



Cokethorpe  
SCHOOL

# THE OCELLUS

## From the Headmaster

Overheard on a London bus:

First Woman: *'I don't know what to get Fred for his birthday.'*

Second Woman: *'Why don't you get him a book?'*

First Woman: (after a moment's thought) *'Nah, he's already got a book.'*

Though borrowed from the French, the term 'anecdote' ultimately derives from a nearly identical Greek word (anekdota) meaning 'things not given out.' And yet anecdotes are the stuff of weekly assemblies, a chance for headmasters to impart wisdom and thought... well, that's the hope! It is through the simple anecdote that much of the human condition can be teased out and amplified. Disraeli called anecdotes: 'minute notices of human nature and of human learning.' A good anecdote is often a mini-drama that helps us to reflect on our own lives as we peek into the lives of others.

Classical anecdotes typically embodied ancient wisdom or philosophical insight as when Diogenes explained to Alexander the Great why he was examining a heap of human bones: 'I am searching for the bones of your father, but I cannot distinguish them from those of his slaves.' But there is a note of warning. It has been said that '... if the information glut can be likened to the danger of eating too much, anecdotage is like scarfing down too many sweets. It is a short cut to quick pleasure and short term satisfaction but ultimately it can be unfulfilling, and even dangerous – empty calories that can disturb a nutritious regimen.' Headmasters be aware!

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## Mathematics Challenge

The following pupils received awards in the 2011 Intermediate Maths Challenge:

*Best in School, Gold Award and qualifier for European Pink Kangaroo round:*

Ethan Bosse (top 1% of all results in the country)

*Silver Award Winners:*

Teague Bond; Ellen Garbutt; Harry Bryson; Bethany Mulloy; Yinan Wang; Joe Bulman; Isaac Staff; Harry Fellows; Callum Breslin; George Hallett; Alan Chan; Lucy Nielsen; Jack Cole; Luci DiMascio

*Bronze Award Winners:*

Alice Duffield; Matteo Catrini; Anna Withey; Julian Davies; Daisy Wilcox; Molly Williamson; Chris Hutchinson; Oliver Armstrong; Saul Garrett; James Ellacott; Katherine Woolley; Aaron Levvy; Joe Hill; Molly Treanor; Sam Farrant; Alfie Turner

## Most Recommendations

Lower First: Jessica Williams (Vanbrugh)  
Upper First: Henry Grimwade (Gascoigne)  
Third Form: Laura Cardy (Feilden)  
Fourth Form: Alexander Owen (Feilden)  
Fifth Form: Ethan Bosse (Vanbrugh)  
Lower Sixth: Alyce McNaughton (Gascoigne)  
Upper Sixth: Luke Withey (Harcourt)  
Overall Winner: Henry Grimwade  
House Winner: Feilden


## Food Committee

The Cokethorpe Food Committee is a body which enables pupils to have an input into the food provision at Cokethorpe. Consisting of two nominated representatives from each House, the Committee meets with members of the Catering Department twice per term. Over afternoon tea they discuss food-related matters in order to provide lunches that suit all tastes. The meetings also give pupils an insight into how the Catering Department operates. The minutes of the meetings are then discussed within the catering team and implemented wherever possible.

## Design v Evolution Debate

Philosophers in the Fourth and Fifth Forms spent a morning at the Oxford Museum of Natural History to explore evidence and arguments for the theory of evolution in March. They found the trip an interesting extension to their work on the design argument for God and the critique of natural theology from the perspective of evolutionary biology.

## Editor's Note

The  icon is to indicate that a longer write-up and/or further photographs are available on the School website.

Front Page: Senior School Production of *The Pirates of Penzance*.

## Spanish Exchange

'On 5 February Cokethorpe welcomed 22 Spanish exchange students from Seville following the highly successful trip to Bormujos in November. During the six days we all had a fantastic time visiting London, Oxford and the Cotswolds. The week was rounded off with a farewell evening at which presentations from both schools were given, along with performances in dance and music. It was a thoroughly enjoyable week and I am sure all would agree that this exchange was a huge success.'

*Jacob Booty (Lower Sixth, Swift)*



## Author David Calcutt

'Some of the best questions I've ever been asked by secondary school students' was the reaction from David Calcutt after his visit to Cokethorpe to work with the Lower First pupils. The playwright, who has also written three acclaimed novels, used his visit to dramatise different sections of his play *Troy 24*, and to discuss how it was developed. A full house in the Cranham Library also enjoyed a lunchtime Q&A session, with questions on topics such as his inspiration and his recently completed new novel.



## English Literary Recitals

Three lunchtime literary recitals took place over the course of the Lent Term. Mrs Howells was first to take the floor as she read the work of some of her favourite contemporary poets. This was followed by a thought-provoking and inspirational recital on 'Positive Suffering' from Mr White. Fourth Form pupils then concluded the programme with an analysis of pieces from their examination anthology. The group demonstrated how each extract sought to articulate the boundaries of human experience.



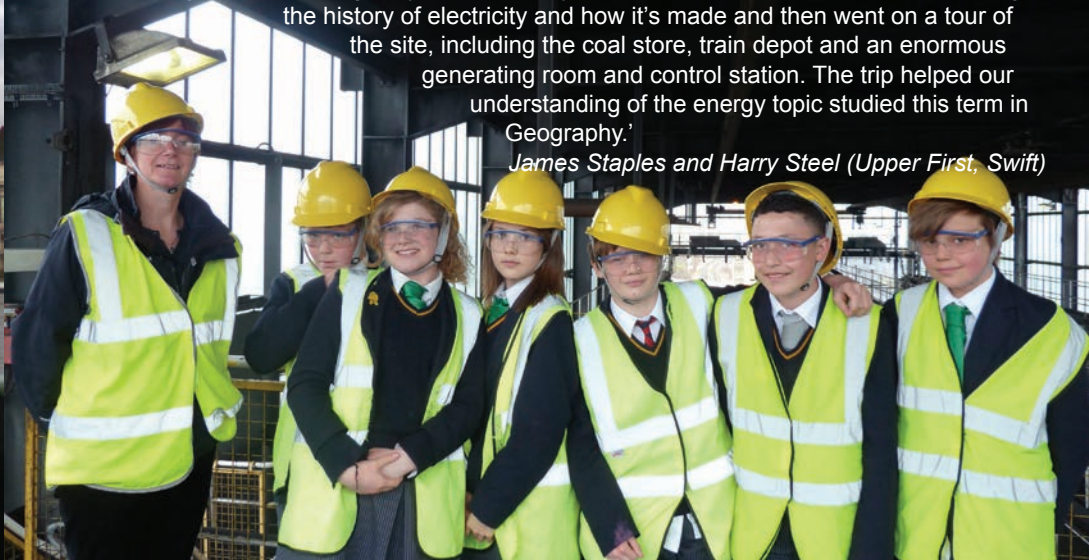
## Philosophy Café

The Lent Term's Philosophy Café was led by Head of Philosophy, Mr Schofield, who posed the question 'Was Robin Hood right to steal from the rich to give to the poor?'. Rather than an ideological argument for redistribution, evidence was presented from a recent work of social epidemiology, *The Spirit Level*. Its authors demonstrate a strong correlation between economic inequality and social problems, thereby providing statistical support for Robin Hood's intention, if not his methods. As usual, a lively and informal debate amongst pupils and staff took place, as they explored the arguments for and against greater equality in the United Kingdom. The traditional show of hands at the end of the debate showed a balance of sentiment towards the issue.

## Didcot Power Station Trip

'The Upper First visited Didcot Power Station which produces electricity through burning coal and natural gas and was originally built to supply London. We were shown a film explaining the history of electricity and how it's made and then went on a tour of the site, including the coal store, train depot and an enormous generating room and control station. The trip helped our understanding of the energy topic studied this term in Geography.'

*James Staples and Harry Steel (Upper First, Swift)*



## HE and Careers Fair

Pupils from the Third Form upwards and their parents filled the Sports Hall for the Higher Education and Careers Fair in March. The wide range of educational institutions and professions being represented provided pupils with the chance to see the scale of opportunity open to them and to get advice from experts in different fields. If pupils wanted to know how to shape a career in sculpting screenplays, splitting atoms or calming a panic in a prison, to mention a few, this fair was full of practical advice. 📌



## Step-Up Activity Day

'On Monday 3 April the Fifth Form took part in a motivational 'Step-Up' activity day led by Future Foundations. The workshop consisted of group activities designed to encourage us to make the most of opportunities in life by volunteering and also some trust games. We then sat down and talked about how to revise and how to stick to a revision plan. Overall I think the day was a great success and demonstrated the way in which to revise.'

*James Ellacott (Fifth Form, Feilden)*



## History Trip to Ypres

'Early on the morning of 3 March the Third Form departed for Ypres in Belgium. After a long journey we approached a sign with the word 'Leper', meaning Ypres – we were finally there! The days were filled with trips to places such as the Menin Gate, Essex Farm Cemetery, Tyne Cot Cemetery, Langermark German Cemetery, Zonnebeke Museum and the In Flanders Fields Museum. Visiting these sites made the horrors of war very real and we began to comprehend the great sacrifice that people had made. We also learnt about the terrible conditions that soldiers endured: for example, just how long and deep a trench was. This trip was an amazing experience, thoroughly educational and very moving.'

*Ellen Garbutt (Third Form, Feilden)*



## Autrefois, Aujourd'hui

During the Lent Term Third Form pupils have been writing poems in their French lessons making comparisons between what life used to be like and what it is like today. The poem below, written by Ryan Oliver (Third Form, Swift), is about the transition from childhood to adolescence:

*Autrefois, c'était bien  
Aujourd'hui, c'est nul*

*Autrefois, j'étais riche  
Aujourd'hui je suis pauvre*

*Autrefois, j'étais passionnant et marrant  
Aujourd'hui, je suis ennuyeux*

*Autrefois, je buvais de l'eau  
Aujourd'hui, je bois du coca*

*Autrefois, j'étais sportif  
Aujourd'hui, je regarde la télé*

*Autrefois, j'étais enfant  
Aujourd'hui, je suis adolescent!*

## Careers Fair Stands

### Educational Institutions

Cambridge University  
Cambridge School of Visual & Performing Arts  
Cardiff University  
Cokethorpe Sixth Form  
Oxford Brookes University  
Oxford Media & Business School  
Queen Mary College, London  
Royal Agricultural College  
Royal Holloway University  
University of Bath  
University of Gloucestershire  
University of Oxford  
University of Sussex

### Professionals and Employers

Ability Technology Group  
AKS Ward  
Army – Careers Advisor  
Bampton Medical Centre  
Barnsley, Hewett and Mallinson  
Blackwell's Bookshop  
Corn Street Dental Practice  
Darby's Solicitors  
English Heritage  
Helen & Douglas House  
HMP Grendon and Springhill  
McBains Cooper  
NatWest Bank  
Oxford Exhibition Services  
Oxford Playhouse  
Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service  
Physiotherapist  
Premier Letting and Management  
Royal Air Force  
Science and Technology Facilities Council  
Screenwriter (Richard McBrien)  
STL Communications Ltd  
Thames Valley Police  
The M Group  
Royal Navy  
Waitrose Ltd  
Westfield House Nursery School  
Witney Four Pillars

## Wine Production

The top ten wine producing countries in the world are:

Italy  
France  
Spain  
United States  
China  
Argentina  
Australia  
South Africa  
Germany  
Chile

## Scholarships Awards

### Art and Design

Gabriella Evans (Swift)  
Emily Nolan (Burford School)  
Amy Williams (Swift)

### All Round

Brian Clarke (Queen Anne)

### Music

James Ellacott (Feilden)

### Drama

George Lawson (Gascoigne)

### Sport

Freddie Curtis (Harcourt)  
Eleanor Norton (Bartholomew School)  
Joshua Poole (Gascoigne)

*Please note: at of the time of writing some decisions are still to be made and awards are conditional upon achievement at GCSE. Awards for Academic Scholarships will be made after GCSE results day.*

## Washington DC

Formally the District of Columbia, Washington DC is the capital of the United States. It was founded on 16 July 1790.

## Gap Year Talk

Two former pupils, James Nettlefold (Swift) and Jordan Gillies (Feilden), who left School in 2010, came back to Cokethorpe in April to talk to current Sixth Form students about their Gap Year experience. The two boys, along with Morgan Wigham (OC 2010, Vanbrugh) spent time in Nairobi in January, where they taught in Bethel School in Kibera, one of the largest slums in the world. During the lecture, which took place in The Shed, James and Jordan described how 1.7 million people live in Kibera with no running water, electricity or a sewage system. They also talked about their experience of teaching which, they told the Sixth Formers, was at times very daunting.

The Sixth Form, many of whom are starting to think about their own plans for after they leave School, found the lecture from their peers a fantastic opportunity to hear about other students' Gap Year experiences.

## Wine Tasting Evening

In February 60 members of the Sixth Form were privileged to enjoy an illuminating wine tasting evening, led by Ted Sandbach from the Oxford Wine Company. Students tasted a variety of white and red wines, from a Riesling to a Rioja, and the evening culminated in a tasting competition with two mystery wines. Thanks must go to the Sixth Form Committee for their work in organising such a successful event. ☑



## Politics Trip to Washington DC and New York

2011 has seen the first major sign that Barack Obama's future in the White House may be in doubt and in February 30 Sixth Form students went to assess the situation for themselves.

The first stop was Washington where the group took in each of the major institutions of the Federal Government and were lucky to be able to tour the White House – a rare opportunity post 9/11. They had a guided tour of Congress and visits were also made to the National Archives to see the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. A highlight of the time spent in Washington was ascending the Washington Monument for unrivalled views right across the capital. Students also spent time in the Library of Congress, visited the National Memorials, and travelled out to the Arlington Cemetery. Washington DC is not all about academia though, and students watched the Washington Wizards battle it out against the Indiana Pacers at the Verizon Centre.

Next they travelled to New York where they visited Brooklyn, had a guided tour of the UN Headquarters, as well as visiting key sights such as the Statue of Liberty, Grand Central Station, and Ground Zero. A particular highlight of their time in the metropolis was walking through Times Square at night en route to seeing *Chicago* on Broadway. On the last day the group took a morning stroll through Central Park and ascended the Empire State Building for more fantastic views across the Big Apple. The trip was a tremendous success – engaging in the political, historical and cultural mix that represents the United States of America.



## Geography Trip to Slapton

'This year's Lower Sixth Geography field trip went to Slapton in Devon. We witnessed the coastal management methods adopted in Start Bay and learnt when to 'hold the line' using soft and hard engineering techniques, and when to let nature take its course. We then visited Torquay and Totnes and carried out primary data collection. Students interviewed local residents and conducted a bi-polar environmental quality survey. We looked at secondary data, studying census results and Goad maps to assess whether Totnes was in need of re-branding. On the final day we toured Stokely Farm to observe how farms have diversified in an attempt to make more money. The trip provided us with experience and information for writing our Geographical Investigations exam.' ☑

Jonathan Chan (Lower Sixth, Feilden)



## General Studies Lectures

Baroness d'Souza, a crossbencher in the House of Lords, gave an insightful talk to Cokethorpe's Sixth Form students as part of the General Studies programme on Friday 18 February. Her captivating lecture gripped Sixth Form students and the many staff also in attendance. She demystified what the House of Lords is, why we have it, and moreover why we still need it to keep the government in check. The timing of the talk was well placed, with the School's A Level Politics students about to embark on a trip to Washington DC over half term. The triple round of applause certainly confirmed the students' appreciation of her wide-ranging and fascinating address. ☞

Equally fascinating was Peter Mulligan's deftly illustrated General Studies presentation in March, in which he addressed the UK's disaster planning policy. Peter outlined how current disaster planning is rooted in sources as diverse as ancient Chinese military strategy and Caesar's critical Gaul campaign. Drawing from his Masters degree and his work in government, Peter depicted how theory has been exercised recently: Tokyo's sarin gas attack, the Buncefield oil disaster and the fractures in the Nuclear Club. Peter's analysis concluded with the present threats to our nation, from Al-Qaeda to pandemics, and our capability to respond.

## Particle Physics Masterclass

Sixth Form students joined 28 other schools to take part in a Particle Physics Masterclass at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) on Thursday 17 March. During the session, designed to inspire students to go on to take up careers in science and technology, students took part in a computer-based workshop using real data from the large Hadron Collider (the world's most powerful particle accelerator), at CERN. They also attended lectures by particle physicists from RAL and CERN and went on tours of some of the key facilities on site, including the Diamond synchrotron (a machine designed to produce very intense beams of x-rays, infrared and ultraviolet light). The trip was a great success and gave students first-hand understanding of what a career in science or technology may involve.



## Warwick Debating Competition

'Four Lower Sixth students competed against 25 other schools in the University of Warwick's Schools' Debating Competition on Saturday 22 January. Gabriel Gavin (Queen Anne), Alex Bryson (Harcourt), Jacob Booty (Swift) and Jack Cully (Feilden), took part in four debates ranging from the role of trade unions and the NHS, to that of TV advertising companies and a hypothetical superhero. The British Parliamentary format gave each team the opportunity to present arguments from all four of the positions on 'the table'. I particularly enjoyed the last debate in which Jacob and I, in the Second Proposition position, competed against Gabriel and Alex, who were in the First Opposition position. We are all looking forward to further refining our skills in preparation for entering future competitions.' ☞

*Jack Cully (Lower Sixth, Feilden)*



## General Studies Feedback

'It was a real pleasure to be invited to speak at Cokethorpe School as part of their impressive and innovative General Studies programme. Discussing classical military strategy and possible worst case emergency planning scenarios was taken in their stride by this Sixth Form group. The students were engaging throughout and I was impressed by their maturity and understanding of current events – as was clearly evident after the presentation when students had a chance to ask questions. The welcome and hospitality shown by the School, its students, teachers and Headmaster was exemplary. It is evident that this is a school where high standards and a desire to educate are at the heart of all they do. Thank you for such a pleasant and enjoyable experience.'

*Peter Mulligan*

'Recently the Sixth Form was fortunate to welcome Peter Mulligan into School to give a General Studies lecture. Peter spoke about strategies of defence and his time working for UCAS. He gave us a great insight into how defence operations are run internationally and spoke about other major issues such as the nuclear arms situation across the world. He then went on to explain how he had found his way into working in defence and then UCAS. The talk was both interesting and beneficial and we learnt a great amount; the Sixth Form is very grateful to Peter for sharing his time and knowledge.'

*Jacob Booty (Lower Sixth, Swift)*

## The House of Lords

The seat of the Lord Speaker in the House of Lords is called the Woolsack. It was introduced in the Fourteenth Century and was originally stuffed with English wool, a symbol of the nation's prosperity. When the Woolsack was remade after damage in the Second World War, wool from the nations of the Commonwealth was used, in order to symbolise the Commonwealth's unity.

## Ready Steady Cook

Upper Sixth students participated in a *Ready Steady Cook* style competition as part of their PSHE Enrichment programme this term. The winning team consisted of Isabelle Evans (Swift), Sunny Ricketts (Swift), Jonny Edridge (Queen Anne), Millie Herbert (Queen Anne) and Olivia Henshall (Queen Anne) who produced a delicious chilli and Eton Mess.

## Modelling for Chanel

Sophie Fisher (Lower Sixth, Feilden) spent time in Paris in January, where she was chosen to model in two of Chanel's 2011 Spring/Summer Haute Couture collection. The high-profile fashion shows took place at the esteemed Pavillion Cambon Capucines.

## Young Musicians' Platform

The following pupils performed in the Young Musicians' Platform:

Christie Batty	Guitar
James Ellacott	Tenor Horn
Harry Fellows	Guitar
Lucy Furneaux	Voice and Guitar
Nicholas Gonnella	Guitar
Zoë Mace	Voice
Daniel McCall	Piano
Isaac Staff	Piano
Jamie Unwin	Trumpet
Amy Williams	Flute
Lewis Williams	Piano
Hanna Young	Voice and Piano

## Staff Singing Group

Staff singing celebrates its 4th birthday this year. Members of the Common Room meet in the Corinthian Room every Wednesday morning before the start of School to sing for no other reason than the simple pleasure of singing. Recently some Junior School parents commented that they secretly stay behind in the Entrance Hall after dropping off their children to listen!

## ACM

The Academy of Contemporary Music offers courses in Guitar, Bass, Drums, Vocals, Keyboards, Music Production, Creative Sound Design, Tour Production & Management and Music Business.

## Cokethorpe Plinth

This term's Plinth installation is the creation of Alexander Reid (Year 6, Queen Anne). Alexander won a Junior School Design and Technology competition and had his design exhibited on the Plinth during the Lent Term.

## Jazz Band

The Cokethorpe Jazz Band took part in two competitions in March: the first at Chipping Norton School and the other at the SAE Institute in Oxford. Cokethorpe held their own against some of Oxford's more established bands and did themselves and the School proud. It was wonderful to receive positive comments from some members of the audience: one gentleman said that it was refreshing to not only hear a youth band playing proper jazz, but doing it so well!



## Young Musicians' Platform

GCSE Music candidates presented a wide range of solo performances to an encouraging audience in The Shed on 25 January. All candidates gave assured and engaging performances and the diverse programme made for an entertaining and rewarding evening. After playing or singing their piece, each pupil then introduced the next performer, which helped to underline the sense that this concert belonged to the young musicians themselves. ☞

## Confirmation and Eucharist

Cokethorpe welcomed the Rt Revd Colin Fletcher, Bishop of Dorchester into School on Wednesday 9 March to lead a Baptism and Confirmation Eucharist in Cokethorpe's Chapel. The Bishop baptised and confirmed Lydia McCall (Fourth Form, Vanbrugh) and also confirmed Justin Foster (Third Form, Harcourt), William Cuddy Watts and Cameron Spilsbury (both Upper First, Vanbrugh). The service included John Ireland's setting of the communion service in C sung by the Schola Cantorum, as well as the beautiful anthem *Oculi Omnium* by Charles Wood which was sung during the communion. Henry Grimwade (Upper First, Gascoigne) was the acolyte and the organ was played by Mrs Prince, the School Accompanist. ☞



## Jazz Morley

The Academy of Contemporary Music returned to Cokethorpe in February, bringing with them the singer-songwriter and pianist, Jazz Morley. Jazz not only entranced the audience – consisting of the School's own up and coming Performing Arts talents – with her original songs, but fielded a sea of keen, enquiring and often perceptive questions. A fabulously challenging question from Lower Sixth student Spencer Buckley (Gascoigne), for example, addressed the subject of how to create coursework that is suitable for examination entry, whilst retaining free artistic expression and creativity. Jazz spoke about her struggles completing her own A Level Music coursework and suggested that these challenges are a great foundation for real work in the music industry. ☞



## Gig Night 4

Nearly 20 acts performed in this term's Gig Night, playing many original pieces of Blues, Soul, Jazz, Indie, Rock, Pop, Grunge and Dub-Step. One of the clear highlights was the heart-wrenchingly beautiful performance of the Bon Iver song *Skinny Love* given by Saskia Kovandzich (Fourth Form, Harcourt). Isaac Staff (Fifth Form, Gascoigne) provided a perfectly sensitive accompaniment on the piano, allowing Saskia to make her singing debut to a spell-bound audience. The headlining act, Jammin'@Jacks, came prepared with a brand new seven-song studio-recorded CD for sale. They gave the audience an upbeat and diverse three-song set of original material which was received with whoops of encouragement and enthusiasm by everyone. In fact, the whole night of polished entertainment was received with such great enthusiasm, it seems only right to say that these were all very talented individuals who put in a great deal of time and effort towards ensuring their contribution was as excellent as possible. ☞

## Saatchi Gallery Trip

'On 15 March, GCSE Art and Textile pupils went to the Saatchi Gallery and The Natural History Museum. At the Saatchi Gallery we saw pieces such as 'Up and Down', 'The Swarm' and Richard Wilson's 'Oil Spill'; these really captured our imagination showing how

art can be evolved into anything we want it to be. Visiting The Natural History Museum also made us consider how we could relate topics such as dinosaurs, skeletons and plants to our project on 'Natural Forms'

*Nicholas Brain (Fourth Form, Swift)*



## Choral Society Concert

Pupils, staff and parents gave a captivating performance of Fauré's *Requiem* on Tuesday 15 February. The piece contained some wonderful moments, ranging from the slow hushed choral opening to the powerful *Dies Irae* section for full choir and orchestra. The famous *Pie Jesu* solo was divided between Melanie Severn (Third Form, Gascoigne), Ellen Garbutt (Third Form, Feilden) and Katherine Woolley (Fourth Form, Queen Anne). This was a beautiful moment of serenity in the middle of the piece. Freddie Miles (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne) gave a perfectly poised performance of the second movement baritone solo, and the other baritone solo, the *Libera Me*, was given a lyrical performance by Edd Bird (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne). 📺



## A2 Music Recital

The School's six Upper Sixth Music students presented their final A Level Music assessed recitals in The Shed on Tuesday 22 March. The evening was an assortment of very high quality music at grade 8 standard, which was performed with enthusiasm and was equally well received by an audience of parents, friends and staff. Paul Berry (Queen Anne) and Freddie Miles (Gascoigne) played the French Horn; William Draper (Gascoigne) performed on the Alto Saxophone; Edd Bird (Gascoigne) and Luke Saunders (Feilden) sang and Tom Wood (Vanbrugh) played guitar. As an encore, the boys combined to perform their own arrangement of *Bring Him Home* from the musical theatre classic *Les Miserables*.



## Lunchtime Music Recitals

The term got underway with a piano recital by William Cowley (Lower First, Swift), Eloise Fraser-Paterson (Lower First, Queen Anne) and Fraser Logue (Third Form, Vanbrugh). Having just passed their grade 2, 3 and 4 exams respectively, they enjoyed sharing their pieces with an appreciative audience. The second recital was opened by Yukiko Nishikawa (Year 6, Gascoigne) who performed two solo pieces on piano. Melanie Severn (Third Form, Gascoigne), Katherine Woolley (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) and Ellen Garbutt (Third Form, Feilden) then treated the audience to the *Pie Jesu* from Fauré's *Requiem*. Finally, Upper Sixth musicians, Paul Berry (Queen Anne), Edd Bird (Gascoigne), William Draper (Harcourt), Freddie Miles (Gascoigne) and Luke Saunders (Feilden) performed selections from *Les Miserables*. Rounding up the term, Fourth Form pupils held a by-invitation-only recital and lunch. A sequence of solo performances was ensued by an original and minimalist piece created by pupils in their Music lessons. 📺

## Beatbox Artist

The School welcomed Ben Francis, a young Beatboxer from London, to School in March. Ben, also known as RTIZ, performed to the whole School in the Upper Quad after the Headmaster heard him performing on the South Bank in London over the February half term. The audience was mesmerised by this urban art form, which involves replicating percussion sounds with one's voice, and listened intently as Ben beatboxed to a number of popular songs.

## Photography Award

Jamie Unwin (Fifth Form, Harcourt) was presented with a third place prize at the third annual Oxfordshire Youth Awards, hosted by the Oxfordshire Association for Young People (OAYP), on Thursday 20 January. The Headmaster had nominated Jamie for the Arts Category as a result of his enthusiasm for photography and his success at recent national photography competitions.

Jamie attended the Awards Evening, held at Oxford Town Hall, to celebrate the many achievements of the young people of Oxfordshire. More than 100 nominations were received for young people across the county aged 11 to 18 years and Jamie was delighted to be awarded third place in his category. 📺

## Fauré's Requiem

Whilst other Nineteenth Century settings of the Requiem Mass often relish the dramatic representation of the day of judgement, Fauré's *Requiem* instead focuses on the idea of salvation, and the journey into Paradise. Many whom are not familiar with Fauré's work may at least remember the Berceuse from his *Dolly Suite*, which was used as the theme tune to the BBC radio programme *Listen With Mother* for many years. In spite of the small scale of the majority of his output, Fauré left a significant impression on the musical world.

The *Requiem* is one of his few large-scale pieces, but in many sections Fauré uses an intimate sound reminiscent of his songs and piano pieces. Fauré knew Saint-Saëns, Liszt and Wagner, but his more delicate music heralded the development of a new French musical style.



## Pirates of Penzance Cast

### Dance Overture

Danielle Batty  
Sam Coles  
Eleanor Cully  
Charlie Dewhurst  
Holly Keylock  
Alyssia Lötter  
Connie Manning  
Katie McLachlan  
Shannon Skeffington  
Ben Tracey  
Hetty Watts-Lay

### Police

Thomas Amor (PC Omar Gosh)  
Courtney Bates-Brownsword  
(WPC Peewee) \*  
Sydney Bennett-Miller (WPC Iona Bucket)  
Clare Berry (WPC Henrietta Cake) \*  
Eloise Fraser-Paterson (WPC Ima Donut)  
Annabelle Hulewicz (WPC Higglecup) \*  
Katie Jenkins (WPC Tiddlepom) \*  
Alexander Jobling (PC Ticklebottom)  
Laurel Mulloy (WPC Fizzlesnitch) \*  
Myles Osborn-Banton  
(Sergeant Busta Crimes)  
Oliver Parker (PC Boccerbosh)  
Melanie Severn (WPC Bubble Gump) \*  
Sydney Skinner (WPC Iona Castle) \*  
Richard Turner (PC Gone Mad)  
Rosie Turner (WPC Snibblewadd) \*  
Anna Withey (WPC Gigglemug) \*  
Katherine Woolley (WPC Tiddleypop)

### Maidens

Lauren Bates-Brownsword (Evelyn) \*  
Nancy Battersby (Jemima)  
Alice Bird (Lily)  
Alice Burns (Hope)  
Jessie Grimwade (Flora)  
Emily Hastings (Beebie)  
Heidi Lawson (Rose)  
Lydia McCall (Prudence)  
Bethany Mulloy (Marilyn) \*  
Emily Thompson (Harriet)  
Jessica Williams (Marigold)  
Katie Buckley (Edith)  
Hanna Young (Isabel)  
Saskia Kovandzich (Kate)  
Lucy Grout (Mabel)  
\* And Dance Overture

### Major-General Stanley

George Lawson

### Pirates

Louis Allen (Monte de Wally de Honk)  
Miles Beirouti (Tarquin Piles)  
Joe Bulman (Woopert Wildebeast)  
Daniel Pye (The Marquis de Mad)  
Jack Revell (Bunty Hawkes)  
Harry Steel (Lord Oglevie Pomp)  
Freddie Turner (Jermaine St Porter)  
Gregory Muller (Frederic)  
William Lewis (King William de Lewis)  
Ella Ashdown (Ruth)  
Frederick Orme (Viscount Bisquit)  
Fraser Logue  
(Sam 1, Sir Little Richard The Tall)

### Crew

Jake De Buriatte Moglia (Stage Hand)  
Tom Drake (Stage Hand)  
George Hooper (Lighting Assistant)  
Laurence Lodge (Film and Editing)  
Alexander Owen (Stage Hand)  
Matthew Pickup (Film and Editing)  
Peter Small (Chief Lighting Design  
and Technical Engineer)

## Senior School Production: Pirates of Penzance

By Gilbert & Sullivan

In keeping with previous years, a talented cast and crew worked brilliantly together to create a spectacular sold-out three-night run of *The Pirates of Penzance* at the end of the term. During the months of preparation, pupils worked alongside an already busy School calendar to put in the many hours of practice required. This was an unusually difficult piece to learn, compounded perhaps by how very well known 'Pirates' is, but the complex story was presented impressively coherently.

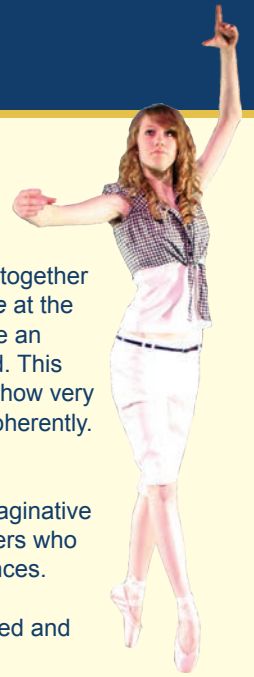
The opening night was a triumph and the show only got better with each performance. The expertly designed and handled lighting lit up another imaginative set and showed off the highly talented scene designers and costume makers who worked up to the last minute to ensure a visual feast for the sell out audiences. What really made this production completely different to any before it, and possibly unlike any other G&S production, was the intricately choreographed and meticulous dance routine that opened each performance.



For this, a large dance troupe, working to a specially-arranged Overture, put together a wonderful and exciting piece of contemporary dance. This included three highly co-ordinated sections with a beautiful piece of ballet performed *en pointe* by Fourth Form pupils Connie Manning (Swift), Rosie Turner (Feilden) and Anna Withey (Harcourt) and a breath-taking duo of break-dance and body-popping from Sam Coles (Lower First, Swift) and Ben Tracey (Upper First, Vanbrugh).


All in all the pupils achieved a level of professionalism very rarely seen in schools. The maidens were elegant and refined; the pirates perfectly rowdy and the police outrageously comical. The lead cast members carried the whole event to heights never before achieved at Cokethorpe, each one working incredibly hard to ensure their roles, and those of other cast members around them, were delivered not just convincingly but with command and close attention to detail.

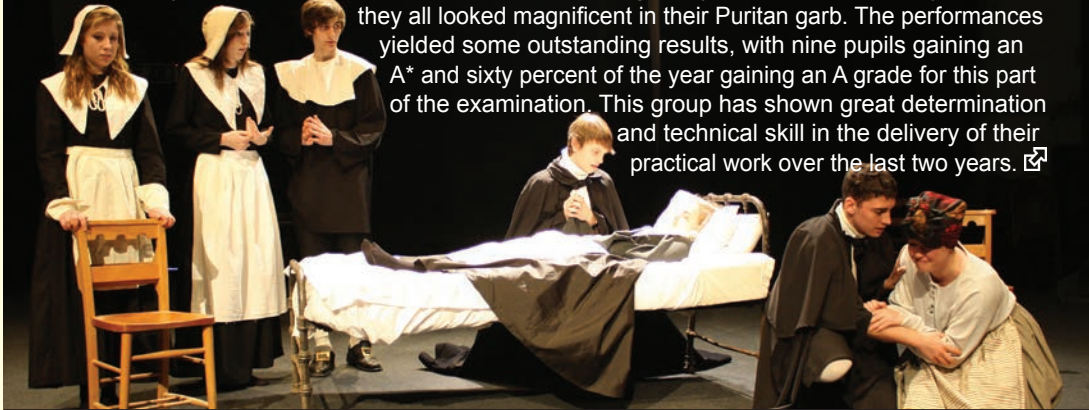
The nature of this production meant that the staff felt the casting process allowed everyone who showed a real interest to be involved from the outset; and this certainly paid off well. A DVD in due course will provide lasting evidence to support the supremely excellent reviews received. ☑






## GCSE: The Crucible


Fifth Form Drama pupils presented their extracts from Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* on Wednesday 23 March for the GCSE moderator. Although they were understandably nervous, they all looked magnificent in their Puritan garb. The performances yielded some outstanding results, with nine pupils gaining an A\* and sixty percent of the year gaining an A grade for this part of the examination. This group has shown great determination and technical skill in the delivery of their practical work over the last two years. 



## Third Form: Missing


This term the Third Form pupils have been working on an assignment in Drama dealing with the issues of why people run away and the experiences of becoming homeless. Working in small groups, pupils devised pieces dealing with real-life cases. This project produced some excellent, thought-provoking and sensitive performances. 

## Lower First: Soap Operas

Lower First pupils were set a challenging task during the first half of the term, to write, direct, perform and produce their own original soap operas. As well as providing pupils with the freedom to make their own creative choices, the project tested their skills in cooperation, listening, negotiation, teamwork and decision making. Each episode was filmed and the pupils evaluated their work and the work of others. 



## A Level: Letters Home

The A2 Theatre Studies students presented their final performance piece on Tuesday 15 March. Based on the stimulus 'letters home', Zoë Cantley and Luke Saunders (both Feilden), Alexander Lawson (Swift) and Edd Bird (Gascoigne), with Peter Small (Swift) providing the lighting and sound, devised a powerful and emotive piece of original theatre. Set in an isolated, imaginary world of the postal sorting office the employees go about their daily tasks. However, despite the comic characterisations, there was always a sense of foreboding. When a box containing items belonging to a child evacuee is dropped, the mood changed immediately. The lighting and music created an eerie atmosphere as the workers took on the life and characters from the child's letters to his mother. The scene transitions took the audience in and out of the sorting office by use of certain dramatic triggers. There were far too many wonderful moments in this production to mention them all but, suffice to say, this was a truly outstanding and mature creation which was beautifully acted and designed. 



## Pirates Reviews

'I will never listen to a G&S overture in the same way again without thinking of the stunning dance, music, movement, colour and atmosphere created in The Shed.'

'I love the way the operetta was adapted to suit the particular talents of the cast and crew – it certainly gave it a spectacular and memorable freshness.'

'Once again, you have showed that there is plenty of life in Gilbert and Sullivan – all it needs is a bit of a twist to give it a modern complexion and bang! – you have a winner.'

'The production was a feast of song, dance and acting.'

'It's lovely to see the children progress over the years to taking up key roles.'

## Iolanthe/IYGDTTWT DVDs

A double-disc DVD of the previous two Performing Arts productions – *Iolanthe* (2009) and *If You Go Down To The Woods Today...* (2010) – is now available to buy at £10. There is an order form on the School website.

## Lower First: Soap Opera

The soap operas were:

- Dorcan High
- Walkers Lane
- Oakend
- School Days
- Manchester Way
- Living on the Edge
- Oxford Street
- The Unexpected
- Stream Street
- School Life

## Lent Term Drama Trips

### *Black Watch*

Lower Sixth Theatre Studies students were treated to a breath-taking performance by the National Theatre of Scotland at Warwick Arts Centre. The play tells of the experiences of young Scottish soldiers in the Black Watch Regiment in the war zones of Iraq. The audience was transported from a pub in Fife to Camp Dogwood and the front line in Iraq. This was devised, physical theatre at its very finest; powerful, faultless, funny, tragic, moving and utterly compelling.

### *Dr Faustus*

Upper Sixth Theatre Studies students experienced Creation Theatre's outstanding production of *Dr Faustus* at Blackwell's Bookshop, Oxford. Set deep in the basement, this atmospheric production entertained and terrified in equal measure. With only six actors playing all of the roles and a minimalist, yet versatile set, this was a truly unique and inventive take on the famous fable of a man who sells his soul for earthly power. It certainly gave the students plenty to think about when devising their own directorial concepts.

## Sports Colours

### Full Colours:

Netball Shona Stanley (Vanbrugh)

### Half Colours:

Netball Sam Howse (Queen Anne)  
Sunny Ricketts (Swift)  
Alyce McNaughton (Gascoigne)

Soccer Luke Withey (Harcourt)  
Alex Cade (Swift)

## Soccer Results

### 1st XI

St Edward's, Cheltenham	D 2-2
Matthew Arnold School	L 0-2
Abingdon School	D 2-2
Pate's Grammar School	L 1-2
Magdalen College School	W 3-0
The Oratory School	D 1-1
Akeley Wood School	W 3-0
Reading Blue Coat School	D 1-1
The Cotswold School	W 3-1
Burford School	L 0-3
Henry Box School	L 0-3

### U12s

Sibford School	W 9-0
Reading Blue Coat School	W 3-2
Henry Box School	W 11-0
Akeley Wood School	W 7-0
The Dragon School	W 1-0
Abingdon Preparatory School	W 4-0
The Cotswold School	W 3-1
The Oratory School	W 3-1

## Netball Results

### 1st VII

Tudor Hall School	L 19-23
Akeley Wood School	W 24-13
Bloxham School	L 34-19
Magdalen College School	W 26-1
Rye St Antony School	W 28-22
Oxford High School	W 20-19
Henley College	L 18-28
Stowe School	W 19-17

### 2nd VII

Kingham Hill School	W 18-4
Akeley Wood School	D 14-14
Bloxham School	L 34-37
Sibford School	W 21-4
Magdalen College School	W 33-0
Oxford High School	W 25-11
Henley College	W 18-5
Stowe School	L 20-21

## Hockey Results

### Boys' 1st XI

Warwick School	L 1-4
St Edward's, Cheltenham	W 2-1
Stowe School	W 2-1
Bloxham School	L 5-2
Magdalen College School	W 8-0
Rendcomb School	D 4-4
Pangbourne College	W 4-2
Abingdon School U16	W 1-0
The King's School, Gloucester	W 6-1

All sports results and fixtures are on the website and updated regularly. ☑



## Soccer

The Senior School soccer squads won or drew 48 of the 71 fixtures this term, taking victory in just over 62% of their matches. At the end of the season, it is the U12s who stole the limelight, having won in all of their nine fixtures, which is a great achievement. The 1st XI won and drew more games than they lost, which is promising given that the side will by and large be the same next year and so the building blocks are in place. The side has been well led by captain Alexander Cade (Lower Sixth, Swift), who has never given anything other than his best both on and off the field.



## Netball

The netballers have produced the most successful season seen in recent years, not only illustrated by the calibre of the players now in the top end of the School, but seen from an improvement from all teams. The fixture list has been strengthened and the School is now challenging the top netball schools in the county. Some memorable moments have been the 1st VII who defeated Oxford High and Stowe, and the U12s who came third in the county tournament out of 16 teams. The U12s were also awarded team of the season for losing only two of their 11 fixtures.

## Hockey

The boys' debut season in hockey was very successful, winning six, drawing one and losing just two of their nine fixtures. The term started slowly with a loss to a strong Warwick side, as the boys adjusted to playing as a team. However, many positives were taken from the game and they soon started to play with fluidity. The climax came against an organised Abingdon side where Cokethorpe dug in and won 1-0 through resilient defending and quick counter-attacking. Having had a great first season, establishing Cokethorpe as a credible force in boys' hockey, it is hoped this will be built on next year to give more boys the opportunity to represent the School in this sport. Lloyd Cadman (Lower Sixth, Harcourt) deserves credit not only for being top goal scorer (ten in total), but for the way he has played and organised the team. Hugo Van Dorssen (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) was awarded player of the season for his performances as goalkeeper.

On Thursday 17 March the U12 hockey girls were victorious in the County Tournament held at Cokethorpe. They started with a tough game against Headington, drawing 1-1 after Lulu Allen (Gascoigne) levelled the score in the second half. Cokethorpe beat Oxford High by a comfortable 3 goals, with Anya Duffy (Queen Anne), Elisha Evans (Swift) and LuisaMae Lisi (Vanbrugh) all scoring. Finally, the team came up against a determined Tudor Hall side and despite a number of close chances Cokethorpe only managed to hit the net once, finishing with a clean strike from Elisha Evans. ☑

The 1st XI took part in the Cokethorpe Rugby Sevens and Hockey Festival on Saturday 19 March and performed consistently well to take victory. On Tuesday 5 April the U13 boys took part in the West Oxfordshire Hockey Tournament at Wood Green School and were crowned champions following a successful campaign.



## Rugby

Cokethorpe 1st XV players were crowned champions for the third year running following an 8–7 win against a committed and physical Henley College side in their rearranged U19 County Cup final in January. This gave the team a played 13, won 12, lost 1 record, scoring an impressive 488 points, conceding only 96. 🏆

The U14 and U15 rugby teams competed in their County Cup finals in February, with both sides narrowly missing out on the title. The U14s lost 19–21 to Marlborough School and the U15s lost 12–15 to Burford School. 🏆



## England Rugby Players

Jacob Wilson (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne) and Henry Purdy (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne) have been named in the England U18 Clubs and Schools squad and both featured in the 23–23 draw against Ireland U18s Clubs in April, Jacob scoring the equalising try just minutes from full time. Joshua Poole (Fifth Form, Gascoigne) has been selected for the England U16 squad for two internationals against Italy U17s and Wales U16s at the end of April. He played in a warm-up match against Leicester Academy U17s at Cokethorpe in March. 🏆

On Thursday 10 March the Senior Rugby Sevens squad took part in the Wycliffe College Sevens Tournament. The players were disappointed to draw their opening match, however, they rallied strongly to win their next five games. The final was contested between Cokethorpe and Millfield School, the tournament favourites, but the team saved their best for last with an outstanding display, winning 19–0. The squad also took part in the Cokethorpe Rugby Sevens and Hockey Festival on Saturday 19 March but were unable to repeat the feat; losing in the quarter-finals.

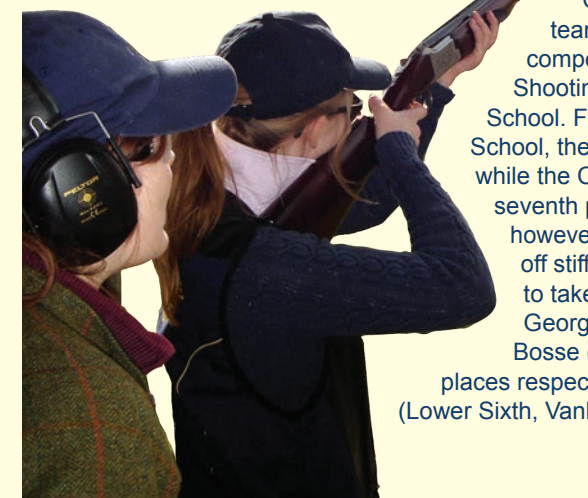


## Cross Country

George Miller (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) took bronze in the senior race at the Oxfordshire Schools' Cross Country Championships at Radley College, helping the boys' team come third overall. In the girls, Amy Brooker (Lower Sixth, Feilden), Sam Howse (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne) and Elisha Evans (Lower First, Swift) all finished in the top eight, qualifying to represent Oxfordshire in the ESAA English Schools' Championships.

## Clay Pigeon Shooting

On Saturday 12 March the School's shooting teams travelled to the Midlands where they competed in the Southern Regional Clay Pigeon Shooting Championships, hosted by Warwick School. Following their recent victory over Stowe School, the girls' team acquitted themselves very well, while the Cokethorpe boys' B team achieved a laudable seventh place. The best performance of the day, however, came from the boys' A team who fought off stiff competition from 16 other leading schools to take first place. On an individual level captain George Kerr (Upper Sixth, Feilden) and Ethan Bosse (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh) took second and third places respectively in the boys' event, and Lucia Nettlefold (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) fourth in the ladies' event. 🏆



## DW Blog

Christian Field (Fifth Form, Harcourt) has continued to write his monthly blog on preparing for the Devizes to Westminster Kayak Race on 22 April 2011. A write-up of the event will appear in the next issue of *The Ocellus*. Visit [www.cokethorpe.org.uk/go/dwblog](http://www.cokethorpe.org.uk/go/dwblog) for the latest entries.

An extract from the March entry: 'Good results in the Waterside and Thameside Races have set our team up with a positive attitude and a strong stance. The race is nearing and our team is ready to soar over the final hurdles of preparation; the finishing post is near and the seductive smell of victory rests on the tip of every competitor's nose. Only time will tell as to the outcome.'

## Jiu Jitsu

Daniel McCall (Fifth Form, Harcourt) took first place in the Open Category 80kg and Above at the British Brazilian Jiu Jitsu National Championships on Saturday 9 April in Walsall.

## ESAA Cross Country

Elisha Evans (Lower First, Swift) recorded a top-100 finish for Oxfordshire in the Aviva ESAA English Schools' Cross Country Championships in Nottingham on 19 March. She finished 95th out of the 347 finishers in the junior girls' race, running over 3.5k in 13mins 48secs.

Amy Brooker (Lower Sixth, Feilden) came 126th in the senior girls' running event over 4.1k in 17mins 7secs. The Oxfordshire girls' team came 4th in the group for counties with a school population of less than 60,000.

## Athletics

Lois Waknell (Third Form, Harcourt) clocked the fastest U15 100m in the UK so far this year with 12.65secs at the Basingstoke Youth Open on Saturday 2 April. On the same day, Alexandra Cross (Upper First, Gascoigne) took gold in the U15 high jump with a leap of 1.57m, despite competing in an older age group than her own.

Lois and Alexandra, along with Freddie Curtis (Fifth Form, Harcourt) competing in the javelin, have all made the qualifying times and distances to compete at the All England Championships this summer.

## Clay Pigeon Shooting

The top six scoring schools at the Warwick Challenge were:

- 1st: Cokethorpe School (201 clays)
- 2nd: Millfield School (195 clays)
- 3rd: Warwick School (189 clays)
- 4th: Stowe School (174 clays)
- 5th: Norwich School (160 clays)
- 6th: Harrow School (140 clays)

## Corinium Museum

Here are some facts and observations that the Year 4 children learnt from their trip to the Corinium Museum:

*'The Roman bunk-beds for the soldiers looked uncomfortable.'*  
Ben Wannell (Baker)

*'The mosaic patterns and pictures looked really interesting.'*  
Joshua Cook (Gwyn)

*'We found out that the Romans didn't have potatoes, sugar, tomatoes or chocolate.'*  
Ella Mattinson (Baker)

*'They didn't have tomato ketchup so they used fish gut sauce!'*  
Charlie MacDonald (Baker)

*'The Roman soldiers wore armour and helmets that were very heavy.'*  
Tom Flory (Lockwood)

*'The Roman towns had amphitheatres where Gladiators fought.'*  
Ben Wannell (Baker)

*'Romans liked watching blood-thirsty sports.'*  
Chloe Thomas (Gwyn)

*'Roman rule dominated Britain for over 400 years.'*  
Dennis Catrini (Baker)

*'We had an awesome time and we are grateful to our teachers and helpers.'*  
Lily Sweet (Baker)

*'It was an exciting trip. The museum had lots to see and do. It brought our Roman topic alive.'*  
Tom Flory (Lockwood)

*'Women used metal and bone pins to keep their hair up.'*  
Ella Mattinson (Baker)

*'The Romans had their ears pierced.'*  
Dennis Catrini (Baker)

## Science Week

*'It was incredible learning about how liquid nitrogen is a liquid but as soon as it hits the floor it turns into a gas! It was amazing to know how a steam train could possibly be powered by liquid nitrogen and we got to see one... it was an unforgettable experience!'*  
India Hurford-Jones (Year 6, Gwyn)

*'The bubbles that the liquid nitrogen made when added to Fairy Liquid were amazing. They came spilling out of the pot all white and foamy. The lecture was brilliant and very enjoyable.'*  
Lydia Wannell (Year 6, Lockwood)

*'The Year 6 Science experience was outstanding. We got to pour liquid nitrogen on our gloves and Mr Parker showed us what happens if you fill a balloon with liquid nitrogen: It explodes!'*  
Matthew Jobling (Year 6, Symonds)

## Corinium Museum

Year 4 enjoyed an exciting visit to the Corinium Museum in Cirencester this term. The children had the opportunity to dress up in Roman style clothes and wear Roman jewellery. They also handled some samples of mosaic tiles and fragments of pottery which were nearly 2,000 years old. They enjoyed playing the Roman games of Knuckle Bones and Calculi and soon built up some cunning strategies for winning. Many facts were learnt and the children returned to School enthused by their experiences. ☑



## Viking Visitor

On Wednesday 12 January, the Year 3 and Year 4 classes welcomed a Viking to School. The children had the opportunity to try some musical instruments including a harp, a whistle made from bone and a very noisy horn! The Viking taught them all a song which they sang enthusiastically as they danced around the Corinthian Room. They also took turns at grinding some grain to produce flour. After examining a range of Viking style weapons, a mock battle ensued, much to the children's delight. ☑



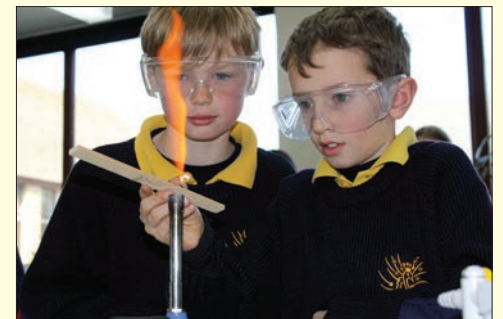
## Science Week: Year 6

On Wednesday 9 March, the Year 6 children enjoyed watching a fantastic series of demonstrations involving liquid nitrogen. Former pupil, Nigel Parker (1978, Queen Anne) who recently retired as Head of Cryogenics at Oxford University, made a return visit to talk to the children. They learnt that at very low temperatures, many fascinating changes occur in matter. The group enjoyed participating in the weird and wonderful experiments.



## Science Week: Year 5

On Monday 7 March, the Year 5 children went to the Senior School laboratories for a science lesson with Mr Van Zyl and Dr Flaherty, in which they made their own glass! After a safety talk, they were given the required equipment, weighed out the solids Borax and Lead Oxide, then slowly heated the mixture over a Bunsen burner. Once melted, the liquid was poured out, where it quickly hardened. This experience greatly inspired the children.



## Science Dome Visit

On Wednesday 16 February the Junior School was visited by the 'Science Dome'. Each class had an exciting 40-minute session in the purpose built planetarium, where the children experienced the sights of the solar system and galaxy such as the constellations, the rise and setting of the Sun, the phases of the Moon and exploding stars. Some felt the

sensation of landing on the surface of the Moon and looking back at Earth, while others fell through a black hole! It was a fantastic workshop which supported the children's learning. Thank you to those who generously donated to the Annual Fund 2010 for making this experience possible. ☑



# Junior School



## Arts Week

One of the highlights of the Junior School Arts Week was the Evening of the Arts, a celebration of artwork, music, poetry and dance. An exhibition in the Mansion House and Corinthian Room displayed pieces from all year groups, and special collections created by selected groups of children. Figures from a fairground carousel were shown alongside pastel pieces in the style of Monet, and charcoal portraits beside impressed clay designs, weaving and moving roller coasters, which were part of the Design Technology range. Collections of photographs completed the scene, along with the stunning 'Home Gallery', displaying work created by children in their own time. The overall effect was quite beautiful.

The evening progressed, quite literally, up to The Shed as audience members followed the exuberant Samba Band to take their seats for performances of poetry, music and dance. All the children from Year 2 to Year 6 had learnt poems by heart over half term to take part in class competitions. The winners performed their poems; some funny, some sad, both classical and modern. The children's ability to recite at such length, with such perceptive expression and intonation, was truly impressive. The musicians and soloists performed with great composure and the two chamber choirs sang beautifully. Last but not least the modern dance group performed with precision and style, and the ballet group charmed the audience with their graceful *Birthday Party*.

The week ended with Literary Character Day for which children and teachers came to School dressed as some of literature's best known characters. As always much thought and hard work went into what were some very imaginative and elaborate costumes. ☑



## Donation of Books

At the end of November, Senior School parent Mrs Beardsell, visited an orphanage in Uganda. She took with her four boxes of books from the Junior School Library that were no longer needed. These were the first books that the orphanage had received and it was a very special time for the children when they were encouraged to look through them and see the colourful pages. Some children were not used to holding books and had to learn how to turn the pages. Everyone loved the books and they were treasured by the staff too. They will be of lasting value and the children and staff are extremely grateful for the School's generosity.



## Alice in Wonderland

To celebrate World Book Day the Oxfordshire Touring Theatre visited the Junior School on Wednesday 2 March, bringing with them their amazing production of *Alice in Wonderland*. Just three actors took on the many roles required to tell the story of Alice's meetings with the White Rabbit, the truly Mad Hatter, and the many other fantastic characters from Lewis Carroll's famous tale, including the wonderfully egotistical Queen of Hearts. The children had their own part to play in the production, in the game of croquet (with unusual rules!) and in helping Alice and the White Rabbit escape and make it home in time for tea!



## Scholarships

Congratulations to the Year 6 children for their well-deserved success in the Senior School Entrance Examinations, which took place in January. Five Junior School children were invited to take part in further rigorous assessments the following week for Academic Scholarships and this is a fine achievement. Academic Scholarships were awarded to Mike Billing (Lockwood) and Yukiko Nishikawa (Symonds). An Art Scholarship was awarded to Cameron Knox (Baker), a Sports Scholarship to Sam Orton (Symonds) and Luke Smith (Lockwood), and an All Round Scholarship to India Hurford-Jones (Gwyn).

## New Zealand School

Mrs Marchbank and her Year 4 class continue to stay in email contact with Mrs Spicer and her class at Maungatapu School in New Zealand. They recently sent a package of Cokethorpe balloons and in return they received a photo of the children having inflated them all! They also received a parcel containing a teddy bear in New Zealand rugby kit that sings the Hukka.

## Archery Success

Ryan Kendrick (Year 6, Lockwood) has continued his archery success into the 2011 season. Ryan won the Dorset and Wiltshire 2011 Indoor County Championships on 6 March, setting two new county records, and winning the award for outstanding shooting. He also shot in the U18 category (Ryan only just turned 11) at the Oxford University Open Tournament on 20 March, taking gold in the Portsmouth round as well as gold in the Double Portsmouth. Ryan is looking forward to the national championships in July.

## House Cross Country

### Year 1

<i>Boys</i>	
1st	Ben Orton
2nd	Harry Furlong
3rd	Henry Birchenough

### *Girls*

1st	Holly Kendrick
2nd	Olivia Reece
3rd	Tabitha Howard

### Year 2

<i>Boys</i>	
1st	Tom Orton
2nd	David Haar
3rd	Jamie Hammond

### *Girls*

1st	Jossy Brown
2nd	Tilly Hurford-Jones
3rd	Isabella Smith

### Year 3

<i>Boys</i>	
1st	Jack Wilde
2nd	Freddie Quartley
3rd	Rory Morrison

### *Girls*

1st	Amelia Leslie
2nd	Libby Flaherty
3rd	Rosa Birchenough

### Year 4

<i>Boys</i>	
1st	Dennis Catrini
2nd	Rowan Paton
3rd	Joshua Cook

### *Girls*

1st	Frankie Brown
2nd	Lily Sweet
3rd	Nyha Edwards

### Year 5

<i>Boys</i>	
1st	Joe McBride
2nd	Billy Morrison
3rd	Harry Brown

### *Girls*

1st	Sophie Wheeler
2nd	Annabel Clarke
3rd	Michaela Logue

### Year 6

<i>Boys</i>	
1st	Daniel Bailey
2nd	Alexander Wallace
3rd	Luke Smith

### *Girls*

1st	India Hurford-Jones
2nd	Lizzie Pickup
3rd	Yukiko Nishikawa

### Overall Standings

1st	Lockwood
2nd	Symonds
3rd	Gwyn
4th	Baker

### Fastest Times

#### Years 3 and 4

Frankie Brown (5mins 21secs)
Jack Wilde (5mins 39secs)

#### Years 5 and 6

Sophie Wheeler (8mins 35secs)
Daniel Bailey (8mins 36secs)

## Cross Country Events

This term the Wednesday lunchtime Cross Country Club members have been training hard in preparation for a number of races. A team of 35 children competed at Chandlings School on Monday 14 February. There were over 400 entrants and every child demonstrated great effort and determination. This certainly paid off, with most children finishing in the top half of their events. Particular mention goes to Sophie Wheeler (Year 5, Lockwood) who blitzed the field to take gold in her U10 race, and to the U10 girls' team as a whole, who finished runners up to The Manor Preparatory School by a narrow margin. The U10 boys' team also took the silver, beating amongst others Akeley Wood, Abingdon Prep, The Dragon and the hosts Chandlings.

On Tuesday 8 March, 14 children took part in an event at The Manor Preparatory School. The team got off to a fantastic start with Jack Wilde (Year 3, Gwyn) surviving a fall to finish 1st in the U8 boys. More success followed in the U9 races: Ben Wannell (Year 4, Baker) finished 2nd and Frankie Brown (Year 4, Baker), leading with only 200m to go, finished 6th. Sophie Wheeler again dominated the U10 race winning by over 100m. Alexander Wilde (Year 5, Lockwood) finished 3rd, narrowly beating Billy Morrison (Year 5, Symonds) at 4th. The U11 boys all finished within five seconds of each other: Alexander Wallace (Year 6, Baker) claiming silver and Luke Smith (Year 6, Lockwood) a bronze, taking the final tally to an impressive six medals, with a further three 4th place finishes. 🏆



## House Easter Egg Hunt

On the last Monday of term the Pre-Prep children took part in an Easter Egg Hunt. With 80 eggs, in House colours, carefully hidden around the adventure playground the frantic searching began. Lockwood House was the first to locate all 20 of their blue eggs; however both Gwyn and Symonds were agonisingly close with 19. Everyone had a cracking time and are looking forward to doing it again next year.



## House Pancake Race

The Junior School's newly-established House competition took place on Shrove Tuesday. The rules of the Pancake Race were simple: the House captain had to run the ten-metre course whilst flipping their pancake three times; they then passed the frying pan over to the vice captain who completed the same in reverse. Competitors and spectators alike entered into the spirit with much cheering and some amazing, if not unorthodox, techniques! Ten minutes of fun led to an extremely close final where Baker House was narrowly beaten by Lockwood House, all of whom received a pancake as their prize!

Meanwhile the Pre-Prep had fun making their own pancakes with the Junior School's new cookery equipment. All the children had a turn at flipping a pancake and then of course eating it with their choice of topping. 🏆



## Soccer

The U11s had an up-and-down season. The most notable victory was against Abingdon Prep School, winning 3–1. There were narrow defeats to Akeley Wood and St Edward's and comfortable wins against Sibford and New College School. Outstanding performances came from Luke Smith (Lockwood), who was as solid and reliable as ever in defence, and Sam Orton (Symonds), who has developed into a powerful midfield player. There are several excellent prospects in Year 5, namely Alexander Wilde (Lockwood) and Jack Smith (Gwyn), looking towards a strong team next year.

The U9s had a small squad to choose from and relied on the power of Joshua Cook (Gwyn), the tough tackling of Dennis Catrini (Baker), and the commitment of Adam Kendrick (Symonds) and Ben Wannell (Baker) to get them through a tough season. As the term progressed the team began to play more controlled football and used the pace and skill of Jack Wilde (Gwyn) in attack. New College School was convincingly beaten and they narrowly missed out on progressing to the semi-finals of the Hatherop Castle six-a-side tournament. As they mature this group of players should continue to improve and get the results they deserve.

## House Cross Country

The Inter-House Cross Country competition consisted of four races; Reception being the first to complete a run to the School Chapel. Next Years 1 and 2 ran around the Chapel; this was a fast race with many runners sprinting the course to the finish line. Years 3 and 4 completed a longer run around half of the sports field, and then Years 5 and 6 a whole lap. The conditions underfoot made it hard, but the enthusiasm from all participants was excellent as usual, as was the sportmanship and support for individuals and House teams. The competition saw some very close races. With every child's score combined it was Lockwood House who took first place followed by Symonds, Gwyn and then Baker. ☑



## Sponsored Walk

The Junior School children followed a three kilometre route around Cokethorpe's parkland on Thursday 17 February for a Sponsored Walk to raise money for the School's chosen charities. Passing through six checkpoints, the children collected stickers to measure the distance that they walked. Some of the older children chose to run the course and managed to complete three or more circuits. Overall, a magnificent 803 kilometres were covered; a fabulous achievement and one which broke last year's record by 68 kilometres. From the children in the Reception Class to those in Year 6, all were full of enthusiasm and determination. A fantastic £4,000 was raised and two cheques for £2,000 each were presented to representatives from the chosen charities, Special Effect and Cameroon Catalyst, during a Friday assembly. Thank you to all the helpers on the day and to all the families and friends who sponsored the children. ☑



## House Soccer

The Inter-House Soccer winners were Lockwood, who defeated Symonds in a penalty shootout.

## House Netball

After a competitive but high-spirited netball tournament, Lockwood and Gwyn were declared joint winners of this year's Inter-House Netball competition.

## Netball Results

### U11As

The Manor Preparatory School	L 3–8
Sibford School	W 29–0
Chandlings School	L 2–16
Akeley Wood School	L 3–18

### U10s

The Manor Preparatory School	W 5–2
Chandlings School U11Bs	L 0–13

### U9s

Akeley Wood School	L 2–5
The Manor Preparatory School	W 10–1

## Soccer Results

### U11As

New College School	W 4–1
Sibford School	W 3–0
The Dragon School	L 2–4
St Edward's, Cheltenham	L 1–2
Abingdon Preparatory School	W 3–1
Akeley Wood School	L 2–4
St Edward's, Cheltenham	L 2–3

### U9s

Sibford School	W 3–1
St Edward's, Cheltenham	L 0–7
New College School	L 0–2
Abingdon Preparatory School	L 2–6
Akeley Wood School	D 1–1

## Special Effect

Special Effect is a charity dedicated to helping young people with disabilities to enjoy computer activities, by adapting programs and providing specialist equipment to enable them to be used. Some of this equipment is used by Helen & Douglas House, including a program where images on a computer screen are controlled by eye movements rather than a keyboard or mouse. This is a wonderful invention which gives children greater independence.

## Cameroon Catalyst

Cameroon Catalyst is a project set up by students in the Southampton University Civil Engineering Department, to help the charity Mosame Trust, which supports the healthcare and education of orphans in Cameroon. The project's aim is to build a community building in a village in Cameroon, including a well and water pumps, and to refurbish a school building.

## Radio Podcasts

Upper First pupils have completed three more radio shows during their Performing Arts AOB this term (available on the School website).

### Remix FM

Rhona Anderson  
Megan Bird  
Cate De Buriatte Moglia  
Josie Dennis  
Henry Grimwade  
Fred Herbert  
Heidi Lawson  
David Mallett  
Jem Müldür  
Roland Viserálek  
George Wood

### Scam FM

Rory Atkins  
Nancy Battersby  
Matthew Clarke  
Alexandra Cross  
Charlie Dyde  
Caleb Dyer  
William Garrett  
Sergei Kundik  
Charlie McMackin  
Nadiya Rashid  
Harry Woodard

### Soul FM

Samuel Menon  
Sam Moffatt  
Joe Sweeney  
Philip Thornton  
Matthew Brown  
Joe Ciampoli-Messiou  
Erika Davies  
James Duffield  
Noah Hustler  
Alicia Moon  
Will Routledge

## AOB Achievements

Archie Fellows (Upper First, Vanbrugh) was awarded an AOB certificate for his contribution to clay pigeon shooting.

## Cookery Competition

Upper First pupils James Staples (Swift) and Henry Grimwade (Gascoigne), along with two other Standlake and Cokethorpe Sea Scouts, competed in a Scouts Cookery Competition at the end of last year. The team of four had to plan, budget, prepare and serve a three course meal – cooked on two camping gas rings using camping equipment only!

The team won their first round and got through to the final (against nine other teams), which took place at The Oxford Belfry Hotel. They came second! As the prize, the top three teams were invited to spend a whole day at Raymond Blanc's cookery school at Le Manoir in March. They had a fantastic day and were given Le Manoir chef whites to keep.

The winning menu was:

- Bacon, cabbage and onion soup
- Chicken cooked in stock and cream with vegetable stir fry
- Crêpes with fruit compote

## World Challenge Training

The 25 World Challenge pupils took part in an important training expedition this term. One group went to Buxton, Derbyshire, whilst the rest went to Epping Forest in North London.

During the weekends the Challengers undertook a demanding programme and received instruction in basic expedition skills. They practised camp craft and cooking and received training in river crossings, safety equipment, health and hygiene and how to survive at altitude. Their fitness levels were assessed and they also had the opportunity to practise expedition 'appointments' such as Group Leader, Accountant and Navigator.

In July the Challengers will be trekking through the Himalayas, reaching altitudes of 4,250m and carrying out project work in Manali, Northern India. During this time they will be expected to lead and run their own expedition.



## Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award Practice Expedition 1

Two practice expeditions for the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award pupils took place in April. One group went to Belstone, North Dartmoor, and the other to Glasbury, Brecon Beacons.

On arriving at Belstone in the early evening, the group set off into the moor to the camp where they discovered that 'wild camping' means no taps, no electricity, no toilets and worst of all for them, no mobile signal! Fortunately, apart from a brisk wind and intermittent rain showers, they had a peaceful night before setting off deeper into the moor. During the 20km walk on Saturday they also discovered that failure to study the map and the ground carefully, results in unnecessary wading through bogs and hill climbing! After another night wild camping on the moors, they completed a further 20km on Sunday in the rain before returning to the comparative civilisation of the School minibus.

This group will undertake a further practice expedition at the end of April before both groups complete their final assessment expedition in July.



## Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award Practice Expedition 2

'We started our Gold Duke of Edinburgh's practice expedition in the Brecon Beacons slightly anxious but excited. We faced the extremities of weather; from horizontal snow to blazing sun and encountered numerous challenges and many hills. As an unlikely group we found common ground in food, songs and casual banter. Throughout the expedition we honed our navigational and campcraft skills with the true spirit of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at the forefront of our minds. Overall a fantastic time was had by all. We all look forward to our assessment expedition in July.'

*Jack Cully, Hugo Van Dorssen, Alex Lister, Amy Gaertner, Timothy Knight, Georgia Smith, Lloyd Cadman and Ms Rose*





## House Public Speaking

Cokethorpe was reverberating to the sound of impassioned argument on Saturday 12 February as teams battled for victory in the newly-established Inter-House Public Speaking Competition. Thirty-three pupils were pitched in competition in Junior and Senior categories, in what should be from now on a hotly-contested annual battle. Pupils chose their own topics and spoke in teams of three, each filling a nine minute window.

The overall standard was superb as the pupils spoke on topics ranging from 'Government Cuts' to 'Fishing'. The Junior section was a closely fought battle, with Vanbrugh just pipping Swift for the title with the topic 'The Influence of TV on Children'. Meanwhile, in the Seniors, Gascoigne saw off a spirited challenge from Feilden with James Metcalfe (Upper Sixth) delivering a moving mediation on 'The Nature of Failure'.

Guest judge Mr Richardson, Principal of the Cothill Educational Trust, gave a congratulatory speech and singled out Alexander Billing (Lower First, Vanbrugh) and Saul Garrett (Fourth Form, Feilden) for particular praise for their performances.



## House Netball

Despite Swift winning the Lower House round and Queen Anne the Senior, Gascoigne was most consistent to take first place overall.



## House Soccer

This competition was tied between Harcourt and Swift following tournaments for Lower House, Third and Fourth Forms, and Seniors.



## House Design Technology

This year's Design and Technology competition saw another frenzy of activity in the workshops as the six House teams battled to complete construction of their off-road buggies. Unlike last year's event, where there was a straight line race for the speeding cars, this year's cars took a rather slower pace over an obstacle course that consisted of two hills, a real water trough, gravel and strewn wooden debris. Despite the realistic tyre tracks left by the cars, and on one occasion a car grinding to a complete standstill, an exciting time was had by the spectators as well as those who participated. Congratulations go to Gascoigne who won the overall competition, with last year's winners Feilden and Swift coming second and third respectively. Mr Forsey would like to thank all boys and girls who took part. We look forward to next year's competition where another twist on the race theme will be devised... watch this space!



## House Soccer

- 1st Harcourt
- = Swift
- 3rd Gascoigne
- 4th Queen Anne
- 5th Feilden
- 6th Vanbrugh

## House Netball

- 1st Gascoigne
- 2nd Queen Anne
- 3rd Swift
- 4th Feilden
- 5th Vanbrugh
- 6th Harcourt

## House Debating

- |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Junior Winners  | Vanbrugh  |
| Seniors Winners | Gascoigne |

## Lower House Social

'On Monday 14 March, 80 members of Lower House went swimming at the Swindon Oasis. It did not prove to be an oasis of calm, but it was incredibly fun nonetheless! We enjoyed the thrilling flumes and ferocious waves and then all relaxed with a lovely meal. Thanks must go to all the staff for organising this brilliant trip, even though it was a school night! A special thank you to Mrs Pratley for arranging this outing, it was a memorable evening and I look forward to other Lower House events in the future.'

*David Mallett (Upper First, Gascoigne)*

## Lower House Heroes

Below are this term's Lower House Heroes, nominated by tutors for a range of reasons such as working particularly hard during RAG Week, in the School play, in tutor group activities, sports matches or for general positive attitudes, commitment and helpfulness.

### First Half of Term

- |                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Tom Drake          | L1 Feilden    |
| Joe Whittington    | L1 Gascoigne  |
| Freya Rowe         | L1 Harcourt   |
| Adam El-Megrissi   | L1 Queen Anne |
| Oonagh Ryley       | L1 Swift      |
| Alexander Billing  | L1 Vanbrugh   |
| Billy Garrett      | U1 Feilden    |
| Heidi Lawson       | U1 Gascoigne  |
| Joe Sweeney        | U1 Harcourt   |
| Sophie Smith       | U1 Queen Anne |
| Thomas Christensen | U1 Swift      |
| Hannah Hurst       | U1 Vanbrugh   |

### Second Half of Term

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Alice Burns    | L1 Feilden    |
| Arthur Blake   | L1 Gascoigne  |
| James Thomas   | L1 Harcourt   |
| Anya Duffy     | L1 Queen Anne |
| Thomas Smith   | L1 Swift      |
| Grace Wood     | L1 Vanbrugh   |
| Billy Garrett  | U1 Feilden    |
| Rory Atkins    | U1 Gascoigne  |
| Megan Bird     | U1 Harcourt   |
| James Duffield | U1 Queen Anne |
| James Staples  | U1 Swift      |
| Charles Hadley | U1 Vanbrugh   |

# Fundraising for Charity

## Helen & Douglas House

'I was fortunate enough to be invited to join the final fundraising session on the Friday afternoon at the end of RAG Week. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon and the students had organised a great variety of stalls and games for everyone to enjoy. They were all incredibly enthusiastic about what they were doing, very keen to tell me about the events they had taken part in earlier in the week, and interested in hearing about Helen & Douglas House.

Helen & Douglas House offer specialist symptom and pain management, medically-supported short breaks and end-of-life care for children and young adults with life-shortening conditions, as well as counselling and practical support for the whole family. We currently provide one-to-one care for over 300 children and young adults from Oxfordshire and surrounding counties.

It costs over £4.5 million a year to run the two hospice houses and we are dependent on voluntary contributions for over 80% of this. We are very grateful to all the parents, children and staff at Cokethorpe for supporting us during the school's first RAG Week. The simple truth is that Helen & Douglas House would not be here without people like you – thank you.'

*Alison Hooker  
Helen & Douglas House  
Community Area Fundraiser*

## RAG Week Events

Some of the events that took place during RAG Week included:

- Online Auction of Promises
- Shoe Shining
- Busking
- Cake Sales
- Hot Chocolate Sales
- Open Mic Sessions
- Cocktails Stall
- Face Painting
- Ultimate Obstacle Course
- Four Square Competition
- Sweet Sales
- Doughnut Sales
- Fêtes
- Sumo Wrestling
- Milkshake Sales
- Tuck Shop
- Jewellery Sale
- T-Shirt Competition
- Lower House Dance Extravaganza
- Penalty Shoot-Out
- 1st VII Netball v Staff
- Sponge A Teacher
- X-Box Fifa Competition
- Five-A-Side Football Tournament
- Welly Wanging
- Lower Sixth 'Row the Channel'
- X-Box Fun
- Car Washing
- Cream Pie A Teacher
- Senior School Home Clothes Day
- Sixth Form Fancy Dress
- Trolls on the Bridge
- Upper Sixth 'Cycle to Paris'
- Fashion Show

## RAG Week 2011

In March the Senior School came together for Cokethorpe's inaugural RAG (Raising and Giving) Week. The chosen charity for the appeal was Helen & Douglas House, a local children's hospice with which the School has forged close links in recent years. An array of events and stalls were run every break and lunch time throughout the week: from cake, sweets and hot chocolate sales, to welly wanging, sponge a teacher and sumo wrestling competitions. The week culminated in a home clothes and Sixth Form fancy dress day and the afternoon's AOB session was used for one final fundraising effort. The Senior School then came together to celebrate their brilliant team effort by welcoming Alison Hooker from Helen & Douglas House, who spoke about the work that the charity does and the impact that the money raised will have. The amount raised currently stands at £7,619.36, smashing the original £5,000 target!



Congratulations must go to Third Form Queen Anne whose fête raised over £220 alone – the biggest single contribution from a tutor group – and to Laura McKenney (Lower Sixth, Swift) and Lucia Nettlefold (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) who rowed tirelessly to travel a distance equivalent to crossing the English Channel, raising £276 in the process. The online Auction of Promises also made a substantial contribution to the week's success, making an impressive £2,650. Thanks must go to all those who made a promise and to those who placed bids.

This was an enjoyable and overwhelmingly successful fundraising initiative – one which the School hopes to repeat in future years. ☑



## Non-Uniform Day

On Friday 18 February, the Senior School held a non-uniform day and raised £650.00, which was donated to the Buttle Trust, a charity that provides grant aid to children and young people in desperate need.

## Macmillan Cancer Support

This term members of the Cokethorpe community brought in unwanted clothes for Macmillan's 'Enormous Secondhand Clothing Sale', which took place in March, helping raise £40,000 to be spent in the Oxfordshire area.

## Tough Guy Challenge 2011

Lower Sixth students Louis Taylor (Feilden) and Greg Muller (Vanbrugh) completed the gruelling Tough Guy Challenge 2011 on Sunday 30 January. From nearly 5,000 entrants, only 3,220 finished the demanding course of 100 obstacles over 8 miles.

They valiantly tackled a challenging cross-country run, battled through nettles and barbed wire, braved electric shocks, waded through icy mud-filled swamps, leapt over fire-filled ditches and endured the underground torture chambers to come a very impressive joint 556th, in 2 hours 7 minutes. This was also the fastest time for the Under 18 competitors.

By completing the challenge, Louis and Greg raised £500; half for the organiser's chosen charity, Help the Heroes Horse Sanctuary, and the remainder for Helen & Douglas House, the School's chosen charity. ☑



# Annual Fund 2011 Interim Report

## Annual Fund 2011 Update

We are delighted to report that the second Annual Fund is going extremely well, recently hitting the £10,000 mark. The generosity from parents, staff, members of the Cokethorpe Society, governors and friends means we are on track to exceed the total reached last year. This is particularly significant given that last year's total included a number of donations received from previous years.

As the pie chart below illustrates, the majority of the donations have been unrestricted (ie 'General') and therefore the School has been able to allocate money towards projects with particular priorities, meaning some of the funds have already been used to get projects underway. Hermione the tortoise is now settled into her home in the Biology Department and the pupils are enjoying observing how she grows and develops; the MP3 players have been vital to the Languages speaking and listening examinations this term; the life model was well received in Art, as was the meditation machine for the A Level Psychology topic on stress management. In addition, the video towers have been valuable for analysing sports fixtures and seven of the twenty chess sets have been bought for the popular Junior School Chess Club. The Junior School cooking station and equipment have also been used on a weekly basis.

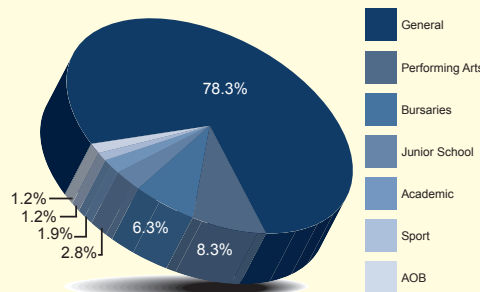


The School is on target to achieve all the projects outlined in the brochure, but as with any fundraising appeal, the School would always welcome more donations! If you haven't already supported the School through the Annual Fund, it is hoped that this report may serve as a reminder or incentive to do so now.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone that has already supported the Annual Fund, helping Cokethorpe provide an even more exceptional, innovative and broad-based education. We look forward to reporting on the final amount raised.



## Current Distribution



## New Chapel Furniture

In keeping with its affiliation with the School Chapel, the Cokethorpe Society has kindly donated the money to purchase 190 chairs for the Chapel, following a re-configuration of the space. This amount will be added to the final Annual Fund total.



## Annual Fund 2011 Projects

### Academic

- Hermione the Tortoise
- Fifteen MP3 Players for MFL
- Life Modelling Sessions for Art
- Meditation Machine for Psychology

### Sport

- Archery Equipment (to be completed)
- Two Video Towers for Filming Fixtures

### Performing Arts

- Provision for a Dance Teacher for one year and other Dance Equipment (to be completed)

### Extra-Curricular and AOB

- Outdoor Table Tennis Table (to be completed)

### Junior School

- Cooking Station and Equipment
- Twenty Chess Sets (to be completed)

### Bursaries and Hardship Fund

- Money received through the Annual Fund helps support the means-tested bursaries and provide opportunities for deserving pupils to participate in other life-enhancing experiences

## How to Donate

Gifts of any size make a genuine difference to the School. It is your participation that really counts, not the level of generosity.

**Regular Giving:** You can spread the cost, and give as often as you like, by setting up a standing order. Please complete the donation form.

**Single Gifts:** Please complete the donation form and send a cheque made payable to Cokethorpe School. Alternatively, you can donate online using PayPal. For details go to [www.cokethorpe.org.uk/go/annualfund](http://www.cokethorpe.org.uk/go/annualfund)

**Other Methods:** Details on how you can support the School through legacies, payroll giving, matched giving or through stocks and shares can be found on the School website.

## Gift Aid

However you choose to make your gift, remember that Cokethorpe is a registered charity and gifts made from UK income tax payers can result in an extra 25p for every £1.00 donated.

## Annual Fund 2011

The Annual Fund 2011 will close on 31 July 2011. Proposals for the Annual Fund 2012 project are now being accepted.

## Annual Fund 2010

The last of the remaining projects from the Annual Fund 2010 was completed on Wednesday 16 February, when the Junior School was visited by the 'Science Dome'. (See page 12.)

# Cokethorpe Parents' Association

## Future CPA Events

### Classic Car Show and Junior School Treasure Hunt

Sunday 19 June 2011, 11.00am–3.00pm

*Enjoy a fun day out for the whole family. Admire classic cars, try your hand at clay pigeon shooting and archery and indulge in delicious cream teas, a BBQ and real ale. Younger members of the family can take part in a Junior School Pirate Treasure Hunt around the School's grounds.*

Entry is free, however shooting and archery places are limited and should be booked through the Box Office: [boxoffice@cokethorpe.org](mailto:boxoffice@cokethorpe.org) or 01993 892338.

## CPA Committee

Chairman:	Ruth Wigham
Vice Chairman:	Catherine Christensen
Treasurer:	Flynn Reid
Secretary:	Foundation Office
Damian Ettinger	John Bennett
Victor Faria	Kirsteen Fellows
Shaun Foster	Sue Furneaux
Julie Grime	Helen Grimwade
Simon Hooper	Adi Hughes
Jan Johnson	Martin Kendrick
Maggie Neil	Nigel Murrin
Sarah Plumridge	

## Burns' Night Supper

The CPA hosted a Burns' Night Supper on Friday 21 January in celebration of the Scottish poet Robert Burns. The 84 guests, adorning black tie, kilts and tartan, arrived at the Dining Hall to the sound of bagpipes and then enjoyed a traditional Scottish feast, the pièce de résistance of course being the customary haggis, tatties and neeps.

The Address to the Haggis was given by the School's very own Director of Studies, Mr Floyd, followed by the Toast to the Lassies, by Mr Atkins. Mrs Hughes then finished proceedings with the Toast to the Laddies. A night of dancing and merriment then ensued, as guests enjoyed the lively music of the traditional céilidh band. ↗



## Quiz Night

90 people, spread across 14 teams, went head-to-head in the CPA Quiz Night on Saturday 12 March. Spread over four hours the professional Quiz Master tested the participants' general knowledge. Delicious fish and chips served during the interval were the perfect source of brain food.

The end result was a close call with only one or two points between the top five teams. The self-titled team 'Children of Krypton' proved top of the trivia, however, and snuck ahead to claim the trophy.

The second event of its kind proved every bit as enjoyable as the previous year and in the process raised over £300 for the School. ↗



# Wider Community

## Rover Oxford Festival

Team	Winners	Runners Up
U8 Mixed	Oxford Hawks A	Witney
U10 Mixed	Cirencester	Aylesbury
U12 Girls	Cheltenham A	Cirencester
U12 Boys	Cheltenham	Banbridge A
U14 Girls	Wycombe	Oxford Hawks
U14 Boys	Banbridge A	Banbridge B
U16 Girls	Oxford Hawks	Aylesbury
U16 Boys	City of Oxford	Aylesbury

## Hockey

Wychwood Ladies Hockey Club continue to use the Astroturf pitches for training and fixtures. Oxford Hawks Hockey Club also used the pitches on Saturdays this term whilst their home ground was re-surfaced. The club's first teams both had successful seasons, with the ladies promoted to the national league and the men just missing out on promotion, coming third only on goal difference.

The Oxfordshire Hockey Association has held county trials, training sessions and fixtures here at Cokethorpe and the School also hosted the Girls' Mini County Hockey Tournament on 20 March, in which Wallingford won the U10's tournament and Hawks won the U12's. Many Cokethorpe girls also took part playing for various local clubs.

## Rover Oxford Hockey Festival

Seven hundred and sixty five children played in 250 games on three pitches over two days in what has become one of the UK's largest festivals of junior hockey, hosted by Rover Oxford at Cokethorpe School and Witney ATP. The fast and furious action had a truly international atmosphere with teams travelling from Banbridge Academy, Northern Ireland and Basko from Veldhoven in the Netherlands. The event is also used by Oxfordshire umpires to help train and develop umpires in a friendly but competitive spirit.

The U8's tournament started the weekend, with some energetic work from the youngest competitors. This was followed by the mixed U10s and U12s boys, where the tempo increased with some really fluent play from all the sides. On a second blistering day of the festival, spectators enjoyed junior hockey to match the weather. Witney ATP hosted the U12s and U14 girls' competitions, with the umpire's 'Fair Play' award going to Cokethorpe's U12 girls. Over at Cokethorpe, the U14 boys' tournament proved as popular as ever, followed by the U16 girls (winners Oxford Hawks pictured below) and a hugely competitive U16 boys tournament. The Headmaster, Mr Ettinger, presented prizes to the winning teams on Sunday.



## Parents' Information Evening

Nine visiting speakers took part in the School's first Parents' Information Evening on Tuesday 8 February, designed to offer advice to parents on the potential problems encountered by teenagers. With over 150 parents in attendance, the seminars covered areas such as drugs education, sexual health, social networking and eating disorders. Although the talks were brief, they raised many questions and provoked a great deal of thought, not least concerning the level of support given to our children in these difficult times. Most of the talks were age specific and many aspects are covered during the academic year in PSHE. The School is grateful to the parents for supporting this new venture and the feedback received suggests that the evening was a success and worthy of repeating. ↗



## University Research Project

On Friday 25 March over 30 girls from Fourth Form to Upper Sixth, took part in a research study exploring how girls and young women being educated in the independent sector understand and experience their worlds. Claire Maxwell from the Institute of Education, University of London, led the investigation which is being funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council. The girls that volunteered spent an hour with Ms Maxwell discussing their experiences of Cokethorpe, what their expectations are for the rest of their schooling and beyond, the people they admire and what they are passionate about. The girls that participated reported that they enjoyed the opportunity to talk about and reflect on their own lives.

## Admissions Round-Up

Lent Term is traditionally the busiest term for the Admissions Office. A Junior School Assessment Day was on Thursday 27 January and the Lower First Assessment and Activities Day on Saturday 29 January, which was preceded by candidate interviews. Open Morning on Saturday 12 February was another busy and successful day and the Lower First, Third Form and Sixth Form Scholarship Assessments also took place.

## Oxfordshire Science Festival: Trebuchet Competition

On Sunday 20 March, Cokethorpe again hosted a Trebuchet Competition as part of the Oxfordshire Science Festival. Two teams of apprentice engineers from Culham and Rutherford laboratories, working with Third and Fourth Form Cokethorpe pupils, designed and built large trebuchets to compete. This provided the pupils with a fantastic opportunity to gain valuable experience of applying knowledge learnt in Physics, Mathematics and Design and Technology to a real life challenge. On the day, the winning trebuchet (Cokethorpe/Rutherford) fired a water balloon 43m, just beating the Cokethorpe/Culham team by two metres; both teams beat last year's record. On the same day, members of the public and Cokethorpe pupils enjoyed building mini-trebuchets from garden canes, tea strainers and twine. The winning team sent a water balloon an impressive 26m. Other events included marshmallow and spaghetti structure building, constructing circuits, periscopes and experiments on splitting light, which enabled a number of Cub Scouts to gain their Scientist badge. Overall, over a hundred children and adults enjoyed this hands-on science day. ↗



## Information Evening

Visitors spoke on the following topics:

- Family Lives (Parent Line)
- Anorexia and Bulimia
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Sexual Health
- Police
- Social Networking
- Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue

Displays and leaflets were available on the following topics:

- HPV (Human Papillomavirus)
- Medic Alert (allergies and medical conditions such as diabetes/epilepsy)
- Meningitis and Septicaemia
- Male Cancers
- Head Lice
- Smoking
- Alcohol Awareness

## Rugby

The Elite Tier School of Rugby, consisting of the finest rugby players in Oxfordshire, continue to use Cokethorpe's training facilities, for which a number of Cokethorpe boys have been selected to train with the group. The School also hosted an England U16's training session in preparation for their match against Leicester U17's Academy, also held at Cokethorpe.

## Sea Scouts

Standlake and Cokethorpe Sea Scouts, Explorers and Beavers continue to meet at Cokethorpe each week, using the Corinthian Room, Lecture Room, The Shed, Sports Hall and other areas for their training. They will also be using the grounds and clay pigeon shoot for a camping weekend in May.

## Cricket

The U13 Area Cricket team has been preparing for their summer season by training in the Sports Hall this term.

## Gulliver's Travels

The recent box office hit, *Gulliver's Travels*, received more interest than normal in Oxfordshire as not only do parts of the original story relate to Oxfordshire places and people, but some of it was filmed at Blenheim Palace, which is depicted as the Royal Palace of Lilliput. The author, Jonathan Swift (1667–1745), may have written part of this famous tale here at Cokethorpe, where he was a frequent guest of Lord Harcourt.

## Cokethorpe Sofa

Wesley Barrell, a leading maker of furniture with showrooms around the country, has recently launched its new range of sofas. Many of their designs are named after areas local to Witney, where the business was originally established, and one of their creations has been named the 'Cokethorpe' sofa!

# From the Archives

## Turning Back the Pages

Below are news items from past issues of *The Bell Tower* and *The Peacock*.

### 10 Years Ago (2001)

A group of Year 7 pupils attempted to recreate the 3 Peaks Challenge by climbing the Cokethorpe climbing wall a total of 429 times. The climbers were sponsored as part of the Year 7 Charity Day in aid of LEPRAs.

### 15 Years Ago (1996)

Cokethorpe continued its tradition of raising money for charity by running activities in support of Red Nose Day. Attractions included a penalty shootout, car washing, a lemonade stall and buskers with the sporting highlight being a boys versus girls hockey match – won by the boys.

### 20 Years Ago (1991)

For the first time in 51 years Mrs Winterbourne and Mrs Jones visited Cokethorpe where they had been parlour maids long before Cokethorpe became a school. When they lived here they were housed on the top floor where they were expected to be silent. During the hot weather the parlour maids would sleep on the balcony on mattresses.

### 25 Years Ago (1986)

On Sunday 8 June a Cokethorpe Celebrity Cricket Match – Colin Cowdrey's Cokethorpe XI v Colin Milburn's Scat's XI – and Family Fun Day was held at the School. The proceeds were divided between Somerset Court Autistic Trust and the Cokethorpe Building Appeal. Many celebrities attended.

### 30 Years Ago (1981)

Roald Dahl came to give a talk as part of the General Studies programme. He pointed out that many writers had initially been teachers: 'Among your staff there may be a future D H Lawrence or a Sartre – and you can't tell which, so you might as well be polite to them all!'

### 35 Years Ago (1976)

The School acquired a refracting telescope with magnifications of up to 240. Many pupils have seen the Moon's surface in detail from a makeshift observatory on the Sixth Form balcony.

### 40 Years Ago (1971)

The Astronomy Club started in 1969 and ever since we have had a good membership drawn from the most junior to the most senior forms. During the past year we were lucky enough to be invited to meetings of the Astronomy Club at the Royal Military College of Science.

### 45 Years Ago (1966)

In the light of this year's debates it seems that while this House is sure that the Moon is a bore and equally sure of its belief in Father Christmas, it is by no means convinced that the pen is mightier than the sword.

## Donations to the Archives

We are very grateful to Thomas Vesely (OC 1960, Swift) who sent in some papers recently found in his father's loft. Included in the papers are clothing lists from 1958 and a note to parents stating that a regulation sports coat was to be introduced: 'in a specific shade of Harris tweed... the price of this sports coat will vary from £6.12s.6d to £7.17s.6d depending on the size'. A term's fees in 1959 were £89.5s, with extras added for laundry, Chapel, text books and medical fees.

The 1958 text book list also makes interesting reading. Along with the customary Shakespeare, W H Davies's *The Autobiography of a Super-Tramp* and Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped* were also on the list. Other documents in the collection entitled 'Some Customs of the House' and 'Some Practical Points Based on the Customs' encourage boys to have 'A proper pride in one's clothes and person', to be tidy – 'General tidiness of person and surroundings is a positive virtue' and 'the discipline of work is necessary for all of us'.

**COKETHORPE PARK**  
Autumn TERM, 1956

To One Term's Fees payable in advance on the first day of Term £ 89-5-0  
Laundry 3-3-0

Previous Term's Disbursements  
Pocket Money 3-0-0  
Swimming 10-6  
Casket Box 3-3-6  
and Cassocks 2-6  
Midshipman Hombles 2-6  
Underclothes on Girls' Week 1956 7-6  
Schools' Administration 7-6  
Song Book 5-3  
Harris Tweed 2-3  
Harris Tweed 2-3  
Baldwin's Alpha 8-6  
Dunkley's Mowing Machine 8-6

Credit Balance from last term 5-13-1

For account to Credits Preston Educn Ctee 25-15-0

£ 69 : 19 : 11

Cheques payable to:  
Dr. FRANCIS BROWN  
Harold Lockwood, Esq.

## Before the Web Was Born

When Cokethorpe was founded, prospectuses, newsletters and magazines were the School's main form of advertising. Early versions provided the bare information across just a few pages, with no photographs. Today the School website is often the first port of call for prospective parents wishing to find out about the School.

Long before Tim Berners-Lee developed the World Wide Web at Cern in 1990, however, the forward-thinking editor of *The Peacock* magazine in 1966 dreamt of information being made available by 'the machine'. In one of his introductions he stated that 'Our readership is domestic; we print such things as may interest boys, Old Boys, parents; strangers are beyond our scope. For the stranger, a medium is needed more up-to-date than the School magazine; a library of tape recordings for instance would be just the thing. What a thrilling prospect when (thanks to the machine) the real unvarnished truth about the School is made available to all! Fancy the headmaster playing a selection of these tapes to a prospective parent!'. The editor went on to say 'Boys know everything, as a matter of course; Old Boys can remember; parents are enlightened by the revelations of their sons. These readers can supply the unrecorded facts, and fill in the gaps; to them, until the day of talking magazines, we dedicate these pages'.

'These pages' of *The Peacock* have recently been digitalised and are now available on the School website; as is Steven Pudney's film of Speech Day 1968, which has been attracting large numbers of viewers: 366 so far!



# The Cokethorpe Society



## Cokethorpe Society Football and Netball Matches

Former pupils went head-to-head against the School's 1st netball and football teams in April, with the addition of some current staff. True to Cokethorpe form both games were spirited and included a little light-hearted competition. In the football Adam Maskery (OC 2009, Swift) saved the Old Boys from a goal-less defeat, scoring the all-important goal they had been chasing just minutes from the final whistle, making the end result 8–1 to the 1st XI. Meanwhile the Old Girls were also outmanoeuvred by one of Cokethorpe's strongest 1st VI teams to-date and, despite triumphantly winning the third quarter, lost 9–23. Many thanks to all OCs for taking part – hopefully they will seek revenge in June when they return to take on the Cokethorpe Cavaliers and 1st XI in the Society Cricket and Hockey matches. ☞

## Friends Reunited

Having recently traced each other through the Cokethorpe Society, Martin Lockwood (OC 1959) met up with Barry Brothers (OC 1957) on a trip to New Zealand in March. The two friends had not seen each other in over 54 years and enjoyed reminiscing about their school days.



## Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Edward Eyers (OC 1992, Queen Anne) and his wife Nancy who married in Canberra on 5 February 2011. Amongst the guests were Edward's uncle John Vaughan-Fowler (OC 1978, Harcourt) and groomsman Paul Derow (OC 1996, Queen Anne).



## Recent Leavers' Reunion Dinner

Former pupils belonging to the classes of 2008 to 2010 were joined by current and former members of staff at a Reunion Dinner on Friday 7 January. Over 80 guests enjoyed live music from the Dining Hall balcony upon arrival, followed by a three-course meal; the Headmaster and the Chairman of the Society then ended proceedings with speeches. It was a pleasure to see so many Old Cokethorpeans and hear about their successes since leaving. ☞



## Dates for the Diary

**Society Cricket and Hockey Matches**  
Friday 17 June 2011

**Senior School Prize Giving**  
Friday 8 July 2011

Those wishing to attend should contact the Foundation Office: 01993 892339 or [society@cokethorpe.org](mailto:society@cokethorpe.org).

## Annual General Meeting

The Society AGM took place on Monday 4 April. A number of OCs were welcomed onto the Committee, as was a new Secretary:

Chairman: Tony Baker (1964)  
Treasurer: Tony Baker  
Secretary: Izzy Landon (2009)  
Committee: Charlie Bartlett (2008)  
Elliott Bennett (2008)  
Tom Biggs (2008)  
Hannah Brown (2008)  
Warwick Daniels (Current Staff)  
Peter Green (Former Staff)  
Mike Hilder (1967)  
Robin Hilder (2008)  
Adam Hopcroft (2008)  
Caroline Jenkins (Head of School)  
Simon Lancaster (1992)  
Emily Landon (2008)  
Will Lawson (2010)  
Thomas Shellard (2008)  
James Whittenbury (1992)  
David Wood (1965)  
Philip Vaughan-Fowler (1976)

## The Society Gets Social

The Cokethorpe Society can now be found on the social networking sites LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook. These pages exist to encourage Society members to keep in touch with each other and the School, to provide networking opportunities and to keep members up-to-date with news and events. Please remember to 'Like' our Facebook page, join the LinkedIn group and 'Follow' us on Twitter (all under the name 'The Cokethorpe Society')!

## Death Announcements

### Andrew Forbes

The Society would like to pay tribute to OC Andrew Forbes who the School learnt had died in 2006. Andrew attended Cokethorpe from 1964–1968.

### Margaret Bowsher

Margaret, a former member of staff who retired back in 2005, sadly died on Tuesday 4 January 2011 having fought a long battle with cancer.

## Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Kirsty Wright, former Head of Music, and her husband David on the birth of their first son. Alastair James Spencer was born on 12 March 2011 weighing 4lbs 13oz.

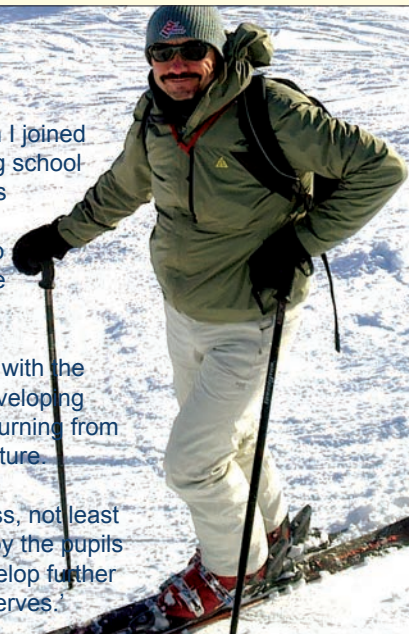
## Ave Atque Valet

### Mr G R Rees (Physical Education)

Despite the fact that I had taught for 29 years when I joined Cokethorpe, I was probably just like pupils attending school on their first day. I remember feeling slightly nervous and a little apprehensive as I was embarking on a completely new chapter in my life. Now as I begin to contemplate life away from Cokethorpe, those same feelings have re-emerged, even larger than before.

I do, however, leave with a sense of pride in what I, with the help from so many, have been able to achieve in developing the School's rugby programme. I look forward to returning from time-to-time to watch the successful teams of the future.

There are many aspects of Cokethorpe life I will miss, not least the friendly and supportive atmosphere generated by the pupils and staff. I look forward to watching the School develop further and hope that it receives the recognition it truly deserves.



## Governing Body

The School is delighted to welcome two new members to the Governing Body, Professor John Wood and Mr Richard Walker. Mr David Mason retired from the Governing Body this term, following 15 years of service.

## Published Author

Drum kit and guitar teacher Mr Aguado-Bush is not only a musician. He has written and published a range of simple, clearly illustrated and educational books for very young children, including titles such as *How to Brush Your Teeth*, *How to Tie Your Laces* and *How to Be a Big Brother*. Details are available on [www.littlelearnerspublishing.co.uk](http://www.littlelearnerspublishing.co.uk).

## University Challenge

Mr McLarin (History), captain of the Oxford Brookes *University Challenge* team (where he is completing his MA), unfortunately did not progress in the series after winning only one of three quarter-finals, instead of the required two.

## Catering Department

For many years the catering provision at Cokethorpe has been managed by independent contractors. On 1 April 2011 the catering service was taken 'in-house' and the catering team became fully employed by the School. This is a significant step forward in Cokethorpe's development and recognises the efforts of the catering staff in serving some of the best school lunches in and around Oxfordshire.

## Baby News

Congratulations to the following members of staff: Mr Cummins and his wife for the birth of Monty Christopher, born 14 January 2011; Mr Capel and his wife for the birth of Daniel Duncan, born Sunday 28 March 2011; and Mr and Mrs Walwyn for the birth of Kassia, born on 7 March 2011.

## Wedding Album

... Just room for a photo of Mr and Mrs Hutchings, whose wedding was announced in the previous issue of *The Ocellus*!



## Open Evening

**Wednesday 11 May: 4.30pm – 6.30pm**  
Prospective parents interested in entry at any age are warmly invited to attend. All departments will be open, and there will be refreshments and activities. All welcome.

**Headmaster's Addresses:**  
5.00pm and 6.00pm

For personal visits at other times, for a tour, discussion with the Registrar, Mrs L Berry, or the Head of Junior School if appropriate, and to meet the Headmaster, please contact the Admissions Secretary, Mrs C Bowerman ([admissions@cokethorpe.org](mailto:admissions@cokethorpe.org) or 01993 703921).

## Contact Information

### Headmaster

Email correspondence with Mr Ettinger ([dje@cokethorpe.org](mailto:dje@cokethorpe.org)) is particularly welcomed during the Headmaster 'Live' hour (8.00pm – 9.00pm, on the first Monday of each month during term time). At other times please contact the Headmaster's Secretary, Mrs P Timms (01993 892325 or [hmsec@cokethorpe.org](mailto:hmsec@cokethorpe.org)).

### Senior Management Team

Second Master: K Walton  
[kw@cokethorpe.org](mailto:kw@cokethorpe.org)  
Bursar: Mrs S A Landon  
[sal@cokethorpe.org](mailto:sal@cokethorpe.org)  
Head of Junior School: Mrs C Cook  
[cc@cokethorpe.org](mailto:cc@cokethorpe.org)  
Head of Sixth Form: Mrs S M L Copeland  
[smlc@cokethorpe.org](mailto:smlc@cokethorpe.org)  
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[ejf@cokethorpe.org](mailto:ejf@cokethorpe.org)  
Director of Studies: J P Floyd  
[jpf@cokethorpe.org](mailto:jpf@cokethorpe.org)

### Housemasters and Housemistresses

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[jlp@cokethorpe.org](mailto:jlp@cokethorpe.org)  
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[psmt@cokethorpe.org](mailto:psmt@cokethorpe.org)  
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Vanbrugh: T J Walwyn  
[tjw@cokethorpe.org](mailto:tjw@cokethorpe.org)

## Photographs

For digital copies of photographs in this newsletter email the Foundation Office at [foundationoffice@cokethorpe.org](mailto:foundationoffice@cokethorpe.org).

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