

CARGILFIELD  
THE CARGUNDIAN



## **A warm welcome from Cargilfield!**

It has been a number of years since there has been an active Former Pupil Association here at Cargilfield. However, with the 150th Anniversary of the school's foundation on the horizon in 2023, we are keen to reconnect with as many former Cargilfield pupils, parents and families as possible to keep you up to date with our plans to celebrate this important moment in the school's history, as well as to give you news of former pupils' achievements and details of some of the exciting developments that have been happening at Cargilfield.

We would love to share any news you have about what you have been up to since leaving Cargilfield, be that successes at school, university, career moves or 'hatches, matches and dispatches'!

We have a Former Pupil page on the new school website where you can register and update your details with us and a number of FP news items can be found there too. Please click [here](#) to give us your contact details.

We hope you enjoy this first newsletter, and look forward to hearing from you.



## Opening of the new Astroturf Pitch

The new Gillespie Pitch was opened in February 2019. It is named in memory of two brothers, Alexander Gillespie (1900-1903) and Thomas Gillespie (1900-1905), who both went on to Winchester College and then New College, Oxford. They were killed in Northern France during World War 1 and their names can be found on our War Memorial in Chapel alongside the other 123 old boys and masters who fell in the Great War. The pitch was opened by Mr Tom Heap, BBC rural affairs presenter, and the great nephew of Alexander Gillespie. Click [here](#) for more photographs.



## Opening of the Harper Gow Pitch

The Harper Gow Pitch was resurfaced on the site of tennis courts that were built in memory of Leonard Harper Gow. He was a boy at Cargilfield from 1900 and Head Boy in 1905, so was a contemporary of the Gillespie brothers; he then returned as a Governor of the school from 1927 to 1958. The new astro turf surface was opened in February by his grandson and Head Boy of Cargilfield in 1968, also Leonard Harper Gow.



## James Wilson

As a number of you will already know, James Wilson, former Deputy Head at Cargilfield until his retirement in 2012, died suddenly in December last year. He was a much loved former colleague, a fine teacher and is remembered fondly by all those who knew him. A large number of former pupils, parents and current members of staff attended his funeral, and our thoughts remain with Angela, his wife, who was a long time Head of Classics here.

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## Former Pupils' Hockey Match



In December, on the final afternoon of the Autumn Term, we welcomed back over forty former pupils to play in a hockey match on the new astro turf. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces, and also a large number of forms parents came along to watch too! Photos of the afternoon can be found [here](#). We hope to make this an annual event and will email out details of the 2019 FP hockey match soon.



## Rosslyn Chapel Concert

What a wonderful concert of music and poetry we enjoyed on March 19th In the haunting surroundings of Rosslyn Chapel made famous in Dan Brown's book The Da Vinci Code, the Chapel choir performed some lovely anthems interspersed with poetry written by the children inspired by our visits earlier in the term as well as some poems by Wordsworth, Keats and Shakespeare. A truly memorable evening of music and special thanks to Dr Allsop, Mrs Alder and Mr Parker for all their hard work. Click [here](#) for more details.



## Spring Term Hockey Success

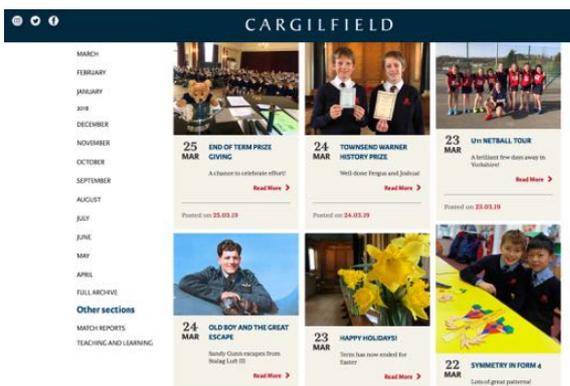
With the new astro turf pitches up and running, the boys' hockey teams have enjoyed great success during the Spring Term. Both the U13 and U11 sides reached the IAPS National Finals, with the U13s playing down at Millfield and the U11s at Rugby School. The U11 boys took inspiration from Lunjika, a former pupil of Cargilfield and now in her final year at Rugby; she has represented England Hockey at U16 level and it has been lovely to welcome her back to Cargilfield recently at our October half term hockey course where she did some coaching. With all girls and boys now playing hockey on astro turf every day, increased sporting opportunities for all the children has been a welcome addition to our games programme.

## Visit of Vaughan Townhill

It was a pleasure to welcome Vaughan



Townhill back to Cargilfield towards the end of the Autumn Term to take a choir rehearsal before the Chapel Choir performed at Holy Cross Church in Davidson's Mains where Vaughan is the organist. He was Director of Music here for 34 years but has continued to be extremely busy in retirement, directing various choirs and orchestras in and around Edinburgh! There were a number of children of former pupils in the choir whom he had taught when he was a teacher here, and he much enjoyed his annual visit back to see us.



## New School Website and Social Media

Our new school [website](#) was launched last year and has proved very popular. The [news page](#) is updated daily and contains lots of interesting articles about what is going on here at Cargilfield, whilst there are also features from members of staff in a new Teaching and Learning blog. The new Former Pupils' page has a section for [FP news](#), so we would love to hear what you have been up to since leaving Cargilfield!

The school has very active social media channels which is a great way for you to keep in touch; please do follow us and tag us in on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Links can be found at the footer of this Newsletter.



## Goodbye, Mr Laver!

After 14 years teaching Geography and leading the Outdoor Pursuits department here at Cargilfield, we said farewell to Mr Laver at the end of the Autumn Term as he decided to retire and spend more time with his family down in Worcestershire. A huge number of children have benefited from his love of the great outdoors, leading so many camps and expeditions, organising the Pentland Round, going on Leavers' Camp as well as taking children kayaking and climbing every week to Ratho. We wish him a very happy retirement, and he has already got a busy few months planned with a trip to the Arctic before heading over to Japan to cheer on his

beloved Wales in the Rugby World Cup!



## Old Boy in Melrose 7's Final!

Edinburgh Accies reached the Final in this year's Melrose 7s in April, and they were captained by old boy Jamie Sole; also in the Accies' squad was our current graduate assistant, Will Stephen. They lost to London Scottish but performed very well up against a number of semi professional teams from across the world playing at the birthplace of the seven-a-side game.



## 80th Anniversary of evacuation to Lawers House

This year is the 80th anniversary of the evacuation of Cargilfield to Lawers House near Comrie in Perthshire from 1939 to 1947, during the Second World War. We would love to hear from any families who had relations who spent their time at Cargilfield at Lawers, so please do [contact us!](#)



## Former Pupils play for Scotland U18 Ladies' Hockey

We were delighted to see that former pupils Ellie, now at Mary Erskine's, and Emma, now at St George's, both played for the Scotland U18 Ladies' Hockey side over the Easter weekend in a series of internationals against Wales. Max, now at Merchiston, played for the U16 Scotland Boys' team too. It is tremendous to see old boys and girls gaining international honours in hockey.

## Tom Sole plays for Northants v Pakistan

Former Pupil, Tom Sole, currently with a contract at Northants CC and also a Scotland International, played against Pakistan in a One Day match at the end of April as part of the visitors' warm up games before this summer's ICC Cricket World Cup held in England. He scored some useful runs,



including an enormous 6. We look forward to following his professional cricketing career.



### **Freddie plays in Eton v Harrow match at Lords**

Great to see Freddie, an old boy of Cargilfield, playing cricket for Eton against Harrow in the annual fixture at Lord's at the end of May. He is the last century maker at Cargilfield, reaching a 100 for the 1stXI back in June 2014!

I think that he is the first old boy to play for Eton in the Harrow fixture at Lord's - Stan Shillington played for Harrow in the same match a few years ago - but we would be keen to discover if any other Cargundians have played in this famous fixture before!



### **Lunjika plays for Scotland U21s**

Having played for various England age group hockey sides, Lunjika has now set her sights on playing for Scotland and having just finished at Rugby School, she played for the Scotland U21 ladies who won the Euro League 2, so winning the Gold Medal and promotion to Euro League 1; she also scored two goals in the Final! A wonderful achievement.

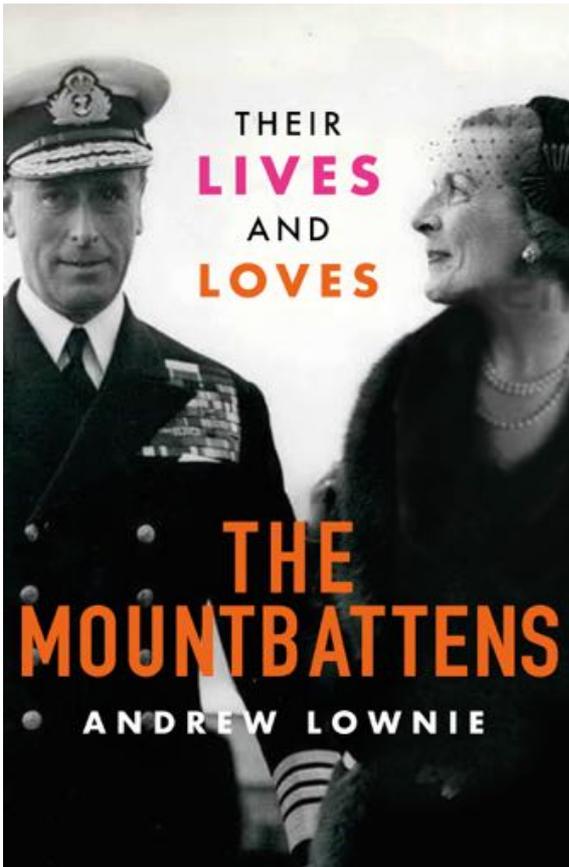


## James passes out of Sandhurst!

Wonderful to hear that James Nisbet has recently passed out of The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and commissioned in to the Scots Guards.

James moved on to Harrow before going to Newcastle University and then Sandhurst. At his recent Passing Out Parade, he was supported by family and friends, including lots of other old boys and girls from Cargilfield.

Cargilfield is a place where life long friends are made!



## Mounbatten biography written by Old Boy

A fascinating and revealing biography about the Mountbattens written by Andrew Lownie, an old boy of Cargilfield, was published on August 22nd. Lord Mountbatten was formerly Chief of the Defence Staff, the last Viceroy of India and Great Uncle and Mentor to Prince Charles before being assassinated by the IRA in August 1979.

Extracts have been published in The Sunday Times and Sunday Telegraph and make for very interesting reading.

Andrew is a literary agent and author and after Cargilfield he went on to Westminster School then Cambridge University.

Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

## Academic News!

We were delighted to hear that Alexander Wallace (Glenalmond) achieved four A\* in his A Levels and confirmed his place to read Mathematics at Cambridge in addition to being



an organ scholar.

James Macnab (Fettes) and Marcus Fforde (Oundle) both got places at Cambridge and Oxford respectively due to their outstanding A Level results.

Also, Gordon Porter (Glenalmond) got a First Class Honours degree in Business Management from Manchester Metropolitan - many congratulations!

At GCSE Rowen Lawson (Winchester) and Flossie Barlas (Fettes) both got 11 9s whilst Nancy Barlas (Fettes) got 10 9s and an 8 - fantastic to hear!



## Please do forward this on!

We would love for this newsletter to be passed on to your contemporaries so hopefully they will subscribe to the newsletter by adding their details to the FP page on the school website [here](#). This way, our database of FPs will continue to grow.

Please do forward it on to anyone you think might be interested! Thank you.



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