old' must come as an essential antecedent to the task of building up in the traces of the past.

The Editors wonder if any ORs have copies of the second issue, or is this the only issue?

Taken from the same issue, **P.T.**

Among those things which the summer term stands for, P.T. is possibly one of the most entertaining. To the spectator from the bank, the sight of some three-hundred-and-fifty boys, divided up into squads and assuming the most exotic attitudes, must appear little short of ludicrous. To those who take part in it, the elevating spectacle of watching trained and selected athletes perform the exercises as they should be done, provides a harmless, though sometimes, we regret to say, mirthful amusement. This distraction, coupled with the diversion of games, such as "Red Indians" or "Hunt the thimble", which punctuate the dull routine of strange gymnastic, at least contrive to render tolerable, this, our Repton parody of physical culture. With physical culture we had no quarrel; but were it not for the saving grace of being funny, P.T. would never last out the century. The authorities, say, in 1935, beginning to take stock of the situation, might realise that exercises performed both wrongly and irregularly can have no beneficial effect, and that therefore strong measures should be taken to put the minutes wasted at the disposal of some other more advantageous time-killer. And then, to justify our estimate, allowing another sixty years to abolish so traditions and deeply rooted an institution, would bring us to the year 1995, by which date we may reasonably hope that our grandsons at Repton will no longer be hampered by this present state of affairs. In conclusion, we would address a few words of congratulation and sympathy to the author of the brown slips in the hands of our instructors. Mere epithets such as bizarre, extravagant, grotesque, far from qualify his work, No! He really has done his job extremely well, and we regret that we mortals can never hope to do full justice to his contortions.

P.T. was clearly uppermost in the Editors' minds. Further on in the issue under the heading of 'GOSSIP' appeared the following "We are awaiting with trepidation the inauguration of the new P.T. exercise: "The back handed-spring, with arms swivelling – backwards-forwards-sideways-upside down-and inside out." (To be performed with music)

The family of Walter Roy Handforth (L'35) and Basil Thomas Handforth (L'36) have sent in the following pictures:-



Filming of "Goodbye Mr Chips", August 1938. Basil is pictured third from the right



Repton Speech Day June 25th 1937



16 han – Latham House 1937

BARBADOS CRICKET TOUR

This December I am planning to take a party of young Repton cricketers to Barbados on tour. Of course this is an exciting opportunity which should further their cricketing education considerably and broaden their horizons! I would like to express my thanks to all those ORs who have supported us by joining the 100 Club fund-raiser.

I thought it might be amusing to dig out a photo of the first Repton tour party that I took there in 1984. Do you recognise anyone?

Mike Stones



OR MARATHON RUNNERS

Tom Auden (O'99) completed the Barcelona Marathon on March 7th in 3hrs 5 mins.

Bruce Beaton (N'90) Paris Marathon 2009

15/04/2007

Event : Paris Marathon

Km : 10 "What a lovely day – 27°C, sun shining – this is easy..."

Km : 21.1 "Only half way there? – this is starting to feel long – can the winner really be finishing already? No... how can anyone run that fast for such a distance?? Still damn hot...I can see the Eiffel Tower.."

Km : 32 "What the hell am I doing here?? Where's the nearest Metro - I'm off back to the hotel – who in their right mind would put their body through this torture – hang on, shame to waste the previous 32km – let's carry on, shall we? Only 10km to the end – can't be that hard.. Ah Roland Garros.."

Km : 42.2 "Wow – done it!!! Cool!! I'm hot, sweaty and tired... never again!!!"

16/04/2007 - "Wasn't that bad... sore legs but got the medal... feeling distinctly chuffed with myself... I'm up for another marathon next year – let's try London, shall we..."

End of 2009 - "Impossible to get onto the London Marathon – apply every year and rejected every year... dammit. Paris is still available... but done it.. go on then – why not?"

So begins a few months of training and self-deprivation ... less beer and less junk food (less not none as I need the carbohydrates available in yeast, hops, alcohol whatever and congealed fat respectively). Training plan sorted : 3-4 runs a week.. start off nice and easy.. an hour here, 10kms there to start with.. winter is coming so make the most of the 'fair' weather ('fair' read : rain).

January '10 - Training plan going to schedule, feeling good... not sure I like running in the snow and negative temperatures.. not a fan of the running tights but they work.. Not particularly flattering in the cold weather conditions.. I'll keep a low profile in town. Countdown : 3 months to go – "What a lovely day – -7°C, sun shining – this is easy..."

February – Does that really say 2hrs 'training run'?? Chose the good year to run the marathon, coldest and snowiest winter in recent years. Countdown : 2 months to go - "Half way through the training – this is starting to feel long – why would anyone run such a distance?? Still damn cold...I can't see the pavement for the snow.."

March – Feeling really good, the weather is improving.. the long runs are getting easier ... 2hrs here, 20km.. bring on Paris. 3 weeks to go... nice relaxed 2h 15 min run planned... 1 hour done; feeling good.. slight niggle in the left achilles .. I'll run it off.. "Hang on, shame to waste the previous months – let's carry on, shall we? Only 75mins to the end – can't be that hard".

1h 45mins – "What the hell am I doing here?? Where's home – who in their right mind would put their body through



this torture –. Ow.. Ow" .. niggle has turned into outright pain.. can't put any weight on my left leg... oh no.. not good... Be fine tomorrow.

Tomorrow - Doctor : "Tendonitis of the Achilles tendon, at least 4 weeks of rest – no running !". Countdown : 3 wks to go.. hang on.. did he say 4 wks rest??"

Race day : 38000 'lucky' blighters set off in the sunshine on the Champs Elysées, I'm sat on the sofa watching the race... it's raining outside.. Race ends.

"Wasn't that bad... sore Achilles tendon.. feeling distinctly frustrated... I'm up for another marathon next year – let's try London, shall we.."

P.S. Anyone who can help getting on the London Marathon, please let me know... I'll probably be running the Metz Marathon in Northern France in October... a lot less glamorous than it sounds. Will run to raise money for Tofs. Not a typo for old public school boys website but the charity/association dealing with children who have Oesophageal Atresia, my son (11 months old) was born with this condition and spent the first 6 months of his life in hospital.

Victoria Brierley (G'94)

Although I have run several half marathons, including the Great North Run, I had always wanted to run the London Marathon before I was 30! Although I missed it by 3 days, this, combined with running for such a worthwhile charity, was all the inspiration I needed to get me around the 26 miles! ~ and I managed to raise over £5300!



I now work for the BG group in Reading and I was introduced to Sparks through the BG Energy Challenge in 2008. I was touched by the wonderful stories where Sparks have made a difference to children's lives and I was delighted to run for them in the London Marathon. Sparks is the children's medical research charity across a whole spectrum of paediatric medicine. Their goal is for all babies to be born healthy and stay healthy. For more information about the charity please go to www.sparks.org.uk.

Tim Clifford (H'79) ran in the Wilmslow Half Marathon on the 28th March 2010, raising money for cancer research.



Guy Hewson (O'89) completed the London Marathon for the third time this year, this time running for the Children's Society.

OR PROFILES: JOHN JAMIESON BLACK (C'76)

25TH MARATHON DES SABLES – APRIL 2010

In April 2007 I embarked upon the Polar Challenge – a race to the Magnetic North Pole. It took me over a year to recover from being under such inhospitable conditions for so long. Sixteen days surviving under canvas in race conditions at -20 C took its toll.

In September 2008 I started training again. In April 2009 I was approached by Guy Muir (Uppingham – Guards) to help him raise money for Macmillan Cancer who supported his recently deceased mother so compassionately. Team 30JRM was born. Guy has always been a distance runner and a believer in mind over matter. He wanted to make his 3rd MDS a very special trip. He convinced Uppingham School that with parental consent, 30JRM would escort 2 of the youngest runners from GB ever to have entered this event. At 16, Hector Turner and 17 James Ogilvie were selected as part of Team 30JRM.

Located in different parts of the country we trained separately through a winter that did little to prepare us for the 40 C + temperatures that we would experience in the Sahara.

The Marathon Des Sables is billed as the “Toughest footrace on earth “. This year it was over 250 km , over 6 days, tranches of 29, 35.5, 40, 82.2, 42.2, 21.1 km.

In addition to that, competitors have to carry everything they will need for the duration (apart from a tent) on their backs in a rucksack (food, clothes, medical kit, sleeping bag etc). This stripped down would weigh between 10-12 kgs. Water is rationed and handed out at each checkpoint..... every 10 km.

They have to prepare all their own food throughout the race. There are Midday temps of 40+ C, running and walking on uneven rocky, stony ground as well as 15-20% of the distance being in sand dunes.

We flew on April 1st 2010 to Ouarzazate in Morocco. Night one was in a comfortable hotel before taking a 7 hour bus transfer to Camp 1 on the edge of the desert for the start. Day 2 was taken up with registering. The authorities checked every individual's kit for the regulation equipment including calorie counting our food. There were over 1000 competitors for the 25th MDS from 45 countries around the world.

Team JRM30 was allocated tent 122 in the British section. The 5 of us were joined by Dazzler Darren Griffiths an ex Marine and Simon Dawson ex Fusilier Officer. Morale in the tent was truly excellent at all times and was one of the highlights of the tour. There were many Ex British Forces competitors, and it is at events like this, when it is confirmed to me very clearly that we have the finest soldiers in the world.

Easter Sunday, Day 2 , we shouldered our Bergens for the mass start . It was amazing. Two helicopters circled, TV cameras whirled and clicked. Press reporters in their dozens interviewing, a thousand voices yelling to AC/DC's “Highway to hell” that was rocking through the airwaves and the dreams and fears of many squeezing their over hydrated bladders.

Right from the start it was very clear that this was going be a rather impressionable experience. The heat was already oppressing at 8.30 and would spike that first day at 50 C. There was a new route this year to accommodate an increased distance, encompassing Jebels , wadis, dunes and plain.

Moisture and mineral management once again was the key. The heat took away the appetite which was a huge difference from the Arctic. I could not eat enough in the cold and consumed upwards of 7000 calories per day and a lot of it chocolate and sugar. In the heat, chocolate to me was disgusting. I craved citrus and savoury. Neither of which I had brought. We ate breakfast of 800 calories (porridge and sultanas), day consumption was in the form of energy bars. The evening was again an 800 calorie meal. The water was rationed out on rationing cards. 3 litres in the morning, 1.5 litre at every check point, 3 litres on arrival at the finish. Consuming upwards of 9+ litres of luke warm or hot water per day was after a while not easy. I was not passing water at all. Few did. Only at night did we sometimes feel like passing water. The hobble outside to the Latrines was not welcome and I just could not stand the pain so I used my empty water bottles and dealt with the issue in my sleeping bag.

The check points were small refuges, one or two tents to keep competitors out of the fierce sun for the 15 mins that they needed to rest their feet and get medical attention if necessary. This race had the vision of an army on the march. Nationalities proudly flew their country's flags from their bergens. It became, very quickly, a fight against the conditions, not a race against one another. Man and woman who had never met, knelt together in support of each other during times of extreme mental duress. The camaraderie that was developing was so very touching. This was never better displayed than at the end of the day. All people have bad days, even the best. Individuals at the end of the day would hobble in hours after the main bulk of the convoy had arrived. These people, in the extremes of pain, were met with people exiting tents, themselves bandaged and bloody, and were cheered in. This happened every evening.

Every morning, the race started with the Helicopters chattering. The race starter would read out any birthdays and give a roll call of death, the number of competitors that had thrown in the towel. Then AC/DC would strike up again to the roar of the bedraggled remainder and then they would set off again into the valley of the shadow of death.

The 82 km stage brought on the real fight. Not many have run or walked all day and all night in such a testing environment and certainly not having completed 100 km already. My only ally was my mind, I had been through 18 days of slogging it in the Arctic with no-one to talk to all day but my pulk. My feet were not in good shape but the landscape was inspiring if exhausting. When



OR PROFILES: JOHN JAMIESON BLACK (C'76) Continued

evening came it was beautiful. A million million stars came out to play in a moonless sky. Comets skidded through the sparkly mass belittling the event and life on earth. Walking solo, on straight bearings, guided by the odd luminous stick, across monster dunes, passing groups of competitors, each dealing with their own fights with pain and the humiliation of possible defeat was a memory that will stay with me forever. My mind had one bright star that lit it up and kept the flame burning. Spookily the authorities shone a big green laser beam into the sky from the last checkpoint to guide the troops in.

The finish that day, 22 hrs after starting, was not emotional, it was practical..... Straight to the hospital tent to get my feet dressed. I had a 42 km stage to get through the next day and my swollen feet were slipping around in my shoes seemingly mixed with crushed glass that had come from somewhere. The queue was long, I got treated 1 ½ hrs later by the wonderful nurses, who patched me up and I hobbled off to find that all the crew had made it back safely.

The tent was a scene from some distant conflict. Used bloody bandages, iodine, groans, snoring, smells of food, anti-septic, rancid feet, sweat, cursing and of course laughter..... Something that Tent 122 always had and was never short of.

Highway to Hell that set us off on Day 4 had a real significance. It was hell. We had only 42 km to go that day and then 22km the day after to the finish. The temperatures were above 50 now. Human nature is incredible. I witnessed grown men and women in tears many times that morning as people had to come to terms, once again, with their inner struggle to combat the pain and the possible finger of defeat.

Tent 122 made it through the day, the boys finishing stronger than all the men. They had recovered so well from upset stomachs at the start. Their courage at their age, under the inspirational leadership of Guy Muir was an honour to witness. I have three boys the eldest being 15. They have a very high bar to emulate. Their parents and Uppingham School can be extremely proud of what they have nurtured. Great Britain can be proud of their example, an amazing achievement and a very clear message to all those youngsters who persist in staring at gaming machines. This was courage that was so thick one could eat it.

The evening of day 5 in the tent was one of elation. We had all made it. One more day. 22 km to go. That's all. When can 22 km be a doddle ? When you have done 228 km already.

We blew out of the starting gate, well almost all of us. I hobbled. Highway to hell was crashing out. Lots of hugging and kissing. Just a load of dunes, that's all !! that's what I was saying to myself, and you know what, they were. What would have been a monster day on Day 1 was a doddle on day 6.

What a journey. My body was fine from the ankles up but as the website said, my feet were trashed. Team 30JRM was a testament to good teamwork, selfless behaviour, courage, manners and a never ever die spirit, everything that Mrs Muir stood for. A befitting result.

Result – 759 in 59H 32M 27S Muir - 511 in 49H 11M 13S

OR PROFILES: DENTON WELCH (B'29)

One day in 1931 a wretchedly unhappy 16-year old boy failed to return to Repton School for the start of term. Denton Welch had been travelling to Derbyshire from London with his older brother. Seized by sheer dread the self-confessed 'delicate boy' made an impulsive escape at St Pancras Station. He boarded a train to Salisbury and spent 'a blissful afternoon in the cathedral'.

Following his swift recapture the angst-ridden youth returned to Repton with trepidation. In his one remaining term he sought regular refuge in the art room. Countless hours were also consumed ruminating the injustices and inner workings of human existence. His observations - adolescent but incisive - were jotted down. Perversely those lonely schooldays spawned a remarkable talent.

Today artworks by Welch hang in Tate Britain and the national Portrait Gallery. His highly individual novels, journals and short stories have garnered a cult following from a knowing minority. Yet Denton Welch (1915-1948) is scarcely a household name. Even in 'Old Reptonian' terms he is barely noted compared to fellow literary alumni Christopher Isherwood and Roald Dahl.

Yet that is not for lack of talent. One critic labelled Welch 'the least known English literary genius of the 20th century'. Another, seduced by the 'delicious eye for minutiae', dubbed him 'a male Jane Austen'. He has also been likened to Shelly - a doomed talent cut down in his prime. The avant garde poet Edith Sitwell - of Renishaw Hall connections - called him 'that rare being, a born writer. She became his patron. One recent 'national treasure' Alan Bennett wrote - 'I discovered Denton Welch in 1952. He was utterly unlike any person I had come across. His rich prose, often trembling on the brink of sex, although very little actually "went on", seemed to be addressed particularly to me'.

Enticing stuff. But there is more. Whilst still a young art student Welch suffered a crippling accident. He doggedly continued to work but often raged with frustration. Add his homosexuality in a less tolerant age, this made for a tortured personal life. Tragically he died aged 33 while still pursuing the fame he so deeply craved. A brief life well worth closer scrutiny.

OR PROFILES: DENTON WELCH (B'29) Continued

Maurice Denton Welch was born in Shanghai, China on 29th March 1915. His rubber planter father was typical of the English ruling class of the period. In consequence Denton spent his early childhood in China cosseted by wealth but utterly deprived of genuine love and attention. Although travelling widely he grew up an insecure boy living in social isolation, as a coping mechanism created his own private world. This insularity later surfaced in his prose-characterised by intimate recordings of a full but closeted life.

Like many of his ilk he was dispatched to an English education 'whether he liked it or not'. Denton first gained an insight into Repton when he visited his older brother in 1924. Aged only nine - and still unable to read or write - he later recalled being impressed even then by the quaint old art room which was later to afford him such valued solace. Soon enough he made closer acquaintance with Repton. In 1929 aged 14 he entered Brook House, the third Welch brother to do so. In subsequent writings Welch elucidated in stark detail the torment of his schooldays. And the memoirs of a classmate bear him out: 'Denton was thin and awkward and not at all sporty - with this round spectacles and delicate features he was the antithesis of what an "ideal" Repton boy was expected to be. Nor was he particularly academic. It was obvious that he was entirely unsuited to the rumbustious nature of life at Repton - and of course all the boys realised this. As a result he was often bullied mercilessly'. That explains his freedom dash. Yet strangely when he did return to Repton he was initially the object of some 'grudging admiration' for this daring act. But school life soon resumed much as before. One of his few allies was the Repton art master, Arthur Norris, with whom Welch struck up a good rapport. Norris advised him - 'stick to your drawing and painting and you'll be all right'. Welch later wrote of this encounter being 'the moment I decided to become a painter'.

Only a term after his crisis he left school and rejoined his father in Shanghai. His experiences there were colourful. But he soon returned to England - in 1933 when 17 he came to study art in London. He subsequently produced interesting works, often in a style dubbed 'painterly surreality'. But it was as a writer - not a painter - that he ultimately achieved the greater success. Although his published output was modest, it attracted significant critical acclaim. His first book *Maiden Voyage* (1943) - loosely fictionalised autobiography - recorded his early years in China and England with frankness. Repton loomed large - art master Norris became 'Mr Williams' and his housemaster Harold 'Bulldog' Snape was 'Mr Bird'. Welch dedicated the book to his celebrated admirer Edith Sitwell, who also wrote the foreword. Although earning him little money it proved a resounding success - writers of the calibre of W.H. Auden and E.M. Forster roundly prided the 'fresh new voice'.

It would be heartening to imagine that Denton Welch had found his idyllic niche as a writer, But every word was delivered against a back drop of pain and anxiety. In 1935 at the age of only twenty he had been hit by a car while cycling in Surrey. He suffered a fractured spine. Although not full paralysed he endured severe pain and complications which ultimately led to his early death. Yet despite the accident he persevered. Blessed with time to truly observe, he measured every word. His second novel *In Youth is Pleasure* (1945) recalled a holiday he had spent in a country house during his late teens. A further *Brave and Cruel* (1949) was published two days after his funeral. And his unfinished work *A Voice through a Cloud* appeared posthumously in 1950. Although several male companions shared in his life's routine, true happiness eluded Welch to the end. He died on 30th December 1948 at the age of 33. Ironically his wider acclaim accrued only after his passing. An exhibition of his paintings was staged in London in 1954 and many of his unpublished witting were resurrected - notably his painstakingly recorded 'diaries' published in 1952 as *The Denton Welch Journals*.

Welch has latterly enjoyed a marked revival. Astute publishers have ensured his leading titles are again in print and increasingly accessible to a new readership. All a far cry from the day in 1931 when a timid school boy found brief sanctuary in Salisbury Cathedral. There have been more famous Derbyshire scholars than Denton Welch, but few more unusual characters. A close acquaintance summed him up - 'Denton was overly precious. But a marvellous observer. He created drama out of triviality. He lived for the small and beautiful. The sort of person for whom a perfect teacup with exactly the right jam and biscuit was infinitely more important than world peace. Some might say the 'Repton runaway' had discovered life's secret after all.

Extracted from Derbyshire Life, Repton Runaway to Literary Genius' by Peter Seddon, March 2010

OR AMBASSADOR

Calum Settrington (S'05)

This year I have taken a GAP year which I am spending at Repton Dubai - alongside six other ORs! At the end of this year, I will be moving on to University of Dundee to study History, Politics and Economics. Although, I won't be around for most of this year, I will still be living in Repton and on the West Coast of Scotland, so if anyone is around and has a story to share or wants to catch up just let me know. Like most Reptonians I have a variety of wacky interests ranging from politics to Military History and Aviation!

As an OR ambassador I'm here to keep in touch and hear how everything's going - from GAP years to University work. If you achieve anything (which I'm sure everyone will) and want to share it with the OR Society just e-mail me at c.j.settrington@hotmail.co.uk

OR HOCKEY ON THE MEDAL TRAIL

Few schools enjoy the honour of having three ex-pupils in the same national sporting team simultaneously. OR hockey is currently riding the crest of a wave, however, with **Georgie Twigg (F'03)**, **Susie Gilbert (F'02)** and **Charlotte Craddock (A'04)** all currently members of the senior England international hockey squad.

Their summer has been an extremely busy one. In July they represented their country in the Women's Samsung FIH Champions Trophy at Nottingham, an annual event for six of the leading international teams in world hockey. This year the Netherlands, Argentina, China, Germany and New Zealand provided the opposition. Before the tournament England were ranked seventh in the world, but after winning bronze (England's first ever medal in the event) they are now sixth in the international rankings.

After a short two-week break Susie, Georgie and Charlotte were back in training for the BDO FIH World Cup in Rosario in Argentina. This tournament is held every four years for the top twelve international teams, and involved a gruelling schedule of seven matches in fourteen days. The England



women performed heroically, losing on penalty flicks to the Netherlands in the semi-final, but going on to win their first ever World Cup medal as they deservedly beat Germany 2-0 to claim bronze in the third-place play-off.

After enjoying a well earned ten-day rest Georgie, Susie and Charlotte flew out to Delhi to participate in the Commonwealth Games hockey tournament, where they are hoping to be on the podium again. The best wishes of the Repton School hockey club and the broader Repton community go with them.

REP THEATRE COMPANY

Deathwish by Jack Fookes

The Rep Theatre Company

The 400 Hall Studio Theatre, Repton School 19th, 20th August
Csoco, venue 348, Edinburgh Festival Fringe 22nd–30th August

"It is a cold February afternoon in Derbyshire. The sky is blue, the air is crisp, Rugby training explodes on a whistle... and then a sudden silence. A young man's future is in the balance as the scrum collapses and he faces the ultimate challenge of a lifetime."

For the first time in its fifteen year history, The Rep Theatre Company commissioned new writing for the 2010 Edinburgh Festival Fringe and **Jack Fookes (S'03)** delivered a stunning fifty minute play, in response to Terry Pratchett's keynote Richard Dimbleby Lecture "*Shaking Hands with Death*" earlier this year. This thoroughly researched, tender and sensitive piece examined the moral, ethical, social and personal issues surrounding assisted death – from the young person's perspective, featuring multi-role playing and elements of physical theatre.

The charitable company's key stated aim is 'to give challenging opportunities to young people in theatre' and taking new writing by a student about assisted death – performed by youngsters - to the Fringe is probably about as challenging as it gets. However, the 2010 Rep company was not without considerable support. The Directors (including ORs **Robert (O'59)** and **Michael Kirkland (P'93)**, **Paul Needler (N'91)** and founders **Ben Cavey (P'92)** and **Guy Levesley (H'75)**) approved the proposal and 'no income' budget in April and the School generously provided rehearsal and preview venues and facilities. Company alumni, Ben Cavey, Creative Director of Comedy at Tiger Aspect (currently responsible for *Benidorm* and *Grandma's House*) and award winning theatre, film and

computer game director **Tom Daley (B'91)** (director

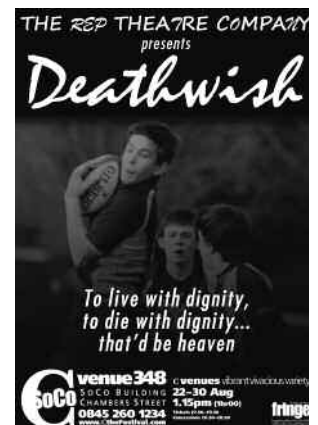
of *The Rules of the Game* – nominated for best UK Short at the Raindance Film Festival 2009) both kindly returned to Repton to work on the production in rehearsal, providing workshops, inspiration and a wealth of professional, practical experience that was of huge value to director Jack Fookes and the young cast that included ORs **Charlie Pass**

(L'05), **Sam Kingston Jones (S'05)** and **Joe Knight (O'05)** and current pupils Sarah Cotterill (A) and Wiebke Green (M) alongside Manchester University Drama Department undergraduates. Hayden Ball (S) designed sound and lighting for both Repton and Edinburgh.

Although Csoco was a small Fringe venue, audiences could easily have been non-existent. The company worked the Royal Mile and other venues daily, with an innovative flyering style, developed and rehearsed in Repton, and engaging and informed discussion topics to attract potential audiences. Determination brought success and the company was rewarded with healthy numbers and reviews in the national and Fringe press.

As a valuable, challenging and memorable experience, this year's Rep venture must rate as one of the most rewarding since the hugely ambitious site-specific promenade productions of the 1990s – and was, possibly, just as much fun.

JMG Levesley (H'75) (Staff)



SCHOOL NEWS - CAREERS DEPARTMENT

Many thanks to those Old Reptonians who responded so positively to the School's request for careers contacts in the last edition of The Arch. The Careers Department received feedback from more than one hundred ORs who have said that they are willing to offer some form of careers support to our current pupils.

Looking ahead, the next academic year will see pupils start to benefit from these new contacts, as they look for practical and informed careers advice. I must say, it is fantastic to think that former pupils are so willing to share their expertise with the current crop of Reptonians: such generosity is much appreciated.

However, there is still more to do. I am keen to secure even more support from the Old Reptonian community - across all professions, but with specific need for more contacts in the following areas:

- Accountancy
- Architecture
- Broadcasting and Media
- Business related (any)
- Chartered Surveying
- Dentistry
- Engineering
- Event Management
- Fashion
- Journalism
- Law
- Manufacturing
- Politics
- PR
- Product Design
- Publishing
- Retail
- Science related (any)
- Veterinary Surgeons

If you feel that you would like to offer your help, the Headmaster and I would be delighted if you could support the School in one, or more, of the following ways:

- Act as a point of contact for Repton pupils seeking careers advice
- Speak at the Sixth Form Careers Forum or other careers talks that are held during the academic year
- Offer work experience

I look forward to hearing from you.

T.H.Naylor, Assistant Head of Careers, Repton School Careers Department 01283 559200 thn@repton.org.uk

OR NEWS - LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear ORs,

May I thank your President, Mr John Kirkland, for his unfailing support throughout the year, and for giving me this opportunity to share with you my thoughts on the current progress of the School and on the opportunities and challenges that await us in the future. I hope you may feel you wish to read my reflections in conjunction with the List of Achievements printed alongside – this list will, I hope, give you a flavour of what the School has accomplished in the last twelve months and allow me to range a little more freely in my observations without them becoming a mere catalogue of events.

I speculated at this year's Gaudy that of all the names of the public school old boy cricket teams, that of the Repton Pilgrims was the loveliest, and that its magical ring had a direct appeal to all ORs present at that event, whether cricketers or not, as they were all pilgrims returning to a very special place to renew past friendships and rekindle energy for the next leg of life's journey. That celebration of the past, especially in the context of a School's history, both personal and institutional, is something that we should prize very highly. There is a danger with the so-called 'progressive' political agenda of our age that one is led to believe that all that is new is of worth and that all that is of the past is somehow second-rate. I question this assumption and particularly to the view that the rising tide of examination successes implies that the teaching and learning of previous generations was inferior. It is important, of course, for any great school to be ambitious, and I hope that you will feel that the Repton of today is very much attacking off the front

foot. However we still strive to cultivate in our pupils a deep respect for the best that has been thought, said and practised in this place over the centuries and thereby nurture in their spirits the qualities of patience, tolerance, truthfulness, joy and reverence for beauty that are the hallmark of a civilised education.

One of the fads of the modern age is that one can, supposedly, teach people how to be happy, and indeed some (independent) schools have even introduced 'happiness' or 'well-being' classes onto the syllabus. I am not at all sure about this. In my view, happiness is often a by-product, something you find when you're not looking for it, and which vanishes, mirage-like, when you try to hunt it down. I'm more interested, in a School, in the concept of fulfilment, the notion that by identifying and nurturing certain talents, and that by emphasising the importance of sheer persistence and hard work, often in difficult circumstances, a human personality can achieve its full potential. I often remind the current generation of pupils that in life, their motivation is at least as important as their ability, and history shows us many examples of people whose greatest triumphs are achieved by persisting against the odds. Likewise in our School, I am rejuvenated each year by the way in which the pupils, as they did in your day, battle on to get things done.

We have seen many such examples of battling on under pressure to achieve fulfilment this year. Calum Settrington's and Sam Kingston-Jones' chairmanship of Mrs Parish's superbly conceived 'Question Time' stood out at election time - indeed

LETTER FROM HEADMASTER Continued

I am sure that had we been able to vote for Calum instead of some of the candidates on offer we wouldn't now be living with a coalition government! This was followed by Mr Jones' and Mr Clague's triumph of leading the Boys Hockey XI to victory in the National U18 Championships – a first for Repton and, when coupled with the girls' victory in their equivalent tournament earlier in the year, a remarkable double never before achieved by any school. How indebted too we were on these occasions to the exemplary captaincy of Will Byas and Ellie Green who simply let their fine play on the pitch do the talking (no bad way to lead, that,) and in doing so inspired both squads to excellent team performances. These occasions were notable also for the splendid support provided by ORs of many vintages, and your encouragement was also a vital factor in inspiring the U15 and First XIs to their respective finals (never before had a Repton team got this far) in the Independent Schools' Football Association Championships. Although we lost both matches, (deservedly, against a strong Shrewsbury team at U18 level, and undeservedly, against Brentwood in the U15s) this double gives great encouragement to the expert coaching duo of Matthew Carrington and Tom Statham and the boys themselves, who specifically asked me to pass on to you their thanks for cheering them to victory in the extraordinary 11-10 win in the penalty shoot out against Latymer Upper in the third round. How lovely it was, too, on the occasion of the MCC match on the Square this year, to see an OR (Richard Murrall, O '02) scoring a century for the opposition, only then to be matched by his younger brother, Christopher, who chimed in with his ton to see the School home by one wicket off the penultimate ball! Indeed, the Cricket Club, under the new leadership of Mr Pollock, has had a fine season overall, the XI winning 11 of 14 matches with a whole raft of encouraging performances in the junior years, highlights being the progression of Mike Stones' U15 XI to the national Twenty:20 Finals and Peter Bradburn's U14 XI to the national stage next year as County Champions. Determination to reach challenging targets above and beyond the already packed timetable of examinations has also been a feature of the academic and cultural life of the School this term. Some of you may be aware that we now run two societies for our most academically gifted and enquiring pupils, the Temple and Ramsey Societies for the Lower and Upper School respectively, and this term Mr Dammers has invigorated the senior society, encouraging its members to research and present papers, university style on topics as diverse as Platonic and Aristotelian literary theory, Kafka's Trial, the Government's response to terrorism and modafinil, the so-called 'steroid for the mind' – don't worry we won't be using it! We hope that this emphasis will have a beneficial effect on the academic culture of the School as whole over time and inspire a promising Upper Sixth year group this year to a very good set of results in the year ahead. The 09/10 cohort, without being one of our most gifted academic year groups, performed very pleasingly, achieving 80.9 % A and B grades, with some 11.25 % of all scripts achieving the new A* grade. We will wait and see how this latter development settles down in the years to come. There has been some criticism, partly justified, that an A* does not denote special flair, but rather a ruthlessly attentive eye to the

demands of the syllabus. Whilst we will continue to do our very best to equip Reptonians with the very best grades we can (this after all, boosts young people's confidence and opens doors) we will continue to develop the academic programme to encourage independence and genuine curiosity in ways beyond the syllabus.

Culturally the life of the School has once again been diverse and stretching, highlights being Freya Charnley's magnificent short film 'Red', conceived as part of her AS course, proving that exam syllabuses can be a stimulus for creativity; the Design Department's achievement in winning four Arkwright Scholarships; and of course last November's joining of forces between the OR Society and the Choir for that magnificent Service in St George's Chapel, Ypres, to dedicate a plaque in memory of the 355 ORs who lost their lives in the Great War - those who attended will not forget the most moving singing and Colonel John Hetherington's magnificent sermon.

I could cite many more such achievements in a packed year of which we as a School can be proud. And such achievements are not realised without a dedicated and passionate Common Room, a vital resource to any school and one to which I would like to pay tribute in this letter. I was cheered by a lovely comment made recently by a prospective parent, who remarked that she was signing her son up for three reasons : firstly, because the whole family had felt comfortable on their visit; secondly, because the pupils were natural, not affected and thirdly, because the staff were passionate about enabling Reptonians to achieve the highest expectations. That passion has most certainly shone through in the contribution of those members who are leaving Common Room this year to develop their careers elsewhere. Miss Collins has led the Geography Department with distinction, been a tireless Tutor in The Mitre and an expert and thoroughly reliable coach of a whole range of games – we wish her well in her new appointment as the Housemistress of a Girls' Day House at Brighton College. James Drinkwater, who has delighted us with his versatile playing of the School organ and most sensitive jazz and classical accompaniments now moves on to take up the post of teacher of keyboard at Clifton College, and Emily Strange a most talented Artist in Residence who has inspired many of our pupils in the Art School leaves us with our best wishes to further a new career as a professional painter.

And if change is a fact of life in the first resource of a School, its teaching body, then it is no less so in its physical plant. Facilities are important. They make a statement about a School's ambition, its priorities and its values. Carefully planned and well executed, new facilities can inspire too and that is what we have set out to do in the 5 year Rolling Development Programme that the Governors have masterminded under the Chairman's continued wise leadership. The detail in such projects is important, but so is the wider vision. We are currently, as many of you will be aware, in the middle of a £3.8 million refurbishment of the 400 Hall, retaining the much loved Marshall Sissons' 1957 façade but installing a brand new auditorium inside and building a new and much enlarged foyer



in the Precinct capable of welcoming a full house in appropriate surroundings. This is an exciting development that will build on a great Repton tradition and give us a facility worthy of what we aim to achieve with the drama - one of the best of all team activities and in my view, as powerful a maker of bonds and friendships as all that is accomplished on the Square. And looking ahead, I believe that the schools that will thrive in the decades to come are those that not only continue to do the core business well but also innovate in a way that anticipates the needs of society as a whole and reflect these needs in the educational experience that they provide.

I intend for Repton to be one of these schools, and am therefore passionate, on behalf of all Reptonians past, present and future, about our next major project, the 'Science Priory', a centre that will bring together the three sciences to create a major new building that will put Repton at the forefront of science teaching in the UK both for the independent and maintained sectors. I will explain the detail of this project to you at a series of receptions that we will be announcing to ORs in the near future and do hope that many of you will be able to attend. The essence of the idea, however, which is the brainchild of Alastair Buchan, (H '68), is to create a centre where young people, specialists and non-specialists, Reptonians and members of the wider community alike, come to see the study of science not as three separate disciplines but as a translational activity showing how the sciences interact and are at the heart of the problems facing tomorrow's generation in areas as diverse as information technology, genetics, the carbon footprint, space travel, chemical terrorism and the prevention of famine. Of course I hear you ask, and rightly, especially in difficult times, 'how are all these projects being paid for?' The good news is that the School is in a strong financial position. We are full, with numbers (at 660) higher than they have ever been in the School's history. Current revenues are therefore very healthy and the projects that I have referred to today that have either been completed or are under construction have all been fully funded on the basis of nil borrowing. And as we look to the future and the important projects still to be completed both at Repton and Foremarke, we are confident that they too can be completed largely through revenue without any unfair ramping of fees and

without any increase in numbers that would alter the vital identity of the School. Yet there will, as is the case with any such ambitious projects, be a gap that in due course we will turn to the wider Repton community of ORs, parents and friends of the School to fill. I hope your heart doesn't sink too much at this point. It is, perhaps, worth us recalling at this juncture the late Geoffrey Fisher's observation, made at the time of the 1957 Quarter Centenary Appeal, that Repton could never be at its present position if our predecessors had not been so spectacularly generous to the School in their time to give us the facilities we enjoy today. I hope that all of us, in turn, will be able to sustain that tradition in due course. We have, over the past months, under the sterling leadership of The Chairman of the Foundation, Mr Robert Kirkland, been preparing the ground for our own fund raising campaign and I hope that all members of the community will be enthused and inspired by our plans. My sincere wish is that 450 years after founding the School in a spirit of service to others, Sir John Port would have approved!

May I conclude by thanking the OR community for its support, always given wisely and with understanding, over the past year. You have been generous in your acknowledgement of the School's strengths, and at the same time constructive in your suggestions for future improvement, which I value a great deal. You have also been very warm in your expressions of concern in a year when both I and my wife have managed to break a leg, I back in December en route to a feeder preparatory school and Penny, rather more dashing, hitting a winner on the tennis courts in May I am pleased to be able to report that we are both now up and about and under starter's orders ready for the next few furlongs!

Penny joins me in sending you and your families very best wishes for the year ahead and we look forward to seeing as many as possible of you at the various functions that are planned for 2010 /11!

Yours sincerely,

Robert Holroyd

SCHOOL NEWS - ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2009/2010

In the 2009 **external public examinations**, the boys and girls achieved 54.5% As and 83.2% A/Bs at **A-level**.

- At **GCSE level** pupils achieved 36.7% A*s and 66.8% A*/As.
- At Christmas, three Reptonians received **offers** from **Oxford and Cambridge**. Huw Rees-Jones (U6L) has been awarded a place at the **University of Virginia**.
- Calvert Hyde-Barker (5O), Kamilah Lakhani (5A), Jade Shaw-Wall (5M) and Phoebe Whittome (5F) have been awarded **Arkwright Scholarships**.
- The prestigious **People to People Leadership Programmes** bring students from around the world together to teach them leadership skills and to help prepare them for success in higher education. The scheme was created by President Eisenhower. This summer, Freya Charnley (L6A) will attend a Film and Arts course at the University of California, Los Angeles and Simone Matthews (L6A), Cassie Thorpe (L6A) and Harriet Welch (L6A) will all attend the **Learning to Lead course** at Harvard.
- A number of Repton pupils have attended the competitive **Gifted and Talented** courses run by Villiers Park: Sarah Cotterill (L6A) and Mark Harrison (L6L): *Drama and Theatre Studies: Aspects of Performance*; Eleanor Holroyd (U6F): *Spanish and Spanish American Literature, Culture & Society*; Gemma Bartlett (U6M): *Mathematics: Chaos or Clear Cut?*; Leila Harding (U6F) and Ben Hardwick (L6L): *Physics: How the Universe Lives and Dies*; Robert Keep (U6L): *Philosophy, Politics & Economics*; Tish Sanghera (U6F) and Lucy Watson (L6M): *Classical Studies: New Approaches to Old Ideas*; Chris Warner (U6N): *Geography: Geographical Imaginations*; Philippa Davis (U6G): *History: Urban Britain - medieval & modern*; Harriet Hunt (L6F) and Rebecca Lawrence (L6A): *Linguistics: The Language Detective*; Josh Golding (L6P): *Criminal Law*; Tristram Fane-Saunders (L6O): *Creative Writing*; Mateena Rauf (L6F): *Forensic Science*; and Charlotte Wright (L6A): *Media Studies*.
- Kadi Saar (U6G) gained a Gold Award in round one of the **International Chemistry Olympiad**. Michael Fang (L6O), Bolin Zhou (U6S), Anqi Sun (L6F), Godfrey Chan (L6P) and Xingzhi Zheng (L6G) achieved a Gold Certificate in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. Michael and Xingzhi also qualified for the prestigious British Mathematical Olympiad First Round where Michael was one of about 100 prize winners in the country.
- Carla Peters (L6F) has been awarded a prestigious **Nuffield Science Bursary** to work at Twycross Zoo over the summer.
- Zoe Dunn (L6G) attended a G & T Summer School at Canterbury Christ Church University (the South East Excellence Hub). Rebecca Lawrence (L6A) attended a Durham University weekend residential course on Anthropology. Holly Callis (L6G) attended a Beowulf Study Day at University College, Oxford. Simone Matthews (L6A) and Harriet Welch (L6A) were awarded places on the Holocaust Educational Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz Project. Sophie Watson (L6G) and Annabelle Church (L6F) will participate in the Headstart course on the Science and Engineering University Experience for Girls this summer.

- Lucy Watson (L6M) was awarded a Certificate of Merit in the highly competitive Fitzwilliam College Ancient World Essay Competition.

- A record 21 Reptonians took the **English Speaking Board's** Grade 8 Advanced Certificate in Spoken English and achieved awards at merit or distinction.

- In April, the first pupil exchange with Repton Dubai took place. Ten A-Block pupils spent two weeks at Repton Dubai in March 2010 and welcomed their exchange partners back to Repton UK at the start of the Summer term.

- Many visitors came to the School to speak. Among the **lecturers to the Upper Sixth** this year were John Makinson (OR), Benedict Allen and Martha Holmes.

- Our second **Lower Sixth Conference** took place in June on the subject of *Britain in a New Decade*. It ran from 16th-19th June and involved all members of the Lower Sixth. The conference was addressed by Tom Avery, Emma Harrison CBE and Ian Yorston.

- The annual **Careers Forum**, also in June, gave Lower Sixth pupils the opportunity to hear speakers (including ORs and parents) from a wide variety of professions and occupations describe their working lives.

- In October, 2009 a party of modern linguists travelled by Eurostar to **Paris**, and spent five days in the French capital sampling its cultural, architectural, linguistic and gastronomic riches. A similar trip is planned for 2011.

- **RAF Gliding Scholarships** have been awarded to Jared Buckley (U6N); Jonathan Arnold (L6O); Hamish Flavell (L6N); Sophie Donoghue (5G) and Amy Furness (5G). Thomas Russell (U6N) has taken part in RAF Advanced Glider Training.

- **The Politics Society** has flourished this year under the leadership of Calum Settingington (U6S). There have been several prestigious speakers to the Society, including local MP Mark Todd and the Political Editor of the Sunday Times, Jonathan Oliver (OR). Members of the Society also organised a Question Time event in which the candidates for South Derbyshire alongside the editor of *Total Politics Magazine* and the local government correspondent of the *Derby Evening Telegraph* addressed an audience of 180, chaired by two members of the Society.

- With a host of new Lower Sixth members, the **Senior Debating Society** has had a prolific season, with debates ranging from the General Election, to fashion, to the perils of genetic engineering. In addition, the Junior Debating Society was reformed, with Edwin Wilton-Morgan (5L) and George Brockway (5L) speaking in the last public debate of the year.

- **The Reptonian 2009-10**, edited by Sam Kingston-Jones (U6S), was the largest edition for many years, covering a wider-than-ever range of school activities, clubs and societies, while the Features Section, sub-edited by Tristram Fane-Saunders (L6O), showed Reptonians' creative and critical writing at its best.

SCHOOL NEWS - ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2009/2010

- £31,000 was raised on a bright October **Sale of Work** day, which was donated to more than 35 local, national and international charities.
- Haiti Saturday, led by girls from The Mitre, resulted in £639.96 being raised for Merlin to provide essential medical care for the victims of the Haiti earthquake.
- 24 pupils have completed their **Duke of Edinburgh** Silver Award.
- Lt Rachel Randle (Army Section, Repton School CCF) has been selected to supervise a two month Adventurous Training trip to Canada, involving cadets from across the country.
- The **Art Department** hosted a number of exhibitions, including Meteor (a collection of work from IJW and associates and reviewed in *The Guardian*) and Heather Duncan's painting exhibition (with jazz and beautifully sculpted homemade canapés cooked by the Lower Sixth artists to accompany the opening night).
- The **Fashion Show** was the best-ever, graced by a wonderful catwalk of garments exemplified by the clown collection produced by Kate Dyer (L6M).
- Among the outstanding work produced by Reptonians this year was the film made by Freya Charnley (L6A) with Charlotte Wright (L6A) and Sarah Cotterill (L6A) in the starring roles; multi-disciplinary work in the Art School illustrated by Catherine McGrath's (L6G) dance film, and sculpture and painting based on the images; Flora Kay's (L6A) work based on *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*; Zoe Dunn's (L6G) innovative and radical approach to drawing; Joe Markham's (L6O) one man show in Gallery No.1 of monochrome paintings; and Edward Gould's (5P) crucifixion painting hung in Chapel.
- The Sixth Form artists visited Berlin and the remarkable Tachelles Foundation.
- The **School Play** in November was *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* by Bertolt Brecht.
- In November, pupils took part in an **A-Level Drama Conference**, a day of shows and workshops in support of their studies, hosted at Repton with groups from Denstone, Leicester Grammar and John Port Schools attending.
- The **Rep Theatre Company** took the 2008 Repton School Play *On the Razzle* to Edinburgh for ten performances on the Festival Fringe in August 2009.
- The **Lent Term Charity Cabaret** involved 180 pupils, playing over four nights to a total audience of 1200, including guests from the 2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment (Worcesters and Foresters) and 4th Battalion The Rifles. A record sum of over £16,000 was raised for Help 4 Heroes.
- The **Junior School Play** was an adaptation of William Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, performed outdoors in The Garth.
- **The Literary Society** devised, wrote and performed a two-act play entitled *This Woman's Work*, and is currently writing a sketch show which is due to be performed in the first half of next term.
- Now in its second year, **Mus. Soc.** performed Handel's *Messiah*. 200 pupils, parents, ORs, staff and members of the village played and sang.
- The **Chapel Choir** sang Evensong in Southwell Minster.
- The **Concert Band**, directed by Assistant Director (Instrumental) of Music, Mark Cadman, won a Silver award at the National Concert Band heats.
- Highlights of the **Subscription Series** were: Joseph Crouch ('cello); James Gilchrist (voice) and Morgan Szymanski (guitar).
- Joseph Jankinson (3L) has won a place in the **National Schools Symphony Orchestra**.
- The choirs, Jazz Band, Concert Band and orchestra made a CD of Christmas music. Available in the autumn, **A Repton Christmas** will capture the flavour of all the music-making at the School at Christmas.
- The choir and members of Concert Band performed at two ceremonies in **Ypres** commemorating the fallen in WW1. The service to remember the 355 Reptonians who died was particularly moving.
- **The Unison and Harmony** competitions were particularly fine this year. The Unison was won by The Abbey and the Harmony by Field House.
- The new **Informal Concert Series** has been a great success giving all pupils in the School of every standard a chance to perform.
- The School enjoyed extraordinary success on the hockey pitches this year. The boys won the **National Under 18 Hockey Championships** for the first time and the girls won the National Under 18 Hockey Championships for the sixth consecutive year. The girls were National Under 18 Indoor Hockey champions and the boys were National U18 Indoor Hockey semi-finalists. At Under 16 level, the girls were National Under 16 Indoor Hockey finalists, after becoming Midlands Under 16 Indoor champions for the first time. The boys were Midland Under 14 semi-finalists.
- Pupils also won **representative honours in hockey**: Jo Leigh (L6G) and Shona McCallin (U6A) represented England Under 18s in the European Four Nations Tournament and Shona was invited to train with England Under 21 squad. Will Byas (U6S) was a member of the England Under 18 squad. Sophie Hawkins (U6F) has been selected to represent England Under 18s against Germany. Rhiannon Rogers (L6G) represented the senior Welsh Indoor Team at the European Indoor Trophy and both she and Wiz Mumby (L6A) represented Wales at Under 18 level. Michael Guest (L6O) represented the Brazilian senior Men's team. Jeremy Williams (L6L) was part of the Wales Under 18 training squad and Megan Byas (5F) was part of the England Under 16 training squad.
- The **boys' 1st XI football** team reached the final of the Boodles ISFA Cup for the first time in our history, losing a close fought match at the MK Dons Stadium to Shrewsbury. The boys' Under 15 football team reached the final of the Rensburg Sheppards ISFA Cup at Burton Albion. This makes Repton the only independent school to reach two ISFA finals in the same season.

SCHOOL NEWS - ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2009/2010

- Johnny Gorman (L6C) won his first two full Northern Ireland caps against Turkey and Chile.
- Nduoma Chilaka (U6P) scored 31 goals for the 1st XI this season and was selected for the Under 18 ISFA representative team in which he top-scored with 12 goals in 7 matches. He has been awarded a football scholarship to Regis University, Denver.
- Luke Duggan (U6O), Andrew Evans (U6N) and Sam Graham (L6S) were all selected to represent the Under 18 ISFA North side. James Frost (3O), Stephen Kosmala (3O), Ryan Binns (3C) and Robbie Astin (3C) were all selected for the Under 14 ISFA representative squad.
- The **1st VII netball team** was unbeaten for the second successive year. Georgia Horn (L6G) was selected to attend England trials for netball.
- The **girls' 1st IV tennis team** were pre-seeded at the Aberdare Cup, the National Schools tennis competition for Girls, thus placing it in the country's top four schools for the finals. The **girls' 1st VI tennis team** are again unbeaten (for third successive year) in inter school fixtures.
- The **boys' 1st IV tennis team** reached the Midlands Finals of the Glanville Cup, the National Schools competition for Boys.
- In May Repton hosted Malezi School from Kenya. Malezi is a school for outstanding young tennis players from deprived backgrounds.
- The **1st XI cricket team** travelled to La Manga, Spain on a pre-season tour and won all three games. Sam Graham (L6S) and Chris Murrall (U6O) have both recorded centuries for the 1st XI this summer.
- Grace Sanderson (4G) has broken the Junior 300m school record twice this term. At the **Athletics County Championships** in June, gold medals went to Hannah Barker (L6M) (Triple Jump); Amelia Etherington (L6M) (200m); Niel Twidle(U6N) (Triple Jump) and Grace Sanderson (300m). Silver medals went to Hannah Forsyth (5G) (200m); Christian Priestley (5L) (400m); Jordan King (5C) (800m) and Milly Louch (4F) (Triple Jump). Cameron Winfield (5C) received a bronze medal in the 200m.
- Victoria Leavesley (L6M) has been invited to be part of the England Team in the 2010 Working Hunter Pony event at Cavan in Ireland this summer and qualified for the Horse of the Year show.
- Sam Boyle (3L) won a national silver épée (fencing) medal. Hannah Walsh (3F) is the Wales Under 14 Fencing champion.

SCHOOL NEWS - CCF

The Contingent is in boisterous mood and rude health. At the end of summer term 2010, RAF Benson was the venue for camp for 11 of our RAF cadets. Demand nationally for cadet places on Camps significantly outstrips supply, and it is testament to the good name of Repton RAF Section that we consistently, year on year, are awarded pleasing numbers of cadet places to attend RAF bases around the country. The cadets of this year enjoyed an action packed week, activities ranging from "green" military training such as the Dismounted Close Combat Trainer (for ORs who experienced SATs, the DCCT is an updated version), through adventurous training on watersports, to Puma helicopter flights and Chinook Simulators. Flt Lt Anton Smith, who continues to command the RAF section (in addition to his role as Housemaster of Orchard) secured fine experiences and opportunities for our cadets, throughout the camp.

There were simply no available cadet places on Army central camps this summer in the week of camp, but unfazed, Capt John Wadsworth (SSI) organised an Adventurous Training camp based in Repton for Army section and indeed RAF section cadets. A dozen volunteers enjoyed training included marksmanship, paintballing, hill navigation, and all cadets qualified in RYA accredited courses in either windsurfing or dinghy sailing. Maj Paul Whittaker, Section Commander of Army Section, put on (literally) another of his hats - this time his chef's hat- and catered for the whole event. The cadets were everything I expect of Reptonians, in demeanour, independence of mind, and in willpower - a good week. Next year, we will be back at an Army Central Camp. Lt Rachel Randle (Army Sect) went directly from assisting Repton's summer camp, to Canada

for six weeks, where she acted as supervising Officer for a national CCF expedition engaged in Adv. Trg. (and engaged in all of the training herself). It is to be hoped that Repton cadets follow her example and take up the outstanding opportunities the Cadet Forces continue to offer. Times for the Regular and Reserve Forces will surely be challenging in the years to come, not least on resourcing, and I cannot expect the Cadet Movement to be exempt from its share of cuts.

Back in school, a bumper crop of O block (more than a third of the year) have volunteered for Cadre training, and the new A Coy will enjoy the tactical assault vest webbing on the Field Weekend at Leek and Upperhulme Trg Area. More senior ORs will recall the arcane skills of wearing 58 pattern, others of recent vintage will remember 90 pattern CEFO.... well, the new vests are easier to fit, and make tactical movement more comfortable.

In summary, the activities of the CCF continue, the volunteer NCOs are numerous and committed, and I reiterate the welcome to ORs, whenever they are in the village, to make contact.

G Lawrence, Major
Contingent Commander



SCHOOL NEWS - CRICKET

The season for the 1st XI started in La Manga, Spain on a pre-season tour which was extended due to the Icelandic volcano that cancelled our flights. Following that, the 1st XI finished the season with 12 wins from 16 games in the longer format. Although we were unable to get past the group stages in the 20/20 competition, as only the group winner went through and we finished second, this spurred the team on to produce some outstanding cricket with high scoring wins over Malvern, MCC, Uppingham and Repton Pilgrims being some of the highlights. Batting totals of 318-4 (v Malvern), 275-9 (v MCC), 267-8 (v Uppingham), 252-7 (v Derbyshire U17) 271-4 (v Repton Pilgrims) showed the strengths of this side. Only twice did any team score over 250 against us, with opposition teams failing to reach 150 on five occasions.

Tom Cosford (L), **Eddie Ikin (C)** and **Sam Graham (S)** all scored between 547 and 555 runs and were the key at the top of the order. **Chris Murrall (O)** captained the side with experience and managed the game as well as anyone on the circuit, with his match-winning hundred against MCC his season highlight. This was also a successful game for his brother (**Richard, O'03**) who scored a hundred for the MCC, although pleasingly for us, finished on the losing side!

Matt Sanderson (S) finished the season with 25 wickets and with an economy of just 3.1 always bowled 10 crucial over spin every game. **Ameer Ahmed (C)** led the attack and despite missing the last 5 games through injury, took 16 wickets, bowling with pace and much improved precision. Behind the stumps, **George Hodson-Walker (S)** claimed 30 dismissals.

The 1st XI were fortunate to complete every game this season, a rare feat in school cricket. A win percentage of 75%, on a competitive circuit, was one the team were very proud to achieve.

Lower down the school, the junior sides enjoyed some notable success with the U14 side winning the County stages of the Lord's Taverners competition, and the U15 side winning the county and Midlands sections of the U15 Schools 20/20 competition. This meant the team won through to the National last four and played at the first class ground of Arundel in September 2010 in the National semi final where they were beaten by Sedbergh in a close contest.

Ian Pollock Director of Sport

SCHOOL NEWS - DRAMA

SHAKESPEARE IN THE SUNSHINE

With a cast and crew of fifty junior pupils from the B and A Blocks, JMGL's outdoor production of 'The Comedy of Errors' was a veritable triumph. Blessed by almost constant sunshine during rehearsals and performances, the large cast was able to make the most of every part of the Garth and its medieval buildings: chasing round pillars, sitting on ancient walls or arguing in sunken monastic gardens. From the moment the window cleaner arrived at the start of the ingenious Prologue, scrubbing at the leaded lights of The Old Priory, to the moment when actors were actually stopped in their tracks by the officious Pedestrian Traffic Management Supervisor with her Stop/Go sign and her mug of tea, the audience knew it was in for an unusual and most entertaining hour.



Naughty nuns giggled in a corner with cigarettes and alcohol in a Spar bag, until beckoned inside by the Abbess, calling from the highest corner window of the building - the window's situation almost got a laugh on its own - whilst, throughout the production, three angelic art class schoolgirls sat drawing the architectural glories before them under the supervision of their teacher and tourists photographed each other posing on the ruins. And, as swallows swooped around their heads, the resident band performed appropriately Greek tunes.

Of course, this is JMGL's trademark, immaculately directed incidental action, all cued to the split second by the inimitable Hayden Ball (S), fresh from his GCSE examinations. The Garth was the perfect 'set' for such action, but there was some plot as well. Riotous Shakespearian comedy of mistaken identity is very hard to do well but the pace and energy of the entire company in Mike Charlesworth's edited version of the play made the hour absolutely zip by. Some of the individual acting was notable, from Kate Benn (A), Jasper Hardcastle (N), Ethan Coupland-Smith (N), Caitlin Brooks (F) and Sevi Matthews (A) (two sets of brilliantly cast twins), but it was, as so often with Repton's Junior Plays, the strength of the ensemble - professional, disciplined and utterly focussed - that showed that Repton School's Drama sets standards that few other schools can match.

And, somehow, despite the meteorologists' direst warnings and apart from a few drops of rain for five minutes on Monday, the sun shone determinedly through both performances, sealing the magic of the occasion for the three hundred or so who were lucky enough to get tickets in time. All this with a theatre currently closed for a massive refit; what will November's main school play bring in terms of ingenious use of space?

John Sentance Head of Department



BOYS' 1ST XI NATIONAL HOCKEY CHAMPIONS 2010

Since becoming National Under 16 Champions in 1995 and Under 18 Runners-Up in 1998 and 1999 the boys' hockey at Repton has had to play second-fiddle to the girls. A few runners-up spots and a number of semi-final defeats would be a huge achievement at most other schools but the standard set by the girls, who have now won eight National Titles in the past six years, has been a tough act to follow.

A full fixture card in Michaelmas Term for the boys not involved in football helped to shape things ahead of the Lent Term and this was combined with a successful indoor campaign. Throwing a 3-1 lead away to lose to Ipswich School in the National Indoor Semi-Final was disappointing but taught the boys a few lessons that made a difference later in the term.

Regular school fixture results made for interesting reading; In the space of a few days, the boys lost 1-8 to Worksop College but comfortably beat Dean Close, who were reigning National Champions. The inconsistency of this year's team was not a rarity and I was struggling to find how to consistently get the best out of them.

Thankfully, it was competition that saw the 1st XI at their best. Within a fortnight of heavy school fixture defeats at the hands of Bromsgrove and Worksop, the Midlands Finals saw the 1st XI pitched against the same two teams. A cagey 1-0 victory over Bromsgrove, with England U18 Captain Will Byas (S) scoring the goal, set up a semi-final clash with Worksop College. Repton were unlucky not to win in normal

time, after missing a couple of great chances but the heroics of Stephen Attwood (P) in goal and coolly taken penalties from Will Byas (S), Adrian Roseanu (C), Nic Reineke (P), Leo Watton (O) and Charlie Twigg (L) sent the boys through to the National Finals and a remarkable turnaround in the score-line from ten days before.

The National Finals were held at Cannock HC and were played over two days in a new ten-team format which thankfully avoided a proposed cancellation due to the ash-cloud situation. The events of the National Final itself made the group stages seem straightforward. The boys were workmanlike and clinical in defeating The Perse School (1-0) and Calday Grange (2-0) on day one and Langley Park (1-0) and Dean Close (3-2) on day two to set up a National Final against Whitgift who had looked very impressive in qualifying. Crucially, short corners were executed brilliantly and Steven Mullen (N) scored a couple of excellent individual goals.

The Final was a remarkable game of hockey. Repton were completely outplayed for the first ten minutes. Whitgift hit the post, took the lead from the penalty spot and Stephen Attwood in goal was sent off for a mistimed challenge. Having to play for five minutes without a goalkeeper and with a man short seemed to ignite the Repton boys and their defending was superb. Having survived that spell and now back to a full complement Repton pressed on, and despite losing Will Byas to injury, it was Huw Rees-Jones (L) who equalised after good work from Mark Pearse (O). With ten



SCHOOL NEWS - HOCKEY Continued

minutes remaining I briefly pondered playing for penalties but thankfully the boys on the pitch had different ideas and continued to press forward. Ricky Ho Chan (C) scored two goals in the dying minutes after good balls from Charlie Twigg (L) and Leo Watton (O) to clinch a spectacular victory.

It is fair to say that this year's team was perhaps not the most individually talented that Repton have had but there was no

question that they deserved this victory. Led by Luke Samra (N), this team pulled together when it mattered most, making themselves difficult to play against and being unpredictable in attack. Thanks to everyone who supported the boys throughout the season but particularly to WGO who ran the Michaelmas Term team and to SJC for his continued support.

ML Jones (C'97) Director of Hockey

SCHOOL NEWS - THE GRUBBER

From an article on Britain's Best Tuck Shops in '*School Life, The Country Life Guide to Good Schools*'

Forget about league tables – a school should be judged on its tuck shop. The goodies on sale are what gets Billy Bunter out of bed on those cold dark mornings, and the only things he misses in the holidays. Some tuck shops are simply kiosks, or are run from trestle tables in boarding houses, and others are more like cafes, with televisions and comfortable chairs.

Roald Dahl named the sweet shop in *The Giraffe, the Pelly and Me* the Grubber after the tuck shop at Repton, where he was a pupil. It was founded at the beginning of the 20th

century, and occupies its own building in the old part of the school, near the First XI cricket pitch. It is run like a cafe by Jeanette Pittman, who has installed a television and uses a small kitchen to make bacon sandwiches. On sale are all the usual chocolate bars, plus healthier snacks such as fruit. Pupils can pay in cash, but most of them have a Grubber allowance set up by their parents – usually about £50 each term. Most popular order 'Two on a plate with'. This translates as two sausage rolls with ketchup. 'They're made locally and are hugely popular' says Sarah Tennant, Deputy Head. 'I'd struggle to get through one, but the pupils somehow manage to trough two down in no time'.



SCHOOL NEWS - REPTON BY CANDLELIGHT CD

The end of the academic year is usually a time for rest and relaxation, but not for Repton's singers and musicians: for three days in the last week of summer term 2010 they were hard at work recording a new CD showcasing the currently high level of musical achievement at the school.

"Repton by Candlelight" has, as its title suggests, a Christmas theme, old favourites ("Once in Royal David's City", "Silent Night") rubbing shoulders with items by modern composers such as Arvo Pärt, Benjamin Britten and John Joubert.

Central to the recording is the Repton Chapel Choir, a body of young singers which has flourished under the expert guidance of Director of Music Mr John Bowley, himself a vastly experienced professional performer and erstwhile member of the renowned BBC Singers. Mr Bowley was specially delighted by the participation of Foremarke pupils in the recording,

emphasising the strong links between the music departments of the two schools. "It gave all 150 pupils involved an opportunity to really focus their musical activities", comments Mr Bowley, "and to show what we do here at Christmas".

In addition to the singers three of Repton's busiest instrumental ensembles are featured, the concert band, jazz band and orchestra. The school's own state-of-the-art recording studio was used to tape the readings from Dickens, Betjeman and St John's Gospel which punctuate the musical programme, and there is even a brief but atmospheric contribution from the chapel bell, a sound which generations of ORs will no doubt remember vividly!

Copies of "Repton by Candlelight" will be available from early November, and can be purchased by contacting the School Shop (01283-559323), which accepts credit card payments. The price is £10 (plus postage and packing). The CD makes an ideal Christmas present, and you are warmly invited to support the venture by acquiring your own personal copy

SCHOOL NEWS - FAREWELL TO STAFF



JRD

James Drinkwater came to Repton straight from Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he read English and was their Organ Scholar. He is an exceptional musician, with a passion for sharing his musical knowledge and enthusiasm. His quirky, entertaining manner became the stuff of legend overnight!

James played the organ for both whole-School services each week, gaining along the way his ARCO and FRCO. We were fortunate to restore the Harrison & Harrison organ during James' tenure as Organist, and he took a central role in devising what was and was not done. As a result, we now have a magnificent instrument. Not all his voluntaries were highbrow, however: the Headmaster had to walk out of Chapel to 'Thriller' when Michael Jackson died, to the amusement of all.

Also a fine violinist, James played in the Orchestra in most concerts, but also conducted them in Brahms' Tragic Overture, as well as conducting the Chamber Choir in several concerts, and devising programmes for them, linking his love of text and drama with the music. He presented an excellent evening in collaboration with Junior LitSoc and the Chamber Choir in The Library, which also included some impressive harpsichord playing from him.

Central to James' role was running Academic Music in the school: GCSE and A Level sets grew larger each year; he oversaw changes of syllabus, and could be relied upon to chase the Board over every little ambiguity in their texts and notices, so that pupils had absolute clarity as to what was expected of them. Thoroughly committed to doing his job as well as he possibly could, James could frequently be found working until the small hours, and on occasion did not make it back home at all!

James was Resident Tutor in The Cross and then New House, his bubbly enthusiasm infecting all around him. One year, he seemed to have written every close harmony arrangement for the Harmony Competition himself. The boarding school life is certainly not for everyone, but James thrived in the variety and total immersion that is the "Repton bubble".

Having learnt and contributed so much here, James is off to Clifton College. We wish him well and will certainly miss him: within the Department, in addition to his professional attitude and intelligent contributions to debate and all things musical, his tea towel management system was much admired. Although it is sure to be copied, it will never be bettered. Clifton are lucky to have such a highly musical, bright, witty man, whose glass is always half full.

AJR Bowley



NJC

Nine years ago, when Nicky Collins and I learnt during our PGCE year at Homerton College that we had both been offered jobs as NQTs at Repton, I remember being extremely glad that I would already have a friend when I arrived. Little did I know that she would become such a close and valued friend; and not only that, but also a colleague whose example would inspire me so strongly.

Her moral integrity and quiet diligence have been to pupils and members of Common Room alike, a constant reminder that hard work, undertaken cheerfully on behalf of others, is what our community is and should be about.

Whether in the form of meticulous lesson planning, sensitive pastoral care, dedicated sports coaching or, more recently, excellent leadership of the Geography Department, Nicky never fails to set high standards for others by her own example, and models them in an unobtrusive fashion.

Always discrete, tolerant and respectful of others, she has reminded us that a polite and unfussy approach is a joy to work with, and her natural thoughtfulness and reserve give her considered opinions all the more gravitas when they are expressed.

One cannot fail to be impressed by Nicky, or charmed by her sense of adventure and fun: taking trips to China and Costa Rica, running the Repton Factor, choreographing a Pedants' dance routine or building a snowman on the L6 Geography Field Trip.

Repton is losing an outstanding Head of Department, teacher, tutor, coach, colleague and friend, and I must confess more than a little jealousy of the Brighton College girls, whose House she leaves Repton to run. They will, I know, come to love her as we have. As long as they bear in mind that ice cream may, under no circumstances, be eaten before eleven o'clock in the morning, I am sure that she will love them too!

IW McLary

PIGEON POST

Dear Editors

I received my copy of *The Arch* in Tuesday's mail. Congratulation on an excellent issue which offers items of interest to ORs of all ages. I was certainly fascinated by John Hay-Heddle's article. Although he arrived nine years later than I, the tough conditions had not seemed to ease much, I well remember getting my weekly ration of marmite, butter and sugar right up to my departure in 1951. The Orchard boasted outside toilets until quite recently, Today's Reptonians are so lucky, in particular the girls must make the place so much more civilised. I am so pleased the School seems to be doing well.

Mike Jolly (O'47)

Dear Editors

A Feat of Arms

In the enlightening review by the Head of History, Dr. N.F. Pitts, of the book on the Royal Flying Corps and the Richthofen Circus in the 1914/18 War, I was struck by the references to the exploits of Lionel Blaxland, the former Housemaster of The Cross. In my day, 1936 onwards, he was then the Assistant Housemaster of The Hall, always known as Bill Blaxland, much admired as a person and for his prowess in so many sports. This last feature we felt accounted for the stinging accuracy of any discipline he had to assert with the aid of the cane. The minimum tariff for offenders was two strokes which felt like twice that amount due to his ability to land the second stroke along the line of the first. The perfection of his handiwork commanded instant respect when put on display on return to the dormitory. (I know.)

At a more lofty level, he went up much much more in our estimation in hearing reports circulating in the House of his bravery in the air. His natural modesty forbade him from expanding on his experiences however much we tempted him to open up. It was his adroit handling of his plane which propelled him into the national limelight. The current story told of his effecting an emergency landing on the only option available, the jetty of an unspecified harbour. Remembering that flying was then in its infancy, the instruments rudimentary, and such planes regarded as "crates", he had performed a heroic feat on an inauspicious jetty and survived. So it was regarded, and continued to hold fascination for some years thereafter. For what it's worth as a measure of his achievement, after leaving Repton I saw a record of it in a national newspaper, portrayed in dramatic form in a cartoon strip of the popular "Believe it or Not" type. The whole episode if not already reported so, must surely merit a place in the annals of the school. Dr Pitts may well have the answer.

Anthony Durham (H'36)

Like Neill, plenty of memories but more so from the athletics track than the classroom!

BKW was my first hurdles coach and I'm proud to say that some of his top tips have stayed with me to the extent that I have successfully passed them on to my son who has started his hurdles career in fine style breaking his Year 5 school record for the 55m hurdles!!

I do still think of BKW every time I'm down at the track with my son when we get the hurdles out, so this weekend I might even be tempted to dust off the spikes and give it a go over the sticks in his memory.

Will Anderson (B'71)

Sirs

I have only just now read the obituary for Keith Workman and thought I should add something of my experience of him. I arrived at Repton in 1966 into the Upper Sixth after a less than perfect set of A levels elsewhere. (I already had a younger brother in the school). I was to retake my Latin and English A and S levels. For Latin with Keith Workman I joined a class of two others, James Fenton and Richard Seaford, both of whom were to go on to win classic scholarships to Oxford. They were both formidable scholars but Keith Workman managed the three of us and our relationship so skillfully that I never once felt that I was any less competent than the others. Indeed I came out of those few terms at Repton with a love of the classics that persists to this day and which led me in the final year of a law degree to study Roman Law as my main option. It was only much later that I realised and reflected on the people skills of this kind and understated man. I now much regret that I never made the opportunity to thank him for what he had given me.

Mark Merrill (C'66)

Editors

I was saddened to hear of the death of Keith Workman ("BKW"). Given that I did Greek and Latin to A Level (and then as my degree), it may be of little surprise that he taught me for 14 terms in a row out of my 15 terms at the school – all except my first term at Repton, when David Wilkinson ("DBW") first taught me Greek.

He was a tremendous man. The fact that, unusually, I was better at Greek rather than Latin (despite having started Greek much later) was definitely down to BKW and DBW – they both taught Greek so well.

As others have testified though, he was more than just an outstanding teacher of Greek and Latin (although he fired my enthusiasm for Sophocles and Greek drama, for sure). He was happy to poke his nose into most areas of my life and proffer advice – whether asked for or not.

I remember he once told me after I ended a fabulously researched essay with an utterly appalling conclusion that I had a heart the size of pea (as was famously said of Joe Bugner by Henry Cooper, I think) – and regrettably, at the time, he was right.

I was also unfortunate to be not quite poor enough at athletics that I scraped into the school team for a term where my habit of talking to myself to get myself psyched up during training for the hurdles (where he was the coach) drew several icy blasts.

I also remember a particularly bad-tempered game of B league between Latham (my house) and Cross in about 1983 where BKW quite wrongly lost his temper and strode onto the pitch to berate Latham (Andy "Betty" Fox – where are you now?) and then proceeded to all but referee the match. We held on 2-2 despite his best efforts! [Actually, I think Will Alderson and subsequently a 1st XI left back – was playing up front that day and had a late chance (one of many I think Will) to give Latham a victory, but could only balloon the ball over the bar when clear inside the penalty area. It would have been a sweet, and much deserved victory!].

My favourite story of his – and I'm never sure if it was apocryphal, but I think not – concerned his scholarship exams to Winchester. He told me that he sat a general paper on June 6th, 1944 and as a 13 year old boy he had to answer the question "If you were in charge of the Allied Forces, how would you direct them so as to defeat Germany and win the war?" I never asked him what he wrote, but fortunately nobody needed his answer, as he had sat this particular exam question on the morning of D-Day!

I am very glad to have been taught by him and remember well the intellectual challenge he posed me and the no-nonsense, straightforward, exterior – combined with underlying warmth. I shall treasure the memories.

Kind regards

Neill Morgan (L'82)

Dear Editors

John Swallow's evocative period piece in a former issue of *The Arch* certainly stirred a memory, one that is firmly fixed for me. In 1941 I was in my last term in *The Hall* and fortunate enough to be there at the time of Vivien Leigh's visit to Repton. She had achieved world fame as a result of her principal role in the iconic film in Hollywood history, "Gone with the Wind", for which she was awarded an Oscar. The whole school was in a state of wild excitement. John Swallow's picture, a unique one to me, shows her on *The Priory* steps, being presented there by the Headmaster, Michael Clarke, together with Cyril Cusack, a rising star himself, and to be the head of one of the prominent theatrical families of the British stage today.

My involvement began on the previous evening when I was unexpectedly included by the HM in a small party of senior boys he was taking to the theatre in Derby to see Vivien Leigh in a performance of Bernard Shaw's play, "The Doctors' Dilemma". It was always clear to us that the HM was a theatre enthusiast with stage friends and would speak with authority on the finer points of acting. We were having our horizons uplifted and we were enjoying it.

As a further surprise, next day I was deputed to muster a similar party of boys in *The Hall* who were invited by the HM for mid-morning coffee in his sitting room to meet Vivien Leigh in person, as she was among the overnight guests in his residence. We were ecstatic and considerably apprehensive.

The HM was in high spirits, audibly purring, and in the interval before she was billed to appear, he slipped in to the roll of stage director to set the scene. There were so many variables that it was a complex problem. As a result we went through a series of evolutions, trying to take into account such critical details as the focal point for her chair, the colour of her dress – in the event an attractive, floating number in variegated green/yellow – and the possible clashing effect to the flower arrangement, the lighting, both natural and artificial, and the dark panelled walls. There was much framing of the hand to ensure a perfect composition from whatever angle.

Vivien Leigh duly arrived on cue at her radiant best, greeted us all most affably, was ushered to her chosen armchair, set at a predetermined angle to the fireplace, Then she could see and be seen by the boys arrayed in a half circle in front of her on a sofa and assorted chairs. Except there was one chair short - mine. And here for me came the moment of history and bashful elation. I was directed by the HM to get down and sit on my hungers on the floor at the very feet of Vivien Leigh herself. I remained there for the ensuing half hour or more facing outwards but firmly and cosily propped up by Vivien Leigh's right leg. For an impressionable youth, the electricity was at full voltage. As time wore on, it became less and less comfortable on the floor board. I never thought of moving, would I? Who would forget an experience like that? Needless to say, I was silently mocked by the grimaces and covert gestures of the other boys glaring in my direction, a foretaste of the crude barrage I was to receive afterwards. It was only venal jealousy on their part, And anyway, to quote from that epic film, "Frankly, I don't give a damn"

Anthony Durham (H'36)

Dear Mr. Stones,

Many thanks for the latest edition of *The Arch* - truly excellent. I liked particularly John Hay-Hedde's '*Recollections of Spartan Days*', as life at Brook was much the same. He was indeed a better than fair rifle shot, as I recollect that his prowess excluded me from the Cadet Pair, which greatly upset my father (B'22) who had represented Repton and Cambridge at the sport. Fortunately, I got it all together a few years later.

Charles Wells (B'55)

OVERSEAS LINKS

We are publishing below a full list of those Reptonians who have volunteered to be 'Overseas Links'. We are very grateful to those who have volunteered, but there are many gaps in the list of countries for which we have Links. If you would be willing to act as an Overseas Link in a country not already covered, please contact Mike Stones/Jan Cobb at: or@repton.org.uk or jcobb@repton.org.uk

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Note: If you require a postal address for any of the Overseas Links please contact the OR Secretary.

OR OFFICE

In the OR Office we are keen to ensure that we keep our records updated for all ORs. To this end we would be grateful if you could contact us if any of your details change, such as address, email, telephone numbers etc. We are also delighted to hear your 'good news' such as engagements, marriages, births, qualifications gained, new jobs etc. We will only publish such information in The Arch with your agreement.

Thank You!

Please email the office:
or@repton.org.uk
 or
jcobb@repton.org.uk
Or telephone: 01283 559320
Or write to us at:
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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES
for the next Edition
(May 2011) is March 2011

REPTON SCHOOL SHOP - Memorabilia

Prices are correct at time of going to print, please contact the shop to confirm prices.

All items are available from the Repton School Shop, The Paddock, Repton

If you wish to order any of the following items please contact the School Shop.

Tel. 01283 559323, or by email: shop@repton.org.uk.

Please note that the prices shown do not include postage and packing.

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Silk non crease	£24.25
Bow Tie	£23.25
OR House/Sports Ties:	
Brook House	£7.25
The Hall	£9.25
The Priory	£5.50
School House polyester	£6.50
New House	£6.25
Latham House	£5.00
The Orchard	£10.75
The Mitre	£8.70
The Cross	£7.75
OR Football	£16.85
OR Hockey	£12.65
OR Golf (striped)	£6.25
Cambridge	£16.95
Pilgrims	£5.00

House scarves:	
The Priory	£20.00
School House	£20.75
New House	£20.00
Latham House	£20.00
The Orchard	£20.75
The Mitre (Girls)	£20.75
Cross	£20.35
The Abbey	
Field House	£20.00
The Garden	£21.40
Blazer - made to order	£150.00
Banded white sweaters (Long-sleeve and sleeveless)	£25.00
Umbrellas:	
Large golf umbrella	£26.50
Ladies umbrella	£16.00

Miscellaneous:	
Large Glass Crested Tankard	£22.40
Small Glass Crested Tankard	£16.25
Large Glass Crested Goblet	£18.55
Crested Red Wine Glass	£17.10
Glass Crested Paper Weight	£26.40
Crested Cuff Links	£15.00
Crested Key Rings	£7.30
Brass buttons - large	£4.00
Brass buttons - small	£4.00
Repton cards	£0.75
Repton Postcards	£0.10
Large teddy bear (12")	£12.10
Baseball Cap	£9.70
Gentleman's Weekend Socks (pair) (Sizes: medium 6½ -8½; large 9-11)	£7.65
Mug	£5.00
OR ladies brooch	£45.00
Repton China Coin Tray	£3.50
Repton To The End	£37.50
Repton Register 2007 Book	£20.00
Repton Register 2007 CD	£12.00
Christmas Cards pack of 10	£1.30



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