



The GAZETTE



BART LAYTON WINS BAFTA



Editorial



Firstly, a huge welcome to this year's Senior Sixth, all one hundred and twenty-one of whom are shortly to become JCC members. In the meantime, we wish them

all the best of luck with their exams. Patrick Benjamin, Jack Farkas, Thavin Juvanendran and Noah Reich will be JCC Year Representatives, helping to maintain links between their peers and the Club. We were delighted that all these boys, as well as the "Five Wise Men" (Heads of School) could join us at the Honourable Artillery Company in March for the JCC Annual Dinner, where a good time was had by all. The food was delicious and Assistant Commissioner Cressida Dick was a wonderful speaker with her dry wit. Many thanks to those who attended.

A bit of housekeeping: do you receive the E-Bulletin? There are a good number of you for whom we have no email address, so you may be missing out! We email you once every two months with the latest news and events – this is the E-Bulletin. Moreover, email is often the most practical method of getting in touch with you, particularly at late notice, which is often the case if an Old Cit is trying to trace some additional old schoolfriends for an informal get-together. You can update your contact details anytime by logging into the Members' Area of the JCC website. Any former CLS pupil can get a login – you don't have to be a full, life member of the JCC. Once in the Members' Area, you can search a database of Old Cits and view some school photographs - maybe your old class photo is among them!

I hope you have a good summer.

Sarah Jenks (Miss)
Alumni Relations Officer



DAVID LEVIN TO LEAVE CITY

Here is the Headmaster's announcement made on 10th April 2013:

"I have accepted a new job as Managing Director of all the independent schools owned by United Learning. This is a very exciting opportunity which will see me line-managing nine headmasters in nine schools located all around the country. I will begin work with ULT next January.

I will therefore be leaving City of London School at the end of the Autumn Term this year. It will be a wrench to leave such a great school and such a splendid community of pupils, parents and staff. I would like to thank you for your support of the School."

The President, Bernard Silverman, wrote to David on behalf of the Club offering our congratulations. The JCC is extremely grateful for his support of the Club over the last fourteen years and we are appreciative of the strong relations that his leadership have enabled us to build with the School. David will be sorely missed, but we wish him all the best with his new post.

The JCC is commissioning a portrait of David to hang in the Great Hall. Come to the AGM Supper on **Wednesday 20 November** to see it unveiled and to join us in thanking him and bidding him a fond farewell.

There is an interview with David on Page 7.

WERE YOU ON THE JCC COMMITTEE?

**HELP US ARCHIVE RECORDS OF THE MINUTES OF
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.**

The archive holds the minutes from 1851 to March 1977, after which there are two gaps:

- May 1977 – May 1981
- September 1995 – November 1997 (when Terry tells me is the date on which I took over as Secretary)

Were you on the committee during these dates? If so, please could you look in your lofts & cellars to see whether you have old records with copies of the above (obviously they will be unsigned, but copies are better than nothing!).

Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Martin Israel, Secretary

Interested to see more film, CLS style?

In 1987 the CLS Film Society made "The Alternative Guide to the City of London School", showing off the new school site as well as interviewing teachers and lots of boys – maybe you'll recognise yourself amongst them!

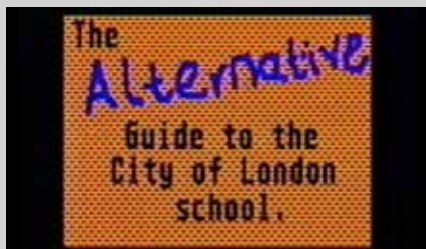
Only one year later, Bart Layton started at the school. Perhaps the examples of these older boys experimenting with filmmaking inspired him?!

The haircuts may have changed, but what is perhaps surprising is how little else has! David Heminway and Jonathan Keates are still both (just!) at the school, for example.

It was directed, filmed and edited by Daniel Litvin and Phillip Ferreira-Lay. The Narrator is Mark Litvin, with graphics by Hideya Sugiura. The JCC has lost touch with some of these people, so if you know them, do please show them this!

The old VHS was recently found and digitized, and it is now on YouTube. For privacy, it is unsearchable, meaning you need to know the exact link. It is written below, but if it looks too complicated to type out, just email aro@jcc.org.uk and we'll send the link to you.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BiV3D6HJnFc&list=PLEYjFz7dEDi9WklrQYMGozo3eisHZoG_i



THE IMPOSTER

Bart Layton (88-91) attended the glittering ceremony of the EE British Academy Film Awards at the Royal Opera House in February this year to find that he had won Outstanding Debut by a British Writer, Director or Producer. He won the BAFTA for directing *The Imposter*, alongside the film's producer Dimitri Doganis. Whilst receiving five-star reviews, *The Imposter* generated much media interest around its release due to its intriguing storyline and straddling of feature film and documentary genres – a "docu-drama". This makes sense, since although this is Bart's debut as a film director, he has worked on many documentaries for television, and he loves his job:

"If you're a nosy person, documentary filmmaking is just about the best job out there; your work will take you to peculiar places and introduce you to people with extraordinary stories that normal life would never have brought you into contact with."

Bart became interested in "the Chameleon" – a French-Algerian serial conman who, in 1997, managed to convince not only the FBI to give him a

US passport, but also an American family that he was their blond, teenage son, who had suddenly disappeared three years previously. "If this was a work of fiction, it would be preposterous," says Bart: "What kind of person could not know their own flesh and blood?" However, Bart's investigations delve so deeply into the story that an even darker twist emerges – I won't spoil it by telling you what it is though!

Bart and Dimitri managed to get both the conman, Frédéric Bourdin, and the family, the Barclays, to give extensive interviews. As they talk straight into the camera, Bart allows us to feel their persuasive power and be swayed by each of their conflicting accounts. Bart deliberately allows Frédéric to evoke sympathy in the audience, so that "You find yourself sucked in by his twisted logic". The film reflects on interesting questions about the nature of deception and self-deception, yet Bart manages to maintain pace, with the Telegraph's Robbie Collin saying it 'unfolds like a Hollywood thriller'.

Bart's next project is "an existential heist movie", which sounds too intriguing to miss!



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News in Brief



Clockwise from top:

Gordon Stringer (49-57) won the 2013 West Midlands 5 Counties Racketball Championships in the Over 75s section and was runner-up in the Over 70s section.

Martin Neary (49-58) received a Lambeth D Mus from the Archbishop of Canterbury last October. The citation read: "in recognition of his outstanding contribution at national and international level as an organist and conductor and of his sensitive and dynamic interpretation of sacred and secular music in the choral tradition". Martin is also one of the Chapel Royal Old Citizens who sang at the 1953 Coronation; all choristers who sang at this occasion were invited back to attend the 60th Anniversary Service on 4th June in Westminster Abbey.

John S Elliott (46-50) has sent in this photo of the 1949 M4a class and would love to know if anyone has knowledge of any surviving class mates. To the best of his knowledge, those pictured are:

(Back Row) Peter Rosier, John Elliott, Hutchinson, Hugh Courts, Colin Anthony, Norman Bytham, David Ezra, Dudley Bryant

(Centre Row) Geoffrey Gelberg, John Stanton, David Weyman, Dennis Cherkas, Michael Leaver, Desmond Horne, Raymond Paul, ? Harris, Hugh Wilman, Murray Steinberg

(Bottom Row) 'Tubby' Clayton, John White, Nigel Weber, Clive Fisher, Mr. Cyril E Bond, Brian (Gusty) Gale, Trevor Creasey, Geoffrey Thompson, Michael Winch.



Tom Wingate (teacher 01-07) writes from Tecamachalco:

"As of August 2013 I will fill the newly created post of Director of Greengates IB School, Mexico City (with a particular focus regarding educational planning and appraisal). As such, the Headmaster and I, both reporting to the owners, will run the school with the help of our teams.

Having left City in 2007, for the last few years I have



worked once again at Greengates, mostly in college counselling, helping the majority of our graduating students access fine universities in the USA, with a good minority heading off to study in many other countries as well.

Our school is a British-international outfit, now just over 60 years old, based in an area called San Mateo in the NW of the city. A seamless garment, we educate children of some 55 to 60 nationalities from kindergarten, and on through their IGCSE years, to the U6th with their IB Diplomas. I first joined up in 1986, just after the big Mexico City earthquake of '85. My wife Elena's diplomatic work as a trade commissioner for the Mexican government occasioned our family moves abroad. The two most prominent moves were 1993-96, when we lived in Atlanta, Georgia, and where I ended up as Principal of Wesleyan School, and 2001-2007, where I joined the Tony O'Sullivan's - and then George Phillipson's - wonderful English Department at City of London, also becoming, in due course, Head of Year 3 (after David Hemingway) in Aidan Tolhurst's and David Levin's vibrant team. So, my third contract at Greengates began in 2007.

If, back at Greengates, I were even to approach the happiness and satisfaction I felt at being part of City, then I really would not ask for more.

Terry Heard (53-59; teacher, then Second Master 67-97; Archivist 97-) was awarded his MBE by the Queen at Buckingham Palace in February. If, like Terry, you first came to City in 1953, come and join us for lunch at the School on 17 September to celebrate 60 Years On. There will be tours of the School and archives on display.

Ronel Lehmann (78-82) had a chance meeting with Tamsin Aston (CLSG), 31 years after leaving their Schools. Their stalls were next to each other at the inaugural CLS Careers Fair in January, as they represented Lehmann Communications and GE Oil & Gas respectively. The event overall was a huge success, with over 65 exhibitors, including virtually all major employers from a wide range of industries. The School is grateful to all Old Citizens who participated. For more information on how you and





your business can help the School, please see the letter from the Head of Careers on page 2.

The annual JCC dinner witnessed a rare meeting of four of the Old Citizens' Eton Fives Club's key figures, responsible for its boom years in the 1970s and by extension its survival into the present day, despite the loss of home courts more than a quarter of a century ago. **Gordon Stringer**, second from left, was the secretary who built up a fixture list of nearly 100 matches. **Kevin Brooks**, far left, **Peter Stiles**, second right and **Geoff Bates** far right, were not only the backbone of the side in those days but also spent many evenings coaching and supporting the generation which won a record number of national titles in the 1980s and still enjoys the game today.

Stephen Kiely (83-89) married Joanna Louise Osborn at St Botolph's Bishopsgate on 16th February this year. He resigned his Commission with the Honourable Artillery Company last year following twenty years of service.

Adam Barr (03-11), in his second year reading Physics and Astrophysics at Manchester University, was part of the team that swept to victory in the final of University Challenge 2013. After a narrow win in round one against Lincoln College, Manchester beat Magdalen College Oxford and Imperial College. They lost once in the quarter-finals (to University College London), but won their final quarter-final against St George's Medical School and their semi-final against the University of Bangor. By beating UCL with 190 points to 140 in the Final, broadcast on 29 April, Adam has now helped Manchester to become only the second team to retain the title in consecutive years since the programme's launch in 1962. Their trophy was presented by Astronomer Royal Martin Rees.

Michael Smith (07-09) completed the London Marathon, whilst guided by City biology teacher Alison Stewart. He has been offered a training contract with international law firm Ashurst, who specialise in energy and transport matters. Michael is currently finishing his degree at Kings in Geography, and will then go to the College of Law in Moorgate. **Daniel Smith (07-09)** is completing his degree in Engineering at Bristol. This summer he will do a ten week placement

with Rothschild, before taking up a job at the FSA. The twins hope to qualify for Rio 2016 to compete in Paralympic cycling.

Colin Francis Sach (65-73) is the newly elected Master of the Worshipful Company of Bakers.

Vossloh Kiepe has recently received an Option Order for a further 20 trams for Manchester. **Edward Evans (77-84)**, Commercial Contracts Manager for Vossloh Kiepe in Düsseldorf, played a key role in the negotiations. The order brings the total supply of new trams in Manchester to 94.

William Morris (84-91) composed the music for the recent Channel 4 documentary *Secrets of the Stonehenge Skeletons*.

Danny Cohen (85-92) was appointed Director of BBC Television and started his new role in May. Previously, whilst he was BBC One Controller, the channel had record-breaking growth in peak and all-hours share and he commissioned many major successes such as *Call The Midwife*, *Last Tango In Halifax* and *The Voice*. He now sits on the BBC's Executive and Management Boards. As well as overseeing the four main channels, Danny is responsible for iPlayer, BBC Films and BBC Productions – Europe's largest television production group.





Kevin P. Rogers MChem Hons (Dunelm)
Head of Careers

26th February 2013

Work Shadowing & Experience

Dear Old Citizen,

In today's competitive market, it is very important that our pupils and students can set themselves apart from their peers so that when they are preparing for their university applications and beyond, as well as discovering what career or undergraduate course they would like to pursue, they are armed with as much information and experiences as possible so as to make an informed choice.

To assist with this, I encourage all boys to organise some work shadowing, an experience that I hope gives them a flavour of the field they might be interested in.

I am writing to you to see if any of you would be willing to host a Junior Sixth Former – I feel this is the best stage in a boy's schooling at which to embark on work shadowing – in your place of work. Many of you have already hosted boys from CLS. My aim here is to build a network of places where a boy could go based on his interests, and that this would be a rolling occurrence, perhaps up to two a year. Of course, whatever suits you.

I envisage building a database of contacts, and I would then provide an interested student with a contact detail. It would be the student's responsibility to arrange *everything* for the placement, with myself writing to any Old-Citizen-volunteer merely to confirm details. An important aspect for you is that any administration from the Old-Citizen-side will be as simple and straight-forward as possible – it will *not* be onerous.

If you would be willing to participate, please do write to me or the Careers Secretary (Ms Christine Read, chrismr@cls.org.uk) outlining your field of work.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Kevin Rogers
kpr@cls.org.uk

Don't forget to check the dates for next year's Professional Gatherings, listed under "Events" on the back page.

AN INTERVIEW WITH DAVID LEVIN

The Head gave an exclusive interview to Sixth Formers Nikita Yesin and Dov Boonin for The Citizen.

What did you change when you came to City?

Well! That's a tough question. When I came to City my predecessors were seeking to replicate 'Blue Chip Boarding schools'. However, I tried to make the school more meritocratic. I also set out to woo four different constituencies: recently arrived foreign families, children with poorer backgrounds, Jewish children, particularly the more orthodox families and immigrant entrepreneur children with a high work ethic. In my attempt to woo children from these constituencies I was compelled to introduce the Bursary Scheme. I wanted children who wanted to succeed academically, who reflect central London. I wanted to have a more interesting and diverse school. Nevertheless, I hope that I have never lost sight of the needs and the role of the traditional constituencies over that time. City has been serving the established British middle class families – Protestants, Catholics and non-religious – since its foundation and will long continue to do so.

How has City changed you?

I have become, after meeting the children and parents, much more open and accepting in my socioeconomic understanding. Plus I became more rational and now make fewer rash decisions! City has taught me to think very carefully. I hope I am a more interesting character as a result of the interesting boys. The experience you can get at City you can't get anywhere else.

What is your most embarrassing moment?

(Laughs) Huge numbers, all the time, I am prone to gaffes. I think you shall have to ask Mr Griffin. I have made so many I think he should deliberate. So it is over to Mr Griffin.

Mr Griffin: Early on in his time in the school Mr Levin referred to the City boys as "powder puffs". Mainly due to his background at rugby-playing schools, where "manly team games" were very important. So once he came to City he thought that we were not very good at sport. Therefore I had to mention it to him, that in fact we were quite good at sport. However a few years later he

repeated that comment during assembly. Now that City is very good at "manly team games", he has stopped referring to the boys as "powder puffs" – and a good thing it is too!

I might also mention one rather unfortunate day when Mr Levin turned up to School in an odd-matching suit. His trousers had black pin stripes whilst his jacket had blue. I had to tell him about his fashion faux pas, so he rushed home and changed. It felt like sending a pupil home for being improperly dressed!

If you could choose the next Headmaster, who would it be?

Oh, it's got to be Mr Griffin. He has deputised for me often in the last few years, he knows the School inside out and it is he who has to step into my shoes most when I am out of the building.

What piece of advice would you like to give to the next Headmaster?

Continue with the extensive delegation of the staff of the Common Room. Empower the staff; back them up in their tough times. The quality of the school is supported by the people around you.

What is the greatest perk that comes with being Headmaster at City?

That is easy! Wherever you go people give you a huge amount of respect. I feel like a phony as I don't do any of the work but I get all the plaudits. I have little to do with the teaching but I get all the praise.

What is your most memorable moment at City?

It centres on the charity, but there have been so many memorable moments. I got the biggest high when we supported Read International. The boys got the International Development Fund to the double the total of the money raised to £112,000. I think that summarises the whole ethos of City – how the pupils here strive to do more than just what is sufficient. Whenever I tell people this story they really like it.

What made you introduce the Bursary Scheme?

Because schools like ours are transformative. They are the key to the

future success of this country. If only more pupils could benefit from our teaching. I wanted to get the best talent, so the more bursaries we can get the better. It really bothers me that there is a lack of bursary places nationally. As a result of our bursaries and other policies, I have increased the number of boys in the school and some say the school is creaking at the seams, but my motto has always been that "a full school is a happy school".

What makes City such a great school?

Oh, the boys and the staff are an interesting collection. The staff in particular have to be over and above but they also have to be sensitive to the mosaic of the school. The staff have a wide variety of skills and interests. I try to pick staff that can match the culture of the school. The boys are curious, inquisitive and independent - they have a disposition which makes them fit to take responsibility. They are also confident but not arrogant, never arrogant. I find this very attractive. You don't often come across a community that captures the ethos of London like City does.

What does your next job entail?

The press were misleading: I am going to line-manage nine independent schools. I am going to try and set up managing systems and think of innovations that can help make the schools better. If I didn't have the CLS label next to my name they wouldn't have given me a second look.

What piece of advice would you like to give to all the grieving City boys?

(Laughs) Oh! That is very touching, especially as you don't really see me that much. It is very difficult for me to get to know all of the boys. I regret not meeting or talking to more boys during the day, due to your intensive timetable. Also I am off site a lot of the time. I have been out and about in London and nationally banging the drum for City and spreading the word about what a great school this is. As you go up the greasy pole you see less of classrooms and boys. In terms of advice: get a life. Go out and look for a pretty girl, live like you're going to die tomorrow, work like you're going to live forever!



Jonathan KEATES

Is he a writer? Is he an English teacher? Or is he just a living legend? What we do know is that he reads in six languages, has written twenty books and has been teaching at City for over thirty years.

In Mr Keates' epic finale, Citizen reporters Aaron Kharwar J6HMS and Alfie Green J6WER find the truth behind the Keates' Enigma as he bids the school goodbye on his literary journey at the end of this academic year.

You've graced City of London Boys' school with your presence for a legendary time now; in what way would you say it has most changed?

The best thing that has happened to this school is definitely the advent of female staff; the fact that a third of the staff is female is tremendously beneficial. Is there a tipping point when boys start wearing pink pinning for Barbie dolls? I don't know, I don't think so. I think the presence of female staff has had an incalculable effect on this school and this is the best thing that has happened whilst I've been here. The second best thing that has happened is the move from the old school. There was a lot of history in the last building but a lot of rats too. I think that if you ask any of the staff who taught there, there wouldn't be much nostalgia for it.

Which three books would you recommend to a boy keen to have a firm grasp of English literature?

I think I would recommend *Middlemarch* by George Elliot and – oh the poetry is so difficult, Oh God! This is a beggar! – Seamus Heaney's *Collected Poems* – this isn't counting Shakespeare of course, which is taken for granted – and *Collected Stories* by D.H. Lawrence.

The word is you are fluent in an incredible four languages and a dab hand at a fair few more, how did you learn such a talent for linguistics? Or is it just fate?

It is just fate. Actually, I am very rusty at most of my languages. But when I have to speak it the cogs start whirring and I

manage to get into the gear. At the moment, I'm reading a Portuguese novel and an Italian play. I read in five languages, six if you count Latin because I always get some Latin read during each year. Yes, it all keeps me going. What a wonderful thing language is; if I could, I would acquire more. So, go out there and learn a language!

Will you be working on any literary projects in retirement?

Yes, I am working on two novels. One of which I am a quarter through and the other is in the planning stage. I am working on two biographies. And I am working on a short book on the reign of William and Mary in the 1690s which really was a miracle decade and shaped Modern England. Indeed, it was the decade that changed our lives – go and have a look at the 1690s!

What has been your fondest memory at City?

It has to be individual forms down the years. The relationship was like dancing round the most beautiful ballroom you could ever imagine. It was like a perpetual waltz, and the class was the dancer. But most importantly, you were learning and this is the most important thing to remember in teaching. Pupils always have something to teach you, in their reactions as well. Looking forward in the morning to see a group of boys that I had connected with and at the end of the year, when they left, I would get the feeling of such a churning in the stomach. This has happened quite recently, actually, with two forms I could name but I'll be diplomatic.

You've shown a strong interest in Italy and particularly Venice in your writing, having published a few books about the country and city. What drew you to them?

Sheer circumstance. I first visited Italy in 1965 because my brother was teaching there. I didn't think much of it; I thought it was a bit of a dump actually. I went again in 1966, I went to Venice, and it was rather better. And in 1969, I spent three weeks in Florence and I realised this really was a sensational place. In the summer, I went around on the trains and that's where I learnt Italian. Everyone would cram into the carriages and the Italians don't discourage you, they say that you speak very well, even if you're terrible. But it got under my skin, it became a country of my heart. Of course, I have other countries of the heart – Portugal is a very dear place to me. They are second homes.

What is your favourite word in the English Dictionary?

Um. Oh my God! Heavens Alive! [Long pause and bubbly thinking sounds] No, I can't tell you! Blossom! Meadow! Oblivion! You can have these for candidates.



Join the JCC and current staff to bid farewell to Jonathan at the School on 3 July from 6.30pm. All welcome.

Email aro@jcc.org.uk
Phone 020 7489 4766

Spread the word to any school friends you're in touch with!

International Honours for City Footballer



The John Carpenter Club celebrated the sporting success of Ben Bolderson 5H as Past President Bruce Todd came in to assembly to present him with a JCC International Honours Tie. Mr Santry, the School's specialist Football teacher, said:

"Ben has worked extremely hard over the last few years to become, without doubt, one of the best players at the school. He has played every game this year for the 1st XI (U18) despite only being in the 5th Form (U16). Not only has he managed to make this squad, he has emerged as one of the strongest and most consistent which is great seeing as he will be at school for another 2 years.

"His outstanding performances earned him a call up to the England Independent Schools U16 team to play against Millwall. The team won 2-0 and Ben impressed enough to be called back into the squad for their International Tour to Madrid.

"On tour he played fixtures against 3 top Spanish Academy sides in Rayo Vallecano, Atletico Madrid and CD Leganes. In the 18 man squad, he forced his way into the starting line-up for the last 2 games. Both of these matches were of the highest level and resulted in a draw. Safe to say Ben did himself, his school and his country proud!"

BUILDING A HOUSE IN THAILAND... ...IN ELEVEN WEEKS!

Jeremy Joseph (54-64)

It feels as though school was a long time ago. As a professional geologist I know that it was very recent but that does not affect the feeling. Had anyone at school or since told me that I would end up living in Thailand and farming, after a career as a geologist, I would not have rated their intelligence highly. That would have been wrong, of course, but wisdom is easily achieved after the event.

Geology usually involves quite a lot of travelling because you cannot assess rocks in detail from hand specimens or drilling sites from photographs. Although I had been to many parts of the world over the years, I first visited Thailand in 2001 on a return journey from Australia. The visit lasted three days but started a love affair with the place. Things conspired strangely after that. By chance, within two years I had extensive consultancy work based in Bangkok. That took me widely across Thailand with occasional visits to other parts of south east Asia. In the same way, I learnt – at school – never to talk to people in the street but met my wife, a native Thai, in 2005 by doing so. Neither of us has any idea, even now, why we did talk initially.

Living here might sound difficult but, in practice, I have not found it so. Cold weather is something that I dislike strongly, and Thailand has none. It is

warmer than England, but the diurnal temperature range is often low – typically below 10°C – and one can acclimatise fairly quickly. Bangkok is near the sea and sits on a plain, so the humidity there can be very high, which makes it an uncomfortable place at times.

Language skills have never been one of my strengths but it is true that living in the country helps to concentrate the mind when trying to learn one. Thai pronunciation depends on tonal variations and is hard for western adults to learn because slight nuances can change meanings dramatically. The words for “come”, “fruit-”, “dog” and “horse” all transliterate as “mah”, for instance. On the other hand, the context will usually yield the meaning. Many potential translation and understanding problems disappear for me, however, because my wife’s native language is Thai, and friends in local consultancies will help, too, whenever that is needed. On the whole – apart from some taxi drivers – Thais are pleased, too, when foreigners try to speak Thai, and will do their best to understand or work out what is being said.

My wife owned land near her home in Surin some time before we met. In mid-2011, when we returned to Thailand after several years working





in Melbourne, we knew that we wanted to build on it. We felt no need to rush but the Thai floods in 2011 changed our views a bit. We lived close to central Bangkok and the floods finally stopped, in mid-November, at a canal 300 m from the house. Less than 2 km north, the water was more than a metre deep in the streets. We were frightened, and decided to build and move out. The first job, forming an earth platform, was accomplished easily. Soil is usually available in large quantities in the first half of the year, as local farmers re-engineer fields for the rice-growing season.

The land is in Surin Province. It is 60 km from the provincial capital, in the rice-growing heartlands, less than 100 from the Cambodian border and 150 from Laos, as well as more than 300 km from the sea. The region is known as north east Thailand (Isan) or, to geologists “The Korat Plateau”. Surin, in general, is some 150 m above sea level. It is dry and hot – the temperature reaches 40°C on most days from the end of March to the end of October – but the humidity is usually fairly low so it does not feel unpleasant.

By mid-June we had building approval from the mayor, the district authority and their engineer. We followed custom, visiting the local monastery to ask the head monk for a propitious starting date and were gently shocked when he said “29 June” – ten days ahead. He added that there would be no more such days before year end. One of our worries was that the timetable might be too tight for our builders. Some work on site on the nominated day is normal in Thailand as a holding measure, however, in the same way that English planning

permission requirements are met at times. We thought, hoped even, that the builders might want to operate like that.

The need was met. A single pillar was installed on 29 June. The rains started that day, too.

To our surprise, the builders returned on 30 June to continue the work. In fact, at least half the team were usually there every day – seven days a week – until the house was finished, and all of them were there most days. There was another mild surprise, too. Women make up about 50% of most local building teams but there were none in ours. They worked hard, arriving slightly early each day – typically around 0730 – and often leaving only as it got dark. It rained hard twice during the first week, too, perhaps just to show that it could, and then stopped until the roof was finished – the second main stage.

The deal was contained in a simple, written contract covering less than one side of A4. The builders were responsible for building the house and would receive five equal stage payments, each due (in cash) when specified, major portions of the job were complete. They would advise us when, where and what to get by way of materials (including consumables like cutting discs). Being responsible for purchase and delivery involved us almost continuously and gave us virtually complete control over building material quality. The district engineer came frequently, too, and spent enough time to ensure both that the materials were being used properly and that the building regulations were being met.



We designed the house as a comfortable place to live in a tropical climate. It needed to be big enough to hold us and our books, and so that friends and family could stay with us. The floor area is about 200 m², including the small, covered, patio by the kitchen, and the house has one storey. There are six main rooms (two bedrooms), plus the patio, and all but the study are quite large. Ceiling height is 3.5 m and the ceilings are planked, some of them being wooden (two rooms) but most being made of fibre-cement, so that air can move into the roof through the narrow gaps. The roof pitch is fairly steep to help direct small currents to its crest to remove hot air. All floors are tiled and the walls (concrete-rendered) are painted.

The design is based on Thai (tropical) tradition, to try to minimise cooling needs, with the aim of simplicity. The main windows are unglazed, but fitted with fly screens, steel grills made by the local blacksmith (for security) and wooden shutters (for insulation). The clerestory windows are glazed. Some things were bought ready-made for the house, including doors, window frames and shutters, and more than 80% of the concrete. (Life is bumpily interesting for the drivers of 6-wheel, ready-mix concrete lorries, when they go along narrow country lanes.) The pillars comprising the main structure of the building were cast by hand in situ, and the roof frame structure was fabricated in location. The colour-coated steel for the roof was formed from rolls in the local town and the pieces cut to fit when they arrived at site.

The larder is small and taller than it is wide – floor 2 x 2 m, height 3.5 m. It has a solid wood door but no window, and the walls and ceiling are double – or triple – insulated. It contains an air-conditioner, too, which keeps it at 22°C – good for vegetables, fruit, soft drinks, beer and medicines. The rest of the house contains whatever modern features and equipment seemed appropriate; tradition stops where it might impact on comfort but we have avoided air conditioning in general.

Our farming is fairly small scale and destined to remain so. We now have nine pigs and piglets, including a pregnant sow, and a Brahman cow. (The cow is called Judy but I still have no idea how that came about.) There are also ducks and hens in limited numbers, to be joined by geese, frogs and fish later. Inevitably, too, as around any small farm, there are dogs and cats. One hears of tigers, etc, in Thailand, and there is no doubt that they exist, albeit in dwindling numbers. Despite that, it is hard to get used to the idea that there are essentially no predators around, so that chickens and ducks can stay out all night without risk.

The house, car port (5 x 7 m) and water tower were all finished on or by 14 September. We moved in a month later. Five months after that, most of the place is reasonably tidy. Tidying up in the aftermath of moving, however, is a longer process than building a house.

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Previous Pages

Bottom Left : The finished house. The steel sheets on the roof were pressed in a shop in the local town to give the impression of being made of tiles.

Top Left: The pillars that form the structural cage for the house were built by hand. The whole structure - the floor, the floor beams, and the main pillars - was formed out of reinforcing bar, before concrete was poured into shuttering set around them. Here you can see one of the builders standing by the top of a part-formed pillar with a bucket full of concrete on its way up to him. The concrete was mixed by hand in a large tub and was then ladled into buckets, which were literally thrown up to him by one of his colleagues.

Top Right: Farmers waiting for the harvested sugar cane to be unloaded. After rice, sugar is most important crop in the area. Many farmers paint their single cylinder diesel lorries.

This Page

Top Left: A nephew and niece helping with the rice harvest

Top Right: Despite the region's dryness, its many ponds are full of lotus, from which the roots are cooked as a vegetable or turned into delicious sweets

Left: Jeremy with his wife



A LAST GLIMPSE OF THE OLD SCHOOL

In January 1986 the new buildings on Queen Victoria Street were nearing completion, so the School planned their move for September. Keen to preserve memories of the old site, the John Carpenter Club organised a photography competition for boys to capture everyday moments of school life on Victoria Embankment. Ian Cameron Black rediscovered the photos in his possession earlier this year and kindly brought them in to the Archive. Here are a selection for you to enjoy!

Photos taken by Andrew Berman (84-86), Alexander Moss (79-86), Matthew Leigh (83-88), Robin Chatterjee (80-87) and Samuel Martin (83-88). The JCC has lost touch with some of these people, but if you know them, please show these pages to them!









FOOTBALL

Match details vs Old Westminster - Lost 2-1

DW Trophy Final - Imperial College Sports Ground, Teddington, 12pm Kick Off

Fellner J (GK), Batula, Turner, Benson J, Benson H, Spencer, Osekita, Benigson, Bowring, Fellner R, MacCabe. Subs, Dwek (55 mins), Sangani (58 mins) Levene (74 mins)

Goals - Old Westminster 2 mins, 13 mins, Old Citizens - MacCabe - 34 mins

For the first time in 3 decades the Old Citizens 1st XI football team contested an Arthurian League Cup Final. The team has been resurrected in the past 4 years by Tim Levene and Robert Harris, and we have been making steady progress by growing and improving the squad in that time. Over the period, 62 players have turned out for the Old Cits, and regular home matches at Grove Park has added to the nostalgia for many. Our thanks goes to David Levin and the school for allowing us the use of Grove Park as our home venue. Promotion has almost been sealed and this was a chance to win our first knockout trophy against higher league opposition.

It was a glorious morning, the squad arrived high on confidence following their extra time victory the previous week and had already knocked out the holders Old Chigwellians in the Quarter Finals. Playing at Imperial College Sports Ground, the pitches at first looked in good shape, but it became evident that they had not been watered and the lack of grass and unpredictable bounce made it a tough challenge for the Old Cits to play their attractive passing game.

It was a tough choice for the Manager Levene to pick a squad of 14 for the Final. Over 22 players have played regularly this season, but with a handful of injuries and absences it left the Manager with a core 18 to choose from. The 11 who started the match clearly left their game in the changing room and the Old Cits conceded a sloppy goal in the first 2 minutes when they let a corner go short and did not deal with the ensuing cross. It nearly got worse but for a decent save from the

Old Cits keeper Jake Fellner. However the bad start continued when the Old Cits failed to clear their lines, and with the ball ping around the box, Westminster gleefully went 2-0 up after 13 minutes from close range. The Old Cits were rocking and shaking their heads at the poor start. We had let in 2 horrendous goals, both avoidable and left ourselves a mountain to climb. However this team has great resilience and started to settle down despite the challenging pitch conditions. The midfield started to tick and chances were created and it was no surprise when the Old Cits pulled one back after 34 minutes from the league's top scorer Finn MacCabe. A sweeping move from the right hand side started by Osekita, saw Fellner and Spencer combine to deliver a perfect ball to MacCabe who made no mistake from 4 yards. It set the game up for a grandstand 2nd half.

The Old Cits dominated possession in the 2nd half but failed to create too many clear cut chances and with 20 minutes to go, they threw caution to the wind and changed formation with 3 going up front. Levene came on for the tiring Bowring and started to bully the Westminster defence. Glorious chances came for Fellner (R), Turner who shot just wide and Levene who struck the bar, Dwek also had a penalty appeal turned down which was not the first one to be denied. Unfortunately the onslaught did not deliver the deserved goal and The Cits ran out of time. In the aftermath the team felt that they lost the game in the first 15 mins and did not quite adapt to the conditions as well as we should. There was no effort spared and the experience has left the squad looking forward to the next season where we hope to go one step further.

The squad is always looking to welcome talented players and would welcome any fresh blood in particular for pre season trials in late August/early September. Most players have played 1st XI or 2nd XI football for the school or their University. Please email tim_levene@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to find out more about getting involved.

STOP PRESS! We have just learned that the OC Football team have won their division in the Arthurian League, and are promoted for next season. Congratulations!

THE BUSINESS OF FOOTBALL

Edward Durkin (04-06) set up a company with his friend on leaving university and they have just secured the contract for the very first official Real Madrid Foundation Football School to be held in the UK.

When people ask me what I do, as inevitably happens once you leave University, I always find it hard to answer. My current response is “I work in football” which is only a little less vague than my old answer “I work in leisure”.

The truth is there is only one thing I actually do, which is try to tell as many people as possible about the Real Madrid Foundation UK Football School being held this summer in Oxford (see, I’ve already done it!).

During my summer holidays at university I used to work on camps for children. It was a nice way to spend the time, staying at beautiful campuses around the UK, playing sports outdoors, and meeting new people.

One year, a friend and I were running an international football camp in association with Real Madrid and it struck us that this was the biggest football club of all time. And there was no school like it for British kids.

When thinking about a new idea, the only way I know how to evaluate if it’s any good is asking myself whether I, or people I know, would buy it, use it, wear it, play it – you get the idea. In this case, there was no doubt.

Let’s be clear; I am terrible at football, but the chance to play with Real Madrid Coaches

at the University of Oxford instead of being shipped off to my local tennis club at 13 years old would have been an easy choice.

The difficult part to explain is how we got from thinking it would be nice if some coaches from Real Madrid would pop over, to sitting in the “Ciudad Real Madrid” – one of the largest training facilities in the world - discussing the concept of the Real Madrid values around which our new “Campus Experience” would be based.

For your information the values are leadership, teamwork, self-control, effort and respect. The Campus Experience is a camp based around these and develops students as individuals using on and off pitch activities including leadership tasks, a healthy eating chef’s school and even yoga classes as an introduction to self control.

What I do know is that I still have not quite fully prepared myself for it.

My time at City of London School certainly helped. I remember in theory how to organise a team, what it takes to be a good leader and how to solve problems. But the reality of being in a room, attempting to negotiate in Spanish about whether we can use Ronaldo’s face on a poster is a different world.

From what I have seen so far, there are a few things you need to know when running a business.

1. You have to be overwhelmingly passionate about what you’re doing. When your working night after night, weekend after weekend, and find yourself more interested in how the interaction with your social media is going during the Champions League semi-finals rather than the game itself - you need to know why.
2. You will argue with any business partner you have, the most important thing is to know how to get over it. Spending 6 months travelling around Europe and the Middle East with mine helped with that.
3. You really are never going to know or expect where you end up.

And that is probably why I still find what I actually do a hard question to answer. The real response is “I run the Real Madrid Foundation Campus Experience for the UK”. But in all honesty I still don’t think people would believe me!

www.playreal.co.uk
www.brazenose.co.uk



U18 CLS WATER-POLO TEAM CROWNED KINGS OF ENGLAND

Max Dewhurst, Albie Duffy, Rhys Goodall & Venughanan Manikavasagar (all in Junior Sixth)

After a series of promising performances throughout the season, City were shocked to find themselves placed in the 'Group of Death' at the English Schools National Water-polo Championships. The team were to face former champions Manchester Grammar and GB orientated Torquay Grammar, who had beaten them to the first seed position in the south. After discussing a few game plans with the Serbian-Montenegro team, they set off for the most important tournament of their school careers.

City arrived feeling a mixture of fear and determination, along with a misplaced awe for their opponents as the team entered the pool for their first game against Torquay Grammar School. Both teams were fresh and ready to go, as City started excellently, shutting down both opposition GB players and maintaining a well organised attack. Dom McLoughlin gave City the start they needed with two quick goals, but a cheeky Torquay goal brought them back into the game. The second half started 2-1 in the Citizens' favour, however kick outs and a penalty saw the team extend their lead to 4-1. Torquay continued to press the attack but some slick pit defence from Jack Farkas and crucial blocks from Ollie Bolderson maintained City's lead, and with ten seconds remaining a quick pass to Max Dewhurst followed by a shot from halfway meant City left on the right side of a 5-1 scoreline.

City were doing better than anyone had expected and were resting preparing themselves for the next game with Manchester Grammar, a team that had utterly humiliated City in every National

final game they had played against each other. However, City weren't going to lose today, as they dominated the game from the start with goals coming from every direction. Rhys Goodall calmly and coolly slotted in an easy goal to highlight the team's dominance and René Zamudio strengthened City's back line with some inspirational interceptions. Not all was perfect, though, as Manchester scored some a couple of superb long shots but City maintained their lead, thrashing their opponents 9-3, placing themselves first in the so-called 'Group of Death'.

Complacency began to set in with mutterings of a Nationals victory but Mr Silcock assertively reminded the boys to focus on the next game and not to think too far ahead. The team followed the coach's instructions and proceeded to clinically tear apart ex-rivals Haberdasher's Aske's. Both Jack Emlyn-Jones and Jack Pentol-Levy formed a devastating partnership, assisting the team with easy tackles and well-placed passes. A lead of 7-0 was quickly established, however, Arthur Lewis appeared to forget how to hold a ball and gifted the opposition a goal. City won the semi-final easily though, and were through to the final.

Nervousness began to spread through the team as they watched Torquay win their semi-final, thus City were in for a tough game. The team warmed up with little discussion before the match, the tense atmosphere creeping in. The game begun and Torquay came at the team with everything; a completely different team from the one City had played in the preliminary round. Arthur Lewis scored two

outstanding goals to ease the pressure though; one a well rehearsed team move that saw the team take the lead, the other a deft lob. Torquay were not out of this game, though, and an unfortunate goal took the score to 2-1. The second half proved to be a dangerous affair, however, as City continued to play their best water-polo. Venu Manikavasagar was almost impenetrable in his goalkeeping abilities and an earlier back injury did nothing to limit the reach of the Sri Lankan beast picking off shot after shot. Albie Diffy asserted his GB dominance on Torquay's best players, both tackling and blocking them with ease as City's structure and defensive coordination proved too much and frustrated the tiring opposition. The buzzer sounded and a mild smile crept across Mr Silcock's face, his steely facade was broken, as City were crowned under 18 National Champions. Unending cheers and triumphant cries came from the City boys who had won the school its first final in 30 years. Mr Silcock even joined in the pool to form a celebratory huddle.

After pictures, medals, a trophy and a Harlem Shake with the Torquay side, the City team headed off home with their water-polo dreams fulfilled. A massive thanks to the support from Mrs Farkas, Bolderson's parents and Mr Lewis, who outdid themselves even though they were outnumbered by the many Torquay supporters.

Congratulations to all the boys who headed up to Walsall and a very special thanks to Mr Silcock for putting up with us for the last few years and brought the team a deserved National trophy. Well done to all!





James Gleadow (blue cap), Steve Ringer (carrying helmet) and Saeed Hatteea leave the field at Mountnessing, Sept 2012

This report was compiled just prior to the start of the season on Saturday April 20th. At the AGM existing officials were generally re-elected and Richard Hillman is captaining the club, and he has agreed to take up the challenge of raising sides every week again, for which we are truly thankful. The Team Secretary's job takes considerable time and can be very frustrating, especially if a game is rained off after much effort has been spent getting the side together. He fully earned the award of the Mercers Cup for his efforts last season, which he received from our Chairman at the Sports Dinner.

Though we hoped that the Winchmore Hill CC ground which we have been using recently for home games would become our "own" home ground for many years, this is not to be. We have not been offered a

ten match block of dates, although we shall be using it in late April and September for a couple of fixtures. The other user of the third square, Hampstead CC, with whom we share, have expanded their league programme leaving insufficient spare Saturday dates. We are in talks with Mill Hill Village to see if we can come to an arrangement with them for 2014 season. This year we are having to make more use of hiring the Old Albanian facility at St. Albans.

The fixture list for this year mainly contains opponents that have become familiar in recent times, but includes a couple of new ones. We shall continue to try to keep the JCC website up to date with current news, and you will see that the historical side is gradually being extended, and we shall eventually make it much more comprehensive.

GOLF

This April, the Old Citizens Golfing Society gathered for the pinnacle event of our calendar, the Halford Hewitt tournament in Kent. This year represented a new leaf for the team with the captaincy being handed down from the excellent, long-serving Mark Stockton, who remains involved as a player, to Alex Tapp. The team also maintained its somewhat youthful feel from last year, with the inclusion of recent leavers myself and Jamie Spencer, as well as Alex 'Big Al' Bennett (aka Ali B); who is at least young enough to have been taught by Mr Cornwell. We were granted a relatively good draw for this year, coming up against Felsted School of Essex, who are ranked above us in the standings of the 64 participating schools (unfortunately most are), but still in the bottom half overall. We were also drawn to play at Royal St George's, host course of the Open Championship as recently as 2011. On the Wednesday of the week the team met up and, between us, played a couple of practice rounds which witnessed some good golf and, perhaps more importantly, some good fun. All in all, we were heading into our match with high spirits.

Unfortunately, the result would prove to go very much against us. All of the matches stayed close for a time but, as the day wore on, they began to slip away from us. Paul Stockton and Alex Bennett were ahead for a time in their match but unfortunately their opponents outlasted them on the back nine. Myself and my partner, the ever-trusty Terry Bridle, managed to make it to the seventeenth green before being defeated. At the end of the day's play, we were left with an unflattering 5-0 defeat.

However, we moved onto the Plate competition without our spirits dented. We were drawn against our inner-London rivals Dulwich College and headed slightly further up the coast to Prince's Golf Club. As soon as we walked out of the hotel on Friday morning, it became apparent that the weather was going to be a huge factor in the day's play. There was some rain but the real issue was the wind, which was immensely strong and left us certain of an authentic seaside links experience. We were led out by the experienced pair of Roger Preston and Terry Bridle and they would both prove their worth to the side, securing an excellent victory on the sixteenth green. Next out were myself and Jamie Spencer. What we had hoped would prove to be a youthful dream team ended up, unfortunately, not being so. In the high winds, both of us struggled to control our ball flight and we were outfoxed comprehensively by our less powerful but more experienced opponents. This left our final pair Alex Bennett and Mark Bretton, who had braved his recent knee surgery to come down to Kent. Despite some good golf, they were eventually beaten by a strong Dulwich pair and that would bring our 2013 Halford Hewitt campaign to a close.

All in all, it proved to be a fairly unsuccessful week on the golf course. However, it is safe to say that everyone who came down, either as a supporter or a player, had a thoroughly enjoyable time. The Halford Hewitt represents

more than just a golf tournament – it gives the opportunity for a wonderfully diverse group of Old Boys to gather together and enjoy good golf, good food and, most importantly, good company. Thanks must go to the secretary of the OCGS, John Featherstone, who, with his tireless work, is the glue that holds the society together. And extra special thanks must go to our new Captain, Alex Tapp, for putting a huge amount of work into organising our week. At the close of the week, Alex was already putting into place plans for next year's competition, which should involve a series of group tuition sessions in the lead-up to April 2014. The team is not short of talent but a lack of form cost us this year. Hopefully, with this new strategy in place, we can report back from next year's tournament with some good news at last!

Dates for future Meetings: Match vs The School, Old Fold Manor 19th June, Summer Meeting, Swinley Forest Friday July 5th, Captains Day, Hadley Wood 16th September, Match vs Old Paulines 12th September Ealing GC.

All golfers, whether you are a member of a golf club member or not, are welcome to come along and play in our meetings. Please contact the Hon Secretary for details.

Adam Jones (06-11)



Left to Right: Adam Jones, Alex Bennett, Jamie Spencer, John Featherstone, Terry Bridle, Alex Tapp (Halford Hewitt Captain) and Roger Preston.

ETON FIVES

OXFORD VS CAMBRIDGE

Two Old Citizens (pictured right) have earned Varsity honours, joining an illustrious club which counts as a member former multiple national champion Brian Matthews.

Sam Packer, pictured front row left, was selected to play for Oxford in the annual clash against Cambridge. Last year's CLS captain played at third pair for the dark blues, in a losing cause.

J.Weller (Mill Hill & King's) & G.Illingworth (Westminster & Queens') beat S.Packer (City of London & Somerville) & M.Noyes (RGS High Wycombe & Lincoln) 3-0 (12-7, 12-4, 14-10)



Meanwhile, OC Joseph Ataman had more luck for Cambridge, winning at third pair of the Penguins vs Peppers match

C.Meiring (Birkdale School & Magdalene) & J.Ataman (City of London & St.John's) beat R.Jain (King Edward's, Birmingham & Merton) & A.Mullan (Clifton College & Balliol) 3-0 12-1, 14-13, 12-7)

He is pictured above, back row right, wearing a smile and a tie which could pass for CLS maroon.



LEAGUE

Nick Gill looks to have led the club's first league team to a top-half finish in the national second league. At the time of writing the side was third in the eleven-strong division, although there were two sides at fourth and fifth still capable of catching us.

Meanwhile, in the third division, Alex Nice's crew has avoided the wooden spoon in the seven-strong league.

FIVES TRIPS ABROAD

The club is planning two trips abroad over the summer and autumn.

The first is to Geneva on the Friday to Monday of May 31 until June 3. Half a dozen of us are planning on joining the club there as they play their annual tournament.

The second is to Zuoz in the Swiss Alps: The Zuoz Fives Club Zurich has invited us to join it as it celebrates its fiftieth anniversary at the club's alma mater, the Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz. Gordon Stringer was among an OCEFC side which was invited to play on the club's courts when they were built in Zurich in the 1960s. He, David Cooper, Geoff Bates and their wives have already made plans to be there. Anybody who would like to join them should contact Gordon at stringergordon@yahoo.co.uk.

STATISTICS OF THE MISLEADING SORT

In a bizarre statistical quirk, club captain John Reynolds has risen to fifth in the national rankings, as of March 2013. This says much more about the nature of rankings than it does about John's current abilities.

EFA National Rankings (01/03/13)

	Score (%)
1. Tom Dunbar	98.15
2. Seb Cooley	93.67
3. Peter Dunbar	90.00
4. James Toop	88.85
5. John Reynolds	75.00

FIVES COURT CONSTRUCTION

John Reynolds has formed a company to build fives courts. His first contract for a set of three was at St Bartholomew School in Newbury. <http://www.jpccourts.com>



ADAMS CUP 2013

The OCEFC's very own cup, established in the 1920s, will be held this year on Sunday 19 May at Highgate, from 11am. We'll convene in the Bull pub on Highgate North Hill afterwards. All fives players - especially if you've not played for a while but fancy pulling on the gloves again or just would like to say hello - would be very welcome. Please contact John Reynolds at johnpatrickreynolds@yahoo.co.uk.

SPORTS DINNER

The annual Sports Dinner was held on Friday 5th April at Balls Brothers' Mincing Exchange establishment in the City. A good turnout of sporting Old Citizens, young and old, enjoyed an excellent meal, and the traditional raffle was much enhanced by the blonde and graceful Anna, who was unanimously volunteered to draw the winning tickets.

Diners were also entertained by reports of exploits, successful and not so successful, on the fives court, golf course and cricket pitch. The evening was brought to a rousing close, first with the much deserved award of the Cricketer of the Year to Club Captain

Richard Hillman, and with the award of an international tie to Brian Millo.

Brian, who for many years was editor of this magazine, has fenced for the UK at the World Veterans Championships in both foil and sabre in his age group. On receiving his tie from fellow international Stuart Courtney, Brian recalled the encouragement he and fellow schoolboy fencers received from master-in-charge Jack Wheeler. He assured diners that he has no plans yet to retreat from the piste and hang up his weapons. An inspiration to all Citizen sportsmen.

IN MEMORIAM

Geoff Penney 19 September 1945 - 12 March 2013 (CLS 1956-1964)

By the family

Geoff Penney, son of Reginald and Eileen Penney, passed away peacefully at Forsyth Hospital in Winston-Salem earlier this week, age 67.

His family and friends will miss him and are grateful for the wonderful times they shared. Cherishing his memory are his loving wife Linda and her mother Peggy, his sons Neill and Daniel and their wives Katharine and Sandra, his daughter Leslie and her husband Greg, his sisters Elizabeth and Sarah, his granddaughters Georgina, Sarah, and Victoria, and all his family.

A graduate of the City of London School, Geoff took his undergraduate degree and then a doctorate in chemistry at Cambridge University. After 3 years managing systems for Eastman Kodak in the UK, and 3 years as a project manager for BIS Applied Systems, Geoff joined Bankers Trust in 1976, managing technology projects in London and then New York until 1993. He then spent 3 years with Fidelity Investments in Boston, before joining Charles Schwab in San Francisco as head of financial products and international technology, becoming CIO in 2001. A technologist, strategist, problem solver, and a man to whom others could turn for wise counsel, Geoff loved the challenges that work presented, and figuring out how to use technology to help clients.

After retiring to Winston-Salem in 2004, Geoff became actively involved in the local community. He was a past president of Winston-Salem Writers, and enjoyed both the work of members of the group and reading extracts of his own writing and autobiography at Open Mic evenings. He also enjoyed volunteering at the YMCA, helping other adults learn to read, and spending time with friends at the Forsyth Country Club.

Geoff filled our lives with happiness, fun, and love. He had many interests. He loved to settle down in one of his blue V-neck sweaters to read Kingsley Amis or the latest economic prognostications, or to catch up on the latest movies or old favorites from the 1950s and 1960s like "Tunes of Glory". He loved to sit out under his umbrella at his favorite spot in Myrtle Beach, and gaze out at the ocean. And he had boundless curiosity, and was a fount of knowledge about everything from Winston Churchill to Bob Dylan to J. M. W. Turner. But he loved nothing more than sitting down to a good dinner with those he loved, catching up on news and having some spirited debate (while cannily edging the ice cream his way).



A memorial was held in Winston-Salem on 2nd May in the auditorium at the SECCA, and a private family service was held for Geoff on March 17th – some readings and memories from the service are posted here: <http://geoffpenneymemorial.wordpress.com>

Geoff's friends are invited to a memorial service in the UK to share their stories and remembrances of Geoff's life. It will be held on **June 23rd at 2pm**, in a venue to be confirmed. Visit the above website for more details.

It is with sadness that we also
note the passing of:

C Byers (47-)
ID Gostling (29-35)
RS Preston (74-82)
JGC Procter (36-43)
J Sherman (70-76)
JGA Smith (36-41)
IC Weathrall (35-40)
WB Young (31-35)

John Michael Richard Shannon was born on November 25 1924 in Lambeth – his father had a successful newspaper pitch at St James's Station. His early years were spent growing up in Lambeth and he attended Upper Kennington land elementary school. He then won a scholarship to the City of London School and masters and the institution played an important part of his life. He started at the school in 1936. The school record says that he applied on 10 Feb 1936, was admitted Sept 1936 and left July 1939 because of the imminent war. He was evacuated to Marlborough at the start of the Second World War. 1940 when his school master JEB Marsh actually came to the family house in Lambeth to collect him. For this reason my father always had a special affinity and bond with the school. Marlborough always held great memories for him and he often spoke fondly of "Biff" Vokins. He played cricket and soccer for the 1st XI, and rugby for the 2nd XV and hockey for the 2nd XI. He was quite a sportsman and he was also involved with the entertainments and soccer committees in 1942. Then he won another scholarship and went on to Sidney Sussex College Cambridge for 2 years where he studied Classics and achieved a wartime degree.

Whilst there he joined the University Air Squadron and subsequently the RAF as a volunteer. He undertook a lengthy training at RAF College Cranwell Lincolnshire as a navigator and wireless operator on mosquitos. He then spent time at various bases mainly in the North of England. He didn't see active service but he did fly over a devastated Germany at the end of the war which made a considerable impression on him.

He was finally demobbed in 1947 and a successful career in the diamond trade followed and he finished up as director for a Dutch firm – he ended up working for them for 40 years.

Later years were spent moving house a few times – a very happy period of 10 years was spent living in Hunton an idyllic village in Kent Coast country between 1989 and 1999 until they finally settled in a lovely little house in Otford 14 years ago which was always so welcoming. This was so they could be closer to the grand-children whom he adored.

He was very fond of his time at CLS and he remembered in astonishing detail some incidents from schooldays – he recalls the headmaster FR Dale announcing at school morning assembly the death of his own son who had been killed in action – how Sir Donald Bradman (and "Chuck" Fleetwood-Smith) two very distinguished Australian cricketers patted him on the head on the outfield at Canterbury in 1938 when he was a very young schoolboy and this made a big impression on him.

On April 23 1994 he attended the Service of Thanksgiving for the City of London School on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its stay at

Marlborough during the war years and he also spoke at a special dinner for JEB Marsh.

A former captain of Langley Park Golf Club he played in the old Citizens Golfing Society for a number of years and is fondly remembered there. He had an enormous range of interests, but his big passion was music, and in particular, jazz. He was a wonderfully talented jazz pianist with powerful hands, but a gentle touch and he loved listening to and playing pieces by Miles Davis, Art Tatum and Oscar Peterson. My father's thirst for knowledge manifested itself in history, art and languages and he even sat an Italian GCSE exam at the age of 82 and attended Italian conversation classes until a few months ago.

The last couple of years had been blighted by ill health. He was diagnosed with chronic leukaemia when he was 80 back in 2004. His great childhood school friend from CLS John Proctor had recently passed away.

He died peacefully aged 88, surrounded by his family at the Weald of Kent Hospice Pembury on February 15 2013.

He is succeeded by his wife Marie and sons Michael (CLS 1965-1973) and Toby (CLS 1966-1974).



Above
JMR Shannon is right at the front in the middle



Below:
JMR Shannon (left) with JEB Marsh (right)



John Stanton 2 September 1935 - 15 January 2013 (CLS 1944-1953)

By Leo Falek (47-54)

John entered the school in 1944 just shy of his ninth birthday. He progressed on the Modern Languages side. Among his extra curricular activities was a keen interest in the school's dramatic society. After 'A' levels John went to the London School of Economics. From there he graduated in 1956 with the BSc (Econ), his special subject being Industrial Relations. On completing his studies John's next move was decided for him. It was to be National Service which he did in the Royal Corps of Signals. By then a pattern was beginning to emerge; human relations, communications and the stage.

After National Service John's immediate priority was to earn a living. Following a false start in the shoe trade a chance encounter with a senior executive led to the offer of a position with the SPAR Group. In due course John rose to become Trading Director. His brief there was to conduct negotiations with suppliers many of whom were based abroad. His facility with languages, a great boon in his work owed much he always acknowledged to the masters who had taught him at the CLS.

On his retirement from SPAR John knew exactly what he wanted to do in this next phase of his life. He made time to watch cricket and he was delighted when he became a member of the MCC. Not only was he a knowledgeable spectator but he was also a missionary for the game. He would invite friends who had yet to appreciate the finer points of cricket to join him at Lord's. They did not necessarily depart as converts but certainly their time with John was invariably enjoyable.

Above everything else, apart from his family, John's vocation lay in his work in the community. He and Connie, John's wife, devised a show based on the old Music Hall. This they took this to various care homes as well as using it as a vehicle for fund raising. John was very active in his local synagogue conducting services as well as leading discussion groups. He communicated his passion for the theatre through outings he and Connie organized for the elderly. In his later years John was not in the best of health often having to spend time in hospital. This did not act as a brake on his numerous activities. Among these he could number membership of his local Police Authority as well as being chairman of the Patient GP committee attached to the surgery he attended. On behalf of the Care Quality Commission he reviewed standards of welfare at local care homes. John was committed to ensuring that residents were well looked after.

John's attachment to the school remained to the end. He was a prime mover behind the reunion of the MVIa class of 1952/53. This took place 2001. John was a co-author of the account which can be

found on page eight of issue 274 of the Gazette. An echo of John's distinctive voice is evoked there. There was to be one last school reunion for John. This took place less than two months before his untimely death.

John's funeral was on a day of heavy snowfall. Undeterred by the adverse conditions over two hundred people attended; a measure of the esteem and affection in which so many held him. One of his contemporaries at the school said of him that John had been the most relentlessly cheerful person it had been his privilege to know. This could serve as an appropriate epitaph for John.

John is survived by his wife, Connie, a son and a daughter and six grandchildren.

The Modern VI in the Form Room in 1953



Standing (l to r): Mr L Presswood, PA Rosier, GR Bartlett, H Courts
Seated (l to r): OE Bryant, RA Leeder, DH Bryant, JEM Barnes, JM Ellis, L Falek, JL Stanton

Modern VI Senior with Dr Harry Law-Robertson in 1953



Back row: Roy Clayton, Peter Rosier, John Barnes, Reg Leeder, Richard Fraser, Peter Barnes, Owen Bryant, Gerald Bartlett
Front row: Dudley Bryant, Hugh Courts, Chris Green, Dr H.L.R., John Stanton, Leo Falek, John Ellis

Modern VI Senior, 47 years on, at the Charing Cross Thistle Hotel



Standing: Roy Clayton, Peter Rosier, Richard Fraser, Peter Barnes and Owen Bryant
Seated: Dudley Bryant, Hugh Courts, John Stanton, Leo Falek and John Ellis



EVENTS

Wednesday 3 July 2013, 6.30pm
JCC Retirement farewell for teacher Jonathan Keates
The Concourse, CLS. Free, all welcome.

Tuesday 17 September, 12 noon
60 Years On reception for those who started CLS in 1953, Asquith Room, CLS.
Invitations to be sent out soon

Tuesday 24 September, 7pm
Professional Gathering: Medics
Concourse, CLS. Free

Monday 30 September
10th Annual Asquith Society Dinner
for those working in law or finance
Athenaeum Club, Pall Mall

Tuesday 12 November, 6.30pm
Autumn Concert, CLS

Wednesday 20 November
AGM, Supper and Farewell to David Levin
CLS

Monday 25 November (for 3 days), 7.00pm (except Wed 4.30pm)
School drama production.

Monday 17 March 2014, 7pm
Professional Gathering: Scientists & Engineers
Concourse, CLS.

Wednesday 21 May 2014, 7pm
JCC Event tbc

Wednesday 2 July 2014, 7pm
Professional Gathering: Law & Finance
Concourse, CLS

JCC

President:
Prof Bernard Silverman (61–69)

Secretary:
Martin Israel FCA (65–73)

Treasurer:
Richard Jones FCA (54–62)

Almoner:
Daniel Morganstein (83–91)

Sports and Entertainment:
Chris Southgate (56–65)

Reporting Accountant:
Andrew Mitchell (67–73)

TERM DATES

Summer term 2013
Thurs 18 Apr - Fri 5 July
(half-term 27-31 May)

Autumn term 2013
Tues 3 Sept - Fri 13 Dec
(half-term 21-25 Oct)

Spring term 2014
Tues 7 Jan - Wed 28 Mar
(half-term 13-14 Feb)

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CONTACT

All enquiries to: Sarah Jenks (Miss)
Alumni Relations Officer
aro@jcc.org.uk, tel: 020 7489 4766
City of London School,
Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4V 3AL.

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