



Continuity & development

Those who might remember the friendly, homely, atmosphere at the International Study Centre with its 30 or 40 boys might be surprised to find the 150 girls and boys that now occupy the 2008 International College. Rather than being a part of Sherborne School, the College is now a separate entity, with its own campus, uniform, rules and ethos. It has some of its own sports facilities, and its own dining hall.

However, some of the elements which made the International Study Centre so successful are still here. Firstly we have our own set of dedicated teachers – about 35 these days. Secondly the College has its own boarding houses – 4 these days. Thirdly there are the strong relationships between both house staff and teaching staff and the students.

All this leads to the same strong sense of identity that has always characterised the Study Centre/College. Although there are plans for three new buildings, the College Governors agree with me that keeping the College comparatively small is a key part of ensuring its continuing success.

The buildings that are planned include a new kitchen area which will be built in 2009. Revised plans for a new girls' boarding house are being submitted to the local planning officials very soon, and the College is very hopeful that the changes in its location will make this application successful. This could be built within the next two years.

Finally the College still hopes to build a multi-purpose hall/assembly building on its main campus. The College architect is currently in discussion with the planners on this project.

However, even with the new girls' boarding house, the College does not intend to grow beyond 160 or so students.

If your work involves visiting the UK, or if you could schedule a visit to the UK, why not come and join us on Speech Day? This year it will be on June 26th, at 11.15. This year's Speaker will be Major General Patrick Cordingley, the new Chairman of the College Governors.

If you can come, please do let us know so that we can make catering arrangements. You will be very welcome!

Dr Christopher Greenfield – Principal



www.icoso.org

What did I let myself in for?

'Unusual and interesting' was the description which was given to me of Sherborne International Study Centre before I went to work there in 1991. It was the first Study Centre for international students to be set up in association with an old-established public school, and this was one of the many reasons why it could be described as 'unusual'. It was 'interesting' in that it provided the opportunity to teach the fascinating fundamentals of the English language, at a time when – in the eyes of educationalists at least – such a task had become decidedly unfashionable in English classes at English schools. Here then was a chance to share the mysteries of the Present Perfect Tense and Phrasal Verbs!

I was interviewed in Greenhill House where the Study Centre was then located – a warren of low-ceilinged small rooms, corridors and staircases. I was shown round by the Principal and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Mowat, and well remember a door being

opened on Mr.Bean (now Mr.Bonnelli-Bean, Senior Housemaster and Head of History), who was taking an English lesson in-believe it or not – phrasal verbs. I was then taken to the Staff Room and met Mr. Walters and Mr. Stalley.

And that was pretty much the last I saw of Greenhill House! The following September the school, anticipating considerable expansion, moved down the hill to the Newell Grange campus where – in addition to the splendid old barns and Newell Grange itself (which accommodated the Administration and the Staff Room) – a new boarding house had been built and a set of classrooms erected where Humanities, Sciences and Maths coexisted happily for many years. I know that some of the teachers missed at first the cosy, more intimate atmosphere of Greenhill House with its beams and thick walls.

At first the numbers were low – some 40 students enrolled in the first term I

was there. The numbers were indeed disappointing, but easily explained by the fact that prospective parents who had looked round the premises in the previous year had been confronted by a building site.

Numbers steadily increased, however, and the Science and Maths Departments moved into a splendid new block, whilst English and the other subjects were left behind like poor Cinderellas. After some years Prince Charming put in a belated appearance and we moved into new premises. I actually watched my old classroom being dismantled (a very strange and unsettling experience),

Now there are other International Colleges, so we are not so 'unusual' any more. We remain intensely 'interesting', however, for a variety of reasons, not least as Sherborne's 'window on the world'.

Mrs A. Wiltshire



Familiar view of the front of Greenhill House



Mr Mowat's Office, Now a study room



The Green New Buildings

The former Staff Common Room & Mr Walters' Study



View of Garden and Paddock



Travels & observations

Marketing commitments this year have taken me to three previously unvisited destinations and one old favourite. I started with perhaps the most difficult trip which was the long haul to Dalian in Northern China, a modern well-equipped city but one in many ways different to Shanghai and Beijing, being so close to some impressive coastline. The trip did not start well, the airline company decided not to fly and when it finally did do so, on the following day, a sizeable proportion of passengers went on strike, seeking compensation for their late departure! Although this hurdle was finally overcome, it did mean an even longer delay, a very late arrival into Shanghai airport and a subsequent sprint to catch a late plane from Shanghai to Dalian. Regrettably, despite being fortunate enough to have many Chinese students of late at the International College, none I believe were from Dalian. I can only hope therefore that in future I will be able to return when we do have old scholars living there who can tell me more about this fascinating city.

Two other plane journeys took me to Miami and Dubai, where I was hoping to meet with Mr Woolley who teaches at Dubai College. Regrettably I arrived at Dubai International Airport at exactly the same time as Mr Woolley was departing, taking students on a skiing trip into Europe. This was very disappointing for me as we had promised to meet up several years ago, but maybe next time. My final journey of the year took me to Hong Kong, one of my first and favourite destinations. There I was able to meet up with old students. Although I had already been able to do so via the marvels of Facebook, it was nice to be able to personally congratulate both Gerald Ngan for becoming a father for the first time and to Yu Hon Tsim for becoming a father for the second time. This I am sure you will understand, makes me feel very old!

Finally returning to Facebook, I would also like to thank several students who have added me to their lists so that we can communicate effectively and I am particularly pleased as it allows me to look at all the photographs of their families and for me to keep in touch with what they are doing in their successful lives. I would be very grateful to hear from any other students in this way and maybe it would be possible to set up an International College Facebook site where we can all share our memories.

Comments please!

Best wishes

Philip A. Hardaker



The Old Greenhill House and the back of the new buildings

Variety is the spice of life

I joined the staff of the SSISC at Greenhill House in January 1991, having recently retired from teaching in London. In September that year we moved on to the roomy campus at Newell Grange. In spring 1992 I became Head of French and also acquired a number of English sets to teach and in January 1993 I became Head of Year 11, or the fifth form as we called it in those days.

In September 1992 I discovered two periods of Drama with Year 10 on my timetable (as did Mrs Wiltshire). We tried all kinds of dramatic exercises and I dramatised a few scenes from "Oliver Twist" for the school to see at Christmas in the dining hall. Our first public performance! After that we became more ambitious and I began writing pantomimes and dramatising plays. As our student numbers increased and we became co-educational, the dining hall became too small and we turned to the Stuart Centre, the Powell Theatre and the Digby Hall. Many of the old male students will remember donning female garments in the cause of Mrs S's drama. Sorry!

The erection of the Fifth Form Common Room was an amazing step forward, enhanced by the addition of the pool table. Remember, although I am speaking of quite recent times, we had no mobile phones or computers, so the FCR was a very important place to relax.

I retired from teaching for the second time in 1999 when I had the first of three operations followed by the second in 2001. Then, to my amazement, I was asked to return to help those in need of Extra English and French, so I put the third operation on hold until the summer holidays of 2005. However, it seems the older I get the busier I become. I have lovely memories of so many of you. Most of you were a joy to teach. I feel deeply honoured that I am asked so often to 'take on' another group or individual student. Teaching at the International College has given me, and still does give me, immense pleasure. Thank you all for being part of that pleasure.

Mrs P. Soskin



Backwards & forwards

There is a distinct feeling of looking backwards in this edition of the ICOSA Newsletter, both in the reflections by Mrs Soskin And Mrs Wiltshire and in the choice of photographs. Many of the earlier generations of students have asked Mr Hardaker what has happened to Greenhill House. So, My wife and I and Mr Marshall, with the kind permission of the housemaster Mr Reynolds, paid a visit. The result you can see in Mr Marshall's photographs. I have tried to select those of places that would be familiar to you, but have also included ones that show the development of Greenhill House into the full sized boarding house now called The Green.

Whilst we look back, we must not forget the present and the future. Dr Greenfield has mentioned some of the future plans. I should like to thank those of you who have registered with ICOSA . This is obviously useful to us because we have an up to date address or e-mail address which enables us to contact you. It is useful to you, because it means we can put you in touch with others who have registered. But, from our point of view, it is both very heartening and interesting to hear how well you have done and I shall try in future issues to mention news that we have been given. In this regard, we congratulate Brian Sexton on his MBA. which we heard about recently. There are many amongst those of you who have registered many who have gained 1st class degrees or who are doing fascinating and important jobs, so keep the information coming. If you have not yet registered, please do so now.

The form is on the ICOSA site – www.icoso.org

With best wishes to you all



Mr. Mowat has asked us to let you know that he and Mrs. Mowat now live near Valencia in Spain and that his e-mail is ralphmowat@gmail.com



The Main Staircase



The old Common Room & Library

International College, Sherborne School, Newell Grange
Sherborne, Dorset DT9 4EZ, U.K,

Tel: +44 (0) 1935 814743

Fax: +44 (0) 1935 816863

e-mail: reception@sherborne.ic.net www.sherborne.ic.net

Sherborne School is a registered Charity No 306219. The International College, Sherborne School is a living institution and changes may be introduced to the arrangements described in this newsletter from time to time. The newsletter therefore does not constitute in whole or in part any form of contract between the International College, its pupils or their parents. Sherborne School is a registered Charity No 306219. The International College, Sherborne School is a living institution and changes may be introduced to the arrangements described in this newsletter from time to time. The newsletter therefore does not constitute in whole or in part any form of contract between the International College, its pupils or their parents.

1998 Data Protection Act

All data is held securely and will be treated confidentially and with sensitivity for the benefit of ICOSA and its members. It is available to the College administration department. It is used for the sending of ICOSA publications and events information and information about the College. Under the 1998 Data Protection Act you have the right to object to the use of your data for any of the above.