

DECEMBER 2010 UPDATE

Welcome to the Cranleigh Foundation's December 2010 newsletter, bringing you up-to-date on recent fundraising events and on the latest news regarding our exciting current and future projects.



At Long Leave we wished our Foundation Director, David Waters MBE, a fond farewell as he left to take up his new appointment as Director of the Gallmann Foundation in Laikipia, Kenya. Although we were extremely sorry to see him depart, we were also delighted for him as he was offered a unique opportunity to work with an extraordinary organisation on the edge of the Rift Valley, a dream position for him in his home country. His contribution to the Cranleigh Foundation has been enormous, and we will miss him sorely on both a professional and a personal level.

Until his replacement is found, Nigel Nicholson, Chairman of the Cranleigh Foundation, has been taking a more active role as the vital work of the Foundation continues. And continue it has, with an extremely proactive few months in all areas

of the Foundation's work, as we have continued to build on David's good work over the course of this term.

**LATEST NEWS**

September saw the arrival of the second Founder, who has settled in well at the Senior School and has proved a very popular figure within the House. Both Founders are tackling their academic subjects with increasing confidence, and throwing themselves with genuine enthusiasm into a wide variety of the sports and activities that Cranleigh offers. The Foundation team are now working hard to ensure that we are able to offer our third Founder place in September 2011.

Progress on the new state-of-the-art 1<sup>st</sup> XV rugby pitch continues, with the intention still



being to have it ready for play at the start of next season. The implementation of this first phase of the Sporting Excellence project was made possible due largely to the extraordinary generosity of a few OCs who put the initial funds in place – which were further boosted by the generous contributions made by friends and family on behalf of David Bluett, at both his Memorial Service held in the School Chapel on 30<sup>th</sup> October and at the Foundation-run Golf Day held in his honour on 10<sup>th</sup> November, which have between them raised approximately £43,000 so far. Whilst still somewhat short of our overall target, we have every confidence that we will reach our goal and celebrate with an opening match on the new pitch next September – which will henceforth be called Bluett's, in honour of this much-loved Old Cranleighan.

The Chapel project also remains a Foundation focus – and it was a wonderful moment to witness the inauguration of the spectacular new Mander organ on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October. The service was attended by Hamish Ogston, whose personal donation enabled the commissioning of the instrument, along with a large audience of Cranleigh residents, local organists, pupils, parents and staff from the School. All were treated to a stunning display



of the extraordinary qualities and versatility of the Mander organ, under the aegis of three superb organists. The first to play was Bruce Ogston, brother of Hamish Ogston, with his own uplifting adaptation, 'Improvisation on Cranleigh Hymns'. Next to take the seat was



Philip Scriven, Cranleigh's new Organist-In-Residence, playing Bach first, followed by a superb 'Rubrics: A Liturgical Suite for Organ in Five Movements'. Finally, world-renowned organist Thomas Trotter



wowed the audience with works by Thalben-Ball, Mendelssohn and Widor, playing his finale largely on the pedals, to stunning effect. All in all it was a fitting tribute to a truly magnificent organ in a much-loved setting – and one that will be all the more impressive when the organ gallery has its oak panelling, the Chapel's new lighting and sound systems are completed, and the new pews (designed to be in keeping with Sir Henry Woodyer's original concept) can be put in place – goals that the Foundation is continuing to work hard towards.



## RECENT FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Indeed, fundraising efforts for the various Foundation projects continue apace, with Trustees devoting their time and efforts on many different fronts. At the end of November we held the Cranleigh Foundation's first Christmas Gift Fair, which proved to be an enormous hit all round, with over 500 adults and almost as many children and teenagers attending the event. With 60 exhibitors offering everything from unusual gifts to free-range geese, natural wreaths to beautiful wrapping paper, the Wyatt Hall at Cranleigh Preparatory School was packed almost from the moment the doors opened at 10.30am –

and many people were still making last-minute Christmas purchases as the doors closed at 4.00pm. With mulled wine and cider, and sausages from local company Ben and Murrays, visitors were seasonally fed and refreshed, while a tombola sponsored by Taurus Wines and an excellent raffle – with many prizes generously provided by the local exhibitors – all added to the festive



atmosphere. Fair organisers Lulu Hampson and Belinda Graham-Rack, both Trustees of the Cranleigh Foundation, were so delighted with the local response that they are already planning next year's event, 'all set to be even bigger and better'. Best of all, the funds raised were more than double those anticipated, with just under £8,000 contributed to the Cranleigh Foundation.

Finally, in addition to the aforementioned Golf Day in memory of David Bluett, in early



December a group of Old Cranleighians met at the Chilgrove Estate for a day's shooting courtesy of Nigel Smith (2 North, 1985). Steve Bailey, Neil Bolton, Giles Griffiths, Julian Brynteson, Rick Johnson, Nigel Smith, Laurie Smith and Jim Turley spent numerous cartridges on fewer pheasants, at what proved to be a great day at a special place.

## DATE FOR THE DIARY

Such events are wonderful both in terms of fundraising, and also for getting together with friends old and new for memorable times together. And never has there been such an event as next year's **Midsummer Ball, on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2011**. Following the success of the OC Ball at Madame Tussaud's and the Cranleigh Foundation's Winter Wonderland Ball, the two teams have joined forces to create a truly fabulous evening, featuring many high-quality partners. Famed London chefs Rhubarb, with Cottage Caterers, are creating a Champagne Reception with canapés, followed by a delicious three-course dinner, fully inclusive of fine wines supplied by a renowned vintner. The night's entertainment will feature an array of talent, ranging from Old Cranleighians to a chart-topping headline act, with dancing until 2am. And it is hoped that the night will raise significant funds for the Foundation, through an auction of exclusive lots together with an opportunity to win a stunning £10,000 diamond.

This will be a sell-out event so, if you don't already have an application form, please call **Sue Lee** on **01483 542061** or email **midsummerball@cranleigh.org** as soon as possible to ensure that you don't miss out on a sensational evening. You can apply for a whole table or for individual tickets: parents of both the Senior School and the Prep School, OCs and friends from outside the immediate Cranleigh community are all welcome at what promises to be a wonderful and historic occasion.

For further information regarding any of the projects or events mentioned, please contact the Cranleigh Foundation on **01483 542061** or email **snl@cranleigh.org**

## Cranleigh Foundation Trustees

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■ = Current/past parent at Cranleigh School

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