



Issue 9 - July 2017

Welcome to the **July 2017 CSPA Newsletter** containing topics you will find in more detail at [Cranbrookschoolparents.com](http://Cranbrookschoolparents.com)

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## A very warm welcome to the parents of new Year 9 and Year 7 students!

The Cranbrook School Parents' Association (CSPA) produces a termly newsletter which is a vital means of keeping parents up to date with all our latest activities and events and also complements information to be found on the CSPA website at [cranbrookschoolparents.com](http://cranbrookschoolparents.com)

To ensure that you receive all our latest news and do not miss out, please subscribe to the CSPA mailing list. You can unsubscribe any time by following the link at the bottom of each message.

CSPA team.



### Message from CSPA chair Henrietta King

It's our final newsletter of this school year, and as we bid farewell to Y13 parents and say an early hello to the new Y9 and, for the first time, Y7 parents – we want to thank everyone for their steadfast support.

It's been a great 12 months and next year promises to be outstanding with 2018 marking **Cranbrook School's 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** with the achievements and celebrations that landmark occasion brings.

We're looking forward to even bigger and better events, starting with a **Race Night on Friday September 29** – a new event which will be an ideal chance for new and existing parents to meet and mingle.

However, the highlight will be our grand celebratory **500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball on June 30, 2018**. Be sure to put that date in your diary – whether you are current or past parents. This will be a unique Cranbrook School celebration and everyone's invited!

**Come and share this exceptional milestone of this very special school.**



### CSPA's helping hand

In case you're wondering what we do with the money raised from CSPA events and activities, here's a quick summary of how your donations and support have benefited students over the last year and, in some cases, for many years to come . . .

Our biggest donation, of **£20,000**, will help kit out the fantastic new **Sixth Form Centre**, ready for its inauguration in September; the drama department can now replace the ageing light and sound system in the Wilkinson Studio with the latest CSPA donation; and thanks to your generosity, work to update lighting in the Sports Hall can finally begin. In total, **the CSPA has donated money to 22 causes this academic year**, ranging from prizes for the popular Cranbrook School Bake Off to creating a student chill-out zone and funding student workshops, lectures and visiting speakers.

Of particular note is our annual funding of Student Counselling services at Cranbrook, an indispensable contribution to the welfare of pupils; the purchase of equipment for both the Art and Geography departments; buying branded kits for the school's Equestrian Team; and our recent donation to help establish the new Cranbrook School Boat Club (more on that later).



### Sports Day's promise of sweet success

Cranbrook School's first-ever **Festival Week** is getting off to a racing start with its annual **Sports Day next Monday (July 10), from 2pm at Bigside**. Come on down for an afternoon of athletic

action and a few fun diversions with skipping and egg and spoon races.

The CSPA is planning to provide refreshments and is looking for sweet creations – cakes, cookies and the like – we can sell. Donations gratefully received and should be left at Barham reception in the morning or brought along on the afternoon.



### Boot Fair report

The sun shone and deals were done as sellers enjoyed a steady trade during the CSPA's first **Cranbrook School Boot Fair**. Everyone had obviously cleared out their clutter with kitchen taps for sale alongside children's toys, an impressive selection of books and CDs, plus girls' designer-wear and even a backscratcher! The event raised more than £300 for CSPA coffers, encouraging us to plan another boot fair next summer – so watch this space.



### Captivating Cranbrook School lecture

**Rosie Johnston's** frank account of her brushes with drugs and alcohol – which led to the death of her best friend Olivia Channon in the 1980s – and her insights into drug usage among susceptible young people, captivated the audience at the last **Cranbrook School Lecture**.

Following the success of this year's talks, the CSPA plans to organise two lectures next year and is looking for suggestions from parents. Ideas include a return visit by Jackie Cox, following her talk on The Teenage Mind, to address adolescent issues such as friendship and stress. Other topics could include managing screen time, non-violent communication or growth mindsets. Send your thoughts and ideas to Education Support sub-committee chair [Susan May](#)



### Cranbrook School rowers' historic debut

Cranbrook School's newly-formed Boat Club made history when it competed in its first regatta on the Thames last month, helped in part by the CSPA. The club, which is open to sixth formers, entered three teams for the Barnes and Mortlake Regatta after the CSPA agreed to fund four sets of sculling blades and the racing licence for club coach Alun Brown. Having gained valuable experience, the teams are looking to build on this in preparation for more competitions next year. Good luck!



### Parents evening promo

Some of you may have spotted **CSPA** members at recent parents' evenings, serving refreshments and talking about our fundraising initiatives. It's part of our concerted effort to reach out more widely to the school community and following a positive response, we plan to be at every parents' evening next year – so keep a lookout for us!

## Can you help to organise Cranbrook School's biggest ball in 500 years?

We are looking for volunteers to join the organising committee of our Quincentenary Ball next June, which promises to be one of the key highlights of the year.

**Come and play your part in Cranbrook School's long and distinguished history.**

Please [contact CSPA chair Henrietta King](#) if you can help.

