



KENT COLLEGE TIMES

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The Season of Giving



Senior School Shoeboxes

Charities Report

Both Vernon Holme and Kent College have had an exciting and entertaining term of raising lots of money for some really good causes. Senior School has a really active Charities Committee and they have been hard at work.

The first thing to do was to choose the charities that we wanted to support and then devise ways of raising as much money as possible. In Senior School both competitive houses (Chaucer and Marlowe) also have a designated house charity.

Over the past few weeks we have been delighted to raise and hand over around £2,500. One of our chosen charities this year is Demelza House, the Children's Hospice, and early on in the term Senior School had a Bake Sale with lots of tasty treats brought in by students and sold at morning break and lunchtime - £120 was raised.

Chaucer's House Charity this year is the L'Arche Community in Canterbury where mentally disabled and able-bodied volunteers live together in community. The non-uniform day, when we all thoroughly enjoyed coming in dressed up in purple, raised some £400 for this cause and when members of the L'Arche came into Chapel and shared their valuable work, we were able to hand over a cheque for £1,000 raised by the National Association of Flower Arranging Societies (NAFAS) who had used the School Sports Hall during the summer. The proceeds from the Gym and Dance Show are also going to L'Arche.

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Talent Show



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Choristers in Liverpool for The Radio 3 Choir of the Year Competition

We had just finished lunch in the Cherwell Valley Service Station and I was sweeping up children and their belongings, when one of the people who had served us came up to me and said that we were the best school party he had ever had to deal with. A very good start, which continued at our hotel, where we had to negotiate a wedding party in full swing and find our way to rooms on five different floors. Dinner was enjoyed by all – except James Griggs – but at least he remembered to turn up!! Sorry, James.



Choristers on stage

Apart from a few nocturnal happenings, (did you visit every room, David?) most of us got a decent night's sleep.

Breakfast was a real good English affair and proved that most parents had starved their offspring for a month before this trip. I couldn't count the number of hash browns on Hugo's plate!

And so to the business of the day. Danny, our driver who incidentally drove us to Germany last May, guided us expertly over the Mersey and through the rather depressing suburbs of Liverpool and we arrived at the Philharmonic Hall. An art deco building, which would not have been out of place in a Jeeves & Wooster story, proved to be very grand, if not as large as Symphony Hall, Birmingham, and with an excellent acoustic.

We had an excellent morning's rehearsal – Miss Baker found she had a voice after all - and at 11 o'clock precisely, we held a short Remembrance Service, conducted by the Chaplain. (When all else fails, say a prayer or two.)

Next was our sound check with the expert BBC engineers and then we were almost ready to begin. Walking round to the front of house, we were greeted by an Orange Order marching band – rather bizarre.

The first choir on were the eventual winners and it soon became clear that we were in exalted company. These were very good choirs and, on their day, any of them could have won the competition. The Scottish babies who sang the 'Eriskay Love Lilt' really got to me.

Then it was our turn. We were brilliant. Mrs Spencer got 'Ching a-ring' right, Harvey found his sticks and Susannah kept my music where it was meant to be! I wrote 'The Magi Return' over thirty years ago, but 'God's peace for the weary' brought a lump to my throat like never before.

We were not the winners on the day, but it did not matter. Afterwards we always discuss what could have gone better (different pianist?) and what to put right for next time, but we are agreed, that for sheer musicality and the ability to move an audience, we are second to none.

Well done all and roll on Venice and Basel.

R G Spencer

(Editor's Note: Mr Spencer is married to Mrs Spencer, the Director of the Choristers. He is the most superb pianist and accompanies the Choir regularly)



Choristers' sweatshirts

From the Head Master's Desk

Dear Readers

It seems strange that as the days get shorter and there is a chill in the air, at Kent College we seem to try to fit even more into those days and the results are heart warming. On my way home the other evening, I saw that the astro pitch was being used on one side by hockey players preparing for next term and on the other side by our students learning the new game (to them) of 'Ultimate Frisbee'. On the grass but in the light cast from the astro flood lights, the U14 rugby team was still in training. I was on my way to collect my car to attend a Music Recital at the Junior School followed immediately by the Talent Show at the Senior School. Clearly there is a lot of talent evident right across the College - both events were splendidly entertaining, and the second raised a considerable amount of money for charity.



Year 7 girls prepare to dance

Since the half term break we have also enjoyed the varied Gym and Dance Show which included students from Year 7 to the Sixth Form and from across Europe and Asia - the show delighted the large audience. The Autumn Concert also took place in the Chapel with a wonderful final performance by the orchestra under the baton of Mr Paul Bourdillon. The audience were able to hear the Senior Choir, soloists, string and wind ensembles, and, of course, the nationally acclaimed Choristers. Students from 26 Primary Schools took part in the annual Problem Solving competition and the Kent College teams took part in the first round of the School's Challenge at St Edmund's and in the Mathematical Problems Contest at Sutton Valence.

At the end of this term we say goodbye to Mr Peter Dyer, who has made an excellent contribution and achieved a great deal with his students during his five years at Kent College in the International Study Centre - notably with very good results with IGCSE and IELTS examinations. His students have appreciated the considerable amount of extra support at lunch times and after school. We recognise that we are losing a gifted and experienced teacher of EFL who has also worked in the drama department, inspiring younger students. He returns home to Australia to look after and support his father and we wish them both well.

We also thank Mr Paul Dingle on the completion of his temporary contract in the History Department.

There have been a number of community events at the College: firework displays at both the Junior and Senior Schools, helped along by the Sixth Form students involved in Young Enterprise and their businesses. We also had the Friends of Kent College Wine and Wisdom evening where Sixth Formers were challenged by Parents and Teachers. We had a splendid weekend with the Old Canterburians Club - including a cross-country run on the Saturday afternoon and a well attended dinner on the Saturday evening and a Remembrance Service in the Chapel on Sunday morning. The whole student body also stood in silence in the Quad at 11 am on the 11th day of the 11th month to show their respect for Old Canterburians who had fallen in battle.

The Choristers gave a magnificent performance in Liverpool's Philharmonic Hall in the finals of The BBC Radio 3, Choir of the Year Children's category; they came second to a regional choir from Kettering called 'Masquerade' and did themselves and Kent College proud.



Chef cooks up a treat at the Fireworks



James and Tom with the Young Enterprise sideshow



Year 11 Open Evening

We trialled a new Open Evening for students moving from Year 11 into the Sixth Form and were pleased to welcome back Old Canterburians Andrew and Cora Brown whose wedding was reported in the last issue. They spoke of the value of Sixth Form education at Kent College and the opportunities which it has afforded them. Parents and pupils were invited to discover for themselves what departments had to offer as they visited rooms around the quad. The Sixth Form Study Room and Common Room were impressively presentable.

As if not enough was happening within the College, the number of trips has also been terrific: a Spanish exchange; a trip to the Rhineland to discover German Christmas fairs; business trips to Sainsbury's and the Jaguar and Morgan car factories; boarders trips to Paris, to Laser Quest, to 'Go Ape' at Leeds Castle; visits to London to see shows for Drama, and exhibitions for Art; a Geography field trip to Devon; Girls' hockey to the regional finals in Essex, and so it goes on. As I write this I look forward to the last few days of term which I anticipate will get even busier as the days continue to grow shorter.



Remembrance in the Quad

Thank you for the positive response which we have received for the first edition of the Kent College Times. It gained its title because it is about Kent College now but also Kent College as it was for Old Canterburians. We also hope to tell you about the exciting things coming up at the College.

Congratulations to Mrs McGibney for the first of the new look paper and I am sure you will continue to enjoy this next edition.

Dr David Lamper
Head Master



Charities Report

When Nikki Wyeth (parent of Charlotte and Henry) came into Chapel and shared with us the amazing work of Health for All (a charity working with mid-wives in India and Ethiopia), we wanted to help. We had a wonderful Talent Show with loads of entertaining acts and raised over £300 for the cause.

At Vernon Holme, the children took 'Bear necessities' as their theme for Children in Need Day. They came in non-uniform and some wonderfully inventive fancy dress; they held a cake sale and nine Year 6 girls undertook a day's sponsored silence. I gather it was bliss and we congratulate them even though they only lasted until lunchtime. It is hoped that the money raised will be in the region of £400.

We also have been busy wrapping and packing shoe-box Christmas gifts for Operation Christmas Child and over the whole school, we have donated in excess of 150 boxes. They were collected recently and are on their way to children in some of the poorest parts of the world for Christmas.

With heaps more fun money-raising ideas to come, we are really putting the ethos of our school into action.

Dr Paul Glass
Chaplain



Senior School Bake Sale



Junior School Bake Sale



Junior School Christmas Shoeboxes



Junior School Children in Need



Purple Staff



Purple Pupils

Victorian Day in Year One



Victorian Day

Year One have spent the first half of the Autumn Term studying 'Houses and Homes'. The History curriculum coverage includes the study of homes 100 years ago. Year One designed and built a Victorian kitchen in their home corner with the support of Teaching Assistant, Mrs Pomfret. Pupils handled many artefacts and learned to use them! Butter was made using a Victorian butter churner and through role-play, pupils developed a sense of what life was really like working in a Victorian household.

To end the half term topic, all pupils and staff in Year One came to school on Friday 24th October dressed in Victorian clothes. The classroom was reorganised as an authentic Victorian school room (with a picture of Queen Victoria on the interactive whiteboard) and even the class teacher, who never smiled once for the whole day, had her cane with her! Thankfully it was not used.

The morning was spent baking scones using the buttermilk left over from the butter the pupils had made the day before. A Victoria sponge and cucumber sandwiches were also prepared.

The afternoon consisted of a Victorian tea party in which all the food prepared that morning by the pupils was consumed. Linen tablecloths were used and good manners were evident at all times. It was a fantastic day from start to finish and one which we shall all remember. My heartfelt thanks and gratitude must go to Mrs Pomfret and to Miss Henderson for all their hard work and support in helping to make the day possible.

Mrs Ruth Fitzgerald
Year One Class Teacher

Jenny Ellis Retires

Many staff turned up to say goodbye to Jenny Ellis on the 22nd October. Jenny had been with the catering department for 21 years and had many stories to tell about the school, staff and pupils alike. She frequently wheeled the food trolley to the music department at lunchtime and at the end of half term, in appreciation, the Senior Choir sang to her in Chapel, which she enjoyed very much.

We will all miss Jenny's laughter and good humour but we look forward to welcoming her back to school events.

Miss Fidelma Connolly
Domestic Services Manager



Jenny (right) and her daughter (left)

Ramblings from the Junior School Head Master...

"Have you always wanted to be a Headmaster?" asked an excited infant child as I congratulated her on her excellent piece of writing. After a few moments consideration I decided that the truthful straightforward answer was the best way of progressing the conversation even



though it may distract from the stated learning objective of the lesson. So I was able to inform the class that at their age I was considering three careers: footballer, cricketer or school teacher. By the age of ten I had realised I had better leave the football option with George Best. By fifteen I had come to terms with the reality that I was not going to be the next Colin Cowdrey which just left option three! However, as the product of the Grammar School system where I had lost my first name at the age of eleven and most of my academic self confidence by the age of fourteen, I was not keen to spend the rest of my life in that type of environment, so it was Junior School for me. A decision that I give thanks for as I see genuine awe and wonder in your children as they enjoy the challenges that face them every day in so many aspects of the curriculum, the care and consideration they show for each other, the pride they have in their school and all they are achieving.

I often think that I do have the best job in the world; in a single day I can see the sense of achievement as a child acquires a new skill, I can listen to our choir sing, I can referee a football match, I can even take a cricket bat out with me on break duty and pretend to be Colin Cowdrey. However, children also have a wonderful way of helping you keep things in perspective and earlier this week I was sitting in my office thinking how lucky I was to have chosen a career that gives so much satisfaction and doing my best to appear both busy and important when I heard a child in reception class say to his friend as he pointed towards me,

"That's Mr Carter, I think he works here!"

Mr Andy Carter
Head Master of the Nursery, Infant and Junior School at Vernon Holme



AS Fieldtrip 2008 Slapton

October 21st – October 25th



AS geographers get to grips with the past

The Geography department took a group of 6.1 students to Slapton in South Devon for their AS fieldwork. The trip was designed to support the AS modules of teaching, providing detailed case studies and fieldwork skills. We made use of the Field Studies Council centre in Slapton.

On the journey to South Devon we called in at Stonehenge and Hay Tor on Dartmoor, both providing examples of the management of tourism required as part of one module.

The first day in the field involved Hydrology. We followed the course of the River Harbourne from the source on Dartmoor to the Kingsbridge Estuary. At various sites along the river we stopped to measure aspects of the river from hydrological variables to landuse changes. A detailed study of the flood management scheme at Harbaton provided an excellent example of river management.



Testing wind speeds

On the second day a tour of the coastal landforms of the area included the Kingsbridge Estuary, Prawl Point, Hallsands, Start Bay and Slapton Bay Bar. Sediment studies were completed as part of the day. Use was made of the soil labs back at the centre to complete the analysis of samples collected in the field.

Finally we spent a day studying the changing characteristics of the settlements in the region. Environmental surveys were completed along with landuse change surveys. Rural land degradation was considered using a China Clay Quarry on the edge of Dartmoor.

We spent most of the evenings at the centre, discussing and planning the delivery of the new A Level spec, drafting schemes of work and mapping out the best use of the fieldwork. I would like to express my thanks to Mr Grayson and Mrs Gray for giving up part of their half term to enable the trip to take place and for their dedication and support at this time of significant change.

I am pleased to report that the centre itself provided an excellent base for the fieldwork. Over a million pounds has been invested in the last year upgrading accommodation, and most significantly, dining facilities.

All the students worked extremely hard during the trip; socially they proved to be a very mature group and generally good company. They completed self-review exercises on the work completed during the week to aid the planning and preparations for next year's course. The feedback was extremely positive about the work and how useful they had found it. Hiking over Dartmoor and working in the rivers proved a particular favourite. We have booked 2009 and 2010 and thank the school for the continued support of this vital part of the work of the Geography department

Mr Graham Letley
Head of Geography



Steady Joe, you don't know your own strength

Enamelling Club turns to Wood!



Beth at work

A group of Year 7 pupils have embarked on a charity project during their Enamelling Club sessions. For the last few weeks they have been relentlessly creating delightful, hand-made Christmas decorations from off-cut pieces of wood kindly donated by the DT Department. They have painted and decorated each of these pieces, finishing them with a coat of wax for an aged effect.



Bonnie cuts carefully

Pupils now plan to sell their work at the Christmas Fayre at the Junior School (Friday, 28th November, 5.30-8.00pm) and donate all their earnings to Demelza House, the children's hospice in Sittingbourne.

Thanks must go to: Eva Harris, Beth Mason, Bonnie Greenstreet, Eddie Derbyshire-Wreford, Edward Toner and Alex Harris.

Mrs Bea Alonso-Harris
Spanish Department

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Practice Expedition



Conquering the Lake District

When signing up for Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, we didn't know quite what we were putting ourselves in for. So on a cold and damp October morning in Half-Term, 19 sixth formers set off in order to conquer the Lake District. After a nine-hour coach journey, we arrived at the campsite to find that Cumbria was a very cold place, and set about pitching tents by torchlight. Going from Bronze in Year 10 walking round the tame hills of Wye, to trekking round the wild mountains of the Lake District was a daunting thought but we had three days of walking, with distances ranging from 15 to 25 km each day, up and around the hills and mountains near Penrith and always carrying our tents. It was a struggle for some of us and perhaps we had underestimated the amount of effort that it would take... and always with the tents! The weather was fair but bitterly cold so ice formed on the insides of the tents but such weather meant that the views across the valleys were absolutely stunning, making the long and steep ascents worthwhile... and always with the tents. The sense of achievement was terrific but we were oh so grateful for long hot baths when we returned to Kent. Next stop: Snowdonia!

Saffron Wright and Piers Rudgard-Redsell
Year 12

Top Medieval Historian visits KC



The decapitation of a 'wild man'. From the Smithfield Decretals, c. 1340

Dr Alixe Bovey, Lecturer in Medieval History at UKC, will be coming to Kent College on Thursday 22 January to speak about medieval popular culture. She will consider what 'popular' really meant in this period and link this to our perceptions of the Middle Ages today. Dr Bovey is the presenter of the BBC Four series, 'In Search of Medieval Britain'. Her lecture, entitled 'From Monsters to Monstrances: Popular and Unpopular Medieval History', will be part of the excellent series run by the Canterbury branch of the Historical Association. It will take place in the Old Library and begin at 7pm.

All are welcome.

Problems Contest 2008



Mr Waltho and Mr Wiles with the winners of the Problem Solving Competition

The annual Kent College Problems Contest second round took place on Saturday 15th November. This competition organised by the Senior School Mathematics Department is open to all primary schools in East Kent. Altogether over 1400 pupils entered the first round which they took in their own schools, submitting their results to Kent College. The top 83 were invited to take part in the second round.

The children worked through problems for about an hour then had a chance to make new friends over squash and biscuits. While scripts were frantically marked by Kent College staff, the children with their families were entertained by a talk entitled 'Squares Count' by Colin Monk, formerly Director for the Kent Mathematics Project.



Problem Solving Competition

This year proved to be a very close competition and following a heated debate amongst the panel of markers, an unprecedented 6 prizes were awarded. Mr Stuart Wiles, Head of Mathematics and Mr Julian Waltho, Deputy Head presented the prizes:

Runners-up: Lottie McDonald and Christian Small, Kent College Infant & Junior School.
Alex Gent, Sheldwich Primary School
Oliver Hope, Northbourne Park School

Joint first prize: Bethany Nelson, Blean Primary School
Jack Huang, Lady Joanna Thornhill Primary School.

Sutton Valence School Mathematics Competition

On 6th November Mr Daly and Mr Wiles took two teams to the annual Mathematics Team Challenge at Sutton Valence School near Maidstone. The contest involves the team of four 'racing', solving as many problems as possible in twenty-five minutes.

The Year 7 team, despite a slow start, quickly made up ground on the leading teams finally finishing a highly respectable joint fourth, out of twenty teams, with King's Canterbury Junior School.

The Year 8 team led for most of the competition finishing joint third, again with King's Canterbury Junior School, in what was a very close competition. The joint winners only answered one more question than the KC team.

Year 7 team

Eva Harris, Jake Todd, Hugo Lamper, Katrina Fray

Year 8 team

Archie Mitchison, Sam Reekie, Catherine Parker, Frankie Pickworth



The KC teams

Farm Report

The cold turn in the weather has been very noticeable at the farm over the last few weeks. Many of the animals are now in for the winter. Two of the ponies are coming in each evening, and the rest have grown lovely winter coats to keep them warm!

All of the pigs are now indoors too. Two of the sows have had their piglets and are cosy in the main barn. We have 23 piglets in total at the moment, and they are all growing very well. Our third sow is due to have her piglets on New Year's Day, but hopefully she won't cause too much work over the Christmas holidays!



Mother and day-old babies

The calves are all in the barn too, already back in training for the Kent Show next summer! At the moment they are eating us out of house and home, but hopefully it will all pay off and they will win more prizes in July!

On December 8th we will be holding our annual Carols at the Farm, where some of the Young Farmers will be providing musical accompaniment for our many visitors. Look out for photos in next term's Kent College Times.



Smile! I am five weeks old!

Miss Beatrice Boyle
Farm Assistant



Scout, Pippin and Prince

Farm Manager Marries



Mr Lockwood with his wife

A guard of honour by KC Young Farmers' Club members greeted our Farm Manager, Mr Ian Lockwood, when he married Old Canterburian and vet, Miss Sharminda Totty (KC 92-99) in October. Mr Lockwood is a very popular member of staff and there was never any threat from the pitchforks which were beribboned in school colours.

Lights – Camera – Action!

A Zombie teacher terrorises the English department! Year 9 hoodlums beat-up innocent Year 7s! Greedy public-school toffs avariciously contemplate their materialistic Christmas before disappearing, transported back to a bygone era!

Headmaster's nightmares? Not this time, for it is none other than KC's Film Acting Company. This lively group has spent the term exploring different styles of film-making, and creating several short movies along the way.

Who can forget Basma Nazeer's horrifying zombie, complete with grotesque mask, descending upon her first terrified victim, Adam McKernon-Dawson, whose ghost no doubt still haunts room E1. Further victims included Amy Campbell, Rosie Bailey and Kerry Wright, whose screams still reverberate around the quad, even now.

In the short film about bullying, all Katrina Fray wanted to do was go home and finish her prep. But this was before she was waylaid by yobbos led by Emily Heywood and Miri Jones. Tragic consequences ensued. (But don't tell the School Governors!)

As I write, the group are finalising plans to film a more extended story. A group of snobby public-school kids (bearing no resemblance whatsoever to anyone at KC, naturally), led by bossy Roya Eslami, plan the party to end all parties in a dark, dilapidated and dusty old chapel (hmmm.... now where could we shoot that, I wonder?). With a nod towards the 'Blair Witch Project', geeky Piers Baker decides to film the preparations for posterity. An old book is found.... And opened.... Things get decidedly strange, as the 21st and 19th centuries somehow get intertwined. Suffice to say that, by the closing credits, our protagonists are wiser, less greedy, and perhaps even open-minded enough to get a place at KC.

Mr Huw Jones
Head of Drama



Amy and Emily set upon Katrina



Old Canterburyans' News

Peter Hagenbuch (KC 1965-1972) sent in the tribute and pictures of Nick Johnson (see page 11). Peter also sent us some details of himself:

'I am still a geneticist with Aviagen Ltd (Chicken Breeders) at Newbridge, Midlothian. I am also an advocate for Compassion, a Christian charity which arranges child sponsorship in 25 developing countries. The photo shows me on the Compassion stand at CLAN Gathering near St Andrews, in July. In October I was privileged to represent Scotland at the first ever International Compassion Advocates' Conference in the Dominican Republic. It was an inspiring week with advocates from 8 of the 11 donor countries which make up Compassion International. We visited Compassion projects and the homes of children sponsored through Compassion. One home visit for me was very special because the sponsored child there was a little boy in a wheelchair. My younger daughter Fiona has cerebral palsy and is a wheelchair user, so I was able to tell the little boy (in Spanish!) about Fiona. Fiona loves sport and has represented Scotland at Boccia. The 316 Advocates attending the Compassion Conference had between them 160 sponsored children in the Dominican Republic and on the Wednesday all 160 children were brought to our hotel to meet their sponsors and have a day of fun! Graham Kendrick led the worship wonderfully every day and the delegates were inspired by talks from Wess Stafford and Tony Neeves of Compassion.'



Peter Hagenbuch

Email: PHagenbuch@aviagen.com

Visit of Distinguished Old Canterburyan

Earlier in the term, Professor John Hunwick visited his old School to present to the library a copy of his latest book, 'The Hidden Treasures of Timbuktu'. A noted professor, author and Africanist, he is currently Professor Emeritus at Northwestern University.

The son of a Methodist minister, John Hunwick entered Kent College as a boarder in 1950 at the age of 14. In the sixth form, he studied French and German and was awarded a place at St John's College, Oxford to read Modern Languages. However, instead of taking up his place, he joined the army and served in The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, gaining the rank of 2nd Lieutenant, and was stationed in Somalia.

It was while he was doing his National Service as a British officer supervising Somali troops that Professor Hunwick became friendly with some of them and gradually learned to talk to them. Fascinated both by their language, which was similar to Arabic, and their devotion to their religion, he determined to learn to read the Koran in the original language. On his return to England, he decided to study Arabic at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London rather than take up his place at Oxford.

Although he gained a first class honours degree in Arabic and was proficient in written "classical" Arabic, Professor Hunwick realised that the spoken language was something else entirely and so he spent a year in Sudan teaching English, before going on to take a job as a professor at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. In the 1960s, he discovered an Arabic manuscript collection in Kano in northern Nigeria. Realising that these delicate papers would deteriorate and eventually disappear, he microfilmed them in an effort to preserve them for future generations.

Throughout the time he was teaching in Accra, Ghana, Cairo and London, Professor Hunwick wondered how many more collections were hidden out there, waiting to be studied and in 1981 he began his lifetime's work of cataloguing the manuscripts, which were stored haphazardly and overlooked by many scholars. The first four volumes of his massive six-volume work, 'Arabic Literature of Africa', have already been published.

In 2000, Professor Hunwick founded ISITA (the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa), the first research centre in the United States devoted entirely to the study of Islam and Africa. After 23 years as Professor of African history and Islamic religion, he retired in 2004 from Northwestern University in Evanston, Chicago, where he is recognised internationally as one of the foremost experts on Islamic Africa.

Today, with Muslim regimes at the forefront of current events, many people in the West tend to associate Islam with the Middle East but there is a rich Islamic history in Africa. Indeed, Islamic writers there were producing scholarly manuscripts while most of Europe was still stuck in the Middle Ages. Professor Hunwick has made it his mission not only to bring Islamic Africa to light but also to find and preserve these ancient manuscripts for the future.

Professor Hunwick is at present living in retirement in Chicago. His previous visit to the School was in 2005 when he came to speak to the members of the fifth and sixth forms about his work and his career.

Dr G D Colson



Professor John Hunwick with the Librarian, Mrs MacLaren

Old Canterburian Proves Hockey is not just a Young Man's Game

Earlier this year, in the final of the Grand Masters Over 60 Hockey World Cup which took place in Hong Kong, England beat Australia 4-1 to become world champions. Mike Surridge, who plays for Braintree Hockey Club, scored England's first goal from a short corner deflection to help them win gold.

Earlier in the preliminary group stage of the competition, England had wins over Italy, Holland, Japan and Australia, in which Surridge not only scored but was made man-of-the-match. England had progressed into the Super Group stage of the competition along with Germany, Hong Kong and Australia, being one of the top two teams from each group. However, the re-match against the Australians was far from a foregone conclusion. Indeed, it was not until the second quarter that Surridge helped England make the breakthrough with his penalty corner.

Mike Surridge, who has been playing hockey for 50 years and has represented both Essex and Hertfordshire, entered Vernon Holme as a boarder in 1953, moving up to Kent College two years later, where he stayed until 1960. At school he was a member of the Colts XI (Under 16s) Hockey, Rugby and Cricket teams.

On leaving KC, Mike went to Cheshunt Grammar School and then to City University to read Mechanical Engineering. He then worked for the Ford Motor Company in the Research and Design department for twenty years.

In his early 40s, he switched careers and ended up as Head of Design and Technology at Felsted School. It was as master in charge of hockey that in 1991 he brought a team from Felsted to compete in the annual Frank Mason Tournament at Kent College and it was his team that carried off the trophy. The captain of the team was his son, Paul, who later studied at the University of Kent and played for Canterbury for eight years; he now plays for Gore Court.

Mike recently retired from Felsted but, as a member of the victorious England World Cup team, he now looks forward to the European Championships, which are taking place in Amsterdam in 2009.



Dr G D Colson

Tribute to Nick Johnson by Peter Hagenbuch



In the orchestra: John Blake, Clive Gill, Peter Woodward, Peter Hagenbuch, Simon Carlton, Nick Johnson, Geoff Gardiner.

I was shocked and saddened to read of the death of Nick Johnson in the July KC Bulletin and I would like to add my memories of Nick. As well as being a great friend I remember Nick at KC as being a superb fiddle player and a terrific all-round sportsman. Musically he was influenced by bands like 'Fairport Convention' and 'Steeleye Span' which were popular in the late 60s and early 70s. As a teenager he formed various folk bands and performed around East Kent including providing the music for medieval banquets held at Chilham Castle. Nick's brother Anthony was also a gifted musician and their home in Rough Common was always a lively fun musical place to be. When he left school Nick completed a degree in Economics at Brasenose College, Oxford. He then spent a year busking round Europe; I remember him saying that he caught trains from one city to another rather than hitch-hike because he saved time and made more money that way! He then married Noreen and 'settled down' as Head of Economics at Cranleigh School. Their much loved first child Niamh was born with severe cerebral palsy and died in 1991 at the age of seven. Bardan was born in 1987 and Fergus in 1993. Nick became a housemaster at Aiglon College in Valais, Switzerland. After that he became Headmaster of Bolitho School Penzance, a 'Golden Age' for the school, before becoming a very popular and successful principal of St George's British International School in Rome in 2004. He will be sadly missed by many.



In the pool: Syd Thorne, John Blake, Nick Johnson, Rankin, Peter Hagenbuch



Reunion Weekend

Afternoon tea was popular and many OCs who could not come to the dinner filled the Old Library in order to catch up with old friends. The cross-country event was very well supported and a high calibre of racers took to the woods. The first OC golf competition took place courtesy of Mr Alan Frost who apparently took honours on the day. He was the organiser and assures me that there was no match fixing. His report reads thus:

“The first OC Golf Tournament of modern times took place at Boughton Golf Club on Saturday 8th November. The inclement weather cut the field to three - Gus Oates, Abi Jain and Alan Frost - and the start was delayed due to haggling over handicaps.

Abi played steadily throughout the round; Gus was unfortunate in losing three balls through no fault of his own - the course being covered with white leaves which rendered the ball invisible - thus finding it difficult to score well. Alan started slowly but pipped Abi on the 18th by holing a 30ft putt in the gloom.

An enjoyable afternoon and the hope is that there will be more participants next year.”

Ninety past students attended the dinner including a significant group from the year of 1998. Alistair Connolly performed a great task of getting his contemporaries back to the school, many for the first time since they had left. The girls are always easier to recognise than the boys: I think it is a hair issue.



Mr Dudley Shipton holds forth

Anne Waters and Sharon Adley are new members to the Old Canterburian Committee and have already been working hard at running some more family orientated events.

Dudley Shipton was a very entertaining speaker who threw light on his different roles at the school: as a pupil, a teacher, a chaplain and most recently of course as a governor. From the depths of his school trunk, Dudley was able to reveal old reports and a great deal more. Thank you. I look forward to seeing you all back next year and urge the leavers who left in a year ending in a 9 to start rounding up your contemporaries now.

Mrs Carol Baker
President of the Old Canterburians



Former pupils chat over dinner



Sharon and Annie



Simon Willars and Mrs Carol Baker

OC Cross Country Reunion Run

The number of runners this year increased from 6 to 14, including 2 from the school and two former teachers, both of whom played a great part when they were at KC in instilling a love of running in their pupils. It was a close race, with victory by a few seconds to a new OC, Donald Carter, who had to do very well to beat the international standard of running being achieved by the school at present. Thank you to all who braved the run.

Those taking part were: OCs Nick Brawn (68-75), Donald Carter (00-08), Sam Crawley (89-96), Rob Harper (92-99), Will Herrington (90-97), Peter Kennedy (59-69), Robin Kennedy (61-71), Roland Morley (74-77), Paul Smith (Teacher 90-96), James Tayler (90-97), Jon Treadway (90-97), Barry Walshaw (Teacher 64-91) and two current pupils Beth Carter and Rebecca Weston.

Peter Kennedy (KC 1959-1969)



NEWS FROM THE OLD CANTERBURIAN CLUB

Champagne in Hong Kong



In August of this year, Mrs Baker took a group of girls to Beijing and Hong Kong. Here she tells us news of Hong Kong:

During our recent visit to Hong Kong, the girls had their first taste of champagne thanks to the hospitality of OC Paul Skipworth and Moët Hennessey who entertained us royally. Paul took time off from his busy schedule to teach the girls about the making of champagne and the business of marketing such a luxury product in Asia. The morning flew by and the girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



Paul Skipworth receiving his OC tie from Mrs Baker at the HK reunion

As a result of our visit, a successful reunion was held there in August and a regional branch of the Old Canterburians is to be set up in Hong Kong. It is hoped that a yearly event might be organised to keep those students from Kent College who now live and work in HK in touch with each other and with the school. Thanks to all those who made the evening so enjoyable.

OCs Examination Results

Student	Institution	Qualification	Field	Class
Guy Brindley	University College London	MSci	Astrophysics	First
Katy Crocker	UCL	LLB	Law	Upper Second
Ellie Dee	UCL	BA	Geography	Upper Second
Sheenam Jain	UCL	BSc	Geography	Upper Second
Tom Rutherford	UCL	BA	Geography	Upper Second
Kerrie Barrett	St Edmund Hall, Oxford	BA	Modern Foreign Languages (French and German)	First
Will Breame	St John's College, Oxford	BA	Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)	Upper Second
Russell Gammon	Exeter College, Oxford	BA	Economics and Management	Upper Second
James McGibney	Merton College, Oxford	BA	Modern History	First

ARCHIVES



Earlier this year, Jonathan Horne (O.C.) sorted a backlog of material from the 1980s and 1990s. This term, two sixth form students, Gilbert Poon and Sam Lee, volunteered to assist in the archive room as part of their community service. They have been helping to compile an inventory of the archive stock. In due course this will be added to the school library database.



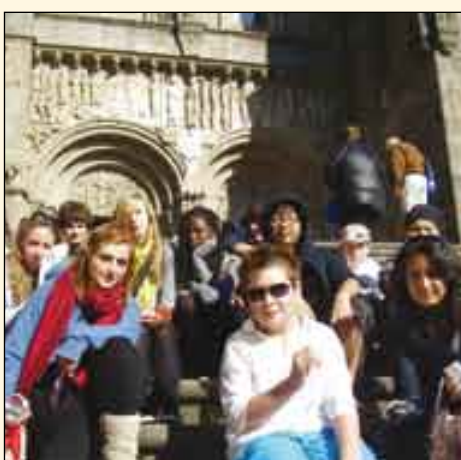
Michael Over
Archivist

The Spanish Exchange



Students from throughout the Senior School went on the Spanish Exchange to Vigo in October. Some of the highlights were that we ate octopus, visited the local museum, enjoyed 'chocolate con churros' and went on a boat trip. The pictures show the group sitting in front of Santiago's Cathedral, still the destination of thousands of pilgrims as it was in the Middle Ages. We had to go down to the sea to catch the waves in the rough Atlantic Ocean. The students enjoyed their home visits very much and they pose here together with the Spanish flag.

Mrs Bea Alonso-Harris
Head of Spanish



The Top Award for Trevor



Flowers welcome you at the entrance to Vernon Holme



Flowers on the terraces at Vernon Holme

Earlier in the year, Mr Trevor Chapple, the Site Supervisor at the Junior School, entered the 'Wild About Gardens Award Scheme 2008' run by Canterbury City Council. His entry won him a Gold Award.

It is a great honour for Trevor to have this acknowledgement of all the hard work he puts in to the gardens at Vernon Holme. The Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Mrs Carolyn Parry, presented him with his award in October. To share with you how pretty Trevor's gardens are, here are some shots of the blooms back in the summer.



Trevor receives his Award from the Lord Mayor

Nursery and Nature



Picnic lunch on Tankerton Seafront

To consolidate our learning, the Nursery took their education into the outside environment by spending four days on the road!

Our trips included: Kent College Farm, Wyevale Garden Centre, Park Woods and Cobbs' Horses, Brooklands Farm and Tankerton Beach. These trips linked to our current topics of Farming, Harvest, Natural Materials and the story of the 'Little Red Hen'.

By taking the learning outside the classroom, children were able to build on their knowledge and understanding through first hand experiences. These experiences included: chickens, eggs, pigs, ducklings, guinea pigs, rabbits, lambs, horses and cows. We saw how food was grown and how animals were cared for. In the woods, children were able to see natural habitats, foliage, and experience light and dark.

Our week ended with a winter picnic at the beach. Children paddled and collected pebbles and shells to add to our collection of natural materials in the nursery environment.

Mrs Beryl Garratt and the Nursery Team



Brooklands Farm



Garden Centre

Art students become their own Art Work



Year 11 at the V&A

Earlier in the term, the Art Department took the sixth form Art students to view exhibits in the National Gallery. You must agree that they could have been mistaken for a living work of art themselves as they waited for their guide. A similar pose was struck by the Year 11 students when they went to the V & A in November.



'Waiting'

Junior School Recital Evening

Parents and friends were treated to a wonderful evening of music making by the Junior School instrumentalists at their last Recital Evening. The String Group opened the concert with an impressive performance of a Bach Minuet. The Recorder Ensemble, with descants, trebles, tenors and bass proved they can now equal the expertise of the longer established groups. The Clarinet Club gave a rousing rendition of Abba's 'The Winner takes it all', despite the nerves of the novice members of staff in this group. (A special well done to Mrs McRae on the bass clarinet!) But the show stoppers were undoubtedly the infant fife players, bobbing up and down as they played the 'Teddy Bears' Picnic', supported by the rest of the Magic Flute Group. Solos were provided by those taking exams this term: Jamie Crocker, Harriet Adley, Susanna Small, Christian Small, Philippa Griffiths, Niamh O'Shea, Lotty Macdonald and Daniel Van Hinsbergh. All were confident and accomplished. The evening ended with a quite remarkable performance of 'The Arrival of The Queen of Sheba' by the Year 6 String Quartet. As the Chaplain said: 'Where else is there a Junior School that could boast such an outstanding group?' Where indeed!



Mrs Jackie Spencer
Director of Music at the JS

Autumn Concert 2008

The first concert of every year is always important. It sets the tone for the rest of the year and shows just how much improvement has been made already. This year's was one to remember. Not only did the major groups perform better than ever but we also heard award-winning performances from the Choristers and from pianist Sophie Dee.

The first half began with a stirring group of songs from the musical 'Grease' brilliantly depicted by the Symphony Orchestra under Paul Bourdillon in his final performance. (More of this later!) The depth and quality of the string sound was something that hasn't been heard for very many years at Kent College. The String Quartet, Clarinet Quartet and Saxophone Group gave us some brilliant playing in a wide range of music.

Senior Choir were in great voice with a programme ranging from 16th century polyphony to a jazz spiritual from America. The String Orchestra played two movements from the 'Capriol Suite' by Peter Warlock at the start of the second half and, once again, we were thrilled by the depth of the string tone they produced.

Sophie Dee, a short time prior to her appearance in the prestigious James Mottram International Piano Competition in Manchester, played the 'Sonatine for Piano' by Maurice Ravel. Her playing never ceases to amaze and this was no exception. Here was a young pianist fully at home in really difficult repertoire. Her reception was full testimony to her performance.

The final performance was given by the Choristers after their magnificent achievement in coming second in the BBC 'Choir of the Year' competition on the previous Sunday in Liverpool. Their performance was breathtaking. They were amazingly fresh in a lovely well-balanced programme. We are extremely fortunate to have such talented students and teachers at KC.

The final act of the concert was a presentation to Paul Bourdillon from students and staff on his farewell concert at Kent College. Mr Bourdillon has been a stalwart member of the Music Department for 6 years. His work with Symphony Orchestra has set the tone for the future and he leaves with our warm appreciation for a job well done ringing in his ears.

Mr Stuart McIntosh
Director of Music



Saying goodbye to Mr Bourdillon

Trinity Guildhall Practical Examinations Results November 2008

Candidate	Subject	Grade	Result
Hannah Griggs	Piano	1	Merit
Philippa Griffiths	Piano	1	Merit
Fergus Carver	Piano	2	Merit
Reece Merry	Clarinet	1	Merit
Daniel Van Hinsbergh	Clarinet	3	Merit
Lulu Relf	Piano	5	Merit
Lillie Harris	Guitar	6	Distinction
Joann Lau	Piano	5	Distinction
Alastair Blackwood	Saxophone	6	Distinction
Alan Carter	Jazz Saxophone	6	Pass
Oliver Bloice	Jazz Saxophone	6	Merit

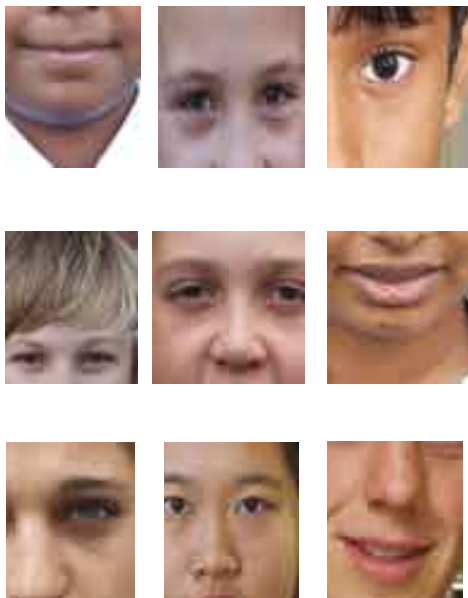
7 Go Bonkers at Bedgebury!

On 7th October, Year 7 went to Bedgebury Pinetum near Tunbridge Wells. We were split into groups of six or seven plus a teacher - mine was Mrs Bunyan - and we had to do different things to get points. The group with the most points won. First, we did orienteering. It was really fun! We had to find little square discs that were nailed to objects like benches or bridges. Mrs. Bunyan had a clever tactic of walking slowly and waiting while everybody did all the running around finding the discs! We had to find them and get back to base without being late. If you were late (like my group), you got penalized and points were taken off. After that there were team tasks: 'The Caterpillar', 'The Herbicide', 'The Tyre' and the 'Get over the adder-infested ground'! Each exercise had its own way of making us work together in a team. It was useful and it really worked! Finally, we had to make a shelter out of bracken, logs and sticks that was stable, waterproof and could be lived in. I really enjoyed this trip. I think I got to know some of the other people a bit better, and I hope everybody else did too.



Katrina Fray, Yr 7

Year 7 to 13 Puzzle Photos



**Can you tell
who these students are?**

All answers to Mr Van Hinsbergh before 9th January, 2009.

A prize for the first out of the hat.

Dance Show



Junior Dance Club



Jess and the splits



Sarah strikes a pose

The Gymnastics and Dance Show was a great success and included a terrific range of dance styles. Highlights included the Junior Dance Club performing a Kylie Minogue song, energetic and dynamic floor routines from Jessica Alvarez and Hamish Kilburn. whilst Sarah Hyams focussed on a combination of modern and contemporary, for her routine.



Hamish and the pommel horse

Mrs Angela Mathews
Dance



Hockey News



Each year, Canterbury Hockey Club hosts a Mini Hockey Presidents' Day Tournament. Four teams, ranging from 7 to 12 year olds, compete for the Kent College Cup with over 100 children taking part in the competition. This year, our Deputy Head Master, Mr J. G. Waltho, was invited to present the trophy which was won by Lloyd's Lions, the team captain being Lloyd Norris-Jones, Canterbury Hockey Club's South African international.

Stop Press

Grace Balsdon and Lucy Hyams have been chosen for the England U16 Hockey Training Squad...well done, girls!

The story so far for the U14 Rugby Team

The season started with a disappointing result against St Lawrence and a nasty injury to Elliot Camburn. The side included a number of players who only the previous week had been introduced to the oval ball! A sterner test was just over the horizon: an away trip to Maidstone Grammar School. Despite facing a team who have well over 200 hundred boys to choose from, we showed our first signs of promise and the performance gave us an indication of the direction we were heading.

The squad have trained with tremendous enthusiasm and have formed a tight knit group who have been eager to learn. This attitude has helped to produce three outstanding victories against Chatham House, Bethany School and the rematch against St Lawrence. We gave one of our most accomplished and committed performances in an epic encounter against King's Rochester. Unfortunately we were on the wrong end of a 24-22 score line but I'm sure the spectators on the touchline would agree that they were thoroughly entertained despite the relentless downpour!

It is difficult to single out individuals during such satisfying team development. I feel, however, that certain boys deserve a mention. Charlie Brake and Barnaby Lamper have given tireless shifts to the cause and Jack Balsdon, Elliot Camburn and Josh Wilson-Holliday have provided us the cutting edge to convert territory into points.

Fingers crossed for the remaining fixtures this season. I for one am full of confidence and I expect many more individual and team successes.

Mr Simon James
Applied Business Studies and Coach for the U14s



A Special Match for Mr Quinn

Mr Daniel Quinn joined the PE Department this term. One of his duties is to assist with the 1st XV and here are his thoughts on seeing his newly acquired students play a match against his old school:

'In mid November, KC 1st XV played host to Westcliff High School for Boys. Personally,



1st XV up close



1st XV in action



1st XV against Westcliff

I found it a novel experience to referee a match between my old school and KC. It was a hard fought encounter, especially at the breakdown, where both teams retained possession well. Westcliff however proved more clinical in converting their opportunities and ended victorious 34-0.'

Year 11 Pupil Trains with London Team

Fifteen year old Tom Collins in Year 11 trains weekly with London Irish Professional Rugby Football Club. Tom has been playing rugby for three and a half years now and it was when he was playing an U15 match as part of the Kent team that he was spotted by a scout from the prestigious London club. In order to become a fully-fledged member of the Silver Group, he had to undergo a gruelling six weeks of trials. During training recently, he bumped into Mike Catt, the England World Cup player who plays for London Irish. Tom hopes that he will be able to play professional matches when he is older.



Tom in his London Irish strip

Proposed Hockey Tour to Vancouver, Canada

August/September 2009

It is the Sports Department's intention to take both the girls' and the boys' teams if there is sufficient uptake of this tour. We are looking at travelling the last week in August and first week of September and the tour would include:

- Four hockey matches
- Whale watching off the coast of Vancouver Island
- Visit to Grouse Mountain, home of the grizzly and black bears
- Visit to Whistler site of 2010 Olympics

If you require any further information please email Mrs Balsdon on cbalsdon@kentcollege.co.uk



SPORTS FACILITIES



Did you know? You can hire the sports facilities at Kent College Senior School!

Our facilities are available for: Hockey, Cricket Nets, Badminton, Tennis, Netball, Dance and Squash.

If you would like more information about hiring our facilities please contact Hayley Radford on 01227 813900 or email hradford@kentcollege.co.uk



1st XV in action against Maidstone and Simon Langton Grammar Schools