

2017 – 2018

TRURO SCHOOL FORMER PUPILS ASSOCIATION

# the truronian



# A message from the President

Looking back over the last academic year I am struck by the growing and continued engagement between school and our alumni. This is manifest in so many tangible ways and is a sign of a vibrant community. It is also a source of strength as a school to have deep historical roots which nourish our present and provide security for our future. For this I both thank you and encourage you to stay in touch. We would love to hear more from our recent leavers – especially news of their graduation and/or first jobs.

The warmth and affection of the Truro School community was no more evident than in the number of tributes which flooded in following the passing of Watson Weeks, a former English and Drama teacher who inspired a whole generation of students. I had the pleasure of meeting Watson a few years ago at a reunion dinner when I witnessed the affection held for him by so many. I am very grateful to Guy Dodd for co-ordinating arrangements for a plaque in his memory to be placed in the Burrell Theatre sometime in the future. At Speech Day we said goodbye and thank you to Dave Hunt and Jane Rainbow, two teachers with nearly seventy years of inspirational service to Truro School between them.

I so enjoyed last October's London Reunion and the joyful and spirited ambiance created by our alumni who turned up in such great number. We have begun our search for a slightly larger venue. The forthcoming London reunion is not to be missed. It will be preceded by our choristers singing evensong in St Paul's Cathedral which, I can say with some confidence, is an event that needs to be on everyone's to-do list. Do please come and support.

Following the launch of the Truro School Foundation last year, under the Chair of Guy Dodd, this year we launched the 20x20 Bursary Appeal. The Foundation exists ultimately as an avenue for those interested in the long-term development of our school to support us financially and in other ways. I am delighted with your response since the launch of the appeal, from the very generous former pupils who have given us six figure donations and legacies, to the many people who have set up monthly gifts via direct debit. I can't tell you what a difference this is going to make to the talented young pupils who can now be offered bursaries to attend Truro School. Our aim is to have raised funds to support 20 bursaries by 2020.

It was a pleasure to welcome Prof Sharon Cox (CO92) back to school as our guest of honour at Speech Day. Her gap year in Zimbabwe after A Levels set her up for a lifetime of travel and the most interesting and rewarding of careers as a professor of nutrition and epidemiology, currently both conducting research in order to support more effective public health interventions, and teaching and supporting students towards careers in global health.

We welcomed Nancy Kenward (CO96) onto the TSFPA committee this year. We would love to hear from other alumni who would like to get involved in helping us to deliver on our mission to offer engaging communication and events to former pupils, providing opportunities for you to be involved with and support our development.

I do hope you enjoy browsing through this year's Truronian.

With my best wishes and thanks,

**Andrew Gordon-Brown**

# Chair of Truro School Former Pupils Association

I feel very privileged to have taken the Chair of the Truro School Former Pupils' Association at an exciting and busy time in its history: the school's engagement with its alumni is, thanks in huge part to the tireless work of Nicky Berridge and Katy Sweeney in the Development Office, better than ever and the committee and I have enjoyed planning a range of events and hearing your news.

I know that many of you will have spoken to Nicky and Katy in recent months as we have negotiated the vagaries of GDPR, and the committee and I have been delighted with the overwhelmingly positive response that we have received from former pupils who not only want to hear from their alma mater and to attend events but also to engage with us in helping current pupils with careers guidance and networking. You can read about Nancy Kenward's (CO96) exciting careers initiatives on pages 14 and 15. Please do get in touch if you feel that you can help.

A highlight of the year for me was our annual dinner in September; this event has been growing year on year and was a sell-out for the first (but certainly not last) time this year. It was lovely to be able to welcome back our speaker, Julia Goldsworthy (CO97), who spoke of how her experience of being one of the first girls at Truro School prepared her for life in the male-dominated world of Westminster politics. The school's catering team worked their usual magic in preparing a wonderful dinner and a convivial evening was had by all. This year's event, my own 20 year reunion, is selling out fast so please do book your tickets. I am looking forward to hearing our guest speaker, Philip Rule (CO78) as well as reconnecting with old friends.

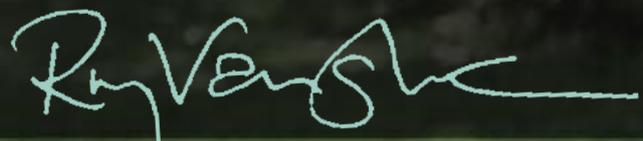
Our London Reunion, hosted by Paul and Kathy Smith at the East India Club in October, was also well-attended and I know that many of those who attended were delighted to see History teacher Jane Rainbow (nee Thomas) there, who leaves Truro School this term after 28 years. This year's event will coincide with the Girl

Choristers' tour to London when they will be singing evensong at St Paul's Cathedral. One of my roles at the school is to oversee our Chorister programme in partnership with Truro Cathedral; those of you who remember me from school might imagine how much pleasure I take from this role and also how jealous I am of the unique musical opportunities afforded to them! If you have not had a chance to hear the incredible talent of these young people, please do go and hear them either at St Paul's (Friday 19th October 2018), where the service will be followed by a drinks reception or at home in Truro Cathedral.

As I write this, it is the middle of our mini heatwave and my thoughts are turning to the end of term and the summer ahead. I know that the summer is a time when many of our alumni return to the homeland and I can assure you of a warm welcome at Truro School should you wish to visit your old stomping ground. I am delighted to say that the traditional Former Pupils vs 1st XI cricket match has been reinstated with a change of time from Speech Day afternoon to the evening before, in order to allow more people to play. This year we have also arranged for a drinks reception and Private View of the Truro School Summer Exhibition at the Heseltine Gallery on July 26th.

The committee and I feel immensely proud of this edition of the Truronian, and hope you enjoy reading it. I look forward to hearing from you or seeing you over dinner, on a sideline, in the gallery or even at St Paul's Cathedral in the coming year.

Best wishes, Rachel



# An interview with Neil Gunn CO78 President and Head of Roche Sequencing Solutions, Pleasanton, San Francisco, USA



Neil Gunn was a boarder at Truro School in Wickett House and recalls arriving at Poltisco boarding house aged ten. He told us that other than a few days following his first exeat weekend, he enjoyed every minute.

## Do you have any special or specific memories of your time at TS?

*I loved the sport and other activities available to me. In particular, I remember being part of the team that helped design the granite climbing wall in the new sports complex around 1976/77. I look back on my time at Truro with great affection. It taught me a great deal of self-resilience, independence and a belief to be able to achieve things. I remember school as a place of fun and learning – if you asked some of my teachers they would say, ‘Neil definitely was more about the fun than the learning’. I still try to live by that today – every day laugh aloud about something and learn something new.*

## What were your career dreams or aspirations whilst at school?

*I always enjoyed biology and in particular marine biology and so took all the Scuba qualifications through to instructor level and pictured myself as the next Jacques Cousteau.....It didn't happen!*

After leaving the Sixth Form, Neil went to Nottingham Trent Polytechnic to study biology and then to Portsmouth Polytechnic to do a Masters and then a PhD.

*My doctorate was actually in marine biology and so, even at 25, I was still hanging on to the Jacques Cousteau dream. However, during my studies it became clear that I did not want to live a life of academic research.*

In 1985, whilst studying for his PhD, Neil met Sarah, who was working in the School of Biology at the Polytechnic, and they married in 1993. Newly qualified, Neil saw a lecturer position with Pall based in Portsmouth advertised in the New Scientist; he applied and was successful at interview.

*I felt I had arrived in heaven, as I went from no pay and writing up my PhD to a monthly salary and a car! It turned out to be a great starting role and formed a foundation for my career. Today we would call the role medical marketing, preparing and presenting lectures on the medical value of the products that Pall made. For two years, I visited many parts of the world - Asia, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Middle East and all of Europe. It proved to be an amazing training ground for me and allowed me to develop many skills I still use today, as well as creating a lasting passion for developing new markets for novel technologies in the field of health care. It also allowed me to build a large network of key opinion leaders and to build a reputation in the field of blood transfusion.*

Whilst at Pall, Neil was part of the team that introduced technology that filtered white cells out of blood transfusions. When he joined Pall this procedure was used globally less than 3000 times a year. It is now standard practice on all blood transfusions throughout the world (more than 30 Million per year) and prevents many pathological conditions that can result from prior disease, as well as transmission of disease.

## What first took you to the USA?

*I was lucky enough to be headhunted and offered a job working for Chiron, a biotech company in the San Francisco Bay Area.*



A high point of Neil's time at Chiron was introducing the world's first molecular test to screen blood supplies for HIV, Hepatitis C and Hepatitis B – now standard practice in most developed nations.

In 2008, Neil joined Roche, the Swiss multinational, now one of the leading pioneers in healthcare. Roche create innovative medicines and diagnostic tests that help millions of patients globally. Neil joined their PCR based molecular diagnostic business as Head of Global Business. (Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is a technique used in molecular biology to amplify a single copy, or a few copies, of a segment of DNA across several orders of magnitude, generating thousands to millions of copies of a particular DNA sequence.) Over seven years Neil and his team launched over 160 PCR based tests. One, a molecular test for Human Papilloma Virus, became the first used globally as the primary test for cervical cancer, replacing PAP smears in many countries.

Roche has two divisions - Pharmaceuticals and Diagnostics. Neil is President and Head of one of the four units within the diagnostics division - Roche Sequencing Solutions - a new innovative part of Roche. He is responsible for 900 employees based on seven sites around the world. Neil's base is in Pleasanton, at the Roche Sequencing Headquarters, about 30 miles east of San Francisco. The sequencing unit has a mission to be the leader in clinical sequencing, to help diagnose some of the world's most challenging medical diseases and conditions, such as cancer, pre-natal conditions, genetic conditions and some areas of infectious disease.

We do this through a combination of internal development and acquisition, and are developing a novel approach to DNA sequencing and other diagnostic tools to be used in conjunction with the sequencing instrument. We have an excellent team who develop assays to run on the instruments and a world-class software team to develop software that will interpret the data and give meaningful results to doctors around the world.

### **Is there anything that you are especially proud of relating to your career?**

*I have been incredibly fortunate on a number of occasions to have the privilege to be part of teams that have introduced new technologies to the medical profession. Many of these have been successful and altered medical practice and ultimately helped people's lives. One achievement I am especially proud of is helping the world's HIV community by introducing an HIV testing programme to Africa in conjunction with the WHO (World Health Organisation) and Clinton Foundation. The programme provides state-of-the-art testing for individuals, as well as newborn babies, and helps control the spread of the virus providing effective controls and therapy.*

Settled in the USA, the Gunn family have no foreseeable plans to return to live in the UK. Sarah works at the local school as a reading tutor and earlier this year published her first children's book: Jasper's World: Jasper to the rescue. Daughter, Jessica, 22, graduated in 2017 from University of Oregon and has now started work in Sacramento, California for Fleishman Hillard, a global public relations company. Son, Cameron, 19, is in his second year at Montana State University in the School of Environmental Sciences.

### **What are the things you most enjoy about life in the USA?**

*We are lucky enough to live close to what, in my opinion, is one of the best cities in the world and so we spend significant time in San Francisco enjoying the restaurants, hiking the trails in the headlands or walking our dog, Lulu on the beach. We also love the mountains and the wine country as well as entertaining friends at home. We also love travelling and take advantage of living close to Mexico and Hawaii for vacations and visit Cameron and Jessica wherever they are.*

*We try to visit the UK quite often and in recent years have managed to get back about twice a year to visit the family. I am fortunate in that my business often takes me to Europe and so I try to add an extra day on to my trip to visit Cornwall.*

### **Is there any advice or guidance you could offer to current students looking to enter a similar career to your own?**

*Don't take yourselves too seriously, enjoy the journey and take advantage of opportunities as they come along. The biggest regret later in life should never be about things that you have not done, so push yourself out of your comfort zone, and always be willing to lend a hand even with the most menial tasks. Also, keep in mind that it is always likely that there is someone better than you are at a particular task or subject and so attitude is as important as aptitude because that can often be the differentiator. Finally try to surround yourself with smart people as you never want to be the smartest person in the room.*

# Major Thomas Glover CO03 Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service



On Friday 17 November 2017, Major Thomas Glover received the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service (QVCS). Awarded for service during, or in support of, operations, Thomas received the Silver Oak Leaves in recognition of his key contributions made whilst in the role of Future Operations Planner in Headquarters Combined Joint Force Land Component Command – Operation INHERENT RESOLVE. The operation relates to the liberation of the Iraqi city of Mosul from the control of Islamic State. During the operation Thomas was based in Baghdad over Christmas 2016, working alongside the American military for 6 months planning the recapture of the city. Tom's wife Kelly and parents Paul and Sue were able to share in this proud moment at a special ceremony held at the Fleet Commander's House in Portsmouth.

Thomas began his military career in 2005 when he joined the Royal Navy. However, he soon realised he wanted to pursue his desire to become a Royal Marines Commando Officer and embarked on this new direction in September 2007.

*I was never enthused massively by academia whilst at school, therefore a career in sport or the armed forces seemed a natural choice for me. As I wasn't good enough to make a career out of rugby and didn't fancy an office job, I wasn't left with many other options so never really considered anything else.*

Tom's time at Truro School started in 1996 as a boarder in Poltisco and Trennick.

*My time at Truro School was fantastic, and boarding was great fun, as well as character building. I made some great friends who to this day still form part of a core group of close friends. Five years as a boarder at Truro School definitely helped make spending long periods on deployment overseas, away from family and friends, much easier.*

Tom was a keen sportsman during his time at school: *I enjoyed all the great sporting opportunities, playing for three seasons in the rugby 1st XV was brilliant and was topped off by the 2003 tour to South Africa. My time spent on the sports field, captaining the 1st XV Rugby, 1st XI Soccer and the 1st XI Cricket teams, definitely helped me develop my leadership skills.*

Tom has always enjoyed being part of a team and has certainly transferred the skills learnt at TS into his career:

*My greatest achievements have been leading my men twice on operations in Afghanistan and more recently being involved with the liberation of the Iraqi city of Mosul. I also felt very proud representing the Royal Navy in the annual Army vs Navy rugby match at Twickenham in front of 70,000 people.*

After leaving Truro School Tom embarked on a gap year taking on the role of gap tutor at St Paul's Collegiate School in New Zealand.

We asked Tom if he had any advice to offer our current students:

**"If you want the opportunity to travel the globe, test yourself physically and mentally, do exciting things, and make mates for life, then the Royal Marines could be for you. Don't think that joining the Marines is too tough – if you're dedicated it is more than achievable."**

Tom visits Cornwall three or four times a year as his parents still live in Mawnan Smith, near Falmouth and his sister Ruth, is a radiographer at North Devon Hospital. Tom has also visited Truro School a few times.

## So what is life like now for Tom and what does the future hold?

*In my leisure time, I enjoy relaxing with Kelly, but there isn't too much time for relaxing as we have a new edition to our family, our first child, Willow who arrived earlier this year, so she is keeping us busy. I also still enjoy watching and playing sport and keeping fit. I currently work at the Royal Marines UK operational HQ in London and in the short term, I will remain in the Royal Marines... long term who knows!*

“I was never enthused massively by academia whilst at school, therefore a career in sport or the armed forces seemed a natural choice for me.

As I wasn't good enough to make a career out of rugby and didn't fancy an office job, I wasn't left with many other options so never really considered anything else.”



**When Matt was five, he wanted to be an astronaut. That was as far as he thought about his career in his school days, other than he knew he did not want to become a medical doctor, which several of his classmates were set upon. Matt told us it surprised him that anyone knew what they wanted to do, and that his horizon only stretched as far as the end of term.**

Matt enjoyed his time at Truro. He recalls that it was music and the outdoor activities that stood out for him. He and his friends used to borrow the school keyboard, drum machine and four-track tape recorder at weekends and still has those tapes to this day. Matt admits the biology field trips were of more use to him given his career direction now. He remembers wading through Dartmoor's rivers, his Duke of Edinburgh expeditions to the Lake District; the Ten Tors challenge and weekends spent in the school's outdoor hut at Minions on Bodmin Moor.

After leaving Truro School, Matt went on to Clare College, Cambridge, to read natural sciences. This was the start of Matt's career in conservation. Whilst at Cambridge he had the amazing opportunity to organise a student expedition to Borneo, to study the effects of selective logging on butterfly communities. That is where Matt first became interested in environmental conservation, and realised there might be a future doing something useful in wild places.

After graduating, Matt worked for six months as a research assistant and used his savings to take him to Africa, hitchhiking around Zimbabwe and Botswana meeting as many people as he could working in the wildlife sector. This led Matt to do a PhD studentship at the University of Kent studying wildlife tourism in national parks and on the subject of Dragon Tourism (tourism to Komodo National Park in Indonesia, where Komodo dragons live) and its contribution to wildlife conservation and local economic development. Matt believes:

*Wildlife will not survive unless people value it and/or benefit from it in some way, and tourism is one tool for achieving that.*

Since then Matt has found himself with a career in international wildlife conservation, initially in the university sector but for much of it working for charities like his current organisation Fauna & Flora International (FFI), where he is responsible for all of the field-based conservation activities around the world. FFI operates in some 40 countries across four regional programmes - Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eurasia and Latin America & the Caribbean. Matt's role is to oversee the strategic growth and development of FFI's programmes and to ensure the teams deliver lasting conservation results. The organisation works with hundreds of partner organisations and thousands of individuals around the world, from community groups to governments to multinationals to investors and philanthropists, so Matt enjoys a great variety of external representation within his role, and, of course, a lot of travel.

*I have been incredibly lucky in where my work has taken me, and to have so many varied experiences in my career. I spent a number of years living in the Masai Mara National Reserve in Kenya monitoring endangered black rhinos and figuring out ways to keep elephants out of*

# Matthew Walpole CO90

## A career in Conservation

*maize fields (try chillies!), In my last job I worked closely with the UN, leading a team to analyse the changing state of the planet and convince governments to up their game. Before that, I helped create a rapid response fund to tackle emergencies in World Heritage sites.*

*What's not to like about tracking rhinos on foot (and by hot air balloon!) in Africa, or delivering a global assessment of the state of the planet to the UN. It's always satisfying when something you do has an influence. Most recently, I helped establish a conservation campus here in Cambridge in what has become the David Attenborough Building – the great man himself, aged 90, abseiled down a four-storey green wall of plants in the building on its opening. What a legend!*

*The real work, though, is in supporting others to make a difference, be they individuals taking up a conservation career, local organisations working in challenging situations around the world, national government agencies or international companies whose activities are often very damaging if left unchecked.*

We asked Matt if there was any advice he could offer anyone considering a similar career path, he told us:

*Building a career in conservation often involves a lot of unpaid volunteering and short-term contracts with insecure funding, but perseverance pays off. Be prepared to move between organisations, and don't underestimate the value of transferrable 'soft' skills. These days my job is far less about counting butterflies or tracking rhinos than it is about understanding and influencing people and institutions. I have found conservation to be much more about people than it is about wildlife.*

Between work commitments and a hectic family life, Matt still enjoys spending time outside, camping, walking or cycling. Matt is married to Kerry who he met through an old college friend and they have three daughters aged 7, 6 and 4. Matt took them all to the Outer Hebrides in a Camper a few Easters ago and he remembers the ferry from Oban was cancelled three times due to gales, the heater in the van broke down in a hailstorm and when they finally arrived, they had two days of thick fog! After all this Matt said that they all seemed to enjoy themselves, however this year they are heading to the South of France!

Matt tries to visit Cornwall when he can as his mother still lives here and enjoyed taking his daughters to spot seals on the North Coast over New Year.

## Jess Shaw (née Hall) CO03 Dentist in the Royal Navy



“As a Royal Navy Dentist you also go to sea either as a permanent part of the ship’s company on an air craft carrier or ‘sea riding’ where you join a ship for a couple of weeks as part of a dental team (with a dental nurse and hygienist) and a portable dental unit”.



**Jessica is a dentist in the Royal Navy, and holds the title “Surg Lt Cdr”, Surgeon Lieutenant Commander. Jess told us that this involves treating military personnel predominantly from the Royal Navy but also the Air Force and the Army.**

Jess explained:

*The patient population depends on where you are based and you usually do an assignment for two years, so variety and moving are part of the job. As a Royal Navy Dentist you also go to sea either as a permanent part of the ship's company on an air craft carrier or 'sea riding' where you join a ship for a couple of weeks as part of a dental team (with a dental nurse and hygienist) and a portable dental unit. I have done this in the Gulf, Mediterranean and waters off the coast of the UK. If you are based with a Royal Marines Unit, you will often accompany them on exercises that can be abroad. There are also opportunities to specialise in different dental areas.*

Jess joined Truro School the year of her GCSEs and said it was a great move for her. She told us:

*I was previously at a school heavily focussed on academia; the new balance at Truro School with a strong ethos of extracurricular activities (namely sport and music) as well as academia was a good mix for*

*me personally. I had a great time and achieved the desired outcome! Great memories from Duke of Edinburgh and singing in the choir, even though I could not really sing! The hockey and netball tour to South Africa was also very memorable.*

On leaving Truro School Jess went to Cardiff University to study dentistry - this was suggested to Jess by the RAF liaison officer who visited Truro School. Whilst at Cardiff Jess joined the University Royal Naval Unit rather than the University Air Squadron. In her third year, Jess became a Naval Cadet after success in front of the Admiralty Interview Board and selection by the Dental Branch. This meant they paid Jess's university tuition fees and she received a salary for those two years.

On graduating Jess attended officer training at BRNC for nine weeks before completing her dental training at HMS Drake in Plymouth. She was subsequently based in Scotland, Dorset and Hampshire. Jess tells us her husband is also in the Royal Navy (they met at a Christmas ball!) and they have recently moved to Washington DC for three years with his job, an accompanied posting. Jess is therefore currently on a career break and will return to the Royal Naval Dental Service on their return.

# Owen Prell CO78

## Entertainment Lawyer and Author

**Educated at Truro School and with family originally from Cornwall, Owen Prell is a dramatic writer and entertainment lawyer currently living in California. He has written for both stage and screen and *Chance to Break* is his first novel. Much of it is set in Cornwall, where he lived for several years in Penryn near Falmouth. We were lucky enough to get an interview with Owen in which he recalls his school days.**



Owen arrived at Truro School for 4th form in 1977, albeit as he recalls, rather unwillingly. As the only American in his class he stood out from the rest, which, in Owen's words: is never a good thing at that age. However, over the course of time, the memories made while at Truro School have become enjoyable recollections.

*I did rifle marksmanship with a rather eccentric tutor, which was fun, and I really enjoyed rugby with our Chemistry master who was from Wales. He tolerated my liberal tackling – having been raised on American football I didn't know any better.*

Did you want to be a lawyer or a writer? *Actually, in those days, my career aspiration was to fly aeroplanes, and I did get my pilot's licence but not commercially, as alas I'm colour blind. I didn't turn to writing seriously until my twenties.*

With an English mother who emigrated to Canada, and then the US, and an anglophile American father, Owen grew up mostly in California after attending pre-school in London, and then spent a year at Truro School. Returning to California, Owen completed high school and then entered UCLA (University of California at Los Angeles) and began his legal career after studying at Cornell Law School in New York. *I had no plans to practise law when I started at Cornell, but then student debt made those law firm salaries quite enticing. Later though, the long hours and often boring corporate work made creative writing an attractive alternative. I wrote a*

*play in my twenties, which was produced on stage in San Francisco. Hearing veteran Equity actors speak your own lines aloud is surreal.*

Owen told us that having just had his first novel published, after years of dramatic writing (plays and screenplays) he can't wait to dive into the next one: *Finding my novel on the fiction shelves of Foyles Bookstore in Charing Cross recently was quite a thrill, as I used to shop there as a child for Enid Blyton novels. Was it a moment of pride? Definitely, but mostly because of all the hard work that went into getting it there. I stuck with it.*

Asked if he has any career advice to offer, Owen responded by telling us:

**“Goodness, I would never give anyone career advice, given the mistakes I've made with mine. Other than this: “Take chances and follow your passion”.**

In his spare time, Owen is a keen tennis player and enjoys playing tennis with his wife and son who is 17, as well as bicycling, good movies and books. He then told us: *Honestly, walking the dog with my wife after work and then sharing a glass of wine before (and during) dinner is about as good as it gets.*

With life being so busy Owen hasn't managed to return to Cornwall in quite awhile: *My parents for years spent part of their time in a cottage on the water in Flushing, across from Falmouth, but they eventually retired to Palm Springs, where they still live. My wife has told me that she would like me to take her for a Cornish visit sometime and I promised her I would. Sadly, I have lost touch with my friends from Truro School and I had one good friend in particular named Malcolm Trounce – he'd spent time in school in the States so we had that in common – so if you're out there Malcolm, please say hello!*

Asked if he felt his time at Truro School had influenced his life and career, Owen responded: *No doubt about it. For one thing, my novel would be very different if I hadn't had my Truro School experience, with all the Cornwall and London scenes. So please buy a copy and read it to see if I got it right!*

### So what's next for Owen?

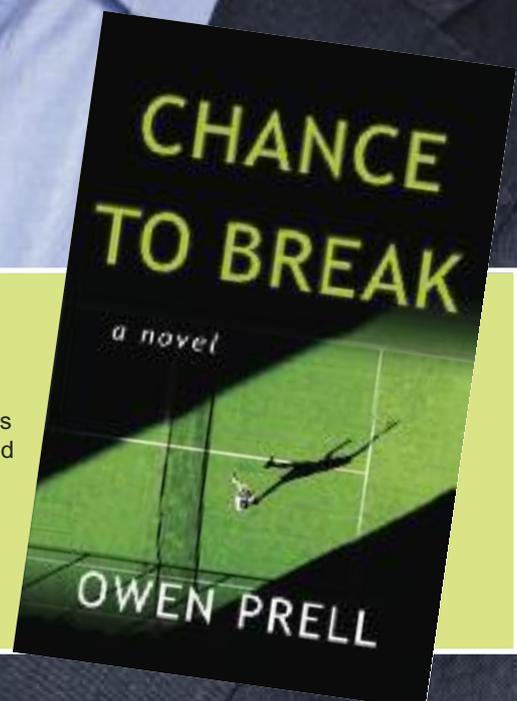
**Writing the next novel! This one is set in the States and involves politics and aviation. However, it will actually be a more universal story, certainly nothing to do with tennis!**

“Finding my novel on the fiction shelves of Foyles Bookstore in Charing Cross recently was quite a thrill, as I used to shop there as a child for Enid Blyton novels. Was it a moment of pride? Definitely, but mostly because of all the hard work that went into getting it there. I stuck with it.”

### **Chance to Break**

“Pushed to breaking point! Ex-Cornish author, Owen Prell’s eye-opening new novel is based around the opening days of Wimbledon.”

Published By:  
**The Book Guild Publishing**



# Truro School Community

## Sharing our strengths to support young people

The value of our alumni and the wider TS Community is of paramount importance to current staff and students – Nancy Kenward, Head of Careers, reports on the wealth of experience and knowledge being shared.

### Business Lunches

We have also had a busy year of Business lunches and again, our former pupils have offered some fantastic advice over lunch in the Heseltine Gallery (which many of us remember as the Lower Sixth Common Room!).



- **Matthew Pitman (CO17)** led a fascinating talk about film and media- Matt left us last year after his A levels to work for Social Chain, a global social media marketing agency, and inspired us about what is possible to achieve, even at the age of 18.
- **Amy Richards (CO08)** spoke persuasively about the opportunities in the Arts sector- she currently works as Fundraising Manager at the National Maritime Museum and has a background in publishing.
- **Jenny Webster (CO98)** attended our packed Medicine and Allied Health lunch in the Spring and spoke about her role as an Occupational Therapist.
- **Beth Hardwick (CO10)** (and daughter of former Head of Maths, Ian Hardwick) was visiting Cornwall before Easter to arrange her upcoming wedding and we were delighted that she was able to attend our Law lunch. Beth is a barrister who currently works in Bristol and specialises in family cases.



**Nancy Kenward (CO96)**  
Head of Careers

If you have any job opportunities you would like me to advertise or think you could offer advice, guidance or work experience to our students, please contact me:

Contact me: **01872 272763** [nk@truroschoo.com](mailto:nk@truroschoo.com)

### Post 18 Option Days

Our annual Post-18 options days were held in June and my plea for help from recent former pupils on LinkedIn was almost instantly answered- nearly 20 ex pupils attended and gave our Sixth Form students the opportunity to quiz them about degree subjects, gap years, universities and career options. It was lovely to catch up with so many of them, and hear about their experiences since leaving Truro School. Paul Trudgian (parent) also gave another great talk on enterprise and running a business.

The links between the Careers department and our alumni are closer than ever and we were delighted to hear from Beth Rutter (CO17) who has been working as a tutor at St Paul's School near Auckland, New Zealand. She met Colin Groves (CO80) at a talk in School last year and contacted him again while she was out there. Colin helped arrange some fantastic work experience in the marketing department of a prestigious Kiwi rugby team.

### LinkedIn – Truro School Community



The Truro School Community page on LinkedIn is an excellent way of staying in touch with us. I update the page with local and national job opportunities, information on work experience, conference and internships which might be of interest to our former pupils. We would encourage all former pupils to connect with us so that they too can access this amazing network of Truro School alumni.

I was also able to renew links when I was invited by the Development Office to attend the London Networking Reunion in October 17. It was an absolute delight to reconnect with so many former pupils and hear what amazing careers they have.



## Careers Convention

The Careers Department within Truro School has continued to work closely with the Development Office and our Former Pupils this year. In March we held our Biannual Careers Convention, the biggest careers event in the School calendar and were delighted to see some very familiar faces who had generously given up their time to attend. John Williams (CO95) from Nomenca has continued to be a huge help to our pupils, attending the Careers Convention and the Engineering Business lunch as well as providing work experience for some of our pupils this year. Other notable former pupils were Steve Wilson (CO96) who offered help and advice for aspiring engineers, Alex Hardman (CO16) who represented The University of Exeter's Geology department, Tom Tallis (CO13) who currently works for Concorde, a large local recruitment agency and David Williams (CO99), a solicitor who was able to advise our students about law. We were lucky to have so many parents and former parents who were happy to share their knowledge with our current pupils, among them, Simon Holdsworth, Nick Wilshaw, Jill Carr, Phillip Lee, Lou Jones, Jane Mitchell and Ashley Dobbs. It was our busiest ever convention and hundreds of Truro School pupils attended between 4.30 and 7.30, joined by pupils from other local secondary schools. Opportunities such as these offer networking experience and valuable first hand advice from industry professionals to our pupils; they wouldn't be possible without the generosity of our parents and former pupils who are willing to give up their time to attend them.



# Truro School in 1918 - At home

**'Mars is interfering with the larder!' lamented the school magazine in April 1918. 'Not only are the times out of joint, but so also are the butchers, which is clearly absurd and indicates that the war is getting beyond a joke'.**

Boarders were given ration cards and showed little sympathy to 'cormorant' day boys who were able to consume 'mother's culinary efforts in school and out'. G.N. Pearce recalled that when rationing came in to force 'our meals were much curtailed. This was felt because parcels from home became non-existent. One was always hungry.'

By the summer term the magazine reported that 'the list of casualties due to the rationing system is comparatively slight up to date; in fact, no really serious case of starvation has been brought under our notice'. A field near to the school was acquired for allotments to encourage boys to take part in helping the food supply of the country.

## Armistice Day

*The announcement of the armistice on Monday, November 11th, 1918, was dramatic in its suddenness. Who expected such an immediate development of the peace negotiations, remembering the disorganised and distracted state of Germany? The fall of so mighty an Empire is usually accompanied by anarchy and bloodshed; and, as a general rule, it is some time before any responsible governments can be formed. The French and Russian revolutions are illustrations of this fact.*

*During the early part of the morning vague rumours of an armistice were floating about, but few believed such unlikely reports. Everything went on as usual except for an element of unrest affecting masters and boys alike, until about 12 o'clock, when the Headmaster announced that the rumours had been officially confirmed and that fighting had ceased on all fronts at 11 am. Is there any need to say we ceased work? Naturally we cheered and cheered again, and made all the row we could – the schoolboys' orthodox way of expressing joy. Our efforts, however, paled into insignificance beside the din made by sirens and hooters in the town and on the river steamers. The members of the Cadet Corps at once changed into*

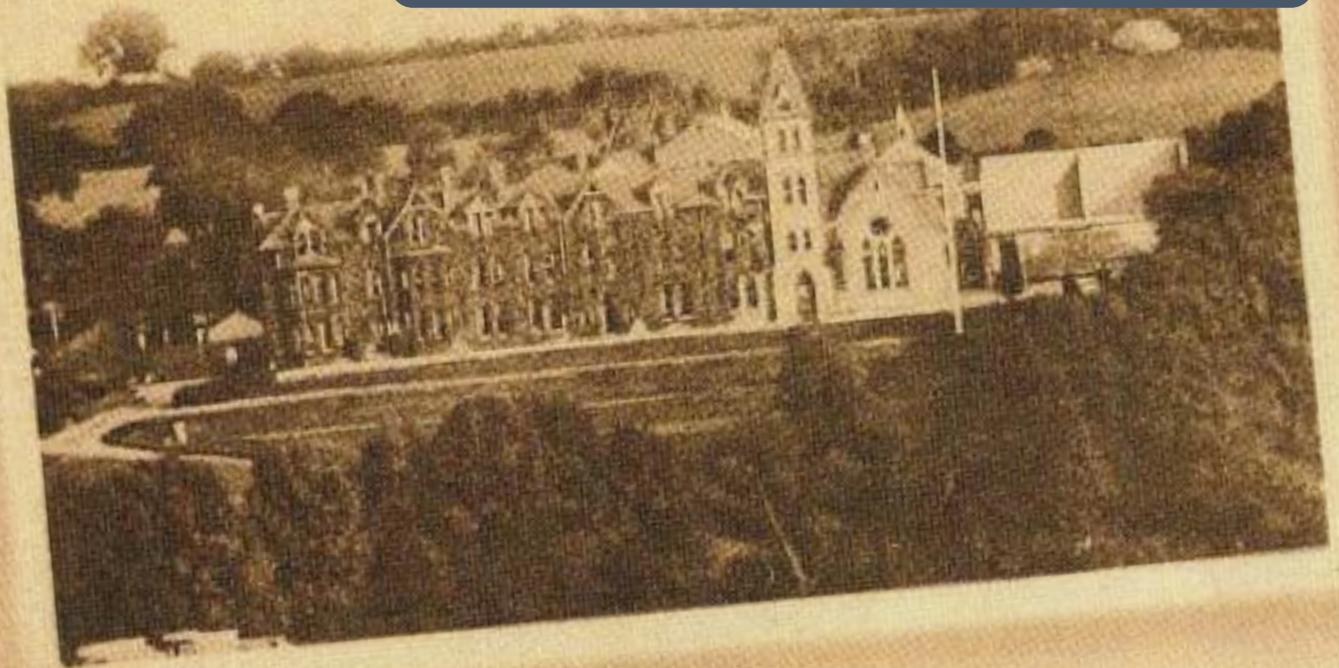
*their uniforms, and at 12.30 the whole Corps, headed by the bugle band, marched into the town, those members of the College who were not cadets bringing up the rear.*

*The whole city was alive with people and gaily bedecked with flags; indeed, so numerous were the latter that we wondered where they could possibly have come from. After marching round Boscawen Street we halted before the Town Hall and sang the National Anthem and 'Rule Britannia'. Here also the official announcement of the armistice was made, together with the Mayor's desire that the day should be observed as a general holiday, and that the shop windows should be illuminated in the evening.*

*We then returned to the College, where the Headmaster gave us a half-holiday, observing at the same time that our joy should be tempered with moderation by the thought of the long list of Old Boys who have laid down their lives 'pro patria'.*

*In the evening an entertainment provided by members of the School brought to an end of a most joyous and long-to-be-remembered day...*

*Truro College Magazine,  
December 1918*





# Truro School in 1918

## At war

By the end of the war in 1918 over 400 former pupils had served in the armed forces, 166 as commissioned officers and 55 as non-commissioned officers. Reports came back to the school of various acts of bravery and gallantry. The school magazine recorded that Private H.M. Pascoe, wrote

*In his last letter to school, 'the excitement kept us going, and the enemy would fire at us with their machine guns until we got up to about 100 yards, and then all that were left would throw up their hands. We lost our officer and nearly all our NCOs, but finally landed at our objective with a Lance Corporal in charge of us'. In some such severe fighting he fought bravely to the end.*

A total of 13 military crosses (3 with bars), 3 Distinguished Service Orders, 4 Military Medals, 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses and 2 Distinguished Conduct Medals were awarded to former pupils who fought in the war.

Among the 500 plus letters received by the Headmaster, H.W. Vinter, during the war years, were eye-witness accounts of the end of the conflict by John P. King (TS 1908-11) and Archie Marshall (TS 1911-17). Charles Argall (TS 1911-15), at the age of 100 in 1999, recalled his memories of 1918 in an oral history recording for the Imperial War Museum.

### Sapper E.C.K. Argall - Memories of 1918 and taking the transmission that announced the end of the War

Charles Argall was 15 at the outbreak of war in 1914; he recalled that they were all so keen and believed that the war was going to be over shortly. He left school at the age of 16 and worked for the Post Office, training as a telegraphist. He volunteered under the Lord Derby Scheme at the age of 18 and became a sapper in the Royal Engineers, working as a signaller, having learnt Morse code while working for the Post Office. He found the initial training quite easy because he had learnt basic drill at school. Early in 1918 he was sent behind the Front Line, to Abbeville, the Signallers' headquarters, and carried on his training in France.

As a wireless operator, he was part of the backup communications if the landlines were disrupted.

The equipment was quite experimental and temperamental and included a crystal set with a cat's whisker. He recalled on one occasion transmitting from the brigade to battalion HQ the communication was made in the middle of a field from a 'homemade' transmitter using a bayonet as part of it for the signal - which Argall said would give a shock to a nosy bovine if it came too close. He also recalled being the last person to cross the Aisne river before it was blown up to slow down the German advance.

He was one of the first to hear that the war had ended, and recalled taking the momentous message at daybreak on 11 November on his wireless set - 'At 11 o'clock today an Armistice has been signed between the Great Powers and the Germans and at last the 1914-18 War has come to an end'. He wrote down the message and sent it on to 'the people running the show'. It was a 'great relief, a great relief indeed', to hear that the war was over.

He lost a lot of friends during the war, including Frank Llewellyn Hicks (who died in June 1918), and was very conscious of the great death toll. He was given the victory medal and service medal, but was so disgusted at the loss of life that he threw the medals in the sea on the boat trip home. He felt that the war 'had been fought with no regard at all for human life. I lost so many friends who I was at school with, who were simply cannon-fodder...'

*From an oral history recording by the Imperial War Museum, 25 February 1999, catalogue no.18725*

TRURO SCHOOL



REMEMBERING  
OUR FALLEN

**C.B. Banfield**  
21.3.1918, aged 20

**R.M. Bell**  
19.4.1918, aged 21

**P.R. Cann**  
2.4.1918, aged 28

**A. Christien**  
30.5.1918, aged 37

**C.E. Collins**  
21.3.1918, aged 22

**T.C. Curtis**  
8.11.1918, aged 17

**W. Ford**  
24.10.1918, aged 40

**F.L. Hicks**  
8.6.1918, aged 19

**M.E. Martyn**  
20.10.1918, aged 19

**W.G.H. Mawer**  
20.9.1918, aged 24

**S.E. Mitchell**  
20.10.1918, aged 19

**H.M. Nicholls**  
8.11.1918, aged 32

**G.H.H. Parkin**  
7.7.1918, aged 22

**H.M. Pascoe**  
27.9.1918, aged 30

**H.C. Rickard**  
26.8.1918, aged 21

**C.R. Ridgill**  
18.10.1918, aged 42

**B.D. Spargo**  
3.9.1918, aged 20

**F.A. Walkey**  
17.10.1918, aged 23

**S.H. Whitford**  
21.3.1918, aged 24

**H.C. Whitworth**  
26.3.1918, aged 24

**F. Williams**  
2.5.1918, aged 34



**Extracts from a letter from 2nd Lt. J.P. King published in the school magazine about his experiences in the last year of the conflict.**

*I was captured on the evening of the 22nd of March at Roupy, a few miles west of St Quentin. The battalion put up a splendid fight... We were then marched eastwards for about a week until we finally entrained and arrived at Rastatt, a very large sorting camp...*

*After a month we were moved from Rastatt to Hesepe... For a period of four months we had a rather bad time of it, nothing to smoke, very little to eat, and with just a few books to pass the time away... However, there was a great joy in the camp when our first Red Cross parcels arrived, and also our first letters from home... On October 9th we were moved to Cologne...*

*About one month or so before the armistice was signed we could foresee what was coming from the German papers, which we were allowed to order. Shortly before the armistice riots broke out in the city, and our position was none too pleasant. However, the Soldiers' and Workmen's Council took charge and the city once more assumed its normal state.*

*After the armistice had been signed we were allowed to walk freely about the city and to go*

*anywhere we wished, which was a very welcome change. A day or so before we left, the following appeared in the Cologne Gazette:*

*The town looks very gay, flags flying everywhere welcoming home our troops. All nationalities are walking about the streets – Russians, who do not seem to realise what is happening; French and Belgians, who seem overjoyed that the war is over; and also a few British officers, who walk about in a reserved manner, already masters of the situation.*

*We left Cologne on 21st November and travelled by pleasure boat down the Rhine into Holland, spending one night at Dusseldorf. We were splendidly received by the Dutch, who did everything they could for us, and then, of course, a still finer welcome when we landed at Hull, very thankful to set foot once more on our native soil.*

## The Surrender of the German Fleet

**Recounted by A.P. Marshall, Paymaster Midshipman on HMS Barham, flagship of the 5th Battle Squadron, for the school magazine in December 1918**

*... [On 21 November] I myself happened to be look-out officer in the fore top and had the good fortune to sight and report the British light cruiser Cardiff leading the Germans, and the first battle cruiser, the Seydlitz, as they appeared through the morning haze. At the time we were the leading capital ships, but there were two cruiser squadrons ahead.*

*Immediately on sighting, 'action' was sounded, and we all repaired to our stations. That morning the Navy was taking no chances. Thus 95 per cent were deprived of seeing the whole meeting, for only about 5 per cent of a ship's company are above decks in action. About 9.30 we turned for home, forming two lines on either side of the enemy ships.*

*Thus we remained ready for emergencies for about three hours, and then we were permitted to come on deck to witness the whole review. It was a magnificent sight. First came five battle cruisers ... Then came the*

*battle ships, and following these the light cruisers. The rear was made up of 49 destroyers.*

*So was the major and more modern part of the second finest fleet in the world being led slowly into captivity as it streamed at 10 knots between the avenue of British warships. It was a great and bloodless victory, the only one ever recorded in the naval annals of any power. It was the end of the German naval dream. For them the end was one of ignominy and shame. For us it was one of glorious and unparalleled success.*

*... At about 2 o'clock the captive fleet dropped anchor and we passed on to our appointed anchorage, leaving them to the care and vigilance of such ships as had been told off to guard them.*

*... At 3.15 we were all called on deck to give the flagship a fitting welcome for such an occasion. We all 'manned ship' and as the C-in-C passed, our band played 'For Auld Lang Syne', 'See the Conquering Hero Come' and 'For He's a Jolly Good Fellow'. Cheers then burst forth from the throats of 1,300 men...*

*Finally, the 'Navy's Great Day' ended by a thanksgiving service on board every ship at 6 o'clock.*

# The 97th TSFPA Annual Reunion Dinner - 2017

**This year's TSFPA Annual Dinner was, as always, open to all former pupils but especially marked the anniversary of those who were from the classes of 47-57-67-77-87-97-07. Before dinner guests gathered in the Staff Common Room (which many of you will remember as the Library) for pre-dinner drinks, whilst enjoying a musical accompaniment, courtesy of Truro School Music Department, led by Martin Palmer, along with a wonderful display of photographs and memorabilia put together by Jo Wood, TS Researcher and Archivist.**

At 7.30pm the Headmaster, Andrew Gordon-Brown, banged the old school dinner gong, encouraging everyone to make their way to the Old Dining Hall where, before taking their seats, guests were given a warm welcome by the new TSFPA Chair, Rachel Vaughan (CO98), who now teaches English at Truro School. Following tradition, Rachel paid tribute to all those TSFPA members no longer here to celebrate with us, by asking everyone to join in a minute's silence. School Chaplain, Reverend Aubin de Gruchy delivered the Latin School Grace after which the 120 guests enjoyed a fabulous 3-course dinner, served and prepared by David Connolly and the TS catering team.

The Dining Hall was transformed from the usual hustle and bustle of school lunch to an elegant function room filled with former pupils, former staff, current staff and guests, all sharing memories and reminiscing about old times. It was a privilege to welcome so many of our senior TSFPA members, including two former pupils from CO48, Mr Tom Stross and Mr Ian Murdoch. Also with us were the three James brothers, all former pupils: Wyndham (CO66), David (CO59) and Gareth (CO64). Welcoming back so many familiar faces is a real treat for the Development Team, as many of our senior former pupils are becoming regular guests, also attending our annual Afternoon Tea Reunion earlier in the year.

We were also delighted that some of our overseas former pupils managed to join us. From Switzerland, **Isabel Vogel** (CO87) came with her father, Sonke Vogel, and explained that to celebrate 30 years since her father last collected her from Truro School she had arranged the trip especially to bring him along to share her reunion. Isabel wrote to us on her return to Switzerland:

*"Thank you so much for the lovely reunion party you organised. The hall looked so pretty and I even recognised some people. What a great opportunity to bring back all the memories and thank you, it was so nice that you showed my father and me around during the afternoon."*

From Australia, Jack Williams (CO57) and his wife Vivia, visiting from Dara, Queensland, and William (Bill) and Lynda Cooper – Bill taught chemistry at TS in the 90s

and they now live in Perth, Western Australia. UK guests had travelled from many different counties, in order to reunite with former classmates, and not forgetting of course our guests from the Isles of Scilly.

Seeing so many former staff also made this year's reunion very special, Bill and Lynda Cooper, Colin and Jean Taylor, Alan Monks, Alan and Maureen Johnston, Myra Shore, Anne Weeks, Tim and Glenys Tall, Brian and Lorna Jackson and Guy and Helen Dodd. This meant we had three Truro School headmasters in the room (1 current and 2 former). Next year we will hope to make it four. (No pressure Mr Smith!)

**Guy Dodd** wrote afterwards:

*"It was great - the place looked fantastic, food was super and it was lovely to meet some former pupils from our time (including two girls Helen had taught in her French Club twenty years ago!). I thought it was a real reflection of the values of TS that I spoke to a primary school teacher, paediatric ward sister, a Cambridge PhD involved in very specialised instrumentation, a GP, a dentist and a charity worker in London. That's TS all over and I was really proud to have been associated with them."*

This diversity makes our alumni and the annual reunion so special. It is, after all, exactly what the Truro School Community is all about and it is so encouraging to see that it continues to grow, moving from strength to strength.

Among the CO97 was former pupil and World Scrabble Champion (2016), Brett Smitheram, who challenged guests to a scrabble match that lasted throughout the evening. Even his former teacher Mrs Ann Weeks took a turn but despite the huge combined effort, Brett emerged the winner.

During the evening, Andrew Gordon-Brown led the Loyal Toast and later addressed the gathering, thanking everyone for helping to celebrate the 97th annual reunion dinner commenting on how great it was to see the hall so full.

The TSFPA and the Development Team were delighted that Julia Goldsworthy (CO97) accepted the invitation to attend as guest speaker. Julia's speech brought the evening to a fitting end as she recounted her time at Truro School and conveyed how she felt it had helped her prepare for a career as a politician. She made special mention of former staff who had inspired her, specifically Mr Watson Weeks – which delighted Mrs Ann Weeks who was among the audience.



Mr Richard Oliver wrote:

*“Just a short note to thank you all for a great reunion. There were not too many CO57 there but at least I met two who I had not seen since leaving school! The meal was delicious, especially the beef which outperformed all of the restaurants I have been in. Congratulations to the chef and his team.”*



Mr Clive Buckingham:

*“On behalf of myself and my wife Jan, this is just to say thank you for arranging what turned out to be a very memorable evening with good company and excellent food. Please pass on our thanks to the catering staff also.”*



### **Join us for the 98th Annual Reunion Dinner Saturday 8th September 2018**

This year we celebrate all the 8s – classes of 48-58-68-78-98-08 (but all are welcome) – and we really hope some of the newest members of the TSFPA class of 18 might also join us. It promises to be a very enjoyable evening especially as our guest speaker will be Mr Philip Rule (CO78). If any of you attended the October London Reunion, you will remember Philip engaging in some hilarious banter with Headmaster Andrew Gordon-Brown – we are sure there will be more at the 2018 Annual Dinner.

To check whether there are any tickets available:  
**[tsfpa@truroschool.com](mailto:tsfpa@truroschool.com)**

*(but be quick so as not to miss out)*

## 2017 Leavers v School 1st XV

**On a dry but windy day, the School 1st XV and Former Pupils XV played a well-fought rugby match in fantastic spirit. The former pupils started the brightest and put the school under a great deal of pressure in the first 15 minutes.**

**This eventually led to a well-constructed move and some excellent footwork from Will Hooper that led to a try, which Will converted to give the former pupils a well-deserved 7-point lead. Shortly after, the 1st XV stole a line out and the ball and after a wonderful break from Callum Penry, he then linked with Dom Goodwin who out flanked the defence and scored under the posts; and with Mike Austin's conversion the scores were level.**

**Just before half time the former pupils applied more pressure and the school gave away a penalty and again Will Hooper scored the points to take a 10-7 lead into the break.**

In the second half, the school team began to exert more and more pressure, which led to a penalty, which Mike Austin converted to level the scores. With confidence building, the 1st XV attacked again and a magical offload from Callum Penry saw Jordan Opie score under the posts and with Mike adding another conversion the school led 17-10. As the former pupils tried to get back into the game, the school team defended well and were able to prevent the former pupils scoring again. A late foray into the former pupil's territory saw them give away a penalty, which Mike Austin converted to give the school a win 20 points to 10.

The game was supported by a good crowd who were entertained by both sides attempting to play running rugby, I would like to thank Jonny Wood and Will Hooper for organising the former pupils and I wish all the boys the best as they move on to pastures new.

*Written by James Austin*



## 2017 Leavers v U18 School Netball Match

**The netball match got underway at 1.15pm in the Sir Ben Ainslie Sports Centre with the new Truro School team coming together for the first time to take on a very strong former pupils' team.**

With no subs, due to injury and unavailability, the Truro School team put on an excellent display in their first match together, leading the former pupils 16-14 going into the last quarter. Nevertheless, this lack of subs and fitness let the former pupils gain an advantage and they won the match 23-21.

Alumni players: Sophie Ball, Alice Bebb, Imogen Eddison, Anna Gilchrist, Mollie Martin, Aabah Mate, Rianna Snow, Amy Woodward, Sophia Wright



## TS bids a fond farewell to Mr Dave Hunt



In his Speech Day good byes 4 years ago, Headmaster, **Andrew Gordon-Brown**, gave special mention to **Mr Dave Hunt** who although he wasn't retiring, was stepping back from the full time role he had played in many capacities in a

wonderful career spanning well over 30 years.

As David retires this year completely, the Headmaster added special thanks in his Speech Day message:

*I thanked Dave at the time, however, as we bid him a*

*fond farewell, I wanted to add how grateful I am to him for giving us four more years of part time service and wish him everything of the best in his well-earned retirement.*

## Alumni messages for Jane Rainbow

Jane Rainbow is leaving Truro School after 28 years and has taught, nurtured and guided so many young students. Here are just a few tributes from former pupils who share their recollections of a much loved teacher.

I have many fond memories of you as my tutor and of the times you spent on duty in Malvern. I hope you remember with as much clarity as I the rendition of 'Kumbaya My Lord' Jenny Vosper and I performed on the glass bottles in your tutor room! I still have the video if you would care to relive it With love.

**Camilla Wehmeyer - CO07**

A Rainbow in the truest sense. Jane, you brought joy to me and my friends in the good times and the bad. Without your guidance, I doubt I would have made the most of my time at Truro School. I miss you now having left the school and know that the whole school community will feel the same once you leave. I'm sure you will go on to do brilliant things (your raison d'être) outside of school just as you did whilst you were there. With love.

**Oliver Dobbs - CO16**

I would just like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Rainbow for being one of the most incredible people I have ever met. I don't think I'll ever find anyone with such an amazing outlook on life and who can find the positive in any situation and bring so much Rainbow joy to other peoples' lives. I really wish that everyone in the world could have the opportunity to meet her as it would completely change their lives for the better, as she has mine. Thank you for always looking out for me.

**Claudia Brown - CO16**

Mrs. Rainbow was my form tutor for two years and helped me to settle in the big family of Truro School. I would like to thank her for all the help she has given and wish her all the best!

**Yannie Ho - CO11**

In a GCSE ICT she once called me "vivacious and dizzy", my 12-year-old self mistook the word vivacious with curvaceous and I was very puzzled. The description still applies 10 years later. Please wish her all the best from me.

**Molly Somers - CO14**

During my first IT lesson at Truro (aged eleven), when having to set up our computer accounts for the first time, Mrs Rainbow said 'read all of the terms and conditions to make sure you know what you're agreeing to. For all you know, I have written "I will pay Mrs Rainbow a million pounds at the bottom".' This has stuck with me ever since I had that class (nine years ago!). I recently had to sign a health and safety form at my university placement. I read through the four pages of terms and conditions and, whilst reading, the receptionist asked why I was reading them all - after all, I was just agreeing that I wouldn't burn the place down, or anything similar. Without thinking I responded, "In case Mrs Rainbow has written that I need to give her a million pounds at the bottom." The receptionist looked at me like I was insane and didn't speak to me until I said goodbye...

**India Heaton - CO16**

I'm sorry to hear that Mrs. Rainbow is leaving, she was always a fantastic presence in the History department and Sixth Form. While I never had the pleasure of being in her class, I was lucky enough to be able to work with her in the Amnesty International organisation. I always will remember how we would get off topic and start discussing all kinds of current events rather than specifically what we were trying to organise. She was always very supportive of our goals and interests while we were in school, and when I go back I look forward to being able to speak with her and catch-up. She was a real light during my time at Truro School. I hope that she enjoys her time elsewhere and knows that all her efforts are greatly appreciated. She will be loved and remembered.

**Yvonne Chart - CO15**

Jane Rainbow (or Miss Thomas as we knew her then) coached my first-year hockey team (back in 1997-8), in which I was a not particularly prolific right wing. In fact my record was so bad, that just before our last game of the season, she promised me a Cadbury's Wispa if I managed to score. And score I did! It was a totally uninspiring goal, the ball only just making it over the line, but Miss Thomas was true to her word when I turned up at the tuck shop the next day. The following season I played in defence, which is where I remained for the rest of my school hockey career! Sport for her was serious, but it was also fun - exactly as it should be. Wishing her all the best for the future!

**Ruth Gripper - CO03**

I still have fond memories of being taught A-level history by you and Dr Flood. No class was ever the same, with never a dull moment. You did well to put up with Howard and I bickering all the time, especially over who had the worst handwriting! Thanks for all you did and good luck with what you plan to do next.

**David Paul - CO01**



# 2017 London Networking Reunion

## The East India Club, Thursday 12 October

**This is the second London Networking Reunion to take place at The East India Club. Last year's event proved such a success that we felt Paul and Kathy Smith might appreciate a little help with hosting this special gathering so the Headmaster, Andrew Gordon-Brown, along with Jane Rainbow, Nancy Kenward and Reverend Aubin de Gruchy went along to lend support.**

We were not disappointed, this year's LNR attracted more attendees than last year. Over 70 attended, for what proved to be a very enjoyable gathering. Some came along with guests and others arranged to meet up with their fellow former pupils on the night.

As with the TSFPA annual reunion dinner, this event attracts former pupils of all ages from our senior TSFPA members - Mr Trevor Jagger (CO43) and Mr Tom Stross (CO48) - to some of the newest, such as Charlie Hatcher and India Heaton (CO16). Last year we produced a resume booklet to inform guests about the chosen career paths of their fellow former pupils and

Katy, Communications Assistant in the Development Team, repeated the exercise again this year. It made fascinating reading, evidencing the enormous diversity among our alumni - solicitor, surgeon, interior designer, accountants, police officers, civil servant, management consultants, editor, events manager, property developer, trainee barrister, commercial events officer, physiotherapist, photographer, teacher and many, many more.

Jane Rainbow and Nancy Kenward were very pleased to have been asked to attend. Reflecting on the evening they said *'it was really wonderful and truly memorable'*. Nancy and Jane were able to gather new contacts from a number of former pupils willing to offer their help and advice to current TS students, either in their particular area of expertise or just about life living in London. *'This is one of the best forms of help our students can receive and is always welcomed from a former pupil, as someone who has previously walked in their shoes'*.

Nicola Alesbrook	97	Thomas Harvey	13	Floyd Macdonald	86	Lawrence Sly	09
Michaela Best	79	Victoria Hatcher	83	Jonathan Mailes	13	Adam Smith	03
Lizzy Buss (née Woods)	97	Charlie Hatcher	16	Derek Man	07	Thomas Stross	48
Nathaniel Capone	03	India Heaton	16	Lydia Manuell	08	Adam Strowger	03
Michael Carreras	64	Sam Hodge	11	Steven McGrady	81	Trystan Thornton	11
James Carrick	96	Max Holdsworth	12	Emma Milton	07	Joseph Toms	97
Will Cecil	09	Trevor Jagger	43	Naomi Munro-Lott	10	Jeremy Treadwell	74
Rebecca Ewart	11	Jonathan Jenkin	97	Andrew Peck	78	Timothy Tregidgo	61
Ian Gallehawk	77	Charlotte Kippax	11	Russell Pike	78	Emily Trevail	11
Dominic Gilchrist	09	Katie Knowles	08	Christopher Pooley	75	Felicity Turner	07
Stephen Goddard	89	Vigneshwar Kumaravel	09	Michael Pooley	76	Vikram Watts	74
Tim Green	80	Max Levene	10	James Pooley	12	Anna Whitford	14
Ann Gripper	98	Richard Lodge	00	Glyn Rees	94		
Harry Hall	09	Gabriella Lobb	11	Philip Rule	78		

**The Development Team and TSFPA are extremely grateful to Paul and Kathy Smith who have become our regular hosts for this event travelling from Norfolk to meet up with many former pupils from their time at TS.**



## Thoughts from the East India Club Reunion – Paul Smith

It was, once again, a delight and an honour for Kathy and I to join so many former pupils at the East India Club in London in October, for what has become a much-anticipated annual gathering.

As always, it is a joy to share memories and renew friendships in such a historical setting. We shared tales and reminiscences with so many former pupils whose association with the school varied from those who had left 80 years ago to those who were at the school last year!

Kathy and I were particularly delighted to see Max Levene there and, as ever, were inspired by his remarkable positivity and resilience in adversity as he told of the challenges of living and working in London. It was also heartening to hear from the Headmaster about the continuing success of the school in both the academic and extra-curricular fields, (and to see him cope so well with the heckling from a distinguished

former pupil who I understand is addressing the Former Pupils' Dinner in September!) and to catch up with teachers Jane Rainbow, Nancy Kenward and the Rev. Aubin de Gruchy.

Nicky Berridge and her team are clearly doing a fine job in reinforcing the links between the school and its alumni, although Nicky set me a prep: to write a few words for the newsletter and Truronian and to find a suitable quote for such a memorable occasion.

I can do no better than refer to Shakespeare's Richard II:

'I count myself in nothing else so happy

As in a soul remembering my good friends'



**Why not put the date in your diary for the 2018 London Reunion – Friday 19th October 2018 at 6.30pm, following Truro School Girl Choristers' performance of evensong at St Paul's Cathedral.**



# Truro School Rugby Gala Dinner

The Old Sports Hall was a fitting venue for the Rugby Gala Dinner on Saturday 24 March when we welcomed former pupil rugby players, current rugby players and their families, to celebrate the success of rugby at Truro School over the years. In particular, to recognise the contribution Graham Whitmore had made in his 26 years as Head of Rugby and, latterly, as Director of Sport.



Guests gathered from far and wide with no less than thirteen 1st XV captains from 1964 to our current and representatives from 1st XV's of every decade from the 60s to the present day.

Having dined on a rugby player's portion of Cornish beef sirloin and all the trimmings our Master of Ceremonies for the evening, Graham Hooper (Vice President of Truro School Foundation), introduced our guest speaker, David Trick, Bath Rugby President, who entertained us to some interesting and amusing rugby tales from his time playing for England and Bath. David represented England at every level, from under-16s through to international, and joined Bath in 1978 whilst still at school.

He played almost 300 games, scoring 191 tries. He toured Argentina and South Africa with the England team and played 12 games (scoring 11 tries) between 1980 and 1986.

Andrew Body (CO81), our auctioneer for the evening, then battled the rising decibels of rugby songs and chatter to auction lots to raise funds for a Sporting Bursary as part of the Truro School Bursary Campaign. Lucky bidders succeeded in winning their weight in wine, a variety of signed rugby shirts and box tickets for a Bath home game of choice.

Ollie Andrews, current 1st XV captain, thanked Graham Whitmore, on behalf of all the boys who have benefitted from his coaching and encouragement. Having been on the receiving end of one of the Coach's demonstration tackles as a young Prep School pupil, Ollie invited Graham 'to have another go now, Sir!' to resounding applause.

As the evening drew to a close guests enjoyed a bit of a boogie on the dancefloor whilst at the other end of the room the bar was drunk dry of beer, friendships were rekindled and lots (and lots, and lots) more rugby memories were retold.

**Jayne Grigg**  
Director of  
Admissions and  
Development



# Gala Dinner





## 2018 Afternoon Tea Reunion

**On Friday 6 April it was a pleasure to welcome 80 former pupils and guests to the School for a fantastic afternoon of conversation, stories, laughter and, of course, a traditional Cornish cream tea.**

As always, it is a highlight of our year here in the Development Office to see old faces coming back again and to welcome new ones too. It is always good to see everyone and listen to tales of mischief from years

gone by. Not to name names but one story I was privileged to listen to was about one young boarder in his first year (around 1949) who escaped from the school and attempted to make it back to his home in St Ives quite late one evening. He managed to hitch lifts and get nearly half way home before the next person who stopped to pick him up asked him where he went to school. The young boy told the gentleman that he was a Truro

School boy who was trying to get to St Ives where his mother lived. Unfortunately for the young lad, the man in the car was a friend of the Headmaster at the time and quickly turned the car around and took him straight back to school! Testament that the Truro School Community was thriving then, just as it is today.

I also wonder if the former staff of Truro High School for Girls know about the rope that was left

## 2018 Easter Sports Fixtures Victory for the Former Pupils' Football Team

**It was a great morning seeing all the boys. The game finished 4:2.**

2017 captain, Tom Rimmington, scored the Former Pupils' first goal with a brilliant half volley from 25 yards. Truro School 1st XI equalised when the referee awarded a clear penalty decision, which was converted by Mike Austin. The second half was an even affair when Danny Park converted an excellent move to put the FP back in front. The 1st XI responded again with some flowing moves, and it paid off when Mike Austin finished an excellent move, levelling the score at 2:2.

In previous years, the Former Pupils had a tendency to tire towards the end of the game. However, the quality of this year's team was much stronger and when FP, Gus Angilley (CO16), entered the field - it was always going to

be a tough last 20 minutes for the 1st XI. (Gus captained the School team in 2016.) It was again, that man, Gus Angilley, who put the Former Pupils in front after an excellent finish. He then sealed the win after being brought down in the box and then converting the penalty.

A deserved 4:2 win for the Former Pupils but a much bigger advert for football at Truro School that has grown from strength to strength. A total of 30 players turned up on an Easter Saturday to fulfil this annual fixture. Big thanks to everyone who attended, with a particular thank you to "Mr Nic" (Mark Nicholas) who managed the Former Pupils' squad.

**By Glynn Hooper**  
(Truro School – Head of Football)



### If you attended Truro School before 1970

The 2019 Afternoon Tea Reunion will be held on Friday 12 April 2019. We hope you will save the date in your diary to join us and perhaps renew some old friendships.

dangling out of the boarding house window for our boys to pull to alert the girls that it was safe to come out and go for a swim?

As always, Jo Wood put on a fantastic display of photos, magazines and memorabilia from the archive for everyone to look at, including photos of the attendees when they were at school. This year our longest serving alumni was from the Class of 1946!

During the afternoon, Jayne Grigg was able to provide a positive update on the progress of the Foundation's 2020 Bursary Appeal. Not only has the Foundation already received support for two 100%, 7 year bursaries, but also, through the combined generosity of a group of former pupils, we are able to fund a further partial bursary. Jayne went on to thank all the former pupils who have donated and hoped in another 50 years' time

those students will be able to enjoy the Afternoon Tea and reminisce with equal fondness.

To all that came along - thank you - and we hope to see you all again next year along with some more new faces too.

**Katy Sweeney**  
Development Assistant



*"Please could you tell the catering staff and chef that we thought the food was excellent, better than some food at hotels for summer balls. The whole event looked fantastic and the committee for this year did a brilliant job!"*

## Casino Royale – Summer Ball

This year's Summer Ball was spectacular. With the Old Sports Hall successfully disguised as a sophisticated casino and with the warm summer sun, voguish cocktails, glamorous gowns and bow ties, for one night only, Truro School really could have been Casino de Monte-Carlo.

The attention to detail was incredible from the elegant table decorations, stylish chequered dance floor to the glimmering chandeliers. The Catering team created a menu befitting a night at the most swanky casino, being both delicious and beautifully presented. A mix of modern and old favourite tunes banged out by the DJs meant the dance floor was crammed from start to finish with both young and old shimmying, sashaying, miming, yelling and singing the night away. For those less inclined to strut their stuff the roulette wheel and card tables were an entertaining distraction.

The evening was full of laughter, good humour, shameless dancing and emotional hugs creating happy, long lasting memories for those in attendance.

Congratulations and all credit to everyone involved in pulling off such a fabulous event.

**Victoria Hatcher, Parent**

*"the perfect way to make new friends".*





*“the service and food was great ...lovely veggie options too”.*



*“never seen such a beautiful dance floor”.*



The Truro School Summer Ball, held on Saturday 30 June, was a brilliant success and described by the Headmaster as ‘magical’ in the staff briefing the following Monday. Prep School and Senior School parents and staff were all invited to the Ball, as well as the departing Upper Sixth and former pupils; as such, it is the only event in the school year that can truly be said to be for the whole school community.

The feedback this year has been overwhelmingly positive, with several guests saying it was ‘one of the best yet’.

The Summer Ball is also an enduring tribute to the hidden community of Truro School: the support staff, particularly in the Events, Catering, Technical and Maintenance teams.

These people work long and hard, on top of their usual school commitments, to produce an event of exceptionally high quality. That Truro School, as an educational institution, can put on an event comparable to professional events venues, is a credit to their hard work and determination to make it happen.

Finally, let us not forget the wonderful team of Mothers. These are mostly (but not exclusively) parents of departing Upper Sixth form students who want to make their final fling at Truro School a fitting climax to what could be up to 15- years of commitment to the school. The committee has been meeting since the Autumn term, discussing themes and décor, sourcing materials and ordering frills and fripperies to suit the theme. In the final few days it is the Mothers who put the table centres

together, tying hundreds of tiny bows, ironing table cloths and persuading recalcitrant silhouettes to remain in place. It is very much their party too. Any parent (of any gender) is very welcome to join the team for next year – watch out for communication via FTS and do get involved if you can.

*“very chic and sleek”.*

We look forward to seeing you next year!

**Jo Shaw and the Summer Ball team**



# Truro School Leavers

A very warm welcome to our newest TSFPA members - CO18

Upper Sixth Class of 2017

Ayobami Afolabi  
Oliver Andrews  
Michael Austin  
Jasmine Ayliffe  
Scarlett Babb  
Bonita Bayley-Skinner  
Wesley Blair  
Alexander Boote  
Harry Bray-Smith  
Callum Browne  
Inga Bruce  
Jonathan Brunyee  
Max Cameron-Webb  
Oliver Chamberlain  
Cyrus Yin Chan  
Hailey Tung Chan  
James Chant

Ella Cockcroft  
Bethany Cole  
Rebecca Compton  
Adrian Cota  
Michael Daffern  
Jonathan Deacon  
Chloe Dobbs  
Lowenna Dobson  
Dominykas Dolotovas  
Isabella Edmond  
Imogen Edwards  
Matthew Ellis  
Jacob Ellison  
Thomas Evans  
Grace Felstead  
Benjamin Forbes  
Dominic Goodwin  
Ethan Graham

Christopher Hardman  
Rosanna Harrington  
George Hatcher  
Violet Henderson  
Bertie Holdsworth  
Nathan Holmes  
Bethany Hoskings  
Jessica Jones  
William Jones  
Oliver Kidd  
Elodie Lawry  
Jaeheon Lee  
William Lee  
Molly Leigh  
Tristan Ho Leung  
Kobe Shing Leung  
Amelia Luck

Mhairi MacLeod  
Kathryn MacQuarrie  
Sean Manhire  
Emily Mitchell  
Julia Nell  
Daisy Newburne-Munn  
Rebecca Orchard  
Fergus Orr  
Luke Osborne  
Lara Owen  
Jonathan Paynter  
Edward Penrose  
Jack Piercy  
Cerys Pitman  
Martha Prindl  
Amy Pryor  
Ruth Rashleigh

Ajay Ravindranath  
Laura Sant  
Cara Sawyer  
Alexandra Sells  
Alec Sharbatian  
Emma Shaw  
Katie Shaw  
Harry Sheingold-Bane  
Polina Sirotna  
Savannah Snow  
Bethany Stairmand-Taylor  
Theodore Stratton  
Nicolette Tang  
Jozef Tanzer  
George Thomas  
Jack Thornton  
Oliver Townrow

William Trew  
Chloe Tse  
Sophie Upton  
Alexander Vaughan  
Olivia Walklett  
Lucy Wallis  
Thomas Weightman  
Isabella Wheatley  
Bethany Whell  
Isobel Wilkinson  
Benjamin Williams  
Henry Williams  
Lily Wood  
Joe Wright  
Tobi Yeoman



## Valetes

Staff Leavers 2017

Angela BARNETT  
*Teacher*  
Jane AHEARN  
*Chef*  
Rhiannon CLOSE  
*Events Assistant*  
Justyn FUGLER  
*Catering Assistant*  
Katy NOYE  
*Fitness Expert*  
James BIDMEAD  
*Sports Assistant*  
Andrew CASELLI  
*Skilled Carpenter*  
Claire COLLINGE  
*Teacher*  
Elouise GILL  
*Lab Technician / Geology Teacher*

Maxine WHITBREAD-ABRUTAT  
*Art Teacher (Sabbatical Cover)*  
Martin GOLDSWORTHY  
*Fitness Expert / Personal Trainer*  
Susan HOLLISTER  
*Sales Ledger Accountant*  
Sarah FENLON  
*Examinations Officer*  
Penelope JAMES  
*Exams Invigilator*  
Brian DRAKE  
*Caretaker*

Monica LONGHORN  
*Chemistry Teacher (Maternity Cover)*  
Colin WHITFORD  
*Head Groundsman*  
Tazmin BURR  
*Theatre Manager*  
Jackie CAKLAIS  
*Teaching Assistant*  
David HUNT  
*Teacher*  
Armored ROBINSON  
*Bursar*  
Claire TROTMAN  
*Music / Drama Teacher*  
Viktor IVANOV  
*Facilities Assistant*

Zeta MAWSON  
*Sales Ledger Assistant*  
Claire RAWLINSON  
*Teacher Of Music And Drama*  
Emily HARGREAVES  
*Teacher / Resident House Tutor*  
Jocelyn LATARCHE  
*Librarian*  
Rebecca WRIGHT  
*Librarian*  
Jane RAINBOW  
*Teacher / Co-Head Of Sixth Form*

Emily RUSE  
*Boarding Assistant (Boarding)*  
Annabel VIGAR  
*Boarding Assistant (Boarding)*  
Karen HOCKING  
*Assistant Accountant*  
Ghislaine GWILLIAM  
*Teacher Of German (Short-Term)*  
Mary-Lynne SPARKES  
*Teacher Of DT (Short-Term)*  
Matthew RICKETTS  
*Graduate Assistant*

Cliff FLOWERS  
*Teacher Of DT / Dofe Co-Ordinator*  
Tom RUTTER  
*Sports Assistant*  
Vanessa MCGHIN  
*Classroom Assistant*  
Chrissie DAVIES  
*Maths Teacher (Maternity Cover)*  
Emma NICHOLLS  
*Gardener*  
Glyn MEREDITH  
*Chemistry Teacher (Maternity Cover)*

# Truro School reflections



It's hard to believe that Jack, my youngest, is currently finishing his A level exams and preparing for life at University, and that it was eleven years ago that the Piercy family first arrived at Truro School. Reflecting on our time here has made me realise how much Truro school has been an important part of all of our lives.

My lasting memory of our time at the school will be one of happy, involved children. We chose TS because we really wanted all three of our children to be together at one school. We loved the extracurricular opportunities, and felt that academic support could be found here too.



From the start they were taking surf, sail, art and photography lessons, joining choirs, orchestras, jazz groups and ensembles galore, as well as tennis, netball, football, hockey and numerous other sports. Special memories for me include all three of my children playing together in the Albert Hall for the School Proms in 2013, and the Wind Band Tour of Barcelona in 2014, Hall for Cornwall concerts, The Sickle and The Scythe as well as many other wonderful school plays and exciting sports matches.

**“My lasting memory of our time at the school will be one of happy, involved children.”**

One thing I am certain of is that if your child has a passion, and a real desire to do something, with the right member of staff behind them they can achieve anything here. We have been lucky to meet some extraordinary teachers who have had an immense impact on our children's futures.



“One thing I am certain of is that if your child has a passion, and a real desire to do something, with the right member of staff behind them they can achieve anything here.”



From the start Abi carved out her school career in music. She was given many opportunities to hone her harp and vocal skills, playing at concerts in Cornwall and beyond, or performing her own work, culminating in a music degree at Southampton University. Phoebe was supported in her wish to write, produce and perform a rock musical, as well as her academic desire to study in the USA, ultimately at MIT in Boston, where she is very happy. I watched her Head Girl presentation on Speech Day with admiration as she acknowledged her



challenges and successes with humour and humility. And finally Jack, our sports scholar. I don't think there are many teams that Jack hasn't played for over the years, not aiming for the big time, but for fun and the comradeship team sport brings. A degree in Land Management awaits.

**All three have left the school with happy memories and wonderful friendships.**

We owe thanks to so many members of staff, too many to mention here. However, I would like to take this opportunity to wish Jane Rainbow a wonderful new life; your support and advice over the years has been truly amazing!

**Amanda Piercy**



## Sharon Cox CO92

**I completed my A levels at Truro School in 1992 and started my love affair with travel with a gap year in a remote school in the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe.**

Starting University in central London after this was a slightly strange experience. I graduated from University College London with a first class honours degree in Biochemistry. While at UCL I started fencing and was lucky that the University coach was the men's National Sabre coach and he encouraged me to come to his club. At that time I was only 1 of 2 women in the club and I started competing in the men's competitions. Then, in 1998, after the introduction of women's sabre, I found myself competing for England at the Commonwealth games in Kuala Lumpur, where we won team gold.

That same year I graduated from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) with a Master's degree in Public Health Nutrition and a PhD proposal to investigate the effect of vitamin A on immunity to malaria in pregnancy. I completed that PhD at LSHTM in 2003, having raised the funds, imported

the lab equipment and spent 18 months living in a small rural town in central Ghana conducting the field and laboratory work.

I was employed as a Research Fellow at LSHTM in 2002 where I am now an Associate Professor. I moved to Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania where over the next seven years, with my Tanzanian colleagues, we established the largest clinical cohort of children and adults with sickle cell disease, the world's most common genetic disorder, but in which, compared to diseases like cystic fibrosis, very little research has been conducted.

In 2015, I moved from Tanzania to live in Nagasaki, Japan, where I am appointed as a Professor of Nutrition and Epidemiology, in a new school of Tropical Medicine and Global Health at Nagasaki University, seconded from LSHTM. My role is to support the development of English language Masters and Doctoral training for



Japanese and international students in Global health, particularly in Asia. My research interests now also include tuberculosis and the double burden of malnutrition and diabetes in low and middle income countries, particularly in Asia, that are undermining efforts to end the global TB epidemic. TB is now the world's biggest killer from a single infectious agent. I am currently conducting or supervising research in the Philippines, Nepal, Cambodia, Ghana and Kenya. In 2017, I became a trustee of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and am honoured to work with the society to encourage and support young people around the globe in careers in global health.

My career goal has always been to conduct research that helps to understand the mechanisms of disease in order to design better public health interventions in low and middle income countries and to advocate for the central role of food and nutrition to achieve sustainable global health and increased equity.

“I continue to enjoy travel and I try to fit in as many adventures as possible. After giving up fencing competitively I turned to climbing and martial arts with frequent trips with the South African Mountaineering Club and volunteering as a trip leader for Tanzanian teenagers to climb Kilimanjaro. More recently, I have been to Mongolia several times riding with the local nomad populations and this year I am hiking with a small group for 2 weeks in the Kamchatka peninsula in Russia.”



# Truro School Speech Day Friday 6 July 2018

As the sun shone on a beautiful Cornish summer's day, the packed Sir Ben Ainslie Sports Hall erupted into rapturous applause as the Class of 18 entered.



Mrs Jane Rainbow, Head of Upper Sixth, led the procession accompanied by Head Girl, **Bonnie Bayley-Skinner** and Head Boy, **Oliver Andrews**. Reverend **Aubin de Gruchy** had opened proceedings with prayers, followed by a warm welcome by **Mr Kim Conchie**, Chair of Governors. Headmaster, **Andrew Gordon-Brown** addressed the audience; those present and those watching across the world with the benefit of live streaming. Former Pupil, Professor **Sharon Cox**, CO92 and guest of honour, presented the long list of prizes and delivered a

speech of encouragement for those about to embark on new life journeys. Poignant farewell speeches given by Oliver and Bonnie were reflective of their time at Truro School. As always, there were wonderful musical interludes performed by the Symphony Orchestra and the angelic voices of the Girl Choristers. As the day's events drew to a close the Truro School Community enjoyed refreshments in the Old Sports Hall to round off the last day of term, until next year.



## Opie Shield

After a series of whole school events including: music, the Top House quiz, Maths challenge, Sports Day, swimming galas, commendations, rowing and various sporting events the final scores were announced.

The overall points total sees one of our closest competitions ever with just one point separating the top two houses.

In fourth place: **Wickett 157** points  
 Third place: **Smith 176.5** points  
 Runners up: **School 186.5** points  
 Winners: **Vinter 187.5** points

However, the winner of Sports Day was announced to resounding applause - Wickett - and met with some disbelief by alumni present!

# Former Pupils v School 1st XI Cricket Match



This year we were delighted to be able to re-instate the Former Pupil v School XI cricket match. Rather than hold the match on Friday afternoon following speech day, we took the decision to move the fixture to the Thursday evening prior to speech day, giving Former Pupils who are busy at work a better opportunity to play. Andy Lawrence arranged the match, TS Head of Cricket, with a great deal of help from Former Pupil and ex-TS Cricket Captain, Tim Manhire CO82. Tim rounded up a good number of players to join the new 20:20 format and it was a beautiful summer's evening making the evening match really enjoyable.

The cricket honours board, detailing former captain's holds pride of place in the cricket pavilion and Andy Lawrence is currently arranging for a new one to sit alongside it. If you have any old photographs from your time playing cricket at Truro School, please send them in to Jo Wood, TS Researcher/Archivist, as we would love to share them with the Truro School Community.

Huge thanks to Andy and Tim for ensuring this year's match was a resounding success and we look forward to next year's re-match!



It was a great evening and a close match. The School played well and there were lots of spectators and former pupils watching and cheering us on.

This was a particularly significant match for myself; I was the Captain of the School 1st XI in 1982 and, as captain then, the tradition was to invite your father to raise a team to play TS 1st XI. My father, Rex, brought a strong side and a memorable game was had by all.

I was therefore delighted and honoured to captain the Former

Pupil's team, as my son, Sean, is the School 1st XI Captain this year. I am not aware of any other father and son combination to captain Truro School at cricket and fortunate enough to be able to play each other in splendid conditions in such a keenly contested game resulting in the Former Pupils just beating the School 1st XI.

My thanks to the Truro School catering team who supplied us with great refreshments. A lovely evening and great pre cursor for Speech Day

*Tim Manhire (CO82)*

## Obituaries

**Peter BOND** (TS 1949 -1957)

**Keith CARR** (TS 1966- 1971)

**Frederick Martin COCK** (TS 1944 – 1946)

**Edgar John (Jack) COLLINS**  
(TS 1936 – 1944)

**David CROWLE**  
(TS 1957 – 1963)

**Geoffrey DANIEL**  
(TS 1959 – 1967)

**Stephen James FILBROOK**  
(TS 1955 - 1961)

**Keith (John) HARDING**  
(TS 1945 - 1950)

**Peter HOADLEY**  
(TS 1943 – 1954)

**Thomas Martin HONEY**  
(TS 1935 – 1941)

**Henry G HOSKIN**  
(TS 1947 – 1952)

**William (Bill) Jervic JONES**  
(TS 1951 – 1959)

**Stefan JUNOR** (TS 1954 – 1961)

**Antony MUMFORD**  
(TS 1946 – 1955)

**Vivian H PHILP**  
(TS 1936 – 1941)

**George Michael SHARPE**  
(TS 1946 – 1956)

**Andrew Courtney THOMAS**  
(TS 1974 – 1979)

**Elwyn THOMAS**  
(TS 1939 – 1944 and Former  
TSFPA Chairman)

**Arthur Taylor VISICK**  
(TS 1934 – 1941)

**Watson WEEKS**  
(TS 1957 – 1992  
Former Teaching Staff)

**David WILCOCKS**  
(TS 1944 – 1948)

**Thomas Roy WOOLCOCK**  
(TS 1935 – 1941)

## Tributes and Memories

**Geoffrey Stuart DANIEL**  
(TS 1959 – 1967)

Geoff was born in Mevagissey, grew up in St Austell, and when he was 11, won a scholarship to attend Truro School. Whilst at School he met up with Roger Taylor, now the drummer with Queen, Geoff played guitar and in their spare time they formed a Cornish group called “the Reaction” and played many gigs locally. In 1966 they won the local Cornish Beat Group competition.

On graduation from school, Geoff moved to London in 1967 to study Mechanical Engineering at King’s College, London University where he graduated with a class 2 Honours degree in 1970. His first position on graduating was as a Graduate Trainee Engineer with London Transport. He also married his wife, Jane and they settled in North London.

Seven years later, after the arrival of two of their three children, they moved to Bovingdon near Hemel Hempstead, and their youngest child Paul arrived in 1978 completing their family.

Leaving London Transport in 1981, Geoff Moved on to work as a Consultant Engineer in the railway industry for various Engineering consultants, and the family moved south of the River again, to Chiddingfold in Surrey, where they settled. Geoff found consultancy work very fulfilling, working nationwide on projects in places like Venezuela and France. He and the family spent two years in Taiwan whilst Geoff worked as part of the design team for the Mass Rail project in Taipei. Other projects Geoff worked on included the Channel Tunnel and Docklands Light Rail. By this time Geoff had become established as an accomplished Railway Engineer, and project leader particularly with the design of rolling stock and traction.

In 1992 he was offered a position of Chief Electrical and Mechanical Engineer on the Airport Railway project for the Mass Transit Railway (MTR) in Hong Kong. Accepting this prestigious position was a no-brainer for Geoff and all the family. Thus began 23 years of living and working in Hong Kong and the far East. Whilst at MTR Geoff also worked on other expansion projects for the MTR network in Hong Kong and

was also part of the team that won contracts in China, notably in Shanghai.

In 2004 Geoff decided to return to consultancy work once more, and for a time worked for Lloyds Register Rail before forming his own company Carlyon Consulting Ltd. He worked extensively in Thailand, particularly in Bangkok on their MRT extension projects.

Finally, in 2015 both he and Jane decided to retire back to the UK, and settled back in Arundel, in west Sussex near two of their children and their three grandsons.

Living back in the UK was a change for both of them, in particular Geoff, as by that time his health was not as good as he would have liked, but they both had no regrets at all in their choice of location, and made new friends and found new interests locally. Geoff became involved in the local Coast-watch group based in Shoreham and greatly enjoyed his participation in their watches and with the local organisation.

Unfortunately, Geoff passed away suddenly on March 10th after suffering a heart attack. His funeral and celebration of life took place on Tuesday 27th March at the Cirencester Crematorium and afterwards at the Swan Hotel in Arundel, both events attended by many friends, family and colleagues.

*Tribute written by: Mrs Jane Daniel*

**Stefan JUNOR**  
(TS 1954 – 1961)

Stefan Junor, former pupil of Truro School, passed away peacefully on 31 July 2017 aged 74 in Kingston Hospital, Surrey after many years of illness. A battle bravely fought but which finally became too much. Stefan married Bernadette in 1967 and they shared 50 happy years. They had two children, Bryan and Elizabeth and two hardworking grandsons. Stefan enjoyed his career in teaching, passing on his love of mathematics and sport, notably football and cricket. He remained a lifelong fan of Truro City, following their fortunes especially when they visited Surrey.

*Tribute written by:  
Mrs Bernadette Junor*

# Tributes and Memories

## Watson WEEKS (TS Teaching Staff 1957 – 1992)

Having received so many tributes for Watson, we have compiled a selection to share. Forgive us if we have shortened some of them - this is to demonstrate just how many we received and the high regard in which he was, and still is, held. Rest assured, all of the full tributes received will be compiled into a commemorative booklet and passed to Mrs Ann Weeks.

### Watson, My Friend and Colleague.

You will notice that I put Friend before Colleague, as that is the way it is and always has been as I see and remember him as a dear, reliable friend and that is the only way I can attempt to write about Watson. I leave it to others better qualified than I to write about his expertise in the classroom and on stage both as performer and director of many and varied productions.

Watson and I have been close friends for 60 years, having first met in September 1957 when we arrived in Truro straight from University for our first (and only) teaching positions under the headship of Mr Creed. From our first meeting it was obvious we had a great rapport no doubt based on our quite similar working class Northern and Midlands backgrounds, together with similar Grammar School education. This provided us with probably our greatest shared "gift", an almost uncanny identical sense of humour. We enjoyed the same comedies, jokes, amusing stories and situations. For example, we could "recite" all the Goon Show stories between us (not to everyone's taste I know). Whatever the situation we could always find a "fun-side" which led to amusing chat and which made for a very sane way of life. We simply enjoyed each other's company throughout our lives. Although I therefore found what I could only describe as probably my darkest hours my more recent and quite distressing visits to see my old friend, it was still really good to occasionally find the old sparkle of the past in relating our stories and many experiences of our early days at Truro School. Our lives here had certainly been both interesting and fun.

We spent much time together in our early years at Truro School indulging a variety of shared interests. As with most people, that usually means before families arrived, bringing other responsibilities! Squash and rock-climbing were among these activities; we shared a passion with our love of mountains. In later years, having "discovered" the Dolomites I often felt slightly disappointed that we never had the chance to share time in the Italian Dolomites – he would have loved them. Films, especially Westerns were another shared interest although for Watson, they were a study, not just enjoyment. Only Watson could have developed his enthusiasm into an examination subject.

Many of our past exploits revolved around Watson being in possession of "wheels" - a small but very useful grey Austin 7 van; (remember that in the 1950's /60's cars were for most people a real luxury, unknown for young teachers). A van meant no side windows, therefore no purchase tax so more affordable. Not comfortable but it moved! Which led to further social activities, including monthly dinner-dances in Newquay (well attended by a group of TS staff), and where Lorna, my wife regarded Watson as the King of Foxtrot!

One of many "van-stories" with which I will leave you and which few if any of Watson's friends will know about is his (and my) very short-lived foray into Rally-Driving – if it could be described as such! – Eric (Dick) Taylor, mathematician and very persuasive friend, somehow talked Watson into driving rally-style over Bodmin Moor to give him some practice at rally-type navigation. (I was merely passenger.) So we attacked Bodmin Moor! Early 1960's – I don't think we saw a single car over about two hours. To summarise, it was frenetic, hilarious, the car sump was cracked speeding through a stream, and we had to spend our time waiting in the local while repairs were done. At one point, I thought Watson was really getting into "rallying-mode", but he lost the urge to take it up professionally!

I only wish you could hear Watson regaling you with the many stories of some of our times together. He would tell them much better than I. He was a great dinner guest and raconteur, often including an appropriate Geordie song.

When asked to write a tribute to Watson I knew it would at times be difficult and possibly quite distressing to relive some of our times together, after all my memories are deeply personal. However, it has been good in rekindling all the great times we shared, many of which revolved in some way around Truro School. For that, I am thankful for being asked and therefore remember a long and lasting friendship. Whatever the occasion, he generated humour and laughter. It was a great privilege to be his friend.

*Brian Jackson*

I was very fortunate to have been taught English literature and English grammar by Mr Weeks. Against all the odds, Mr Weeks managed to inculcate an abiding interest in Shakespeare, so here is a poem dedicated to his memory.

### The Kingfisher

*A rose by any other name  
would smell as sweet  
and a kingfisher by any other name,  
a glimpse of which would be such a treat.  
If a kingfisher was called a rook or crow  
down to the bridge still we would go  
to catch a flash of iridescent blue  
and a startling sash of orange hue.*

Thank you Mr Weeks.

*Richard A Stevenson - CO64*

# Tributes and Memories

## Watson WEEKS (TS Teaching Staff 1957 – 1992)

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I was at Truro from 1954 to 1959. From memory, I was in Dorm 3 when Watson Weeks arrived. He brought a Cambridge oar, which dominated his study. One Wednesday afternoon, I was delegated to push the wheeled laundry baskets from the housekeeper's to the back entrance for collection. This entailed a dangerous run through the two dormitories whilst being ambushed by various gangs of marauders! As we approached the central door, it was slammed shut from behind. We hit it! This took the door, the frame and the electrics up to the ceiling as we cruised through, followed by a bewildered Watson Weeks, who had seen us career past his study! Pop Newton, the caretaker, soon arrived with hammer and nails, and we heard no more about it. After all, the war had been over only ten years! The damage was relatively minor.

*Malcolm Burwood - CO60*

I was a dayboy from 1966 to 1973. Watson taught set two English in my third year onwards and was very enthused by his teaching. The most vivid memory of him is his reading of Damon Runyon to us, with a fantastic New York accent, which added very considerably to the enjoyment. Reading the stories was nowhere near as entertaining as hearing him read them to us. As a direct result of Watson's teaching, I became an avid reader. I am very grateful to him for that.

*Mark Stubbs - CO72*

Watson produced a series of short snippets from plays up at Truro High School one year (1972 I think). I played Falstaff in a piece from Henry the IV part 2, I believe. I felt very inadequate because his demonstrations of how to deliver a line were always so perfect and left me floundering about in an attempt to imitate him, which of course I couldn't! But what a powerful intellect - he had such presence and power of personality - a great teacher.

*John Coleman - CO73*

Watson taught me for many years - I was never quite 'top set' at English - but he was fair and frank and pushed me beyond where I might have come in exams. I will ever remember him bringing to life John Steinbeck for me - particularly Cannery Row and Of Mice and Men - which inspired me to read John Steinbeck's other novels. He was a life influencer. God bless.

*Rob Andrew - CO83*

The combination of Derek Burrell and Watson Weeks was a transformation for Truro School. They were in their own ways responsible for changing what was a worthy but, shall we say, sleepy and remote establishment, into a more worldly and interesting school. Robust rebelliousness in the pursuit of enlightenment was encouraged not disparaged. At School House one evening a well-arranged anarchic plan to disrupt the evening's ritual was going pleasingly well amongst us protagonists. Electric wires had been cut, beds arranged

into barricades, and pillows converted into potential Molotov cocktails. In our puerile way, we thought we could bring civilisation to its close. As chaos prevailed, the great and much feared WW stormed into the dormitory. This was that defining moment when rebellion faced authority. We stiffened, then shuddered. Silence. 'Williamson [he had correctly identified the ringleader] you have been reading too much PC Wren'. Then he left and closed the door. Collapse of subversive party, and all of us. I've read a lot of PC Wren, then unknown to me, since and many more books besides and enjoyed the gamut of English literature. I like to think it was this spur, deftly plunged by Watson Weeks that drove one to read for pleasure and discovery.

*Sir Brian Williamson CBE - CO62*

Watson Weeks was one of a number of staff at Truro who influenced my life quite dramatically. I first encountered him through the annual school play after he took over from Cyril Wilkes, who was no easy act to follow! At Truro, not only did we learn much from him, but we also had enormous fun as he had a great sense of humour. Also and somewhat later, his regular contributions to the Spectator's literary competition were also much appreciated and enjoyed by Jenny, my wife, and me.

A much loved and learned man, I for one will remember him with great fondness.

*Chris Nadin - CO62*

I owe my degree and career to Watson and Ann both. I first came across Watson in 1984 when I was streamed into set two of three sets for English. It was his inspirational teaching that helped take me through my GCSEs and into A Levels - by which time we had girls at Truro! Because of Watson I ended up taking A Level English, as I knew I would do well and I enjoyed it. I also got involved in drama and shared a love of English and the language, communications and nuance from them.

He is greatly missed, but let my writing be a testament to how well he was liked and the fact that teachers are able to set the tone and pattern of students' lives for the better.

*Howard Williams - CO88*

I wasn't much interested in English. One day, when I was in Year 3, Watson set homework and I wasn't really listening. I went home and carried on reading All Quiet at the Western Front, which I was absorbed in that week. Watson must have noticed I wasn't listening because the next day he started the lesson by asking me what I had done for homework. Of course, I had done nothing, so I said I had done some reading. Instead of telling me off, he asked me to tell the class about the book. I can still remember clearly the moment he asked me what I had done for homework, the desk I was sitting at, my feeling of dismay and my stuttered account. Then the lesson continued. A wise man, indeed!

*Andrew McKay - CO76*

I was in three school plays directed by Watson Weeks, from 1962 to 1965. I studied English A Level under him where he introduced us to Pope, Dryden, Johnson, Aldous Huxley and Orwell. His classes were always a pleasure and an inspiration. His name used to appear as a regular winner of the competition in the Spectator, to which I was a subscriber for many years. After one of his successful entries, I wrote to the editor to enquire whether that was in fact the same Watson Weeks who had been such a pleasure to learn from at Truro School, and I received in reply a letter from Mr Weeks himself that I still have on file. He had by then been in retirement for four years. In that letter he repeats, with characteristic modesty, the lesson he learned from his own tutor, namely that 'the unforgivable sin in teaching was to be a "dull dog". I hoped I wasn't...' He certainly was not, and he certainly enriched many more young lives than just mine.

*Martin Fowler - CO65*

He was a wonderful teacher and a great character, whom we all respected.

*Richard Luff - CO71*

Watson was one of those remarkable teachers who left an impression that lasted well beyond the classroom and has accompanied me into later life. His was a generous, larger than life personality, which would animate his classes with a rare enthusiasm, wit and acuity of thought. To this day, my interest in Shakespeare, the Border Ballads, Philip Larkin and jazz music, I owe at least in part to Watson. Watson taught not only a love of literature and of theatre but also inspired many of us with a love of life.

*David Hillier - CO81*

I came to Truro School in September 1957 and Watson was my form master in 1A located in one of the three wooden huts adjacent to Poltisco. It was also Watson's first term and I remember he was popular with the class, though he was firm and immediately gained respect from the boys. Watson taught me English in 5th Year and Sixth Form and whilst I didn't shine in the subject, Watson's patience and the respect in which he was always held saw me through exams.

*Stuart Sylvester - CO64*

I was in the Sixth Form from 1982 until 1984 when there were only 40 girls in the school. (In the same year as Paul Weeks). I remember being warmly welcomed to drama club despite not being particularly gifted in that line. Rehearsals were great fun: I have a very clear memory of him leaping around energetically waving a sword. Despite never having been taught by him (I am a mathematician and scientist), he is one of the characters from my school days whom I remember most fondly.

*Claire Pearson (née Lloyd-Owen) - CO84*

I was never a thespian, but the opportunity arose to appear in the school play when soldiers were needed to march on and off the stage, (the name of the play alludes me). Frustrated by the mediocre standard of 'drill' amongst the potential cast, Watson Weeks decided that those of us whom were also in the local Air Cadets would perform on stage. He was very grateful, and generally, we escaped his wrath, unlike other members of the cast!

*Nick Schulkins - CO72*

I was fortunate enough to have Mr Weeks as my teacher from 2nd Year to Sixth Form. I loved his classes, and although I could see he was a good teacher, I did not realise then how good he was. He was years ahead of his time.

Some of the plays or books I studied with him remain favourites to this day, and from my understanding of children and school texts, that is quite an achievement! It is probably no coincidence that my best A Level result was in English. When I worked at Truro School very briefly, we talked about many subjects. It was great to know him in a different way.

*Mark Rosevear - CO81*

Watson changed my life. Without him, I would not have fallen in love with English literature, and in particular, the genius of Shakespeare. Without his belief in me, his advocacy and encouragement, I would not have applied to, and happily got into, Cambridge University to study English.

Without him and school plays I would not have discovered the theatre and acting, which subsequently became my career. Now, whenever I work with a new cast or group of acting students at drama school, I remember his inspiration and try to channel his rigour, passion, clarity of thought and desire to bring the best out of everyone.

I owe him so much, and am eternally grateful for his incalculable influence on my life.

*Andrew Normington - CO78*

The man who made a young philistine understand and appreciate a little of the wonders of English literature when no one else could. Result: O and A Levels!

*Ben Hooker - CO81*

I can remember being taught O Level English Literature by Watson Weeks in the mid-1980s. As a teacher now myself, in hindsight I know I was lucky to be taught by some good people at Truro School, but I think even to an adolescent boy at the time one knew that his lessons and presence were particularly special. I can remember doing First World War poets with him, but the lessons which really stick with me were the ones on Shakespeare and in particular the text which we did, Macbeth. Thirty years on my own teenage son is doing Macbeth at school and this summer I shall try to pass-on to him a bit of what I learnt from Watson Weeks.

*Andrew Johnston - CO88*

I was sad to hear of Watson's death. I remember him very fondly. He was a teacher of immense charisma, and in my A level years a source of great fun and inspiration to me and my classmates. Like Derek Burrell, the headmaster at the time, he was an integral part of the school, and added hugely to its culture. I have no doubt that many others of his former pupils will share these sentiments.

*Nick McMahon - CO83*

I moved up from Treliske to main school, Form 1A, at the same year Watson came to Truro school. 1A was his class.

Shortly after he read/acted, the whole of Count of Monte Cristo by Dumas. A performance ever emblazoned on my mind. He was an incredible teacher.

*Roger White - CO73*

# Tributes and Memories

## Watson WEEKS (TS Teaching Staff 1957 – 1992)

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I'm very sorry to hear that Mr Weeks has passed away. He was a fantastic teacher who managed to motivate and inspire me throughout the two years I was at Truro School (1985 - 87, I think!). I went on to study English literature at university. He was an engaging and kind man, who always seemed to maintain an outwardly calm manner and I thank him, retrospectively, for an enjoyable two years and sharing his love and passion of language and literature.

*Rachelle Keyes (née Visick) - CO87*

I was lucky enough to be taught by both Watson and Ann weeks whilst in the Sixth Form and especially remember a marvellous moment in the chapel just before the dress rehearsal for *The Importance of being Earnest* in 1986, I think. A strange chap in a tweed suit appeared in the Chapel and it took a while for us to recognise who it was. But then we discovered Watson had made the ultimate sacrifice for his art and completely shaved off his trademark beard for the performance. We were all quite stunned. To quote a favourite poet of his, we all treasured the 'frail, travelling coincidence' we shared in the classroom with him. It was quite a journey.

Thank you Watson.

*Nick Vivian - CO87*

I have every reason to be very grateful to Mr Weeks, who noticed me as a shy and inadequate little soul at Truro School and slowly built up my confidence using the School play. Without this deliberate trajectory, I would never have had the confidence to become a teacher of English, Head of Department and eventually Deputy Head Teacher. Happily, several years after leaving Truro School, one day our respective students were sitting side by side at a Theatre Royal event in Plymouth and it was the ideal opportunity to explain to him what a debt I owed him. His legacy has a long reach. My daughter has since graduated in English from Cambridge and is now a secondary teacher of English in London.

*Nigel Owen - CO70*

Watson Emerson Weeks taught me English to O Level and was certainly one of the most inspiring of my teachers and I do remember him with great affection, even after nearly 50 years. He really conveyed his love of theatre even to those of us with no acting ability. He was a good actor too – not just in masters' plays: we saw him perform at the Minack quite a few times. I'm sure others can write more eloquently – I went on to do science and maths at A Level but have never lost my love of language and that I owe at least in part to Watson Weeks.

*John Griffin - CO71*

I am sure I am not the only former pupil who remembers Watson with both fondness and the utmost respect. He was a brilliant master who commanded attention at all times. Schoolmasters' plays were always brilliant and his ability to turn farces into chaos was quite outstanding. He was a fine man and the world is a poorer place without him.

*Phil Rule - CO78*

He hosted wonderful post production parties! He certainly gave me a real sense that what we were doing was meaningful.

*The Revd John Pearson-Hicks - CO85*

During my time from 1969-76, I remember Watson (Mr) Weeks as a teacher who brought energy and passion (and therefore enjoyment) to his subject. A classic manoeuvre was to go walkabout around the classroom while talking to us so quietly we had to strain to hear him - before exploding from behind us in shattering, dramatic contrast! (I can still remember the room we were in at the time). He was a leading light in school and (I think) Truro dramatic productions. He encouraged the value of writing well, and he made us feel our work was appreciated. I thoroughly enjoyed my English lessons under his tutelage.

*Chris Bunt - CO76*

I much enjoyed being taught by Watson Weeks. You will know that he was an ardent thespian. I think I remember his telling us about the time he caused consternation at a performance of a Shakespearean history play at the Minack Theatre. His role called for him to be killed in a swordfight, at the end of which he fell back over a small balustrade, drawing gasps from the audience to whom it appeared he'd fallen into the sea. In fact, he had landed on a pile of mattresses stacked on a narrow path behind and below the balustrade.

*Nick Carlyon - CO76*

I remember having Watson as my English master from 2nd Year to Upper Sixth (1979-85). He was the most inspirational teacher I met at the school. He was passionate about everything he did and really passed this on to his pupils. He will be sadly missed.

*Greg Thomas - CO85*

Watson Weeks was a most inspiring and articulate teacher whose interest in his students extended beyond the classroom and you could engage him on almost any topic. He had great humour and a wonderful laugh to which he gave plenty of 'air time'. One lovely memory was returning very early hours of the morning to Truro after a day/evening session at the RSC in Stratford-upon-Avon. Us Camborne/Redruth lads found ourselves way ahead of the first train home so we were treated to a great and welcome breakfast in his kitchen prepared by Mrs W before going home. That was considerate and typical - going the extra educational mile! Fondly remembered

*Michael Pooley - CO76*

I have fond memories of Watson Weeks, funnily enough not as a pupil in one of his classes but as a co-navigator on a grand tour of France, which we undertook in the summer of 1967. We travelled in a convoy of three camper vans all the way down through France in the height of summer. The intention was to see a very large chunk of the country and end up in the Mediterranean on a campsite near the beach. One experience of Watson Weeks I shall always remember, so many, many years ago. A great guy, sadly missed I am sure by his family and friends.

*Paul Pearce - CO68*

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