

# The Old Papplewickian

— No. 21 — 2021 —



## THE HEADMASTER WRITES

“I am writing to you exactly one year to the day since the Papplewick chapel fell silent, and how strange and sad it has been to be without the heart and soul of the school for so long. In addition, since the last edition of *The Old Papplewickian*, the boys have only been physically back at school for just one out of the three terms. Yet the spirit of the boys and the school have not been squashed in any way due to the versatility and imagination of the staff, and the adaptability and resilience of the boys. Teaching online is now second nature, but it is hopefully coming to an end as we return to live staff teaching and inspiring live boys in real classrooms in the Summer term, something Old Boys no doubt took for granted in ‘your day’. I have also never seen the boys so genuinely pleased, even euphoric, to be back at school than after their

multiple incarcerations at home this year. Sadly, this was something that last year’s leaving boys were denied in most unluckily never returning to school properly after Easter for their final term at Papplewick.

Leavers’ Camp, so fondly remembered by so many Old Boys, their football tour to Brazil, and all the usual rites of passage were not to be. Yet, they did leave behind an impressive legacy of fifteen scholarships between them, and we hope they will return for either the Hog Roast on 4th July or Old Boys Day on 11th July, both of which could be bigger and better than ever this year to make up for last year’s cancellations. I am particularly looking forward to Mike Watt and the 1958 winning Sevens team having a second run at Old Boys’ Day (sadly tackled on the twenty-two last year!), and what a fitting day it will be to pay tribute to Tony Sparshott who will be standing down as Old Boys’ Secretary and editor of the *The Old Papplewickian* after twenty-one years of quite outstanding service to the School. As ever, Sallie and I would be delighted to see Old Boys either then, or at any time in 2021, hopefully bringing with you happy memories of what might now be regarded as your enviably normal times here.



50 or so staff all tested for Covid-19 at the start of the Lent Term in the Sports Hall and we were all negative.

## OLD BOYS’ DAY 2021 SUNDAY JULY 11th

At the moment of going to press it is once again impossible to publicise any definitive plans for this year’s Old Boys’ Day. However, we are assured by the Government that “things will be back to normal” by June 21st, so we are increasingly optimistic that we should be able to celebrate Old Boys’ Day in the usual way. And that is what we intend to do. So please make a note of this date in your diary – on the understanding that there is always a chance that Coronavirus restrictions may once again prevent us from meeting.

Please check regularly on the Old Boys’ page of the School website from mid June onwards to confirm that there is no change of plan for the day ([www.papplewick.org.uk](http://www.papplewick.org.uk), click on ‘About Papplewick’ and ‘Old Boys.’)

## SPEECH DAY 2020

With the whole School being closed for the Summer Term because of coronavirus, the 2020 Speech Day naturally took on a different format this year, with the ceremony being conveyed as a virtual event via a YouTube link to parents, Governors and Friends in a masterly way which met with admiration and many subsequent letters of appreciation. Taking advantage of technology, too, the Headmaster's speech also included several interspersed extras – videos of events from the past twelve months to demonstrate how the year had gone and how the School's morale had stayed high.

The Headmaster began by giving the Boys, Parents, Governors, and Guests, who were participating in the event a really warm welcome to what he referred to as 'our Speech Day with a Difference' which was being broadcast across 13 different time zones, which included Old Boys from Bermuda who were having an early morning breakfast party so that they could be there live. He thanked the day's guest of honour, Mrs Marina Gardiner Legge, Headmistress of Heathfield School, for her participation in the programme and for so kindly agreeing to speak after the prizes had been given out.

Tom Bunbury paid tribute to the boys on the character they had shown in the most extraordinary of circumstances since the outbreak of the virus. "Who would have thought back in early March when most of us hadn't even heard of 'Teams', 'Zoom', or even 'you're muted, Sir' - which incidentally must be every prep school boy's dream - who would have thought that the boys would become so technologically proficient, so independent in their learning, so enthusiastic to continue and so engaging in their characters and personalities, even if via a screen, that it has ended up being a genuine pleasure to teach them this term almost in the same way as any other term.



*New Tennis Courts, installed in 2020*

"So well done the boys. I do believe, though, that this year they have benefited more than usual from the enthusiasm, the inspiration, the commitment, and above all the care of the rather exceptional team who make up the Papplewick staff whether as teachers or non-teachers. 'Care' is actually at the root of the motivation of our staff, and it is this care that has driven them to deliver the remote programme in the manner that they have done throughout the term. I have received so many complimentary emails from parents on this subject, and I would like to express my own thanks to these parents for their



*Berkshire Young Musician of the Year 2020*

kind emails and also to the Staff themselves for all their selfless efforts.

"And what a successful year it has once again been on the academic front especially during this summer term, when we have been able to offer so few of those competing distractions that boys love so much." Tom Bunbury congratulated the three boys who had done so well in the academic Scholarship exams to their public schools, together with the five boys who had gained admission to Winchester in their taxing entrance exam and to those Common Entrance boys who had missed out on so much in their final term, but who had prepared better than any other group he could remember, and were then rewarded with some stellar results with ten boys scoring an average of over 75%.

In the Music Department, many congratulations must go to the seven musicians who gained awards to their senior schools, together with the two boys who made it through to the finals of Berkshire's Young Singer of the Year competition, and to the boy who went on to achieve the award of Berkshire's Young Musician of the Year.

The Headmaster said that he was pleased to report that Papplewick had enjoyed another excellent year on the sports field and he warmly congratulated the boy who had distinguished himself by winning an Outstanding Talent in Sport Scholarship to Harrow for both rugby and athletics.

Teams on the rugby and the soccer fields had won an unusual number of tournaments throughout the age range in the 2019-20 season. The 1st XV rugby team had lost only one match and the soccer XI had reached the Finals - the last sixteen - of the National Cup competition.

Tom Bunbury announced that the Arts had continued to flourish throughout a difficult year. Drama production in the outside world may have ceased after lockdown, but Papplewick had marched on regardless and had put together its radio broadcast of *Twelfth Night* which had proved a great success. And of course pre-lockdown the School enjoyed an excellent production of *Treasure Island* which the senior boys put on for us before Christmas.

On the subject of Fine Art the Headmaster commented that there were a great many boys who consistently produced work of the highest calibre, as could be clearly seen in the many exhibitions in the entrance hall, which in the past year had led to two more boys gaining Art Scholarships to Harrow and Charterhouse.

Indeed Tom Bunbury lamented that there were no visitors present this Speech Day to appreciate the art work on display and he therefore thought that now was the opportunity to introduce his first 'Pull up Video' for would-be visitors to enjoy - an Art Slide Show with individual pictures by boys, all accompanied by a relevant song - 'What a Wonderful World', a snapshot of the amazing art produced by the boys over the last twelve months.

After the Art video the Headmaster continued his speech by saying that in spite of coronavirus there *had* been life before lockdown this year, not least in the wonderful events organised by the Parents of Papplewick team. As he thanked this group for what it had done Tom Bunbury introduced his next interlude, an Events Slide Show 2020 with highlights of events and memories of the year gone by, a photographic reminder of our life before lockdown at Papplewick.

This slideshow was followed rapidly by what the Headmaster assured us was the moment we had all been waiting for; "it's time for the **Papplewick Big Sing** - an incredible project put together by our musical staff and technician, with over 190 videos of singing submitted by individual boys and staff, which



*Treasure Island – the School Play in December 2019*

will provide us all with a lasting memory of this rather unique moment in time."

After this the Headmaster ended by paying especial tribute to the boys in Year 8 who on this day were completing a rite of passage. "Sadly, this year, the Year 8s have missed out immensely on so many of their normal rites of passage but they have done so stoically and with remarkable good humour for which they deserve great credit. Today though is still the day when by tradition they are presented with their Old Boy's tie and shield and become Old Papplewickians. This year they have already received their ties and shields through the post at home rather than in the marquee.

"And so it is fitting that our final video is a Leavers' one, containing some of the varied reminiscences they will be leaving with. And we extend our farewell to all our Year 8 boys as we wish them every success and happiness as they embark on their next new adventure at senior school; and we hope wherever they go in life, they will always carry a little piece of Papplewick blue with them."

## AWARDS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2020

Tobi Bamisaye	Annah Shaw Classics Scholarship	Eton College
George Brattle	Music Exhibition	Bradfield College
Henry Clarke	Martineau Exhibition	Eton College
Joshua Kim	Music Scholarship	Eton College
Cameron Knight	Outstanding Talent in Sports Scholarship	Harrow School
Matthew Lin	Music Exhibition	Eton College
Oscar Oldenhove de Gurertechin	Academic Scholarship	Winchester College
Dorian Park	Music Exhibition	Eton College
Hans Patel	Music Scholarship Art Scholarship	Harrow School
Henry Song	Academic Scholarship Music Scholarship Deno Leventis Classics Award	Harrow School
Giacomo Stevens	Art Scholarship	Charterhouse
Jason Zhang	Music Exhibition	Bradfield College



## Farewell

**Sarah Tysoe Registrar 1997-2020** retires after the most loyal twenty-three years of service to the School. In fact, Sarah has always been in a truly unique position in that every single parent knew her, and every single one of them has benefited, above all from her warmth... warmth that has always been there from the moment they first picked up the phone to enquire about Papplewick, all the way through to their son landing on the mat, rather nervous and apprehensive on day one. Sarah's particular skill, as a former Papplewick Mother herself, has always been to realise that parents have invariably been every bit as apprehensive as their sons, and she saw the need to put them at ease, and to make them feel as comfortable as possible as quickly as possible as they gradually became part of life at Papplewick.

Sarah has done the Registrar's job quite brilliantly, projecting perfectly to prospective parents all that Papplewick stands for, especially in terms of happy boys. She has had the ability to cope with problems as they came along and to sort out difficulties presented by boys, staff, parents and even headmasters at times, all with patience and good humour, giving the impression that she is really on 'your' side. Above all she has invariably demonstrated incredible loyalty to the School and to those running it, always supporting them with integrity in her professional capacity, and above all with empathy as a friend. The whole Papplewick community is going to miss Sarah hugely, none more so than the management, but a well deserved retirement, has finally beckoned. We really can't thank Sarah enough for all she has done for the School and we now wish her the happiest and healthiest of retirements and fun with her grand-daughters, Rosie and Millie.



Sarah Tysoe



**Sarah Sammons** is leaving Papplewick to join her twin daughters at The Abbey School in Reading, and we are grateful to her for all she has done both on the Geography front and on the dreaded Reasoning front over the last three years. What Sarah doesn't know about Geography isn't worth knowing, and we've been lucky to see our boys benefit so much from her excellent teaching. Our boys' loss however, will definitely be The Abbey girls' gain and we wish Sarah every success and happiness for the future as she moves there in September.

**Ray Franz** joined the Papplewick Staff in 2015 after running a pub in Surrey and we took him on totally unqualified but with an inkling that an excellent schoolmaster was there lurking in the background...and so it has proved. Ray has been a quite exceptional teacher of English in the classroom, and possibly an even more exceptional tutor outside of it. He has been a bit of a one-off, a man with the driest sense of humour, a man who is a genuinely deep and reflective thinker, and above all a man with a passion to teach English...and it is that passion that is taking him to London to teach A level English in September at the Arts School in Chiswick. We thank him for all he has done for the boys here in Papplewick over the last five years; he leaves with our very best wishes.

**Harry Paget** joined the Staff five years ago and was certainly selected on character, and what a character he has been...and what a talent he is too, whether in the classroom achieving some outstanding results in Divinity, in the chapel which he has led so well with his twice weekly addresses to the boys or with his quizzes, or of course on the sports field, where his greatest passion probably lies - especially in cricket. Here his enthusiasm for the game has been so infectious for the boys, as has been his seismic knowledge of, and opinions about, all sports. A man for all seasons, Harry is going to be missed hugely at Papplewick.

He absented himself on Speech Day itself 2020 in order to get married to Phoebe in the morning, before moving up to Oxford to start married life there and teach at The Dragon. Harry is a true prep school boy's schoolmaster who we are sure will go on to inspire generations of Dragon boys, as he has Papplewick ones over the last five years, and we wish Harry and Phoebe every happiness as their exciting new chapter unfolds for them in Oxford.

## Music

What a pleasure it has been this year to have had such a talented group of musicians come together not only to play for themselves, but also to play together in groups, ensembles, choirs, and bands for our enjoyment. The choir has given huge pleasure once again both at home in our daily, Saturday, and Carol services, and also on the road singing at Portsmouth and Ely Cathedrals; and at the more populist end of the scale, Years 5 and 6 just loved being part of a choir of 8,000 children at the O2 Arena for Young Voices.

**Music Successes:** Many congratulations to Harvey Lin, aged 17, now at Eton, on reaching the Young Musician of the Year keyboard final once again, four years on from his first appearance.

**Berkshire's Young Musician of the Year 2020:** Well done to Joshua Kim on not only winning the woodwind section of this prestigious competition last March, but also on winning the overall title of Berkshire Young Musician of the Year.

**Two of our boys won through to the Berkshire Young Singer of the Year Finals**, one qualifying for the Folk Finals and the other for the Classical Finals, which should have been held in March last year as part of the Windsor Festival. With over 300 competitors entering the competition this year, both boys have done incredibly well to battle through two live rounds to make the finals on 29th March 2020 at The Old Court in Windsor.

**First Choir perform 'Thine be the Glory' – remotely.** And what a lovely sound it was. I hope you tuned into it last April!



## Harvest Collection

Papplewick's collection this year was donated to the Tressell Trust. Due to the overwhelming generosity of the Papplewick community a record 343 kgs of goods ranging from foodstuffs, toiletries, household items, feminine items and baby supplies were donated. A week long appeal was organised by Mrs Simone Alder, Senior House Parent, who together with a team of boys sorted the items which were taken to the Kerith Centre (Bracknell Food Bank) for the 'Stop the Hunger Campaign'.

## Sport

After the last two incredibly successful seasons in football and rugby enjoyed by Papplewick it would be no surprise if there were quite a few schools who would have wanted to enter the prep school transfer market this year, if such a thing existed, to get their hands on our players. With the round ball, there were outstanding results across the board including the 1st XI



*Dayboys in camouflage outfits at their annual sleepover in the dorms in February 2020*

reaching the last 16 of the National Cup competition, the Colts carrying all before them in winning the Bradfield and Feltonfleet tournaments and qualifying for the National Finals that sadly never took place, and the U9A side losing just one match in 18, as well as winning the St. John's Beaumont tournament last term. With the oval ball, the U13A side nearly went through the season unbeaten losing just one game, while the Colts B and U8A teams both managed to sweep the board with unbeaten seasons.

## Art 2020

From his virtual stage on Speech Day, the Headmaster was full of praise once again for the state of School Art. "As for Fine Art you only have to wander into the Entrance Hall to know that many of our boys are producing work of a standard way beyond their years, and they just seem to keep rolling off the production line, under the encouragement and beady eye of their Art teachers, producing two more Art Scholarships in 2020."



*James Haskell (1992-98) visiting Papplewick, with the Under 9A team*

## OBITUARIES

### **Russell Grant – RTG** *Director of Music (2001-17)*



*Russell Grant (Left) with Colleague and Friend Steve Elkington*

Russell Grant was Director of Music for sixteen years – although I suspect he would have heartily disapproved of Psy, the Korean musician behind Gangnam Style, he might have approved of what he said when he stated, “the world’s most famous and popular language is music.” Boys from all over the world passed through Mr Grant’s care over his sixteen years with us, and none could have left without a real appreciation of music. He might have been a Terror for Year Twos, but he was a Titan for Twelve and Thirteen year olds, as somewhere in between Year 2 and Year 8, boys actually always worked him out, and they did so because, above all, they worked out that he was ultimately on their side. He presided over, nurtured, and developed some quite remarkable talents, and he must have been proud of the thirty music awards won while he was at the helm, including a remarkable twelve to Eton and six to Harrow. Russell Grant also gave selflessly of his time in the evenings and weekends, mainly to set up our shooting programme. His cultural tours of London for overseas boys were legendary, and where would we have been without his Burns Supper with a haggis, a piper and his kilt?! He was also never happier than when driving one of our minibuses, so much so that he is immortalised here with two Papplewick minibuses carrying the personalised number plates RG01 and RG02! Above all though, Russell led the four part first choir to astonishingly high standards. Once a member of the choir, returning Old Boys very much felt they were always a member – a ‘lifer’ – and I know they felt lucky they had been a part of something so special. We too were very lucky to have had Russell with us for so long, and we are extremely grateful to him for all he did for both Papplewick and the boys.

### **Lesley Jarman**

*(former Head of Learning Support  
and mother of Old Boy Henry 2018)*



*Lesley Jarman and her son Henry*

Lesley joined the Staff in 2017 and instantly the chemistry seemed right between her and Papplewick. She had an immediate and quite remarkable empathy for both the boys and the parents of boys, for whom extra support gave them a boost. And boy did she boost them up in the new Learning Support Centre! She cared for ‘her boys’, as she would call them, in a way that was, above all, fun for the boys. We miss that sense of fun and positivity which she brought to the school, as well as her remarkable determination in wanting to work on until she could work no more. Lesley leaves only happy memories behind her for her humour and the ever-present smile on her face were always guaranteed to brighten up one’s day. How typical that she should wish to present a Cup to the school, well before she left, to be given annually to the most committed boy receiving learning support – a wonderful gift: The Lesley Jarman Cup for Achievement, first presented in 2020.

### **Anne Martin**

*(Staff 1954-57) died April 2020.*

Anne grew up in Athens, England and, during the war, in upstate New York. Apart from this time in America, she received little in the way of formal education. She joined the Staff at Papplewick in 1954 first as junior matron and later as teacher looking after the junior form in the School. She was very good with children and she loved her job. It was here that she met her future husband, Trevor Martin; they had both been assigned to paint the scenery for a Christmas production of *HMS Pinafore* and by the start of the new term, they were a married couple and remained so for over sixty years.

Anne remained at Papplewick for another year after Trevor had left teaching in 1956 and joined Shell Mex and BP. They lived in Sunningdale for that year before moving to Worcestershire to live in a ramshackle, dilapidated vicarage, with an impossibly overgrown garden. In the 1980s she and Trevor started buying donkeys and then launched an antiques business together, which Anne loved. And from the early 1990s and into the new millennium, with the arrival of her six grandchildren, Anne showed herself to be never happier than when she was looking after small children. She had a very happy and fulfilled life.

*Anne Martin with her husband Trevor in the garden they loved so much in Worcestershire*





*Sue Prickett back at Papplewick at the 2016 Old Boys' Reunion*

## **Sue Prickett (née Cock)**

*Assistant Matron 1956*

Old boys will be sad to hear of the death of Sue Prickett in Oct 2020 aged 81. Sue Cock was born in Bombay and came to England at the age of two and settled in Bagshot. She was educated locally and went to finishing school in Switzerland. In 1955-56 she was appointed at Papplewick to work as assistant matron, thoroughly enjoying her year at the School, where she made lasting friends.

Having left Papplewick she worked for a short time for BOAC. She married in 1963 and lived in Wiltshire with her two daughters before moving to Sherborne in the late seventies. For a dozen years or so she ran a second hand clothes shop for children, 'The Rocking Horse', and took in students at the same time and housed them, continuing to do so all the years since at very regular intervals until her death. She lived with her dog, Suki, to which she was devoted.

Although Sue worked at Papplewick for only the single year, she acquired a great affection for the place, joining in everything with enthusiasm and making a very positive mark. She was a keen photographer and took quantities of pictures of the School, activities, the boys and the staff, keeping them in albums, carefully named. Many of those photos have appeared in past numbers of *The Old Papplewickian*, to the enjoyment of her contemporaries at the School. She retained stories of incidents which she could recall and retell decades later with tremendous enthusiasm and good humour. In 2016 she was the driving force behind arranging a reunion of Old Boys and Staff of her generation at Papplewick which was a great success and well attended. She had been looking forward to going to last July's 1958 reunion, which sadly had to be postponed for a year because of coronavirus. She will be there in spirit in July this year.

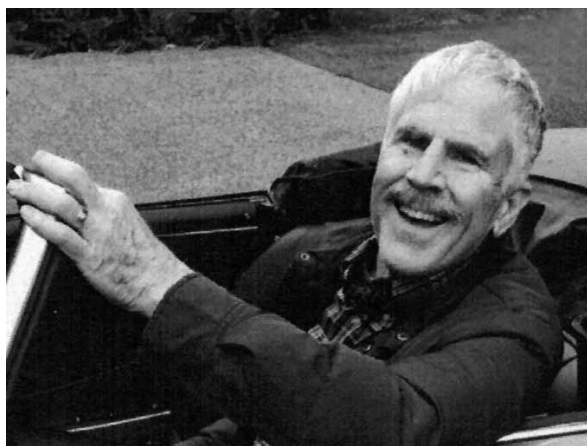


## **Michael Kerger**

*(1947-52),*

Old Boys will be sad to hear of the news of Michael's death in April 2020. He was one of the first boys to enrol at the School and he was particularly informative in emails he sent in in 2006 and 2007 about the early days of the existence of Papplewick. He returned to the School in 2007 to be present at the fiftieth anniversary celebrations of the building of the Chapel and those Old Boys who were present then will remember his happiness at being back. He was delighted to meet up again with his old Headmaster, Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen, and share memories with him. They were both great enthusiasts of Papplewick.

*Mike Kerger (left) back at Papplewick at the fiftieth anniversary of the building of the new Chapel in 1957, with Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen and Geoff Allen (1948-49)*



## **Mark Buckingham**

*(1952-55)*

Some Old Boys will be aware that Mark Buckingham had been fighting a very aggressive cancer and it is sad to report that at the age of 75 he lost his battle in the little town of Enumclaw, Washington in September 2020.

After his early schooling at Papplewick, Mark and his older brother Ward came back to America to finish their school education. Following this he had a long career as a pilot for United Airlines and Alaskan Airlines, following in the steps of his Father, Buck. For the last sixteen years of his life, he ran a very successful Christmas tree farm in the place where most of them come from in America.

Mark enjoyed his years at Papplewick and he took great pleasure reminiscing on zoom with his contemporaries there during the last six months of his life.

## OLD BOYS' NEWS 2019 - 2020

This photo below of the 1954 Papplewick sevens team which had won the final of the Prep School Tournament that year featured in the last newsletter and it came asking if anyone knew the name of our opponents. Several suggestions came in before **Ward Buckingham (1952-55)** sent a photocopy of the report of the final as it appeared in that year's Stag Magazine, and which appears below. And as Rosslyn Park did not start hosting the Public School Sevens Tournament until 1958 several Old Boys had queried the venue mentioned in the caption under the photo. One of these boys said that he used to play rugby for Rosslyn Park and their ground did not resemble the one in the background of the photo – but he could not recognise which club the background did belong to. Ward Buckingham's photocopy produced the answers to both questions; the opposition in the photo was St Martin's and the venue was the Old Cranleighian ground.

Sevens Team 1954



### Here is the report from the Stag Magazine of 1954 (slightly edited.)

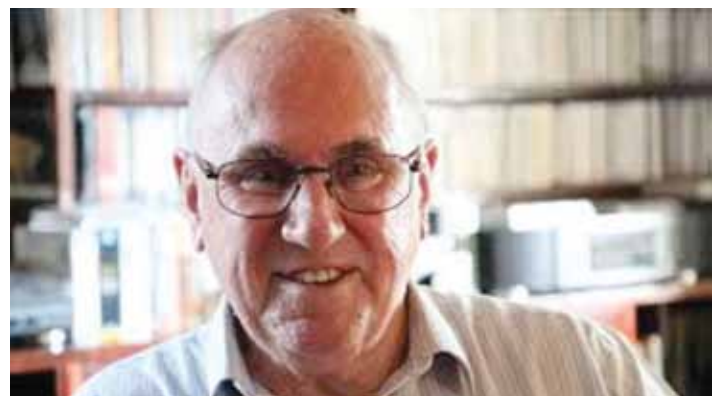
The game took place on the Old Cranleighian ground and was very efficiently organised. Twenty-four teams were entered by eleven schools. Papplewick 3rd team met a first team in the first round and went under. The 2nd team had a well matched game in round two but lost by a try to nil. The 1st seven played all the way through the long afternoon and put up the largest scores of the day. The hardest game was against Abbey 1 in the semi-final. It is no more than plain fact to say that in none of the games

did we have to play in our own half of the field. Rapid passing of an unorthodox kind that we have made our own confused our opponents but for one or two exceptions the opposition failed to tackle. If our school maintains its tradition of tackling, the Rugby should always prosper. We defeated St Martin's by 19 to nil in the Final."

Sevens Team 1954 - D Hugh-Jones, Peter Sexton,  
V Vudinanthah, Richard Smith, Mohamed Ibrahim,  
H S Trowell and Yusef Munjee

**Points for: 108 - Points against: 0**

**Michael Bullivant (Staff 1968)** living in Bulawayo has been awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his services in music, education and Zimbabwe/U K relations. Born in England in Lincolnshire, Michael went to King Edward VI Grammar School in Spilsby. He was on the staff at Papplewick in the late 1960s and early '70s, teaching English and Latin. He isn't a practising musician, or at least, he wasn't when **Paul Cheater (Ex Staff 1973-89)** knew him, but he had a colossal collection of recorded music, all on LPs, as well as an encyclopaedic knowledge of composers and their works. He moved to the then Rhodesia in 1975 where he started teaching History at Milton High School. We wish him well and congratulate him on his award.



Michael Bullivant OBE



**Toby Adams (1988-94)** – Toby has acquired one of Britain's manufacturing success stories, 'Ribcraft UK,' and looks set to expand on the successes it has already enjoyed - as well as placing a larger emphasis on environmental sustainability. Toby is focused on ensuring that Ribcraft's core values of reliability, durability and unquestionable quality are maintained, as well as having a new motivation on environmental sustainability through carbon offsetting. The new hybrid propulsion system has been designed to make Ribcraft boats the most advanced and environmentally friendly patrol boats in the world.



John Mark Fitzpatrick (left) and Blair Taberer in the runs.

**Kristjan Byfield (1988-93)** - continues in the Estate and Letting industry and in July 2020 his company, Base Property Specialists, was awarded the Gold 'Zoopla Xcellence Award' recognising his company as being 'the finest lettings office in the UK over the last decade' at the ESTAS 2020 (the Estate & Letting Agent Awards). At the same awards he also won the annual Grand Prix award and two London region awards. This is the fifth consecutive year the company has won a coveted Grand Prix Award.

Kristjan has seen the company grow beyond expectation and last October it won a bronze award in the best EA Supplier Grade 2021 – one of just nine awards from an open market assessment of over 349 ordinary suppliers.

**Jamie Chandler (2009)** went to Harrow after Papplewick and then on to Bristol. He finished his Biomedical Sciences degree in 2019 and when he wrote in he was about to start his DPhil in Oncology at Oxford. He was looking forward to starting there and to meeting everyone. He found it interesting at the start with all the social distancing measures in place but he was hoping that it wouldn't impact the university and college experience too much.

**Evans-Lombe boys:** **Alexander (2009)** is training at KPMG, **Arthur (2010)** has just left Trinity Dublin and is applying to various jobs, **Alfred (2011)** has left Edinburgh and is working for a start-up care marketplace and **Atty (2015)** has 'finished' Eton and has a place at Durham but may well reapply to Oxford in the autumn.

**John Mark Fitzpatrick (1990-96)** has written in to see if the School has any memorabilia or photos or anything related to the cricket tour of Zimbabwe that he was a part of in 1995. He was specifically looking for an itinerary or the pre-tour pamphlet. John Mark said he had started doing a spot of memoir writing and the Zimbabwe tour was an obvious choice to remember and put down in words. He says he has been in touch with **Ben Coombes (Staff 1987-99)** who has promised to help him out with a few photos. Can any other member of the team recall any information?



John Mark enclosed a photo of **Blair Taberer (1992-96)** and himself after beating Lilfordia in their last game by 10 wickets in less than 2 hours. Blair and **Ben King (1990-97)** bowled them out for 85 before Blair and John Mark then got the runs for the win. It was the only game they won out of nine, but they did so in style.

**Tim Heath (1960-63)** has sent in a photo of **Michael Kidson (Staff 1958-64)** sitting next to Tim's father (the 1950s/60s bandleader) at a Sports Day, probably 1961. Tim was at Papplewick from 1960 – 63 and his brother Nick was there from 1958 to 1961. "I have very good memories of Michael Kidson whom I found humorous and truly inspiring. He certainly went on to a very illustrious and long teaching career at Eton, mentoring David Cameron amongst many other subsequently famous people who clearly thought very highly of him."

**Alexander James (2014)** - After attending Marlborough in the lower school he moved to London's MPW college for 6th form studies. In the summer after his A Levels he toured the beaches somewhere east of Vietnam, before beginning an economics and politics degree at the University of Sussex. Failing to find satisfaction with the course at Sussex he withdrew and started on a politics, business and Spanish degree at Newcastle last September. On the sporting front he competes at university and club level athletics, a path he embarked on entirely because of athletics he had done at Papplewick..



Michael Kidson with the right half of the 1950s bandleader Ted Heath

**Paul Landless (1988-91)** has happy memories of the Film Club evening activities at Papplewick which he claims made him an art film-lover and French lessons which inspired him to buy a small villa called Le Mataran in Provence near Pertuis (available on AirBnB for any Old Boy!) After Papplewick, he moved on to the RGS Guildford where he became Head Boy in 1995-96 and from there he went to Durham to study History, graduating in 1999, before finishing studies with a law conversion course in Guildford two years later. In 1999 he started a buy-to-let property portfolio during his law course and took gliding lessons near Winchester. After training as a solicitor at Slaughter and May in London, Paul joined Clifford Chance in 2004, moved to Hong Kong in 2006 to become an avid sailor, got married to Amy in Provence in 2009 and then moved to Singapore in 2012. He has two sons, specialises in derivatives/structured products and leads Clifford Chance's Tech Group. He is now looking forward to being back in Farnham again. He says he regularly organises wine club evenings in Singapore and is always happy to have a drink with Old Papplewickians.



Mark Burley, Deputy HM, with former Head Boy, Scott Pearce (2011)

**Kenneth Pantelev (2014)** went to Eton after Papplewick and from there he moved on to Imperial College London to study Biomedical Engineering. He keeps fit in his capacity as president of the basketball society. Now he is in his second year, he is naturally looking for internship opportunities, specifically in investment banking. A big part of the application process is getting referrals from networking but unfortunately, due to the pandemic he has not been able to gain as much exposure as he would have liked. When he contacted us last December he was expecting results within the coming month.

**Andy Read (1969-74)** contacted us last June, having enjoyed reading the 2020 newsletter. He had some reminiscences to impart:

"I have nothing but fond memories of my time at Papplewick. Most of the teachers would not have shared the same fondness however, as I built up quite a stash of report cards and minus B's throughout my time at the School.

"One night I remember arranging a midnight feast, but the bread bulging from my jumper was a give-away at high tea, and I was sent on that walk of shame down the hall with the dark



'JJ' Herabutya (1997-99) was married in Bangkok last year

oak walls and thick carpet pile to stand trembling outside Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen's office.

"And then after too much chatting in the dorms late one night I was told to go 'stand out' with another boy. We both stood next to a fire alarm which he promptly decided to head butt. The jangling bell suddenly pierced the silence of the slumbering dorms and every boy in the school jumped out of bed and filed down to the PT ground with two embarrassed boys desperate to merge into the background.

"After finishing my education I became an electrician for a few years but in my late 20's I decided to make a career move and went to university to train as a primary school teacher. After some years in the classroom I left to start up a guitar teaching business, wrote a tuition book and for the last twenty years have taught guitar in schools and online from my home town of Winchester.

"I may not have been a model student but I very much valued the stability, structure, and sense of community I felt at Papplewick. Every student needs a champion and I'll always be grateful for the patience shown by **Mr Morgan (1970-76)** (my choir master) and **Mr. Foster Watson (1963-74)** (my housemaster). They inspired me to show the same forbearance with my own challenging students over the years!"



Andy Read

**Aarush Selvan (2001-07)** wrote in in 2020 with an update on what he has been doing recently. He spent the past year on loan from McKinsey at Google and recently joined the company full time as a Product Manager. He will be leading an applied research team where he is, in Silicon Valley, working on building infrastructure for Google's AI products (though he will be working from home in San Francisco for the next six months at least). He says that he has many fond memories of his time at Papplewick; the leadership, confidence, and interpersonal skills he built while there have helped a great deal as he embarks on his career.

**Alistair Wilson (1971-76)** After Papplewick Alistair moved on to St Pauls School in London and from there to St Andrew's University, before joining ICL in Bracknell as a computer scientist working on some of their compilers. ICL sponsored him whilst at St Andrew's. His work took him to Boston in the US where he still resides.

He soon transitioned from the technical side, through consultancy and into sales. He is still in sales and today he works for a company called TIBCO and manages some of their world wide partners. On the personal side he married his wife Donna in 1993 and they have three children.



Members of the School Community present for the School Photo during lockdown 2020

## SNIPPETS

### Forgotten Pioneering Memories

The last edition of *The Old Papplewickian* contained an account of how tree trunks were removed from the ground in the 1950s by the Pioneers and transported on The Trolley to be sawn up by Mr Howard Clough at one end of the saw and two boys (in turns) at the other end. But no description was given of this useful bit of property.

Equipment, tree stumps, tree trunks and the like were loaded on to and transported on The Trolley, which was a four wheel truck with a 'D' handle to pull it and steerable front wheels. The boys had great fun with this vehicle. If you sat at the front of the flat-bed of The Trolley holding the 'D' handle almost



St. George's triumph in the annual House Cross-Country race in the hideous rain and mud of the 2020 Cross-country last January

vertically you were able to steer it, and with a couple of 'mates' pushing at the back, frightening speeds could be achieved.

"It was wonderful fun," our informant told us, "and I don't remember the practice being banned or for that matter boys abusing the privilege of 'playing' with it."

### Papplewick featured again in *The Tatler Good Schools Guide 2021*

"A delightful breath of fresh air, Papplewick offers its boys a joyous, rural education despite being only forty-five minutes from London. Headmaster Tom Bunbury and his wife Sallie have created a 'boy heaven': pupils share their school with snakes, scorpions, tarantulas, and frogs and science lessons are sometimes taken in the swimming pool – where better to learn how sound travels? All the fun and games produce stellar results: the boys secure places at Harrow, Eton and St. Edward's with a wealth of scholarships. And who could forget the sport? There are nearly a thousand fixtures per year (most boys compete twice a week) and football is leading the field under former pro John Nutter."

*So - Well done to all the boys for engaging so brilliantly during lockdown in their full timetable of 'live' lessons: polite, eager and hard working; it's just how we expect our boys to be!*



# Remote Learning

Remote Learning has been back for Papplewick boys whether in Bangkok, Belgrade, Berkshire, Beijing or Bermuda!

## Papplewick Foreign Correspondents report in

Well done to our mini journalists who were interviewed live in Headmaster's Assembly about lockdowns and vaccines in their part of the world...and it seems there's plenty of room for optimism worldwide.

**Many thanks to POP** for organising both a wonderful wine-tasting evening for parents, and also some marvellous Master Chef cooking classes for the boys during lockdown.

**Could 111 chocolate cakes** all prepared and baked at the same time be a new world record?!

Well done to all our mini-bakers who rose to the HM's Granny's Great Chocolate Cake Challenge!



# Christo Brand's talk

Christo Brand's talk on Teams to Papplewick boys about life as Nelson Mandela's warder and friend ended the third lockdown on a high.

Many thanks are due to Christo Brand for sharing his story of life on Robben Island with Nelson Mandela and for being so patient in answering all our boys' Questions. And well done to all the boys who asked the most wonderful and thought-provoking questions.

As Cristo Brand pointed out, our one year of lockdown in our own home is perhaps put into a good perspective by Nelson Mandela's twenty-seven years in lockdown in prison.

*Christo Brand, with Robben Island behind him*



## NEWS FROM THE 1950s



Winning 1958 Sevens Team

### The two Roger Smiths

Those Old Boys who read the 2020 *Old Papplewickian* last year will recall that **Mike Watt**, one of the members of the victorious 1958 Rugby Sevens Team, suggested that the winning players should meet up once more on Old Boys' Day 2020, July 12th. All the arrangements were made but as you know this reunion had to be postponed because of coronavirus. So since July last year Mike has been hosting regular 'meetings' via Zoom with a small group of the 1958 players and others of their contemporaries in order to keep alive the hope that they might be able to meet on Old Boys' Day at Papplewick in July 2021.

It so happened that in the winning 1958 team there were two Roger Smiths – Roger WH and Roger HD - not related - who were both in Mike's Zoom group. One day the two Rogers were chatting and Roger WH happened to ask Roger HD where he lived. "Oxford" was the reply. After a pregnant pause, RWH said, "How amazing, I live in Jericho" (a district of Oxford!)

It transpires that for the last twenty years the two Roger Smiths have been living within a couple of miles of one another without realising it. A socially distanced lunch soon followed between the two Rogers and their respective partners, Rosemary and Patricia, and they expect to meet more regularly once Covid restrictions allow.

*Can you spot them in the team photo (above)? They say they still look the same now as they did then.*



R.W.H. Smith (left) and his partner Patricia Lilly meet up with R.H.D. Smith and his wife Rosemary in Oxford



Peter Duker (1959) at an exhibition in Tate Britain of some of his silk screen posters

**Stephen Clasper (1955-59)** played in the winning 1958 Sevens team and was really looking forward to getting together last year with other members of the team, as winning the Rosslyn Park Sevens was quite a special memory. "I recall that Papplewick was a last minute entry because another school had dropped out at short notice. I think the coach at Caldicott had recommended us as the replacement as we had just beaten his team to win the Caldicott Sevens. I have lost my old Stag magazines and other memorabilia I had collected, but I seem to recall that *The Daily Telegraph* or *The Times* had included a paragraph about us in their article on the Public Schools Sevens held the same day. The paragraph mentioned that we had played with "unusual savoir faire" for boys so young.

*So, Papplewick, July 2021 it is then. See you there."*

**David Spooner (1954-60)** says he is looking forward to the Old Boys' reunion at Papplewick in July this year. He wrote in last June having enjoyed reading the 2020 newsletter.

"Whilst it is an odd thing to say, the Obituaries are often fascinating. GJJP's reminiscences of David Harrison took me straight back to my days in the Choir. I joined on arrival aged seven. I am convinced my reading improved because of it.

Our much respected Choir Master was **Mr Peters (1951-69)** and he had an odd but delightful sense of humour. He taught me the piano, which my Granny insisted on paying for, as indeed she did for my riding lessons. I was playing my scales one day and Mr Peters said, "Spooner stop playing will you just for a moment. I teach you the piano and I also teach you Latin



Richard Cornwall & Robert Heslop Staff 1956  
(Photograph from the collection of Mrs Sue Prickett (née Cock))

and I feel it is about time that it might just be mentioned that you are hopeless at both." I roared with laughter and asked if I could give up both the piano and Latin. He said YES and NO but made it quite clear that I had to keep up the Latin.

"There's another story about this splendid school master, with our Choir taking part in a prep school choral competition. The final of this competition was held in the Guards Chapel at Wellington Barracks. The Papplewick Choir came second in the competition and we were delighted with that result as each chorister received a 1lb bar of Bournville chocolate and the winners only received a silver cup."

On another note, with all the talk of the School's playing in the Sevens Finals in the 1954 and 1958 Rosslyn Park prep schools competition, David couldn't help but recall his moment of glory in the 1960 final; not only did he play in the game, but he scored! He describes it all:

"My favourite Papplewick story (which I am bound to tell) is about ME scoring a try in the final of the Rosslyn Park Sevens competition in 1960. In essence though, it was **Michael Brind (1956-60)** who had made a superb break and swerve but was stopped six inches from the line. Spooner had been trying to catch up to help matters out if needed and he simply picked up the ball and fell over the line, Brind having done all the brilliant stuff seconds earlier."

Sadly it was all to no avail. Papplewick still lost the match.



Roger Witcomb, Cricketer (1959). Can you recognise him on Page 16?

**David Stewart (1950-56)** wrote in to say that he enjoyed reading last year's copy of *The Old Papplewickian*. He was interested to read about Ward Buckingham whose father was a PanAm pilot. David's father was a senior captain for BOAC so David always felt he and Ward had something in common. He says he would love to hear about Papplewick boys of the 1950s - Slingsby, Stevenson, Kelly 2, Stuart-Jones (with whom he had a good stand in cricket the first time he played in the First X1.) David says he is now fully retired and enjoying time on his trawler-style boat. He also still goes skiing in winter though last year's season was virally shortened. He is still living in Vermont but is thinking of spending less winter time there. He thinks S.C. looks an interesting alternative. Florida less so.

# Old Boys' Day 2021

Mike Watt has been using Zoom to keep close contact over the past twelve months with those who played in the 1958 Sevens Final and with other Old Boys who are hoping to attend the Reunion of the later 1950s on Old Boys' Day.



*Mike Watt*



*Nevin Prakash*



*Stephen Clasper*



*Roger W.H. Smith*



*Peter Halliday*



*Roger H.D. Smith*



*Yo Yo Herabutya*



*Peter Dukes*



*Stuart Kaye*



*Kevin Harrington*



*David Sage*



*David Sayre*



*Cricket Team 1959, many of whom could well be at the Reunion at Papplewick on July 11th this year*

## OLD BOYS' DAY 2021 - SUN JULY 11

This year once again we shall be having our customary cricket match against the Headmaster's XI. Having been well beaten the last time we played two years ago, the Old Boys are looking forward to establishing our superiority once again in 2021. The game is scheduled to start at 11.00 a.m., lunch for teams and visitors will be at 1.00 o'clock in the marquee and tea will be in the pavilion as usual at 4.00 p.m. The tennis courts will be available for families and friends and at 6 o'clock there will be end-of-match drinks to conclude the day's activities. We shall be delighted to see you there.

Old Boys who left Papplewick in 2011, ten years ago now, are particularly invited to Old Boys' Day this year and you will be receiving a personal invitation with this newsletter. And as those who left in 2010 were deprived of their reunion last year, we are also inviting them to return to Papplewick on July 11th for a Reunion of 2010. Do all come if you can, perhaps arriving for tea at 4.00 p.m. – or even for lunch at 1.00 o'clock. It will be good to meet up once again with your contemporaries, exchange reminiscences, watch some cricket and have a look around the School.

**We shall be posting last minute details on the morning of July 11th, by 9.00 a.m., on the School web-site ([www.papplewick.org.uk](http://www.papplewick.org.uk)). Just click on 'About Papplewick' and 'Old Boys'. In the event of uncertain weather it is important to do this, as all activities, with the possible exception of the lunch in the marquee, may have to be cancelled at the last minute as they were, sadly, several years ago.**

## REUNION OF 1950s

This year Papplewick is more optimistic about its chances of celebrating Old Boys' Day, after having suffered the disappointment last year of having to postpone all its plans to host a party of Old Boys from the 1950s. This year we hope to entertain the same group, who are banking on fate being kinder to us this time round.

They have a programme of different events in different venues over the weekend and they will be having lunch in the marquee with the cricketers and other guests on Old Boys' Day. The chief instigator of this reunion is Mike Watt, who

lives in the USA. Coming with Mike will be several other boys from America who were also at Papplewick - and Mike explains what brought them there.

"Pan-American Airways decided to open a base in London in 1950 and about forty pilots and their wives and children all came over from America to make that possible. For some reason, unknown to me, Papplewick became the school to send these American kids to and I would guess there might have been as many as thirty in attendance in those early years. Many went on to English public schools as I recall and some stayed on in the UK to this day. Pan Am migrated over to British nationals for the pilot group in 1960, so nearly all the Americans at Papplewick returned home then."

**It will be good to welcome them back on July 11th.**



*Dan Thompson, Will Lord, Fred Johnson, Myles Thorley, Myles Treacy, Clarke Thorley and James Daintith*

**Fred Johnson (2010)** was disappointed that Old Boys' Day 2020 had to be abandoned last July because of coronavirus as he had been hoping to be present, together with a number of contemporaries, to celebrate the Reunion of 2010, ten years on from leaving Papplewick. Last July he sent in a picture of a little reunion he had recently organised to celebrate what might have been.