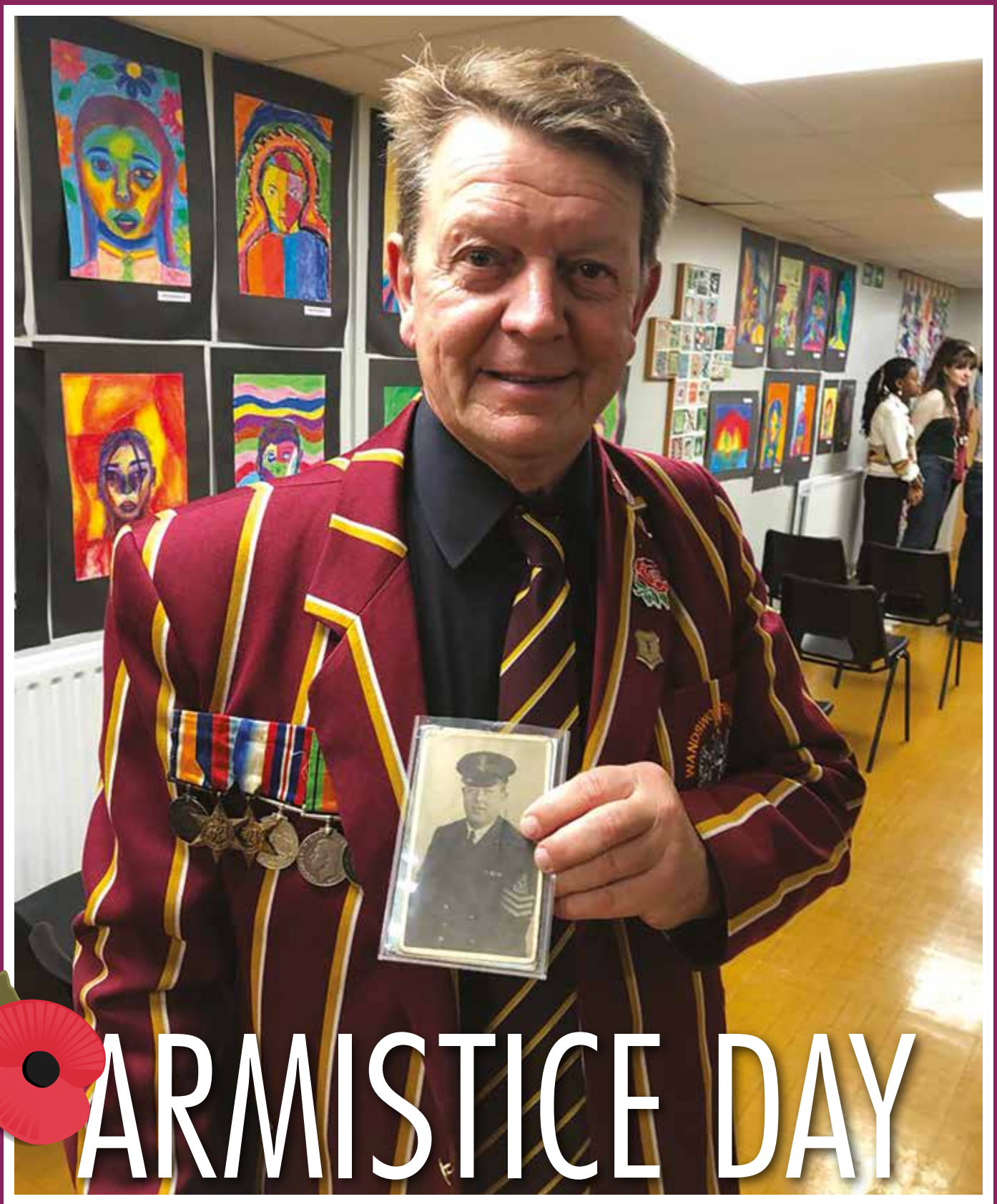
THE OLD WANDSWORTHIANS MEMORIAL TRUST

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 2022



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BOB ANDREWS



BOB ANDREWS
CHAIRMAN
OLD WANDSWORTHIANS MEMORIAL TRUST

Welcome everyone,

Les Herbert contacted me recently requesting that I write a report for this newsletter, five minutes later he sent me a copy of his Secretary report (see p4&5) and I thought, what else was there to say?
I then requested a draft of the newsletter from Andy Archer to see that everything else has been covered in great detail…So thanks and well done Les & Andy!

Briefly then, in 2022 we returned to 3 face to face meetings where our discussions were constructive and thoughtful. We added a new agenda item of – *'Where are we going?'*
(If you have any thoughts on this please speak to one of the Trustees).

Last year the Trust was twenty-five years old and I have been Chairman for twenty-four of them. I offered up my position but my fellow Trustees voted for me to continue. This means that I have the privilege of continuing as Chairman for the next few years.

At the DPML it was good to see some faces that I had not seen for many years and catching up with them. If you can think of anybody out there who perhaps should be attending please give them a call and bring them along to meet old friends. Let's make 2023 the best one yet.

As you can see we are developing our relationship with Saint Cecilia's due in no small part to our appreciation of the School's commitment to our Memorial Plaque. Once again this year the Memorial Service took place, a sad and reflective occasion, where we were introduced to their inspiring Year 7 pupils and School Sixth Formers. As you can see from photographs I managed to stay out of the pictures.



The jackets on parade.

During my visit I also noted through the school examination boards the extremely high standard of their GCSE & A Level exam results that were far beyond my personal wildest dreams.
The School are obviously developing some extremely talented young people.

On a personal note, I have now reached the age where I have retired, drawing my State Pension and looking forward to achieving new things and developing interests.

I must mention the work of our other four active Trustees (Roger, Alan, Chris & Femi) all of whom are fully involved in the activities of the OWMT. You will see in this Newsletter that Chris & Femi like a photograph as they're good-looking boys!! Thank you all and well done.

I have now completed 442 words so Andy may now let me 'off the hook.' Hopefully I will meet you all at the next DPML in 2023.

Happy New Year to you all.

Bob Andrews

SHARED MEMORIES FROM 76 YEARS AGO

BILL GREY

I joined the school in 1946, I along with my fellows had come from a local primary school, but some would have attended other schools from different parts of the country, due to the war and evacuation of children. This was a period immediately after WW2, when our world was still in flux. Our local areas were book marked with bomb sites and everything was run down and shabby. In many cases we were getting to know our fathers again after returning from their war services.



On my first day we turned up in our short trousers and school cap in its rhubarb and custard colours. This was purchased from the school secretary Mr Cato for which we had to surrender one clothing token.
We were allocated to a house: - Cromwell, Morley, Gibbon, or Pitt.

I became a member of Mr Sammy Cowan's set (Morley C) located on the top floor next to the library. Assembly took place in the hall with Mr Raymond King at the lectern and all the masters behind him on the stage. This was the formal start of every day, when the headmaster led us in prayer, read a passage from the bible and we let rip with a hymn. Mr King would cover announcements and his pet subject the setting up of the United Nations Organisation! The Hall would also feature later, when at lunch time it became the dining area. Food was rationed and the menu was basic, but well received! My favourite day of the week was when we had corned beef pie and steamed pudding, which we all called SPOG. In looking back, I cannot remember any fat kids, we were more stick insects than sumo wrestler.

Periods of study were of 45 minutes and all changes were announced by a bell and we all moved from classroom to classroom to meet our next master.
The most frighting was Mr Ascher who had earned the name '*Basher*'!

He was short in stature and also short in temper, he offered no physical threat only a tongue lashing.

This was not the case with our Wood work master, Mr Percy Tribe. He had an almost impossible task of teaching basic woodworking skills with a very small allocation of wood. This amounted to a tiny piece per pupil. There were inevitably periods of inactivity which resulted in miss behaviour.

Mr Tribe would put the instructions down by wielding a nascent pipe back and bouncing it off heads in the most friendly way.

The school had two playing fields, a swimming pool, five courts and tennis courts. All of these were in use except the tennis courts. The swimming pool was where some of us learned to swim and take instructions in '*life saving*'. The pool was open air and always cold and became more and more chlorinated in time. It was common knowledge that the groundsman, Bill Manly, used to shovel in vast amounts of chemical, we believed, in revenge for cheeky comments he received from the boys. He was also a tell-tale, when the headmaster would announce at assembly – "Manley has brought to my attention……."

We learned how diligence marks awarded to our efforts would play a part in the inter house competition and help to maintain school discipline. We enjoyed sports and learned the school war cry which we used when attending the *South London Grammar School Games* at White City. If memory serves, it went something like this:

Kamati G, Kamati G, Kiari, Kiari Wie

Then follows a series of letters corresponding to the classrooms in the corridor. Perhaps a contemporary with a better memory could correct me?

These are my very fond memories of 76 years ago.

LES HERBERT



LES HERBERT
SECRETARY
OLD WANDSWORTHIANS MEMORIAL TRUST

Dear Old Wandsworthians,

I trust you and your families are keeping safe and well. This year has been very interesting in the way we have all had to learn to live with Covid19 and adapt to the many changes it has had for many people across the UK. Before I carry on with providing news on this past 12 months, we would like to pass on our condolences to all the families of former Old Wandsworthians, who sadly left us this year. It has been quite a sad time as we have lost several old boys, many of whom I knew personally...which makes it even harder for me to list their names. However, I think it is also key for us to celebrate their lives too.

Robert Swain – Passed away in January.
I personally knew Bob and apart from growing up together, we attended the same primary & secondary schools. He played rugby for the OWRFC along with myself and others from the same year at school, Noel Alex, Ian Plummer, Keith Corby, Roger Holland Ray Warner, Dave Williams, and Mike Sparkes.
Bob served in the RAF, then retired and moved away from the UK many years ago.

David Wheatley – Passed away in February and I received the following from Christine his wife...her last comment made me smile!

"David passed away in February after a painful battle with cancer. I know he was proud of being a "Wandsworth boy" and took an interest in the newsletters. I was a Mayfield girl although we didn't meet until we were working at Nat West bank in Kensington High Street. We celebrated our Golden Wedding last year...one of the goals he had set himself. Another goal at the beginning of February was to make it to the18th of the month, as this was Nat West payday and he would get a full month's pension...typical banker right to the end.

I would love to receive newsletters if possible. Many thanks for your kind condolences Regards Christine"

Victor Lever – Passed away in March. Another great friend of mine, Vic as many of you know had been fighting a huge long battle against the 'Big C' and over the past years managed to fight it off. However, the tide got too strong for the crab, so he finally came to rest under a peaceful rock.
"We all miss him."

Phil Stoneham – Passed away in April. Phil was at the school during the mid-60s, leaving in 1972. Phil was in the choir and carried on singing for many years after leaving school. He joined the Metropolitan Police in 1972 and had a long and very varied career, spending most of his time with the CID. In recent years he regularly attended both choir and Old Wandsworthians gatherings...he will be sadly missed by many.

Geoff Park – Mr Park passed away in July, he was a former teacher of Wandsworth School from the mid-60s to mid-70s. He was a key member in the school choir and was involved with the Wimbledon Choral society.

Terry Phillips – Passed away in September. Terry was a former pupil and played rugby for the school, he then went on and played for the OWRFC, playing with the likes of John Totham, Bill Forrester, Peter Eastwood, Tony Watts and many more of that generation. Unfortunately, his playing career was cut short following a serious road traffic accident in 1965. His good lady Jo recalls joining Terry when the club first opened, where she has fond memories of helping making tea and sandwiches, ready for when all the players came into the club house.

I hope like me, that after reading these messages from loved ones, it makes you realise what a special place the Memorial Ground was for many people over many years.

We move on to more recent events and 2022 has been a better year for meetings and gatherings of OWS. The Dave Pollard Memorial lunch was well attended in February, even though we lost a few who caught the covid bug!
I also had the pleasure of meeting up with 11 former OWs in London back in July. This was organised by Tony Watts and I would like to thank Tony for arranging the gathering.

The Trust has been working hard to continue building the relationship with Saint Cecilia's School. All Trustees are attending events and indeed supporting where ever possible.



The Trust meeting with lockdown conditions still in place.

Last year you may recall me mentioning the Therapy Dog project, from funds donated by the late Ken Dore's family. We finally met with David Dore and I am pleased to say 'Ken the dog' is now fully trained and actively providing support to students & staff.
Femi Oresanya visited the school back in May 2022 and gave a personal talk to pupils and parents at their Celebration evening. Femi presented a topic built around personal experiences and how this could help the pupils in the work environment. Femi also met with the Headteacher Renata Joseph, where he interviewed her for this year's Newsletter. We held our Service of Remembrance at the school on Friday 11th November, which was attended by OWs and their partners.

Over the year's most applications have been awarded to the children of former Old Wandsworthians. I would like to remind you all that we now consider applications for grandchildren too. All applications are sent to me, Les Herbert and my details are on the form. This can be found in the "Downloads Section" on our website. Please also remember our Fundraising and Donation Scheme which we launched back in 2012. This continued support helps with the ever-lengthening list of requests from our members. Apart from having the satisfaction of helping many deserving causes, you will also have the chance to win £250 from our prize draw.
The winning ticket will be drawn at the annual Dave Pollard Memorial Lunch. To help the Memorial Trust Fund, please send instructions to your bank, and set up a monthly Standing Order for £5. This small amount can make a big difference to the Trust's ability to fulfil their grant requests. We thank you for your continued support. (Standing Order form can be found on our website in the "Donation Section")
I know many OWs are now making contact via the many Facebook pages about Wandsworth School and the Wandsworth area. This is great, but please still pass on the word about the OWMT.
If you know of any former pupils, please get them to send me their details or pass them on yourself with their permission.
Also, send me any changes to your personal details so I can update my records. If you have an email address and this newsletter arrives by Royal Mail, then please send me your email address too.

Finally, I would like to thank all the people who have contributed to this year's Newsletter. Also, to all the Trustees for their continued support and hard work in keeping the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust alive. Finally, to you for attending and supporting the Trust's events.

Remember the aim is primarily about the War Memorial and the memory of the fallen. It is also about the future and the support we give to many young people, former sections of the Old Wandsworthians Association/School and the relationship we have with Saint Cecilia's School.

"The Trust also acts as a forum for OWs to interact and help each other as well as socialise".

On behalf of myself and the Trustees, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Les Herbert (Secretary OWMT)

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
ARMISTICE DAY
SAINT CECILIA'S 2022



This year's Service of Remembrance, took place on "Armistice Day" Friday 11th November 2022. We had 20 Old Wandsworthians and partners in attendance and over 60 year 7 pupils. Our Service was opened by *Alex Shoderu* (School Chaplain), followed by prayers. *Alan Bone* (Trustee) kindly read 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."



Congregation with School Chaplin Alex Shodery.



Peter Eastwood with Head Girl Aminata-Louise Turpin.



The last post played by Félix Steculorum.

This was followed by the laying of the wreaths by *Peter Eastwood* (Former Pupil) and on behalf of the school, *Aminata-Louise Turpin* (Head Girl). The last post was then superably played by 13-year-old, year 8 pupil *Félix Steculorum*, followed by two minutes silence. Dismissal and final prayers was given by *Alex Shoderu*.

Following the Service, every one returned to the Chapel, where a presentation was given by Trustee *Les Herbert* who explained why there was a war memorial in their school.

It was also mentioned to all at the service, how we must remember former pupils who lost their lives in other conflicts.
Here a photo of *David (Jake) Stewardson* who left Wandsworth School back in 1960/61 and joined the Armed Forces. *David* was at the school during the same period as *(Peter Eastwood, Rod Pooley, John Joiner, to name a few)* he joined the *Royal Army Ordnance Corps* and reached the rank of Captain. He was attached to *321 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squadron*, on active duty in Northern Ireland. Sadly, on the 9th September 1971 he was called to make safe an IRA bomb which had been left in a doorway to a hall. As the records state, he was leaning over the bomb, which then exploded, instantly killing him.
(It was believed that the bomb was a booby-trap, designed to kill in this way!).
Captain David (Jake) Stewardson was the first bomb disposal officer to die in these troubles. He is remembered along with other fallen colleges in the *Felix Memorial Garden, Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn, Co. Antrim Roll of Honour for Northern Ireland 1971 – 1988.*



Les doing his presentation to the year 7's.

This included showing them a photo of the former school and how there had been a school on this site since the 1920s. It was also pointed out to the pupils, that we were there to remember the sacrifice of all the Armed Forces community from Britain, the Commonwealth and all the emergency services who suffered, including innocent civilians who have lost their lives in these conflicts. But we are there to remember the former pupils and staff who lost their lives in both world wars "WWI – 98 & WWII – 54".

"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"

After the presentation we all made our way to the school refectory for refreshments and for the Old Wandsworthians to meet and talk with some of the year 7 pupils and 6th formers. Finally, we would like to thank everyone who came along to support this event and a huge thank you to the school for allowing us to hold the event this year. In particular we thank *Renata Joseph (Headteacher), Alex Shoderu (Chaplain)* and *James Robinson (Assistant Headteacher).*



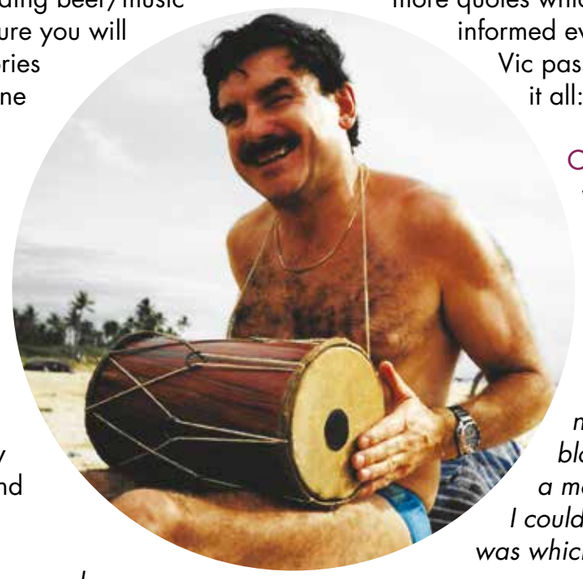
We look forward to seeing you all again next year...the provisional date is Friday 10th November 2023.

MEMORIES OF OUR OLD FRIEND

VICTOR LEVER

"THE CRAB"

As we all sadly know our friend "The Crab" finally scuttled away and found a peaceful rock to rest under. We all remember how Crab enjoyed many a match scuttling left and right sideways around the rugby pitch! Not forgetting all the events which would have happened on tours or in the bar. I like many of you who knew Vic for a very long time and have enjoyed some great holidays and attending beer/music festivals with him. I am sure you will all have your own memories of 'The Crab' and I for one still miss him, especially our little chats about "everything"! Vic, was well known and he was a dedicated Old Dub who carried out a lot of work for the rugby club. He was an exceptional 3rd team captain and always looked after his players! Below are a few memories from friends and team mates.



There is much more which can be said about the "Crab" but to me he was a great friend, one which I will never forget. He is probably at this moment in time having a beer with his old running mate Dave Pollard, watching rugby and *Fulham FC*. And without doubt discussing every decision and putting the world to rights! Rather than say much more, here are a few more quotes which poured in when I informed every one of the sad day Vic passed and I think they say it all: -

Chris Mattey - *"That is very sad news - Vic was a legend on tours and in the bar and a bloody decent man!"*

Denis Norgan – *"So sorry to hear that news…he was a great bloke who always had a moan or a laugh. I could never decide which was which!*

Daniel Esparraguera –*"I remember having to play at tighthead in a 3XV game when Crab was loosehead, I didn't have a clue what to do but just did it anyway. I not sure how but the Crab talked to me in every scrum about my body position, moving my feet back, going higher and lower depending on what was happening to me. I remember he was shouting at times because I was playing against someone who was actually hurting me and I could also hear some of Vic's discomfort in his voice. He kept going and in turn I kept going too. Vic got me through it…it was no fun, but I wasn't alone".*

Terry Mackie – *"A wonderfully touching notice, which does you great credit as a lifelong friend as well as a marvellous early tribute to dear Vic. One of the greatest rugby characters it has been my privilege to know. The essence of rugby friendship was The Crab. Made me feel so welcome as an 'Asylum Seeker' when I joined in 1978 and is assured of his place in the higher echelons of Rugby Paradise. Never knowingly pushed straight in the long history of his scrummaging, immediate and amusing friend to all referees (who to a man knew nothing of the front row dark arts) and much loved by all of the rugby community who had the absolute honour to know Vic. I will do my very best to be at his send-off. A legendary and much loved OW is now at peace, mourned by his lovely family and countless friends. To be so loved by so many, that is the measure of our Crab".*

Martin Warpole – *"Ahhh, so sad to hear Herb, he was a wonderful chap, funny and probably the worst rugby player in the club! But his personality, wit and just being the Crab made up for all of that!! I can honestly say he was wonderful company to have a drink with! RIP me old mucker Crab".*



Ian Collinson – *"What dreadfully sad news. I remember so well playing under his captaincy and it was always great fun no matter what the result. As a captain of one of the lower teams he could never be sure of who would be left from his original selection come kick off time. ' we've been decimated' was a regular lament.*

Phil Clements – *"He has finally scuttled away. The claws in the opposing second rows face from Farnham will be an abiding memory! RIP me old crustacean".*

Steven Brown – *"Sorry to hear the sad news of Vic's passing, I have had many a laugh with the Crab over the years, He had a great scrummaging technique, he could see his second row while moving sideways across the pitch".*

Bryn Stocker – *"Desperately sad news to hear that another lovely man has been wrenched from us way too early. I never had the privilege to play with Vic, or anyone else for that matter, which is probably why I can still walk at my age. I enjoyed Vic's humour and huge generosity in other fields, particularly work, and he will be very sorely missed. At least he and Dave Pollard can now sit in "The Big Snug in The Sky" and catch up, RIP Victor".*

Graham Shields – *"Sorry to hear that, Les. I spent many a fond afternoon in the bar with Vic after having had my arm around him for much of the match in the front row. Sad news indeed"*

Tony Long – *"Very sad to hear, we've lost another great character and good friend".*

Jack & Liz – *"Thanks Les, such sad news but such happy memories of a dear Old Dub, always guaranteed to bring a smile to your face, on and off the pitch. RIP dear Crab"*



Paul Osment – *"Very sorry to hear this, Les. I have fond memories of Vic. Lovely bloke. He will be missed. Deepest sympathies to the girls".*

Clive Liddiard – *"Not the news any of us wanted Les. Like so many other Old Dub's, the memories of our very own 'Alan Whicker' lookalike will last a long time and bring a smile to our faces. Can just see him now scuttling from side to side trying to get through those narrow pearly gates! RIP 'The Crab'. You will be missed"!*

Chris Brown – *"I am quite choked up but also warmed by the thought he took death in his stride and was still thinking about the Old Dubs enjoying themselves at another do, I loved the Crab"!*

SAINT CECILIA'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

PHOENIX FROM THE FLAMES

RENATA JOSEPH

In 1991, Wandsworth Boys School closed its doors for the last time. Many Old Wandsworthians would rightly have assumed that our legacy would be consigned to the history books, to be remembered only at the annual Old Boys lunches or on the internet via Wikipedia and Facebook...

...Well, you'd be wrong!

The history and legacy of the Old School is alive and kicking, albeit in a new guise. Yes, some land was sold off for housing and the Lower School was converted into apartments, but the remaining grounds was set aside to be used for a new school. In 2003, like a phoenix rising out of the old schools' ashes, Saint Cecilia's Church of England School (commonly referred to as Saint Cecilia's), a newly built secondary school opened its doors to a new generation of pupils.
I'm pleased to say that it has much in common with our former school. The new school is co-educational (mixed – boys and girls), however in a nod to the old school, pupils still wear the maroon blazer, and there is a house system with house ties in place. Music, sport and academic success are still very important components in the identity of the new school. As Saint Cecilia's prepares to celebrate its 20th anniversary next year, Trustee and Old Wandsworthian Femi Oresanya went back to school for a tour and to meet with Head Teacher Mrs Renata Joseph to find out a little more.



Femi and Renata outside the schools main entrance.

Saint Cecilia's prepares to celebrate its 20th anniversary next year

Thank you for inviting me to Saint Cecilia's. Could you please tell me about yourself?

My name is Renata Joseph and I am a Londoner. I grew up in Putney and went to Brandlehow School, just off the Putney Bridge Road and a stone's throw away from Wandsworth Park. My parents still live in Putney.

Growing up in Putney, did you have any connections with the Old Wandsworth School?

Actually, my connection with Wandsworth School growing up was through our next-door neighbour - *The Davidson family*. Their son, who was much older than me, went to Wandsworth School. I remember his maroon blazer!

What secondary school did you attend?

For secondary school I went to *Lady Margaret School* in Parsons Green Fulham, a school that I had 7 wonderful years at. I was clever and sporty in equal measure, excelling in Netball and becoming *School Captain* and *Deputy Head Girl* in my last year. I did not realise at the time but being selected for those roles allowed me to develop my leadership skills, skills that would come in handy later. Anyway, I finished school with A-levels in Geography, Economics and English literature and went on to study for a degree in Geography at *King Alfred's College*, now part of Southampton University. After three wonderful years living in Winchester and with my degree in hand, I decided that I wanted to become a Geography Teacher. I went to *St Mary's University* in Twickenham to complete my Teacher Training and gain my PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education).

I THOUGHT THEY LOOKED SO PROFESSIONAL, SO SMART, AND SO WELL BEHAVED. THAT LEFT A LASTING IMPRESSION ON ME.

What was your first teaching post on qualifying?

My first job interestingly, was in the independent school sector. I taught at *Ewell Castle Boys School* (it became Co-ed in 2015). I stayed there for 5 years and learnt a lot.

Then you moved into the state education sector. Why did you make that transition?

I got married and my husband (a solicitor) found a job in West London. So, we moved to be closer to his place of work and I found a new teaching post at a Girl's Church of England School in Hounslow. On top of teaching Geography, I focussed on working to challenge the higher attaining Girls. I helped them gain access to the curriculum making sure that they were being stretched and being given every opportunity to succeed at the highest level.

So, what was your progression to becoming a Head Teacher?

Around 2010, I made my first steps into Senior Leadership and became Assistant Head Teacher in a Co-educational Academy School in Harrow. It was very different from my previous schools, firstly because it was mixed, and secondly, it was more ethnically diverse.
It was what I was looking for. I later became Deputy Head, leading teaching across the school as well as staff development.
Then in 2018, the post of Head Teacher at *Saint Cecilia's* came up. I remember visiting the school a few times before applying. The first time I visited, as I came out of Southfields Station and walked down Sutherland Grove, I saw the pupils in their distinctive PE kit walking towards Wimbledon Park for some off-site games.
I thought they looked so professional, so smart, and so well behaved. That left a lasting impression on me. So, I applied, was successful, and took up the post after the Easter holidays in 2019. And I am still here today.

Tell us more about Saint Cecilia's.

We are a high performing school with a clear faith-based value system that is inclusive of all. Whether you share our faith, have a different faith or no faith at all, we welcome you.

And yes, we are named after *The Patron Saint of Music* because, from its very inception, music was going to be a major part of the school's identity. I cannot be certain, but maybe our name was chosen in honour of the world-famous *Wandsworth School Boys' Choir*?

Really! How do pupils interested in music gain entry to the school?

Pupils who demonstrate an aptitude for music, who would benefit from a more specialist music provision are able to come and perform, do an assessment and if successful, be offered a place here at the school.
They join our Music Scholars programme; many study music, continuing to GCSE or A Level. They join our choirs, jazz bands and musical theatre groups. We perform in all the major UK venues. Before the pandemic, we performed at the *Royal Festival Hall*, and the *Fairfield Halls* in Croydon. In previous years our choir and bands have been to *Malta*, *Tuscany* and *Lake Garda* in *Italy*, *Belgium*, and *Salzburg* in *Austria* for the Choir and Music festivals. Due to the pandemic, we have been limited to touring in *Wales*...However, we have just been given the go-ahead to tour *France* in the summer of 2023.

You also have talented sports boys and girls too, right?

Yes, we have a number of very good rugby players, so we have formed a partnership with *London Irish RFC* to enable our senior rugby players to receive extra coaching from their Coaches. Boys who gain entry to the 6th form have the opportunity to have a trial for selection into our first team squad. If selected, they receive additional coaching during the week and play at a higher level of competitive matches with London Irish.
We also have a similar programme for the girls who play Netball. We have developed a partnership with *Surrey Storm*. Currently, Peace Proscovia, the *Ugandan Netball Captain* is working with us and provides very high quality coaching. Having her here, is like having Cristiano Ronaldo pop by to coach the football team! The performance level of the girls has gone through the roof!

And what about the academic performance of the school?

We are an Ofsted 'Good' rated school and many of our pupils go on to University, Music Conservatoires or into Apprenticeships with companies like Mercedes. About 30% of our students win places in the Russell Group of Universities. However, we are really proud of the efforts we make to find alternative career paths for those who choose not to go to university. The school works hard not to leave any pupil behind.We are academically focussed but we are not an exam factory. We view our pupils holistically and try to do what is best for the pupil. We want them to engage in extracurricular activities like *The Duke of Edinburgh Awards Schemes*, get involved in the choirs, bands and play sport. Expectation of behaviour, attendance and punctuality are high, and we support those who fall short of those standards and find ways to rectify these issues.



So, what you do put the success of your school down to?

I think that our success comes down to four things. These four pillars are underpinned by a very distinct Church of England ethos and values system.

- **Strong leadership with a clear vision**
- **Keen focus on high quality professional development of teaching and support staff**
- **A focus on the progress of our pupils, and having a curriculum that is appropriate for them to reach their full potential.**
- **Creating great partnerships with our parents and partner organisations like the Trust.**

How has your success been recognised by Wandsworth Borough Council?

The impact of our success has led to an increase in our school numbers, such is the demand for places here. Two years ago, we increased from an annual intake of 150 pupils a year to 180. That is feeding through so that in a few years' time we will have 1,000 + pupils on the school roll. As a result of the increase in the school population, and thanks to Wandsworth Borough Council, we added a new teaching wing with ten new classrooms, which includes a new science lab and three state of the art computing suites. We also created a new outdoor area, which we call The Quadrant. The Quadrant is a quiet area for pupils located at the heart of the school who want to be away from the usual hustle and bustle at break and lunchtimes.
We officially opened the new wing almost a year ago. Again, supported by the council, we plan to extend the Refectory. If all goes to plan it will be ready by September 2023.
Growth has led to establishing a new house called *Carter House* (Named after the African American female jazz singer *Betty Carter*) the other Houses are called *Schubert*, *Archimedes*, *Ives*, *Newton*, and *Turing*.



Bronze plaque commemorating the opening of the new wing.

Betty Carter was one of the great Jazz Singers of her time. Why did you choose her?

We wanted to diversify the house names, be more representative of society but still hold the value around music. *Carter House* is currently the smallest house but they are growing and are extremely competitive.
The house names now spell S.A.I.N.T – C. So, you see there is a method to our madness.

Wandsworth Boys had a House System. Do you think that it may have influenced the creation of a house system here?

Yes, I believe that it did. It's great to have a tangible link back to the old School. My former school, *LMS* also had a house system which I enjoyed. It is a good vehicle for creating identity, healthy competition and for allowing pupils to mix horizontally and vertically through the school. I believe that it creates long lasting friendships and relationships.

How does the Old Wandsworthian Memorial Trust support Saint Cecilia's?

The Trust has been fantastic in their support of being present and visible. They make themselves available to attend the key events in our school calendar. For example, at our presentation evening, a Trustee will present the *HR King Award*, although the recipient is decided by me. The individual is generally chosen along the lines of outstanding contribution and improvement

over the course of their time here. It is a highly respected award and it's great that a Trustee comes back every year to present this. We are always happy to host events for the Old Wandsworthians. I know that the Old Boys Choir are back here soon for a reunion dinner.



Roger and Alan at the HR King awards 2019.

We hold a special service in November to remember those former pupils who lost their lives during the two world wars. It is really important that our school now has a link back to those pupils who made the ultimate sacrifice for democracy and for the freedom that our pupils enjoy today. We look forward to this event every year.

The Trust supports us with some of our most vulnerable pupils. Not only do we have Ken the dog, but the Trust has funded gym memberships for three school pupils who are on the *London Irish* rugby programme. This has now expanded to the *Surrey Storm* netball programmes. That helps with their fitness and all-round physicality. These gym programmes would be otherwise unaffordable to these pupils, so it has been really supportive. Now there has also been the really kind offer of the 'University bursary', so that our pupils can apply for £500 grants for each year towards their university or further education studies. That again is targeted towards pupils that are in receipt of Free School Meals or are vulnerable or have a Special Educational Need.

We are always looking for new ways to work together, like when you came last year Femi to speak at our celebration evening. It was lovely and very different for our pupils and their family to see a new face. It was well received. You made such great links back to your upbringing and your time here; and actually, you connected and made it relevant to our pupils, and how they could learn from your life experiences. At the same time, they see someone



Femi making a speach on Celebration Evening.

who they could look up to, aspire to and has taken the time to come back to the school.
It is important to maintain a link with the past. There are not many schools that have such a rich history. We feel very lucky to have the Trust in our school. When I first met the Trustees, I remember saying, "You do not know where you are going to unless you know where you have come from". And as a school community, it is important, which is why I really want to keep that connection.

> "You do not know where you are going to unless you know where you have come from"

If I think back to my days at *Lady Margaret*, our motto was, *'I have a goodly heritage'*. We were *LMS* girls and we could trace our roots back to *Enid Moberly Bell*, the very first headmistress and how she founded the school in one house in Parsons Green, and how it grew into two, to three Houses and then the addition of a large extension. I'm keen that our pupils gain a sense of the history and tradition that hails from here. It is important for the Trust to be visible in the school and when you do visit, that you wear your blazers. Then the pupils will be inquisitive to find out more about the OWs and how they fit into the school.

That's great to hear. So, moving forward and my final question, how can we try to improve the relationship that exists between the Trust and the School?

Well, I would like to find a way in which the Trust, the Old Boys and our Alumni can connect. Would that be the right thing to do?
Could it have mutually beneficial outcomes?
Would that keep the history of Wandsworth Boys School alive for longer, making them stronger while at the same time making our Alumni stronger too?

We've just had two years of the pandemic and with the school being repeatedly opened then closed, it's been difficult for us to keep in contact with our alumni as in previous years. We are looking for ways to make our Alumni relevant. Maybe by looking for connections or partnerships between the Trust and Alumni could be a way forward. And as we approach our 20th Anniversary it must certainly be worth investigating.
Also, Careers and finding alternative pathways for our pupils are a big focus for us as we prepare some of them for life after school.

- Could any Old Boys turn up and assist inconducting mock interviews when we hold our Careers Fairs?
- Could Old Boys working in traditional and non-traditional occupations like New Technologies, Gaming and Fintech come in and talk to our pupils about their work and their journey?
- Are there any Old Wandsworthians working for the likes of Google, Microsoft or Facebook and could they offer whole year group experience days.
- If possible, we'd really like to call on the Old Wandsworthians to give talks all through out the year. We are open to improving our partnership with the Trust and look forward to it growing.

Maybe they can help the school in ways that we have not even thought about yet. I'd like to hear from them. They can email me on…

info@saintcecilias.london
or call 0208 780 1244.

You are certainly a talented, passionate headteacher and leader. I am grateful for the time you have given me today. I look forward to growing the relationship between the School and the Trust. The legacy of the Old Wandsworthians certainly seems to be in safe hands…and long may that continue!



DAVE POLLARD MEMORIAL LUNCH

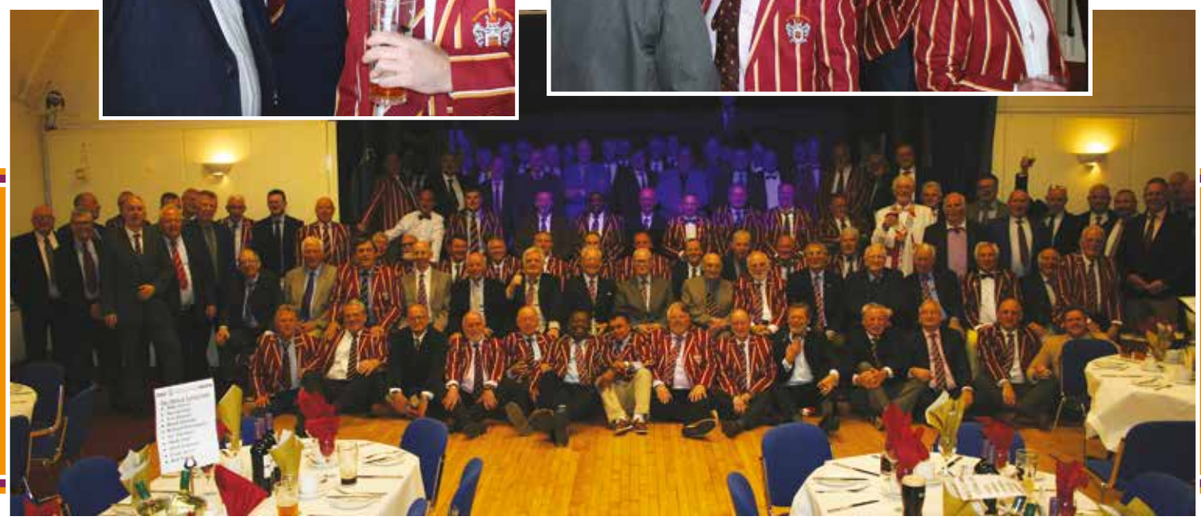
IMBER COURT 2022

The 2022 DPML was attended in February by some 112 Old Wandsworthians and guests. Many started arriving early to enjoy the now traditional barrel of Youngs Original. As always at this event, people gather to meet up with old school pals, enjoy a good laugh and hopefully meet new friends.









Following our early drinks, we all sat down to hear the opening speech from our master of ceremonies Alan Bone. Alan in his unique style, started off by searching out a few chaps who were not dressed correctly and sent out the heavies to collect the donation/fines.

The winner of the Trust's sweepstake prize of £250 was drawn and won by Dick Moody, a great prize for a wonderful cause.





Les Herbert (Secretary) then went on to announce a few messages from friends who could not make the day. This was followed by our annual toast, asking all to stand and honour our absent friends. Following a lovely two course meal we were then entertained by the Calcutta Cup. Unfortunately, we did not get the result we wanted for England but the match was soon forgotten as many stayed until late evening, drowning their sorrows of losing to the arch old enemy and telling the same stories that they mentioned before lunch! This was another great gathering of people meeting old friends and having a great day.



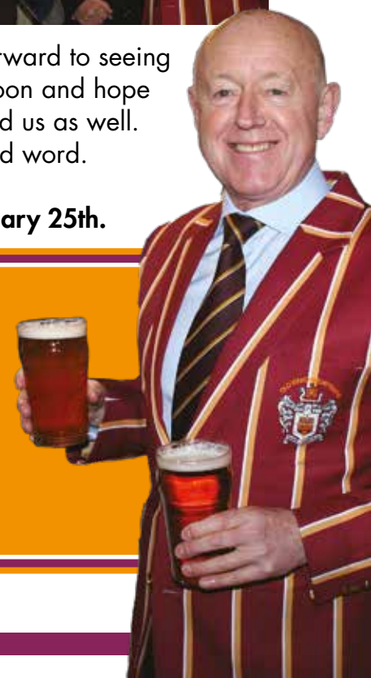




The Trustees all look forward to seeing everyone again very soon and hope more new faces will find us as well. Please pass on the good word.

DPML 2023 is on February 25th.

We would like more people to join the scheme which enables us to support the school and some incredibly deserving individuals. Please go to our website and print off a standing order, by clicking the "Donation scheme" on our webpage: - **www.old-wandsworthians-trust.com/wandsworth-school/donation-scheme/** ...It only costs £5 per month.



A BRUSH WITH THE LAW!

ROBERT "BOBBY" BELL

On a beautiful summer's day in August 2022, sitting on the South Bank supping pints of Youngs ordinary along with the charismatic Bobby Bell. We discuss growing up in Devon, his rugby playing career and his employment with "the Boys in Blue"...and also on several occasions, where the two meshed together. What follows is a glimpse into the life of this jolly Bobby!



Bobby Bell, Chris Brown and Pete Rossi...who went along for the ride.

Q1: So where did you grow up?

BB: Torquay, 20 years man and boy, until I went to university. I went to Torquay Boys' Grammar School and got my first taste of rugby and I also played for the Torquay Tics (Athletic) RFC. I was a member of my local church choir and we got to sing at Exeter Cathedral twice a year. We also sang at the Britannia Royal Naval College at a memorial service for Winston Churchill and we all received a commemorative Churchill Crown (five shillings in old money) in 1965, aged 8. I remember another occasion when our choir was invited to sing at a little church in Leusdon on Dartmoor and after the service they laid on cream cakes in the village hall, I ate 20 of them and like *Oliver Twist,* I still wanted more. Many years later on a club tour (the Bournemouth one I think?) in the early



Isle of White tour 1982.

eighties, singing in the club house afterwards, Ken Osment changed the words to the 1st World War classic of *Tipperary*, to "It's a long way round Bobby's belly, it's a long way to go……."! It has followed me ever since!

Q2: When did you leave the South West and the mighty Torquay United?

BB: I left for university in 1974 and studied mathematics and computer science at the Royal Holloway College in Egham Surrey. Although I completed the degree, I found the whole subject pretty boring, so I joined Surrey Police as I needed a job... possibly the name "Holloway" gave me the nudge I needed.
In 1979 I transferred to the Metropolitan Police as Surrey was very quiet, especially Walton and Weybridge where I was stationed.
I still miss the mighty Gulls *(Torquay United FC)* and watch them whenever I travel back to Devon and when they play clubs near to my home.
This year Dorking will be added to the list of away fixtures.

Q3: Where was your first posting with the Met?

BB: Gerald Road, "A District" SW1, back of Victoria coach station, which was not the most exciting posting I was hoping for. I spent most of my time walking around Belgravia, talking and directing American tourists, 'statue watching and pigeon dodging' they called it!
One memory of an 'Old Dub' that comes to mind is when I had to complete a Civil Defense Course at Peel House. They basically taught us how to dive under tables if the atomic bomb was dropped and then report to the nearest police station! My instructor was sergeant John Totham and although we did not know it at the time our paths would cross shortly after when I became an 'Old Dub' and was then formerly introduced!
I lived in Gilmore Section House, Kennington and there I met Aiden Hegarty who introduced me to Wednesday afternoon rugby at Imber Court. I also met fellow Inspector Johnny Maxwell of Thames Division whose famous instruction to his fellow 2nd row in the line-out was "you jump at 2 and again at 2:30 if you can manage it". Also, the legendary Old Wandsworthian Jack Saunders played as did many other Dubs. I played a few times but I really wanted to play in a non-police environment. The contact at Imber lead me on to join the Old Wandsworthians down the road at Claygate. One of my better decisions!

Q4: Did you only play rugby or did you play any other sports?

BB: Ah, well Pogo, I am glad you ask me this question because I was actually a member of the "Bow Street Fudgers", who were a team of six police officers and World Championship Winners at the noble art of marbles. We used to meet annually at 'The Greyhound' in Tinsley Green near Crawley to take on all comers.



Every year the championship of the loyal and ancient sport of marbles is fought out at a pub in Sussex, on Good Friday. It's a small game for big men.
By Jenny Nisbet. Photographs by Simon Lewis

Bob and the 'Bow Street Fudgers'.

It was often said, mainly to my face "that I was only in the team to make the numbers up!" we did retain our title the year I played, phrases like "knuckle down" originated from this darkest of arts!

Q5: When you joined the Old Wandsworthians, what team did you play for?

BB: You know very well if you were a talented player there was only one team to go and play for and that was 'Slippery' McLean's Babes XV. I reckon if *Jonny Wilkinson* had ventured down to the mud of Claygate, Slippery would have signed him up before any other Captain had got a sniff and kept him hidden from the selectors for a few seasons!

Q6: What was your most memorable game for the Old Wandsworthians?

BB: The most memorable game was against the *'Notorious Nurses'* of course! It was played in very good spirits with some of the wives and girlfriends coming down to watch. Gentlemanly behaviour prevailed until after the game and we all jumped into the communal bath together ...even some of the spectators joined in the fun. I managed to convince one of the nurses I was a top-class London hair dresser, washing her hair and advising her on the various styles she could adopt. I think she soon realized that my knowledge on such matters was limited! Another

memorable match for the wrong reason was the only time I was sent off. I think it was against Mitcham RFC, down at Claygate? anyway, Jack Saunders was short armed by their No.8. From the ensuing penalty the same player again high tackled Jack, who was unable to deal with his legendary side step. From the next penalty, you've guessed it, he chopped Jack down again and by now I had decided if the ref wasn't going to do something I would. So I chased after him and belted him from behind...as he was quite a big fellow. Unfortunately the ref turned around at the same time as I was administering the summary justice. I was given my marching orders but after the match, to their credit, the opposition team all came up to me and commiserated, saying he deserved it, except the No.8 who left early...I think Jack may have been waiting to say hello!

Q7: I heard you went on your first tour to Blackpool in 1981, any memories that can be written about?

BB: Yes, Blackpool was my first tour with the Dubs.We only had 15 tourists travelling in two mini buses and I think it was organised by Ian Collinson (*aka Kaptain Kremen*) with Brian and Roy Osment driving the buses. Who can forget our first game against Sedgley Park on the afternoon of our arrival. Lenny Milton was sent out to defend the wing. I don't think I have ever seen a tackle made by the hair before... (neither had the opposition!)...and I don't think I ever will again. My room mate was Kevin *"Bertie Smalls"* Holland, and I couldn't understand why his brother Roger *"Mumsie"* Holland wasn't keen to share a room with him. It wasn't until I was awoken by his snoring, which can only be described as a pneumatic drill hammering next to my ear-ole!
There was a great tour booklet produced by KK giving information on all tourists. Chris Wren was described as enjoying a life of hooking and being responsible for producing several large erections in Central London! However, my absolute favourite was a flow chart on how to avoid buying a pint when entering a pub full of people you know, pure genius and very useful in years to come!

Q8: Are there any stories which connect your job as a Diplomatic Protection Officer to the Old Dubs?

BB: Funny you should ask that question as indeed there was a story or two. I used to bump into a few familiar faces in London as I stood outside various Diplomatic and Government premises. Andy Archer at the French Consulate opposite the Natural History Museum, Andy Carter in Victoria where he lived, Liz Morris and John Mills at the Iraq Consulate on their way to work in Queensgate and Peter Brown who I spotted walking down Victoria Street with a male work colleague. I thought I would give him a surprise, and as I approached them in full body armour and firearms, I said something like "what do you think you two are up to then?" ...his friend obviously looked a bit worried, but in typical Peter Brown style with that laconic NY drawl said, "Oh, hi Bob how are you today" without even batting an eyelid!
On another occasion I was travelling in one of the red-coloured Ford Mondeo fast response cars that the Diplomatic Patrol Group used from our base in Knightsbridge. *'Old Bill'* was driving (he was called William and nearing retirement so that's what we called him *Old Bill*). I saw a familiar face in the crowd outside Scotch House, in the busy junction where Knightsbridge meets the Brompton Road. It was Alan 'Matey' Bone, who appeared to be with a smartly attired man and woman. I asked *'Old Bill'* if he would pull over with some urgency so I could jump out the car. According to Boney, I said "this is your worst nightmare matey, you're xxxxxxx nicked." I maintain I was more diplomatic than this as the name of my department suggests!
Alan was mouthing "Not now, not now Bob" and looking very worried. He was trying to get a taxi for a couple of very important American colleagues from Newsweek International. "Don't worry about the taxi Boney, jump in the back and we'll take you too where you want to go" says I, which was a hotel in Portman Square. Needless to say that bit of business for Alan was rubber stamped very quickly as his suited clients were very impressed with his circle of friends in the wide Metropolis.

Q9: So, to sum up, have you enjoyed your time in the 'Big Smoke' Policing and playing rugby?

BB: It seems a long way from when I was playing school boy rugby for the Devon Clots as Ian Collinson referred to them in his tour booklet! I have had some funny experiences in the job. One that comes to mind was being interviewed by a journalist from the Scottish Daily Record, outside Harrods, who asked me about *"Rab C Nesbit"*. I said I liked the character and enjoyed the TV show. But when it was published along with my photo in Police uniform it quoted me as saying something like "if he came down to my manor, I'd nick him for walking on the cracks in the pavement".
It just goes to show it's not just Burtons Tailors or the C.I.D. who can fit you up! And on that pearl of wisdom, Pogo, could I just say I have met a lot of people from the Old Wandsworthians' family. They are and always will be friends for life... which can't be bad for an old carrot cruncher from Torquay!

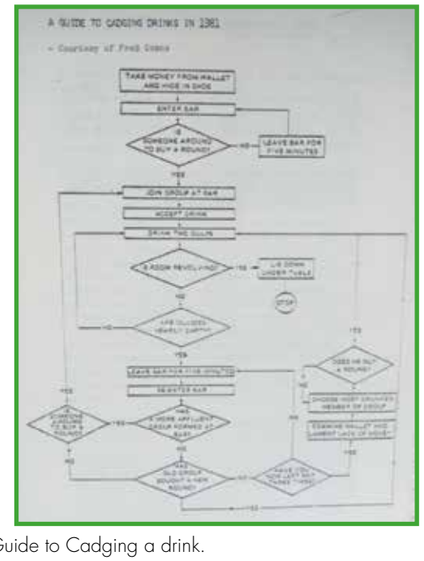

PERSONAL PROFILE

BOB BELL

Prop or No. 8

Bob joined the 'Wands' via Torquay Athletic and also claims to have played for Dorset Clots.

He has a strong mystical presence and is adept at analysing the game with phrases such as 'Jesus Christ, I'm knackered'. We are all expecting a further demonstration of his rendition of Hale Train.


A GUIDE TO CADGING DRINKS IN 1981

– Courtesy of Fred Evans

TAKE MONEY FROM WALLET AND HIDE IN SHOE

ENTER BAR

IS SOMEONE AROUND TO BUY A ROUND?

LEAVE BAR FOR FIVE MINUTES

JOIN GROUP AT BAR

ACCEPT DRINK

DRINK THE DRINK

IS ROOM REVOLVING?

LIE DOWN UNDER TABLE

STOP

HAS GLASS BEEN EMPTIED?

LEAVE BAR FOR A FIVE MINUTES

RE-ENTER BAR

DOES HE BUY A ROUND?

CHOOSE MOST DRUNKEN MEMBER OF GROUP

IGNORE AND LEAVE BAR FOR GOOD

APPROACH GROUP AGAIN AT BAR

EXAMINE WALLET AND CURRENT PILE OF BEER MATS

HAVE YOU NOW LEFT BAR FOR THREE TIMES?

HAVE YOU BOUGHT A NEW ROUND?

Tour booklet entry Blackpool 1981, along with the Guide to Cadging a drink.


Bob turning out for the Old Dubs.


RAB'S A JOLLY RER CHAP

C Nesbitt – he's just magic down south

RAB . . . darling of the English

RAB C NESBITT, Govan's grottiest export, has become the darling of THE ENGLISH.

For the folk around London think the inebriated envoy from the City of Culture is a "jolly rer chap!"

Yesterday, I stood outside top people's store Harrods to seek the views of the Knightsbridge set.

And they certainly don't mince their words.

"I love him," said Sandra Armstrong, a 26-year-old receptionist from Camberley in Surrey. "I tape it and watch it three times to make sure I understand it."

Asked if her opinion of Scots dropped as a result of his pie-eyed posturing, she replied:

"I don't think so. You must have people like that so I suppose it's true to life, isn't it?"

The harshness of my own Glasgow accent in such pukka environs caused some people to recoil in horror.

But once they decided I wasn't going to mug them, it was fine.

GROTTY

"He's that Scottish chap, from Glasgow I think," said 40-year-old solicitor Philip Sergeant.

"I find it AWFULLY difficult to understand what he's saying."

By PAUL DRURY

grotty Glaswegian as soon as he put a foot on the posh pavements of Knightsbridge, he said.

"There's no law against walking on the cracks in the pavement. But he would find it hard to be good, I reckon."

YVETTE JUNKERE: "What does bevvied and blootered mean?"

PC BOB BELL: "He's alright, your Rab C Nesbitt."

MARLI DIAS: "I will watch it to learn better English."

Omar Oresanya



University of Birmingham

(Son of Femi Oresanya)

Dear Trustees,

I would like to express my gratitude for the generous grant that I received last year from The Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust.

I am delighted to report that I graduated with a 2:1 in Money, Banking and Finance at the University of Birmingham. With the final year of study being hindered by COVID-19 with reduced and restricted access to campus and the library due to lockdown measures, the grant that I was awarded funded the study space I set up in my university room. With most of the teaching being delivered online, this ensured I had a conductive environment to thrive in despite the trying times.

As aforementioned, the pandemic had an impact on my campus and library access which entailed more working from home than I had previously experienced over the course of my degree. It also meant that my final year exams were to be converted online. At first it was an uphill battle to adjust to the change. However, the provision of the grant allowed me to purchase a home office chair, footrest, wrist rest and desk. The addition of these items improved my ability to keep on top of my work. As most places were closed following the second lockdown, I was able to focus exclusively on revision for my exams as well as my dissertation: How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the loss of employment in Uganda?
I was able to research and learn how to use the statistical software packing Stata to present my findings. My modules were passed quite well, including a First in my core module Advanced Finance.

Studying from home in my final year also prepared me from working from home in my first post-graduate job, as an associate within a wealth management firm. What was at first a struggle in the final chapter as an undergraduate, is now aiding me in my next chapter, as a young professional within the financial sector.

I would again like to thank everyone for the grant, as I believe it made a positive impact on my studies.

Warm regards,

Omar

Oriane Kirkwood



University of Essex

(Daughter of Gary Kirkwood)

Dear Trustees,

I would like to start off by saying thank you for the grant and support I have received this year whilst training at Fourth Monkey drama school in Finsbury Park.
During my first year at Fourth Monkey, I was able to explore contemporary and Shakespeare text whilst working in front of the camera and on my stage presence.

I have been able to explore stage combat, clowning, miming, puppetry, and movement. It has been both physically and mentally challenging, but I couldn't be more grateful for the opportunity to explore new and different performance techniques that I wouldn't have thought about before.

I am excited to start filming in September for a short film I've been working on with the National Youth Film Academy. I am also starting the summer 'Epic course' with the National Youth Theatre, which is extremely exciting as I've been auditioning for this course since I was 16.

With the grant, I was able to buy new self-taping equipment such as ring lights, software, and go on courses to help with auditioning in the professional industry.

So far I have been successful with a part in a commercial for the YoungMinds campaign. This promotes young people with mental health issues to get free advice and help in government funded 'Hubs'around the country.

Before we started filming, we spoke to therapist who work with YoungMinds. They explained 'The Hubs' are not only one-to-ones but also encourages group therapy. They found the group session are more helpful to young people and gives them the comfort of realising they are not alone in their struggles. The YoungMinds charity also help parents understand how they can support their children with mental health, by giving them the advice and information needed.

Oriane Kirkwood

"To watch the video on 'Mental health support' that Oriane talks about, please use the following link."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0hbxkkg0SI)

Alfie Baker



St. Marys University

(Grandson of Derek Wooldridge)

Dear Trustees,

After a successful first year at St. Marys University studying strength and conditioning science I would like to let you know how it went. In September, I started my year studying 'Introduction to research, strength and conditioning techniques' and human anatomy.
Within Introduction to research, I learnt how to dissect articles and retrieve information to use for studies and exam questions, also learning how to site papers in my own lab reports to provide more information within the report and backup my knowledge and understanding.

Within this module I achieved 82% over 3 exams. Strength and conditioning techniques was a very enjoyable module which involved learning different training techniques like, Ballistic and Controlled movements, Resistance training, Plyometrics training, Strongman training and Speed and Agility training.

This module helped me expand my knowledge of training variants and developed my ability to coach these different methods of training. Within this module I achieved 89% overall across 4 exams. Lastly, I studied human anatomy which involved diving into the details of the human body and understanding its many functions like the cardiac system, muscular skeletal system and the central nervous system. This module has expanded my knowledge of the human body in allowing me to know how the body adapts to training and how the different training methods effect different systems within the body.

Overall, my first year has been really enjoyable and very interesting. I will be returning to St. Marys for my second year of Strength and Conditioning Science where I will be studying Physiology of training, Sports Biomechanics and research methods.

I also played rugby for the University last year, which was also really enjoyable. We got to traval up and down the country, going to places like Exeter, Cardiff, Bristol, Portsmouth, Hartpury, Reading and Brunel.
The season saw the team achieve promotion and get to the league final, but unfortunately we lost by one point in the last minute of the match!

Thank you to all the trustees for their support last year,

Many thanks,

Alfie

Herbie Archer



Hartpury University

(Son of Andy Archer)

Dear Trustees,

Thank you very much for your help supporting me through my university studies. I have recently completed the second year of my Sports Business Management degree at Hartpury University and am looking forward to tackling my third and final year this September.

During the last three terms I was pleased to have had a very different experience compared to my Covid-affected first year in halls at university. During the pandemic I had to come home during the long periods of lockdown and the majority of my lectures were switched to online only, so it's been great to move back to face-to-face learning and have the opportunity to meet new people on my course. The move back to normality has also allowed me to start playing rugby again, turning out for the Hartpury University 4th and 5th rugby teams. I have played mostly as a fly-half and during the latter part of the season we managed to go unbeaten, finishing with a league cup win 14-5 against AECC in Bournemouth.

One of my favourite modules during my undergraduate course has been 'Professional Placement Experience', giving me the opportunity to gain invaluable experience in the world of sports performance analysis. I completed my placement module as an analyst at Stow-On-The-Wold RFC, learning how to film games properly as well as developing my analytical skills. I also created video analysis clips from matches that were fed back to the coaches and playing group. The season went down as a big success as the first XV went on to win the league and cup, whilst the second XV finished runners-up in their league. I really enjoyed my time at the club and have decided, along with a few mates, to join Stow as a player for the new season.

For the upcoming year I will be working alongside the Hartpury BUCS Super Rugby team as their analyst, building on what I have learned so far, filming home and away games and collecting stats on both team and individual player performance. This is an exciting new opportunity that wouldn't be possible without the hands-on experiences I picked up last year during my placement module.

With best wishes and many thanks to the Trustees,

Herbie Archer

Conor Oresanya



Leeds University

(Son of Femi Oresanya)

Dear Trustees

Thank you for the grant awarded to me in 2021. I used it to support me in the first year at Leeds Beckett University where I am studying for a degree in Quantity Surveying. The grant went towards buying equipment, drawing material and other necessities which I have utilised all year. A lot has happened over the last year. I was accepted into the Harlequins Senior Academy in June 2021, but also did well in my A-levels, so I was intent on going to university. Thankfully, Harlequins allowed me to become a full-time student and remain in their senior academy.

I moved into Halls in late September and fully immersed myself in Freshers week. During the first term I studied Law in the built environment, Construction Technology and Construction Estimations and Measurement. I went on to pass the year and am looking forward to the second year.

During term time, in agreement with Harlequins and the Leeds Beckett Rugby director, I trained and played for my university in the BUCS Super Rugby league and during recess, at Surrey Sports Park with the Harlequins 1st team. On the field, I have had a mixed season which started very well, coming off the bench and scoring on my debut for the 1st XV against Swansea University which resulted in a victory. I then followed up with a brace against Exeter University. However, on that occasion, we fell short and were narrowly beaten 16-22. I played a few more games for the 1st XV and also debuted for the Harlequins A team against London Irish in November.

Just when I thought the 2021/22 season was coming to an end, I was selected for the England U19 team to play Italy U19. The game took place on 23rd April in Verona. We won 41-20 and I was pleased to run in and score a try on my international debut.

In June, I was selected for the England squad to play in the U20 Six Nations Summer Series which was again held in Verona. I gained my first U20 cap as a finisher against South Africa and again scored on debut. I went on to start the following week against France and scored another try. Because of my training and academic schedule and having to commute between Leeds and Guildford, I had to give up my part time job, so I really appreciate the support received from the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust. It has contributed to my success this year and I look forward to updating you on my progress in the years to come.

Conor Oresanya

Alice Arnold



University of Exeter

(Daughter of Tony Arnold)

Dear Trustees,

I would like to start by expressing my gratitude to the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust for supporting me through my first year at the University of Exeter. I started my BA degree in English Literature and Creative writing in September 2021 and I initially didn't realise how dependent I would become on my laptop as I naively wasn't aware of how much work was online.
This became an issue as my laptop was very old, noisy and slow, making uni work a very tedious process as it took ten times longer than it needed to.

The grant I received from you helped tremendously in this situation. I was able to purchase a new laptop which made my studies much easier to complete and my end of year exams an almost completely stress free experience.

This also enabled me to develop a new found passion in teaching, as I was able to excel in my TESOL *(Teaching English to speakers of other languages)* module. I was able to participate in team study calls outside of lectures as I explored different teaching techniques and devices to aid not only myself but also my learners. I have been able to continue this module into my second year of university and have already been given the opportunity to teach my first class which consisted of students from China, Burma and Kyrgyzstan.

It is such a wonderful and enriching experience to teach them as not only do I help them and teach them about our culture, but I also receive the same in return from them as they tell me all about their cultures and how they are adapting to living in the UK.

I would like to thank the memorial trust again for the financial support they provided me with. Which, enabled me to put my studies first without having to worry about being financially unstable throughout my first year of university. This has put me in a great academic position early on in my University career and I look forward to updating you on my progress over the next two years of my degree!

Kind regards,

Alice Arnold

NOT SURE WHERE, NOT SURE WHEN?

WHAT GOES ON TOUR

...NORMALLY STAYS ON TOUR!



H.R. KING AWARD
PRESENTATION EVENING
ST.CECILIA'S 2022

On December 1st at St.Cecilia's Presentation Evening the winner of this year's HR King award was handed over to Ruby Sims by Alan Bone. She is a worthy winner who clearly has gone out of her way to help others at the school and has selflessly devoted a lot of her time to making positive changes in the school environment.
The evening was well attended by parents and selected students played Piano recitals, performed a very impressive gymnastics display and treated everybody to a theatrical interlude. The school orchestra has recently received a Gold Award and as such proceeds to the National Finals. They entertained everybody in the Refectory area before the event where drinks were on offer c/o the PTA. As usual the purpose of the OWMT was explained to those gathered.





Alan, Les and Femi with HR King award winner Ruby Sims and family.

WANDSWORTH BOYS CHOIR
REUNION LUNCH
ST.CECILIA'S 2022



Rob Smith; Pete Love; Graham Preston; Mike Nicholls; Geoff West.

Once again, on the15th October 2022, former members of the Wandsworth School Boys' Choir, some with their partners, gathered at St Cecilia's for their annual reunion lunch. This year there were 40 Old Boys with some venturing along for the very first time. We are grateful again for the generous support of the OWMT to help with this event.

The three course meal was, as usual, excellent and there was no shortage of liquid refreshment either. There is always a great amount of laughter as we reminisce about our time in the choir and remember how we all were very "matter of fact" about working with the greatest musicians of the time especially Benjamin Britten.

It is always great to welcome 'Old Boys' who have only recently discovered that the reunions happen every year, but we also remember choir members who are no longer with us, most noticeably past members of staff.

Of course, none of this would happen without the wonderful legacy of Russell Burgess. A fine musician and the greatest of teachers who found in each one of us a love of music and awakened the talents of so many. His influence remains with every one of us and has helped us become the people we are.

Thanks to everyone who helped organise the get together which has become an unmissable annual gathering for us all. I can't wait for 2023 - the date pencilled in is 14th October. For more information or to ensure you get notified please email *Martin Saxby martin@thesaxbys.org*

Graham Preston



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 10TH 2023 AT SAINT CECILIA'S SCHOOL.