



# Cheam Alumni NEWSLETTER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CHEAM FOUNDATION | 2023





# From the Headmaster | William Phelps



The CSA Committee: October 2022

L to R: William Phelps, Rupert Fiennes Cox, Christopher Halford, Victoria Edgington, David Jenkins, Michael Churchill, Richard Moore, Dorothea Pease, Tamsin Ashworth, Lloyd Jenkins, Robin Brodhurst, Christopher Wilson and Guy Duder. Absent: Richard Backhouse, Rupert Hartley, Mark Johnson and William Kinnear.

Welcome to this year’s edition of the Cheam Alumni Newsletter. I do hope you enjoy reading it and that it leaves you with a great sense of pride.

Whether you left in 2022 or 1942, we love hearing from you, and it has been wonderful to meet so many of you over the last year. Keeping Cheam’s history alive is vital to us. Do please keep in touch and consider joining the increasing ranks of alumni who visit their old school, to relive fond memories and see the changes that have taken place. You are always welcome back at Cheam, either at one of our forthcoming events or by contacting the Foundation Office to arrange a visit. You can also follow us on social media @cheamschoolalumni and via our new website.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the CSA Committee for their commitment to Cheam over the years. Under William Kinnear’s chairmanship the CSA was a loyal bastion for Cheam’s old boys and girls, and the school has been very lucky to have had such a committed band of supporters. In a move that reflects best practice across the sector and represents strong governance, the CSA was incorporated into The Cheam Foundation in 2022. We are immensely

grateful to all those who have served on the committee over the years, and in particular to Michael Churchill, who continues as Cheam Archivist and editor of the annual Newsletter.

As I’m sure you know, these are very tough times for prep schools, but they are also exciting times for Cheam as we excel in sport, music and the Arts, and continue to send boys and girls to the top senior schools in the country. It is also important that as a school we widen access and provide opportunities for talented children from low-income, disadvantaged backgrounds. The Cheam Foundation helps us to do this, and its work would not have been possible without the generosity of so many of you.

I hope to meet many more of you over the coming year and in the meantime wish you all a happy and prosperous year ahead.

William Phelps

## The Evers Years 1985-1998

Christopher Claude EVERS  
1939-2023 (March 28th)  
Penelope (Penny) Anne Mansell EVERS  
1943-2023 (September 14th)



Born in April 1939, Chris was Headmaster of Cheam School from 1985 to 1998, having succeeded Michael Wheeler after teaching at West Hill Park for 20 years, the last 11 as Headmaster. Cheam in those days was an 8-13 boys-only boarding school, and Chris took over the school knowing that Cheam was dedicated to a boarding-only structure of around 150 boys.

Amongst Chris’s initial changes was the re-naming of the four Divisions, replacing the outdated imperial names with the names of four former Headmasters, one from each century of the school’s existence. He also renamed the dormitories, giving the rooms, until then known merely by numbers, the names of birds (on the top floor) and distinguished military leaders (on the first floor). Other changes included the advent of a tuck shop, changes to the uniform and the disappearance of the November and February Common Entrance examinations.

On the structural side, three classrooms and a library were built at the north end of the corridor linking the main building with the courtyard, thus allowing several former classrooms to be converted to playrooms. In 1988 work began on four new tennis courts, followed later by a new Art and Design Centre and then a new Science building.

So much of what happened at Cheam during the Evers era was influenced by outside forces beyond the control of the school itself. In the early 1990s there was evidence of less interest in boarding than there had been a decade earlier. Chris saw a need to improve the image of boarding at Cheam and opened a new junior boarding house (Benham House) in September 1992. This also coincided with the admittance of the first day boys. Both innovations proved to be successful, though the Benham experiment could only continue while space allowed. Two years later, the closure of Hawtreys School in Savernake Forest resulted in 47 of their boys, six of their staff and a gap-year student joining the community at Cheam. However, this did not provide a long-term solution since, once the ‘bubble’ of additional numbers had worked its way through the school, Cheam was back to the financial struggles of the early 1990s. Chris continued to be aware that the school had to develop further



after the introduction of day boys and the Hawtreys merger, and in September 1997 came the arrival of the first girls and the merger with Inhurst House, which was to provide a ready-made Pre-Prep and soon led to a brand-new Nursery building. Chris undoubtedly saw the right way to go, had the courage to make brave decisions and as a result laid the foundations for continued success in the 21st century, which Mark Johnson built on when he took over as Headmaster in 1998.

Chris and Penny were lucky enough to inherit a good staff and appointed others who served the school well during their time. Chris’s musical talents were put to good use in the Choir and also in a school play, *1066 – And All That*. He even produced a play himself – *Oliver!* In 1989 Gardner Merchant became the Cheam caterers, hockey was introduced as a main sport, the first Cheam summer activity camp took place, cafeteria-style meals were introduced, the Box Hill picnic was revived and a cricket tour

to Zimbabwe took place in 1998. On a more personal note, Chris had the great honour of becoming Chairman of the IAPS in 1995, the same year that the school celebrated its 350th anniversary. And a year later he welcomed HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, to Cheam for his first visit back to the school since 1947.

There is never a set role for a Headmaster’s wife. The role differs from school to school, and Penny must have found it initially strange entering prep-school life at West Hill Park, where Chris had been a bachelor headmaster until their marriage. What some may not know is that they met on a ski trip at Christmas 1981, were engaged before the Spring Term began, and the new Mrs Evers was there to greet new boys at the beginning of the following Autumn Term. However, she had come straight from Cranleigh, where she was school secretary, and had spent a few years before that working as a PA for a British civil servant in Nigeria, so her

nearly 20 years of work experience meant she was more than up to the task. Even then, family life took precedence with the arrival of Toby in 1983 and Sophie in 1985. By the time Chris and Penny arrived at Cheam, the family was complete, and Penny was able to throw herself into school life, supporting Chris in everything that he did and building on the systems and methods developed by her predecessor, Hilary Wheeler. She worked particularly closely with the matrons and kitchen staff. Much of her work was behind the scenes and went unnoticed by those in the school. Indeed, few would have realised that it was Penny who was often responsible for the interior fabric design in the school, and this included colour schemes when redecoration took place. She also played a major part in some of the school’s big occasions, including several skiing holidays for parents and boys, the 350th Anniversary Ball in 1995, and the sorting out of the old boy roll and address lists.

After Cheam, Chris and Penny initially retired to the village of Benson in Oxfordshire. They were there until a new life in France beckoned, which suited them both admirably until, after a very enjoyable nine years, both of them realised that with grandchildren starting to appear and with various medical problems creeping in, it would be better to move back to England. With Toby settled in Bungay on the Norfolk/Suffolk border and Sophie in London, they decided to move to rural Suffolk, settling down just north of Dennington, where they immediately got involved in village life. Penny set up a Gardening Club and baked cakes galore for coffee mornings, while Chris joined the local choir (as he had, unsurprisingly, in both Oxford and Brittany).

Chris and Penny served Cheam well and could count on many associated with their time at the school as friends for life. For them to die within months of each other was tragic news, but their devotion towards each other was admirable. Naturally, our thoughts have been with Toby and Sophie, and we join together to offer our sympathy to them both in what has been a very difficult year for them.





# Photographing the Coronation



In May 2023 Hugo Burnand (71-76) was the official photographer at the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Here Hugo writes about his experiences covering the occasion, and we are also grateful to him for providing three photographs to accompany the article, one illustrating a love for photography that started at Cheam. It is a love that has now been with him for 50 years – taking pictures of anyone and everyone, not just Kings and Queens – and he would be grateful for anyone who wishes to have a portrait taken of themselves to get in touch with him directly.

It is early February 2023, and I am casually walking my two dogs on Hampstead Heath in the early morning, when, ding, I receive an unexpected text message of congratulations – and my heart both leaps and sinks at the same time. The Sunday Times drop an unauthorised and totally unexpected article, and all at once it is undeniably apparent that I am going to be heavily involved with the Coronation. Wowza! Up to this point I'm hoping this commission might come my way, but nothing is certain. Questions whirl in my mind. What does this mean? Who is involved? How did this happen? Frustration clenches my fists, fearing this article might jeopardize my chances. "Why is this happening?" (Please insert your favourite colourful language here!). Of course, I do the first thing any sensible grown man does – I ring my children and ask "What do I do?" All four children went to Cheam, so obviously they are all wonderfully and perfectly educated (!), and, as I totally expect, they have immensely calming and wise words for me. By the end of the dog walk I am beaming with parental pride. And, to be fair, when I re-read the article in a calmer state (having spoken to the Palace, reassuring them of my non-involvement in the publication), I am so impressed with what Roya Nikkhah has written that I think, "Wow, I'd like to meet that photographer – he sounds like a good sort!"

I have worked with both Their Majesties for a number of years, from before they were married, and over time it has been impossible not to form a friendship with them, even if it is just a 'professional friendship'. This unique bond we share plays an essential part in the Coronation photography. We have always collaborated when we do photoshoots together. We share new ideas and different options, we discuss the challenges (usually time available, or the lack of it), and we always appreciate that luck also plays a huge role in the success of a truly great image. These years of collaboration have nurtured a trust between us, an understanding, that gives our photographs an extra depth, something challenging for a newcomer to replicate. Concerning the Coronation, our many previous collaborations put us 'ahead of the game'. We both know what the other wants, so it's more about fine-tuning to achieve the best results rather than starting from scratch.

What do I want? I do NOT want to re-invent the wheel, but I do want to create an era-defining portrait of our new King, illustrating the subtle yet continuing enlightened evolution of the Monarchy, whilst illustrating His Majesty as both our dependable figurehead and our comforter, someone who is both ordinary and extra-ordinary, being both the leader of all faiths and accessible to everyone through his passion for our environment, a modern communicator. I will respect the past, embrace the present day and look forward to the future. My portraits will be the first Coronation images created in the digital age, and I decide to fill the Throne Room with invigorating spring light, regardless of what the weather gives us (thank you, modern technology, because the day was unpleasantly dark and wet).



And whilst it was a momentous historic occasion, with photographs that will be judged by the world, I approach this commission as something I'm doing for my 'friends', and it's for them that I want to make it as perfect as I can. That is additional pressure, maybe, but it's a thrilling, positive challenge that I feed off. Over-deliver for the client, and make them happier than they expected to be.

I build myself the Dream Team of assistants, and happily and freely admit that I have the best team imaginable. It includes Luis Ureña, my Assistant for over a decade; my middle daughter Una Burnand, who is carving her own sky-rocketing career in the world of film and photography; Iain Lewis who is a lighting wizard and just happens to work for The Royal Collection Trust; Alex Loyd, my event veteran with his spirited "just take the damn picture, Hugo!"; and Robert Simpson, the maestro of all things technical AND compositional. With this superhero squad, I can focus on MY role, which is engagement with the sitters through my lens. A decent portrait is all about emotion, and that's my job, to see, feel and capture the emotion...and share it with you in my photographs.

Together we put meticulous attention into every detail – it's a military-style operation for us. Our research includes spending many hours inside The Royal Archives in Windsor Castle, studying all the photography from previous Coronations, which starts with Edward VII through to Cecil Beaton's much applauded portraits of Elizabeth II. We see photographs that have never been seen by the public. It is utterly fascinating. We hire lighting equipment to fill Buckingham Palace's Throne Room with the freshness of a spring morning, as well as enabling me to recreate moody Rembrandt lighting, for when I want that look. And yes, we've got backups for our backups. It's a lot of equipment. We research the length of the robes, which will influence the composition of each image. We pace out the distance between each photograph. We don't want to take all the pictures in the same place – that would be both too boring and too easy – and we practise manoeuvring the robes between positions.

I use FujiFilm medium-format cameras, a camera SO good that when I first discovered it, I fell back in love with medium-format portraiture, never realising I had grown tired of 35mm

portrait photography, but that's a whole other story. We had seven cameras and 21 lenses – that's back-up for you. We meet The Crown Jeweller, and we research the best angle to hold a sceptre and how to hold an orb. We spend three days setting up all the equipment within the Palace, and whilst walking past so many fabulous paintings hanging on the walls, I allow the influence of Winterhalter (who painted Queen Victoria and her family many times) to guide the composition of some of our images.

And now, with everything in place and one day to go, we start our stop-watched crucial dress rehearsals, with stand-ins for Their Majesties. On the day we are allowed one hour to take 12 different portraits, some with just HM The King, with numbers increasing up to some 22 people in one picture. It's a challenge. We have been preparing for days, weeks and months... for a one-hour photoshoot.

The Throne Room transforms into a photography wonderland, resembling a NASA Space Station with so many huge umbrellas, powerful lights, over-sized scrims and giant reflectors, none of which you can see in our photographs, obviously, but each piece creating the perfect light for each individual picture. It's like navigating a photographic adventure in a Science Museum. You might wonder how it is possible to create an atmosphere of relaxed intimacy with so much paraphernalia, but Their Majesties have worked with me many times before. They know the drill, they've seen the results, and I think they would be somewhat disappointed with a couple of piddly umbrellas, a simple flash gun and a handheld camera.

Now let's talk dress rehearsals – the rollercoaster of a ride leading up to the main event. The first one? A comedy of errors! But we celebrate the mishaps because, let's face it, a bad dress rehearsal often equals a fantastic first performance. Understandably, the people from the Palace who were acting as the stand-ins are looking at me with petrified eyes, wondering why on earth I and my team had been employed for such an important job. But I am thrilled, and clap and cheer, congratulating the team! However, each rehearsal gets worse than the one before. Equipment explodes, electricity fails, wheels fall off, and people are in the wrong place, but we always complete within the time allotted, so we're happy and confident. The team are ready for anything, and I am ready to take the portraits I have been dreaming of all year.

With a furtive glance through the windows, the golden Coronation carriage is drawing up outside, and showtime is about to begin – without us having had ONE decent rehearsal. Pressure? Not really. I have 100% confidence in my incredible team, and I know Their Majesties will work with me to get good results. They trust me. It goes both ways. I use the usual tricks of the trade – a bit of laughter, a bit of banter, letting the camera capture the magic. I can be a bit more Mr Bean than Cecil Beaton, but they know I get the results, so they relax, which is what I want.

And before we know it, we're all done. Click, click click... Luck came our way, and I and my team are sharing a glass of champagne with The King, celebrating a job well done.

[www.hugofoto.com](http://www.hugofoto.com)







# Mount Everest

Jake Meyer (94-97) has done it again, successfully climbing Everest on 23d May 2023 for a second time. This followed his original record of being the youngest Briton at the time to climb Everest in 2005, and made him one of a very small number of people who have climbed the mountain from both the north (Tibet/ China) and the south (Nepal). The return to Everest coincided with the 70th anniversary of the first (confirmed) ascent of the mountain on the 29th May 1953 – which coincidentally was also a Coronation year! Jake here writes about his latest challenge.

I've been very fortunate that my love of mountaineering has taken me all around the world on over 30 major expeditions, but it was my time at Cheam (Cheam Hawtreys) which not only introduced me to the world of climbing but nurtured that initial spark of inspiration. Back when Cheam had a single-storey brick climbing wall next to the portacabin French classroom (demolished to make space for the then new Science Building), the head of PE, Mike Kidd, took three of us boys down to Swanage for a weekend's climbing on Dancing Ledge. This incredible opportunity awakened a thirst for adventure which would be magnified at Marlborough College and then in the peaks and mountain ranges around the world.

After watching the millennium dawn from the summit of Kilimanjaro, I embarked on climbing the seven highest mountains on

each continent, completing the set with Everest via the North Ridge in 2005, when I was just 21. A year later, I set the record for the fastest ascent of the highest peak in every state in the contiguous USA. An unhealthy fixation with K2, arguably one of the most difficult and dangerous mountains in the world to climb, then led me on a 10-year odyssey of multiple attempts to climb this peak, and this was eventually achieved in 2018, when I became the youngest Briton to get to the top of K2, as well as only the eighth Briton to have survived the experience. Life didn't stand still over time, either, as I served in Afghanistan with the Army, started a career, got married and started a family. I'd grown up! Like most others, Covid restricted my climbing ambitions for several years, but as the world opened up again, so did my dreams for further adventures.

Spring 2023 found me back in the Himalayas on Kanchenjunga, the third highest mountain in the world. 'Kanch' has a fearsome reputation and has had fewer ascents than even K2. After six weeks of preparation and acclimatisation on the mountain (including the chance to celebrate the Coronation of another Cheam alumnus!) we made our summit push. Unfortunately, route-finding in the dark to the top proved harder than we expected, and we ran out of rope trying to climb a gully which proved elusive, only 200 metres below the summit. It was, of course, disappointing; however, we all came back down safely from our summit push, which I always believe is the only true measure of success on a mountain. Finding myself well acclimatised and with several weeks left in Nepal, I decided that there was



time for another mountain. Given that 2023 was also the 70th anniversary of the first ascent of Everest, the pull of Sagarmatha (as the Nepalese call Everest) was too strong to resist.

## It was my formative years at Cheam which had started building those values of resilience and determination

Teaming up with three extremely strong climbers, Norwegian Kristin Harila and two Sherpas, Lama and Fursang, we made our way to Everest Basecamp. We were right at the end of the season, and the weather forecast showed a small window only a few days away, which meant that we had no time to spare. Six hours after arriving in Basecamp, we climbed directly to Camp 2 through the infamous and dangerous Khumbu icefall. The following day we carried on the ascent, skipping Camp 3 and pushing all the way to the top camp at the South Col (7900m). After only five hours' rest, we set off for the summit, departing our tent at 8pm and climbing through the night. It was bitterly cold and extremely windy, but there were very few other climbers, and we made good progress. Dawn broke as we reached the South Summit, illuminating the final summit ridge (including such famous landmarks as the Hillary Step). The breathtaking beauty of this scene was improved by the fact that we



were the only climbers up there, and we had the entirety of the summit ridge to ourselves. No queues for us! A short while later, Fursang and I embraced at the apex of the ridge, quite literally with the whole world at our feet!

It was a very different experience from that which I'd had 18 years previously. Climbing via a different route (and country) meant that it felt like a completely different mountain. Despite this, what I recognised on reflection was that the mountain hadn't really changed; it was essentially the same pile of rock and ice. It was I who had changed so much in those intervening years. It brought truth to perhaps Hillary's most famous quote: "It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves". The summit day was once again brutal, and at times it might have felt like Mother Nature herself was trying to push us back. However, it was overcoming the fatigue in our legs and emptiness in our lungs, but mostly doubt in our minds and concern in our hearts, which ultimately got us to the top and, most importantly, back down safely. And like my love of climbing, it was my formative years at Cheam which had started building those values of resilience and determination. So, in addressing all the current pupils at Cheam, I wish them all the best in making the most of the opportunities they have, and the exciting journeys in life that will follow. Onwards and upwards!

[www.jakemeyer.co.uk](http://www.jakemeyer.co.uk)



# Remembering the War Dead



1918 was the year in which the Great War ended. It was a world war that affected almost every community and institution around Britain. The attraction of leaving a rather mundane and dull farming or industrial life in exchange for an unknown adventure abroad resulted in a huge exodus of young people leaving their homeland to fight for King and Country. However, the general excitement and pride in taking part soon turned sour as reality set in, and battle after battle fought in quagmires over Europe led to a tragic loss of life never seen in such numbers in the history of mankind.

Once the war ended, people slowly came to terms with the immense devastation that the war had caused and the impact it had had on families and communities throughout the country, and it was decided that a national memorial in London, the Cenotaph, should be constructed. This was situated in Whitehall, beginning as a temporary structure erected for a peace parade following the end of the First World War, but after an outpouring of national sentiment it was replaced in 1920 by a permanent structure and designated the United Kingdom's primary national war memorial. Designed by Edwin Lutyens, the permanent structure was built from Portland stone between 1919 and 1920, replacing Lutyens' earlier wood-and-plaster cenotaph in the same location. Today a service is held at the site of the Cenotaph in Whitehall every year on the nearest Sunday to 11th November (Armistice Day). Lutyens' cenotaph design has been reproduced elsewhere in the UK and

also in other countries, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Bermuda and Hong Kong.

The idea of a memorial dedicated to those who lost their lives in war caught on very quickly, and before long every town and village had a structure to acknowledge their dead, often built in a prominent place or in a local churchyard. Settlements throughout the land also used their structures as the central point of their commemorative services in November.

Cheam was no exception, and we reproduce here an article from the Times newspaper printed in 1923, the year that Cheam's memorial plaques were dedicated:

*The Marquess of Milford Haven, an old boy of Cheam School, unveiled the war memorial there yesterday afternoon. Among the old boys present were General Sir Ian Hamilton, Admiral the Hon. Sir E.R. Freemantle, Brigadier-General Sir David Kinloch, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Bethune, with Lady Bethune, Lord Kintore, with*

*Lady Kintore, Lord Dunsany, with Lady Dunsany, Sir Charles Seely, with Lady Seely, and General Hopwood, with Mrs Hopwood.*

*Lord Milford Haven said that on the memorial there were the names of many dear friends. Each one of those names represented an individual, but they were grouped together as a concerted memorial to show what Cheam did for the Empire. One thing that made the Empire so great was the unselfish and sporting team spirit which was our priceless heritage. Each one of them was a member of a team, working and thinking only for the good of that team, as their great school mates whom they were honouring that day had done. The team was our great British Empire.*

*The memorial consists of antique oak panels extending along the eastern, western and northern walls of the chapel, and on them are the names of 126 old boys who fell in the war. The names have been carved by Mr A.S. Williams, the school inspector of carpentry, who for thirteen years taught cadets at the Royal Naval College, Osborne. The inscription reads: "Trained in this school to play the game without self-seeking and to face life without fear or boasting, those whose names are inscribed on this memorial faced death with courage and simplicity, and are for ever part of the glory of England". The clergy present included Bishop Taylor-Smith, Chaplain-General to the Forces, who dedicated the memorial and gave an address, and the Rev. H.M.S. Taylor, Headmaster of the school. The music was led by the choir of the school.*

Today the former chapel of Cheam School still exists, but its surroundings are unrecognisable as the rest of the old school buildings were demolished in the 1930s. The chapel remained empty until after the Second World War, when it was bought and became St Christopher's Catholic Church in Cheam Village. If one goes into the building today, one can still see a memorial plaque to Arthur Tabor in the former porch and the indents below each window, where the memorial plaques were fixed. When the school moved to Beenham Court in 1934, the memorial plaques were amongst the luggage that went to the new building. Initially, they were fixed to the wall at the east end of the school hall, later the downstairs classrooms off the chapel corridor. When a new chapel was built in 1967, the plaques were moved to the southern end of this building, but there was no room for them to remain there after the gallery was added in 2001, so they were then moved to the chapel foyer, where they remain to this day. Today, 100 years later, they continue to serve as a reminder of the sacrifice that old boys of the school made during the Great War to enable us, the present generation, to enjoy the freedoms that we have today, and every year their names form a central part of the school's Remembrance Service.

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For The Record 2023

Here are the statistics relating to the 2023 Leavers:

The Leavers in the school for the longest period of time were Araminta HOFFMAN, Edward GREY and Rory SAMUELS-BROWN, who started in the Nursery together in September 2012.

The longest associated family, having completed 18 years without a break, was the WILSON family. In July we said goodbye to Arthur WILSON (13-23), whose sisters, Clara WILSON (05-13) and Phoebe WILSON (05-15), were also educated at Cheam.

The family whose children's total number of terms added together came out on top was the WILSON family, who totalled 84 terms between them – Clara WILSON (05-13), Phoebe WILSON (05-15) and Arthur WILSON (13-23).

The furthest back a leaving family goes was the WILSON family, who started their association with Cheam in 2005.

2023 also saw the centenary of the dedication of the War Memorial plaques at the old Cheam School in Surrey. These memorials are now in the chapel foyer at today's Cheam and contain the names of those who died in the First World War. We are reminded of them every year at the Remembrance Service in November.

25 years ago, in 1998, Chris Evers retired after 13 years as Headmaster of Cheam. He was succeeded by Mark Johnson.



# News of Staff & Former Pupils

**John BURNIE (71-73, 76-80)** initially taught at Cheam as a school leaver and a few years later returned to teach mainly Science. In the 2022 Newsletter we reproduced an article written by him for the *Preparatory Schools Review* (June 1979). When corresponding about this article, he mentioned that he and his partner, Ann Louise, sailed their own yacht to the Caribbean in 2000. They lived there and in Venezuela permanently until 2010. They returned their yacht to the UK in 2019 but still spend parts of the year sailing off somewhere. At the time of writing, he was about to sail to Madeira to deliver a motor yacht to La Rochelle. He often sees Alex Drummond (72-77) and James Troup (68-72), both of whom are involved as captain or owner representatives in the superyacht industry. They also both attended the Cheam/Bosham Sea School courses. John writes as follows: “In 2009 I founded a regatta in Antigua called the RORC Caribbean 600, which has now become very well known. I entered a very famous French Orma 60 trimaran in the first two editions to establish a course record, which stood for some years. The idea was that it would attract the famous French racing crews, and in time this has worked as my record has finally been beaten! I don’t include any of the superyachts I race on as the owners of the big vessels rather value their privacy. I currently race on a 66m yacht, which we thought we had seriously broken when we heard a large crash down below, but it turned out that in the saloon a suit of armour had fallen onto the grand piano. Some people have things on their yachts that I don’t!”



**Isabella BROMHEAD (03-08)** appeared on the front of *Country Life* on 19th July 2023. She is mentioned as being the associate director of Fine Art Commissions.



**Charles CRAVEN (05-10)** is now a Lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards. He was chosen to take part in the Queen’s Vigil and a Guard of Honour below St George’s Chapel steps in Windsor for the Queen’s funeral. In the photo he is pictured front right. He deployed to Iraq at the start of 2023 as part of Operation Shader. He is now based at the Infantry Training Centre in Yorkshire, training new recruits to become guardsmen.



**George CRAVEN (02-07)** is working alongside a colleague in recruitment. They recruit in the FinTech area, based in London, but all their clients and candidates are in the US.

**Edward de RENZY-MARTIN (91-96)** is living in Copenhagen, is married and has four children.

**Henry de RENZY-MARTIN (92-97)** is teaching Maths at Cottesmore Preparatory School in West Sussex.

**Ian FOLEY (82-87)** visited Cheam in July and is pictured with the Headmaster, William Phelps. After Cheam he was educated at Harrow School. He is married to Emily, and they have two children, Alexandra and William. Ian writes as follows: “I spent the last 25 years in San Francisco, enjoying the outdoor life and building start-up companies from idea to exit. I have fond memories of Jenks (Roy Somerset, 70-87) teaching me to shoot straighter, and I still have the wonky box that I badly crafted under the eye of John Penhale (57-90).”



**Archie GRAY (08-15)** returned to Edinburgh University for his final year in September.

**Daisy GRAY (08-13)** has graduated from Newcastle University, but in September her degree had yet to be marked due to the ongoing strikes, which was unbelievably frustrating for her.

**Ivo GRAY (08-18)** completed his ‘A’ Levels in the Summer Term and achieved the grades required to read Politics and Philosophy at Exeter University.

**Jerome GRIFFIN (90-00)** writes as follows: “2022 has been a year of retirement, but on paper only, as I have been doing plenty of relief teaching due to Covid and other illnesses. The Griffin family is in fine form. Erin, my eldest daughter (15), entered Year 10 in February. She is devoted to surfing and spends a great deal of her time on the beach catching waves with her sister, Amy, and their group of friends. Amy (12) has started secondary school and she, too, is into surfing. In fact, both girls have just come back from Margaret River after spending ten days in the water amongst some heavy waves. They were fortunate to attend a three-day surfing camp with ten other surfers, during which we dropped them off at 7.00 am and picked them up at 4.30 pm. At the end of this camp they were ‘wrecked’. However, they informed me it was great fun and are booked in to do another three-day course at Easter. Sue continues to do the marketing for four schools over here and is flat out with her job, which manages to keep her out of mischief. I currently have my leg in a moon boot after having my left ankle reconstructed. It has been six weeks since the operation, and the surgeon has given me the all-clear to begin putting some weight on my leg. At the moment, I am like a baby giraffe who has to learn to walk again, so it is baby steps at the moment.”



**Alexandra HENSON (99-99)** took up a nursing career after leaving St Swithun’s School in Winchester and is currently working in the A&E Department at Middlesex Hospital.

**Sophie HERRMANN (09-18)** became world champion in the Junior Women’s Olympic Skeet. Her incredible success took place at the International Shooting Sport Federation world championships, held in Croatia in October 2022. Indeed, she became GB’s first junior female to ever win a gold medal at the world championships in a shooting discipline.



**Anthony HOWARD (44-50)** writes as follows: “I was seven when I went to Cheam in 1944 – too young to be a fighter pilot, though I did learn to fly. My mother won the doubles at Wimbledon in 1932. Her prize was a £5 Harrods voucher. My father was captain of the English rugby fifteen, while my brother, Philip, was head boy at Cheam and shared a speaking platform at the school with the Duke of Edinburgh during the tercentenary celebration. He won a scholarship to Eton, where I followed him four years later. We both went on to Trinity College, Oxford. Philip spent most of his working life writing for The Times after leaving the Black Watch and winning the sword of honour at Eaton Hall. I worked in theatre, film and television for more than 60 years, writing and directing movies. I could not have done it without the solid support of my Irish wife, Elisabeth Casement, a relative of Sir Roger Casement. Together we set up and launched our film company, Countrywide Films. Today, in our mid-80s, while our daughter, Katie, makes the films, we run a smallholding in the New Forest, shear our own sheep, work the meadows with a 1959 Massey Ferguson tractor, grow hundreds of bales of hay, visit men in prison, pick up a mass of roadside litter on Sunday mornings, keep Minstead churchyard

clean and tidy, and enjoy the company of our friends and neighbours. I play tennis three times a week, travelling to the locations in my MGB GT, as well as some cricket, and I go swimming in the ocean without a wet suit – probably all due to my wartime education at Cheam. The end of our road is now in sight, so we mustn’t waste any time worrying about the future.”



In October 2022 several Cheam staff took part in the London Marathon: **Kate HUDSON** (Head of Learning Development) (08-), **George JOHNSTONE** (Teacher of Maths and Science) (20-), **Juliet MOORE** (Registrar) (15-) and **Michael SHAUGHNESSY** (Teacher of Maths and Science; Head of Year 7) (13-). The charities they ran for were the Outward Bound Trust, Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity and Parkinson’s UK.

**Charles LANGLEY (01-11)** went to Sherborne School after leaving Cheam. He played a lot of football and cricket there and was very passionate about his Art, in which he achieved the highest grades at GCSE and ‘A’ Level. He left to read Business Management at Oxford Brookes and was awarded a 2:1, before travelling in Europe. He is now pursuing a career on superyachts, with the goal of becoming a captain in the future. He has worked on some incredible boats, including a 93m sailing yacht and an 85m motor yacht.

**George LANGLEY (00-09)** attended Sherborne School after Cheam, where he studied Business Studies, Spanish, English and Art. He was a keen sailor for the school, as well as playing football and cricket. He went on to the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester to study International Business Management and Spanish, where he was awarded a 2:1. Most of his subsequent gap year was spent in Argentina, working at a boarding school. He now works for a rapid-growth equine health business, responsible for business growth outside the UK and North America. He is based in Catalunya but usually visits the family a couple of times a year.

**Piers LANGLEY (10-20)**. After a record 21 years without a break, the Langley association at Cheam concluded when Piers left to join Sherborne School in 2020, entering his GCSE year in September 2022. He has been very active on the sporting front, playing in the front row for the ‘A’ rugby team and training with the Bath Academy. He hit a top score of 97 not out in a T20 cricket match in 2022.

**Zara LANGLEY (10-16)** left Cheam in 2016 and had a great time at St Mary’s School, Calne, where she was incredibly proud of the four A\*s which she achieved at ‘A’ Level in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry. She was also a very active netball and tennis player. Zara started her second year at Durham University in September 2022, where she is reading Chemistry. She plans to complete her Master’s overseas, perhaps in Australia or the United States.

**Hamish MACASKILL (82-87)** works for Rothschild Diamonds Ltd, where he is a Director. He is married to Anna, and they have two children, Angus (aged 14, at Tonbridge School) and Olivia (aged 11, at Sevenoaks Prep). They live in Kent.

**Lara PIGOTT (99-02)** is Deputy Head at Broomwood Hall in London and has recently renovated her house with her partner, Dom Santos.

**Grace PRECIOUS (98-04)**, née Pigott, has her own event business in London, called With Grace. She planned her own wedding during the pandemic, legally marrying in December 2020 and with a larger celebration in December 2021. She has since had a baby boy named Jasper, born on 6th March 2023, with her husband, Alexander Precious.





# News of Staff & Former Pupils

**Abbie RIGGS (2014-)** and her husband, William, have had a baby daughter, Beatrix Rosina Riggs, born on 10th February 2023. The picture was taken at her christening in October 2023.



**Molly SARWAR (99-06)**, née Pigott, has been working in London for the last ten years and is currently commercial director at True Travel. She married Dilshad Sarwar in London on 13th October 2023.

**Hugh SCROPE (04-10)** is in the Army, serving in the Coldstream Guards.

**Anouska SHEARER (01-05)** owns and runs The Peligoni Club on the Greek island of Zakynthos. She looks after the Guest Relations team, taking care of 100 villas and making sure guests have the best holiday experience. Anouska oversees activities that include a crèche, Sharky & George, teenage entertainment and water sports. During the winter she is back in the London office, working on sales and operations. The Peligoni is a popular destination for many Cheam families, and pictured here are four of our younger alumnae enjoying themselves.



Bronte Murray (12-), Otilie Murray (15-), Araminta Hoffman (12-23) and Anouska.

**Sophie STAVES (21-)** and her husband, Ben, had a baby boy, Alfie Gordon Staves, born on 22nd September 2022.

**Emma TRINDER (14-)**, née Watts, and her husband, Tom, were married in the Farleigh School Chapel on 23rd July 2022. Among the guests was Philip Watts (01-17), and Michael Shaughnessy (13-) was best man. Other staff attended the day, and many more joined in at an evening event, when Jack Rennie (17-19) and Ellie Verkerk (17-19) performed with their band, Moonshine.



Anouska Shearer

**Jake WOOLFENDEN (00-06)** married Emma Glyn on 31st December 2022 at Bona Dea, Hermanus, South Africa. They originally met at Cape Town University. Jake's brothers, Douglas (00-10) and Buster (00-09), were his best men.



In the 2022 Newsletter six Year 8 Leavers were missed off the list of those who left Cheam at the end of the Summer Term in that year. We apologise for this error and include below their names and the schools to which they went:

- Edward DAVISON (12-22)** – Eton
- Ralph Du BOULAY (15-22)** – Bradfield
- Milo MCGIVERN (12-22)** – Eton
- Tom MINERS (12-22)** – Wellington
- Edward REEVE (12-22)** – Winchester
- Siena STRONG (17-22)** – Wellington

We hope they have enjoyed their first year at their respective schools.

# News of the 2017 Leavers

We are grateful to the following former pupils who left Cheam in 2017 for letting us know where they are at university and what they did during a gap year:

**Tom ALLEN-ELLIS (08-17)** is in his second year at Durham University, reading Geography.

**Tallulah ANDREWS (07-17)** is doing a degree course in Florence at Accademia Italiana, studying Interior and Product Design for three years.

**Yolanda ARBER (07-17)**. After an incredibly empowering and fulfilling five years at Bradfield College, followed by a gap year, Yolanda is now in her first year at Imperial College, London, reading Chemistry. During her gap year she had the opportunity to travel to Argentina with her brother, Manny. It was great to experience something so different from day-to-day life. Yolanda also took Maths 'A' Level in one year in preparation for her degree.

**Benji BARNES (11-17)**. After five happy and successful years at Wellington College, Benji went on to study the Dual BA Program between Trinity College, Dublin, and Columbia University. Currently studying Biomedical Sciences at Trinity, he is loving university life, mostly thanks to the Irish Guinness! After Cheam and Wellington, he carried on his sporting lifestyle and is trying to get himself into the college 1s for football. Over the summer he worked in Tokyo as an intern for a Biotech consultancy firm and thoroughly enjoyed it. He hopes to carry on his travels, to South America, next summer. He often looks back on his golden Cheam years with fond memories and is still very close with many other 2017 leavers.



**Flora BIRKMYRE (11-17)**. After five happy years at Marlborough College, Flora took a gap year, helping at a prep school before working in Verbier and travelling around Europe. She has just started at Cambridge University, reading History.

**Celia CHANCELLOR (07-17)** is at Exeter University studying Geography, following a fulfilling gap year travelling in SE Asia with friends and setting up an online scarf business.

**Isabella CHRISTIAN (08-17)**. After Marlborough College, Izzy travelled in Kenya and SE Asia. She is now in her first year at Edinburgh University, reading International Relations.

**Lucy CLEVERLY (10-17)**. After leaving Marlborough College, Lucy worked at Pembroke House in Kenya and then travelled in SE Asia. This summer she enjoyed working at the Cheam Summer Camp. She has started at Bristol University, studying Spanish and History.

**Freddie COLQUHOUN (10-17)** enjoyed his five years at Eton College. He is now going into his second year at Durham University (Hatfield College), where he is reading Philosophy. He spent the summer kitesurfing in Morocco and travelled around the Middle East.

**Adam CRIPWELL (08-17)** is reading Business Management at Newcastle University. He took a gap year after leaving Marlborough College and worked at Fugitives Drift Lodge in South Africa with a friend for three months. Then he travelled around SE Asia with two friends for four months. He supplemented his travels with local pub work.



**William DAWSON (08-17)** went to Eton College, where he continued to enjoy playing cricket and golf in particular. He left with 'A' Levels in Spanish, Italian and Economics, and after spending six weeks working for the Caribbean Premier League cricket tournament, followed by six months travelling in South America during his gap year, he recently started at Bristol University, where he is reading Spanish and International Business.

**Luke DOYNE (14-17)** is at Exeter University in his first year, studying Business and Management. Luke spent his gap year working in London and travelling in South America.

**Lily EADIE (06-17)**. After leaving Marlborough College, Lily spent three months working as a gapper in London. She then travelled around SE Asia. She is now at Bristol University, reading English Literature.

**Nancy EADIE (07-17)** started her gap year working for Hauser and Wirth in London for two months. This was followed by working at the Virginia Hayward hamper packing company on the factory floor throughout the winter months. Having saved up, she set off for South and Central America, embarking on many adventures, such as skydiving, swimming with sharks and climbing Volcano Acatenango. She is now studying History of Art at Edinburgh University.

**Sam EADIE (12-17)**. After he left Eton College in the summer of 2022, he was accepted by Durham University to study Philosophy. Sam has since had a gap year, when he worked in Starbucks to earn funds for travel around New Zealand and SE Asia, and then finished up in Colombia and Ecuador. He has just started at Hatfield College in Durham.

**Emily EDGINGTON (14-17)** loved her five years at Marlborough College. She is now in her second year at Durham University (Hatfield College), reading Geography. She spent the holidays travelling in Kenya.



# News of the 2017 Leavers

**Tim EILEC (12-17)** went to Pangbourne College after Cheam, where he thrived. In September 2022 he moved to Amsterdam, where he is in his second year studying Computer Science.

**Jasper FANSHAWE (12-17)** went to Radley College. He then spent a ski season in Whistler and travelled in California. He is now studying Design for Industry at Northumbria University.

**Daniel FEARON (12-17)** took a gap year and travelled around Mexico and Guatemala with friends, followed by a trip to South Korea on his own. He is now in his first year studying Music and Sound Recording (BSc) at the University of Surrey.

**Ruby FREELAND (14-17)** left St Edward’s School, Oxford, and went straight to university. She is reading Psychology at King’s College, London, with an interest in criminal justice.

**Alara FUCHS-CERRAHOGLU (14-17).** After leaving Marlborough College, Alara spent a year in New York. She is now in her first year at UAL (University Arts London) in Camberwell, studying Fine Art.

**Tilly GIBBENS (14-17)** is studying English Literature at Bristol University after doing scuba-diving volunteering in Fiji during her gap year.

**Hugh GOLDSBOROUGH (10-17).** After leaving Marlborough College, Hugh spent the next six months working in London. He then went on to teach children in Kathmandu in Nepal, before travelling through SE Asia on his gap year. He is now at Cardiff University, studying Archaeology and Conservation.

**Olivia HARFORD (11-17)** had a great gap year, completing a couple of internships in London, before a busy stint working at Fortnum and Mason in the run-up to Christmas. She travelled in SE Asia from January and taught English at a school in Cambodia, before joining friends to visit many of the famous landmarks. In September she began studying Philosophy at Trinity College, Dublin.

**Edward HARRIS (16-17)** is in his second year at the University of Manchester, reading Geography.

**Rowan HATHAWAY (12-17)** is in his second year at Newcastle University, studying Business, Law and Spanish. He plays squash for the university team. Before starting at Newcastle, he spent a month travelling around Vietnam and Thailand. He is currently planning for his third year at university, which will be spent working or studying in a Spanish-speaking country.

**Thomas HELM (12-17)** thoroughly enjoyed life at St Edward’s School, Oxford, becoming Head of Field House, captain of shooting and cross-country, excelling at Design, being awarded a scholarship and becoming the founder of the St Edward’s Design Society. He went straight to Loughborough University to study for a four-year degree in Industrial Design. He is currently in his second year and, although he did not take a gap year, he has still managed a month at Fugitives Drift Lodge at Rorke’s Drift in South Africa, applying his design instinct to the building of bridges around the area and managing the quick-reaction maintenance team (QRT). This last summer saw him working at Ascot, Henley and Newbury racecourses, followed by a month travelling in Montenegro, Albania and Greece.

**Albert HOBSON (12-17)** finished his ‘A’ Levels at St Edward’s School, Oxford, in the summer of 2022. He began university that September at dBs Institute of Sound & Digital Technologies in Bristol, doing a three-year Electronic Music Production course. Alongside studies and a part-time job, he has just started working on a radio station in Bristol as an Assistant Creative Producer to gain valuable experience in the music industry, in the hopes of one day being able to fashion a career for himself somewhere in the music industry, wherever that might be.

**Zach HOLMES (12-17)** left Eton College and is at Durham University, reading Visual Art & Film. He started his gap year by inter-railing around Europe and volunteering for the Folkowisko Foundation, living in a warehouse on the Polish border and working throughout western Ukraine. This was followed by three months working as a greenkeeper in Queenstown, New Zealand, and at a winery in California.



**Scarlett HUDSON (12-17).** After completing her ‘A’ Levels at Bradfield College, Scarlett had a successful gap year working in London and then travelling to Kenya and South America. She is now at Bristol University, studying History of Art.

**Matilda JOHNSON (12-17)** is the essence of a true all-rounder, who excelled both academically and in her extracurricular activities at Sherborne Girls’. Taking a well-deserved gap year following her ‘A’ Levels, Matilda spent the Autumn Term working full-time at a local prep school. Thanks to her completing her Leith’s Cooking Course at Sherborne Girls’, she was able to secure a much sought-after position working in a private chalet in Méribel for the winter ski season. Her thirst for adventure continued as, together with a school friend, the pair embarked on a four-month journey through South America, exploring the wonders of Machu Picchu, trekking in the Amazon and embarking on daring escapades in Colombia. Matilda started at Exeter University in the autumn of 2023, where she is studying Sports Science.

**Molly JONES (13-17)** is in her second year at Edinburgh University, where she is studying Art. During the summer holidays she worked at Wimbledon, qualified as a sailing instructor and travelled around Bali with some university friends.

**Imogen KNIGHT (12-17).** After leaving Sherborne Girls’, Immie spent six months starting a mural-painting business. She then went to volunteer in Cambodia, where she helped build a house for an old lady in need and also worked with some amazing kids. Immie then continued her travels in SE Asia, New Zealand (with Zach Holmes) and China, which she loved. She has just gone up to Cambridge University and is studying History of Art at Downing College, as well as singing in the chapel choir and playing football.

**Freddie LAPPIN (15-17)** took a gap year after ‘A’ Levels and worked at both the Anvil and at a stage-lighting company for some ‘behind the scenes’ experience. He travelled to South America with Jake Ollerenshaw, where they had adventures in Colombia and Argentina, as well as every country in between. He is now studying Creative Music Production at UWE, Bristol. He and Albert Hobson regularly meet up and continue their music-making together.

**Max LANKESTER (07-17)** attended Eton College after Cheam and is now studying Philosophy at Newcastle University.

**Sam LUSSIER (13-17)** is at Bristol University, reading French.

**Henry MOORE (14-17)** is in his first year reading Politics at Exeter University. He had a great gap year. He worked in Waitrose and with a start-up educational company for six months, in order to gain work experience and raise money for travelling. He then travelled to Washington DC before travelling solo for a month around Mexico, Belize and Guatemala. This was followed by a further three months in seven more countries, including Nicaragua, Peru and Bolivia. The summer was spent enjoying festivals such as Glastonbury and holidaying in Europe, before starting at university.



**Amelia MORRIS (09-17).** After St Mary’s School, Calne, Amelia had a gap year, travelling in SE Asia. She is now at Newcastle University, reading Sociology.

**Jake OLLERENSHAW (10-17)** is at the University of the West of England.

**Phoebe PILKINGTON (12-17)** is in her second year at Durham University, studying Modern Languages, and is heading to Italy and South America next year for a year abroad.

**Madeleine PRICE (12-17).** After Marlborough College, Maddie took a gap year, which included studying Art History in Italy and working as a nanny in Val d’Isère. She is now at Edinburgh University, reading History of Art.

**Carriack REID (11-17)** went to Harrow School after Cheam, where he took up polo and played for the school team. He is now in his second year at Bristol University, studying for a degree in Business & Management. He is still playing polo, now for the university polo team at the Beaufort Polo Club, and spent the summer following his first year travelling in Asia. Next summer he hopes to do a finance internship in London.

**Andrew RUSH (08-17)** took a gap year in SE Asia, including India, and has now started at Exeter University, studying Ancient History.

**Willow SMILEY (13-17)** took a gap year, where she split her time between working in Hong Kong, training to be a ski instructor in Val d’Isère and backpacking around South America. She is now in her first year at Durham University (Hatfield College), reading Renewable Energy Engineering.

**Alicia TOMACELLI (10-17).** Lissy is at Imperial College, London, reading Medical Bioscience. At Imperial she is a member of the Paediatric Society and is representing her college at rowing and in the first hockey team with Yoli Arber. Before this, she had a gap year working at Eaton House in Belgravia and travelling around South America, from Argentina to Mexico, with Marlborough friends. She also spent a month in Florence, where she undertook a History of Art and Italian Language course. In the weeks before going to Imperial, she worked as an intern, gaining work experience with a tech company in London.

**Florence WATT (08-17).** After leaving Sherborne Girls’, Florence spent three months working as a gapper in London. She then travelled around SE Asia for five months with Lily Eadie and Lucy Cleverly. She is now at Newcastle University.



**Flora WELCHMAN (10-17).** After leaving St Edward’s School, Oxford, Flora travelled around SE Asia during her gap year and is now at Exeter University, reading Sociology.



**Rufus WILLIAMS (10-17)** went to Harrow School after Cheam and then went straight up to Edinburgh University. He has just started his second year studying Geography with Business, and is loving the whole experience.

**Georgie WYRLEY-BIRCH (12-17).** After five happy years at St Mary’s School, Calne, Georgie took a gap year. She spent four wonderful months in the South African bush, training to be a field guide, and then spent two months travelling around SE Asia. She is now at Oxford Brookes University, studying Biosciences.





# The Cheam Foundation



As well as being the school’s hub for communication with alumni, The Cheam Foundation also supports current and future generations of children at Cheam via fundraising for life-changing bursaries.

The Cheam Foundation relies on the generosity and commitment of its supporters, and we are enormously grateful for all the financial support we receive. Funds enable Cheam to remain one of the UK’s leading prep schools and go from strength to strength for generations to come.

The Cheam Foundation is a registered charity (Charities Commission no. 1177913), ensuring that all donations are ring-fenced from school finances and only used for the Foundation’s registered objectives: life-changing bursaries and capital projects. The Foundation has an independent set of Trustees, who include past and present parents, alumni and one current school Governor.



Please contact  
Victoria (Vale) Edgington,  
Development Director  
[edgingtonv@cheamschool.co.uk](mailto:edgingtonv@cheamschool.co.uk)  
for further information.

## Life-changing Bursaries

Supporting able students from different backgrounds is part of our broader philosophy and our culture of giving at Cheam. As an independent school we are acutely aware that financial barriers often prevent promising children from coming to Cheam. The Cheam Foundation seeks to address this by fundraising for bursaries for talented boys and girls from disadvantaged backgrounds.

We are delighted to have partnered with The Royal National Children’s SpringBoard Foundation. SpringBoard is a national charity which identifies children who are most likely to benefit from a boarding school education, and finds these children by working with local charities, local authorities and youth groups in communities across the UK, particularly in areas of high social deprivation.



The Cheam Foundation hosted various fundraising events throughout the year, and we are extremely grateful to all those parents and alumni who supported, attended and helped to organise them.

## Sing for your Supper

On 24th February 2023, the Foundation took over the Chapel for a riotous night of singing and merriment at “Sing for your Supper”. Tim Bennett and parent Charlie Chipchase compèred a songbook of over 20 hits, with past and present parents in full song!



1. Tim Bennett and Charlie Chipchase 2. Georgie Steward, Jemma Eadie and Lucinda Blocker  
3. Ben Jones, Kip Eadie and Rachel Durden-Smith 4. Rupert Clark, Sophie Hume and Georgie Wells

## Social Media Workshop

On 7th March 2023, the Foundation hosted a Social Media Workshop, with Cheam parents Charlotte Left (Social Marmalade) and Jodie Teare (Lullaloop) advising fellow parents on how to promote their businesses via social media, as well as offering advice on their children’s usage.



## Private Peaceful Gala

On 16th March 2023, the Year 8 parents transformed the Dining Room into a scene from WW1 Devon for the *Private Peaceful* Opening Night Gala. Guests enjoyed a fabulous raffle, drinks, supper, ice creams and popcorn, and all eyes were on the spectacular themed cake, designed and donated by a Year 8 parent.





# Cheam Fiesta Party

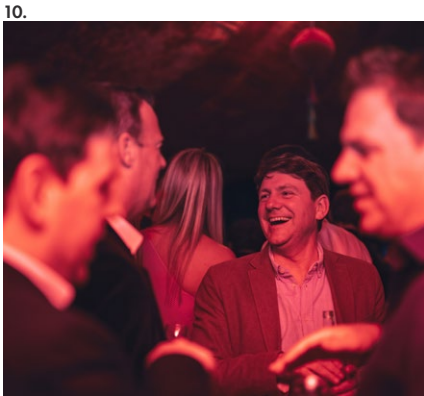
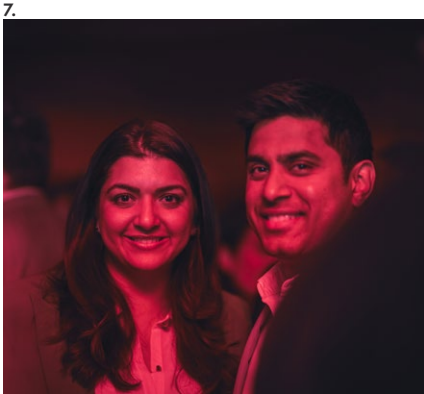
On 22nd April 2023, over 250 parents danced the night away at the Cheam Fiesta Party. It was a fabulous night of cocktails, dinner and dancing, with an exciting silent and live auction raising over £40,000.



We are extremely grateful to Leslie Pratt and Cricket Fine Art, Strutt & Parker, JM Finn, Codigo Tequila, Bertha's Revenge, Jamie Freeman and Haringtons for so generously sponsoring this event, and also to the many alumni and parents who kindly donated to our auction and fundraising Gift Tree, and the Committee of parents who put this special evening together.



1. William Phelps, Nick Milbank and Tom Kemp  
2. Sophie Francis, Victoria Edgington and Jo Spice  
3. Matt Ruane, Charlotte Left, Georgie Hughes, Josh Hughes, Pete Left and Sarah Ruane 4. Matt and Nicola Small  
5. Chloe Kirkness, Rory Kirkness, Caroline Thomas and Jamie Thomas 6. Charlotte Peel, Clem Paine and Sandy Gill 7. Priyanka and Dilen Patel  
8. William Phelps and Sophie Green 9. Kate Hudson, Charlie Hoffman, Christian Bearman and James Murray  
10. Hugo Fildes, Hugh Whitworth, Matt Ruane and Ed Franklin 12. Alex Francis, Rhoda Clark and Louise Greene



## Summer Collective

On 11th May 2023, the Foundation welcomed hundreds of shoppers to the Summer Collective. The Sports Hall was transformed into a deluxe shopping fair with over 50 fabulous brands selling their wares and contributing to the Foundation's fundraising.





# London Reunion

It was a great pleasure to welcome over 100 former Cheam pupils to the Foundation's London Drinks at the Savile Club on 8th February 2023. It was wonderful to see so many from across the decades reminiscing about old times and reconnecting old friendships.



1. Tara Wilson, Hannah Cameron, Scarlet Eadie, Milo Daly, Archie Koe and Tilly Daly 2. Tom Haigh and Carola Pease 3. Simon Phillips and David Phillips 4. David Daukes and Clendon Daukes 5. Henry Herbert and James Fewtrell 6. Pandora Covell, Tristan Boyd, Tom Haigh and Charlie Covell 7. Chris Wilson and Renshaw Hiscox 8. Othilie Barnes, Eliza Cameron, Pandora Covell and Arabella Methuen 9. Hubie Morant and Hector Lloyd 10. Guy Duder and Jamie Freeman 11. William Kinnear, Charles Michell, Andrew Chance, Charlie Twallin, Tom Haigh, Casper Sunley and William Phelps 12. Gus Stafford Allen and Christopher Calcutt 13. Rick Marsh and William Phelps 14. Angus Woollett, Miles Kellock and George Shipton 15. Charles and Sara Michell 16. Alex Mooney, Charles Anslow-Wilson, Patrick Evans, Gus Morse and Luke Farrant 17. Arthur Fane, Luke Farrant, Alex Mooney, Tom Haigh, Patrick Evans and Gus Morse 18. Charlie Covell, Freddie Nevill, Tristan Boyd, Nick Milbank and Tom Cayford



## Year 8 Retreat

Thanks to the generosity of alumni, as well as our 2020, 2021 and 2023 Leavers, 2023 saw the completion of the Foundation’s first capital project, the new Year 8 Retreat. Commanding spectacular views over the Cheam grounds, the Retreat was kindly designed by Kate Stewart Interiors (Kate was a past parent) and features giant sofas, a pool table and a soft cork floor. It is an exclusive space for our top year group to relax and socialise in, and big enough to accommodate the entire year group. The Year 8s are loving it!



## Cheam Website

This year Cheam launched a new website, created by the talented team at the Web Kitchen Company. The website is a wonderful tool and resource for all members of the Cheam community to stay up to date with the latest news and events, as well as a fantastic showcase of life, learning and all things childhood at Cheam. With a wide variety of content, from videos, to meet the teachers, pupil case studies, newsletters, admission support and more, the website also has a dedicated area for parents and for the Alumni and Cheam Foundation. Beautiful line-drawn animations are peppered across the site, so please do look out for them! To explore the new site visit [www.cheamschool.co.uk](http://www.cheamschool.co.uk).



## Cheam Buggy

We are very grateful to the 2022 Leavers, who kindly donated a smart new Cheam-branded buggy for use around the school grounds. The buggy is now in action and is a huge help for the matrons on match days.



## The Cheam Archives

We are building our archives of Cheam photographs and other memorabilia. As well as enhancing the Mallinson Room, our small in-school museum, the aim is to enable others within our community to have access to digital archives in the future. If you have any Cheam memorabilia you are prepared to donate, or allow us to copy, please call the Foundation Office on 01635 268242 or email [foundation@cheamschool.co.uk](mailto:foundation@cheamschool.co.uk)

If you were in the Pre-Prep in the early noughties and have any photos from that time, we would be very grateful to receive them to include in an exhibition we are planning. Please contact the Foundation Office on 01635 268242 or email [edgingtonv@cheamschool.co.uk](mailto:edgingtonv@cheamschool.co.uk)

# We Shall Remember Them

### Robin Hugh Aliham BRODHURST (1952-2023, CHEAM 60-65)

Robin Brodhurst was born in Winchester in 1952 and educated at Cheam School, Marlborough College and R.M.A. Sandhurst before being commissioned into the Royal Green Jackets for six years. On leaving the Army, he read History at Goldsmiths’ College, London University, and completed a P.G.C.E. at Selwyn College, Cambridge. He taught History for a total of 30 years, first at Berkhamsted School, then at Ampleforth College, and finally at Pangbourne College, where he was Head of History for 20 years. He played cricket all his active life and was a member of the MCC. He wrote *Churchill’s Anchor: a Biography of Adminal of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound* (2000) and edited *The Bramall Papers* (2017). He was a practising military historian, specialising in naval history, lecturing and reviewing regularly, and was Hon. Sec. of the Navy Records Society for 12 years. His other passion was jazz. He was a member of the Cheam School Association committee from 2011 to 2022. He died on 16th January 2023, aged 70.



### Roger Wykeham ELLIS 1929-2023, CHEAM 75-93)

Roger Ellis was born in Paddington, Westminster, in October 1929 and educated at St Peter’s School, Seaford, Winchester College, and Trinity College, Oxford, where he held a scholarship and graduated with a BA and MA. He served in the Royal Navy from 1947 to 1949. He was appointed an assistant master at Harrow School in 1952 and served as housemaster of the Headmaster’s House there from 1961 to 1967. In September 1967 he took up his first headship, at Rossall School, and in 1972 transferred to Marlborough College as Master. While at Marlborough, he was a member of the Wiltshire County Council Education Committee from 1975 to 1986. In 1983 he was elected as chairman of the Headmasters’ Conference and retired from teaching in 1986. Soon after leaving Marlborough, he was appointed by Barclays Bank as its Graduate Recruitment Manager, a role he carried out until 1991. In 1975 he joined the governing body of Cheam School and later chaired it from 1987 to 1993. He was also a governor of Campion School, Athens, Harrow School and St Edward’s School, Oxford, where he was chairman from 1992 to 1999. He died on 14th February 2023, at the age of 93.

### Stephen Beauclerk ELLWOOD (1926-2022, CHEAM 35-40)

Stephen Ellwood was born on 11th June 1926 and educated at Cheam in the late 1930s. At Cheam he owed a particular debt to Jack Malden, from whom he acquired a lifelong love of nature. His widow Pat wrote: “His happiest days were spent at Cheam, where under the tuition and guidance of Jack Malden he learnt to fish in the stream, to make his own rod, to learn about bees, butterflies and birds, and generally about nature. He was also a keen games player and a bit of a rebel!” He was a countryman through and through and was never more content than beside a river bank or in a point-to-point race. He won a point-to-point at the age of 63, he rode in a race at Larkhill in his late 70s and he negotiated the Okovango at a flat gallop at 80. He was a talented sculptor and cartoonist who drew his inspiration from the natural world and his wry observations of his fellow man. After Cheam, he was educated at Marlborough and Peterhouse, Cambridge. He joined the Army and served as a midshipman in submarines just after the war and later around the world with the Royal Sussex Regiment and the Parachute Regiment. Many spoke affectionately of his love for his soldiers and his loyalty to his friends. He and Pat enjoyed 72 years of marriage in over 30 homes, latterly in Somerset and Wiltshire. He is survived by Pat, their three children, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He died on 5th September 2022.

### Margaret Ann SMALLWOOD (1941-2023, CHEAM 98-02)

Margaret Smallwood was born on 31st March 1941 and died on 28th May 2023, aged 82 years. She left home in Newbury, aged 21, to marry Michael Smallwood in Kashmir, never previously having been abroad and braving four weeks of solo travel to the foothills of the Himalayas to be with a fiancé she hadn’t seen for 18 months. They spent eight happy years in India, where their two eldest sons, Simon and Pip, were born, and then, back in England, they moved to Wickham, where Matthew was born in 1971. In 1978 she embarked on a three-year course as a mature student at Bulmershe College in Reading to qualify as a teacher. This was followed by eight years at Crosfields School. Here she directed and designed costumes for a succession of school plays, including *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, a play that she was later to produce

at Cheam. She also linked up with the Newbury Community Theatre as wardrobe mistress for their production of *The Flower and The Nettle*. After Crosfields, she moved to St Gabriel’s in Newbury before taking on the role of headmistress at Inhurst School in the years leading up to its amalgamation with Cheam, where she spent her last years before retirement teaching in the pre-prep department, as well as Maths at the lower end of the prep school. She was also active in the prep-school teachers’ professional body, SATIPS, and became a prep schools inspector for several years. Away from schools, she also set up and ran a cub scout pack in Wickham, acted as treasurer for the local WI, sang in a choral society and involved herself in countless other local activities and events.

### We have also heard of the following deaths:

#### January 2023

Alistair Macaskill  
father of Hamish Macaskill (82-87)

#### March 2023

Phyllida Cooke  
mother of Sebastian (84-89) and  
Adam (89-94) Cooke

Vanessa Whitehead  
mother of Mark Whitehead (83-88)

#### April 2023

Richard Nevill  
father of Charles (05-10) and  
Frederick (07-13) Nevill

Michael Smallwood  
husband of Margaret Smallwood (98-02)

#### June 2023

Charles Hamilton-Russell  
husband of Claire Hamilton-Russell  
(Governor 23-), father of Sophia (04-12)  
and William (06-14) Hamilton-Russell

## Lucas Chapman

Our Boarding Parents, Tom and Fran Chapman, welcomed their second child, a little boy, Lucas William George Chapman, on Wednesday 22nd March 2023. However, Lucas, brother to Eleanor in Year 2, was very poorly and tragically died eight days later, having fought very bravely. Fran and Tom are raising money for the Neonatal Unit at the Princess Anne Hospital in Southampton, and if you would like to donate, here is a link: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tom-chapman22](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tom-chapman22)





# The Year 8 Leavers 2023

*The following scholarships were gained at public schools:*

**Turkay Altuntas**  
Marlborough College  
Design & Technology Scholarship

**Adelaide Atherton**  
Wellington College  
Academic Scholarship  
Music Scholarship

**Matilda Beck**  
Marlborough College  
Academic Scholarship

**Zara Bhagobati**  
Cheltenham Ladies' College  
Academic Scholarship  
Music Scholarship

**Benjamin Billinger**  
Lord Wandsworth College  
Art Scholarship

**Allegra Britton**  
Bradfield College  
Sport Scholarship

**Angus Eadie**  
Sherborne School  
Academic Scholarship  
Design & Technology Scholarship

**Penelope Hall**  
Marlborough College  
Sport Scholarship

**Poppy Harris**  
St Edward's School, Oxford  
Art Scholarship

**Araminta Hoffman**  
Marlborough College  
Sport Scholarship

**Iris Irwin**  
Bryanston School  
Academic Scholarship

**Callum McPhail**  
St Edward's School, Oxford  
Design & Technology Scholarship

**Evie Miles**  
Marlborough College  
Sport Scholarship

**Imogen Moore**  
Bradfield College  
Academic Scholarship

**Irene Trusted**  
Marlborough College  
Sport Scholarship

**Megan Webster**  
Charterhouse School  
Sport Scholarship

## Save the Date

### LONDON DRINKS

The Foundation will be hosting a London Drinks for alumni on Tuesday 27th February 2024 at 6.30pm at the Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, London, W1K 4ER. Please spread the word to other Cheam friends and email [foundation@cheamschool.co.uk](mailto:foundation@cheamschool.co.uk) to register.

### PRE-PREP 25TH ANNIVERSARY

2024 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Cheam Pre-Prep. To mark this special anniversary, the Foundation will be hosting a Concert and Afternoon Tea at Cheam on Tuesday 19th March 2024 from 2pm to 4pm. We would love past pupils from the Pre-Prep to join us.

### CHRIS & PENNY EVERS MEMORIAL

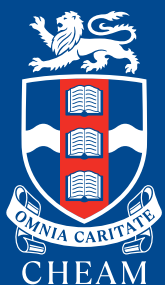
The School will be hosting a Memorial Service for Chris and Penny Evers on Saturday 24th February 2024. We would be delighted if alumni, past parents and staff would like to join us at this special service. Everyone is welcome. The service will take place in the Cheam Chapel at 11am and guests will be invited to stay for a light sandwich lunch afterwards.

*In addition, the following Year 8 children left Cheam for their future schools:*

Alice Basden	Wellington
Arthur Bates	Radley
George Berry	Sherborne
Rhys Beynon	Marlborough
Aoife Boyd	Bradfield
Nina Chipchase	Bradfield
Sam Clark	Marlborough
Caspian Collett	Milton Abbey
Wilfred Copcutt	Cheltenham
Alastair Dunn	Radley
Sam Evans	Bradfield
Archie Fairman	Sherborne
Wilmot Fisher	Marlborough
Lucas Flower	Wellington
Edward Grey	Radley
Chloe Hume	Wellington

Frederick Hume	Radley
Leonid Ippolitov	Radley
Alexandra Irvine	Marlborough
Benjamin Jack	Eton
Finley Jacques	Bradfield
Silver Marriott	St Mary's, Calne
Alfred Marsh	Winchester
Saskia McEwen	St Edward's, Oxford
Otto Morris	Marlborough
Finlay Mullings	Radley
Mathilda Nolte	St Mary's, Calne
Lily Parke	Bradfield
Henry Pockney	Marlborough
Nico Remnant	Eton
Frederick Risso-Gill	Sherborne
Beau Roughneen	Pangbourne

Finley Saish	Marlborough
Rory Samuels-Brown	Pangbourne
Fergus Sanderson	Canford
Archie Scarisbrick	Radley
Clementine Sunley	Wellington
Jessica Tayabali	Marlborough
Hugo Tregoning	Eton
Miranda Tyser	Marlborough
Daisy Warren	Marlborough
Conrad Weber	Marlborough
Edward Wheeler	Winchester
Arthur Whelan	Eton
Julia Wilcox	Marlborough
Arthur Wilson	Sherborne



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[WWW.CHEAMSCHOOL.CO.UK](http://WWW.CHEAMSCHOOL.CO.UK)

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