



THE GATTONIAN

NOVEMBER 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE GATTON ASSOCIATION

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Dear Gattonian,

Again it is my pleasure to pen the introduction to another edition of The Gattonian. For those at school a new school year has commenced and a new Headmaster takes the helm at Gatton Park. On behalf of the Gatton Association and its many thousands of members I welcome Mr. Mark Dixon and his family to the wider "family" of the Alexandra/The Albert/Bishopswood Camp and Gatton who now of course live further afield and beyond the Boarding Houses that were once their homes. Indeed we must also include the Flexi Boarders from more recent years who also held affiliation with a Boarding House. Our best wishes are extended to you and your family and we hope that Gatton Park and all that goes with it is to your liking.

May I take this opportunity to thank the Headmaster for the open invitation to all Gattonians to attend the annual Sovereign's Cup 1st XV rugby match versus Gordons. Whatever the result, the invitation to attend the game by the Headmaster to all Gattonians was greatly appreciated. The "my school" ethos alluded to hopefully embraces the feelings of those involved with the school and in so many ways seems to be echoed by the new man at the top with such an invitation. We thank you Headmaster for such an embrace.

One third of a school year has virtually passed since the last edition of The Gattonian and hopefully another sizeable group of new members will have this correspondence dropped through their electronic letter box; including of course one new member, who left the school last year, but who did not apply to university!!! To all these new members, welcome to "the club", especially the one who saw fit not to seek a university place; of course this "youngster" being Paul Spencer Ellis. The Association wishes you well.

Interestingly in his last and parting contribution to

The Gattonian, Paul considered the use of the term "my school" and I have no doubt that you, like the former Head of the School, at times will use this term when speaking or thinking of the School that played a significant part in your life. Perhaps as a consequence of the relationships and acquaintances that you may still have the "my school" is still significant to you at certain times of the year.



I really do hope that there will be significant times during the course of this year when you will be able to visit the school for either informal or a more formal Association organised event. The end of year cocktail party I believe is beginning to take shape and of course more detailed information, including an invitation, will follow, as will the details concerning the second Gattonian Day that will be organised in the early part of the Summer Term. The inaugural event has been reported upon in the last newsletter and laid such a good foundation stone for future Gattonian Days.

I know that many less formal Gattonian get-togethers have been arranged by a number of people who have quite close social links with their past school friends and if any such gatherings take place, we, as an Association, would dearly love to have some information about the event; including any short reports and/or electronically delivered photographs that we will include in future newsletters. I have no doubt all of you, just like me, find it very satisfying to know what has been happening and where it has been happening with friends from "my School". As I write this introduction I have been lucky enough to have received an invite to one such satellite get-together in a nearby

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME *continued*

hotel close to Gatton. Any such photographs and reports will be gratefully received by Helen and Sefora whose contacts details appear in the newsletter.

In connection to the above, a number of Gattonian members and committee members got together at the School in mid-August to sift through archive material which will be added to the Gattonian archive section of the GA website which is now taking shape. Again many thanks must given to Sefora and Helen for their prodigious efforts in this venture and also for the general running of the GA; additionally thanks again to Headmaster Mark Dixon and Bursar Diana Bromley for allowing such indispensable clerical, technical and organisational help.

To conclude may I take this opportunity of thanking the committee members of the GA for the sterling and often unseen work that they do in order to further develop all aspects of the Association for the benefit of all members.

NEW WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce that the Gatton Associate website is now live! The website is still its infancy and we hope that, with your help, it will grow to become a hub for all members of the Association.

One exciting feature of the website is the Find a Friend page. If you are looking for a school friend, you can now complete a form which will ensure that your search is publicised in this newsletter and on the website. Your contact details won't be publicly displayed and only shared with the Gattonian who you are trying to find.

We invite you to have a look around the new website and welcome your comments and suggestions:

www.gattonian.com

Ps. Don't forget, we're on Facebook too! You can find us at The Gatton Association facebook group.

www.facebook.com/groups/106336532762138/

As always I hope that you enjoy the newsletter and sincerely hope you find it informative and interesting. If this is the case then I and all concerned will be most pleased. If you feel there are other matters of interest you would like to see included please do not hesitate to contact us at the addresses supplied for such purposes.

Cheers

Benny Jones

If you want to get in touch please email
OldScholars@gatton-park.org.uk



FIND A FRIEND

Martin Ellis (1952-1961) is looking for two friends from his school days:

Ray Hodges
John Hardings

Please email OldScholars@gatton-park.org.uk if you would like to get in contact with Mr Ellis.

ARCHIVE DAY

We would like to thank the Gattonians who offered to help and attended the archive day in August. The archive is a monumental task which will require determined effort. We hope to gradually bring some order to it with your help.



If you are interested in assisting with the archive, your help would be much appreciated, but please note that the archive is extensive and currently not in date order.

The school is therefore limited in being able to provide photos or documents from specific periods or decades to be viewed.



VISITS BY GATTONIANS

It is always wonderful to welcome back Gattonians to their old haunts. Since last term, we were pleased to see John and James Pike, Jane Ramsden, Lynn Reed, Clayton Wong, David Horne, Sami Allos and Tom Jacobson. The School is still very much your school and we wish to facilitate as many visits by Gattonians who may wish to take a trip down memory lane.

If you would like to visit, please contact Helen or Sefora at the school in advance so that there is someone there to greet you.



Lynn Reed and Jane Ramsden



Sami Allos and Tom Jacobson



David Horne



Clayton Wong and his mother

HOLDSWORTH PRIZE

Thank you to the Gattonians who have been in contact to let us know that they were recipients of the Holdsworth Prize. I'm pleased to say that we now have a better idea of what the prize involved during the years.

We know that, for most, a certificate was given along with a prize of £10-13. Mr Martin Ellis, a Gattonian who attended from 1952 to 1961, has informed us that this amount could have been equal to 1 ½ week's wages at that time.

It was previously thought that a silver badge engraved with a 'H' had been given along with the certificate and prize to the winners, but from recent correspondence with Gattonians, it appears that this may not have been the case, at least from the 1960s.

We'd like to thank the following Holdsworth Prize winners for getting in touch and providing information:

Maureen Tilley - 1952

Philip Day - 1972

Martin Ellis - 1961

David Payne - 1979

Richard Chamberlain - 1964

COLONEL J. KELLY HOLDSWORTH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

1907 F.JAMES.	1942 G.ENASH.	1967 R.FREEMAN.
1908 L.ATTEWELL.	1943 G.LANG.	1968 I.KING.
1909 G.GNEWTON.	1944 A.KSYKES.	1969 P STEADMAN.
1910 W.G.HOBDELL.	1945 K.BARWELL.	1970 D.GHAMBERLAIN.
1911 S.TEAGUE.	1946 N.RICHARDS.	1971 E.SHARRATT.
1912 A.COOPER.	1947 A.BROWN.	1972 R.D.FREITAS.
1913 W.EDDEN.	1948 W.D.LETBY.	1973 S.CHEVERTON.
1914 G.H.W.SMITH.	1949 A.V.GOODWIN.	1974 T.TAULKE-JOHNSON.
1915 E.H.BROWNING.	1950 J.J.ELLIOTT.	1975 K.BETTANY.
1916 R.SHAW.	1951 E.HOLMES.	1976 S.BONDFACE.
1917 R.SMITH.	1952 M.J.SHEEHAN.	1977 P.CHEVERTON.
1918 A.BURKE.	1953 S.J.BRANDALL.	1978 G.CHEVERTON.
1919 H.BUCKNALL.	1954 J.D.TURNER.	1979 Y.HAYNES.
1920 W.FLETCHER.	1955 MAUREEN LEWIS.	1980 P.SMETHURST.
1921 H.CHAPMAN.	1956 E.HOWMAN.	1981 P.DAY.
1922 G.COTTON.	1957 T.COLLON.	1982 K.BILYARD.
1923 F.MAY.	1958 M.POOLE.	1983 D.ARMSSTRONG.
1924 W.TAYLOR.	1959 J.HAYES.	1984 A.GADD.
1925 V.GORNER.	1960 J.BILLINGHAM.	1985 S.ANDERSON.
1926 R.LACEY.	1961 F.HOLD.	
1927 M.RICK.	1962 D.ELLWOOD.	
1928 W.R.MILL.	1963 J.ANDERSON.	
1929 R.J.BARBOUR.	1964 G.O'BRIEN.	
1930 E.A.GRAY.	1965 S.BAINES.	
1931 S.R.BUFFERY.	1966 J.FIGG.	
1932 M.J.TODMAN.	1967 R.CHAMBERLAIN.	
1933 J.C.BULL.	1968 M.ELLIS.	
1934 G.HARRIS.	1969 R.HODGES.	
1935 R.CAMPBELL.		

If you were a Holdsworth Prize winner and your name is not on the board, we'd love to hear from you.

OLD GATTONIANS RUGBY

By George Fowles

In the words of the great Benny Jones (Former House Master of Gloucester House) 'play rugby for as long as you can, for you'll be out of the game longer' – no truer words have been uttered, and thus comes your invite back into the game with Old Gattonians Rugby!

We are searching for any male Old Gattonians who have the ability to play rugby, to be involved in the revived Old Gattonians Sunday Rugby.

Our philosophy is to play 'throw it about rugby' with the intention of generating a thirst for the post-match social.

If this sounds like your cuppa, pint or pitcher please get in contact by emailing georgefowles@gatton-park.org.uk with your email address and we (Benny Jones, Tom Hampson and myself) will be compiling a mailing list in order to send out fixture information.

We are looking to play ASAP!

CALLS FOR SPONSORSHIP

The Old Gattonians are seeking kit sponsors! If you or your company/business are willing to sponsor the team we would love to hear from you.

For those no longer able to play and wanting to be involved this could be the perfect opportunity for you – it'll certainly earn you a few beers!

We look forward to hearing from you,

George Fowles (Old Gattonian 2003-2011, Teacher at RAAS), Tom Hampson (Old Gattonian 2000-2011) and Benny Jones (ex-HOH, and Chair of Old Gattonians Rugby).



GATTONIAN GET TOGETHER

A big thank you to Nigel Edwards for organising a mini-reunion at the Reigate Manor Hotel on Sunday 6th November.

The event was well attended by Chas and Sue Bailey, Phil Wade, Carolynne Pepper, Malcolm Wallace, Ray Davies, John and Sylvia Kingsgate, Josie and Tony Bradley, Alec Rollo, David Harbison and Benny Jones.

The actual reunion started back at Gatton Park where attendees took a walk down memory lane ably escorted and assisted by two Sixth Form students. As well as a sumptuous lunch in wonderful surroundings, the guests, who came from all parts of the country, (as far away as Leeds and Cardiff) enjoyed meeting up again, as well as meeting Gattonians from different years.

The one common bond, apart from the School, was of course the presence of Ray Davies. As one of the guests said to me, "not only was I lucky enough to spend seven years at Gatton Park with so many friends that I have kept in contact with, but having the support of Ray and June made my journey through my schooldays so much more enjoyable."

Nigel, as always a font of so much Gattonian knowledge, brought with him a huge stack of photographic memories that were perused by all, and further names were added to some of the personalities contained within these wonderful memories. In the not too distant future



Nigel will of course allow the copying of these pictorial memories for the GA archive.

A wonderful afternoon captured by a selection of the photographs accompanying this short report. Please do let us know of any get-togethers you may be planning. The Committee and the school liaising team will try wherever possible to assist you if you wish to publicise the event, or if you are planning a trip to the school as part of your event.

Benny Jones
Chairman of the Gatton Association Committee



FROM TWO TO EIGHTY TWO

By Bernie Searle

Mr Searle attended the Royal Albert School from 1940 to 1948. Below are a series of excerpts from his entertaining memories of his school days. If you would like to read Mr Searle's full account of his time spent at the school and his years before it, you can do so on the Gattonian website: <http://www.gattonian.com/your-story.asp>

One if not the most enjoyable prospects of being at Royal Albert School was being able to go home for Christmas and summer holidays, especially after having been isolated in Scotland away from home for five years during the war. It wasn't worth my while going home any other time as they were short holidays and everybody was working. There were many other lads in the same boat so we were not short of company.

We always had a teacher or two looking after us and keeping us out of mischief. I do recall one particular Easter period when the headmaster was helping out one particular evening. We were playing a game of billiards (as we thought) when the headmaster chipped in and began teaching us the correct rules and principles of the game. One particular shot he taught us, which I have used a number of times since whilst playing snooker, was how to spin the cue ball in order to pot a ball resting on the top cushion. Something he obviously picked up from a misspent youth.

If you recall, during my latter days at Mayfield House in Edinburgh, I joined the local church choir, so I thought it might be a good thing to do in Camberley, (anything to break the monotony) so cheerfully I trotted off to church and turned up for my first practice with the rest of the choir. Opened my mouth to sing the first hymn and the most horrible grating sound made everybody stop and look at me. How embarrassing, my voice had not just broken, but had shattered into a million pieces. I was politely asked to sit down and when ready, quietly leave.

So, that was the end of my singing career, which left me wondering what I could do to while away my precious spare time. Someone suggested Morris dancing and thinking it was something like we used to do in Scotland

at Christmas time I said ok. Bit of a shock when I had my first practice session, felt it was more for girls than boys, but when the lads explained that we appeared at weekend festivals around the district, which included being fed and watered, and that it was a recognised traditional form of entertainment, I was all for it, fancy gear an' all. We were really good at a particular routine where we had what were



The kale field at Royal Albert School.

supposed to be swords made of wood which involved a lot of clashing and smacking of our wooden swords and came the finale we linked them altogether in a circle, which looked quite impressive when done at speed whilst still jiggling up and down.

A bit of gossip now about teachers; don't worry, I can't remember any names. Because of the war, most of them were old school, firm but fair. There was one master who stood-in if one of the regulars was away or off sick. He was a tall upright gentleman who suffered with frost bitten feet, and he had special shoes that catered for his condition which caused him to walk more on his heels with the aid of a rather stout walking stick. He was always polite and helpful and often told us of his many exploits and travels, but he took no cheek from anyone, and any boy who tried it on only ever did it once, because he also used his walking stick as a cane, and nobody tried it on twice with him. No regrets mind you, I reckon most of us turned out pretty good because of the discipline.

One teacher we had was from Yorkshire and didn't he get upset when some of the lads couldn't understand his dialect. Things like "Pit oop thee and" or "stanoop" or "dost clean thee bairts t'day".

FROM TWO TO EIGHTY TWO *Continued*

We had at one time a tall burly lad who was a bit aggravating and often very intimidating to one or two of the teachers. One particular teacher, a new arrival from the air force, somewhat younger than the normal run-of-the mill that we were used to seeing, was taking dining room duty. The boy in question was asked to do something, a fairly trivial request, and he immediately told one of the younger boys to do it for him, at which time the teacher told the younger lad to sit down and repeated his request to the big boy. At that point the brash lad started swearing at the teacher, walking up to him in a threatening manner.

The teacher never moved or blinked an eye and never said another word, but when the lad got within arm's length of him, the teacher smacked him around the head which sent the boy skidding back to where he came from on

Having spent five long years away from home during the war, my first Christmas at home was pure heaven. Having arrived home I couldn't wait to go Christmas shopping at the weekend with my Mum.

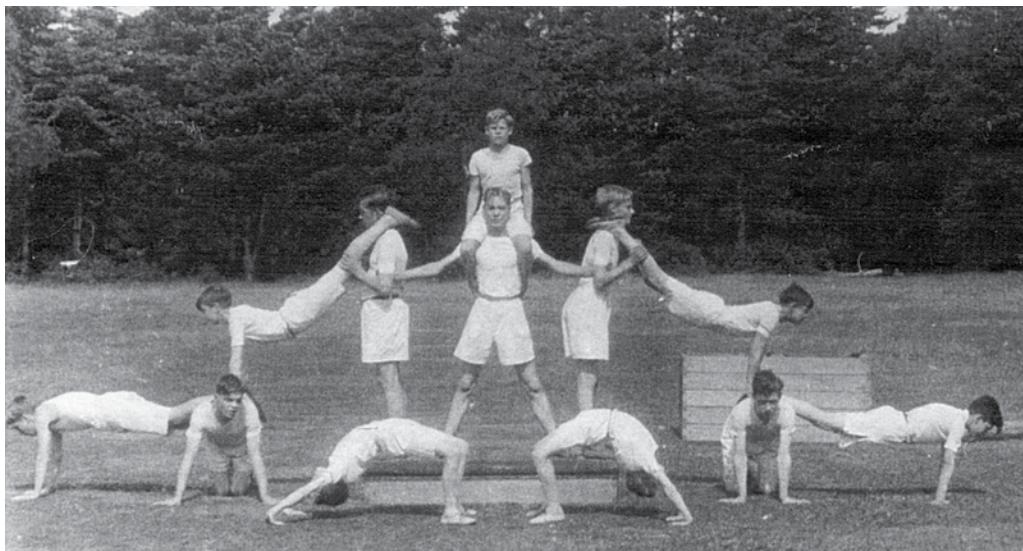
When my Dad got demobbed from the navy in 1919, after being unemployed for a while, he was fortunate to be offered a job as a bus conductor, and he was still employed there up until his death in 1939. During the period of his employment, he used to pay a small amount each week into a Christmas fund, which meant that each year he received a turkey and a few bits and pieces to go with it. When he passed on, the depot allowed our Mum to continue with the club membership, so a couple of days before Christmas, Mum and I bused it over to the depot to pick up our turkey, and what a whopper! It

took a bit of an effort to carry it back home on the bus, but that didn't faze me at all. After getting that home safely, I had to go over to my oldest brother Eddy's home to pick up the Christmas cake, after he finished work for the day at the bakery.

I thought the turkey was heavy, but it was nothing compared to the weight of the cake he made. It was at least 15-16 inches in diameter (that's 375 - 400mm in funny figures). Full of fruit and nuts and decorated fit for the royal table.

All the family were there for Christmas except Billy who was up in York and was snowed in. It was the best Christmas party ever, especially after five years of wishful thinking. There were records playing all night with singing and drinking (in moderation) and fooling around in general.

After Christmas came and went, I conned my way into playing for a local team, having bought a pair of boots with my Christmas money. I filled my time in with reading my Dad's commendations for gunnery when he served in the RN, plus running errands for Mum or other family members and occasionally trotting off to the pictures. On Saturday mornings they usually showed cartoons



Gymnastics at the Royal Albert School

his backside. The teacher followed him and made the same request of him in a calm controlled voice, and this time the smart aleck did as he was requested, which was a signal for a thunderous round of cheering and clapping from everybody.

Christmas was an especially exciting time; we were encouraged to create our own Christmas cards to send or take home when the school closed down, and pre-Christmas we used to terrify the locals when small groups ranging between two and four lads would go out carolling. It's a wonder we weren't arrested for murdering all those beloved carols. The night time temperature soon put a stop to that lark.

FROM TWO TO EIGHTY TWO *Continued*

Tom & Jerry, Roadrunner etc. followed by episodes The Lone Ranger, Flash Gordon or The Perils of Pauline. If I went with my Mum, it would normally be on a Wednesday half day when everything else was closed. Those were the days when they started with a news reel, followed by two main feature films, usually a drama followed by a musical.

All too soon it was time to trot down to Waterloo station and hop on the train for Bagshot.

I think it was around Spring of 1948 when we were told that our school would be moving to combine the Royal Albert School with the Royal Alexandra School and that a visit was being arranged for all the boys to attend, which we eventually did and my only recollection is standing near some shrubs and trees, looking across a beautiful grassy scene at the school building.

I cannot recall having entered the school at all. I'm pretty sure that I was disappointed that I would not be joining the boys at their new school. For me it was a very sad time because it meant that a great chunk of my past would

disappear, as like the time spent in Scotland, and at RAS, these places and people had been my home and family since 1940, you could say the most informative 8 years of my life. However, I did what I had done before; accept a situation as it was and get on with living one's life.

Having turned fourteen in May of 1948, I was asked by the Head what colour suit I would like, I opted for a blue pinstripe; given the address of my new employer – Perrots Nickol and Payten; cloth processors just off Piccadilly circus, given a train ticket, handshakes all round, a pat on the head, a slap on the shoulder and a kick up the b...., driven to Bagshot station and so ended my very colourful and interesting but happy school days. There are a few memories that could not be put into print but all in all the quality of education from what I have experienced, was far superior to most, and I do not say that lightly. It provided me with good manners and self-discipline, and the ability to stand firm and let no one ride roughshod over me, which has stood me in good stead over the years.

OBITUARY - ZIGGY WORRELL-OWUSU (1997-2016)

It is with much sadness that we have learned of the tragic passing of Ziggy Worrell-Owusu. Ziggy attended the school from 2009 to 2013 and is remembered with affection by the staff at the school who remember him.

Father Paul, Ziggy's Head of House, said of the young man, "Those of us who knew him in Albert or in class relished his charismatic humour, energy and passion for

topical issues – including those of the area in which he lived. He was an immensely kind and understanding boy, loved among his peers because he was equally bold and caring. It would seem he died as he lived - intervening to help someone else. It was his nineteenth birthday."

The Committee's thoughts are with his family as they come to terms with this tragedy.

OBITUARY - HARRY DAVIES (1997-2016)

Harry Davies has been described by staff who knew him as a very mature, thoughtful and nice boy. He attended the school from 2009 until 2014 and went on to Reigate College to complete his A Levels.

His passing late in October shocked the school community. A private service was led by the school's Chaplain, Father Paul and was attended by fifty of Harry's closest family and friends. Daniel Bennett, a friend from school, read

a touching eulogy. Harry's young life was remembered and celebrated in a second memorial service at St Mary's Church, Caterham, on Wednesday 9th November. We have been informed that the service was very well attended by Harry's family and friends including many friends from his school days.

Our sincere condolences to his family and friends at this most difficult time.

LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER



Dear Old Gattonian,

I had the privilege of becoming Headmaster of the Royal Alexandra and Albert School in September. I say ‘privilege’ because this School has a unique ethos with a central principle of supporting vulnerable children in boarding. Indeed, it is a great place for all children and I have been impressed by the way pupils apply themselves both to their studies, and to the many activities and trips they undertake outside of School.

Equally impressive is the excellent relationship the School has with its past pupils. The Gatton Association is doing a fantastic job of helping Old Gattonians to maintain links with the School and each other. I know they are working hard to arrange events for Old Gattonians and I look forward to working with the Committee to help make these happen.

As the new Headmaster of a school with such strong traditions, I am keen to encourage Old Gattonians to come back and join us at key events like Remembrance Day and Founders’ Day. I am also happy to welcome past pupils to the School at other times and we often receive visits from Old Gattonians who happen to be passing by.

I regard past pupils as part of the school community and I was delighted that Old Gattonians were able to join us for the annual sporting fixture against Gordon’s School. It was great to see pupils, parents, past pupils and governors come together to cheer our rugby and netball teams on. My thanks to Old Gattonian Tony Smith and the school catering team from Harrisons for donating hot drinks and food for spectators. All proceeds from the food and drink sales will go towards the Netball tour to Barbados and the Rugby tour to South Africa. We also received two generous donations from Old Gattonians towards the rugby and netball tours. A ‘man of the match’ cup for the rugby game was donated by an Old Gattonian and this was presented at the end of the game. The final result was 32-15 in the rugby and 40-12 for the netball, with Gordon’s winning both matches. Our teams put a good fight with some excellent play but in the end, the Gordon’s teams came out on top.

The tragic loss of two of pupils who left the School in the last few years, was keenly felt by staff and pupils who knew them. I know Harry Davies and Ziggy Worrell-Owusu will be sorely missed by their families and friends, including those friends they made whilst here at the School. It is always sad to hear of the death of past pupils but is particularly difficult to accept when those people were only 19 years of age.

Ziggy and Harry were remembered in the Remembrance Day service that was held today. We also remembered the pupils who had died in past conflicts and I was delighted to welcome back Jordan Gask as our guest speaker. Jordan, who was Head Boy from 2009-10, has just completed his officer training at Sandhurst and is already on his first tour of duty for the Army.

Being new to the School I don’t know many past pupils yet, but I look forward to meeting some of you at events at the School in future.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Dixon".

Mark Dixon

SOVEREIGN'S CUP AND DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER CUP MATCHES



RAAS netball team played Gordon's for the Duchess of Gloucester Cup.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon of sport on Wednesday 9th November. The Gordon's School first Rugby and Netball teams played our first teams in two very good matches. After taking an early lead the Gatton rugby team faced a strong come-back from the Gordon's team and the final score was a 32-15 win for Gordon's. The Gatton netball team faced stiff opposition from the start from the experienced and efficient Gordon's team and the end result was a 40-12 win for Gordon's. Well done to all the players who displayed exceptional skills in both matches.

There was a lot of support for our teams. Pupils and teachers were joined by parents and Old Gattonians and they were fuelled by hot drinks and food from Harrison Catering. Some of the coffee was provided by Tony Smith, an Old Gattonian and all the proceeds from the sales of the food and drink will go towards the Rugby and Netball tours.

Trophies were awarded at the end of the matches, and this year there was a new trophy. An Old Gattonian donated a 'man of the match' trophy for the Gatton team in honour of Bill Jeffrey (past Head of Rank House) and the Rank House scholars from 1969-74.

This event just gets better and better and it is a fantastic opportunity to bring the whole school community together.



Man of the Match Trophy is awarded by Michael Pavey, Old Gattonian.

REMEMBRANCE DAY



The guest speaker at the Remembrance Day service at the Royal Alexandra and Albert School was someone who knows the School well, and who also appreciates the sacrifice made by those in the armed forces. 2nd Lieutenant Jordan Gask has achieved a lot in the 6 years since leaving the School in 2010. The former Head Boy went on to gain a First Class degree in Civil Engineering from Newcastle University, followed by Army officer training at The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He is now in the Corps of Royal Engineers and undergoing further training before his next posting.

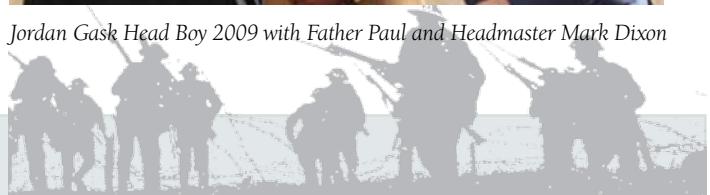


Lt Gask gave an address which highlighted the human stories of some of the soldiers who lost their lives in the Great War. When so many lives are lost in a conflict, it is sometimes easy to forget the impact of every loss.

During the service the Advanced Ensemble performed the Anthem, Nimrod by Edward Elgar.



Jordan Gask Head Boy 2009 with Father Paul and Headmaster Mark Dixon



ELLA GETS THE CHOP FOR CHARITY

With clippers and a pair of scissors, a pupil at the Royal Alexandra and Albert School has shown immense kindness and support for very ill friend.

Recently, Ella-Louise Brown, a Year 9 boarder at the School, heard the news that a close friend had been diagnosed with leukaemia. Wanting to in some way help her friend, Ella decided to fundraise and asked her friend what charity she wanted to donate the proceeds to. The chosen charity was Starlight, a charity that grants wishes to seriously and terminally ill children, and recently granted Ella's friend with a dream cruise holiday.

Spurred into action, Ella decided to shave her head to raise money - her target was £150. However, her brave decision touched her friends, class mates and teachers who backed her all the way and to date she has raised more than £700. Dressed in a Starlight t-shirt, Ella sat in front of her Year Group in assembly and had her head shaved by Mr

Simon King,
Assistant Head
and experienced
head shaver.

Ella said, "I was really anxious and nervous, more so about being in front of my whole Year Group than actually about shaving my head. It feels strange, but I'm happy I did it."



During the assembly pupils cheered Ella and chanted her name as her hair fell. Pupils were overheard commenting on how 'brave' and 'lovely' she was for doing something as drastic as shaving her head to support her friend.

With the amazing support Ella received she has now raised £1,126 for the Starlight Children's Foundation. Well done, Ella!

GATTON PARK WINS HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND



Supported by

The National Lottery®
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Gatton Park, Reigate has received £50,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for an exciting new project encouraging people to get more involved in their local heritage and to reinstate ‘Capability’ Brown’s designed viewpoints and tree plantings across the landscape. The

vision. New interpretation boards and leaflets will help visitors better find their way around Gatton Park. By exploring the landscape with local community groups, ideas will be generated for pop up art installations to be created by local artists from natural materials from the



Visitors at Gatton Park this summer enjoyed a “Picnic with the Past”.

start of the project is well timed to link with this year’s celebration of the 300th anniversary of Brown’s birth.

“Capability Brown’s Vision for Gatton Park” project will build on the excellent restoration work and activities provided for the local community at Gatton Park over the last 20 years. It will offer more opportunities for people of all ages to learn about the heritage and history of Gatton Park and encourage local people to get more involved in its physical restoration.

As well as clearing areas to expose the original views and now mature trees, the project will plant new tree clumps and restore the character of the Park to Brown’s original

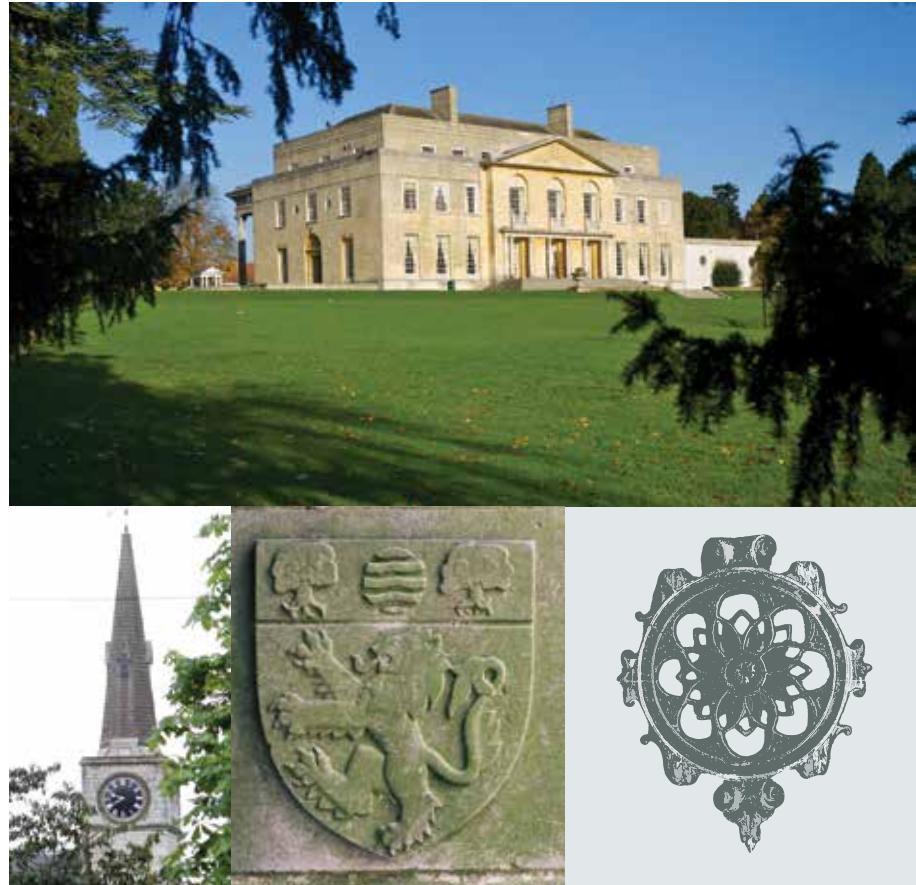
landscape. Using outdoor adventures and indoor crafts a new family learning course for parents and children - Wow What a View! – will help children and parents discover the landscape of Gatton and how to explore designed and natural environments elsewhere. New volunteer tour guides will be trained to provide regular tours of the whole landscape for both individuals and groups. It is also planned to highlight the Wray Lane entrance to the Park by the installation of new railings and gate. The grant will also be used to provide parkland railings to replace old damaged fencing which will improve management of the landscape.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE GATTON ASSOCIATION

President	John Billingham
Vice President	Benny Jones
Chair	Benny Jones
Vice Chair	Vacant
Secretary	Ruth Turner
Treasurer	Diana Bromley

Committee Members:

Ray Davies
Alicia Edwards
Frances Hartigan
Di Martin
Jenny De'Ath
Will Wilson
John Turner
Mark Measey



Associate Committee Members:

Helen Pollard
Sefora Dias

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GATTON ASSOCIATION

The Objectives of the Gatton Association are:

- To foster, encourage and enable all former pupils and former staff to remain in touch with their school colleagues and the School
- To offer support and assistance to aid former and current pupils

CONTACT DETAILS

To contact the Committee please email OldScholars@gatton-park.org.uk or write to:

Gatton Association
Royal Alexandra and Albert School
Gatton Park
Reigate
Surrey
RH2 0TD

You may also contact Helen Pollard and Sefora Dias, the Gatton Association liaising team at the School.

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