

A Guide to Cheltenham College Timeline

The Anne Cadbury Resource Room

Historical Timeline of Cheltenham College

Embracing both ordinary and extraordinary moments in Cheltenham College's history, the timeline that adorns the four walls of the Anne Cadbury Resource Room (ACRR) was created with the help of our Archivist, coinciding with its refurbishment in 2022.

It covers everything from our first building to the construction of our Chapel, evacuation to Shrewsbury and becoming co-educational, the first computers and College's response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Though much of the work of preserving the history of Cheltenham College goes on behind the scenes, the timeline is on permanent display in the ACRR, named for Anne Cadbury (Hon. OC, Past Parent, Past Grandparent and Member of College Council,1969-1996).

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Scan to access an online version of this guide.



1. Main Building, 1840s

The building lost its turrets in the 1940s, but the exterior has otherwise changed little since 184.









2. Big Classical, c. 1850s

Several classes used to be taught in the same room, but as the boys were required to sit in silence and listen to the teacher, it was not as noisy as it would be today.

3. Rugby, 1870s

Rugby was first played in 1844, but until 1876 (when Rugby Union Rules were adopted), it was played to local rules – sometimes with a round ball and in teams of 20.

4. Original Chapel, now the Dining Hall, c. 1880s

Superseded by the present Chapel in 1896, this served as Library and Museum before becoming the Dining Hall in the 1940s. Until then, the boys had eaten meals in their Houses.



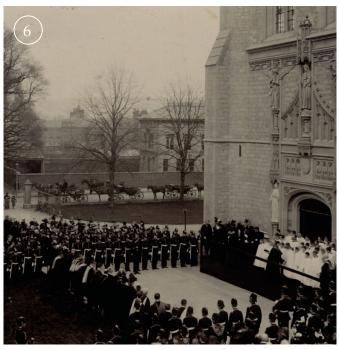
6. Unveiling of the statue of Queen Victoria, 1898

The statue was paid for by old boys of Park House. Edward VII, on the other side of the Chapel door, was given by old boys of Leconfield.



5. Rowing Eight, c. 1870s

The Boat Club was founded in 1859, but did not have its own boathouse until 1926.





7. Officer Training Corps, 1895

Bridge building competitions were an important part of Engineer Corps Field Days.

1880s

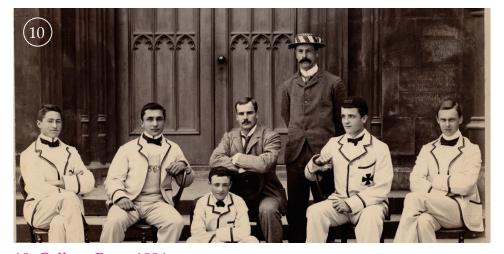


8. College boys reading, c. 1895 Taken by H. W. Lockhart.



9. Walter Gustav Borchardt, 1890

Walter Gustav Borchardt taught Mathematics and Engineering at College, 1898-1933. He was also an amateur photographer. This photograph was taken by a colleague in 1890.



10. College Boat, 1894

The College Boat was the fastest rowing IV that College could put together. Only five boys would make the first team, aka the College Boat, including four pulling the oars and a Cox giving them the instructions.



11. Cheltondale House, 1870s

Like today's ties, the varying stripes and colours of boater ribbons showed a pupil's House or team.

Os 1900s



12. Junior School cricket, c. 1900



Polar explorer Edward Adrian Wilson was born in Cheltenham and educated at Cheltenham College. He was a talented artist and naturalist, as well as the ship's doctor on Captain Scott's Antarctic expeditions – he died with him on the way back from the South Pole.





14. Officer Training Corps Band, 1910



15. Junior cricket team, 1926

16. Kumar Shri Duleepsinhji

Kumar Shri Duleepsinhji was College Cricket Captain in 1923 and played for England in Test matches against South Africa, New Zealand and Australia between 1929 and 1931.





17. Boys relaxing outside the Pavilion, c. 1900

Os 1920s



18. 1930s science laboratory in the Quad area



19. Junior boys, 1934



20. Boys on bikes, 1920s - 1930s



21. 1920s-1930s
Boys enjoying their lemonade and Cydrax fizzy apple drink in the Tuck Shop.

1920s 1930s



22. The bun queue in the Quad, 1930s

23. Boys in 'collegers', their everyday headwear, c. 1920s
These distinctive hats were a key component of College uniform until 1966.
This photograph of pupils walking out of the Quad captures the familiar bustle of College life.

24. Cheltenham College boys at Shrewsbury School, 1940

At the start of World War II, the Government requisitioned College buildings and the school was evacuated to Shrewsbury School. The boys shared facilities there for two terms until they were allowed to return home.





25. Junior School boys were evacuated to Stowell Park near Northleach during World War II

1940s 1950s



26. Cross country runners, 1952



27. Boys in boiler suits, c. 1950

Dark blue boiler suits were introduced as a response to the clothes shortage during the war and replaced school uniform until the end of rationing.



28. Junior School sports day obstacle race, 1948



29. Junior School sports day parents' race, 1948

1940s 1950s



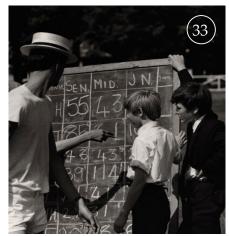
30. Royal visit by Princess Elizabeth, 1951



31. Boys reading in House library, c. 1950



32. Cross country, c. 1960s



33. Cricket scoreboard, c.1970s



34. Catering Manager, Monica Robinson, serving dinner

1960s 1970s



35. Cheltondale, 1967.

Cheltondale was a boarding house built in 1869, sold to the hospital in 1981 and demolished in 1982.

37. Junior boys, 1970s

38. Pioneer Girls, c. 1972

The first girls joined in May 1969 and stayed until September 1972. They were only in the Sixth Form and have always been referred to as Pioneer Girls.



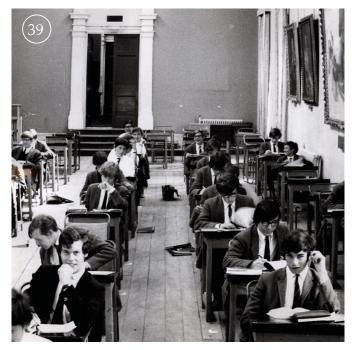
36. Tidying a tie in the Quad, 1970

At College, ties are an important recognition of achievements and commitment to various areas of College life. Pupils collect various ties during their time at College and wear them with pride.





1960s 197



39. Exams in Thirlestaine Long Gallery, c. 1980

40. Art room in Thirlestaine House, 1982



41. Mountaineering Society, c.1980s



42. Computer lab, c. 1980Computing at College began with the formation of the Electronic Control Society in 1965.



43. Girls hockey team, c.1980s

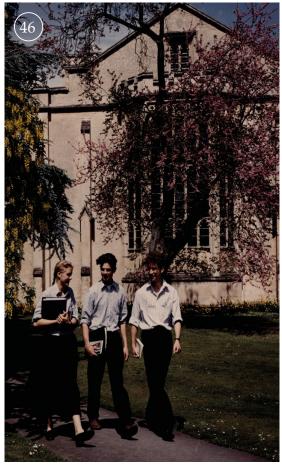
Os 1980s



44. Girls hockey, 1984



45. Physics, c. 1990



46. Pupils, c. 1990

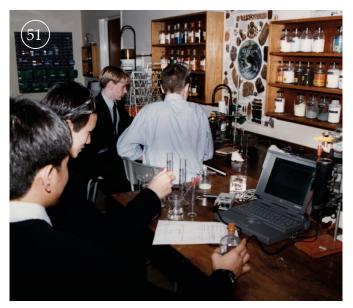


47. Rehearsal for Newick play 'Rope', 1994









48. Visit from Queen Elizabeth II

As part of our 150th anniversary celebrations in 1991, we welcomed Her Late Majesty to College. During her visit, permission was given to name the new House under construction after her. 'The Queen's House' (or Queen's, as we know it) opened in 1994 with the crown as its emblem.

49. Expedition to Bolivia, c.1990

50. The Prep School, c. 2000

51. Science, c. 1990s

Os 2000s



52. Art, c. 2010



54. Girls hockey, 2010s



53. Pupil on climbing wall, c. 2010



55. Boys cricket, 2015





56. Polo training in the snow, 2015

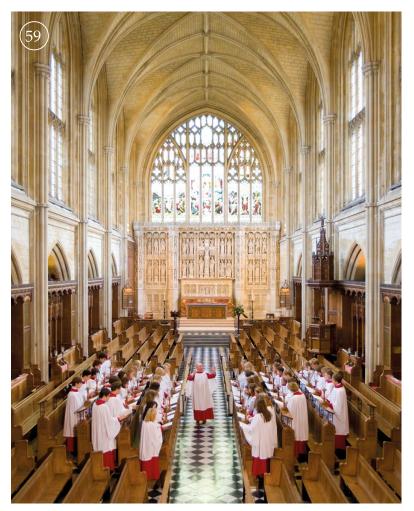
Polo has been played at College for many years, with success in National Championships and individual players progressing to represent Great Britain at an international level.



57. JIG (Jazz In Group), c. 2010



58. Ashmead girls competing in our annual inter-House sports matches (House Pots), 2009



59. Choir, c.2010



61. Pupil with lathe, 2010



60. Boys rackets, 2010s

College was one of the four original Rackets playing schools, with OC James Stout (H, 2002) becoming four-time world champion!







63. Girls hockey, c. 2010s



64. Duke of Edinburgh expedition, 2016

Our Duke of Edinburgh programme spans the full spectrum from Bronze to Gold Award, with pupils rising to the challenges that Snowdonia and the Lake District throw at them.



65. Combined Cadet Force (CCF), late 2010s

Cheltenham College has a long and distinguished connection with the military – every pupil has the opportunity to join an Army, Royal Navy or Royal Air Force contingent as part of CCF.



66. Boys rugby, late 2010s





68. Prep School play, The Lion King, 2022



CHELTENHAM COLLEGE

69. New logo

Towards the end of 2022, Cheltenham College underwent a rebrand; black and gold were replaced by navy and cerise.