THE OLD WANDSWORTHIANS MEMORIAL TRUST

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5 2023



DOING HIS BIT

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LES HERBERT
SECRETARY
OLD WANDSWORTHIANS MEMORIAL TRUST

Dear Old Wandsworthians,

A very warm hello from me and all the Trustees, we hope you and your families are keeping safe. Unfortunately, like so many others, my health has not been great this year. Following a heart issue at the beginning of the year I have had several tests and I am now stable and learning to accept "it isn't fun getting old"!

Before I carry on with providing news on this past year, we would like to pass on our condolences to all the families of former Old Wandsworthians who sadly left us in 2023. I find this quite a sad time as we have lost several old boys and teachers recently. Many of us knew them personally which makes it even harder, but in good old Wandsworthians spirit, we will celebrate their lives: -

Keith Friend
Passed away in February 2023
Jim Edwards
Passed away early 2023
David Gibson
Passed away 8th June 2023
Robert Hawkins MBE
Passed away 8th October 2023
Mr W Mrozowski
Passed away 8th November 2023

We move on to more recent events and 2023 has been a better year for meetings and gatherings of OW'S. The Dave Pollard Memorial lunch was well attended (25th February at Imber Court). Please see the short write-up on this event. Our old friend Tony Watts is still arranging gatherings for the more senior Old Wandsworthians, and we would like to thank Tony for arranging these get togethers.

The choir section unfortunately had to cancel their annual lunch due to low numbers. However, Martin Saxby has informed the Trust that there will be one in 2024 and is planning to hold it in September. He will be sending out details early next year.

This leads me nicely into our next annual gathering for the Dave Pollard Memorial Lunch, which is taking place on Saturday 24th February, 2024 at Imber Court. Details have already been sent out, so why not book your place or even tables and come along and meet up with lots of former pupils and members from all current and past sections of the Old Boys?



The Trust is still continuing to build its relationship with Saint Cecilia's School. At the school the Trustees are attending events and indeed supporting wherever possible. Our last event held at the school was the Service of Remembrance which took place on Friday 10th November. This event was shared with our partners and with over 100 Year 7 pupils, which was brilliant. (See report on page 4).

Our grant application scheme is still operating and we continue to support many young people. Most applications have been awarded to the children or grandchildren of former Old Wandsworthians. 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 financial 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 our grant requests. We thank you for your continued support. (The standing order form can be found on our website in the 'Donation' section.)



The historical photos and artefacts at the last DPML.

We have also been working on updating our website, which we hope to implement during the early part of next year. Over time as secretary, I have been given lots of historical data and photos – much came from former teacher Mr Martin Lince. For those who have attended the annual gathering at Imber Court, you would have seen a lot of this material on display. It is all becoming very worn and like me falling apart!! We have therefore decided to have all the material scanned and then placed under new headings on our website. It has been a long and difficult project, but we are getting there, so watch this space.

Many people are involved in producing this Newsletter and I would like to thank all who have contributed to it this year; the Trustees for their continued support and hard work in keeping the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust alive; and to you for attending and supporting the Trust's events. Remember the aim is primarily to preserve the War Memorial which is on the site of Saint Cecilia's School, 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, as well as the relationship we have with Saint Cecilia's School.

If you know of any former pupils please get them to send me their details, or pass them on yourself with their permission. Also, please send me any changes to your personal details so I can keep our records up to date. If you have an email address but this newsletter arrives to you by Royal Mail, do please send me your email address, too.

Finally, 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)

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS BLAZER
£130
For more information on ordering please contact: Chris Brown
saintpogo@hotmail.com · 07973 744205



SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

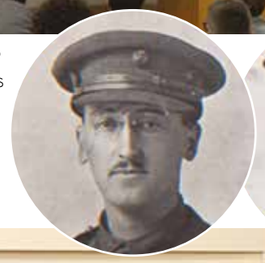
SAINT CECILIA'S 2023

This year Service of Remembrance took place on Friday 10th November at Saint Cecilia's School. We had 20 Old Wandsworthians and partners in attendance and over 100 Year 7 pupils.

Our service was opened by Alex Shoderu (School Chaplain), followed by prayers. This was followed by our secretary Les Herbert presenting to the pupils a little bit of history on why there is a war memorial for the fallen displayed in the school. This not only included talking about the previous schools built on this site, but also involved showing a few original photos of the young men who lost their lives, both in WW1 and WW2. Les also shared some personal history about these men and the impact it had on families. As an example he told pupils about two brothers, Stanley and Stuart Milward, who were both killed in action four weeks apart during the battle of the Somme in 1916, one of the worst battles of the Great War.



Les presenting to the Year 7 pupils with photos of Stanley and Stuart Milward.







Old Wandsworthians with their partners join staff and sixth form pupils of Saint Cecilia's.

Before handing over, it was also pointed out to the pupils that they were there to remember the sacrifice of all the Armed Forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth, plus all the emergency services who suffered, including the innocent civilians who have lost their lives in past and present conflicts.



"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"



Chris mid presentation.

Chris Brown made a presentation of his recent visit to France, where he met up with some old friends who were visiting the war memorial in Arras. Chris, on behalf on the OWMT, went in search of six young men who attended Wandsworth School and sadly lost their lives in the Battle of Arras and are remembered there.
He outlined how many British and German soldiers are buried and remembered at the war memorial.
Over 35,000 soldiers lost their lives during the Battle of Arras. In his search for the six Wandsworth boys, Chris managed to find Lieutenant A P Halcrow on the wall of remembrance.

Chris then went on to speak about his visit to the Wellington Tunnels, asking the students how they think they got their name? There were a few amusing replies from the pupils … "Because they wore wellington boots?" came up and, "Was it named after the Duke of Wellington? " … all good answers!

Chris explained why and what the tunnels were used for: -

THE FALLEN SIX OF ARRAS

T P, Chick	Killed in action	22/05/1916
A P, Halcrow	Killed in action	23/04/1917
S E, Proverbs	Killed in action	03/05/1917
H J, Hill	Killed in action	16/06/1917
F N, Cooper	Killed in action	17/06/1917
F, Castle	Killed in Action	11/07/1917

"The Wellington Tunnels are a network of chalk quarries located beneath the town of Arras in northern France. The original tunnels were dug in the Middle Ages and were used by the Allies during the First World War to house thousands of British soldiers. New tunnels and rooms were dug and joined together with the existing ancient tunnels by a New Zealand tunnelling company who named their section 'Wellington', after the capital city of New Zealand. The tunnellers dug a labyrinth of rooms, which even included a hospital".

Chris explained that these tunnels are now open as a visitor centre and you can go underground on guided tours to see where so many soldiers lived before they fought and died in the disastrous Battle of Arras in 1917.

Following the presentation, the wreath laying party moved downstairs to the war memorial. This included the Old Wandsworthians, pupils and teaching staff. The chaplain led the service and started with a prayer, followed by the reading of the Commitment:-



"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 laying of the wreaths were conducted by Trevor Johnson on behalf of the OWs (former pupil who left the school in 1962) and Samara Clark (Head Girl) on behalf of Saint Cecilia's.

The last post was then played superbly by 14-year-old, Year 9 pupil, Félix Steculorum. This was followed by two minutes silence. The dismissal and final prayers was given by Alex Shoderu.

After the service, we all made our way to the school refectory for refreshments, enabling the Old Wandsworthians to meet and talk with some of the sixth formers. It was a great opportunity for all us older ones to tell a few stories and learn more about what these pupils thought of this occasion.







Refreshments and chatting to the sixth-formers.

We would like to thank all the Old Wandsworthians and their partners who came along to support this event, with a special thank you to the school for allowing us to hold the service. In particular we thank Renata Joseph (Headteacher), Alex Shoderu (Chaplain) and James Robinson (Assistant Headteacher).

We look forward to you seeing you all again next year – the provisional dates are either Friday 8th or 17th November, 2024.

Warm Regards, Les Herbert (Secretary OWMT)

COLTS 40TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION LUNCH

DAN ESPARRAGUERA



Back row: Martin Smith, Pete Smith, Gerry Johnson, Dan Esparraguera
Middle row: Phil Lodge, Gary Kirkwood, Dave Arnold, Simon Hewitt, Tony Arnold, Andy Milne, Andrew Norman
Front row: Tom Knott, Paul Totham, Richard Higgs, Andy Archer

On Saturday 11th March 2023 a reunion lunch was held at the Spread Eagle pub in Wandsworth. The victorious Old Wandsworthians Colts squad of 1983 reunited to celebrate the 40th anniversary of their finals triumph against Old Mid Whitgiftians.

Thirteen members of the squad along with guests of honour, Gerry Johnson and Dave Arnold, gathered to reminisce about the good old days. Although England were trying to spoil our afternoon with a very disappointing performance against France playing in the background, spirits could not be dampened.

A private room was set aside for lunch and as we were finishing the meal Paul Totham made a heartwarming speech which ended with us all toasting absent and departed friends.



Surrey Cup winners March1983.

Since the nostalgic reunion, smaller Colts meet-ups have carried on, with a new WhatsApp group allowing teammates from far as away the United States to participate.

The squad now sets its sights on organising another gathering in 2024.

The Colts extended its sincere thanks to The OWMT for their support and advice in coordinating this inaugural reunion.

Here's to keeping the old Colts spirit alive!

IN MEMORY OF COMMANDER BOB HAWKINS MBE

HMS CALEDONIA – ROSYTH

In late August 2023, Chris Brown travelled up to Scotland to interview Commander Bob Hawkins MBE. An Old Wandsworthian who spent his entire career serving in the Royal Navy. A few short weeks after their meeting Bob sadly and unexpectedly passed away. His close family have given permission for the OWMT to publish the interview. The following pages offer a tribute and a small insight into Bob's amazing life.

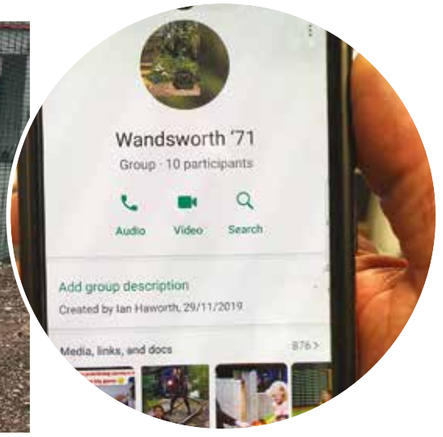
There are several ways to get Rosyth and choosing the 08:19 out of Motherwell was a good choice. Changing at Edinburgh Haymarket and a quick foray across the Forth of Firth Bridge arriving at "Inver-Queer-Thing" aptly named by the local Matlow's stationed at nearby HMS Caledonia, Bob and my carriage awaited me. I used to visit military establishments around the country regularly for my job but having retired four years ago this would be my first venture back into a protected compound. So why had I travelled up to Scotland, pen at the ready? Well, the job of locating and interviewing interesting Old Wandsworthians was firmly in my lap – subsequently I was north of the border to interview Commander Bob Hawkins MBE. Bob told me he was in the process of receiving his 45 years long service and good conduct award in the form of a '3rd Cap Clasp', which are highly valued.



Q1: What are your early recollections of SW15?

BH: My family moved to West Hill opposite Mayfield School in 1970 and I worked every weekend and some evenings for my dad until I left school. My Dad, Bill, had five greengrocers' shops around South London and I worked my backside off at Putney railway station. Although it was tiring work, I loved meeting people as they raced passed the station, stopping for emergency supplies. I would sometimes travel up to Dad's warehouse in old Covent Garden which was close to Pineapple Studios. Chatting and getting to know the original Pan's People was a claim to fame, and I was on first-name terms with Babs, Cherie, and Dee. I even met John Wayne in Floral Street – "Well hello, sonny!" – blimey I would have fallen off my horse if I had had one! My fondest memory of the shop in Putney was an ice-cream parlour opposite called Baskin-Robbins where a young girl called Pandora worked on the counter. Pandora was lovely and became my first proper girlfriend. She said, "take your pick" from the array of flavours, I just wanted to 'open the box'!





Q2: The Wandsworth School years, how did they pan out for you?

BH: I started Wandsworth School in 1971. My class Gamma was in the grammar stream and I was a member of Waite house. Educationally I did very well and my favourite subject was history with Harry Greg who was an inspiring teacher. Actually, Wandsworth school was blessed with many great teachers, Messer's Tobin, Vockings, Backus and Finbow are instantly remembered positively, although I felt the school hierarchy did little to foster my career in the Navy. I auditioned for the choir and was invited to join. I remember the places where we sang and the many famous people we met – I recall being on the same stage as Rudolf Nureyev at the Sadlers Wells. Singing with the choir was wonderful and I can still recite some of the words verbatim *(at this point both Bob and Pogo break into Handel's Messiah)*. I was an active lad and sports played a big part in my education, I played golf at London Scottish and the Royal Wimbledon and achieved a 16 handicap. However, it was playing rugby on the wing for the school that gave me my best memories. In fact there was a three-quarter move called the 'Bobby Hawkins' which was pretty much executed perfectly every week for the 1st XV, which was a double dummy scissors with a chip over the top. Pure genius!

Looking back at my time spent at Wandsworth School I received a sound education, culminating in 10 GCE O level passes. However my greatest achievement was the friendships I made there and I am lucky to be able to say that 46 years after leaving school I still count my friends from Sutherland Grove as my closest. Phil Clements, Ian Haworth, Chris Mattey, Tony McConnell, Mark Stokes, John Sullivan and others keep in regular contact through the "Wandsworth 71" WhatsApp group, and we meet up whenever there is an opportunity.

Q3: What made you choose the Navy as a career?

BH: My Dad joined the Navy during WW2 and although he only served during the hostility years before being de-mobbed, he always spoke fondly of his time in the military. The seed was sown. My dad Bill was a very special and influential person in my life so I decided that on leaving school at 16 I would follow in his footsteps and join up as a sailor. Bill was not so happy about my decision to join the rank and file as he wanted me to be an officer. I was not really bothered about the rank, but he insisted as he had seen a public information film about officer training. Bill was also a very persuasive man, "If there is one thing in life you'll do for me son, then this is it," he said, so with an open mind I travelled up to High Holborn for the induction. It was a life changer! I can still

> "IF THERE IS ONE THING IN LIFE YOU'LL DO FOR ME SON, THEN THIS IS IT."

remember Lieutenant Commander Edwards who gave the address and it was the most impressive presentation I had ever experienced. Dad was right, from now on my career would be mapped out. The next step was to apply for officer training school and the headmaster of Wandsworth, Mr Smetham, wrote a reference that was sent off to the Admiralty Board. I was accepted for an interview in November 1977. I had been tipped off that the review panel like to be addressed as "Sir" so at the beginning, middle and end of the interview I slipped them in to the discussions. I was duly offered a place at the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth. I started my training in January 1978 as part of a cohort of 125 students with only five officer cadets coming from the comprehensive system.

Q4: Six months of your Naval life was captured on the BBC documentary series *HMS Brilliant in 1995*, have you any fond memories of that trip?

BH: It gave an insight into what life was like at sea and missing family was always paramount in my thoughts, but it came with the territory as I had an important role on board HMS Brilliant at the rank of Lieutenant Commander. The BBC series consisted of seven episodes and shows all aspects of life aboard ship, in fact our Captain had to leave HMS Brilliant for an eye operation and I was promoted to second in command until his return. I built up great friendships both at work and play and a special camaraderie was forged with my fellow sailors. As with my friends from school I made many friends in the Navy. Of special note was Paul Jones who went to Duffryn school in Newport, South Wales. There is a link because in 1972, the second and third year rugby teams from Wandsworth School travelled to Wales on tour under the tutelage of the late great Jim Lyndsey and 'stuffed' Duffryn, who had not been beaten all season – Jonesy will need to know this fact. As you will see in the series, we had a great laugh organising concerts, which were more like scout gang shows, and our forays ashore were exciting as seen in the grand Turkish Bazaar in Izmir. However, a naval life comes with responsibilities and my old adage was, "that if you hoot with the owls, you still need to soar with the eagles". Basically if you stay up late drinking you still need to get up early and do your job … never let your mates down.

Q5: What are your memories and achievements whilst in the Navy?

BH: Well to start with my naval nickname is 'Bob the Dog'. I got the name for nefarious reasons which I can discuss F2F and exemplifies my more colourful behaviour. Enough said!
I was lucky to be able to live 15 years in four different countries whilst serving in Her Majesty's Navy, with Hong Kong and the USA as my favourite postings. In fact, I met my second wife Trudy in San Diego, which is an amazing coincidence. After my wife Joan had passed away with cancer, I found a social media post from a lady who I had dated in my cadet days 25 years previously. She was a naval nurse from Devonport and had worked in the maxillofacial ward at St Mary's Hospital, Roehampton. I contacted her and explained that I was now living in San Diego and unbelievably, Trudy was also living in the same city. We met up again and that was that.

In recognition of my military service, I was appointed an MBE in the New Year Honours list in 2007 and travelled to Buckingham Palace to receive my medal. It was a very proud day for me and my family. Also receiving the same honour at the Palace on 7th March 2007 was the Welsh wizard Gareth Edwards, who famously once said, "I am not sure about the 3 R's but I know the 3 S's – Speed, Support, Superb!". I carried my Dad's Hunter watch with me on that occasion, something I had previously done many times, but this time was very special. I am also still very much involved with the elite bomb disposal team from the Minesweeper, Ton Class, HMS Bronington, where I am Chairman. Freemasonry is important to me and I am always very happy to discuss the subject with anyone who is interested, I belong to four lodges of which one is my local branch 548 St Margarets and the most famous Naval lodge 2612.

Q6: When do you aim to retire from service?

BH: I am looking to retire next year, 2024, and have a few plans namely involvement with professional groups like Magistrates where I currently serve and the Scout movement where I happily spent my formative years. Obviously as mentioned I will volunteer time for bomb disposal research, Freemasonry, family, friends and hopefully more for the Old Wandsworthians as I have already taken the remembrance service at St Cecilia's a few years ago. However I will remain in Scotland.

Q7: There is a saying, "worse things happen at sea". What's your interpretation?

BH: Another valuable lesson I learnt from my dad. He told me to always remember, "the sea is always the master" and never take liberties with her … I never have!



FINAL FAREWELL

Bob had a memorial service with full military honours on 27th October in Helensburgh, Scotland. Some of his close friends from school made the trip to attend. Phil Clements was asked to say a few words about Bob's school days, along with eulogies from family, friends and Royal Navy dignitaries. The coffin was drapped in a Union Jack and once the service was over a presentation box was handed to the family containing the flag along with Bob's medals and, poignantly for all Old Wandsworthians, a rugby club tie, donated by Phil which he wore to the service and placed on the coffin after his speech. The OWMT also sent a floral tribute with messages of condolence on behalf of us all.



THE DAVE POLLARD MEMORIAL LUNCH

IMBER COURT 2023

The 2023 DPML was held in February and attended by over 120 Old Wandsworthians, from former pupils to current rugby club members and special guests.











With our normal offer of good real ale, many started arriving early, ensuring they got their share before the ale ran out! As is the tradition, people gather to meet up with their old school pals, enjoy a good laugh and hopefully meet some new friends and former pupils.

This year was once again headed by an opening speech from our master of ceremonies, Alan Bone. As usual, he did not let us down by starting off searching for people who were not dressed correctly or were late sitting down at the tables. And as now is tradition, the heavies were sent out to collect the inevitable fines.

We would like more people to join the programme which enables us to help our youth educational grant scheme, offer support to the school and assist some incredibly deserving individuals. If you would like to join please go to our website and print off a standing order, by clicking the 'Donation scheme' on our webpage: - http://www.old-wandsworthians-trust.com/wandsworth-school/donation-scheme/ It only costs £5 per month.







The £250 annuale sweepstake was won by David (the Fly) Millen to great cheers, or jeers depending on what table you were sitting on! All funds raised by the Trust's donation scheme go towards many wonderful causes, so well done to one and all who contribute.



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.

After the luncheon of steak pie and chips followed by cheese and biscuits we were then entertained by the Six Nations match between Wales and England. Although this was a rather scrappy game, England won the match 20-10 to everyone's delight, apart from a tiny Welsh contingent! This was another enjoyable gathering spent seeing old friends and having a great day.

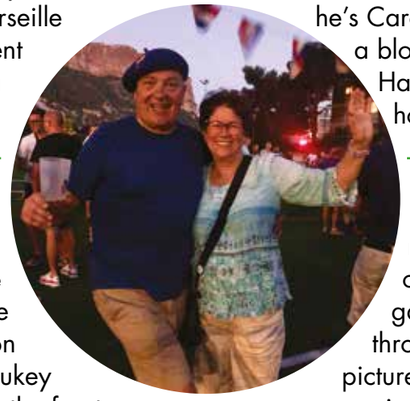
The Trustees all look forward to seeing everyone again soon and hope more new faces come and join us. Please pass on the good word.



The next DPML is on February 24th 2024.

Pogo's diary notes from MK to MARSEILLE RWC 2023

Thursday 7th September – Marseille
Sawtell is a place on the east coast of Australia, which is halfway between Sydney and Brisbane. As Caroline and I landed in Marseille we got ourselves into two different conversations. I was talking to a guy who was 'three sheets to the wind' and Caroline was talking to his mate Daniel. It just so happens that Daniel has been to Australia and his uncle lives in Sawtell – in fact he's Caroline's sister's neighbour, a bloke from Ewell called Bob Harris. think 'Whispering' … that's how we remembered his name!



Saturday 9th September – Match Day
Argentina v England – Marseille
Met up with OW Dukey and Sue for lunch in Old Town then got on the 83 bus to the game which Dukey thought would take us directly to the front of the stadium. Unfortunately it did not. We were made to get off 3 miles from the Velodrome and would have to walk the remainder – utter chaos. As we were headed towards the ground amongst the thronging masses a fan with a traffic cone on his head passed, then another then three more ,and would you Adam-and-Eve it, it was the boys from the Milton Keynes rugby club on their 29-game stint crisscrossing backwards and forwards through France. It was a right shambles getting into the ground with nobody really knowing what was going on, but when I finally got to the gate, I noticed a legend going through the turnstiles, so I got a picture with Richard Hill. It made my evening, except it wasn't actually the big man! We won the game through the boot of George Ford after Tom Curry saw red! Homeward bound to a lovely coastal town called Cassis arriving at 00:30, but the town was several miles from the station and a very small bus was waiting. With 80-odd supporters the allotted transport was not fit for purpose, so the Argentinian contingent took matters into their own hands and flagged down a pickup truck and headed off into the night with 20 or so people perched on the sloping platform!





Sunday 10th September – Match Day
South Africa v Scotland – Marseille
Funniest moment was on entering the ground we encountered a bloke in a kilt running a quick poll on independence, Ayes v Naws. He was drunk of course, SA won!

Saturday 16th September – Travelling to Nice
There are always back seat-drivers even if they appear not to be bothered, but three teachers give it another dimension. I took the alternate route heading over the mountains to Grasse, the sheer drops *à droit* keeping them all quiet. Ten miles outside of Nice we came across a rugby field guarded by the Gendarmerie – strange. We parked up outside the Stade Eric Estivals and looked through the mesh. It was the England squad training! Joe Marchant came over and signed autographs.



Monday 18th September – Nice
Shocked to find out that our Air B&B in Nice had a mezzanine floor and we had been allocated the room with a climb. Our travelling companion Andy gave me a pee bottle to use to stop a major accident from occurring in the middle of the night. Fortunately, I didn't need it and slept right through… it must have been the dread of using someone else's bottle! However they look like a bloody good idea to take to Twickenham.



Sunday 17th September – Match Day – England v Japan - Nice
Coerced Ugo Moyne to come over to a have a group shot in the seated area of yet another Irish bar, which he did without batting an eyelid. Just chatting to Dukey and started a conversation with a fan – it turns out its Ollie Lawrence's dad who use to play for Moseley. We won again through a planned Joe Marler header, although the greatest spectacle was the Japanese spectators who were systematically cleaning the terraces, amazing people.

Tuesday 19th September – Aix en Provence
I'm fed up of wearing rugby branded shirts, so I decide to put on my old Queens Park Rangers top and saunter about town. We find a lovely restaurant/bar to stop and have a coffee and are seated opposite the town's flower and vegetable market. Ordering our drinks the waiter, a native Frenchman, said he used to live in Loftus Road and the couple on the next table are QPR season ticketholders. What are the chances?

…OOOOH AHH QPR!

Wednesday 20th September – Avignon
This famous medieval city is well known for its one song about a bridge and it was on this bridge that I met a Welsh supporter wearing a cap. Strange the manufacturers of the official team caps had chosen to only use 'WAL' which works for 'ENG' and 'IRE' but not Wales. A fair bit of banter ensued.



Friday 22nd September – Marseille to Lille
Boarded the train from Marseille bound for Lille, four hours later we arrive and travelled 518 miles. London to Glasgow is 403 miles and takes six hours – HS2 just saying!

Saturday 23rd September – Match Day
England v Chile - Lille
Have you ever sat on a temporary swing seat in a stadium? We have and they are a ridiculous addition. Every time you stand up to let the 'weeing masses' through, the seat flips up and swings around to the right. What a palaver! I sat next to another group of dads, uncles and sons; and Jamie, the son, was next to me. They were from Bournemouth and were really football fans. I started to sing *Jerusalem* by William Blake (a Sauff London boy) and Jamie was clueless. Although he was more than happy instigating the dreaded Mexican wave, AKA the CURSE. Marcus Smith scored at full back in the thrashing of Chile, some potential there!

Sunday 24th September – Lille Rue du Gand – A Table Restaurant
We find a bar and decide to sit outside in the sunshine. On a table not too far from me is 'Bob', a bloke who sits next to me at Northampton Saints. What are the chances? I have been brushing up on my French using Duolingo, so I ask the waiter for *dessert avec deux cullineres*. I ended up with sorbet and two shots of vodka … result!

Home – Monday 25th September to Thursday 5th October 2023
A break from all this enjoyment!

Friday 6th October 2023 – Arras
I have never been to a battlefield, trench, or a commemorative gate, but a few travelling England fans I knew had. We were back in Lille close to Arras, and I knew some of our fallen brothers were buried in Arras. I emailed Les Herbert who sent details of six soldiers, all ex-pupils of the school. There is a free bus down to Faubourg Damiens cemetery where the six men are laid to rest, but it didn't start well because we jumped on the wrong bus and went north instead of south.



Caroline and I finally arrived and entered the cemetery and looked out over thousands of graves. Les's list gave the bay numbers and I thought it would be relatively straightforward. It was not. For instance, Bay 1 was not in row 1, it was around 15, and the names were not in alphabetical order. Some names were worn and we had 9 to work through. Alas, after two fruitless hours I gave up the search. Now to the remembrance walls filled with 35,000 names of these valiant lads who died for their country. Again, it was proving to be a thankless task. I texted Les for more information about the battalions where the boys belonged. The London regiments had over 50 companies – needle in a haystack! Just as I was about to give up and head back to town, I came across the Hampshire regiment and there on a wall with a thousand others, Lieutenant A P Halcrow. I had found a mark for him at least. I stood and then laid a cross of remembrance and headed back to the city centre.

Saturday 7th October – Match Day
Samoa v England – Lille
Scraped home by one point. Good old Danny Care!

Sunday 8th – 10th October – Clemont Ferrand
Racing across Paris to Bercy Gare and reach the train with minutes to spare. There is a nun standing in the aisle of the train with no seat – dilemma – "no bollocks to that"! Clermont Ferrand is a beautiful city although its post office is as useless as ours as we try to send a postcard to our grandson. The Puy de Dome is an extinct volcano and a stage of the Tour de France, the one where the spectators help push the riders up the mountainous inclines. The Dome and surrounding panorama are amazing and we sat for hours in the hot sunshine watching the hang gliders navigating their flight paths back to the once bubbling ground millions of years ago.

Wednesday 11th October – Lyon
"Oi!". I grab as I feel a light flutter around my left-hand pocket, and turn to face the assailant, a young girl mid-twenties with a group of younger girls around her. I am on a bus after dashing from Lyon station and heading for the St Paul area. The girl calmly sits down as I continue to shout and point at her. What I had not realised at the time was that Caroline was carrying my rucksack and it had already been stripped of a leather pouch carrying our passports. We were warned – the girl makes a dash for it and melts into the crowd. I consider ourselves a little fortunate as she did not get my phone or wallet which would have been bad news. I retrace my steps and I'm pretty sure it was only the passports in the leather pouch that was lost. We cancel them immediately and apply for new temporaries on Gov.uk, and arrange to pick them up in Paris within two working days. Straightforward really.



Sunday 15th October – Quater Finals
England v Fiji – Marseille
Bloody neutrals, no such thing! I sat next to a French guy wearing a kilt, which alone is hilarious, but this Monsieur also had a blue T-shirt saying, 'I always support France or every other team who plays England'! These " 'everybody-but-England' supporters were more



focused on the antics in the crowd than the game – no wonder there was some aggro! We won the match, but it was very close. The Fijian players and supporters are a credit to the sport we all love.

Monday 17th October – Lille
Back in Lille and Caroline heads home to Blighty on the Eurostar with her new temporary passport. The UK Border Force official takes one look at it then waves her through, but keeps the document, £100 well spent. On my own again, but wait a minute, there are 5,000 Scottish supporters in town for their football match against France and my bro, Steve-o, turns up. Get to bed at 4am!

18th – 20th October – Bordeaux
Most of these days were a bit hazy, but its a beautiful city and a great place to hang out while waiting for the semi-final. Highlight was

the seafood extravaganza including dog cockles which we had on two consecutive evenings, heaven!

Saturday 21st October – Semi Final
England v South Africa – Paris
Travelled on a high-speed SNCF train from Bordeaux to Paris Montpatnasse station in two hours hitting a top speed of 300 km per hour –hang on to your hairpiece. Metro across Paris to Place de Clichy and the IBIS hotel where the Old Wandsworthians have spent many a night over the years. Steve-o was shattered carrying that huge suitcase across France. He even turned down the advances of two elderly gentlemen offering to help him descend the stairs – not many escalators on the Paris Metro. Finally got into the hotel and hallelujah, we've managed to secure twin beds although the view from the sixth floor window is ominous as we are directly above the largest graveyard in the city. Not a good omen for England's chances me thinks!

A WhatsApp message comes in from another Old Wandsworthian, Colin Pitchley, who just happens to be in Paris for the game, too. We arrange to meet up at one of our favourite old haunts, Mama's bar (I'm still not sure why the Dubs call it 'Mama's bar' as it's actually named Le Mascot?). Steve-o and I join Colin and his wife Ruth and have a photo (not for the first time) with Thierry the owner.

We head off to the stadium where we are meeting up with an entourage of Milton Keynes RUFC members in a nearby restaurant. These guys are nuts, two of them Gaz and Keef are doing a *Guinness Book of Records* attempt of 29 games in one RWC, and todays match makes it 27… the record is 28. The game is very tense and England play really well and snatch defeat from the jaws of victory going down 15 -16. We walk back to Paris, hit the bars in Clichy and finally make it to bed at 4am again!

Sunday 22nd October – Paris
We wake up at 11.30am, but don't get up until 3pm. I book the train home for Monday and feeling hungry, we head back up the road and find a restaurant. We eat and go straight back to the room an hour later. Steve-o remarks, "now I know what prison life is like"… really!

We get back home on Monday night. England won the bronze medal the following Friday evening and the South Africans became World Champions beating the All Blacks on Saturday night. More importantly, the boys from MK broke the record and were interviewed on BBC Look East.

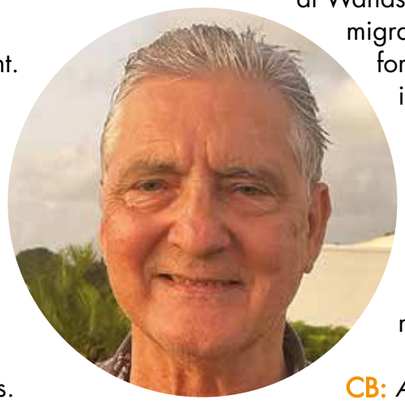


PAVEMENT TO CLASSROOM
CONFESSIONS OF
A WANDSWORTH SCHOOL TEACHER

Terry Mackie, 72 years young, has been an OW since 1978. Originally from Cardiff, he taught at Wandsworth School from 1978 -1986. He now lives in Welwyn, Hertfordshire, with his wife Irene, and they have six grandchildren. Chris Brown caught up with him to chat about his enduring relationship with the OWs, his love of rugby and his thoughts on its future at grass roots and professionally.

CB: *Terry, you first played for the OWs in 1978. How did that come about?*

TM: Chris, it was a total accident. I arrived at Wandsworth School as a supply teacher for French on Tuesday 7th February, 1978. I was living in Putney and needed a job. I had no training or experience in teaching! But I had a degree in Spanish and French. I kind of stepped off the pavement into the classroom. It was horrendous. I remember the date vividly because it was Shrove Tuesday and I told my first class that it was called *Mardi Gras* in French. They looked at me with complete contempt! I died three times in that 40 minutes and the lesson bell was CPR.



CB: *So you had no idea of the school or even teaching? How did you get involved with the OWs then?*

TM: No idea is an understatement! I remember a young but still terrifying Steve Lake coming into my classroom in the first week and doing a double-take, the conversation going something like this, "What are you doing here? You're the bloke who ran the Threshers off-licence." "That's right. I know your lovely mum and dad from the dry cleaners. I'm your French teacher now, please sit down." My first three months at Wandsworth were a permanent migraine. Two thousand kids, no formal training, I just hung on in there as I had a family to support, then one day a smallish, black-haired guy in a tracksuit heard me talking in the staff room and said I must be from Cardiff. It was Derek Williams and he was to be my guardian angel.

CB: *Aha! Derek was the Head of PE and a rugby legend who inspired so many in our club to take up the oval ball!*

TM: Derek really looked after me. He was the Good Shepherd of the lost sheep … Wales, where men are men and sheep are very scared … seriously, Derek was a godsend. And in his department was another excellent Welsh guy, Mike Griffith. They both played for London Welsh, which in those amateur days was the greatest rugby club in the Northern Hemisphere, having contributed six British Lions to one tour in the early seventies.

CB: *So, how was your rugby?*

TM: Non-existent right then! I had played at school since the age of eight, but I was really



Eight of this team went on to play for the Old Wandsworthians … along with Terry of course!

a footballer – decent left foot, got around the park. But, coming from Cardiff, I knew rugby inside out. Derek recruited me into the annual staff v boys match in May 1978 and that was my first intro to Claygate. I played full back and didn't have much to do as we had an excellent side with the likes of Paul Snare. One day a kid knocked on the staff room door at lunchtime and said to me he had to speak to the one we call James Bond. I replied, "You mean James Hunt?" "that's the one", he replied. The team also included Colin Tucker (Design Tech) who also played for London Welsh, Malcolm Jones and Graham Allan (both Science) who played for Merton, plus some really fit PE guys. Derek suggested I had a run out for the OWs in the new season and I played my first match in the September for the fourths. The great John Totham was captain and another legend Gerry Johnson was in the pack. I remember it was a very sunny Saturday and we won by about 60 points to nil. The oppo was lucky to get nil. I thought this seems fun and I can get fit.

CB: *So you really got back into rugby from then on?*

TM: Definitely, it was a kind of lifesaver for me at that time, both professionally and socially. Derek soon had me looking after one of the lower school rugby teams for matches and he then asked me if I would consider doing games instead of French on Wednesday afternoons. No brainer! I was being invited to swap teaching a whole three hours of trying to educate mostly unwilling and bored teenagers in a love of French verbs for a run-out on the playing fields! In time my coaching improved (I went on some courses through Derek) and after Mike Griffiths left teaching I inherited the 1st XV. Dear Mike (who died tragically young at the age of 60) had schooled this team brilliantly. There was the nucleus in it of those guys who went on to win the Surrey Colts' Cup, a major achievement given the strength of rugby in the county. I treasure having been involved in the rugby careers of really good players like Andy Carter, Andy Archer, Martin Smith and many others.

CB: *We heard a lot about your voluntary involvement with school sport, but how was your main role as a Wandsworth teacher?*

TM: I started as a casual supply and ended up Head of Languages when the school closed in 1986. Mostly because the other staff kept leaving! I had early on gained an MA from Birkbeck College, University of London, part-time, and that gave me confidence. I started teaching Spanish in Wandsworth and in its successor school, the ill-fated John Archer School. I eventually made a new career in education administration in both England and Wales. I ended up as Acting Chief Education Officer of Newport. When I retired I founded a consultancy with a friend and we did some good stuff on education in the UK and abroad, including a large contract in Pakistan (great money but beyond scary). I started writing about education in my later years, mostly for the Welsh press.

CB: *You played about 13 years for the OWs?*

TM: That's right. I was mostly second team, full back, wing or centre. Later I did some coaching for the club. I was club secretary for three years and I organised two crazy tours to Cardiff for the Wales v England game. I was captain for one year of the seconds, we had a fine team, Graham Sparks at no 9, what a pass he had. Micky Curtis was playing ten and Peter Cook was in the centre. I played on the wing that year and scored 20 tries. I just dotted them down. I did a bit of goal-kicking as well, from the right as I was left-footed, and Jack Saunders came up to me late in one game when we got a potentially match-winning penalty and whispered in my ear that if I kicked the goal I'd be let off my subs that week. I scraped it over the bar through the posts and soon the final whistle went. As I was trotting back to the changing rooms feeling very pleased with myself I realised Jack the Butcher had carved me up: I had done the shirts that week and so was already exempt from match fees. That was Jack all over!


A day at the Oval.

CB: *Your best rugby memory with OWs?*

TM: I was just 35 and probably as fit as I would ever be. Slippery Maclean soon had me in the Vets team and at our annual tournament we played Rosslyn Park in the final. The iconic Andy Ripley had turned out for them. This guy was an absolute hero; England No 8, British Lion and actually a kind of rugby rock star, super-fit in his day and charging round London on a motorbike. I was playing fly half. We won a lineout on the halfway and I stepped their geriatric fly-half. Andy came across to cover and I stepped him, too. I scored under the posts and as I was running back the Superstar tousled my hair and said, "nice one, son." I can't remember if we won or lost that final, but Ripley's words are my finest sporting moment of a very undistinguished career of football, rugby, cricket and tennis.

CB: *You have some strong views on the future of rugby, I gather?*

TM: Not many kids watch much rugby these days, even on the TV. There are so many other choices for them. Parents are voting with their feet away from rugby as the game is plagued with injury and concussion. Clubs are closing every week in the UK or going down to skeleton sides. I coached some mini-rugby at Hemel Hempstead a few years ago and was one of the few coaches who actually had playing experience. Professionally, the players are dangerously huge and the collisions come at a massive cost. It's simple physics: mass + speed = force = huge risk. The balance of rugby has gone away from a game of quick passing and skilful evasion. The World Cup final summed it up: more cards than a poker game, more subs than you can see in a Das Boot box set and scrum penalties deciding the closest matches, with tries as rare as hens' teeth.

CB: *Terry, sum up what the OWs means to you?*

TM: Chris, I have been in many clubs, especially for cricket (which I played averagely for 30 years, mostly with Bertie, who had just one shot, heave to leg, annoyingly it often went for four) and tennis (fifteen years and counting now, standard below average) but nothing touches me like the Dubs. After 45 years they still can't shake me off! I think being a part of the OWs is a bit like having done military service, being in the army or navy (not the RAF as none of us would have passed the exams).

We were a band of brothers and we always will be. Meeting up at the Dave Pollard Lunch or going to the Oval with a group of guys through Alan and Colin, these are very special times. None of us are getting any younger!

Lucy Knott



University of Arts London

(Daughter of Tom Knott)

Dear Trustees,

I was incredibly fortunate to receive the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust grant last winter to assist me with my beach volleyball off-season and pre-season training. I am a beach volleyball athlete who competes in the UK Beach Tour grand slams and 4* events.

I have intentions to play international pro beach volleyball and every year, every off-season, every season, and every training helps towards achieving my ultimate goal.

I am a student at the University of Arts London studying BA (Hons) Fashion Sportswear and being a student athlete, this grant allowed me to continue training consistently, whilst having the expense of living in central London.

With my degree, I am really focusing on sustainable, performance sportswear, looking into fabric technology, innovative designs, and sustainable practices. As well as this, the University of Arts London has a large indoor volleyball social and competitive community, and I have started a beach volleyball club to introduce and inspire more participants to play this amazing sport.

I used the grant to my full advantage. It covered my training in Gandia, Spain where I spent two weeks in April training with pro German and Swedish teams, as well as watching show matches and coaching participants in the beach volleyball camp.

In addition, I have been able to use the OW grant to enter tournaments on the UK Beach tour, as well as accommodation, giving me more entitlement to travel for tournaments as I could afford to stay, train and compete in different places, as well as meeting and playing with new and talented players across the country.

I am extremely thankful to have been awarded the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust Fund this year, it has given me many incredible opportunities which I would have not been able to experience, and has helped me in my beach volleyball career.

Kind regards,

Lucy Knott

Conor Oresanya



Leeds Beckett University

(Son of Femi Oresanya)

Dear Trustees

Thank you for the grant awarded to me in September 2022. I used it to support me in my second year at Leeds Beckett University (LBU) 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. Some of the equipment bought is essential to studying for my course. I also used some of the grant to fund travel to Surrey Park, Guildford for Harlequins training, and to and from the university training grounds.

A lot has happened in the last 12 months. On the back of gaining three England U20 Caps in the World Summer series in Verona, Italy, I also made my senior professional debut for Harlequins in November 2022. I made three professional appearances and scored tries against London Irish and Northampton.

At LBU, I was playing regulary scoring six tries in eight matches but then picked up injuries, which meant I spent the next 10 weeks in rehab. During thist time we only won one game and were nearly relegated from the Super BUCS League. We finished the season on a high to win our Varsity match against Leeds University, putting in a dominant display. We then spent two weeks at San Diego University training with and playing against SD Legion.

Despite performing well for the Uni, juggling between the Harlequins Senior Academy, playing for LBU and studying for a degree all became too difficult for me.

I failed one of the six academic modules, which I have to retake this year. Although it was a setback, I believe everything happens for a reason. I decided to take this opportunity to improve my grades in another module.

For the 23/24 season, a decision was made that I would leave the Harlequins Senior Academy and focus on my studies and play solely for LBU. This will allow me sufficient time to pass the year and refine and improve my rugby skills.

As a result of the rugby training schedule, I do not have a part-time job during term time, 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

Alfie Baker



St. Marys University

(Grandson of Derek Wooldridge)

Dear Trustees,

I started a successful second year at St. Marys University by moving into a house with fellow rugby team members and looking forward to my new modules in physiology, application of science in the workplace, sports coaching and also preparing for my dissertation.

In the past year I have completed five modules in the following areas of my degree. Skill acquisition, physiology, research methods, strength and conditioning in practice and biomechanics. Within this, I have learnt a vast array of new skills to help me advance my abilities as a sports scientist once graduated.

After studying physiology for the year, I have managed to understand how the human body evolves due to training and how to optimise the capabilities it can reach. Strength and conditioning in practice has allowed me to gain an in depth understanding of how I can successfully apply my knowledge in the sports science industry.

Likewise in skill acquisition I learnt how to apply different coaching methods and investigated which was best applied to certain people and how to adapt my coaching stance to optimise the success of the athlete or team. Lastly, I studied biomechanics which exposed me to a vast array of information and studies about the biomechanics system of the human body.

After ending year two, my results showed another successful year academically. I achieved four assessments at a 1st and five at a 2:1 with three at 2:2, gaining me my 120 credits for the year. I am looking forward to going into my final year of university which will include the completion of my dissertation and an opportunity to gain experience in a work placement. I will hopefully join a sports club, working with elite sports science teams to build my depth of knowledge and networking skills.

I represented the University at rugby, which gave me the opportunity to travel all over the country. The season was really enjoyable but tough! I also made my début for Sutton and Epsom 1st XV in regional 2, along with representing Middlesex U20s in the counties cup.

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

Alfie Baker

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 second-year training and first year on the BA acting course at Fourth Monkey, I was able to explore clowning, meisner, lecoq, GROTOWSKI. I was also able to explore voice techniques in greater detail. From the fundamentals of the voice, singing, articulation, stage shouting and accent work.

I have been able to explore more depth into clowning, miming 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.

With the grant I was able to get a new laptop that has been used for in-depth character research, as well as editing and submitting self tapes for auditions.

So far, I have been successful with being part of a commercial with the YoungMinds campaign which, promotes getting young people the mental health they need, especially since the pandemic which has been hard for many young people.

Before we started filming, we spoke to a therapist who works with YoungMinds. They explained the Hub is not only one-to-ones but they also encourage group therapy. They have found the group sessions are more helpful for the young people that come to the Hub – it gives young people the comfort of realising that you're not alone in your struggles. The YoungMinds charity also helps parents understand how they can support children who are struggling with their mental health, by giving the right information needed.

Kind regards,

Oriane Kirkwood

Herbie Archer



Hartpury University
(Son of Andy Archer)

Dear Trustees,

I would like to express my thanks once again for the continued support throughout my university studies. I have recently finished my undergraduate degree in Sports Business Management achieving a first-class honours degree from Hartpury University. I have now just begun a master's degree studying Applied Performance Analysis in Sport.

For my undergraduate degree I had to complete a dissertation, in which I researched the effects that sports analysis can have on the level of performance for amateur rugby union players. I conducted interviews with local club players and coaches, concluding that while sports analysis would be welcome within rugby union, funding presented a profound limitation to this.

Alongside my studies, I have also started an internship at Harlequins RFC, working with the first team as a performance analyst. Within this role, I film training sessions, complete opposition analysis and assist with matchdays duties either coding stats or capturing footage of the match. I managed to land this role after gaining invaluable experience last season working with the Hartpury men's and women's BUCS teams as well as the England U18 women's team for their Six Nations festival in Easter. The Hartpury women's team were extremely successful, winning both the league and cup, whilst the men's team had an improved season finishing fifth in the BUCS Super Rugby league. These experiences have enabled me to develop the vital skills required to be a performance analyst at an elite level.

As well as working within rugby, I also managed to find time to play last season playing for Stow-On-The-Wold RFC in Gloucestershire. We travelled a lot around the Cotswolds area, as well as down into Southampton. The season saw the club's highest ever league finish, ending fourth in the Regional 2 South-Central League. This season I'll be playing for both Stow and Kingston RFC.

Due to my commitments at both Hartpury University and Harlequins, I am completing my master's studies from home and travelling to Hartpury once a fortnight to attend lectures. I am putting the grant I received towards travel costs to university as well as commuting to Harlequins every day.

Thanks again,

Herbie

Alice Arnold



University of Exeter
(Daughter of Tony Arnold)

Dear Trustees,

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust for supporting me through my second year at the University of Exeter.

As I continued to study English Literature over the past year, the grant I received has been very helpful for multiple things, such as allowing me to purchase my copious amounts of course books and further materials to aid my learning. All of which ensured that I had a very successful year, finishing with a first and putting me in great stead going into my final year.

It has also enabled me to further my new passion in teaching, as I excelled in my second year of TESOL (Teaching English to speakers of other languages). This year, from January to May, we were each given a foreign language speaker to teach English to in weekly one-to-one lessons. I was paired with a very well-educated man from Indonesia, Sabiq, who was in Exeter as his wife was completing a PhD at the university.

This was a truly enriching experience for both parties as not only did Sabiq improve his English skills, but we both learnt about each other's cultures and lives. I also learnt some Indonesian, *Selamat Siang!* (good day).

The grant allowed this to be such a successful experience as I was able to buy and create materials for the lessons, all of which proved to be very helpful. Sabiq now has these materials to support him through his continued journey to become fluent in English.

I would like to thank the memorial trust again for the financial support they provided to me. Overall, it enabled me to truly excel in my second year, as I was able to support my learning with the relevant books and further materials. This has put me in a great academic position as I enter my last year at Exeter University.

I look forward to updating you on my progress over the final year of my degree!

Best wishes,

Alice Arnold

Georgia Smith



Chichester University
(Daughter of Peter Smith)

Dear Trustees,

Firstly a big thank you to the Association for the grant funding that was awarded to me at the start of the year. It has been very useful in helping me stock up on strings, which has taken away the worry or wondering whether my Amazon Prime delivery will make it on time, as well being grateful for the fact that I play violin and viola rather then a harp!

On a serious note, being dyslexic, the funding has also helped me put various levels of support in place to help underpin my studies, such as specialist PC software that allows me to record lectures and plan assignments.

When starting my studies, I had originally planned to join Trinity Laban Conservatoire at The Old Naval College in Greenwich, an amazing part of the word to live and study. UInfortunately, shortly after starting it became apparent that they couldn't cater for a multi-instrumentalist and I had to make the sad decision to transfer to a university which could, and eventually arrived at the doorstep of Chichester University.

After the hectic business of moving from London to Chichester, I've settled down into the routine of orchestral theory and practice, being taught by an array of world-class musicians, whilst regularly performing at Chichester Cathedral and preparing for performances in Germany … the part of the course I'm most looking forward to!

I've also began working, part-time, for the local authority, helping with the teaching of younger students studying viola, violin and piano, and assisting at their performances across Sussex.

The start of the new year isn't too far away, but the activity has already begun for me as I'm shortly to move into a house near the university!

Many thanks,

Georgia Smith

CHOIR UPDATE

Following the unfortunate cancellation of this year's gathering, Martin Saxby carried out a quick survey with all the choir group.

He would like to thank everyone for their responses about future reunions. It showed an almost universal view that we should continue them.

Around 75% felt they should be held in St Cecilia's School in the autumn and in the evening. Therefore, please note the Choir Reunion 2024 will now take place on **Saturday 21st September, 2024**.





Please put this date in your diary NOW – details and formal bookings will be sent out nearer the time.

Best wishes to all,

Martin

GLORY IN GOREY 1995

WHAT GOES ON TOUR

… NORMALLY STAYS ON TOUR!











WATTS TAKES THE OLD BOYS UP WEST

A small gathering of Old Wandsworthians, organised by Tony Watts, met for drinks and a meal in St Martins Lane recently. Apparently the talk was all about the old days … they were good though!



If you have photos of Dubs out and about please send them in with a suitable caption.



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.

ROLL OF HONOUR 1971 – NORTHERN IRLEAND

STEWARDSON, D.A. (CAPTAIN)

NEXT YEARS' SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE, WILL BE ON EITHER FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH OR 17TH 2024 AT SAINT CECILIA'S SCHOOL.