

Killerton - January 2022

I am sorry to start the year with sad note but have to pass on the news that Mal (Kwango) Fisher passed away early last week. His wife Bev was keen to let all who knew him know.

Mal and Chris (Oggie) Hoskins who passed away in July, were both from the 1969 cohort and were leading lights in both sporting and social events (OK, in the bar!).

Mal was especially keen and successful in football but always a regular in the Killerton rugby team. They were both consummate Killertonions – always friendly, always willing to help and always involved in House events.



Rugby



Horace Letchford contacted me to confirm that the Luke's – Loughborough match appears on the University of Loughborough website and is still scheduled for Wednesday evening, February 23rd at Sandy Park, Exeter, though currently tagged as TBC



Following my mention of various alcoholic refreshments, Ian Jones was reminded of the ever popular Mateus Rose. It was almost de rigeur for every student to own an empty Mateus Rose bottle decorated with a candle and coated in mountains of melted wax. Oddly enough, at a recent party at my house, a bottle was left (I've not added the candle wax to my bottle yet as it is still unopened 😊)



Tony Clarke has sent through a picture of a set of coasters his parents bought whilst visiting Killerton just after the house closed to students.

Really good to hear from Charles Fear who met up with Murray Kitson after a gap of 50 years. Charles and Murray both started at Luke's and joined Killerton in 1967, though Charles left for Cloisters in 1968, and later to Rowencroft Court before leaving Luke's in 1971.



A minor update on the bonfire party stories. As mentioned previously I don't recall any such events as I did have other interests at the time in Exmouth during my time at Killerton.

However, Taff recalled attending a bonfire in Killerton in November 1970 just a few weeks after arriving at Luke's. He described having a few beers whilst wondering where "all these girls appeared from".

In a phone call to Snowy George last month, Snowy was pleased to fill in a few gaps in Taff's memory. Snowy also remembers the bonfire party, and the bus load of girls who arrived to join the celebrations, Snowy thinks they may have come from St Loyes but it was a while ago. However, he does remember Taff having spent the evening in deep conversation with one of the young ladies whilst warming themselves in front of the fire.

When the time came for the young ladies to climb on the bus ready for their return to Exeter, they were escorted by young gentlemen from the field who said their various farewells. Snowy recalls Taff leaning against the side of the bus whilst saying his goodbyes to the young lady he had spent the evening with. Unfortunately, the evening had been "tiring" and Taff gracefully slid down the side of the bus to the floor. The young lady, not to be phased by this demonstration of Killertonion chivalry, promptly grabbed Taff by the shirt front and raised him up, kissed him on the cheek, let him fall back to the ground. and then climbed on the bus.

A little help needed:

Malcolm Carlyon sent me some names missing from my lists. All four were at Killerton between 1964 to 1967 but is unsure of the year they each started. Can anyone help please:

Tony Brown, Bruce Grant, Lewis Kent, Nigel Bond (sadly died 1967)

Also, whilst checking my lists recently I noticed that I have put some people in two years. Can some one let me know the correct starting years for each.:

- Tony Bunce 1964 or 1966
- Alan Halliwell 1966 or 1967
- Arthur Freer 1967 or 1968
- John Oliver 1967 or 1968

- *Alan Simmons* *1973 or 1975*

Il have the following names but no year of entry:

- *Steve Betnavate*
- *Kevin Deadman*
- *Lab Giles*
- *Tim Gregory*
- *Garth Redgrave*
- *Charles Todd*
- *Gareth Wright*

All corrections, additions, deletions gratefully received. As would any mugshots to include in the year lists.

Students at Killerton enjoyed great sporting successes, as well as academic achievements. Unfortunately, I don't ever recall us having a trophy cabinet filled with silverware. Recently however, from some of the communications I have received, it would appear that many of us are now making up for that shortage by collecting various lumps of hardware, mostly in the form of replacement hips and knees. So finally, I hope you are all remaining as well as you are able and I wish you all the very best for the coming year