



The Wycliffian Society Times

2022



Welcome to the 2022 TWS Times!

Thank you to everyone who has supported TWS in the last 12 months with a full schedule of events that have enabled you to connect and reconnect with other Old Wycliffians.



It was brilliant to see so many of you across the year and personally to meet up with classmates for the first time in nearly 30 years in October at the London Drinks. TWS exists for you so please make contact, if there are events and ideas you have which you'd like to see in the future.

Having just attended the fantastic TWS Carol Service under candlelight, signifying the start of the Festive Season, I think back over 2022 and the wide range of sporting activities, social events, giving back opportunities and individual year group reunions which TWS has offered this year:

- The year started with OW basketball and football matches, and the sporting theme carried on with cricket, tennis, netball and most recently hockey – there are plans for 2023 to expand the sports to include squash, mixed cricket and we are exploring if we can arrange anything on the rugby field - watch this space!
- On the social front, we held our first event at Stroud Brewery towards the end of the College summer term and had a large turnout, in a new venue, which was enjoyed by all. Thank you to OW **John May** OBE (W 1977-1982) for hosting the annual TWS London

drinks at a new venue The Lansdowne Club – this event brought out some OWs attending an event for the first time, and we had over 5 decades represented among the guests.

- TWS arranged specific reunions (in person and/or virtual) this year for year groups ending in a '2' – the Class of 1962 & Class of 1972. We plan to continue this in 2023, with reunions planned for classes from 1953 – 2013.
- We held some new events, a notable highlight being the Armed Forces Dinner marking 50 years of the CCF at Wycliffe. Held the evening before Remembrance Sunday, Wycliffe Hall was full of current CCF senior ranks, current, serving military parents, current and former members of staff and serving & retired OWs. Many in attendance also took part in the College Remembrance Day Service the following next day – another memorable event in the calendar.
- In November, we held a 'Business Breakfast' at The Stonehouse Court Hotel, which offered the opportunity for current parents, OWs & staff to meet, share ideas, and have a network to discuss with – this format will be running throughout 2023 so if you are in the area, do come along!
- TWS members continue to offer support to the current College students with their experiences, be that attending the Year 8 Careers Morning, interviewing Year 11 students in their mock interviews, supporting Year 12 in their Aspire presentations, returning to the College after first year at University to offer a "current perspective" of student life, or offering work experience and the chance to talk to someone doing a current role if a student has an interest in that field of work or study.

2022 was also marred by the sad passing of Her Majesty The Queen and the decision

we took to postpone our annual Wycliffian Day this year – we are currently exploring the options for rescheduling this day, so keep an eye on our website for more information. The Committee is recruiting and we're keen to welcome new members. See the article on p.19 for more details on this!

As we look ahead into 2023, we plan to extend the current events programme to include two regional events in March – one in Bristol and one in Birmingham – if you are in that area and want to meet up with OWs, please go along (details inside). Further, if you have a group of OWs who you are in contact with and want to organise a reunion event, please get in touch.

2023 also sees the launch for current Year 13 pupils and alumni of a new-look TWS Awards (more details inside, including how to apply). The refocused Awards draw on the values of the College, and aim to offer support to alumni within business and wellbeing. The Committee is excited to be able to support a wider number of people through TWS Awards and welcome feedback.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor as Chair of TWS, OW **John Hughes** (J H 1953-1961) for his stewardship & leadership of the Society, and personally for his support as I step into the acting Chair seat. An additional thank you to my fellow Committee members, who have continued to support the Society and attended many activities in the last year. And finally to **Sara** and **Matt** for their operational support to the work of TWS in delivering such a range of activities on our behalf.

Finally, it remains for me to wish you a happy and healthy 2023 - we hope to see many of you (in person or virtually) at TWS events in 2023.

by **Ollie Hart** (Chair Elect, TWS Committee)
(S & H 1983 – 1993)



The awakening of Bettie Haute Couture

by OW **Bettie Jiang** (IG L 2002-2004)

I am Bettie, I am very proud to be an Old Wycliffian, because Wycliffe has given me advice and guidance on making choices in life, it has taught me how important to insist on what I really passionate about.

My first thought was to study law, but my tutor advised me to follow my heart and choose a subject that I really loved, so I took art, my favourite subject. For the reason of that, I became a fashion designer, and now I can express and enjoy myself in the industry that I loved.

I did both my Bachelor and Master degree at the University of the Arts London. Before starting my own fashion label, I had been working at Alexander McQueen's fashion studio in London, I was mainly responsible for pattern design. The experience of working at Alexander McQueen reinforced my determination to set up my own business and inspired me to use hand-drawn pattern as the signature feature of my personal label. After graduating with a Master degree, I moved to Hong Kong in 2017 to establish my own eponymous brands, "BETTIE BESPOKE" and "BETTIE HAUTE COUTURE". Having witnessed the extravagant waste behind the fashion industry, I insist with sustainability by implementing eco-friendly concepts

from fabric selection to tailoring process. BETTIE BESPOKE, Men's Suit Tailoring was the start of my entrepreneurial journey. My unique designs are highlighted by the hand drawn pattern of the suit lining as well as the craftsmanship and details. BETTIE HAUTE COUTURE is my womenswear brand that has launched in 2019. The first womenswear collection was named 'AWAKEN', with the intention of awakening a woman's individuality. The design concept was inspired by English culture. I chose a mix of two contrasting fabric patterns -Scottish Tartans and English rowing pin stripes, to match with a minimalist geometric silhouette, to highlighting my confident statement as a female fashion designer "Be Unique Be True".

This collection has also been selected by London Fashion Week on February 2020 and was shown at Somerset House London. This trip was the best testimony to my life in the UK and was the best gift that I have given to myself.

The process of starting my own business

is happy but also very difficult, but sometimes life is incredible, as long as you persist, there will be a miracle waiting for you! David is my business partner and my husband, he is also an old Wycliffian, we haven't spoke to each other until we met again in Hong Kong after 14 years because of business. And now we are fighting for the same life goal. Wycliffe is where we started, and which has made me more confident and taught me to be myself and to realise my self-worth in life. Now I deeply experience the fullness and satisfaction within my heart, and I enjoy the pleasure and meaning that creativity brings me.





Life beyond Wycliffe

OW Nicky Davies (HE 1990 – 1992) writes about life beyond Wycliffe and the valuable work of ChildHope, the charity she is Executive Director of.

ChildHope works through local partner organisations in Africa and Asia to address the needs of the most marginalised and vulnerable children. We work on issues around child protection and child rights often working with children in the worst forms of child labour, those abused and neglected, missing education, and living unsafe and uncertain lives. Our partners directly intervene where necessary to protect children, but our work aims to break cycles of inter-generational poverty and exploitation. This means working on research programmes, engaging with local governments, disbanding exploitative systems and more. The best part of this work is watching children themselves identify the practical solutions that make a difference to their lives, and then taking these to scale to support others in the same situation. I am amazed every day by children's creative ideas, analytical skills, and resilience. This needs to be supported and nurtured through trust, rehabilitation, sports, friendship, and tireless encouragement of adults working in their communities. A good start in life is not a given for everyone but the ones that slip through the net of family and community still have enormous potential.

At Wycliffe I remember getting heavily involved in sport (hockey, squash, tennis), social events, Business Enterprise and

CCF all of which I loved. I was Head Girl in my last year at Wycliffe with Jamie Uys as Head Boy - he is now my brother-in-law; small worlds! I remember Wycliffe being busy with lots of great friends, choice of things to do, boisterous six-form social time, and some really great teachers in and outside the classroom. I was lucky enough to go on some fantastic trips through my A level courses (e.g. geography), also a skiing trip and CCF (mis)adventures.

After doing my A-Levels (Geography, Biology and Politics) I deferred my place at Durham University to read Anthropology and spent a gap year with Project Trust working as a volunteer in a remote area of North-East Thailand. This was an incredible opportunity to live for a sustained period of time within a very different community and culture; I highly recommend Project Trust to any parent or A-level students reading this. Since this gap year and subsequent degree in Anthropology and MSc in Development Studies I have been involved in international development work ever since - far too many years to count now!

If you are looking for a charity to support via your school, church, individual giving etc. for 2023 then do consider ChildHope. Our future like so many small charities is somewhat precarious, but we have a busy programme of work for 2023 working

in Nepal and Bangladesh on worst forms of child labour, The Gambia on improved education for marginalised children, and in Sierra Leone, and hopefully in Uganda and Kenya, to protect girls from unwanted pregnancy, abuse and violence. We also support 10+ local partners with cross-learning and trainings around child protection, safeguarding, strategy development etc for them to cascade to other organisations. You can donate via our website www.childhope.org.uk and watch our impact video Brighter Futures For All which has been selected for Charity Film Award: <https://smileycharityfilmawards.com/videos/brighter-futures-for-all>



Betsy conquers LEJOG

Contribution from OW Betsy Hunt (IG 2019-2021)

In September, I cycled from Land's End to John O' Groats, ticking off something from my bucket list and fundraising for Cancer Research UK. Day 1 was cold and wet, but I was excited to get going. By lunch time, 4 of us had joined together and we finished at Launceston having travelled 99 miles in 7hrs 20mins. We set off the next morning with better weather and some anxiety about the hills we would face through Devon. 9,616ft of ascent and 8 hours later we arrived in Ilminster. I think, personally, this was the hardest day for me. No amount of hill training could have prepared me for the severity and relentlessness of the hills that we climbed, but we all supported one another to make it. Day 3 was flatter and only 89 miles, bringing me home to Gloucestershire. We cycled past Wycliffe College where pupils were returning from house cross country. I was so lucky to have friends and family who came to see me at our water stop and as I cycled on to Gloucester. Day 4 was supposed to be a recovery day of 61 miles, but a relentless headwind was exhausting. The forecasted headwind led us to join another pair, so that 6 of us

could now battle the wind together. Our new group set off on day 5 for 96 miles to Warrington. I remembered to stretch for the first time and that refreshed my legs for a journey of less than 7 hours. Day 6 started with rain which thankfully cleared up, but only once we were all soaked! The headwind returned after lunch with a 3-mile hill, but the views at the top were fantastic. Day 7 gave me the opportunity to say, 'I have cycled to Scotland'. We stopped for lunch in a lovely pub where King Charles has visited which seemed fitting as we paid our respects to The Queen and watched her funeral. Day 8 was 97 miles of sunshine and high spirits, with some long, gentle incline hills followed by some amazing descents. Day 9 was a shorter day of 77 miles with a tailwind and some racing! I set a new personal record for a top speed of 43.5mph which my parents were not too pleased to hear about!! Day 10 was my furthest ever cycle of 108 miles. It seemed daunting in the morning, but we ticked the miles off with more fabulous descents and stunning views. Day 11 started with the surprise of



my parents turning up in Dingwall! We cycled 105 miles through the highlands blessed with sights I will never forget and made it to our hotel before the rain began. The next morning, day 12, we cycled, as a group of 21 to John O' Groats! We had made it.

I had cycled 1,020 miles, climbed 59,905ft, spent 66 hours and 46 minutes sat on my bike, personally raised over £8,600 for Cancer Research UK and as a group we raised over £39,000!

Contribution from OW Sam Rawlings-Johnson (HE 1987-89)

In April 2023 I am taking on an extraordinary adventure – the Marathon des Sables!

Known as the toughest footrace on earth, the MDS is 6 days of running/walking 250kms across the Sahara desert in Morocco – over sand dunes, rocky jebels and salt plains. I'll also be carrying everything that I need for the week on my back, sleeping in an open sided tent with 7 others and running in temperatures of up to 50 degrees.

Training is going well, and this year I've completed the Chester 50 Mile Ultra, Race to the Stones 100Km Ultra and most recently the Druid's Challenge 135km along the Ridgeway.

In November 2021, our 13 year old daughter, Lottie, was diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome and many of its

associated Neuro Divergences. We were put in touch with Tourettes Action by Lottie's Consultant, and the support and information that they've provided



is amazing. In June of this year, we were lucky enough to attend an activity weekend in Avon Tyrell, funded by Tourettes Action, with 20 other families. The weekend was incredible, the children felt liberated to just be themselves without fear of judgement and funny looks, building lasting strong friendships. As parents, we were able to meet other families in similar situations and share experiences and advice. Tourettes Action doesn't receive any Government funding and relies entirely on donations from the public. Without the support of TA we would all be in a very different place now.

If you able to please visit my GoFundMe page 'Marathon des Sables 2023' here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/we5z7-marathon-des-sables-2023> and help me to support Tourettes Action in helping other families.

TWS Gloucestershire Drinks

- 10th February 2022, The Old Lodge, Minchinhampton



A Bodey



D Powell, I Cooper, J Owen



K Brooker, G Downton, J Hughes



P Daniels, S Arman



L Chatham, N Jones, T Woods, R Chatham



P Hale, J Osbourne, M Coombs

Basketball

OW v Wycliffe College, 19th March 2022



Football

OW v Wycliffe College, 19th March 2022



Wycliffe College Update

by Nick Gregory

Informal speech from the Headmaster, delivered at the TWS event at The Lansdowne Club on Thursday 13th October:

As only the 10th Head in the history of the institution that brings us all together this evening and that binds so many of you together as friends, it would be remiss this evening not to mention the death last month of the College's 5th Head, **Richard Poulton**. Richard was Head between 1980 and 1986 and whilst I never met him personally, he wrote to me generously and supportively on more than one occasion, including a very detailed piece of correspondence on one occasion to make certain that the College's history held onto the extraordinary career of PD Jones, whom many of you will remember. Heads 6-to-9 (plus me of course) are all still very much with us but Richard's passing reminds us all of the need to take care to ensure that the College's history is recorded, protected and cherished.

Back to the present and progress at your old school:

- 400 pupils at the Senior School still means we are pretty close to capacity, almost 50/50 boys and girls and almost 50/50 Day and Boarding. 70% of the school population is from the UK with 30% from around the world – lots of Spanish exuberance this year compared to recent years, incidentally!
- 2021/22 was our 140th in total and marked the 50th year of girls attending Wycliffe. Moving around the place now, in lots of ways it is hard to believe that we have not always been a co-educational school. That said, 2022/23 marks the first year that girls below the Sixth Form have been able to wear trousers to school and “about time too” will, I am sure, be the view of many with regard to that.
- Pupils' A Level grades this Summer (plus BTEC equivalents) exceeded 40% for A* and A with five pupils – from a year-group of 81 – earning



A*A*A, one girl earning three straight A*s and another boy with three A*s and an A. These results opened up a variety of courses (including Medicine and Veterinary Science) and University destinations both within the United Kingdom, as well as in the United States, Germany, Spain, Holland, Switzerland and even Costa Rica (for a course in Sustainable Tourism Management).

- Twelve different children (three of them sons or daughters of OWs) completed their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award before leaving school whilst in the CCF the 2021/22 Company Sergeant Major – Ella Clements – was also the daughter of an OW (and did an outstanding job).
- In Music, we have a Year 11 violinist who performs at beyond Degree level and who is a member of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Junior Conservatoire – he was part of a quartet of current Wycliffians who played in front of 1,500 people last month at the Opening Ceremony of the Round Square International Conference in Oxford. And in

Drama, ‘Chicago’ last January as the school production has moved on to ‘A Christmas Carol’ which will be performed on the stage in Sibly Hall in early December – do please come and see it if you would like to on 7th, 8th or 9th December.

- In Sport, highlights include having a Year 13 boy in the back-row of the Gloucester Rugby U18 Premiership Academy side, two of our Sixth Form girls Rowing for Britain in August's European Championships in Spain (one winning Bronze in the Quad and the other a truly exceptional Gold in the Single) – hopes are (quietly) high for Henley next Summer (!) – and a Y11 boy winning a Silver in Pentathlon at the U17 European Championships in Poland.

Do join us at TWS Carols on the evening of Saturday 3rd December if you can. It really is a great event. Or come along for the Remembrance Service on the morning of Sunday 13th November (and The Armed Forces Dinner in school the night before – 50+ people are already down to attend). And thank you very much indeed for supporting today's event.

The Wycliffian Society Awards 2023

TWS is an organisation designated to connect, reconnect and support past and present students of Wycliffe College.

Within the Society, the Committee members are responsible for directing the activity of TWS (at a strategic level), ensuring it is well run and delivering the outcomes for which it has been set up. As this edition of TWS Times highlights, TWS delivers a wide range of events in the course of the year (reunions, networking and sports matches), maintains the College archive, works to keep Old Wycliffians (OWs) informed of developments at Wycliffe College and provides OW support to careers (both within The College and past pupils).

One aspect of support TWS offers is in the form of TWS Award. An annual bursary with the aim of providing financial support to a Year 13 leaver - who might not be able to fund a place at university, or to help a student who may need to take a part-time job.

TWS Committee has taken the decision that, from January 2023, the Award will be extended to ensure the support on offer is more inclusive and representative of the pupils at Wycliffe College, the breadth of options that school leavers pursue, and to recognise the agile nature of modern working trends, as well as develop the provision of well-being support for Old Wycliffians.

TWS Awards 2023

In early February Year 13 students will be invited to apply for the following awards:

'Academic Endeavour' (£2000) will be awarded to a Year 13 leaver in financial need, who is planning on pursuing post-secondary school study in Higher Education. This award will include those applying for apprenticeships.

'Pioneering Spirit' (£2000) will be awarded to a Year 13 leaver who has considered, developed, and has the intention to undertake post-18 plans that demonstrate an "independence of thought and deed".

'Global Citizenship' (£2000) will be



awarded to a Year 13 leaver who has considered, developed, and has the intention to undertake, post-18 plans that demonstrate a significant contribution to community service.

Additional awards available to the rest of the OW network are:

'Continued Professional Development' (£2000) will be awarded to an alumnus/ alumna in financial need, who has demonstrated a commitment to undertake a professional development course. This could include further study within Higher Education.

'Entrepreneurial Spirit' (£2000) will be awarded to an alumnus/alumna of Wycliffe College, who is developing a business idea and requires financial assistance to further develop it.

'Well-being' (3 x £500 per annum) will be awarded three times per annum to an Old Wycliffian who seeks to access well-being support and demonstrates a financial need that currently prohibits them from doing so.

Applications:

The process for applications from OWs interested in being considered for the 'Continued Professional Development', 'Entrepreneurial Spirit', and 'Well-being' awards is as follows:

Deadline for applications:

- o 'Continued Professional Development' – 2/2/23
- o 'Well-being' – 2/2/23 (Round 1), 27/4/23 (Round 2), 7/9/23 (Round 3)
- o 'Entrepreneurial Spirit' – 27/4/23

Applicants are required to write a formal letter to TWS Committee, detailing:

- o Their suitability to receive the award
- o Detailed plans of how they intend to utilise the award (including a financial breakdown)
- o Details of how the applicant intends to report back to TWS Committee regarding the impact of the award,
- o And details of how the applicant believes they can contribute to the Wycliffe community as a result of receiving the award.

Applications will be considered by TWS Committee members and applicants will be informed of the outcome of their decision at the earliest opportunity.

Applications from Year 13 students will be coordinated by TWS Manager, **Sara Smalley**, on behalf of TWS Committee and in collaboration with the College.

For further information regarding the awards, please email TWS Committee via TWS@wycliffe.co.uk.



CCF Inception

Extracted information from *The Wycliffe Star*



Wycliffe College's Combined Cadet Force was preceded by the No. 641 Squadron, Air Training Corps. Formed in 1941, it was in place until 1972.

The Wycliffe Star No. 254 (Sep - Dec 1972)

At the time of writing the status of the School Squadron (641 Squadron ATC) is somewhat uncertain! And thereby hangs a tale. I will try to be brief. For many years it has been felt that a change from ATC to a Combined Cadet Force would be advantageous and it has really been a question of waiting for the right moment. That moment was judged to have arrived in September of this year when the Bristol and Gloucestershire Wings of the ATC joined and became one much larger Wing whose strength would not be materially affected by the loss of a Squadron such as 641!

Accordingly, application was made for a CCF contingent, consisting of an Army Section and an RAF Section, to be formed at Wycliffe. Approval was hopefully expected sometime in the Spring Term 1973, but much to our surprise we received

notification on December 9th (1972) that we had authority to form a CCF from December 1st!

This has all happened so fast that nobody really knows what the situation is and a great deal of sorting out will have to be done at the start of the New Year. One thing is certain and that is that this is the last termly report on 641 Squadron ATC. However, it will not be the last report on the Squadron as I hope, with some assistance, to pay a proper tribute to the thirty years of 641's history in the next issue of the *Star*. Time is too short to do justice to it in this issue.

Why have we decided to change? Simply because the CCF is geared to schools in a way which the ATC is not. We shall lose very little and gain a great deal in terms of allocation of time, allocation of equipment, and in terms of simplified administration. There will be problems, there will be challenges, there will certainly be wider

opportunities and, I hope, we will be able to increase our appeal to an even larger number of the boys in the School. Now is not the time to go into too much detail but what we do know is that **Mr David Evans** assisted by **Mr Philip Mahiques** will look after the Army Section and that **Flight Lieutenant (John) Parry** will continue as Contingent Commander and will be i/c RAF Section. We await the new term with more than usual interest and anticipation.

Although we are a CCF with effect from December 1st we will not be effective until January and what could be more appropriate. The two-headed God Janus, looking forward and backward at the same time, is like all of us involved in the change-over: we look back with pride and we look forward with hope and expectation.

John S. Parry,
Flight Lieutenant R.A.F.V.R.(T)



It all started with lightweights and puttees

by OW Colonel **Gary McDade** (W 1986-1991)

In summer 1987, in Berlin before The Wall came down, a seed was sown in 14 year-old **Gary McDade's** mind that a career in the Army might be for him.

There on Summer Camp with Wycliffe College CCF, under the guiding hand of the inspirational **Major Wes Thomas**, the sense of adventure, variety, and travel opportunities, were very clear. Four further summer camps in Germany reinforced this urge resulting in me arriving at Sandhurst in January 1993; who'd have thought 30 years on I'd still be serving.

Aside from the cricket nets and squash courts, CCF was my life at Wycliffe. On reflection I should have worked a lot harder but I scraped the grades needed for the Army and off I went, bypassing university, aged 19. The CCF had taught me leadership skills, made me more confident, instilled a sense of pride and camaraderie in me, and regularly took me out of my comfort zone. Two opportunities of completing Ten Tors on Dartmoor showed me what I was capable of and made my mind up. Unquestionably, the foundations I developed in CCF all those years ago set me up for a successful career.

And what a career it's been. I've served in all the usual hot, dusty places, spent a lot of time away from my family and done the normal bits of Army life. But, I've also trekked to Everest Base Camp, trained African Union soldiers in Rwanda, overseen the rehabilitation of 1000 Service personnel in detention, and had

countless more adventures. I still love my job and am excited by the prospects of what each day brings.

As Commander South West, one of my responsibilities is to look after all the cadets in the SW – some 10000 of them, supported by 1400 adult volunteers. The syllabus of skills they learn is much more rigorous than it used to be, but the challenges remain the same. Many come from difficult backgrounds and the cadet force provides them with skills for life, a friendship group, and a support network. The cadet movement isn't aimed at recruitment but a proportion do end up in the military and a recent academic study has shown that soldiers who were cadets are more likely to have full careers and rise through the ranks. It really does set people up for life.

I'm also Director Ten Tors in my current role, so it's an amazing privilege to be in charge of the event where it all started for

me. Ten Tors returned following a three year gap in May this year, with some 2800 teenagers let loose on the moor, to trek distances up to 55 miles over a weekend. In its 60th iteration this year, the event remains very similar to the ones I did in 1988 and 1990, so I was delighted to meet the Wycliffe team the night before it started – they even re-presented me with copies of my Ten Tors certificates which the school had retained (image above).

This all started with Wycliffe College CCF, lightweights and puttees, tinned rations, Lee Enfield 303s. Things have moved on. Wes Thomas taught me so many lessons and gave me the confidence to go for it. I owe him a lot.



Photo circa 1990

Armed Forces Dinner

12th November 2022 – Marking 50 years of Wycliffe College CCF



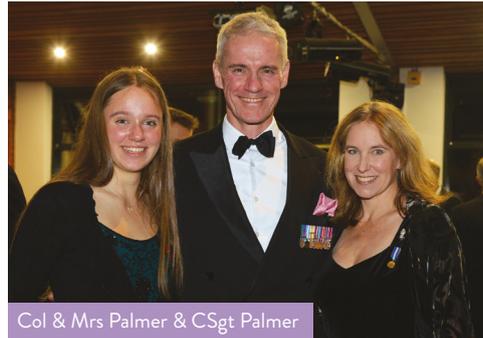
Lt Col & Mrs Tawlks, CSgt Tawlks



Brig (Retd) Robin Bacon



Col & Mrs Ashman



Col & Mrs Palmer & CSgt Palmer



OW Col Gary McDade (W 1986-1991)



CSgt & Mrs Tagarisa



Col, Lt Col and Sgt N. Arthurton



Father William Hamilton-Box, OW Maj Gen Richard Clements CBE (P W 1978-1989)



Sgt N.Arthurton, CSM R.Palk, Sgt N.Opaleye, CSgt C. Palmer

More photographs and news on our website <https://www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society>

TWS Award

As The Wycliffian Society Award prepares to re-launch, two of the most recent recipients provide us with an update on how the current Award has benefited them.

Charlie Jones (W 2016-2021)



Charlie Jones

The Wycliffian Society Award has been invaluable to me in the last 12 months. Without having to worry unduly about money, I have been able to concentrate fully on my studies and have had the flexibility to pursue outside interests without the undue pressure of financial constraint.

Being a military child, the Armed Forces

has always had a strong appeal to me and the logical first step has been joining the URNU (University Royal Navy Unit). In the last six months I have skydived, taken part in the Three Peaks Challenge, and spent time on various warships sailing around Scotland, Germany, and the Netherlands.

The TWS' support has also allowed me to focus on my sporting endeavours and I now represent my university as a member of the powerlifting team.

The freedom that this award has given me has allowed me to spend as much time as I need studying, without having to juggle additional part-time work and I am very aware how fortunate I am to have received this award.

Nathan Berrecloth (C 2018-2020)

During my second year at the University of Birmingham I undertook modules in: Software Engineering, Artificial

Intelligence, Security and Networks, Systems Programming, Functional Programming, and a Team Development Project.

In June, I returned to PwC for a year

in industry. I am currently working within the Deals line of service, predominantly on technology-based projects. I am looking forward to the opportunities the year ahead may bring. I recently attended the London Climate Action Week conference at the Excel in London as a PwC delegate. Away from university and work, I'm very happy to have achieved my 1st Dan black belt in judo over the past 12 months.



Nathan Berrecloth

What Wycliffe gave me

Contribution by OW John R.G. Jenkins (H 1941 – 1946)

I am an OW, having been at Haywardsfield from September 1941 until July 1946, when I left to do my National Service in the RAF before going up to Magdalene College, Cambridge. I spent four years at Lampeter and a final year at Stonehouse. To my great surprise I've reached the age of 94.

I received an excellent education at my local grammar school, but Wycliffe added an extra dimension to my life in the form of its myriad of other activities. Not only was Wycliffe's education first-rate but from 1941-1945 we had the wonderful countryside of west Wales to enjoy.

We went on exhausting but enjoyable "WAS Walks" of 10 miles or more, cycle rides to Aberaeron on the coast, or Carmarthen to the south. We did a lot of other exploration of the countryside with our close friends. We had to do

"Mullers" exercises outdoors in the rainy wet weather, polished our fellow-students' shoes and lay the tables prior to breakfast on different occasions. We were encouraged to join Wycliffe's Boy Scout Troop, the Air Training Corps, the Debating Society, etc. There was never a dull moment.

I was small for my age and wasn't good at rugby or cricket (although of course I played them) but I went for early morning runs in my last year at Lampeter and later in life played tennis (including for my college in Oxford at a D.Phil. student of



'47), squash and badminton.

Wycliffe held wonderful Scout Camps at Cader Idris, St. David's, Newquay and Bossington and in September 1946 we enjoyed an exciting walking trip in the Swiss Alps. For most of us this was our first visit to Europe and, after wartime Britain the abundance of goods in Switzerland was astonishing. I still remember the wonderful breakfast we all had at the Basel railway station, with its ample supply of rolls and butter and wonderful black cherry jam after a long trip through war devastated eastern France. I've returned to Switzerland on hiking trips many times since.

Wycliffe gave me a lifelong love of the outdoors. It made a man of me. I've had a successful life, saddened only by the premature passing of my lovely wife after 40 years of marriage and the premature death of my talented older daughter at the hands of a hit-and-run motorist. But I've got two surviving children, three successful grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. I'm a happy person and I owe a very great deal to Wycliffe.

Class of 2022 Leavers' Ball 2nd July 2022



OW Hockey v Wycliffe

10th September 2022



Class of 1962 60 year Virtual Reunion 6th October 2022



OWs Roger Moore (J W 1995-1962), Jon Masters (Spr 1956-1962) and David Lindop (J S 1957-1962).



Please let us know of any announcements for The Wycliffian Society Times 2023 issue and Wycliffe Times. Please contact TWS@wycliffe.co.uk

TWS London Drinks

13th October 2022 - The Lansdowne Club, Mayfair.



Aiden Coffey (P R 2007 - 2017), Zlata Ozeviciute (Guest), Max Glynn (H C R 2013 - 2017), Caitlen Cooper (P IG 2011 - 2017), Frances Friend (P IG 2003 - 2017), Ariel Gbemudu (L 2015 - 2017), Robert Wood (Guest), Kirsty Turbott (M 2013 - 2017), Jeremy Burne (P W C 2007 - 2017), Jamie Jones (P H 2007 - 2015), Lois Cowie (Guest)



Godfrey Higgins (J W 1953 - 1962)



George Molyneux (P C 1997 - 2013), Tom Harris (C 2009 - 2014)



Patrick Harper-Smith (P J SH 1954 - 1964), Helen Gregory, Jeremy Woolcock (J SH 1957 - 1965), John Cox (P J SH 1956 - 1965)



Ben Harding (P H 1981 - 1992), Ben Hughes (H 1989 - 1994), Thomas Aylwin (J H 1983 - 1993)



Rachel Egan (C IG 2020 - 2022), Chelsea West (Guest), Stephanie Wynn (C L 2014 - 2016), Hywel Farrow-Wilton (P W 2015 - 2022)



John Simpson (S 1977 - 1982), Grace Hu (M 2004 - 2005)



Jim Thorpe (H 1991 - 1993), Michael Stafford (H 1988 - 1992), Will Tovey (P H 1985 - 1992), Sally Baker (IG 1991 - 1993)



Matt Lewis (R 2005 - 2010), Mitch Crawford (P C 2001 - 2008), Will Clapham (P C 2000 - 2010), Joe Keefe (R 2005 - 2010), Sam Russell (R 2002 - 2006), Heath Stephenson (H 2004 - 2007)



Heath Stephenson (H 2004 - 2007), Zac Curtis (P W 1988 - 1995), Ben Hughes (H 1989 - 1994), Catherine von Altheer (Guest)



Gareth Collins (P SH 1981 - 1989), Tom Hatherell (P W 1980 - 1989), Ben Singer (S 1984 - 1989), Jim James (P SH 1977 - 1987)

More photographs and news on our website <https://www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society>

Where are they now?

Contribution from OW Neil Lloyd (SH 1966-1968)

I thought I would give you an update on what I have been doing since I left Wycliffe. I was in School House from 1966 to Dec 1968.

I managed to persuade my parents to let me leave Wycliffe and attend school closer to home at Yeovil Technical College. In fact, I really enjoyed being at Yeovil College, and I felt more 'rounded' by being there, not least because there were girls in the class! However, my academic performance might have been better served staying on at the 'all boys' Wycliffe, as it was then.

My parents then dispatched me to South Devon and Ashburton for an Outward-Bound course, the course reduced to an intensive three weeks from four, after a fire burnt down the canoe sheds. Following this I joined the Army on a Potential Officer Course, enlisting as a Gunner in the Royal Artillery - and so off to Woolwich and Basic Training I went. My father had been a Major in the Army (stationed at Woolwich Barracks), before leaving to become a Bells Whisky rep eventually, so it seemed the right thing for me to do.

Being woken up by a Bombardier shouting at us recruits at 5.00am to get up in quick time was a novelty but, somehow, I earned a stripe as a room leader, there being about twenty recruits to a room. Later, whilst I was doing 'bunny hops' uphill for some perceived misdemeanour prescribed by the Troop Sergeant, I got called to the Troop Office and handed a telegram saying I had achieved an O level pass for A level Pure Maths, so I felt even more dispirited, especially having to continue my undeserved punishment!

Later, after our Passing Out Parade, I worked as an acting-Lance Bombardier in another Training Troop, before deciding I could be better served elsewhere! The whole purpose was to prepare me for the Commissioning Board, but that could have

been years ahead – that said, I was never so fit in my life!

After some Cost Clerk work closer to home in Wincanton, I joined the Somerset and Bath Constabulary as a Probationer Constable, training at 'Chantmarle' Centre in Dorset, with a number escapades in Bath. After 20 months I transferred to the BSA Police in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Africa, for three years as a Patrol Officer.

Tribal Trust Land policing was so interesting, as one travelled to farmsteads with an African Constable in a Landrover, and the Constable would translate and also investigate the African employees if crimes were complained of.

I later got toughened up by joining the Police's Support Unit in Salisbury (known as the 'Black boots'), with periods of one week training followed by six weeks in the bush, on Counter Insurgency duties in combat fatigues. So many stories from there, but in truth I was a completely different person from the shy boy leaving Wycliffe!

Back in the UK, I served with both the Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire Police Forces, being a Road Traffic Division Officer, Area Car Driver, Home Beat Officer and Firearms Officer amongst some, and being an Acting Sergeant twice. After thirteen years in UK Police Forces decided to change again, trying different sales rep posts, before settling on nursing and public service again.

A three-year nursing course to become an RGN at Yeovil Hospital was such fun for me, as I was close to home, and this eventually led to Staff Nurse posts in areas like medical, surgical, A&E and ITU in hospitals from South Wales across to London.

I settled in Buckinghamshire and completed extra courses to become 'Qualified in Speciality' as a Neonatal Intensive Care nurse at Stoke Mandeville, and often second in charge on the unit



there. Some courses like the Neonatal Life Support course were taken with medics, nurses and other professions and there would be friendly competition for nurses to prove they were better in practice than doctors!

Time passed by, and I went to Reading's Neonatal Unit, but dealing with my father's estate after a year or two affected my health, being in my 60s by then and so I retired. What now?! Academia beckons, but not health. I discovered Birkbeck College, University of London has evening attendance degrees which can be blended with distance learning for Earth Science courses. After going to a Late Applicant's Open Evening, I was given an unconditional offer for Geology part time over four years by a Steve Hiron, the admitting tutor. That was after a great chat about life and geology in general. The 'welcome' meeting in a lecture hall beforehand was full of a diverse group of people of all cultures from across London, and fun to be part of, now I have reached 70.

The welcome lecturer told us that a student had just graduated at the age of 92. The Geology course has 100 days of field work of different kinds, including trips to places in Wales, Scotland, Canary islands and Morocco, so that appealed.

TWS Carol Service

3rd December 2022



More photographs and news on our website <https://www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society>

Farewell to Richard Poulton

A few months ago, we received the sad news that **Richard Poulton** (5th Head of Wycliffe College and Honorary Old Wycliffian) had passed away on 23rd September, aged 84.

Below is a summarised version of the obituary we received from Richard's family.

Richard was the son of a local parish vicar and a Red Cross volunteer and grew up in rural south Devon as one of four children in a loving, hard-working and community-spirited family. The seeds of his future vocation were sown early on – as a capable 9-year-old in a simple one-room primary school in Longdown, Richard was often chosen by the teacher to help other older students with their reading. His aptitude for academia was even more apparent when he won the top scholarship to King's College, Taunton. Offered a place at Pembroke College, Cambridge aged 16 (to start 5 years later), on leaving school Richard initially worked as a trainee accountant, and then a brewery labourer, before crossing the Atlantic to spend an eye-opening year studying at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

On leaving Cambridge with a first-class honours degree, Richard began his teaching career at Bedford School, and at around that time he met and married his devoted wife, Zara (known as Sally), who was a source of strength and support for him throughout the rest of his life. Posts followed at Beckenham & Penge Grammar School, and then Bryanston School where he spent 15 years. Here he became Head of History, followed by Housemaster of first a boys' and then a girls' house, as well as being Head of Rowing and frequently being involved in the choral productions and school musicals.

Seeking a fresh challenge, Richard became the fifth Headmaster of Wycliffe College in 1980, where he spent 6 years working extremely hard to grow and develop the school. This included developing a new girls' boarding house, and numerous other changes to the campus and running of the school. Outside of school life he was appointed as a Justice of the Peace on



the South Cotswold Bench. In 1987, the Secretary of the Headmasters' Conference recommended that he apply for the job as Headmaster of Christ's Hospital in West Sussex, telling him it was "the school for him". And how right he was – in what was a period of great change (with the girls' school having only just relocated from Hertford to the Horsham campus), Richard brought stability and a clear vision during his tenure, demonstrating his passion for providing the opportunity of an excellent education to children who needed it.

After retiring fully from day-to-day school life, he continued in the field of educational charities, becoming

involved with The Inner Cities Young People's Project, and then the All Saints' Educational Trust. In 2008, he became Master of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers. A man of strong faith and renowned for working hard, Richard provided strong yet calm and sensitive leadership in his schools and organisations. He always took great interest in those around him, making time to guide and encourage pupils, colleagues and family alike.

He is survived by his wife **Zara**, and children **Elizabeth**, **Anthony** and **Benedict**.

www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society/obituaries/richard-poulton/

Announcements

TWS Committee is recruiting

TWS Committee works to ensure that the Society is run efficiently and in accordance with its strategic aims.

The committee meets three times per year (February, May and September) to share thoughts and ideas to continually try to improve and enhance the work of the Society. members are also encouraged, where possible, to support the range of events across the year.

The Committee is recruiting new committee members and welcomes interest from Old Wycliffians who are keen to be involved. The Committee looks forward to hearing from those who

want to gain experience of being part of a Committee (or already have experience to offer), who are interested in the work of the Society, and would like to give back some of their time and experience.

There is no requirement for applicants to have prior Committee/Board experience.

Further information can be obtained via TWS Manager, Sara Smalley – TWS@wycliffe.co.uk.



OW John Hughes, TWS President



OW Ollie Hart, Chair Elect, TWS Committee



OW Ash Bodey



OW Margie Coombs



OW Stephanie Bagnall



OW Vicki Watson

Deaths

This year we sadly said farewell to the following OWs and Hon OWs

John Bradbeer (J S 1939-1945)

Peter Smythe (CL W H 1946-1950)

David Daniels (P J H 1942-1952)

Rodney Loyd (J S 1947-1953)

Stephen Savery (SH 1950-1954)

Sir Antony Reardon Smith (H 1951-1955)

Peter Francis (P J S 1950-1959)

Richard Downes (J S 1954-1963)

Richard Orchard (P J H 1954-1964)

Revd. Peter Jackson (S 1966-1970)

Chris Walker (P H 1962-1972)

Simon Smith (P S 1968-1975)

Richard Poulton (Hon. OW & Head of Wycliffe College 1980-1986)

Jakob Hancock (H 1991-1993)

David Gazard (Hon. Ow & Staff Member 1981-2003)

Megan Davidson (HE 2017-2019)

Dawn King (Hon. Ow & Staff Member 1997-2020)

Thomas Matthews (C 2013-2020)

Takanori Tanaka (L 2018-2020)

To read any obituaries visit: www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society/announcements/

Please let us know of any announcements for The Wycliffian Society Times 2022 issue and Wycliffe Times.

Please contact TWS@wycliffe.co.uk

Remembrance Sunday

13th November 2022



A wreath was laid by serving OW Lt **Johnny Day** RA (W 2009-2014) in memory of all those OWs who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. (Pictured here with CCF Contingent Commander, Maj **Matt Archer**).

The Wycliffian Society Year 2023

JANUARY

Tues 10th Spring Term begins

Thu 19th TWS Business Breakfast,
8:30am - 9:30am
Stonehouse Court

FEBRUARY

Sat 4th Wycliffe Big Boats Head
(volunteers needed to help run the event)

Thu 9th TWS Committee Meeting,
5:00pm - 6:00pm
Wycliffe College

6:30pm - TWS Drinks, The Old
8:30pm Lodge, Minchinhampton,
Gloucestershire

MARCH

Thu 9th TWS Bristol Drinks, Channings,
Clifton

Fri 17th TWS Business Breakfast,
8:30am - 9:30am
Stonehouse Court

Thu 23rd TWS Birmingham Drinks (Copt
6:30pm-8:30pm
Heath Golf Club, Birmingham)

Sat 25th OWs v Wycliffe College Netball,
Basketball and Football

Fri 31st Spring Term Ends

APRIL

Mon 24th Summer Term Starts

Sat 29th TWS Sport – OWs v Wycliffe
College cricket

MAY

Thu 11th TWS Committee Meeting
5:00pm - 6:00pm

Thu 18th TWS Business Breakfast,
8:30am - 9:30am
Stonehouse Court

JUNE

Thu 29th TWS Gloucestershire
Drinks (Stroud Brewery)

JULY

Fri 7th TWS Business Breakfast,
8:30am - 9:30am
Stonehouse Court

Summer Term Ends

SEPTEMBER

Mon 4th Autumn Term Starts

Sat 9th TWS Sport – OW Hockey v
Wycliffe College 1st XI

Thu 21st TWS Committee Meeting
5:00pm - 6:00pm

Fri 22nd TWS Business Breakfast,
8:30am - 9:30am
Stonehouse Court

OCTOBER

Thu 12th TWS London Drinks, The
6:30pm - 8:30pm
Oriental Club, Stratford
Place

NOVEMBER

Sun 12th Remembrance Service,
Wycliffe College

Fri 17th TWS Business Breakfast,
Stonehouse Court

DECEMBER

Sat 2nd Wycliffe Small Boats Head
6:30pm TWS Carol Service

Fri 15th Autumn Term ends



FOR FURTHER DETAILS VISIT:
www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society

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The Wycliffians

wycliffealumni



For further details on:

The Watermen or getting involved with rowing events - contact Trevor Jones by email:

rosecottage1818@gmail.com

TWS Golf: Contact Phil Hale and Rob Rennicks by email
owgolf@yahoo.co.uk.

For more information and to RSVP for each event please contact the office on TWS@wycliffe.co.uk or phone 01453 820439. (Numbers are required for catering purposes).

TWS Business Breakfast

18th November 2022 - Stonehouse Court Hotel.

