



The Chairman's Welcome



Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter.

Firstly I need to thank Leanne, the new Marketing and Development Assistant at College, for her help in putting it all together. In the New Year we also hope to refresh the WCRemembered website with the help of current students.

Our Travel Award winner, Rachel, is getting on well in Guyana and I would encourage you to read her blogs which make fascinating reading.

We would love to recruit more members to the 100 Club which is run by Phil and Steve. It is our main source of income which enables us to make monetary awards such as the Travel Award, plus you are in with a great chance of winning money each month!

As always, it would be great to receive any reports of reunions, however small, or news of former students. We also love to receive your photos.

That's enough from me, I hope you enjoy reading the various articles.

Julie Harding
(Peel, 1971-1976)

How times change...

Cricket



1959

Back: C.Rushmere, D.Baker, G.Galloway, J.Marsh, W.Burdett, B.Adkins

Front: M.Frohawk, J.Beales, P.Malt, Mr A.G.Seeley, A.Smith, T.Young, T.Nichols



1981

Back: M.Ronayne, N.Spencer, R.Ings, P.Poole, M.Taylor

Front: M.Weaver, D.Robinson, S.Wasley, T.Williams, R.Morgan



2013

Back: W.Jennings, A.Reardon, H. Genville, B.Falcon, O.Charlish

Front: M.Hilton, G.King, S.Bloom, J.Hunter, W.Melton, W.Evans

Please click the buttons to the right to follow us on Facebook & Twitter.





Picture: Bryn Turner, Melvyn Taylor & Tony Lake



Picture: Tony Moulton, Tony Wyatt, Tony Pyle, Barry Adkins & Barrie Croxford.



Picture: Phil Robinson & Barry Adkins



Picture: Mike Herring, Tony Collins, Carole Arnold & John Beales

The Old Wymondhamians Golf Day

The OW Golf Day and Reunion dinner, organised by Bob Rowell, was held at Sprowston Manor on Friday 4 July, 2014. The golfers enjoyed completing their rounds of golf and then in the evening met up with the non-golfers for a relaxed meal in the Suffolk Suite at the Golf Club. The photos alongside capture a few of the golfers, some of whom you may recognise.

One golfer, Nick Rowe (OW 1963-69), attended the event for the first time this year and wished to make a 'plea' to other OWs: 'I have for many years been aware the Old Wymondhamians held an annual golf day, but this was the first year in which I was available to participate. I am very glad I did so. I had an extremely enjoyable day, and any qualms I had about my rudimentary ability proving inadequate were soon dispelled.

The day was sunny, the course was excellent (albeit with lightning fast greens), the participants were welcoming, the post play dinner was delicious, the prizes were desirable and the trophy magnificent. BUT, apart from myself, all the other participants, of both sexes, were pupils from the 1950s and so are now in their eighth decade. In the nature of things, there are now fewer of them than previously and the number is bound to diminish further in the future, so, unless new blood is found, this very worthwhile venture will fade away.

Amongst the thousands of alumni from the past 50 years there must be some who enjoy a game of golf and would like to participate in the 2015 event.'

The next Golf Day is already in the planning stages – the date has been set for Friday 3 July, 2015 and the venue will once again be Sprowston Manor. If you would like more information, or wish to register your interest in attending, then please contact the organiser, Bob Rowell, either by phone (07710229126) or by email (bob.e.rowell@outlook.com). Remember this event is not exclusively for golfers but also provides a wonderful opportunity for other OWs to enjoy a delicious meal in the company of old friends.



"Prep Again"- Nancy Gill 1988

Back we march from having tea,
In the noisy Refectory,
To the lockers we all roam,
Grab our books and give a moan.

Time for prep has come again,
It really is a mental strain!
"We're here to work!" That's what I say
I just don't feel like it today!

I jumble through my choice of books,
There's none of which I like the looks!
Right at the bottom of the pile,
Is science , that'll take a while!

I start to work, the time drags on,
And only ten minutes have gone!
A secret note flies through the air,
The teacher gives a deathly stare.

Behind the pillar comes a noise,
"Stop that now, you naughty boys!"
The girls break out in fits of laughter,
"Nancy Gill, I'll see you after!"

I settle down, and finish working,
While on me teachers eyes are lurkin!
The clock strikes eight It's time to go-
But only till tomorrow, though!

The Sixties Bunch Visit London

The Sixties Bunch met at the Liberty Bounds Pub near Tower Hill for Summer Drinks and below are a couple of photos:



Picture: John Young & Elieen Wyatt



Picture: Roger Hayward, Alan Bridges, Patrick Turner, Suzanne Barrett & Victor Laird

The OW Travel Award

This is a monetary award of £750 made annually by the Old Wymondhamians to a member of Year 13 at Wymondham College who is undertaking some form of travel and charitable activity during the year after leaving College.

This year the Award was given to Rachel Campbell Still who will be in Guyana for a year with Project Trust teaching maths and science to young children. Her blogs make fascinating reading and can be found at

www.geekinguyana.co.uk/blog.



A Story from Ian Hammond- (East House 1958-1964)

We were absolutely delighted when a large package arrived on our desks all the way from Spain, from ex-student Ian Hammond. Ian hand wrote his accounts of time spent at the College and included some wonderful photos of his friends, the Nissen huts (particularly East House), the cricket team (1962), rugby team, cross country running and many others. There is also a great photo of East House taken in 1960/61, and Ian has been able to name all the lads within the picture!

Ian's account really gave a fascinating insight into life at the College in the late 1950's. He recalled when he first arrived that "Wymondham College in the 1950's was a bleak and lonely place, with wartime shadows, a camaraderie second to none and a reputation that has grown to give its students past and present a sense of pride and place..." He added "You learnt to get to the Dorm quickly at the beginning of term to grab a good bed, that is one near the wall and windows, I think many rows ensued but once ensconced you were in! More importantly to us lads the wall beds ran parallel to the two hot water pipes along the sides of the hut and I quickly learnt to make the bed with the top pipe wrapped into the edge of the bed giving extra heat in those sometimes savage Norfolk winters."

Here are a selection of some of Ian's photos.





The 100 Club

Each month Phil Robinson (Fry, 1966-1973) and Steve Read (New Hall, 1968-1973) meet at a Norfolk hostelry to try some of the excellent real ales on offer, reminisce about the good old days and draw the numbers for the 100 Club.

A number of you have joined them over the years and there is some statistical evidence that attendance at the draw leads to a win shortly afterwards! Phil sends an email each month advising of where and when they will meet and giving the names of the winners. A monthly report also appears on WCRemembered.co.uk.

Are you a member? Subscription is still only £5.00 per month and there are two monthly prizes of £55. There is also the possibility of winning the star prizes of £500 and £200 and £75 in June and December.

Why not give a subscription as a birthday or Christmas present? If you are an OW with a child at the College maybe give them a subscription as a Year 13 leaving present.

If you would like to join the 100 Club or if you have a local that you would like us to visit, please email Phil Robinson at philrobinson55@btinternet.com or write to him at "Pipkim," Hill Road, Fair Green, Middleton, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE32 1RW.

Photo taken at a 100 club draw at The White Horse in Overstrand.





An Introduction from Justin Smith



I have great pleasure in introducing myself to the Old Wymondhamians and writing my first article for your final newsletter of 2014.

One of the first things to strike me upon my arrival in the summer is just how much affection there clearly is between the College today and our alumni and The Old Wymondhamians association. In my relatively short time here I've already met many ex-students and have joined a fair few upon their return to the College, wandering the site and reminiscing of their times here. The value our alumni can bring to the experiences of the present generations cannot be underestimated and I am very keen to ensure we provide as many opportunities as possible

for our students to engage with alumni and benefit from their wisdom, knowledge and experiences. Additionally some of our alumni may be in a position to financially support our young people and our wider College development plans. In 2015 you will learn more about some of the initiatives we shall be introducing which will enable alumni to support a range of good causes at Wymondham College. A good example of one way in which ex-students can make a positive and tangible impact in the lives of the current generations can be seen with our new Cricket Development Programme – you can read more about this later in the newsletter.

We have established a Development office at the College and I am delighted to welcome Miss Leanne Body as Marketing and Development Assistant – Leanne has quickly got to grips with College life and is already having a positive impact working on some student led projects.

I am grateful to the support given to me in my first few months by OW Chairman Julie Harding and Mike Herring in particular and I am very excited, as I look towards 2015, with some of the events and projects we are looking to introduce. Please get in touch with me if you have any stories to tell about your time at the College or if you feel you can contribute in any way to the development of our young people.

Justin Smith

Director of Marketing and Development

Did you know...

Did you know that if you buy items through the amazon link below you will be donating a percentage of your money spent back to the Old Wymondhamians. All you have to do is click the amazon logo below to access the Old Wymondhamians account. It doesn't cost you any more than using Amazon in your usual way.





World War I Conference

The History Department commemorated the 100 year anniversary of the outbreak of the 1st World War by taking 45 year 10 and 11 students to a Conference in London. It took place in the Freemasons Hall, a stunning building, built as a memorial to the 3,225 Freemasons who died on active service in World War I- a fitting environment for such an occasion. Our students heard lectures from Professor Gary Sheffield on 'The Origins of the War' and on 'Peacemaking 1918-19'. But perhaps the highlight of the occasion was a talk by Jeremy Paxman on 'Great Britain's Great War'. He provided us with his insights into the nature of war and the impact of this war on the Home Front. For some lucky students they had the opportunity to meet Mr Paxman, something that our Year 11 student, James Robb was thrilled about.



Remembrance Day

Students gathered on Remembrance Sunday to see a new memorial garden unveiled. Sadly the old memorial behind the pond had deteriorated badly over the years and a project was launched for students to come up with a design for a new one. It has also been moved to a larger, more prominent area on the grass by Peel Hall, and will act as a daily reminder of the history of the College site. As happens every year, poppy wreaths were laid by the Principal, representatives from the US Air Force at Lakenheath and Mildenhall, RAF Marham, the Governors, Old Wymondhamians and the College Combined Cadet Force.



IDPE Conference

Wymondham College has just become a member of The Institute of Development Professionals in Education (IDPE) - the UK's leading schools' Development membership organisation. The IDPE supports relationships between schools and their alumni and the generation of funding initiatives. We've been asked to play a part in organising the IDPE annual conference next summer!





The Alumni Cricket Initiative

An innovative new youth cricket development scheme has been launched at Wymondham College. The scheme sees ex-students helping to fund the coaching of youngsters who are keen to develop their skills and knowledge of the game. The project is supported by Norfolk Cricket Board and Development Manager Kieron Tuck.

Kieron was keen to put his weight behind the initiative; "The Norfolk Cricket Board are delighted to be involved in the project to reinvigorate cricket at Wymondham College and we are looking forward to supporting the various planned facility improvements and participation programmes in the coming months and years. NCB are keen to see Wymondham regain its position as one of Norfolk's premier cricket schools. With its excellent location and massive potential to generate cricket participation and excellence we hope to see the school producing a large number of club players, as it used to do regularly in the 80s and 90s. We will also support the College to take up the opportunity presented by involving girls in the game, and linking with community cricket clubs in the immediate vicinity."

Developing young talent and expanding the game within the local community is the aim, with Wymondham College also hoping to act as a second home for many local clubs too. The College, with partners, is also exploring ways in which funding can be realised to replace the current pavilion with a new multi-purpose facility that is suitable for all sports including athletics, football, rugby and cricket.

If you are an ex-student with fond memories of your cricketing days at the College and would like to play a part in helping to fund this project please get in touch with Justin Smith, Director of Marketing & Development on 01953 609083.



From Left: Kieron Tuck- Norfolk Cricket Board, Stuart Bartrum- OW, Anthony Bartrum- OW, Justin Smith- Wymondham College