

OL NEWS

THE MAGAZINE FOR OLD LEYSIANS

SPRING 2024 | ISSUE 51



A TALE OF TWO OLYMPICS

Paul Svehlik's Olympic journey from Munich to Athens

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Meet our new Director of Development, Sarah Proud

GETTING BACK

How Seb Howarth defied the odds to compete in the Lacrosse World Championships



MESSAGE FROM THE OLS President

Dear Old Leysians

Having re-read several issues of *OL News* I am reminded of the remarkable range and diversity of Old Leysians, your skills, experiences and achievements. It is a great honour to be your President for 2024, a year in which I hope to reconnect with many OLS, to meet many more and to persuade others to maintain or renew their relationship with their old school.

My challenge to you is to renew some of these connections yourselves. In the digital world it is not hard

to find people: I recently met one contemporary for the first time since 1975 and hope to meet another shortly. Both were born overseas and have spent much of their lives in Asia, the Middle East or North America. For those of us in the UK it is even easier to find each other.

I was the fifth of six Rolfes at The Leys, where I spent much of my time (too much?!) throwing, kicking or hitting a ball around. I claim an unofficial record for running most times from the first floor washroom in B House with 30 seconds to go before breakfast, and reaching the dining hall before the bell. Other activities included singing and playing trombone in Sam Grice's band, attending societies and writing subversive articles for the alternative school rag, *Broadsheet* (it seems I have been forgiven!) It was a happy time; however, I marvel at the extent and quality of the school facilities available to pupils nowadays, and the opportunities these create for pursuing careers and hobbies afterwards.

My own career, after attending Oxford Polytechnic (now Brookes), was spent developing business for many different industries: grocery, asset finance, mortgages, equipment rental, consumer credit, high volume print, building restoration and engineering.

Now retired I seem busier than ever, but still find the time to sing in a choir, go running and play cricket in summer. I mention this because although I may be the second President in four years to hail from the late 60s it is, I hope, perfectly easy to identify with even the youngest of OLS, all of whom I am keen to keep engaged.

To that end perhaps OLS of all ages would consider banding together to raise tables for the Annual Dinner in Cambridge on Saturday 7 December. We have already booked a speaker whose subject will, I promise, appeal to all. More details in due course.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming year.

John Rolfe, North B 1968-73

OL UPDATES

Catching up with our alumni and celebrating their stories



JAMES STORIE-PUGH, NORTH A 1990-95

On Saturday 2 September 2023, in Samoens near Geneva, James Storie-Pugh married his fiancée Jess.

Top: The happy couple
Above, L-R: Matt Storie-Pugh, North A 1992-97; Nick Ruffles, North A 1991-96; Christina Storie-Pugh, Dale 1993-98; James Storie-Pugh; Paul Laidler, East 1991-96; Henry Wilsler, North B 1991-96; Simon Graham, North A 1990-95; Olly Phillips, North B 1994-95; Toby Storie-Pugh, North A 1988-93

SOPHIE ELLIOTT, FEN 2006-11

"I went to Bournemouth University to study Professional Culinary Arts knowing I wanted to set up my own catering business, although I was not sure exactly what kind until I worked in the pastry kitchen at a gastropub in Norfolk. After graduating I worked in a local cafe and then, at 21, I decided to set up my own business. My focus was on cakes and I set up my market stall in Cambridge,

then Ely and Newmarket, as well as doing bespoke cake orders and providing afternoon teas in people's homes and businesses for a variety of events. During the pandemic, I focused on afternoon tea and cake box deliveries which kept me very busy and enabled me to save up to eventually open my tearoom in Ely. After having been on the Ely Farmers' Market for seven years and building my customer base, I opened my tearoom 'Sophie's Afternoon Tea and Cakes' in Ely. We've been open just over a year now and it's been fantastic, a constant learning curve and very tiring but so rewarding."

Celebrating the first anniversary of Sophie's Afternoon Tea and Cakes



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Lee Kennedy makes an entrance!

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Jake, Louis and Oliver on top of the world

JAKE LONG, BISSEKER 2017-21

“Last August, Louis Harhalakis, Bisseker 2017-22, Oliver Turner, North A 2015-22, and I summited Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania - the highest point of Africa. We raised over £20,000 for Tom’s Trust Charity, and were overwhelmed by Leysian support. The climb is something we had wanted to accomplish for years, early discussion taking place in the Bisseker Common Room all the way back in Year 10!

The journey also allowed me to pay tribute to my late mother, Katy. She, as many of you will know, worked at The Stephen Perse and was wife to my Dad (Andrew Long, Housemaster of West). Sadly, Mum lost a two-year long battle with cancer during my A Levels, passing due to a rare form of brain tumour on 11 July 2022. We climbed Kilimanjaro in her name - raising a total I know she’d be proud of for a charity which cares just as deeply for children as she did.”

RICHARD PATTISON, NORTH A 1975-80

“For an unremarkable Leysian, OL and retired soldier, I have had some remarkable experiences. From my school days it was rowing that made the greatest impact on me; later, as a soldier, I undertook several expeditions in remote places. Often difficult, sometimes dangerous but incredibly rewarding, success and sometimes survival drew on those foundations laid down by The Leys and, in my case, LSBC. Sailing to Antarctica and then mountaineering and conducting field studies was a particular highlight. The call of the sea has been a constant thread and in recent years I have restored an 1895 Essex oyster smack, living on board last winter to fit her

out below decks. Once prolific, only a dozen or so survive. Last year Varuna had her first sail in over 70 years. Pete Elliston, Fen 1973-76, did most of the metalwork and has been a

stalwart supporter. There is a standing invitation for anyone to come aboard for a sail on a boat that would be instantly recognisable to the good Dr Moulton himself.”



Richard living the dream

THE OLD LEYSIAN LODGE CENTENARY

The Old Leysian Lodge was established on 12 February 1923. On 1 December 2023 it held its Centenary meeting at Freemasons Hall, Bateman Street, Cambridge. The Lodge welcomes members from all walks of life and there is no longer the requirement to be an Old Leysian to qualify for membership. If you are, however, you are encouraged to wear your old school tie as part of your regalia! The Centenary celebrations were attended by the Provincial Grand Master of Cambridgeshire who presented the Lodge



Front: 2nd from left Chris Hoffman, School 1972-77; 3rd from left Tom Hoffman, North A 1958-63; 2nd from right George Gooderson, West 2004-09; 3rd from right Kristupas Katilius, East 2019-21; 4th from right Joseph Hathiramani, West 1991-96

Middle: 3rd from right Henry Lamb, Fen 1980-83

Back: far right Jonathan Dowson, West 1955-60; 4th left Provincial Grand Master Bill Dastur; top centre Worshipful Master Luke Loades

with its Centenary Warrant. A number of Old Leysians were present that evening, with our Worshipful Master Luke Loades, School 1990-93, presiding over

the proceedings. A champagne reception with a banquet was held after the meeting, to celebrate the occasion.

TIM MOORE, EAST 1970-74

“I was invited to take Max Verstappen on the Driver’s Parade lap at Silverstone in July, two hours before the British



Tim taking DA5770 and Max around Silverstone

Grand Prix - the one opportunity for 170,000 fans to see all the drivers’ faces in open cars.

After one lap we formed up on the starting grid proper where the layout, like the race itself, was strictly controlled. I was in the last spot. The drivers came out one by one and were interviewed before being driven slowly round the circuit. Friendly and chatty, Max was in the car for 15 minutes, where he

was relaxed and willing to engage in meaningful conversation. Definitely someone to go down the pub with! I was lucky, as some of the other Sunbeam pilots told me they barely got a word out of their F1 drivers.

The car is a 1914 Sunbeam which ran in the Isle of Man TT race that year. It spent much of its life in New Zealand, before I bought it in the UK and restored it in 1997.”

STEVEN LYNCH, SCHOOL 2002-07

Matthew Lynch, School 2000-05 was very proud to inform us that his brother Steven had been awarded an MBE for services to the British Business Community in China in His Majesty The King’s New Year Honours List. Congratulations, Steven!

Steven Lynch, MBE



VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL



Nasser Munjee, North A 1966–71

visited with his son on 14 December, and is very much hoping to return for the 150th anniversary celebrations next year.

Tom Cairns, East 1988–93

visited on 18 December with his three children after seeing family in Bury St Edmunds, and was given a tour of the School by our Senior Development Officer Kerry Chapman.



Tom outside The Stamp Building

Rahulan Chandran, West, 2004–09

visited in September 2023 with Alastair MacGregor, Common Room 1977–2008. Rahulan was recently married. His mother, who had attended the wedding, was still in the UK, so she enjoyed the opportunity to visit The Leys with him. Rahulan’s brother Govind, West 2003–07, is Head of Film Studies at Oxford Brookes University.



L-R: Cathy Earl (Common Room), Mrs Chandran, Alastair MacGregor, Will Earl (Common Room), with Rahulan in the foreground

Georgia Adamson, Fen 2010–15

visited in November to give a careers talk about the gaming industry and her work as a creator and animator.

“Standing at the front of Great Hall, I can recall all the moments I’ve been here before: Debating, the Cabaret, House Shout! Only this time is eight years later, and I’m here to speak on my five years working as a professional 3D Character Artist in the video games industry. I tell the students about the projects I’ve worked on, from Runescape to Fall Guys, along with my experience at Epic Games. I answer some insightful questions, and am able to catch up with my own previous tutors.

During my visit I had the pleasure to meet some A Level art students and to see them working in the same amazing studio space that inspired

me to pursue art as a career. I had a chance to speak about my process, and how I continue to use the skills they will learn and hone in the next few terms. As an artist, you are not limited by narrow conventions for employment, and can seek out niches to work in; it just takes a little creativity to think of them.”

Georgia Adamson



Martin Oh and Robert Norfolk, West 1970–75

visited on 14 September 2023. Robert and Martin were friends in West House. The Ohs were visiting the UK from Kuala Lumpur and attended Nick Barron’s funeral on 7 September (another West House classmate). Martin had not been back since the 1980s so enjoyed being shown round the entire school as it is now by Andy Erby, CR 1981–2016; OLS Vice President 2018–23.



Martin and Leebee Oh with Robert Norfolk (far right) and Headmaster Martin Priestley

Chris Le’cand-Harwood, North B 1990–95

visited in September. Chris studied Politics and Social Policy at Brunel University. Having worked in recruitment and employee communications at Addenbrookes, he developed a passion for marketing. He then went on to build a career in comms and media agencies, including Havas People and Time Inc. UK. In 2020 he set up his own content marketing business and works with a range of clients in employer marketing, Business to Consumer and Business to Business marketing. He visited The Leys before a video shoot at Cambridge United



Chris outside North B

for one of his clients – Campkins Cameras – which is owned by fellow OL Owen Howell, North B 1990–95.

Lee Kennedy, North B 1989–92

It was a memorable moment for East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA) Co-pilot Lee when he landed the charity’s helicopter at The Leys earlier this year.

Lee is a pilot with EAAA’s aviation partner, Babcock International, flying the charity’s specialist doctors and critical care paramedics with the advanced skills, equipment and medicine to the scene of medical emergencies across the region. So, when a call came in to EAAA for somebody who required urgent critical care in central Cambridge, it was Lee’s intricate knowledge of the School site which enabled him and fellow pilot Eduardo to safely land EAAA’s H145 helicopter. While clinicians attended to the patient nearby, Lee met Head of Grounds Matt Pullen and Headmaster

Martin Priestley – and he was thrilled to receive a tour of his old boarding house from Senior Tutor Will Davidson.

Lee, who has fond memories of his time at The Leys, says: “I knew that the quad offered enough space for Anglia Two (Cambridge) helicopter to land safely. We’re grateful to

The Leys School for giving their kind permission for us to do so. It was brilliant to be back. To receive a tour of North B, my former boarding house, was very special.”

To learn more about EAAA, visit www.eaaa.org.uk



Landing a helicopter on the Upper Quad

A TALE OF TWO (OLYMPIC) CITIES

Olympian Paul Svehlik, North B 1960-65, reflects on his highly eventful life in the world of sport and recounts his experiences at the 1972 Munich Olympics.



After leaving The Leys, I played hockey at the University of Cambridge, earning three Blues and captaining the side in 1969. During my last year at Cambridge, I gained my first international cap after playing my first England trial on the 1st X1 pitch at The Leys! That first international was at Lord's cricket ground, in front of the main stand.

I made 66 appearances in the England jersey from 1969 to 1975, and was amused to find my name in the 1978 *Guinness Book of Records*. I played in many different countries, but my most memorable event began in the late summer of 1972 at the Munich Olympic Games as a member of the Great Britain hockey squad.

That summer, our team arrived in Munich some weeks early so that we could acclimatise and

"A presentation to an officer of the British Embassy in Delhi during a GB tour in 1971. You can see the advert for BATA shoes - a very well-known shoe company until the trainer revolution of Nike, Adidas and the like." - Paul Svehlik



have some practice matches. During our first of these, against Pakistan, I suffered a cut on my head which, bleeding profusely, required stitches. My claim to fame was being the first competitor to be treated in the first aid facility, as doctors rapidly pulled off polythene packaging and searched for various medical appliances and scalpels which had been dumped in the corner of the room.

The British team were billeted in what were to become two bedroomed flats after the Games: eight people to one flat. I slept in a two camp-bedded area, later known as the kitchen! About 400 yards away from our accommodation, the 11-man Israeli team was housed.

The whole unpleasant saga of the Israeli hostage crisis has been brought to the screen by Steven Spielberg in his film *Munich*; suffice to say that, on that fated night, a few teammates and I had been visiting the town centre. When we arrived back at the Olympic village the whole site had been cordoned off. In defiance of the terrorists, the IOC ordered competitions to resume after a pause of just 36 hours.

After retiring from hockey I became the European Administrator of the Mens' Tennis Council until 1990, operating from Roland Garros in Paris. I owed my selection for this job to befriending Arthur Ashe in 1975 after his win at Wimbledon! I had stints afterwards living in Portugal, starting the Estoril Open professional tennis event, and Milan, initiating the construction of a multi-purpose country club near San Siro.

My sporting tale terminated in Lausanne, Switzerland with the International Boxing Association. As head of the boxers' delegation to the Athens Olympic Games, I completed my experiences in the Olympics, from participating in 1972 to administering in 2004. All the encouragement from my former housemaster, Neil White - himself a 1948 Olympian - had paid off!

My leaving speech in Lausanne to the British Residents in 2008 at the Olympic museum was entitled: 'From Munich to Athens: a tale of two Olympic cities'.

Around the School

Nostalgia, celebration, tradition and poignant moments - all play a part in life at The Leys

Who remembers Fergie?

On a chilly January morning, the Grounds team invited staff to celebrate the 70th birthday of Fergie, our trusty tractor. Homemade cakes were the order of the day, and Fergie looked very dapper decked out in balloons and colour-coordinated birthday banner. Still being used on a very regular basis, he has certainly become part of the fabric of The Leys. Here's to many more years to come.



Lunar New Year in School House

"On Saturday 10 February the boys of School House invited around 40 Leysians into the house to enjoy a hot pot to mark the New Year. It was a bit of a squash and a squeeze but we had a wonderful time. The year 9 and 10 pupils spent the afternoon chopping up vegetables and herbs including pak choi, cabbages, coriander and garlic. Meanwhile, year 11 pupils put up decorations, as well as a video call booth. Some of the decorations



thing or bad!) At home children receive red packets stuffed with money, so at the beginning of the meal the pupils paid each other compliments, putting them into red packets as a memento of the evening."

Michael Newman, Housemaster, School House

A sad farewell

Returning to school following the February half term break, staff and pupils were saddened to see that the Lebanese Cedar, which predates the School and would have been familiar to every pupil who ever attended The Leys, had fallen. Its sibling tree grows in the Cambridge University Botanic Garden. Work is underway on how to memorialise this event as we look ahead to our 150th anniversary in 2025.



had been kindly sent over by Old Leysians based in Hong Kong (Rob Stoneley, School 1980-85 and Andrew Hao, East 1998-2000) so were truly authentic; others were hand made by the boys with wonderful calligraphy. The sixth form did a lot of the heavy lifting, moving a pool table and a large (and very heavy) dining table down from upstairs.

The Lunar New Year is an important event in the calendar of many Leysians, both former and current, and being so far from home can make it extra hard. A typical family would gather and share a hot pot. This is a boiling pan of soup in the middle of the table, to which various ingredients are added over several hours including beef, fish balls, noodles and vegetables. The flavour of the soup changes and it is a very social event filled with laughter. Even though we had three gas and two induction hobs boiling away under the fire alarm sensors, the alarms did not go off (as the HsM of School House I am not sure if this is a good

SCHOOL SKI TRIP



In December 2023 110 excited pupils from years 8 to U6, along with 13 teachers, set off for an amazing week in Les Deux Alpes. Iona A., L6, describes the experience.

“It was an early start for some of us as we set off for Luton airport in the early hours of a late December morning. I was in the first group which departed just after 11 o’clock from the terminal. We had a long day of travel ahead of us but nevertheless the excitement of the week to follow in the Alps made it worthwhile.

“I think the most amazing part of the ski trip for me would have to be waking up to the sun slowly rising over the surrounding mountains with the crisp, fresh morning air fuelling me with excitement.”

After a tiring day of travel, views of the soaring mountains began to appear all around us as we made our ascent up the long winding road to reach the resort. Group One made it safely to Hotel Jam Session in the early evening whereupon we all refreshed ourselves and unpacked our bags into our new shared dormitories for the week. This was followed by supper in the hotel before heading off to bed in order to get some rest for the week ahead, with the other two groups arriving safely during the night.

I think the most amazing part of the ski trip for me would have to be waking up to the sun slowly rising over the surrounding mountains with the crisp, fresh morning air fuelling me with excitement. We began day one with the fitting of boots and skis which was an organised and efficient process. Once everyone had got through their fittings we headed up on the lifts to be greeted by our instructors for the week and were sorted into ability groups. I was in a group of roughly 14 experienced Lower Sixth skiers with a super enthusiastic instructor called Yan who gave us the most amazing week.

The skiing conditions in Les Deux Alpes were super special with the winter sun illuminating the mountains and creating

an idyllic backdrop. There was plenty of snow and we were lucky enough to have three amazing days of French sunshine which made it feel like Easter skiing. The cold reality of winter skiing returned for our final two days on the slopes – however, this did not disrupt the high morale and mood present throughout our group. The highest point we reached on the mountains was 3,600 metres above sea level, where all of the groups had the opportunity to take in the breathtaking 360 degree views of the unfolding peaks, including the silhouette of the famous Mont Blanc.

The evenings were full of activities, ranging from bowling to laser tag, with time for all year groups to explore the resort. Another personal highlight for me would have to be the laser tag competition evening, playing against the teachers. We played multiple rounds and I am pleased to say my team was victorious! This was all only a short walk from our hotel.

Although it was a shame to leave the beautiful French Alps we all had the most amazing time with memories to cherish, and were extremely grateful to the staff who had organised the trip to perfection. With Christmas being just days away we had a lot still to look forward to.”



Making special memories on the slopes

GETTING BACK

Sporting injuries are considered par for the course, but they can take their toll on athletes' mental as well as physical health. World Championship lacrosse player Seb Howarth, North A 2008–13, details his tough but inspirational journey from severe injury to full recovery.

WHY LACROSSE?

My grandfather somehow came across lacrosse while a schoolteacher in the mid-90s. I think his logic was that if kids were beating each other with sticks on a field, they would be less likely to do so on the streets. Growing up, then, I had an awareness of the sport and when I saw it being advertised at my uni freshers' fair I decided to give it a go. Fast forward a few years and I'm playing in Edinburgh during my Master's and then speculatively trialling for the national team in an open trial.

HOW DID YOU SUSTAIN YOUR INJURY?

Many training camps and suffer fests later, I was selected for the senior team at a big domestic competition. I was having a great tournament until things took a bad turn during the last game of the weekend against the Welsh: tearing after the ball one minute, tearing my Achilles the next.

I was taken to hospital in Manchester where the wonderful staff confirmed fears of a complete Achilles tendon rupture. Medics agreed that recovery would take well over a year. A June world cup was out of the question.

WHAT IMPACT DID THIS, AND THE WEEKS AND MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED, HAVE ON YOU?

Driving back to Edinburgh I felt a sense of dread, my dreams of world cup glory slipping rapidly through my fingers.

I was astonished to be seen only five days later (thank you NHS) at the Royal, where an enthusiastic doctor talked me through the next 18 months. Emotions bubbled up as he ruled out flying to San Diego in 2023, but I explained the situation and he suggested an operation, in the hope of speeding up my recovery.

The early days post-op were a real struggle. I had quit my job with plans to travel before starting at a new company in Denmark so had literally nothing to do. Immobile and jobless, in bed watching endless shows, and doomscrolling – the perfect concoction for spiralling.

After two weeks I was able to navigate the three flights of my worn tenement stairs. Just to be able to 'walk' down the street felt like progress.

HOW DID YOU REGAIN FULL FITNESS?

I spoke to my brother, flatmate, and chief physio, Alex, setting some goals. Scotland had a camp in early January, about six months post injury, which I made my target date for returning to playing. Most people are only starting a light jog at six months, so it was an ambitious plan. We developed a detailed roadmap, moving ahead cautiously. It was immensely frustrating, but kept me sane and gave me a goal.

My brother drove me to the gym daily and the director cued the training music montage. The physical pain was nothing compared to my mental suffering. The human body has great skill in forgetting distress, as I am sure any mothers would agree, but my diary entries from back then are stark reminders of my struggle.

Despite the challenge, my fitness slowly returned. In January I stepped out onto the field fully kitted up. I knew I risked re-injury, but I also knew that I would likely get cut in the February cull unless I proved I was fit.

Fast forward another few months and many more sleepless nights, and I was selected for the home internationals against the Welsh and English. I realised later that this was the biggest tournament I had ever played in and my first game at any level in over a year.

HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN YOU REFLECT ON THIS EXPERIENCE?

It is difficult to articulate all the different elements that need to align for positive outcomes like mine. To suggest it was all down to my grit and determination would be churlish.

My parents and schooling taught me about resilience and overcoming challenges, but in truth, I was fortunate. I was seen quickly by an underfunded NHS during extremely challenging times. I was operated on by one of the country's top surgeons. I had wonderful support from my friends and family, especially my hero of a brother who provided endless advice. Finally, the professionalism of the Scotland programme provided so many supportive tools.

It was a great privilege to be able to step out onto the field with my teammates in the summer representing Scotland at the World Championships, but in reality I performed with many more than the 23 men in jerseys

that day. The experience taught me about suffering and resilience, but it taught me more about the value of your support network and the unsung heroes in our daily lives. It reminds me of that famous Newton quote: "If I have seen further, it is only by standing on the shoulders of giants." So, in the end, I want to thank all those who built a platform for me to play and who made my recovery possible – you allowed me to live a dream and I could never have done it alone. Thank you!



Seb (left) on the road to recovery with the help of mum Jane and brother Alex



The Scotland World Championship team alongside coaches, physiotherapists and management. Seb wears no. 11



**Welcoming Sarah Proud,
Director of Development**

I am thrilled to say a warm hello to you in this latest edition of *OL News*, the first since I joined The Leys in November 2023.

I come from a background of development, where for a number of years I have been working in the environmental sector. I was attracted to The Leys by its dedication to social mobility, another cause close to my heart, and the close community that the School's ethos of pastoral care has nurtured, something that has been echoed through my conversations with Old Leysians, current pupils and the Common Room.

Having been lucky enough to receive an independent education at Stamford Endowed Schools I know that this environment can provide a caring and stable opportunity for young people to flourish, as evidenced by the many pupils attending The Leys over the years, not least those who have benefited from bursaries.

"The Leys has enabled me to find my voice and become much more independent ... and provided me with the support required to shape me into the person I am today."

Zara, The Leys' first Royal SpringBoard bursary pupil who is now reading Geography at King's College London

Transformational Bursaries at The Leys

Why are transformational bursaries needed?

We know that there is an educational gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Before the pandemic struck in 2019, efforts to narrow that disparity had begun to falter. Evidence suggested that the gap was expanding, particularly in the early years and secondary education sectors.

The pandemic exacerbated this situation. Between 2019 and 2022, the educational disparity between disadvantaged pupils and their counterparts widened across all educational stages. Moreover, the achievement gap widened even further for persistently disadvantaged pupils - those who qualified for free school meals for at least 80 percent of their school attendance.

In the United Kingdom we are now in a place where persistently disadvantaged pupils from ages 16-19 are 4.5 grades behind their peers. I'm sure you will agree that this is a sorry state of affairs, and The Leys is committed to doing all it can to help redress the balance.

YOU can change the future for young people

You can help to change the future of young people by giving to our Gift of Education appeal. The Leys is committed to growing the number of transformational bursaries we can provide, but we can't do it without your help.

Now, more than ever, we are conscious of the challenges each household is facing, but gifts of all sizes will make a difference to the lives of future Leysians and their families.

Gift a bursary place to a pupil and change a life

The current cost of providing a 110% bursary to a child is £46,068 per year. If you or your company are interested in changing a life by helping to provide a bursary place for a pupil, please get in touch with Sarah on slp@theleys.net or tel: +44 1223 508970.



What is the Gift of Education?

The Leys has a long tradition of providing bursaries to allow pupils from all backgrounds to study at the School. Now, we have partnered with The Royal National Children's SpringBoard Foundation to match us with young people who can benefit the most from a Leysian education.

Royal SpringBoard work closely with community groups, local authorities and referring schools to identify children for whom an independent school environment can enable them to flourish. Building upon The Leys' legacy of bursaries, it is our ambition that the Gift of Education will support two pupils in each year group of the School with fully funded, 110% bursary places by 2025.

Two Royal SpringBoard pupils have already completed their studies at The Leys and gone on to university to read Geography and Mathematics. We are pleased currently to be home to four Royal SpringBoard pupils, with a further four due to join us in September 2024, bringing us closer to our goal.

"I was always confident in my own ability but when you don't see anyone who has achieved your goals reflected in society around you, it's tough to constantly believe that you will be any different."

Royal SpringBoard bursary pupil



More than **50%** of children in the most deprived areas of the UK leave school with less than a Grade 4 (C) in English and Maths

How can you make a difference?

£20 a month could help fund a place for a bursary pupil to join The Leys

£50 a month could buy a complete uniform for a bursary pupil, including PE kit

£75 a month could fund a year's worth of music lessons for a bursary pupil

£100 a month could help to fund a bursary pupil's school meals



The easiest way to make a regular or one-off gift is online:

<https://tinyurl.com/wnbwk3pp>

DONATING FROM THE USA?

If you would like to support a bursary pupil to join The Leys, and are based in the USA, then you can do so through our 501(c)3 registered partner, BSUF. Contact Sarah Proud at slp@theleys.net for more information.



GIFT AID

Turn your £100 donation into £125, at no extra cost to you!

Did you know that if you pay tax in the UK you can boost your donation with Gift Aid?

A Gift Aid declaration allows The Leys to claim tax back on eligible donations, meaning that for every £1 you donate to The Leys we can claim back 25p, at no extra cost to you.



THE COMMUNITY FUND

In addition to bursaries, The Leys has many partnerships with other great organisations in the community, and the Community Fund is no small part of this. Financed by generous members of the Leysian community and powered by the collaboration between The Leys & St Faith's Schools Foundation and Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission, the fund supports positive change across the community: from supporting arts-based therapy for children struggling with their emotional wellbeing, to enabling more young people to engage with the Cambridge Literary Festival and more.



To read about the impact the Community Fund has had over the last year, scan the QR code or visit the Community Fund at <https://tinyurl.com/2s49ph6n>

OL SPORT

OL Real Tennis

“The annual Old Leysian real tennis doubles tournament was held in Newmarket on Saturday 25 November. Competitive, skilful and evenly matched tennis was played throughout. Congratulations to the eventual winners, Mark Elliott, Fen 1977-82 and Jack Elliott, West 2010-15: the first father and son OLRTC champions!

If you would like to be involved in future OLRTC matches and tournaments, or would just like to know more about the game, please do not hesitate to contact us via the website. All Old Leysians are extremely welcome.”

Team captain Joel Humphrey, East 1992-97



The OLRTC team

James Albery, West 2009-14 is hoping for Paris!

“I’m very excited to have qualified for the Paris Olympics with the GB hockey men.

We had a fantastic tournament in Oman and managed to secure our place. Hopefully we can have a good few months leading up to the Olympics and give ourselves the best chance of securing a medal!”



James in action

Marathon Success

In addition to tennis, our congratulations go to Joel and OL friends **Will Spriggs**, North A 1992-97 and **Nick Peters**, East 1995-97, all of whom successfully completed the French Riviera Marathon in November.



Old Leysian Golfing Society

For the latest OLGS update and fixture list, please visit the OL Sport section of the website: <https://tinyurl.com/3927vtm7>. If you would like to join the Golfing Society please contact Nigel Washbourn on nwashbourn@btinternet.com

Sporting highlights

Noah Thain, West 2018-23 was selected for the England squad in the 2024 ICC Men’s U19 Cricket World Cup in South Africa. England’s opening game was against Scotland in January. A total of 41 matches were played, culminating in Australia beating India in the final on 11 February. England placed 6th overall. Congratulations Noah and team – a great achievement.

Katie Curtis, Bisseker/Dale 2015-20 played hockey for England at the December Junior World Cup in Chile, reaching the semi-finals against The Netherlands who were the eventual winners. Many congratulations to Katie and the rest of the under-21 side for having got this far.



1st XI vs OLs netball match

“On January 8 the netball girls enjoyed their first match of the season, against a side of OLs. With a high standard and fun atmosphere, the match was great practice for our 1st team, following a long day of preseason training. The Leys side made a strong start, pulling away at the beginning to 7-0, before the OLs soon found their swing and started scoring goals. However, with a strong depth in the midcourt and skill and

determination in the circle, we came out with a cracking result of 76-38, doubling their score!

A special mention to Eni for her spectacle of 4 consecutive interceptions and to Freya and Charlotte for their exceptionally

consistent shooting and movement in the circle. It was great to see old faces and catch up on and off the court, featuring a sisterly rivalry at Centre between the two Hill girls.”

Emily H, 1st VII Netball Team Coach, and Freya H, Vice Captain

Back row, L-R: Freya H.; Nina J.; Laura Hill, Bisseker/Dale 2014-19; Emily H.; Isobel Leventhorpe, Dale 2011-13; Emma Ball, Moulton/Fen 2015-22; Sofia Biggs, Bisseker/Granta 2017-22; Georgia Dudley, Barrett/Granta 2017-22; Lucy Stephen, Barrett/Granta 2017-22; Sophie Coady, Moulton/Bisseker/Granta 2015-22; Florence Turner, Dale 2018-23; Polina F.; Eve A. and Catherine R

Front row, L-R: Isy F.; Florence C.; Charlotte C.; Ella Houghton, Barker 2010-15; Maddie Anthony, Fen 2014-19; Hermi Rodgers, Bisseker/Granta 2017-22; Eni D. and Jemaira Vestey, Fen 2018-23

OL Tag Rugby

“After another successful Summer playing on the hallowed turf of Hyde Park, the Old Leysian Tag Rugby team made the brave decision to commit to the Tag Superleague running from September to December 2023. This was not an easy decision since it is the best league in the country, with the majority of teams hosting a plethora of GB tag talent. After a shaky start to the season, where the squad struggled with learning ‘international’ tag rules and faced frosty conditions, they achieved a

respectable number of wins and weathered some hard fought losses. The squad are now in full rehab before getting ready for the next summer season in Hyde Park. The team continues to host a number of Old Leysian stalwarts such as Dante O’Reilly, Dan Sellers, Dougie Turner, Mark and Jonny Horsford, but they continue to look for more Old Leysians to join the team – please contact Jonny Horsford or Doug Turner via the website if interested.”

Team captain Johnny Horsford, School 2005-10



The OL Tag Rugby team

John Harding

COMMON ROOM 1968-2005
OLS HON. SEC. 2001-2017

I was delighted to be asked to contribute to a recently published collection of essays about school missions, entitled *Bright the Vision*. 22 leading public schools were invited to produce a chapter, and my offering charts the fascinating history of The Leysian Mission.

Public School Missions date from the last quarter of the 19th century: Uppingham led the way in 1870, inspired by its great headmaster Edward Thring.

The atmosphere in the Anglican Church in the early 20th century, strongly influenced by the Evangelical Movement of the Clapham Sect, has been described as the Age of Atonement. Christians were warned to atone for their sins by leading virtuous lives. This underpinned the public-school ethos established by Thomas Arnold at Rugby: boys were subjected to an intense round of services and a classical education to become young men as quickly as possible. It was an age of 'Godliness and Good Learning', essentially introspective and with little emphasis on community and helping others.

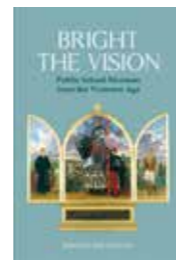
Later this Age of Atonement developed into an Age of Incarnation: if Christ came into the world to save humanity, then surely it was a Christian's duty to save others. In education, led by Thring at Uppingham, this produced 'Muscular Christianity' –



the belief that teamwork and sport were what distinguished a good public-school man. Against this background, these schools started to establish missions, primarily to the East End of London, to bring Christianity to the disadvantaged, often through team games.

From its outset, The Leys was involved in missionary work. The key figure was the Rev. David Hill, a former pupil of Moulton's at Richmond who had continued to the Methodist missionary centre in Hankow. In 1881 Hill visited The Leys, where several of his nephews were pupils. He addressed the inaugural meeting of the School Missionary Society, then went on to Richmond where he inspired OL Sydney Rupert Hodge to go to China as a medical missionary. Hodge eventually became Secretary of the China Medical Missionary Association. On Moulton's death, the Rev. William 'Theo' Barber, minister in charge of Hankow Christian College, became headmaster. Given the outward looking nature of the School's Methodism and its immediate involvement in missionary work abroad, it is no surprise that it quickly set up a mission in London.

The period of school missions concluded with the foundation of the Welfare State. The book shows how some missions died out and others were transformed. I am glad to say The Leysian Mission remains in good health.



"An importantly thought provoking read ... Tozer's formidable team of 22 experts meticulously chart the achievements, the problems and the tragedies. These is always detail, clarity, and even the occasional touch of reassuring humour."

Tim Hands, HMC Magazine

Bright the Vision: Public School Missions from the Victorian Age, edited by Malcolm Tozer, is published by Sunnyrest Books and is available in hardback and paperback editions, and is available from Amazon: <https://tinyurl.com/4m2cdp73>



OBITUARIES



To read the full versions of these obituaries, please visit the school website: <https://tinyurl.com/385yvwsm>. If you do not have access to the internet and would like a printed document, please contact the Development office on 01223 508545.

David Mansell Andrew, North B 1945-47 on 16 February 2024

Nicholas John Garneys Barron, West 1970-75 on 9 July 2023



Born on 21 May 1957, Nick was the eldest of three children.

Nick and I met when we started at St Faith's in 1964. I have very fond memories of those early years. Nick was full of energy, was funny, occasionally mischievous and was good at sport, especially rugby. In 1970 we moved on to The Leys and went into West House.

The Leys was a tough school in 1970 and like St Faith's, education, discipline and sport were all high priorities but what we gained most of all was the incredible friendships that have continued to this day. We were a very cohesive year in West House and shared some great times together.

Nick had a passion for music and loved buying obscure records. He was kind, generous and intelligent and was a deep thinker. He had a Bohemian style in his choice of clothes and his outlook on life, loved art and poetry and supported many of the popular political causes of the 1970s.

Nick turned down a place at Goldsmiths to start work at Hartley's,

before moving to London to become a claims specialist with General Accident. He then moved to Lloyd's of London, specialising in property and liability insurance.

Nick met Sarah in 1984. They married and settled in Wimbledon in 1995 and had two sons, Laurie and Ben.

Nick travelled extensively with his work and helped negotiate the 9/11 World Trade Centre settlements but leading such complex high-profile cases took its toll on Nick's health and mental wellbeing and the Covid years brought further stresses.

After a short illness, Nick sadly passed away on 9 July 2023. He was a great friend, who died far too young. All of Nick's family and friends miss him enormously but his kind, loyal, generous and caring nature will live forever in our hearts.

Words by Robert Norfolk, West 1970-75

Rev. D J M Caffyn, School 1950-55 on 17 May 2023

Douglas was born in 1936, the youngest of four siblings. In 1940 the children were evacuated from Eastbourne to Shrewsbury, returning in 1942 in time for the raids and doodlebugs which permanently affected his hearing.

After attending The Leys, Douglas undertook National Service in the RAF,

based in Germany, before studying Mathematics at Peterhouse.

Douglas and Kay met at Teacher Training College. Once married, they taught in Kenya and Malawi, taking pupils into their hearts and their home, and enjoying safari camping trips and other adventures.

After 13 years they returned to the UK, where Douglas took up canoeing. He later spent much time and effort advocating for nationwide access to rivers for all.

Having no children Douglas took a great interest in his nieces and nephews. He was reliable and kind, and good in a crisis.

Douglas welcomed a challenge, becoming a Special Constable and a scout leader, learning British sign language and the oboe, and training for the ministry. Whilst a curate, he adopted Fluffy, then 15. His love for her was described as "protective and proactive". When Fluffy's son Emerson was born, Douglas became a hands on grandfather.



Douglas was protective and proactive about all his interests. He was even proactive in his own death, refusing treatment following a stroke.

Douglas was unique and will leave a void in many of our lives, but he is on his way to heaven to live out his greatest adventure yet.

Words by Kay Caffyn

John Chilton Copeland, North B 1950-53 on 8 November 2023



Clive de Jersey Harvard, West 1953-58 on 4 August 2023

Hugh Dixon, East 1947-51 on 4 June 2021

Gilbert Hinckley, North A 1951-55 on 27 October 2023

AFP Newns (Peter), West 1958-62 on 27 September 2023

It is with deep sorrow that we announce Peter's passing.

At The Leys, Peter rowed in the first ever 1st VIII, worked on the theatre lighting, and was involved in the school printing press, regaling family with the tale of nearly setting it ablaze by tossing paper into a bin containing paraffin.

He attended the polytechnic in Cambridge then worked as an apprentice at Pye, while maintaining his passion for rowing, crewing for the City of Cambridge 1st VIII. At 20 he discovered gliding, which led him to meet the love of his life, Val. They transitioned to sailing as they started a family.



Peter left Pye to join the RAF, stationed in Germany, Cyprus, and the UK. Sailing remained a constant throughout his life, and when he retired, he and Val sailed around the world in their 36-foot Halberg-Rassy, Valhalla.

On return to Cornwall, they continued to sail, as well as cultivating an allotment, and supporting Parkinson's UK.

They moved back to Cambridge in 2018 when Peter was diagnosed with cancer. He underwent open-heart surgery in 2022, the year after he lost Val. Despite his ailments, he remained active until his final weeks, baking, driving his beloved Tesla, and participating in local Repair Cafes.

Peter leaves behind his loving children, David and Katie, and three grandchildren.

He was an intelligent, kind, and gentle man who will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Words by David Newns, North B 1987-92 and Katie Newns, Dale 1992-94

Antony Proudman, North B 1946-51 on 5 January 2022



In an extraordinary career, Antony Proudman's work laid the foundations for modern computing and gaming.

Winning a senior exhibition to Cambridge in 1953, he won the 1958 Telecommunication Engineering and Manufacturing Association graduate

award at Standard Telephone and Cables, before joining IBM.

By the early 1960s, his small team had developed the effective forerunner to ROM (Read Only Memory), laying the foundations for today's personal computing and gaming technology.

In the 1970s, Antony's team anticipated another revolution, the internet, when they took over the European Labs Computer Network.

Friend Paul Appleton said: "Antony Proudman may not be a household name; but it is very likely that every household that has access to a computer enjoys the technology that he and his team developed."

Later, as a trustee of Winchester Cathedral Enterprises, Antony was involved in the new visitors centre project.

Married to Elizabeth for 63 years, they had three children: Kate, Hugh and James. Hugh said of The Leys: "My father loved his time there. He loved the teachers, the other boys, and living in Cambridge. Mum thinks it was almost the happiest time of his life."

Paul Appleton said: "There seemed, to us, no artificial boundary between the scientist and the person; for his life, as for his work, his light will shine on for a very long time."

From *The Hampshire Chronicle*, edited for *OL News* by Liz Walden

Christopher Taylor, East 1971-76 on 16 May 2021

Christopher J. Taylor, born on 22 July 1958 in Newmarket, passed away in Tarpon Springs, Florida. His remarkable life's journey encompassed diverse professional roles: a dedicated constable in the Metropolitan Police force;



an accomplished local news reporter in New Jersey and New York; an empathetic elementary (primary) school teacher specialising in emotionally troubled and ESL students; and a compassionate cross-country medical transport driver.

Chris, a naturalised US citizen since 2001, held a BA in Journalism, an MSc in Elementary Education, and an MEd in Educational Leadership. He was an avid car enthusiast and a skilled renovator of antique cars and boats. He loved all animals, but his heart belonged to his wire-haired fox terriers.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Chris was a devoted father, leaving an enduring legacy of love, guidance and support for his daughters. Known for his infectious laugh and great sense of humour, Chris had a remarkable ability to lighten any room he entered, leaving those around him with fond memories of shared laughter. His impact will forever be cherished by those he nurtured and inspired.

Chris was preceded in death by his sister Magdalen and parents Joan and Norman. He is survived by his wife Patricia, daughters Katherine and Helen, brother Nicholas, many nephews, niece Laura, and beloved dog Chip.

Words by Pat Taylor

For a personal tribute from a fellow Old Leysian, please see 'Memories of Chris' on the website.

Andrew Stewart Turner, East 1955-60 on 12 April 2023

After attending preparatory school near Keighley, Andrew moved on to The Leys, which he left in 1960 to spend a year studying textiles. He entered Queen's College, Cambridge in 1961 to read Economics and then Part 2 Law. While at the College, Andrew enjoyed playing hockey for the College 2nd XI, whom he captained in 1963/64. As a member of the Bradford Straddlebugs he also spent many happy walking holidays in the Lake District. He married in 1970 and his daughter, Shelley, was born in 1971.

On leaving Cambridge Andrew decided that rather than join the family textile firm he would take up accountancy which he duly did, in 1971 becoming a partner in Spicer and Pegler, a well-respected firm of Chartered Accountants in Leeds. Retiring early in 1989 he moved to Thirsk where in 1997 he remarried. With a mutual love of horses and dogs he and Marion enjoyed his retirement, following country pursuits including horse racing. He was able to visit his daughter and grandchildren in Australia, and family holidays included Venice, Barcelona, Bangkok and Florida before ill-health intervened.



Andrew is survived by Marion, his daughter Shelley and her two children, Jessica and Thomas, and by his step-children, Andrew and Helen.

Words by Marion Turner and Stephen Turner, East 1952-57

Phillip Williams, North B 1939-44 on 3 January 2024



Phill was born in Pontypridd in 1926, moving to Berkshire at 13. He gained a scholarship to The Leys, and read Chemistry at Cambridge. Following national service and teacher training at the Institute of Education, he studied Psychology through Birkbeck College and retrained as an educational psychologist.

Phill's career included prestigious appointments at the University of Wales and the Open University. He worked extensively overseas and was on the Warnock committee, reviewing provision for special education.

Phill was a loving husband to Glenys for over 50 years, loved and supported his children and grandchildren, and after Glenys's death met Rosemary, with whom he spent 10 very happy years. He was a keen hill-walker, from his schooldays in Scotland during the evacuation, and climbed Snowdon on his 80th birthday.

Phill was warm, patient and full of interests. He could equally recite a poem, restore an old chair, or offer a glass of wine made from his Anglesey grapes. He connected easily with everyone from eminent academics to stropky teenagers and small children.

In retirement he published several books, including his memoirs. A proud Welshman, he followed the national rugby team well into his 90s.

He is survived by his three children, seven grandchildren and brother, Dillwyn. In his final years Phillip was cared for lovingly by the team at the Old Rectory Ewhurst.

Words by Gareth Williams, Phillip's son

OL DETECTIVES NEEDED!

Do you recognise this poster? Maybe you were even involved in this production at The Leys? Our Archivist, Alison, is trying to track down when it took place. We suspect it was some time between 1994 and 1999. If you have any information, please get in touch and help us solve this mystery.

Tobacco Jar

This attractive earthenware tobacco jar, bearing the School badge and with its lid of 'Cambridge blue' pitted glaze, belonged to OL Lewis Barlow Smith, West 1903–07 and was donated to the Archive in 2019. Alison has dated it to the period 1921–57 based on the maker's mark. The jar's surface is designed as a match striker, and a three-pronged attachment on the lid slots into apertures in the rim, twisting tight to keep contents airtight. Its dimensions are 100mm high and 130mm in diameter, and the manufacturer's mark stamped on the base reads "W&R [Wiltshaw and Robinson], Stoke on Trent, Carlton Ware, Made in England, Made for Cole & Son, Manchester".



Alison is always pleased to hear from Old Leysians who have items which may be suitable for the School Archive. Please email development@theleys.net



Neil White, Olympian – the Man Behind the Medal

Hockey player Neil White, North A 1933–39, helped Great Britain take silver in the 1948 London Olympics – but there was far more to him than sporting prowess.

William Neil White was born in 1920 in Troon, Scotland – more famed for its golf than Neil's favoured sports, cricket and hockey. He captained the Leys hockey 1st XI and won a Cambridge hockey Blue in 1939 while at Trinity Hall. After WWII he won his first Scotland Cap, and was selected to represent Great Britain in the 1948 Olympics as part of the first real British hockey team to compete at this level, the previous champions having all been English. Another historical first was the British and Indian teams competing together in an Olympic event. After beating Pakistan in the semi-finals, Britain eventually lost 4-0 in the final, claiming a silver medal, with bronze going to the Netherlands.

Quite an achievement, and to a home crowd at that – but what else do we know about this Olympian Old Leysian?

Thanks to a special memorial supplement issued with *The Leys Fortnightly* in June 1990 and housed in the Archive, along with the memories of some of our more senior Old Leysians, the answer to that is, happily, rather a lot.

Neil's accomplishments as a pupil at The Leys were many: he captained the 1st teams for football, hockey and cricket, including the cricket 1st XI while on tour in Canada in 1939, as well as becoming a school prefect and cadet under-officer.

In 1948, having graduated from Cambridge, earned his Olympic silver medal among other sporting achievements and been awarded the Military Cross for his service during WWII, Neil returned to The Leys as a much loved master. He undertook numerous roles during his 34 year tenure, which included, but were not limited to: Housemaster of North, then Fen; President of the Games Committee; President of the Masters' Common Room; and President of the Old Leysian Union. Upon his retirement, having developed a passion for golf, Neil was made an honorary life member of the Royal Worlington and Newmarket Golf Club.

The long list of Neil's achievements is impressive, yet it is the tributes paid to his character which resonate the most deeply when reading about his life. School friend Humphrey Oliver, School 1933–38, recalled the "wholesome, healthy, energetic, streetwise laddie from Glasgow", known in those days as Willie White, who "possessed the rare and very precious gift of making all who knew him feel that they were somehow special to him". Peter Chamberlain, Common Room 1964–88, who worked alongside Neil in Fen House, marvelled at how "He could always pick the leaders and demanded a devotion to duty and loyalty, which he always reciprocated".

Neil's friend of 50 years, Gordon Graham, with whom he was commissioned into the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders during the war at the age of 20, called him "the most charming and unpretentious man I ever knew ... We were each other's best man at our wartime weddings. We fought the same battles. We won the same medals. Neil is gone, but I still feel we are soldiering together." A former



Above: Neil at school
Right: A much loved teacher from 1948-82



pupil of Neil's, William Brown, North B 1947–51, described him as "larger than life, both in the classroom and on the playing fields. He had a certain charisma that instilled a confidence in his pupils". Later in life, as a golfer, the Old Leysian Golfing Society "benefited from his firm views on team spirit and reliability, his own hallmark for his many successes and the friendships he made" (Nigel Washbourn, West 1951–55, OLGS Hon. Sec.)

Paul Svehlik, North B 1960–65, remembers Neil as his Housemaster, and as a fellow Olympian it seems fitting to give Paul the last word. "I rarely saw Neil on the sports field without his shepherd's crook. After the game, he would point out the various infractions/better moves that could have been made on the hockey pitch! I asked if he had carried out some of those moves in the London Olympics of 1948! He was a true inspiration to me."

Liz Walden

OL EVENTS 2024–25



All events can be booked online at
www.theleys.net/leys-community/events/

WEDNESDAY 22 MAY 2024

OL Communion

12.45 Wesley's Chapel,
City Road, London EC1Y 1AU

THURSDAY 29 AUGUST 2024

Cambridge Drinks

18:30 – 20:30 Sports Pavilion, The Leys

THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2024

OLS London Drinks

18:30 – 20:30 One Moorgate Place,
London EC2R 6EA

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 2024

OLS Annual Dinner

19:00 – 22:30 Jesus College,
Cambridge CB5 8BL

2025: our 150th anniversary year!

SUNDAY 27 APRIL 2025

OL Reunion – open to ALL Old Leysians

The Leys
(limited spaces)

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST 2025

Cambridge Drinks

18:30 – 20:30 Sports Pavilion, The Leys

THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2025

OLS London Drinks

18:30 – 20:30 One Moorgate Place,
London EC2R 6EA

SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 2025

OLS Annual Dinner

Venue TBC



The Leys, Cambridge CB2 7AD
www.theleys.net



The Old Leysian Benevolent Fund

The Fund exists to support Old Leysians and their dependents if they run into difficulties through accident, illness, redundancy, or other unforeseen hardships. Anyone experiencing such hardship, or who knows of someone who may qualify to receive help from the Fund, should contact:

The Secretary, Charlie Kidman (North B/Fen 1963–68)

Email: charliekidman@btinternet.com

Any request for help is always dealt with confidentially and with discretion. If you would like to help the Fund in its ongoing work, please contact the Secretary. Any donation would be a tremendous help.

OLS Committee 2024

Officers

President – John Rolfe, North B
1968–73

Vice President – Karen Sears
(formerly Cox), Common Room
2009–present

President Elect – Stephen Ludlow,
North B 1980–85 (Wesley's
Chapel & Leysian Mission)

Past President – Jo de Grey,
Granta 1985–87

Chairman – Jo de Grey

Treasurer – Katherine Townsend
(née Eccleston), Moulton/Bisseker
2006–11

Secretary – Liz Walden

Charlie Kidman, North B/Fen
1963–68 (Benevolent Fund)

Katya Kornilova, Fen 2005–09

Liam McKeown, West 2008–13

Tim Moore, East 1970–74

Andrew Pittams, North B 2000–05

Lucy Sales, Moulton/Dale 2000–07

Ashley Silverton, Fen 1973–78

(OLFC)

Nigel Washbourn, West 1951–55

(OLGS)

Max Wilson, West 2011–16

If you wish to receive the digital version of *OL News*, please email development@theleys.net to let us know.

Committee Members

Andrew Cullen, North A 1998–03
(Singapore)

Sagan Daniels, School 1998–03

Mark Elliott, Fen 1977–82

(Real Tennis)

James Houlder, School 1996–01

(OLCC)

OL News is produced twice a year. If you would like to contribute to a future edition, please email the editorial team at development@theleys.net. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is 31 August 2024.

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