THE OLD WANDSWORTHIANS MEMORIAL TRUST

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2021

REUNITED

AFTER LOCKDOWN



P2 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
P3 CHOIR NEWS
P4 SECRETARY'S REPORT
P6 DINNER AND DANCE
P8 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE
P10 DPML
P12 FEATURE STORY
P15 RUGBY CLUB
P16 GRANT REPORTS

BOB ANDREWS



BOB ANDREWS
CHAIRMAN OF THE OWMT

During 2021 the Trustees managed two face-to -face meetings and several Zoom calls. Roger, Alan, Chris, Andy and Femi have all had input into this year's activities but I am sure they won't mind if I single out Les, for a special mention, because of the amount of hours he puts into Trust business. Dick is taking a sabbatical at present for health reasons and we all wish him well.

Our events during the last year have been reported within this newsletter, and I am sure that if you managed to attend any you would have had an enjoyable experience. If you have been before, please come again and try to encourage any other Old Boys /Old Dubs to join us and help support the Trust and promote friendship.

Despite our expenditure on events, grants etc..., the Trust's finances remain level due to our investments and other income.

Our relationship with St Cecilia's has grown stronger over the last two years. The Headteacher and members of school staff attended our Anniversary Dinner and Dance at the Oval. Once again, the Remembrance Service took place on Friday 5th November and wreaths were laid in front of our Memorial Plaque … it was a moving experience.

Over the last two years Covid has affected us all. If you haven't seen or spoken to an old friend during this time, why not give them a call? Your support and friendship during this difficult period will be much appreciated.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Bob Andrews (Chairman OWMT)



Saint Cecilia's
Church of England School

"Glorifying God through outstanding, enjoyable education"

Mr Les Herbert
Woodlands
St Georges Hill
Lyme Regis
Dorset
DT7 3NT

5th October 2021

Dear Les,

On behalf of all of us who attended the OWMT 25th Anniversary Dinner Dance event at the Oval, I would like to thank you for inviting us, and for the wonderful evening we had. I am also delighted that your special event coincided the same week with our special event, the official opening of our new teaching wing, and that you were represented there by Alan Bone and Femi Oresanya.

Thank you for the December 2020 edition of your newsletter in which Ken, our Therapy Dog is featured. I'm glad Alan and Femi got to meet him at our new building dedication ceremony.

Please pass on our sincere thanks to The Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust. We appreciate the links which have been forged with the Old Wandsworthians, they continue to benefit our pupils significantly, and we now look forward to seeing some of you again at the laying of the poppy wreath in November.

With best wishes,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher





REUNION LUNCH

After such a long break due to the pandemic, the choir group finally managed to hold a reunion on Saturday 16th October 2021, at St Cecilia's School. Unfortunately, due to health issues, Martin Saxby was unavailable to organise the event. We wish Martin a full and speedy recovery and we are sure the group missed him. Martin had great support from Peter Love and Rob Smith, who both kindly organised this year's event. It was attended by over 40 former choir members and guests, who all had a great time. Here are some lovely comments reflecting on how everyone enjoyed themselves on the day:

Martin Saxby – "Glad it went well and that you all had a great time! Thanks again Peter!"

Neil Baugh – "A massive thank you to Peter Love for stepping in and organising tonight's very enjoyable reunion and meal. Also, thanks to Rob Smith and Rob's wife Kelly for arranging the drink and getting it to the venue. It was great to meet up again after our extended absence!"

David Bowden – "A lovely evening meeting old friends. Excellent food and wine. Thank you, Peter and company, for organising the evening."

Phillip Llewellyn – "Totally agree – my first time (and first time in Southfields in 45+ years!) and it was a fun evening reminiscing about the choir and school."

Jennifer Hyde – "Thank you to all concerned. Great evening!"

Barry Hart – "Thanks all who helped organise this, and especially to Peter. A lovely evening spent with many great reminisces."

Finally, from **Peter Love** to everyone, "I thank you all for attending the event."

The OWMT supported this wonderful event and we wish you all well in the coming year. The next gathering is provisionally booked for 15th October 2022. Well done to all involved.

LES HERBERT



A WELCOME MESSAGE FROM LES HERBERT SECRETARY OF THE OWMT

I hope this message finds you and your families safe and well. This has been a very testing period for many people across the UK.
Our sympathies and condolences go out to everyone who has suffered illness or loss throughout the pandemic. We still find ourselves in strange times, with social distancing and many other Covid-19 related restrictions in place. However, we are now beginning to learn to live with this horrific pandemic and starting to get back to some normality. We would also like to pass on our condolences to all the families of former Old Wandsworthians who sadly left us in the past year: Geoff Wood, December 2020 and David Dries, October 2021. (These are the only names I have been informed about).

Many of us are probably aware that some of our friends in the OWs senior circuit are struggling with health issues and are finding it harder to travel and attend functions.
On behalf of all OWs we would like to wish them and their partners well and hope we all meet again soon. In particular, the Trustees wish Dick Moody (Trustee and a great member of the former OWRFC) a speedy recovery. Dick, as many of you may know, hasn't been too well and currently is recovering from a stroke. He is at home with his wife Zoe, and I believe both are being well looked after.

As we are all aware, many events were cancelled during the early part of this year. We did manage to hold our first gathering on the 24th July, however. We had over 120 Old Wandsworthians attend the annual Dave Pollard Memorial Lunch, which sadly due to personal reasons I was unable to attend. For those who were there, I can say that my good lady Tina is on the mend and my ears are taking a bashing again!!

I know for a fact that everyone had a great time and also watched the Lions roar to a first victory against the Springboks (but sadly came second overall). We then had our special 25th anniversary D&D which was held at the Oval Cricket Ground, on October 2nd. This was well attended by 120 OWs and partners, with special guests from St Cecilia's School. There is a write-up about this event from Chris Brown.

Apart from supporting social events, the Trust also supports many young people to help them obtain sporting and educational qualifications and get involved with other activities. However, over the past 18 months many students have had their courses cancelled or deferred, which has caused much frustration. Nevertheless we did have several complete their courses and achieve their goals (See Student Grant page).

The grant application form can be found on our website in the Download section. Over the years most applications have been awarded to the children of former Old Wandsworthians. The Trust is also now considering supporting applications for grandchildren and we have now offered a couple of places to St Cecilia's School. All applications are sent to me, Les Herbert, details are on the form.

This funding is supported by the Trust and also from people who make donations to us. If you wish to be a part of this, please go to the Donation heading on our website: *(http://www.old-wandsworthians-trust.com/wandsworth-school/donation-scheme/)*,

Here you will find the mandate form, where you can donate £5 per month. Apart from having the satisfaction of helping many deserving good causes you will also have the chance of winning £250, which will be given to the first name drawn out of the hat at the annual DPML.

To qualify you have to be signed up for 12 months. Complete the standing order mandate for £5 a month. Then all you have to do is fill in your bank account details, sort code and send to your local bank … It couldn't be easier!

Our contact numbers are still growing – we have over 500 now – but are always happy to hear from more former pupils. Please pass on the message about the OWMT and get them to send their details to Les Herbert via email: *leswands@gmail.com* or on Facebook and WhatsApp.

If you have an email and would prefer to recieve this newsletter electronically rather than through Royal Mail, then please send your email address to me so I can add it to my records … thank you.

I said earlier that we have a good relationship with St Cecilia's School, which is still growing. Apart from the school holding our Service of Remembrance, the Trust also supports some of their functions. This year we are allowed back into the school, so the Trustees will be attending their annual presentation night and Carol Service. At the presentation night, one of the main awards given to a pupil is the HR King award for Achievement. Many of you will know that HR King was a former Headmaster of Wandsworth Boys School for many years. This is a great honour for the Trust and all OWs and something which has grown over the years.

This year apart from presenting the award, Femi Oresanya (Trustee) is also giving a keynote speech to the pupils.

We are feeling very confident about the future, so please note these dates in your diary:

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dave Pollard Memorial Lunch
Saturday 5th February at Imber Court, where we will show the Scotland v England match. Please note Kick-off time to be confirmed).

OWMT Service of Remembrance
We have a provisional date of Friday 11th November 2022 at St Cecilia's School.

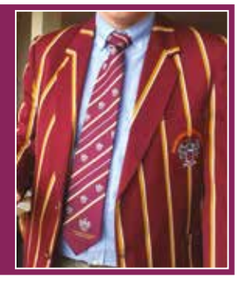
I will end my report by thanking Andy Archer and everyone else who has helped to produce this annual newsletter. The Trustees of the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust also thank YOU for attending and supporting the Trust's events.

Remember our aim is primarily to honour the memory of the fallen, but it is also about the future and the support we give to many young people, former sections of the Old Wandsworthians Association, and the relationship we have with Saint Cecilia's School, where our War Memorial is located on the former site of Wandsworth Boys School.

I look forward to seeing you next year and hope we keep moving forward. Keep safe, best wishes and have a happy and healthy New Year.

Les Herbert (Secretary OWMT)

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS BLAZER
£125
For more information on ordering please contact: Chris Brown
saintpogo@hotmail.com • 07973 744205



OWMT 25TH ANNIVERSARY
DINNER AND DANCE
AT THE KIA OVAL



After meeting with Tom Harris, the marketing manager from Surrey County Cricket Club, and much deliberation over several other venues, it was decided that the Kia Oval near Kennington was the one most suited for holding the 25th anniversary of the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust (OWMT). Over the past 18 months, the world has been thrown into chaos following the coronavirus pandemic so we were delighted to see so many Old Wandsworthians of all ages book in for a special night out so soon after 'Freedom Day' which is testament to the spirit and love for everything 'O Dubs'!

One advantage in being an organiser is that you can spot things of use on my various trips up to the Oval. I noticed that the stadium had parking within the perimeter wall and some of the allocated spaces had electric chargers. My son-in-law Richard had just bought an electric car so this was perfect and a real sign of things to come, needless to say he drove there and back.

At 2pm on the day DJ Stardust loaded his van with equipment of all different shapes and sizes.



Playing or streaming music needs the minimum of kit these days providing maximum choice, but no, 'Starrey' is retro and all his music were black vinyl records which weighed a ton as I discovered on breakdown, however the 'needle in the groove' sound is sensational and well worth the 'humping' effort!

The thinking behind a Dinner and Dance at the Oval on Saturday 2nd October came from the assumption that it would still be light at 6:30pm, so we would be able to serve pre-dinner drinks on the rooftop terrace and take in the stadium and London views. However, on the day of the event the heavens opened and it rained all day and continued into the evening so unfortunately, we were not able to take drinks on the balcony. We therefore gathered in the Ashes Suite which did not seem to dampen the atmosphere as our guests began to arrive, although one comedian was heard to say "it's so dark outside that you could have held it on the London Underground"! Several monitors placed around the room created a bit of a stir as photographs from rugby, choir, grantees, St Cecilia's, tours, do's, etc were shown which generated much interest.

Around 7:30 pm the guests were shown to their tables and once seated it was a gratifying to see that we had made it and all things were now in place. Each of the 14 tables were decorated with Wandsworthian coloured floral centre pieces which complemented the amazing glad rags on show that evening. The only slightly unsettling thing about the décor was pictures of Michael Vaughan everywhere with most of them showing him holding his little Ern!

To kick off the evening formally, Alan Bone welcomed everybody to the 25th Anniversary of the OWMT – especially our honoured guests from St Cecilia's, Renata Joseph (Head of School) and her partner Sheridan, James Robinson (Assistant Head) and his partner Heather and Lucy Bush (Deputy Head). Special thanks were also given to Roger Holland and the organising committee for their hard work in making the D&D happen so soon after the pandemic. The developing ties with the school were mentioned, including our Memorial Plaques which are central to the annual Remembrance Service. Projects such as "Ken" the therapy dog, who helps pupils get through their challenges and named after the late Ken Dore whose donation to the Trust was used to purchase and train him. The annual HR King award to an aspiring student was highlighted and reference was made to further projects that are currently being discussed. Alan went on to inform the audience that during its 25 years the Trust had spent some £300k on good causes and to date has generated a greater pool of funds than when the OWMT started out. The money has been awarded to students to help their further education costs, the Rugby Club, Choir functions, medical assistant for some very poorly people, charitable causes and of course social functions. It was noted that the Board of Trustees had been strengthened this year with the addition of Andy Archer and Femi Oresanya. Alan concluded with a 6N's rugby prediction saying "England were going to thrash the Sweaties on Saturday 5th February 2022" which is the next date for the Dave Pollard Memorial Lunch. Later in the evening he had to apologise to the person attending wearing a kilt!





The food served was prepared and cooked by a Michelin Star chef, the starter was delicious and the beef was perfect unless like the person seated next to me you wanted it incinerated!

The arrival of all dishes came with military precision and during the first and second courses Tony Watts, as the oldest Old Wandsworthian attending that night, asked for members to be upstanding and take wine with him, consequently I cannot remember much about the chocolate dessert arriving!

At 9pm and after a 3-course meal the live music began with the duo 'Same Genes' AKA Steve Lake and his talented daughter Aimee, who kept everyone entertained with some well-known songs for those throwing down a few shapes.

After the live music finished, DJ Steve 'Stardust' Baker thrilled us with a classic compilation of 70's and 80's music that kept the crowd on the dance floor for the remainder of the evening.

The Old Wandsworthians community is indeed a special one and lots of people who are affiliated with this group do as much as they can to stay connected. Although we look to forging links with the pupils and teachers of St Cecilia's we also have traditions and memories from those who went before and an evening such as the one on the 2nd October 2021 reminds us that it is just lovely to be together especially after the shake down of the last 18 months.

Carriages were ready for 12 midnight and we all headed off into the night contented albeit with 'Sugar, Sugar' earworms!

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

SAINT CECILIA'S 2021



After a long wait, we finally were able to once again attend St Cecilia's School for the annual Service of Remembrance, which was held on Friday 5th November 2021. Here we not only remembered the sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth, but also all services who suffered, including innocent civilians who lost their lives in other conflicts. In particular we were here to remember the former pupils and staff who lost their lives in both World Wars.

This was followed by a short presentation from Trustee, Les Herbert, on why there was a war memorial in the school. This included showing the pupils a photo of Wandsworth School and pointing out that there had been a school on this site since the 1920s. Les also explained why Mrs Dyer was due to attend the service, which was to lay a wreath in memory of her late father, Pilot Office Charles Pepper, who was killed in action in 1943. Mrs Dyer was only a couple of months old at the time of her father's death.

The School lost a total of 98 pupils and staff members in WWI and another 54 in WWII.

The service was attended by fellow Old Wandsworthians, Year 7 pupils and teaching staff of St Cecilia's. Alex Shoderu the School Chaplain opened the proceedings, explaining to the Year 7 pupils what the service was all about. Sadly, our special guest Mrs Dyer sent her apologies for not attending due to the current problems with Covid-19.



Following the service in the chapel, the main group moved down to the War memorial, where the Commitment and the laying of the wreaths took place. Prayers was led by the Chaplain, with Renata Joseph reading the Commitment to Remember:

"THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD, AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM, NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM."







The wreaths were laid by our Secretary Les Herbert and Year 7 pupil Shayden (on behalf of Penny Dyer) in memory of her father and his six aircrew who all perished on the evening of March 3rd 1943. The last post was then superbly played by 12-year-old Felix, followed by two minutes silence. Dismissal and final prayers was given by Alex Shoderu.

After the service we all made our way to the school library for refreshments and for the Old Wandsworthians to meet and talk with some of the Year 7 pupils. It was a great opportunity for all us older ones to tell a few stories and also find out more about what the pupils thought of the occasion.

Finally, we would like to thank all the Old Wandsworthians who came along to support this event and extend a huge thank you to St Cecilia's for allowing us to hold the service this year. In particular we thank Headteacher Renata Joseph, Alex Shoderu (Chaplain), James Robinson (Assistant Headteacher) and all the Year 7 pupils.

We look forward to you seeing you all again next year, the provisional date will be Friday 11th November 2022.

Warm Regards,
Les Herbert (Secretary OWMT)





DAVE POLLARD MEMORIAL LUNCH

IMBER COURT 2020

This year's celebratory Dave Pollard Memorial Lunch was moved to the summer due to the Covid pandemic preventing us gathering in the February/March slot, so instead of a Six Nations match we saw the British and Irish Lions take on South Africa in the first test. Around 110 old and new Wandsworthians battled through Covid restrictions to see the Lions roar and go one up in the series. Sadly they relinquished this lead and lost the series 2-1. Maybe we should have met up for tests 2 and 3 instead!

The afternoon followed our traditional format of an early meeting in Imber Court's Surrey bar followed by lunch and the game broadcast live in the Ballroom and then of course some more imbibing well into the evening, finishing in the Members Bar downstairs.









A big thank you is due to all at Imber Court for looking after us so well. It was wonderful to see the growing number of blazers lighting up the occasion. If you are still to purchase one, why not treat yourself and show it off at the next DPML? *Contact Pogo (saintpogo@hotmail.com).*







The winner of the £250 sweepstake prize was Sid Wright who sadly was not present to buy us all a pint but he was given his cheque at the D&D at the Oval in October. Again I would ask all of you who do not contribute £5/month to think about doing so. It really helps the Trust to support our members and their families, run functions and help St Cecilia's with various projects. Just go to our web page and look for Download Documents or contact Mumsie *(roger.holland5@btinternet.com)*.







Alan Bone addressed the gathering and managed to swell the Trust's funds by administering the usual fines for inappropriate dress and a particularly profitable area was the removal of jackets on a very warm day before the Chairman had given permission … when will people learn?
As always the emphasis was on catching up with friends, reliving old stories with lots of silly banter and long may we continue to do so.

Next year's DPML is already booked for February 5th at Imber Court when we will watch the Scotland vs England match, Kick-off time is to be confirmed, but likely to be 4:45pm, note the date and get there early!

COLD ROOM TECHNICIAN AT YOUNG'S BREWERY

CYRIL SPRINGER

The Old Wandsworthians had a longstanding relationship with the now closed Young's brewery in Wandsworth. Here is an insight into what life was like working at the brewery from an Old Wandsworthian.

(You can find the full story at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqnNJ3IsAkA)



Q1: *Did you have any family connections in the brewery?*

CS: No, only my good friend Joey Toner (OW) was working there at the time. We played rugby together at Battersea Ironsides at the time.
I applied for the vacancy, had an interview and got the job.

Q2: *When you started what did you think about the place and especially the smells?*

CS: I was used to the smells, the hops, horses, because I lived in the Wandsworth area all my life. But when I started working at Young's you couldn't have imagined that so much was going on in such a small space. Once you were within the walls and walked around, I thought … wow, how are they getting away with this, it was like … how can I say … controlled mayhem, but it worked!

Q3: *When did you work at Youngs?*

CS: I worked at Young's Brewery for ten years. I started in 1996/97 and left around 2006.

Q4: *What jobs did you do at the brewery?*

CS: My first job was in the warehouse, driving a forklift truck. I used to load and unload the lorries that came into the yard before going out again to deliver to the pubs. We restocked daily and also supplied other brands of bottled beers to our pubs. We had a few mishaps with falling bottles and barrels, but they were very rare to be fair.

Q5: *How many were on the warehouse team?*

CS: In the warehouse there were around two or three people along with a checker. I think we had four to five checkers in all, and their job was to make sure you got the right product on the right lorry. Later, an internal job was advertised to work in the cold rooms … I applied and got the job.

Q6: *What was it like in the cold rooms?*

CS: Working in the cold rooms where the temperature was kept to below zero were very uncomfortable conditions. But we did have all the gear such as insulated waterproof boots and ski jackets. You needed a solid knowledge to work in the cold rooms, and it took around two years training to fully understand the job before you could be considered competent.
There were nine people working in this part of the production. I had to go on several courses to keep on top of the job, as we were dealing with many dangerous chemicals such as strong acids for cleaning the pipes and tanks. Health and Safety issues were an important part of working in the cold rooms and risk assessment were high on the list. The Youngs management team were good because they provided us with whatever was needed, like bigger and better keggers, filters and blenders to make the job safer.
The last job I had at the brewery was working with a drayman as a 'driver's mate'.



Young's work colleagues, Joey and Cyril representing the Old Dubs.

We went out delivering to five pubs in the morning before returning back to the yard. We would then reload to deliver to another three pubs in the afternoon.

Q7: *So again, you were learning a new skill?*

CS: Yeah, too right, you were flipping kegs off the side of a lorry, getting them into a pub, sometimes with very low ceilings, using the old yellow skids to move the barrels.
Some of the gantries were rickety, so you had to rope down the barrels of bitter. They were stacked three high and a few feet wide so you had to rope'em together. You're standing there on this wooden platform, and you can hear it creaking and you've got your mate at the bottom … just imagine if you let it go! (laughs), so you have to hold on to it and slide the barrels down!

Q8: *Did you have any mishaps delivering the kegs of beer?*

CS: Yeah, I was working with my mate Dave, who was in the cellar of a pub sending up the empties. We used to stack them three high, and as I grabbed two kegs and span around, I've accidentally knocked one down. At the time I really didn't think about it, and then I heard, "Oi Cyril", that's when I realised I'd knocked Dave on the head with the keg. There was blood everywhere! Another guy Alex, who was also working with us, was on the floor crying with laughter, even though I'd nearly killed a man!

Was it funny? Well, that's what it was like. You knew he was alright. He went home, and we didn't see him for a couple of weeks.

Q9: *What was the hub of the company?*

CS: The canteen was the melting pot of the company. You would go for your breakfast and everyone was in there. We had some great characters working at Young's at the time, but you just let them get on with the banter and not get involved. When you're new you think, I'll just sit back and listen, although I knew a few people, you didn't want to give it the 'big-un' because you'll get slapped down pretty quickly.

Q10: *What about organised sports?*

CS: Youngs and other breweries like Fullers and Coors had a great sporting programme. We played football and also rugby at Twickenham with a side made up of Battersea Ironsides and Old Wandsworthians. However, cricket was special and we played 20/20 before it was a recognised game! We also competed in a 7-a-side tournament put on by Coors at Lords.

Q11: *What about the perks of the job?*

CS: We probably got a bottle of whiskey and two bonus cheques at Christmas, maybe a turkey and a couple of tickets to watch the Harlequins.

Q12: *Was there any beer drinking on the job?*

CS: There was a bit of drinking on the job, but not much. In fact, if there was a member of staff with a drinking problem, the brewery wouldn't just sack that person, they would try to help them with counselling and rehab to get them clean. The company were good in that way.

Q13: *Were the horses still at the brewery when you were there?*

CS: Yes, there were stables at the brewery, we used to feed the horses mints. John Young (Owner) loved his horses and when you saw the dray horses pulling the carts loaded with beer out of the yard, wearing their highly polished bridles and harnesses, it made you very proud to be a part of the team.



Young's famous Dray horses at work.

Q14: *What was the hierarchy at Youngs like?*

CS: To be honest, the management on the whole were made up of top people. No matter where you worked, the management would always make time for you and it's something I have taken away with me. The owner John Young was a great man. I can say that I thoroughly enjoyed working at Young's Brewery.

Q15: *I heard you were Chief Shop Steward at Youngs for some years, how did this come about?*

CS: Well, you could say I got shanghaied into the position because I was outspoken and the other previous bloke wasn't doing much. Once I got appointed into the position I used to meet with the directors at board level and negotiate worker salaries and improved conditions. I remember they threw in a question about pensions once and I didn't know much about it, so we adjourned the meeting. A mate of mine from rugby whose wife was an expert in the field, gave me the heads-up on the subject. When I went back to work, I confronted the board with what I knew and they were so impressed that changes were made.

Q16: *What happened when you heard the brewery was closing?*

CS: We knew it was closing and it was sad, but that's life! The good thing was that Youngs put £50,000 aside to help retrain and assist their staff to get new jobs once Youngs closed. It was tough for people who had been there for a large proportion of their working lives. They used to say that you only left Youngs if you got sacked (which was very rare) or they carried you out in a box! That's something you only get once in a lifetime … if you're lucky. Finally, the finished product we produced was first-class. The gassing of beers with the right CO2 levels, the smell and clear look of the beer in the glass helped the brewery win many awards. It was great to be a part of that company.

The above Interview was adapted by Chris Brown from the 'Youtube Brewery Stories'.

WANDSWORTHIANS RFC

DUBS AFTER LOCKDOWN

RUGBY AT LAST!





Wandsworthians RFC are now in their 92nd season, playing in Surrey 4 and still going strong. Covid-19 has posed significant challenges to grassroots rugby, navigating a fractured 2020/21 season with games postponed and the team unable to train. Despite this in August the Dubs were still able to enjoy their very own staycation with an end of season tour to Bognor Regis – what goes on tour, stays on tour!

Everyone at the club has been eager to see the team back out on the pitch this season, with new head coach Jason Smart appointed to bring his insights to the team. Jason has helped take the team's training up a level and in spite of some fitness lapses we've been able to recruit some great new players. In our most recent match Wandsworthians played Haslemere away in a closely fought game which ended in a narrow defeat.

After the Christmas break, our next league game will be at home against Mitcham & Carshalton RFC on 15th January 2022.

As a club,we are always looking to recruit new players to strengthen the squad. We are also very proud of our after match social activities, and supporters are always very welcome to come and cheer the boys on.

For the latest updates, please follow the Wansdworthians RFC on instagram.

For rugby club information, here's our website: *https://wandsworthians.rfu.club/*

Caitlin Riley



University of Birmingham

(Granddaughter of Rob Andrews)

Dear Trustees,

I am writing to express the great appreciation I feel for the benefit of your Trustee grant. The funding you have kindly given me during my university experience so far has helped and supported me hugely, particularly with my travel and rent expenses.

My second year of university was not at all the experience that I thought I had signed up for. However, although I did not spend any time going out with my friends, I still made great memories with my house mates (including catching Covid-19!). The funding that the Trust kindly gave me for my second year helped me tremendously with coping with the strains of ordinary day-to-day life. This was mainly because my landlord did not choose to support us with our rent, and we therefore had to pay the full amount (even though we did not live in the accommodation for half the year). I have to record that the Trust's grant really supported me with a month's rent in one of the most draining months of national lockdown.

I returned to Birmingham University after spending three months at home. I then did online lectures and also returned to my part time job teaching four-year-olds. Overall, my second year at university was a rollercoaster. I practically spent thousands of pounds on rent but only lived in the accommodation for three months so, like many other students, I had an unlucky and unfortunate year. Although the University did its best, online lectures did not have the same appeal as listening and participating in the lecture hall and was a pretty lonely experience.

I am now applying to an alternative University for my final year, which will probably be at London South Bank University to complete my BA (Hons.) in Early Years education. I intend to live at home and travel into the University each day to avoid another year of high outgoing expenses. Despite all the problems, I am pleased to report I am on target for a 2:1. I am really hoping to get a first-class honours degree after next year which will mean a lot of hard work but will enable me to jump onto my last year and complete a PGSE in Education.

I would like to thank you again for the great support and care you have shown to me and would like to assure you I will do my best to make all your efforts on my behalf worthwhile.

Kind regards,
Caitlin Riley

Herbie Archer



Hartpury University

(Son of Andy Archer)

Dear Trustees,

Thank you very much for my grant, which I have used to support me during my first year at Hartpury University. The grant went towards buying a new laptop – an essential piece of kit for completing my studies this year. With the effects of Covid-19 putting the country into various lockdowns throughout the academic year, most of my lectures and assessments have been online. The access to a laptop has been vital for attending lectures and completing modules, as well as keeping in contact with the university rugby team via weekly Zoom calls and social events throughout lockdown.

I am currently studying Sports Business Management at Hartpury University, and have recently finished a very enjoyable first year of study. My modules covered topics ranging from an 'Introduction to the Sports Industry' to 'Understanding Business and Finance information', teaching me a variety of different skills as well as introducing several potential career paths. I particularly enjoyed the 'Technology in Sport' module, which explored the development of Sports Performance Analysis in professional sport. This experience inspired me to search for a placement for my second year as an analyst at a local rugby club. I'll be starting my placement with Stow-on-the-World RFC at the beginning of September 2021.

During my first year I have also had the opportunity to join the university rugby team. Despite Covid-19 we were able to train throughout most of the season and even had the opportunity to play a couple of games in May. I played fly-half with one internal match as well as an external fixture against the University of Gloucester, which we won 46-17. I have since been invited to pre-season training and look forward to hopefully playing more regularly this season in the BUCS programme.

I would once again like to thank the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust for their support with the grant. It was very much appreciated and I look forward to keeping in touch as I progress with my university career.

Many thanks again
Herbie Archer

Rosie Forrester



Kingston University

(Daughter of Billy Forrester (JR))

Dear Trustees,

Firstly, I'd like to thank you all for your continued support throughout my studies; which this year has been significantly harder than the others. The grant and community have been fantastic. I have just finished my third and final year of university studying Psychology Bsc at Kingston University. Throughout my studies I have learnt a wide range of topics, from Neurological Rehabilitation to Forensic Psychology, while still enjoying university life and finding a new passion in rugby.

Kingston University announced at the beginning of the year that students would not be allowed to enter the premises for lectures and seminars at any point; which meant we'd all be working from home. As a result, I used the grant I received to invest in some new and more reliable technology to allow me to work efficiently from home in my final and most important year! Despite not being able to go into university, I completed all assignments and exams to the best of my ability and graduated university with a First-Class honour. In addition, my dissertation, that aimed to highlight the neglect of males with eating disorders, clearly highlighted a new classification of eating disorders in males. Due to these findings not yet being discovered by psychologists in the field, we are preparing my dissertation to be published so that other researchers can develop on my findings to better understand and help males suffering.

I loved every topic at university, but I really enjoyed forensic psychology in my final year. Therefore, I want to persue this as a career! I have been accepted onto a Masters in Investigative and Forensic Psychology at Bournemouth University which will start in September 2021. I'm really excited for this opportunity and the relocation to the south coast!

I wouldn't have been able to achieve all of this without the support from Old Wandsworthians. This grant allows me to invest in devices that I wouldn't have been able to afford on my own. Consequently, I worked hard, with the right supplies and achieved a grade I'm very proud of in a difficult time.

Best wishes
Rosie Forrester

Oriane Kirkwood



University of Essex

(Daughter of Gary Kirkwood)

Dear Trustees,

I'd like to start by saying thank you for the grant and support I received over the last year, while training at East 15 Drama school. Unfortunately, with the current global pandemic, I've had to take a gap year from my education. Instead I've taken the opportunity to start auditioning and building up my experience in the industry outside of my training.

During my year at East 15 I had the opportunity to learn from past graduate students who are currently working actors in the industry. From different techniques, Storytelling, Shakespeare dialect, Monologue presentation, and how to get started within the industry. I also had the advantage to watch new and exciting plays in central London, the best being 'Teenage Dick' by Michael Lew, which is a modern retelling of Shakespeare Richard III as a disabled 16-year-old teenage wanting to create political anarchy. Through my training at East 15, I was able to explore storytelling theatre and Shakespeare, but I was also able to experiment with theatre acting remotely, through a modern adaptation of 'Summer Begins' by David Eldridge.

With the grant I was able to get myself a new laptop which I used to research becoming an acting practitioner in my spare time, as well as exploring new plays and monologues to extend my actors portfolio. Following restrictions put into place, I had to do most of my third term training online, which put my laptop into good use. I was also able to carry on with my training into contemporary theatre, as well as keeping communication with my teachers and other fellow actors. During my spare time in lockdown I watched online plays that were carrying on remotely, as well as reading up on new playwriters. Without the funding from the Memorial Trust I would have been at a disadvantage during my third term as it would have been difficult to carry on training remotely.

I have now finished my foundation year at East 15 and have decided to take a gap year, due to the pandemic. However, I hope with all the training and knowledge I gained from East 15 I'll be able to get on a BA course for 2021.

Thank you again Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust.

Oriana Kirkwood

Kayley Messer



Kingston College

(Granddaughter of Noel Alex)

Dear Trustees,

I would like to say a big thank you to the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust and my grandad Noel Alex for the grant.

In September 2020, I started a year course at Kingston College studying access to Midwifery. By studying this course, I can then go onto University to study Midwifery or Children's Nursing.

When I started to research about the course, I found out that I would be doing exams but also lots of assignments which would involve online researching, powerpoint and word presentations. Unfortunately, the laptop I had was old, very slow and was not up for the job.

I used the grant money to buy a good spec laptop that would last me through college and university. It proved to be my best purchase of the year as we went into the second lockdown and I was able to have lessons via Teams without any issues and could continue to do my assignments at home.

The course itself was very challenging especially not being in class with a teacher and other students. Working at home on your own is not the same and I missed the interaction. I have always been interested in biology and learning about the body is so intriguing and from this course I have gained a lot of knowledge which I can take on to university. This course has also taught me about the different roles in the healthcare sector, about mental health and illnesses, health inequalities etc. Although the course was hard work and I had to fit many assignments into a short period of time I did really enjoy it.

Kayley Messer

Zoe Dixon



Swansea University

(Granddaughter of Tony Watts)

Dear Trustees,

I would like to thank you for your support throughout this past year. It has not been the easiest of years for everyone. It has been a huge learning curve for me; I have spent much of my second year at University on placement in hospital. These placements have included several Covid-19 wards as well as my favorite placement so far – Cardiac ICU. Due to the lockdowns we faced within the UK and Wales, all of my lectures have been online, and the libraries have been closed which has been interesting and a lot harder to learn with limited resources. Luckily, I have been able to focus on my running throughout all the lockdowns as hockey was not allowed. I have also spent this year helping with the distribution of the Covid-19 vaccine, working at the vaccination centre in Swansea.

During my placements I have learnt so much, from the use of maggot therapy to caring for patients who are positive for Covid-19. I have also had the opportunity to witness open heart surgery which was amazing and truly fascinating! The grant from the Old Wandsworthians has helped me with my travel costs to and from placements which due to the pandemic have been far more often and longer than expected.

I would like to thank you again for the financial support I've received from the Old Wandsworthians Trust which has helped me through my Nursing degree, allowing me to focus on education, hockey and running without the added worries of being financially unstable.

Best wishes,
Zoe Dixon

Isobel Jacques



Nottingham Trent University

(Grandaughter of Charles Jacques)

Dear Trustees,

To say the final year of university is 'hard' is an understatement. Or at least it was in the year of 2021. Not only was there the immense pressure to get the grade I worked for three years to achieve, Covid-19 again forced students to work solely online – in fact to this day I still haven't met the lecturers that taught me that year!

Despite the harsh realities the money awarded from the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trustees gave me the opportunity to buy physical books and take a break from the computer screen, saving me from the dreaded 'square eyes'. Furthermore the money helped me buy a booster for the Wifi in my accommodation, this was extremely helpful. Before purchasing this, seeing my lecturer's face frozen across the computer screen was a normality. The most ironic part is that this would always happen just before they were about to explain something crucial. As you can imagine an impossible task! As a result I often wondered whether I had become the real life Bridget Jones; where nothing in life goes to plan.

Nevertheless, my parents told me hard work always pays off and I can proudly say that it sure did. I was awarded a high 2:1 in Law with Criminology LLB.

To conclude this report, I would like to shed light on the fact that despite the struggles that I faced throughout University, it is the best thing that I have ever done in my life so far and I would not change it for a second. The friends, the places I lived, the degree are all something I will cherish. Thanks again for the support of the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trustees, I am forever thankful for the opportunity that was given to me.

Izzy Jacques

Milli Robins



St. Martins, London

(Granddaughter of Keith Robins)

Dear Trustees

The last year of my studies has been very different to what I imagined my second year of university would be like. All teaching was moved online and all exhibitions made remote. Despite this I have still had a very fulfilling year.

The grant from the Trust has allowed me to apply for many artistic opportunities and through this I have been able to work with an amazing charity called Arts for Dementia, running workshops for adults in the early stages of the disease. Running and creating these workshops led to a lot of inspiration for my artistic practice this year and allowed me to be able to experiment with this due to funding for materials. I have also curated and painted works for an exhibition that was then held virtually, but without the funding from the Trust this would not have been possible so I am very grateful.

I am excited to progress into my third and final year at Central St Martins and to see what my postgraduate future will entail. I would like to say a massive thank you to the Trust for their support throughout my university life.

Thank you so much,

Milli Rawlings-Robins



THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD, AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD:
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM, NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN.
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

ROLL OF HONOUR 1914 – 1918

ASHFORD, C.A., BAIGENT, W.R., BAILEY, W.J., BEARD, H.C., BERWICK, R.G., BIRD, A.P., BLAKE, E.G., BOYCE, A.C., BREWER, R.E, BROTHERSTONE, W.J., BULL, W.J., BULLIVANT, R.E., BUNCE, J.H., BURROUGHS, C.H., CARR, G., CARRIGAN, L.P.S., CASTLE, F., CHAPPELL, F.H., CHICK, G.H., CHICK, ,T.P., CLARKE, A.G., COLLINGS, S.O., COOPER, F.N., CROCKETT, G.V., DABORN, W.G., DAVEY, G.W., DAVIS, H.V.J., DISHER, A.R., EBURNE, T.C., EDMUNDS, R.F., ELLIOTT, F.H., FINLAY, J.D., FORD, J.E., FRASER, F.L., FRINGS, E.F.H., GALLOWAY, R.A., GILLARD, J.G., GILLETT, P.H.P., HALCROW, ,A.P. ,HANSON, F.R., HARDAKER, J.K., HARDING, P.T., HARPOUR, F.C., HAVELOCK, A.C., HEARN, H.T., HENCHER, R.H., HIDER, A.L.G., HILL, H.J., HILL, ,W.S., HOLLIMAN, E.A.J., HOLLIMAN, H.F.P., HOOPER, A.J., HUNT, P.V.B., INGRAM, H.D., INGRAM, S., JEHU, F.H., JONES, R., JONES, S.J., KNIGHTING, G.T. LARKIN, M.J., LEECH, B J., LEGGETT, A.J., LLEWHELIN, E.V., LOVE, C.W.C., MCCLOY, F.C., MAYRICK, R.T., MIDDLEMASS, L.G., MILES, H.G. ,MILWARD, S.L., MILWARD, S.R., MOON, A., PAULTON, W.A., PETER, R.A., PLESTED, H.G., PROVERBS, S.E., RICHARDS, A.G., ROBINSON, H.A., RUSSELL, W., SACH, C.B., SANDERSON, C.H., SCOTT, W., SHARPE, S., SMITH, B., STRICKLAND, C.G., STUART, F., TARRANT, A.H.C., THOMAS, V.G.A., TURTLE, A.E., VENABLES, H.G., WADSWORTH, V.C., WAKELY, D.J., WALKER, A.A., WATSON, F.A., WEEKS, A.A., WESTCOTT, T.W., WHITBY, V.E., WORSDELL, ,C.L.V., YEO, A.H

ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 – 1945

ASHBY, R.F., ASKEY, R.V., BOOTH, K., BOOTH, P.G.N., BRIFFETT, L.H., BRITTAIN, P.F., BROWN, J.E., BULL, P.E., CHAMPION, R.L., COLE, M.R., COLEMAN, C.L., COOPER, W.C., DAVIS, A.P., DORSETT, R.A., DUKES-SMITH, H.F, EAST, O.R., EVANS, G.A., FELGATE, A.C., GENTRY, M.M, GIBBONS, D., GIBBS, S.W.A., GILL, C.F., GRADY, D., HAMMOND, R.A.C., JONES, E.D. JOSEY, D.A., KING, D.M.R., LANDER, J., LETBE, T.J., MATTHEWS, L.S., MCNAB, I.A., MEDLAND, G.G., MORSMAN, J.M., ORMSBY, W.H., OSWALD, J.C., PEPPER, C.W.V., PETTITT, E.C., PLESTED, J.G., RICHARDS, J., RICHARDSON, G., ROBERTS, C.M., ROCHE, R.E., ROWE, G.W., SCOTT, J.A., SETTI, R.O., SHAPCOTT, J., SHAW, F.P.K., STEWARDSON, F.W., SUTTON, A.G., TELFORD, T., THOMAS, R.H., WALLEY, P.K., WEST, R.D., WILLIAMS, C.H.

NEXT YEARS' SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE, WILL BE ON
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 11TH 2022 AT SAINT CECILIA'S SCHOOL.