

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

Membership Secretary: Michelle Ellis

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



Chairman's Welcome

Dear Friends and Members,

Welcome to the Spring Newsletter. I hope this newsletter finds you all well and happy after the festive season. Spring is on its way and with it warmer days especially after the wintery weather over the past few months, and for our antipodean members, the approaching autumn with cooler weather to come.

I would like to announce the retirement of John Ahern, who has decided to take early retirement from the end of the summer term. He has been teaching in the school since around 1973 in various roles. We thank him for his support over the years and wish him and his family well in his future endeavours.

The Association would like to thank the 'Friends of Gatton' (PTA) for allowing us to hold a stall at their Christmas Fayre held at the school on Saturday 28th November. We raised around £135 from selling our GA merchandising products, including the very entertaining 'Going Back', produced around our last re-union in 2008. It follows the lead up to the re-union with personal views, apprehensions and doubts about going back to the school. For some it would be the first time back; for others, it would be a regular visit. All the participants reflect on their memories and personal experiences of their time at school. From its early days at Maitland Park back in the 1930s to the present day, culminating with their attending the 2008 re-union weekend.

We have had some comments from our members that there was not enough representation from their own era. The reason for this is that unless people from those eras volunteered their time and memories for the project, they were not filmed or interviewed for the project. Our team of interviewers and film crew travelled extensively around the country visiting ex-scholars who had put themselves forward to be interviewed, and those are the people that were included in the film. If there was enough interest in another project purely of the memories and evolution of the school over the years, then I'm sure that a film could be produced with the right funding, but that may be in the future. I hope this answers some of those questions. Even so the DVD is well worth watching. There are still copies available, to get a copy at only £10, drop us a line and we will deal with your request.

The Association is always trying to raise funds to aid 'Foundationers' and Scholars in need. This year we tried something different, in that we had diaries commissioned for the Association. The pocket diaries have a gold embossed school crest on a maroon cover and are beautifully crafted. Unfortunately due to the modern age where very few people use a diary in the traditional way, and are more likely to have electronic diaries, we have found ourselves with a surplus. This is rather unfortunate, and as such we have decided instead of adding to the ever growing pile of recycled paper, we will give them away to our members for a small donation of £1.50 to cover p&p. If you would like one sent to you, please send your name and address and donation to 'The Gatton Association, c/o The Royal Alexandra and Albert School, Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0TW.

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We will get them off to you within a couple of days of receipt of your request.

This year the school is celebrating 250 years since the first school was built in City Road London, and the first intake of children to 'The Orphan Working School'. To commemorate this landmark occasion, a service was held at the school on the 3rd March, and the guest of honour was the Duchess of Gloucester, who unveiled a new plaque recording the occasion for posterity. After the service, invited guests were presented to the Duchess, including two of our older members who were at Maitland Park during the 1930's. The Duchess left soon after due to other official duties. The guests then had lunch followed by guided tours (in small groups) of the school. A thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all that attended.

FOUNDERS DAY CHALLENGE MATCH 9th **MAY 2010 @ 2.30**

Yes my friends, it's that time again when we, the 'Old Gatto-nians' have to take to the field of glory, and return to the football field and regain our crown of invincibility. We were beaten by the School for the first time in 8 years in 2009, and we are not going to let it happen again. We will bounce back and show what we are capable of.

We need men to take up the challenge, put those feet into action and beat the school in the annual

'Challenge Trophy Football Match'

Yes, if you are able to take up the challenge against the School Team, then contact me as soon as possible so that we may once again regain our rightful position. 'You Know It Makes Sense'. So, come and watch or come and play, it's the same day in May, and that big day is Sunday 9th 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 9th May

For further info, or to play call Phil Wade on 0208 514 2303, (leave a message with your contact details), 07903 192989 mobile or e-mail; gattonassociation@gmail.com.

Come one come all for a fun filled day, meet old friends, and catch up on old times over a drink in the bar. See you there.

Forthcoming events:

Founders Day and Prize Giving Service is Sunday, 9th May this year, at 10.30am in the Chapel, followed by lunch and the usual Challenge Football Match will take place in the afternoon - kick off 2.30pm - further details below. After the football, catch up with old friends in the Staff Club.

2010 Re-union: Prices have been frozen at 2008 rates. The 2010 Re-union will take place on the weekend of 27th – 29th August. A booking form is included in this newsletter. Book early! Those who have been before know the routine. Those who are considering coming for the first time this year will have an amazing time and a chance to catch up with old friends. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Committee Meetings: 25th April, and 3rd October 2010 @ 2.30 pm in the Foundation Boardroom.

AGM: Sunday 29th August 2010 @ 1.45 pm in the Ballroom, Gatton Hall.

Committee Members

Positions	Name
President:	Ray Davies
Chairman:	Phil Wade
Secretary:	Peter Page
Treasurer:	Ray Davies
Membership Secretary:	Michelle Ellis
Publicity Officers:	Phil Wade Alicia Edwards
Board of Governors & Ex-Scholar:	John Billingham
Archivist:	Ian Baines
Merchandising:	Michelle Ellis
Events Co-ordinator:	Chris Manns Ian Baines
News Editor:	Chas Bailey
	E-Mail: chasbailey@hotmail.co.uk Phone: 020 8648 7274

Non-Committee Members

Assistant News Editor:	Andrew Bailey
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From The Headmaster

Once again we have had an eventful few months at the School. In October we opened our new all-weather floodlit sports pitch, netball courts and all-weather athletics strip. The new floodlit sports pitch has enabled the school to introduce hockey which is already proving popular with pupils. There are opportunities to play hockey during lessons and also in the after-school activities programme. Lacrosse, which was introduced last year, is also popular, and now pupils can play on a properly marked out lacrosse pitch. Olympic gold medal winner, Darren Campbell joined us for the official opening of the pitches and he inspired pupils with details of how he had worked hard towards his ambition of Olympic success.

More recently, on 3rd March, we had a visit from the Duchess of Gloucester who attended the commemoration of the arrival of the first pupil at the Orphan Working School 250 years ago. I enjoyed meeting the Old Scholars who attended the day and hearing their recollections of what it was like being a pupil either at Gatton Park, Maitland Park, Camberley or at the various other locations. After the commemoration service and lunch, tours of the school and boarding houses were arranged and our visitors enjoyed meeting the pupils who were their 'tour guides'. The original registers were on display in Gatton Hall and they showed names of the first pupils enrolled at the Orphan Working School 250 years ago.

Many of you will know that currently our Sixth Form boarders attend Reigate College for their education as this school only goes up to the age of sixteen. This will all change from September when we open our new Sixth Form so pupils can continue their studies on site.

We expect the number of Sixth Formers to increase and are building extensions to Alexandra and Kent houses to include a total of 42 new study bedrooms. We are converting Sunley House into a Sixth Form Centre with an ICT study area/ common room and kitchen as well as a careers and university information library.

This school is going from strength to strength and demand for places is high. There is also strong demand for our Foundation places and I am pleased that we have been able to increase numbers this year. I would like to thank everyone who has supported the school in the last year. As well as financial donations, we have been given sports trophies, historical records and shared memories. I look forward to seeing you at future events at the school.

Paul Spencer Ellis

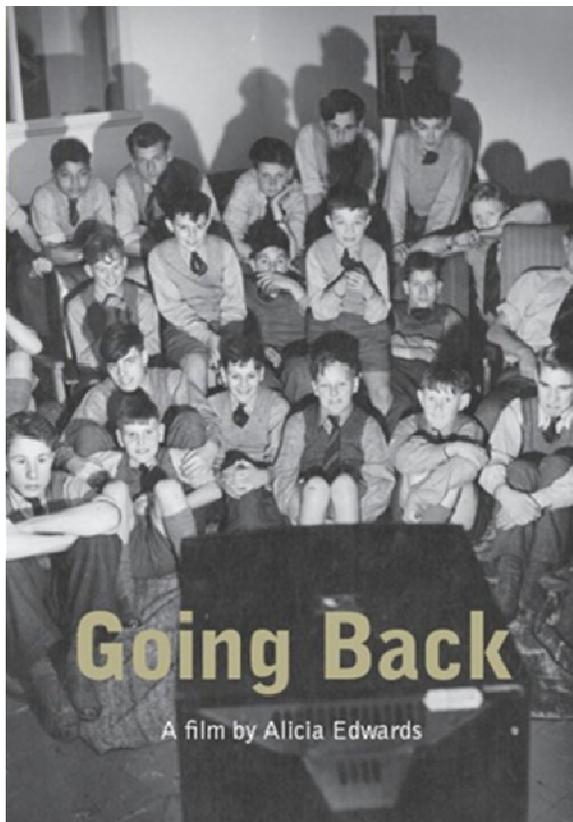


Phil Wade, Ray Davis, Hannah Farnsworth, Jordan Gask (Head Boy) and Davina Tijani (Head Girl) whilst waiting for the arrival of the Duchess of Gloucester.



Hannah Farnsworth, the Headmaster and the Duchess of Gloucester.

DVD Copies Are Now Available To Order!



What you get... a feature documentary about life growing up at the school from the 1930's - 2000, plus over and hours worth of extra features for just £10! This price includes p&p unless shipping abroad. YES, we can ship abroad!

Money raised from DVD sales goes to the Gatton Association to raise funds for children at the school who need help financially.

Please message:

reunion_2008@hotmail.co.uk

Or call / text:

0781 601 4499

To order your copy now.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this project from the very beginning. Words can not describe how grateful we are to you.

Thank you,

Alicia Edwards
Gattonian 1990 - 2000

Your Film Reviews...

"Superb"

Mr J. Ahern

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

Donna Stemp

"Bought it, watched it, loved it, cried"

Lesley Reeves

"I have watched the DVD and enjoyed although I am 84 years old and was at the Alexandra Orphanage from 1929 - 1939. It brought back a lot of memories. Basically what happens at the school is still the same. Well done and thank you."

Ernest Saberton

"THE DVD - it was well worth the waiting for. The editing was fantastic and gave a great account of boarding school life from every age group ranging from 1931 to the present day. It was great to see other "OLD" old scholars taking part and mixing so well with the younger generation. My husband Ken watched the DVD with me and now appreciated just what boarding school meant to us all. He also said what a magnificent job you did.

SO PRAISE ALL ROUND."

Katie Putt

Continued comments...

"Love the DVD. It immediately put me in nostalgic mood. I must make the next reunion."

Del Baker

"I wanted to say thank you so much creating this film! It reminded me of how little I had to remember my times in Gatton. But that doesn't matter anymore as I now have memory lane on DVD! If you went to AO/RAAS then you must see this film. It will remind you of the good and the bad, but I promise it will evoke memories that you will cherish... it's a gift I will always treasure! p.s. Don't forget to play spot the differences! (e.g. all of the floors are now carpeted!)"

Colin Parry

"Going Back what can I say?? It really took me back. Fantastic film... It's funny and it's sad. Anyone who went to Gatton should order a copy, it really does cover everything school life was."

Sophie Jackson

"I can honestly say it blew me away and I think I had forgotten how great those 10 years of my life were. Thanks for reminding me"

Mandy Hill

"The DVD was great, for a minute I actually recalled how it felt to be at Gatton. It was put together brilliantly, I loved it... Its made me want to re kindle friendships that I have let slip over the years."

Edward Pennells

"Just got my copy of the DVD, watched it straight away... It is a great way for me to remember what was the best years of my life... Loved it."

Farouk Olubajo

"A very good production, I thought. I didn't realise there were so many people still around who had been at Gatton (or its predecessors) before and during WW2. I would have liked to have seen more of the '50's '60's people (more relevant to me) and I guess I was surprised that there obviously weren't many who had volunteered to participate. I watched the whole thing - extras included - 2 - 3 times over the weekend and enjoyed it every time. Congratulations on a really interesting production and my personal thanks to you, once again, for having the initiative to produce it."

Roger Freeman

"Just watched it. Had a few tears as it brought back some wonderful memories. I especially enjoyed the extra... It was heartwarming to see the older people who had been sent there as orphans."

Lynne Clarke

"Amazing - genius DVD!!! I have no photos of the past so this is brilliant."

Laura Higgins

"Great DVD... A few discreet tears came to the eyes! It showed that whichever year you were you are part of a large extended family. Well done and thanks to everyone involved!"

Lester Brooks-Wakley

"Brilliant DVD!! I like how it runs through the daily routine... Hilarious! Love the different age groups reminiscing - very emotive... Brilliant film."

Melanie Convey



BISHOPSWOOD CAMP



Hi! everyone – it's me again, Lorna Holder (née Martin) Number 80 at Bishopswood Camp, near Reading in the 1950's –

It was requested a few months ago that it might be a good idea to keep Bishopswood alive with some of our anecdotes, hence the following:

The Sunday service was always held in the assembly hall by Mr G A Woodman, the headmaster. One particular Sunday which I remember well, the service finished with a request from "Woody" as we called him, for a group of us senior girls to stay behind. Subsequently he listed the six names and to my fear my name was among them. I immediately began to be concerned wondering what we could have done wrong (guilty conscience). We needn't have worried because we were the chosen few to go out of the school grounds for a treat. He had received a call from Miss Rhodes who lived in the village, to invite us all to go to tea with her the following Sunday. Nail biting was over and our faces lit up. Miss Rhodes was wheelchair bound and had a companion to look after her. Woody said Miss Rhodes thought we were such a polite bunch from the school and wanted to thank us. She had met several of us when she let us pick her apples and we always made a point of knocking and saying thank you. Manners maketh man and of course small girls.

The following Sunday arrived and it was pouring with rain but that didn't deter us because we were so excited. It was an awful journey as we had to make our way through the woods and manoeuvre chopped down trees to get to her bungalow. Arriving soaking wet we saw all the wonderful food provided and our eyes nearly popped out of our heads like organ stops. Miss Rhodes certainly did us proud. When we arrived back to school we had a wonderful story to tell the other girls. On the following Sunday, as well as writing our usual ritual Sunday letters home we wrote a special thank you letter to Miss Rhodes.

Years later on a nostalgic visit back to the old school site with my mother, we stopped off at the local post office at Peppard Common to see if the same post lady was there. When my mother mentioned we came from Bishopswood camp she immediately said "Oh yes, I remember the camp children very well, they were all so well mannered". Despite the very strict regime it had obviously paid off.

Lorna Holder (née Martin) Goring-on-Thames and Bishopswood Camp 1940 -1952

Please let the younger "old scholars" hear some more of our tales. So pen to paper please. If you do not possess a computer there is a certain lady who will type up and edit your stories ready for publication. Please send them to Katie Putt (née Houston) 55 Nutfield Road, Rownhams, Southampton SO16 8JQ.

BISHOPSWOOD CAMP

News of Bishopswood playing fields, Horsepond Road, Sonning Common.

First, I would like to thank the old scholars who sent me Christmas cards and to the few who asked me "whatever happened to the school grounds?" In the Summer 2007 Gatton Association Newsletter I wrote a small article with an advert of the site **FOR SALE**.



I have now done some research and with the help of my daughter who lives in Sonning Common, I have some more information for you all. My daughter visited the site and found out that the last remaining building where we held our 2002 school reunion has now been demolished. This was the building in 2002 and here is that same site in January 2010.



It is now just a row of Port-a-loos for the local football teams who practice on the site. Not as salubrious as our toilet blocks in the 1940/1950's!!!!!!

However, according to South Oxfordshire District Council Planning dept.

Item: No.51 – PO8/E0440 Bishopswood playing fields, Horsepond Road, Sonning Common – The committee considered an application for planning permission for a replacement sports pavilion and the realignment of the pitches at the said Bishopswood playing fields.

The article was **RESOLVED: to grant** planning permission for this application subject to the following **15 conditions**.

Of course – to write them all out would take up too much space in this newsletter, but if anyone would like a copy I would be happy to send a copy on. At least we know it is not going to be a large housing estate as first envisaged.

So it really is **an end of an era** for us all who left the site before 1953.

Katie Putt (née Houston) The Royal Alexandra School, Bishopswood Camp 1940 - 1952.

Sequel to "Gatton Part - the Early Days 1949-1951"

By Robert Hill

In the Autumn 2009 edition of the Gatton Association Newsletter I wrote some of my reminiscences of being a starter with the newly amalgamated RAAS at Gatton Park. Whilst it was intended simply to impart a few general impressions, I have thought since that it might have been better for any 'survivors' like myself from that era 60 years ago, to have a few names to juggle with. Obviously I cannot remember the intake of 1949/50 in its entirety, but here, starting with the boys, are a few:

Arthur Daughton, Jimmy Mogie, David Childs, Edward Kinchin, John Roxburgh, Michael Pears, Ian Hoare, Digby Dennis, David Hopping, David Sluman, Stephen Carter, Martin Plain, Victor Painter, David Howells, Leslie White, Roy Spears, Kenny Button, Robin, Richard, and Rupert Chamberlain, Robin Gowans, Martin Rice, Michael Andrews, John Bunch, and a boy whose first name I've forgotten, but his surname was Fowler. Also there was a little curly-haired French boy, Philippe Arcas. (Plus myself, of course, Robert Hill!). Of the girls, my memory hasn't served me that well; however, here goes:

Maureen Cowling, Sandra ? (blank/pass), Sally Reeves, Linda Robinson, Joyce Nichols, Eleanor Rice, Dorothy Daughton, Susan Kirby, Joan Roxburgh, Heather Chamberlain..... oh dear, I haven't done very well here, have I? I don't suppose it would be much good me trying to offer descriptions for those whose names I cannot recall, for one has to remember to add on 60 years, which tends to result in a few changes! I think I might mention that I did have a number of photos from my 10 years with the RAAS that together with other personal/family artefacts, I took to Australia when I traced my father there 20 years ago. Foolishly I left them there 'to be returned later' but that never happened, and it is an ongoing matter of some vexation for me. However.....

I previously described how Gatton Hall as the sole building then on the site at Gatton Park, was used both for accommodation and classroom facilities for our age groups (years 1 and 2). I remember also included in our classrooms, was farmer Pearcey's son, Guy; with light brown hair, the most striking blue eyes and sunny disposition, he would be hard for me to forget. We palled up very quickly, and often sat together in class. I wonder if anyone else remembers him? I also previously related how we occupied the upper storeys of Gatton Hall - on the very top floor was a large room containing a stage, complete with footlights, curtains, etc., that had probably seen use by the previous military occupants during the war years, for theatrical productions. There was also a piano in the room, which was used on Sundays as a sort of chapel.

As Christmas approached, we were each given parts to play in the Nativity, and fitted up with appropriate costumes, some quite elaborate, for our various parts in the play, which cemented our Christian upbringing. This was of course enacted on the stage, which was embellished with appropriate seasonal decorations. There were photos taken specially by the school of the Nativity play, and I believe most parents of the participating children received one. Gatton Hall had, as many who have been inside will know, many rooms and closets, which, for a 5-6 year-old added to its character made it an interesting place. One feature I and certainly at least a number of those with me at Gatton Hall around 1950 may remember, was the 'secret' spiral staircase which led down - but to where? I cannot be certain of this, but I have the feeling that it may have led to a 'tunnel' or covered in passageway which in turn led - possibly - to the church, or maybe further, to one of the ornamental gardens? I have the feeling that the doorway to this staircase was adjacent to a curved flight of marble stairs, where there was an ancient spinet on one of the landings. Might it simply have been a fire escape - and is it still there today?

In terms of boundaries and restrictions, we were in general kept fairly close to the immediate areas of Gatton Hall, the limit eastward (ie, towards the Big Lake) being the front lawns. At the brow of the steep drop down through the rough grass towards the playing-fields beside the lake, there used to be a sort of 'kissing gate'. We were only allowed through that gate when we were led or accompanied by a staff member - for instance, in the summertime we used to do 'roly-polys' in the long grass, all the way down - that was great fun! We'd then run all the way back up to the top and launch ourselves back down again. An hour or two spent thus was a grand way of getting us to burn off excess energy, to build up an appetite for tea-time, and to ensure we'd sleep well.

There used to be an ancient ornamental gazebo adjacent to the magnificent Cedar tree on the south-facing lawn flanking the Hall, which was about the limit for us - the circular lawn and other areas at the porticoes west frontage of Gatton Hall were effectively 'out of bounds' - indeed, walking on the circular lawn could result in a stern admonishment, with persistent offenders earning themselves smacked bottoms! The start perhaps, of the many things one must learn in life - in this case where one may, and where one may *NOT* walk on the grass. As ever, it seems some individuals find certain rules hard to assimilate. For myself, I thought it more prudent to assume a general rule of not walking on the grass (if it was mowed) unless told otherwise!

The woods too, were regarded as 'out of bounds', but as mentioned previously (Autumn 2009) we were occasionally taken by staff members on organised 'nature walks' around the school grounds periodically. These walks generally led out from the North Wing where the kitchens and 'sewing-rooms' were, diagonally to the left across the front lawn passing a huge tall Cedar tree that is alas no longer there. It was struck by lightning in 1950 and split spectacularly down the middle, rendering it necessary to be felled - an operation which we all gathered on the appointed day at a safe distance on the lawns, to watch. I recall it was considered to have been at least 150 years old. Continuing our walk bearing round again to the left, rising upwards through a short cutting under a bridge which I think linked the rock gardens, eventually we came to the Victorian walled garden. This was, as its name implies, of considerable antiquity, surrounded by a very high red-brick wall, access being through tall, heavy wrought-iron gates. Rectangular in shape and with a central lawn, it would have been easy to imagine how the once-carefully tended formal gardens might have been. Now (1950) sadly long since neglected, straggling roses and unkempt hibiscus, and other garden flowers like hollyhocks, nasturtiums, marigolds, and phlox, competed with self-introduced foxgloves, poppies, forget-me-nots, and many other wild flowers. Shielded from the wind within the high walls, it was a perfect sun trap, the various flowers and shrubs attracting vast numbers of bees. For all the apparent neglect, the ambience was nonetheless delightful, almost magical with its tranquillity. In fairly close proximity were the greenhouses where old Mr Radford the gardener, skilfully propagated the red Geraniums that were such a colourful feature around Gatton Hall in the summer months, appearing in the huge stone urns situated along the gravel pathways and on the lawns overlooking the big lake. In the later 1950s many will be bound to remember the prolific displays of Mr Radford's red Geraniums at the front of the Dining-Hall.

I wonder if anyone remembers the front lawns before the tennis courts were created over them, in, I think, 1958? Previously there was a gravel pathway heading from the front of Gatton Hall just below and at right angles to the longer pathway which ran from the end of the North Wing, to where there was a very old ornamental stone seat. About halfway down this gravel pathway, which led towards the brow of the hill overlooking the Big Lake, there was a shallow circular pond about 20ft in diameter, with a low stone surrounding wall, not much more than about 1ft high; in the centre of the pond was statue of a cherub which contained a fountain.

During the summer months it looked really attractive with the water-lilies that flowered pink and white, and small bulrushes and reeds, which in turn attracted dragonflies, newts, frogs, and toads. Of course any kind of water feature is like a magnet to small children, and many were those whose curiosity and fascination overcame them, with them falling in! This was certainly the case when in the winter of 1950, several of us were 'testing the ice' on the pond, and one unfortunate boy, David Hopping, somehow fell in through the ice. Needless to say there were big ructions over that, when the dangers of such activities were spelled very graphically out to us.

Another memory I have is from the summer of 1950, when we were all taken by coach on an outing to Bognor Regis. It was, true to form for classic happy childhood memories, a really beautiful day, and I can remember some of the route taken, via Reigate and Dorking, down the A24. I remember this particularly, as we had a bit of a struggle near Leith Hill, which of course is fairly high on the North Downs - our coach that day was a pre-war Bedford that had definitely seen better days - almost identical to the old "Gatton Flash" of the later 1950s! As the journey progressed we had impromptu 'sing-songs' to keep us occupied (NO i-Pods, Walkmans, or transistor radios etc in those days!), and much handing around of sweets. I can remember vividly when, on cresting a hill approaching Bognor, we finally came in sight of the sea ahead of us; the excitement - and noise - that erupted in that coach was unbelievable! We eventually arrived on the beach, and all the other kids seemed to have bathing apparel - except for myself. There had evidently been a slip-up somewhere, but the situation was saved by a hastily-produced pair of girls' bottle green knickers, which I was given to wear! Needless to say that day on the beach doing what small kids usually do pretty well in the glorious sunshine, went like a flash. I think the journey back to Gatton was somewhat quieter than the outward trip, as one by one, overcome by all the excitement and expenditure of energy at the sea side, little heads nodded off to sleep. I don't recall us arriving back, and I can only presume we were put to bed by the staff, who must have been pretty worn out too.

Old School Photo Memories

From Ken and Jean Button

I don't think we have much of interest to write for the Newsletter about Ken's 13+ years in the Alexandra Orphanage as it progressed towards becoming the RAAS. Ken's memories are almost non-existent. We have read with interest, Robert Hill's, Ray Davies' and Andrew Head's stories to run alongside the personal side of Ken's story that I am collating for him and our children.

I would love to hear about the memories of others at Elmcroft and Duxhurst as well as photos and more stories of Bishopswood, Camberley and Gatton. In a recent Newsletter, Andrew Head said he had a photo of the front staircase of Collingwood Court, Camberley. Do you know if he has by any chance found it and passed it on to someone or if he has other photos of that time?

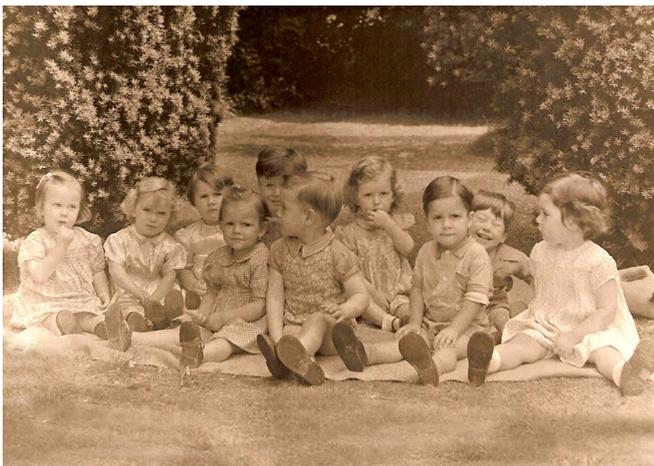


Junior and nursery, Goring-on-Thames

Ken started at Elmcroft on 28th October 1946, aged 2 years and 10 months; moved to Duxhurst in 1947; to Gatton in June 1948; to Bishopswood Camp in January 1951 to April 1953; on to Camberley April 1953 for two terms; to Gatton (Gloucester House) at January 1954 and left Gatton (Albert House) at Easter 1959.

Ken featured in several of the photos. Robin Duggan (formerly Gowan, present in one of the group photos)? Ken and he were good friends but have not remained in contact since leaving school. It would be good to resume contact now. On one of the photos I have attached, Kenneth is sitting in a large toy car. I suspect it came from Elmcroft but it may have been Duxhurst.

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Elmcroft Nursery 1946



Kenneth Button at Elmcroft 1947



Gatton Angels 1949 Kenneth front row 1st left



Gatton Nativity 1949



Back Row: From left to right: Robert Hill, David Childs, Digby Dennis, Michael Andrews.

Front Row: ?, Kenneth Button, ? Stephen Carter, ?

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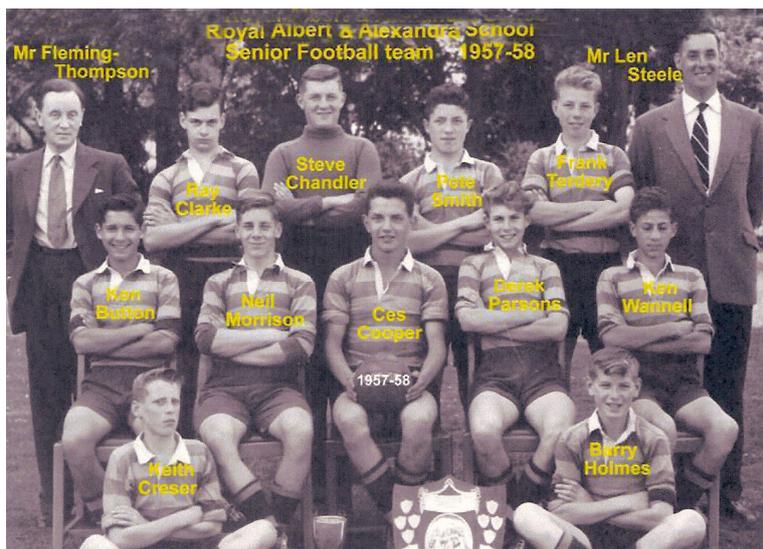
Back Row: From Left to Right. Robert Smart, ? , ? , Michael Pears, Edward Kitchin, Robin Gowan (became Duggan), Roy Spears, Stephen Carter, David Hopping, Leslie White, Arthur Daughton. Second and third from the left may be Clive Watling and John Cridlake.

Front Row: Ken Button, Ian Hoare (became Ian Bates), Miss Jones, David Howells, Robert Hill.



Kenneth Button
1946 to 1959
photo 1956

Aged: 14



Winners of the Surrey Mirror Football Cup
1957- 1958



Surrey Junior
County and
Regional Boxing
Champion 1956

Royal Visit 3rd March 2010 – Pupil Perspective

Two boarders from Cornwall House, 14 year olds Alice Carolan-Evans and her friend Leighanne Harris, conducted one of the tours of the school for Old Scholars on 3rd March. Here are a few words from Alice about the day (Leighanne was unable to contribute as she was in the 'San').

"Matron knows we are usually willing to do tours so she asked us if we would like to volunteer to do tours for the Old Scholars after the Royal Visit.



We showed our visitors round the school, our house and our dorm. Leighanne and I are the only ones in our dorm so it was quite overwhelming to hear that there were over 60 in a dorm in the Alexandra Orphanage. I could tell that the memories of life at the Orphanage were flooding back for our visitors as we went round the boarding house. Even though they were not at Gatton Park, but at Maitland Park, we could tell they could imagine what it was like.

Showing Old Scholars around made me think "Will I have the same feelings when I get older? I wonder how they coped with homesickness? How was it different?".

It was good to see Gatton from another point of view. I go home some weekends and stay at school other weekends and it is hard to imagine not being able to do that and having to stay at school all the time. I also found out that the children at Maitland Park were known by numbers not names, and when a child left, another got their old number.

Doing the tour meant I missed afternoon lessons but it was worth it because it was really interesting to hear what it was like in the past. The lessons I missed were maths and citizenship. I am working towards my GCSEs so my teacher gave me a sheet about what was covered in the lesson and what prep I need to do. My friends are also really helpful when I need to know what I missed."

Gatton Association Shop



Printed Logo - Ballpoint & Fountain Pen Set



Dark red with laser engraved school logo



Gatton Sports Bag in various colours



Maroon pocket diary with gold coloured logo & gold metal corners



Gold coloured Maroon Key ring with gold coloured logo and on the Flip-side - Gatton Association



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					
2010 Diary	£3.75	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 2.75	£ 3.95	£ 4.95	£ <input type="text"/>
Description:	Maroon pocket diary with gold coloured logo & gold metal corners					
Bundle Types						
Pen & Diary Set	£9.50	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 3.80	£ 4.80	£ 6.00	£ <input type="text"/>
Key ring & Gatton Badge	£6.00	<input type="text" value="x"/>	£ 3.80	£ 4.80	£ 6.00	£ <input type="text"/>
Diary, Pen Set & Torch	£18.90	<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"/>		

THE GATTON ASSOCIATION*Presents***The 2010 Reunion**27th – 29th AUGUST 2010
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, address and cheque guarantee card number on the reverse of your cheque*** and send to:

‘THE GATTON ASSOCIATION’

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 28th JUNE 2010.

No bookings will be accepted after this date!

If you wish to cancel your booking, this must be confirmed in writing by Monday 5th July 2010. Refunds be issued after Monday 13th September 2010.

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.

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.....

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.