

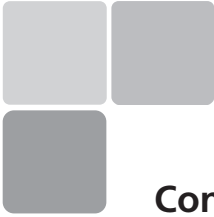
Old Caterhamians' Association Review 2008-2009



CATERHAM SCHOOL

A Selection of sports events from recent OC Days





Contents

2	Editorial Notes
3	The OC Year 2008/2009
9	The Caterham School Year
10	The 118th Annual General Meeting
18	Treasurer's Report to the AGM
22	The OC Trust – Chairman's Report
23	News of OCs
23	OCA Register
25	In Memoriam and Obituaries
36	Officers and Committee Members
	Change of Address Form
	OC Trust Millennium Appeal Form
	Order Forms for OC Merchandise

■ Editorial Notes

This being our third issue of the Annual Review, we are wondering how come the time has passed so quickly since the first issue! We hope that you continue to find the Review of interest and please keep on sending us your news.

We are now trying to increase our membership database with a view to contacting as many of you as possible to invite you to come and celebrate the School's Bicentenary in 2011. Membership details and forms can be downloaded from the OCA website at: **www.oldcaterhamians.com** , or you can contact Alina direct – details are on the back page of this issue.

There are many plans afoot for our Bicentenary Year and once the timetable of events has been confirmed, we will keep you informed. We really do hope that you will find time to come back to the School and share some happy times with us.

This year's Summer OC day, where we joined in with the Parents Association Summer Fair was a great success.

Our next AGM and the Caterham School Bicentenary Launch will be held at the East India Club in London on the 25th March 2010 at 7pm. We hope this change of venue will encourage many of you to come along and participate. There will be a reception after the formalities and members may wish to go on for an informal meal with friends afterwards.

Denis Tindley & Alina Rennie

■ The OC Year 2008/2009

Remembrance Sunday 9th November 2008

Yet another chilly November day but the rain stayed off and a very moving service ensued. There was a great gathering of old and current boys and girls as we remembered our lost and loved ones on that special day.

A lovely buffet lunch was served and there were nearly 100 guests in attendance as we were also celebrating the naming and dedication of the Stephen Smith Sports Centre later on that afternoon.

At precisely 2pm, the dedication ceremony commenced according to plan and games followed afterwards.

A massive crowd gathered in the Refectory for the sports and Honorary Membership presentations. The OCs were very pleased to be able to present Chris Raina, Val Hoad and Ian Sheffield with their Honorary Memberships for such valuable and long service to the School.

All in all, a very successful day and we believe it was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended.

■ Sports Results

Lacrosse: School 8, Recent Leavers 2
Recent Leavers 3, Older Leavers 1
School 4, Older Leavers 3
Georgina Shrimpton received the David Hatch Trophy on behalf of the School.

Rugby: 1st XV 55, Recent Leavers 5
Matt Foulds received the Rignall Cup.
President's XV 29, OCRFC 12
Michael Grant received the Simon Grant Trophy.

The Headmaster's Address at the Remembrance Sunday Service

In the spring of 1915 a young soldier looked upon a dying lilac and wondered if he would live to see it flower again. The thought moved him to write a poem:

Spring 1915

*Look long on the last lilac ere it fade;
So soon it dies; and when it flowers again
Thy body in the still earth will be laid,
Asleep to memory, and numb to pain;
Deaf to earth's music; and for thee no more
The crocus-shower'd laburnum shall awake,
And to the dawn its dancing tresses shake –
Tresses more radiant than Apollo wore.
Next year these shall renew their youth, but thou
No more may'st look upon the bursting flow'rs,
Nor daze thy senses with the breaths of Spring:
Silent thou'lt lie through the endless hours;
And all the pangs of earth's awakening
Shall not uncalm the stillness of thy brow.*

This poem reflects the thoughts of so many young men and women in the hours before conflict. In those hours, when they are so acutely aware of their own mortality, they are often found to reflect on whether they will see a flower bloom again, or the sun rise in the morning, or snow fall again on their home village. This beautiful and moving poem was the work of Donald Gould Johnson – Lieutenant in the Manchester Regiment, graduate of Emmanuel College Cambridge and former pupil of Caterham School.

He wrote some stunning verse in the year and a half he was at war. To read them is to be transported to another time and place. I am so grateful that these poems – published immediately after the war, but lost to us for nearly a century – have been uncovered by the research of history teacher Sally Carter-Esdale. And we shall be re-printing these works along with a life history in a monograph, as soon as we have finished the research.

Donald Gould Johnson left Caterham in 1907. He was an able student, won numerous academic prizes, and played in the School 1st XI for cricket. He went up to Cambridge in 1911 to read History. Whilst at Cambridge he continued to write poetry, something he had enjoyed doing here, and must

have stood out because he won the Chancellor's medal for English verse in 1914 for his poem *The Southern Pole* about Scott's expedition to the Antarctic.

After graduating at Cambridge he stayed on to undertake a special study of Chaucer, but by the end of the year the war was at hand and Donald felt it was his duty to join up. His brother Owen joined up a year later. What must it have been like for Mrs Eliza Johnson? She had borne six children. Her eldest son, Arthur, had died of pleuro-pneumonia and her eldest daughter Hilda Mary died of a cerebral tumour in the early days of the war. And now she had to watch as her youngest sons went off to war. This perhaps is why Donald was so moved by a scene he encountered in a cemetery at Bouzincourt where he came across a woman tending graves and weeping. She wept not for her own children who were also in the graveyard but for the mothers of the soldiers in the unmarked graves whose sons lost their lives and were buried so far from home.

Les Pauvres Morts

*At evening thro' the garden ground I strayed
Among the peasant graves of years gone by
Where now too many of our youth are laid,
The dear, dead flowers of English soldiery;
And there an ancient village dame who prayed
And wept for that strange-harbour'd argosy
I saw, beside a row of mounds new made,
Sobbing her mother's heart so piteously.
Not for her own she wept; for she could care
For their quiet heritage from day to day;
But for the mothers whose sad hearths are bare,
Whose poor dear sons find rest so far away
From home and England and their Mother's tears,
To sleep so lonely through the silent years.*

Donald Johnson wrote this poem during a brief respite from the Western Front, when his battalion was pulled back for a short rest before a major advance. A short time later he died from terrible wounds inflicted in the engagement that followed. He was 26 years old. His Colonel wrote, "the forward trench had to be held at all costs. The Germans were advancing. Johnson without hesitation undertook the task. He bade farewell to his friends, fully certain he should not return." He is buried in the very cemetery

about which he had written so beautifully a few days earlier – far away from his mother's tears. His brother Owen also failed to make it through the war.

One can only try to imagine what it must have been like for Mrs Johnson to lose her youngest sons in such tragic circumstances. What it must have been like to open the door to a man in uniform and to know immediately the news that was to be delivered. It is a scene that so many families have had to face, and continue to face to this day as young lives are lost in defence of their country. So let our poppies also come to symbolise remembrance of those families who have had to bear the burden of such great sacrifice and whose lives were and continue to be changed so fundamentally by the deaths of their loved ones.

Today we remember Donald Johnson, the 123 other Old Caterhamians who died in the two world wars, and the many many thousands of others who have paid the ultimate price in armed conflict throughout the years. We remember them because to do so is to ensure that their lives had meaning; that the anguish and tears of their families had purpose.

But as we remember, let us allow ourselves to think for a moment of a better future. Allow ourselves to think the impossible, to dream the undreamable: a world without war. For as I think of Donald Johnson's reference to "a row of mounds new made", I am reminded of George V's lament when visiting war graves across Europe, with which I shall finish:

"We can truly say that the whole circuit of the earth is girdled with the graves of our dead...and in the course of my pilgrimage, I have many times asked myself whether there can be more potent advocates of peace upon earth through the years to come, than this massed multitude of silent witnesses to the desolation of war."

AGM and OC Day Sunday 22nd March 2009

We were very fortunate with the weather for the AGM and Old Cats Day. Despite a bad forecast for the day, the sun shone all day and temperatures really warmed up in the afternoon whilst the games were underway.

There were 19 Old Boys in attendance at the AGM held in the Maggs Library which continued after a Lenten service was given by our Chaplain.

A tasty lunch followed as usual in the Refectory and the sound of happy banter was heard throughout.

After lunch our guests were invited to visit the Old Cats Art exhibition. The old tuck shop, as you may remember it, has been converted into an art gallery and is currently displaying a very interesting and eclectic show. We are hoping to make this a yearly event and would encourage those of you who are artists or have indeed studied art at University or College or who are professional artists to make contact if they wish to exhibit their art.

The games were well attended and concluded with a happy crowd of some 150 people at the prize giving and afternoon tea session at 4pm.

This was our last AGM at school for the time being, as plans are underway to hold the meeting on a midweek evening in London in the future. We believe that by having a more central venue, the meeting may be better attended by some of our younger members.

The sports events and afternoon tea will continue to be held at the School in March every year.

■ Sports Results

Football:	Old Cats 3, School 0
Hockey:	Old Cats 4, School 1
Netball:	Old Cats 12, School 35
Darby Swimming Medal:	Freddie Maude (1.00.61) Rosie Clark (1.16.57)

Summer OC Day and School Fair 21st June 2009

The sun shone on the righteous at the fair and many pupils, parents, teachers and OCs came to the School to share this special day. There were many events held and stalls selling all sorts of merchandise. Nearly £6,000 was raised! In addition to the usual cricket event, some badminton matches were held and it is now thought it would be fitting to make this a regular event.

This year the annual Old Cats cricket match changed to the new 20/20 format. This proved to be a great success with a very close and exciting match taking place. The School batted first and managed to produce a decent total of 155 - Captain Rob Willson top scoring with 42 and an explosive partnership towards the end of the innings between Will Murch and Ben Lewis. In reply the Old Cats got off to a bad start losing early wickets, but they fought back with Jack Flaherty hitting a quick 50 and shared a good partnership with Matt Long which brought them back into the game. The

game went all the way down to the last ball with the Old Cats needing 4 off it and Harvey New produced a brilliant stop on the boundary to deny the Old Cats the win and returned the trophy to the School again

■ **Sport Results**

Cricket: The School won by 2 runs
Badminton: 'Bad Cats' (School team) 11 - Old Cats 1

■ The Caterham School Year

Main Events and Developments

Remaining true to its Christian foundation, the school has evolved over the years to be one of the top 100 (67th) independent schools in the country. Academic achievements place it in the top 10 of all independent co-educational day and boarding schools in the UK (A-Levels). However, Caterham strives to be much more than "just" an academic school. The school aims to provide an excellent all-round education so that every pupil can achieve their full potential academically and socially. The intention is to develop the pupil as a whole person thereby helping to prepare them for their life at university and beyond. It is a family school with Christian values providing a caring and stimulating environment. The School has summarised this proposition as an 'Education for Life' and this aspiration is constantly reinforced across all marketing material.

The overall intention is to ensure that each year Caterham School has sufficient intelligent, well-motivated pupils so that the resources for day and boarding pupils are fully utilised. Our broad approach is to raise awareness and understanding of Caterham School amongst the many target audiences.

Despite the recession this has been an extraordinarily successful year. All indications are that the School will be full for September 2009. Enquiries are up +11% with registrations up +16%. This increase is reflected across both day (+12%) and boarding (+22%).

As marketing is such a mix of activity it is difficult to identify specific areas of success, but those which seem to be working well are: visits to the web site, currently peaking at 19,000 per month, the mailing programme to schools and strengthening relationships with agents.

However, by far the most significant factor is having a wonderful "product" to market.

Marketing the school is not just the act of one person. All staff and governors have played a role through the tasks that they perform and every time they come into contact with the public. Additionally pupils, parents and former pupils have also played a significant role as ambassadors and the school is always grateful for this contribution.

Alan Howe, Marketing Director

■ 118th Annual General Meeting

The 118th AGM was held on the 22nd March in the Library at Caterham School. 19 members and the Headmaster were present. The Chairman, Dave Craft took the chair. Apologies for absence were received and the minutes of the 117th AGM were signed as correct.

Treasurer's Report

Denis Tindley presented the Treasurer's Report and the 2008 Accounts. The surplus for 2008 was £12,663. There is now additional expenditure on the full cost of Alina's salary and an increase in her hours from 16 to 20 per week. The School Archive programme will be costing more, by way of the purchase of specialist storage and shelving. Unfortunately, owing to the recession, income from interest is declining sharply but Denis is confident for the future. Denis was pleased to point out that there has been an increase of 'email receivers' on the OCA database. He also told us that our usual mailing house had unfortunately gone into receivership recently but a new mailhouse has been secured which is costing less. It was proposed that £3,000 of the surplus is transferred to the Bicentenary Fund.

The Accounts were then formally adopted.

John Bleach then asked if provision had been made for exhibiting archives and OC displays around the School. Dave Clark responded that the Head was very conscious of the requirement to display archives and that the matter was in hand.

Denis thanked Alan Blake Thomas, the independent examiner, for his continued assistance, The Head, The Bursar, John Grimshaw, Dave Craft and the OC Secretary.

Denis then talked about the Trust Accounts and told us that it had been a quiet year. There had been continued support from our regular donors but less new donors. £14k was granted for bursaries which will support five current pupils. Owing to the present financial situation, the grant is not able to be increased and is likely to remain the same for 2009. The Trustees are very grateful for all input and Dave Craft and Andrew Steer were re-elected for a further four years. In addition Bob Fairall agreed to stand. This was approved by the AGM.

Denis gave thanks to Anne Bailey and EOGA for their support of the Trust.

Denis proposed the following donations: OC Prize £150, Prep School leavers' books £450, Bursary Fund £500, Sports Club £300. These were approved.

The chairman thanked Denis for his work on behalf of the Association and the Trust and brought it to the attention of the AGM that congratulations were in order as this was the 21st time Denis had presented the Accounts to the AGM!

Archivist's Report

There were several pieces of good news. The appointment of David Clark as Assistant Head, External Affairs, was very welcome, and the headmaster was thanked for the creation of the post. David had been extremely supportive and positive.

The archive was in fact both an external affair and an internal one. As well as keeping records of the past, it had to be an important internal presence for existing pupils and staff, embodying a coherent historical narrative and giving the school an enhanced sense of its heritage. Present-day pupils did not have the historical context provided in bygone days by a large section of the termly magazine, well-attended OC events and OC schoolmasters with long memories like Arthur Davies-Jones. One of the archive's most important roles, therefore, was to present to pupils and staff the story of their school. This would hopefully encourage their interest in the school's future and remind them that their contribution to the school's life was permanently recorded and valued, building up feelings of pride and loyalty which were valuable while they were still at school and also later in life when they might be able to help the school in financial and other ways.

The presentation of the school's story could be achieved through permanent displays around the school, special exhibitions, the support offered to appropriate parts of the curriculum and the recruitment of pupils to help with the archive's work.

Other good news was that the laundry had gone elsewhere and the radiator in the archive store had been removed. The Bursar was to be thanked for the latter and his co-operation and support. The recess next to the archive room had been partitioned off and some items were moved into it at half term from the Library stockroom. The Bursar had also suggested, and will install, shelving inside.

The Treasurer had agreed to pay for the removal of the radiator and the installation of an electrical heater if necessary, and the Committee were to make a gift to the school of the mobile shelving. It was hoped that display cabinets would be set up in the cloisters, the old Dining Hall and in other places around the school.

The news on funding was not so good: the Head of Careers, Clare Brown, attended a workshop in January, run by the National Archive, on applying for Heritage Lottery funding, but came away discouraged about our chances of success because of the difficulty for an independent school to show that any given archival project would benefit and engage the local community. However, two other schools that have some similarities with Caterham had made successful bids, and enquiries were to be made.

Donations had been received from Michael Haines, John Mathias, Roger Deayton, Alan Witt and Kenneth Falkus. Copies of two prints of the original architect's drawing of the School in 1883, bought on Ebay for only £11.50, were available from Alina.

Other work had been as usual carried out by Alina, hunting down records and photos in answer to enquiries. This work will be made a lot easier when the catalogue is computerised and also hopefully by the digitisation of the School Magazine.

Thanks were given to Headmaster, David Clark, Denis Tindley, David Craft, the Bursar, Brian Dunphy and Alina for their support and work.

Colin told us that the Committee were very pleased about the appointment of David Clark as Assistant Head, External Affairs, with liaison with the OCA as part of his territory. This post is a very welcome development and we are very grateful to the Headmaster for it. David has been extremely supportive and positive.

Colin said that he felt a properly run archive should be an important presence for existing pupils and staff. It should present itself as the embodiment of a coherent historical narrative, giving the school a greater sense of its heritage, and pupils and staff more awareness of belonging to that heritage. They are all part of a great story, and should know they are valued because of it.

Colin feels that one of the archive's most important roles is to engage interest, to educate, to tell our students the story of their school, to map the school's development, revealing, for example, Caterham's remarkable flexibility over the last fifty years in adapting and surviving in response to social pressures.

This can only encourage pupils' interest in where the school is going and a desire to see it continually improve, and a feeling that they have contributed to its development in a way that will be permanently recorded and valued. Colin feels that this plays a big part in building up that loyalty and sense of pride which is so valuable both when pupils are here and later in life when they may be able to help the school in financial and other ways to bring about that improvement.

Colin would like to see more permanent displays around the school, special exhibitions, supporting appropriate parts of the curriculum and recruiting pupils to help with the archive's work. Colin hopes that our assistant Head, External Affairs, will continue to give his role a fairly broad interpretation.

The laundry which was next to the archive has picked up its machines and gone elsewhere, which means we do not any longer have that risk of humidity and flooding. The radiator in the archive store has also been removed, with its risk of flooding, and we have to thank the Bursar, Mr King, for his agreement to that and for his much appreciated co-operation and support.

The little recess next to the archive room has been partitioned off and turned into a store-room. Some items were moved into it at half term from the Library stockroom to give the Librarian a little more room there. Mr King has also suggested, and will install, shelving inside which may mean we can clear the Library stockroom altogether.

Denis has kindly agreed to pay for the removal of the radiator and the installation of an electrical heater if necessary. Colin told us that the Committee has also decided to make a gift to the school of the mobile shelving which will be ordered this week, and should arrive in April. We also hope to set up display cabinets in the cloisters, the old Dining Hall and in other places around the school.

We've had visits and useful reports on accommodation and storage from the National Archives in Kew, and the Surrey Local History Centre in Woking and also from the owner of our computer program, from slightly further afield – Glengarry in Western Australia.

Unfortunately, the news on funding is not so good: the Head of Careers, Clare Brown, attended a workshop in January, run by the National Archives, on applying for Heritage Lottery funding, but came away not terribly hopeful about our chances of success. To read from her report: "The overall impression was that it would be difficult for an independent school to show that any

given archival project would benefit and engage the local community. It was felt that the School's heritage would be of interest only to ex-staff and pupils."

However, two other schools which have some similarities with Caterham have made successful bids, and enquiries are to be made.

The archives have had some kind donations, mainly photographs, from Michael Haines, John Mathias, and Roger Deayton; a 1950s cravat from Alan Witt and a fine straw boater from the late 1930s from Kenneth Falkus. We have also acquired two prints of the original architect's drawing of the School dating from the time of its building in 1883. These show the frontage and a complete plan of the main block. These were purchased on eBay for just £11.50.

Other work has been as usual carried out by Alina, hunting down records and photos in answer to enquiries. This work will be transformed when it is all on the computer, and also hopefully by the digitisation of the School Magazine.

Lastly, Colin conveyed his thanks to the Headmaster, David Clark, Denis Tindley and David Craft for their ever-present support, the Bursar, Brian Dunphy and, as before, Alina for her excellent liaison work.

Colin hopes that in the coming year, with shelving in place and cataloguing and packaging under way, we can develop records which in this electronic age are at least something reassuringly tangible!

Dave Craft then congratulated and gave thanks to Colin for his valuable help.

Sports Club Report

Bill Broadhead very kindly supplied a report.

Bill told us that the grounds at the Club are in good order and are now being prepared for summer cricket matches. Unfortunately, Rugby and Cricket players' numbers have decreased in the last year or so, owing to long term injuries – some 21 players are suffering. Unfortunately, Euan Turney is now not able to play but has taken on team administration duties.

Bill told us that the 1st X1 did not have a good year and it was the first time the team has not been in the Surrey 1 for 14 years.

The 2nd and 3rd teams are not faring so well but the youngsters and mini rugby teams are thriving and weekends are very well attended. The young ones taking part are not just from Caterham School but from other local schools and this has grown a great community spirit.

It has been noted that other clubs in the area are recruiting bigger and heavier players and this factor needs to be addressed at the Club.

John Grimshaw then sent his best wishes to Euan Turney and Bill passed on his thanks to the OCA for their donation and said it would be put to good use.

Bill concluded with a reminder that all OCs are entitled to use the Club's facilities as part of their membership

Headmaster's Report

Julian told us that he was very enthusiastic about school. One only had to be reminded of the wonderful environment, beauty and splendour of the surrounding to feel proud to work here.

He told us that a new Deputy Head will be joining the school in the autumn term and Lindsey Redding will be leaving at the end of the summer term to take up a headship at Greenacres School.

Having taken a significant leap, our academic achievements are some of the highest in the country and the school is in some of the highest reaches in the academic tables.

The school has won the Best Human Biology Department for Girls and Boys Award and Best Physics for Boys at Any School in the Country Award in the Good School Guide.

Keith Simpson will be retiring this year and will be missed by all.

The Head Boy and Girl have been a wonderful pair this academic year.

Pupils were very pleased with last year's Speech Day when Zoe Ball was our guest speaker and gave us a very interesting talk.

Julian told us that we have had wonderful sports results so far this year wherein the 1st XI have had an unbeaten season as well as the 1st XI hockey team and the U16 A & B teams. The girls have done well with Lacrosse too.

The CCF is flourishing and strong. Major Matthew Atkin will be standing down owing to a work posting to Hong Kong. Kevin Bage will be in command from now on.

The School Art Gallery is a huge success and Julian is very grateful to have Jess Uden in charge as curator.

The Pye 6th Form Centre was opened last year and it has been a valuable addition to the School.

The Kit Cat project has been a success too. Pupils are encouraged to build a Caterham 7 sports car as a project and give the finished car back to Caterham Cars whereby a new kit is supplied. Richard Hammond from Top Gear has since said that this has been the greatest school project ever.

We are delighted with our admissions numbers this term and find that we are as popular as ever, despite the recession. However there must be no complacency in 2010/2011.

The School musical 'Jekyll and Hyde' was an excellent production and a great success. The Drama department has expanded and is going from strength to strength.

Julian concluded with his thanks to the Bursar, the SMT team, the Governors and the OCA and is looking forward to the build up to the Bicentennial.

Roger Deayton asked about the School history book progress for the Bicentennial.

Julian responded that a contract with the author and the publishing company has now been signed. The author will be contacting Dave Clark and some OCA input will be required. It is hoped that the book will be finished by May 2011 for a launch in September 2011 which is the start of the Bicentennial Year.

Election of Officers and Committee Members

It was agreed that there needs to be constitutional changes implemented to the running of the Committee, as the last ones were done six years ago. This will be brought to the AGM in London in 2010.

Dave Craft told us that there were a few younger members in mind for the Committee and he will be contacting same.

Dave Clark had suggested that both David Rogers and John Jones be invited to become Honorary Committee Members. Dave Craft had written to them and they were both delighted to accept.

The following proposals were made:

- David Craft was proposed for another term of office as Chairman. Denis Tindley was willing to continue in office as Treasurer.
- Editor: post still vacant – Alina covers this to a point but we are still in need.
- Social Secretary – this position remains vacant.
- Archivist: Colin Bagnall was proposed.
- Sports Secretary: Mark Harriott was willing to continue and this position was transmuted to an ordinary member.
- All the above were seconded and elected.
- Sports Club Representative: John Short is looking for a successor owing to work commitments taking up much of his time.
- Alan Blake-Thomas was willing to continue as independent examiner and Anne Bailey and Caroline Storer would continue as EOGA representatives.
- AROPS Liaison: Denis Tindley is receiving feedback from AROPS. It was suggested that a regional OC member would be asked to attend meetings depending where they were held in the UK. (Stephen Smith told us that he would be attending the meeting this year in Wakefield – see 2009 autumn term Newsletter)
- Committee Members: Nicky Law has retired and Ashley Hendron to retire in 2010.

■ Treasurer's Report to the AGM 22nd March 2009

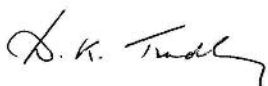
The surplus for 2008 was £12,663, 3.5% below 2007, nevertheless a satisfactory result. Subscription income rose by 5%, but interest receivable was down by 31%. New expenditure included the full cost of our administrator whose hours were increased from 16 to 20 per week, the updating of our website and our first contribution to the Archive Project. I have again proposed that £3,000 of the surplus is transferred to the Bicentenary Fund.

In the current year we will be giving additional financial support to the Archive Project led by Colin Bagnall, and your committee has also agreed to a further increase in our administrator's hours to 24 per week. In the present market conditions, our income from interest will decline, and it is likely that surpluses will be lower in the foreseeable future. However I remain confident in the OCA's financial position, given our present reserves and the planned annual increases in parents' contributions. I stated last year that we intended to renovate the memorial stone to Alan Mottram. After considerable bureaucratic difficulties, the Association is now the owner of the grave, and the order for work has been put in hand. I am very grateful for the support of our President, Chairman and Committee, the assistance I have received from Alina Rennie, and the support of the Headmaster and Bursar. As always, I am indebted to Alan Blake Thomas for reviewing the accounts.

Old Caterhamians' Association

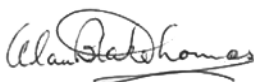
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2008

	Note	2008 £	2007 £
Assets			
Cash and Investments held:			
Barclays Savings A/c		1,243	1,242
National Savings Inv. A/c		28,209	27,244
Lloyds TSB Savings A/c		20,273	
Lloyds TSB cheque A/c		22,181	31,414
		71,906	59,900
Sundry debtors		15,000	13,000
Total Assets		£86,906	£72,900
Liabilities			
Outside liabilities			
Sundry Creditors		1,915	219
		1,915	219
Future Income Received in Advance			
Life membership fund		2,223	2,576
Total Liabilities		£4,138	£2,795
NET FUNDS (as shown below)		£82,768	£70,105
RESERVE FUND			
Brought forward		49,105	38,975
Surplus for year		12,663	13,130
Less Allocation to Bicentenary Fund	1	-3,000	-3,000
Balance carried forward		58,768	49,105
BICENTENARY "2011" FUND		24,000	21,000
		£82,768	£70,105



Denis Tindley (Hon. Treasurer)
1st March 2009

I have examined the above balance sheet and the attached income & expenditure account and having received satisfactory explanations and answers to my queries find that they are in accord with the underlying records of the Association and report that in my opinion with the attached notes they give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Association as at 31st December 2008 and of the result for the year ended on that date.



Alan Blake Thomas
10th March 2009

**Old Caterhamians' Association
Income & Expenditure Account 2008
Year ended 31st December**

	Note	2008 £	2007 £
Income			
Subscriptions received	2	47,975	45,738
Donations received		200	60
Sales		552	399
Interest receivable		1,308	1,904
		50,034	48,102
Expenditure			
Communications			
Caterhamian		287	-205
OC Magazine			2,941
Annual Review		3,167	4,740
Newsletters		8,956	7,799
Leaflets			615
Administration			
Office/Database	3	14,796	7,064
Web	4	1,246	376
General	5	465	240
Corporation tax	6	271	413
Events			
OC days		1,035	905
Golf		104	110
Donations	7	5,063	8,367
Archive project		1,981	
Purchase of cufflinks & Townsend books			1,607
		37,371	34,972
Surplus on normal operations		12,663	13,130
Less Transfer to Bi-Centenary Fund		-3,000	-3,000
Increase/Reduction in Reserve Funds		9,663	10,130

Notes to the 2008 Accounts

Balance Sheet

1. Allocation to Bicentenary Fund:

As advised at the 2003 AGM, a designated fund has been established to support the Association's activities in the School's bicentenary year 2011. £3,000 has been allocated from this year's accounts. The fund's total is now £24,000.

Income & Expenditure Account

2. Subscriptions received:

	2008	2007
	£	£
Caterham School*	43,958	41,556
Members	3,664	3,829
Life Fund**	353	353
	47,975	45,738

* AGM 1990 resolution: "Caterham School will fund life membership for pupils and subscriptions will take into the current year's income. If numbers drop, or for any reason this scheme has to be abandoned, the OCA may have an unfunded liability."

** By Committee resolution, one fifteenth of the Life Fund is applied to subscriptions received each year.

3. Office/Database: We are now paying the full salary cost for our administrator and this is the first complete year of her increased hours to 20 per week. We have agreed higher parental contributions with the School to cover this.

4. Website: The website was completely revised at a cost of £1,010.

5. General: Your treasurer's relocation necessitated one year's mail redirection at a cost of £150.00.

6. Corporation Tax: Rates applicable to interest received are:

<u>Year</u>	<u>2006/7</u>	<u>2007/8</u>	<u>2008/9</u>
%	19	20	21

7. Donations:

	£
Bursary Fund	500
School prizes & Prep School leavers' books	600
School activities	150
Staff leaving gifts & honorary membership	513
OC Sports Club	300
OC Trust	3,000
	5,063

8. Archive Project: 50% share of the archiving software.

■ The Old Caterhamians' Trust Chairman's Report

It has been a quiet year for the Trust. The trustees have been encouraged by the continuing support of our regular donors, but there have been fewer new donors and 'one-off' donations. Our grant to the School for bursaries was increased to £14,000, and we hope to maintain this in 2009. In the present financial climate we expect donations to continue at a modest level and we are of course experiencing a sharp fall in interest receivable.

Trustees Dave Craft and Andy Steer are standing for re-election for a further 4-year term, and I am pleased to report that Bob Fairall has kindly agreed to become a trustee. I seek the AGM's approval for these appointments.

The trustees are very grateful to all OCs who have donated to the Millennium Fund, and to Anne Bailey and the EOGA for their continuing valuable support.

I thank my fellow trustees, Alina Rennie, our administrator, and Alan Black Thomas, who examines our accounts, for all their work on behalf of the Trust.

Financial Summary to 31st December 2008

	2001-2006	2007	2008	Total
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Funds	136,946	40,539	13,878	191,363
Grants	38,400	11,000	14,000	63,400

The trustees aim to increase the grant to the School each year while continuing to build capital to support long-term growth. We particularly welcome regular donations, however small, by standing orders which enable us to plan better for the future.

■ News of OCs

Graham McPherson's Reminiscences (1931 - 1940)

Graham has written a wonderful memoir of his time here at Caterham School with some very amusing descriptions of some of his masters. Please contact Alina for a copy.

William James Viritahitemauvai Saville (1885 - 1889)

Previously mentioned by Ray Howgego in the spring 2009 Newsletter. Please contact Alina Rennie for details of the full obituary.

OCs Working at the School

We are pleased to announce that we have five Old Caterhamians working at the School this year. Natalie Francis BSc 2000 - 2002, a graduate of Plymouth University joins us to teach Physics. Matthew Owen 1994 - 2004, a former Head Boy and graduate of Brasenose College, Oxford joins us to teach Latin during Mrs Carpenter's maternity leave. Rosie Dell 1997 – 2004 and Lorne Barnard 2004 – 2006 will be joining us as Graduate Gap Assistants. Sophie Gill 2001 – 2008 will be assisting with the Games Department. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Also – if you are considering a career in teaching... then please get in touch. We always need 'gap graduates' to assist with sports coaching, drama, art and music. This applies as much to recent university leavers as to more 'mature' OCs who may feel like a career break!!

■ OCA Register

Honorary Members: Ian Sheffield, Christina Raina and Valerie Hoad

New Members 2009: Mike Phillipson 1975-1983
Karl Dennis 1971-1976
Michael Miles 1955-1962

New Members 2009 6th Form:

S. Abberley	J. Bannister	L. Brymer	C. Chan
M. Amlott	A. Battersby	E. Buckett	H. Chan
T. Archer	R. Bayley	C. Buckland	L. Chapman
O. Atherton	L. Bayliss	J. Butler	J. Cheng
S. Bailey	K. Beamish	C. Campbell	J. Cheng
A. Bainbridge	K. Bowry	B. Carew-Gibbs	M. Cheung
S. Baly	A. Brown	J. Carracher	T. Choi

T. Chow	A. Kasza-Martin	T. Ng	N. Shiplee
H. Clarke	A. Kay	S. Ni	G. Shrimpton
P. Cockburn-Upward	A. Kean	J. Niehues	C.Y. Siu
J. Cook	K. Kinoshita	P. Niehues	H. Smith
D. Damesick	Y. Komissarov	A. O'Brien	A. Tasker
B. Davidson	T. Lawson	I. O'Connor	E. Temir
B. Doney	R. Leatherby	I. Orazbekov	K. Teodosieva
C. Elliott	S. Leck	A. Orbell	L. Tittle
M. Foulds	J. Lin	A. Owens-Thurston	M. Trayner
S. Fullalove	X. Lin	F. Page	E. Wagner
L. Gill	A. Lovell	E. Parrish	C. Walker
Z. Goburdhun	S. Marsh	S. Parry	B. Wang
R.Gocher	A. Martin	J. Patterson	J. Weller
J. Grace	W. McBryde	C. Payne	H. White
B. Grant	T. Mead	K. Pogosyan	M. Whiteley
C. Gregory	J. Miles	K. Poon	G. Whiteley
L. Hancock	M. Mill	Z. Roberts	R. Willson
M. Hanson	O. Morgan	A. Robertson	M. Wilson
M. Haydock	N. Morle	J. Rowlands	A. Wong
S. He	P. Mulvey	J. Seager	A. Wood
C. Hearn	C. Munns	A. Semyachkova	J. Woodgate
J. Hopkins	T. Murphy	H. Shaw	Y. Zhang
B. Horne	F. Nalson	S. Shearman	Y. Zhong
R. Hunt	A. Neshina	J. Shen	R. Zimmerman
J. Jones	W. Newland	B. Shi	

New Members 2009 5th & Lower 6th Form Leavers:

G. Archer	M. Leung	J. Sadler	J. Tong
S. Bains	K. Morton	K. Sheldon	A. Wilson
C. Bast	P. Osborne	A. Skrabaka	A. Winter
D. Copley	B. Prosser	F. Stegman	
J. Findlay	A. Reeve-Wing	G. Stephens	
N. Kean	A. Rose-Anscombe	L. Sullivan	

■ In Memoriam 2008–2009

Allan Amos	1937 – 1942	Carol Meilicke	1992 – 1993
Gordon Bennett	1933 – 1941	Samir Monem	1995 – 1999
D.M. Bishop	1948 – 1954	T. Pidgeon	1939 – 1940
Richard Bohren	1938 – 1946	D. Payne	1985 – 1989
Frank Cato	1912 – 1925	Christopher Stephen Rayner	1935 – 1942
John Phillips Crawley	1935 – 1944	Derek Peter Norman Satchell	1943 – 1947
John Pierpoint Davis	1924 – 1932	Michael Sesemann	1942 – 1949
Robin Elks	1963 – 1968	Marc Smallman	1969 – 1974
T. Fletcher	1944 – 1949	Michael Solomon	1936 – 1946
Tom Fullerton	1970 – 1976	John D. Syer	1946 – 1955
Nikki Johnson		David Harradence B. Thomas	1933 – 1941
<i>nee</i> Graham	1995 – 1997	Roderick Trehane	1970 – 1979
Douglas James Jones		Roger Webb	1941 – 1948
John Lansley	1928 – 1934		

Obituaries

Robin Elks (1963 – 1968)

Mrs Elks sent us an email in May to tell us about her husband's passing on the 3rd April this year. He had worked as a steward to the Archbishop of Canterbury for the past 7 years after a full career with the Metropolitan Police Mounted Branch. She sent us the following obituary written by the Chief of Staff at Lambeth Palace:

Robin Elks, the Steward at Lambeth Palace, died on 3rd April. He had been suffering from cancer since last August. People will remember him as the friendly, chatty and highly efficient person at Lambeth parties and open days. But he was far more than that. He carried out the demanding role of securing Lambeth Palace, notably for the Lambeth Conference and the Queen's visit in her golden jubilee year. He was also the man who got up in the middle of the night when the burglar alarm went off and the next day dealt with many of the extraordinary people who would call at the Gate House. He had a wonderful way with words and could always be called upon to give a presentation at short notice on any topic.

Robin came to the NCIs in August 2001 after a 30 year career in the police force, mostly in the mounted branch. He served some time as the Adventure Training Instructor teaching, observing and testing young police cadets in all

aspects of adventurous outdoor activities and leadership. He was also Deputy County Commissioner for Scouts in Surrey, a position which he enjoyed for many years. This clearly made an impression on his son, Stuart who is now in the Marines. Many will know Robin's wife, Veronica who works in the Education Division: we remember her, Stuart and Elizabeth, Robin's daughter, at this very difficult time.

The Archbishop led a Service of Thanksgiving for Robin's life, at 3.45pm on Thursday 9 April, in the Main Chapel at Lambeth.

Douglas James Jones

Taken from 'The Mercury' February 19th 2009

The death of Douglas James Jones of Waterloo Road, Hakin in Wales occurred at Withybush Hospital at the age of 76 on January 24th 2009.

Doug was born in Tredegar, the first child of the Rev Harold and Lilian Jones (nee James, of Albert Street, Haverfordwest). As the son of a congregational minister he attended Caterham School in Surrey, after which he undertook and electrical apprenticeship with English Electric. Following the apprenticeship, Doug did his National Service with the Royal Engineers.

He then worked in the power industry in the Midlands and Yorkshire where he met and married his wife Dorothy. In 1969 he moved back to Haverfordwest with his wife and son, before moving to Milford Haven in 1982. Doug's working life in Pembrokeshire was spent with Automatics (Pembs), installing and maintaining gaming machines until ill health forced him to take early retirement in 1987.

Doug enjoyed socialising and through his job was well known in most of the pubs and clubs in the county. He also had an avid interest in sport, particularly cricket, hockey and rugby which he played and captained at first team level in Caterham School and continued to play socially in his early working life.

Doug was predeceased by his wife Dorothy in 1993. The family left to mourn and principal mourners were: David and Julie Jones (son and daughter-in-law); Rhiannon and Bethan Jones (granddaughter); Meg Griffiths, Mary Davies, Trevor James and Howell Haines (cousins); Doreen Moate, Cathleen Johnson, Gladys Crookes, Greta Tyler, and William Walters (sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law); Raymond and Mary Davies (with daughters Julie and Susuan); Kim and

Jan Morgan, Anthony Morgan, Peter Morgan, Brian and Nancy Morgan; Manuel Lloyd and David Warrell.

The service was held at Parc Gwyn and was officiated by the Rev Martin Evans. The bearers were Kim, Anthony and Peter Morgan.

Nikki Johnson nee Graham (1995 – 1997)

Nikki's father has sent an obituary:

Nikki left Croham Hurst at the age of 16, in 1994, to pursue her A-level courses at Caterham School. She had been awarded a music scholarship there for her bassoon playing and it was felt that a co-educational experience, Nikki having been one of 4 girls, might better prepare her for university!

Her studies continued in Bath, where she embarked on a degree in education. This took her to Portugal for 6 months on an Erasmus exchange, orchestral bassoon playing continued with coaching in Cardiff and Nikki graduated in year 2000.

As a primary school teacher Nikki really took to her new vocation and the children all took to her; at Devonshire School in Sutton.

In 2002 Nikki met Tristan, the eleventh of eleven children, and this was love at first sight which led to a 6 month sabbatical in 2004 when Tristan and Nikki went to live in Sydney for 4 months and subsequently spent 8 weeks traveling home via New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Fiji and then crossing America from L.A. to Miami.

They returned home; but in autumn 2004 Nikki was diagnosed with cancer of the breast in the same week that she heard that she had been accepted for a teaching post at Bromley High School for girls. There followed radical surgery and 5 months of chemo in 2005. Nikki remained optimistic throughout and an engagement was announced at the time of the second bout of treatment. Despair gradually gave way to hope and Nikki joined the Bromley High teaching staff in September 2005 and married Tristan on 29th July 2006.

In 2007 Nikki added to her skills by attending a course and becoming a fashion and colour consultant which added both earning potential and delivered a high degree of personal enjoyment. Nikki always had time for others, a zest for living and was an extremely sociable girl. In the summer she became pregnant despite having had a year of further treatment – Herceptin.

However, following a routine examination in February 2008 it was noticed that the cancer was again in evidence. Baby Sophia Isolde was delivered by caesarean section in March but further tests only confirmed that the disease had, by then, spread aggressively into the lungs and the liver. The ensuing treatments could not arrest the inevitable fatal spread; and on 7th July Nikki died.

She never complained and was brave throughout, thinking only of the trouble she was causing to others. The world is a poorer place as a result of her loss and the tributes made on the day of her funeral only serve to confirm that. During her short life she managed to touch the hearts of many with her cheeriness and courage. Perhaps the fund set up for St. Christopher's Hospice which has nearly reached £5000 (they provided all the 'at home' palliative care) is a testament to that.

There are some words and tributes from friends and family on the www.justgiving/nixjohnson site together with a photo for recognition.

Professor David Michael Bishop (1948 – 1954)

An obituary which was published in The Ottawa Citizen on the 27th December 2008 reads as follows:

Dr David M Bishop Professor Emeritus, University of Ottawa. Family, friends and colleagues mourn the loss of their beloved David Bishop, who died in Ottawa on December 17th 2008 after a struggle with cancer. Born in London in 1936, David earned his Ph.D at University College London before moving to Canada in 1964 to take a post at the University of Ottawa's Department of Chemistry. There he would teach and conduct research for over 40 years. David's passion for education was contagious. Throughout his illustrious career he inspired and guided legions of students to pursue advanced studies and aim for challenging careers. Insight and mathematical brilliance drove David to develop theories aimed at advancing our fundamental understanding of the universe. He was a gifted and significant contributor to the field of Theoretical Chemistry, publishing extensively, collaborating with colleagues worldwide and contributing regularly to advanced scientific conferences. His book, 'Group Theory' and Chemistry, remains a classic. David is survived by his partner Hariyo, sister Jill, brother-in-law Toby and many loving friends. His vast knowledge, astute judgement, unfailing loyalty, and sense of humour will be deeply and profoundly missed.

Roger Webb (1941 – 1948)

Roger's daughter Vivien, has sent us the following sad news...

I am writing to advise you of the death of my father, Roger Webb, who was at Caterham during the 1940's. I am not sure of his exact dates but his date of birth was 7th December 1930 and he was a member of the Old Cats so I hope you may be able to work it out. I have exam certificates from 1946 and 1947 as a clue!

My father spent the last 25 years on the Isle of Anglesey, where he moved in August 1982 following early retirement as a Mechanical Engineer. He bought a smallholding and built up a small Jersey herd, until the bureaucracy and red tape of the agricultural world finally defeated him and he retired. Although he had suffered in recent years with rheumatoid arthritis and latterly osteoporosis, he loved the freedom that living in the country surrounded by his own land brought him and renting his fields to other farmers kept the animals around him without the onus of looking after them. Both of his wives predeceased him, Rita in 1979 and Ann in 1990, but he is survived by his three daughters, all of whom are ex-Eothen girls.

Derek Peter Norman Satchell (1943 – 1947)

We have received memoirs from J.B.Trueman 1942 – 1945

The death of Derek Satchell C.Chem FRSC (O.C.) on the 13th April 2008 at the age of 79 was reported in the October 2008 edition of the Royal Society of Chemistry's monthly newsletter known as the RSC News. Prior to his retirement, Satchell won a Professor of Chemistry at Kings College, University of London.

Mr Trueman says ' I remember Satchell as a fellow classmate in Form V Special during the years 1944 – 1945. In those days, I travelled to school by train along the Caterham branch along with Satchell and some of our contemporaries including J.D.Levi, K.J.Hopper and J.E.Sargent.

From V Special, Satchell moved up to the Science Sixth and I to the Arts side. However, after half a term left Caterham and joined the City of London School where I took up a course in Science. Another classmate in 1944-1945 was J.Shakeshaft whose photograph appeared in a previous OC Newsletter and who became a professor of Chemistry at another university.

Christopher Steven Rayner (1935 – 1942)

Christopher's (or Steve, as he was known) daughter, Juliet has sent us the following extract from her father's eulogy which was written by her brother Chris:

'I thought that you might like to read this extract from my brother's eulogy which he delivered at my father's funeral. The brothers that he refers to are Beresford, who drowned about 20 years ago, and Durham who lives in Australia and is an artist.

Daddy leaves one son and five daughters.

My grandparents' move to England was largely motivated by the wish to secure the best education for their sons. Caterham School in Surrey was founded for the sons of Congregationalist ministers, and so he and his brothers were sent there. He enjoyed school life so much that he confessed to wishing for the holidays to be over so he could get back to school.

While at school, my father suffered an accident which left him marked for life. He was climbing one of two trees which were close to each other. The idea came to him that he could jump across the gap and land safely in the adjacent tree. With his characteristic courage, and, dare I say it, occasional recklessness, the thought fathered the deed. He missed, and in the fall smashed his elbow. Fearful of the consequences he told the authorities that the injury had been from a fall, but neglected to tell them how far he had fallen. The surgeon who repaired the damage with an ivory pin found his explanation implausible.

From that day he was unable to rotate his left hand, a handicap which caused him to wear his watch on the underside of his wrist. It also failed him his entry medical to pilot training in the latter stages of the Second World War. Given the mortality in bomber crews it possibly saved his life and enabled him to become the man we all loved.

Michael Seseman (1942 – 1949)

A wonderful tribute to Michael by his brother-in-law, Martin Bishop, will be published in the Spring 2010 newsletter.

Tom Fullerton (1970 – 1978)

Andrew Fullerton and David Jones sent us this sad news:

In equal measure with his shocked and sorrowing family, the members of the former Cats Cricket Club, the 1980s-90s wandering side which grew out of

the 70s amalgamated Old Caterhamians Sports Club, were devastated in April by the early death at just 48 of Tom Fullerton. On the day he died he had been in excellent form at a reunion lunch in London with former players, among them David Jones (62-9), but some time after arriving home he suffered a heart attack. His many cricketing friends recall with enormous affection an opening batsman who at his peak displayed considerable powers, scoring centuries with regularity and always willing to turn his hand to wicket keeping; but more importantly he was a hugely valued and respected lynchpin of the close group of friends which grew out of the Colts team formed at the club in 1976 and has now lasted 33 years. He played in the first colts match, in the first match of the new wandering side in 1983, and was present at the team's final game in 1997. Since then he had been a regular attendee at the many lunches and dinners which the ex-players continued to enjoy, a leading light of the golf society which was formed, and not least was godfather to his Caterham contemporary and fellow-cricketer Mike Trowbridge's daughter Naomi, and a wise adviser through 'A' Level and university to Mike's son Tom.

The following tribute is from Tom's brothers Andrew and David:

Tom was born in Bebington in the Wirral. His mother and father, who had grown up in Northern Ireland, moved south with their young family to Purley and then Caterham. Tom went to school at Elmhurst and then to Caterham for seven years. He loved cricket, also played rugby and hockey, and took up golf towards the end of school. He loved sport, playing and watching, but also took an intellectual interest in history and economics which started back then, the latter taught by Barry Martin (now Head of Hampton School). This developed in later life to his postgraduate war studies at King's College London, the leading UK University in this field. Tom was currently beginning to research his father's family history during WW1. He wanted eventually to write about the WW1 history of Northern Irish soldiers and was on his way to a doctorate.

Tom read Law at Southampton University from 1979 to 1982. For a while he considered switching to medicine and had many friends from that time who are now doctors. After University, Tom qualified as a Chartered Accountant at Price Waterhouse and moved into a sales related role at ICL. Over the years for business and pleasure he became quite widely travelled, visiting South and North America, Canada, Russia, India, South Africa and Australia. Working for Thomas Cook helped.

Tom's mother died while he was at University, which was a great loss. Tom took his subsequent responsibilities as elder brother seriously and always

thought of his brothers, nephews and nieces. He gave a wonderful elder brother's speech at Andrew's wedding. He always saw his role at any gathering to brighten the place up, cheer people up and make sure everyone was happy. You wouldn't find any pauses or silences at a meeting or dinner with Tom. Andrew's wife, Alison, remembers him as an ideal guest – he always ate everything without complaining, was always upbeat and always fun to talk to. In recent years Tom spent an increasing amount of time with his father, helping him and being regular company. He was a godparent also to Jeremy Gill's and Ian Farr's children.

After University, Tom moved into a house in Brixton with friends. It was newly refurbished but took a bit of wear and tear over their stay. There were frequent parties, the last of which left the upstairs room/dance floor like a trampoline after a session left a few cracked beams! Tom then bought a house in Sydenham and lived there happily from then on. In recent years he spent increasing amounts of holiday time at the family farmhouse in France (between St Lo and Coutances in Lower Normandy). He liked French seafood, played golf and went to the races in between reading and studying. He was always keen on horse racing, as much for the social side as anything else. He was a member of Newmarket and a generous host at numerous summer meetings in glorious sunshine. He also took the opportunity in France of frequent visits to the WW1 war sites further north. He even bought some software to translate war maps to current day so that he could visit some of the detailed sites as they are now and understand the impact of the geography on the warfare.

His former cricketing friends have already undertaken to establish an annual memorial lunch, but the far wider circle of Tom's friends, and far more so his family, will all miss him, his presence, the reassurance, the fun and the positive influence, indicated by the notably large group of mourners at his funeral, that he had on so many lives.

John Syer (1946 – 1945)

The following obituary was printed in the Times on 1st September 2009. Sadly John died of cancer on the 10th August 2009 aged 72.

John Syer was a linguist, international sportsman and pioneer of applied sports. He founded the innovative sports psychology consultancy, Sporting Bodymind, and was one of the first sports psychologists to transfer his knowledge into the corporate environment, where he was sought after for his

expert and compassionate approach to resolving conflict and building powerful teams. John David Syer was born in Caterham, Surrey, in 1937 to Mary and Alan Syer. He showed an early proclivity for sport and languages that were to remain the two passions of his life. When not playing cricket or hockey while attending Caterham School he spent his spare time in the study of E. F. Schumacher, author of *Small is Beautiful* and one of the seminal thinkers in concepts of sustainability and ethical business who became an important mentor for Syer, guiding his early reading and intellectual development. A stint as an English-speaking companion for the children of the President of Portugal fostered his appetite for languages and his appreciation of fado. His love for French culture subsequently found him teaching English in an Oran lycée before being evacuated during the Algerian war of independence to Paris, where he debated revolution in the cafés on Boulevard St-Germain while developing a passion for Nouvelle Vague cinema. Before attending university, Syer did his National Service with the Army where his prowess as a hockey player for Scottish Command was valued to the point — he maintained — that it saved his commission when he fell asleep on guard duty on a cold winter's night while reading Proust's *À la Recherche du Temps Perdu*. While studying French and Italian at the University of Edinburgh, Syer had played for the Great Britain volleyball team but became disillusioned with support for the sport in Scotland. Pressed to choose between sport and languages, he completed his studies with an MPhil in linguistics and became involved full-time with volleyball, founding the Scottish Volleyball Association (SVA), starting the national leagues, coaching the national teams and becoming the first director of the SVA. He also acted as interpreter at the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball meetings in Europe and at various world championships and Olympics. He will long be remembered in Scottish volleyball for his powers of persuasion to get people to organise, to take part and to play at the highest level. The seeds planted by Schumacher began to germinate and in 1976 Syer made a radical move north to join the Findhorn Foundation, a community on the Moray Firth dedicated to organic gardening and co-operation with nature. Considered very countercultural when Syer joined, the foundation has since evolved into a leading centre of its kind, holding one of only five recognised charters granted by the UN for education in sustainability. It was the foundation's work with team identity that crystallised his ideas on teamwork in sport. In 1979 he left Findhorn to join Christopher Connolly in starting a London-based company, Sporting Bodymind, of which he remained a director for 30 years. It was a ground-

breaking consultancy in applied sports psychology — the first of its kind in the UK — that took psychology out of the laboratory and on to the field. An introduction to Keith Burkinshaw, then manager of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, led to a successful collaboration from 1980 to 1985, during which — despite the media headlines of “Shrinks at White Hart Lane” — he helped the team to win the FA Cup and the Uefa Cup, and to remain near the top of the league. Throughout this period Syer maintained a skilful and ethical balance in his relationships with the players, who trusted him, the manager and coach, who relied on him as a member of their inner team, the intrusions of the ever solicitous board and the demands of the fans and media. He became a great friend of many of the players, a number of whom he worked with subsequently when they coached and managed teams such as Southampton, Watford and Tottenham again. These include Glen Hoddle, Steve Perryman, Chris Hughton and the Argentinean duo Ossie Ardiles and Ricky Villa, whose winning goal against Manchester City in the FA Cup Final replay in 1981 won him the Wembley goal of the century award in 2001. About this time Syer and Connolly began to work with organisations and were soon sought after widely by international companies such as BP, UBS, Ford and Pfizer, as well as government organisations such as GCHQ and the Cabinet Office. After his work with Spurs Syer was the sports psychologist for the English cycling team for ten years, during which time the team broke through on the international stage to win numerous World Championship and Commonwealth Games medals, and during which Chris Boardman won his record-breaking gold medal in individual pursuit at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992. Syer also worked with a large number of British, English and Scottish national associations during this period. A true internationalist he subsequently advised the Netherlands Olympic Committee and was sports psychologist with the Dutch national hockey team during their back-to-back gold medal wins at the 1996 and 2000 Olympics. Syer worked with the French Tennis Federation, combining his facility with French and his fascination with tennis and, while researching at the University of California Santa Barbara, he was also a sports psychologist for an American Football team, the Cleveland Browns, and a baseball team, the Chicago White Socks. Syer always worked from two deeply held principles: that every team had a unique potential that could be achieved in the pursuit of excellence, and that the route to this potential was through building enduring relationships based upon honesty and integrity. He took great satisfaction in working with high-performing teams. Syer loved language and he loved writing. He and Connolly

wrote their first book together in 1984, *Sporting Body, Sporting Mind*, which became an instant classic and is still in print 25 years later. During the next 20 years Syer and Connolly collaborated on a number of books including *Think to Win*, *Team Spirit* and *How Teamwork Works: The Dynamics of Effective Team Development*. Syer continued to work with innovative approaches to developing human performance until his health began to decline in 2007. When he was not working with teams, Syer travelled. He loved being by the sea and was particularly well known in the local island communities of Ponza, off the southern coast of Italy, and La Gomorra in the Canary Islands, where he wrote most of his books. In the past decade he traveled up and down the coast of Brazil. He is survived by his sister and two brothers. Another obituary can be found on the following website

www.scottishvolleyball.org/news/john.d.syer

Sandy Ross (1996 – 2009)

Bursar and Master in Charge of Cricket at Caterham School.

■ Officers and Committee Members

Officers and Committee for the year 2008 – 2009

President:

DR JOHN GRIMSHAW (1978 – 1985)
Sycamore Cottage, Colesbourne,
Nr. Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire GL53 9NP
Tel: 01242 870567
Email: j.grimshaw@virgin.net

Headmaster:

JULIAN THOMAS
Tel: 01883 343028
Email: headmaster@caterhamschool.co.uk

School Liaison:

DAVID CLARK
Tel: 01883 343028
Email: david.clark@caterhamschool.co.uk

Pupil Representatives:

JOSH HIGGINSON
ROSIE CLARKE
FREDDIE MAUDE

Chairman:

DAVID J CRAFT (1978 – 1985)
33 Stoneleigh Road, Limpsfield Chart,
Surrey RH8 0TP
Tel: 01883 716144
Mobile: 07860 678272
Email: dave.craft@btinternet.com

Treasurer:

DENIS K TINDLEY (1947 – 1955)
3 Bartletts, Abbey Lane, Saffron Walden,
Essex CB10 1NG
Tel: 01799 524436
Email: dtindley@compuserve.com

Archivist:

COLIN A K BAGNALL (1949 – 1955)
Tel: 0208 660 6971

Sports Secretary:

MARK HARRIOTT (1981 – 1985)
84 Bull Baulk, Middleton Cheney, Banbury
Oxfordshire
Tel: 01295 712108
Email: mf.harriot@btinternet.com

Sports Club Representative:

JOHN SHORT (1993 – 2000)
4 Whitgift Court, Nottingham Road,
Croydon, Surrey CR2 6AR
Mobile: 07815 868182
Email: johnnyashort@hotmail.com

Independent Examiner:

ALAN BLAKE-THOMAS (1955 – 1964)

Eothen Old Girls Representatives:

MRS ANN BAILEY
Email: Dandabailey18pa@aol.com
MRS CAROLINE STORER
Email: caroline@crossleys.net

Honorary Members:

DAVID ROGERS
Sunnymead, 5 Plough Road,
Dormansland, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6PS
Tel: 01342 834312

JOHN JONES
Tracery, Grange Road,
Caterham, Surrey CR3 6SH
Tel: 01883 347367
Email: johnwjones04@aol.com

Committee Member to retire in 2010:

ASHLEY HENDRON (1996 – 2001)
Email: Mceindri@hotmail.com
Ashleyhendron@ireland.com

OCA Administration:

ALINA RENNIE
Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road,
Caterham, Surrey CR3 6YA
Tel: 01883 335091
Email: alina.rennie@caterhamschool.co.uk
oldcats@caterhamschool.co.uk

Change of Address and Update of Member Information

Dear Member

Please help us to update your membership information.

We would like some further information that will help us to keep in touch with you:

Name (capitals please) _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Mobile Number _____

Email Address _____

(Please specify in full in the appropriate type form, upper case/lower case)

Date of Birth _____

Dates at School (including Caterham Prep. i.e. 1999 – 2006)

Willing to receive Newsletter by email Yes/No

Willing to receive OC Review by email Yes/No

If you move or wish to amend any details we hold for you, please notify:

Alina Rennie, OC Administrator at Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 6YA or email **alina.rennie@caterhamschool.co.uk**

Alternatively you can contact **oldcats@caterhamschool.co.uk**

The Old Caterhamians' Trust Millennium Appeal

We are currently supporting five pupils. **Our special plea is for more OCs to support the fund through regular contributions by standing order.**

Whatever you can give, for example, from as little as £5 monthly or £10 twice yearly, helps us to plan for the future. And remember that with Gift Aid a donation of £5 benefits the fund by £6.40. Thank you.

To: **Alina Rennie, The Old Caterhamians' Trust c/o Caterham School,
Harestone Valley Road, Caterham Surrey CR3 6YA**

Name (capitals please) _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

I enclose my *donation of £ _____

(Cheques payable to **"The Old Caterhamians' Trust"**).

*Completed Bankers Order / *Gift Aid declaration *Delete as required

Gift Aid Declaration:

I want The Old Caterhamians' Trust to treat all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

Signature _____ Date _____

Note: You must pay an amount of UK income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 you give).

Bankers Order

The Old Caterhamians' Trust

Registered Charity No: 1083128

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society:

_____ Post Code _____

Name(s) of account holder(s): _____

Branch Sort Code:

Account Number

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Please pay to: **Lloyds TSB Bank PLC, Bromley, Kent BR1 1NA**

Sort Code: 30-91-35

The Old Caterhamians' Trust

Account No: 0784764

The sum of: £ _____ on the _____ (insert date)

and the same sum on the first day of each month*/January*/April*/July*/
October* thereafter until further notice. (*delete as required)

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

John Townsend Champion of Georgian Charity by John Townesend

John Townesend, the author, is descended from the Rev. John Townsend's brother, The Rev. George Townsend. He has produced a fascinating read about a truly great man including many references to Caterham School. The OC Association is offering copies of this book at £15 per copy (plus £2.50 postage and packing).

Please send me _____ copy/copies of 'John Townsend, Champion of Georgian Charity'

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Old Caterhamians' Ties

Silk tie, striped: £15, Crimplene, striped: £10, Polyester, crested: £10
(Postage and packing £2.50)

Please send me _____ silk*, crimplene*, polyester* tie/s
(delete where applicable)

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Old Caterhamians' Enamel Cufflinks

We are delighted to be able to offer these beautifully crafted enamel gilt plated cufflinks with chain or T-bar fitting. Price £30.

Please state T-bar or chain when ordering. (Postage and packing at £2.50)

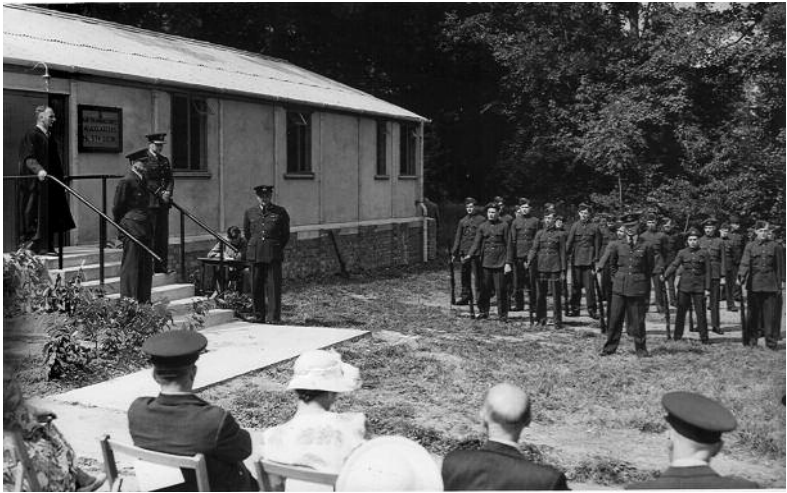
Name _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Please make cheques payable to '**Old Caterhamians' Association**' and return to: **Alina Rennie, Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6YA**





ATC at Caterham School



Old Caterhamians' Enamel Cufflinks



Past President, Sandie Kirk at an old girls fancy dress party

Old Caterhamians' Association

Caterham School
Harestone Valley Road
Caterham . Surrey . CR3 6YA

Telephone +44 (0)1883 335091

Email alina.rennie@caterhamschool.co.uk

Website www.oldcaterhamians.com