

St. George's School

WINDSOR CASTLE

ASSOCIATION



CHRONICLE

2014



ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL
WINDSOR CASTLE
ASSOCIATION

Chronicle 2014

Welcome to another issue of St George's School Chronicle. I am writing this as Windsor looks anxiously at the Thames, with the Home Park invisible under a sheet of water, our Rugby posts standing forlornly in a lake and people talking about the floods of 1947 (no, I don't actually remember them) when the School was inundated and the term brought to a premature end. By the time you read this we may hope to be basking in spring sunshine and thinking about the summer.

Which brings me to the Association Reunion; the changed format of the Reunion in 2013 had a generally favourable reception. The less formal AGM on the lawn after tea may have meant that some members found it difficult to hear the proceedings, but important matters can always be communicated, and the approach of Evensong concentrated the attention of all. The evening too with an informal meal – unfortunately banished from the garden to the dining room by the weather – proved a great success. The older, younger, and those with far to go all appreciated the earlier close, and the kitchen excelled with a choice of delicious food in the buffet supper. We can look forward to a similar programme this year.

In March, an event occurred in the Chapter Garden which will be of interest to Association members. I shall let the Head Master Mr Chris McDade describe it.

Opening of the Adventure Trail and Classroom

We were delighted to welcome HRH the Countess of Wessex GCVO to St George's on Wednesday, March 12th to formally open the new Adventure Trail and Outdoor Classroom. Her Royal Highness chatted to the Head Girl and Head Boy and to members of the Parents' Group who had organised the fundraising events to purchase the Adventure Trail, before formally declaring the Trail 'open'. The children in Year 2, who were eagerly waiting in the wings, then had the opportunity to climb across the various sections of the Trail.

Following a short walk across the Chapter Garden Her Royal Highness was delighted to see pupils in Year 6 sitting waiting for their Science lesson to begin. After a brief discussion with Martin Denny and Peter Roberts, President and Secretary respectively of the Association which had so generously funded the Outdoor Classroom, Her Royal Highness cut the ribbon to indicate our new outdoor learning facility 'open'. The pictures show Her Royal Highness opening both the Adventure Trail and Outdoor Classroom.



Editor's word

Thank you to all those who have sent in their news, using either the enclosed card or a larger sheet by post, or by email to the Association website: association@stgwindsor.co.uk

Obituaries

I have first to announce the obituaries I have received:

Christopher D Wilson (1925-1930), born 1916, died 20th February 2012.

Hugh Frederick Mason (1935-1938), born 24/09/1924, died 15/11/2013.

After leaving school, Hugh Mason trained in engineering in Bristol before going into the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and being deployed to India as an Army Captain. Here he set up and led workshops for the recovery and repair of a range of field equipment returning from the Burma campaign. On leaving the army in the early 50's and returning to England he met and married Joan who was his wife for 62 years.

Having had his sense of adventure ignited, he convinced Joan to accompany him to Nigeria where he held various positions in the Public Works Department coordinating the building and maintenance of the transport infrastructure for that developing country. They lived in many areas across Nigeria and the Cameroons over the next ten years and Hugh also climbed Mount Cameroon when helping to supervise a group of young Africans from the local outward bound school.

On returning to England in the early 60's, he and his wife lived in Cheltenham raising their three children. Hugh continued to work as an engineer and his knowledge and expertise were recognised with his acceptance as a Member of the Institute of Mechanical Engineering. Not content to use his skill only at work, he installed a complete central heating system in his own Regency terraced home, diagnosed and fixed the various problems on his family's motorcars and designed and built a full-sized brick and wood conservatory which still stands today.

When their children had all left home, Joan and Hugh moved to a village in the Cotswolds to enjoy a more relaxed lifestyle. Once retired Hugh joined the local Probus Club and he and Joan enjoyed many holidays abroad with them – visiting the Italian Lakes, Prague, Berlin and St Petersburg as well as cruising the Rhine.

Hugh was the epitome of a true English Gentleman with a core set of old-fashioned values which stood the test of time throughout his long life and which have proven to be a solid foundation for the upbringing of his three children and five grandchildren. He was a man of simple tastes who had a self-effacing humility, a strong sense of integrity and a human style

which meant he treated people from all walks of life and backgrounds with the same level of courtesy.

He is sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Obituary received from his daughter, Penny Blagrove.

Dr Mike Monsell-Davis (1950-1955). Mike died in Sydney on 20th January 2013. He was a Doctor of Anthropology, formerly of Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Samoa.

There follow extracts from an obituary published in the Official Journal of the Galston Rotary Club in Australia.

Mike was born in Cairo in 1941, a place which would feature heavily in the next couple of years in the Second World War. His father was an Australian born Irishman who had an established business (I think in the oil industry), and spoke Arabic. After the war he was invited by the British Government to advise on the oil industry in Egypt and the Middle East. He was eventually awarded an OBE for his services to the Commonwealth. Mike's mother was an early childhood teacher and taught at the English school in Cairo. Because of the war, the family was evacuated to Durban and in 1946 was repatriated to England where he attended the St George's School in Windsor Castle. Mike was sent to Gordonstoun School to toughen him up and he then emigrated to Australia at age 17. Mike travelled a bit and got a really good appreciation of the Australian bush. He joined Outward Bound and by 1965 was an instructor with them. He loved talking to people and always wanted you to articulate your conversation so he could listen and learn better. His friends at that time called him a "true blue dinkum English/Aussie". He went to Papua New Guinea as a teacher and was appointed to an island off the south-east coast. Not long after he was in Port Moresby studying at The University of New Guinea and by 1975 had completed his PhD on the people of Naboua Island. He didn't publish that thesis but his colleagues were always at him to do that as they regarded it a major work. Mike didn't see it that way but still allowed other academics to refer to his research. From about 1995 Mike moved to Fiji where he taught at the University of Suva and his generosity was the same as it was in Papua New Guinea. He loved books, loved good conversation and hated social injustice. Mike died after a very short illness and will be very sadly missed by many, many people.

Dr J.H. Willis (1933-1939) died 10th February 2013 aged 87.

New Members 2013

Lewis Abbey (2011-2013) Eton College; Revenge House Captain; Football 1st XI; Adamthwaite Boarding Cup; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Francesca Addrison (2007-2013) Windsor Girls' School; Prefect; Rounders Senior A; Singing grade 2; Rudkin Cup for activities; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast' and 'Oliver'.

Holly Addrison (2007-2013) Windsor Girls' School; Head Girl; Rounders Senior A; Cameron Cup; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast' and 'Oliver'.

George Alcock (2007-2013) Licensed Victuallers' School; Football 1st XI, Rugby 1st XV, County Rugby player; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Georgia Ambo (2005-2013) St Mary's, Ascot; Under 11 Netball and Rounders teams; Piano grade 3, Violin grade 1; Year 6 Hard Work and Good Progress prize; acted in 'Oliver'.

Gerald Barry (2008-2013) Harrow School – Music Scholarship; Rugby 1st XV; Oboe grade 5, Piano grade 5, Theory grade 5; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’.

Kathe Blanckenburg (2009-2013) Luckley Oakfield School; Under 11 Netball and Rounders teams; Singing grade 2; acted in ‘Oliver’.

George Bosomworth (2003-2013) St George’s Weybridge; French Horn grade 1; Year 8 Form prize; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’.

Edward Campbell (2007-2013) Windsor Boys’ School; Football 1st XI; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’.

Luke Clark-Smith (2010-2013) Royal Hospital School, Suffolk; Rugby Under 11A; acted in ‘Oliver’.

Charlotte Coates (2003-2013) St George’s School, Ascot; Head of Supers’ Choir; Singing grade 4, Piano grade 1; Music prize (Supers’ Choir), Ward Trophy; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’ and ‘Oliver’.

Freddie Coates (2003-2013) Cranleigh School – Music Exhibition; Head Boy; Piano grade 4, Theory grade 5, Violin grade 3; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’, and ‘Oliver’.

Eric Curless (2007-2013) Windsor Boys’ School; Rugby 1st XV, Cricket 1st XI; Year 8 Hard Work and Good Progress prize; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’, and ‘Oliver’.

Emma Falkentoft-Hansen (2011-2013) St Bernard’s School, Slough; Under 11 Netball and Rounders teams, Netball national finalist, Athletics team; Piano grade 1; Year 6 Form Prize; acted in ‘Oliver’.

Karsten Finlay (2007-2013) Bradfield College; Head Day Boy; Piano grade 3; German prize; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’, and ‘Oliver’.

James Gilbert (2008-2013) Licensed Victuallers’ School; Captain of Cricket, Football 1st XI, Rugby 1st XV; Sportsman of the Year; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’.

Katherine Godsmark (2011-2013) St Bernard’s School, Slough; Under 11 Netball and Rounders teams, Netball national finalists; Year 6 Form prize; acted in ‘Oliver’.

Amelia Griggs (2008-2011) Wellington College; Vindictive House Captain; Netball and Rounders Senior A, Captain of Rowing; Year 8 Form prize, Performing Arts Cup; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’, and ‘Oliver’.

Jack Hopkins (2008-2013) Hampton School; Victory House Captain; Football 1st XI, Rugby 1st XV, Players’ Player award; Campos Cup for most improved sportsman; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’, and ‘Oliver’.

Keir Howard (2010-2013) Radley College – All-round Scholarship; Head Boarder; Rugby 1st XV, Cricket 1st XI, Swimming, Rowing and Tennis teams; Piano grade 4, Double Bass grade 5, Singing grade 5, Theory grade 5; Common Entrance performance prize.

Edward Humphries (2006-2013) St George’s College, Weybridge; Rodney House Captain; Football 2nd XI Captain, Cricket 1st XI; Piano grade 3; Year 8 Hard Work and Good Progress prize; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’, and ‘Oliver’.

Arun Hunjan (2009-2013) Year 6 Good Conduct prize; acted in ‘Oliver’.

Alfie Ingram (2003-2013) Licensed Victuallers’ School; Football 1st XI, Rugby 1st XV; acted in ‘Beauty and the Beast’.

Jamie Jarvis (2011-2013) Windsor Boys' School; Football 1st XI, Rugby 1st XV, Tennis and Athletics teams; Harvey Memorial prize for Religious Studies; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Kazbek Kandour (2006-2013) Harrow School – Music Scholarship; Rugby 1st XV; Piano grade 4, Theory grade 5; Dight Cup (Cello); acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

James Kinsler-Lubienski (2011-2013) Wellington College – Music Scholarship; Vindictive House Captain, Head of Supers' Choir; Cricket 1st XI; Theory grade 4, Saxophone grade 5, Cello grade 5; Latin prize, Science prize, Jupp Cup for Supers' Music; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Jacob Laver (2010-2013) Windsor Boys' School; Captain of Football, Rugby 1st XV, Cricket 1st XI, Athletics, Swimming, Biathlon, Triathlon and Cross Country teams; Geography prize; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Sana Masood (2006-2013) Abbey School; Under 11 Netball and Rounders teams, Netball national finalist, Tennis team; acted in 'Oliver'.

Katelyn McDade (2012-2013) Windsor Girls' School; Netball and Rounders Senior A; Campos Cup for most improved sportswoman; acted in 'Oliver'.

Beatrice McNally (2004-2013) Headington School, Oxford; Rodney House Captain; Rounders Senior A; Year 8 Hard Work and Good Progress prize; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Alexander Miller (2009- February 2012) Kenilworth School.

James Miller (2009- February 2012) Kenilworth School.

Matthew Mitchell (2011-2013) Windsor Boys' School; Trumpet grade 1; Hitchcock Cup for ICT; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Jasper Morgan (2004-2013) Windsor Boys' School; Rugby 1st XV; played Guitar; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Eleanor Moss (2008-2013) Piano grade 3; Under 11 Netball and Rounders teams, Netball national finalist, Swimming team, national finalist; acted in 'Oliver'.

Georgia O'Brien (2010-2013) St George's School, Ascot; Prefect; Netball Senior A; Rudkin Cup for Activities; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Megan Ormond (2008-2013) St George's College, Weybridge – Sports Scholarship; Revenge House Captain; Captain of Rounders, Netball Senior A, Biathlon and Swimming teams; Outstanding Academic Achievement prize, Sportswoman of the Year, French prize; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Elysia Ostrer (2004-2013) Bradfield College; Head Day Girl; Netball and Rounders Senior A; Senior Art prize; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Jodie Payne (2008- December 2012) Brigidine School, Windsor; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Thomas Rainbow (2003-2013) Bradfield College; Head Boarder; Piano grade 3, Percussion grade 1; Stanesby prize for Design Technology; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Hannah Schick (2010-2013) St George's School, Ascot; Netball national finalists, Netball national finalists, Swimming and Athletics teams; Piano grade 3 (Distinction), Singing grade 3, Theory grade 1, Violin grade 3; Wallis Netball Cup; acted in 'Oliver'.

Edward Skinner (2007-2013) St George's College, Weybridge; Captain of Rugby, Football 1st XI, Cricket 1st XI, Athletics team; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Teddy Stanford (2003-2013) Windsor Boys' School; Drama Cup; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Jack Taylorson (2003-2013) Eton College – Music Exhibition; Head Chorister; Cricket 1st XI; Harp grade 4, Piano grade 6; String Cup, Music prize (All-round); sang a duet with Katherine Jenkins at the Albert Hall; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Benjamin Walker (2009-2013) St George's College, Weybridge; Rugby Under 11A; acted in 'Oliver'.

Poppy Wall (2005-2013) Bradfield College; Victory House Captain; Netball Senior A; Drama Cup, History Prize; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Joshua Wickers (2005-2013) St George's College, Weybridge; Football 1st XI, Rugby 1st XV, Cricket 1st XI; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast', and 'Oliver'.

Elizabeth Williams (2005-2013) Sir William Perkins School; Under 11 Netball and Rounders teams; Piano grade 2, Singing grade 3; acted in 'Oliver'.

Lewis Williams (2004-2013) Leighton Park School; Prefect; Year 8 Form prize, Astronomy Cup and Rice English Cup; acted in 'Beauty and the Beast'.

News from and about Association members

Virginia Adams (Matron) writes in reply to a letter from the Hon. Secretary, Peter Roberts:- I left St George's in July 1979 so it would have been just before your brother came. What a wonderful time I had there, very friendly, it was like one big family. The boys were so polite; I have never come across such polite children since that time. It amazed me that a boy would turn up from nowhere and open up a door for me. Richard Russell was an excellent headmaster; the boys were very fond of him. I was fortunate to be at St George's in those days of which I have extremely fond memories. We didn't have the luxuries of cosy dormitories. I sometimes had to wear a coat while I was in the dorms putting the boys to bed. The glasses of water they used to put on the windowsill froze. Once when we had a 'flu epidemic, the Doctor made the parents take their boys home as he said they would end up with pneumonia if they stayed there. The boys didn't seem to feel the cold and I didn't ever hear them complain about it.

It is lovely to think about my time there and the interesting people I met. I hope one day I might get back. Thank you again, Peter, for your letter.

Best wishes to you and all at St George's,

Virginia Adams, Matron!!!!

Edward Bell (1994-2001) attracted the attention of the local paper, and rather belatedly I report that he was among those selected to play on the Emerging Icons stage during the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Richard Birchall (1991-1997) has featured on Radio 3's 'In Tune' and writes:-

After leaving Windsor in 1997 Richard attended Winchester College and Cambridge University and studied as a postgraduate cellist at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. In 2011 he joined the Philharmonia Orchestra, and he is now the orchestra's Deputy Chairman as well as a player member. Richard also performs with and directs the innovative ensemble Cellophony, an octet of cellists; Cellophony were recently signed to Edition

Records and have released a first album 'Vibrez'. Aside from playing, Richard works extensively in arrangement and composition, both for professional ensembles and in original theatrical productions for primary school children. He is married to Helen, a violinist and Head of Music, and they have one daughter, Hazel, who recently celebrated her second birthday.

Richard's musical life is colourful, unpredictable, and appallingly busy – and he would have it no other way! He has very fond memories of his time at St George's, and when the Philharmonia occasionally perform at Windsor Castle it is always a joy to return and revisit such familiar and beautiful surroundings.

Nils Brown (First Queen's Chorister 1979-1980) emailed out of concern for the School's danger of flooding, and replied with an account of his present activities:-

My musical activities are diverse, and, for Chronicle purposes, I'll attach the biography page of the website I am presently creating for myself, which emphasizes the more official "engagements" side of my musical activities which have occurred over the years.

Link follows: <http://nilsemail1.wix.com/nils-brown#!classica/c1sla>

But I'll point out that the most fun "stuff", if you will, (that people will definitely recognize worldwide), is the recent video game sound tracks which I've contributed to, Assassins Creed III, and especially Assassins Creed IV, Black Flag, the Pirate Edition.

Quite unexpectedly, the game producers at UBISOFT, here in Montreal, decided to introduce real period authentic music to their block-buster video games. Realizing that this city is full of talent, they've gone to such extremes as hiring full baroque orchestras and classical singers, engaging the best Celtic musicians and singers. I fit somewhere in both elements it seems, and seem to be on their "list", singing everything from Jon Gay's 'The Beggar's Opera' to all variety of sea shanties and pirate songs. You can find this on the home page of my new website.

The other unusual thing I do is play the guitar and sing Italian songs, (Venetian, Neapolitan and Roman). So, in summer 2008 I went and sang as a busker on the streets of Venice, a city which I made a special connection with, and in Rome, Naples, Sorrento and Ischia as well. I made a recording of this repertoire with an amazing trio of musicians here in Montreal.

Included on the CD are songs of the great composer Paolo Tosti, who, incidentally, was the official resident singing teacher to Queen Victoria's household, and he may even have lived in Windsor for a time.

The Scots Musical Museum – 600 songs collected by James Johnson and a certain Robert Burns, starting in 1787 – is also a big interest in my musical life. This is a survey of all Scottish song known at the time, going back, quite reliably, to at least the Battle of Harlaw, in 1411. I am currently concentrating on recording forgotten songs from this collection, singing and playing guitar, but I keep myself busy singing on the more mainstream side of classical music as well. So there are some details which might be boiled down to a small update on the "Lost Canadian".

That is it for now from snowy and unusually cold Montreal, to you in Windsor. I hope for an easy springtime for you all. I really hope things get better there in your neighbourhood soon.

Jack Butler (2000-2006), whom the Editor met in Windsor, tells me he is training to be a Special Constable, and will be going to university in the autumn to read Police Studies.

Patrick Cullen (1998-2000) writes:-

Amazed and slightly saddened to read of Mr Brailsford's retirement. Fond memories of his Latin classes and the childish delight of playing noughts and crosses with Tom Meyler rather than work on verb declensions.

Nigel Corbett (1950-1955) writes:-

After 55 years in the hospitality industry, having played host from Dukes to dustmen and Hollywood 'A' listers to struggling artists, have finally retired (for the time being at least!) and moved with wife Margaret (of 47 years) to Beaminster in Dorset, where I shall take up the post of Director of the Beaminster Music and Arts Festival in 2014.

M.J.L. Denny (1981-1986), currently Association President, married Harriet Foster on 27th April 2013 at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Tadworth. The Hon. Secretary, Peter Roberts, was part of an ensemble which sang Parsons' 'Ave Maria'. Music by Harris and Walford Davies was included.

George Hill (Head Master 1983-1992) sent his Christmas good wishes in a form that readers will appreciate:

According to research at Cambridge it is unimportant in which order the letters of a word are written provided the first and last letters are correct. This is because the incredible human brain does not read every letter by itself, but the word as a whole. Let's test it out!

Gorege and Sausn

Wsih eroyvnee a vrey mrery Crthsiams and an etxerelmy pcfueael New Yaer. Tehy are cvnincoed taht the mian rosean taht we sned cdras is to mkae srue you konw we are siltl avile! Blliciassy we pold on mcuh as usal, ginog to mroe fnerluas tahn we wulod wsih, but in avcendad yares waht deos one epceht? We riamen hahltey and hpapy, wchich smeets to be eguonh.

Tom Hudson (1988-1994). While serving in a cavalry regiment of the British Army Tom learned to ride and to play polo. He then went to law school in Oxford, and is now based with a firm in Abu Dhabi, where he set up an Eton College alumni network. This developed into British Polo Day, of which Tom is a co-founder and director, which organises polo events throughout the world.

Miles Jupp (1988-1993), apart from being almost ubiquitous in comedy shows on BBC and Dave, showed a concern for the important things in life with an article in the Guardian called "Here's all the Latin that pupils need to learn, from 'Salve' to 'O tempora, o mores'". He also featured in an interview in the Telegraph in which he referred to the influence of the 'mean streets of Windsor'.

Allan Ledger (1952-1957) featured in the BBC Radio4 Programme on Choristers who sang at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, and on Euro News live on 4th June 2013 outside Westminster Abbey for the service to celebrate the 60th anniversary. There he met the other St George's choristers who sang at the service and afterwards for a celebratory luncheon.

Bob Parvin (1944-1947) noticed with interest the story about the boy who ran away in last year's Chronicle, saying "I was, of course, unaware of the adventure. It would not have been politic to make the details public! Given the Spartan lives we lived, we might all have run home". He also writes to say – "Still alive – still singing – still married to Meryl. D.G."

Hope Rangaswami (2001-2009) headed the Brigidine's GCSE results, to quote an extract from the Windsor Observer:-

One 15 year-old managed to *carpe diem* as she secured herself a Latin GCSE a full year ahead of schedule. Brigidine pupil Hope Rangaswami, from Windsor, was entered a year early into her GCSEs for Latin and Core Science and came out smiling after notching two As. "I'm very, very pleased. I got better than I ever expected. I was so nervous; I got here 20 minutes early!"

Tom Stuart-Smith (1968-1973), whose talent in garden design has been highlighted before in the Chronicle, has had great success in being invited to design the garden in the new Keeper's House at the Royal Academy of Arts in London, which opened in September. In an interview in the Royal Academy magazine he says: "For me, landscape is about the liberal world of nature, so when you enter a garden or landscape you ought to feel that the possibilities are infinite, that you can go anywhere, do anything. I try to bring that into my gardens." He gives this advice to gardeners, "get out there and do it."

Tristan Wilson (1987-1992) has been teaching top level English at a bilingual state school in Brunei for 18 months and is enjoying life there. He is married with a daughter.

50 Years Ago

After the excitements of the 'big freeze' the year 1963-1964 seems to have taken a more normal turn with few highlights, apart at least from those that got into the pages of the magazines of the period.

The Chapel year started with two special events: the first was that, for the first time in many years, a Thanksgiving for Harvest was celebrated in Chapel. The congregation included Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon. The second, and somewhat more memorable, was the memorial service held for the assassinated President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, which was attended by the Queen and a large number of U.S.A. Forces. The anthem was 'How lovely is Thy Dwelling Place' by Brahms.

The term's calendar closed with the entry – 'Nearly all the choir went home on Christmas Evening.'

I hope the rest were well entertained.

The play was 'The Bakelite Affair'. The reviewer confessed that he could not express a synopsis of the plot, but, from his account of the performance of the actors, any mention of the plot would seem superfluous. I make one excerpt: 'I would have little desire to stay in the Guest House at St Morgen were it not for the two beautiful daughters of the house, Marsala (Ashby) and Beaujolais (Evans) – one was always sure of laughs when this spirited pair were on stage'. What was unusual was that the play had been written, composed and directed by Mr McWilliam, the Director of Music.

Fireworks, with the bonfire built by Mr Ross-Ross, nearly proved a damp squib, with rain on and off until the last moment when there was a dry period long enough to complete the programme.

Come the Easter Term and there is a sensation:-

'Adieu Marcel! Adieu Denise! After nearly twenty years we have changed the French book which most of the School uses. The adventures are not so very different, but they have a pleasant freshness which makes up for the sorrow we feel in saying goodbye to Marcel and his utterly wet and weedy sister Denise.' Was this sorrow shared by the pupils, one wonders?

Choristers may remember the time when they sang Mattins – Ash Wednesday heard the now familiar (too familiar on Classic FM, I feel) Miserere by Allegri sung at the Communion

which followed Mattins. On Palm Sunday the Chapel Choir was joined by some Supers in singing the St Matthew Passion – possibly the first time that had happened. The Editor would be glad to know of other occasions. It happens now somewhat infrequently.

The ‘Beginners’ Concert’ (hardly absolute beginners!) had some names in it now well known. ‘The audience came away with many happy memories: the tuneful violin playing of Barker-Harland and the confident trumpet playing of Watson; the delight of the audience when Bell appeared on the stage with his trombone (and jolly well he played it); the sensitive piano playing of Grier and the skill with which he and Boyle played their accompaniments..... Special mention must be made of the prefects, not all of whom are musicians. Chance, G. had organised his group on his own and deserves great credit.’ He was playing the ukulele.

In the summer term the weather took an idyllic turn: no cricket matches were spoilt by rain; nature spotters recorded the visits of rabbits, grass snakes, a stoat, swifts and even a pair of redstarts frequenting the Horseshoe cloisters. No reference to the red kites which we are seeing more and more often in the skies above Windsor. There was however, in June, a violent thunderstorm and the dormitory was light enough for one boy to play patience. The Chapter Garden was flooded, as was one side of the Datchet Road.

The choristers sang at the Christening of H.R.H. Prince Edward (now, of course a parent at the School, who welcomed the choristers to sing at his wedding in St George’s Chapel).

The next comment may ring true:- ‘We suffered our triennial torment of having the School photograph taken.’

The cricket season was unusually successful – won 6 drawn 4 lost 1, and the sailing club spent several pleasant hours on the river at Datchet, but given the fine weather many of them were stationary.

25 Years Ago

1988-89 proved to be another busy year, as the School, staff and pupils gradually became used to the new building, enhanced as it was by ‘Young St George’, Gill Ledsham’s exciting bronze statue in the courtyard and its inspiring words “Here I am, send me”.

The Director of Music, Roger Judd, comments on a surfeit of music by Tomkins; the choristers found a welcome variety when they went to be entertained by George Melly and John Chilton’s Feetwarmers, and the following week by Humphrey Lyttleton and his band at Radley. Other outings included a trip to Covent garden to see ‘Madame Butterfly’, also to see ‘Die Fledermaus’ (‘an up-market panto’), to hear Fou Ts’ong in Eton, to perform in Sir Michael Tippett’s ‘The Mask of Time’ – a performance reported as ‘a triumph for all concerned, but especially for Christopher Robinson’.

The major event for the choristers was a trip to Poland to sing ‘The Messiah’ in the Festival of Boys’ Choirs in Poznan. Some comments by members of the Choir follow:-

Philip McGee: ‘The meals in the hotel were delicious! On the first night we had beetroot soup, some type of fish, cheeses and ham. For lunch there was chicken, grape juice and potatoes and for breakfast, bread, ham, cheese and hot black tea.

Tom Roach, Head Chorister: ‘I think we did a whole lot less singing than we would have done at home. The (Polish) soloists in ‘Messiah’ were all male. There was an extraordinary (adult) male soprano (I think ‘extraordinary’ is the best word to describe him), and a brilliant bass, but the alto and tenor were not particularly amazing. At the festival itself we sang the

‘Ave Maria’ by Robert Parsons. This concert was live on Polish TV, and, incidentally, ‘Messiah’ was recorded for TV. The ‘Ave Maria’ went very well, and I think that Mr Robinson was very pleased with us.’

Rupert Beale: ‘We were pleased to hear that there would be no practice until the evening and that meant lots of time for us to be tourists. There was a Polish wedding outside the Town Hall, where everyone throws money at the bride and groom. I threw a 20zł piece. There was a candyfloss man selling candyfloss – 80zł (only 9p)’. (*Ed: złoty.*)

James Rugg: ‘I really enjoyed Poland. There are some very different things out there, because it is a Communist country. People out in Poland look very sad, and it is wonderful to see someone smiling. It was a good experience to go to Poland and to appreciate a little more what we take for granted.’

The summer holiday kept Mr Julian Bull busier than usual. He took ten boys from the junior science club to camp at the Hawthorns School in Surrey for a couple of days. Peter Davies reports: ‘We woke about five o’clock and got into clothes that would just about camouflage us. We waded across to an island in the lake, but I misjudged the depth of the bog and I waded into it up to my thighs! Beale came to my rescue and pulled me out.’ The next night found them in waterlogged tents, and before the final night they had a ‘Disco’ (sic) in the minibus with the aid of the indicators.

This was in addition to the by now habitual trip to Bowles Outdoor centre, where Bill Robson reports: ‘Tuesday night we camped out when we had to put our tents up – with some funny results. After that we had a game of 40-40 and Mr Bull and Mr Brailsford joined in even though they were caught very early on in the game.’

5 November brought something other than that expected – the Game 4 walk. Mr Andrew Wickens reports: ‘The dreaded walk. Only Mr Kay seemed to have the magic touch with ‘walks’.

Bravely I volunteered to take all of Game 4 (the youngest boys, if you don’t remember, Ed) on a walk as the Head Master, who usually dealt with half the game was otherwise occupied with the voice trial. We set off for a walk around Eton. No sooner had we made it to Eton High Street, than we were hailed by Mr Quarrie, Eton College Librarian and Keeper of the Collections, who asked us whether we would like to see an exhibition of Egyptian mummies. Of course we would! So Game 4 invaded the Brewhouse Gallery and half an hour was spent viewing the splendid Myers Collection which included mummies and Egyptian Jewellery. Yes, boys, the receptionist could see the faces you were pulling at the security cameras. Bish, Sir! Thank you, Mr Quarrie, for providing such an excellent diversion.

A ‘Jumbo Taste-in’ was held among the members of the VI form. The most popular chocolate bars were: 1st Mars Bar, 2nd Kit Kat, 3rd Milky Way, 16th Boost (*Ed: what?*).

The Victoria Chronicle had some lively correspondence on food, skateboarding and French vocabulary tests. Let us select the least vitriolic – on tea leaves.

‘I am writing to say that I am appalled by the amount of tea leaves in my cup today. I got half a cupful of tea leaves. Please, please do something.’ Bill Robson.

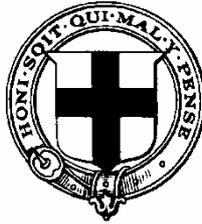
‘Dear Robson, my poor friend, it may never have occurred to you that tea without tea leaves is hot water. Perhaps the next time you write into the VC you could put clearly what you want done rather than saying “Do something, please”. Ambiguity can make anyone look a fool’. Harry Briggs.

The earthquake in Armenia captured the hearts of all members of the School. By School assembly on February 2nd the pupils had raised over £1,000 for the Appeal. How? Thomas Loveless bought a box of chocolates and raffled it among the members of RAF Cottesmore; the Leeming, Truett and McGee families held a musical evening for neighbours and friends; James Boyd had swum fifty laps of the pool perimeter of the Windsor leisure pool for his sponsors; many others sang carols, made cakes and did many other things to help the cause. Well done to them all.

Art saw visits to the Leonardo da Vinci exhibition at the Hayward gallery, the schools' exhibition at Pangbourne College and the Christmas exhibition at the Windsor Arts centre. The first-mentioned drew some heartfelt responses: Edmund Jupp felt: 'The models couldn't be used by visitors'; Rollo Burgess felt too: 'There ought to have been machines that you could use, also there should have been 'pickpocket' signs, as in dark places pickpockets thrive'. Andrew Roberts said: 'It says on the blackboard in front of me, "Would Leonardo da Vinci be proud of this exhibition?" I think he would, provided that he got there early to avoid the queues.'

The School play was Sheridan's 'The Critic'. One of the funniest classic plays which lived up to its reputation. Sadly, we do not have a review, though there are some tantalising photographs in the School magazine.

Annual General Meeting



ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL WINDSOR CASTLE ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting
St George's School, Windsor Castle

Saturday 22nd June 2013 at 4.00pm
MINUTES

The President, M.J.L. Denny, was in the Chair; the Vice-President, Chris McDade, Hon. Treasurer, H.R. Mant, and Hon. Secretary, P.A. Roberts were in attendance and the following Members were recorded as present:

Nigel Adnams	James Diaz Alberdi	Hetta Loughlin
Timothy d' Arch-Smith	Chris Evans	Isabella Loughlin
James Ashby	Paul Fisher	Rory MacLeod
Dominic Bland	James Foran	Rupert McGuigan
Anthony Brailsford	Richard Halsey	John Moore-Bridger
David Brook	Mark Harrison	Iain Nisbet
Paul Churchouse	John Harvey	Michael Pickwood
Derek Cooke	George Hill	Mark Piper
Michael Coombe	Sue Hill	James Ward
Peter Coombe	Brian Hooker	Maggie Ward
Julian Davies	Dominic Hughes	Christopher Whitehouse
Oliver Dennes	David James	Iona Williamson
Joan Denny	Alan Ledger	
Peter Denny	Gill Ledsham	

1. **Apologies** for absence had been received from:

Virginia Adams	Timothy Byram-	Daniel Fenton
Catherine Abraham	Wigfield	B. M. Gilkes
Robert Aitken	M. H. Cardew	Mervyn Griffiths
Matthew Balmer	David Costley-White	Michael Halford
Cosima Barlow	Patrick Cullen	John Handcock
Hebe Barlow	Anthony Davis	Nicholas Hare
Logie Barrow	Yvette Day	Patrick Harland
Tom Berry	Peter Downward	Jessie Hicks
Rory Boyle	Oliver Evans	Christopher Hughes
Harrison Brown	Nicholas Evans	Cecil Irwin
Benjamin Brownless	Sheffield Exham	Edward Jackson
Tristram Burley	James Fanshawe	J.A. Jones

Robert Kidner	Jeremy Martin	William Spalding
Roderick Lane	Hanna Mathea	M.H.W. Statham
G.D. Leeds	Andrew Meynell	Peter Sumsion
R.J. Lunnon	Anthony Newell	Dicky Thomas
Sean-Paul Mackenzie	Bruce Nightingale	Russell Walker
Harry Mackenzie	Robert Parvin	Christopher Walkinshaw
Ewan MacLeod	Noah Poulson	Peter Wallis
Joshua Maier	Adam Prideaux	Bruce Whitmee
Miss Y. Malik	R.H. Raynes	Peter Willis
Naim Malik	R S O Rees	Joshua Wilson-Khanna
Roger Marsh	Skye Reid-Smith	

2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the 2012 meeting were deemed to be an accurate record, subject to the addition of David James and Iain Nesbit to the list of those members present and their deletion from the Apologies section, and were then approved.

3. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

4. **Accounts**

The Treasurer reported that the Association was in good financial health and presented the accounts to the membership.

Rupert McGuigan proposed the adoption of the accounts, and Peter Denny seconded.

5. **President's Business**

The President thanked the many members who had attended the Reunion and outlined the rationale behind the altered format for the day, particularly the desire to encourage greater attendance from younger members.

The President welcomed the Head Master to the AGM as our new Vice-President and extended thanks to him for umpiring the cricket match and to him and Mrs McDade for being such welcoming hosts at the end of this their first of it is hoped many happy years at St George's.

The meeting was informed of the deaths of (Richard Henry) Francis Attwater (1952-56), Tom Clough (Staff 1949-50), Dr Mike Monsell-Davis (1950-55), Thomas Tunnard (1929-32), and Dr John Willis (1933-39). Those members of the Association present and their guests stood in silent tribute to these men and those others of whose deaths we are as yet unaware.

The meeting was informed that the Robert Ward Memorial Fund now stood at £9458 and would be used to enable deserving pupils who would otherwise be unable fully to participate in the wide range of opportunities available at St George's to do so.

The President announced that the Association's guests for dinner would be Amelia Halsey, Louise Cheesewright and Pixie Thompson.

The President concluded by inviting people to share their thoughts about the new format for the day and hoping that they would enjoy the remainder of the day's proceedings.

6. **Election of Officers**

The following elections were made and positions noted:

President Martin Denny has a further year to serve.

Hon. Secretary Peter Roberts was re-elected to serve a second year.
Proposed: Martin Denny, Seconded: Julian Davies.

Hon. Treasurer Hugh Mant was re-elected.
Proposed: Rupert McGuigan, Seconded: Mark Piper.

Hon. Archivist Anthony Brailsford was re-elected.
Proposed: Peter Roberts. Seconded: Dominic Bland.

Ordinary members:

Christopher Whitehouse has completed his three year term and was thanked for all his work on behalf of the membership

Maggie Ward has a further two years to serve.

James Ward has a further two years to serve.

Dominic Bland has one more year to serve.

Julian Davies was elected to serve a three year term

Proposed: Maggie Ward. Seconded: James Ward.

7. Head Master's Business

The Head Master gave the following report: He began by remarking on what a busy and enjoyable period his first year at St George's had been and how pleased he was to be able to welcome former members of the School community back to St George's to reminisce and catch up with old friends.

The pupils about to join the ranks of Association members had enjoyed a most successful year and had all achieved the results that they required to gain entrance to their chosen senior schools, a number of them with scholarships including two music scholars bound for Harrow a further two scholars on their way to Wellington and Cranleigh, and a sports scholar destined for St George's Weybridge. This spoke volumes as to the hard work and dedication of both the children and members of staff over the course of this and previous years and was a source of considerable satisfaction.

It had been a year of many changes. Amongst the staff, the year began with the Head Master's arrival and was ending with the retirement, amongst others, of two members of the staff room whose contributions to the School had been very significant indeed. Pat Griffin came to St George's in 1996 to plan and then build the pre-Prep department that paved the way for the renaissance of St George's. Countless children will look back on their time at St George's with great affection as a result of the care nurture and encouragement that they received from her; without doubt she has attained legendary status in the world of things pre-Prep and all at St George's will miss her greatly. Also retiring in the summer after some thirteen years at the School was Paul Churchouse, Deputy Head to two different Head Masters. His commitment to St George's was unshakeable and his advice and counsel invaluable. The Head Master's good wishes to him and his wife were heartfelt.

With these departures came additions to the School's teaching team: Emma Adriano would be joining in September 2013 to be the new Head of Pre-Prep and Carol Hewson would join the Maths department. Within the School, Louise Cheesewright would be taking on the new role of Senior Tutor overseeing the work of the Heads of Houses and the Upper School Tutors whilst chairing the Pastoral Committee.

The Head Master had been impressed by the House system that he had encountered upon joining the School and reported that this was to be extended so that all children upon entering the junior school would from September be assigned to a House. The Heads of House perform a vital role in unifying different year groups under one banner; there would be two new staff Heads of House come the Autumn, Clare Emmerson-Smith for Rodney and Pixie Thompson for Victory. Speaking of banners, the Head Master reported that to build on the history of the Houses the School had commissioned four House Banners which were on display in the Dining Room. He extended his thanks to the Association Committee for agreeing on the members' behalf to fund this project.

Other changes were in the pipeline too with the introduction of Food Technology to the curriculum alongside the optional activity to learn Mandarin; in the future Spanish is being considered as an additional modern foreign language. These developments are occurring whilst links are also being strengthened with Eton College, both in terms of resources and curriculum. This all speaks to a vibrant and healthy school which is ever keen to renew and expand its horizons.

In terms of matters musical, it was very pleasing to be able to look to the future with high hopes: the appointment of James Vivian as Director of Chapel Music, or the Organist and Master of the Choristers as we might prefer to recall the role, heralded a reinvigoration of the choir and would be much assisted by the renewed focus which would be brought to bear on chorister recruitment. In addition, an Outreach programme had been started with much of the work being undertaken in a collaboration between the Chapel and School in the form of David Manners, one of the lay clerks, and Steven Burrows the School's Director of Music.

In summary, it was clear to the Head Master that the energy and commitment shown by so many at the College of St George, adult and child alike, resulted in a vibrant and happy community where success was the natural outcome. As a School, St George's was a very special place indeed and one whose firm foundations provide the ideal basis upon which to build with renewed confidence and a clear vision of a very exciting future. It was a privilege to be Head Master of such a place and Vice President of the Association of its former members and most steadfast supporters.

8. Election of Members and Honorary Members

The following Members and Honorary Members were elected:

Tim Byram-Wigfield; Louise Cheesewright; Amelia Halsey; Chris Hughes; Barrie Piper; and Alexandra (Pixie) Thompson.

9. AOB

Michael Coombe updated the meeting on his search for the elusive Ronald Saunders. He was able to report that although he had found somebody by that name, this individual, it transpired was a lorry driver and not a school master. However, he had managed to track down Ronald Saunders's wife's son, Bernard, with whom he was now in touch. He undertook to provide further instalments as they materialized.

Next year's provisional date for the Reunion was set as 28th June 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the President at 4.38pm and those present climbed the steps to Evensong.

[Note: following the conclusion of the meeting, Brian Hooker, an Association Member and the School's Assistant Bursar, agreed to be co-opted onto the Association Committee to act as Membership Secretary until the 2014 Reunion, at which time he would be happy to stand for election to this role.]

Rules Of The Association

I. Title

The club shall be known as 'The St. George's School, Windsor Castle, Association'.

II. Objects

The objects shall be to encourage Members to keep in touch with each other and with the School. Members shall also be encouraged to give their support to the School, its Choral Traditions, and the Headmaster wherever they can do so.

III. Membership

All who have been pupils at St. George's School, who have paid membership fees whilst at the School, shall be deemed to be Life Members of the Association. Members of the teaching and auxiliary staff may be elected Members of the Association; and others, not educated at the School, who have supported the objects of the Association to a marked degree, may be elected Honorary Members by resolution to be passed at an Annual General Meeting.

IV. Officers

The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Membership Secretary and Honorary Archivist. Terms of office shall be as follows:

(a). President

The President shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve a term of two years in office and a further two years as a Committee member. He may not be considered for re-election as President until at least three further years after this appointment.

(b). Vice-President

The Vice-President shall be the Headmaster of St. George's School for the time being, who shall be ex officio the only Vice-President of the Association.

(c). Hon. Secretary

The Hon. Secretary shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and must be re-elected annually, until the said Hon. Secretary relinquishes the post.

(d). Hon. Treasurer

The Hon. Treasurer shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and must be re-elected annually, until the said Hon. Treasurer relinquishes the post.

(e). Hon. Membership Secretary

The Hon. Membership Secretary shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and must be re-elected annually, until the said Hon. Membership Secretary relinquishes the post.

(f). Hon. Archivist

The Hon. Archivist shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and must be re-elected annually, until the said Hon. Archivist relinquishes the post.

V. Management

The Association shall be managed by a committee comprising the Officers of the Association and up to five Ordinary Members, at the discretion of the Committee. Ordinary Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a period of three years and shall not be eligible for re-election as Ordinary Members for the ensuing year.

VI. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held at St. George's School on such day during the Summer Term as may be fixed by the Committee, or at such other time and place as the Committee may decide, at which the Hon. Secretary shall present an annual report, and the Hon. Treasurer a duly audited statement of accounts. The Officers and Committee of the Association for the ensuing year shall be elected at this meeting in accordance with Rules IV and V. Other general meetings may be called at any time by the Committee.

VII. Quorum

Five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

VIII. Subscription

Such life subscription shall be paid by every Member as shall be determined in Committee and passed at a General Meeting of the Association.

These rules were last amended and ratified at the Annual General Meeting of the Association held at St. George's School, Windsor Castle, on Saturday, June 25th, 2005.

Association Items for Sale

The following items are available for purchase.

Association tie – silk	£ 15.00
Association Centenary tie – silk	£ 15.00
Association tie – polyester (a few left)	£ 12.00
Association favours for ladies (bows) – silk	£ 10.00
Association favours for ladies (scarf) – silk	£ 10.00
CD <i>Holy is the True Light</i> specially recorded for the Association Centenary	£ 11.00
<i>Choirs and Cloisters</i> by Freddie Hodgson	£ 10.00
CD <i>A Celebration for Freddie Hodgson</i>	£ 7.00
<i>Headmaster</i> – Reflections on life at St George's School between 1971 and 1983, by Richard Russell	£ 1.25

The four-part history of St George's School as related in School Magazines and archives, edited by Richard Russell C.V.O.

Each part can be bought separately:

1. <i>Carven Arches (up to 1930)</i>	£ 6.20
2. <i>Soaring Vault (1930 to 1950)</i>	£ 6.20
3. <i>Storied Banner (1950-1980)</i>	£ 6.20
4. <i>In High Remembrance (a little different from the first three volumes)</i>	£ 6.20
All 4 above books as a set	£ 24.00

To all orders please ADD postage & packing per package of £2.00

Please provide your full postal address and contact details when placing your order.

Orders for the above items should be accompanied by a cheque made out to **St George's School Association** and sent either to:

The Assistant Bursar, Brian Hooker, St George's School, Windsor Castle, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1QF

Or by email using the subject line "StGA Order" to either:

brian.hooker@stgwindsor.co.uk or to association@stgwindsor.co.uk

Association website

The Association now has its web presence as part of the School website:

Either go through the main school site www.stgwindsor.co.uk and follow the link to the Association,

or go directly to: www.stgwindsor.co.uk/home/association