







Whitgift hockey has had another outstanding season. In January, the School hosted a dramatic Boys U16/U18 Schools' National Indoor Championships, in which the U18s showed outstanding skill, beating Millfield in the final, and regaining the U18 indoor title they had won two years previously.

Demanding fixtures against Millfield, Kingston Grammar School, The Perse, and, at senior level, Oxford University, Nottingham University and Exeter University, paved the way for another groundbreaking season of outdoor hockey for Whitgift. The national finals, hosted at Cannock HC, saw the U14s finish 3rd in the country, while the U13s managed to avenge last year's final defeat, becoming champions for the second time, beating Dean Close School.

The 1st XI team, in turn, won their final in emphatic style, for the third year in succession, beating Canford 5-1. A string of ruthless wins in the earlier rounds of the competition saw the team score 50 goals overall, only conceding six. Whitgift have now won 'the Double', the Indoor and Outdoor national senior titles, twice in three years. Five national U18s hockey titles in the past three years is a record of which the boys and staff involved can be especially proud.









Macauley Keeper: BBC One Thriller

Upper Third Form pupil, Macauley Keeper, was cast in a new eight-part BBC One thriller earlier this year. Filmed on location in Belgium, *The Missing* stars James Nesbitt (*The Hobbit* trilogy), Frances O'Connor (ITV's *Mr Selfridge*) and Jason Flemyng (*The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*) (pictured, right, with Macauley).

The storyline follows Nesbitt's character, a man who will do whatever it takes to find his son, missing whilst on holiday in France. The series explores the emotional cost of obsession and hope that surrounds the abduction of a child. Macauley plays the son of Jason Flemyng's British detective, who is sent over to Belgium to assist in the investigation.

The 14-year-old commented on his experience of being on set, "The thought of acting with such prestigious actors was a little intimidating at first, but it was a very relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Even though the acting was serious, in between takes there was plenty of fun and laughter. It was also enjoyable shooting my scenes in the beautiful city of Brussels."

Macauley has been providing voiceovers in the TV industry since he was seven, notably in *Charlie and Lola*, and the title character in *Peter Rabbit*. He has also appeared in the popular CBBC show, *Grandpa in My Pocket*, and took the lead role in The Jim Henson Company's *Me and My Monsters*.

The talented youngster has performed in all the Lower School productions since starting at Whitgift, most recently *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *Bugsy Malone* and *Lady Macbeth*.





Jude Willoughby: Titus Andronicus

Lower Third Form student, Jude Willoughby, who already has a fair few Whitgift productions under his belt (*The Innocence, Bugsy Malone, The Tempest* and *Lady Macbeth*), landed a role at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre during the spring, playing 'Son of Lucius' in *Titus Andronicus*, for a four-month run.

Jude was chosen, out of the two boys who share the role, for the press night performance at the beginning of May, and for both the filmed shows for digital theatre.

The production received column inches for audience members fainting due to the gory nature of the scenes.

Jude, who is interested in journalism and history, enjoys the "buzz of performing live", and would like to go on to work in the theatre industry, either acting or directing.



Whitgift takes the National Youth Theatre by storm

Four Whitgift pupils won prestigious places on this year's National Youth Theatre (NYT) Summer Course, beating thousands of hopefuls to gain a spot with the company. The NYT, whose alumni include Dame Helen Mirren, Orlando Bloom, Sir Derek Jacobi and Catherine Tate, has a reputation for scouting the best British youth talent.

Douglas Wood (Upper Sixth Form) (pictured, below), Alex King (Lower Sixth Form), Jack Wallis (Upper Fifth Form) and Jed Kelly (Lower Fifth Form), were selected from 4,500 audition candidates to train with the NYT throughout August. Paul Roseby, the NYT's Artistic Director, commented, "It's about watching somebody who is watchable...if you're excited, hungry and passionate, that's what counts."

We hope to see more great things from these young actors (whose credits include parts in the School's most ambitious shows, such as *Dr Faustus* and *West Side Story*) over the next few years, as they move forward in their acting careers, both with the NYT, and at Whitgift.



Boxing clever

Upper Third Form pupil and enthusiastic amateur boxer, Michael Hennessy, pulled off a massive win in July, beating Mark Dickinson, the golden boy of British Amateur Boxing. Dickinson, who has been boxing for England since he was 11, is a three-time national champion, a two-time GB champion, and a two-time GB Schoolboy 3 Nations gold medallist. Dickinson took a standing count in the third round, to give Michael a conclusive win in his last fight of the season.

The 14-year-old, who enjoys athletics and cross-country at Whitgift, is setting his sights on competing internationally.



Military OWs in the news

Old Whitgiftian, Lieutenant Colonel James Coates OBE (pictured, centre), Senior Policy and Security Advisor to the Cabinet Office, and former Commanding Officer of 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment, was this year the recipient of the inaugural Whitgiftian Association (WA) Achievement Award, which was presented to him at a black tie dinner in March, hosted at Whitgift in conjunction with the WA. Lieutenant Colonel Coates introduced a new counterinsurgency strategy, used

in Afghanistan, known as 'Precision Strike', which dismantles local insurgent networks.

The Lieutenant Colonel, who left Whitgift in 1987, spoke to guests about his four tours in Afghanistan, and one in Iraq. During the evening, a congratulatory video message from Old Whitgiftian, General Sir Peter Wall, Chief of the General Staff KCB CBE, was played.

Also in March, Lieutenant Colonel Jon Swift, Old Whitgiftian 1983-1991, was appointed OBE in the Operational Honours List. The former School Captain was Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in Afghanistan.

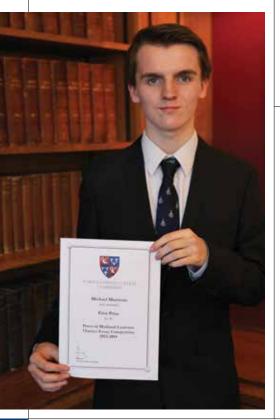


Essay Winners

Lower Sixth Form pupil, Michael Morrison (pictured, below), achieved First Prize in the highly-competitive and prestigious Corpus Christi, Cambridge University, Perceval Maitland Laurence Classics Essay Competition, from a pool of 42 Lower Sixth Form finalists across the UK. His essay, entitled 'We cannot remove the layers of interpretation that stand between us and the classical world; nor would we wish to', earned him a cash prize and certificate, presented at Corpus Christi.

He continued his success with a Highly Commended for the Girton College, Cambridge University, *Humanities Writing Competition*. Of the five select objects housed in the College Museum of Antiquities collection, that the participants could choose to write about, Michael opted for the Roman carving of a lion's head, excavated at Girton College in 1881.

Lower Sixth Form pupil, Jason Okundaye, was awarded Honourable Mention and a Certificate of Merit, in the Keble College, University of Oxford, *Theology and Religion Essay Prize*. The College congratulated him on 'an excellent piece of work, which stood out in a field of 36 entries'.





National Champions

It has been another fantastic year for Whitgift swimming.

The U18 'super-team' of Kunmi Ogunfeibo, Fred Biggs, Marlon Gasparotto, Henry Choong and Dan Burnham (pictured, above), retained the top swimming trophies for independent schools, the national Bath Cup and Otter Medley Relays, held at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, in March. The boys swam superbly well, setting new records in both competitions, a wonderful double triumph.

Swimming has flourished across the board, with a whole host of Croydon, Surrey and London titles. Particular highlights include the following: the U18, U16, U14 and U12 teams took part in the London Schools Swimming Association Championships, at Crystal Palace, and won the trophy for the best school overall;

at the Surrey Individual Championships, Whitgift emerged as overall champions; and the Junior U12 and U13 swimmers won 12 of the 13 events at the Croydon Schools Championships.

Amongst many record-breaking performances, those of Kunmi Ogunfeibo stand out. He was amongst the medals again, following last year's Brazilian ISF World Schools Games, this time at the Catalonian Championships, in Barcelona, where he won bronze in both the 50m and 100m backstroke, setting a new English record for his age-group, of 26.58s, in the semi-finals.

Kunmi also competed with great promise at the Commonwealth Games trials in Glasgow, in April. He reached the men's 50m and 100m backstroke semi-finals, and won the U18s 50m backstroke, lowering his English age-group record to 26.37s. He also broke Kent and London Senior records for his events, and was selected for the England Talent Team.

On sail

The Design Technology Department took part in a national competition to design a piece of sail art. It was organised by the Andrew Simpson Foundation, newlyestablished in the name of British Olympic medallist, Andrew Simpson, an America's Cup professional, who tragically died in a training accident in May last year.

Out of the hundreds of entries, Lower First Form pupil, Oscar Baverstock, was granted a highly-commended award for his entry in the age 7-10 category (pictured, right).

The Design Technology Department awarded graphics equipment to Oscar to recognise his achievement.







Friends of the Library Trinity Event

Head Librarian, Ms Atiya Afghan, organised another highly-popular Friends of the Raeburn Library end-of-year celebration, in June, attended by over 80 guests. Two guest speakers were invited to mark the Centenary of the outbreak of the Great War. Old Whitgiftian, Lt. Col. James Coates OBE, Senior Policy and Security Advisor to the Cabinet Office, and former Commanding Officer of 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment, gave an emotive talk about his experiences of warfare, and how it was similar to some of the experiences of WWI soldiers. Johnny Dobbyn, a Whitgift parent and Great War enthusiast, gave a fascinating illustrated talk, entitled 'Ten Things You (perhaps) Didn't Know about the Great War', regarding 10 artefacts from WWI.

The audience of staff, parents, Old Whitgiftians and Governors, were enthralled by the knowledge and passion of the speakers.



They're on the pitch...

The Whitgift CCF was honoured to be chosen to take part in the pitch presentation at the annual Army-Navy rugby match, at Twickenham. The event, in May, attracted 80,000 spectators, a record for an amateur match at Twickenham, and was aired live on *Sky Sports*.

Chief of the General Staff, General Sir Peter Wall KCB CBE, Old Whitgiftian, is President of the Army Rugby Union. Whitgift was chosen to display the Army flag during the playing of the national anthem, because of the strong tradition of rugby and CCF at the School.

The British Army team won the coveted Babcock Trophy, defeating the Royal Navy, 30-17.

Upper Fifth Form Army NCO, Konrad O'Neill, commented, "It was a fantastic day at Twickenham, and a real honour to represent Whitgift and the Army. I hope we get asked again."



Cricket

It was a cricket season of many highlights. The year opened with a double Whitgift representation in the U19 England cricket side, competing in the World Cup in Dubai. Dominic Sibley and Old Whitgiftian, Jack Winslade, deserve warm congratulations for their selection. We wish them well as they move on with their professional cricket careers.

Standout performances for the 1st XI included Richard Locke's matchwinning 104 vs Ardingly, and Dominic Sibley's magnificent T20 hundred on a difficult wicket at Merchant Taylor's. The contributions of Jack Lloyd (captain), William Blease, Joe Murtagh, Ewen Stevenson and Greg Dann, deserve special mention; they will be sorely missed as they leave for university.

For the U15s (pictured, above right), Sam Hall (pictured, bottom right) amassed more than 500 runs in the latter half of the Trinity Term, including a remarkable 123 against Norwich School, in the T20 competition. The highlight for the U14s was a victory over Reed's in the Surrey Cup final. The School will now compete in the U15 ESCA National Cup for the first time since 2007.

The U13s once again represented Surrey in the ESCA David English National Bunbury Cup. The team narrowly lost to Bancroft's School in the South of England final. They bounced back well, however, retaining the County Cup, resoundingly defeating Trinity by 10 wickets in the final.









Jason Roy

Old Whitgiftian, Jason Roy, has become an England cricketer, the first for Whitgift since the distinguished OW cricketer, Raman Subba Row, played the last of his Test innings. Jason was capped for the T20 match against India, at Edgbaston. He is pictured here, playing a reverse sweep to his second ball in international cricket!







In March, Croydon Minster played host to a concert of Victorian Church Music, performed by the Whitgift Chamber Choir and the Choirs of Croydon Minster, directed by Whitgift's Organist and Director of Choral Music, Mr Ronny Krippner. Since Mr Krippner's arrival at Whitgift, choral music has continued to develop and reach new heights, and this concert certainly showed just how outstanding Whitgift's choral performers are.

The concert was, in particular, a celebration of the music of Thomas Attwood Walmisley (1814-1856), organist of Croydon Parish Church from 1831-1833. His most famous piece, Evening Service in D minor, was beautifully performed in an ideal setting. Other standout pieces included Bruckner's Christus factus est, and Stanford's O, for a Closer Walk with God. The finale of the concert, and clearly a piece enjoyed by the audience, was Edward Elgar's beloved Give unto the Lord.







There's a place for us...

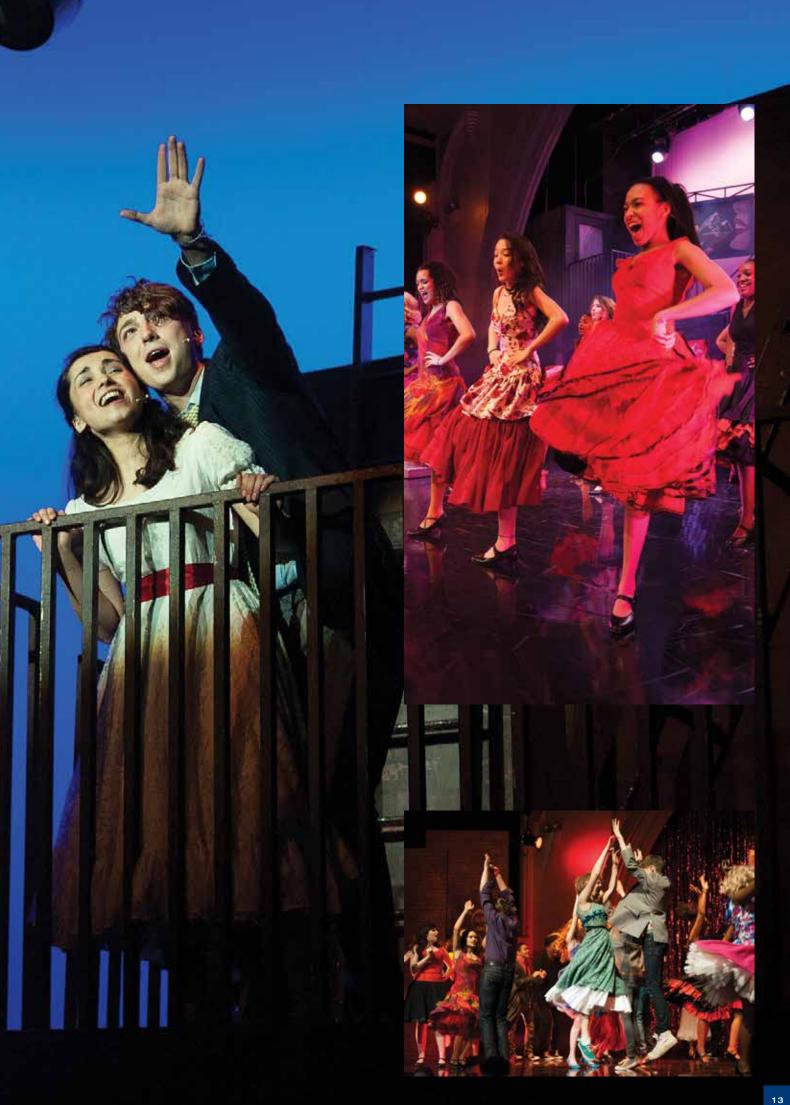
West Side Story, this year's highlyanticipated Upper School musical, was hosted by Whitgift over four spectacular nights, in March.

Based on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, this modern take on Arthur Laurents' 1957 book, and Jerome Robbins' musical, revolves around the romance between a Puerto Rican girl (Maria), and a member of her brother, Bernardo's, rival gang (Tony), which ends in tragedy. The production, which sold out within weeks, was performed each night in front of an audience which included staff, parents, Old Whitgiftians, several Ambassadors, and other distinguished guests and friends of the School.

School Captain, Geddy Stringer (Tony), and Talisa Tossell (Maria) (pictured, main image), starred, with strong performances which were both vocally and dramatically impressive. Rory Allen (Bernardo) (pictured, below left) and Charlie Melbourne (Riff) (pictured, above left), as the leaders of the Sharks and the Jets, also put in first-rate performances, and the build-up of tension throughout the scenes was evident for the audience when both these characters featured. Tense moments were well-contrasted by cheeky humour from Baby John (Louis Danckwerts), A-Rab (Alex Buchanan), and Glad Hand (Todd Kelly).

The stage crew and technical team did a fantastic job in taking the audience to the streets of New York. The choreography was imaginative, creative and acrobatic, and included ballet and Thriller-style dancing. The evening was further enhanced by the dazzling music, provided by a 50-strong orchestra, of predominantly Whitgift pupils, and conducted by Director of Orchestral Music, Mr Philip Winter.

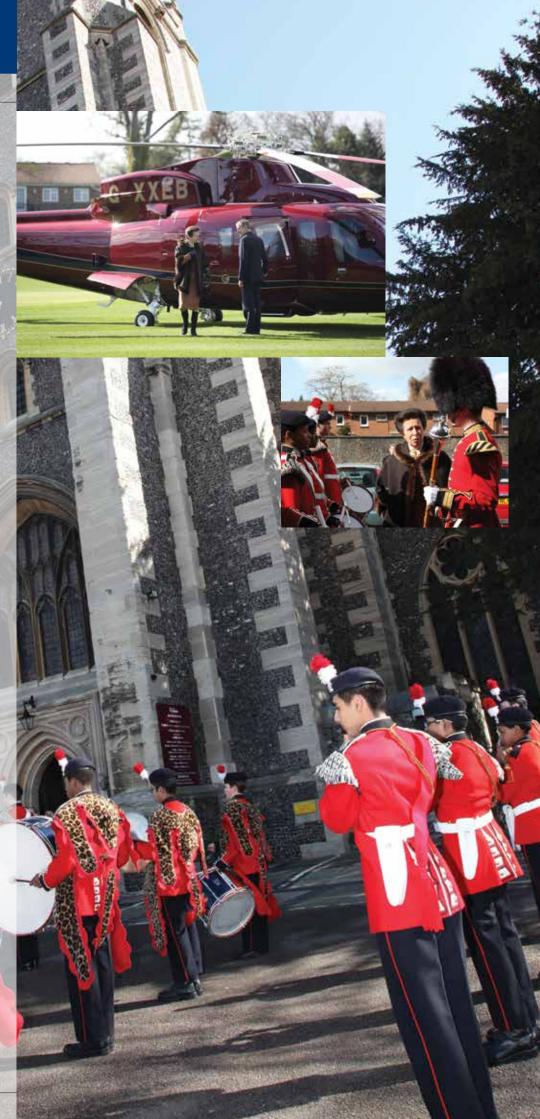
The cast of 60 pupils, from both Whitgift and Old Palace of John Whitgift School, was directed by Mr Lloyd Beecham, Director of Drama, who described them as "the finest cast I have ever worked with".



The 400th Founder's Day Service - a Royal Occasion

It was a royal affair as Whitgift joined together with Trinity and Old Palace of John Whitgift Schools, and representatives from the Whitgift Almshouses, Whitgift House and Wilhelmina House, to celebrate the 400th Founder's Day Service, at Croydon Minster, on 21 March. The Founder, John Whitgift, Queen Elizabeth I's last Archbishop of Canterbury, was gratefully remembered for his generous philanthropy.

The Revd Canon Boswell, Chaplain of Whitgift and Vicar of Croydon, along with The Rt Revd Jonathan Clark, Bishop of Croydon, led the Service. Many esteemed guests attended, notably HRH The Princess Royal, who arrived at the Minster to the sound of Whitqift's Corps of Drums, having landed by helicopter on Whitgift's Big Side. A number of Whitgift pupils and staff had the honour of meeting Princess Anne after the service, talking with her about their successes and roles at the School. The Service was supported by wonderful music, as the chamber choirs of the three schools joined forces to sing a selection of beautiful pieces.



Give it up for Charity

This year, Whitgift raised £10,000 for our two international charities – *The Goodwill Center* in Cambodia, and the *Tapologo* and *Tsholofelo Projects*, which work with victims of HIV and AIDS, in South Africa.

Students in all year groups worked extremely hard, involving themselves in a wide range of activities, including sports challenges, science contests, drama workshops, and of course the Lower School fete, complete with student-made cakes! The annual Charity Comedy Night, featuring Mock the Week regular, lan Stone (pictured), and Jeff Innocent, host of his show Comedy for Grown Ups, alongside our regular compère, Dom Holland, was a huge success. In addition, the Upper School Charity Concert once again displayed a great depth of talent.

As a result of last year's fundraising, Whitgift were proud to be presented Regional Winners in the Youth category of the RNLI Supporter Awards, having raised over £6,000 for the RNLI in memory of Charlie Hutton.

Huge thanks go to the whole Whitgift community for their support and generosity.





Happy Birds





Mr Alan Pearson, a biology teacher at Whitgift, launched a British birdidentifying app, in December 2013. The ornithological artist worked in conjunction with app design agency, WildSide, and long-time author and collaborator, Mike Lambert, over the course of a year, to design the app, 'Birds by Colour', based on Mike Lambert's original book of the same name.

The user-friendly software features a colour wheel, allowing experienced and novice bird-spotters alike to select the standout colour of the bird in question. A host of beautifully-crafted images are then displayed, to scroll through until the desired bird is identified. Every single image that appears in the app, over 250, was painted by Mr Pearson. He has illustrated seven ornithological books, translated into as many languages.

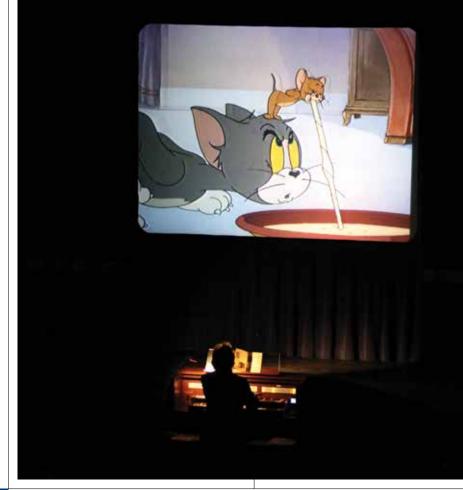


Steinway Concert

The end of the Lent Term was certainly a busy period for shows and concerts, but the Music Department managed to squeeze in another high-class recital in the final days of March. The concert celebrated the arrival of Whitgift's new Steinway & Sons Concert Grand Piano, led by the School's finest pianists and music scholars.

Highlights included the enchanting First and Third preludes from Gershwin's Three Preludes for Piano, played exquisitely by Lower Sixth Former, Dilyan Todorov, and the energetic Rachmaninov Prelude in G minor, performed by Upper Fifth Former, Alex Lau. Interludes from marimba, oboe, and voice followed, before the concert was brought to a superb end, with a performance of Haydn's Piano Concerto No. 11 in D major, by the Whitgift Chamber Orchestra, with piano soloist, and Lower Sixth Form pupil, Atanas Yanchev (pictured, right). It was an evening for all music lovers, and a grand welcome for the new instrument, in the setting of Whitgift's atmospheric Big School.





The Organist Entertains

January saw a new style of concert for Whitgift, as Big School was transformed into a 1920s cinema for the evening. With popcorn and sweets laid out for the audience, along with a huge screen, this event was already set to be unique. Mr Ronny Krippner, Whitgift's Organist and Director of Choral Music, and award-winning improviser, had both adults and children alike in stitches as he played along on the School's organ to Laurel & Hardy, Tom & Jerry, and Charlie Chaplin silent films; rapturous applause followed each showing.

A definite highlight of the evening was Mr Krippner's improvisation on musical themes, submitted by the audience and auctioned off to raise money for the Whitgift Chamber Choir.

Did the organist entertain? Yes, he certainly did.





On Monday 12 May, Whitgift hosted the French Ambassador, His Excellency Bernard Emié, to award the Headmaster with the Chevalier dans l'ordre des Palmes academiques, in honour of his services to French culture and education.

Guests, including members of the French embassy, family and friends of the Headmaster, distinguished Old Whitgiftians, and colleagues from Whitgift, listened to Mr Emié speak warmly about the Headmaster's contribution to education, including working together with the Embassy on a major conference, and establishing the current Section Française, commenting, 'For almost a quarter of a century, you have shaped the modern Whitgift to give your boys an education fit for the 21st century. You are a champion of modern languages...in a country that does not always recognise the value of their teaching."

Following the ceremony, guests were treated to a French-inspired celebration concert, in Whitgift's Concert Hall, performed by some of the School's most talented pupils and staff. Highlights of the concert included an exceptional performance from Lower Fifth Form pupil, Hristiyan Hristov, of Séjourné's Second Movement from Concerto for Marimba and Strings, and Saint-Saëns' highlydramatic and equally-complex Havanaise in E major, performed by Lower Sixth Form pupil, Hristo Dunev.



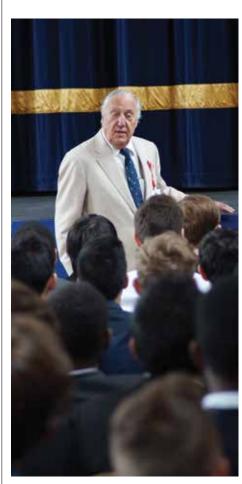
The School has welcomed an exceptional array of writers over the past year, organised by Head Librarian, Ms Atiya Afghan, including: Alex Scarrow (pictured, right), popular amongst our young readers for his TimeRiders series: fantasywriter Marcus Alexander, on World Book Day, 6 March, who subsequently wrote on Twitter, 'Why didn't I go to school at Whitgift? Amazing! Thanks for the warm welcome, great day and students with awesome ideas'; Christopher Lloyd (pictured, above), who showcased his popular Wall Books, during National Science and Engineering Week, also in March; Chris Bradford (pictured, right centre), launching the second book in his Bodyguard series, Ransom; and Eoin Colfer (pictured, bottom right), Irish laureate for children's literature, who was promoting the latest novel in his W.A.R.P. series, The Hangman's Revolution.

In June, the Sixth Form students benefited from a talk by veteran novelist, Frederick Forsyth CBE (pictured, far right), award-winning author of thriller, The Day of the Jackal, organised by General Studies' Miss Liz Poole.













Celebration of Whitgift Life

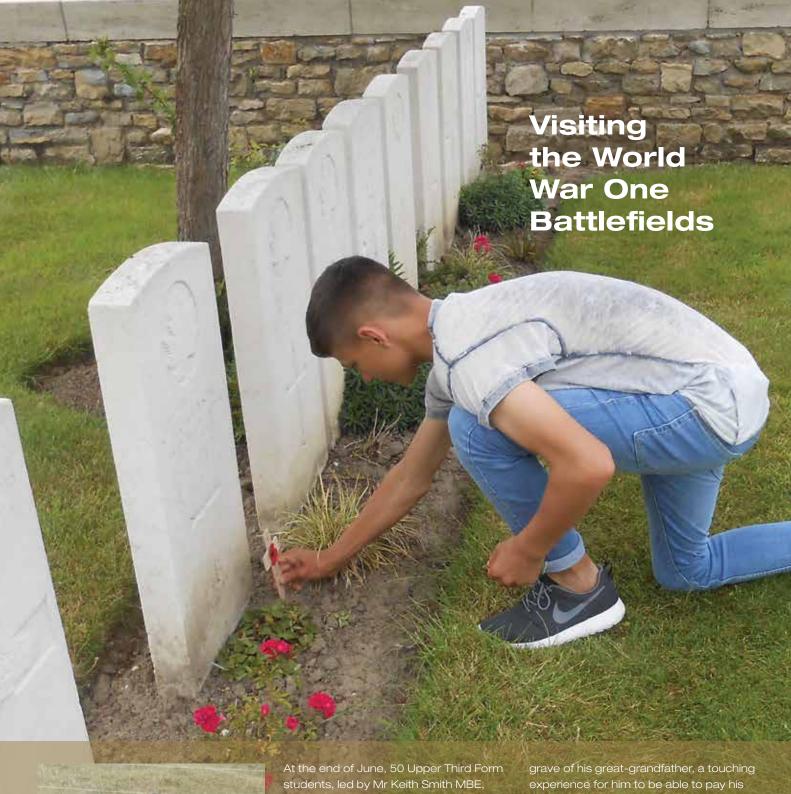
Whitgift was delighted to welcome back Old Whitgiftian and internationallyacclaimed author, Neil Gaiman, as Guest of Honour at the 2014 Celebration of Whitgift Life, held on Friday 4 July. The Ceremony was opened by the Whitgift Corps of Drums, and the awarding of prizes was accompanied by an exciting series of interludes. These included: a beautiful performance by the School's Senior String Quartet; a highlyentertaining group scene from the Lent Term production of West Side Story; a moving solo vocal piece by School Captain, Geddy Stringer; and a video compilation of Whitgift's many sporting successes.

Following the presentations, Neil Gaiman gave an inspiring speech, encouraging boys to make the most of all the opportunities available to them at the School. The Corps of Drums performed once again, in a fitting conclusion to the event, and the School year.



In Parliament

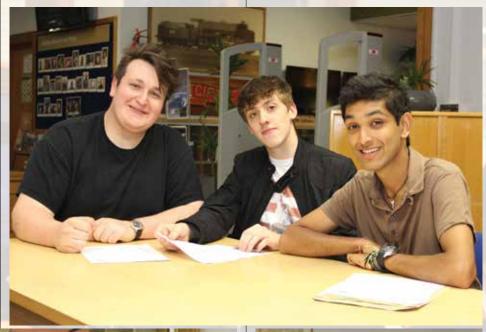
Six Lower Sixth Form politics students spent two days in Parliament, in July, as quests of Mr Gavin Barwell MP. The boys met and had Question and Answer sessions with MPs from the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties, a member of the House of Lords, BBC journalist James Landale, and a political pollster, who explained the current state of the parties and reviewed their prospects for the May 2015 General Election. The group sat in the Chamber of the House of Commons and listened to a ministerial Question Time, visited Committee Rooms, had a tour of the Houses of Parliament, and rounded off the visit with a Question and Answer session with John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons. The two days coincided with a Government reshuffle, and the boys were fortunate to speak to Mrs Nicky Morgan, the newly-appointed Secretary of State for Education.





headed off to France and Belgium, for three days, to visit sites of the First World War. This trip was particularly poignant, as it began exactly 100 years after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, in Sarajevo, which led to the outbreak of the Great War. The boys started in Belgium, visiting the Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth war cemetery; the Langemark German Military Cemetery; and attended the highly-moving Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, Ypres. The group then travelled to France, to the Somme, visiting the Beaumont Hamel memorial at Thiepval, and Serre, which saw monumental action by the Pals battalions in 1916. 14-year-old Jack Ranft visited the grave of his great-grandfather, a touching experience for him to be able to pay his respects. The final day saw the young historians visit the underground tunnels at Arras, from which the allies attacked, in April 1917, and then Vimy Ridge, scene of a massive Canadian offensive in that year. Throughout the trip, the boys laid memorial crosses at each site, to honour and give thanks to those who had lost their lives. Mr Smith commented, "248 Old Whitgiftians gave their lives in the Great War, and it was fitting to see today's Whitgiftians visiting the graves of so many of their forebears."









Exam success

2014 saw the School's academic performance at record levels. At GCSE, 83% of passes were at A*-A grade, beating the previous record. 15 pupils gained a clean sweep of A* grades, with a further 67 achieving all A*/A grades.

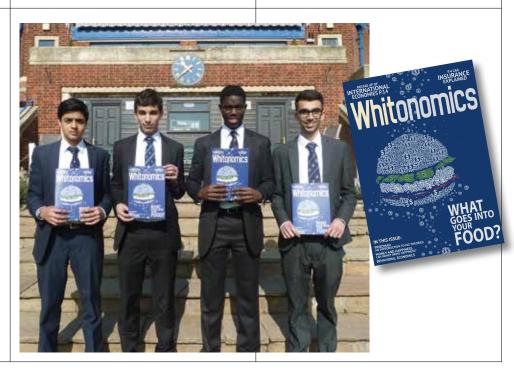
IB students gained an average of 37 points out of the maximum 45, maintaining the high levels of previous years. Two boys achieved the maximum 45 points – Kavish Shah (pictured, left) and Daniel Alsoof – and a further seven students scored over 40 points.

At AS Level, 82% of grades were at A-B level, another record for the School, which will provide an excellent foundation for university applications this year. Top grades were also in plentiful supply at A Level, with 90% of grades awarded A*-B. Nine pupils achieved at least three A*, with four students obtaining straight A* grades: Shann Sashicumarr, Greg Dann, Adam Uddin and Aniket Patel. It was again a very successful year in terms of university places, with over 70% of boys securing admission to their first-choice university. Of those moving into higher education, 80% gained places at Russell Group universities, an impressive percentage. With a growing number of pupils looking beyond the UK, Bardeya Moradi (pictured, near left) was awarded a full scholarship to study at Harvard, and Taugir Khan achieved the same at the NYU Abu Dhabi campus.

Whitonomics

Economics at Whitgift is a hugely popular subject, with over 250 boys studying it at IGCSE, A Level and IB. The Friedman Society (Senior Economics Society) launched *Whitonomics*; a magazine written, edited and designed solely by Upper School students.

The first issue, published in January 2014, won 'Best Magazine Cover' in the Shine 2014 School Media Awards, for which the design duo of Jo Warren and Raiyan Valimahomed, of the Lower Sixth Form, can be justly proud. Whitgift were awarded their trophy at a ceremony, in June, by Daily Mail political columnist, Simon Heffer, and Suzy Cox, Deputy Editor at Cosmopolitan magazine.





Present and Correct

Whitgift's Combined Cadet Force was put through its paces in their Annual General Inspection, on Friday 2 May. Brigadier Neil Sexton, Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command (pictured, bottom), and Old Whitgiftian, was the inspecting officer, arriving in a Squirrel helicopter.

Guests included Captain Tim Henry, Royal Navy, the new Commanding Officer of HMS Ocean; Old Whitgiftian, Lieutenant Colonel Matthew Birch; Colonel Peter Eadie, Commandant of the Army Air Corps; and Captain Yubaraj Garbuja, of the Royal Ghurkha Rifles.

Following a successful inspection of the Guard of Honour and Corps of Drums, Brigadier Sexton said of the AGI, "The Whitgift CCF is in excellent shape and an example to others. Many congratulations to everyone involved in a splendid day."

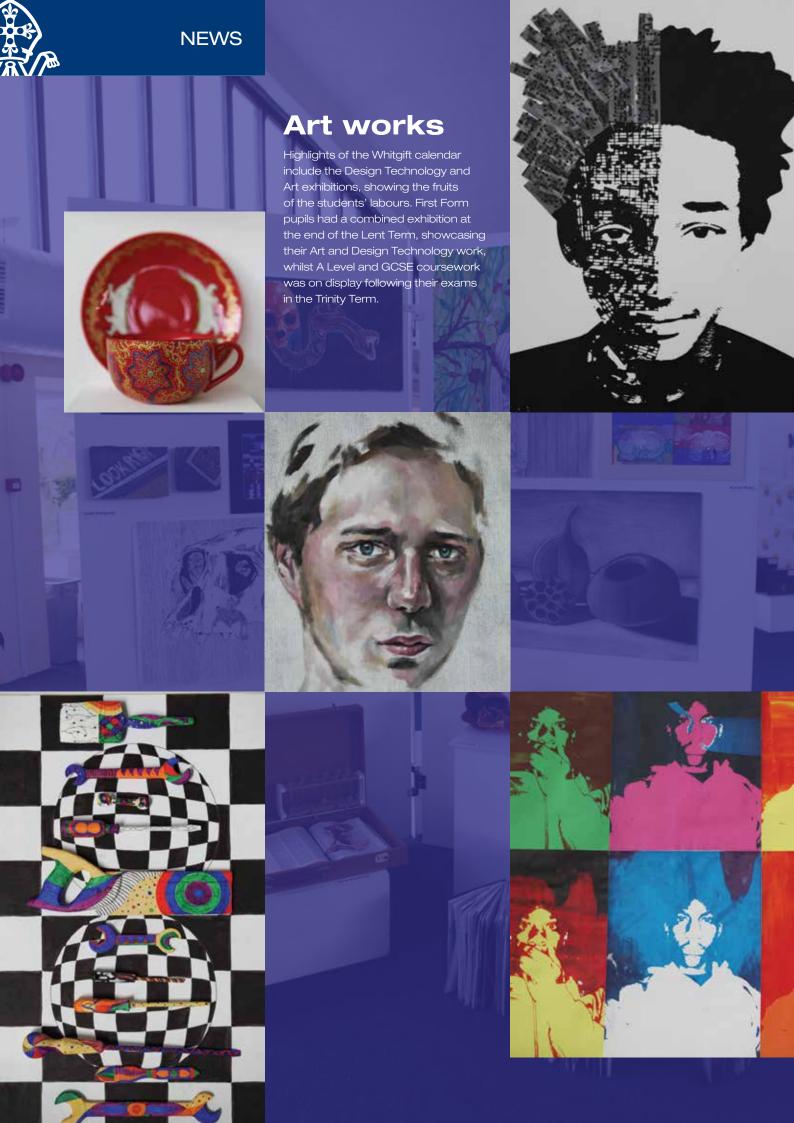
Whitgift hosted the visitors for an evening dinner with speeches and presentations, where it was a great honour to welcome Sergeant Johnson Beharry (pictured, above), who was awarded the Victoria Cross for heroic action in Iraq.



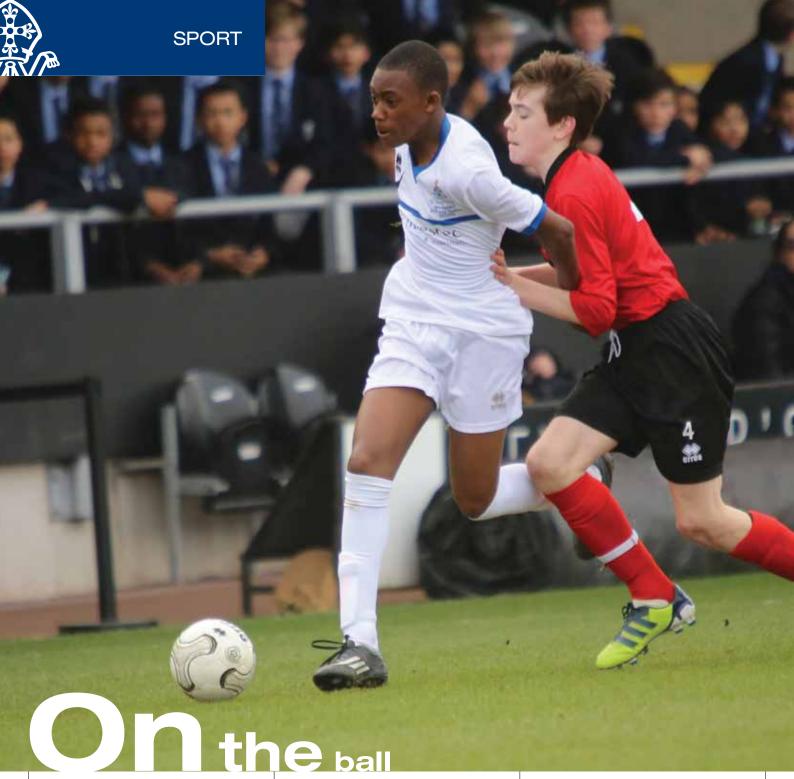












Having defeated Priory School, Edgbaston, 5-0 in the final of last year's Investec ISFA Cup, Mr Andrew Martin's U13s took on Chigwell School, of Essex, at Burton Albion's Pirelli Stadium, in March, looking to retain the trophy.

Callum Hudson-Odoi (pictured, above), a Chelsea Academy player, opened the scoring for Whitgift in the first half, after a 30-yard run. He then led an excellent performance in the second half, finding the net from just outside the penalty box, and putting away a skilful cross from Di shon Bernard, also at Chelsea Academy, to complete his hat-trick, and ensure victory for the School.

Mr Martin expressed his delight at a fourth consecutive win in a competition in

which a Whitgift team is yet to be beaten. In addition to Hudson-Odoi's inspired contribution, he thought outstanding performances from Luke Abai Haddon, Cal Hamilton and Joshua Marshall-Apedo, worthy of particular mention.

Whitgift's U16 footballers, too, were on the national stage, facing St Francis Xavier College, Liverpool, at Stoke City's Britannia Stadium, in May. This was the School's first U16 ESFA Cup final foray. The highly-regarded tournament, sponsored by the Premier League, sees over 700 schools competing to secure the most competitive national schoolboy title available in the sport.

A slow first half ended with Whitgift 3-0 down. However, tactical changes inspired an exceptional second-half performance, and Whitgift took the lead 4-3, with minutes remaining, before a late penalty allowed St Francis Xavier to take the match into extra time. After an electrifying game, with magnificent goals from Andre Coker and Lewis Scott, extra time yielded no further goals, and the match went to a penalty shoot-out. St Francis Xavier scored four penalties, to Whitgift's two, bringing an end to Whitgift's trophy dreams. Whitgift U16 coach, Mr Steve Kember, was proud of his side's performance, "This is one hard tournament to win, with 10 tough matches. We fell short, but I am extremely proud of my team."







From Cambridge to Croydon and back

The Master's Lodge at Trinity College, Cambridge, played host to a concert by Whitgift musicians, on 8 May, in celebration of the links between Whitgift and Trinity College, which go back 400 years; John Whitgift, the School's Founder, was Master of Trinity College from 1567 to 1577. Entitled 'From Cambridge to Croydon and back', the concert, organised under the auspices of the Cambridge University Bulgarian Society, featured some of Whitgift's most talented music scholars, from the UK and around the world. The audience, which included the Bulgarian Ambassador in London (pictured, to the far left of the Headmaster), the Master of Trinity College, distinguished Fellows, Old Whitgiftians, and Cambridge students, were captivated by the performances. The School's very own concert marimba, transported specially from Whitgift for the event, caused a great sensation among the guests!

During the evening, the Headmaster presented the Master of the College, Sir Gregory Winter (pictured, to the right of the Headmaster), with a bronze statuette of John Whitgift. Sir Gregory was delighted with the gift, and much impressed by the standards of the School. Both institutions are proud of this historic link, and we hope to continue the long tradition of Whitgift boys going on to study at Trinity College; 15 have done so in the past two decades.









Fencing

A brilliant year in fencing for the School began at the Surrey Youth Championships, where Whitgiftians won seven gold medals in their disciplines. The British School Team Championships, in February, saw a large medal haul for the School: U13 Epée Silver (William Charles), U18 Sabre Bronze (lan Head, Caleb Watson, Adam Dobson, Billy Moffatt), U15 Epée Gold (Justin Manson, Connor Head, Matthew Honeyman, Tom Campbell), U13 Foil Bronze (Tarriq Roach, Malvin Lingajothy, William Charles), and U11 Epée Silver (Rudi Bruijn-Yard, Hal Jones, Justin Harper). In the Leon Paul Junior Series, over several months, Tarrig Roach (pictured) successfully defended his title, winning gold in the U13 Epée. As a member of the Whitgift team at the Public Schools Fencing Championships, in March, Tarriq won gold in the individual competition, a fine achievement in his first year in the tournament. Whitgift ranked 3rd overall, and secured two important trophies: the Epée Cup for the Best School in Britain, and the Master-at-Arms trophy in the U14 category for Connor Head.

Tarriq's excellent season concluded with 2nd place in the U14 Epée at the British Youth Championships, in May, a competition for which five other Whitgift boys qualified, and Malvin Lingajothy reached the U11 finals.

Athletics

National Best

Whitgift set a national record at the Achilles Schools Relays, at Oxford University's famous Iffley Road track, in April. The U15 4x200m team of Eric Sarfo, Lucas Lygoe, Ade Lipede and Chuks Ajeh (pictured, right), broke not only the meeting record, but also the UK All Comers U15 4x200m record, held by Birchfield Harriers since 1986, by running 1.36.69 in the final. This outstanding achievement, which led to Whitgift being awarded the Roger Bannister Trophy for 'Outstanding Performance of the Day', makes them the only school relay team to hold a national record.

At the Surrey County Championships, one of the most significant athletics competitions in the country for junior athletes, Whitgift came away with three golds (Stefan Amokwandoh's U20 Triple Jump, Ocean Schwartz's U17 High Jump, and Chuks Ajeh's U15 100m), one silver (Eric Sarfo's U15 200m), and two bronze medals (Ade Lipede's U15 300m, and Jacob Wilson Watty's U15 Shot Putt).

In June, Whitgift won the London Schools Simmons Cup, for U12, U13, U14 and U15 teams, by a huge margin of 68 points, at Mile End Stadium.

The school season concluded at the English Schools Championships, in Birmingham, where Stefan Amokwandoh and Ocean Schwartz competed for Surrey. Stefan came 3rd in the U20 Triple Jump, and Ocean 2nd in the U17 High Jump. Ocean was selected to represent England at the *Aviva* SIAB U17 International Track & Field Championship, held at the International Sports Stadium, in Cardiff. He finished 2nd in the High Jump, with 2.02m, ranking him No.2 in the UK in his age group.

The U15 and U13 track and field teams won the Surrey round of the English Schools Track and Field Cup, in May, and qualified through the South East regional rounds to the national final, at Bedford International Stadium, in July.





It has been an exceptional year for Martial Arts at Whitgift

Taekwondo World Champion



TAEKWONDO

Calvin Kong, Lower Fifth Form student, has become a world champion, a rare experience for a pupil! In the Taekwondo *PUMA* World Championships, held in Swindon in March, with 600 contestants from all over the world, he finished 1st in his middleweight U63kg sparring category.

Judo and Karate National Champions



JUDO

Seven boys represented Whitgift at the Independent Schools Championships, in High Wycombe, in March. They won the national team title, defeating Harrow School, 31:20, and brought home six gold medals and one bronze.

In the Junior category, James Johnson (U42kg), Clement Li-Raphael (U46kg) and Oliver Jones (U50kg), won all of their contests by *ippon*. James Hau (U55kg), after a two-year break from judo, did well to secure bronze.

In the Intermediate category, David Saran (U60kg), Christian Milotte (U73kg) and Todd Kelly (U81kg), added to the gold medal haul, also winning their contests by ippon.

Christian Milotte (U73kg) and David Saran (U60kg) finished 5th and 7th respectively, at the British Schools' National Championships, in Sheffield.



KARATE

Daniel Harding, Upper First Form pupil, deserves warm congratulations on becoming the U12 English Karate Federation National Champion. He won all of his eight fights, to win gold.

Fellow Upper First Form pupil, Shaun Michaels, has also competed with distinction, winning gold in the U12 category at the Elkai Karate Championships 2014, held at Brunel University, in March. He also secured a gold medal at the East England Open Karate Championships, in Clacton-on-Sea.



Whitgift has an exceptional history in preparing boys for the British modern pentathlon squads; this year saw Fifth Former, Joshua Miller, and Sixth Former, Henry Choong, selected for the U18 European and World Championship teams. Joshua is also set to compete at the U16 European Championships.

Henry Choong (pictured, below) achieved the outstanding feat of being selected to represent Great Britain at this summer's Youth Olympic Games, in China. He was part of the 33-strong Team GB squad, which competed in Nanjing, in August, in which he finished in 11th place.

Whitgift has featured in British Championships for biathlon, triathlon, and full pentathlon this year. Henry Choong was named the U19 British Biathlon



Champion for both the open, and school, championships. Charlie Goriup also impressed individually, winning the silver medal in the U15 British biathlon. The Whitgift squad has won a total of six national team medals across various age groups.

Old Whitgiftians have also had a breakthrough year, building on the foundations laid by the School's modern pentathlon programme. Sam Curry, Tom Lees and Joseph Choong, were named in the U21 squad for both the European and the World Championships. Sam and Tom have had their first taste of competition on the senior circuit, and all three boys are training full-time at the Pentathlon GB High Performance Centre, University of Bath, for Rio 2016. Joseph (pictured, above and right) was Britain's highestplaced finisher at the Senior Men's World Championships in Warsaw, Poland, in September, one of only two British men to make the final. He finished 16th at only his second competition at senior level, still only 19 years of age.





England Rugby Stars

Old Whitgiftians, Danny Cipriani (fly half) (pictured, above) and Marland Yarde (wing) (pictured, bottom right), represented England against the All Blacks on the New Zealand rugby tour over the summer – a source of great pride for the School, as it is a rare achievement for any one school to have two former students in the side. Marland scored two tries, and Danny kicked points; they are shown here together in the England line-up before the International Test match, at Waikato Stadium, Hamilton, and being interviewed on RFU TV, during a training session.









Whitgift staff sports stars



Ms Szandra Szogedi (pictured, left), Whitgift's Judo Coach, competed at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, in July, in the U63kg weight category, representing Ghana, due to her marriage to a Ghanaian fellow judoka.

After the Games, Ms Szogedi took part in the Pan-American Open, in Miami, and the World Judo Championships, in Russia. She has her sights set firmly on Rio 2016.

Whitgift Rugby Development Officer, Mr Tom Stradwick, captained Kent to a Twickenham appearance in the County Championship competition, for the first time since 1986. Mr Stradwick scored a superb solo try, breaking from the halfway line, in the final of the Division 2 Plate, in a 31-23 victory over Durham (pictured, below). Whitgift's Director of Rugby, Mr Chris Wilkins, was the Kent Coach, and the staff members were assisted in the success by Old Whitgiftian, Rob White, and Lower Sixth Form student, Matt Gallagher (England U17 Training Squad, Saracens U18s).

Ms Freya Trotter (pictured, below), Whitgift's Assistant Modern Pentathlon Coach, represented England at the ISAS International shooting competition, in Dortmund, in March, competing in the Women's 10m air pistol. She shot an international personal best of 370/400. In May, Ms Trotter became the Women's Champion at the English Championships, at Bisley's National Shooting Centre. She too is targeting Rio 2016.







Guy Johnston

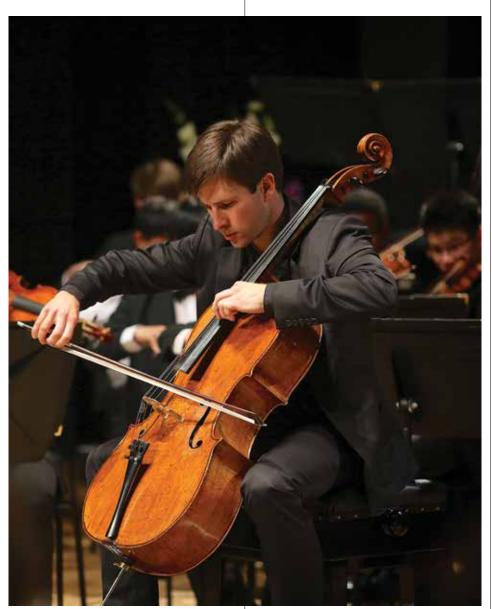
Whitgift was delighted to welcome back renowned British cellist, and Whitgift International Music Competition adjudicator, Guy Johnston (pictured, right), in concert with the Whitgift Chamber Orchestra and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, at Whitgift, on 29 June.

The evening commenced with the opening movement of the Grieg *Piano Concerto*, delivered with breath-taking aplomb by Dilyan Todorov (*pictured*, *below*), a Whitgift international music scholar and member of the Lower Sixth Form. Guy Johnston then took centre stage, and captivated the audience with his truly stunning performance of Dvořák's *Cello Concerto*. Both pieces were conducted by Whitgift's Director of Orchestral Music, Mr Philip Winter.

A virtuosic performance of the First Movement of the challenging Khachaturian Violin Concerto, by international scholar and Lower Sixth Former, Dan-Iulian Druţac, opened the second half. Mrs Rosanna Whitfield, Director of Music Development, conducted with verve and sensitivity.

Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7* provided a suitably sensational finale to this concert, conducted with passion and fervour, by Mr Philip Winter.

This was an evening which will indeed 'live in the memory' of all those fortunate to be in the audience, in Whitgift's Big School.





SPORT



Henry Cheeseman

Henry Cheeseman, a member of the School 1st XV over the past two seasons was in the England U18 side that toured South Africa in August, but it is in the Sevens version of the sport that he has really caught the eye.

He was a key cog in the England development set-up that competed

in the GB Sevens Series, and England Sevens boss, Simon Amor, picked Henry to compete in the European Sevens Grand Prix.

Henry was included by Harlequins, where he is now a full-time member of the Academy, to play in the *JP Morgan* Premiership Sevens competition.

Henry was a try-scorer in Harlequins' opening pool win against Northampton Saints, before helping his team notch up further successes against Saracens and Wasps. They were ultimately undone in the semi-finals by Newport Gwent-Dragons, but Henry was again at the forefront of the 'Quins charge (*pictured*, *below*).

Henry will continue to be watched by Amor and his coaching staff, with a World Series debut a distinct possibility in the next 12 months, as England's shift to promoting youth becomes ever more prominent.









Tee'd up for success

Whitgift golfers have had another fine season. The three-man team of George Mullins, Joe Carmody-Firth and Harvey Byers (pictured, below), travelled to Carnoustie, in Scotland, for the ISGA National Final, in April. They overcame the 16 other area winners to take the title for the first time, three shots ahead of Wellington College and Millfield. George (pictured, left) came 2nd in the individual rankings.

This success was quickly followed when the same U18 team won the ISGA Shire Trophy, held at the Seve Ballesterosdesigned Shire course, just north of London; George Mullins won the U18 individual competition, and Harvey Byers the U15 title.

There were further excellent performances in the HMC Foursomes, including wins against Tonbridge School and Brighton College, in the South-East semi-final and final respectively.





Racquet Sports

WHITGIFT UPPER THIRD FORM PUPIL RANKED EUROPEAN #1 U15 SQUASH PLAYER

Upper Third Form pupil, James Wyatt (pictured, above), took part in the Pioneer Cup, Europe's premier junior squash tournament, in Cologne, on 3 July.

James progressed through four gruelling rounds, defeating the opponent who beat him in the Canadian Open, earlier in July, to get through to the final. The Strength and Conditioning Programme at Whitgift paid off, giving James the stamina to emerge victorious. The win means the 14-year-old is ranked No.1 in Europe in his age category.

WHITGIFT TENNIS THRIVES

Whitgift took part in the Surrey Schools' Tennis Championships, in June. In the U14 tournament, Whitgift faced Reed's in the final, with Whitgift coming out on top, and being crowned county champions. In the U12 and U13 competitions, Whitgift were runners up, on each occasion losing very close finals, Reed's again being the opponents.

The U18 team (pictured, below) took part in the Rootham Shield final, the Surrey tennis seniors' cup championships, contested since 1938. Whitgift played Cranleigh School in the final, and the team of Ben Hermes, Terry Prempeh, Charlie Mabbutt and Alex Eldridge, played a brilliant match, winning the shield for the School, 4-1.







Mr John Pitt farewell/ Mr Peter Ellis welcome

Last term, we said goodbye to Mr John Pitt (pictured, left), who left Whitgift to become Headmaster of Royal Grammar School, Worcester. Mr Pitt first joined Whitgift as a history teacher in 1997, subsequently becoming Head of Sixth Form. After four years as Academic Deputy Head of the Portsmouth Grammar School, he returned to Whitgift as Second Master, in 2007. Mr Pitt will be missed by the students and staff.

Mr Peter Ellis (pictured, right) was appointed Second Master from 1 September. He has always been very close to Whitgift, attending the School as a student himself, and joining as a mathematics teacher after university. Since then, he has taken the roles of

Head of First Form, Head of Mathematics, Deputy Head of Sixth Form, and he has also coached hockey and cricket. We wish Mr Ellis all the best in his new position.



'Dream The Blues' Samsung advert

Upper First Form pupil, Jaan Stanley, was hand-picked by his football freestyler coach to appear in the online 'Dream the Blues Season II' campaign, launched by Samsung, official sponsor of Chelsea FC. The seasonal campaign aims to inspire kids who love football, by offering an opportunity to learn how to play football with Chelsea FC youth coaches, in a fun and exciting way.

Jaan, a Manchester United fan, only found out the day before about the audition, when his father surprised him with the news. Following his selection, a full day of filming took place at the renowned 3 Mills Studios in London. The 12-year-old plays a young Eden Hazard, of Chelsea FC, in the two-minute YouTube video, which received more than 750,000 viewings.

Jaan, who wants to be a professional footballer, commented, "By the time we came to film the football, it was really hot, because of the lights. I drank six bottles of water! I can't believe it took all day to film an advert that was two minutes long!"









Upper Third Form STEM Presentation

Lent Term saw a culmination of weeks of hard work from the Upper Third Form STEM pupils, as they gathered in the Performing Arts Centre, on 20 March, to present their term's projects.

The boys could select from a wide array of topics, depending on their chosen discipline, and worked in groups to bring their ideas to fruition.

The Science contingent had options between making a rocket, an egg projectile, a butterfly dome, a reptile enclosure, a glider, or a bridge design. They could also try their hand at testing wool as a slug deterrent, or devising a way to mimic nature in order to deliver aid to war zones. The Technology enthusiasts used Raspberry Pi computers to write programmes using Python. Pupils in the Engineering branch studied how to make objects more aerodynamic, while the Mathematics groups produced a presentation on code-breaking, using their newfound cryptography expertise.

Boys and staff were invited to view the presentations and vote for the best group project.

The winners went to Land Rover, Birmingham, in June, where they toured the factory, took part in team challenges, and were driven by an expert on Land Rover's off-road testing facility.

Best Lent Term Team as voted for by students:

Team Arduino – Shanaal Nathan, Joshua Merrick, Marc Muhlemann, Finnian Munroe, Harry Plowman Ollington, Thomas Campbell, Toby Osmond, Gabriel Cuaycong, Benn Fillingham, Abid Mahmood.

Best Lent Term Team as voted for by staff:

Team Triple H – Husain Masood, Harry Alexander-Porter, Harrison Choi.





Whitgift's new Development Office

The Development Office at Whitgift was set up at the beginning of the year in order to help the School cultivate new projects, for the benefit of both its pupils and the wider community.

Innovative, inspirational projects can only be achieved with the support of current and former parents, Old Whitgiftians, and friends of Whitgift, who wish to see this exceptional school continue to thrive and go from strength-to-strength.

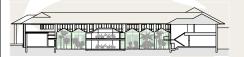
Major projects include:

- The Biodome and Science Labs Project
- Sponsorship of boys through Sixth Form
- The Primary Project
- The Performing Arts Centre

To find out more, please contact Edward Romain, Whitgift's Development Director, who would be delighted to hear from you:

+44 (0)20 8633 9368

e.romain@whitgift.co.uk





FORTHCOMING EVENTS



THE DARLING BUDS OF MAY

Friday 10 October 7.30pm, Big School Tickets: £10, Concessions* £5

LOWER SIXTH FORM PLAY

Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 Oct<mark>ober</mark> 7.30pm, Big School

Tickets: £2.50, Concessions* FREE (by ticket only)

WESTMINSTER ABBEY EVENSONG

Tuesday 4 November 5.30pm, Westminster Abbey FREE admission

AUTUMN COLLECTION

Thursday 20 November 7pm, Fairfield Halls Tickets: £8, Concessions* £4 (booking via Fairfield Halls website)

WHITGIFT HOUSE DRAMA

Friday 21 November 6.30pm, Big School Tickets: FREE (there will be a charity collection)

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 November

7.30pm, Performing Arts Centre Tickets: £2.50, Concessions* FREE (by ticket only)

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

Wednesday 10 - Friday 12 December 7.30pm, Big School Tickets: £8, Concessions* £4

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ST GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE

Friday 12 December 6.30pm, St George's Church, Hanover Square

Tickets: £10, Concessions* £5

CAROL SERVICE

Tuesday 16 December
7.30pm, Croydon Minster
FREE admission (by ticket only)

BOOKING INFORMATION

Please visit **www.whitgift.co.uk/events** for information on how to book.

*Concessions:

Children 16 and under, Over 60s, Students (17–25 in full-time education)

Front Cover image:

The 1st XI hockey team celebrate winning the 2014 outdoor national title, their fifth hockey title in three years

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