



## Friends' Newsletter



The College opened for two special days this year, the April Spring Sunday which coincided with the Vintage Bus day, and the Lions May fair. We had a book stall out on the front lawn on both days and the weather was very kind. Thank you to all the Friends, Guides and Helpers who gave their time on both days.

### Highlights of the Season

We have had a number of interesting visitors this year, including an Australian who is a descendant of Lionel Sackville, the first Duke of Dorset.

Another visitor and her family gave the College a photograph of their ancestor, an elderly lady resident pictured in the College uniform. She is believed to have donated the mousetrap in the dining room to the College

### Friends' Lunch

We held a very successful 'bring and share' lunch in the College dining room and quadrangle in May, followed by a talk by Caroline Metcalfe on Almshouses. We hope that Ann Smith is recovering after her fall.

### SACKVILLE COLLEGE CONCERT.

Marion Small sang Songs from the British Isles and Bernard Gillbard recited Cornish Poems.



It is very kind of Marion to give her time

and talent to support the College in this way. We all enjoyed Bernard Gillbard's poems. We are delighted to tell you that the evening raised nearly £700. A big "thank you" to all those who came, and those who made such generous donations.

## **News from the Warden**

Sadly, I have to inform you that Terry, husband of Ann Smith, died suddenly in the early hours of Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October. Terry's cheerfulness will be sadly missed. Both have been long-term Friends and supporters of the College, and have raised over the years some hundreds of pounds in donations and attended most events.

I am sure that the Friends would wish to join me with thoughts and prayers for both Ann and Terry at this time.

I have written a letter of condolence to Ann on behalf of the College and Friends.

On Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> September, Sandra O' Dwyer resigned from her position as Almoner of Sackville College. She had been employed here for five years.

Apologies to any Friends who have been trying to telephone or Email the College without success. I am trying to juggle both jobs like a juggler until we can find a replacement. Unfortunately, the balls so often fall to the ground. The best time to try and catch me in the Office is in the mornings; ideally, between 9:15 and 11:00 am. Hopefully, someone may come to the rescue soon.

## **Members, Guides and Helpers**

We are always in need of new Friends so please pass on details to those who might be interested in joining.

Graham and Ann Edwards, who run the Guides & Helpers team are always very pleased to welcome new people. If you think you can spare time during the

College opening times to be a Guide or Helper, please contact them on 01342 322994

## **Dates for 2013**

### ***Christmas Carols***

- Once again we will have a Carol Evening and Party for Friends, Guides and Helpers on Tuesday 3rd December at 7:30
- A Public Carol Evening on Tuesday 10th December at 7:30pm
- A Public Carol Evening – Wednesday 18th December at 7:30pm, including last year's popular choir.

*(Booking is required for the Public Carol evenings.)*

## **Sackville College at Christmas, 1872**

From the Parish Magazine of St Swithun's Church, East Grinstead.

December 1872

### *December 24th Christmas Eve*

*There was a hearty service in Sackville College Chapel, the Vicar taking part and the Rev C. W. Payne Crawford giving a brief address.*

*The manner in which the Hymns and Canticles were rendered reflects great credit on Mr Berry and the Church Choir Boys.*

*The service was followed by a tea at 4pm, and this by distribution of useful articles, to pensioners and inmates, at 5pm, contributed by many parishioners and other liberal benefactors.*

*(The Vicar was the Revd D. Y. Blakiston).*

We hope our Christmas Concerts will be just as hearty this year!

## **John Mason Neale in the**

## Newspapers

Graham Edwards has been reviewing past press articles about J. M. Neale and found this:-

*From the Western Times for 12th June 1847:*

“The Reverend J. M. Neale of Cambridge, a poet of great talents, but an indifferent son of the Church, has involved himself in a contention with the Bishop of Chichester. He is Warden of Sackville College, East Grinstead, an old foundation of the Dorset family for discharged housekeepers, which has a chapel attached to it. On Friday May 7th, the Bishop visited East Grinstead to hold a confirmation in the parish church; after this service His Lordship repaired to the College to inspect the chapel and was met there by the Warden, Mr Neale. The Bishop made his objections to the cross which occupied a prominent position; also to a certain Litany desk, which the Warden had erected and directed that in

future the Litany should be read where the rest of the prayers were. Mr Neale, in the consequent discussion, made use of the word “altar” in alluding to the communion table. The Bishop wanted to know “what he meant thereby, as no such name was acknowledged by our Protestant Church, for the communion table.” This table was decorated with flowers. The Bishop, observing them, remarked to Mr Neale “This is not the food of Christ’s lambs”. A few days subsequent to this the Bishop sent a letter to East Grinstead forbidding Mr Neale exercising clerical functions in his dioceses. Mr Neale still persists.”

## Looking Forward

In 2015 it will be the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cricket match between Politicians & The Stage. It would be nice to have a similar match. Do any of you have any contacts in cricket clubs who could offer to arrange a similar match? Or could you and some friends field a team?

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## Have you seen this Inscription?

On the West wall of the College adjoining Church Lane there is a very worn inscription.

An entry in “The History of East Grinstead” by Wallace Henry Hills, published by Farncombe & Co. Ltd, in 1906, states that Assistant Warden K.R. Murchison paid for the building of the wall.

Kenneth Robert Murchison, J.P., of Brockhurst, appointed 1873. He bore the expense of erecting the west boundary wall of the College grounds, and one stone, with the following inscription, now almost defaced, was built into it:—

A free translation of the Latin is:-

*“This Wall for Sackville College was erected around the College at the expense of Kenneth Robert Murchison in the year of Salvation 1876”*



HUNC MURUM  
COLLEGIO SACKVILLENSE  
SUIS IMPENSIS CIRCUMDEDIT  
KENNETHUS ROBERTUS MURCHISONUS  
ANNO SALUTIS MDCCCLXXVI.

# Sackville College

Patron	The Earl De La Warr	
Trustees	Graham Gaisburgh-Watkyn	
	The Countess De La Warr	
	The Rev Canon Clive Everett-Allen	01342 323307
Sackville College Office		01342 323414
Warden	Graham Gaisburgh-Watkyn	01342 326561
Chaplain	The Rev Canon Clive Everett-Allen	
Head Guides	Graham and Ann Edwards	01342 322994
Friends' Secretaries	Steve and Caroline Metcalfe metcas2@gmail.com	01342 312722
Honorary Organist	Diana Harris	
General Miracle Worker	Stephen Pearson	

## Important Dates For Your Diary

Friends, Guides & Helpers Carol Evening	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 7.30pm
Public Carol Evening	10th December 7:30pm, admission £4 Adults £1 Children
Public Carol Evening with choir	18th December 7:30pm, admission £5 Adults £1 Children

We hope you enjoy our coming events and look forward to seeing you

## Notes

### **Books**

We have a box in the Common Room for second hand books. This seems to be popular with visitors. We hope to run a bookstall on our open days. If you have any books in good condition that you would like to donate, please bring them to the College or contact Steve Metcalfe

### **Communication**

If you have received a printed copy of this newsletter and you have email it would save the College printing and postage costs if you could receive Newsletters and other communications electronically.

If you are willing to do this please email me, metcas2@gmail.com

If you could put "Sackville College Communication" as the subject it will help me!

Sackville College is now on Twitter as @SackvilleColl and on

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/SackvilleCollege>

REGISTERED CHARITY 220488

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