

THE GATTON ASSOCIATION



Incorporating
The Maitland Association,
The Royal Albert Old Boy's Association &
The Royal Alexandra and Albert School

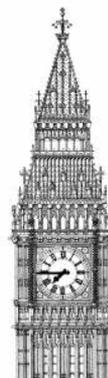
Chairman: Phil Wade

President: Ray Davies

News Editor: Chas Bailey

Contact E-Mail: gatton.association@gmail.com

Website: THEGATTONASSOCIATION.COM



NEWSLETTER MENU

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	1-2
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS	
- REUNION 2012	
- FOUNDERS DAY UPDATE	
- GATTON GOES GREEN	
- HEADMASTER'S LETTER	3
- FRIEND'S REUNITED	4
- SCHOOL SHEEP GO GLOBAL	
- PRIZE-WINNING PUPIL	5
- SARIS AND SAMOSAS IN YEAR 4 GEOGRAPHY LESSON	6
- MAITLAND PARK & BISHOPSWOOD CAMP	7
- MY FIRST WATERCOLOUR	8-9
- COMIC STRIP	10
- GOING BACK	11
- 2012 BOOKING FORM	12
- 2012 RE-UNION	13
- SHOP	14
- ORDER FORM	15
- REGISTRATION FORM	16

Chairman's Welcome

Dear Members,

It is with a very heavy heart and great sadness that I welcome you to our Summer Newsletter.

It is my sad duty to inform you of the passing of Peter Page who passed away on Monday evening 21st May at around 10.00pm. Peter had been ill with cancer for about a year, which was finally diagnosed only in January this year, after he had been fobbed off with various excuses in the early stages from arthritis to neuralgia being the cause of the pains and restricted movements he had been suffering for many months prior to diagnosis. Finally in December his wife forced the issue and went to BUPA to find out what was going on. In January he was confirmed as having cancer throughout his body. It was found to be a secondary form, but the primary source was never found but thought to have emanated from the gut area, which was never confirmed. From January Peter had a few sessions of chemotherapy to try and combat the illness, but it was found to be ineffective and was stopped. He was informed it was terminal about the beginning of March. I had seen him at different times during this period and was shocked at his weight loss which was so dramatically evident. He had gone from 15½st to 7½st at his death. I last saw him on Sunday 20th May in the Farleigh Hospice Chelmsford.

Peter had served on the Gatton Association committee for the last 23 years as Secretary and last year he took on the post of Treasurer. He has also been involved in many fund raising days, working throughout the reunions and generally helped keep the Association moving. I thank him for all of his efforts over the years and we will all miss his help and humorous quips, jokes and his mischievous grin.

Peter was cremated on Wednesday 30th May at Chelmsford Crematorium, followed by refreshments at South Lodge Hotel. Many family and friends attended the cremation.

R.I.P. Peter Page

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

It has also been brought to my attention of the passing of another of our number, that of Joan Paris (née Weedon) who was an active Old Scholar for many years. Joan was a scholar at The Alexandra Orphanage, Maitland Park and then went onto Bishopswood Camp. Joan attended the schools from 1933 - 45. Sadly Joan passed away in The Hospice at May Court, Ottawa Canada on 15th May. R.I.P. Joan Paris.

Reunion 24th - 26th August 2012

Just to update you all on our drive for the reunion which is taking shape, we have people booked in for the weekend which looks like it will be a blast, so if you haven't booked your place yet, this is your last chance before the cut off date which is Monday 25th June. The booking form is in this issue, so if you want an enjoyable weekend or part of it, make your booking soon.

Founders Day Update

Founders Day and senior prize giving was on Sunday 13th May. Unfortunately this will be the last Founders Day to be held on a Sunday due to the problems in securing a speaker for the service and prize giving. Next year Founders Day will be on a Saturday. Out with the old, in with the new. Let's see how it goes next year.

The Founders Day challenge went well, the weather was perfect for a very enjoyable game, and some new young talent was showing off their skills. The only thing that spoiled it was the fact that the School won 3-1. This has been a sad result as the Old Boys haven't beaten the School in the last three years, we need to change this next year, we will see. Well done the School, see you next year.

Gatton Goes Green

This takes place in the grounds of the school on Sunday 1st July 2012. It is also known as the 'Gatton Country Fair' A great day out for all the family. Country crafts and demonstrations, children's activities, gardens and grounds open. 12-5pm Cost: Adults £4.50 children free. It is a very interesting afternoon out for all the family. Well worth a visit to see country skills and crafts being used.

Best wishes,
Phil Wade
Chairman

Committee Members

Positions	Name
President:	Ray Davies
Vice President:	Benny Jones
Chairman:	Phil Wade
Vice Chair:	Alicia Edwards
Secretary:	Vacant (Peter Page deceased)
Treasurer:	Ray Davies (Temporary Cover for Peter Page)
Membership Secretary:	Michelle Ellis
Publicity Officers:	Phil Wade Alicia Edwards
Board of Governors & Ex-Scholar:	John Billingham
Archivist:	Will Wilson
Merchandising:	Michelle Ellis
Events Co-ordinator:	Position Vacant
News Editor:	Chas Bailey
	E-Mail: chasbailey@hotmail.co.uk
	Phone: 020 8648 7274
Assist - News Editor:	Andrew Bailey
Member	Gina Perry

THE GATTON ASSOCIATION
FIND A FRIEND

"It worked for me, let it work for you!"

Chas Bailey
E-mail me at chasbailey@hotmail.co.uk
with your name, name of friend, house/years attended

HEADMASTER'S LETTER

Founders' Day 2012

After weeks of rain in April and May we fully expected Founders' Day 2012 to be a wash-out. 'Wet-weather' plans were put in place with refreshments being served in the Chapel rather than on the lawn, and this, of course, guaranteed that the weather would improve. The sun duly shone as parents, pupils, governors and visitors arrived to join the annual service and prize-giving ceremony.

This year's visiting speaker for the Founders' Day service was Dr Peter Briggs OBE, Master of the Company of Educators in the City of London. He gave a speech about the many interesting people including politicians and judges that he has met in his one year term of office. He then went on to present prizes to pupils.

Our new Director of Music, Alison Butler led the senior choir in two polished performances during the service. Firstly 'Tree Song' a Croatian folk tune and later 'As you go, may God go with you' by Elinor Cross. The second song was capably accompanied by Dabin Shrestha on guitar. In a break during the prize-giving, the 2012-13 Music Scholar, Sixth Form student Lydia Goodwin-Matthews gave a moving performance of Adagio & Alla Breve from the Flute Sonata in B Minor, Op.1 No 9, by Handel.



Head Girl, Belinda Gurung and Head Boy, Oliver Gaché with their prizes.

Drinks and canapés were served following the service and this provided a great opportunity for our visiting Old Scholars (including one who has never been back since he left in the 1950s) to catch up with each other and also to talk to current staff and pupils.

As we enter the exam season, there is a purposeful air about the school. GCSEs and A Levels are keeping our older pupils very busy and the younger pupils in Year 7-9 have end of year assessments. The Year 6 pupils have just completed their SATS and now they can start looking forward to joining the senior school in September. They will be moving up at a time when boarder numbers are reaching record levels. The number of applications is high and there is huge demand for boarding places in the Sixth Form. It is good to see that the Sixth Form, which was only opened 18 months ago, is proving so popular.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

FRIEND'S REUNITED – BY THIS NEWSLETTER!

Readers might remember that in the last newsletter there was a section for Old Scholars to give details of old school friends they would like to trace. One of these was our very own Newsletter Editor, Charles Bailey who was trying to trace his friend John Heywood.

Little did he realise that John had visited the school some months earlier and signed up to receive the newsletter. Within a short time of reading the newsletter John contacted the school to ask if he could be put in touch with Charles (now known as Chas).

The two friends have been in touch regularly ever since, and whilst they have both changed a bit since they left in the 1960's, their friendship is as strong as ever. John has already visited Chas and further visits are planned.

Chas says "I have been trying to trace John for many years, and I have since found out that I was using the wrong surname and looking in the wrong location! It just shows that memories from that long ago are not always as clear as you would think. John has reminded me of some things about our time at school that I had completely forgotten and it is wonderful to be able to share my memories of being at Gatton."

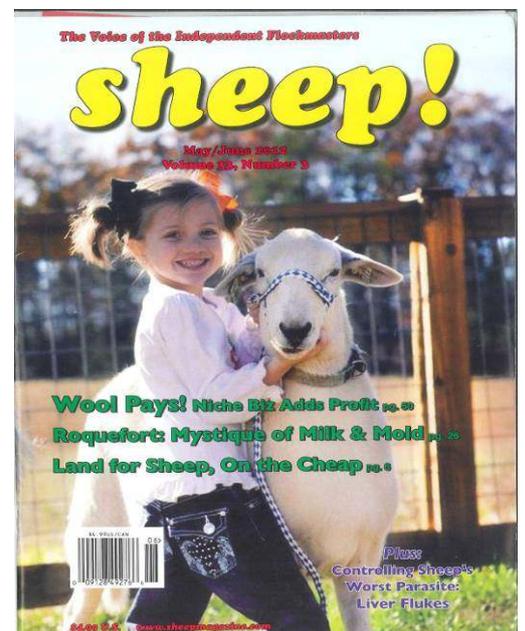


School Sheep Go Global

When they Royal Alexandra and Albert School posted a story on its website in February, it had no idea that it was of international interest. Yet, the story which was about sheep grazing the parkland at the School as part of the Countryside and Environment course, was picked up by a magazine editor in the USA. Alan Harman, Editor of 'Sheep!' magazine thought the story would be of interest to his readership of independent flockmasters in the USA.

Paul D Spencer Ellis comments "It's fair to say that we don't get many press enquiries from the USA so when Alan emailed me earlier this year, I was quite surprised. He wanted to know more about the role sheep play in the land-based courses we run at this school as he felt that his readership would be interested in what we offer here. The May/June edition of Sheep! magazine includes a two page feature about this school and it sits alongside other features which cover subjects such as dealing with rattlesnakes and controlling sheep parasites. I hope the independent flockmasters in the USA enjoy reading about how we farm sheep here."

May 2012



Prize-Winning Pupil Puts Policy Proposals to MEPs

Not many 13 year olds get the opportunity to talk directly to senior politicians about what needs to be done to save our environment. But that's exactly what Liam Kelly did when he went to the European Parliament in Brussels this week.

Liam, a pupil at the Royal Alexandra and Albert School, had entered a competition which involved making a short video putting forward his views on protecting our environment. There were five prizes for the best entries in the competition which was organised by Eurostar and the Young People's Trust for the Environment. Liam's video about climate change and sustainable transport impressed the judges and won him one of the top prizes which was a trip to the European Parliament in Brussels.

Liam and his father set off early on the morning of 27th March to catch the Eurostar train to Brussels. During the 3-hour journey Liam finalised his speech to give to MEPs about his views on protecting the environment. When they arrived in Brussels, the 5 winners went to the European Parliament where they had a tour and then went on to have lunch with MEPs. After the lunch, Liam and the other winners each made a speech and then took part in a debate with the MEPs about the environment.

Liam commented "I was very pleased to win this competition and enjoyed my visit to the European Parliament in Brussels. The highlight was when we had the debate with MEPs as it was really interesting to hear everyone's views and share ideas and opinions about the environment."

March 2012



Saris and Samosas in Year 4 Geography Lesson

This term Year 4 at the Royal Alexandra have been studying the geography of India. To bring the subject to life, Mrs Patel who is the parent of one of the pupils in Year 4, was invited to come in and talk about Indian clothes and food.

Mrs Patel, whose family is from India and who regularly visits India, came in to the lesson wearing a sari which is the traditional dress for women. She explained how there are different saris for different occasions and how heavier, more elaborate fabrics are used for weddings and other family celebrations. The lighter weight material saris are worn on other days and they suit the climate of India which is often very hot.

Children noticed that Mrs Patel had a pink mark on her forehead and she explained that this is a 'bindi' which is a mark that Indian women wear to show they are married. She also showed pupils the bangles that she wears and told them how bangles and other costume jewellery are an important part of an Indian woman's outfit. Pupils were particularly impressed by a pair of diamond-encrusted bangles Mrs Patel had been given by her mother and father in law when she got married.

Mrs Patel had brought along some traditional outfits for children and had no trouble finding volunteers to try them on. Daniella Hince tried on a girl's sari, and Lester Baylie and Jamie Beck-Roberts modelled the tunics that are worn by boys.

Pupils were offered traditional Indian food to try – samosas and bhajis. Mrs Patel described the Indian attitude to food and how important it is that every visitor to an Indian household is offered something to eat. She also explained how the elders in a family are always given their food first and then the men receive their food, with the women always eating last.

Teacher Dionne Williams commented "The class loved hearing about life in India and learning about the clothes, food and customs. Some of the traditions are very different from the lives they experience here in the UK but they found the whole presentation fascinating. I would like to thank Mrs Patel for sharing her culture with us and providing such an absorbing session for the children."



March 2012

MAITLAND PARK & BISHOPSWOOD CAMP

Mrs Joan Paris (née Weedon) The Alexandra Orphanage 1933 -1945



It is my very sad duty to let you know that Joan passed peacefully away in "The Hospice at May Court" in Ottawa, Canada on May 15th after an illness bravely borne.

I had the great privilege to get to know Joan over the last ten years, after she got in touch with me for some information via The Gatton Association, knowing that I had been the Membership Coordinator for many years.

Our letters and telephone calls increased regularly and she confided in me when she lost her husband Bill in 2010. He was a Spitfire Pilot serving with the Canadian Air Force during the Battle of Britain.

When Joan knew she was going into The Hospice, she said she would like to send me a large packet with all her photographs and memorabilia. It was her wish to have it put into some chronological order and donated to the school archives. I will do my best to keep a promise I made to her that this would be done. I have read through most of it and it is amazing that during the 1930's, 1940's and 1950's nothing much changed within the school over those decades. What a very different way of life "we kids of yesteryear" had in comparison with the children at our school today.

I would like to pass on my sincere condolences especially to Doug, Vic, Maurice and Eileen, Pam and Irene who were at Maitland Park with Joan. I am sure there will be some anecdotes to pass on to you all eventually.

Katie Putt (née Houston) 1940 - 1952

My First Watercolour

By John Heywood –Albert House 1962-1965

The Original watercolour I painted in September & October 1964 when I was just 15 years old from the art room school window. It was the first complete watercolour painting I had ever done.

[Painting's on the following page]

When we returned from our summer holidays at the beginning of September 1964 the art teacher told us that there was to be an art competition at the end of October for all the pupils in schools in the Borough of Reigate. The art teacher then came up to me where I was sitting by the window and said to me, "you are good painting John, why don't you enter "I said" ok! She immediately asked me, what are you going to paint? As I was admiring the beautiful sunshine shining on the scene from the window, I replied, "that", and pointed to the scene.

I had never done a complete painting before and never had I attempted a landscape.

The previous Christmas my foster parents had given me a box of watercolour paints but I had hardly used them. Anyway, I set about painting the scene. At the beginning of September it was still all green. I started with the trees in the far distance. It took me several weeks just to paint those as I attempted to try and make it look real like a photograph. As we also had after school art classes and the evenings had a kind of stillness, I made use of the light evenings to do more to my piece of art.

Then October came and so did the autumn colours. As the autumn colours looked so vivid in the sunshine I decided to paint the various red, oranges, yellows and browns.

When the time came to submit my work, I had just about finished.

At the time I was in the fourth year and a house prefect. In morning assembly everyone sat on the hall floor in their houses and the four house prefects for each house sat on chairs by the walls.

At the beginning of November 1964 at the end of one of the morning assemblies the headmaster announced that I had won first prize in the art competition. For the first time in my life I did not need to clap because everyone was clapping for me, it did seem rather strange.

I received my prize in the old town hall in Reigate, a large exhibition of the paintings entered were on display with mine taking pride of place.

My First prize was a set of oil paints in a wooden carrying case. At today's prices well over £100. On the following Saturday afternoon I visited the exhibition and stood near my painting watching two old dears having a look when one of them said "I can't see why that painting won!" My first critic and a lesson learned. You can't win them all and even though some may like your work, there are plenty that will rubbish you.



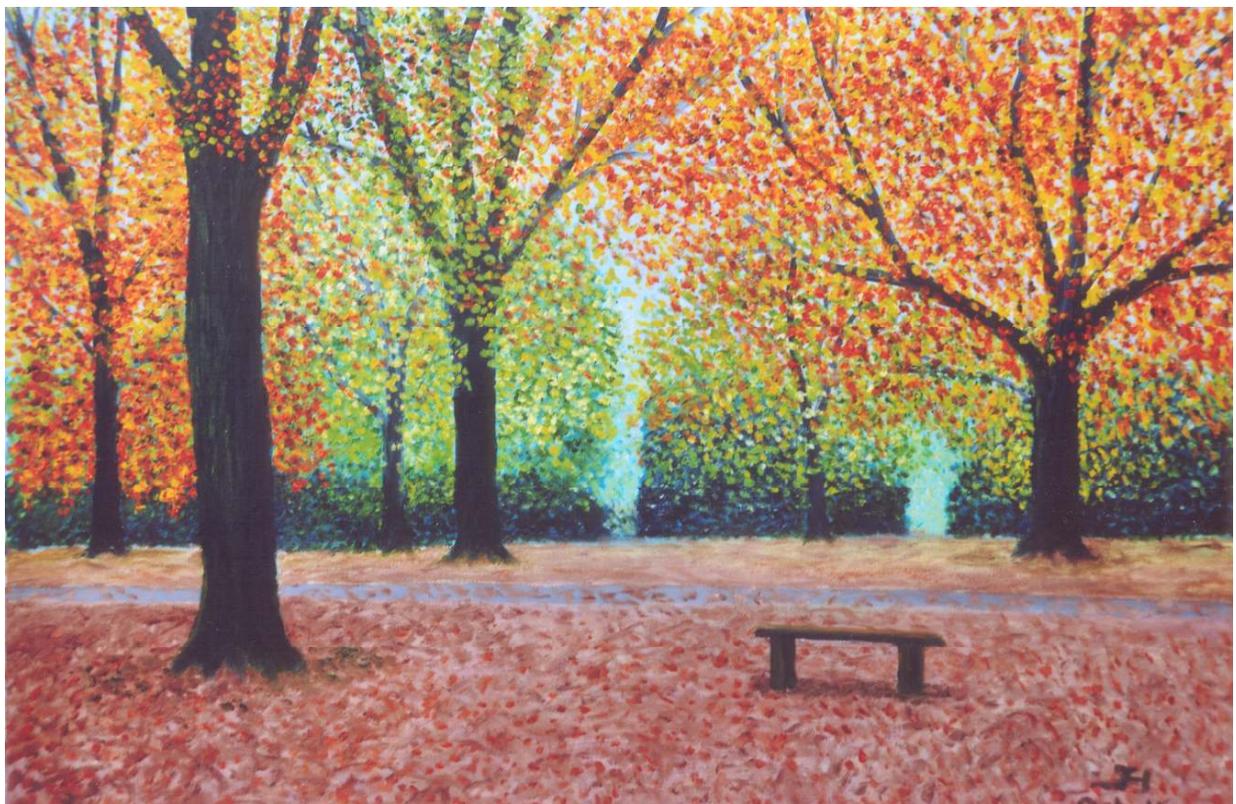
John aged 12 shortly before starting at Gatton in 1962.



John aged 18 years old after he left Gatton in 1967.



Copied from original watercolour painted in 1964.
By John Heywood Age 36



Oil Painting by John Heywood, from a photograph John took of Abington Park,
Northampton in November 2010

Comic Strip



Excuse me, I'm trying to watch corrie!



Have you had your Senna Pods dear?

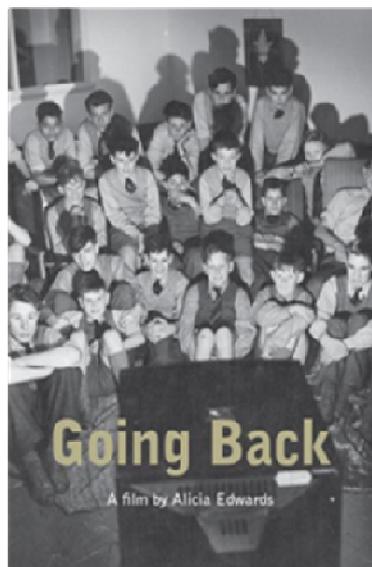


So, can I get your BBM?

Relive Gatton life.
24th-26th August 2012



DVD 's £6 each or two for £10. *FREE postage!*



Going Back tell's the story of life growing up at the Royal Alexandra and Albert school told from the viewpoint of past pupils.

"Superb!"

Mr J. Ahern

"Brilliant... it says it all. Well done"

John Hounson

"Just watched the DVD brought back so many memories, brilliant! Must see for all those that went to Gatton." Donna Stemp

Variety Show 1996



Variety Show 1997



Variety Show 1999



Oliver School Play 1995-ish



Young Gattonians trip 1996



To order email us stating which DVD(s) you would like, or write to the Gatton Association. reunion_2008@hotmail.co.uk

THE GATTON ASSOCIATION*Presents***The 2012 Reunion**24th – 26th AUGUST 2012
BOOKING FORM

Please complete and return with **crossed cheques or postal orders only** for the full amount (Sterling), made payable to: **“The Gatton Association”**.

Card payments will be accepted via **Ann Riddle on 01737 649057** (office hours).

Please **print your name, and address on the reverse of your cheque** and send your payment to:

‘THE GATTON ASSOCIATION 2012’,

The Foundation Office, The Royal Alexandra and Albert School,
Gatton Park, Reigate Surrey, RH2 0TW.

Enquiries to Phil Wade Phone no. 07903 192989 or e-mail: ppwade@gmail.com

or

The Gatton Association e-mail: gattonassociation@gmail.com

THE CUT OFF DATE FOR BOOKINGS IS MONDAY 25th JUNE 2012.

No bookings will be accepted after this date!

If you wish to cancel your booking, this must be confirmed in writing by Monday 6th July 2012. Refunds will be issued after Monday 24th September 2012.

If booking is unsuccessful or late in arriving, all payments will be refunded / returned.

Please print clearly. **Number attending:** (Males..... Females.....)

Men and women will be accommodated in separate houses, in dormitories of 2 or 4 beds.

Surname First Name Maiden Name

School attended From To

Last House attended

Home Address

..... Post Code

Home Phone No Work Mobile

Fax No Email

Dietary requirements (vegetarian etc.)

Mobility / Access requirements

Please note all **payments must be made in full for each place booked.**

Please indicate numbers required and complete calculations:

Number Attending;	Breakfast £6 pp (per person)	Lunch £10 pp	Friday Night Dinner £12 pp	Dormitory Accommodation £17pp
Friday X no. required	N/A	N/A	x £12 = £	x £17 = £
Saturday X no. required	x £6 = £	x £10 = £	Dinner Dance £25 pp x £25 = £	x £17 = £
Sunday X no. required	x £6 = £	x £10 = £	N/A	N/A
TOTAL				£

ON COMPLETION OF THIS FORM PLEASE MAKE A COPY FOR YOUR OWN RECORD.

GATTON ASSOCIATION**2012 RE-UNION GATTON PARK, REIGATE****Friday 24th August, Saturday 25th August and Sunday 26th August****Itinerary for the weekend**

Dear Member,

Here are the details for the 2012 Re-union.

TIME TABLE (the above booking form must be completed by all attendees)
All meals will be taken in the Dining Hall.**Friday 24th August - Informal arrivals from 2pm**

Registration	Dining Hall from 5.30pm
Evening Meal	6.30 to 7.30pm

Single sex accommodation in boarding houses allocated on registration.

Saturday 25th August**New arrivals register in Dining Hall**

Registration	Dining Hall
Breakfast	8.30 to 9.30am
Coffee/Tea	Mid-morning
Lunch	12.00 to 1.30pm
Dinner/Dance	Be seated by 6:30pm prompt (Smart casual)
Followed by	<u>Disco in Gatton Hall with late bar.</u>

Sunday 26th August - Farewell

Breakfast	09.30 to 10.30
Lunch	12.30 to 13.30

Depart at your leisure, have a safe and pleasant journey home.

Partners Welcome but we regret that there are **no facilities for children.****Name Badges** (issued on registration) **MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES**

Don't forget your camera's, camcorders etc. We hope, as before, to publish a varied selection on the Gatton Association page of the School web site.

Finally, a special invitation is extended to all pre-Gatton ex-scholars who may have not yet visited Gatton Park - You will be made very welcome and hopefully meet up with other scholars of your era and others, there is no generation gap at these re-unions.

All booking enquires, can be made to the organising committee via e-mail, gattonassociation@gmail.com

Or for booking forms queries contact the Foundation office on 01737 649 050.

We look forward to meeting up with friends old & new - Book EARLY - see you there!

Best wishes,

Phil Wade
Chairman,
Gatton Association.

Gatton Association Shop



Gold coloured Maroon Key ring with gold trolley coin



MAGLITE -Dark red with laser engraved school logo



Ballpoint & Fountain Pen Set with printed logo



Gatton Sports Bag in various colours



**Enamelled gold coloured
Badge On Brass
[Size of a 1p coin]**

The Gatton Association

:: Order Form ::

Product Types	Price	Order Amount	UK Price Postage	Europe Price Postage	World Price Postage	Total
Gatton Logo Badge	£3.50	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 1.50	£ 1.50	£ 1.50	£ <input type="text"/>
Description:	Enamelled gold coloured Badge On Brass. (Up to 5 in one Envelope)					
Pen Set	£6.00	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 2.75	£ 3.95	£ 4.95	£ <input type="text"/>
Description:	Printed Logo - Ballpoint & Fountain Pen Set					
Gatton Bag	£4.50	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 2.75	£ 3.95	£ 4.95	£ <input type="text"/>
Colours:	<input type="checkbox"/> Maroon - <input type="checkbox"/> Purple - <input type="checkbox"/> Navy Blue - <input type="checkbox"/> Grey - <input type="checkbox"/> Black - <input type="checkbox"/> Green					
Trolley Keyring	£3.00	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£2.75	£ 3.95	£ 4.95	£ <input type="text"/>
Description:	Gold coloured Maroon Key ring with gold coloured logo and on the Flip-side - Gatton Association. (Up to 4 in one Envelope)					
Maglite Torch	£9.99	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 2.75	£ 3.95	£ 4.95	£ <input type="text"/>
Description:	Dark red with laser engraved school logo					
Bundle Types						
Key ring & Gatton Badge	£6.00	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 3.80	£ 4.80	£ 6.00	£ <input type="text"/>
Torch & Keyring	£12.50	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 3.80	£ 4.80	£ 6.00	£ <input type="text"/>

Total Amount: £

Note: P & P Charges will be adjusted for large or multiple orders.

You can also make up your own customised orders.

Please contact – Phil Wade either by Phone: 07903192989 or
by E-Mail: gatton.association@gmail.com for further information for P & P Charges

:: Delivery / Contact Details ::

Title:	<input type="text"/>	First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Surname:	<input type="text"/>
Address:	<input type="text"/>				
Post Code:	<input type="text"/>				
Country:	<input type="text"/>				
Phone:	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail:	<input type="text"/>		

Registration Form

Please **only** complete this form if you are a new registrant or have any change in your contact details

Gatton Association Registration Form

First Names:..... Surname:..... Former Name:.....

Address:

.....

Town:..... County..... Postcode:.....

Country:.....

Home Phone:..... Work Phone:..... Mobile:.....

Email Address:.....

Please remember to keep us informed of Postal or Email Address changes or our correspondence will not reach you.

School Location attended (**tick as appropriate**):

Gatton Park Maitland Bishopswood Elmcroft Duxhurst Bedford

Camberley Other (please state)

Last House(s) attended:

Years attended: From: / / To: / /

Person(s) wishing to become an associate member will need to provide tentative proof of their connection with an old scholar who attended the school(s). Or how they assist the Gatton Association.

Register online or via post.

If you would prefer to receive Newsletters etc. by Email please tick the here:

Please return completed Registration Form to the Membership Co-ordinator:

MICHELLE ELLIS Via Helen Pollard

Royal Alexandra & Albert School, Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey, United Kingdom, RH2 0TD

Main Switchboard (044) 01737 649 000

Or

EMAIL: GATTON.ASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM

If you have any comments or suggestions you would like to pass back to us,
please do so via Michelle Ellis at the address above.