



The Cliftonian



CLIFTON
COLLEGE

Together,
we are Clifton

Forthcoming Events 2022

February 8th	Oxford Dinner	May 6th	1862 Lunch	September tbc	London Dinner
February 17th	EGM	May 14th	Reunion for those who left 1976-1986	September 10th	2020 Leavers reunion drinks
February 18th	Bresnahan Hockey matches at BB	May 28th	Commem	October tbc	Cardiff Dinner
March tbc	Exeter 'informal'	June tbc	Birmingham	October 6th	Golf Day at the Berkshire
March tbc	Edinburgh	June 9th	Golf Day	November 11th	AGM
March 25th	OCGS Golf Day and Dinner	July 1st	Careers Fair	November 12th	Bristol Dinner
April 6th	New York Dinner	July 8th	2010, 2011, 2012 Leavers Drinks		
April 21st	London Drinks [under 30s]	July 11th	Cricket Week begins		

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Editorial



I have approached my first Editorial with considerable trepidation, and found myself consulting various past editions in search of inspiration. It is very easy to spend far too long perusing old copies of The Cliftonian! They provide a fascinating insight into the shifting concerns and interests of previous generations, which sometimes resonate with the 21st century, and sometimes do not. In the late 1930s, for example, Cliftonians clearly had an eye on what was happening in Europe, and what might befall them in the very near future as young men entering a very unstable world. Of course, there are long accounts of House cricket matches, but there is a shadow cast over proceedings. This contrasts starkly with the content in

the early 1900s, which is conspicuously introspective. Nevertheless, the 1908 compilation contained two articles with particular relevance to Old Cliftonians, which illustrate some of the abiding preoccupations of the Society, namely 'events' and the 'college estate'. One was a letter from an OC containing a rant about the inadequacies of the London Dinner, held at a hotel in the Strand. From his perspective, there was too much drinking and too many toasts, and when he left at 11.15 pm, there were still 4 speeches to go, including the Bishop of Hereford's! The other interesting report concerned the Society's financial support for the purchase of land at BB. A site in Stoke Bishop was in the running, but the much larger plot on the other side of the bridge was deemed a better bet, even though it was 'fairly low quality'. Here we are, in 2021, and the London Dinner was our first significant event post lockdown; and the cover of this edition is a view of BB today, transformed beyond all recognition.

The 2020 Magazine was another important point of reference. It contains a great deal of talk and speculation about Covid, even though it only really affected one third of the school year. As I write, early in the 2021/22 academic year, the

pandemic continues to impinge on our way of life and has done throughout 2020/21. These effects are being experienced at a global, national and local level, and Clifton and the OCS are not immune. This edition of the magazine is going to reach you well after its usual arrival date because of a severe delay in the completion of the audit, caused in turn by severe Covid disruption at our auditors; countless OC activities have been cancelled; teachers have been required to set, mark and grade A level and GCSE exams; and eating in Big School became a solitary activity, with empty spaces between every diner. Clifton has had to change, and it is hard to know what the 'new normal' will look like. Decisions made by organizations up and down the land will be subject to scrutiny, but in the 'Clifton bubble', I know that none were made lightly, and all were made with the best of intentions.

Many thanks to those who contributed articles, obituaries, reviews and reports – there would be no magazine without you. I very much hope that the entire readership enjoys this first publication of the 'post Acheson era'. No doubt you will let me know if you do not!

Jo Greenbury



THE COLLEGE IN 1886

Unframed, Etched by Chas. Birds. Published by Frost & Reed
printseller, Bristol October 1888
Dimensions: 470 mm x 575 mm overall.
Limited edition of just 200.
Cost to UK based OCs and parents,
£50 plus £7.50 p&p.

Merchandise can be purchased via our School Shop - The Grubber.
To contact the Grubber either phone 0117 315 7620 or email
schoolshop@cliftoncollege.com
Overseas by arrangement

Secretary's Letter & Events

When I was beginning my working life in the 1980s, one of the seismic events was the so-called Big Bang in the City of London. Among other things, 'Chinese Walls' were created within financial institutions to ensure that banks could both serve their customers and themselves without any significant conflict of interest. Whether these walls have been successful is not for me to decide, but I have found it difficult to walk the line as both Editor of this magazine and author of the Secretary's Letter. It is a peculiar dilemma, though without the potential for financial skulduggery that exists within the Square Mile!

It is tempting to conclude that Covid wiped out the whole of the Old Cliftonian year, with Reunions and events being cancelled en masse. Nevertheless, that would be a hasty and unwarranted conclusion. 2020/2021 has seen a number of interesting and worthy developments, albeit without the set-piece social occasions. The value of the CCEF has risen above £5,000,000, enhancing our ability to support the school in a constructive way; Jeremy Pickles organized a very successful campaign to produce PPE on the campus for use by local healthcare providers; and the OCS donated £100,000 of its reserves to enable Cliftonians, whose families had been adversely affected by Covid, to remain at the college for this academic year. There was a notable 'arrival', as Kate Holland Smith [nee Barrett] became the first female Chair of the Society; and a notable 'departure', as Paul 'Badger' Flook retired from the ground staff after an incredible 48 years of service – he lovingly tended the Close and New Field for generations of Cliftonians.

The Society has been entrusted with one very substantial legacy and two significant prizes. These initiatives are inevitably tinged with sadness, but the OCS does provide a mechanism for generous Old Cliftonians to be remembered. Anthony Gwilliam was in North Town [1948], at Bude, and left more than £220,000 to the Endowment Fund. In accordance with his wishes, a scholarship will be established for a Sixth Former studying history A Level. It will provide a welcome counterbalance to the Shenstone Scholarship, established for pupils studying science. Two prizes have been inaugurated in memory of

rather younger OCs who tragically died this year. The first is a Drawing Cup, donated by the family of David Cooksey [WaH 1983]; the second is a Debating Tankard, in memory of Hugh Harper [WiH 1986], member of Council and a driving force behind the CCDT.



A number of sporting events did take place, most obviously cricket, football, rugby 7s and golf. We also made a concerted effort to Zoom a selection of occasions which are traditionally firm favourites among OCs, namely the AGM, the Remembrance service, Advent Carols and Christingle. In June, we once again had to stream the annual Careers Fair for the Lower Sixth, which was another great success. And finally, I am pleased to report that young OCs have been able to find career mentors via the business hub on the website, a very welcome development. This is the moment at which I must express my very deep gratitude to 'the usual suspects' who keep the OC show on the road. Members of the Executive Committee are indispensable, likewise the archivist and bookkeeper; Jo Sira is a huge help in the office, and Lucy Nash ensures that the ship [to mix the transport metaphors] stays afloat! Finally, an especially big thanks to Jeremy Pickles, who has been such an enthusiastic advocate for all the Society's activities. He is retiring at the end of 2021, and here is his report on his last event, the Golf Day in June:



The Annual Clifton Golf Day Winning Team

'The OC events calendar was decimated by the pandemic restrictions, but mercifully we were able to run one event, the Annual Clifton Golf Day for OCs and parents.

This has been such a popular competition over recent years and although the 2020 meeting was cancelled, we were able to squeeze one in for this year.

A full field of 13 teams [including, for the first time, two teams of pupils] enjoyed a lovely day at Bristol & Clifton Golf Club, followed by a dinner in the clubhouse and prizegiving.

The winning team was captained by OC Jem Brooks [NT 1981], seen holding the cup; and the keen eyed amongst you will spot Paul Romaines [Hon. OC] in his quartet.'

At this point, I should draw to a close, though not without leaving you with an important message from Derek Winterbottom [Hon. OC], himself a great supporter of this publication:

'As the result of an initiative by the Bristol Record Society, Derek Winterbottom's publications relevant to Clifton have been digitised on the Internet Archive platform (archive.org) where they can be freely read. They are two pamphlets about John Percival and AEJ Collins, a study of Henry Newbolt and Clifton, biographies of TE Brown and Bertrand Hallward, 'Dynasty', the story of Polack's House, and 'Clifton after Percival', a history of the school up to 1990.'

[Derek's next book is a history of Brasenose College, Oxford, which is due to be launched in November this year.]

Careers & Business



The Future of Careers

By James Isaacs

Firstly, how easy is it to come together in a year when the pandemic and the policy makers have been doing their best to keep us apart? Secondly, how reasonable is it to ask a cohort of 16 and 17 year olds to think about what they want to do for a living after they leave school, when a significant proportion of the working population are either at home, furloughed or concerned about their own future?

Undaunted by either of these questions, the fifth Careers Fair went ahead as planned on 25th June and I congratulate the team and all of the volunteers for their Herculean efforts in pulling off yet another highly successful event.

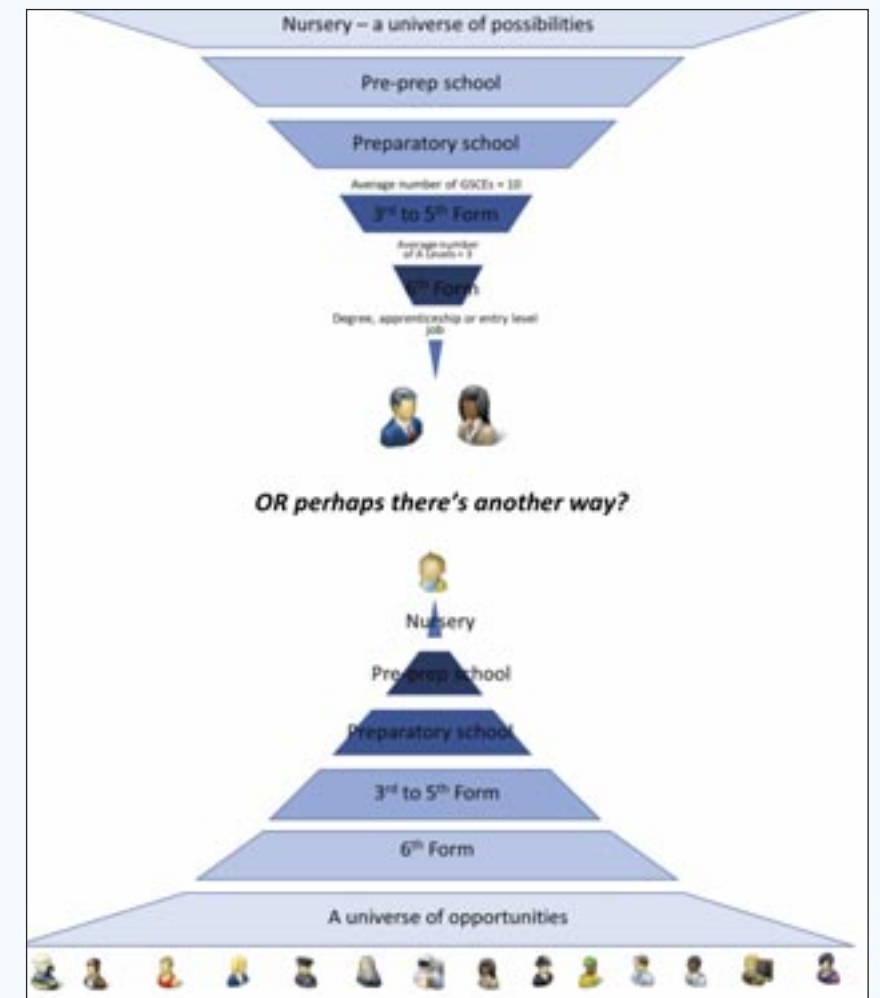
As a precursor to every event there is a survey that's sent to students to understand their career interests in order to help in the identification of potential speakers to represent the most popular choices. Common amongst them are the professions such as law, medicine and accounting.

Unsurprisingly, less evident are career interests in areas that are perhaps more recent, less well known or perhaps less traditional. And herein lies my concern not just about careers fairs but secondary schools in general.

A universe of opportunities is systematically and progressively narrowed down by structures, curriculums, exam processes and by the minds of those that design, build, set and provide advice about them based largely on their own past experiences.

Or perhaps there's another way?

I like and very much advocate the notion that a preparatory school does exactly that: prepares you for life beyond year 8 and sets you up for your landing into the Third Form (please, none of this Year Nine nonsense). As a Governor of the Downs Preparatory School, I'm a strong advocate of a broad curriculum and providing the opportunities to experience pretty much all things, within legal limits of course. I recognise the need to specialise through



GCSE and A level and that you can't, even if good enough, participate in every sport, drama or music event. But does this specialisation narrow one's outlook and focus still further on perhaps University choices and/or apprenticeships and therefore careers thereafter? I thought we were providing education to give ourselves the best opportunities. I think that...

one of the greatest gifts of knowledge is freedom of choice.

Rewind ten or even five years and how many new careers exist today that we'd never heard of back then? Social influencers, data privacy experts, augmented reality app developers, drone pilots and sustainability experts to name but a few.



Looking forward we can anticipate whole new swathes of opportunities in areas such as ethical hacking, driverless mobility, crypto mining, viral epidemiologists, the growth of care working and e-sports coaching.



I've recently seen the title
Chief Listening Officer
(and no, it's not an HR role).

It's a worry that a report published in December 2014 entitled Careers of the Future, commissioned by the UK Commission For Employment and Skills (UKCES) listed 40 top jobs of the future. (Apologies for quoting UK specific publications given our international alumni but much of it can be applied to most developed nations).

It's a worry for two reasons:

1. Because it started with A for agriculture and summarised farming and ended in T for Transport and highlighted train and tram drivers – I'm not even going to ask what happened to all the careers that



started between U and Z in the alphabet. It's not that I have anything against either of these careers but really, is that all we've got to share with and inspire the next generation? Apparently so, according to the data!

2. It was published in 2014 and I can't find any subsequent publications of the like since.

I don't want to be unfair to UKCES because in February of the same year they published another report called *The Future of Work: Jobs and Skills in 2030*. In it, a large number of researchers and futurologists produced a very long but quite readable account of the future of employment. Their aim was not to "predict a specific future, rather to influence and challenge thinking in a constructive, creative way" and again, much of what they said of the UK could be applied to most industrially advanced countries.

In doing so they provided a perspective based on the influences of five key areas: Business and the Economy, Resources and the Environment, Law & Politics, Society and the Individual and Technology and Innovation.

Very quickly one could see connections and trends within each and across these categories that opened the mind to a world of opportunities. New business ecosystems and the rise of Asia appear in the first through to increasing scarcity of natural resources and climate change in the next. Increasing diversity, zero-hour contracts and an ageing population across society and digitisation, big data and the convergence of technologies.

Why can't we introduce this line of thinking alongside or as part of our curriculum?

Does this approach to thinking about careers start to make you think about the problems we could apply ourselves to in order to make the world a better place?

Or perhaps...



Does it help focus our thinking on what we want to achieve as an outcome rather than what we think we should do to start?

I know a great deal is being done by the team at the College to push the careers agenda and drive the progressive thinking that supports it. I encourage everyone across the alumni and parent network with a creative idea and constructive opinion to lend your support when and where it may prove useful.



So, with this in mind, it seems fitting to celebrate one Old Cliftonian who has built and recently sold a business whose model is based on the essence of the role of the aforementioned Chief Listening Officer.

By monitoring and providing insights about household consumer brands from on-line customer feedback on social media platforms the business was recently sold for \$450 million.

I wonder what his ambition was when he started out as an accountant? If I'm ever fortunate enough to sit next to him at the "pointy" end of the aeroplane, I'll be sure to ask!

OC Career Profiles

It has seemed to me for some time that many OCs, parents and indeed pupils have high expectations of what the school can do to prepare Cliftonians for their subsequent careers. As someone who had responsibility for this area for more than a decade, and believed in its importance, I was also aware that some of these expectations were simply unrealistic. In the first of what I hope will become an annual feature, I have persuaded a handful of OCs to share, in brief, their 'career trajectories' after leaving school, to illustrate that, for many of us, you need to expect the unexpected! My first group of 'victims' are members of the OC Executive Committee. [Ed.]



Jo Greenbury
[Staff 1989 -
and OCS
Secretary]

At school, I began specializing in the Humanities aged

about 14 because I found them more interesting than STEM subjects, and I went up to Oxford to read PPE. I changed to Theology after a fortnight because, again, I thought it would be more interesting. When I graduated, I had given my future career no thought whatsoever, and simply took the first decent offer that came along, as a trainee accountant in London with one of the big firms. I realized very quickly that this was not the job for me, but took two years to work out what I was going to do instead – teaching. I went back to university to do a postgrad, then completed my probation in a Bedfordshire comprehensive. I arrived at Clifton in 1989, vaguely expecting to be here for just a few years. But I have managed to have 4 quite different ‘careers’ during my 32 years at the College – as a ‘young teacher’; a boarding Housemaster; the Head of Sixth Form; and latterly a hybrid role as Head of University Entrance and OCS Secretary. It has been a very fulfilling journey, despite the obvious lack of planning!



Charlie Newington-Bridges [SH 1993, member of the Executive and Finance Committees]

The headmistress at my primary school gave me an advert to apply to Clifton prep school, which I promptly forgot about. My mother fished it out of a bag some time later, removed the sandwich crust attached to the advert and I eventually sat the entrance exam aged 10. I came to the prep school on an assisted place and progressed to the College, eventually becoming head of School House and deputy head boy. I went to Oxford where I read Philosophy and Theology because I was interested in the subject and liked my A level teachers. I had no idea whatsoever what I wanted to do after university, considered teaching, but temped for over a year in London before ending up in investment banking. I had a lot of student debt and it seemed to pay well! I worked for 15 years at Kleinwort Benson, JP Morgan and ABN Amro. I then realised I liked talking more than trading and re-trained to become a barrister. I returned to Bristol to practise there. I live in Monmouthshire where we have horses, pigs, a dog and three children. I am chairman of an environmental charity concerned with river ecology and I'm a trustee of the Clifton College Endowment Fund, because I have a sense of gratitude which can be traced back to a crusty application form.



Seb Hoyle [DH 1991, member of the Executive Committee]



On leaving Clifton in 1991 I knew I wanted to pursue a career in finance with a view to running my own business in the long run. This led me to study for a semi-vocational degree in Management Science at Swansea University's European School of Business. Not quite by chance, I was also keen on travelling and my degree course happily allowed me an extra 'sandwich' year to further my business studies at the University of North Carolina, USA.

On leaving University my first job was in corporate finance at what was Bristol's last independent merchant bank. After a year learning the basics, I left for London to be the first junior executive of what was to become one of the world's largest financial communications agencies, advising on IPOs, M&A and government privatisations. This was an exciting period which combined the introduction of the internet with Britain's growth in IT, especially on London's Alternative Investment Market. I managed to convince my bosses that this was a huge opportunity to specialise in and it was mostly this sector which I oversaw and helped grow in my formative years.

Following my company's own merger and public listing, I was offered the challenging role to create a Middle East-based business for our services. This was headquartered in Doha, Qatar where we already had good relationships with the government and their sovereign wealth fund. This was extremely stressful, fun and rewarding work, in which I travelled extensively across the region pitching and winning new business.

Some four years later, my growing family saw me return to London and eventually Bristol, where today I run a property investment and management business. Crucially, this has at last allowed me to find the right balance between work, friends and family time!



Kate Holland
Smith [nee
Barrett] [WoH
1997, Chair of
the OCS]

After leaving Clifton in 1997, I read Jurisprudence. The course was not at all left with no real idea to work in law. I studied for a couple of years to take the plunge and qualify as a corporate solicitor. I found Chance in law as cutting edge as anything over new tax legislation published and transactions for our

and working at a “magic circle” law firm was both challenging & rewarding in equal measure. However, shortly after I was made Senior Associate and returned from maternity leave, I realised that my priorities had changed. I wanted to move back to Bristol to be near my family and when I saw that The Mall Deli in Clifton Village was up for sale as a going concern, I went for it. That was 11 years ago, and it’s been a wonderful business to nurture and grow alongside my young family. I look back now and can see how naïve I was jumping sectors so impulsively, but fortunately it’s all worked out well. Being my own boss has afforded me the flexibility I wanted, and I have learned so much – from how to be an employer, bookkeeper & manager, to how to make cheese! Now that my children are older and I have a bit more time, I look forward to seeing where the next decade takes me.



Jim Isaacs [OH, SH 1987, Vice President of the OCS]

A degree in architecture satisfied a creative curiosity about the world around me and paved the way for an action packed year off. Three years’ service in the Honourable Artillery Company Army Reserve was drawn to an end by the need to work weekends as a graduate trainee with Wickes the retailer. Fascinating though it was to run stores the size of football pitches, I wanted to find out about other careers and a chance to become a researcher in an executive search firm gave me that option. 25 years later and my career in search has so far afforded me the chance to live in Sydney and work

with fascinating people across blue chip, multinationals and smaller Private Equity backed companies in the US, Africa, China & Russia. I have seen the variety of working practices of US listed, global firms and experienced the high octane existence of buying and then selling my own business ten years later. I have an active interest in education with my OC Society executive role and Governorship of the Downs Preparatory School. Despite considering myself a Londoner, with a working life based in the City, I live within kicking distance of the Beggar Bush sports facility. My return to Bristol was for a girl, whom I met at 15 whilst at the College, when she was at the High School. We now live with our four children in the second house-build project we’ve completed, evidence that my degree was not purely academic!



Sport

OC GOLF

The Bernard Darwin Trophy 2021

The OCGS was represented in the Senior event by Stephen Lapage (SH 1968), Jonathan Willcocks (WaH 1971), Quentin Robey (WiH 1967), Robert Dyson (SH 1968), John Dyson (WiH 1959) and John Capper (WaH 1968), who bravely replaced Paul Trow (DH 1971) at very short notice, Paul not having fully recovered from Covid19.

In round one we beat Eton, finally some consolation for having lost to them 8 times out of 8 in the Halford Hewitt. In round 2 we beat Radley 2—1, thanks to a spirited fightback by John Capper and a win at the 19th from Robey and Lapage. At this point most of the team were panicking about the reliability of their battery powered trolleys or reserve batteries "borrowed" from their spouses! John Dyson was the exception, as he carried his clubs throughout in the fierce humidity and heat (29C on both days).

In the semi-final we beat Uppingham 2—1, with Robey and Lapage winning the deciding game at the 21st (with a 5).

In the final, despite Willcocks and John Dyson winning the battle of the top pairs, we lost to Tonbridge 2—1.

The main difficulty at Woking, where the event is played, are the treacherous sloping greens, very similar to those at Torrey Pines! We had support on both days, Tim Taylor on day 1 and David Rowe on day 2, and many welcome messages were received via the OC Golf WhatsApp Group.

Our handicaps ranged from 6 to 14. You do not need to have played in the Halford Hewitt to be considered for the team. Anyone with a handicap around the 14 mark, who can putt well, has a good chance of selection. You just need to volunteer. There are no trials but we have our spies at Bristol and Clifton who can, if necessary, assess anyone living in the Bristol area.

The Halford Hewitt and the Grafton Morrish

In the HH, we won our first-round match against Dulwich, despite Nigel Farage supporting his alma mater with distracting stories about President Trump et al! But we then lost to Forest 3—2; the deciding game came down to the 18th hole and two great shots from our opponents sealed our fate.

In the GM qualifying event, we played at Denham and won by 6 shots from second place. All 3 pairs scored over 30 points. The team of Chris Dale [BH 1988], David Rowe [OH 1977], Andy Rudge [ET 1997], Jack Mann [ET 2011], Chris Baker [MH 2008] and Chris Carney [DH 1992] will represent the OCGS in the finals at Hunstanton in October.



The Bernard Darwin Team



The College Team



The Pre School Team

School Golf

The Editor asked me to provide a brief report on golf at the College, given that quite a lot has been happening despite all the problems caused by the pandemic.

The team qualified in June for the National Independent Schools golf finals at Worsley Park in Manchester. This is the first time we have ever reached this stage in the competition.

The team had wins over RGS Worcester, Monmouth and Bromsgrove to become area champions and thus qualify for the finals.

The team consisted of Jerry Fang (SH), Finn Ellis (ET) and Taylor Hodgson (NT Pre).

The team finished 14th out of 20 schools in the finals, with Finn and Taylor being the only two competitors in the field under the age of 16.

Our top 5 players are all maturing into excellent golfers. They have benefited from a structured practice regime and the excellent facilities at Watson's Field at BB. We now have a very strong golf team that can really compete with any other independent school in the country.

It's also great that so many more pupils have chosen golf as their games' choice. Boys and girls have benefited from coaching at the school range and, during the year, 3 pupils who had never played before have become members of Bristol and Clifton Golf Club and are working towards a handicap. I have been able to take some golf sessions with year 6 in the Pre, which has been extremely well received. We have created an academy course

within the driving range and pupils have been taught technique as well as rules and etiquette. When the light allows, I run an after-school golf club for years 7 and 8. This introduced over 30 new pupils from the Pre to golf this year.

My thanks to the team at BB – our facilities are kept in excellent condition. And hopefully we will be able to build on this year's successes in 2022.

Andy Rudge



Facilities at BB



Rugby 7s at Richmond

OC RUGBY 7s

Will Watson [NT 2012], ably supported by Oliver Bowden [MH 2012], contacted the OCS in 2019, hoping to put together a competitive 7s team for the London circuit in the summer of 2020. Coronavirus wrecked these plans, but the dream became a reality in 2021. Abridged match reports follow, providing a real flavour of festival rugby at its best.

'We played our first tournament at the end of July in Wimbledon, the Jack Fishwick 7s. We were drawn in pools of 4 teams, our 3 opponents being a South African invitational team, one from Salisbury and another from London. Two wins and a draw, the latter secured in the final play of the match, meant we topped the group and headed to the quarter finals. This game was always going to be tough, as we had a few injuries and were facing a well-established club using multiple rolling subs. We ran out of steam and it was the end of our day.

A week later, and considerably wiser, we were raring to go at the London 7s in Chiswick on August 7th. Victories followed against Beder 7s [a charity team] and

Scotty's Army [an army charity team], but defeat to another invitational outfit, Compeed Marlborough, sent us into the Plate. Once again, injuries and a lack of numbers on the bench cost us dearly. In the Plate semi-final, we endured a terrible second half and were beaten by the Royal Marines 26—21. Very frustrating, though the subsequent 'social' was outstanding!

Our third (and final) tournament of the year was participating in the Richmond Summer Social at Richmond Rugby club on a sun filled Saturday afternoon in the middle of August.

The day got off to a winning start against the Oxford Barbarians (Oxford Brookes University old boys) with a solid 26—21 victory, playing some lovely attacking rugby. By the second fixture we had found our flow and ran riot against the Nomads with a 35—7 win.

The third and final group game, with a position in the cup at stake, saw the OCs take on the Richmond Renegades on their home turf. It was a tense game against an experienced opposition but we came

through as 14—7 winners, booking a place in the semi-finals. Unfortunately, this was the end of the road for Will Watson who suffered a nasty MCL injury. Nevertheless, the semi-final beckoned, and we got off to a storming start against the Bears (not the Bristol Bears!). Three tries up and dominating the game, we were confident we were through to the final, but the Bears fought back to take the game to a nail-biting finish... in which we were victorious 28—26, much to the delight of a raucous touchline.

The final saw the OCs facing the Nomads once again. In a very convincing performance and despite dwindling numbers, the OCs ended up as worthy winners by around 8 tries (we lost count of the score). A victorious tournament built on solid defence and some moments of attacking magic, what more could you want?

A great end to the season and we cannot wait to get started again next year!'



Rugby 7s Team



OC FOOTBALL

The club has been running for many seasons now, with previous successes including several league and cup wins in the last half a dozen years. Most recently managed by OCs Damien Kelland and Adam Graveney, sadly old Father Time has caught up with many of the original OCs with age, injury and the small matter of babies having lately reduced squad availability and depth. Our last full season was the 2019/20 season, when the club finished mid-table of Division 2 of the Bristol Downs League. We then had the Covid 19 interrupted season that was effectively cancelled after half a dozen

games; and over the past 18 months, sadly not much football has taken place.

We are now back with a vengeance for the 2021—22 season and are looking to re-establish our connection to Clifton College, so are inviting any Old Cliftonians who return to Bristol and are keen to join a football team, to give OCFC a call! We still maintain a number of OC veterans, such as Josh Sutherland (almost 200 appearances), Rob Fairbrother, Tom & Ben Pickles, Isaac Greenbury and Danny Grech (all-time top scorer, with a record of a goal roughly every 75 minutes!). But we are

keen to recruit the younger generation also coming through the school. The club is now open to non-OCs but we are keen to maintain our links to the College and respect the roots of the team, not least as we wear the Clifton College badge on our shirts. We're a friendly bunch of lads, with access to the CCSG facilities, social get togethers at Racks Bar in Clifton and various dinners over the season (Covid permitting!).

Any interested parties should contact Rob Fairbrother **07707057832** or Jon Temperley **07977149553**.



OC CRICKET

The world seemed back to normal in May as the task of pulling together the cricketing talent of eras past started again as the first round of the Cricketer Cup fast approached.

Sadly, Clifton's foray into the Cup this year was short lived. The campaign was only prolonged by the weather, which forced a couple of postponements before the game could even take place.

An intrepid XI took varying paths to get to Lancing. It turns out, Lancing is a long way away from everywhere. However, it is a beautiful and picturesque spot and spirits were high ahead of the toss. These spirits quickly evaporated as we were asked to bowl; with only three recognised bowlers, the task ahead of us was significant.

Especially as RT Maskell, opening the batting for Lancing Rovers, accumulated a mere 300 in his last old boys outing - the final of the Cricketer Cup in 2019. This Clifton side were determined to prevent such a calamitous result, and did well in this endeavour - Maskell departed with only 150, including 10 sixes!

Before this though Spink had offered a steady opening spell. He finished with a good return of 3 for 48 off his 10. The other bowlers enjoyed less success, and Lancing helped themselves to 397 for 9 off their 50 overs. Sadly, extras second top-scored with 83.

The batting started well for Clifton. Harris and Oduwole looked comfortable. That comfort was emphasised by Oduwole who played the outrageous Brazilian shot off a free hit. Talk of making the 397 did not last though. The efforts of numbers 2-4, Oduwole (34), Barnes (30) and Atkinson (44) were undone by the remainder of the batting order. Clifton fell way short with 145 all out in 28.2 overs.

The end of the cup run allowed us to focus on the much-missed OC Cricket Week, which was in the calendar for just after some Covid restrictions were due to be lifted.

The Monday night was the local derby against the Bristol Badgers. The hours up to the toss saw The Close bathed in glorious sunshine but it didn't matter whichever weather app you reviewed, there was heavy rain on the way. With that in mind, and the dark clouds approaching from the Zoo getting ever closer, it was decided we would make history by playing the first 2 innings limited over match, 5 overs an innings.

The format worked well with the sides only a couple of runs apart after the first innings. Consequently, a tense 2nd innings battle ensued with the OCs scrambling to victory in the last over and then the heavens opened. Upon review it was an interesting format and one which I feel Alex Turco might not want to score again!

The Flaming Sambucas match on the Tuesday rarely disappoints, providing both humour as well as the odd piece of good cricket. This year was no different.

The OCs inserted the 'Bucas' on a very slow and sticky Close wicket where scoring was somewhat tricky. However, they worked their way up to what looked an imposing total after taking advantage of some out of practice bowling from the OCs.

The OC innings started very circumspectly but began to warm up as it looked like the chase had been timed immaculately, following a Lakhani 50 and a typically fluent 40 from Gwilym Watkins, littered with effortless strokeplay. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be as the OCs fell 8 runs short.

As usual a great day was had by all with the Close looking stunning and the food and beer flowing.

The weather unfortunately got the better of us on the Wednesday and the derby against Old Bristolians was abandoned due to the inclement weather.

Things were brighter for the arrival of the Gloucester Gypsies on the Thursday. After a quick glance at the two team sheets, it

was quickly clear that the OCs would have to bowl first to make a good game with the strong Gloucester Gypsy side - and a very good game we got.

With a wicket off the first ball of the game from Gwilym Watkins, things were looking good. A strong partnership developed soon after until Joe Millard broke the deadlock by finding the edge of his former Gloucestershire coach.

As the game progressed it looked like it could be won by either side with Millard and Yates leading the charge. Sadly, it was not to be, and after Millard was out the game was finished with a hat trick from Gypsy bowler Stu Macarthur.

Friday the 9th of July 2021 may go down in history as the first time 6 games of cricket were played in one day due to 3 teams turning up at 11.00 am! All teams were filled with OCs and so it made a fitting finale to the week.

In true Clifton College fashion, the show went on and a great day was had by all with fine individual displays by all teams with a great mix of young and old talent.

All 3 teams won one and lost one. If only we had more time in the day to make it go to a knockout!

A huge thanks to everyone who made themselves available to play for the OCs throughout the summer, we look forward to seeing you next year. Thanks must also go to the Match Managers – Sheridan Leech, George Harris, Louie Shaw and Fin Yates – it is never an easy task getting a side together but all your efforts were really appreciated. No OC match would be complete without Alex Turco and his ipad! Thanks again for all your support, Alex.

Final thanks to Lucy Nash and Jo Greenbury for all their support and the huge amount of organisation they do on our behalf. Lucy & Jo's involvement is so vital in making OC cricket happen and should never be underestimated, although Jo's BBQ skills tend towards 'incineration'!



The Anzac landing, April 25, 1915, by Charles Dixon

Anniversaries in 2021

Every edition of the Magazine provides opportunities to mark anniversaries of one kind or another, and 2021 is no different. It is the 100th anniversary of both the Stone Library and the CCEF, and the 80th anniversary of the evacuation to Bude - more of these later.

2021 is also the 100th anniversary of Australia's official adoption of April 25th as Anzac Day, which had been adopted by New Zealand in 1920. April 25th, 1915, had been the day when Anzac forces landed at Gallipoli, and there had been ceremonies of various kinds from late 1915 onwards. Clifton is, of course,



Lieutenant General William Birdwood, hero of the Gallipoli campaign

inextricably linked to these events through William Birdwood [OH 1882], and I am grateful to Ashley Coates [NT 2008] for the following article about this often overlooked but nevertheless most distinguished OC. It is worth noting that Richard Farrimond [WaH 1965], who recently undertook a PhD at King's, London, made Birdwood the subject of

his thesis as well.

Clifton's Other Field Marshal

In his popular book *Empireland* released this year, Sathnam Sanghera asserts that Clifton was amongst those public schools that produced the middle ranking officers of empire but not those at the top. Whilst that is broadly true — it has to be just in terms of the number of people involved - there are a few notable exceptions in the school's alumni.

One really notable exception is William Birdwood (1865—1951), fully Field Marshal William Riddell Birdwood, 1st Baron Birdwood, GCB, GCSI, GCMG, GCVO, CIE, DSO. Birdwood witnessed the peak of empire and the start of its unravelling from the vantagepoint of being one of Britain's most decorated military men from the first half of the last century.

Alumni that don't have instant name recognition tend to be remembered in fast facts, so this article attempts to summarise what is an incredibly full life, worthy of many essays detailing each aspect, in a short space. I hope you will excuse its breeziness!

Birdwood was born in India, briefly attended South Town before joining Oakeley's House (1877—1882). "I usually kept a steady place near the bottom of whatever form I happened to be in," he writes. "I was a good long-distance runner, too, though useless as a sprinter; and though I just failed to win the 'Long Penpole' at Clifton I found myself still in good wind for long runs over the border country at Kohat [modern day Pakistan] when I was commanding the troops there thirty years later in 1910".

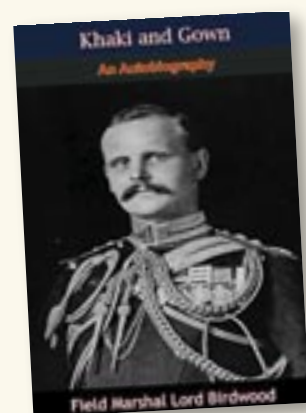
Birdwood describes his time at Clifton as "five happy years" and singles out Cadet Corp activities on the lake within Bristol Zoo's Clifton campus and a review at Windsor Castle in front of Queen Victoria with particular fondness. He would later command a mounted regiment, the 23rd Cavalry with fellow OC Leslie Younghusband as second-in-command.

Having left Clifton he trained at Sandhurst and served a few regiments in India, the Middle East and South Africa, at one point becoming Deputy Assistant Adjutant General to Lord Kitchener, a post he held during the Second Boer War.

Although there is certainly some work to be done to assess Birdwood's time in India more thoroughly, he will always be best known as the commander of the Australian and New Zealand (Anzac) forces during the WWI Gallipoli campaign. Birdwood opposed the landing at Helles but is credited with having effectively maintained his position and was held in high esteem by the Anzac troops both before and following the evacuation of Gallipoli eight months after landing. Birdwood was promoted to General and transferred to the Western Front. As commander of the Fifth Army, it was Birdwood who oversaw the capture and liberation of Lille and Tournai.

Birdwood excelled through deep expertise, tactical instincts and fearlessness combined with an approachability which endeared him to his officers who came to call him "Birdie" and the "Soul of the Anzac". Not only is it unusual for a British commander to have a positive rapport with the Australians, it's notable that his positive reputation as a leader stayed with him throughout his career and has continued into modern times.

Birdwood went on to lead the Northern Indian Army (1920—25) before being appointed Commander-in-Chief, India, a post that made him supreme commander of the British Indian Army and one he held from 1925 to 1930. This period of the Raj has been characterised as a time when maintaining the status quo was the strategic priority, characterised as “imperial policing” at the time.



Even while leading the British Indian Army, Birdwood made time for Clifton College. J H Whitley, best known as the last Liberal Speaker of the House of Commons, was a contemporary of his and was made president of the Royal Labour Commission when Birdwood was in India. Birdwood writes in *Khaki and*

Gown: “We were delighted to have him and his wife with us while the commission was in Delhi. I took advantage of his presence to hold an Old Cliftonian dinner. More than thirty of us attended it, but Whitley and I stood out as the only two old ones”.

Seven years before, in 1922, he found the time to attend the opening of Memorial Arch along with Douglas Haig and the school holds a photograph of the two men together on that day.



The Memorial Arch, Clifton College

Birdwood later toured Australia and very nearly became the country's Governor-General, and had the backing of the King and then Prime Minister but the



Grave of William Birdwood and family (Twickenham Cemetery)

Australian Prime Minister insisted on a native Australian. Having been thwarted in these ambitions Birdwood became Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge, and the much more vaunted role of President of Clifton College from 1931, a position he held until his death in 1951. In 1932, the Lord Mayor of Bristol invited him to unveil the Cenotaph in Bristol City Centre, and he also attended the unveiling of Haig's statue on the parapet at Clifton College. It was Birdwood who appointed Bertrand Hallward as Headmaster, an indication, according to Derek Winterbottom, of his keenness for Clifton to remain an academic school.

As well as his baroncy (Lord Birdwood of Anzac and Totnes), Birdwood was a recipient of the Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Star of India, Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire and the Distinguished Service Order.

From foreign countries he received the Croix de Guerre (France), Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown (Belgium), Croix de Guerre (Belgium), Distinguished Service Medal (United States), Grand Cross of the Order of the Tower and Sword (Portugal), and Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun (Japan).

Buried with full military honours, the Australian government continues to pay for the upkeep of his grave in Twickenham. A special

signed copy of his 1941 autobiography is held in the school's archives. It comes with a preface from the then Prime Minister (and Minister of Defence) Winston Churchill who tells us that “few people knew Lord Kitchener better than Lord Birdwood”. It is surprising to see Churchill had the time to write a preface considering everything else going on in 1941 but *Khaki and Gown* was probably a helpful reminder of (Churchill's words) the “good old days” at a time when Britain perhaps needed to be reminded. Unsurprisingly, Birdwood left a considerable physical footprint. If you visit Westminster Abbey you'll see his stall plate (his coat of arms) in the Chapel of the Order of the Bath. If you visit South Australia you might find yourself in Birdwood, a town named in his honour, and in Alberta you can climb Mount Birdwood in the Canadian Rockies. His name adorns Birdwood House, the centre of Anzac Day commemorations to this day, while his portraits can be found at the Australian War Memorial, the Royal Military College and the National Gallery of Victoria.

How might the school interpret Birdwood's life and times for its students today? British Empire history is extremely difficult subject matter for schools to teach and surely even more challenging in a school so deeply embedded in the history of empire as Clifton has been.

Thankfully, my experience at Clifton was having history taught in a manner that stuck to scholarly approaches to the study of imperial history rather than the balance sheet approach taken in the media and public sphere which in the last few years has become part of today's tiresome “culture war”. My memory of the way in which WWI is remembered at the school was a focus on commemorating lives lost and helping students understand the conflict rather than focussing on, or lionising, particular individuals.

Eugene Byrne, one of Bristol's top local historians, wrote as part of the Bristol 2014 programme: “Like the lettering in Blackpool rock, Clifton College appears again and again both in the history and mythology of Britain's role in the First World War. Several Old Cliftonians were in the top ranks of the armies and navies of

Britain, Canada, New Zealand and Australia during the war.” This passage may be reassuring to those who may feel they see Clifton College everywhere in WWI history simply because they attended or taught at the school.

Anzac Day on 25th April could form a greater part of the school's commemorations, especially as the Australian flag is already flown from the Memorial Arch on that day. It continues to be recognised annually at both Birdwood House and Westminster Abbey.

A life like Birdwood's is extremely complex and cuts through many different areas of study for a historian to assess. As Churchill notes in the preface to his autobiography, the major political controversies of the day are not mentioned in the book, as “this is the soldier's way”.

Clearly, he has not had a major controversy levelled against his name in the same way as Haig or Francis



Younghusband have, but as a prominent commander in India he was tied up in the maintenance of the Raj for the best part of a decade, a time when Gandhi and his supporters faced imprisonment and beatings and Britain's extraction of India's resources continued unabated. The Second Boer War is well remembered for the mass internment of thousands of women and children in British concentration camps and the death of around 26,000 of them.

While it is tempting to celebrate prominent alumni by default, the best approach is to lay out the facts and allow Clifton's current students and staff to make up their own minds about the school's many famous former students, and how they fit into our world view today. I'd start by picking up a copy of *Khaki and Gown* - I will be donating mine to the school's library.

Ashley's latest book, "*Know Bristol: a city in 365 facts*", is out this year.



Lieutenant-General Sir William Birdwood presenting Sergeant Frederick Watson with the Distinguished Conduct Medal for bravery at Gallipoli.



Other Anniversaries



2021 was the centenary of three other notable events in Clifton's history. June 1921 saw the Prince of Wales visit the College. And 1921 also saw the establishment of the Clifton College Endowment Fund, instigated by the OC Society. It is currently valued at over £5,000,000, and provides a mixture of bursarial support and scholarships. The majority of the latter are 'named awards', remembering various OCs [e.g. David Jones, Vernon Croucher, Richard Hancorn, Herbert Futter] and former Masters [e.g. Hugh Davie, Wilfrid Taylor, Charles Colquhoun, William Shenstone]. It is, of course, still managed by the Executive Committee of the OCS. Thirdly, the Stone Library was born in 1921, funded as a memorial to Lt. Henry Brassington Stone [OH 1909], who was killed in action in 1915. It holds in excess

of 5,000 volumes and was very much a personal project for the then Head of Science, Eric Holmyard. He regarded the historical and cultural aspects of science to be as important as laboratory work, and was one of many pioneering science teachers to have 'held the reins' at Clifton. Holmyard considered the library to be one of the finest of its kind in the world, and it is still going strong. Following the most recent Science School refurbishment, it occupies premises at the east end of the Physics floor.

Finally, 2021 marks the 80th anniversary of the evacuation to Bude. There are still a good handful of Bude veterans who will be reading this Magazine, and we salute you and the extraordinary part you have played in the history of the College.



Clifton's Bude Memorial unveiled on 16th March 1968 by Dr B. L. Hallward

Avonmouth train c.1890 in Hotwells station between Bridge Valley Road and the Suspension Bridge

Alexander Fletcher Jones, accidentally shot in a train at Sea Mills



A grave inscription in Redland Parish Churchyard records 'Alexander Fletcher Jones ... who was killed by the accidental discharge of a rifle at Sea Mills'. This is the story behind the tragedy.

The boy who shot him was Edward Hughes Hemming (1872: WiH 1874—78), son of G.W. Hemming KC, himself later Major-General and CMG. There are no known photos of Jones, nor of Hemming's father.

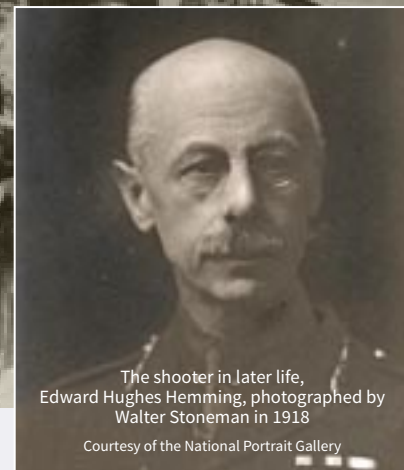
Alexander Fletcher Jones was the fourth son of William Jones, a Welsh mining engineer, and was born at Lochmaben, Dumfriesshire (about 4 miles west of Lockerbie) on 5th August 1854. He was educated at Oswestry Grammar School where he lived with his Aunt (who was the widow of a clergyman) and went up to Brasenose College, Oxford in 1872 and obtained 1st class honours in

Mathematics and Natural Sciences before becoming a master at Clifton College in 1877. In the obituary notices which appeared in many Scottish newspapers, he was described as being "of Oswestry" and was a marksman with the rifle having been a member of the Oxford shooting team at Wimbledon for two years.

On Saturday 16th February 1878, two parties of the Clifton College Cadet Corps went to the firing ranges at Avonmouth as part of their training in the Volunteers. After firing on the 200-and 300-yard ranges, both parties returned by the 5.35pm train to Hotwells. As the train stopped at Sea Mills, Sergeant Elton and one of the cadets, Edward Hemming, talked about previous shooting. Hemming put his Snider Enfield rifle on his knees and demonstrated how timid a boy was in shooting, waving his gun about. In the rush to catch the train, Hemming had not unloaded his rifle. It went off and the bullet went through the compartment wall into the adjacent first class compartment where the officers were sitting, passing between Lt Colonel Plant and Mr Grenfell



Shooting Team from the late 1880s



The shooter in later life, Edward Hughes Hemming, photographed by Walter Stoneman in 1918
Courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery

before hitting Alexander Jones, killing him instantly. As Jones was obviously dead, the train proceeded to Hotwells. Two days later, at the inquest in the Clifton College sanatorium, the Coroner made it clear he expected a verdict of accidental death. He said: "In a case like this, one could not help feeling deep sympathy with the family of the deceased but he could not help thinking that they should extend their sympathy to the young man who had been the innocent cause of the death of this young officer". The jury did as bidden.

Alexander Fletcher Jones had been gazetted in January 1878 as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 2nd Gloucestershire Engineer Volunteers of which Lt-Colonel Plant was also a Clifton master. He was at least partly responsible for his own fate: he was in charge of the range where Hemming had been shooting and therefore ultimately responsible for checking that all rifles were unloaded and cartridges returned at cease-fire. Edward Hughes Hemming (1860—1943) was the oldest surviving son of Mr G W Hemming (1821—1905) who was appointed the Official Referee in 1877. One wonders whether the inquest jury would have been as sympathetic if the pupil's father had not been an eminent lawyer, or if the deceased had been a more eminent or longer serving member of staff.

From Clifton, Edward Hemming went to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich and joined the Royal Engineers in 1880. He was mentioned in despatches during the First World War, becoming a Major-General in 1919. He retired in 1921 to Castle House, Newbury where he died in 1943.

My thanks to Gerry Nichols, of 166 Redland Road, Bristol, the author of this piece, which was originally published in the Redland Parish Church Newsletter. A.F.Jones was also a Welsh soccer international – Ed.



Remembrance Day 2020

A talk for Chapel, during coronavirus restrictions, by Simon Tait (History Department)

Tomorrow is Remembrance Day. It will feel very different this year. But at 11am we will stand in silence to remember all those who fought and died in the wars of the twentieth century. In particular, we might think of those from Clifton or our own families who fought in the two world wars and conflicts since then, Korea, the Falklands, Iraq, Afghanistan. Perhaps we might dwell on the 75th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War or the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

But tomorrow marks the moment when the armistice at the end of the First World War came into effect, when the fighting stopped and the guns fell silent at 11am on the 11th November 1918 to end the war to end all wars. Two years ago, on the 100th anniversary of the armistice, we spoke in Chapel about the first and last British soldiers to be killed in the First World War and we tried to set these individual stories alongside the overall scale of human loss and devastation.

Today I want us to think about just one young man whose extraordinary story has only really come to light in the last few years. It is a remarkable story and it would be generous to describe his story as being 'overlooked'. Those of you in Years 9 and 10 will have heard his story already.

This young man would die in the fighting on the Somme in September 1918 only 52 days before the armistice was signed. He is buried in Unicorn cemetery, near St



David Clemetson

Quentin in north east France. Like so many of the fallen he is a long way from home.

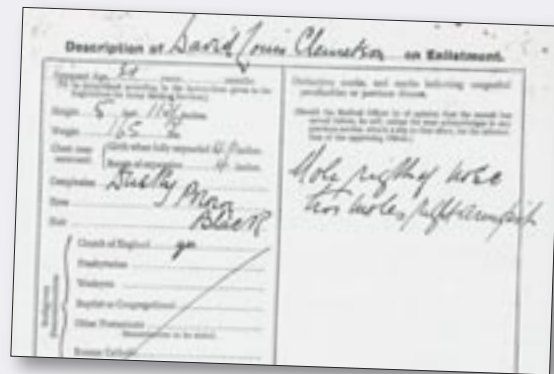
Born in Jamaica in 1893, David Louis Clemetson was the eldest son of David Robert Clemetson and his wife Mary Eliza. Their home was the Frontier Estate sugar plantation. They were wealthy. David went to boarding school in Jamaica before being sent here to Clifton to complete his schooling. He joined Daykns' boarding house (the building today occupied by ET and NT). He was clearly a fine sportsman and excelled at rugby, cricket and rowing. He flourished in the Officer Training Corps and archive photos show him sporting his NCO stripes and sports colours. In his House photograph, wearing his white cricket blazer, he sits close to the Housemaster. He was a leader and judging from the archive photos looks to have been hugely respected.

From school he won a place at Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1912 to read Law and the accounts and photos from his university show that his success continued, especially with rugby and rowing.

On the outbreak of war, aged 20, David was yet to graduate but he left university in September 1914 to enlist in the army as part of the nation's call to arms. He initially joined the Sportsmen's Battalion (a unit whose motto was 'Hard as Nails') and he fought in France and was wounded while serving with the Royal Fusiliers.

By 1915 he was commissioned as an officer in the 24th Welsh Regiment of the Pembroke Yeomanry. And this is the moment that this young man of such talent becomes quite extraordinary, because David was black and was almost certainly one of the very first black people to serve as an officer in the British army.

David's grandfather was a slave. He was the son of his white owner, who then gave him his freedom and his inheritance. Robert, the grandfather, became a prominent figure in Jamaica's wealthy elite. So young David belonged to an emerging mixed race 'plantocracy' class in the Caribbean. When he joined up in 1914 David could have passed for white but he refused to lie about his colour. The enlistment papers show us that on recruitment David's skin colour was described by the recruiting officer as 'dusky'.



Clemetson pictured at Clifton College (front row seated, fourth from right)

David must have impressed as a soldier because he was soon recommended for a commission by several higher-ranking officers; David's education at Clifton and Cambridge made him, in the eyes of the military at that time, the perfect officer candidate. There was just one problem: the British army did not accept black officers. The 1914 Manual of Military Law stated this. For David to navigate this and go on to command white soldiers is hugely impressive and gives us a clue as to his temperament and character. So, while hundreds of thousands of soldiers from the British Empire such as the West Indies, India, South Africa and Nigeria fought for Britain, David Clemetson was one of a very small number of black officers in the British Army itself. Walter Tull, the Spurs footballer, is usually credited as the first First World War black officer but David's commission preceded his.

David served in 1916 in the Middle East and possibly in the fighting on the Macedonian Front and after 8 months of this he was traumatised and suffering from shell shock. He was evacuated to a military hospital in Malta and then sent to Britain for further treatment; his hospital ship was torpedoed by a German U-boat and sank off north Africa in 1917. Rescued, David arrived at Craiglockhart Hospital in Edinburgh where he was treated for shell shock. He remained there for two months. The war poets Wilfrid Owen and Siegfried Sassoon were also treated at Craiglockhart at the same time and Owen referred to David in an article in the hospital magazine. David's recovery was uncertain, some reports refer to his 'inability to sleep' and how he 'suffered with terrible nightmares' and how his 'legs were too weak for him to stand'. These two men, Clemetson and Owen, both aged 23 with shared wartime experiences, 'men whose minds', Owen wrote, 'the Dead have ravished.'

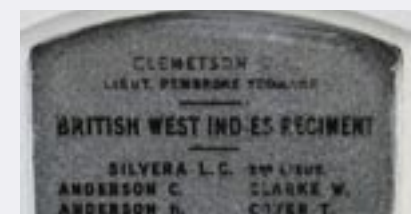
In July 1917 David was promoted to full lieutenant—the only black soldier it appears to hold this rank in the war—and

in August declared fit for duty again. He was sent to the Western Front in March 1918, in time for the German Spring offensive. David was involved in the halting of this and the Allied counter-attacks from August that turned the war in the Allies' favour. Tragically, David was killed in action on 21st September, 52 days before the armistice. Many of you will know that Owen was killed less than 2 months later, 7 days before the armistice.

David was buried in Unicorn cemetery on the Somme battlefield, he is remembered on the war memorial in his hometown of Port Maria, St Mary, Jamaica. And, of course, he is on our own Memorial Arch. Next time you walk through stop and find his name alongside those killed in 1918 and spend a moment thinking about this remarkable young man - a story that deserves greater telling. What might have become of him? It may be that David came from money and privilege that set him apart from the majority of those in the Caribbean, but he and Walter Tull and George Bemand should be seen as pioneers who helped challenge the military's attitude to barring men of colour.

This poem, In Memoriam, written by a friend, was published in the Jamaican Gleaner newspaper in 1918, a few days after Clemetson's death:

*Somewhere in France you are sleeping
The warrior's last sleep
Far from the land that gave you birth
And the eyes that for you weep...
So, a last salute we'll offer you,
And a last farewell we'll wave;
God rest our gallant countrymen
Till we meet beyond the grave.*



War memorial in Port Maria, Jamaica: Clemetson's name can just be made out at the top.



Clemetson was sent to Britain aboard the hospital ship Dover Castle, which, after a day at sea, was torpedoed by a German submarine and sank off North Africa on 26 May 1917. "Dastardly," a British newspaper roared. "The enemy must be punished!"



Clemetson in Clifton College's Officer Training Corps (front row seated, centre)



Class was a factor as well as race: Clemetson (back row, 2nd from left) rowed for Trinity College, Cambridge



A copy of Clemetson's obituary from 1 October, 1918. Reproduced with kind permission of The Jamaica Gleaner.

A Doctor's Life

Tom Wells (ST 1988) tells his unusual story

What memories do you have of your time at Clifton College?

I attended Clifton between 1980 and 1988 and was in Wollaston's, North Town Pre and South Town. I enjoyed most subjects, particularly maths and the sciences, the range of sporting activities offered, particularly golf, and especially looked forward to tea (with cream cakes!). I did eventually 'emerge from my scarf', focus on my studies more than my golf, and got great results.

What made you decide to study Medicine?

I did voluntary work with people with Down's Syndrome when I was 16, taking them for activities such as swimming, and enjoyed spending time with them. I wanted to pursue a scientific career that had a practical element and involved this connection with people, and so I chose medicine. I also remember seeing a programme on television (I watched a lot of TV in my youth!) called *Doctors to Be* which showed this to be an interesting, fun and challenging career - something very embedded in life rather than purely analytical and academic.

While at medical school you had an accident that changed your life. How did you manage to return to your studies and complete your training and work as a hospital doctor?

I had already done almost four years at St Bart's Medical School, London, when I had my accident. This had included doing an intercalated BSc degree at UCL where I did research at the Natural History Museum measuring the thigh bones of Neanderthals. I had also done one year of clinical work in which I had learnt to examine patients and do basic medical procedures. I enjoyed life in a big city, riding a vintage Lambretta scooter, playing golf (of course!) and getting University Colours, and spending evenings in the bar.

In March 1992 I had a life-changing accident on a skiing holiday in Val d'Isere. Saying that I was lucky to survive is not an overstatement. I had two punctured lungs, several fractured ribs, a fractured

collarbone, both jaws fractured, brain contusions and swelling, and most enduringly, a fractured spine at lower-chest level. After having my jaws wired and a tracheostomy put in two days after the accident, I was flown back to Frenchay hospital in Bristol and was later transferred to Odstock Spinal Injury Unit where I spent 14 months.

London University were very helpful in saying they would support my return to medical school there, but I thought it would be better to move back to Bristol where I had the support of my parents. I transferred to Bristol Medical School and qualified in 1996. Bristol were really helpful in making the necessary practical adaptations to key areas, even giving me my own parking space at the BRI, and gave me clinical attachments close to home. I worked out how to examine patients from a wheelchair - having already learnt how to do it before the accident was a benefit. I had to be mindful of choosing a specialty that would not place too many limitations on my ability to do the job, which is why I pursued Oncology rather than, for example, surgery.



Tom Wells at Clifton College

Your recent MBE was awarded for services to medicine and people with disabilities in the medical profession. What challenges do people with disabilities face in this context and how can they be overcome?

Disabled people do face a range of physical, social and emotional challenges when pursuing a medical career. But they are also in the advantageous position of having inside knowledge and experience from being a patient, in terms of receiving care and living with a long-term impairment—this can give them a crucial understanding of a patient's point of view. From my perspective, and the fact that I am now working as an established consultant, I feel that I not only contribute by looking after all of my patients, but by simply being there and doing the job I change attitudes about what disabled people can achieve. I have written a book *Behind the Curtains* which illustrates the challenges I have faced and overcome.



What interests do you have outside of work?

Work keeps me pretty busy, but in recent years I have enjoyed playing wheelchair tennis (I no longer have the balance required to play golf) with the Wheely Good Tennis Club, supported by the LTA. I also enjoy learning about wine, and sampling the odd glass or two — life is good!

Bristol Achieve

OC sets up mentoring scheme in Bristol to aid social mobility



Former Clifton College pupil Hetty Brown (OH 1997) with son, Ethan

Old Cliftonian Hetty Brown has set up a Bristol-based mentoring scheme that will try to increase the chances of disadvantaged students in Bristol reaching high-end outcomes such as Oxbridge places, Russell group places or higher level apprenticeships. Hetty studied at Oxford University (St. Edmund Hall, 1998—2001) and found the preparation given for her application to Oxford by Clifton College “focused and invaluable”. When interviewed, Hetty commented: “The help given to me by Clifton went way beyond the expert and inspiring extra tutorials laid on by Mr Jefferies, Ms Clarke and Mr Brown in my upper sixth year, although these were truly game-changing. I believe that the training given to me from a very early age in resilience, confidence and oracy skills were all embedded within the ethos, curricular and extra curricular provision Clifton offered. Not to mention encouraging me to develop a lifetime habit of loving reading for pleasure.” The passion that drives Bristol Achieve stems from the team's strong belief in social justice and an awareness that access to such top level universities and work places allows you to connect with people who are more likely to be able to enable and empower you with their connections. “This is something that we feel should be shared with as wide and diverse a group of Bristol's talent as possible,” Hetty added.

Having worked at Marlborough College, Wells Cathedral School and most recently at St. Brendan's Sixth Form College, Hetty was able to gain a good insight into the ways different schools support and boost their students, especially those who are high potential learners. The sports, drama, enrichment offer, even the key resources

such as fabulous libraries, beautiful buildings and sports grounds, were prioritised more in the private sector and “these activities make a big difference to a student's sense of confidence”. In the move across to teaching in the state sector, it became apparent from conversations with colleagues in a variety of teacher networks that in the state sector cuts to public spending and increasing pressures on state school teachers, meant that the state sector was often not able to provide the same level of intensive academic and personal preparation for the high ability students who learn within that environment, and often extra curricular subjects were the first things to go from the school's timetabling.

Hetty continued: “I set up Bristol Achieve along with my excellent colleague and co-founder Dr Verity Jones (senior lecturer in education at the University of the West of England) in 2016 and we registered as a company in 2019. We have also had the support of Kate Holland-Smith (nee Barrett), now Chair of the Old Cliftonian Society and local business owner. As a director of the company, Kate's background in corporate law as well as her business acumen has been invaluable. Our sole aim is to close the gap that is growing currently between disadvantaged high potential students and their more advantaged peers. We want to bring the best provision, such as I experienced at Clifton, to those students in the form of mentoring sessions that will give confidence, improve oracy skills and really embed a love of reading for pleasure, something that is a well known means of boosting attainment in all academic subjects.”

Bristol Achieve was created to try to bridge this gap, well-documented by The Sutton Trust and others, and ensure that all students who are able to apply for high-end outcomes, feel prepared and confident to do so. They ran their pilot programme working with high potential disadvantaged Year 7 students from Cotham School in January 2020 in collaboration with Bristol City Council's 'educational partnership', in which Clifton is also involved. Unfortunately, they were 8 weeks into the programme when the first national lockdown was announced. However, the positive impact on mentees was measurable with one commenting that

they had enjoyed the sessions with their mentor “because every lesson has been so fun and it has really helped me in all ways like now I read a lot more and she has helped me with reading.”



“Bristol Achieve will begin work in the autumn at Bridge Learning Campus in Hartcliffe. Mentors are sixth formers from St. Brendan's Sixth Form College and we are developing a wide and broad model for mentoring which may include: corporate community outreach, university students, retired people and any other interested parties. Bristol Achieve are also half way through the first 8 week professional mentoring programme offered by the excellent staff at PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Bristol in their voluntary outreach capacity, giving St. Brendan's students invaluable help with their CV writing, interview skills and sense of direction and purpose. We are looking to expand the corporate mentoring programme in the future and we always love to hear from people who might be keen to get involved in any capacity”.

The mentoring programme Hetty and the team has set up is called Bristol Achieve www.bristolachieve.com. The scheme will see students from Bristol who are identified as both high potential and disadvantaged given long term and sustainable mentoring in the areas of: resilience, creative thinking, reading for pleasure, oracy skills, goal setting and cultural capital.

If you are interested in or would like to work with Bristol Achieve in any capacity please get in touch: hetty@bristolachieve.com



Equality Diversity Inclusion Belonging

In the wake of the UK's Black Lives Matter movement, an Open Letter was circulated through the Clifton community, pressing the school for its response to the demonstrations and anger that marked that summer. In its first couple of weeks online, the letter gathered over 400 signatures from OCs, parents, current students and teachers alike. The question was simple: as a school that endeavours to 'lead the way as one of the Best Boarding Schools in the country', how will Clifton endeavour to lead on this defining issue?

Clearly, this letter was not an isolated event. The inclusivity of all institutions was being called into question that summer. Young people, emboldened by the collective spirit of Black Lives Matter worldwide, were challenging authority with a fervour previously unmatched by this generation. Diversity and inclusion had, rightfully, become the defining issue of our time. To us, it was now incumbent on Clifton to put their resources behind this movement and be proactive in the unravelling of structural racism in the UK. Failure to do so, in our view, would have seen Clifton fail in the example it sets to other schools in the region.

Few secrets remain as secrets at Clifton and, predictably, the letter came to the attention of Tim Greene prior to it being officially sent to Senior Management and Council. Initial talks were held with representatives from across the Clifton community and, as a first step, it was agreed that the school must publicly respond to the letter and its signatories.

The College's response represented an important first step in winning back the trust of OCs on matters relating to race. Significantly, the school used their statement to acknowledge those students who 'did not experience a College free of racial prejudice'.

As Dr Greene went on to say, though, it was now time to 'create a clear plan of action to tackle these issues', with the school being 'ready to consider all

possible future steps to make sure that Clifton becomes a place free from prejudice and discrimination'.

The Open Letter plainly stressed the need for both structural as well as cultural change within the College. And so, to oversee the changes planned for Clifton, Geraldine Maringo was appointed as the school's first Head of EDIB (Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging). Geraldine has combined her work as a teacher in the Modern Languages department with (as she calls it) her "mission" to develop a culturally inclusive school and it is thanks to her energy that things are starting to gather momentum. She has established an EDIB committee composed of 23 pupils and 26 members of staff from across the College. This committee holds weekly meetings, and Geraldine updates the OCs who initiated the open letter [see below] on a monthly basis. The establishment of this group means that Geraldine brings the weight of a collective to her frequent conversations with Senior Management over EDIB issues (her space to both challenge and support the senior leaders across the school).

The question, though, remains the same: can a predominantly white institution be anti-racist? Can cultural change occur before structural change? It is clear that, on a structural level, there is much more to do to ensure that Clifton's minority students are both protected and allowed to thrive.

Excitingly, plans are in motion for a new 100% scholarship (in the mould of the Stormzy Scholarships for Black UK Students at Cambridge) targeted towards UK ethnic groups (*means-tested*) currently under-represented within Clifton's student body. The distinction between UK and international ethnic minorities is frequently overlooked by diversity quotas but, without this nuance, Clifton stands no hope of properly representing the diversity of Bristol, let alone Britain. Staggeringly, one testimony given by an international OC revealed, 'I didn't meet a black British person until I went to

university. During my time at Clifton, every other black person was Nigerian and from a well-to-do family'. With this in mind, the value of this scholarship cannot be understated in the context of Clifton's anti-racist movement.

Furthermore, a survey recently conducted at Clifton (in partnership with Flair Impact, an organisation 'leading the way in building an anti-racist culture, through anonymous surveys, performance tracking and data-driven solutions') identified 'staff ethnic diversity' as the area that needs most urgent attention. The fact that 93% of Clifton's staff body is white, as per the survey, will be doing untold damage to the world view of our impressionable students. Another testimony given by a non-white OC grieved the school's 'lack of BAME role models', detailing a decade-long journey of unravelling an unconscious bias against their own race as a result. As a start, the school's job applications now include the following text: "Applications are welcome from all suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age or disability. We particularly encourage applications from under-represented groups." Structural change is, of course, a slow process. There are, however, things within our control that hurry this process along.

With the establishment of EDIB, we are hopeful that both students and staff will have greater faith in the school to appropriately deal with race-related issues and are, therefore, more likely to come forward. Geraldine is fostering an open-door policy and holds Friday drop-ins for both staff and students for which the take-up has been promising. There are also new structures in place that allow Geraldine to work together with HoMs and the Deputy Head (Pastoral) to root out any EDIB-related concerns that might have otherwise gone unnoticed.

The school has also forged connections with local organisations to both learn from and assist with their own anti-racism work.

Clifton has now joined the 'Equality and Diversity' sector of the Bristol Education Partnership who are leading a campaign to review and decolonise school curriculums. There are plans in place to redraft all curriculums at Clifton for the coming academic year. Clifton is also in partnership with the Stepping Up Programme (City Council) which, according to their website, offers mentorship to 'BAME, disabled people and women' with a view to diversifying leadership in the workplace.

Whilst EDIB is largely focused on race-related issues within the College, the Committee has also been working to change the culture surrounding gender

and sexuality at Clifton. There was concern initially that widening the scope of the EDIB committee would harm the group's ability to deal with race-related issues. We are, however, satisfied that an intersectional approach has been taken by the Committee in their work to celebrate differences of all kinds. Between Chapel talks, presentations, fortnightly newsletters, reading lists and book groups, EDIB has been generating conversation within the school about pronouns, anti-Asian racism, Stephen Lawrence, gender neutral uniform and reviewing the school's values.

There is no doubt that COVID-19 related disruptions have, at times, slowed the

progress of the EDIB committee over the last year. We are also under no illusion as to how much more anti-racist legwork can and must be done at Clifton. Having said that, there are some small wins to celebrate within this update and, now supported by a collective from across the school community, we are confident that more are on the horizon.

Dylan Trenouth ET 2014
Charlotte Bresnahan WT 2014
James Morris MH 2014
Miebaka Sekibo SH 2014
Daniel Odutola WiH 2010





Then and Now:

Cricket

Douglas Henderson recalls more than 30 years of cricket at Clifton

I found myself at Clifton because the then Headmaster, Stephen McWatters, had telephoned the Cambridge University Appointments Board in February 1968 saying that he needed somebody for September to a) run the cricket and b) teach Latin and English. In that order. As I was doing a one-year Cert. Ed. doing Latin and English and being shortly to play cricket in the 'Top Twenty', I fitted that demand better than anybody. I did have a bizarre interview — as you would expect if you knew him — with Nigel Dodd, both of us prowling T2 rather than sitting down (the English department wanted somebody to 'beef up' the drama, too, which helped my cause), an eminently sensible one with Geoffrey Hardyman and a leisurely one with the Headmaster endlessly interrupted by four-year-old Henry.

Clifton was extraordinarily welcoming. On the cricket front I was appalled that all but the 1st XI played in grey trousers; we managed no nets before half-term (then in June) as the area was sodden; and 'house nets' as then constituted — barely prepared wickets on the outfield — would have caused any Health and Safety inspector to have a fit of the vapours. I also got into serious trouble with the Second Master (David Gibson) for arranging a block fixture with Millfield at the latter's request.

That all changed fairly promptly, often against much opposition (such as Housemasters wanting to keep the lethal house nets for 'social reasons'). I was particularly pleased that we were one of the first schools in the country to put down the first then revolutionary artificial net pitches. A few years later, thanks to the generosity of Tony Windows, John

Cleese and a few others, we were also one of the first schools to use a bowling machine (the Jugs machine, invented for baseball). Following that, Bola (based in Bristol) who make the almost universally used bowling machines nowadays, used us as guinea-pigs for their very first devices.

Weather was a constant problem and I came very close to persuading the Headmaster (still McWatters) to build a rudimentary sports hall on the single tennis court then called number 4. It surprises many people that a standard-sized sports hall is exactly the same dimension as a tennis court (ditto the Redgrave Theatre, more or less). It would have cost a mere £10,000 which even then was very cheap. But a few years had to pass before we acquired one which, delightful though it is, is way short of the length required for bowlers to have any kind of run-up.



Then and Now

Weather also played a part in my decision to broaden the scope of school cricket tours which until the late 70s had been confined to exotic places like the Netherlands. Now much cheaper airline travel made it possible to be more adventurous. Happily, I have family connections in Bermuda and much to the envy of other schools we made our first tour there at Easter in 1978. To say it was memorable would be an understatement. I shall never forget the tears from both hosts and guests (us) as we said our farewells. In later years (1987) we were the founders, together with Repton, of the Sir Garfield Sobers International Schools tournament, now in its 34th year. Or rather, our original plan had been for six UK schools who are too geographically distant to play each other to meet in a sunny location and play there, with local opposition as well, if possible. The Repton

professional, Mike Kettle, knew a Barbadian travel agent (Don Gooding) and it was soon set up. But then it was hijacked by the Barbados Tourism Board (Minister for Tourism one Wesley Hall) and the rest, as they say, is history.

And the cricket? Well, I could write a whole book about the highs and lows of my time in charge and all the delightful young men who visibly grew as cricketers in front of one's eyes. I'd prefer not to single out any names as I wouldn't know where to stop. I am probably proudest of the generation who first of all were finalists in the highly competitive Cricketer Cup for old boys, losing to Shrewsbury Saracens in 1987; then beating Tonbridge to win the Cup in 1993 but losing to the same opponents in the final the following year.

We participated five times in the fiercely competitive Sobers Cup with 14 schools from the UK, the Caribbean and elsewhere, and reached the semi-finals four times by winning almost all matches up to that point. In 1987 Brian Lara looked not a bad player; almost as good as our John Meadows and Repton's Chris Adams. I'm not kidding; there really was not much difference among all three and the main Barbados paper predicted a Test future for all of them.

I could write another book about the players we played against who later went on to greater things of whom a sprinkling of names may give a flavour: Derek Pringle, John Stephenson and Nick Knight, all from Felsted; an endless series of Cowdreys, Richard Ellison and large numbers of other great players from Tonbridge; Huw Morris, Jeremy Lloyds and several others from Blundell's; and so on.

My greatest debt must be to the great Jim Andrew with whom I worked closely until his untimely death at the age of only 59 in 1996; and, for my last few years, with Paul Romaines. Both were not only superb coaches but had the great gift of communicating with schoolboys better than any schoolmaster can. Indeed, we were blessed in my time with several such figures in the sporting sphere: Terry Whatley and Gordon Hazell in particular had a huge influence on the lives of so many young Cliftonians.

Indeed, we were blessed for most of my time with a great army of colleagues who coached teams in all the age-groups with great dedication and enthusiasm; we were very fortunate to have so many prepared to give up their time and energy to promoting the game and the well-being of their charges. To them all, huge thanks. It was a privilege and a delight to be charged with such a wonderful challenge.

Schools cricket in the 21st Century by John Bobby

I arrived at Clifton for the summer of 2004 and it is fair to say that there have been significant changes to cricket over the last 17 years. Initially, things remained unchanged with the traditional fixture card being largely maintained, with the more prestigious fixtures being those against Sherborne and Cheltenham College. Cricket was still played in whites with a red ball and this remained largely



unchanged until the domestic 20/20 programme started. In the summer of 2007 the first tentative steps towards a school T-20 format started with a small-scale Bristol schools competition. In 2008 this was further developed to a Bristol and Bath schools competition with a final being played between the two group winners.

It was then in 2009 that the first national schools 20/20 competition took place based around the format that had been introduced in the Bristol and Bath schools competition.

This competition has become hugely successful with the finals being contested at Arundel each year. A major change to what schools cricket looked like came in 2010 when the T-20 format encouraged schools to wear coloured clothing and the competition was also now played with a pink cricket ball. In the South West, Clifton has been very successful in the T-20 format and regularly contests the regional final against either King’s College, Taunton or Millfield, two real powerhouses of the game.

What else has changed? Certainly, the nature of the format of Saturday cricket has changed and no longer are matches played with a declaration and a final hour of play. 50 over cricket has become the

norm on a Saturday afternoon with matches being played to a win or loss conclusion. Bowling regulations at all ages mean that realistically a minimum of 6 bowlers will be used and certainly there are no 25 over spells from one end now permitted. The introduction of white ball and coloured clothing cricket in the 50 over format has also been a change but so far this has only happened on a handful of occasions.

Many would argue that this has been detrimental to schools cricket, though most of those who play prefer the win or lose format.

Another major change over the last 20 years has come in terms of which schools are the ‘powerhouses’ of schools cricket, particularly in the Southwest. No longer are Sherborne and Cheltenham the toughest fixtures, with King’s College, Taunton and Millfield now being the strongest opponents by some considerable margin.

In more recent years the most significant change has come with the development of girls cricket. This is now moving at pace and a significant number of girls are now being attracted to Clifton because of the cricket programme that has been established for girls. The under 15 girls are competing in a national finals day

early in September.

In essence, schools cricket has changed considerably but in many ways I believe it was forced to do so. The changes in cricket both nationally and internationally have meant that school cricket had to become more exciting and replicate the type of cricket which has gathered such huge momentum across the world, starting with the development of the IPL and more recently the Hundred competition in the UK.

In my opinion the changes that have occurred to the school game have been largely very positive and I am sure that there will be further developments before too long. But I hope that the traditional Saturday afternoon block fixtures will remain in place, largely unchanged apart from the 50 over format.

Cricket at Clifton is certainly in a very good place. Pupils are attracted to the college because of the excellent cricket programme that we now offer and I am sure that we will continue to progress the game over the next decade. All OCs will always be very welcome on the Close to watch the 1st XI, though expect that the game may not look exactly as it did in years gone by!



Wiseman’s House



The machine demands a sacrifice, by Mark Eldridge [WiH 1971, President of the OCS]

The Secretary demands a short article.

A popular beat combo named *Colosseum* released this number in 1969. That was pretty much slap in the middle of my life in Wiseman’s House at Clifton. I recall the times as being a mixture of the portentous and the revolutionary. It could not have been easy to run a school then. The boys (for we were all boys) were not particularly compliant.

On the other hand, we were rebelling (but didn’t have the guts to emulate our fictional counterparts in *If*) against a changing but still old-fashioned structure. Clifton was predominantly comprised of boarders and the great majority of them from within the UK, somewhat of a contrast to today. The House structure was deeply embedded and probably the strong Housemaster, for they were all men, could largely run his own fiefdom.

We retained fagging. When I started, boys still beat boys. I don’t remember anybody using terms like “safeguarding” or “pastoral care”. In Wiseman’s I don’t think we ever felt neglected but soft drugs were pretty common, mass exodus at night sampling the watering holes of Bristol was the norm at weekends and dormitories were crowded, sparse and absolutely freezing. One put on more clothes to go to bed rather than disrobing. It was perfectly acceptable to dump a load of boys into an obscure part of Somerset on a Saturday night with a broken compass, a ball of string and half a crown and tell them to find their own way

back. Like much of Clifton then, Wiseman’s rather underrated the worth of the quiet scholar or musician and over-celebrated perhaps the members of the XV or the XI. I hated my first year until it was discovered I was a decent cricketer and then all seemed forgiven.

Alick McDonald (who presumably in a later incarnation might have been nicknamed Ronald) was the Housemaster. He had a distinguished war record, a limp and a Scottish accent. He was in his early to mid-40s and seemed ancient. He had a wife who could have been cast as one of Bertie Wooster’s aunts without troubling to make an effort. He was a fine classical scholar and an essentially kind but relatively diffident man, who may not have been ideally suited to his role in a fairly turbulent period.

Much of the time a great Clifton character, Christopher Jefferies (so badly treated 10 years ago by the Press but with the record being wonderfully set straight by Roger Michell, an OC), was a young in-House tutor, as they were then called. He would have been in his mid-to-late 20s and displayed unusual talents and some bewilderment. His idea of hell must have been the House 3rd XV at BB in the depths of winter. I cannot imagine Christopher had any significant grasp of the laws of Rugby football as he slithered his way around the turf in a brand-new tracksuit and plimsolls. Boys would endearingly ask for pocket money – because he ran a house bank – in multiples of 1/7d, he being unworldly enough, I think, not to realise that this was the price of a pint of Courage’s worst. Christopher was a noted English and drama and film scholar but his grasp of arithmetic was a little less

sure. Only under his somewhat eccentric eye could a fiver deposited at the beginning of the term turn out to be £14 6s at the end.

I’m still involved at Clifton today. We have girls and are more civilised for it. It’s a different world and the House is in a wholly different location, but it is still Clifton in many ways. Liberality of thought is undiminished, the Chapel Clock continues to sound that unusual note and, however brave you are, there remains a mild feeling of trepidation as you approach the Headmaster’s study, delightful man though Dr Greene is. The fees, however, are no longer £193 per term.

A glimpse of WiH in the early 1990s [Jo Greenbury, House Tutor 1990-1992, Secretary of the OCS]

It would have been negligent to allow this article to go to print without inserting one or two personal recollections of my time in Wiseman’s. I had been at Clifton for only a year when our first child was born, and this happy event had the unintended consequence of necessitating our departure from the Tutor’s flat in School House – I had had a great time learning from Simon Reece, a real master craftsman as a Housemaster, but the accommodation was simply unsuitable for three of us. I secured a transfer to Wiseman’s, though I’m not sure that a fee was paid!

Mike West had been Housemaster since 1984, and was therefore probably at the peek of his powers. He was riding the crest of the ‘day boarding’ wave, and attracted some very strong boys to join the House. He recruited well from the Pre and was topped up with an eclectic mix of other boarders. The place was full to bursting, and he also developed a fantastic roster of ‘out House’ Tutors. Like his fellow Scot, Alex Ferguson, who as Manchester United manager was determined to knock Liverpool ‘off their perch’, Mike was keen to see Wiseman’s at the top of the sporting pile, especially at Dakyns’ expense! The House possessed an abundance of sporting prowess and did well across the board. Mike was equally keen for pre-eminence in drama and music, though I don’t recall any

spectacular dominance in these areas. But I do recall some chaotic Night Ops and a very profitable tuck shop, the proceeds from which were re-invested in the House.

Two crazy characters were also part of the set-up: Barbara, the Matron, who was an expert witness to all kinds of night crime in College Fields, because she did the laundry in the middle of the night, ‘when she wouldn’t be disturbed’! And Mr Manby, driver of an immaculate Reliant Robin and odd-job man/cleaner, who reigned supreme in the basement.

Mike’s study was the nerve centre of the operation, and he would back Wiseman’s boys to the hilt in conversation with colleagues in the SCR. And the unofficial nerve centre of the House was ‘DU’ [Down Under], a cave-like passage under the library into which staff rarely strayed - think Brixton for the police circa 1980! There was also great banter with those other denizens of ‘upper’ Percival Road, the Polackians, whether discussing the merits of each other’s ‘yards’, or playing a version of mass medieval football on NF after prep in June.

It was great fun, and another great learning experience for a young member of staff. After 2 years, following the arrival

of our second child, I moved again, this time to West Town. Mike was a very different personality to Simon, but he had an equally significant impact on the Housemaster I tried to be when I took over Polack’s in 1995.

The current Housemaster reflects [Daniel Janke]

Wiseman’s was founded in 1878 under the leadership of Rev. H. J. Wiseman, though the House only narrowly escaped destruction in 1940 when a bomb fell on the squash courts next to the House and its air-raid shelter. In September 2006, the House and its occupants moved from its original position on College Fields to a newly acquired and refurbished boarding house on Worcester Road. In 2017 the House underwent further significant renovations and refurbishments and today it proudly occupies a spacious and enviable position on the edge of the College campus with breath-taking views across The Close towards the main College buildings.

The boys in the House come from a diverse mixture of backgrounds and different cultures giving the House a truly global feel. The broad and eclectic mix of different personalities in the House make it a fun and vibrant place to board and

live, and it is not uncommon to find Wiseman’s boys cooking in the House kitchen or enjoying a competitive game of table tennis in the House Hall. Wiseman’s has a warm and convivial feel to it and all of the boys support each other greatly whether it be on the sports field or in other events like the House Song competition, or the House Play. Recently Wiseman’s achieved success in the House Rugby tournament, winning the much-coveted title for the first time in over a quarter of a century. Despite recent challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic that saw the House locked down for two weeks during the 2020 Michaelmas term, the spirit of the House remains undiminished and the travails of the past 18 months have only served to strengthen and unify the House further.

The House motto (Nec tenui ferar penna - “On no feeble wing shall I be borne.”) comes from the Roman poet Horace in which the poet predicts his world fame and immortality. Accordingly, the House symbol is that of a flying arrow. The message for Wiseman’s boys, therefore, is to “aim high” and to fulfil their potential. With many each year progressing to top UK and international universities, Horace’s words have clearly had their desired effect.



Recollections of the English Department

By Sarah Clarke (*disclaimer— this is how I remember that time, so apologies for any inaccuracies!*)

When I joined the English Department at Clifton in the autumn of 1986, the school was at a point of major transition in its history. Along with myself, there were several other women appointed as full-time teachers for the first time and the school was still accepting only boys. We were there to help prepare the way for the first intake of girls in 1987. There was a definite interest among the pupils about the fact that the staff now contained a number of women, although the term the Masters’ Common Room would stay in existence for a while before being changed to Staff Common Room. I remember sitting in the Redgrave Theatre for a Block I assembly when the then Headmaster, Stuart Andrews, pointed out to the boys that yes, as they had noticed, there were women staff and that we were not only talented teachers but also apparently into sports such as parachuting and hang gliding (none of us were as we discovered via a slightly bemused conversation afterwards) and that the boys were to expect firm control from us. Clearly trying to be helpful, Stuart was keen to ensure a positive response to our arrival from such a dominantly male environment, yet I am happy to say we were welcomed by staff and pupils alike and that was the start of

a very happy 35-year career at Clifton.

Joining the English Department was a slightly daunting experience, because of the notable array of members. Running the department with style and an impressive intellectual vigor was Brian Worthington, ably assisted by his deputy Christopher Jefferies, while 4 Housemasters —Tom Gover of School House, Douglas Henderson of Brown’s, Alan Brown of Dakyns’ and Lionel Binns of East Town — had so much experience and expertise between them that it was exciting but also a little intimidating. All welcomed me with great generosity and kindness though, and I knew then that belonging to this department would be an incredibly rewarding experience. In addition to the chance to discuss literature with my colleagues, I was fascinated by the individuality allowed at a time when teachers had a chance to develop their own intellectual interests, when department meetings happened only once a term and when lessons could take an interesting turn. The youngest member of the department before my arrival, David Lambert, was of great help to me when I joined, and had a real sense of fun in his approach to teaching; I remember hearing how one of his groups had thrown typewriters out of the top windows of the Tribe Building, why I’m not too sure now, but I was told that there was a serious point. Allegedly, late pupils to Mr Gover’s class might avoid a sanction

by doing press ups, only if they chose to do so, and he also rewarded positive class contributions with jelly babies. What I do remember is that there was a real sense of intellectual curiosity encouraged by the department; there were meetings of staff and pupils after school to discuss aspects of literature and in the examination season, Brian Worthington organised a series of colloquiums held in the Crypt after school when staff and A Level pupils presented university style papers on subjects of interest. The number of pupils taking A Level English Literature was high, usually above 50, and so there was a buzz about independent reading and research. The girls’ arrival fed into this and having mixed groups allowed for even greater discussion using real life experiences and opinions. The English staff were involved in all aspects of school life: rugby coaching, rowing, cricket, helping run the theatre, taking part in musical events, to name but a few; they were key participants in the annual Staff Panto, ably directed by Douglas Henderson and several directed School Plays. It was always a busy but very happy time and my strongest memory is of being part of a department that loved its subject, loved the chance to share personal enthusiasms and knowledge and that enjoyed working together, something that I am happy to say has continued over the years: it has been a privilege to be a colleague of so many dedicated and talented English teachers.



Development

Looking Ahead

By John Rolfe



It has been just over a year now since I began my role as your new Development Director. It has been a challenging year for everyone trying to adjust to life with Covid. Fundraisers across the country have had to adapt and adjust to this new reality. Ironically at a time when fundraising needs to be the most delicate, the need has never been greater.

In the past decade all independent schools have seen an exponential growth in the need for bursarial support for qualified means tested pupils. More and more people are just not able to pay the fees asked by independent schools. Luckily, OCs have been part of a long-standing tradition of giving back to their alma mater.

There are many reasons the Clifton College Development Trustees Matching Gift Scheme receives support. One such reason is that OCs want to give back to Clifton for the wonderful years they enjoyed at school. Others want the next generation to benefit from

a Clifton education as they did. Regardless, Clifton is so very fortunate to have so many OCs make Clifton one of their charitable priorities.

Besides what can be seen as only remarkable support from OCs in the last year, parents have also played their part. Those parents who are in the enviable position of being able to support Clifton charitably have also contributed significantly to our yearly total. For many parents they give to bursaries as they know the quality of education at Clifton is enhanced by the contributions made by all our bursary holders who display excellence in so many fields.

As your Development Director, I am pleased to say that the 2020/21 fiscal year has been the best Clifton has ever seen. To date this year, we have raised almost £1,000.000 in bursaries towards qualified means tested pupils, increasingly from marginalised and ethnically diverse communities.

As we look to the future, we know bursaries will play an important role and this demand certainly isn't slowing. This is a tremendous testament to the absolute quality of a Clifton education. As the Development Office builds its capacity, we will then begin to look at smaller prioritised capital projects that enhance our ability to teach and our pupils to learn.

In closing I would like to thank all those who have contributed charitably to Clifton's success, for without your tremendous support Clifton could not remain at the forefront of education worldwide.

Testimonials



Peter Tasker OC NT '73

I attended the OC reunion in 2019 and reconnected with old friends and inspirational teachers, such as Brian Worthington. I had the chance to meet several pupils and was highly impressed by their confidence and positive thinking. Clifton was a transformative experience in my case, and I am happy to support its continuing evolution.



Heather and David Stevens, parents' of OCs
Rose WoH '13, Luke SH '14, Lily WoH '16

My husband David and I have had the pleasure of sending our three children Rose, Luke and Lily to Clifton. As we all know, independent schools do not benefit from public funds, so all the great facilities our family enjoyed are a result of fee income and charitable support from Old Cliftonians and parents. We helped with the common room in the new Holland's House, funded the formation of the Upper School Biology Pond (who doesn't want to bring a frog into school?) and were able to extend the wonderful work done by the school in making PPE during the pandemic. We hope all this will help with the continued wellbeing of Clifton College, the tremendous teachers and the children.



Happy Memories 9 years of fun(draising)

By Jeremy Pickles

On 2nd January 2012, I started in the Garden Room with a clear desk, an underdeveloped database and a wide brief. There followed nine years of friend raising and fundraising across the globe, making new friends and acquaintances of so many Old Cliftonians, enjoying fond reflections of their time at Clifton, with tales of experiences, high jinks and beloved masters, whose inspirational teaching had made them what they are today; and, of course, the many parents who supported our various initiatives over the years.

There has been a diverse list of achievements including growing the 1862 (legacy) Club and welcoming all the wonderful new members, bursarial support for 44 pupils, the creation of the new Holland's House; the Willcocks' 32-foot double ophicleide; and theatre, rowing and sailing appeals. Highlights have included numerous OC and parent receptions in Hong Kong, Singapore, Washington, New York, Kenya, Riga and Moscow, where we hosted guests in the British Ambassador's private residence (opposite the Kremlin), and breakfast with the Russian Ambassador in London (resulting in a private tour of the Kremlin Museum); Percival and OC branch

dinners, business breakfasts (embracing the community), 25 years of the Redgrave Theatre, golf days, the parents' Cycling Club 'Tours de Europe', and many reunions, including corralling wayward OCs at the School House Jamboree sleepover and the record breaking bar tab at the 'Cittie of Yorke' in Holborn, entertaining OCs aged under 30... to name but a few!

Along the way I have been part of a great team. Simon Reece was particularly welcoming at the start, which forged an immediate understanding between the CCDT and the OCS, continued by his successor, Jo Greenbury. I have been blessed with super PAs in Sarah Matthews and the wonderful Laura Griffiths, as well as Jo Sira who joined just before lockdown; and through it all the irreplaceable Lucy Nash has been a joyous event planner, confidante and friend. It has been a pleasure working with you all, in what has probably been the happiest office in the school.

Teamwork, at times, has been tested to the limit, whether it be organising overseas trips, full blown fundraising dinners in London and at school, welcoming back OCs from across the world, concerts et al. Collectively, we have probably organized some of the best events seen at any school and always with a smile.

It has been a blast.

Particular thanks go to two Headmasters and the teaching staff for being so

welcoming, the many pupils who have helped with the fundraising and charity work and of course the wonderful support team throughout the school from catering through to estates, porters, accounts, marketing, cleaning staff, admissions and ground staff, always willing to help by going the 'extra mile' to make something special happen; not omitting Sandra Sykes, a master film maker.

I extend a special 'thank you' to all the donors and CCDT trustees who have been so generous and supportive and in John Pocock and Simon Brewer, I could not have had two better Chairs.

My last year (as has been the case for so many) has sadly not gone to plan due to the pandemic, but it has provided an opportunity to reach out over the airwaves, particularly with the PPE appeal. My hope was to work alongside my successor, John Rolfe, and introduce him to the OC community over the twelve months, however this has not been possible. Thanks, though, to the likes of Zoom, I hope I have been of some help and I have certainly enjoyed working alongside him, albeit from afar. He has made a great start with the fundraising and I know the CCDT is in safe hands.

Inevitably a role like mine involves many dinners, breakfasts, lunches, drinks' receptions et al. I have hugely enjoyed every one of them and mercifully retained the same trouser size as when I started – thank goodness for elasticated waist bands!

I hope to continue my links with the school as Karen is a Governor and Honorary OC; and, in October, our youngest son Benjamin marries Josie Edbrooke, who teaches in the Pre Prep, so there will still be a 'Pickles at Clifton', continuing 30 years of children, teaching, Housemistressing and Development. I will still be supporting the department in any way I can, and attending events with Karen; so hopefully this is not adieu but au revoir. For now, though, I send my very best wishes and fondest appreciation and raise a glass to you all. Now where did I put that corkscrew?

Stop Press: Jeremy has just accepted an offer to stay on part time for a further 6 months, so it's not even 'Au revoir'! [Ed.]



Book Reviews

How the West was to be Won

S.C. Kepher, *COSSAC: Lt. Gen. Sir Frederick Morgan and the Genesis of Operation OVERLORD* (Naval Institute Press, Annapolis MD 2020).

J.D. Gazzelli, *Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Morgan, KCB: The Planner who saved Europe* (Palmetti, Charleston SC 2021)

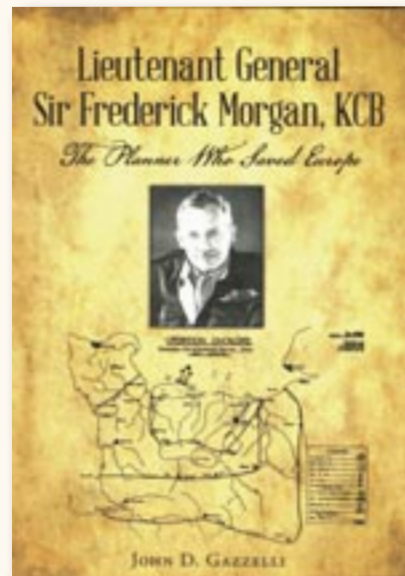
The invasion of Normandy is so pivotal in our history that one might suppose it had always been the allied objective, but not so. On entering the war, the Americans accepted that defeating Germany was the priority; and one look at the map convinced them this would be most readily achieved by pushing across the flatlands of Flanders. That was how Black Jack Pershing had done it in the war of '17—18. The British, while agreeing that was how Haig had done it, were anxious above all to avoid the conditions which more largely characterised the war of '14—18. Their preference was to build on success in Africa by advancing through Italy or the Balkans, hoping that meanwhile the RAF and the Russians would knock the stuffing out of Germany. It was nevertheless agreed at the Casablanca summit in January 1943 that, while active operations concentrated on the Mediterranean, a cross-Channel invasion should also be planned. No Supreme Commander was named; for the present it only needed, as Chief of Staff, 'a man with the right qualities'. That man was to be F.E. Morgan (BH 1907—11), known to history as Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Morgan, and to his many friends as 'Freddie'. These books describe how he set about changing the world.

The story has been told before, principally by Morgan himself in *Overture to Overlord* (1950) and *Peace and War: A Soldier's Life* (1961). He was recognised as the chief begetter of the D-Day plan in the memoirs of the warlords from Eisenhower downwards, so one cannot wholly accept the claim of the new books to reveal what history has forgotten. Nevertheless, they are the first works since *Overture* dedicated wholly to the seed from which OVERLORD grew. This was COSSAC, so named by Morgan himself, from his

cumbrous title, Chief of Staff to the Supreme Allied Commander (Designate). COSSAC also meant the whole planning staff. Both authors draw heavily on Morgan's own account, correcting a few minor details but generally endorsing its judgments. There is naturally much information now available which Morgan did not have, or could not divulge. Kepher's work is based on wide-ranging research in primary and secondary sources. Gazzelli's is also archivally-based, and has more by way of historiographical introduction, though it is a good deal shorter, and bulked out with overmuch computer-generated annotation. The two writers were evidently unaware of each other's activity.

Kepher gives the fuller sketch of Morgan's previous life, but neither book names his alma mater. Had its archives been consulted it would have been found that young Freddie made a promising start ('very keen') and continued to receive good reports; just once was it said (and surely for the last time) 'he gives in a little too easily'. He was a fine cricketer, heading the batting averages for 1911 with an impressive 39.6, his best innings 154 against the Liverpool Club. He also took eight wickets in the Rugby match. Even so he was outshone on the Close by his younger brother Stephen, whom R.P. Keigwin considered Clifton's finest player in half a century.

Freddie, commissioned into the Royal Artillery, had by his own self-effacing account an unheroic war, though he omits to record being twice Mentioned in Despatches. Having then volunteered for India (while, as he claims, his mind was clouded with gin), he stayed for sixteen years, holding a succession of staff posts with no more than three pips on his shoulders. He did however make useful contacts, including Birdwood (who nominated him for the Indian Staff College), Ismay and Slim. After returning to the UK, he moved into the fast track, and a month before the war the three pips had become a crown and three pips. In the process he made another significant contact, Montgomery, with whom he had his first shot at planning an amphibious attack. By May 1942 he was Lieutenant-General commanding 1st Corps, preparing for the invasion of North Africa



under Eisenhower, whom he now met for the first time. Then 1st Corps was largely dispersed, leaving its commander at a loose end just when a Chief of Staff was being head-hunted to plan the cross-Channel assault. In the classic manner he was invited to write a description of the task, and duly selected to perform it. Ismay had a key role here, and so did Mountbatten. Although Morgan's responsibilities would effectively absorb Mountbatten's Combined Operations, the good sense of both men avoided any awkwardness, and a fruitful partnership developed. One key figure had yet to confirm Morgan's appointment; that was settled over lunch at Chequers, after which the PM said he 'would do'. He did.

COSSAC had nine months to plan the biggest military operation in history. Kepher analyses COSSAC's structures and procedures as it evolved into an industry with over a thousand multifarious employees. A conference chaired by Mountbatten settled many issues, above all the target. Mountbatten and Morgan had always favoured Normandy; the Pas-de-Calais, more easily reached and so more heavily defended, was finally rejected. The plan, now OVERLORD, was submitted in July 1943 and approved. Yet until a Supreme Allied Commander was appointed COSSAC could not commission a pea-shooter, let alone fire one. The British army draws a sharp line between staff and command. To Morgan this was a

continual frustration, and he hankered for the American system in which a chief of staff can fully deputise for an absent commander. He shared the widespread expectation that OVERLORD's overlord would be US Army COS George Marshall, and during a private meeting in the Oval Office he endorsed that proposition. President Roosevelt preferred to keep Marshall in Washington; he did however grant Morgan's two other suits: for a US diplomat on his staff, and for as much of the US Army as might be needed. When Eisenhower was eventually appointed Supreme Allied Commander, COSSAC (the staff) morphed into Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF). COSSAC (the man) was offered a command in Italy, but preferred to stay at the centre of things. Eisenhower brought his own COS, keeping Morgan as his Deputy, as which he served until the end of the war.

COSSAC had also been ordered to plan decoy operations to keep German defences concentrated in the Pas-de-Calais, and to consider how to react if the enemy withdrew or collapsed before being attacked. The latter task extended COSSAC's concern to the maintenance of public order and essential services in the lands to be freed. This was an irksome prospect, with every likelihood that the liberators would have to hold the ring between factions of the liberated. Kepher's suggestion that the Americans and British both had relevant experience is questionable: while some precedent might be seen in South Africa, there had never been anything on the scale now in prospect. It was to Morgan's credit that he grasped this hot potato, setting up a civil affairs section in COSSAC, which itself played a significant part in the rebuilding of Europe.

These are American productions, and Kepher is particularly useful on the disposition of US forces in the west of England. V Corps is said to have provided the nearest thing to a senior operational HQ. Kepher seems not to know, as we do, that this was located at Morgan's old school, subsequently accommodating Bradley's 1st Army staff. Morgan himself did as much as anyone to bond the Atlantic alliance. He made it a priority to learn to speak and write the American language. Americans were at first wary of

him as a Brit, and not a few Brits because they suspected he had gone Yank. Such reservations dissolved on personal contact thanks to his easy manner and straight shooting. In the latter mode he could stand up to the highest. It was fundamental to the overall strategy that British and Canadian forces would form the left flank, the Americans the right, all the way from their UK bases to Berlin. Roosevelt wanted to swap positions (largely, it seems, to keep clear of the French), but eventually accepted COSSAC's iron logic. Morgan also gave short shrift to a belated attempt by Churchill to divert OVERLORD to the Mediterranean. Yet he also saw that a secondary operation there, or the feint of one, would usefully occupy de Gaulle's Free French without the complication of having them alongside on the Normandy beaches.

Kepher gives further instances of Morgan's lateral thinking. Plans were regularly scrapped because they envisaged resources which could not be supplied. Morgan's approach was to assess what was, or could be made, available, and then to work out what could be done with it. Then there was the map he commissioned: it is a pity this is not reproduced from *Overture*, because it speaks as plainly as the medieval cartography which set Jerusalem at the centre of the world. Morgan's projection turns Europe on its axis in every sense, east at the top, with Berlin at the centre of a Franco-German sub-continent from which the British Isles depend. That was certainly how Hitler thought of it; and if you can see into your opponent's mind, you are half way to striking him down.

Kepher devotes a chapter to German intelligence, but says relatively little of how COSSAC itself was served. This was mainly through existing agencies, as Morgan did not feel the need to create his own intelligence department. One must presume that in St James's Square he had a direct teletype link from Bletchley Park (these words are written in the very room where ULTRA decrypts were received by that means at Bradley's HQ). This traffic was restricted during the time in question, as the Germans felt secure enough in occupied France to use land-lines. Enemy expectations had to be evaluated from other sources. Morgan

wrote a disclaimer into his plan, pronouncing it unfeasible if more than a certain level of force could be deployed against it. He always recognised that his allotment was weak, and expected that once a SAC was appointed, its scope would be enlarged. So it was: as Eisenhower put it to Bradley, there was 'not enough wallop' at the outset. Maximum wallop is of course the American Way, and in this instance the British concurred. The initial assault force was expanded from three divisions to five, and a month's postponement allowed a crucial increase in the supply of landing craft.

The crux of Gazzelli's book is the penultimate chapter, which maintains that Montgomery and Eisenhower unfairly took credit for what Morgan originated. Kepher is less troubled by the controversy, arguing that the COSSAC plan was resilient enough to adapt and expand as more resources became available.

Kepher prints the main text of the OVERLORD plan as an appendix, as well as useful command charts and other supporting apparatus. Although his book is necessarily heavy with technicalities and properly documented for the academic reader, the narrative is clear and the exposition persuasive. Gazzelli's shorter work has a correspondingly briefer apparatus, and no index. Both writers may be forgiven their lapses in using English styles and titles, but Kepher should have known better than to promote Morgan to Brigadier General eighteen years after that rank had been abolished in the British Army, and Gazzelli ought to know the correct designation of his own country's DSM. Kepher's main blemish is pervasive apostrophication, which isn't good English, ain't good American, and doesn't belong in scholarly work. Gazzelli's writing is blunt, with occasional oddities ('liaison' as a verb, and 'crafts' as a plural); but at least it is not matey.

CSK

High Flyer from Down Under

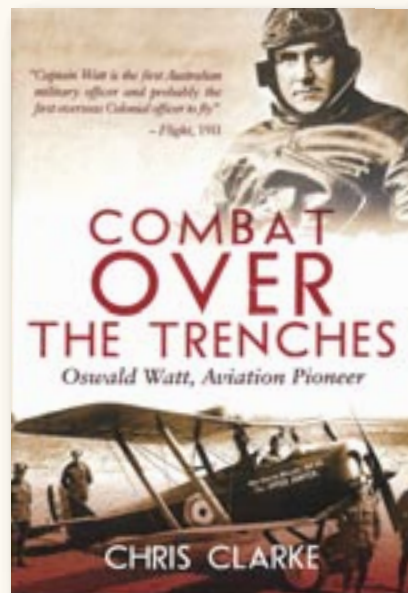
C. Clarke, *Combat over the Trenches: Oswald Watt, Aviation Pioneer* (Pen & Sword, 2017: £25).

Visitors to the website will have seen that Clifton's latest motto is 'Aim high. Stay grounded'. To the first part only a pedant, or anyone with an elementary grasp of ballistics, would object that aiming high will miss the target. As to what follows, we must simply be thankful that it was not the maxim in the past, else Cliftonians could not have won thirty-eight DFCs. Walter Gibb (DH 1933—6) would not have taken his Canberra higher than any man had gone before, confident that if he passed out on the way up, he would pass in again on the way down. At the very dawn of aviation several OCs had shown themselves to be made of the Wright Stuff. Most famous was Graham Gilmour (SH 1899—1902), whose low-flying stunts terrified MPs at Westminster and oarsmen at Henley. His lighter-than-air contemporary Ernest Willows (ST 1896—1901) would be dubbed 'Father of British Airships'. Cliftonauts also pioneered military aviation in the young Dominions. When Canada was slow to take up this challenge, the mining engineer William Hamilton Merritt III (DH 1871—4) gave two of his own planes to the RFC, and in 1916 he founded his country's Aero Club. In Australia the lead came from Walter Oswald Watt (OH 1892), whose career has now been expertly documented by the RAAF's foremost historian.

Watt (known by his second name, or more familiarly as Toby) was the youngest son of an Edinburger who became a prominent businessman and politician in Sydney. Devoted though he was to his adopted country, Watt senior did not rate its schools highly, so he sent his eldest boy to Harrow, the two others to private schools then Clifton. Inexplicably the easy-going Ernest (OH 1890—2) found it 'lax in the extreme'. Toby's opinion is not recorded but can hardly have been warmer, as he stayed only one term, and his masters judged him 'irregular and rather idle'. Still suffering the effects of severe leg burns from a boiler explosion, he was further prostrated with pneumonia. His father withdrew both boys at Christmas 1892, and Oswald completed his education with a private tutor. He then rejoined Ernest at King's, Cambridge, where

he took a third class in the Natural Sciences Tripos.

In truth Watt's English education has little significance in the unfolding chronicle. On returning to Australia, he followed his father into business and public life; after taking a commission in the NSW Scottish Rifles, he did a spell as ADC to the Lieutenant-Governor. He also took a wife, and with her cut a dash in Sydney society. Readers impatient to get airborne may want to skip the descriptions of every frock and hat in which Mrs Watt appeared. There is however a general point to this, alluded to in the double-entendre of the book's Australian title *The High Life of Oswald Watt*. His wealth and celebrity assisted the cause to which his energies now chiefly turned. On a visit to England in 1911 he learnt to fly, becoming the first Australian officer to receive an aviator's certificate from the Royal Aero Club. Admittedly he took this step in a private capacity, when his military status was uncertain. Nevertheless, he immediately began lobbying the Australian Defence Department to recognise the military potential of aviation, and on returning home he was asked advise on its development. Although a flying school was duly formed, Watt preferred to remain an independent consultant; he was in any case troubled by illness and the collapse of his marriage. When war broke out, he was in France, and without waiting for the British Empire to become involved, he enlisted himself and his Blériot in the air component of the Foreign Legion. Within a month he had the excitement of flying over the German lines with shells bursting all round him. In fact, he was criticised for doggedly holding course, and for some quirky handling of the controls. Of his courage there was no question, and he received the *Croix de Guerre* and *Légion d'Honneur*. Then in 1916 he resumed the King's uniform to command the first Flying Corps squadron of the Australian Imperial Force. It was in this capacity, leading his own countrymen first in Egypt and then on the Western Front, that his reputation was secured. It was endorsed by the already legendary war correspondent Charles Bean (BH 1894—8), who interviewed Watt shortly after Cambrai and photographed one of his latest aircraft. The author evidently did not know of their common educational background, but it must surely have emerged during their talk. Likewise, we see Watt alongside the then Australian Flying Corps Commander, Sir



William Birdwood, with no indication that here was another OC, indeed another old Oakeley's boy. This was after Watt had been posted back to the UK to run the AFC Training Wing near Tetbury. Though out of the firing line he was by no means out of danger. More airmen were killed in training than in combat, and experienced instructors were as vulnerable as novices to the frailty of their primitive machines.

After the war Watt resumed his business career, while continuing to advance the cause of aviation, military and civil; he was the first President of the Australian Aero Club. Unhappily the fortune which had preserved him from so many perils half way across the world deserted him one morning at his beachside home. It appears he slipped on a rock, knocked himself unconscious and drowned in shallow water. Many tributes followed, including a memoir co-authored by brother Ernest, and the Oswald Watt Gold Medal, still awarded by the Royal Federation of Aero Clubs of Australia.

Dr Clarke has reconstructed Watt's story in comprehensive detail, not afraid to mention his subject's technical defects and flaws of character, nor to veil the intermittent messiness of his private life. The book is handsomely produced, as one may expect from Pen & Sword, with numerous photographs, clear maps, and beautiful line drawings of the craft in which this fine Australian took to the air.

James Montague

A Palestine Affair David Willington – London 2021

David Willington's [DH 1964] third novel is all about the birth of the state of Israel and the roots of the conflict between Jew and Arab in Palestine after the Second World War. Anyone wishing to understand the background to what is happening in that part of the Middle East today will learn much from reading this book.

But above all, and running alongside the historical events of the time, this is a love story centred around the developing relationship between Guy Pearson, a rather proper product of the Establishment in England in the late 1940s and early 1950s, and a Jewish nurse called Rachel.

An Inspector in the Metropolitan Police with a promising career ahead of him, Guy decides to give it all up and join the Palestine Police who, along with the British Army, have the unpalatable task of trying to keep order in Jerusalem as opposing factions attempt to establish their own authority in the region. As a result, the police and the army please no-one and become the target of both sides in this burgeoning conflict.

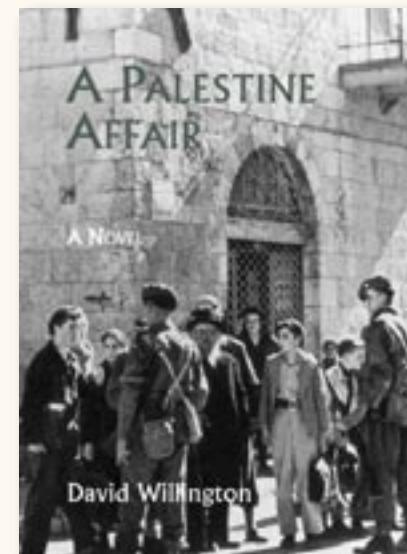
Following a bomb explosion, Guy is

nursed back to health by Rachel and, over the course of the novel, they fall in love and resolve to marry in spite of their religious and cultural differences. They have to overcome many obstacles in their way, not least blackmail and physical intimidation, and much of their relationship has to take place in secret as the world around them descends into mayhem.

The author's knowledge of the period and the complexities facing Jewish and Arab families caught up in the growing terrorism adopted by extremists on both sides is clearly evident. Not only does he make the reader feel that they are present in the area, but he ensures an understanding of the impossible position in which the police and the army had been placed by decisions and fading imperial attitudes of the government back in Westminster.

This is a well-researched and interesting read and the plot gallops along at a suitable pace. The author clearly knows his stuff, but he writes well and the affair between Rachel and Guy is sensitively handled.

Any happy ending? Not perhaps in the Middle East where we are left in no doubt that today's terrorist is tomorrow's



political leader. But for Guy and Rachel? Yes— they return to England, bring up a family and find the peace and happiness that eluded them in Jerusalem.

All in all, this is an enjoyable and informative novel and OCs will recognise in particular the description of Guy's old school when he returns there to show it to Rachel. Recommended.

RJA



The Last Kings of Shanghai

Jonathan Kaufman – Random House 2020

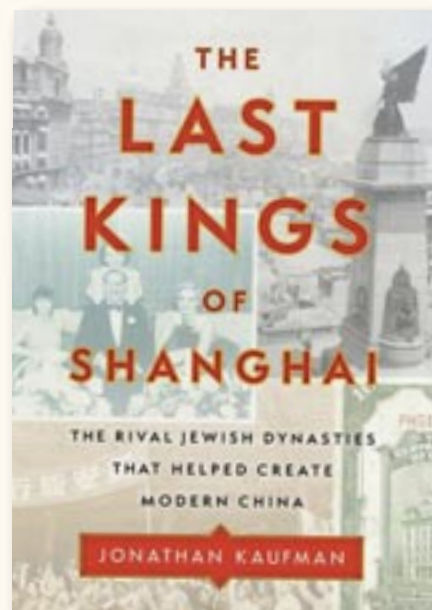
ISBN 978073524414

This wide-ranging, immaculately researched, very readable account of the changing fortunes of the Sassoon and Kadoorie families will, given the Clifton connection with the Kadoories, be of some interest to Old Cliftonians in particular, and to those fascinated by developments in the Far East over the last century or so. It also goes a long way to explaining the mindset behind China's recent emergence as a super-power, driven by Mao's successors' deeply felt feelings of the humiliation that China experienced at the hands of the British in the 19th Century and the Japanese in the first half of the 20th Century.

By any stretch of the imagination, the Sassoons and the Kadoories were extraordinary families. Both developed their original business enterprises in Baghdad, but when their Turkish overlords made it almost impossible for Jews to remain there, they independently looked to the Far East to develop and expand their respective fortunes.

The author, a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer who has reported on China for many years for The Boston Globe clearly knows his subject well and yet this is no dry, academic treatise, rather a riveting ride through the history of China, and particularly of Hong Kong, over a wide stretch of time; and, although modern Hong Kong changes rapidly year by year, especially recently, much of its development, growth and initial prosperity is owed to the foresight and energy of the Kadoories, who realised, after 1948, that business in China was to be beset with difficulties following the triumph of communism.

Whilst, by today's standards, the fact that these families benefited from the Opium Wars with China may raise an eyebrow or two, neither should it be forgotten that they joined forces to protect over 18,000 Jewish refugees seeking to escape Nazi persecution during the Second World War. Although they never really empathised with the Chinese, much of their wealth was also devoted to the betterment of conditions in Hong Kong and Shanghai, the electrification and industrial development of the former and the creation of charities to further the education of girls in the latter being but two examples of many. Moreover, when China began to embrace its own form of capitalism after the death of Mao, it was to institutions



first created by the Kadoories, such as the Stock Exchange, that its leaders adopted and revived.

This is an excellent and vivid account of the developing fortunes of China over two centuries and the enormous part played by two extraordinary Jewish families and certainly repays reading.

RJA



Lawrence, left, and Horace Kadoorie



David Sassoon, seated, with three of his sons in Bombay in 1858

Warp and Weft

Kim Taplin – Malvern 2021

ISBN 9781912078073

Staff, Parents and OCs of a certain vintage will remember Kim Taplin, Clifton's erstwhile Chaplain, with affection and will recall the quiet and thoughtful wisdom with which he touched the lives of so many at the College.

Since leaving Clifton, he has done many things as he continues his own spiritual journey, and this collection of poetry represents the latest stage of his pilgrimage through life. It does not disappoint.

As one would expect, the poems cover a wide range of emotions and depth of experience, from the ironic to the light-hearted, the serious and the spiritual. They are to be read several times in order to get to the heart of their meaning and this appears to be part of the aim of the collection, an invitation to get off the hectic merry-go-round of contemporary life in order to pause and dwell upon

some of the more important aspects of what it is to be human.

Above all, his verse is accessible. Take the poem *Emmanuel* for example:

*He could bear it no longer.
So, he vacated his executive seat
high up in the stand,
ran down to the touchline,
pulled on the team's shirt,
laced up his boots
and joined the game.*

More theology in these seven lines than in a thousand pages!

There is sadness, too, *In Perpetuity* being a lyrical contemplation of the journey from life through to death as we all progress towards that final curtain. Most of the poems are in blank verse, although Haiku is employed effectively, and when Kim does recourse to rhyme it enhances the feel of what he is trying to share with us.

Permeating throughout the volume, though, is the gentleness that those who know Kim have always detected and admired, *I Want to Be More Assertive* being



just one example.

One could go on. Advice to readers of this magazine; go online and buy this volume. It may not change your life but it will certainly give you much to think upon.

RJA



Howul: A Life’s Journey

David Shannon – Alnpete Press 2021

ISBN 97819111409809

Five minutes into this book, your reviewer thought that he was not going to enjoy it. Ten minutes later, he was completely hooked.

David Shannon [ET 1974], husband to the Booker Prize-winning author Bernardine Evaristo with her deeply moving novel *Girl, Woman, Other*, has quite simply written a stunning novel of great depth and imagination.

Set in a post-apocalyptic world— Wales perhaps, since there are certainly hints in terms of names and place-names of the Celtic fringe—and written in an invented and idiosyncratic language which has developed in a society in which books, writing and words are treated with suspicion and dismissed as useless, it tells the story of Howul, living in a grim settlement called Blanow. Howul is taught to read and write by one of the eldest inhabitants, Gommel, who believes that “Books is not dangerous...People is dangerous.” Blanow is ruled by a thuggish elite who live in comparative luxury — they have a stockpile of tinned food and drink as opposed to the rest of the group who have to subsist on unappetising “patties”. Following the death of his wife and then his adolescent daughter and his

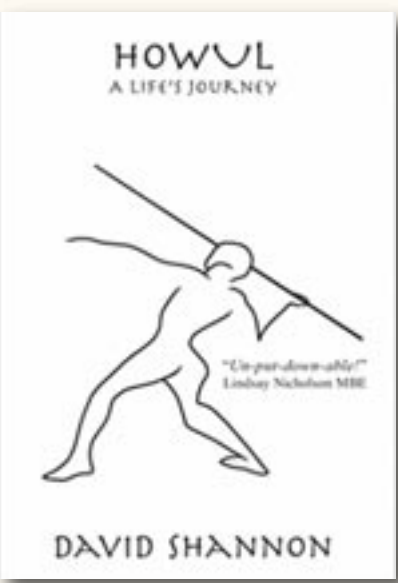
expulsion from the community for daring to criticize those in power, he embarks upon a sort of Pilgrim’s Progress, determined to avenge his daughter by finding support from outside of this suspicious and dour setting.

He survives by using his wits, by arming himself with language and because he has a reputation as a Healer, although he is not averse to using violence when called upon. This anti-hero’s journey takes him eventually to another isolated and suspicious community run on quasi-industrial lines and from there he plots his return to Blanow to overthrow those he sees as responsible for his situation.

A grim book? No, for throughout it is infused with hope and the almost naïve refusal of Howul to bend to forces ranged against him. In a recent interview the author was asked if this work was essentially a satire on our own society and the key elements within it. His reply leaves us in no doubt:

“How our leaders behave and why we let them. In Howul they lie, cheat, misappropriate, mess up, blame and persecute. And the “people” shrug their shoulders and let them get away with it. Remind you of anywhere?”

But there is so much more to this novel than mere satire for, above all, David Shannon is a very gifted story-teller. His creation of an alternative language in an alternative future, his descriptive powers and his soaring imagination have in the



end created what one reviewer has called a novel that is “little short of a masterpiece.”

This reviewer concurs wholeheartedly and this was certainly the most enjoyable and thought- provoking “lockdown” read that he undertook, the sharp images of the story living long in the mind along with the hope that there will be a sequel. In the final analysis, David reminds us in this age of slavish conformity to the mores of those who would order our lives that the power and influence of the individual should never be underestimated.

RJA



A Place in History: The Biography of John C. Kendrew

Paul M. Wassarman, Oxford University Press (2020)

We live our lives in an instantaneous world: a novel virus emerges and within days the structure of its proteins and genetic code are described. Within weeks, a novel vaccine is developed. Within a year, entire countries are vaccinated.

That this can occur at all is largely due to a small group of scientists working in the early 1950’s in Cambridge and London: Francis Crick, James Watson, Maurice Wilkins and Rosalind Franklin worked out the structure of DNA. Their derring-do is now legendary, and they are amongst the few elite scientists named in the National Curriculum.

John Kendrew and Max Perutz took much longer and harder paths to work out the structure of two proteins, myoglobin and haemoglobin, respectively.

All obtained their Nobel Prizes in 1962: all but Rosalind Franklin, but that is a different story.

John Kendrew, the subject of Paul Wassarman’s engaging and authoritative biography, began by developing techniques to study the shape and structure of a protein, before applying these novel techniques to myoglobin.

Whilst Franklin et al worked out the structure of DNA within a few weeks, Kendrew spent twelve years working on myoglobin: years of discipline and routine, obtaining pure crystals of protein and tracking the changes in the direction

of travel of X-rays fired through these crystals onto photographic plates.

What kind of person has the skill, patience and determination to see this task through to the final end? The Head of Watson’s House in 1936, that’s who.

Kendrew was one of the first generation of students to work in the newly opened Science School. The Science School was dominated by two strong-minded characters: Eric Holmyard and Cornish Badcock.

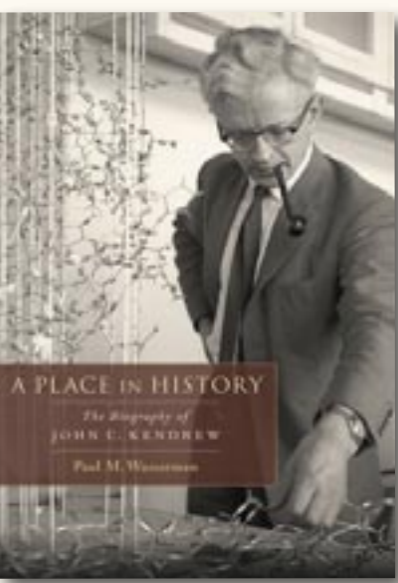
It was exciting and daunting to learn in such company and Kendrew paid tribute to Holmyard and Badcock for instilling into him the virtues of accuracy in quantitative work—which he called ‘hard science’. It was also a place to learn the skills of practical chemistry.

Kendrew was a prodigious archivist and has preserved every notebook, essay and correspondence from his school days at Clifton, even inventing his own indexing system for handling large amounts of data.

He was an early advocate of computers, using an EDSAC, partly designed by his Clifton friend John Pinkerton. The story goes that Pinkerton used to cut games to build logic circuits in the basement of the Science School. He may well have had an ally in Kendrew, who was also no fan of team sports.

Small of stature and heavily bespectacled, Kendrew was, perhaps, an unlikely choice to be Head of House of Watson’s, yet he was an efficient organiser. He was highly respected for never using corporal punishment.

Clifton was an austere place in the 1930’s, built on shared, communal experiences.



Amidst the bustle, Kendrew fought to guard his privacy. Wassarman reports Kendrew as saying that:

“Having come from an English public school where your every movement was controlled, I thought it was absolutely marvellous to have my own rooms in a [Cambridge] College and you could lock the door to keep other people out, you could do exactly what you liked.”

Wassarman paints a vivid picture of the complex layers behind this quiet and aloof man. His legacy lives on in the techniques he developed, that have now helped to save the world, and also in the scientific organisations that he founded and championed. Despite his fame, he was probably happiest at home, alone, with his art, his classical music collection, his HiFi and his cameras.

NRJ





Watson's House at Clifton College in 1933. John Kendrew (aged c.16) is standing at the right-end of the third row.



Kendrew opening the new Pre Science building in 1995

18 Golfing Secrets

by Christopher Baker

Chris Baker [MH 2008] was already an accomplished golfer while still a pupil at Clifton, where he was coached by the late Bjorn Hoffmann, then Master i/c Golf. He has subsequently played many times for the OCs. His book is available on Amazon.

Each chapter covers specific golfing strategies, tips, drills and philosophies to shoot lower scores. This has been the accumulation of 18 years-worth of research and experience playing the most beautiful game. On top of interviewing some of the best coaches in the world of golf (e.g. Dave Alred, Phil Kenyon, Pia Nilsson, Lynn Marriott & Karl Morris), it is a short read filled with stories throughout. Some of the chapters include:

Lesson No. 1: How to Calculate Yardages Like a Tour Caddy

Lesson No. 2: How Playing Undisciplined Golf is Crushing Your Game

Lesson No. 4: The Most Powerful Law in Golf

Lesson No. 7: How to Hit More Fairways

Lesson No.11: How to Hit More Greens and Play Your Way into Your Round

Lesson No.12: How to Make More Putts and Get Up and Down More Often

Lesson No.15: How to Become a Master from 125 Yards and In

Lesson No.17: How to Swing the Club Faster and Hit Further

And here are some online posts about the book:

Very interesting and new ideas around the game, a lot about the internal demons on the course and how to handle them, read all in one sitting, but the author clearly states at the beginning not to do that, and to reach each chapter and practise it and go and work on it. So, will read again and start to implement, but lots of interesting stories - the one about how he first started out as a caddy was brilliant and very entertaining.

I have known the author for over 10 years and have witnessed the disintegration of his concentration and his game. This book, ordered for me by my wife, reveals the secrets of his successful comeback, not least the need to clear the mind of negative thoughts before starting a round. It's so obvious but it cannot be said too often. I cannot tell you how keen I am to put his thoughts to the test. My only disappointment in reading the book is that it made no mention of my marking his card when he went round Berkshire Blue in 68 in June 2019. He played serenely and needed no calming influence from me.



BOOK 'PLUGS'

I confess that this and the following book (Patch the Solitary Bee) have not been reviewed in the conventional sense, but felt that readers would be interested to know about them and their publication, for various reasons.

Ed.



Patch the Solitary Bee

by Ashley Coates [NT 2008] and KJ Khan

[Herewith excerpts from the Press Release in July 2021]

A new book aims to engage children in the lives of the world’s solitary bee species.

Patch the Solitary Bee follows a day in the life of a solitary bee who does not know she is a solitary bee. Patch meets honeybees, wasps and flies before eventually finding out she is a Patchwork leafcutter bee.

Around 90 per cent of the world’s bee species do not live in hives and are considered solitary bees. They include the world’s biggest and smallest bees as well as some of the world’s most effective pollinators. Solitary bee numbers have been in decline in recent years partly due to a reduction in their habitat.

About the Book

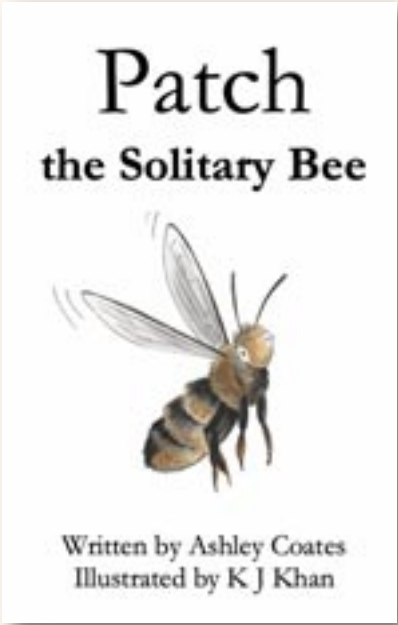
- Every school in Bristol and North Somerset can claim a free copy
- Book launches during Solitary Bee Week (28th June to 4th July)
- 10 schools that take part in Solitary Bee Week’s planned school assembly get a free copy of the book and a Bee

- Brick by the week’s organisers, Green&Blue
- Contains 17 original drawings by Kentucky-based illustrator K J Khan as well as a guide to solitary bees and how to help them
 - Every book purchased plants one tree

Patch the Solitary Bee is appearing on Amazon and selected outlets in paperback, Kindle and audiobook worldwide. The book is aimed at confident young readers aged 7–9 years and is published under the author’s own imprint, Great Spotted Books.

About Solitary Bees

- In the UK, 240 species of bee are solitary bees. Many are far more effective at pollinating plants than honeybees
- In Bristol, Troopers Hill is a locally important site for these bees with 83 different bee species recorded there. This included an endangered mining bee (Short-spined Nomad bee) found in 2000
- You can help these bees by providing nesting sites for them such as bee houses.



About Solitary Bee Week

The first editions of this title are being launched to coincide with Solitary Bee Week, an initiative run by the University of Exeter and Cornish product designers Green&Blue to raise awareness of these wonderful little animals. This year Solitary Bee Week is taking place 28th June to 4th July.



Death Notices and Obituaries

Tim Akrell	Honorary OC			
Brett Allen	BH	1959		
David Benson	MH	2002		
Francis Bretherton	SH	1953		
Peter Browning	WaH	1954		
Merrick Bryan-Kinns	ET	1963		
Nigel Burt	NT	1951		
John Byrt	ST	1959		
Julian Coates	SH	1975		
Bruce Cohen	PH	1958		
John Cooper	NT	1949		
Miles Crook	MH	2007		
Andrew Dawson	Honorary OC			
John De Villiers	BH	1956		
Christopher Dickson	OH	1944		
Andrew Douglas	OH	1973		
Malcolm Faber	PH	1959		
Francis Farley	DH	1939		
John Feneley	NT	1962		
Peter Forbes	BH	1947		
Peter Frederiksen	ET	1960		
Dennis Ginn	WiH	1958		
Jim Glasspool	SH	1951		
David Gough	OH	1946		
Anthony Gwilliam	NT	1948		
Edgar Harborne	NT	1952		
Simon Harborow	WaH	1992		
Geoffrey Hardyman	OH	1950		
Hugh Harper	WiH	1986		
Richard Hawkins	NT	1948		
Jonathan Horner	BH	1950		
John Horton	NT	1964		
Philip Hughes Davies	OH	1965		
Bernard Kain	WaH	1954		
Alan Karter	PH	1973		
Martin Levinson	PH	1968		
Tim Lewis	BH	1972		
Peter Little	OH	1966		
Kim Malcolm	WiH	1951		
Stephen Marks	BH	1950		
Roger Michell	BH	1973		
John Morehen	OH	1960		
Paul Morris	OH	1984		
John Musson	BH	1945		
Daniel Nabarro	PH	1965		
Bruce Nightingale	OH	1950		
Clive Nyman	PH	1982		
Ted Organ	NT	1951		
Neville Pinnington	BH	1948		
Derek Reardon	WiH	1949		
Iain Reid	WiH	1956		
Robin Stanhope	OH	1961		
James Stewart	BH	1961		
David Stoate	NT	1933		
Nick Tarsh	PH	1952		
Alexander Thomson	DH	1968		
George Tricks	DH	1950		
Robert Upton	NT	1953		
Roger Ward	WaH	1963		
John Warren	WaH	1955		
John Watson-Williams	ST	1944		
Richard West	ET	1959		
Kieron White	ST	1994		
John Whyman	BH	1969		
Tim Wilson	ST	1973		
David Wolfson	PH	1953		
Francis Woodruff	OH	1955		

Tim Akrill

I think it would be right to say that Tim had a very significant influence on the teaching of physics during his years at Clifton, not just in the school but across the country. He arrived at Clifton having taught at King’s Canterbury, and Denstone after leaving Oxford. He went up to Oxford from Friars School, Bangor, to read Maths but swapped to Physics at the end of his first year, having seen the light.

After arriving here Tim was deeply involved in the trial and roll-out of the new Nuffield Physics courses at O and A level, designed to bring the teaching and learning of Physics from its Victorian origins, that we had been brought up on, to something much more engaging for both teachers and taught. Tim had a very clear focus on those we were teaching, often calling them ‘the children’; a good reminder we were initiating novices into the thinking of physics.

He was also focused on getting physics ideas into words, not just relying on equations and maths. Combined with his interest in bio-mechanics – the physics of

human movement, perhaps from his time as a pole-vaulter at Oxford – it was great to talk about, and try to resolve, everyday physics issues with him - such as why you use less energy cycling a distance than walking it, although it may not feel that way as you do it.

The upshot was a great take-up of physics for A-level and many going on to study physics or engineering at university. In the booklet published by the OC Society a few years back to mark 150 years of science teaching at Clifton, Michael Cates, now Lucasian Professor at Cambridge - in direct line from Isaac Newton and Stephen Hawking - mentions being taught by Tim at A level, probably Tim’s most illustrious pupil. We knew young Cates was good, he easily solved two awkward problems that had defeated Tim and me for ages.

Outside Clifton Tim was for some time Moderator for all the O and A level physics exams set by the London University Board to children across the country, influencing the syllabuses, the way the questions were framed and the final grade boundaries, moving the teaching and learning of physics steadily forward.

He also wrote a number of books for A level physics, partly with former colleagues from Canterbury and from Clifton. These proved to be very popular and good support to the changing ways of teaching and learning physics.

Perhaps Tim’s most subtle influence on physics teaching has been through the number of members of his physics department who moved to other schools, often to become Heads of Physics and Heads of Science, taking all that they had learned from Tim and their time here to spread his influence across the country.

Towards the end of last year, I was talking about Tim with Charlie Milward, now retired as Head of Physics at Radley. He said that working in the department and seeing Tim do it so well, and enjoying it so much, made Charlie just want to run his own department, just as Tim had.

I think that’s one of the best tributes I have ever heard, and much deserved by Tim.

David Allchin

William Brett Allen



‘Bretto’ was born in Young, NSW, Australia, in May 1942 and died in Guernsey, in May 2021.

His father disappeared to join the war effort and the family separated. Aged seven, he boarded the SS Orontes with his mother and set sail for Britain, arriving in Southampton on 17 March 1949.

His mother remarried and Brett was brought up in Sutton Coldfield by Barbara and George Siddons. George was a manufacturer of metalware, a distant relative of the famous 18th century actress Sarah Siddons. Barbara had an enviable zest for life and a cheeky streak (which was evidently passed on to her son); and Brett adored and highly respected George, his stepfather.

Educated at Clifton between 1952 and 1960, Brett met Chris Dodd (Doddo), who would later become his best man. Chris writes: “We were contemporaries at Clifton, he a boarder, me a day boy, in different classes but the same rowing crew. The club rowed out of Bristol Ariel’s boathouse across the city from the school, so going rowing three times a week was relief from school rules as well as a legitimate way of avoiding boredom on the cricket field. What’s more, travel to the polluted Avon in St Anne’s was by way of an old laundry van fitted with school benches. The journey through central Bristol was often conducted with the rear doors open and the sound of songs to entertain the citizenry.”

A favourite anecdote of Brett’s schooldays was his venture to Bristol Zoo with a pair of pliers, a friend and some food for the ostriches. The purpose, to pluck feathers for his fly fishing; the tactics, to coax the hungry bird over with the food, and, while it was distracted, his accomplice grasped feathers with the pliers. When ready, a signal was given and the person with the free hand clapped, forcing the bird to flee but leaving some plumage behind. Brett had very fond memories of his Clifton days and remained an ardent supporter of the school and the Old Cliftonian Society, with two of his children later attending.

Brett went on to read Law at Nottingham University. He and Chris Dodd had adjacent rooms in D block of Cripps Hall. He auditioned for a Dramsoc production and succeeded in landing the part of a drummer boy. Having never played drums before, he enthusiastically took to rehearsing with sticks on a cake tin. This continued for several weeks and almost severed the friendship that had started at school.

Having never met his birth father, Bill, Brett became passionate about trying to find him. Allen Senior was rumoured to have joined the US forces in the Pacific, so Brett looked for clues whenever a family member was in touch. On a long visit to the US and Canada during his university days, he intensified his search, but he failed to find Bill. There was a driven hunger to satisfy, which was not satisfied for roughly 20 years. The misfortune of losing his driving licence saw Brett have a driver. While recounting his desire to find his father, the driver explained that he had a relative who worked for the state of California. Now he had a lead and this time he found him.

These experiences undoubtedly underpinned his sense of being, and forged his dedication to and belief in the importance of family. His four children and five grandchildren loved and respected him with his all his quirks and foibles.

Recognizing law was not for him, Brett switched focus to property and, given his long and successful career, it appears to have been one of his better decisions.

Francis Bretherton



Francis was born in Oxford in 1935 to Russell and Jocelyn Bretherton. In 1953 he met his future wife Inge while he was a high school exchange student in Munich, Germany. They were married in 1959. After receiving his doctoral degree in fluid dynamics from the University of Cambridge, he became a Lecturer at Cambridge and a Fellow of King’s College, embarking on a career of pioneering

Qualifying as a Chartered Surveyor in 1966, he first worked in Birmingham at Cheshire Gibson before then working at the Coal Industry Pension Fund looking after approximately a quarter of the company’s property portfolio.

By the 1970s he relocated to London where he established his own practice which went from strength to strength. His connections with Scotland ran deeper than the rivers he fished over the years. After a couple of visits, an Edinburgh agent mentioned that the Liberal Club in Princes Street could be bought. As the building was next door to Debenhams it would provide an excellent investment. The building contained the historic ‘Gladstone Room’ that had to be retained, but the property was duly added to Debenhams. This led to many years of work and an equal amount of play with the charismatic and wonderful Scottish fraternity, bonds that only grew stronger with the passage of time.

In 1997 Brett’s ties with Guernsey began with his appointment by the States of Guernsey to take on the Market Buildings refurbishment. What neither party

realised at that point was the sheer scale of the task that the project was to present. He later moved to the island in 2001 with his family, and Guernsey became his home, with the Market Buildings his legacy.

Brett was a man who would never be beaten, nor would he take “no” for an answer. And that fortitude, together with his love for his family, as well as his ability to put together the most complex of deals, is what made him so remarkable. With his dry sense of humour, a cheeky grin and a tale of some previous shenanigans in some other country, Brett truly lived life to the full.

His interests were wide ranging: he designed a self-watering system for plants, took up bee keeping and was always looking for another fishing spot; he was a passionate sailor and an avid reader. He was loved and respected by so many and the family has been overwhelmed by the positive and supportive messages from all corners of the world.

research into geophysical fluid dynamics. In 1969 he moved to The Johns Hopkins University as Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences. In 1973, he was invited to serve as president of the University Corporation of Atmospheric Research and concurrently director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado, positions he held until 1980. In 1983, he chaired an interdisciplinary committee of scientists to advise the U. S. government on earth-related research priorities. Two seminal reports by this “Earth System Science” Committee (1986 and 1988) presented a multidisciplinary vision of the earth’s environment and climate as a set of interlinked components. The Committee’s recommendations led to a Presidential Initiative in 1989 to establish a still ongoing U.S. Global Change Research Program. It also facilitated NASA’s development of an Earth Observing System from space. In 1988 Francis became director of the Space Science and Engineering Center and Professor of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His work won him widespread recognition,

including awards from the Royal Meteorological Society, the American Meteorological Society, and the World Meteorological Organization. He mentored an impressive group of graduate students who went on to influential careers of their own. Francis retired in 2001. He and Inge continued to live in Madison, while enjoying travel, classical music, and the outdoors. In 2017 he and Inge moved to St. Louis to be closer to family.

Francis is survived by his wife, three children and five grandsons, as well as three siblings.

Merrick Charles Bryan-Kinns



Merrick was the only child of Douglas and Phyllis Bryan-Kinns of Duchess Road, Clifton. He was my closest friend at Clifton and through later life, despite our being total opposites. Merrick, academic; me, certainly not! It was our useless ability at football and rugby that cemented the friendship!

Merrick joined ST Pre in 1953 and East Town in 1959. Always very scholarly, he went up to New College Oxford and obtained a first in Ancient German. Afterwards he helped out as a librarian at the Bodleian and also did some teaching in Bournemouth.

As a bright young thing, with an excellent command of languages, he was accepted into the Administration of a newly formed EU in Brussels in 1973. He quickly rose through the ranks, with many different positions finally reaching the Post of Financial Director, which was Number 2 in the organisation.

Merrick was in his element with chauffeur driven cars, with outriders, red carpets and glamorous receptions.

He had a son from his first marriage, Nicholas, now a professor at Queen Mary University of London, and two daughters from his second marriage. It was at the reception for this wedding that I, as Best Man, accidentally proposed the toast using the name of his first wife! This

brought the house down!

After parting ways with his second wife he met up with a lady at a reception at the Swedish Embassy in Brussels. They were together for 22 years until his death from pancreatic cancer after a year-long battle.

He regularly visited the UK to catch up with friends and family and would always visit the old school and walk through the grounds when permitted. He never lost his love of Clifton.

His funeral, which could only accommodate a few people due to Covid - but which was streamed live - was held at Bruges crematorium in December 2020. It is ironic that Bruges was the first of many places we visited together as teenagers.

The plan is for his ashes to be scattered in English coastal waters sometime this year.

Henry Caish

John Byrt



John Byrt was born in Bristol on Christmas Eve 1940 and died in Tiverton on 15 January 2021. John was one of the exceptionally talented musicians who studied music at Clifton with Douglas Fox in the 1950s. He learned the organ with Dr Fox and played the clarinet in the CCF where Captain Palmer instructed him to play all the wind instruments over the years. One of his contemporaries at Clifton was the pianist John Gould and together with John and John Cleese, he produced a Sixth Form entertainment entitled Faust 1958, the programme for which has

survived. However, it was at the organ he excelled and he won an organ Scholarship at St. John's College, Oxford which he took up in 1959.

His musical career flourished in Oxford under the tutorship of Edmund Rubbra. He became a fellow of the Royal College of Organists, and graduated with a first class honours degree in 1964. Remaining at Oxford to study for a DPhil on the compositional technique of J S Bach and his son Emmanuel, awarded in 1969, he became involved with choirs conducting the prestigious Schola Cantorum whose alumni include Dame Emma Kirkby, Andrew Parrott and Dame Liz Forgan. The choir's performance of Taverner's *Coronea Spinea* in Christ Church Cathedral in 1966 was subsequently recorded for SagaPan Records, thus inspiring a general revival of the large-scale choral works of this composer. He later became conductor of the early music group *Musica Reservata* with regular performances in the Queen Elizabeth Hall. He had developed an awareness of rhythmic inequality, adopting it in his performance of Handel's *Dixit Dominus* in the Sheldonian Theatre in 1968 which sparked off a scholarly debate amongst experts. This initial venture turned into a lifetime fascination, eventually culminating in a significant

book, *An Unequal Music. Rhythmic Inequality from the 16th to the 18th Centuries* (2016), which challenged received opinion in a scholarly, detailed yet courteous manner and which attracted critical acclaim.

He became musical director of East Devon College in Tiverton in 1974, founding his own choir, The Lowman Singers, and conducting the East Devon Choral Society. He achieved great rapport with this choir, which performed concerts with an enormous repertoire, remaining its conductor until 2003 when he conducted the Exeter Chorale for several years. One of many highlights was the performance in 2000 of the Florentine *Intermedi* of 1589 with Emma Kirkby as a soloist. Another abiding interest was with carols. He composed a number during his lifetime some of which were commissions and in 1994 conducted an extended concert of unknown 'West Gallery' carols for Radio 3.

Above all, John had an abiding passion for music which he communicated to all his friends and family. He is much missed. He leaves a widow Celia and two sons from his first marriage, Simon and Matthew, both of whom have pursued musical careers.

Richard Hitchcock

Julian Coates



Julian died on 7th October 2020 having kept cancer at bay for 4 years. He lived a full life defined by family and his love of engineering. At Clifton he was known by

his friends for enjoying the perversities of life in a public school and adding proportion and some connection to the rest of the world.

After Clifton and Exeter, where he met his wife Rosie, he worked at British Aerospace, Filton, learning the realities of production and becoming progressively involved in circuit board manufacture before moving to the then rapidly growing circuit board design and production industry where he remained for the rest of his career.

Railways were a related love. During school holidays Julian would often visit the Welshpool and Llanfair Light Railway as a labourer learning the nuances of metalwork of all kinds. In later life he took great pleasure from taking major railway trips around the world. He always enjoyed a challenge and when he

adopted his father's 1936 Bentley, he resolved to restore it fully, starting by completely dismantling it. The process took over 20 years, only latterly involving other specialists. Fully finished, Julian chauffeured all three of his daughters to and from their wedding services in it.

Always a man of Bath, he and Rosie lived there throughout their marriage apart from a sojourn in Belgium with his work. After his parents died he took over the family home and carefully gave it a 100-year service in keeping with his high standards for work and materials.

Cliché it may be, but he made the most of life, was ever hospitable and always saw the humour in the world. He is survived and much missed by Rosie and their three daughters, Sarah, Eleanor and Isabel; his six grandchildren; and his brother Henry.

John Cooper



John Anthony Cooper died on 29 November 2019. Clifton played a very important part in his long life. His entry in the College Register records he was related to many Cliftonians: brother Guy, brothers in law Edward and Anthony Organ, sons Mark, David and James, and nephews Richard, Philip and Nick.

John was in Matthew's from 1940 but before entering the Upper School, he and Guy were evacuated to Canada, returning to North Town in 1944 until 1949, the early part of that time spent at Bude.

His Register entry and the extensive photograph album kept by his father show John's considerable sporting achievements at School. Colours for

swimming and the Running VIII, hockey and, most treasured of all, two years in the XI (1948 and 1949). He played at Lord's and could never quite remember whether it was he who bowled out newcomer to the Tonbridge team Colin Cowdrey for a duck, or whether those roles were reversed. Whatever history records, John was very proud of his appearances at Lord's, equalled only much later when (at golf) he drove over the sheds on the 17th at the Royal and Ancient.

Ted Organ tells the story of John's captaincy of house cricket when team members would fail to turn up because of John's completely illegible team lists. As a young man John had rather "good" legs and at School was nicknamed Betty (Betty Grable apparently had similar attributes).

He would often say that his cricketing average was higher than the tally of his school certificates. No one knows the truth of this claim but it is clear from contemporaneous school reports that there was at times some tension at school between the demands of the sports field and the classroom.

Staying with the sports theme, specifically hockey, John's youngest son James remembers being taught by Derek Clarke who appeared very stern towards him at first; all became clear when "Sir" explained that John and he had played

Hockey together and John had broken "Sir's" leg. The 'sins of the father' theme was repeated when veteran piano teacher, Vera Sutton, told son David that "he was nearly as bad at practising his scales as his father had been and was far less charming".

Later, in son Mark's school career, our home in Pembroke Road, which backed onto the Close, was declared "out of bounds" as Derek Clarke (again) suspected all sorts of illicit activities (smoking) were taking place in our back garden.

John was an active Governor for many years - he raised money for new stage curtains for the Pre Hall and had the delicate task of presenting plans which, if passed (they were not), would have meant major building works on the Close, directly behind his garden fence.

On leaving Clifton John read Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Nottingham University; then two years National Service as Lieutenant Observer in the Royal Fleet Air Arm which he loved. After National Service and a year as an Apprentice Dispensing Chemist John joined the family business, Victor Latty, a three-branch chemist which John and his father turned into Templecolour Laboratories Ltd, a photographic processing business, which in 10 years to 1972 became a £300,000 turnover business employing 120 people at its

factory premises overlooking the Ashton Gate Stadium in Duckmoor Road. Templecolour was sold to the Rank Organisation in 1972; it was closed almost immediately by Rank and John had the unexpected and heartrending task of telling many loyal staff, who were his friends, that their jobs had gone.

After a few years at Napcolour and the London Rubber Company - the successors to Rank - John returned to pharmacy, working for both small family-run shops and for Boot's, until 2006. On 8 November 2005 the Royal Pharmaceutical Society acknowledged that John had been on its

register for 50 years, and wrote expressing "great admiration for your perseverance and determination and the years that you have dedicated your career to the service of patients and the profession".

John married Mary Organ on 19 April 1954. They were a wonderful match and always such a loving support to each other, their family and their many friends. Mary loved Commem in the days when hats were as obligatory as at Ascot.

After some difficult years of ill health John and Mary moved to Westbury Care Home in Bristol where they were both very well

looked after by the very caring staff; Mary died peacefully in August 2021.

John's life was celebrated at a well-attended Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary Redcliffe where he and Mary (and her parents before her) worshipped regularly and for many years.

David Cooper

Andrew Douglas



Born 14 September 1955; died 17 November 2020.

In 1973, Clifton's English Department enjoyed a singular triumph. Under the leadership of Brian Worthington and his talented team of teachers, 13 Cliftonians studying English won places to Oxford and Cambridge and half of them were awarded scholarships. The headmaster, Steven McWatters, told the Council: "I gather our 13½ Oxford and Cambridge successes in English are by far the greatest number from one school this year."

There's no question it was a talented group, which included Roger Michell, the director of 'Notting Hill' and 'The Lost Honour of Christopher Jefferies' as well as the prolific author and Japanese financial expert Peter Tasker, and the holography pioneer David Pizzanelli. But Andrew was among the brightest and most insightful of all.

Andrew entered Clifton in 1969 and would become Head of School and editor of 'The Cliftonian.' He joined Oakeley's, which had been his father's house and of which his grandfather James Muirhead had been Housemaster in the 1930s and 40s. He had little interest in sports, and absolutely no ability in that area, and I suspect he considered it a philistine activity. But he stood out as a true intellectual and a leader.

During the Oxbridge term, he and I shared a room in the Old San. I had skipped a school assembly but, luckily for me, Andrew as Head of School was either more responsible or had no choice but to attend. He came back from the assembly and told me that he'd heard about an American scholarship that might be ideal for me. "Why?" I asked. "Well," he responded with wicked glee, "it includes a clause in it about manly sports." "The real question," he said, "is does running constitute a manly sport?" Then he added, "If you can win the scholarship, I'll buy you a free dinner and you can then turn it down." It was a bet that changed my life. I won the free dinner and then ignored the latter part of his advice.

Andrew went on to win an Exhibition to Christ Church, Oxford, where his academic achievements seemed effortless to his contemporaries, and his room at Christ Church or his favourite pub became a magnet for anyone in search of stimulating and occasionally scurrilous conversation. It was no surprise when he gained a first in English Language and Literature.

It was at Oxford that he met Avril, his wife, and after a spell working in London for a

Japanese company as a bulk chemical fertilizer trader, he started his career as a teacher.

He taught at two of the most academic schools in the country: Guildford High School and the City of London School for Girls. He was a truly inspirational teacher who was much loved by his students. In one of those strange coincidences that seem to permeate life, one of his first pupils at Guildford High was my niece Izzie Pick, who was later in the second year of girls at Clifton.

After becoming Deputy Head at Guildford, he took on the same role at the City of London Girls' School where he is remembered for his extraordinary empathy, regularly dispensing wise counsel to staff and pupils alike.

Neil Codd said in his eulogy at the school: "We, staff and girls, all genuinely looked forward to his assemblies. They were beautifully crafted and he effortlessly went from mundane observations to high minded moral guidance with great skill that would leave you thinking about the message all day.

"He really was a wordsmith of the finest quality. I am not sure if you would agree but I felt he was a bit like the school's answer to Clive James, with a slightly understated but brilliant use of language that could make you laugh and it could really move you. There was no doubt he was blessed in this regard, but what was great about him was that he used this power for good. He inspired staff and students to be better people, to be kinder, to care for others. He comforted those who were troubled or sad and of course

as the pastoral lead he had to be there for a lot of students who had the most difficult of times. Supportive is a word that certainly resonates with his memory.

"He was a truly great man. He left a big hole when he left the school... (But) perhaps more importantly than being a great man, he was also a good man. He put others before himself, and valued self-sacrifice for the greater good."

Andrew instilled a love of literature in many alumnae and in recognition of his extraordinary impact the school has started an annual lecture series in his name. The inaugural lecture will be given by Carol Ann Duffy, Britain's poet laureate from 2009—2019. She was chosen for her championing of other poets, her work for women and in educating people about the power of poetry. The same could be said about Andrew.

Over the last decade, Andrew suffered from a degenerative disease and had to retire early. When I visited him at his home in Catford a couple of years ago, he was largely homebound. But he was still Andrew to the core – intellectually sparkling, positive spirited, witty, and full of interest in other people and events. He died in November 2020, and leaves Avril, a daughter Camilla and a son Aidan.

David Royle

Francis James Macdonald Farley



Francis (13 October 1920 - 16 July 2018) was a British scientist and FRS. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Physics and an honorary fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. He was educated at Clifton College (DH 34-39) and at Clare College, Cambridge, where he obtained his PhD in 1950.

John Feneley



John went through the Pre and Upper School between 1950 and 1962, emerging as a Praepostor in his last term when the school celebrated its centenary. His specialty was English literature and he studied under the legendary Tom Wells. His Housemaster was John Thorn, who went on to be Head of Repton and then Winchester. He came from a medical family — his elder brother Roger [NT 1952], like John a Governor, was a distinguished urological surgeon.

John went up to Wadham, read theology and soaked himself in Oxford's high Anglicanism. He spent nearly all his subsequent life in Oxford, where he founded the Centre for Medieval and

was the co-inventor of the Anaconda wave energy device.

He won the 1980 Hughes Medal of the Royal Society "for his ultra-precise measurements of the muon magnetic moment, a severe test of quantum electrodynamics and of the nature of the muon".

From 1967–82 he was the academic head of the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham. He was visiting professor at the universities of Yale, Reading, New South Wales and Southampton.

Moving to France in 1986, he helped the cancer hospital Centre Antoine Lacassagne in Nice to install a 65 MeV cyclotron for proton therapy. He designed the transport which brings the beam to the patient. Operating unmodified for 23 years the system has treated over 3000 patients for ocular melanoma with a cure rate of 95%.

Renaissance Studies with his old school friend Andrew Thornhill. Helped by Lord David Wolfson, the Centre achieved impressive premises in the Centre of Oxford. Its students, mainly American undergraduates, joined Keble College of which John was a fellow, attended university lectures and were taught by Oxford dons. The Centre is now part of Middlebury College. John was a distinguished scholar, who specialized in comparative mysticism.

He is survived by his wife Sandy.

Andrew Thornhill

Peter Forbes

Peter Forbes came to Clifton during the war. He excelled in sport, winning colours in rugby, lawn tennis and hockey, a sport for each term. He had a younger brother, also in Brown’s House, who was equally successful in sport, winning an English trial at rugby.

Peter qualified as an accountant both in England and Canada, eventually becoming a partner in Ernst & Young.

He never lost his interest in rugby and, in particular, Harlequins RFC, of which he was secretary for three years.

He was a Governor of the school, a very

loyal attender of AGMs and a giver of sage advice on financial matters pertinent to the College.

Peter Frederiksen



Peter Frederiksen died on October 16, 2020, in the embrace of his wife, Linda, and their adult children, Paul and Jenny.

They loved him “to the moon and back.” Two weeks earlier, his entire family had gathered at their Monterey home to express to “Papa” how much they loved him: Paul, Stacey, Pete and Samantha; Jenny, Jeff and Jake and Linda. He was a family man, first and foremost.

Peter was born in Bristol in 1943 to a Danish father and a British mother. He so loved both the U.K. and Denmark.

He came to the US after attending Clifton College in Bristol, at the invitation of his

brother, Christian. Peter stayed in the US and graduated with a doctorate in economics from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington. It was there that he met Linda and they married in 1971. They moved to Monterey in 1974 when Peter became a professor at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Peter was a teddy bear of a man with a gentle and kind heart. He was an avid golfer and a spirited fisherman. Oh, how he loved cars! He enjoyed the NY Times & a good mystery novel, an occasional Bombay martini and travel...anywhere! He savoured Vivaldi & Bach, Cat Stevens, Willie Nelson & bagpipe music.

Linda Frederiksen

Jim Glasspool



Jim Gillo Glasspool was born in Bristol in 1933 and attended Clifton College, in School House from 1946 to 1951. He completed national service as a pilot officer in the RAF and won a scholarship to read chemistry at The Queen’s College, Oxford. Jim married Susan (nee Goode) in April 1959 and they had three children, David, Andrew and Rosalind, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Jim joined Shell Chemicals and began a career that put him in senior positions which took him, and his family, first to Sweden and then to Canada before they finally settled to life in Hampshire at Itchen Abbas.

After his retirement from Shell in 1993, Jim became the secretary of the Test and Itchen Association and held various senior positions on committees concerned with national environmental issues such as water quality, rare species protection, fish conservation and the impact of major developments on the freshwater environment. He was also a founder member of the Angling Trust which brought together all the disparate groups of fishing clubs and associations under one politically effective umbrella organisation.

Jim was Editor of ‘*Chalk Streams*’ which was published to mark the centenary of the Test and Itchen Association. This is a compelling compendium of chalk stream characteristics, their history and of the work of river keepers.

He died in Winchester Hospital after a short illness and was buried in the village churchyard in Itchen Abbas.

Edgar Sherriff Harborne



Edgar Sherriff Harborne was an underwriting member at Lloyd’s of London for more than 39 years. He made a significant contribution to Lloyd’s investors via his consultancy, specialising in statistical performance analysis of Lloyd’s syndicates. His research resulted in a better understanding and ranking of syndicate performance and this understanding of historical data led to a very successful personal portfolio of underwriting. His methodology continues to be used by Lloyd’s of London agencies.

Edgar distinguished himself first at Clifton College, Bristol, and later at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where the Harborne Tankard is awarded annually to a member of the Caius Boat Club, who is selected for their leadership in a successful Boat and their high academic achievement. Edgar was ahead of his time in recognising that it is perfectly possible to do well both academically and athletically, a view which has been proven by the university’s research into Blues and academic performance. Edgar matriculated as an Exhibitioner to read Natural Sciences and after graduation he

joined Rowntree & Co as a production assistant, following his National Service with the Royal Engineers.

Whilst working at Rowntree & Co, Edgar met Joan Robinson, and they were married in 1959 and had 3 children. Edgar’s career changed after qualifying in statistics and having considerable success from applying statistical methods to production problems at work. He moved out of operational research into management consultancy at Arthur Andersen, and then to founding a partnership providing software programming and services. Edgar was a Fellow of the Institute of Statisticians which is now part of the Royal Statistical Society.

The partnership was profitable and, together with Edgar’s good reputation from providing consultancy in statistical analysis at Martin Frizzell Motor Insurance, Edgar was invited to join Lloyd’s of London.

Edgar acknowledged that he was profoundly grateful to his father for sending him to Clifton, a school which was notable for emphasising science rather than classics, and where he excelled academically. Edgar held a lifelong love of Clifton. He became a Governor and frequently attended reunions and events into later life. He was a generous benefactor contributing towards bursary support and recently purchasing a display cabinet for the science library to house some rare books found in the College’s archives. The Chemistry prize is awarded annually in his name.

At Clifton, Edgar chose rowing as his sport because his eyesight was not sharp enough for playing rugby to a high standard. Unusually, Edgar was taught to row on both stroke and bow sides and was one of the few oarsmen who could do this with ease. At Gonville and Caius, Edgar trained to secure a place in the 1st VIII boat and

won his blade in the Bumps. Rowing was a lifelong passion for Edgar, who owned his own boat, and rowed his last veteran’s race at the age of 59 in the Cologne Regatta. Edgar was proud to donate a new boat to Durham University and see his grandson, Max, compete at Henley Regatta in the boat named ‘Edgar’ in 2017. Edgar and Joan moved to Monaco in 1985 after their children had left home. They settled at Cap d’Ail in a fine property with a large terrace overlooking the Mediterranean and enjoyed expat life. Edgar continued to row with various crews in the South of France.

A second lifelong passion of Edgar’s was military history. Edgar and Joan moved temporarily to Cambridge so that Edgar could spend time researching battle tactics when in a surrender situation for the Ministry of Defence. He held a Senior Research Associate post with the Centre for International Studies. During his second spell at Cambridge, Edgar assisted a campaign to look at the feasibility of building a rowing lake for the university like Dorney Lake, Eton, which was used for the London Olympics 2012.

Edgar was a city liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Farriers and supported many charities. His Christian faith was important and he made special donations to the churches he attended: St Michael’s Church in Beaulieu sur Mer and St Andrew’s Church in Ham.

Edgar lived life very well and wished to realise opportunities which came his way in life. He is survived by Joan, his loving wife of 62 years, and 2 sons, Christopher and Richard, both businessmen, and 6 grandchildren. Katharine, his daughter, predeceased him in 2021. Edgar was satisfied to see the next generations of his family flourishing.

His father, Walter, had founded the Bristol Evening Post, and it was not long before Richard became music correspondent and editor. However, the lure of France proved too tempting and in the early seventies Richard moved to his beautiful farm, Bas Quinsan in the Vaucluse, where he grew cherries, vines and cats. He was a fabulous and generous host, a brilliant raconteur and spent the rest of his colourful life there.

Tom Gover

Philip Hughes Davies



Philip spent the first three years of his life living at the home of his maternal grandmother, as his father Colin Hughes Davies (OH 1945) was in the Fleet Air Arm, and his mother was finishing her university degree at Bristol, training to be a teacher. Philip always had a special bond with his grandmother, and she was particularly fond of him, as her only son died whilst serving in the Navy in World War II. Philip was named after him.

Philip’s love of the natural world became evident at an early age, and he maintained his interest in plants, insects and mammals throughout his life. He was a cautious but capable rider, his interest being stimulated as a result of his father

becoming increasingly involved in the world of horse-racing, winning several prestigious point-to-point races (as well as taking part in the Grand National).

Philip, who made some good friends at Clifton, became interested in caving, and he also excelled at target shooting. After school, a year was spent working on a large farm in Gloucestershire to gain some practical experience, followed by the Royal Agricultural College, where he became a chartered surveyor, working initially in the Cirencester area.

In 1974 he set off on a cargo boat voyaging from Cardiff to the USA. In America he met up with relations and contacts before continuing on another merchant ship to Australia, returning overland via Thailand, India and Afghanistan. He was soon back at work, with Cooke & Arkwright in south Wales.

He was twice married, James (MH 1999) and Henry (MH 2000) being the children of his first marriage. His stepsons, from his second marriage, were Will Harvey (SH 1996) and JJ Harvey (MH 2002). During this time Philip lived in the Wye Valley, although he moved back to Cardiff in 2007 to be near his widowed mother and to his work. He operated independently as an agent in the Cardiff Bay area, playing a significant part in introducing developers to the attractions of the commercial regeneration of the Bay, and

in particular its Mermaid Quay development.

Philip was very gregarious, empathetic and kind, with a great gift for connecting with people from all walks of life. He was as much at home in the Packet Inn in Cardiff Docks as he was in his Cardiff Club, where OC annual dinners have always taken place. He loved skiing, enjoying his most recent trip as recently as March 2020. Philip was an excellent shot, and accordingly was welcomed at some prestigious shoots in different parts of the country. He was also passionately interested in cars, being the proud owner of many classics over the years. At home on a sailing boat, in spite of a tendency to sea sickness, he particularly enjoyed any excursion which resulted in the cooking or consumption of fresh sea food. He was a gourmet, a competent chef, and a generous host.

In recent years, which were some of his happiest, he enjoyed working on the allotment he shared with friends, regular trips to Newport (Pembs), and to his sister’s home in the Cotswolds. His love for horticulture was paramount throughout his life, his pruning skills being legendary, and many plants will flower and fruit for many years to come, thanks to Philip.

Sue Blacker (sister), with David Lerrmon

as well as how he always made time for them.

He greatly valued his time at Clifton and remained in touch with the school. Close friends he made there were a large part of his life through to its premature end. He further enhanced his ongoing relationship with the school when he volunteered to serve on the Polacks House Educational Trust (PHET). This was set up in the early 1990s to save the house as it then was; the trust continued to play a crucial role in the new provisions being made for Jewish education at Clifton following the House’s eventual closure in 2005, and Alan took over as Chairman of PHET in 2019.

He studied law at Edinburgh University and qualified as a solicitor in Scotland. Although he intended to stay in Scotland, he fell in love with a fellow Edinburgh law student, Diana Jenkins, and followed her

to London. There he joined the well-respected City of London law firm, Freshfields, specializing in mergers and acquisitions – an activity to which his energy, attention to detail and dedication were well suited.

He and Diana were married in 1983. They were highly enthusiastic travellers, spending time in Asia, India and elsewhere. They also lived in the USA, when Alan was posted to Freshfields’ New York offices. Later on, when Alan moved to Simmons & Simmons, they spent three years working in Milan, as Alan worked in their office there.

They made their home in north London, firstly in Highgate, then in Belsize Park. When they came back from Milan they moved to Westminster, which was very convenient for the Royal Automobile Club, where their membership enabled them to enjoy its restaurants, gym and snooker tables! Alan and Diana did not have children (although they were enthusiastic godparents to a number of friends’ children), which allowed them both to travel extensively. Over time, Alan built up a fine collection of antiquarian books, many of them beautifully bound by artists that he had commissioned.

Upon leaving Simmons & Simmons at the end of 2011, he joined Arbuthnot Latham

Bank as Head of Legal Affairs. Later he moved to Secure Trust Bank, where he became General Counsel. His chairman there, Lord (Michael) Forsyth, the former Conservative cabinet minister, described his career as ‘stellar’ and said of him:

“All of us in the course of our working lives come across a few folk who are quite exceptional and make their mark on you. Alan Karter was one such person for me. He was a great colleague, indefatigable, dedicated and completely professional in everything he did”.

He had a significant heart attack in 2012, after which he attempted to reduce his working hours and workload. However, his dedication and sense of responsibility were such that he did not find this easy to achieve. He made what appeared to be a substantial recovery, was careful about his lifestyle, but did not allow his heart condition to inhibit his enjoyment of life. Sadly, around the same time, there was an additional drain on his energy, as Diana fell victim to early onset dementia. As the years passed, Alan became her principal carer, through choice. He did not want her to go into a care home. He even planned finally to retire in March, but sadly did not live long enough to do so.

Concurrently, he was making sure that his mother was being well cared for and

visited her regularly in Glasgow, where he also remained in touch with his family and a number of old friends. In February 2020, shortly before lockdown, his mother passed away. On 22 December 2020, whilst taking Diana to hospital as the result of a fall, he suffered another major heart attack, just outside the hospital. Although he was rushed in for urgent treatment, he was unable to be saved and died on the same day. A sad postscript is that only a few weeks later Diana, whose brother Alistair arranged for her to be moved into a care home near him in Newcastle, contracted Covid 19 and passed away in hospital.

Alan was also very much part of his family’s roots, establishing strong links with all his cousins, whether they remained in Scotland or had moved to London, particularly with his mother’s side of the family, where the Dykes family was extensive. He continued to be a member of Garnethill Synagogue in Glasgow after his father died and enjoyed going to services there whenever possible.

Alan was a very special person who will be greatly missed by his family, dear friends and colleagues. He was taken far too soon.

Michael Ziff

Alan Karter



Alan Jonathan Karter was born in Glasgow on 12 January 1955, the only child of an OC, Raymond Karter and his wife Sylvia (nee Dykes).

Arriving at Clifton in September 1968, his

early academic strength was recognised as he started in the scholarship class. He was the perfect Clifton student: studious, a ferocious rugby player, rising to be an inspirational Captain of the 1st XV (his pre-match team talks were incendiary), a cross-country runner, active in the PH chapter of Amnesty International, writing letters of protest about the maltreatment of political prisoners to such national leaders as Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore, engaging in the house’s religious life, sometimes leading the synagogue services. To nobody’s surprise he became Head Boy in 1973.

He was a warm, much loved and admired character at school and continued to be so wherever he went afterwards. He had an infectious laugh and quick smile. He always had time for the younger boys in the House and later mentored many young lawyers. Many have talked about remembering his kindness and attention,

Peter John Little



Peter passed away on the 12th July at home in Oxfordshire following a long fight against cancer. He and his wife, Rosie, moved from Burnham-on-Sea in Somerset, in May 2021 having lived there for the vast majority of his 72 years. More

recently, Peter had become a full-time carer for MS sufferer Rosie and being closer to their family grew increasingly important.

Peter followed his father, John, to Clifton and it was on the sports field that he excelled. At the age of 14 he was selected for the Clifton 1st XI hockey team and went on to captain Somerset U18s and the West of England, and he played one representative match for England v the Royal Navy. He also loved his tennis, playing for both Clifton College and Somerset. He became a big part of The Avenue Tennis Club, Burnham on Sea, in later life, where he held several positions of responsibility on the committee.

Peter’s first job on his road to becoming a surveyor was at Osmond Tricks & Son as an articulated clerk. He then had a short spell in Wells with Abbot & Frost before moving to London and working for Knight Frank &

Rutley. In 1974 he returned to Bristol and joined The National & Provincial Building Society and married Rosemary (née Wood) at Enmore Church near Bridgwater. When the N&P was taken over by The Abbey National, Peter became Chief Surveyor for the South of England and that was where he stayed until he finished his career in surveying.

Peter spent a considerable amount of his life fundraising and initiating charity work. He founded The Medical Equipment Fund in Burnham and was Chairman of Burnham Hospital League of Friends. Since 1997, Peter also tirelessly collected money for the MS Therapy Unity in Bradley Stoke where Rosie was cared for. Whether it was organising events or weekly collections, he put helping others at the forefront of his life.

Peter leaves his wife Rosie, Charlie, Emma and six wonderful grandchildren.

Kim Malcolm

C.A.R. Malcolm, known to his friends and family as Kim, entered Wiseman’s in September 1946. His father had been in the house in Wiseman’s time. When he left five years later he had passed all the necessary exams, had won his school colours at boxing and played scrum half for the second XV. He joined the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders for his National Service, passing out second of his intake at Eaton Hall Officers’ Training School. Unfortunately, during his time with them the Argylls were stationed in Edinburgh so no overseas service for him in spite of all the vaccinations he had! After this he had several agricultural jobs, on a large farm in Suffolk, managing an

estate outside Dublin and representing Spillers in Orkney. He was head hunted by the Liberal Party to run the 1965 bye-election in the Scottish Borders for David Steele, which he won. After a few years working for the Swiss Watch Federation in London his parents died and he moved to northern Argyll to farm the family estate. This he did until old age overtook him but he continued his side line of smoking salmon.

He was a leading member of the community and a pillar of the Scottish Episcopal Church, serving on committees for both.

Two things he thanked Clifton for, music and cricket. For many years he organised

a cricket match on one of the fields in front of his house and he travelled to Lords for the Test Match, where he enjoyed the company of many he had been at school with. He was a member of the MCC. He loved classical music [as long as it was not too modern] and also the hymns he had sung in the school chapel.

He was married three times and is survived by his third wife, a son, a daughter, several grandchildren and a few great grandchildren, all of whom he adored.

He suffered a stroke in September 2020 and died on 11th February 2021 at the age of 88. He will be greatly missed by his family and the community.

in the 1967 Civic Amenities Act, the Westminster team oversaw the formation of many large conservation areas, and increased the number of listed buildings in the borough, with Stephen writing most of the reports.

Stephen had married Tordis Knees, an au pair, in 1959 and they had two children, Edward and Dorothy. The family moved in 1978 to Kilmersdon, in Somerset, where Stephen was instrumental in the creation of the lottery-funded Radstock and North Somerset Coalfield Heritage Museum. He adapted to country living and became an enthusiast for tree-planting in the hedgerows around the village, persuading farmers, when trimming their hedges, to avoid lopping the saplings.

Tordis died in 2019. Stephen is survived by Edward and Dorothy, and by his sister, Antonia, and half-sister, Anna.

John Morehen



John Morehen came to Clifton in 1956 and immediately showed his ability on the organ. He was part of a distinguished coterie of Clifton musicians in the 1950s. On leaving Clifton, he went to New College, Oxford, as organ scholar and took a distinguished first in music. After research at King’s College Cambridge, a period in America and a post as sub-organist at St George’s Chapel, Windsor, he became a lecturer in music at Nottingham University, later Professor of Music and Head of the School of Minorities.

It is impossible to do justice to his knowledge and scholarship in the field of 16th and 17th century English church

music. In addition, he performed as an organ soloist and was widely broadcast. He was also a champion of contemporary composers of organ music. He served on numerous committees and was President of the Incorporated Society of Musicians. He was a keen freemason and a great supporter of the Old Cliftonian Lodge, serving twice as Master. He held the post of Grand Organist twice, in 1985-86 and 1992–94, playing a central part in ceremonies at Freemasons Hall. When the Father Willis organ in Big School was dismantled for a second time, he oversaw its installation in Herefordshire.

Andrew Thornhill

John Musson

John Nicholas Whittaker Musson was born in Ripon on the 2nd of October 1927. His father was a doctor. John was in Brown’s House (with his elder brother, Peter) during the War, and thus most of his memories were of Bude rather than Bristol. They were happy and successful years at Clifton – Praepostor, Captain of the XV and acceptance to Oxford to study Modern History. Immediately after school John served in Austria for the Lancashire Fusiliers from 1945 to 1948. He therefore went up to Brasenose (1948—1951) as a somewhat mature student, playing rugby for Oxford and leaving with a History MA.

John spent the 1950s in Nigeria, in the Colonial Service in Northern Nigeria as District Officer and Lecturer at the Institute of Administration. They were challenging but very rewarding years, and it was in Nigeria that he began his family. In 1961 John embarked on a teaching career, at Canford School and then as Warden of Glenalmond College from 1972 to 1987. He successfully steered Glenalmond through difficult economic times and is remembered as a strong, effective and practical leader.

After leaving Glenalmond John became a governor at Clifton from 1989 (as well as at George Watson’s College from 1989 to 1998). He was also deeply committed to

the work of Mercy Corps/Scottish European Aid, as Director and Trustee from 1996 to 2000, in the field as Country Director of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1998/1999 and as Vice-Chairman of Mercy Corps Europe from 2000 to 2007.

John passed away quietly in Edinburgh on the 2nd of July 2021. He will be remembered as a man of decency, who treated people from all walks of life with respect and did not suffer fools gladly. John’s infectious sense of humour will also be much missed. His wife, Ann, passed away in 2004, but he is fondly remembered by his four children (Caroline, Clare, Katie and Richard) and many of his former colleagues and pupils.

Stephen Marks



Stephen Marks, who has died aged 88, was an architect with a great interest in the history of the subject. As a planning inspector, he was keen to conserve the best of the past, while encouraging sensitive new development.

In 1984, he oversaw the controversial public enquiry into the plans for an office block, Mansion House Square, in the City of London, the last design of the architect Mies van der Rohe. This was a time of regression from the values of the modern movement. That year the Prince of Wales made a speech at the 150th anniversary celebration of the Royal Institute of British Architects at Hampton Court, in which he called the Mies design a “giant glass stump”.

Stephen’s recommendation for refusal for the design was upheld by the secretary of state. James Stirling was appointed to design an alternative and the result, No. 1 Poultry, an example of postmodernism at its most flamboyant, is now listed.

Stephen was born in London. He had strong links to the conservation movement through his maternal grandfather, the architect Albert Powys, a former secretary to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Stephen’s father, Herbert Marks, unusually for a City accountant, was a perceptive art collector who knew artists including Jacob Epstein and Henry Moore. Herbert may have met Stephen’s mother, Isobel Powys, through Clough Williams-Ellis (of Portmeirion fame), in whose office Isobel was a trainee architect.

After school at Clifton and a classics degree at Queen’s College, Oxford, Stephen trained at the Bartlett School of Architecture at University College London, headed by the classicist Hector Corfiato, whose teaching was based on the Beaux Arts model. Stephen struggled to cast off the rigidity of this training.

It may have been because of his historical enthusiasms, shown in his work for the London Topographical Society and the Camberwell Society, that Stephen was selected to be deputy chief conservation officer for Westminster in 1968 from a shortlist of apparently better qualified applicants. With the new powers granted

Bruce Nightingale



Bruce Nightingale had a distinguished career in the British Council and was a fine musician. He died in March 2020, 4 days after his 88th birthday and 60th wedding anniversary. He was born on 14 March 1932; his father was Director of Music at

Dauntsey’s School, his mother was an artist and potter.

Bruce was a chorister at St George’s Windsor from 1940 to 1946. Recalling this experience many years later, he wrote: 'The musical discipline stimulated capabilities of long-term value, such as concentration, stamina, patience and teamwork.' It was a vital stage in Bruce’s life. In his last year, when he was Senior Chorister, he and other choristers were invited on Monday afternoons to the red drawing room in Windsor Castle to have tea with the princesses. After tea they all sang madrigals and part songs together. The King and Queen wanted their daughters to sing well and to sight-read music. In later life Bruce recalled these happy occasions with warm affection.

During the school holidays, Bruce went sailing with his family and friends. He loved sailing all his life.

In 1946 Bruce won a music scholarship to Clifton, specialising in the cello and singing. He had a happy and fruitful time at Clifton. He made life-long friends: Geoffrey Hardyman, John Budgen, Ben Elliott, Mark Lowe. History came alive in John Thorn’s lessons. His music blossomed with Douglas Fox’s teaching: he gave fine performances of Beethoven’s A major and Brahms’ E minor cello sonatas: his passionate playing of the Elgar cello concerto with the school orchestra in his last year had real authority. Bruce was also a founder member of the National Youth orchestra. He greatly valued the rich musical training given by the orchestra, and was thrilled when his daughter Jessica played in the orchestra a generation later.

Following family tradition, Bruce did his National Service in the navy. He specialised in tracking submarines, aided by his acute sense of hearing. He also

honed his sailing skills. Bruce then went to King's College Cambridge as a Choral Scholar, reading history. He played chamber music and sang solos in concerts. After completing his three years as a choral scholar, he stayed on for an extra happy year, studying Economics. But it was not all work: he enjoyed May Week Balls, punting and a lively social life.

After Cambridge, Bruce went to New College Oxford for the Colonial Service course. He then spent three years in Nigeria as a District Officer. He trained Nigerian judges and lawyers in a revised legal code, among many other duties. While on leave in 1959, Bruce attended a summer Music Camp, where he met his future wife, Diana. They were married in 1960 in Ibadan – the start of 60 years of supremely happy marriage.

Directly after Music Camp, Bruce returned to Clifton to pick up Douglas Fox and take him to Falmouth for a long-planned sailing holiday, much enjoyed by both.

Bruce resigned from the Colonial Service in 1960, when Nigeria became independent. He then joined Clark's Shoe Company, in charge of staff training. The managerial and financial skills he acquired proved to be very valuable in his later career with the British Council, which he joined in 1965. He served in London and six overseas countries: Malawi, Japan, Malaysia, Romania,

Finland and Ethiopia.

Bruce was perfect for the Council, and the Council for him. Like Ulysses, he had found his Ithaka after many adventures on the way. He had the necessary skills; and he was excellent with people and made many friends. He was deeply committed to the Council's mission in education, science and the arts; he worked hard and loved the work. He had the confidence and imagination to side-step insensitive bureaucracy and find common-sense solutions to problems. 'He was my best boss', said many who had worked under him, after his death.

Here are some highlights of his distinguished British Council career:

Malawi: ran the local VSO programme; conducted a choir; organised performances of Bach's St John Passion and Mozart's Requiem, involving a police band and many local musicians.

Japan: taught English to the Crown Prince and helped him with speeches - they became friends and continued to meet after Akihito became Emperor.

Malaysia: organized a busy cultural centre and auditorium for concerts and exhibitions, and many academic exchanges. Also ran multi-racial choral and orchestral performances.

as knowledge! On return to Clifton in his last year he became Head of House and 1st XV Captain. He enjoyed his time at Clifton and along with his elder son Hector, who also went to Brown's House, made many lifelong friends.

Neville went up to Oxford [St Peter's College] where he earned a 2:1 in chemistry followed by National Service in the RAF. Thereafter he had a long and successful career in Shell International Chemical Company which gave him great opportunities to travel the globe. He and his family had two spells abroad, first in New York and then Stockholm, where he was responsible for Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland. The family learned to ski from their front door while living on the island of Lidingö, just outside Stockholm.

Romania: Cultural Attache. Ran a busy cultural and academic programme, in spite of Ceausescu.

London: He ran the Films Department, setting up a library of films to lend to Council offices round the world.

Finland: Director. He organized a busy exchange programme and summer music festivals, graced by conductors such as Ashkenazy and Rattle.

Ethiopia: Director. Eventful times - despite Civil War, Bruce kept the Council office open, and the Council's work continued. He was awarded the OBE.

Bruce retired in 1992, moving to his family home in Totnes. He worked for several educational and cultural charities, and travelled widely. He also wrote a book, mainly about his British Council experiences, 'Seven Rivers to Cross'. He conducted a local choir and orchestra and enjoyed the music at nearby Dartington Hall.

He was diagnosed with dementia in 2016, and spent the last four years of his life quietly at home, surrounded by family and friends, and with devoted carers. He leaves his wife Diana, three children Sarah, Louise and Jessica, and seven grandchildren.

It was a good life.

On retirement from Shell in 1990, Neville and two friends set up a private company MPZ Enterprises Ltd and spent a fascinating few years trading with newly freed Eastern European companies, focusing mainly on Czechoslovakia.

His home base was in St Margaret's Twickenham where he became a Local Councillor, Chairman of the local tennis club, Chairman of the local residents' association and Hon President of Richmond RFC.

He is much missed by his family and many friends.

Derek Reardon



William 'Derek' Reardon died on 22nd August 2021 at Southmead Hospital after a short illness.

James Stewart

After a short illness, James died on 23rd September 2020, aged 76.

At Clifton, James was a keen athlete and cross-country runner, winning the Short Pen. After leaving school he was articled

Son of Henry and Millicent Reardon, he was born in Pontypool, South Wales, on 29th November 1930 and had one younger brother, John. He attended Wiseman's House at Clifton from 1944 to 1949, and was part of the evacuation to Bude.

After school, he enjoyed National Service in the Royal Tank Regiment before his first job as a Rubber Planter in Malaysia during the Emergency in the 1950s. On returning to the UK he worked as an Assembly Controller, Manufacturing Planner, Management Executive, Distribution Manager and finally Transport Manager with several firms in South Wales and Bristol, obtaining several management and professional qualifications.

His enthusiasm for sport allowed him to excel in school as Captain of Boxing and

to CJ Ryland, a Bristol firm of Chartered Accountants. He then went on to practise his profession as a sole trader and was still working right up until the time he was taken ill.

In his private life he was involved in local sports clubs and charities in North Somerset where he was a founder

stroke of the Rowing IV, and gave him a love of rugby. This continued all through his life with more rugby, plus gliding, sailing, badminton, and he skied into his mid-70s. The skiing combined well with his love of travel, as he was always interested in places and people and in sharing a story over a drink.

He travelled back to the Far East several times as well as to Australia, the USA, most of western Europe [from Portugal to Finland], and the length and breadth of the UK, including most pubs in the Bristol area! He checked out the various beers and especially loved the Old Duke for the live jazz.

He married in 1956 and after 65 years of marriage is survived by his wife Ann, son David, daughter Sally and two grandchildren. It was a life well lived.

member of Winscombe RFC and latterly President of Winscombe Cricket Club. In the last 5 years he had moved to South Devon, becoming a Parish Councillor and Treasurer of his local church and of the Ermington Village Fund.

He is survived by his wife, Sue, two children and 5 grandchildren.

Neville Pinnington



Neville Pinnington won an exhibition to Clifton College and was in Brown's House 1943-47. During WW2 he was evacuated with the College to Bude in Cornwall, where pupils gathered in potatoes as well

preferred to watch rugby but was a keen squash and tennis player. He later played squash for Northumberland in 1947 and for Gloucestershire between 1952 & 1955.

After school he served an apprenticeship in flour milling technology and passed with a First Class City and Guilds. He became Assistant Works Manager at Spillers but within three months of the outbreak of war his call up papers arrived and at the age of 23 he was drafted to the 11th Regiment Honourable Artillery Company, Royal Horse Artillery. He undertook Officer training in Deolali, just north of Bombay. After 6 months he was posted to the 1st Indian H.A.A regiment stationed in Singapore. When Singapore surrendered he became a POW for the rest of the war, stationed in Thailand.

He spent the whole of his working life on the technical side of the flour milling and feed milling industries mainly around the

Bristol area. After the war he, and a colleague, went to Calgary to restart a flour mill which had been mothballed in the 1930's due to lack of trade. He also went to Zimbabwe for 3 years in the 1970s as Operations Manager covering mills in Salisbury, Bulawayo and Gwelo. When he retired in 1977 he was Project Manager for Spillers having been in their employ for over 40 years.

On retirement, he decided to compile a Technical Manual and in 1981 published The Millers Manual. It was popular worldwide and went to four editions. His work had also taken him to Newcastle in 1948 where he met and married Tricia Hardy. They had over 65 happy years together. David died aged 104 on 24th November 2020. He is survived by his daughter Pam, son Ken, grandsons Christopher and Simon, granddaughter Isabelle, and great grandchildren Edward, Harry and Poppy.

Nick Tarsh



Nick came to Clifton in 1947 from Liverpool, where his father was a practising barrister.

He entered Polack’s House as a scholar but soon excelled in sport. Remarkably, he played as a forward in the first XV for

four years, ending as captain in the 1951/52 season. He also won his school colours for Rugby Fives. In his final terms, he was Head of House, Cadet Captain and finally Head of School, the first Polackian to do so.

At Cambridge he achieved a rugby blue and, after switching from Economics, achieved a First in the Law Tripos. A career at the Bar nearly followed, but after joining an Inn of Court, Nick went into the travel industry, eventually forming his own company, Insight International Tours, which won many awards. He also contributed a great deal to various charities, most notably becoming chair of Relate in the 2000s.

In the early 90s his old house, Polack’s, which had had enormous success in the 70s under the mercurial Ernest Polack, was failing. Rather than close the house, Andrew Thornhill, then Chairman of Council, formed a trust to buy the house

and run it. Nick rose to the task of being chairman. The house initially thrived, and survived until 2005. The sale proceeds left the trust substantial funds and it has generously supported, and still does support, Jewish education at Clifton, in particular converting the old staff common room into a synagogue. Nick joined the Council and served as Vice Chairman and President.

Words cannot do justice to the character of the man. Nick was a natural conciliator, courteous and tolerant, kind and wise. He gave enormous amounts of time to Clifton and valued the unique link between a public school and Anglo-Jewry, from which both parties benefited.

Our sympathy goes to Helen, who survives him, and their 4 children and 8 grandchildren.

Andrew Thornhill

John Watson-Williams



Dr. John Watson-Williams passed peacefully in his sleep at 7:00 pm on Monday August 16. He was 95. John was

one of four children born to Cresten Boase of Penzance and Eric Watson-Williams of Bristol. John’s father, grandfather and great-grandfather were all physicians.

Educated at Clifton and Cambridge University, John had a distinguished career as a haematologist and professor on three continents: at Ibadan University, Nigeria, Manchester University, England, Methodist Hospital, New York, and UC Davis in California. In Nigeria, John met his future wife, Margaret Cope Newmark, also a physician. After marrying the two moved to Manchester. Soon after the birth of their third child, the family emigrated to the United States, first to Brooklyn before eventually settling in Davis, California. While working at UC Davis, John and Dr. Fred Meyers conceived and built the UC Davis Hospice program from the ground up. Over the course of his

career, John published 64 articles in Haematology and Medicine. Nonetheless, he is perhaps best remembered for his contributions to mankind as a haematologist working in Africa. In 1987, he developed the Uganda National Blood Transfusion Service, and then led the creation of a similar service for the Government of Zambia and the Republic of Georgia. A contributing author to the European Commission’s 1995 Publication ‘*Safe Blood in Developing Countries, Principles and Organization*’, John’s expertise in treating blood disorders and sustaining safe blood supplies saved countless lives. A life-long bridge player, and fan of classical music, fine wine and dining, John will be missed deeply by friends and family alike. John was preceded in death by his wife Margaret and his son Simon. He is survived by two children, Tim and Jennifer, his friend Kay Pruvich, and his three grandchildren Holly, Kristen, and Angelica.

Robert Upton



It is with great sadness that the family of Lieutenant Commander Robert Edmund Upton announces his passing after a brief illness, on 17th February 2021 at the age of 83. Robert went peacefully during the night at the William Sanders Retirement Village, Devonport, Auckland, New Zealand. He was married twice: to Faith until 1974 and then to Beverley until her passing in 2016. He will be lovingly remembered by his four sons David, Andrew, Stephen and Richard and his eight grandchildren Michael, Catherine, Matthew, Mila, Harriet, George, Charles and Sebastian.

During his long life, Robert had many and varied careers both in the UK and New Zealand. After graduating the Dartmouth Naval College, he went on to achieve a final rank of Lieutenant Commander within the British Royal Navy. Retiring in 1968, Robert went on to work as a computer systems salesman for ICL in the City of London. In 1972 he immigrated with his family to Wellington, New Zealand, where he then took the roles of Comptroller for Gear Meat Works and then became a small business owner in the plastics and screen-printing industries respectively. He completed his distinguished career as the Chief Executive Officer of the Wellington Free Ambulance where he oversaw the fundraising, construction and relocation from Cable Street to Davis Street.

Robert was also very active volunteering in the Wellington local community through the Wellington Citizens Advice Bureau, the NZ Family Budgeting service, as club captain of the Kelburn Croquet Club and through his membership of the Wellington Rotary association and the Empire Ferguson Masonic Lodge. He was an accomplished croquet player, receiving a number of national championship trophies. Robert was also an avid All Black and Wellington rugby fan. He will be sorely missed.

David Wolfson



David Wolfson, a member of the distinguished Wolfson family, was put on the train at Paddington by his mother to go to Polack’s. Thereafter, he was seldom, if ever, visited by his parents. Nevertheless, he was glad to get away

from life in Grosvenor Square. He was a contemporary of Nick Tarsh at Clifton, both being part of a golden generation of Polackians in the 1950s. He excelled at tennis, winning his colours. He read law at Cambridge and obtained an MBA at Stanford.

His later life was one of great distinction. Not only did he successfully take part in the family business eventually becoming chairman but, helped later by his son Lord Wolfson of Aspley Guise, he effectively created Next plc with its outstanding retail record. He presided over the Charles Wolfson Trust, taking immense personal interest in the affairs of the beneficiaries which included the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. However, his greatest achievement was perhaps his broad interest in the politics and economics of the country. He was heavily involved in the political re-thinking associated with

Keith Joseph and Margaret Thatcher. In 1978, Alistair McAlpine persuaded him along with his secretary, Cynthia Crawford, to work for Mrs. Thatcher, where he was an immense influence behind the scenes until 1986. He was one of the few persons with the strength of mind to make Thatcher read a document and consider it. Cynthia remained in Downing Street and looked after the former Prime Minister in her retirement. Her name appears many times in Charles Moore’s biography of Baroness Thatcher.

David Wolfson was an original thinker, unafraid to challenge orthodoxy and impatient and intolerant of those who denied there was a solution to a problem. A full appreciation of his contribution to the country has yet to be made.

Andrew Thornhill



OC Lodge

Once again our Masonic year has been disrupted and the Old Cliftonian Lodge has found itself unable to meet during lockdown and as such all our meetings were unfortunately cancelled. W.Bro Nigel Deacon (LS, WTP, STP, OH 1973-82) was unable to take the role of Worshipful Master for the year, that role remaining with W.Bro Timothy Neil Freeman (LS, TT, STP, ET 1972—83) until such time as the Lodge can safely meet again. He will now have been Master for 3 years, a first for the Lodge. However, the brethren have continued to embrace the technology available - Zoom conference calls have played a crucial part in enabling us to keep in touch and ensure we maintain friendships during this difficult period. We have even been able to maintain the Masonic tradition of the 9 o'clock toast to absent Brethren.

Each year in early Summer, the PSLC lodges celebrate their association and fellowship with a festival which is hosted on rotation by the member Lodges (generally at their associated school). The Public School Lodges Council Festival is a great opportunity for the various school Lodges to showcase their schools, their history and their membership to the wider Masonic community. It is also an opportunity for wives, partners and families to get involved

and share in the experience. Sadly, the 2020 festival was cancelled because of the lockdown. The Old Tonbridgian Lodge had been scheduled to hold it and had previously hosted the festival on three occasions - 1931, 1970, and most recently 2000. The 2020 Festival was to have been a significant event for the Lodge, not only because it marked their Centenary, but also because many Old Tonbridgians served in World War I, 415 of whom laid down their lives, including the Captain of the school, George Cressey.

This year the Old Cheltonian Lodge will hold the PSLC Festival in October and this will be the fourth time they have hosted it at Cheltenham College, the previous years being 1913, 1965, and 1991. Henry Peters (WaH 1980—82) is the Secretary of the Old Cheltonian Lodge and is instrumental in organising the event; he is also a member of the Old Cliftonian Lodge, thereby being an OC twice!

The Lodge unfortunately had some sad news with the passing of W.Bro. Prof. John Manley Morehen PJGD in March. An obituary can be found elsewhere in the magazine.

As has been said before, charity is an

integral part of Freemasonry and while individual members have been doing their part, during the lockdown the Freemasons' COVID-19 Community Fund has been founded and continues to support a range of local and national charities and projects that are helping people through the current coronavirus pandemic. The Masonic Charitable Foundation will match donations made to the Fund up to a total of £1 million.

Despite recent events, the members of the Old Cliftonian Lodge are keen to resume normality and return to our usual meetings. While this may be difficult from a logistical point of view in the short term, the Lodge will overcome this enforced absence.

Among those whose tenacity is most admired is W.Bro John Acton (MH, HH, OH 1949—58), who is organising the restoration and rededication of the Haig memorial statue situated in Montreuil-sur-Mer. This statue of Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig is the only British military figure to be commemorated in France with an equestrian statue. John is organising this through the Haig Statue Restoration Fund Committee.

The provisional dates of our meetings for the current year are: Thursday 21st October 2021, Saturday 13th November 2021 (**Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol**), Thursday 20th January 2022 and Thursday 28th April 2022 (**Installation Meeting**), both of which will be held at **Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London**. OC Masons are always most welcome as visitors – please contact the Secretary if you would like to attend. Membership of the Lodge is open to any male OC, any Master who has served on the teaching staff for at least five years, and the father of any present or past boy or girl pupil. If you are interested in Masonry and would like further information please contact: **The Lodge Secretary, David Peters, 4 The Woodbine, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1JE. Tel: 07709 630036; email: davidanpeters@aol.com**



THE CLIFTONIAN SOCIETY
CLIFTON COLLEGE

AGM

Minutes of the 123rd AGM of the Old Cliftonian Society and the Old Cliftonian Society Endowment Fund Trustees, held online on Friday 13th November 2020, at 3.00pm

Present: Members of the OC Executive, Lucy Nash, Jo Greenbury, Richard Clarke, Nick Greene, Robert Durie, John Rolfe, Karen Pickles, James Richards, Alex Polyakov, James Fox.

Apologies: Charlie Newington-Bridges, Jeremy Walters, Tamsin Robertson, Locks Farmer

- 1. Confirmation and approval of the minutes of the 122nd AGM 2019:** These were approved and will be signed at the earliest opportunity.
- 2. Confirmation and adoption of the 122nd Annual Financial Report and Accounts 2019:** These were adopted and will be signed at the earliest opportunity. They have been published in the Magazine [OC Edition] 2020.
- 3. The President's remarks** Mark Eldridge reported that Covid had imposed a great deal of strain on the College, both in terms of delivering education and financially. The OC Society had been able to provide some financial support to parents in distressed circumstances, and also helped Jeremy Pickles to raise funds from OCs for PPE for local care homes and businesses. He noted that a Memorandum of Understanding had been drawn up with the College which outlines the relationship between the Society and the College, highlighting the significant contribution made by the OCS to the overall 'health' of the school. ME welcomed John Rolfe, the new Director of Development, who will overlap with Jeremy Pickles until he retires in 2021. He thanked all

members of the Executive Committee, with special mentions for Myles Watkins [who had stepped up as Treasurer] and Ali Cole. He closed by thanking Lucy Nash and Jo Greenbury for all their efforts.

4. The Chairman's review of the year

Ali Cole reflected on a very strange year, and the dreadful impact of Covid in particular. OCS had obviously not been immune from the awful consequences of the pandemic. The Society had managed to continue to provide a service to the community, with a virtual reunion, virtual Careers Fair, virtual Remembrance Service and a predominantly online Magazine. Jeremy Pickles' PPE initiative during lockdown had raised a huge amount from OCs, to everyone's credit. Thanks were due to Matt Howard-Cairns and Charlie Newington-Bridges for handling the investment managers so effectively, meaning that the CCEF was in decent shape given the vicissitudes of 2020. AC reported that the CCEF was currently supporting 10 scholarships and 8 bursaries; and that the emergency OCS fund of £100k had been applied to a further 8 bursaries for 2020/21. The Chairman paid a special tribute to Bob Acheson, who retires as Editor of the OC Magazine after 12 magnificent editions. He will be sorely missed. He thanked Jeremy Pickles and Laura Adams in the Development Office, and Mark Eldridge for his unstinting support and patience. Finally, he thanked Jo Greenbury and Lucy Nash for all their efforts, particularly in these virtual times.

The Society had managed to adapt and change in these strange and difficult times. It had shown resilience, done its duty and done 'what is good'. AC thanked the OCS for all it does, and was pleased and honoured to have been involved.

5. Elections of officers:

Ali Cole felt compelled to resign the Chairmanship due to a conflict of interest with his current commercial activities. He was duly thanked for his considerable service to the OCS, as a member of the committee, Treasurer and Chairman. AC proposed Kate Holland-Smith to be the next Chair of the Society, seconded by Myles Watkins, to start on January 1st, 2021. ME proposed Matt Howard-Cairns to be Vice-President, seconded by James Isaacs; and Seb Hoyle proposed Locks Farmer to be Vice-President, seconded by KH-S. Myles Watkins proposed Alan Bailey to be a member of the Committee, seconded by MH-C. All these elections were passed unanimously.

6. Appointment of auditors:

The proposal to re-appoint Bishop Fleming as auditors was unanimously agreed.

7. AOB

1. It was agreed that the date of the next AGM in 2021 would be agreed and posted on the website before Christmas.
2. Richard Clarke thanked Ali Cole for all the sterling work he had done for the Society over many years.

Accounts

HONORARY TREASURER’S REPORT

This report consists of two parts.

First, there are the summary accounts of the Old Cliftonian Society. This is a members' club and the accounts are not published elsewhere. The information contained within this section is only part of the Society's full audited financial statements and as such the auditor's full statements and associated notes are not listed within this magazine. If you would like a copy of the full financial statements, these are available to members on request from Jo Greenbury at the Old Cliftonian Society Office.

Secondly, there are the summary accounts of the Clifton College Endowment Fund, a registered charity. The full accounts are available on the Charity Commission website. The Trustees are the members of the OC Executive Committee.

The auditors intend to issue an unqualified opinion on the accounts.

OLD CLIFTONIAN SOCIETY

Income And Expenditure Account For The Year Ended 31 December 2020	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income And Endowments		
Subscriptions - OCs	11,281	9,532
Subscriptions - Current pupils	55,950	68,067
Interest and dividends	60	102
Sundry receipts	589	1,130
Events income	4,731	18,189
Total Income and Endowments	72,651	97,020
Expenditure		
Secretary including admin expenses	25,318	23,992
The Cliftonian Magazine	6,250	20,000
OC Sports	642	4,971
Website	8,604	6,427
Miscellaneous	9,628	9,384
Events expenditure	2,033	38,494
Governance	3,000	1,200
Covid19 Support	25,710	
Total Expenditure	81,185	104,468
Net Movement In Funds	(8,534)	(7,448)
Reconciliation Of Funds		
Total funds brought forward	215,809	223,257
Total movement in funds	(8,534)	(7,448)
Total Funds Carried Forward	207,275	215,809

THE OLD CLIFTONIAN SOCIETY

The Society receives life membership subscription income and voluntary contributions from past and present members of the school. These cover the bulk of the costs of running the society, including subsidies for OC reunions, Branch dinners, the OC Magazine and the website, as well as various OC sporting activities. The Society's funds can also be applied for the benefit of the school, as they have been during 2020 with the Covid Bursary fund.

Grants and exceptional expenditure can be met from capital, but it is the Executive's intention that the Society should always keep an amount equal to at least one year's expenditure on deposit. Current reserves exceed this level.

OLD CLIFTONIAN SOCIETY

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2020	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
Current Assets				
Debtors	4,637		4,740	
Cash at bank & in hand	229,343		234,588	
	233,980		239,328	
Creditors	(26,705)		(23,519)	
Net Current Assets		207,275		215,809
Total Net Assets		207,275		215,809
Society Funds				
Total funds		207,205		215,809
Total Funds		207,205		215,809

THE CLIFTON COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND

The Charity Commission has authorised the trustees to use total return accounting, which allows us to use a wider range of investments with the expectation of generating greater overall returns from the fund. The fund is no longer restricted solely to distributing investment income, but can also distribute some capital gains within strict guidelines. The income of the fund consists of income and gains from a portfolio of investments. Smith & Williamson have managed the fund during the course of the year and the Finance Committee reviews their performance each quarter. In June 2020, the trustees adopted an Ethical Investment Policy, which has been implemented by S & W. Assistance can be provided towards school fees in cases of unforeseen financial need especially, but not exclusively, for

those with an OC parent. OC parents of pupils in the school who run into financial difficulty should approach the School Bursar in the first instance to apply for support in paying fees. Distributions may also be used to provide particular items or support for specific projects, identified in discussion with the school. OC activities in the UK and around the world continue to be supported, and this includes making donations to the fund, which ultimately benefit Cliftonians and the College. Contributions, which may be directed to any of the restricted funds and in particular to the fund in memory of Charles Colquhoun, or to the general fund, are invited from all OCs. Gifts from UK taxpayers gain Gift Aid increasing the net value of the gift by 25%. Further details can be obtained from Jo Greenbury at the Old Cliftonian Society Office.

THE CLIFTON COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2020	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income and Endowments		
Donations and legacies	89,503	195,584
Investments	86,149	119,542
Total Income and Endowments	175,652	315,126
Expenditure		
Investment management fees	32,369	30,992
Charitable activities	132,041	102,621
Total Expenditure	164,410	133,613
Net Income Before Investment Gains/(Losses)	11,242	181,513
Net gains/(losses) on investments	337,986	728,377
Net (Expenditure)/ Income	349,228	909,890
Net Movement In Funds	349,228	909,890
Reconciliation of Funds		
Total funds brought forward	5,063,662	4,153,722
Net Movement in Funds	349,228	909,890
Total Funds Carried Forward	5,412,890	5,063,662

Tiers of Donors

Percival Benefactors (£250k plus)

The Old Cliftonian Society
Joseph Cooper (NT 1931) *
Jonathan Glassberg (PH 1983)
Polack’s House Educational Trust
David Jones (BH 1955) *
John James Bristol Foundation
Mildred Tomlinson *
Michael R W Eames *
Anonymous x 1

Guthrie Benefactors (£50k - £250k)

Nick Porter (ET 1986)
Jacqueline Pullinger *
Mr D and Mrs H Stevens
Trevor Howard (DH 1932) *
Edgar Harborne (NT 1952) *
Roger Cooper (DH 1952)
Alan Morgan (NT 1969)
Isidore Grossman *
Simon Brewer (ET 1981)
Sir Hector Sants (BH 1973)
Stephen Zimmerman (PH 1967)
HSWJ Trust
Ian Lane (ST 1950)
Ann Futter Lomeli
Peter Tasker (NT 1973)
Sir Trevor Chinn (PH 1953)
Anthony Gwilliam (NT 1948) *
Anonymous x 3

Wilson Benefactors (£10k - £50k)

John Pocock
Hugh Harper (WiH 1986) *
Robin Bowie (WiH 1980)

Christopher Trembath (ST 1980)
Marc Futter (OH 1939) *
Friends of Clifton
Tim Greene
Sir David Willcocks Music Trust Fund
Graeme McEvoy (SH 1987)
Sandy Hett (DH 1946)
Granville Davis (NT 1939) *
The J&M Britton Charitable Trust
A. Frank Petrosky
Davidson Charitable Trust
Arbi Gayrabekov
Michael Brooks (NT 1951)
Halid Musayev
Bob Frampton (WiH 1942) *
Lin (NT 1954) and Judith Wilson
David Forbes-Nixon (NT 1983)
Andrew Thornhill (NT 1962)
Simon Makinson (WaH 1976)
Tim Ross
Sir Peter Job (DH 1959)
David Jenkins (SH 1940) *
David Killick (OH 1956)
Piotr Holysz (SH 2003)
Keasbey Memorial Foundation
OC Masonic Lodge
Sir Martin Franklin (PH 1983)
Peter Greenaway (NT 1950)
Milan Morjaria (SH 1985)
Colin Hallward (ST 1953)
Peter George (BH 1990)
Christopher Dale (BH 1988)
Agnes Weighell *
Thomas Elliott (OH 1982)

Patrick Howe (ST 1955)
John Barron (DH 1952) *

Rick Saunders (DH 1981)
Matthew Kemp (PH 1985)
Peter Bartrum (DH 1926) *
Kadoorie Charitable Foundation
Geoffrey Mowat (ST 1936) *
Davy Pain (SH 1936) *
David Peck (OH 1939) *
Julian Tayler *
Richard Farrimond (WaH 1965)
Neal Foster (PH 1984)
Neal Constable (WiH 1983)
John Dayer (NT 1948)
Michael Bailey Charitable Trust (ET 1970)
Dorota Lyszkowska-Becher (OH 1998)

Aaron Banks
Geoffrey Hardyman (OH 1950) *
Neil Jordan (ST 1987)
Adrian Palmer (SH 1967)
The Harry Crook Charitable Trust
Gillian Blakeman *
Anonymous x 3

The Close Benefactors (£1k - £10k)

304

The Commemoration Benefactors (up to 1k)

1541

The list shows donations received since 1st January 2000. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If your name has been inadvertently omitted please accept our apologies and deepest gratitude for your support. Please contact us and we will rectify this as soon as we can.

* In Memoriam

OC Branches & Clubs

Branch Secretaries 2021 – United Kingdom

If you want to contact other OCs in your area, please email the OC office to be put in touch, we have Cliftonians all over the UK.

Here are some contacts in certain areas in the UK:

United Kingdom Bristol

Seb Hoyle
sebhoye@btinternet.com
07850 766368
or
Jezz Grainger
jezzsterboy@yahoo.co.uk
07785 345111

Isle of Man
Derek Winterbottom
derekw@manx.net
01624 670 732

Northumberland & Co Durham
David Penny
davidspenny2003@yahoo.co.uk
07855 430 811

Yorkshire
Christopher Gibbs
christopher.gibbs@cantab.net
07886 202901

Scotland

Douglas Findlay-Shirras
douglas@kinellanlodge.co.uk
07785 277387

Wales

Nick Jones
nick.jones500@gmail.com
07968 042542

Irish Republic And Northern Ireland

Richard Holdsworth
richardholdsworth@hotmail.com
richard.holdsworth@cricketireland.ie
+353 860 222759
+353 1 8947916

OC Branches and Clubs

If you are living in, moving to, or travelling around the globe, the following OCs have offered to be a point of contact:

Australasia

Australia - Queensland
Roger Griffiths
+61 7-32662794
+61 (0)42 880 1000
grifo@optusnet.com.au

Australia – New South Wales
Piers Hogarth-Scott
+61 405 151 971
piers@hogarth-scott.com

Australia – Tasmania
Peter Newsom
+61 3-63315837
peternewsom6@gmail.com

Australia – Western Australia
John Melville-Jones
+61 8-64882164
john.melville-jones@uwa.edu.au

New Zealand

Clive Weston
+64 21 905 565
clivejrweston@gmail.com

Europe

Belgium
Richard Lewis
+322 767 8153
richard.lewis@telenet.be

France
Colin Yeandle
+33 2 3328 1037
colalyeandle@orange.fr

Gibraltar
Bruno Callaghan
+34 956 615 160
+350 200 43636
bruno@callaghaninsurance.com

The Netherlands
Charles Mander
+31 652844090
charles.mander@live.com

Poland
Marcin Szala
+48 693 964 717
marcin@szala.net

Russia and CIS

Boris Yaryshevskiy
+79851831313
yaryshevskiy@gmail.com

Switzerland

Damian Budd
+41 78 658 2469
damianbudd@hotmail.com

Middle East

Israel
Simon Jaffa
+972544986650
sjaffa@barlaw.co.il

Qatar
Chris Barnard Jones (BeeJay)
+974 33697546
beej320@gmail.com

India

Rajeev Chaurasia (Mumbai)
rajeev.chaurasia@gmail.com
+919821517777

North America

Canada – Atlantic Provinces
David Baird
drbaird@nl.rogers.com
+1 709 726 9093

Canada – British Columbia
Kenneth Fok
zedbadee@shaw.ca
+1 604 266 8578

Canada – Ontario/Quebec
Richard Musson
rjgmusson@gmail.com
+1 416-557-2560

USA – New York
Graeme McEvoy
mcevoygraeme@gmail.com
+1 908 723 1685

USA California / Northern
Stephen Wares
stephenwares@gmail.com
+1 650 690 0508

USA California / Southern
Izzie Pick
izziepickash@gmail.com
+1 323 632 2812

USA – South West States
Alexander Watson
Alexander.Watson@gs.com
+1 385 282 3200

USA – Washington DC
David Royle
d.royle@mac.com
+1 202 966 7622

Africa

East Africa
Kiurim@gmail.com
+254 726 971961
and
Vivian Lagat
vlagat@gmail.com
+254 723 547 648

South Africa
Nigel Drury - Cape Town
n.h.drury@gmail.com
+27 79 165 8824
and
David Williams - Johannesburg
davidwilliams.rsa@gmail.com
+27 72 597 3792

South East Asia

Hong Kong
Vincent Law
vkmlaw@gmail.com
+852 9840 0096

Japan
Masa Usui
usuim21@hotmail.com
+81 90 12597800

Singapore
Colin Jarraw
cjarraw@gmail.com
+65 9795 0025

South Korea
Jane Lee
jane_lee16@hotmail.com
jane.lee@alphasights.com
+852 5372 6347

Taiwan
Simon Wong
no5354@hotmail.com
+886 953288522

Thailand
Simon Makinson
Simon.Makinson@allenoverly.com
+85297393691

Old Cliftonian Society Sports Clubs

Cricket Club
Jem Brooks—President
07966 264405
jbrooks@brookswm.co.uk

Rupert Swetman—Captain
07773 786004
rswetman@gmail.com

Cross Country
Alex Patton
07834043952
alexander_patton@hotmail.com

Football Club
Jon Temperley
07977 149 553
oldcliftoniansfc@gmail.com

Hockey Club
Josh Barnes
07766088056
jbarnes92.jb@googlemail.com

Saskia Barnes
07532207157
saskia.barnes@yahoo.com

Golf Society
Andy Rudge
0779595630
arudge2@cliftoncollege.com

Rackets/Real Tennis Club
James Telling
07817 421 985
telling9@hotmail.com

Rugby 7s
Will Watson
07967993351
wjw10@hotmail.co.uk

Ollie Bowden
07951056575
obowden1@hotmail.co.uk

Shooting Club
Daniel Odutola
07984018040
danielodutola@yahoo.co.uk

John Evans
07973777252
jcev39@gmail.com

Waterpolo
Simon Macfarlane
07896860559
simonmacf@hotmail.com



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Jo Greenbury

The Old Cliftonian Society

32 College Road

Bristol BS8 3JH

0117 315 7155/665

Email: cliftoniansociety@cliftoncollege.com

Website: www.oc-online.co.uk

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Clifton College

32 College Road,
Clifton, Bristol
BS8 3JH

T. +44 (0) 117 315 7000

E. info@cliftoncollege.com

cliftoncollege.com