

Newsletter of the Old Tiffinians' Association No. 233 September 2007

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From the Head's Study

Dear Friends,

This summer's examination results saw the best ever School performance at GCSE and A-Level. *'The Times'* School League Table listed Tiffin as the fourth best boys' school in the country – this is a stunning achievement and reflects so well upon the hard work of our students.



The headlines are as follows (with last year's figures in brackets):

-At Key Stage 3 the percentage achieving Level 7 and above was as follows: in Maths 100% (99%); in Science **76.4%** (75.3%) and English **51%** (56%).

-The average total points score at GCSE was **563.5** (559.4) with 70% (66.6%) of all grades at A*/A. This was the School's best ever performance at GCSE.

-At A-Level the total average points score was **414.8** (381.5), and 83.6% (71%) of the grades were at grade A/B. **71** (39) students achieved at least three grade As at A-Level and 22 (13) students gained places at Oxbridge. This was the school's best ever performance at 'A' Level.

You may be interested to know about some changes we are making at the School. We are constantly striving to make the School even better, and this year sees the introduction of Tiffin School's **Learning & Teaching policy**. Our staff have been working on this for nearly a year, and it aims to ensure that the students' learning is high quality, consistent and clearly targets how to improve. While much of this builds upon the good practice that already exists, we believe that it will further raise standards of teaching and learning. One key change concerns the use of **Landmark Tasks**. Each subject area will identify two tasks per half term for a student to complete, and these will be assessed in line with the School's marking policy. There will be a variety of tasks and may well include class work and independent work. This will provide students, teachers and parents with a clear and regular indication of progress. We are also expunging the word 'homework' and replacing it with **Independent Study**.

As the new year begins, we welcome the following staff who joined us in September: Leanne Bolton, Assistant Curriculum Leader (ACL) in Chemistry; Paul Bridges, Curriculum Leader in Economics; Lawrence Brittain, Teacher of Geography; Carol Cornell, Senior Rowing Coach; Heather Cox, School Receptionist; Mike Seigel, Teacher of Classics; Emma Soper, Teacher of Maths; David Starbuck, ACL in R.E.; and Julie Yeoman, Assistant School Shop Manager.

I should like to thank all those who attended last year's Head's Question Times. As well as being hugely enjoyable, they were also immensely informative, and I will be running two sessions this year. The first one will be on Wednesday, 3 October at 7.30 pm in the Judge Lecture Theatre and, if you have not been to any of these events and you are interested in the future direction of the School, I would urge you to attend – they are not just open to parents. Please visit the TPA website at <http://www.tiffinparents.co.uk> to book tickets.

This term is packed with many events that celebrate both Tiffin and its involvement in the community, and I do hope you will come to some of these functions.

Sean Heslop

OTA Old Boys' Dinner



Friday 9th November 2007
Malden Golf Club
Cost : £25



Reservations have been coming in since June.

Have you booked YOUR place yet?

Please check the date is in your diary

and contact us NOW to secure your place:-

Contact - Dick Rumble: 01342 843663, Stu Vidler: 01590 678789 or

Huck Wright: 0208 337 8965

Alternatively you can make contact or make your seating preferences clear by emailing us at: johnwright@clifton66.freereserve.co.uk

Please post off your cheque as soon as possible for £25 per person (payable to "The O.T.A.") to John Wright at his home address:

1 Delta Road, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 7HP.

We will send full details and tickets in due course. Hope to see you there!

OTA Dinner Committee

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 11th October

- OTA Social Lunch

Monday 15th October

- Tiffin Children's Chorus in Parish Church

22nd – 26th October

- School Half-Term

Thursday 25th October

- Tiffinian Lodge Installation Meeting

Wednesday 7th November

- Instrumental Concert

Thursday 8th November

- House Public Speaking Competition

Friday 9th November

- OTA Annual Old Boys' Dinner

Monday 12th November

- School Remembrance Service

Tuesday 13th November

- Choir at Trinity Coll., Cambridge, Evensong

Friday 16th November

- Swing Band Jazz Evening

17th – 18th November

- Tiffin Choir at Barbican

Wednesday 21st November

- OT Association AGM

Saturday 1st December

- Oratorio; Elgar's 'Dream of Gerontius'

Tuesday 4th December

- Tiffin Choir at Cadogan Hall

Wednesday 5th December

- Cross-Country Judge Cup

Thursday 6th December

- OTA Social Lunch

12th – 15th December

- School Drama (matinee on 15th)

Wednesday 19th December

- Carol Service 7.30pm Parish Church, followed by the usual Reunion at the School (Walden Hall) from 9.00pm
Parking available all evening at the School

Friday 21st December

- End of Term

Saturday 22nd December

- TYO Christmas Concert (Parish Church)

(Further details of School events can be found later in this newsletter or at www.tiffin.kingston.sch.uk.)

Chairman

Dear Old Tiffinian,

Change is in the air. At the AGM of the OTA to be held on 21st November I shall update members on the recommendations of the working group that the Council appointed under my chairmanship on 26 March. The working group comprises David Baron; Mark Darby; David Evans; Brian Holden; Chris Hunt; Stuart Lester; Peter Osborne; Ian Redington; Chris Shires and Mike Taylor. It has met three times. An update to the time of going to press is given on the following page.

I have enjoyed a large number of Tiffinian events over the summer: the Skiff Marathon; Tiffin in the Garden; performances in Kingston Parish Church of the Thames Youth Orchestra; musical events at School supported by Friends of Tiffin Music; Founders' Day; the MCC v the School cricket match and the staff v boys – and most recently the Leavers' Celebration.

I should like to draw members' attention to the Thames Youth Orchestra, which was launched in 2005 with funding from the Performing Arts College, Tiffin School. It now comprises musicians from fifteen South West London schools, and is an excellent example of outreach into the community by the School. Under the direction of Simon Ferris, with the resources of the School, young musicians from other schools are given the opportunity to enjoy the exhilaration and the enrichment given by having first hand experience of performing in a large orchestra. The standard to which members of the orchestra play is remarkably high and a tribute to those that rehearse them and to their own dedication. The impact that the opportunity has for young musicians can be gauged by the following quote from an orchestra member:

"Ever since I joined TYO, I've loved every minute of it. It's amazing to be given the opportunity to perform in a large-scale symphony orchestra playing exciting and challenging music. We work together week by week to put together pieces, building strong friendships along the way, and the help and support given by section coaches and conductor always pushes you to make every effort and to create the best sound possible."

"TYO has not only introduced me to a wide variety of romantic and contemporary music, but it has also created exciting new opportunities, including performing with talented soloists, as well as playing in central London and abroad. Playing in such a high-calibre ensemble as TYO has taught me teamwork, discipline and communication, but most of all, it's a lot of fun."

Well done, Tiffin School.

Yours in fellowship,

HOWARD MALLINSON

OTA 200 Club

Congratulations this time to **Ray Hewitt-Taylor** (No.92), who won the £500 Big Draw Prize this summer ! It's good to see such a loyal supporter win the 'Big One'. This was drawn, as usual, at a meeting of the OTA Council. The following £10 winners have also been announced since the last edition of this newsletter:

169 R.G. Adolphus	29 P.D. Smith	135 D.L. Wildash
116 G.J.W. Corbett	160 J. Lamb	89 Mrs D. Leather
43 Mrs A. Hunt	8 M.J. Bradford	57 S.R. Day
139 S.J. Dixon	172 H.R. Seymour	198 H.A.J. Watson
13 M.C. Taylor		

It is always good to see, as here, a number of our Founder Members and loyal supporters amongst the lucky winners.

As the cost of belonging to the 200 Club is only just over £1 per month, several members are helping the Association finances by taking out a second ticket. If you are not already a member of the 200 Club and would like some more information about it, please get in touch with me on 020 8393 3293 (or email me on bholden93@hotmail.com) The subscription is so small that you won't really miss it — and you could find yourself on our next list of winners!

BRIAN HOLDEN



PROPOSED CHANGES WITHIN THE OTA AND ASSOCIATED BODIES: TIFFINIAN ASSOCIATION LIMITED

The Council has appointed the solicitors, Barlow Robbins LLP, to advise on the proposed reorganisation, the essence of which was given in the June 'Tiffnews'. They advised that the scheme that we had in mind was feasible, and accordingly the work of the group was focussed on the issues arising.

It soon became clear that our registered charity, the Old Tiffinian Memorial Fund, which is an unincorporated trust from 1921, would not be an appropriate vehicle going forward: its objects are too limited in scope and the liability of trustees unlimited. If members agree to the recommendation, a new company limited by guarantee is to be formed for the purpose. The working group proposes that the name of the new company – the company that will embrace the present activity of the OTA but also have a charitable role – is the '**Tiffinian Association Limited**'. Many variants were considered, most of which were capable of advancement, but the group adopted the proposed name after soundings were made among younger Tiffinians.

The working group has considered at length what the Objects of this company should be; these have to be reconciled with the requirements of the Charities Act 2006, which imposes a greater importance to 'public benefit' than had been the case, and the necessity to obtain the approval of the Charity Commissioners; this is a stiff test. The Objects which the group proposes for the new company, but which have not yet cleared the Charity Commissioners hurdle, are:

- 1: To promote the participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of the following:
 - former and present pupils of Tiffin School, Kingston upon Thames and their families;
 - employees of Tiffin School and their families;
 - others associated with Tiffin School; and
 - the local community of Kingston upon Thames and its environs, by the provision of such sporting and recreational facilities as the Trust may decide.
- 2: To further the education of pupils at Tiffin School by the award of grants, in consultation with Tiffin School, to pupils who, by reason of financial hardship, would not otherwise be able to fully participate in educational or sporting activities, whether within or outside the curriculum offered by the School.
- 3: To further excellence in academic studies, the performing arts, sport and citizenship by promoting the award of prizes to the pupils of Tiffin School, in consultation with the School, for effort and achievement.
- 4: To further education and citizenship by making grants that enable Tiffin School to:
 - make its facilities, educational materials and know-how available to the local community;
 - enter into partnerships with other schools, further education colleges and other bodies within the local community, including sponsoring awards and competitions; and
 - provide holiday courses and exchange programmes open to the local community.
- 5: To establish, provide, furnish, equip, maintain and manage for the purposes of Tiffin School any classrooms, libraries, sports halls or other sports facilities, resource centres, laboratories, performing

arts and music studios, school halls or other buildings whatsoever as the Trust may from time to time consider necessary and expedient.

The Objects have been drawn in a way that reflects the perceived need for the OTA to be more outward-looking; to give 'public benefit' and to embrace local community needs as well as cementing its relationship with Tiffin School. How change is achieved in practice will be a matter for the directors of the new company.

If members approve the proposals when they are brought to a meeting for a vote, the working group recommends that the founding directors of the Tiffinian Association Limited should be the existing trustees of the Old Tiffinian Memorial Fund, who are: Mike Taylor (chairman), John Glasscock, Sean Heslop, Brian Holden, Tony Millard, Ian Redington and Bryon Smith.

In addition to these founding directors the working group recommends the appointment as directors of Mark Darby (Treasurer), David Evans (Secretary), Stuart Lester and Chris Shires.

Considerable work still needs to be done in the area of constitution and organisational structure of Tiffinian Association Limited and the working group is addressing this need.

Annual General Meeting

This year the AGM is on
Wednesday 21st November (7.30 for 8.00pm).
Do come along and give your views on
important proposed changes.

Editor

This edition of 'Tiffnews' has been produced under rather difficult circumstances, so please excuse any shortcomings, which are certainly not the fault of Jaggerprint, who continue to be most helpful.

Do read carefully the Chairman's Letter and accompanying information about proposed important changes in the structure of our organisation. As mentioned previously, he has put in a lot of detailed work on this on our behalf. Do attend any meetings called, to put your questions and make your voice heard.

This is my last opportunity to remind you that preparations for the **OTA Annual Dinner** are well under way. If you have still not booked your place, do send off your cheque to John Wright NOW, before you forget !

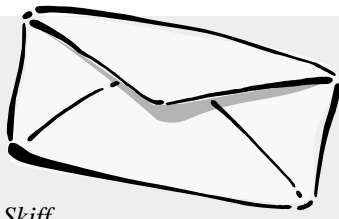
In the June newsletter I failed to mention the departure from Tiffins of **Avis Marshall**, who has retired after 17 years of great service in various aspects of school life, and also that of **Ian Cooksey**, who has moved on to promotion as Vice Principal at Tomlinscote School, Frimley. Many OTs have cause to be grateful to him for the work he has done since Tom Jackson's retirement several years ago, to coordinate the annual Oxbridge Dinners. These have continued to be a great success under his guiding hand.

With this edition of 'Tiffnews' we send out our reminder that **annual subscriptions** are due (for those of you who still pay by cheque). As usual, remittance slips are sent to ALL members, in case they are required. If you pay by Standing Order, please ignore this slip, unless you need to update your contact details.

Some **email addresses** we hold on our database have proved to be out of date (despite my various reminders). Please send me a quick email, if you think yours might have changed.

BRIAN HOLDEN

Letters



Dear Brian,
Just to congratulate Tony Ellis and his fellow participants on the excellence of this year's Skiff Marathon. But for an injury, there would have been six crews rowing. However, in the event, five crews took part on a magnificent day on the Thames. About twenty spectators comfortably occupied the motor launch, as we travelled almost to Hampton Court bridge and back down river to Kingston bridge. Those who live in the Kingston / Thames Ditton area might consider this rather tame, but for those who like me have foolishly moved away from the area, where in my case in South Croydon the river Wandle has been buried, to be back on the river Thames in good weather was a real joy.

After the event, back to the hospitality of the Ditton Skiff & Punting Club in their fine HQ, with splendid views of the river and Home Park, and to consume, inter alia, quite the finest Fuller's London Pride in my experience — even better than the same brew served by Croham Hurst Golf Club or the Old Whitgiftian Club just down the road from my home in Croham Manor Road.

Congratulations to all who took part, and here's to an even more strongly supported 95th Skiff Marathon in 2008.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Jenkins (1945)

Dear Brian,
This is just to thank you for showing us around the School. It was a little strange treading the same steps I trod 70 years ago. The first floor of the Main Building seemed to be mostly in about the same state, but computers etc. have replaced the blackboards and chalk of the old days. I wondered how the School could possibly accommodate double the number of boys, but the three new buildings must cope with most of them (as well as numerous activities). I was impressed by the way each square foot of unused space has been employed to create rooms — like the former void between the upper corridor and the Hall. I was intrigued by the little heaps of bags all over the place — perhaps because the boys no longer have a desk or bureau, as we did.

I was amused to see that my Record Card states "Future career — insurance clerk". I'm afraid that lasted only eighteen months before war came. I was in the TA and spent the next seven years otherwise engaged. After the war I qualified as a Chartered Accountant and spent the rest of my working life with the Hawker Siddeley Group. I always gave 'Cully' Culshaw the credit for my facility with arithmetic.

I have been reading with interest in 'Tiffnews' about the future of Grist. I remember in the early days helping to put up and paint the original Nissen huts, before any pavilions were built.

My visit to Tiffins brought back many memories, including so many of my friends who did not survive the war, and it gave me pleasure to see how well the School has adapted to the age and is giving to the boys the sort of education they will need for the twenty-first century.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Phillips (1938)

Dear Brian,

I thought that you might be interested in the attached photograph for Tiffnews. It was taken at a recent meeting of the Olympians (the association for everyone who has competed in the British team at an Olympic Games). For the first time in over 40 years the three Old Tiffinians who competed in the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome met together. With a British team of about 300 it means that Tiffins provided about 1% of the team. This recent meeting was made more memorable, when we were joined by John Parlett, another OT who was in the 1948 Games in London. In the photograph below, from left to right are:

Eric Hall (1949) (athletics), John Parlett (1943) (athletics), Frank Dobson (1952) (shooting) and Mike Gambrill (1952) (cycling).

Best wishes,

Frank Dobson (1952)



OTA 100 Club

Since the last report draws have taken place as follows :-

				Previous win
Feb '07	£50	Andy Langford	Surbiton	'05
Mar '07	£50	Howard Watson	Shepperton	'03
Apr '07	£50	Chris Purser	Long Itchington	'90
May '07	£50	Dick Power	Norfolk	'06
June '07	£50	Ted Key	Banstead	'05
June '07	£1000	Dr Peter Boshier	Great Dunmow	'00
July '07	£50	Trevor Brain	Weybridge	'03

The above draws were held at an OTA Council meeting in July last.

Peter Boshier was of course delighted to receive the grand prize, and this will help him in supporting our Paralympics teams in Beijing (he hopes to be present).

Congratulations to the winners and thanking others for their support.

The 100 Club makes a major donation towards the Association's income, so do please consider becoming a member. The cost is £60 per annum or £5 per month by standing order. The prizes are £50 each month plus half-yearly major prizes of £1000.

Further information can be obtained from me at 28 Railton Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 9LX, (Tel: 01483 850705).

GREER KIRKWOOD

OT Rugby Club

The Old Tiffinian Rugby Club starts this new season with a renewed confidence and sense of purpose, following on from last year's tough outing. The 2006/07 season saw player numbers down and, coupled with some strong teams in Surrey 1, the Club often struggled to field a full-strength side, yet alone a much-needed 2nd team squad. Consistency was certainly lacking.

Player power has now taken over for the 07/08 season and, with voluntary relegation to Surrey 2, the Club is looking to start afresh, rebuild its squad and bring the fun and passion back into playing the game.

The squad is full of ideas for taking the Club forward, and club responsibilities are being shared among the players, with input welcomed from everyone to make improvements and help grow our player base.

Training is at 7.30pm every Tuesday at Grists, with the first trial game against either Old Paulines or Teddington on the 8th September. The season then kicks off against Bec Old Boys on the 15th September and the Club hopes to field two squads every week.

New teams to play, new grounds to visit, new faces and new beginnings. All we need now are some new players!

If you're interested in playing, or know somebody who would like to have a run out, or if you'd just like to come down and support us, to help the Club grow again, then we'd love to see you on a Saturday afternoon.

Please contact James Fentiman on fentiman11@yahoo.co.uk or call 07947 546390.

Special thanks are due to **Andy Green**, who has stepped down as Hon. Club Secretary owing to work and family commitments. The current base of players are indebted to you, Andy, for the commitment and hard work you've put into this Club. For so many years, we wouldn't have had a game every Saturday, if it weren't for your efforts, so thank you for sticking with it for so long. We hope to see you down at the Club, but not to collect our match fees anymore!

1st Team Fixtures coming up:

Surrey League 2 matches in bold

Oct.	06 Old Whitgiftians 1st	A
	13 Mitcham 1st	A
	20 Law Society 1st	H
	27 Old Rutlishians 1st	A
Nov.	03 London Media 1st	H
	10 Old Emanuel 1st	H
	17 Woking 1st	A
	24 Old Walcountians 1st	A
Dec.	01 Chipstead 1st	H
	08 KCS Old Boys 2nd	A
	15 Teddington 1st	A
	22 Stoke Park 1st	A

JAMES FENTIMAN

OT Football Club

The new season is almost upon us. We have already played a couple of pre-season friendlies, and the enthusiasm is building up. The first team is due to kick off its league season at home on 15 September and the seconds have an AFA cup match away. Other sides are due to start their competitive matches on 22 September.

As we plan for the new season, we are acutely aware of the need to continually recruit new players into the Club, and, as always, we will extend a warm welcome to all. With five league sides and a Vets team we can offer players across the spectrum of playing ability and age the opportunity of more serious or less serious amateur football week in week out across the season. We particularly invite any Old Tiffs or schoolboys (over 16) keen to play Saturday afternoon football

to join us for the new season. Why not join us for pre-season training at Grists which is currently being held on Tuesday evenings at 7.15pm. Any new players looking to play next season are invited to contact us (www.oldtiffs.com)

Once the season gets underway, our fixtures and success or otherwise can be followed by visiting the comprehensive league website at www.amateurfootballcombination.com on a weekly basis.

Finding referees to officiate for the lower team games is always difficult and we would be pleased to hear from anyone in a position to help out; please get in touch.

Finally, good luck to all players for an enjoyable and successful season.

STEVE JOHNSON

Old Tiffinian Social Lunch

Our fifty-first lunch was held on Thursday, 5th July at our usual venue, viz., the Ristorante Sorrento, 379 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surrey --- meeting at 12.30, for lunch at 1.00, departure usually at 3pm.

The 19 present were :-

David Baron, David Booth, David Chaffey, Jim Dixon, Graham Fitchett, Jack Foster, Dan Godfrey, Brian Gosling, Brian Holden, Mike Jarvis, Greer Kirkwood, David Larmar, Howard Mallinson, Gordon Mylchreest, Bob Neville, John Philips, Roy Rathbone, Chris Towlson & John Wright.

For various reasons our number declined to 19. I don't think Henley caused a traffic problem. We did welcome one new member in Mike Jarvis, who knew John Philips and was a keen swimmer at School. Anyway, an excellent lunch was enjoyed by all. The photos are thanks to Dan Godfrey, as usual.

The Autumn date will be Thursday, 11th October. Also, the Christmas date is Thursday, 6th December.

All are welcome and, if you wish to attend and bring guests, please let me know on 01483 850705.

GREER KIRKWOOD



People

DAVID BARON (1955) continues to work for better control of aircraft noise in his area of Kent. The Managing Director of Gatwick Airport has snubbed an invitation to visit David at his home and the nearby Hever Castle, to sample the decibel levels. These often measure 60-70 decibels, when a level of 57 is considered to be a 'community annoyance'. The main problem is the failure to follow the code of conduct which advocates a continuous descent approach. This should mean aircraft flying at 3,500 feet in that area, whereas they sometimes drop as low as 700 or 800 feet. The other problem is the frequency of flights: on some days aircraft pass over David's house every two minutes. He has become the leader of GANG (Gatwick Anti-noise Group), which represents homeowners in Hever, Marsh Green & Chiddingstone, affected by the noise pollution.

JOE BRAIDWOOD (2003) has recently moved to the USA, where he will pursue a one-year taught Masters in Public Affairs (MPA) at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. He was very lucky to have won a full scholarship in May from his college in Cambridge (Selwyn), which has made this possible. He graduated from Cambridge in June with a 2.i in his Part II (having obtained a First for Part I). Since then he has done work experience at BBC Current Affairs and Sky News, where he was then offered a job with their online division. As he was going to Brown he couldn't accept, but he will be working part-time for Sky from the States, writing a weekly blog for their news website and doing occasional reporting.

SIMON BROWN (1987) is now Senior Lecturer in Film at Kingston University (and so a member of Frank Whately's staff in his School of Performance and Screen Studies) and has recently been awarded his PhD. He is about to begin a three-year research project entitled "The Negotiation of Innovation: Colour Films in Britain 1900-1955" in collaboration with Professor Sarah Street of Bristol University. The project is a comparative analysis of colour film processes introduced to British commercial fiction and non-fiction filmmaking during the first half of the 20th century and aims to provide the first economic, cultural and aesthetic history of colour film in Britain, based on archival sources, the film trade press, related literature/periodicals and textual analysis.

NICK CORNWELL (1977) took a degree in International Marketing, and has since held a succession of marketing and sales jobs with such companies as Cadbury, Unilever, Moulinex and Black and Decker. He is currently Chief Executive of the Household Appliances Business Unit of a Swiss company called Diethelm Keller. He is responsible for the business of Cole & Mason pepper mills, Ken Hom woks, Zyliss kitchen gadgets and Jamie Oliver Flavour Shakers throughout the world. Living in Pyrford, Surrey, he married an ex-Tiffin girl, Coral Davis, 13 years ago, and together they have two extremely energetic sons that keep them very busy. Nick travels a lot for work and pleasure and still uses his French skills taught so diligently by John Rice back in the 70s! Despite taking little part in sport during his school years he took up distance running a few years back and to date can count two reasonable London Marathon finishes and several other Half Marathon events. He says the Tiffin experience has certainly been of great benefit to him over the years, and it is good to see the same traditions and achievements are still enduring.

JONATHAN DAVIES (1998) took a gap year after leaving and then went to Emmanuel College, where he took a First in Psychology. He went on to do a PhD in the same subject and was awarded his doctorate in June 2007. He is now working in documentary TV.

ROGER GARFITT (1962) was mentioned in the 2007 Trinity issue of 'Oxford Today', where his career in poetry was summarised. He

left Tiffins to read Classics & English at Merton and became President of the University Poetry Society. A freelance writer since winning the Gregory Award in 1974, he edited 'Poetry Review' from 1978 to 1981. From 1985 to 1992 he spent much time in Columbia, reporting for 'Granta' and the 'London Review of Books'. His 'Selected Poems' appeared in 2000, and one of these poems is engraved on a glass screen, to be seen in the County Records and Research Centre, Shrewsbury.

ARUN HARINATH (2005), recently School 1st XI captain, having played an important role in Sutton Cricket Club's victory in the Shepherd Neame Surrey Championship last summer and having gained a Surrey CCC contract, has continued to prosper this season. Early on he top-scored for Loughborough UCCE (against Somerset and Andy Caddick), a feat he soon repeated, and later he accrued impressively for Surrey 2nd XI, notably in scoring 160 against Gloucestershire, which led to his inclusion in the Surrey squad v. Warwickshire – as shown on Sky Sports News – though he has still to make his debut in the Championship.

MATTHEW HATTON (1987) has recently been appointed Operational Director of KCAH (Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness), which he joined four years ago. This organisation has a lot of well-deserved support from local churches, and we wish him well. Further information can be found on their website: www.kcah.org.uk

CHRISTOPHER HAWKSBEE (1972) is a missionary in Paraguay, supported by All Saints, Sanderstead. His parents were also missionaries in Paraguay and Chris was born there. His father, Canon **Derek Hawksbee (1946)**, is now living in retirement in Tunbridge Wells. After he completed his years at Tiffins and his training as an agriculturist in the UK, Chris returned to Paraguay and now works alongside the Amerindian people there. He is involved with improving water supplies, agro forestry, wildlife preservation and livestock production. He trains the locals to look after the environment, preserving natural resources and wildlife. Chris's wife, Alison, teaches English at the Anglican Teacher Training College and is a member of the church council in the capital, Asuncion, where she also leads Bible studies.



CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS (1986), the Conservative Euro MP for the East Midlands, is joining forces with others to oppose the 2008 EU budget plans. Huge amounts of money are to go on politically correct initiatives that produce little benefit to Britain. Chris plans to table amendments, when the plans go before the European Parliament in October. The budget includes many measures aimed solely at promoting the image of the EU.

ANDREW LAVENDER (1981) has recently been appointed Professor of Contemporary Theatre at the Central School of Speech and Drama. He has also recently been a 'ringer' for the Kingston University staff cricket side, keeping wicket alongside Frank Whately at first slip. His wife, Trish Reid, is Head of Drama in the School of Performance and Screen Studies.

ANDREW LAWRENCE (1998) is now a stand-up comic and has been spotted performing in East London. He still runs for Kingston University from time to time.

GORDON MACKINLAY (1964) is a paediatric surgeon in Edinburgh and has been there for over thirty years. He has a particular interest in keyhole surgery which, whilst it is commonplace in adult surgery, is still confined to limited centres in the UK and beyond. He travels a great deal to teach on the subject all over the world, as well as in the UK, operating in many hospitals with limited equipment. This year he is hosting a major congress in Edinburgh.



STEVE MADIGAN joined the Physics Staff at Tiffins in 1988 and is currently head of that department. He was recently named physics teacher of the year in a UK-wide search to find the most inspiring and enthusiastic physicists in schools. He was nominated for the Institute of Physics award by staff and students at Tiffins. He was commended by the judges for the support he gives to colleagues and for his imaginative lessons, which use humour and practical resources to make physics relevant to the lives of students. Steve was presented with his award at the Institute of Physics awards dinner at the Savoy in London. Congratulations !

NORMAN MORRIS joined the Tiffin Staff in 1972, where he assisted in the History and RE Departments and organised General Studies in the Sixth Form. He also undertook part-time training for the Church of England ministry. In 1978 he left the School, to serve, following ordination, as Curate at All Saints, Hackbridge, until 1981 when he became Second Chaplain at Tonbridge School for four years, before moving on to be Chaplain at Monmouth (1985–2000). Since then Norman has been running seven (now nine) parishes in North Shropshire and mid-Wales in the diocese of Hereford. He remembers his time at Tiffins with great affection.

CHRISTOPHER PEARSE (2002) is set for a great acting career. He obtained a First Class Honours degree in Drama at the University of Bristol and has been lucky enough to secure a place at The Drama Centre London on their three-year BA Acting programme. Competition for places is fierce (32 selected from 1600 applicants), so clearly this is an important hurdle for Chris. The Centre has produced a host of well-known actors in the past. While at Tiffins and later at Bristol Chris was involved with many productions, starting at the age of 11 with playing Ariel in the school production of 'The Tempest'.

ROSS RATTRAY (2001) is currently working in Brussels as a European Liaison Officer for the Lancashire Brussels Office. He graduated from Lancaster University in 2006 with a 2:1 in French Studies & Geography, having spent nine months teaching English at two colleges in Longperrier, Paris, and he is now undertaking a Masters degree in European Institutions & Policy Making, part of which incorporates a placement in Brussels.

STEPHEN RICE (1985) was interviewed on Radio 3's 'In Tune' programme on Monday 20th August in connection with the new CD release of music by the 16th c. Flemish composer Nicolas Gombert, performed by Stephen's choir The Brabant Ensemble. The interview mainly concerned Gombert and his times, along with plans for the choir's forthcoming CDs, and three motets from the new disc were played.

THOMAS SOLOMON (1998) is now in the USA on a two-year post doctorate fellowship investigating insulin resistance in Type 2 Diabetes. He is in the Pathobiology Department of the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio. He is still running 5k in a time of 15m23s apparently.

ANDREW TAYLOR (1991) wrote the dialogue for 'Failed States', performed at Edinburgh in the summer. This was well received, and it got fantastic four and five star reviews in the Guardian, FT, Scotsman, British Theatre Guide and from broadwaybaby.com. Andrew received an award for Best Bookwriter from MTM in collaboration with the Scotsman's Fringe First Awards.

RODERICK WILLIAMS, former Tiffin Choirmaster often mentioned in these pages, was performing in the summer at the English Song Weekend in Ludlow. The review in 'The Times' in June described the performance as outstanding.

JAMES YOON (1978) visited the School during the summer when he was in the UK. He was a classmate of Alec Stewart and was probably one of the earliest Korean students at Tiffin. He still believes those years at Tiffin School were the greatest of his life.

With the solid foundation built up at Tiffin, (and after attending high schools in Korea and Berlin (before unification) he moved on to get an undergraduate degree at Georgetown University, a Master's degree at Harvard University and a PhD in economics at the University of Chicago. Realizing that his wife was a better scholar than he could ever hope to be, he started a private sector career at KPMG. His last position at KPMG was Managing Director, before moving on to Carlyle Group, a US private equity firm. He was co-head of Carlyle Korea, when a few colleagues of his at Carlyle Asia decided to become independent and founded MBK Partners, which is one of the largest private equity firms in Asia (largest in Korea). His wife is a professor at Yonsei University in Korea and she will be coming to London next year to spend a year as a research fellow at the London School of Economics. James will visit London a few times in 2008 to spend some time with his family. His 11-year old son and 6-year old daughter will go to London with their mother. Recently he got together with a couple of other Korean OTs in Seoul. He remains a life time supporter of Manchester City, a long-suffering fan, although things look better this season.

Membership Matters

Once again we are at the end of another Old Tiffinian membership year and I have to remind you that your subscription became due on the 1st October.

The rates now applying are as follows :

Ordinary Members, wherever resident	£20.00
Pensioners (i.e. 65+ on 1st October)	£15.00
Young Members (i.e. under 25 on 1st October)	£15.00
Those receiving full-time education	£10.00

All of the above **less £5**, if payment is made before the end of October. Please note that the special Student Rate does NOT include a copy of 'The Tiffinian'. If students wish to receive a copy of the School Magazine, they should send an extra £5 towards the cost of printing & postage.

If paying by cheque (payable to the "Old Tiffinians' Association"), please send it as soon as possible to me: Dennis Barnard, 40 Bramshaw Rise, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5JU.

Should you be writing from abroad, please ensure that the cheque is drawn on a UK bank. Clearance charges on cheques drawn on foreign banks can be somewhat excessive, even exceeding the amount being paid. An alternative method would be for you to mail the equivalent in local currency notes.

All members of playing sections wishing to receive the Association newsletter (and school magazine, where appropriate) should send their payment directly to me before the end of October.

REMITTANCE ADVICE SLIPS If you are sending a payment, I should be grateful if you would complete and enclose a slip with your cheque; this enables us to double-check addresses, post codes, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers. Any of them could well have changed, since we last heard from you.

Please ignore the slip, if you are a member who pays his subscription by Bank Standing Order, provided that the payment is being made at the rate applicable to your status.

'THE TIFFINIAN' (2006/2007 edition) We expect that the forthcoming issue will be published during the Spring Term. Perhaps I should once again point out that the magazine is only posted to fully paid-up members who are Old Boys of the School. Every year we have to disappoint some who leave the payment of their subscriptions until late in the year. They miss receiving their copy, if stocks become exhausted.

ARREARS Regrettably there are still some members who appear from my records not to have paid their subscriptions for the year just ended. Should you find a personally addressed reminder letter enclosed, please respond as soon as possible. This will avoid my having to include your name amongst those candidates recommended for removal from the membership roll later this year.

MOVING? Please let **ME** know (or email Brian Holden), whoever else you may inform in the OTA, should you change your address. We still seem, needlessly, to lose touch with some members, when they move.

DENNIS BARNARD

De Mortuis



JAMES ADDINGTON 1924 – 2007

At the age of 82 Jim died of a brain haemorrhage on 21 June 2007, while holidaying in Cornwall. He was a member of Kingston Peace Council and spent much of his life calling for nuclear disarmament and an end to war. He also ran Addingtons of Tolworth, a soft furnishings company, with his wife Rosemary for nearly four decades. The shop first opened in 1967, and the following year they had a lucky escape, when

severe flooding came to West Molesey, where they had been storing carpets. Fortunately they had moved them to Tolworth shortly before.

In his youth Jim was a member of the Young Conservatives and showed few left-wing tendencies. It was only the rise of Thatcherism and watching 'The War Game', a 1960s film about a nuclear attack, on video that inspired him to change political tack, together with the arrival of cruise missiles on British soil. He became a key member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), a regular parliamentary lobbyist and a board member of the Stop the War Coalition.

We reported recently that Jim was Chairman of Action for UN Renewal, a campaign for United Nations reform.

Jim grew up with his three sisters in Surbiton and attended Tiffin School, leaving in 1940. Following a spell of factory work, late in the war he joined the RAF and afterwards studied at Oxford, taking a diploma in Economics & Political Science at Ruskin College. It was here he discovered a passion for long-distance running. His natural distance was marathon and 10,000m, and he ran as a member of Walton Athletic Club for many years. He was an enthusiastic walker and theatre-goer, and was a keen member of Kingston Choral Society.

He and Rosemary loved Polperro and spent happy holidays there for almost 35 years. Jim was taken ill while he was on holiday in Cornwall and died in hospital after a short illness.



EDGAR 'DAN' WILLIAM FOWLER 1927 – 1986

Edgar Fowler was a pupil at Tiffins from 1939 to 1945 and, as a part-time student, went on to obtain a degree in Chemistry at Imperial College, Kensington.

He was a keen member of the Scouts and also of the Tiffin Band, playing the bass drum. He was energetic and enterprising, had a friendly manner, and was tall and hefty for his age, so he had no

problem with being bullied. In the Sixth Form at the end of the War, his enterprise led him to the manufacture, in his garden shed, of items such as face creams, lipstick and shoe polish for sale as, like everything else at the time, there was a shortage of essential, and in particular non-essential, 'luxury' items. The photograph shows Edgar in Tiffin Scout uniform in about 1944.

To help him through University, he worked as a labourer on the building of Kingston Power Station. In 1947 I invited him to come as my pillion passenger on a motorcycle trip round France and Switzerland. My Michelin map was a brand new post-war edition, which featured all the bridges destroyed during the war. Arriving at Dover, the motorbike was rolled on to a net and hauled aloft by crane to be deposited on the deck of the ferry, and taken off the same way in Calais. English number-plates were almost unknown there at the time, so we were well received. The trip so enthused Dan that he got his own motorbike the next year, and did many trips to Europe in succeeding years.

Edgar originally lived in Kennington Road, Lambeth until the family moved to Tudor Drive, Kingston in 1939, when he transferred from Battersea Grammar School to Tiffins. His younger brother, Eric, at Tiffins from 1940 to 1945, has lived in Chessington since 1979, after spells in Washington DC, Fulham, Wandsworth and Derby.

Edgar met June when they were working at the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington. They married in 1949 and moved first to Northern Rhodesia (Zambia), back to the UK and then to Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), during which time they had four children, Diana, David, Peter, and John. Both Edgar and June were analytical chemists, and Edgar became the government's Pollution Control Officer in Salisbury (Harare), where he especially monitored smoke emissions from industrial sites throughout the country.

On conclusion of his contract in Northern Rhodesia, the family moved back to England, and they bought a house in Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, where they survived for one English winter before selling up and moving back to the warmer climes of Southern Rhodesia.

The family moved around, finally ending up in Spain, with Edgar working on short-term contracts in various places, mainly in the Middle East including managing a desalination plant in Saudi Arabia.

June's life was beset by a number of tragedies. Firstly Peter was killed in a road accident, while the family was driving through the smoke of a bush fire in Mozambique; then Diane was killed in a gliding accident in Salisbury, Rhodesia. Finally, Edgar himself was murdered with a knife in their home near Gerona in Spain when he surprised some thieves there, on 21st April 1986.

June never fully recovered from the succession of family tragedies, and died in Spain about four years ago from Alzheimer's disease. Their son David is believed to now live in Brussels, and John still in Gerona, Spain.

The last time I saw Edgar was at the new Saddam Hussein Airport in Baghdad in 1985-6: he was just arriving, bound for a mineral mine in Northwest Iraq, while I was on my way home from one of my frequent business visits there at the time.

Edgar was a likeable person and a good friend to those who knew him.

J W S



NIGEL JAMES HUGHES 1955 – 2007

On 22 March 2007 Nigel Hughes died suddenly of a heart attack while on his way to work as a teacher. Nigel James Hughes was born in Shrewsbury and attended Latchmere Primary School in Kingston where he took and passed the Eleven Plus examination and was offered a place at Tiffin School, where he started in the Autumn Term of 1966.

Nigel's affable and somewhat impish personality gained him many friends. After taking his O-Levels, Nigel opted for the Arts curriculum for A-Levels, studying English, History and Geography. Tiffins in the late sixties and early seventies was an especially challenging and stimulating place to be, to some extent reflecting the greater changes taking place in England and Europe. The English department led by Rodney Dean, History run by Colin Prince and Jon Epstein in Geography all helped to impart sixth-formers with new ways of looking at the world. Not the least of their insights and guidance was to emphasise the importance of thoughtful questioning over blind acceptance, a trait Nigel carried with him for the rest of his life.

Although Nigel played his share of ball games at the school, it was as a runner and oarsman that Nigel had most success. Leaving Tiffins with the required grades, Nigel went to Manchester University in the autumn of 1972 for a course in American studies. Nigel would be the first to agree that his time at University was not especially notable. He forged few if any lasting relationships and was always elated to return to Kingston in the holidays to be reunited with his friends from Tiffins. Even though he was not a beer drinker, Nigel loved the established weekend routine of visiting the Young's and Fuller's pubs of South-West London.

In general, however, these were difficult years for Nigel. A family tragedy had left a deep impression, and his natural cheerfulness gave way to periods of broody introspection. Looking back, it is now clear that his Tiffin friendships sustained Nigel more than his friends realized at the time.

Leaving Manchester presented Nigel with the career decision problems common to most graduates. He initially sidestepped the issue by going to work for his father in the family HVAC business, during which time Nigel took up rowing again and joined Kingston Rowing Club. Nigel's deftness with his hands and sharp mind were great assets to his father's line of work, but his heart was not completely in it, and it was no great surprise when he applied, and was accepted, for a teacher training course at the University of Birmingham, where he studied to be a History teacher.

In teaching Nigel found his vocation. Possessed with a thirst for knowledge and a desire to pass on that knowledge, Nigel finally began to feel comfortable. His first job was at a school in Gravesend, and it was here that Nigel met and courted the resident French assistante, Sylvie Martre.

Nigel and Sylvie were married in 1984, and the couple moved to France in the same year. Nigel took a job teaching History at an international school in Paris, the Ecole Active Bilingue Jeannine Manuel. After first living in the Parisian suburb of Clamart, Nigel and Sylvie found a seventeenth century farmhouse in the heart of the Ile-de-France, at the southern end of the Paris suburban commuter line. While full of charm, the house had been neglected. With his optimistic spirit and manual skills, Nigel embraced these challenges and slowly transformed the house into a splendid home for his family.

Hélène was their first child, followed two years later by Vincent. For those who visited the Hughes household over the years, it seemed that the children had in an instant gone from infants to teenagers while Nigel had become a senior member of staff at the school, head of the History department. Along the way he had become immersed in French history, partially adopted the French love of cycling, and had become a fanatical hiker.

One summer, partially inspired by the writings of Laurie Lee, he planned to walk from his house down to Carcassonne in the extreme south-west, home of Sylvie. On this 350-mile jaunt he sought friends to accompany him for all or part of the way, yet no one had the necessary fortitude, nor, it must be said, the desire to spend each day watching Nigel gradually disappear into the distance, carried forward by his hiker's legs. Two weeks before his death Nigel completed what was for him a modest workout: a three-day trek in Italy from Florence to Siena.

Nigel's physical capacities were matched by his intellectual appetite. Always reading, usually in French, always asking questions, always listening. Although naturally a liberal thinker, Nigel was fascinated with modern business, as well as industrial archaeology (a legacy no doubt of sixth-form field trips). Nigel also played the guitar – not very well, it must be said, but enough to pick out the anthems of the seventies by singers such as Neil Young and Joni Mitchell.

Prior to moving to France, Nigel had shown little interest in wine, but now in the home of viticulture it became yet another source of fascination. Like many French homes the Hughes house possessed a dusty but serviceable cellar, where Nigel began to amass a wine collection. He loved to observe the traditional French gastronomic ritual of *apéritif, vin de pays and digestif*, accompanied by the spectacular French cooking of Sylvie. Nigel also turned to cabinet making. After seeing a piece of furniture he liked, Nigel would draw up plans and then execute the construction almost flawlessly. Their home became full of French vernacular furniture that he had built.

As if he was not busy enough with his work, his family and his many interests, Nigel and Sylvie found time to become involved with Third World philanthropy, especially for children in Africa. This was something Nigel rarely talked about.

When the Internet started to become a feature of everyday life, Nigel was quick to recognise the opportunities it offered for teaching. He created a web site designed to facilitate interaction with his own students, and was instrumental in a collaborative, multi-discipline learning site that offers open access to educational materials: 'The Open Door Web Site' (www.knockonthedoor.com).

But for all Nigel's polymathic pursuits, his family was his greatest

source of joy and pride, and rightfully so. Hélène had become an elegant young woman, equally comfortable speaking French or English, and a gifted piano player. Vincent had grown into a young Nigel, with identical physique and mannerisms and a shared love of travelling. Mention should be made of his older brother, Derek; it was entirely characteristic of Nigel that they should be the best of friends. Finally Sylvie, who gave Nigel encouragement, purpose and unwavering love.

Nigel's untimely death stunned the far-flung but still close-knit community of Tiffin friends of which he was such an integral part. Hundreds packed the small crematorium in Arpajon and a thousand people, present and past pupils, teachers and parents, attended a simultaneous ceremony in Paris arranged by the school that he was so much part of. Always modest, Nigel would have been shocked by this evidence of the impact of his friendship and teaching. With Nigel's fitness, strength and simple values in life, we thought he would outlive us all; those of us that are left are only beginning to realize how much we will miss him.

P W

We regret to announce also the deaths of John Ciclitira (1942), Trevor Glover (1959), Ronald James (1942), Denis Manning (1939), Tony Moyle (1947), Russell Steward (1956) and John Woolgar (1954).

Tiffinian Lodge

With our summer recess drawing to a close, we are about to embark on our 97th year as a Masonic Lodge, and it will certainly be an exciting and an enjoyable year. Our first Committee Meeting of the year is to be held at Surbiton Masonic Hall on Tuesday 25th September, preparing the way for our most important meeting on October 25th, when we shall install our new Master.

The Installation Meeting is always looked forward to by all members, for not only is our new Master installed, but the officers for the year ahead are invested, and the ceremony is always well conducted and highly enjoyable. Our new Master will be Hugh Fletcher, who was our 74th Master in 1984, and who will now become our 97th Master this year. Hugh is a highly experienced and very popular Mason who was unanimously elected by the Lodge members, and we are looking forward with great pleasure to his installation. We are all confident that his direction of the Lodge for this coming Masonic year will be marked by his usual excellence.

We are, indeed, looking forward to a very full year. In November we shall have a third degree ceremony, to raise Maurice Powell, who was initiated only last year, to the rank of a Master Mason. On this evening we shall be welcoming the presence of an Assistant Provincial Grand Master and his Escorting Officer, and the ceremony will be an excellent and enjoyable occasion. The following three meetings will include an Open Meeting after the regular meeting, to which friends and family of Lodge Members are invited, together with anyone who may be interested in Masonry, and after which a very convivial dinner will be enjoyed by all.

In this past year we have had the pleasure of welcoming three new members, two of which were newly initiated into Freemasonry. We are confident, therefore, that more new members will wish to be admitted to the Lodge in the near future, and we look forward to that. Freemasonry is highly rewarding, thoroughly worthwhile, and socially satisfying, and anyone who may be at all interested is invited to speak to me on 020 8979 0107, or to email me at mikebeckerman@talktalk.net

MIKE BECKERMAN, Secretary

Tiffin History

RECENT ACQUISITIONS FOR THE ARCHIVES

We acknowledge gratefully the following additions to the Archives :

a) From Ian Sygrave a copy of an interesting book on the Dalton Plan experiment in the 1920s. This mentions the important contribution of George Spriggs and contains an important article, apparently contributed by the Tiffin Head at the time, Thomas Dean.

b) From Bill Neate (1956) a beautifully drawn picture of a beetle given to his mother when a child by a friend, the well-known Tiffin Schoolmaster, W J Lucas, who spent a lot of time in the New Forest area and was renowned for his studies of butterflies, moths & beetles. This adds to his two illustrated books on the subject, given to Bill's mother and now in the School Archives.

c) From David Hunt (1949) a copy of his School Report from 1947. Such items are always of some interest to future generations, as report-writing has changed enormously since those days.

A REQUEST

We have a complete collection of the eight House Badges, once in normal use with blue blazers after the war. However, with the reduction from eight Houses to the present six, two of the House Ties disappeared and others have changed somewhat since. We should welcome an earlier tie from Kingsley, Gordon & Drake. Can you help ?

A QUESTION

We have preserved for the Archives the fretwork covers for the two speakers in the School Hall, installed on each side of the proscenium arch. These incorporate the letter **T** in the design and could well have been made in the school workshop. Can anyone tell us the history of these ?

HERITAGE OPEN DAY

On Friday 7th September several OTs were amongst those taking advantage of the Open Day and the two guided tours organised by John King (Senior Assistant Head). In an entertaining and informative talk, John explained the rather complicated history of the Elmfield building, including some fascinating little-known details of the construction. Also included was a brief visit to the Archive Room, where a modest display had been arranged. We hope others of you will be tempted to join a similar tour next September (details in the June 2008 'Tiffnews').



CELESTION FACTORY / SCHOOL GYM / SPORTS CENTRE

Apparently the Celestion company began life in 1924 in Hampton Wick, manufacturing wireless accessories such as tannoy systems for ships and large buildings, but moved shortly afterwards to Kingston (at 20 Union Street and to 145 London Road, almost directly opposite the junction with Cambridge Road). With the outbreak of war, production changed to munitions work, which included, for example, the soldering of bomb holders for aircraft. In 1942 (some indications exist that it may have been slightly earlier) a machine shop or assembly shop was built by Celestion on the School Field above existing shelters. It is assumed there was some direct access between the two Kingston sites, but this is not obvious in Ordnance Survey maps of the time. In the Endowed Schools minutes of May 1940 it states that the air raid shelters on the main field were constructed by Celestion, so these were perhaps initially for those working at the London Road site. It is known that some at least were shared by Tiffin boys and Celestion workers. After the end of the war the company became involved in paint manufacture and finishes. In July 1948 Celestion closed in Kingston and moved to Thames Ditton and from there to Ipswich around 1970. It was in 1948, therefore, that the Celestion building on the school field was handed over to the School (as agreed at the outset), and it then became known to us as the School Gym.

As a 'real gym' the building proved a great asset. The building was refloored and fitted with wall-bars. New equipment arrived, such as vaulting horses, mats and benches. Showers and changing accommodation were added at a later date. This new gym became the normal venue for boxing matches, including the House contest each year. Many OTs will recall only too vividly that this large space was also used for many years to house the public examinations. Unfortunately the pressing need for teaching accommodation in the 1950s caused this useful space to be drastically curtailed, when two classrooms were constructed at the western end in 1954. Later on these were used as a weights room and a PE store/office. In the early 1960s there was some talk of eventually demolishing the gymnasium block and restoring the School Field to a useful size ! The photos below show the interior and the western end before demolition in 1995 — not to enlarge the field, but to make way for a Sports Centre.

The magnificent new Tiffin Sports Centre opened on Friday 1st September 1995 for both school and public use. It covers completely the old gym site and encroaches even more on the School Field (already partly taken up on the western side by the building of the Creative Studies Centre a few years earlier). It comprises a main Sports Hall of 6 badminton court size, a large hall and a meeting room. It is open to the public outside school hours for a wide variety of activities, including children's activities during the holiday periods.

BRIAN HOLDEN



Queen Elizabeth Road News

School Music

A choir tour to Romania proved a fitting end to a great year of music-making – once the choir actually arrived there. Freak flooding on the last day of term caused chaos to British Airways' flight plans, resulting in the flight to Bucharest the following morning to be cancelled. Ten hours in a queue at Terminal One for the staff, while the boys stayed at home engulfed in Harry Potter, resulted in the choir splitting into three and travelling via Frankfurt over the succeeding two days. It wasn't all bad – I went business class, after all.

The concerts were a real success, with the Romanian public and local musicians out in force supporting. Of special note was the final concert, given to a packed Philharmonic Hall in Sibiu (European Capital of Culture 2007), where the choir's performances of Byrd's Mass for five voices, Tippett Spirituals, Britten Hymn to Saint Cecilia, and works by Macmillan, Tavener and Holst went down a storm – and, with it, we said a fond farewell to Upper Sixth singers Nick Goodman, Ric Hollingbery and Alex Spinney.

This term sees a number of musical events at School, with some real highlights among them.



Tiffin Choir in Romania

The 50th anniversary of the founding of the Boys' Choir is celebrated with a special Carol Service on Wednesday 19th December; before then, the Oratorio choir performs *The Dream of Gerontius*

(Elgar) with soloists Miranda Westcott, Andrew Staples and Robert Rice on Saturday 1st December – last heard at Tiffin in 1997, but before then in the early 1960s in St Paul's Cathedral under John Walker, the School's remarkable first Director of Choral Music.

The Swing Band has a Jazz evening in the Hall on Friday 16th November; the Instrumental Concert on Wednesday 7th November features all of the School's ensembles, including the ever-growing Concert Band, Second Orchestra and Senior Orchestra; while all of Year 7 will be battling it out for the Inter-Form Music Competition on Wednesday 17th October.

On the professional circuit, the Swing Band performed at the Inner Temple for the Champagne Society on Monday 17th September, and the Boys' Choir perform Mahler 3 with Gergiev and Rozhdestvensky, record *Carmina Burana* and *Owen Wingrave* for Richard Hickox and Chandos, and sing a joint Evensong with the Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, on Tuesday 13th November.

All in all, there's something for everyone to enjoy, and we look forward to welcoming you to many of our performances.

SIMON TOYNE



Tiffin in the Garden

Performing Arts Calendar

Monday 15th October

7.30 pm, Kingston Parish Church
Tiffin Children's Chorus
with local primary school choirs
and Kingston Parish Church Choir
Pitts A Still, Small Voice
(Kingston Festival of the Voice)

Wednesday 17th October

7.00 pm, School Hall
Lower School Concert and Year 7 Inter-Form Music Competition
including extracts from the Oratorio

Wednesday 7th November

7.00 pm, School Hall
Instrumental Concert
featuring the Orchestra, Concert Band,
Second Orchestra and chamber ensembles

Tuesday 13th November

6.00 pm, Trinity College, Cambridge
Tiffin Boys' Choir joint evensong with the choir of Trinity College, Cambridge
Stephen Layton (conductor)
Friday 16th November
7.00 pm, School Hall
The Swing Band's Jazz Evening

Saturday 17th

& Sunday 18th November
7.30 pm, Barbican Hall
Tiffin Boys' Choir
London Symphony Orchestra
Richard Hickox (conductor)
Orff *Carmina Burana*

Saturday 1st December

7.30 pm, Sports Centre
The Oratorio Choir
Brandenburg Symphony Orchestra
Simon Toyne (conductor)
Elgar *The Dream of Gerontius*

Tuesday 4th December

7.30 pm, Cadogan Hall
Tiffin Boys' Choir
City of London Sinfonia
Richard Hickox (conductor)
Britten *Owen Wingrave*

Wednesday 12th December

7.30 pm, Royal Festival Hall
Tiffin Boys' Choir
London Philharmonic Orchestra
Gennady Rozhdestvensky (conductor)
Mahler Symphony No 3

Wednesday 12th –

Saturday 15th December

7.00 pm (& 2.00 pm Sat), School Hall
The School Play
The Mysteries

Monday 17th December

7.30 pm, Kingston Parish Church
End of Term Concert
including Tiffin Boys' Choir and orchestra

Wednesday 19th December

7.30 pm, Kingston Parish Church
Tiffin Carol Service
Celebrating the 50th anniversary of Tiffin Boys' Choir

Saturday 22nd December

7.30 pm, Kingston Parish Church
Thames Youth Orchestra Christmas Concert
with Kingston Parish Church Choir
including Prokofiev *Lieutenant Kijé*
and carols for choir and audience

For further information visit :

www.tiffin.kingston.sch.uk

www.thamesyouthorchestra.co.uk

www.tiffinboyschoir.org.uk

School Drama

The drama dept will be staging an ambitious production of the Mysteries as the Christmas production. Students will take part in a physical and musical extravaganza, and the set will be designed and constructed by students as part of their projects for Art in Years 8 and 9. Simon Ferris will be composing an original score, and Charlotte Storey and David Anson will be directing.

The dates are 10th – 15th December, with a matinee performance on the Saturday (times to be announced).

CHARLOTTE STOREY

School Rugby

The Tiffin 1st XV have had an excellent start to the new campaign. Great commitment was shown at the pre-season trainings, and this put the squad in an excellent position for the opening tournament at Esher. The tournament was a success, as the boys' performances surpassed all expectations. Tiffin convincingly defeated both Dulwich College and St Edwards Oxford, and narrowly lost to very strong Twyford and St Benedicts sides. Confidence was taken from these encounters, and the 1st XV have already recorded two resounding victories this season. Dartford Grammar School were beaten 48–10, and Wallington were annihilated 61–3.

The team has come together very well in the early weeks, with several boys playing key roles. Michael Harris has led the team excellently, whilst James Caddy and Nomso Nwamdi have shown a lot of muscle in the pack. In the backs, Anthony Hitchcock and James Solomon have scored numerous tries already, owing to their speed and enviable talent. With the first round of the Daily Mail Cup, and the much-awaited tour to Italy coming up, the team's schedule is packed, but even with a rapidly growing injury list, the boys are confident for a highly successful season.

BILL GEIRINGER

School Cricket

By recent standards this was a modest season for the school 1st XI, but one which was no less enjoyable than any other. The difficulties of synchronising the Holland Tour with the remainder of the School's activities proved to be a hurdle that could not be surmounted, and it was a real disappointment to have to cancel what has always been a fitting end to a hard season. The start was magnificent. The end was magnificent. What happened in the middle was always competitive, sometimes highly successful, sometimes less so, but always subject to the rains of an appalling summer. Early wins against St. Benedict's, Wimbledon College, Kingston Grammar School and Emanuel were tempered by losses to a good Reed's outfit and to Trinity, who we had bowled out just after lunch for 117.

By half term the spinners had had a whale of a time, with 26 wickets already in the bag for Muhunthan Harinath. Aidan Young was seeing no less success and was destined to top the bowling averages at the end of the season with 25 wickets at 12.76 apiece, his best figures being 5 for 17 against Trinity. Bill Geiringer was by far the most potent of the seam bowlers. His 21 wickets added to his 289 runs make him the key all-rounder in the side in 2008, and he will bring a wealth of experience to the captaincy next season.

Of the batsmen, no one really dominated, the best average coming from skipper Harry Weale, whose 308 runs came at 34.22, but there was a sprinkling of cameo performances from the top order players.

It seemed a short season and, with the John Fisher match washed away, the tour cancelled and every other match rain affected, there was a paucity of cricket in the final three weeks of term. The weather did clear however for a short window during which the School managed to wrest The Widger Trophy from the hands of the Staff in an impressive end to the season.

The 2nd XI looked an impressive outfit but probably never hit the

form that they threatened in the early days. The Under-15 team just got better and better, and looked an impressive side by the end of the season. Bilal Khan, next year's 1st XI Wicket Keeper, topped the averages with 368 runs at an average of 92. The Under-14s were unbeaten, the Under-13s played a mixture of extremely good but some very mediocre cricket, whilst the Under-12s will need a couple of seasons to find their feet.

A wet tour of Devon ensued for the Tits, followed by the usual clutch of Tercels matches during the holidays. More Tercels are players needed for next year!

MARTIN WILLIAMS

School Tennis

We entered teams in Surrey leagues at U12, 13, 14, 15 and Seniors. The U14 team reached the final, losing to Reeds School in a 3rd set tie-break 14-12 ! The Seniors reached the semi-final losing to the eventual winners.

We also won the U 12 Surrey Schools Tennis Festival, having made entries at each age level. Congratulations to Brian Wang and Cameron McGeehan.

PETER WILLIAMS

School Chess

Following our win at the Schools Jamboree last September, against some of the strongest schools in the South of England, Tiffin had a mixed set of results, owing to unavailability of our strongest players on several occasions. However there were some notable wins against Hampton and St Paul's School.

The B team also had an enjoyable season, with several new players developing their potential. Thanks are due to Jonathon Hancock for all his sterling work with the Chess Club at lunch-time and captaining the B team.

PETER WILLIAMS

RSPB at the School

It's worth mentioning that Tiffin now has its own branch of the RSPB, and boys from Years Seven and Eight have created their own website to record sightings and pictures. The Ireland twins in Year Nine have the details. Others have created their own bird song quiz! The Headmaster's Garden is a hive of activity!

PETER WILLIAMS

All Old Tiffinians and Friends

are invited to the **School Carol Service**
in Kingston Parish Church, at 7.30 pm
on Wednesday, 19th December,
and afterwards at a

Reunion Gathering

in the Walden Hall from around 9.00 pm

LICENSED BAR - PARKING AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS