

OLD PERSEAN NEWS

Summer Newsletter 2008



A Message from The President



OPs enjoying a technology lesson

OP Open Day – 7th May 2008

We have just had the Annual OP Open Day, and as usual it was much enjoyed by all. Ed Elliott was in charge and had added various new attractions including a trip to the rifle range with the CCF. I think we all came back....! There was also a choice of lesson observations including

a superb 'hands on' practical technology lesson (see photo). OPs were also treated to a visit to the Scout Hut, where they heard that scout numbers had reached an all time high with this year's summer expedition due to climb volcanic peaks in Ecuador. For a change it was a day of glorious sunshine for the outdoor enthusiasts, who were able to enjoy a cricket match between Hills Road and The Perse 1st XI. The catering department, once again, excelled at lunch with dressed salmon, a selection of salads and delicious desserts. It was also the final opportunity that the OP Society, as a group, had to thank and say farewell to Nigel Richardson who retires in July. He has supervised and given his constant endorsement to the ongoing development of the Society which includes the data base, the new web site (I hope you have had a look), the newsletter and many other ways that enhance and simplify our contacts with the School. We are much indebted to him for his unfailing support and we gave him a little gift to remind him of us in his retirement. We look forward to the cricket match at the end of term. This year, by popular demand there is a Second X1 fixture too!

Ashley Edgar



News

House of Commons Reception – March 2008



Andrew Lansley – Cambridgeshire MP

Over eighty Old Perseans walked through the corridors of power and met in the Terrace Marquee at the House of Commons in March thanks to our host, local MP Andrew Lansley. Sir Mark Potter, The Headmaster and Ed Elliott told the gathered crowd about the Access to Excellence campaign – now within £800,000 of its target £3 million – thanks to the generosity of many Old Perseans who have already contributed to the campaign. The school aims to raise £1.6m and preserve the school's direct grant tradition by doubling the number of bursary pupils over the next decade. A further £1.4 million is needed to finance three buildings (a new hall at the Pelican which has just been completed; a specialist Technology room at the Prep – underway, and a second gymnasium at the Upper).

Retiring Staff this summer:

Nigel Richardson – Headmaster (1994) **David Jones (1974)**

Both tributes will be published in the Michaelmas edition of the newsletter.

Pat Hutt (1976)

Pat Hutt devoted a very large chunk of her life to the Perse School before retiring at Easter 2008. Between 1976 and 1997, she lived in the bungalow nearest to the Sixth Form entrance with her late husband Peter and son Haydn; Peter was the Caretaker and she helped him – and us – in all manner of ways, as well as working at Addenbrooke's. After Peter's sudden

and untimely death whilst playing golf in November 1996, she moved to Cherry Hinton, but returned within a few months to the Perse as the first person to run our new Reprographics Office. In that role over the next decade she provided not only a high quality copying service for staff and pupils alike, but helped out in the offices and reception.

Most importantly, she was a friend to all – something demonstrated by the huge range of postcards which she received during every school holidays. Woe betide even the Headmaster if he forgot... In return many of us received birthday cards and presents, usually coupled with a cheerfully back-handed remark about advancing age (I write as a regular recipient...). We look back on her time here with gratitude, and we shall greatly miss her – but we also look forward to seeing her return from time to time.

Nigel Richardson – Headmaster



Pat Hutt Retirement

WorthEast Herald, Nagaland, India – Kohima Educational Trust News

Mrs Margaret Halnan, widow of World War II veteran, Dr Keith Halnan (1939) inaugurated the Keith Halnan Medical Library at the State Library in Kohima. The library, consisting of medical books on general health meant for the reading Naga public, forms part of the Kohima Educational Trust reference library, which includes rare books on the Battle of Kohima, signed by the authors. Margaret Halnan said "I know my husband would be so happy to know that a medical library is being dedicated to his memory for the benefit of everyone here". She expressed the hope that the library would help "inquiring minds" to find answers to their questions. Margaret Halnan also presented the Keith Halnan and KET scholarships to selected students from different parts of Nagaland. Dr Keith Halnan was attached to the Queens Own Cameroon Highlanders of the 5th Brigade, taking part in the famous Battle of Kohima in 1944, and became one of the founding trustees of the Kohima Educational Trust when formed in 2004, in grateful recognition of the help given to the British during the War. The Keith Halnan Medical Library and Keith Halnan Medical Scholarship for Training on General

Forthcoming Events

OP Cricket Match

OP 2nd XI vs 3/4 XI Wednesday 2nd July 2008, 14.30

OP vs 1st XI Thursday 3rd July 2008, 11.30

OP Dinner – Friday 3rd October 2008

The OP dinner will be held at Gonville and Caius College from 6.45pm. All Old Perseans are welcome. This year we are particularly hoping to see OPs who left the school in 1968, 1983 and 1998 since it is their 40th, 25th and 10th anniversary (respectively) of leaving. If you left the Perse in one of these year groups and wish to join your classmates for this year's dinner, please contact the Development Office. Also check out the new section "Dipping into the School's Archives" page – you may see yourselves! The ticket application form is at the back of this newsletter or available on the OP website (www.perse.co.uk).

Carol Service at St Johns College – Tuesday 16th December 7.30pm

If you would like to attend please contact Amanda Augstein (alumni@perse.co.uk) or by telephoning 01223 403838.



Health were made possible when his widow, Margaret, on the occasion of his funeral, requested that his friends donated money instead of flowers.

The collection on that occasion became the 'seed' money. Mrs Margaret Halnan was invited by the Kohima Educational Society to come and inaugurate the library and hand out the scholarships on the occasion of the second annual award. Although in her eighties, she very graciously accepted the invitation and was accompanied by her second daughter, Mrs Sarah Bond. Twenty four children now have scholarships either as orphans or where parents are unable to pay for them. There are now four nurses training for ten months, after which they will return to their villages

and give medical aid where none is currently available.

Information taken from article in WorthEast Herald, Naga, April 10 2008.

David Loades – History of The Perse School

David is currently writing a book on the history of The Perse School since 1970. If you have anything that might be of interest to him please forward it, in the first instance, to David via his website www.davidloades.co.uk.

Your Stories

Oliver Glass (2003)

I left the Perse after only three years having just sat my GCSE's in the summer 2003. I did my A-levels at Hills Road and I'm currently completing my degree in Maths and Psychology (Joint Honours in Science) at Newcastle University. After I've graduated I have an unconditional place at Oxford (New College) to do a PGCE in Maths, and then do a MEd before I finally start teaching. I also play drums in a successful jazz band, having recorded a couple of albums (the third is on the way) and have played a plenitude of gigs.

I'm not going to say my achievement and relative success and happiness is all due to my time at the Perse, as that would undervalue my parents influence, my own effort as well as all of those non-school related who have helped model me into who I am. However, having just read the Independent Schools Supplement in the Telegraph, I just felt the need to thank the staff there. I seem to remember that I did 'try' some members of staff's patience, but I thoroughly enjoyed my time there and I don't think I've realised that until a few years down the line. The school was very helpful in instilling a hard-working and high standard of work ethos in me. This has benefited both myself and

others around me throughout my university career. I think time at the Perse accelerated a development of keeping a level head, and an ability to solve problems. I just want to thank you for that, and also for giving me the opportunity to be there.

I am training to be a teacher next year and I know that my desire to teach was inspired by the teachers at the Perse. Notably David Jones, Joe Lumsdon, Malcolm Thompson, and others whose names I have forgotten!

Jonathan Everett (1955)

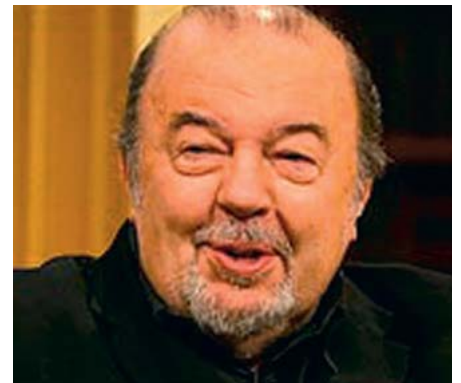
I read with interest in the Spring 2008 Newsletter that our 5th Cambridge Scout Group will celebrate their Centenary next year.

I've been living in St. Lucia in the West Indies for the past 35 years, but was a very green member of the Sea Scouts when, in 1949 if I remember, the school was visited, and the CCF and Scouts were inspected by the South African General Jan Smuts. He had been honoured as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge and had come to Cambridge to receive it. My family had just returned from 3 years in South Africa, and I was pushed into the front rank to be introduced. As mentioned, I was very green – so much so that nobody had told me that scouts shake hands with their left hand!!.

For years our family photograph album contained one of me being introduced to the General. I left the Troop as a Queen's Scout, with fond memories of Douglas Brown and Gavin McFarlane-Grieve, and at the end, Tony Billinghamurst.

Sir Peter Hall (1949)

Reproduced from an interview by Jonathan Sale, *The Independent*.



Passed/Failed: An education in the life of Sir Peter Hall, theatre director

'I directed five plays in my final year'

Sir Peter Hall, 77, was the second director of the National Theatre, and the founder of the Royal Shakespeare Company. His many productions include the British premiere of *Waiting for Godot*, Wagner's Ring cycle at Bayreuth, and the television series *The Camomile Lawn*. His books include his autobiography, *Making an Exhibition of Myself*. He directed

Noël Coward's *The Vortex*, now at the Apollo Theatre in London, and Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*, which opened at the Old Vic on 15 May.

Like most directors, I had a toy theatre as a child. My puppets were of cut-out cardboard and wood. They did what they were told, but only what they were told. I remember the excitement when a magical group of professional puppeteers visited my kindergarten in Bury St Edmunds.

We moved to Cambridge and I went to Morley Memorial Junior School, which seemed very rough. Being an only child, and a loner from the wilds of Suffolk, I was mocked by brawling boys and giggling girls. It was bearable because it was just round the corner from home so, if the worst happened, I knew it would take only two minutes to reach the safety of my mother.

I got a scholarship to the Perse Boys School, an ancient grammar. I think four of us had scholarships. Our fees were paid and our books, marked "Minor Scholar's book – to be returned on demand", were supplied by the school and were scruffy; all other boys had new books from their parents. It still rankles.

My first encounter with Shakespeare was at the age of 10. Instead of having to listen to a boring teacher reading out the principal part, we would go down to "The Mummery", which was in the basement of one of the school's Victorian wings, dress up with helmets, cloaks and swords, and shout lines of *Macbeth* at each other. My history master, John Tanfield, had a long, horsey face and chain-smoked in class. He had been a professional actor and, poor man, directed me as *Hamlet* in my last year.

Largely because of John Gielgud's *Hamlet*, which I saw at the Cambridge Arts Theatre during the War, I decided at 14 that I wanted to be a director, though I didn't know what a director did. Going to Cambridge, where there was so much amateur theatre, seemed the right way to go about it.

At the interview for St Catharine's College, Tom Henn, who could reduce himself to tears by intoning great verse, asked me to deliver Petruchio's "wooing speech" from *The Taming of the Shrew*, and my ringing voice woke up his sleeping spaniels. I was awarded an exhibition in English and a county scholarship. In the first term of my first year, I booked the ADC Theatre for the first week of my third year.

I was never going to be an actor, but was in a number of productions during my first two years. I understudied a part in *Agamemnon* with one line in Greek, which I wrote on my shield. In *Romeo and Juliet*, I had a big duel with John Barton, who had already wrecked his back in a duel in *Macbeth*; now I split one of his fingers and he had to go to hospital.

When John directed, he used to eat razor blades during rehearsals. We would ask, "Do you think that's wise?" but he would still put them in his mouth and turn them over with his tongue; there was even a story about an actress fainting as the blood trickled from his mouth.

I got a First in Prelims, then a 2:1. The inspirer of my last years at the Perse had been Douglas Brown, a famous old pupil who was now supervising me at St Catharine's. When I told him I was directing five productions in my last year, he said, "You will fail your Finals. I'm not going to waste your time and mine by asking you to come for supervisions. Come and have a drink when you see the results." I got a 2:2 – and a drink.

Bernard Wolfe (1935)

I was interested in your picture of the certificate of the Annual Group Re-Registration of the Perse School 5th Cambridge Scouts, as I was in the Prep School in Bateman St from the years 1925-1927. I knew of the people whose names are on the certificate and came to recognise how much they did for The Perse School. Miss Wright, our cub mistress, commanded the pack dressed in shorts, stockings, a green



Bernard & Brother 1920

jersey, polished boots, green cap and purple neckerchief fastened with a leather 'woggle'. We met in the school hall or outside according to the weather. There was space at the rear of the school with lawns that had access to the Botanical Gardens. At the shout from the cub mistress of "DYB, DYB, DYB" (Do your best), we all cried "DOB, DOB, DOB" (Do our best) and then "Arkela" as we leapt in the air. We learnt important subjects like hygiene including the ways that fingers and toenails should be cut and the all important 'knots' (I can still remember these). I can also signal SOS in Morse but I always found 'semaphore' much more challenging. Most of us rode bicycles to get around and a ride to the 'Gogs' was not unusual. We followed trails, learnt how to build a fire using the scale from the bark of birch trees as starters, followed by small dry twigs and larger pieces of wood. We were given only two matches to ignite our fire. We also found out how to control the fire if we had been a bit too generous with the fuel! We mixed flour and water, kneaded it with grubby hands and spread it around a peeled willow stick and held it in and over our fire; thus we made 'dampers', not the most delicious of foods but reasonably sterile. On the command from Miss Wright, our leader, Milsom called the troop together by waving his arms and standing like a scarecrow with outstretched arms. We all would shout "T" and assemble for tea from enamel mugs

and buns or sandwiches provided by our mothers.

I have great memories of the scout fireworks party; members of each six contributing its own box of fireworks which would then be let off in an orderly fashion around the camp fire. Or that was the intention Dennis Fisher's box 'inexplicably' caught alight and we had a breathtaking ceremony of coloured flames, explosions and crackles!

One of the cubs was a rosy-faced, always smiling lad named Billy Beaumont. Tragically he fell ill and died – the whole school mourned his loss. Little was I to know then that I would marry his cousin Betty Beaumont and enjoy sixty-five years of marriage.

I am grateful to the teachers at the Prep and to those at the 'Big School' in Hills Road for their dedication and for their teaching, not just how to pass exams but to win the love of learning and knowledge that remains life-long.

Editor's Note: *Some things don't change! Both the scouts and cubs still use the Gogs for field craft activities, and the annual scout bonfire and fireworks is one of the highlights of the year!*

Phil Wilkin (1947) The Perse School 5th Cambridge Scouts.

I started at the school (at the age of 11 years) in 1941 just after the fire damage by enemy activity. Much of the older part of the school was destroyed and some classes were held at that time in the Cambridgeshire Technical College with Masters cycling between the school and the 'Tech', not a great distance but well organised and as a result we experienced thirty minute lessons instead of forty minute lessons!

I joined the scouts in Swift Patrol but with clothes rationing it was very difficult to obtain the uniform, however, my mother 'manufactured' a reasonable version which was highly praised by Gavin McFarlane-Grieve, the very longstanding Scout Master. It was in the Easter of 1945 that it became apparent that we would be able to have a Summer Camp at West Runton, but as the hut and field there had not been used since 1939 it was totally overgrown and much work was needed to make both the field and hut habitable. During the Easter Holidays a group of us, mainly Patrol Leaders went to West

Runton by train with three station changes, armed with a variety of tools to try and cut back the hedges which were totally overgrown during those five years and sort out the Hut. I well remember Peter Cox who was built like an ox encouraging us to work really hard to achieve our target.

We slept in old Bell Tents and I relate how one night the Royal Artillery, situated in the field next door opened up at about 3 am which scared the lives out of us. We of course pictured the Germans attacking us in the tents thinking that we were a military camp! I do remember pitching tents under trees on one of our camps so that they were not seen from the air by enemy planes but the danger from thunder storms, which we in fact experienced, was completely disregarded!

We did have our Summer Camp in August 1945 which was very successful but it was there that we heard of the Atomic Bomb being dropped on Japan. Little could we as 15 year olds understand a thing of that magnitude.

Do You Recognise Yourself?

In the photograph below are the Perse 5th Scouts from 1945. Phil Wilkin has named as many faces as he remembers, however there are some gaps. If you recognise anyone, the development office would be delighted to hear from you at alumni@perse.co.uk.

*Back row: 7th from left Askem, centre Lovegrove, Dent, 7th from right Towler
Third Row: D Fine*

*Second Row seated: Marr, Harris, Mitchell, Anderson, Morris, Francis, Bishop, Foster, Davey, Hawkins -
Headmaster, MacFarlane Grieve – Scout Master, Ramsbottom, ?, White, ?, Court, ?, Wilkin, Mason*



Dipping into the School Archives...



Pelican original newsletter header

40 Years Ago

Extract from an article in the **1968** Pelican Magazine, Volume 35

The Venture Scouts embarked on the “the most adventurous expedition ever undertaken by the School Venture Scouts” to traverse the Jostedalsbreen, Norway, the largest ice-cap in Europe. Stretching for forty miles, punctured only by the occasional nunatak, the main plateau is 5000 feet above sea level with peaks rising to 6000 feet.

“We were divided into three patrols:

- 1. Mr Billinghamurst, Michael Brown, Stephen Williams*
- 2. Ian Menter, Stephen Harris, Robert Squibbs*
- 3. Mark Dant, David Cutting (non-scout), Malcolm George*



Jostedalsbreen

The snow was hard and crisp, necessitating the use of crampons up the steep slope towards the ice-cap’s highest point Högste Brekulen. Arriving here early in the afternoon, and with use of a large-scale map which we had been lucky enough to obtain from a glaciologist we met at Högste Brekulen, we reached the foot of ‘Lodalaskapa’, a peak at the northern end of the ice-cap, soon after dawn. The majority of the party spent the next day resting, relaxed in the sun, while three members of the party climbed the second highest peak of Lodalaskapa. Five o’clock in the morning saw us wading knee deep across an icy stream on our way past the peak and from here we navigated our way past the final nunutaks, now completely shrouded in mist, down the gentle slope of the final glacier and into the Erdel valley. It was now Sunday afternoon and we had been above snow line since the previous Monday. We had thus completed the traverse on foot of the Jostedalsbreen, a feat seldom achieved.”

25 Years Ago

Taken from an article in the **1983** Pelican Magazine by James Flett

The Critic – A comedy by Richard Brinsley Sheridan was produced during the Lent Term by the Lower Sixth. “I was already frowning when confronted with the programme, which listed separately ‘characters’ and ‘cast of characters’. The complication arises from the fact that the work is a play within a play – this potentially confusing situation was soon realised by the cast! However, all the players managed to overcome restriction of caricature injecting something of their own into characters and the result was thoroughly entertaining. I particularly enjoyed James Campbell’s Sir Fretful and Nick Brownlie’s Puff, reminiscent, as so often in school productions, of an earlier role as Tranio in The Taming of the Shrew. A good deal of effort went into this production and backstage work with the costume and set both excellently handled.”



Drama 1983

10 Years Ago

Article from the **1998** Pelican Magazine



Worldwide Quiz

At the end of the summer term, the school received the inaugural visit of the Ordnance Survey balloon. This was part of the prize for winning the national round of the Worldwise Quiz, a competition organised by the Geographical Association. The Perse was represented by three fifth form geographers; Roderick Abbott, Alex Sagovsky, Rowan Huppert, who triumphed over Eaton to secure a place, and eventually win, in the finals at the University of Leeds. Roddy, Alex, Rowan, Mrs Goodman and Mr Wake all got off the ground as a group of younger students watched in awe. “We found it very noisy and hot as the burners were just above our head!” It was a pleasant morning and particularly enjoyed by the pupils from the Pelican Pre Prep who visited the ‘big school’ for the first time.



Balloon visit 1998

Obituaries – 2006–2008

Edward Rouse Cook (1946)
died 4 November 2007



Many thanks to Tim Cook and John Doggett for the following:

Edward Cook was born and raised in Stapleford near Cambridge where he was baptised, confirmed and pumped the organ and learnt to ring at St Andrews Church. He entered the Perse Preparatory School in Bateman Street in 1936

and left the Upper School from the Classical 6th Form. During his school life he was editor of *The Pelican*, president of the Economics Society and a librarian. Outstandingly he shortened and played the title role in Shakespeare's *Richard II*, the first post war production play to be staged in the school hall on three evenings in Spring 1946. This was no less than a regeneration of the Perse Players after the war.

After completing National Service, he went up to Lincoln College, Oxford to read modern history, to row for the college and sing at Pusey House Chapel. Accepted for ordination whilst in the Army, he came to Lincoln Theological College in 1951. He was made Deacon in 1953 to serve at St James', Louth and priested a year later. There he met and married Christine at Louth

in 1956. After a brief curacy at Crosby, Scunthorpe, he became lecturer at St Botolph's, Boston (The Stump). For 30 years he was involved in the training and chairmanship of Lincoln Diocesan Readers. In the 1980s he was an ordinary priest vicar of the Cathedral, having been made Canon and Prebendary of Empingham in 1979 for his work with Readers. He was rural Dean of Corringham for eight years.

Edward enjoyed singing tenor with Lincoln Orpheus Male Voice Choir from 1972, Lincoln Choral Society from 1994 and, with Christine in the Scothern Chorale. They retired to Dunholme in 1994. In his retirement he ministered to 86 different churches as well as the Cathedral and also continued his hobby of bellringing.

Peter F Drake (1934)
died 1 November 2006



Grateful thanks to his wife Judith and brother Brian for the following:

Peter Drake, the elder of two brothers at the Perse, attended the school from 1934 until 1941. On leaving, he read Modern and Medieval Languages at Emmanuel College, Cambridge for one year followed by four years service in the Royal Signals. After the war he returned to Emmanuel to complete his course and take his degree. Being a talented musician, he also

took the LRAM and ARCM, taught by Bernard Timberlake, a Cambridge graduate and top piano teacher.

In 1947 he was appointed assistant to the County Further Education Officer, which involved evening classes and youth clubs. At this time, Henry Morris was setting up the Village Colleges.

After a spell in Berkshire, he was appointed the Principal of the College of Further Education in Harrogate – a post he held and developed for twenty seven years. He started with three full-time lecturers and numerous part-timers but eventually built the college up to employ a hundred full-time staff. The following always made the family laugh; Peter would be interviewing an unruly student when a vision came before him ...after the fire at The Perse School in 1941 the 6th Form boys went to the local 'Tech' for a while. Outside their form window girls from the Tech were playing netball in shorts. The boys would dip pellets of paper in ink and

flick them at the girls' legs, until of course an irate sports mistress appeared and ordered those unruly boys to behave! Peter always found it hard after that, not to laugh and be lenient with a student.

After retirement, he greatly enjoyed walking in Nidderdale and Lower Wensleydale, playing the organ and singing. He was the organist at Kikby Malzeard Church near Ripon for 20 years. He was a lively and active member of the Rotary Club, painted with water-colours and enjoyed the company of his family.

Sadly at the age of sixty nine he had a severe stroke affecting his speech and the right side of his body from which he never recovered. Nevertheless, he managed to continue his singing and even some organ playing for a number of years. His greatest triumph was learning to sketch again with his left hand scenes of the beautiful Yorkshire countryside.

He is survived by his widow Judith, four children and six grandchildren.

Albert Aubrey Feather (1946)
died 12 June 2007

Albert had become a pupil of the Perse in 1946, during the years that the late Mr Dagut had been the Housemaster of Hillel House. He married Renee (nee Naggar) in 1954 and celebrated their golden wedding anniversary surrounded by four children and five grandchildren, all of whom gave him the

greatest of pleasures and provided him with devoted support throughout his illness. He was able to attend the Hillel House reunion at the Garden House in the company of a number of his contemporaries and the first of the reunions held at the home of Laurie Marsh, but thereafter, he found travelling to London from Lytham St. Anne's increasingly difficult.



Nigel Harris (1942)
died 8 July 2007



Grateful thanks to Mrs Harris and Neville Day for photos and the following:

Nigel came to the Perse Preparatory School in September 1935 leaving the school in July 1942. He was a great

sportsman in every sense of the word. He was in the first XI cricket team in 1941 and elected captain for the 1942 season. He was an "opening bat with plenty of shots who made many runs, he was an excellent wicket keeper and a conscientious and enthusiastic captain" as recorded in the Pelican of the time. He also got involved with some of the Old Persean events. "I recall being in the second form in 1937, Nigel told me he was going to be a surgeon. I was impressed that he knew what he wanted to be at that age – an ambition which he fulfilled"

Neville Day (1943)

After graduating from Cambridge University (Trinity College) and qualifying as a doctor in 1947, he was a senior medical officer in the RAF and squadron leader, based at Manston Airbase. He was involved in the Berlin Airlift 1949 of civilians under

siege by blockade. He wandered into the Russian sector and nearly became a military statistic, but related the tale with a smile. In 1958 he gained fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons and went on to become an internationally acclaimed orthopaedic surgeon and Fellow of BOA. Nigel was surgeon to St Charles and St Mary's Hospital in London for 26 years. He was conscious of his patients' well being in all aspects of his work, informing GPs when he had empty beds so that individuals could be seen with greater speed, and his department could work to full capacity. In 1972 he established the very first NHS Sports Clinic and much of his work came from the Arsenal Football Club, where he was known to the players as Nigel the Knife.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth and two sons.

Professor Lucjan Lewitter (1938)
died 19 September 2007



Lucjan Lewitter was born in Cracow, Poland. He boarded at the Perse School, in 1938 in difficult circumstances, and for some time uncertain of the fate of his parents, who were only able to join him in England later. Among the friends Lucjan made in those early years in England was his French teacher, Tom Wyatt, who later became a Fellow of Sidney.

He devoted his life to the study of the hundred years before Poland was wiped from the map of Europe. Lucjan's principal interest therefore lay in explaining Russia's 'skilful exploitation of Polish weakness'. In the course of his career, as a

Professor at Christ's College, Cambridge he acquired a dazzling range of expertise in the field of European thought, that scarcely anyone would now attempt, let alone master.

Although many might have been tempted to trumpet their achievements, this was never Lucjan's way. Behind that self-effacing exterior lay an unrivalled command of sources in many languages and behind the old-world charm lay a mind convinced of the virtues of capitalist modernity and a kind and generous man.

Anthony Preston (1952)

died 20 September 2007

Grateful thanks to his son Keith for the photo and following:

Anthony Preston was a boarder at Hillel House from 1946, which has now been converted into the Pelican Nursery & Pre-Preparatory School, for children aged 3 to 7. Although his life was not recognised by academic or financial achievement, he had enormous success as a human being, which was confirmed by the nearly four hundred people who attended his funeral, most of whom were individuals whose lives he had touched in some way. He leaves a son, Keith.

**Barrie Reed (1952)**

Grateful thanks to Anthony Chaplin for the following tribute:

It was in September 1946 that a twelve year old Barrie Reed entered The Perse School and our friendship of sixty years began. At school Barrie was a successful sportsman gaining school colours in athletics cricket and hockey. Barrie's speciality in long jump earned him the middle school long jump record for many years. In his final year he was appointed School Cricket Captain and the critique of his ability reads "A good fast left hand bowler whose performance is better since he changed to bowling over wicket. A hard hitter, though not a sound bat – a good field". Barrie was also an enthusiastic Perse Player, a member of the group in the school that put on one or two plays a year. In 1951 he strutted the boards as Snout – a tinker in Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Not only did he act but he helped back stage and built and painted scenery.

Barrie left the Perse in 1952 to do his national service in the RAF. He was sent to Canada to learn to fly in T33s and when qualified returned to England to fly Vampires. After the RAF he entered Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge to read geography. Barrie began his working life as a teacher in Cambridge but after a year he was attracted to the food industry and in 1958 was recruited as a graduate management trainee by the Joe Lyons organisation, culminating in his appointment as Commercial Director and General Manager of Symbol Biscuits in Blackpool. He served forty with the company until it was incorporated into the Cadbury Group in 1998. It was whilst working in London that Barrie met and married Ann and had two children Philip and Claire.

Barrie lived life to the full. He was a family man – a devoted and loving husband giving Ann total support always. He was a loving father and grandfather and was intensely proud of his children and grandchildren and their achievements. But above all else, Barrie was blessed with a wonderful gift ... his love of people! He was able to relate to and involve people in all walks of life and of all nationalities. He had the knack of making them his friend within a very short time of meeting them. During his last months he exhibited great courage and refused to let the illness which eventually caused his death prevent him from carrying out his duties. Barrie was a one off – a very dear and unique man.

David Winkworth (1947)

died 28 December 2007

Grateful thanks to his wife for the photo and following:

David Winkworth leaves behind his wife Angela, daughters Gabrielle Foy and Catherine Hetherington and son Jeremy. David was remembered as a warm family man with a keen sense of humour, as well as one of Cockermonth's best known businessmen and most

influential promoters of its history and heritage.

In 1979 David set up one of Britain's only printing museums, housing machines which are part of Britain's industrial heritage, he himself going on to become a world authority on the mechanical printing presses and one-man operated machines which revolutionised printing and newspapers production in the early 20th century, the Linotype. The Printing House on Cockermonth Main Street,

still remains open to this day and incorporates an art materials shop, antiquarian bookshop and gallery. David was also a member of Cockermonth's Chamber of Trade, and Cockermonth and District Civil Trust, being chairman of both, and the prime mover behind the new town guide as well as being a Rotarian for many years.

Five years of the Winkworth's married life was spent in Ecuador, where both their daughters were



born and where David worked as a petroleum engineer for a company which became part of Burma Oil; the remainder of the family's time being spent in Cockermouth when David's job as a contract chemical engineer with Bechtel brought him to the area. His work was as part of the team which built the Ectona Fibres plant – now Eastman Chemical, near Siddick. When the project came to an end, the Winkworth's decided to stay in the area, establishing the New Bookshop, the family business which today is run by daughter Catherine and her husband Stephen, with Mrs Winkworth still being closely involved.

Mr Winkworth's lifelong interest in books and literature helped him establish, along with David Crosby, the custodian of Wordsworth House, the Cockermouth Festival in 1981, which still continues of this day. Ian Dodsworth, an early secretary to the festival and close friend of Mr Winkworth said "David was an ideas man of enormous energy and was involved with so many things in Cockermouth".

Deaths

Graham Fuller (1954)

Peter Mansfield (1960)

Former pupils have the chance to continue wearing their school colours and insignia with the Perse School's range of Old Persean memorabilia.

All prices include postage and packaging.

Tie

The already popular tie includes the school's coloured stripes with small Pelicans as shown in the photograph below and is available in either pure silk or polyester. Price: Silk – £14.95. Polyester – £6.95



Cufflinks

Old Persean cufflinks are a smart and subtle addition to formal attire, allowing alumni to display their alma mater with a sophisticated touch. These are often given as gifts to pupils who perform solos in school concerts in their final year at the Perse. Price: £20

Brooch

The silver brooch allows Old Perseans to show the feminine side of the Perse School. Memorabilia is not just for Old Boys! Price: £35

Please contact Amanda Augstein at alumni@perse.co.uk telephone 01223 403838 or send a cheque made payable to The Perse School at The Development Office, The Perse School, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2QF

Missing OPs

The last newsletter was returned from the following people *(Please could you advise the development office if you know their current address):*

R J Abraham (1949)

B H Brooks (1995)

D Burson (1933)

M P Carew

A A C Crane (1991)

D P Fisk (1987)

J Harris (1960)

P Hoon (1963)

J H Hughes (1997)

V I Lesk (1992)

N G Mabey (1986)

J D Palmer (1980)

E F Q Pennington (1994)

E Phillips (1954)

Mrs S Salier

N Shenker (1990)

H G Saunders (1956)

J M Tarbit (1998)

L Turner (2000)

J J Valentine

A F Wehrle (1950)

J R Yarrow (1954)

**Limited Edition School Print
Now Available**

Painted in watercolour by Alison Roberts, the new Perse School framed print is available to order. The image shows a summer cricket match on the school fields. The print is approximately 12" by 15". These will only be available for a short time on a first come first served basis. The cost of this print unframed is £22.00, or framed in mahogany or pine £50.00. Please make cheques payable to The Perse School and send to Amanda Augstein, The Development Office, The Perse School, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2QF.



Alison Roberts Print

Deadline for copy for the Autumn Newsletter is Friday 10th October 2008. Photographs, articles and comments are always welcome. Please contact Amanda Augstein at alumni@perse.co.uk telephone 01223 403838 or write to the OP Society, The Perse School, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2QF



Annual Old Persean Dinner

To be held at Gonville & Caius College, Trinity Street, Cambridge – Friday 3 October 2008

Please complete and return this form by 7 September to: Amanda Augstein, Development Office, The Perse School, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 8QF. This form can also be found on the website (www.perse.co.uk), printed off and sent in. We regret that due to the need for accompanying cheques, we cannot accept the booking electronically.

Please reserve _____ places for the OP Dinner in the name of: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Years at The Perse: From _____ To _____

I shall be bringing the following guests: _____

Please seat me at the same table as: _____

Vegetarian Menu Required: _____ (Please state no. required)

I enclose a cheque for (£37.00 per person, payable to The Perse School, which includes the cost of food, a bottle of wine and a pre-dinner drink)

Dress: Jacket and tie preferred

