

The Gattton Association

*Incorporating
The Maitland Association &
The Royal Albert Old Boys' Association*

Chairman

Phil Wade

E-mail; philip.p.wade@bt.com

President

Ray Davies

Membership Secretary

John Hounsom

Spring Newsletter 2006

Dear Member,

Welcome to the Spring Newsletter. Firstly, may I wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year for 2006.

It saddens me to have to report that John Harrington-Heard the Associations vice chair died on 25th November after a surgical procedure. John was an ex Royal Albert boy. He left the school in the late 40's before the school moved from Camberley to Gattton Park.

John attended an AGM a few years ago to complain to the Gattton Association at the way the Association had ignored the Royal Albert old boys association. Our then chair Malcolm Cléroux dealt with his concerns in his usual way, and pointed out that we had not ignored or neglected the Royal Albert old boys, but that there was no one to voice their corner on the committee. John was persuaded to joined the

committee and filled the need for a Royal Albert old boys to voice concerns and issues from that sector. As anybody who knew John would not be surprised to know that he worked hard and long helping all comers of the association to find lost friends, family and much more. A few lines are added to this newsletter from his old friends John (Nobby) Cox and Peter Clouff, which can be read further into this newsletter.

Unfortunately, I also have to report that we have had some news of a couple of other ex scholars who have past away in the last couple of weeks. Lorraine Lane (nee Garth) Gattton 59-69, and Roger Clarke Gattton 54-61, friends have written memories of them inside this edition. Their funerals were attended by family, friends and ex school friends. Also Jenny Cléroux, Malcolm's wife has also passed away after a long and fruitless fight with cancer. She was buried with Malcolm in St Margaret's churchyard in Isfield on Friday 10th February. Family and

many

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2006

7th May:
Founders Day

25th – 27th August:
RE-UNION WEEKEND

24th September:
Gattton Association AGM



friends, including Ray Davies and myself on behalf of our Association attended the funeral.

Please keep us informed of events and news from your lives, that may be of interest to an ever-growing number of members. We need articles from you, your contributions to the newsletter are vital and will be gratefully appreciated. Funny anecdotes, memories, announcements, anything of interest to members and ex-colleagues would be of great use to the newsletter.

We are trying to incorporate photographs into forthcoming editions and would appreciate any interesting photographs (with descriptions and names) that you feel would be of interest.

Founders Day 2006



Founders Day this year falls on Sunday 7th May. The service is at 11.00am in the chapel where prize giving will take place, some of which are sponsored by ex scholars and the Gatton Association. Drinks will be server before and after chapel, followed by lunch, compliments of the school. In the afternoon we have the 'Old Scholars football challenge, followed by refreshments in the Staff Club. You are welcome to bring your family and friends and enjoy an entertaining day out. Anyone feeling that

they can put some boots on are welcome to play in the game. More details are on later pages. Come along and have a great day out with family and friends.

Reunion 2006



This year the reunion will take place from Friday 25th to Sunday 27th August, which is the August Bank Holiday weekend. We will need to hear, in advance, from all those who wish to attend so that provision can be made. Booking form is now available at the back of this issue!!!

Best wishes,

Phil Wade
Chairman 2005

Posts

President
Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership Secretary
Publicity Officer
News Editors (Joint)

Name

Ray Davies
Phil Wade
John Harrington
Peter Page
Ray Davies
John Hounsom
Phil Wade
Hyacinth Jones and Sue Gulliver
Alex Duffy
Chris Manns
Ian Baines
Ian Baines

Merchandising
Events Co-ordinator
Events Co-ordinator
Archivist

Diary dates in detail:

7TH 2006 MAY 2006
Founders Day (see page 2)

25TH - 27TH AUGUST 2006
School Reunion Booking form included on the back pages. Book early.

2ND JULY 2006
'Gatton Goes Green'
Local craft stalls and fun activities. Visit the Gatton Association stall. Help us raise money for the Malcolm Cléroux music scholarship. Our plan read more

24TH SEPTEMBER 2006
Gatton Association AGM. Have a hand in the planning of the future. Come along and meet the Chairman, Headmaster, committee and friends. Have a great social and informative day out



Tributes In Loving Memory Of John Harrington

Memories Of A Friend **John Harrington**

We meet many people during our lifetime, some of those we remember better than others. Some leave a lasting memory or mark on us; John left a mark on me as I am sure he did on many around the world.

Both of us attended Camberley, and over recent years have spent a lot of time talking on Skype regarding those days. John was a few years older, so at school this would have been a big gap, but as we know as we age it means nothing. During our conversations we remembered some of the hardships of those times, and the reasons why we had been put there in the first place. John knew I was trying to put pieces back in a puzzle and found the information I was looking for, and I know he did this for others at his own expense. With limited cash at his disposal I can only admire his resolve to try and help others.

We both spoke of Ray Davies and his influence on us at different times at Camberley, I personally thank Ray for my bad back, after giving me a gardening block and starting my interest in all things gardening. This carried on to Gatton with many others sharing the same interest.

John and I also shared the same sense of humour, so when we chatted and got the serious issues done with, probably half a minute, then we got the laughter going. We would reminisce about early days at school, then move on to shore leave at various ports around the world.

So I have many fond memories of a friend nicknamed 'Topside Geezer' in my email address book, and will miss him heaps. But knowing John, he will be organising another old boys association with us all in mind, lets hope he is patient as none of us are in a hurry to join at the moment, but we will all turn up eventually.

*John Cox (Nobby) Edinburgh,
Camberley and Gatton*

Thoughts From A Friend

John, Although I did not know him at Camberly John and I had a good relationship over many years, we would spend hours talking on "Skype" about the old times. His enthusiasm and tireless effort to find as many of the Albert Old Boys as he could was magnificent, he left no stone unturned in his quest. He would phone me and be so excited that he had found another Albert Old Boy. At last years reunion, the last thing I said to Trish was. Look after him we all rely on him to keep the Association going. Trish said I will but I am concerned about his memory, and thanked me for my concern. Little did I know that would be the last time I would see John. John was a man to be admired, an Albert Old Boy that made a real success of his life. The Albert and Gatton should be proud of Johns achievements.

John will be sadly missed, I for one will try to keep the Albert Old Boys Association going, In the very near future I will be in contact with Brian Garner Mike Harvey and Rob Jamison with a view to organise this years reunion.

From Peter Cloutt



'Eddies' Corner

**A "LIVING MEMORIAL" to our time spent in school
WELLINGTON BOOTS AND TROWELS**

The Gatton Association, incorporating The Maitland association & The Royal Albert Association has been given the opportunity to develop the flower borders along the outside of the school chapel.

The offer has come about following the death of Malcolm Cléroux and a plaque to his memory will be placed somewhere in the flower borders. This is a lovely idea. It will become a place of focus for old scholars, the plants representing all of us who have lived part of the history of this school.

So "what can I do?"We hear you ask.....Send us seeds! NOW..... We will sell the seeds at the "Gatton goes green" event. This will raise a small amount

Below is a message received from Paul Roche, trying to put more names to faces can anyone help?

*In the centre Mr Pickford I am sitting to his right, Paul Roche, to my right Simon Boniface to his right Dean Jamesson? (spelling) Terry Peters is standing between the last two sitting on the right the rest are faces I remember but cannot put names to. Can the association fill the rest? Good hunting
Paul Roche*

of money towards the Malcolm Cléroux music scholarship for which we need to raise at least £500 per year! This money will support a current pupils music study.



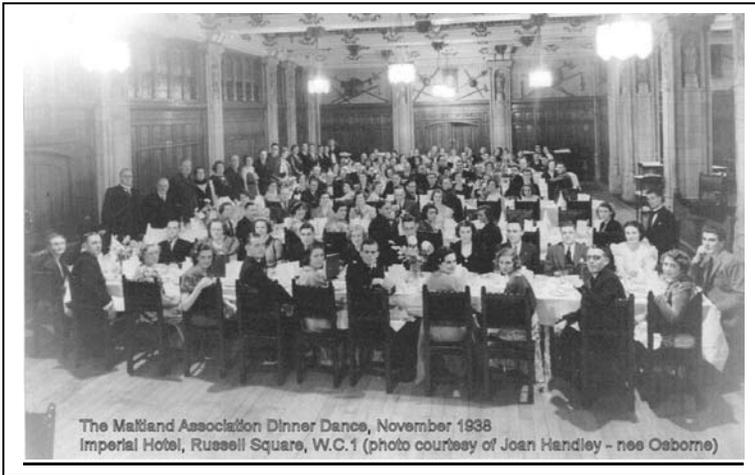
Mrs Pay will advise us on what to plant in this shady place. And you will send or bring the suggested seeds, bulbs, shrubs and plants to the school put them in a designated position, and just for a small fee you will be adding to the beauty of the chapel and the enhancement of the school gardens!

hyjones@yahoo.com
Sugulliver@ntlworld.com





Picture Gallery



Please keep your pictures coming - it's always nice to share memories in images. Antidotes and tales

Unfortunately these pictures arrived without any descriptions.

If the contributors would like to share some details about this unique pictures please write to Sue Gulliver or Hyacinth Jones on the email addresses given.



FOUNDERS DAY 7TH MAY 2006

Yes my friends, it's that time again when we, the 'Old Gattonians' have to take to the field of glory, and return to the football field and retain our crown of invincibility. We are currently unbeaten over the past four years. We have dominated the field and mastered the masses that plot to overthrow us. We need men to take up the challenge, put those feet into action and beat the school in the annual 'Old Boys Football Match'

Yes, if you are able to take up the challenge then contact me as soon as possible so that we may once again retain our unbeaten run for yet another year. 'You Know It Makes Sense', and you know we can do it one more time. So, come and watch or come and play, it's the same day in May, and that big day is Sunday 7th May. Be there, bring the family, so don't delay there are only a small number of seats left in the Grandstand.

Kick off 2.30 Sunday 7th May

For further info, or **to play call Phil Wade** on 0208 514 2303 after 6.30 (leave a message with contact details if necessary), or 07903 192989 mobile, or 0207 803 5512 business hours. E-mail; philip.p.wade@bt.com. Come one come all for a fun filled day, and meet old friends, and catch up on old times over a drink in the bar. See you there.

Current News from the School

Towards the end of last term I had the sad journey, with John Billingham, Vice Chairman of Governors and an Old Scholar himself, to the funeral of John Harrington. While John had been Vice Chairman and then Acting Chairman of the Association, this does not reveal what he actually did for many Old Scholars. He was a tireless researcher and e-mail correspondent, who spent many hours putting Old Scholars in contact with long-lost friends and who also helped many people looking for the details of who their ancestors had been and why they had been at this school or one of the two constituent schools.

Last Founders' Day, John and I passed an hour or so with him telling me stories of his time at *The Albert*. They were not all happy stories, but John did not dwell unnecessarily on that aspect of the past; only on the possibility of things being much better in the future.

The ballroom now has an extra picture of the heritage of the school – a picture of Bishopswood camp, which was presented to me by Eric Clark and which takes its place alongside pictures of the first, second and third Alexandra school buildings and the picture of the Albert School presented just a few years ago by the Albert Old Boys. By Founders' Day, I hope that the three older pictures will have been professionally cleaned.



All Old Scholars are most welcome at Founders' Day this year. There will be seats available in Chapel and lunch in the Dining Hall. I look forward to meeting many of you for what I believe to be the 150th Anniversary of the Maitland Foundation.

*Paul D Spencer Ellis
Headmaster*



A Letter from Lorna Martin - Bishopswood 1939-1952

I started at Bishopswood in 1939 at the age of 6 years. I was very thin and frail and was known by my nickname of "skinny Martin"! I had to report to the hospital for extra milk and a lovely spoonful of malt twice a day, but still I never put weight on. This procedure carried on until I left school at 15 in 1952.

At school I was never a very bright scholar; in fact reporting for school every morning made me very nervous, but I excelled on the playing fields - netball, playing the boys at cricket (they played left-handed!) - and then sports day, that's when I really shone. When I left school I went to technical college in Lewisham to learn secretarial skills. The curriculum included maths, English, bookkeeping, commerce, economics, typing and shorthand. I really struggled with the shorthand - so I took up evening classes to try to improve, but was horrified to discover the tutor was the same one as at day college!

After leaving college I had a couple of jobs in the City, and one day whilst working an engineer called to repair the "Copycat" stencil machine (remember these?). This chap handed me his business card and enquired if I had done any

modelling before. I replied I had done a little. He took some really great photographs and this led me to enrol at modelling school. My face earned me a lot of money advertising glasses, hats and make-up and I was asked to do catwalk modelling. *I would like a pound for every time I have posed on the steps of St Martin-in-the-Field!* As a note to current pupils of Gatton Park: This goes to show that even if you do not shine academically, there are other opportunities waiting for you to try. Some of which do not appear until a little later in life.



I now reside in Spain with my husband. I am still in touch with Joy Maskell and Katie Putt.

Best wishes to everyone - especially those who knew me during my school years.

Mrs Lorna Holder (nee Martin)

KEEP READING - COMING UP:
*News from the Maitland and Bishopswood
contingent and booking form for the Gatton
Reunion 2006*



News From The Maitland and Bishopswood contingent of The Gatton Association

In the Summer Newsletter 2005 I was writing on our behalf to express our deepest sympathy to the family of Malcolm (Cléroux) who was the chairman of the Gatton Association for many years. I have now been informed of the sad death of Malcolm's wife Jenny who valiantly battled against cancer.

It was also with shock and disbelief that I heard of the death of John Harrington last November. John and I were great friends having been in contact very regularly discussing the mailing list of The Maitland and Bishopswood contingent of The Association. John never tired of his work to keep The Gatton Association alive. In our last telephone call just before John went into hospital he was his old self joking how long he had to wait for his heart operation after a long delay.

Shocked, numbed and very very sad were my reactions on hearing of John's death and my heart goes out to his partner Trish and his sons David, Richard and Andrew.

On our behalf a letter of condolence was sent to the family.

On a happier note, I hope to see as many of our contingent at The School on 7th May for Founder's Day where we should be well represented. The memorabilia will be on show including a photograph album from the 1996 and 2002 reunions at Bishopswood Camp, Reading. The details will be included in this newsletter.

My sincere regards to you all from
Katie (Putt) nee Houston
1940-1952

KEEP READING - COMING UP:
*Booking form for the Gatton Reunion 2006
Special Events and last word from the
Chairman*



REUNION BOOKING FORM

Any enquiries regarding forms, bookings etc, contact the Foundation Office on 01737 649050

Please complete and return with cheques or crossed postal orders only for the full amount (Sterling), made payable to:

The Gatton Association

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

THE GATTON ASSOCIATION 2006

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

CUT OFF DATE FOR BOOKINGS MONDAY 24th JULY 2006 No bookings will be accepted after this date! If you wish to cancel your booking, this must be confirmed in writing by Monday 14th August 2006. Refunds will be issued by Monday 18th September 2006. If booking is unsuccessful or late in arriving, all payments will be returned. Please print clearly

Number attending: Males: Females:

Please complete a personal detail sheet for each person in your party.

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

Surname: First Name: Maiden Name:

School attended: Years From: To:

Last House: Home Address:

..... Post Code:

Home Phone: Work: Mobile:

Fax No: Email:

Dietary requirements:

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 £9 pp (per person)	Dinner £ 12 pp (per person)	Dormitory Accommodation £17pp
Friday X no. required	N/A	N/A	x = £	x = £
Saturday X no. required	x = £	x = £	Dinner Dance £22 pp x = £	x = £
Sunday X no. required	x = £	x = £	N/A	N/A
TOTAL				£

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

Please enter any suggestions for activities on the reverse of this form, but if doing so,

Please tick the box provided to draw our attention to your comments:



Itinerary for Reunion weekend

Here are the long awaited details of the 2006 Re-union. A Summer Newsletter will be published separately as soon as is practicable, with apologies for the non-appearance of the Spring Newsletter.

TIME TABLE

(The enclosed booking form must be completed)

(All meals will be taken in the Dining Hall)

- Friday 25th 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 with your registration

- Saturday 26th August - New arrivals register in Gatton Hall

Table with 2 columns: Activity and Time. Rows include Breakfast (8.30 to 9.30am), Coffee/Tea (Mid-morning), Lunch (12.00 to 1.30pm), Dinner/Dance (Be seated by 6:30pm prompt), and Disco (After dinner till late).

- Sunday 27th August - Farewell

Table with 2 columns: Activity and Time. Rows include Breakfast (09.00 to 10.00), Lunch (12.30 to 13.30), and Depart at leisure.

Special Events

Friday & Saturday

Horse Riding: Advance booking ONLY (please phone the Foundation Office for charges and state your proficiency level). You are strongly advised to bring along your own hard hat if possible.

Swimming Pool: Times of availability will be provided on the day. Don't forget your swimming gear!

Gatton Park Grounds: Visit the restored and established Sunken and Japanese Gardens, the Millennium Slabs, and the Parish Church of St Andrews Gatton.

Gatton Archives: Times of opening will be announced. Please bring along any memorabilia to share or have photocopied - photographs, school magazine's, reports, school exercise books etc, anything to build on our history of all that was, for future generations!

Sunday

Chapel Service: Following the success of the last three reunions we are planning an informal chapel service at 11.15am on Sunday morning. As Malcolm Cléroux, our late chair, will be unable to be there, we may need to improvise, but lets hope we have a musician among us. As before a "Scratch" chapel choir will be recruited, possibly to rehearse on Saturday morning at approx. 11.30, but we will see how it goes. Well known hymns from the "Hymn Bash Era" will be selected. Lots of "memory" fun - Do come along! Even Phil Wade, even though he is not best remembered for his singing will be there!!!

Partners Welcome but we regret that there are no facilities for children.

Name Badges must be worn at all times (issued on registration)



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.

AND 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 any of the organising committee listed below;

Phil Wade 07903 192989 or
 020 8514 2303 or
 e-mail: philip.p.wade@bt.com
Ian Baines 07813 926145 or
 e-mail: ibaines@aol.com
Chris Manns 07717 745581 or
 01784-458974

For booking forms contact the Foundation office : 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

