

# A message from the Notre Dame School Principal

# NOTRE DAME SCHOOL



Twitter: @NotreDameCobham

As the first Principal of Notre Dame School I am delighted to pen a few words for this magazine to highlight our successes as we embark on a new era in which we will build upon the previous best. Becoming one school for pupils aged 2 to 18, we are now taking girls straight through from Nursery to University. Although there have been two schools on our beautiful site for nearly fifty years, the schools have now fully merged to make fuller use of resources, expertise and leadership.

The first obvious benefit is the use of shared facilities, which for us has been possible for some time as we share one impressive site, but now will be timetabled together by the Heads to allow for greater flexibility. The Headteachers Merinda D'Aprano (Prep) and Anna King (Senior) have made an impressive start. Introduction of new initiatives, staffing and brand new facilities for an expanded Sixth Form and hopefully, sooner rather than later, all-weather sports facilities, will be well received and will pay dividends.

Summer 2013

Notre Dame School Alumni News

Partnership between primary and secondary phases is essential to avoid repetition and to foster collaboration and continuity. Younger girls do model their behaviour on older girls, and our top year groups will have more opportunities to take on positions of responsibility throughout the school and even begin observation of good practice if they are considering the teaching profession or related work. Already members of the Sixth Form and Year 11 enjoy paid employment, working in the office after school and assisting with after-school childcare. I hope this will become a strong feature of Notre Dame.

For some time the leadership of each school has carefully examined the benefits of a strong joint team, working as one with guidance and support from our shared governing body and with the Company of Mary Our Lady which underpins our work in Cobham and across the globe; we are all working alongside each other for the good of our talented pupils.

Of course this all takes time and energy but with strong communication and liaison with the parent body, our impressive alumni, a supportive governing body and total teamwork in partnership, Notre Dame will meet the challenges of our age. A good school understands that this shared endeavour, which in our case is underpinned by 400 years of good practice and an educational project that is uncompromising in seeking the best for all of our pupils, is hugely beneficial and worthwhile to each individual child and to society.

Let us quote from our school hymn, *'We look towards the future to see what it may bring. Our hearts are full of joy as of our dear school we sing.'*



David Plummer  
Principal  
May 2013

## Calling former pupils...

The Alumni Office has received a number of requests for contact details of fellow alumni association members recently. Where possible we will get in touch with you if one of your past school friends asks for your contact details. We will check with you before we share contact information between members. You can also register on the Notre Dame School Alumni Website and there you can determine how much of your contact information you are willing to share with other members.

Mrs Christine Hearne would love to hear from any of the girls who were in her first tutor group at school, in 1995-96. Some of you were in a wedding photo in the last newsletter and this has prompted Mrs Hearne to write to the Alumni Office. See page 6 for her letter.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Open Day, Saturday 5th October 9:30-12:00

Christmas Carol Service, Thursday 12th December expected start 6:30pm, please check website nearer the time to confirm.

Ann Thring (past pupil from 1942-1950) is keen to get in touch with Sandra Wright, Tara Heal, Sandra Rogers, Sarah Howard, Anne Drew, Rani Munir, Diane Chapman, Diane McDonald, Geraldine Peters or Christine and Idina (from Spain). If anyone knows these past pupils then please do ask them to contact [alumni@notredame.co.uk](mailto:alumni@notredame.co.uk) or via Alumni Office, Notre Dame School, Burwood House, Convent Lane, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 1HA.

Thank you also to those members of the Alumni Association who have agreed to talk to the current 6th Form pupils who are looking for advice on University courses and careers. The pupils and staff all appreciate the interest you have shown and the help and advice offered.

Annette Stark, Alumni Officer

# Memories of Notre Dame School from a past schoolboy

Living in Cobham, Mike Glynn was at the Convent of Notre Dame between 1949-53. It then included a Preparatory School for boys until they were aged ten, mixing happily with 200 girls. These are his memories of being at Burwood House.



Left: Mike, aged 10, with his mother in London, wearing his Notre Dame School cap!

Post-war the whole Cobham area was a quiet place, not many cars, few aircraft and people, in a disciplined era recovering from six years of Hitler's imposed hardships.

I could cycle daily to the Convent (previously journeying by the Convent coach) and take a leisurely stroll around Burwood Park with a dog, alone or with friends. It was not a problem for our parents as we wandered unescorted, sheath knives on our belts; would you believe it! We climbed and fell out of trees (without hard hats). Try doing these things today!

Coincidental examples of the tranquillity include a Robin Hood TV series being filmed in the Park and local press pictures of me riding an elephant through Cobham's High Street from the Stoke D'Abernon railway station to the circus field below Painshill House alongside the River Mole (in which we swam). Couldn't do that currently without major traffic disruptions and pre-event training!

Otherwise not much has changed around Notre Dame, other than the A3 bridge and the fences that have been erected near Burwood House. The entry road houses are still the same, so overall is the Avorians cricket ground and neighbouring scout camp (I was in the Scouts).

Then, unchanged, the Convent was just the lovely cream/white House, not today's mega-mansion. Walking in its grounds from their southern-end hockey pitches, up on the left where the school's sports hall has been built were tennis and netball courts. Entering towards the side of school was the Rose

Garden, into which we couldn't trespass, alongside the covered walkway and pavilion assigned to senior girls and not us mere little boys. Near the Garden was a courtyard of buildings surrounding a green area on three sides, now gone.

Then it was an amble alongside the back of the House, with a deferential nod to the chapel – its walls aligned with mirrors – part of the dining area's half-circle front and towards a high wall encompassing the vegetable garden. Alongside it was a hut inhabited by Martin, the gardener. I've never known if this was his first or second name. Beyond his place was more grassland and trees stretching northwards.

Turning left was the yard, where we sometimes played, which now includes the chapel. Left again and it was into the House's back door. Straight ahead was a long, badly-decorated corridor and possibly originally servants' quarters. Turn right and there were two classrooms, with a kindergarten at the end. Here I used to sing 'Silent Night' in German to my classmates, having lived in Bonn and Cologne 1946-49 amid the post-carnage of war.

The area also incorporated a large hall, including a stage. It was a gymnasium and performance area for us in the choir and acting in Christmas theatre fests.

Later our classrooms were up the road in what could have been a coach house, attended by Caroline Overland, Alison White, Richard Weir, David Marigold.

We rarely saw other parts of the House. Occasionally we had meetings with the Reverend Mother in her large living room at the front of Burwood House. We saw the nuns, of course, they taught us in heavy black habits, white coiffes. Passing them we had to raise our hats.

*Burwood House when Mike was at Notre Dame*



Obviously it wasn't a boys' regime. We walked around in self-protection groups. The only male moment was one afternoon every week, when a former army officer came to give us military foot drill.

However it was all lovely and introduced me to rural moments, peace and the joys of inhabiting a country house. I still like these things and it's why with my Anglo-American wife, Antoinette (internationally-educated, including the Claremont School, Esher), I live in an old former farmhouse in SE Wales after a very varied career.

*Below: Mike pictured last year at a fund-raising event in Wales*



My business background includes news magazine journalism, UK and international marketing, sales and publicity. Meanwhile I served 13 years in the Territorial Army, half of it with the prestigious City of London unit, the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC), the

oldest – perhaps most unique in the world – regiment in the British army. An ex-officer, I'm still a Member.

Otherwise I've met and worked with famous people, including members of the royal family; been seen in all the UK media; been a broadcaster and done some other interesting things, travelling widely. Included was Buckingham Palace at the 2008 Territorial Army Centenary Garden Party, when I was privileged to represent the HAC. Additionally I've been seen socially at many other famous places, such the House of Commons.

In the past, sadly I was a National Coal Board press officer during the 1966 Aberfan disaster. Then I went on to promote the Longleat Safari Park and wandered in public with the lion cubs and otherwise avoided the often-dangerous attentions of large African animals. A while later I was the London-based worldwide manager of first-time international trade shows into Saudi Arabia.

So when I went to the 1991 Gulf War in the Kuwait Desert, I was used to the Arabian environment, also having once camped in the Sahara. All that was new was a war zone.

Retired to Wales 15 years ago (my surname's Irish, not Welsh) I use my inherited, alleged Celtic traits: practical, creative, military, musical, lover of nature. I remain a published writer, photographer and cartoonist. In between I've been a part-time actor; I mimic around 30 UK and international voices, as well as being a singer and dancer!

As a bald, but still blonde, fringe actor (now six feet, five inches tall) usually I'm cast as a priest or a monk. The empathy with the roles could be

thanks to Notre Dame, as later I was taught by priests and served for many years on the altar at Cobham masses.

Mike Glynn

*Right is Mike's published self-caricature playing the 12<sup>th</sup>-century Archbishop of Canterbury*



### Farewell to our Alumni Officer

We must bid a sad farewell and an enormous vote of thanks to Annette Stark who is leaving Notre Dame School this summer. Annette has built up the Alumni network and we hope she will join the Alumni Association as a former member of staff and come to future events. Thank you Annette.

Valerie Cochrane

## Farewell from Mrs Cochrane, after 38 years!

I am retiring this summer after 38 years at Notre Dame. I came here as a young and relatively inexperienced graduate English teacher, having completed my NQT year at Hollyfield School in Surbiton. Sister Mary Agnes employed me and took me under her wing, and so began a long and enriching career, and I have had such fun. I remember school holidays to Athens, Capri and Tunisia. Sister Julia accompanied me on all the trips in which we forged strong relationships with the girls and the wider school community.

The support offered by the school is very special. My first visitors, when my first daughter was born, were Sr Mary Agnes and Sr Julia, who ignored the "No visitors" signs, saying "But we're nuns!" When I had breast cancer I was supported throughout and the joy, 6 months later, of organising a "Run for Life" with the whole school in fancy dress, in the pouring rain, will remain a highlight for me.

I came to Notre Dame as an English teacher and over the years have taken on numerous roles: form teacher; Head of all years; leader of Ellesmere House; House Coordinator; Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator; Activities Coordinator; Child Protection Officer; Edinburgh Fringe Producer; PGL organiser (26!); Head of English

and then Pastoral Deputy Head. The English Department continues to go from strength to strength and has been the most wonderful department to work within – imagine being paid to read and talk about Shakespeare! He has to be the best playwright ever! I have loved the Drama and Music productions at Notre Dame and particularly our escapades in Edinburgh with "No Exit" and "The Orchestra"!

My two daughters have been through the school, nursery to university, so I have seen Notre Dame through the eyes of a parent as well as a member

of staff. They are both very successful in their own fields of work and I am proud of the young women they have become.

I have loved my years here and have made many friends with whom I shall keep in touch – staff, parents and pupils. Notre Dame is a very special place and I know that all I have worked for will be continued at Notre Dame. I look forward to seeing you all at the school fete and out and about in Cobham and Kingston in the future, and hearing your stories. Thank you to all of you, past and present pupils, staff and parents, for enriching my life.





# ALUMNI VISITS TO NOTRE

## Women in the Arts, January 2013

It was wonderful to be able to welcome back two former pupils on 28th January 2013 when Mrs Lewis, Deputy Head of 6th form, hosted a Women in Arts event for the Year 10 and 6th form girls. Lara Cowin (pupil from 1999-2006), pictured below, is a professional actor, using the professional name Lara Frances. She kept the girls enthralled with her talk about the challenges of the acting world. Lara went to the University of Birmingham after leaving Notre Dame



School and then completed a Masters at the Guildford School of Acting. Over 2 years in the industry has given Lara some amazing experiences, she talked of how exciting but unpredictable and daunting it can be working in the arts.

Lara warned any aspiring actors within the school that to enjoy a career in acting, you need to have faith and positivity.

When it comes to raising £100 million to save famous Titian paintings for the nation, you need to find a Notre



Dame girl to rise to the challenge. Former pupil, Sarah Ward, pictured left, now Director of Public Affairs and Development at the National Gallery, explained how the school had prepared her to face the big

challenges in life. This was Sarah's first time returning to the school in over 30 years, Sarah was here from 1975-1979 before moving to Kingston College of Further Education and then on to London University to study English & German. Sarah is responsible for the press, marketing, events and funding raising initiatives at the National Gallery. The National Gallery has one of the greatest collection of paintings in the world and, as well as the paintings that are on display constantly, there are 3 special

exhibitions as well as approximately 150 private views and events which Sarah organises each year.

Sarah talked to the current girls about her own route into the arts world. Sarah joined the BBC after university as a secretary, although she quickly moved from the secretarial pool to production after 6 months. Sarah highlighted the benefits of working in production as a way of learning very strong project management skills which can be applied in so many different aspects of business as well as the arts world. Sarah left the BBC and moved into the charity world, working for MENCAP, NSPCC and then Great Ormond St Children's Hospital. Sarah left the girls with the message that you have to use your initiative and 'just find a way in'!

*Pictured below Vikki Heywood (chair of the RSA and formerly executive director of the RSC), Lara Cowin, Roxanne Cressey (London College of Fashion Theatre Costume tutor and freelance costume maker), Sarah Ward and Mrs Lewis on stage at the Montaigne Theatre*



## Women in Technology, March 2013

The current 6th form girls had a further opportunity to learn about the experiences of another Notre Dame School former pupil in March this year. This time the girls were learning about careers in the technology world. Former pupil, Sarah Bull, who was at Notre Dame School in the 1990s, was



very keen to dispel the myth that you have to be a geek to work for a technology company. Sarah talked about all the different roles that exist in a technology

company from project management to marketing and sales. Sarah is an IT Service Manager at Microsoft and she explained that communications and education are the keys to success in many companies. Sarah herself spent 15 years at an outsourcing organisation, where she started work on a help desk. Sarah explained that for her the people interaction is what makes IT interesting.

Gaining experience at small startup organisations where you have a chance to do everything is just as relevant and interesting as gaining experience working at Google, Microsoft or other big organisations. Sarah is continuing to stay in touch with Notre Dame School. The IT

department at school is hoping to be selected as a participating school in this year's DigiGirlz day that is run at Microsoft's UK headquarters. Many thanks to Sarah for telling Notre Dame School about this opportunity.

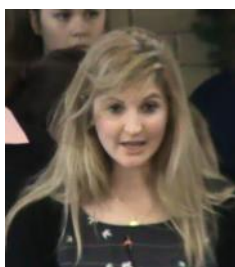


# DAME SCHOOL

## Farewell to Mrs Williams, March 2013

At the end of the Spring Term the whole Senior School said a fond farewell to Mrs Williams who took early retirement from her position as Head Teacher after 10 years. There were many different events to say goodbye to Mrs Williams including a special assembly in the School Chapel.

Mrs Williams was delighted to see so many past Head Girls from the last 10 years return to wish her well. All the current staff and pupils loved hearing from these alumni too. Pictured here are the ex-Head Girls who joined Mrs Williams on her final day at school.



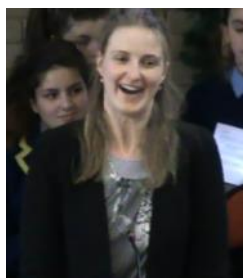
Michele Lewis (Head Girl for 2003/04), pictured far left, was the first Head Girl during Mrs Williams' time as Head Teacher.

Pictured left: Emily Yue (Head Girl 2008/09)

Below far left: Sandrine Wauters (Head Girl 2004/05)

Below left: Rebecca Jukes (Head Girl 2009/10)

Pictured below: Dorothy Robertson (Head Girl 2011/12)



## Alumni Tent at the Summer Fete, June 2013

It was wonderful to see so many members of the Alumni Association at the school summer fete on 15th June.



Burwood House and to see pupils from the 1980s and 1990s looking through their old school yearbooks, the old programmes from prizegiving days

and the memorabilia folders held by the Alumni Office. Everyone from all the past decades seemed to find something to interest or amuse them



Despite the damp conditions there was a great buzz to the Alumni Tent with many former pupils taking the opportunity to catch up with each other and also with the members of the teaching staff. It was great to see former pupils from the 1940s and 1950s reminiscing about their days in



on the display board with photographs from the archives. The photographs seemed to bring back many memories with a few visitors overheard sharing stories from long forgotten school trips and laughing about their past hair styles and choice of clothes!

Alumni living locally may have noticed the higher profile marketing of Notre Dame School, with banners by local stations and across Cobham High Street. The new look logo is now on the front of this newsletter and there are lots of new marketing materials being produced. As former members of the school community you may like to see one of the new images that is being used, a beautiful photograph of the school that also highlights the key benefits of Notre Dame School.

**A World-Class School for Girls**

01932 869990  
notredame.co.uk

**NOTRE DAME SCHOOL**

- Excellent Results of GCSE and A Level
- Dedicated, Inspirational Teachers
- Nursery to University
- Friendly, Family Atmosphere
- Spacious, Tranquil Setting
- Bespoke Sixth Form
- Outstanding Facilities
- Based in Cobham (just off A3)





# YOUR LETTERS

19th February 2013

**From: Christine Hearne (past staff member 1995-2011)**

Thank you very much for the great newsletters. I loved seeing the wedding photo in the last newsletter. Those girls were all in my first tutor group at ND and will always stand out in my mind. I just loved them.

You may be interested to know that it is never too late to learn. On Feb 4th I began a full-time course at The International Teaching and Training Centre in Bournemouth to gain a CELTA qualification to teach English to foreigners. Teaching practice began on day 1 and I loved it from the start. People who want to learn English come there every afternoon for free lessons to enable us trainees to practise on them. There are 41 nationalities. Bournemouth is very cosmopolitan. We have a flat in the area and the intention is that I shall find part-time work there this summer – work in the mornings and relax on the splendid beaches in the afternoon with my husband! I just need to pass the course which is highly demanding. My regular partner for classwork is an Army Captain who has to go to Afghanistan in March to teach Afghan soldiers to speak English. Her motivation and organisation make her the perfect partner for me! The course reminds me of how we felt at ND at inspection time but it lasts a month. It makes me feel young again especially as the college is very near Bournemouth University so there are lots of young people around. Needless to say, I am the oldest person on the course but that doesn't matter. Being at ND for so many years kept me young at heart! Sledging recently for the first time in 23 years also made me feel young again!

[Update from Mrs Hearne on 14th May 2013: I have passed my Celta course and I am happy to say that I am starting my new career on July 1 at an international business school in Bournemouth. 3 hours a day and then the rest of the day on the beach. That is a temporary summer post. At the end of August I shall be

teaching a group of German teenagers so it will be English to German as opposed to German to English pupils!]

When we retire from ND we go on to have fun whilst remembering all the happy days spent at the school. I would love to hear from any of the girls in my first tutor group if you can ask for that in the next newsletter. Please feel free to pass on my mail address.

Thank you and well done for what you are doing for the association.

Best wishes

2nd February 2013

**From: Ann Diment (pupil 1956-1959)**

I have enclosed two photos for you to kindly put in your newsletter. Still searching for my long-lost school friends Janet Williams (pupil from 1956-1959). We kept in touch for a while and I did try again after a few years to find she had moved away from Maidenhead.

Reading the Summer 2012 newsletter I was pleased to see the pictures of the Prayer Garden.

On page 5 of that newsletter I saw a very old picture with Miss Murphy and pupils. I remember Miss Murphy took my year for English classes. I remember we went to see King Lear at the Old Vic Theatre in London by coach.

Kind Regards,



*Above from left: Sandra Wright and Ann Diment in the 1950s*

*Next column from left: Janet Williams, Janet's mother and Ann Diment from the 1950s*



**And a follow-up from Ann after the alumni office put her in touch with some of her old school friends**

14th March 2013

**From: Ann Diment (pupil 1956-1959)**

Thank you very much for your letter and address and phone number of Nadira Mirza in France. I have since spoken to Nadira, a long conversation. She also gave me Janet Williams phone number, and yesterday I spoke to Janet and also to Hilary Jones.

It really made my day to speak to all three girls, it has been such a long time. We are hoping to meet up really soon and to see Nadira in France.

Thank you again.

22th March 2013

**From: Geraldine Courtney (nee Whiting, pupil 1948-1956)**

Notre Dame was my happiest time ever! It was there I met Mother de Lestonnac who encouraged me to sing, introduced me to Schubert and also Kathleen Ferrier, and showed me what a wonderful thing Music could be in my life; where I met Mother Agnes (Mary Easdale), who was the Headmistress at various times and was a truly delightful and sweet lady; and where I developed a love of history, hockey and



rounders!! Charmed times even though this was post-war. And where I met Penny Marx, aged 4 years, who has been a lifelong friend and support!

Thank you!

8th February 2013

**From: Monica Isherwood (pupil from 1956-1967)**

I would like to thank you immensely for sending me the latest Alumni news magazine, which I thoroughly enjoyed reading.

I was a pupil at Notre Dame from 1956 - 1967 and dearly remember Sister Mary Agnes as my headmistress, Sister Faith as my dormitory guardian for a time, and Sister Anne Gill as a dear friend and dormitory companion (met up with her in Rome recently). What fun it would be to meet up with them and my school friends, but I fear many of us 'oldies' are scattered all over the globe; ours were the days of the overseas Colonies! So difficult to gather us together...but it would be fun!

I have lived in Rome for the past 41 years now, have 2 children and 4 grandchildren and am now retired after working almost all my working life



at the British Embassy here in Rome. A very positive experience, and the chance to meet people from many different walks of life.

I have some photos (1957 and 1961), or rather, 2 very long 'once upon a time' photos of the whole school (I attach a sample portion!).

Thank you once again and hope to meet you soon, please remember me to the Sisters whom I remember with great affection and hope to meet perhaps on my next trip to the UK to see my mother.

All the very best

16th January 2013

**From: Gabriel Allison (nee Newton, pupil 1950-1958)**

Thank you for the December 2012 edition of the Alumni Newsletter. I was really interested in the picture of Sr Mary Agnes who taught me in the 1950s. At that time the school was always referred to as "The Convent". I went there aged 8 when my family moved from London to Cobham. I don't really remember many of the nuns who first taught us but as I moved up the school St Mary Agnes (who I think was then called Mother Berchmans) taught me French, Maths and Religious Knowledge, the latter of which occupied the first session every day. Mother Berchmans was a very firm disciplinarian and commanded great respect. At the time I assumed she was quite an old lady but it was only when I encountered her again on the Cobham Parish pilgrimage to the Vatican and Assisi in 2006 that I realised when she first came to teach at the convent she was a young woman. I came to be on that pilgrimage because my mother continued living in Cobham until she died in 2004 and I met up with one of my convent contemporaries, Maureen Coen (now Maureen Smyth). From that meeting I signed up for the pilgrimage and when I got on the coach for the airport Sister Mary Agnes recognised me immediately and introduced me to the other pilgrims as if I was a celebrity, helping to make the whole trip very enjoyable.

The only other person I have retained contact with since my convent days is Margaret Pullen. In the 1950s the

school did not have a 6th form so I and two others went to continue our education at Guildford Tech, where I did Science A levels.

I got married in 1964 to a white Kenyan which resulted in us going to Kenya, then South Africa, finally ending up in Rhodesia where we lived for 12 years and bought a small farm as a hobby (horses and macadamias). Once we were under threat from 'terrorists' (or 'freedom fighters', depending on your point of view) we had the offer of a farm managing job in Inkberrow (Worcestershire) which provided us with a home. My husband worked only 2 years as a farm manager then got a series of jobs as an agricultural advisor in various countries in Africa whilst I remained here for our children's education but would travel to and fro to whichever country he happened to be working in.

About 2 years ago I received a letter out of the blue from Margaret Pullen now living in what she describes as a 'cattleshed' near Granada in Spain on her own but with an Alsatian and a Rottweiler for company. I have vague plans to put our car on a ferry and go visit her in October but in the meantime we are off to visit our son in Zambia.

Good luck with the future issues of the Alumni Newsletter.

Your sincerely

## Alumnae profiles

We now include a profile of a member of the Alumni Association in each week's school newsletter to the current school families. Many thanks to those alumni members who have allowed us to use their profiles, including Melanie Bean, Charlotte Duckworth, Kelly Bradley, Natalia Brown, Catherine Jackman, Kate Pollard, Laura Ennis, Sophie McGrath and Suzanne Ornsby.

If you would be happy to have your profile included in the school weekly newsletter then please do get in touch with the Alumni Office, letting us know your school dates, where and what you studied after leaving Notre Dame School, what you have gone on to do either in business, travel, further studies or charity work or anything else that you think may be of interest. We are very keen to hear from you all.





Please email your news to us so that we can include more details of past pupils in our next edition [alumni@notredame.co.uk](mailto:alumni@notredame.co.uk)

On 13th August last year **Claire Crowley, past pupil from 1996-2001** returned to Notre Dame School. This time it was for a very special occasion, Claire was getting married to her fiancé, Brent Peal.

I met Claire at the Christmas Carol Service back in the school chapel last December and asked her to share some wedding photographs for inclusion in this issue of the newsletter.

Claire and Brent had a fantastic, sunny day for their wedding and the school looked beautiful in the sunshine, along with Claire, Brent, their wedding party and all the guests. The school chapel is available for former pupils to hire for weddings; do get in touch with Notre Dame School if you are interested in returning to the school for your own wedding day.

Many thanks to Claire for sending through the photos.



**Congratulations to Antonia Morosi (pupil 2004-2012).**

On 16th April Antonia received her results for her VRQ (vocationally related qualification) which she is following in cooking. Antonia has already had other successes, previously covered in the alumni newsletter, and so it was great to hear that she achieved a merit overall from her diploma exam, which is the prestigious Westminster diploma.

She graduates on 27th September so is already looking forward to her special day. She is 'over the moon' that her 3 years of hard work have paid off as only a small percentage of the students on the course achieved a merit. She was offered a placement in Cyprus at the Four Seasons resort, which is a great opportunity and will add to Antonia's CV!

Well done, Antonia!



*Please get in touch with the Alumni Office if you have news you would like to share with the Notre Dame Alumni Association. We would love to include your news in the next issue of the newsletter.*

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Keeping in touch

There are many different ways to stay in touch with the Notre Dame School Alumni.

- ◆ You can email your news to [alumni@notredame.co.uk](mailto:alumni@notredame.co.uk)
- ◆ You can telephone 01932 869990 ext 251.
- ◆ You can write to:
  - Alumni Officer
  - Notre Dame School
  - Burwood House
  - Convent Lane
  - Cobham
  - Surrey
  - KT11 1HA
- ◆ The Notre Dame School Alumni is also present on Facebook. You can join the group 'Notre Dame Surrey' and share your news with other members through this easy to use social network. Facebook has recently changed this group to a new format and so if you were a member before you may find you have to re-join the group—please do this so that you can keep in touch!
- ◆ Notre Dame Alumni has a group on the professional networking site, LinkedIn. You can get in touch with fellow alumni from the school with a view to extending your professional network.