

The Link

Autumn 2010



Lord Wandsworth College
and the Sternians' Association



Building LWC



The new maths classroom block is now under construction at the top of the drive, which has been diverted to create a new crossroads at the top of the cinder track.

The location of the new building, which will also house the Economics, Business Studies and Psychology departments, a dance studio and LWC's renowned Higher Education and Careers

department, will extend the pedestrianised area in the centre of the campus.

"This development allows us to keep class sizes small for a core subject and provide up to date facilities for both academic study and dance, which is a hugely popular activity among boys and girls in all year groups," comments Headmaster Fergus Livingstone.

Enriching your cranium

The school year started off with a fizz with the new LWC Enrichment programme, which extends across the College from Juniors to Sixth Form. The programme sees stimulating guest speakers visiting LWC, as well as some quirky additions to lesson plans, and inspiration for 6th formers planning their personal statements. The programme encompasses a new "Gifted and Talented" group to stretch the most academically able students in new ways.



Boarding page 3



The Big Draw page 4



Beekeeping page 6



Sternians page 8

LWC cyclists go End to End



Nine LWC cyclists celebrated the completion of a marathon charity cycle ride from Land's End to John O'Groats in only ten days during the summer holidays. Mr Kimber and eight students, from 5th Form to Upper 6th, completed the journey raising money for CRY

and bringing the total raised by LWC cyclists to almost £20,000.

Mr Kimber praised the students' effort. 'They were superb. All of us had to work very hard over some challenging distances and routes.

Fortunately the weather was kind most of the time! The group stayed in Youth Hostels and was supported by Mr Machin who drove the minibus and once again helped prepare fantastic food for the hungry cyclists.

Headmaster, Fergus Livingstone, said, 'This was a fantastic achievement not only in terms of physical endeavour but also in raising funds for a charity that has such close ties to the College. We are extremely proud of what our cyclists have done!'



Top honour for LWC cadet



Upper 6th-former George Harker-Smith has been awarded the prestigious honour of Lord Lieutenant's cadet, joining four other high-fliers hand-picked from a field of 3600 cadets from across Hampshire.

Ian Kerr, who recently retired from LWC, prepared George's citation: "A keen and capable sportsman, delightful company, a sound thinker and planner, a diplomat of absolute integrity, he has a highly developed sense of responsibility, courtesy and service. At Advanced Adventure Training Camp, held in Snowdonia in winter, he demonstrated a cheerful and resilient approach in the face of intimidating weather conditions."

George's duties involve supporting the Lord Lieutenant at events Hampshire in the coming 12 months.

EPO stretches the 6th form

Twenty U6th formers have been stretching their mental capacity by taking on the new EPQ - Extended Project Qualification - culminating in a series of presentations which have covered topics as varied as "Measuring distance in space" to "The Human Quest for Utopia".

EPQs are recognised by universities as an indication of a student's ability to apply independent learning skills in a subject that they have chosen, and are a useful addition to the UCAS forms that play such a vital role in a pupil's transition from school to university.



New facilities transform Hazelveare and Summerfield



The boys of Hazelveare and Summerfield have found a great new reason to be late for lessons with the conversion of the redundant boot room into a wonderfully bright and vibrant social area complete with sleep-inducing sofas.

Hazelveare's Head of House Ali McManus is enthusiastic about the changes. "After losing furniture and an important social area due to health and safety, Hazelveare boys once again have somewhere to unwind. The new common room is great, as well as the kitchen and the new floors. It seems like a whole new

house, and hopefully one that will finally stand out in appearance as much as it does character."



Harvest Home at LWC

LWC is situated in the middle of its own 1200 acre agricultural estate. Farm Manager Paul Sigley describes this year's harvest.

"Following one of the hottest and driest springs on record with less than an inch of rain between Easter and July, the 2010 harvest campaign at Stern Farms got off to a flying start. Oilseed rape was completed by the end of July, yielding just over one and a half tonnes to the acre. We then moved on to harvesting wheat, completing just over 200 tonnes in one 12 hour stint, which by today's standards is hardly record-breaking, but for us it was a personal best.

The combine harvester then stood idle in the rain for seven days before the final push on 23rd August when, after suffering showers during the day, the grain moisture finally reached a sensible level and we started combining at 7pm. Nine hours later the wheat harvest was complete

- just after 4am! With the beans and linseed harvested at the end of the holiday, we resumed our cycle of planting oilseed rape and wheat just as the pupils returned to the College."



The farm has invested in a new tractor this year



Inspectors like what they see at LWC

ISI inspectors who visited LWC last summer commended LWC for the "excellent" personal development it offers to students. "The pupils are confident, articulate and friendly; they show awareness of the needs of others." Other areas of College life that were singled out for praise were its pastoral care, exceptional sporting and extracurricular provision and music and drama.

The inspectors chose to highlight leadership skills too: "At all ages, there are structures in place to afford opportunities for pupils to take responsibility and learn how to lead."

Parents' responses to pre-inspection questionnaires were overwhelmingly positive, with many parents praising the wide range of extra-curricular activities and the responsiveness of staff to concerns as well as



the good communications between school and families.

"From its beginning, the College's ethos has been to enable young people from all walks of life to

reach their maturity in a caring and supportive community. We are absolutely delighted with the report. Our best features have been recognised and commended," commented the Headmaster.

The Big Draw 2010

Lord Wandsworth College celebrated the annual 'Big Draw' – a month long festival of over a thousand art events across the UK. The aim as to get everyone – no matter what age, ability or experience – covered in colour, inspired by

imagination and having a laugh with LWC's biggest ever doodle wall.

And what a success it was... the opportunity was given to stroll along to the Art School at any time

and draw to your heart's content on a mega roll of paper, filling up every space available. The theme, organised by Art Prefect Alex Smith, was film, and the results were fantastic; Mickey Mouse, Darth Vader, Shrek, Wolverine and Harry Potter, drawn enthusiastically by students and teachers alike.

Headmaster Fergus Livingstone even played his part, drawing with commendable concentration and artistic flare alongside pastel-smeared but smiling juniors, and the resultant doodle-wall had the Art Prefects running around, trying to find a large enough space in school to hang it!

But the fun didn't end there... throughout the day teachers were encouraged to base their lessons around art and given challenges such as having to teach a lesson without using words, only pictures.



The Bees are back in Town

It was a long wait at the end of the summer before the sweet smell of honey emerged from LWC's new beehives, which stand in the field margins near Sutton House. Although the warm weather in the early summer was a bonus, the later rains meant that the last honey was extracted in September.

Sutton Housemaster Ed Coetzer runs the Beekeeping activity; "For the first time pupils Emlyn and Liam Price had the opportunity to spin some honey on their own. Even though the frames were not full, they got the idea of why it is called "spinning", and had extracted enough to take home and let their family have a taste as well.



Beekeeping has been integrated into the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and is attracting interest from pupils keen to learn more about this fascinating process.

Now it is just a matter of looking after all our hardworking bees so they have enough food to survive the winter and hopefully next year we will have a good harvest."

Honey from local beekeeper Keith Brand's bees kept on the LWC estate is already available from Crondall Stores and next year's harvest should be on the shelves in June 2011.

Girls get Olympian hockey advice



The girls worked extremely hard over two days on skills, technique and, most importantly, team spirit and were extremely privileged to have not one but two Ex Olympians as Cullum Giles joined Soma to help coach over the two days.

LWC's newly appointed Head of Hockey, ex-Olympian Soma Singh got the season underway with a tough pre-season training programme for the 1st & 2nd XI girls.

Fiona Falconer Captain of the 1st team summed up the new beginning at the school as exciting and said it bodes well for the future of girl's hockey at LWC.

Quo drummer rocks LWC

Status Quo drummer Jeff Rich visited LWC in October to talk about life in the music industry and to offer pupils and a few keen rockers from the common room a chance to join a masterclass in drumming.

A grand finale saw the whole audience of Juniors, 3rd and 4th form playing percussion in a stupendous performance that nearly rocked the house down.



A couple of swells



Photo: Raymond Thatcher

Development Director Kate Chernyshov met up with Sternians Tom Copas (right) and Raymond Thatcher (left) at Henley Royal Regatta in June.

Plans are in hand to organise a fundraising event in aid of the Lord Wandsworth Foundation at Henley in 2011; if you would like to get involved please contact the Development Office on 01256 860243.

Doley bequest benefits Foundation

Former pupil Ian Doley who passed away earlier this year has made a very generous bequest in excess of £300,000 to the Lord Wandsworth Foundation by leaving the residue of his estate to the charity which had supported him in his schooldays at LWC.

Ian, pictured right as Julius Caesar in the school play of 1950, was in Sutton House from 1945-52, and developed a great passion for Shakespeare while at school. Visiting LWC again recently, he remembered his own school days with fondness and was able to meet some of the Founder's of today.

The Doley bequest, together with that of another former pupil Arnold Cutner, will bring over £750,000 to the Foundation, helping to safeguard its future and continue our Founder's original desire to support children who have lost one or both parents.



If you are considering leaving a gift in your will to the Lord Wandsworth Foundation and would like to learn more about the work of the Foundation in today's environment, please contact the LWC Development Office.

Trusts' contribution to the Foundation recognised

Once again the Lord Wandsworth Foundation has paid tribute to the many charitable trusts that support individual pupils at the College.

A dozen organisations who work closely with the Foundation were represented at a reception



which featured for the first time individual speeches from Foundation pupils themselves. According to a long-standing tradition at the College, Foundation pupils are not formally identified within the student body and are rarely asked to perform extra duties. But on this occasion four of our pupils gave speeches which clearly illustrated the challenges they have overcome in their personal lives and the ways in which the Foundation has supported them through LWC.

Guest of Honour was the High Sheriff of Hampshire Alan Lovell (pictured left with Mrs Lovell and LWC pupil Charlotte Greer-Reed).

There are currently 50 Founder's at LWC, all of whom have lost the support of one or both their parents through death, divorce or separation.



Charitable trusts currently contribute £205,000 a year to the funding of these pupils, with a further £750,000 support from the Lord Wandsworth Foundation itself.



Bill Fryer 1925-2010

We are sorry to report the sad passing of Bill Fryer, History teacher and LWC Legend.

Bill Fryer taught at the College from 1950 to 1985 and came from a farming background so was ideally suited to LWC. He served with distinction in the Royal Navy during the war and graduated from Caius College, Cambridge with a First in History.

Bill came to LWC to teach Humanities and quickly found his niche. He coached cricket, ran forestry projects, ran the debating society, assisted and acted in drama productions. He wrote plays, short stories and verse and a history

of The Lord Wandsworth Foundation 1912-1968 which is still in print and referred to a great deal by many. Bill married a Junior House matron, Marianne Yates, and brought up two children on campus. He was a church warden in Long Sutton for many years and a much loved tutor, teacher and mentor and many Sternians refer to him as their inspiration. Bill was responsible for recruiting both Ian Kerr and Peter Booth to LWC and the rest is history...

A full obituary will be published in the Sternian 2010.

Diary Dates

Sternians Hockey (Ladies and Mens)
Sunday 9th January 2011
LWC Astro

Cotterill Cup
Thursday 17th February 2011
Final competition concert sponsored by the Sternians Association at LWC

Sternians Mountaineering Club
Friday 8th-12 April 2011
Halford Hill, Llanberis
Contact David Minnikin, 01768 779164
d.e.minnikin@bham.ac.uk

Bournemouth Reunion
Saturday 30th April 2011
Toby Carvery, Bournemouth
Contact Bob Hunt, 01329 662125

London Drinks
Wednesday 18th May 2011
Central Bar, Royal Festival Hall

Sternian Reunion
Saturday 18th June 2011
LWC

Sternian vs LWC Cricket
Sunday 26th June 2011

For more information, please contact Gill Kelly in the Sternians Office 01256 860356, Sternians@lordwandsworth.org.

Rugby Sevens won by boys of 08

Ed Weeks (Haz, 08) led his team The Unit (below) to a resounding victory at the Sternians Sevens tournament in September while netball winners were the Not So Old Girls led by Rosie O'Neil (Haygate, 09).



Sternians welcome former parents

The Sternians' Association has taken the innovative step of inviting all former parents to join as Associate Members of the Association. The motion was passed at the AGM and recent former parents will start receiving information electronically so there will be no expense for the Association. Other parents are welcome to join and need only contact the Sternians Office.

The commitment of parents can be as long as ten years or even more if they have several children at the College. It seemed logical to enable that involvement with the Lord Wandsworth College community to continue. Friendships with staff, pupils and other

parents are forged at concerts, plays and on the often bitterly cold Long Sutton touchline. We look forward to seeing them at Sternian functions





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The Link newsletter is produced for all past, present and future members of Lord Wandsworth College

Board Moves



LWC welcomes three new governors to bring the Board to its full complement of twelve.

Lucinda Fleming is a local councillor and former Mayor of Farnham and brings a wealth of local knowledge and experience to the Board.

David Cowley is currently the Chair of Governors of Wellington Academy and sits on the Board of two other charities.

We also welcome Anthony Kerr-Dineen, who until last year was the Director of Cultural Activities at St Edwards School in Oxford; he has a keen interest in the creative and performing arts.

We pass on our thanks to Clare Whately, who has stepped down after five years of devoted service, and our congratulations to LWC Governor Mark Turner (pictured above) who has recently taken up his new role as Headmaster of Shrewsbury School.

Sternians Trust Fund Appeal raises £10,000

A big thank-you to all of you who have responded to our Appeal launched with the last edition of Link - already we have received standing orders for £2,400 per annum including tax recovery and one-off donations of more than £8,000 to add to the capital base of the Fund, for generating the income for making grants.



in the Sternians office.

The need for Trust Fund's assistance remains as great as ever - in 2010 we have spent over £17,000 on grants and at our last Trustees' meeting in October we agreed to support an application to enable an U6th pupil to complete their education at the College. Donation forms can be downloaded from the Sternians website or obtained from Gill Kelly

Whatever you do please try and help support a cause which is truly appreciated by not only the beneficiaries but also everyone at Long Sutton who recognise the valuable life-line the Trust Fund has provided to so many parents falling on hard-times. To use the words of a well-known retailer: 'Every little helps!'

Hugh Podger, Chairman of Sternians Trust Fund

Farewell Headsec Pippa



Headmaster's Secretary Pippa Gray bade a fond farewell to LWC in the summer after fifteen years of service to three headmasters at LWC.

Pippa took up her post in 1995 under the leadership of Guy Waller, and spent much of her LWC working life in a formidable partnership with his successor Ian Power. Having stayed a final year to show the ropes to Fergus Livingstone, she is now enjoying a very active retirement in Farnham.

Webshopping for the Foundation

Shopping online at Amazon or M&S? Visit www.buy.at/lordwandsworth to raise funds for the Foundation without costing you any extra