

The John Carpenter Club • City of London School Alumni Association

GAZETTE

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Paul Ryb

JCC President 2023 - 2024



The John
Carpenter
Club

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From the President

Peer support key within CLS alumni network

JCC President 2023, Paul Ryb, Class of 1989, went on to a 30-year career in investment banking achieving the level of Managing Director, Global Banking and Markets, World and GB visually impaired tennis champion (2018), a black belt in kick-boxing, and was recently awarded the Freedom of the City of London.



I had some of my fondest childhood memories at CLS, and to this day can still point to many of my best friends being among the class of 1989. My relationship with the School and the City of London goes back 40 years and while my own time at the School spanned only six years (1983-1989), it is what happened to me and my family in the year after I finished school (1990) that has left me with the greatest desire to return the favour, and give something back. On the 26th April, 1990 my father, George Ryb, died suddenly at the age of 53. My sister and I were already at university, but my younger brother Nick was still at CLS with a further two years left to run. At the time, my mother had plenty to worry about, but the School invited her in and offered to take away all the stress related to my brother's school fees.

Receiving a bursary like this meant that my brother completed his education and went on to be the great guy he is today - a city banking career followed and today he is running two successful businesses in fitness and freight.

For my part, upon leaving this great school in 1989 I went to Manchester University to study Economics. Various influences, including my interest in financial markets and desire to make money, led me to strive for a place on the coveted City of London investment banking graduate programmes. I spent 30 years

in the city working for several of the top banks, including nine years at Lehman Brothers, experiencing everything reflected in the movies from 'The Wolf of Wall Street' to 'The Big Short', and books such as 'Liars Poker', 'Barbarians at the Gate' and 'Inside Out'. However, my greatest challenge came in 2007 when I lost part of my eyesight to a condition called macular disease. Digging deep on the resources and character learnt at this school, combined with the love of a great woman and the need to support my kids, I am proud to say I have continued to enjoy more success today with limited sight than I did when I could actually see. Today, I am an Ophthalmic Venture Capitalist, combining my financial expertise with my passion for supporting and investing in ophthalmic innovation, to not only inspire people to live and succeed with sight loss, but invest in finding the necessary cures. I was recently awarded the Freedom of the City of London for my work in ophthalmology.

My re-connection with the School came in 2009, when I was asked to mentor identical twins Michael and Dan Smith (Class of 2009) both of whom lost 90% of their vision at the age of 19 to an aggressive eye disease. Their amazing story of courage, perseverance and success has been well documented and featured in the Gazette back in 2021. We all lost our sight at critical points in our lives but have drawn strength off each other to go on to live and succeed with sight loss. All three of us highlight the importance of peer support from within the CLS alumni network and agreed that CLS equipped us to cope better in the face of those huge personal challenges.

Following in the footsteps of past JCC Presidents, Russell

"I am ... so pleased that the School's Alumni Team and the JCC are working even more closely together to maintain the cultural magic that exists within the School and its alumni network"

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Jones, and Neil Morisetti, I am honoured to be able to give something back to a school that has given me so much. I was quoted in the Gazette in 2021, “CLS arms you for problem-solving; you are competing against your peers from a very early age. There’s a competitive spirit all the way through but in a positive, supportive way, that acknowledges and embraces the fact everyone has different interests and abilities.”

I am taking up the JCC Presidency at an exciting time for the School. Expanding the bursary programme during the cost-of-living crisis has become an even greater priority to ensure the School continues to attract and benefit from a diverse mix of talent across all social and economic backgrounds. I am proud to be a part of that and so pleased that the School’s Alumni Team and the JCC are working even more closely together to maintain the cultural magic that exists within the School and its alumni network.

Championing the various JCC supported initiatives in close

collaboration with the School, significant thanks and appreciation must go out



to Neil Edwards (Class of 1982) for his immense work in promoting so many OC sport events; to Dov Katz (Class of 1992) and Paul Marmor (Class of 1983) as well as their respective law firms Blake Morgan and Sherrards, for offering mentoring and law career insight to Sixth Formers. iGem is another superb success story in partnership with the Girls School, combining science, business and social

skills – the JCC has been delighted to support these pupils in their endeavours over the last few years. The most recent example of innovative collaboration between the JCC and CLS Alumni Team are the inaugural alumni awards. Current pupils and Old Citizens were encouraged to vote for three categories of awards to recognize Old Citizens who have achieved great things since leaving the School. I am grateful to OC Russell Jones (Class of 1977) and Anthony Gee (Class of 1989) for coming up with the idea and seeing it through to fruition.

I have experienced many exciting things in my career but being asked to become the JCC President is a wonderful honour. I very much look forward to spending more time at the School meeting pupils and parents, as well as supporting all of the School’s strategic ambitions.

Paul Ryb
JCC President
2023- 2024

Notice of Proposed Motion to Merge JCC with CLS Alumni; to be voted on by JCC Members at the scheduled AGM on 29th November 2023

At the 2022 AGM the then President, Neil Morisetti, included in his Report of the General Committee (GC) reference to the outline plan to review the governance of the JCC to ensure that the club is able to deliver its agreed strategic objectives, giving consideration to factors including, but not solely: the JCC brand, financial model, data, and administrative support and to report back at the 2023 AGM.

Since then the GC has been working with the School, the Chairman of Governors and the JCC CIO (Peter Earl) to identify what such a revision would look like. After careful consideration and reflecting the need to maximise engagement with Old Citizens, whilst making best use of resources and removing duplication, it was unanimously agreed by those attending the September GC meeting that the most effective way of doing this was the merger of the JCC and the CLS Alumni, to form the John Carpenter Alumni Community.

Accordingly, in order to give effect to such a merger, the GC also agreed that this proposal should be put to JCC Members at the forthcoming AGM, scheduled to take place at CLS on the 29th November 2023.

Details of the proposal, including Terms of Reference for the John Carpenter Alumni Advisory Group (JCAAG) and the intentions for both Charitable and Non Charitable Funds, will be circulated nearer the AGM.

Members of the JCAAG will be Old Citizens and they will work with the CLS Development and Alumni Office to promote and support the aims and objectives of developing and maintaining a cohesive, engaged, and impactful alumni community.

This note is to give notice that those members of the JCC who are in attendance at the November 2023 AGM will be asked to vote on the below proposal, noting that a two thirds majority, in favour, of those present and entitled to vote will be required for it to be passed.

That the JCC merges with City of London School (CLS) and specifically the CLS Alumni, thereafter, to be known as the John Carpenter Alumni Community, by no later than 30th June 2024.

Announcing the winners of the inaugural 2023 Alumni Awards



This May, in partnership with City of London School, the John Carpenter Club launched the inaugural Alumni Awards.

These awards seek to recognise Old Citizens who have made an outstanding contribution to society through their voluntary service, achievements in academia, professional success or whose behaviour and values inspire others – in short, alumni who embody the School’s ethos of producing young people who are kind, aware and ready to go out into the world and make a difference for good.

Nominations were sought for Old Citizens across three categories: Emerging Talent, Lifetime Achievement and Service to Society.

After a nomination period of one month, a shortlisting team comprising members of the John Carpenter Club Committee and the City of London School Development and Alumni Engagement Team whittled the nominations down to 12 incredible Old Citizens, ranging from the Class of 1967 through to the Class of 2017.

It was a really tough task to reduce the nominees down to the final 12 as we had dozens of outstanding candidates. All of the finalists are outstanding and inspirational in their field and are thrilled to be nominated.

Voting for winners was carried out in two stages. The first, an alumni vote over two weeks in early July, followed by a pupil vote in early September, held during form time.

Check out the winners and finalists using the QR code below. Winners will be honoured at two school assemblies later this month.



We’re so grateful to the many Old Citizens who engaged with this new initiative and hope that we have even more nominations in 2024 and onwards to inspire the next generation of pupils at City of London School.

Emerging Talent Award

Winner: Xiong Chang (above left)

Finalists:

Xiong Chang (Class of 2007) - Agricultural technology entrepreneur
Mickey Down (Class of 2007) - Screenwriter for TV, film and theatre
Rollo Millership (Class of 2010) - Food and retail entrepreneur
George Rosenfeld (Class of 2017) - Emerging talent in the charity sector

Lifetime Achievement Award

Winner: Professor Sir David Klenerman (above centre)

Finalists:

Steven Isserlis CBE (Class of 1975) - Internationally renowned cellist, writer and broadcaster
Professor Sir David Klenerman (Class of 1978) - DNA sequencing pioneer
Koolesh Shah (Class of 1973) - Hotelier and Philanthropist
Air Marshal Sir David Walker OBE KCVO (Class of 1974) - A lifetime of national service

Service to Society Award

Winner: Dan and Michael Smith (above right)

Finalists:

Henry Grunwald OBE KC (Class of 1967) - Barrister and inter faith leader
Usama Hasan (Class of 1989) - Tackling extremism at every level
Sir Trevor Pears CMG (Class of 1982) - Philanthropic foundation supporting social justice and other causes
Dan and Michael Smith (Class of 2009) - Supporting sight-impaired individuals to thrive at work

Alumni Reunions and Events

Welcoming Old Citizens back to school



An update from Kate Wallace, Alumni Engagement Manager, City of London School

We have been lucky enough to welcome hundreds of Old Citizens back to school this year for a variety of reunions, networking events and volunteering opportunities. It's been wonderful to see so many of you! We hope you have enjoyed staying connected with the School and the wider alumni community.

We kicked off the 2022/23 school year with a fascinating lecture delivered by Professor Sir David Klenerman (Class of 1978) on his co-discovery of next generation DNA sequencing that has revolutionised the sector. Attended by alumni, parents and pupils from CLS and our partner schools across London, guests were invited to network at a reception afterwards and catch up with old friends too.

In November, the Head and our Chair of Governors, Tim Levene (Class of 1991) headed to New York City to meet Old Citizens who live, study and work there. John Levene (Class of 1986)

generously hosted this inaugural US reunion at his home, and we were delighted to welcome over 30 alumni from the Class of 1967 to 2022. We look forward to visiting California next month for an alumni meet up hosted by Gary Patou (Class of 1976) at his home outside San Francisco.

AGM & Dinner 29 November 2023

Old Citizens are invited to register for this year's JCC AGM and Dinner at the School on Wednesday 29 November. The AGM takes place at 6pm, followed by a drinks reception at 7pm and dinner at 7.30pm (Dress: Lounge Suit). To register and buy a ticket, scan the barcode below or visit the CLS website/Old Citizens/Alumni Events. Any questions, please email Kate Wallace on kate.wallace@cityoflondon.school.org.uk.



Almost 200 Old Citizens, educated in the Old School building, filed into their former Great Hall for afternoon tea in November at what is now JP Morgan on Victoria Embankment. This event proved to be our largest reunion to date, and we were thrilled to be able to open those big doors again as if no time had passed at all. A special fuss was made of those Old Citizens who left us in 1952, 1962 and 1972 and who were celebrating their platinum, diamond, and golden milestone reunion years. Our next afternoon tea takes place back at the 'new school' on 23 November 2023.

December saw the very first of our termly round robin football tournaments for Old Citizens

on the top playground. We were thrilled to welcome players from 1994 through to 2022 and fun was had by all with only a couple of balls lost to the Blackfriars underpass. The winning

team was delighted to receive their sports commemoration coins kindly provided by the John Carpenter Club. (Basketball players were so jealous they asked for an event of their own: you can join in the fun via our events page using the QR code right).

A huge number of alumni ventured into town on a cold February night to see former English teacher Jonathan Keates chair a panel discussion between three Old Citizen writers on 'The Written Word'. Novelist Julian Barnes (Class of 1964), journalist Rafael Behr (Class of 1992) and screenwriter Mickey Down (Class of 2007) answered questions in a packed out Winterflood Theatre filled with pupils, alumni and parents. Similarly, guests were treated to a fascinating interview between CLS



half decades since they left CLS. The Classes of 2018, 2013, 2008, 2003, 1998, 1993, 1988 and 1983 enjoyed events on sunny

balconies overlooking the Thames, while the Class of 1973 was invited to a very special Golden Anniversary Reunion hosted by Koolesh Shah (Class of 1973). We were delighted to welcome back a number of former teachers to each reunion – always the stars of the evening.

Peppered between the reunions and lectures and receptions, we also welcomed alumni back to share their insights with pupils on subjects including the graduate employment market, making good university choices and even how to manage their money. Many thanks to the more than 100 Old Citizens who supported the School in this



community member Dame Sharon White, Chair of John Lewis Partnership and Sky News Political editor, Sam Coates in the Great Hall in April.

Our annual supporter reception each March is a wonderful occasion for the School to recognise, celebrate and thank members of the CLS community who support our Bursary Fund or who volunteer at the School to share their insights and experiences with current pupils. Attendees heard from Ryan, a Junior Sixth Form pupil, about the impact of his bursary and his plans for the future and we look forward to repeating this special event next year.

May and June were awash with milestone reunions for those celebrating decades and

way. It's so invaluable to our pupils.

As we finish celebrating one school year, we have already planned ahead to 2023/24, including a Law panel discussion and networking event, our annual afternoon tea in November, a meet up in the San Francisco Bay Area and milestone reunions for those who left us in a year ending 4 or 9! We hope there is something for everyone and that we see you soon. And let us know if you have an event idea – and we can see if we can make it happen!

Scan the QR code to see the full event calendar and book your places.



Alumni Reunions and Events



OCs celebrate 90th birthdays

At the Oslo Court Restaurant in London earlier this year, three Old Citizens celebrated their 90th birthdays together.

Testimony to the enduring friendships forged during their years at City of London School between 1946 and 1951, Michael Daniels, Maurice Gross and Martin Stanton (pictured here L-R) enjoyed a convivial get-together, reminiscing about their school days.



Autumn Term Dates for Your Diary

We are delighted to announce events for the Autumn Term. Subscribers to our termly e-news would have had an invitation in early July but do feel free to email the Alumni Engagement Manager at kate.wallace@cityoflondon.school.org.uk to find out more.

18 November 2023 - San Francisco Bay Area Meet -up

We are excited to let you know that our Head, Alan Bird will be heading to California for our very first alumni event on the West Coast. We are very grateful to Gary Patou (Class of 1976) for generously hosting this lunchtime event at his home in Los Altos Hills.

23 November 2023 - Old Citizens Afternoon Tea

Old Citizens are warmly invited to an afternoon tea in the Great Hall of the 'new' school on 23 November 2023 to reminisce with friends and former staff and hear from current pupils

29 November 2023 - JCC AGM & Dinner

The JCC's annual gathering.



Join us for afternoon tea!
23.11.23 @ 2.30pm
City of London School

Johan de Silva (Class of 2013), Director of Cricket, Highgate Cricket

City of London School Alumni Engagement Team's 'My CLS Six' is a collection of career journeys from Old Citizens answering six key questions. Here, they talk to Johan de Silva, Director of Cricket at Highgate Cricket Club, North London.

How did CLS get you ready for the world of work?

I started at CLS in 2006, leaving in 2013. CLS provided me with a unique schooling experience in the heart of London, which meant the transition to working life was an easy one to make. From the simple things like being around the City, knowing how to commute, CLS provided me with an excellent upbringing. That and of course the varied curriculum on offer at the school and its breadth of extra-curricular activities on offer, meaning I was able to demonstrate knowledge of all areas from model railways to cricket and opera singing!

What was your first job?

Following CLS, I read Human Sciences at UCL - as you can tell, I've always loved London! - and in my first year, I undertook some work experience with Barbican Insurance, a Lloyd's of London Syndicate. This opened my eyes to the insurance market (a sector that can sometimes be a hidden gem for some), and following this, I completed some more work experience at other companies and applied to the Graduate Development Programme at Marsh. You're never too far away from an Old Citizen, and as it happened, two others were at the same interview and we all got accepted onto the programme! I worked at Marsh for four years on insurance facilities and portfolios, before a career pivot to start running my own cricket coaching business!

Your biggest professional achievement?

I would say one of my biggest professional achievements is having the confidence and belief to switch career to do something that I love, which all happened during lockdown. It was a daunting prospect at first, but the skills I picked up



at school meant that I had the confidence to make the leap. I'm also really proud to have been recently voted onto the Middlesex CCC Board of Directors.

Your most challenging professional moment?

Probably my assessment day at Marsh - a daunting day with over 40 applicants competing for 17 places, where you were put on the spot in front of the whole room, including 30 assessors. I was pleased I'd done a fair bit of public speaking whilst at CLS as it certainly helped settle my nerves. I was thrilled to get a place on the Graduate Development Programme, and I suppose I was due a bit of luck given the assessment day was on my 21st birthday!

What inspires and motivates you at work?

With cricket, it is the feeling of being able to wake up each morning and work on something I truly love and that is my passion. I love to put events on and give opportunities to people, and help individuals become the best cricketers and people they can be. I'm motivated to make my cricket club and business as successful as possible.

One piece of advice for pupils and other Old Citizens about getting into your profession?

If you love a sport, look to see how you can give back to it from a young age. I embarked on a Level 2 Cricket Coaching course when I was 18, which has given me lots of opportunity to coach and develop in my spare time, so much so that I have decided to make cricket my career.

Follow your dream/passion - there is nothing better than being able to work doing something you love.

Peter Brice (Class of 2002), Head of Simulation Projects, McLaren Racing

Interview by the CLS Alumni Engagement Team.

How did CLS get you ready for the world of work?

The thing that sticks out for me about my education at CLS is that I was given the opportunity and confidence to stretch myself without it feeling like an overly pushy environment. Two contrasting examples of this were being able to do three maths A-levels (as well as Russian and Physics), which gave me a real head-start in my engineering degree and having the chance to produce and co-direct 'The Real Inspector Hound' in the school theatre, which was a great early experience of management and leadership.

What was your first job?

In my pre-university gap year, I did a year's placement in Arup's geotechnical engineering department. I spent most of the year working on desk studies of embankments and cuttings on the Metropolitan line, which involved site surveys, looking at old aerial photos and other research. The job was a great introduction to professional engineering and I would encourage anyone pursuing an engineering career to seek out similar placements. However, it probably ultimately helped to steer me away from civil engineering towards mechanical.

Your biggest professional achievement?

For the past few years I have been running a project to deliver a state-of-the-art new driving simulator for McLaren Racing. I was very proud when a patent for the simulator concept was published in my name. However, I am hoping that this achievement will soon be surpassed when we complete the first

successful running in the new simulator.

Your most challenging professional moment?

A few years ago, I had persuaded McLaren to spend a lot of money on research at a big facility in the US. I had written a detailed test programme but it became apparent early in the testing that despite its advertised specifications, the rig wouldn't be able to achieve what we were asking of it. I had to think quickly to come up with a revised test plan that respected the actual limits of the machine while still giving the answers we needed. In the end

we came away with really valuable results but there were some tense moments!

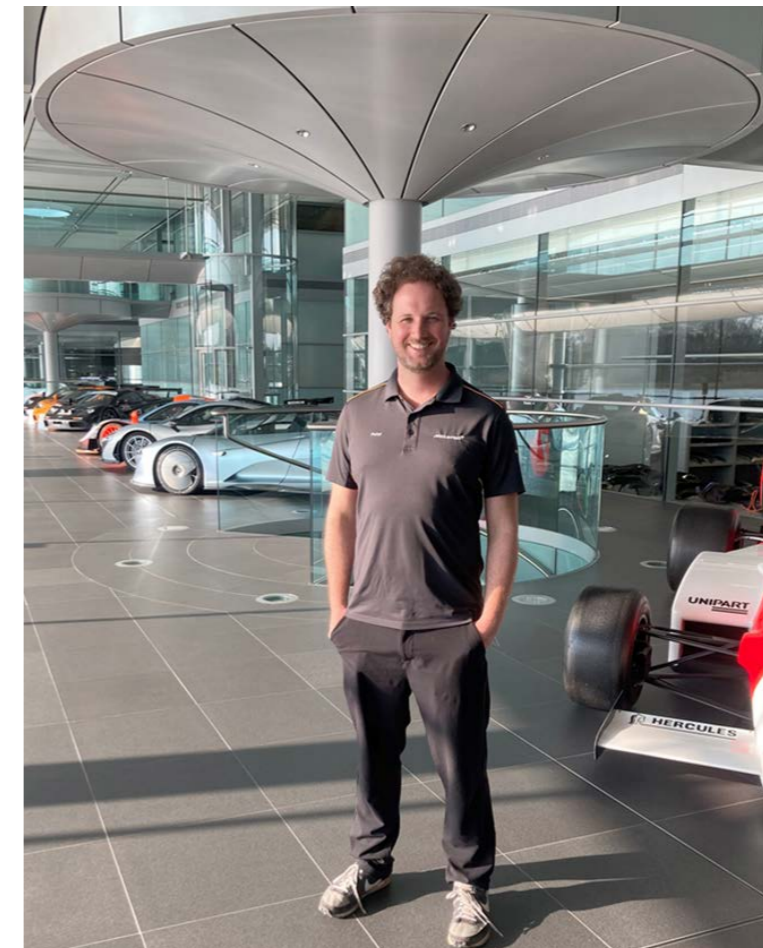
What inspires and motivates you at work?

The most motivating thing about working for McLaren Racing is the extraordinary team spirit that comes from everyone working towards a simple common goal. We are at the start of a new season and the whole company has been working hard in different ways to support the launch of the new cars and sharing the excitement and nerves at seeing how our performance will compare with our rivals. Our win in Monza last year - the first for nine years - was a great moment.

One piece of advice for pupils and other Old Citizens about

getting into your profession?

Engineering is a very broad profession and even in Formula 1, there is a huge diversity of technical jobs: compare the work of an aerodynamicist to that of a control specialist or race engineer. Before selecting a degree or specialism, it is a good idea to learn as much as you can about what different types of engineer actually do so you can make the right educational choices.



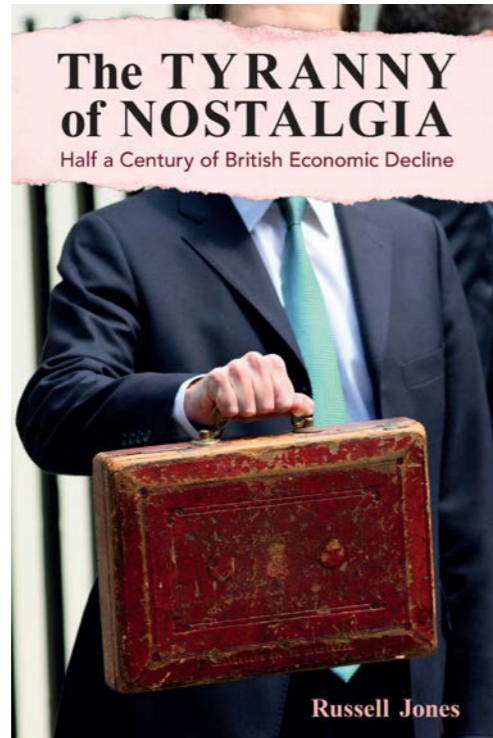
Russell Jones releases latest book

Former JCC President, Russell Jones (1972-77), has recently published his latest book, entitled 'The Tyranny of Nostalgia - Half a Century of British Economic Decline'. It has attracted a number of positive reviews, and was included in the Financial Times' list of the best books of the year so far.

The performance of the British economy over the past fifty-odd years does not make for comforting reading. Indeed, the story is a depressing catalogue of misapprehensions, missteps, wasted opportunities, crises and humiliations, with all-too-familiar problems arising time and again and yet never being satisfactorily addressed.

All nations and their economic policymakers are to a certain extent prisoners of their history, but this seems to apply more to the UK than to other countries. Nostalgia for the great days of the past has become tyrannical – and is in some sense embodied in the form of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's

famous 'budget box', made for William Gladstone



in the 1850s and only passed over to a museum in 2010. Nostalgia has led to wishful thinking, and this has been the underlying sentiment driving poorly thought through – sometimes even

panicky – initiatives that were blindly borrowed from elsewhere, that flew in the face of experience, or that were drawn from theoretical and political extremes.

The book describes and interprets the economic and political history of the past half a century, examining the challenges confronted by successive governments and their Chancellors, the policies employed for good or ill, and – running through it all – the desperate search for a panacea that could arrest the nation's relative decline and return the country to its supposed former glories.

'The Tyranny of Nostalgia: Half a Century of British Economic Decline' is available on Amazon, or can be ordered directly from publishers, The London Publishing Partnership.

Mike Brearley publishes his memoir

Old Citizen Mike Brearley (Class of 1960) has published his memoir, 'Turning Over the Pebbles: A Life in Cricket and in the Mind'. Described as a 'masterclass from England's smartest Test cricket captain' by one broadsheet newspaper, it includes wide-ranging meditations on sport, philosophy, literature, religion, leadership, psychoanalysis, music and more, as well as delving into Mike Brearley's private passions, candidly examining the various shifts, conflicts and triumphs of his extraordinary life and career, both on and off the field.

In his memoir's opening pages, Mike Brearley recalls a moment at City of London School when, in the mid-1950s, aged thirteen or fourteen, he had a sudden epiphany:

'I'm walking along a corridor in the semi-basement of the City of London School that led to Room 20. Through the high window, I see the corner of the building that lies on the other side of John Carpenter Street just before it meets the Embankment, and the bright sky above and across the River Thames...

'More than sixty-five years on, I remember this moment, and my precise location and view, for its sudden epiphany - for the thought: I am me. I am for the first time aware of my identity as a separate

self, capable of putting words... to this experience.... I feel a conviction of myself as a centre of experience and a source of thought and action. I am me. I am unique and self-aware; not part of a collective. The remarkable fact is, I exist. In the stillness, there is a self for me to listen to, and to do the listening.

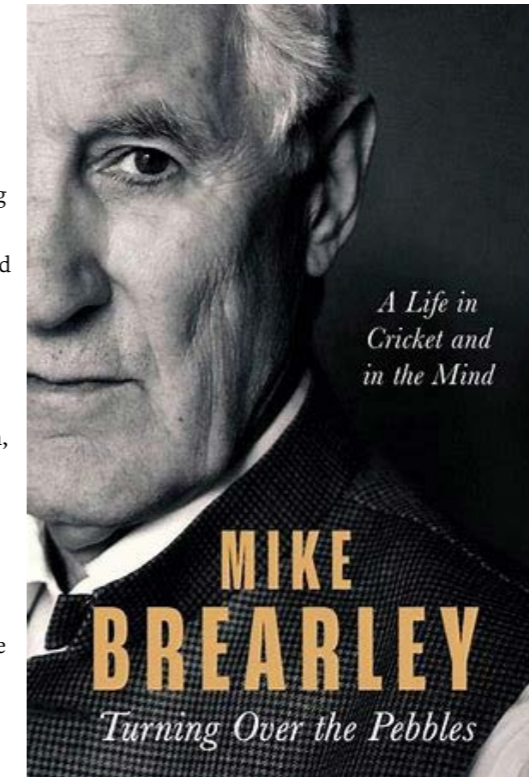
'And for the last forty years I have worked in my semi-basement consulting room in our house in London, with patients in psychoanalysis with this same concept in the back (and occasionally the front) of my mind, an often obscure or unstated aim for me and them.'

Mike Brearley writes fondly of his days at City of London School, where he played for the rugby First XV and was in the first pair at Eton Fives.

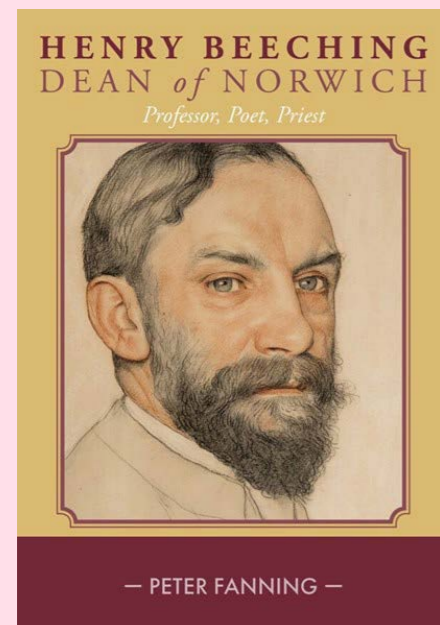
In the classroom, he writes: 'Many teachers did their best to make use of their passions, humour and love of their fields. For example, Revd C.J. Ellingham, our 5A Class Teacher, used one of the four or five Greek lessons each week for what he called 'Boneheads' versus 'Numskulls'; he would provide cyclostyled scenes he had written in a mix of pigeon Greek and

real Greek, which appealed to our teenage sense of humour.'

'Turning the Pebbles' can be purchased at most good bookshops and online.



Biography published of Old Citizen Henry Beeching, Dean of Norwich



A biography of City of London School Old Citizen, Henry Beeching (1859-1919), has been published by Sacristy Press.

This first, full-length biography covers Beeching's character and his many interest and achievements, from the satirical and scaldous 'Balliol epigrams' to sermons during the First World War and the creation of the memorial chapel at Norwich Cathedral.

A contemporary and friend of Sir Sidney Lee, editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, Henry Beeching served under City of London School Headmaster and theologian Dr Edwin Abbott, with whom he remained close friends.

Peter Fanning, author of the

biography and great grandson of Beeching, said: "He won several prizes at school and was a leading light of the debating society. In 1929, a prize for 'proficiency in a literary subject' was set up, known as The Beeching Memorial Prize.

"Beeching was a prolific man of letters, whose poems, sermons, lectures and editions of other writers fill up six full pages in the Norwich Library publication lists of 1919, the year of his death.

"Besides his life as a leading thinker and Churchman, both at Westminster and Norwich, Beeching was an advocate for reform of the Prayerbook and Revision of the Bible.

"But the breadth of his interests was very much wider, with countless editions of Milton, Herbert, Vaughan and many other poets – but especially of Shakespeare. As a witty and accomplished journalist, he had written regularly for the Cornhill Magazine the anonymous Pages from a Private Diary, pages which reveal an entirely different and worldly personality."

A copy of 'Henry Beeching, Dean of Norwich. Professor, Poet, Priest' can be purchased from most bookshops.



Old Citizen Fausto Prieto (1991 leaver) is participating in the 2023 Clipper around the world yacht race as part of Team UNICEF. The race started on 3rd September in Portsmouth with the first leg to Punta del Este in Uruguay.

If you would like to support Fausto by donating to UNICEF UK, please use his JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/UNICEF-faustoRTW>. JustGiving sends donations straight to UNICEF UK and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if the donor is a UK taxpayer

Information about the race can be found at <https://www.clipperroundtheworld.com/>

Gary Patou (Class of 1976)



Gary Patou (Class of 1976) worked as a hospital doctor in London for nine years before moving into drug research, which has become his life's work. Based in the US for over 20 years, Gary has worked as Chief Medical Officer for many biotech companies, managing the development of new treatments from lab research to patient care. Since 2000, he has overseen research and development that has led to the approval of five new drug applications.

If I met you at a wedding, how would you describe your career?

I am a doctor who does drug research. I develop new medicines for patients. So, a research physician more than a clinical doctor, to be precise. Can I just add, though - what a fantastic career this is! I've developed an array of drugs which have made tremendous contributions to medicine and on a much greater scale than anything I could have done had I stayed in clinical practice.

Pharmaceuticals and biotech are sometimes seen almost as dirty words because of high drug prices and so on. There are relentless press articles about how bad the industry is. The industry is often viewed in the same light as the tobacco or oil industry! People often joke with me at dinner parties: 'You're not a real doctor' and so on..

Anyone at school considering a career in drug development should consider the impact one can make in advancing modern medicine. All the advances in cancer treatment leading to cancer death rates declining and our being able to even cure cancers and provide a range of treatments for so many other diseases come from our industry. Even when the original idea comes from a university, there are very few examples of drugs that tumbled

onto the market without a lot of development work undertaken by biotech and pharmaceutical companies.

At what stage did you decide to specialise in research?

I was interested in medicine and medical research from the age of nine when my primary school teacher was talking about lung cancer and describing what a devastating disease it was. At the time, my father was a smoker and I thought, "Boy I've got to make sure he doesn't get lung cancer. I should be a doctor and find a cure for this disease." I wanted to be a doctor from that time on. I never thought about anything else.

So, I qualified as a doctor. I then spent nine years in hospital practice as a clinical microbiologist and infectious disease physician. I also did laboratory research to obtain a Doctor of Medicine degree. It was in the era of AIDS and I was approached to head up a vaccine effort for an AIDS vaccine at a biotech company. I joined the biotech industry with a very clear idea that I would lead this vaccine programme and then come back to my hospital practice in London.

I thought it would just be a couple of years. Fast forwarding

to the outcome, the vaccine we developed didn't work. We tried everything we could. But from day one at the biotech company I enjoyed the whole drug research process tremendously. That was 1991 and I've been doing drug research ever since. I never looked back and never went back to hospital practice.

What does that involve day to day for you? You're not in the laboratory with test tubes yourself, are you?

I did my lab stint when I was at University College, London and I haven't done that since. But that experience helps me understand what is involved in discovering drugs in the laboratory.

In industry my role is: when the lab scientists come up with a drug candidate - something that has a potential use with patients - they come to me and ask me what disease we could use it for and how we could develop it. I assess the results of all the various pre-clinical tests we need to do to make sure the drug is safe to go into people. I also assess whether the levels of the drug achievable in the blood of patients are going to be high enough for it to work. There is a whole gamut of data points that need to be assessed before the decision is made to progress the drug development process.

Then I shepherd the drug through the three phases of clinical development. We have phases 1, 2, and 3 which test the drug in increasing numbers of patients. We start off in phase 1 with healthy volunteers and once we establish that the drug is safe for them, we invite patient groups into the phase 2 trials. All along the way I am talking to the government's drug regulators, the Food and Drug Administration in the US and the MHRA in the UK, making sure they are in agreement with our plans.

Later, as we get closer to getting approval for the drug, I start working with the company's sales and marketing teams. At the end of the day, drugs are commercial products and we need to make sure we are providing the right information from the trials that the teams think will be important for widespread adoption of the drug and its ultimate success.

The process sounds relatively straightforward, but drugs always throw up surprises. That is why it is necessary to test them in large numbers of people, before a drug is approved by the regulatory authorities, to ensure that safety and efficacy have been robustly demonstrated.

Could you tell us about a particular success where you have moved a drug through those phases and brought it to market?

I have a couple that are worth mentioning.

One drug is an antibiotic called Factive which combats multi-drug-resistant bacteria. This is an emerging problem from decades of inappropriate use of antibiotics: bacteria that are resistant to almost all antibiotics. At SmithKline Beecham, now GSK, we developed this drug. But unbeknown to us, it had a side effect for particular individuals after longer durations of therapy. We had studied Factive in 14,000 patients in clinical trials. At this point, I had left GSK and my team took the drug to the FDA. They refused to approve it because of the side effect and because they

perceived there were lots of other treatment options for patients.

The company was going to bin Factive. But I in-licensed it to my next company. I was confident that I could justify its use to the FDA, why it was important to approve it and how we would manage the risk. In the end the FDA referred Factive to what is called an FDA advisory committee. This is a committee of experts who spent a whole day reviewing the drug, acting like a jury being presented evidence by both the FDA and my colleagues and I. In the end they gave a unanimous vote for its approval. This ended up as a front page article in the Wall Street Journal, with a cartoon of me taking this product across the finish line!

So that's an extreme example - it's not straightforward, it's about risk-benefit, unmet need and safety, and judgement.

The one I am most proud of is a drug called EXPAREL. This is a painkiller given to patients at the end of surgery to provide post surgery analgesia. The cool thing about it is that it's a non-opioid - so it's not addictive unlike many of the drugs that are usually given after surgery. One injection will give pain relief for three days. This drug is approved and has been in millions of patients in the United States and is also now approved in the UK. The history here is that the drug had been through extensive phase 3 clinical trials, before I joined the company, and all the trials failed. The company was close to bankruptcy. I observed there was a design flaw in the way the trials were set up and would account for the trial failures. I reran the trials with a modified design and we were successful, the trials were now positive. The approval of this drug will hopefully lead the way to a decline in the use of opioids and reduce drug addiction -- so I am particularly proud of this one.

There seems to be an infinite number of things you could be researching, so what makes you decide to pursue a particular project?

Only 20 per cent of drugs that get to being trialled on humans make it to the finish line. The aggregate cost of developing a drug is about £1.5 billion. That includes all the cost of the 80 per cent of failed drugs plus all the ones that don't even make it into human trials. If you just take the costs specifically of a drug that succeeds, that would still be £150-200m. Either way it's a lot of money.

So, you can only develop drugs where there is going to be a return on that investment. There needs to be a commercial opportunity, and there needs to be an unmet medical need. The starting point may come from within the company or from a university that has published research. Everything we do at my current company is homegrown - we use our own in-house research from the start. But at other companies we have paid to bring in research programs from academia.

What would make the process simpler? More detailed knowledge of the health of the population as a whole?

The challenges we face are not in the selection of the targets to work towards or the basics of science. The challenge is in the time and cost of the clinical trials. There is an international

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cont. from page 15...



Gary Patou, back row, third from right at CLS 1976

rule that if you are looking at a drug for chronic use, you need to have trialled it in a minimum of 1500 patients. This costs between £150-200m. And the question might be: can you identify predictive markers that, in a trial of a much smaller number of patients, will give confidence that the drug is safe and efficacious, before committing to a full 1500 patients? Alternatively, can the drug be developed for a rare and devastating disease for which the drug regulators would be willing to suspend that rule because currently there's nothing to treat those patients? Like Motor Neurone Disease: is there a case for doing a smaller study to try and help those people more quickly?

Another issue is there's a lot of discussion about the duration of patent life. There have been moves to shorten patent terms and allow drugs to become generic (i.e. to be manufactured by companies other than the original developer). That would be the death knell for the biotech and pharmaceutical industries. We rely on the ability to sell our drugs for a reasonable period of time to recoup our R & D costs and provide a return to our investors.

Are you working in America because it's the centre of the industry – or do you just enjoy living in America?

I never planned to move to the USA. But it is the epicentre of biotech and most of the research is there now. The UK does great research but on a much smaller scale. The US is really the place to be for biotech.

What makes it so expensive? Is it the sheer scale?

If you're an investor – and anyone with a pension fund for example is likely to be invested in this sector – you need to have

a reasonable return on your investment that justify the risks in the industry. It typically takes 7-12 years to take a drug through development and to approval, with a lot of investment in the process and likely many failures along the way. Therefore, over time, the drugs need to be sold for relatively high prices in order to get back the costs of development and then pay the investors who have funded it. Investors could put their money in Apple or Google and get a great return. So, to be competitive, drugs have to be sold at high prices to compete with the investment returns offered by other industries, especially with the heightened risk that at drug will fail.

Investment returns drive drug development. For example, nobody in biotech is developing antibiotics at the moment. Historically, antibiotics were sold at low prices and it's hard to break out of that mould once the precedent price has been established. So the returns for investors don't work – and now nobody is developing antibiotics. Thus there are no new antibiotics, despite the unmet need.

The great scientists of the past, like Alexander Fleming for example, are well known, but this work is now carried out as an industry. Do you see yourself in that tradition of innovators, though?

Well, Fleming never developed penicillin, he only discovered it. It was moved forward by Ernst Chain, whose name you may not know – so the drug developer was not so well known as the drug discoverer. But I do see people like Fleming as my heroes. I don't claim to be at anything like that level of sophistication and I am not researching in the lab like he was – but there have been occasions where ideas have come to me and I have suggested whole new areas where a drug could be utilised successfully.

There is a lot of opportunity to think creatively in drug development. I also describe it as a team sport. Beware of anyone who takes too much individual credit. It's always a team activity with a lot of people involved.

How did you come to be a pupil at CLS?

I started off at my local Comprehensive – my parents were very committed to egalitarian education. But the school had only recently changed from being a Grammar School. The Grammar School teachers were ill equipped to deal with the diversity of pupils in a Comprehensive environment. Among the pupils there was a huge range in the level of interest in studying and much disruptive unruly behaviour. Many were from very troubled backgrounds. Maintaining discipline was a problem for the teachers.

It was impossible to study in this environment and I was keen to study. I ended up being threatened with a knife on a bus by another boy from the school. The headmaster indicated there was nothing he could do to change the dynamics at the school and suggested my parents consider a public school as an alternative. My father visited several public schools, basically begging them to offer me a place in the middle of the school term.

It was only at City of London that the headmaster offered to set up a one-off entrance exam just for me and then offer me a place if the scores worked. The headmaster James Boyes was the most wonderful man to give me that opportunity. I joined the school in the spring term, aged 11 going on 12. It was a remarkable thing the school did for me and made a huge difference in my life. I credit CLS with changing the trajectory of my life and future career.

Which other teachers inspired you?

The school has always had the most wonderful teachers. Aiden Tolhurst was a new biology teacher when I joined the school. Many years later he became Second Master. He was enormous fun and made science so interesting. I was fortunate that I ended up having him for four years as my biology teacher.

Peter Coulson, who sadly died last summer, was head of English. He was a really inspirational teacher. His methods were quite revolutionary. We didn't have desks in the class; we would sit round in a circle discussing poetry, literature and plays. I always tell my children it was like the film *Dead Poets Society* with Robin Williams – in terms of stretching the kids and doing unusual things. He was in that mould. An amazing English teacher.

I loved biology and chemistry. But I was also very interested in politics and current affairs. And I was (and still am) a history buff... so I will also single out Lionel Knight, a history teacher who was an old boy himself. He was always wanting us to think about things in different ways. We talked a lot about Marxism, what-if scenarios in history and so on. I really enjoyed history and he was a great teacher.

Which extra-curricular activities did you enjoy?

I loved debating. I ended up as president of the debating society.

Myself and my partner won the debate competition two years in a row.

Did you defend the indefensible?

I did! At the time defending the indefensible was part of the exercise. To put yourself in the shoes of the other person. We did that all the time. There were lots of debates about staying in the European Union, even in the 1970s. We had to have the ability to argue both sides. You take whatever side, on a coin flip. That's a fantastic way to learning that there are two sides to every argument and allows one to understand the other person's point of view. A great life skill.

I think City had – has – a wonderful culture. It wasn't about where you came from or your background. It was about you as an individual and how you interacted with the other pupils and with the teachers. There were pupils from all walks of life and a tremendous diversity of opinion of politics and religion. It was a melting pot of different ideas and we were challenged intellectually. It was wonderful - that open-mindedness to ideas and giving kids the broadest educational experience feasible.

What are some personal qualities that a teenager might need to follow in your footsteps?

Perseverance, optimism, teamship and, one of the things that City helped develop for me - thanks to the educational breadth - is learning how to think out of the box.

When you have a big team of people you do end up with a bit of group-think which may not always lead to the best decision in the end. It is vital to be able to think about things differently, broadly, without assuming norms, how you can do something in a different way. In drug development, it's all about problem solving and working out how to get to the finish line and have the best outcome for the drug and the patient. Out of the box thinking has really helped me in my career. I often credit CLS with nurturing in me that way of thinking.

What do you enjoy about living and working in America?

I've lived here since 1998. I love the open-mindedness to ideas in science and in business. In the US, no-one cares about your background. If you have a good idea it'll be backed and if it's a bad idea, it won't be. It's all a meritocracy. It's not about your history. It's incredibly refreshing. Even after 25 years, I am in awe of that culture.

Is Britain still held back by not having that culture?

It's gotten better. And that march towards a merit-based culture is really important. I come at this as a quasi-American – I do think those things have held back the UK. All the attention to your past and your accent have held the country back.

Gary is hosting the meet up for Old Citizens at his home outside San Francisco in November 2023. To book your place please visit the CLS alumni events calendar.

Chapel Royal choristers sing at the coronation of King Charles III



Choristers relaxing after the Coronation

City of London School was incredibly proud to see the Chapel Royal choristers play a part in the Coronation of King Charles III, performing in the choir as part of the day's proceedings.

The CLS pupils undertook their responsibilities at the first coronation this country, and indeed the world, has seen in 70 years. They performed with total professionalism, pride and purpose, and everyone at CLS was pleased to see them complete their duties with the utmost poise and grace.

CLS Head, Alan Bird, took a moment to congratulate the Choristers: "A tremendous well done to all involved, and to Sam who delivered his spoken contribution at the start of the service with a remarkable degree of calm and professionalism. We are very proud of you all."

A fond farewell to CLS teachers

City of London School was sad to say goodbye to the following teachers this July.

Over the last six years, **Joe McHardy** has done brilliant work as Director of Music for the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, most obviously in this last year leading them through two occasions of international significance. He was also the School's inaugural Co-ordinator for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, a critical role that he undertook with characteristic calm, thought and integrity. We wish him well for his new post as Director of Music at St Paul's Girls' School.

Hermione Stanley has been a stalwart of the Physics Department over the last seven years, teaching her classes with an energy and enthusiasm that is infectious. She has also done far more than her fair share outside the classroom: she will leave big shoes to fill in our co-curriculum. She is leaving to move closer to her family in Oxford, and we wish her well for her new role at St Edward's.

Jeff Easingwood retired from teaching several years ago, but has remained with us to oversee the work of the Model Railway Club. He has led a small band of pupils, providing them with an outlet for something about which they are truly passionate. And he has done it with such commitment and care. We wish him a happy retirement.

Similar wishes are shared with **George Hayburn**: he retires after 48 years as one of our Visiting Music Teachers. And no, that is not a typo. He began his service to CLS in 1975. What a remarkable commitment to so many generations of pupils



Impressive set of 'A' Level results

City of London School 2023 leavers this August collected a highly impressive set of A-level results, with almost 95% of grades at A*, A and B. These results saw the overwhelming majority of leavers securing their place at their first-choice university destination, with pupils now progressing to leading universities in the UK and around the world.

Head, Alan Bird, commented: "For a cohort who have endured such disruption to their education, without the opportunity to sit GCSE exams two years ago and with the tightening of grade boundaries this year, I am proud to see them achieving such impressive results.

"Of course, these academic outcomes sit alongside everything else that this

fantastic year group achieved in their time at CLS. They leave us with strong values and a wonderful set of skills and qualifications. We wish them the very best for all that they go on to do in the future, whilst welcoming them most warmly into our alumni community."

Raphael wins Royal Geographical Society Award

Raphael Leon (Class of 2022) has been awarded a prestigious Excellence Award from the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) for achieving the highest marks nationally in the 2022 geography Pre-U Diploma examination for Cambridge International.

Raphi said: "I feel honoured and delighted to receive this award. Receiving it has made me reflect on how grateful I am to have learnt from teachers with an infectious passion for geography and a commitment to supporting their students.

"I am currently living in Jerusalem as part of my gap year, interning at a renewable energy company. The company develops projects in sub-Saharan African countries to support their development in a sustainable way. It's fantastic to be able to put into action the geographical concepts I learnt at CLS; a lot of my work feels a bit like an extension of my geography studies, which is probably why I enjoy it so much!"

Professor Joe Smith, Director of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), said: "Today's young people have a keen interest in many key geographical issues, including climate change, and studying geography helps them to better understand the world's people, places and environments, and how they are

changing.

"The Society is delighted to recognise the outstanding success of these dedicated students. Our Excellence Awards reflect their hard work, the support of their geography teachers and parents, and the students' curiosity about their world, which we hope they will carry with them into the future."



JCC and CLS working together to galvanise sports clubs

We have been proactive as a Sports Organisation working with the School Alumni team to rebuild the football, to initiate a 'player drive' for the cricket and to establish a new basketball section to prove that 'Old Citizens can jump!'

However, cricket has been a struggle and we are still desperately short of young cricketers. We need all readers, who were former cricketers at school, to consider if they will play a couple of games a season. Please contact Michael Shannon or Richard Hillman (contact details on the JCC website) - it will be fun.

We have set up a WhatsApp group for the new basketball section and numbers are growing for a round robin

event at School on 30 November.

The big success to date has been the football section reforming since we unfortunately dropped out of the Arthurian League in 2019.

A strong Whats App group run

"we have initiated a player drive for the cricket... and established a new Old Citizens basketball section. The big success to date has been the football section reforming... with a healthy number signing up for our WhatsApp groups"

successfully by Kate Wallace, the School's Alumni Engagement Manager, has had a healthy number sign up and we have had two football nights on the Astroturf at School this year so far, with new kit and refreshments at a local hostelry near School for those

wishing to meet fellow Old Citizens or to argue the result afterwards!

We are planning another football evening in tandem with the basketball soon so please sign up to the Groups (for details get in touch with Kate at School). If any Old Citizens would consider joining me and Mr Santry in galvanising the football section to re-enter the Arthurian League, even if it is to only enter the Cup competition next season, it would be a

real help to us so, please reach out to me.

Thank you for your support.

Neil Edwards (1982)
Chair, Old Citizens Sports

OC Football Club back on track

OC Sports Committee Chairman, Neil Edwards, is making good progress in resurrecting the Club's football activities and events have been taking place at the School with the support of Kate Wallace, CLS Alumni Engagement Manager.

It is possible, but not certain at the time of writing, that Neil will try to get us back in the Arthurian League, perhaps initially by seeing if we can enter the Arthur Dunn Cup knockout competition.

If so, the Old Cits can claim a good past history in the Dunn. We first entered in the 1904/05 season and continued every season

until the Second World War. In that time we did well reaching the cup final twice, in 1912/13 and again in 1930/31, and getting to the semi-final once in the years between. We won 26 cup matches. The School changed to playing rugby in 1929 so we were unable to continue football when the war finished.

Of course, CLS returned to the round ball in later years,

inspiring reforming our club in the early 1970s and we managed to rejoin the Arthurian League in the 1974/75 season, the era of DC & AC Harper, T North, and Alan W Culverhouse who later joined the league's committee. In this period we decided not to enter the Dunn Cup until the 1984/85 season, but then played to the 1989/90 year when the club disbanded three years after losing

our home ground at 35 Marvels Lane, Grove Park.

Old Citizens Football returned to the field in 2009/10 and we were allowed back in the Arthurian League the following year in the Tim Levene/Greg Norman era. We did not compete in the Dunn competition at this time, but subsequently did

play a couple of times and included a win at Wellingburians and losing to the Etonians at home. We did generally progress up through the league divisions as well. Throughout the period, with the help of the School, we were able to use the School's playing fields nearby, also in Marvels Lane.



Successful season for OC Water Polo Club

After a couple of years of disruption the Old Citizen's water polo club has come back to life with a vengeance. With some players newly returned to London from university and many of the club stalwarts continuing to appear, the season looked promising.

The first game of the season, away at perennial rivals Croydon, was not the best start: a combination of player unavailability and injury in game caused a much weakened team to come away with a (quite literally) painful loss. From there it could only get better and the team went on an unbeaten run conquering Otter (home and away), Old Whitgiftians (home and away), and drawing with Croydon in the return fixture at fortress CLS. The result was that Old Citizens finished joint top of the table, sharing the trophy this year.

In the cup competition, the team went on a run, overturning a 14-0 handicap against Blue Marlins and a 12-0 handicap against Easter Otter, winning both comfortably. In the cup final the team came up against Croydon in the neutral venue of their home pool.

For once on the end of a favourable handicap the team maintained and (even) increased their lead for much of the match. During a challenging fourth quarter and despite the best efforts of the referees and the opposition the team held on for a thoroughly well-deserved victory, completing the league and cup double.

All in all, a successful season for the OC Water Polo team that does the least training. Any Old Citizen who has played before and fancies keeping their hand in with a few casual games, get in touch with Patrick Bennett (p_b_1@hotmail.co.uk)



Younger golfers to take OCGS forward



John Gee-Grant wins the Stanley Bell trophy at the Hadley Wood Spring meeting

Halford Hewitt Cup

The team of ten players and myself as non-playing Captain gathered on the East Kent coast in late March for our annual tilt at the Halford Hewitt competition. This year we were drawn against Berkhamsted School at Royal St. Georges. The draw meant that our first-round match was to be played on day two of the Tournament so we took advantage of the free day for additional practice and entered a number of pairs into the Peter Kenyon Bowl competition at Princes Golf Club.

As one of our regular venues, 'The Kings Arms in Sandwich', had been closed for refurbishment, we looked around for an alternative when our Secretary Mark Stockton rang Royal St. Georges and discovered that Eton had failed to confirm their booking so we stepped in! The Team enjoyed the black-tie dinner at Royal St. Georges on Thursday evening (see picture opposite page) and were ready for our early morning encounter with Berkhamsted. At this stage we were still one player short of a full team and my reserve was suffering from the golfer's equivalent of tennis elbow and a broken

finger! HH regular Paul Marsh had to delay his arrival in Kent to support his poorly wife.

On Friday morning I submitted the team order and pairings to the Tournament office. The first pairing of Alex Tapp and Mark Stockton set off followed by Alex Bennett and Alex Barnham. Louis Taylor and veteran Terry Bridle were out third then Adam Jones and Tom Ross fourth. The last pair was Paul Stockton and Paul Marsh.

Louis and Terry won their match on the 15th but the other pairings struggled against a stronger side. Paul Marsh's wife had taken a turn for the worse so he had to leave straightaway. The rest of us drove to Princes Golf Club for our Plate match for which I only needed six players. Our opponents were Bishops Stortford, whom we played last year in the same event.

As the first pair arrived to tee off the rain started. The tee off time was around 3:35pm so it was likely the matches would conclude close to dusk. Although we had beaten Bishops Stortford in the Cyril Gray tournament last June, we struggled against them this year and lost 2 matches

to 1 so Bishops Stortford went through. I must make a special mention about Terry Bridle who with his partner Louis Taylor won both their matches on the day.

So, another year has passed but the team are getting stronger; we now have four young golfers who are gaining experience but we do need to find more youngsters to take us forward and step in for the older generation. Loretto School (Golf College) won the overall event for the third year in succession.

John Featherstone
OCGS Captain

Autumn 2022 meet at Royal Cinque Ports Deal GC

It is always a pleasure to play this magnificent course and a different experience to play one's own ball off handicap instead of our annual Halford Hewitt scratch foursomes. This time we were blessed with fabulous warm weather, bright sunshine and virtually no wind.

We met up at noon for a light lunch and refreshments and then teed off from 1pm. In the end there were only seven of us and we played a 4-ball followed by a 3-ball. Given the benign conditions we

were expecting to witness some good scores and we were not disappointed. After a titanic struggle in the first 4-ball, honours were even with 36 points each between John Gee-Grant, a man in good form and Alex Bennett, who scored a superb gross 77. The final group enjoyed both the company and golf and Mark Stockton just managed to emerge the victor after scoring 37 points, in the tightest of finishes. He claimed the Centurion Trophy, first donated in our centenary year 2009. We enjoyed some relaxed drinks on the balcony as tales were told of the highs and lows plus good and bad luck experienced on this very special links course.

Spring meet at Hadley Wood GC

On a rather breezy and initially overcast day, eight Old Citizens gathered at Hadley Wood Golf Club, a wonderful Alistair Mackenzie course (he of Augusta, Georgia & The Masters fame) for our Spring Meeting. A course noted for its fast, undulating greens, it was to prove a tough test for us all.

After a pleasant light lunch, we played an 18 holes stableford competition for the Stanley Bell trophy which dates from 1938. The course playing condition was excellent but was tough on holes into the wind and we thought that this was likely to play into the hands of the bigger hitters on downwind holes. Amongst these was Tom Ross, the defending champion who turned the 1st and 8th holes, both par 5s into birdie holes hitting both greens in 2 shots. Whilst this power game had its advantages and resulted in a top class gross 3-over par at the turn and 19 stableford points, John Gee-Grant was meanwhile playing a very consistent and accurate

straight-hitting game allied to excellent putting. This reaped its rewards with a superb 21 points after 9 holes. No one else started as impressively as these two although Johan de Silva, a contemporary of Tom Ross and playing in his first OCGS meeting, scored 5 points on the 6th hole after a gross birdie 3.

There were better performances as

handicap of 18. His playing partner Mark Stockton achieved 33 points whilst never threatening the winner and Tom Ross was a very close third with 32 points after a good gross 83 and a valiant attempt to retain his trophy. After our disdainful comments last year concerning the tarnished trophy, it was returned by Tom in shining splendour and duly presented

to John Gee-Grant as we sipped well-earned drinks sitting outside on a lovely sunny terrace with a fine view of London's taller buildings in the background.

What a great day it was, full of fun and the enjoyment of fellow OC company.

Mark Stockton
Hon Secretary
OCGS



Practicing for the Halford Hewitt tournament at the Princes Golf Club

Summer meet at Woking GC

This is a great golf course, currently

ranked 18th in the England Top 100 and the first established, in 1893, of the three 'Ws' with Wentworth and Worplesdon. It has been described as a jewel and is the oldest of the Surrey heathland golf courses. We planned teeing off playing 2-balls from 9.28am so an early arrival no later than 8.45am for coffee and bacon rolls was recommended. We played for the Spice Bowl (Scratch, previous cup holder Louis Taylor) and the John

Carpenter Challenge Cup (Handicap, last held by Giles Stockton), both fine old trophies, in the morning followed by a two-course carvery lunch. After lunch, an additional 18 holes of foursomes were arranged for those of youthful stamina with tee times from 2.32pm.

Mark Stockton
Hon Secretary OCGS



OCGS team enjoying a black tie dinner at Royal Saint George's

OC Cricket Club fixture list pruned due to player numbers shortage



Old Citizens cricket club batsmen facing the City of London school bowling attack

The OC Cricket Club has been short of numbers in recent years and has found it very difficult to sign up regular new players. Our fixture list has had to be pruned somewhat, and we are trying hard to improve the situation. Additionally we have been hit by injuries to key people which has not helped.

The Cricketer Trophy Old Citizens v. Old Wellingburians 18th May 2023

For the first time in over twenty years the Old Citizens, as old boys of the City of London School, entered one of the national schools knock-out cups. It was a tough draw, with the Wellingburians of Wellingborough School a really strong alumni side, who regularly make the latter stages of the tournament. With Grove Park unavailable we hosted on the Metropolitan (ex-Police) ground at Aldenham Road, Bushey.

Captain Sam Packer (2012 leaver) won the toss and opted to bat first on what turned out to be a slow track. The standard of this competition was immediately made clear as quality new ball bowling left the Old Cits reeling at 13 for 3. A run out for Gokulan Ramikulan (2011) was followed by young Gabriel Basden (2022) getting a horror pee-roller after whacking two sixes in the first two overs, before Ash Dhabi got a beauty.

Packer and Old Cits debutant George Croton (2017) slowly rebuilt and despite them being one short, the opposition fielded superbly. Sadly Croton picked out deep mid wicket on the short boundary for 17. The lower order and Packer managed to take the score up to 145, with Mike Knight (1986) playing a nice cameo for 25. Packer was the penultimate man out for 62.

The quality of the top order batsmen, all of whom were premier league players, was evident from ball one as the opener hammered Packer for a crisp on-drive on a pitch that the Old Cits had previously agreed was 'undriveable' during the tea break. However, Dan Burton (2002) bowled a great spell and cleaned up one of the openers with a beauty. At the other end Gabriel Basten was brought on early and bowled two jaffas to remove two gun players, one bowled and one caught behind by Richard Hillman respectively. When Dr Debayan Dasgupta (2011) clean bowled the number five, we had Wellingburians 70-5 and an upset was on the cards. Unfortunately, the skipper at number six had other ideas. He proceeded to plunder 49 off 30 balls and by the time Basden returned to bowl him, the scores were level.

In the end it was a 4 wicket loss, but given the Wellingburians made last year's semi finals and the quality of their batting, it was a really good effort by the

Old Citizens squad. We can definitely build on it in future years.

We are of course keen to get as many Old Citizens as possible involved so we can pick from the biggest pool we can! If you want to be considered for future Cricketer Trophy selection please get in touch with Sam Packer on samuelpacker@gmail.com.

Sam Packer

Old Citizens v. City of London School 22nd June 2023

We played a thirty overs match against the School at a warm and familiar Grove Park. Owing to a misunderstanding we only had nine players but Neil Cornwell agreed to lend us fielders when required. It was agreed we would bat first and Ghoku Ravikulan and Sam Packer opened the batting. Unfortunately Ghoku got a good ball early on which he edged to the keeper. Music teacher Matt McDonough joined Sam but was caught and bowled in the second over to leave us teetering on 5 for 2. Kirtiman Singh scored our first boundary off the bat thanks to a lovely cover drive but disaster then struck when he and Sam ended up at the same end and Sam was run out for 3. Steve Ringer came in and hit the first ball for four, but when he was bowled for 5 we were 27-4 in the sixth over.

Richard Hillman then came to the crease, and also hit the first delivery for

four before switching into Dom Sibley/Chris Tavare mode. Meanwhile Kirtiman hit a couple more boundaries including a straight drive past the bowler but was then bowled off his pads for 16. Asif Lakho came in at seven and was not going to die wondering. He has a simple technique which is to clear his front leg and try to hit the ball a very long way.

The Grove Park boundaries were very large and he did not quite manage to clear them but he hit several in the 'v' between cover and mid wicket. Supported but a generous number of extras we put on 64 in 13 overs before Asif played a slightly tired shot and was caught at mid off for 40. When Bill Barnes came out to bat we still had 7 overs to play and we accumulated steadily for the next 6 until Bill had to retire hurt after appearing to pull a muscle in his calf. He had made 12 in a stand of 24. Mike Shannon and the skipper took 10 off the final over to close

on 142-6. Richard scored an undefeated 30.

During the tea interval the weather became a little overcast and Sam and Matt took the new ball in bowler-friendly conditions. Both found plenty of late away swing and both opening batsmen found the going tough. In one over Matt saw one edge go over the slips and another fly between the two slips. When the School had reached 19 Sam found the edge of the captain's bat and Steve pounced a comfortable catch. In his next over the number 3's leading edge went straight to Matt at backward point, and the number 4 edged behind to give Sam a third wicket and reduce the School to 24-3. Asif and Mike came into the attack and the number 4 bat, in particular, seemed mesmerised by Mike's guile. However, he and the remaining opener started to score more freely and were quick to punish the odd short ball. The remaining opener

reached a well deserved half century and the number 5 passed 40 and they seemed to be leading CLS to a comfortable victory.

Then Mike bowled the number 5 and Matt came back to bowl his last over and saw the opener caught at mid wicket by his own captain who was on the field as a substitute fielder. The number 6 batsman was almost bowled first ball as the match hung in the balance. In the next over the seventh batsman was out in a comical fashion. The number six hit the ball in the air and perhaps should have been caught. The batsmen scrambled for a quick single and a wild throw made sure they made their ground. Rashly they attempted a second run on the overthrow but Kirtiman threw the ball to Mike to whip off the bails. At this point the School still needed 25 but a flurry of boundaries saw them safely home with 4 overs and 4 wickets to spare.

cont. on page 26 ...

2022 Batting Averages

Name	Innings	Not out	High score	100/50	Runs	Average
Richard HILLMAN	8	4	49*	0/0	159	39.75
Saad SYED	2	0	47	0/0	75	37.50
Mike KNIGHT	5	1	60	0/1	129	32.25
Jack MALNICK	4	1	35	0/0	92	30.67
Asif LAKHO	5	0	65	0/1	107	21.40
Dinesh PANCH	3	1	20*	0/0	28	14.00
Richard MILLETT	7	1	28*	0/0	75	12.50
Steve RINGER	5	0	24	0/0	61	12.20
James HSIA	3	0	21	0/0	35	11.67
Bill BARNES	2	0	22	0/0	22	11.00
Kirtiman SINGH	5	1	24*	0/0	39	9.75
Sajid KHOLOZAJ	2	0	10	0/0	15	7.50
Campbell LLOYD-BARNES	2	0	11	0/0	13	6.50
Sayem BOKHARI	3	0	18	0/0	18	6.00
Nic KAMLISH	4	1	4	0/0	6	2.00
Nic BENARDOUT	2	0	0	0/0	0	0.00
Also batted:	ABHI 1-0-101-101	G. COLLEY 1-0-62-62	F. AHMED 2-1-43*-43			
O. KHAN 1-0-18-18	J de SILVA 1-0-15-15	A. SALDANHA 1-0-13-13	A. MUSTAQ 1-0-13-13			
D. SALDANHA 1-0-10-10	M. McDONOUGH 1-0-12-12	R. SALDANHA 1-0-10-0	HAMZA 1-0-7-7			
J. SUGANATHAN 1-0-6-6	M. SHANNON 2-2-3*-6	D. BURTON 1-0-5*-5	D. BARDSLEY 2-1-2*-3			
M. GABBAY 1-0-1-1	D. GRENDOWICZ 1-0-1-1	N. BENARDOUT 2-0-0-0	S. PACKER 1-0-0-0			
AVINISH 1-0-0-0						

cont. from page 25....

The match was played in great spirit and our thanks to Neil for making sure the fixture could take place.

Richard Hillman

2022 Season

The 2022 season can be summed up as disappointing. Although we tried hard to find new players for the club to replace those who could no longer play nearly every week, we were unsuccessful. Several of the existing younger people got married and started expanding their families, and that meant their availability to play cricket at weekends was substantially reduced. The School has not produced many cricketers at a senior level for a long time. This is because of exams in the summer term when parents naturally encourage pupils to revise in their spare time. The School first and second elevens have a very short fixture

programme because so many senior boys are either involved in exams or not at school. Due to the short cricket season for senior boys, a few keen players end up playing for local clubs which does not help us either.

Here are the results of 2022 games not previously reported:

OCCC v. Eastcote - May 8th

Eastcote 290-6 (Lakho 2-53)

Old Cits 148 (Millett 38, Barnes 22)

OCCC v. Penn Street - June 18th

Penn Street 208 (Millett 4-27, Knight

3-29)

Old Cits 92-2 (Knight 33, Syed 28, Malnick

21*)

We were doing well and on course for a probable win when the heavens opened and the match was rained off.

OCCC v. The School - July 1st

Old Cits 123-8 (Colley 62)

The School 124-3 (Basden 66, Bedale 34, Millett 2-18)

OCCC v. St. Albans - July 23rd

St. Albans 193 (Syed 5-47)

Old Cits 191 (Hillman 49*, Syed 47,

Malnick 35)

OCCC v. Stoke Newington - July 30th

Old Cits 122 (Millett 28*, Panch 20*,

Ringer 18)

Stoke Newington 126-4 (Singh 2-7)

OCCC v. Highgate - August 1st

Highgate 235 (Ahmed 3-36)

Old Cits 195 (Lakho 65, Ahmed 43*)

OCCC v. Chingford - August 20th

Old Cits 255-7 dec. (Abhi 101, Knight 60,

Malnick 25)

Chingford 154-5 (Millett 1-4, Lakho 1-9)

OCCC v. Botany Bay - September 10th

Botany Bay 190 (Knight 3-20, Shannon

3-27, Millett 2-41)

Old Cits 140 (Hill 24*, Ringer 24)

2022 Bowling Averages

Name	Overs	Maidens	3W+	BB	RUNS	WKTS	AVE
Saad SYED	7	0	1	5-47	47	5	9.40
Danny SALDANHA	5	0	0	2-25	25	2	12.50
Sajid KHOLOZAJ	6	0	0	2-30	30	2	15.00
Campbell LLOYD-BARNES	14	2	1	3-34	65	4	16.25
Robin SALDANHA	6	0	0	2-33	33	2	16.50
Mike KNIGHT	27	5	2	3-20	141	8	17.60
Richard MILLETT	36.5	4	1	4-27	202	10	20.20
Asif LAKHO	35	6	0	2-53	156	6	26.00
Fasih AHMED	11	1	1	3-36	83	3	27.67
Mike SHANNON	32	2	1	3-27	172	6	28.67
Kirtiman SINGH	10.3	1	0	2-7	67	2	33.50
Dinesh PANCH	15	0	0	2-29	103	3	34.33
Also bowled:	HAMZA 4-1-16-1		KHOLOZAJ 5-0-25-1		BENARDOUT 11-1-34-1		
GABBAY 8-1-41-1	SUGANTHAN 5-0-45-1		CHIRAGDIN 5-0-52-1		RINGER 0-2-0-3-0		
MALNICK 2-0-8-0	MUSHTAQ 2-0-17-0		GRENDOWICZ 6-0-23-0		SOMANI 2-0-27-0		
AVINISH 5-0-29-0	KAMLISH 3-0-32-0		PACKER 4-0-34-0		BURTON 4-0-39-0		
BARDSLEY 5-4-0-55-0							

2022 Fielding

Wicket-keeping	Catches
Richard HILLMAN 8 (1 stumped 7 caught)	GRENDOWICZ 3, KNIGHT 2, HAMZA 2, CHIRAGDIN 1, MUSTAQ 1, COLLEY 1, de SILVA 1, MALNICK 1, LAKHO 1, ABHI 1, BENARDOUT 1, SALDANHA D 1, BOKHARI 1, KHOLOZAJ 1

OC Eton Fives Club pairs experience with youth to achieve success

More than 30 players have turned out for us this season – in our practice matches, tours and trophies – of which 27 were Old Citizens or current schoolboys.

It's been a busy season: in short, we reached the second round of the Barber Cup, achieved mid-table mediocrity in the national Division Three, enjoyed trips to Ireland and Geneva, attracted a draw of 16 players to our Wood Plate season opener, and were joined by eight of our Swiss mates at our Adams Cup weekend in June to finish everything off.

Many thanks go to our master-in-charge, Rahim Dharamshi, for his work in encouraging the boys to take up our game. He's the latest in a series of lovely and inspiring masters who have championed the OCEFC (Robin Nagy and Peter Naylor before him also did sterling work) and we wouldn't exist without them. Bear in mind we lost our home courts nearly 40 years ago and it's down to the masters at CLS that we are able to thrive in the way we do.

Barber Cup

We won our first round match of the Barber Cup – the FA Cup of Eton fives – against the Old Edwardians from Birmingham 2-1 at Stowe but crashed out against the Millhillians in the second round (otherwise known as the quarter finals).

It's the second year running that we've survived the opening encounter, as we beat the Old Ipswichians away last season.

First Round

On the Sunday, we had to recover from a pair down after the second pair, hampered by injury, lost. But first and then third came through to record a rare triumph in this competition.

But once again our team policy of

pairing experience with youth proved successful, with each pair seeing a veteran player with one in their twenties.

The second pair of John Gee-Grant and Nick Choustikov were hampered by Nick's injured arm – he had played the previous day in the universities' competition.

First pair took us level, as John Reynolds and Sam Packer fought back from losing the first set to beat seasoned opposition, including the former national championship finalist Richard Tyler.

Which left Stephen Kelly and Jacob Greenhouse to see us home, winning a

copiously and the pathetic fallacy went into overdrive as we lost 0.5-2.5 in the quarter final of the Barber Cup to the Millhillians on the courts at Highgate.

However, we should take heart from this year's run (if a narrow victory and a narrowish defeat can be called that). Remember, it's some 37 years since we lost our home courts and it's no mean feat to be challenging like this in the quarter finals of the game's premier knockout competition.

We've established a squad of some nine or ten players who are contending for places (six of them – Roman

Heindorff, Nicholas Choustikov, Saajan Shah, Edwin Gosnell, Jacob Greenhouse and Sam Inigo Packer – learned their fives while at Queen Victoria Street and are still developing their game) and second and third pairs here won sets; on another day they could well have won their matches.

The first pair, unusually, were the first to fall. Packer and Reynolds started well but faded badly after losing a close first set. The visitors, always seemingly playing within themselves, made fewer mistakes as the game went on and our play became more ragged.

The third pair saw us come back from losing the first two

sets. Gosnell and Shah had chances to clinch the fourth and square the match but couldn't quite get themselves over the line ... and thus the tie was lost.

The second pair was good to watch, with Gee-Grant and Choustikov up to the challenge of a high-energy Bhimjiyani and winning a steady stream of points with guile and court craft. We went 2-1 up and looked well placed to earn a very good point but unforced errors took the game into a fifth set, by which time it was a dead



The victorious Barber Cup first round six

close match in three.

John Reynolds and Sam Packer beat Richard Tyler and Pete Scholey 3-1 (7-12, 14-12, 12-7, 12-1).

John Gee-Grant and Nick Choustikov lost to Stephen Thatcher and Tom Hoskins 0-3.

Stephen Kelly and Jacob Greenhouse beat Player & Partner 3-0 (14-11, 12-9, 12-7).

Second round

The heavens groaned, the clouds wept

cont. on page 28 ...

The fives team from the late 1970s in the old Great Hall. Eight of these characters still play: Mark Schreiber, Alex Kasterine, Stephen Kelly, Paul Baxter, Massimo Melessaccio, Aidan Kong, John Gee-Grant and Spencer Chapman



cont. from page 27....

rubber and all four players agreed to half the match, as it was already entering its fourth hour. And it was VERY rainy.

S.Packer and J.Reynolds lost to S.Tailor and C.Plummer 0-3 (8-12, 3-12, 1-12).

N.Choustikov and J.Gee-Grant drew with V.Bhimjiyani and L.Vanhaesebroeck 2-2 (12-8, 13-14, 13-14, 12-8).

E.Gosnell and S.Shah lost to J.Weller

and C.Graville 1-3 (6-12, 6-12, 12-6, 10-12).

Jivan and Sam win Wood Plate

Jivan Navani and Sam Packer won the season-opening tournament for the Wood Plate.

They overcame club captain John Reynolds and guest Peter Chen in the final, 12-8, on the public courts at the

Westway Sports Centre. Chairman David White congratulated them.

Some 14 of us took part, split into two groups which were decided by the odd point here and there, providing the two finalists.

We had lunch in the Garden Bar pub – where Jivan and Saaj chatted with footie’s Ian Wright.

ETON FIVES League Table - Division 3 2022-2023							
TEAM	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Pens	TOTAL
Team Westway 2nd	7	5	0	2	13.5	0	13.5
North Oxford 3rd	6	5	0	1	12.5	0	12.5
Berkhamsted 2nd	6	5	0	1	11	0	11
Old Citizens	7	3	0	4	11	1	10
St. Olave's School 2nd	6	2	0	4	9	0	9
Newbury 2nd	6	2	0	4	8	0.5	7.5
Abbey	7	2	0	5	7	0	7
Windsor & Eton	7	2	0	5	6	1.5	4.5
N.B. Lancing withdrew from the competition without completing the league schedule							

In the League, the OCEFC finished in the top half of the Division Three table, just a few points off the top. Fourth out of eight ain't too bad - actually it's fourth out of nine as Lancing entered, played a few, fell apart then pulled out. We weren't able to muster a strong enough showing in the final two matches to clinch the title.

Many thanks to our guests for adding such style to proceedings: Ashley Lumbard, Aroop Bhattacharya, John Robinson, Peter Chen and Ralph Morgan.

Edwin reaches semis of Universities Tournament

Edwin Gosnell, representing Oxford, reached the penultimate stage of the Universities' tournament at Eton.

He beat fellow Old Citizens (and Oxonians) Spencer Chapman and Nick Choustikov in the quarter finals then lost to the eventual winners in the semis.

Old Cits mob EFA Trophy

The OCEFC filled two sides for the EFA Trophy – a febrile day of fives in which we played a series of short matches in an effort to make the competition's semis.

We came up short - or at least those of us playing under our own colours did. Three of us were actually playing for an Oxford University side and did progress.

Sam Inigo Packer, Saajan Shah, Stephen Kelly, Ralph Morgan, Chris Lumbard and John Reynolds (playing for the OCEFC) took eight points from their four matches which wasn't enough.

Edwin Gosnell, Nicholas Choustikov and Spencer Chapman, in the dark blue of our most venerable university, went through (partly because they beat us on the way).

Vets edge festive clash

Embankment 2.5 - 1.5 Queen Victoria Street

The oldies grabbed a win back against the run of recent years, with a tight victory in a match which went to the wire. We filled four courts at Highgate - and could have needed more, as we had late

more of them in the future.

Geneva 2022: the Old Citizen contingent

Five of us made it to the tournament this year: David Cooper (still astonishingly active in his 80s – must be all that fives), our indefatigable treasurer Stephen Kelly, UN staffer Alex Kasterine (who conveniently lives and works in Geneva), Martin East (who travelled from Bonn to be there) and club captain John Reynolds.

Old Cits tour Irish handball alleys

The OCEFC completed a tour of Irish handball alleys – and discovered that they're wonderful!

There are hundreds around the country; we visited about a dozen sites in Dublin and the Midlands, some in sports halls, some in schools but most of the traditional ones were just in the centre of villages.

Adams Cup

On June 12th we held the Adams Cup at Highgate and welcomed our fellow players from Switzerland.

The cup winners were Massimo Melessaccio and Renato Buchi who beat Nicolas Choustikov and Malena Schoenlebar in a fluctuating final 12-8.

John Reynolds



Jivan Navani and Sam Packer celebrate winning the Wood Plate

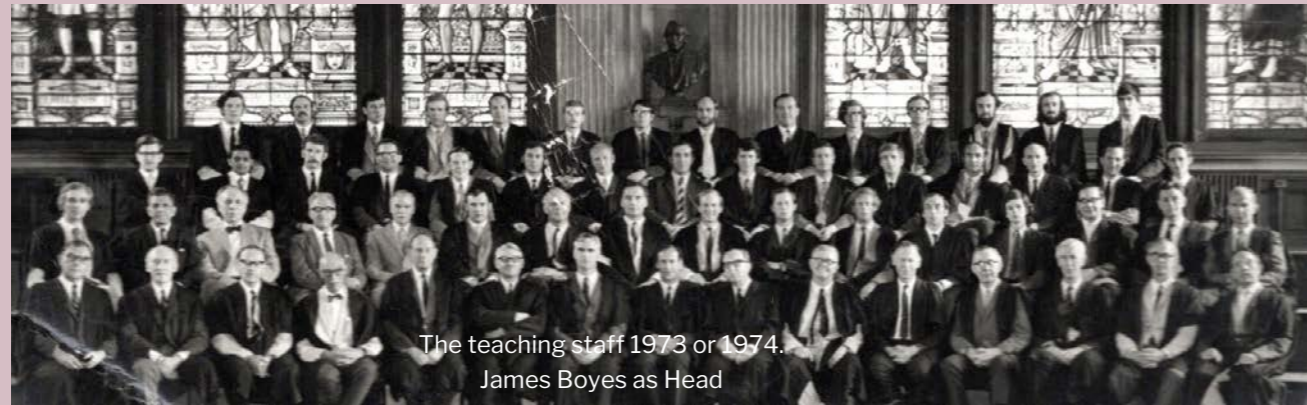
cancellations from Stephen Kelly (whose daughter Lucy was unwell), Spencer Chapman (who had to muck out the stables himself after a mishap to a groom, apparently), Tomos Bliss, and Alex Nice (sickness).

It was great to see the two boys from the school come along – we're sure to see



Old vs Young, Christmas 2022

CLS former teacher Geoff Piper remembers...



The teaching staff 1973 or 1974.
James Boyes as Head

Geoff Piper taught physics at City of London School from September 1970 to December 1974, along with Harry Swift, Jack Wheeler, Peter Robinson, and John Edgeley, among others. "My big pals," he says, "were Tim Davison-Chem and Aidan Tolhurst-Bio, whom I still see a couple of times a year."

He and Aidan Tolhurst were involved in the School's rugby team. "When they became the 1st XV we used to jog to the Tower of London and do our rugby training in the moat," he says.

In 1974 he organised and produced a staff revue, which took place in the Tuck Shop Theatre - "a lovely space for productions" (see photos and review opposite).

After CLS Geoff taught in the new 6th Form Centre in Brunei, Borneo for three years, then spent seven and a half years at Whitgift School in Croydon before moving to Sutton Valence School, Kent as Head of Physics, and later Head of Science.

Following his retirement, he taught half-time at Tonbridge School for one year, Sevenoaks School for one year and Benenden School for two years. Last year, aged 74, he went back to work for five months at Benenden as they were desperate for a physics teacher. Having now retired three times he was back there again earlier

this year covering a three-month absence. Geoff learnt to play the saxophone aged 55 and enjoys playing jazz. He also learnt to fly and gained his Private Pilot Licence aged 65. He says: "I now love playing pickleball three times per week: never heard of it? It is a great game: Google it and find a group near you!"

"Whilst I was at Sutton Valence as Contingent Commander of the CCF I was delighted to invite back (as the inspecting officer) the (then) Air Vice Marshal David Walker (now of course Air Marshall and 'Sir'). It was especially nice since when I left CLS he

was Sergeant Walker in our RAF Section (in which I was an Officer with Andrew Murray) ...the boy done good!

"Another member of our RAF Section was young Neil Morrisetti, who equally well rose through the ranks and I am delighted to hear was JCC President 2022-2023."

Geoff says he would love to know how the following Old Citizens got on in life and sends them his best wishes: "They were the pupils with whom I was most associated. I was form master for several years and rugby and cricket

coach." They are: Arif Ahsan, Eric Alton, Peter Batten, Dave Bogod, Simon Clarke, Mike Cook, Simon Cooper, Sean Cranitch (our 1st XV Skipper), Piers Davey, Ed (Dick) Flach, Mark Flewitt, Ed Fosbrook, Simon Gordon, Gordon Hanlon, Ian Hastings, John Havard, Ian Hillier, Jo Huck, Andy Hunt, Rajn Kapoor,

David Kaufmann, Norman Leader, Chris Rowland-Hill, Ian Singer, Dick Spink and Paul Waring.

Geoff's email address is geoffpiper02@gmail.com if you would like to get in touch.



Rugby team: Back row: ?, ?, Simon Gordon, Chris Rowland-Hill, Sean Cranitch and Dick Kaufmann (?). Middle row: John Havard, ?, Ian Hillier, ?, ?. Front: Dick Spink, Dick Flach, Simon Cooper (?)



Cricket team: Back row: Dick Spink, ?, Ian Hillier, Norman Leader (?), Dick Kaufmann (?). Front row: Dick Flach, Paul Waring, Simon Cooper, Neil Morrisetti, Simon Gordon



ARTS DIARY
Simon Routh
Clive Britton
Jonathan Cohen
Martin Ward
Arts Diary No.43
The Staff Review: 25-23th June
We always know that the Common Room has a hive of talent and they have produced a spectacular show that rivals Broadmoor Christmas pantos. Behind that classroom facade of "I only listen to P'adio 4, and I have never heard of Monty Python" lurks a sassy creature with square eyes. Many of the sketches had behind them the influence of John Cleese or Bill Oddie.
It was a welcome change from the high brow plays the T.S.T. has been staging recently. You didn't have to know Hamlet (or should I say Oalett,) only the nicknames of masters to enjoy the evening.
Hollywood can no longer ignore such illustrious names as Frank (give us a fag) Gregory who surpassed himself as the wicked Sir Jasper and Aden "Rodolf Valentino" Tolhurst (I couldn't work out which master's wife played the damsel in distress).
John "Raquel Welch" Carroll and Jack "the Ripper" Cook provided a piece of vintage corn with the aid of a C.L.S. amstbin. Peter "I'll cross my legs if you cross yours" Richards realised his potential as the delectable Esthor Rany. Her guest was the famous poet and sportman Geoffry Rider (who appeared by courtesy of the Royal Shakespeare Company).
But the evening was strictly an educational one. Did you know that Louis Armstrong was alive and well and an artmaster at C.L.S.? Or that the secret of Middlesex Cricket Club's success was H.B. Baked Beans? Or that the Glee Club started their musical careers singing in Barber shops? Which reminds me, how did Mr Gould learn to comb his hair back so convincingly? And where did Doc Robinson get that Jewish accent?
Did you know of the Middle Grammar revolution inspired by that well-known dictator Fidel "where's my kilt" Murray? Or of the gnome corruption scandal? Now we know what life in the C.C.W. is really like and that Doc Trigg's experiments don't always work.....Well we know that already.
The list of stars is never ending so I cannot mention everyone, but I must mention that well known impresario Mr Geoffry "Fats" Piper who produced the show who sadly leaves for Broadmoor. Now I suppose we must be content with the Blackboard Show every day.
MARTIN WARD



Captions: centre - review of CLS Staff Revue Show 1974. Clockwise from top left - the international finger smashing competition: Geoff Piper, Aidan Tolhurst and Andrew Murray; The Interview: Charlie Wright and Frank Gregory; Flanders and Swan: Martyn Clements; the sandwich board man Frank Gregory; The Infernal Combustion Engine: Geoff Piper, Pete Robinson, ? and Elgan Jones; Fire: Geoff Piper and ?; backstage: John Sackier, ?, Frank Gregory and a dummy; Historical lecture: Charlie Wright.

Alan D Bell (1943 - 2022)

An only child, Alan Douglas Bell (Class of 1961) was born in South Africa on April 8, 1943. His soldier father and nurse mother had been in the British Army in North Africa. Alan entered CLS on a scholarship in New 2A in 1954, where he was allotted to Beaufoy House.

At CLS, from the third year on, I had a ring-side seat and watched him regularly come third (to his chagrin doubtless and to my envy) in the

class, after two other Bs, Jonathan Barnes and Michael Booth. We both entered the Modern VI in 1958, which was the first year it became possible to study Russian. He proceeded through the 'A' stream to the Modern VI, where he took excellent 'A' Levels in French, Russian and

English. Our teacher was John Davidson, whose job was to get us up to 'A' Level standard in two years. In 1961, Alan entered Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge on another scholarship, where he took his degree in Modern Languages and stayed on for a fourth year to take an MA in law.

Our friendship at school was not close but blossomed later when, having studied accountancy at Peat Marwick and Mitchell, he joined my father's city firm as a qualified chartered accountant, with the promise of a partnership at the age of thirty. Early on, at an office party he met my sister Ruth, who became his first wife. Later, he set up A.D. Bell International, still thriving, which was his primary professional commitment until he died. He was an excellent linguist - he spoke seven languages - and, as such, was invaluable as an interlocutor when it came to foreign companies who were employing his firm's taxation and other services. He was involved with the Martin Scholarship Trust as their accountant and asked another CLS contemporary, Michael Pinto-Duschinsky (Class of 1961) to be a trustee.

My main recollection of him at school outside the classroom was not sport or model railways or stamps but his active commitment to the jazz club as a bass player, with Dave Roberts

on the drums and (the future professional jazz musician) Peter Lemer on the piano. A possible cultural connection with the Jazz Club was occasional forbidden smoking in the Great Hall rafters. One evening I recall, out of the blue, Alan and I and Dave Roberts went to hear Ella Fitzgerald at the Kilburn Empire. Jazz remained a lifelong passion for Alan. At Cambridge, where we would have an occasional drink together, he was President of the



Jazz Club, a contemporary of drummer Jonathan Lynn, later famous elsewhere.

Alan was a sociable, good-natured, kind and generous man. He devoted a lot of time to the Citizens Advice Bureau, where he was well equipped to offer financial and other advice to those in need. Alan had a fine tenor voice which he deployed in synagogue choirs, at

family weddings and elsewhere. Unforgettable was his jokiness, often competitive, as is common among old friends and in a style formed in a generation brought up on the Goon Show. Every few years, some CLS friends would meet for a curry, including David Roberts, Warwick Hillman, Ronald Hooberman, Barry Connolly, Alan Hunt, Geoffrey Goldkorn and myself. And I would meet him at family milestones.

I now quote from his sons' funeral eulogy: "Family and work legacy aside, Dad was always a fiercely proud Jew and advocate of the State of Israel. As a member of Alyth Gardens synagogue in Golders Green for over half a century, he was more than a congregant. Dad invested his time, leadership and choir-singing voice to the cause, serving the roles of warden, treasurer and council member at the synagogue where his four sons had their Barmitzvahs, and whose cemetery would in due course host his final journey".

He died after a short illness on February 26, 2022. He had four sons with Ruth: Daniel, (Class of 1992) Nicholas, Josh (Class of 1996) and Benjamin.

Anthony Rudolf (Class of 1960)

In memoriam ...

Barrie Lessel (Class of 1950)

Michael (Mickey) Adams (Class of 1952)

John (Tony) Hopkins (Class of 1952)

Dudley Bryant (Class of 1953)

John Hardy (Class of 1953)

Peter Woolf-Skinner (Class of 1953)

Brian Adams (Class of 1958)

John McGeorge (Class of 1960)

Donald Thomas (Class of 1961)

Norman Mitchinson (Class of 1962)

Michael Booth (Class of 1968)

Stephen Newman (Class of 1980)

Nicholas Young (Class of 1980)

Kevin Rogers (1980 - 2023)

Kevin Rogers, CLS teacher (2007 - 2023), sadly passed away earlier this year at the age of 42. At a special School assembly, Old Citizen Nicholas Hulbert (Class of 2012) shared his memories of Kevin.



"I've been asked to speak for quite a precise amount of time, so as not to delay you getting back to your lessons, and that's amusing to me, because that's a skill I learnt under Mr Rogers - who I first came into contact with through the Senior Debating Society, which he ran while I was at CLS. Mr Rogers certainly shared in our glee at gavelling down student speakers who had waffled over their allotted time, myself frequently included, so I will try to bear that lesson in mind today.

"I came to know Mr Rogers better through my sixth form tutor group, which he ran, jointly, with Mrs McCarthy. I have extremely fond memories of 6PCMKPR, some of my fondest at City, and remain in touch with most of the students from that time. I think that that is in part due to Mr Rogers' jovial influence, chatting and joking with us before the morning assemblies. I really, sincerely, hope that all of you can have as fulfilling a sixth-form experience as the one that Mr Rogers helped inspire for all of us.

"While I was at City, and I am sure this is still true today, there was a great emphasis placed on the kind of people we would become once we left the school. That we should aspire to be attentive, resourceful, compassionate; interested and interesting. I think we might best refer to those aspirations as a kind of engaged citizenship, though at the time we would probably have called them gentlemanliness, and Mr Rogers would certainly have enjoyed being considered a gentleman, as he manifestly was. Whatever the language we use, I think that he embodied the best aspects of that ambition for the students.

"First off and I suppose most trivially, he always presented himself well. He was stylish, he was a bit of a dandy, and from the first day of sixth form to the last time I saw him he gave me guff for being scruffy, which I am and I was. He also wouldn't hesitate for a moment to teach a curious sixth former how to tie the City long-tie into his trademark bow tie.

"More importantly, though, perhaps most importantly, he taught us that it was possible to disagree with each other,

and still respect one another. Mr Rogers lived by the idea that it was possible to entertain and learn from the other side of a discussion while not agreeing with it, and frequently came into a heated debate (most notably over the EU) with students, alumni and, I think at one point, the entire English department. However, afterwards, he knew that we could still come round the table as friends, students, and colleagues.

"Mr Rogers was also a man of both the arts and the sciences. Teaching chemistry by day, he was a huge fan of opera, reviewing or at least attending a performance almost every night, it seemed. He showed us that it is still possible to be something of a polymath, or at least, that we should allow ourselves to follow our passions and our interests to wild and disparate fields.

"Mr Rogers also taught us to be braver in our understanding of ourselves, and more accepting of others. Kevin Rogers was gay, and was public about that at a time when homophobic language and

behaviour was more common than it is today. I think, in that, and particularly looking back, he set an important example for us, at an age when it was particularly critical for us to learn to come to terms with both our own selves and those of others.

"Lastly, and I think this was a measure of his deserved confidence in himself as a teacher and as a mentor, he was comfortable around the students, he enjoyed their company, both as pupils and as alumni. He treated us as adults, or at least adults-in-the-making, and I cannot express how formative and empowering that it is as a young man, to be treated with the expectation of maturity.

"The last time I saw Kevin Rogers was at an alumni dinner, just before Christmas, and that is how I will choose to remember him. I hope each of you has similarly fond memories. True to character, Mr Rogers was bouncing between conversations with students, staff and alumni, disagreeing fervently, listening fully, and in the last of his great qualities that I can touch on today, earnestly living life to its fullest.

"I will miss him greatly."

City of London School has named a Chemistry Prize and a laboratory 501 in Kevin's memory.

Russell and Sabri

Russell Jones (Class of 1977), former President of the JCC and Sabri Meeran (Class of 2020) share their experience of a mentoring relationship initiated through the JCC scheme with the School's Development and Alumni Engagement Team.

Russell: My own initial experience with the scheme has been gratifying. Though now a semi-retired professional economist, I was approached by a third-year economics undergraduate at my alma mater, Bristol University, in the hope that I could both help him navigate his final year studies, and provide some pointers for his future career. The young man in question, Sabri Meeran (Class of 2020), was a credit both to his parents and to CLS. Polite, smart, driven, and remarkably intellectually inquisitive, I very much enjoyed our interactions, both in person and by correspondence. I am sure that he will go far.

I hope very much that other Old Citizens will follow my example and get involved. It's a most worthwhile project. And what's more, you might learn something – I certainly did!

Sabri: My meetings and correspondences through the scheme were instrumental in deciding my career trajectory and my direction in higher education. In a subject such as Economics, where the choices are seemingly endless, this clarity is crucial. My mentor, Russell Jones (Class of 1977), was extraordinarily generous with his time and enthusiastic about his experiences as an economist. He imparted a great deal of knowledge, including key skills to cultivate and advice about networking. His reading suggestions helped me to choose my areas of interest within economics and outlined the ever-important themes.

I greatly benefitted from our interactions, and I am eager to

apply what I have learned.



The JCC and CLS Mentoring Scheme

The John Carpenter Club began running an internship and mentoring scheme, in collaboration with the CLS Development & Alumni Engagement Office, in Summer 2022. This is viewed by the JCC as one of the most important initiatives in which the Club is involved. This provides a direct conduit through which Old Citizens can provide opportunities and open doors, as well as passing on some of their wealth of knowledge and experience to recent leavers as they start to make their way in the world.

The Alumni Office and the JCC are always looking for volunteers to provide internships, which can range from as little as a few days to a few weeks or even longer, or provide mentoring opportunities.

If you would like to get involved, please reach out to Kate Wallace at the Alumni Office on Kate.Wallace@cityoflondon.school.org.uk and/or Paul Marmor from the JCC on pdm@sherrards.com.

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