

OLNEWS

AUTUMN 2021 | Issue 46



School News
Digital Developments

The Gift of Education
A Legacy for the Future

Spotlight
Jak Spencer



Message from the Headmaster

I know that, with the new academic year underway, the whole School community shares with me a sense of excitement and gratitude. Whilst some Covid mitigations remain in place, School life is back in full swing with sport, music and drama alongside our academic lessons, breaktimes and that precious 'downtime' in Houses. We are embracing with gusto the pleasures of a busy School life which we once took for granted and looking forward to a busy and happy year ahead. Talking of the future, the amazing new technology facilities in the Geography Department which allow teaching using augmented reality really do feel as if we have stepped into the future, and I hope you enjoy reading about them in this issue.

OLs may be particularly interested to hear that the Lenten Appeal is being given a new lease of life under the revamped banner of 'Lenten Giving'. Many of you will remember it fondly as a day of great fun and excitement, while in recent years each House has led its own initiative. Mr Durrant, pupils, and the Development Office team will draw all the Lenten Giving initiatives together at a Giving Day in Spring 2022 to support causes important to our community. To me, it encapsulates so much of the cheerful and generous Leysian spirit. You will hear more nearer the time.

Alongside everything that is happening within the School, the OL events calendar is in full swing once more too. As the back page of this OL News shows, we can look forward to a whole range of different occasions, and I look forward to seeing many of you in person once again.

Martin Priestley,
Headmaster

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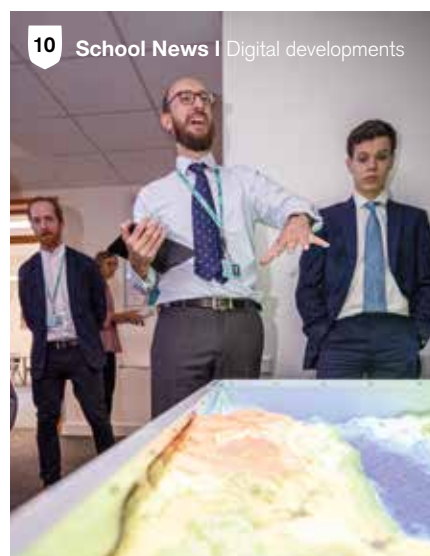
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OL Updates



Bill McClendon, North A 1951–52

"My wife, Genie, and I have four children and ten grandchildren. All are doing well. After retiring from the practice of law and teaching at the LSU Law School, Genie and I lived on a mountaintop in North Carolina for about ten years where I taught at the University of Tennessee Law School and at Western Carolina University. During this time, my book, *Deal Makers, Negotiating More Effectively Using Timeless Values*, was published.

I have always been caught, and taught, by resonating adventure stories, just as I was seventy years ago during my wonderful year at The Leys. This has created an inspired and sustained trust in timeless values which caused me to write a second book, *History Stories Talking to You and Me*, covering a variety of topics including the Battle of Marathon in 491 BC and the grit, grace, and gratitude of our first leaders, Washington, Adams, and Jefferson. There is also a chapter on the 25-year restoration that my wife and I undertook of Oakland Plantation in the Felicianas and the placing of it on the National Register of Historic Homes.

I will always remember my wonderful exchange year at The Leys where I made many lifelong friends, including Arnold Russell Vick, Frank Woods, John Nettleton, Nick Downs, and Brian Gunton. What a great experience!"



Ed Taylor, West 2003–08

and his partner Georgia are happy to announce the birth of their son Robin Matthew Taylor, born on the 25 May, weighing 8lbs 9oz. Ed and Georgia have recently moved to Cambridge after spending several

years living in London and New Zealand. Since graduating from the University of Roehampton, Ed has been working to bring about positive social change for individuals and communities through the use of sport and physical activity. He has worked on Sport for Change projects in prisons with young offenders and is currently working at Saracens where he runs projects that help young people in North London at risk of being excluded from school. During the school holidays, he supports children on free school meals and their families.

Frazie Hulbert (née Connelly), Granta 1986–88

"Growing up in Lesotho ignited my love of all creatures and an urge to share that passion with others. Whilst at The Leys, I made some great friends and was lucky enough to be coached at rowing by the amazing Sue Brown, Common Room 1985-90. Following my teaching degree at Goldsmiths College, I taught at many primary schools in London, Bristol, and Devon. Some years ago, fuelled by my volunteering at Bristol Zoo, I hatched a plan to educate young people about wildlife conservation, through hands-on sessions with a range of child-friendly, exotic animals. And so, with the essential support of my family, Frazoo was born! I have been running school clubs, assemblies, charity presentations, workshops, and birthday parties for six years now and am loving every minute of it! The children enjoy handling creatures such as snakes, geckos, chameleons, salamanders, praying mantids and leaf insects, without

having to deal with their complex care needs themselves. During lockdown, I have branched out into online Frazoo sessions, presenting all over the UK and as far as France, Ecuador, Palestine and of course Lesotho!"

To find out more about Frazoo, please visit www.frazoo.co.uk



Howard Cooke, East 1951–56

"In the 1940s, my dad gave me a cardboard box which I later found contained the beginnings, for me, of a Hornby-Dublo 3-rail layout... wow! The box also included a complete set of original 1938 first-edition station buildings in timber. I still have that boxful.

Mary and I were married for 53 years until she succumbed to brain cancer in 2017. Ending work two years later, I wandered down my long driveway, gazing at the 6ft-high fence with its arris rails, and the germ of a silly idea entered my head, to hang the railway on the fence at my

chest level. I slept on it overnight and by next morning a grand layout plan was spinning round in my imagination, and it would not go away. Silly idea, but a challenge.

In recent weeks, the master plan to build through into the long garage right down to the back wall (giving a long loop of 200-plus feet) has been achieved. When track building eventually finishes (much delayed by the absence of friends during the Covid lockdown) in 2022, there will be occasional open days, in fine weather months. Anybody wishing to come to Maidstone to see the unimaginable,



please contact me on 01622 683333 or email howard@sleepersrail.net."



Abigail Bury, Granta 1986–88

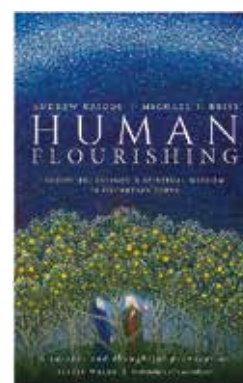
"At the age of 42, due to my lifelong appreciation for textiles, I enrolled to do a BA (Hons) Textile Design course at Hereford College of Arts. The degree helped to focus and inform my design choices, and on completion I felt ready and excited to set up my own business and unleash my flowery fabrics on the world! My fabrics and textiles are inspired by my love of visiting historical buildings, walking in the countryside and along coastlines, and experiencing the bustle of busy cities. I am constantly aware of the patterns, colours, images, and shapes that surround me – life is inspiring! I am very happy with my collection of floral and coordinating fabrics, and pleased that I took the journey to become a textile designer, even if it was rather late in life."

For more information, please visit www.abigailbury.com

Andrew Briggs, School 1963–67

Andrew Briggs' forthcoming book with Michael Reiss, *Human Flourishing: Scientific Insight and Spiritual Wisdom in Uncertain Times*, explores the notion of human flourishing and reflects on what constitutes a good life. The book examines contributions from both scientific insight and spiritual wisdom to offer a new angle on how to achieve a life filled with truth, meaning, and purpose in an age of AI and new technologies.

The book will be published by Oxford University Press on 18 October 2021. The Cambridge launch will take place at Trinity College and Heffers Bookshop.



Olamide Sule, Barker 2001–06

"After leaving The Leys, I went on to study at Hills Road, and then the University of Bath. Whilst at university, I completed my 'year in industry' at UBS in their fixed income team. From there, after travelling to Brazil for a year and working in various software-related jobs, I started my own business, Jetsetter Jobs. Having sold the company in 2018, I set up a new business, King Leonidas, selling derma rollers and other beard growth items. Alongside this, I work freelance as a Marketing Analytics Consultant."

Mark Wells, Fen 1975–80

“After stepping down as CEO of Games Workshop PLC, I moved back to Cambridge a few years ago to become a Fellow and Bursar of my old college, St John’s. I still remember sneaking out of Fen House one night in December 1980 after I’d heard I’d been awarded a place there. I walked down King’s Parade and stood in All Saints Passage, staring up at the Great Gate, wondering whether

someone had made a terrible mistake! Anyway, I’m now a full-time author based in Cambridge and have just launched *Gate of Shadows*, the sequel to my Amazon bestselling novel, *College of Shadows*. I still keep in touch with the Bellis’ (Bertie and Joan Bellis), Charlie Pattinson, Philip and Richard Oakes, Robert Fairey, and Toby Brookes.

My author site is www.marknwells.com.”



David Jordan, School 1948–52

“Following a family mental health crisis in September 1979, I started working with the NHS mental health services on a voluntary advisory basis, and have been now for over 40 years, first as a member of the Cambridge Branch of the National Schizophrenia Fellowship (NSF), and now at Rethink Mental Illness. In 1991, I was asked to be the voluntary coordinator of a new group, the Peterborough and Fenland NSF. In 2000, the two groups merged, and I became chair.

Due to a lack of funding for mental health, my daughter, a Governor of the local mental health trust, and I are currently campaigning for increased investment in rural areas. I sit on local, regional, and national NHS Boards and Committees. My Zoom skills are honed!

We need many, many additional psychiatrists. If you are interested, you will find that it’s a fulfilling career.”

Richard Fenning, East 1976–81

What On Earth Can Go Wrong is the recently published memoir chronicling Richard’s near thirty-year career advising multinational companies on geopolitics and security crises. Richard was CEO of the risk consultancy Control Risks where work was a daily diet of kidnappings, terrorist attacks, coups, corruption scandals, cyber-attacks and earthquakes. *What On Earth Can Go Wrong* provides a fascinating insight into the underbelly of international business in a rapidly globalising economy. Described as “witty and insightful,” the book takes us from the battlefields of Iraq to the back streets of Bogota, from the steamy Niger Delta to the chill of Putin’s Moscow

and many more of the toughest spots on the emerging market map. The book also recently featured in the Financial Times’ Summer Reads list for 2021.

What On Earth Can Go Wrong is published by Eye Books: bit.ly/richardfenning



David Chaplin OBE, School 1960–65

David founded the charity Rwanda Action in 2008. Its mission is to reduce poverty in Rwanda by empowering communities. The charity brings hope and opportunity to the vulnerable and disadvantaged through education, training, and enterprise. It encourages hard work, self-help, and a spirit of reconciliation. Any OLs who would be interested in supporting this work can contact David directly on david.chaplin@rwandaaction.org.

To find out more, please visit www.rwanda-action.org



Callum Hutson, School 2004–11

In November 2020, Callum launched his own business, ISLES, which sells British craft gin cocktails. Callum is an ex-professional bartender who has designed hundreds of cocktails with some of the UK's best-loved bars, restaurants, and hotel groups. While doing so, he felt that many cocktails on the market were too sweet and so set about developing his new recipes. Although launching only recently, ISLES has already received national press coverage from the likes of GQ and Imbibe.

To find out more, please visit www.islesdrinks.co.uk



Phil Parker, West 1973–78

"Isabel and I have recently settled in Appleton, a village south of Oxford, and I'm beginning a stage of semi-retirement, although more semi than retirement! I lead a small but growing local Anglican church and am developing a new portfolio as an outdoor consultant. This includes assessing Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, as well as mountain guiding in the UK and overseas. All very invigorating! Our eldest, Oli, is getting married this summer and teaches Geography at Shiplake College. Toria, our daughter, has graduated from the University of Edinburgh and is beginning an internship in London."



Denis Trofimov, West 1995–2000

Denis Trofimov is currently working at SpaceX as a Senior Systems Engineer. He is responsible for the development of power generation and energy storage systems across all SpaceX product lines. Additionally, he is deeply involved in avionics development and deployment. Previously, he served as a Senior Systems Engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, specialising in power systems for deep space exploration and as a Technical Lead at Apple, developing lithium-ion battery technologies.



Anthony Eastwood, East 1946–51

"Elizabeth and I are looking back on some thirty years enjoying a former 15th-century

bishop's palace in Much Hadham. We have now scaled down by a factor of seven, living in a tiny, terraced, fisherman's cottage in Bosham, West Sussex, but the tide comes up to the garden gate, and the tiny garden is manageable. Sadly, there is no room here for my library so my well-loved books by the hundreds have gone to the National Trust's second-hand bookshops.

I happily started working life as an aerospace engineer but progressed via goldmining in Africa to merchant banking

(old style). I then went on to private business, building an international publishing group – all good fun!

My many reference books will tell you that travel, deserts, mountains, vintage cars, and picnics are enduring delights of mine. I have also taken particular pleasure in my voluntary work as the Chair of the National Trust's projects group for the East of England. Several of my voluntary commitments are centred around the environment – truly our main challenge today."

Olly Lawson, West 2008–13



“My debut novel, *The Mango Theory*, came out this summer, and is my second book, following *Notes from the Roof of the World*.

Notes from the Roof of the World is a travel memoir

recounting my journey to Afghanistan’s Wakhan Corridor – one of the world’s most remote inhabited places. The trip was a gruelling expedition, taking place in the summer of 2019, yet it revealed a very different side to a country known almost

exclusively to the West through the lens of war.

The Mango Theory on the other hand was written over the course of several years spent travelling around the world. It is a coming-of-age story set in the underground music scene of London (where I now live) and follows the journey of a disillusioned night club promoter whose dreams of escaping the city are complicated when he falls in with a mysterious nomad. It was inspired by the wonderful, mad, lonely, and often chaotic rhythm of London, and of the many struggles young people face trying to carve out a life there.

Both books are available on my website www.ollylawson.com.”



Jonathan Lee, North B 1969–74

“I’m still living in the lovely village-suburb of Devonport, across the harbour from downtown Auckland, New Zealand. I’ve eluded retirement, practicing as an NZAC Registered Counsellor with a special interest in anxiety, trauma, and couple therapy. Tom (19) has left home for Victoria University in Wellington, studying Classics and International Relations and aiming for the public service, while Jess (15) is in Year 11 at Takapuna Grammar School with the goal of nursing. I continue to participate in the Quaker community and hope one day to paint more.”

Joshua Oon, East 1991–95

“At the end of 2018, I took a one-year break from my banking job of 15 years and dedicated it purely to travel and adventure. In 2019, my travels took me to many exotic locations including Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong and the Dead Sea, but no place left an impact as great as Nepal.

Trekking to Everest Base Camp has been a dream of mine for 20 years, so I roped in my university friend, and we planned for October 2019. After a tumultuous journey involving a bird strike incident, we eventually landed at Kathmandu where we were flight bound for Lukla, reputed to be the most dangerous airport in the world. The trail would take 15 days covering 120km and 11,000ft of vertical ascent. The sights were amazing: shifting clouds revealing and hiding mountain peaks; mountain goats perched dangerously on their toes on near-vertical cliffs; and local porters passing us with incredibly heavy loads supported by only a strap around their foreheads. We traversed massive valley plains and crossed raging rapids on suspension bridges and makeshift wood bridges.

Having finally reached Everest Base Camp, the feeling was one of jubilation and achievement. The skies were clear blue, a gentle cold wind was blowing, the clouds

were unveiling the true majesty of the Himalaya soaring before us, and not so far away, the top of Everest peeked out in the glorious sunlight.

Watch my video at bit.ly/joshuaoon.”



Joshua (left) at Everest Base Camp



Rosie Knighton, Barrett 2015–20

"In my final year at The Leys, I entered my history coursework on Sir Douglas Haig in the annual SAHR (The Society for Army Historical Research) student essay competition and was delighted to hear

that I was a runner-up. The highlight of the prize was being published in their Spring 2021 journal and working with the professional editors, giving me invaluable experience for developing my essay style.

I am now an undergraduate studying History at Durham University. University life in the pandemic is certainly not the usual university experience, but I have been able to take an active role in various societies, including my recent election to the JCR executive committee, carrying out music technology for my choir so that we were able to put together a carol service from thirty different recordings, and volunteering as a tutor in the wider Durham area. With the gradual easing of restrictions, I will hopefully get involved in more!"

Daniel Lee, School/Bisseker 2001–06

Daniel works at Cambridge University Press and has recently been elected to represent Queen Edith's Ward on Cambridge City Council, for the Liberal Democrats. He is on the Housing Scrutiny Committee where he hopes to hold the Council to account in the provision and maintenance of its social housing stock and housing the homeless. In Queen Edith's, he wants to protect and enhance the parks and open spaces and encourage biodiversity in the area. He is keen to work with Addenbrooke's Hospital and the Cambridge Biomedical Campus to build more affordable housing for key workers so they can live locally, which will help reduce traffic in and out of the city.

Derrick Lonsdale, North B 1937–42

"I immigrated to Canada in 1957 as a medical officer in the RCAF on a short service commission. In 1960, I became a resident in pediatrics at Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, and in 1962, I was invited to join the staff. My research led to the publication of the first case of vitamin B1 (thiamine) dependency in a child, whose episodes of self-limiting cerebellar ataxia were prevented by large doses of thiamine. This stimulated my interest in nutrient therapy, and in 1982, I took early retirement from Cleveland Clinic and joined a practice specialising in what became known as Alternative Medicine. Linus Pauling suggested the term Orthomolecular Medicine and so the International Society for Orthomolecular Medicine was established in 2004. In May 2021, I was enrolled in the Orthomolecular Medicine Hall of Fame in Toronto."

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEYS BOAT CLUB

On Saturday 11 September more than 50 Old Leysians, staff and pupils met at the boathouse to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of The Leys Boat Club. Guest of honour was Richard Armstrong, CR 1959–90, founding Master and coach, along with Derek Baker, of many of the early Leysian crews.

The sunny autumn weather allowed several OLs to take to the water for a nostalgic outing along The Reach and back. Tom Hoffman, North A 1958-63, presented the Headmaster with a photo of the 1962 First VIII, together with the Bedford and Cambridge regatta tankards from 1962, and the Norwich regatta tankard from 1963. These items have

been donated to the School archive and are the earliest rowing items in the School's collection.

Richard Pattison, North A 1975–80, completed a sponsored rowing challenge, 60 miles for 60 years, in support of the fundraising effort for the anniversary celebrations. His impressive feat saw him take to the water in his scull on 9 September from the Leys Boathouse to the King's School Ely, on 10 September from Ely to Denver Sluice and back, and to return to the Leys Boathouse on 11 September just in time to join the celebrations.

To mark the 60th Anniversary we are fundraising for a new First Eight. If you would like to make a gift, you can do so online at bit.ly/leys-anniversary60, or by contacting the Development Office at development@theleys.net.



Richard Close, Paul Handy, Justin Wrigley, James Haithwaite and David Raw

BIRTHS, ENGAGEMENTS AND WEDDINGS

Beatrice Scudeler, Barker/Granta 2014–16

“Last year, I finished a master’s degree at Oxford University in English, and this year, on 22 April, I got married to Mehmet Ciftci, a Theology PhD student. We got married in Oxford at SS Gregory and Augustine Church and will be moving to Toronto where Mehmet will be working at the University of Toronto, and I will hopefully be teaching in a secondary school.”



Lou Cenac (née Mensah), Moulton/ Dale 2002–07

Lou and Krezanda are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Imanie, who was born on 26 June 2021. They are all doing really well and Kaiden is thrilled to be a big brother.



Ben Payne, East 1993–98

“At the end of 2020, I got engaged to Johanna Freytag, and we will be getting married in August in Ely. I am currently Head of Lighting at Martin Professional for the EMEA region, having been promoted during the first lockdown. I am very much in debt to the old school theatre where I started my career in the theatre and events industry!”



**Dr Lukas Juergens, School
2006–08** and his wife, Patricia, are happy to announce the birth of their first child, Amalia Charlotte, born on 28 November 2020. Lukas is doing his residency in ophthalmology at the University Clinics in Düsseldorf.

CONGRATULATIONS



Lukas, Patricia
and Amalia

Ellie Abraham (née Watson), Moulton/ Dale 2000–07

On 1 June 2021, Ellie and her husband, Mark, welcomed their daughter, Phoebe Olivia Laura Abraham, into the world, weighing 6lbs 5oz.



School News



Digital Developments

Several years ago, an innovative space called the Vision Studio was established on the top floor of the Clapham building, the main teaching block, to explore the educational possibilities of virtual and augmented reality technologies. This project was made possible by the generosity of a Leys family. The Vision Studio was completed in 2019 with a view to finding appropriate areas of deployment in the wider School and to drive the mission of the School to be a sector-leading provider of innovative education through a blend of digital and traditional learning. The Vision Studio has served as a testbed for experimental educational technologies and as a training suite to support staff and pupil progression in teaching and learning with technology.

The School experienced significant disruption throughout the Covid lockdowns, but was able to use the technology available in the Vision Studio to test, iterate and deliver a system for remote and hybrid learning. The Vision Studio has been used as a TV studio, green screen facility, and podcasting studio throughout the lockdown period. It has also



Professor Mike Hulme
opening the teaching
and learning space

© Martin Bond

offered a socially distanced training space which allowed staff and pupils to develop their skills.

It continues to develop and provide a range of educational opportunities such as the recording of LIT Radio (a new initiative set up during lockdown), the coding of drones, and acts as an incubator space for group work and idea development. Pupils have also used the facilities to record summary videos of research projects, interview members of the Common Room and wider community, and produce video, audio and immersive content that has supported the learning of their peers. Find out more about LIT Radio on the School website <https://bit.ly/leys-LIT>.

The various uses of the Vision Studio over the last two years have highlighted that the technologies and opportunities provided by this learning space are transferable to department level and so, thanks to our donors' continued support, the Geography department has benefitted from significant refurbishment over the summer holidays. This is part of the second phase of the Vision Studio development which implements the best ideas from the Vision Studio in the

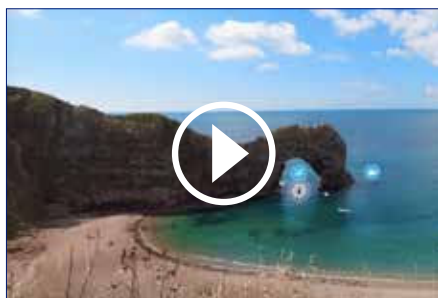
classroom with the aim that they will enhance pupils' experience of learning Geography.

The foyer to the department now incorporates an impressive augmented reality sandbox which uses a 3D camera to project features such as contour lines and water onto the sand below as it is manipulated. This allows pupils to physically create their own landscapes and model how they change over time. Two large screens have been installed in the foyer which communicate with the sandbox to display the changing landscapes. This has effectively created a new teaching and learning space that allows for kinesthetic learning, group work, and the display of pupil-created content.

Virtual fieldtrips have already been created in-house for the school campus, Felixstowe and the Jurassic Coast, enabling pupils to explore these locations from their iPads through drone footage, 360° views, and accompanying instructional videos. Much of this content has been shot and edited by pupils. These videos are not intended to replace actual fieldtrips but to enable pupils to recap places they have been to and give them an immersive experience of places that they might otherwise not be able to travel to.



© Martin Bond



Click here, and allow The Leys Head of Geography, Peter Hicks, to guide you along your very own fieldtrip to the Jurassic Coast without leaving the comfort of your sitting room. Don't forget to follow and click on the grey and blue circles.

This pioneering approach to education, made possible by the initial investment in 360° cameras during the first phase of the project, has allowed pupils to access the 'next best thing' to a field trip during the recent period of travel restrictions.

The second phase of the project will also focus more on technologies that will impact teaching and learning across the whole school. We intend to continue the creation of virtual fieldtrips by creating tours for the Modern Foreign Language departments. These will provide pupils with tours of foreign countries, and opportunities for conversation practice. We will also be widening the reach of the project to twinned schools in France, Germany, and Spain, enabling their pupils to interact with these tours.

"Technology is increasingly the medium through which we interact with the world around us, but whilst we all consume knowledge, products and experiences this way, pupils at The Leys are able to create them. By accessing cutting edge technologies and understanding how they can be used in the real world, the pupils are able to join the dots between theory and reality. We see this second phase as the natural progression for the project; it ensures that the Vision Studio research and technology are accessible to more members of the pupil body and wider Leysian community."

We are aiming to utilise the existing 1-2-1 iPad tablet landscape by creating content and using apps that bring learning to life via augmented reality technologies. Whilst we continue to enable our pupils to access high-end technologies such as Microsoft Hololens, VR headsets and 360° video production facilities, the second phase of the project is also focused on getting simpler technology into the hands of more young people; within Geography, Classics, and Science classrooms, pupils will be using Merge Cubes. These are handheld cardboard cubes that act as augmented reality targets.

When combined with an iPad, Merge Cubes allow pupils to hold, rotate, and interact with objects or processes such as a globe, the water cycle, a statue, or molecular structure.

We are all conscious that the world is constantly changing, and so our hope is that, by incorporating these technologies into our teaching, pupils will be better equipped to understand these changes and be prepared to live in a world that does not yet exist.

Hamish Mackenzie,
Digital Consultant

Peter Hicks,
Head of Geography

The Geography Classrooms were officially opened on Friday 3 September by Professor Mike Hulme, Professor of Human Geography at the University of Cambridge.



Using the VR headsets to explore inside the human body

OL Sport

Old Leysian Golfing Society

REPORT BY NIGEL WASHBOURN, WEST 1951-55



Senior Bernard Darwin

Spring Meeting

Royal Worlington & Newmarket Golf Club,
13 May 2021

Sixteen members of the OLGS attended the Spring Meeting. Although some Covid restrictions were still in place, we were made to feel very welcome, and had an enjoyable day of golf. In the morning, there was a close finish for the medal and more returned cards than usual to enter for the Secretary's Salver, an aggregate of the Spring and Autumn Meeting scores. In the afternoon, we played nine holes with two good scores for the Society's Tankards.

Scores

Ted Morel Trophy (Medal)

N.K. Dendy, 79-6, 73 Nett (wins on last nine)
P.A. Quin, 80-7, 73 Nett

Neil White Trophy (Stableford)

P.A. Quin, 33 Points

Society's Tankards (Stableford)

N.K. Dendy & C.S.J. Metcalf, 16 Points
T.D. Page & N.C.D. Lloyd, 15 Points

In 2022, the Spring Meeting will be held at Royal Worlington & Newmarket Golf Club on Thursday 12 May. Mark Elliott, Fen 1977-82, will be their Club Captain.

Senior Bernard Darwin (over 65s)

Woking Golf Club, 15 June 2021

In the first round, we lost to a good Radley team by a 3-0 margin. It was great to welcome Neil Mackay and Richard Chapman who joined us for the first time. Stuart Amey

and Nigel Washbourn joined the team at the last minute and reflected on a successful result some fifty-five years ago as partners in the Halford Hewitt! Tonbridge won the final against Clifton.

Our team

N.R. Mackay & R.J. Chapman
T.D. Page & J.S. Edwards
S.C. Amey & N.S. Washbourn

Bernard Darwin Trophy (over 55s)

Woking Golf Club, 1 July 2021

In the first round, we played Harrow. We struggled to have our best team and could not equal their quality, although our third pair took a half when ahead on the last two holes. The golf standard for this tournament has improved and, in the semi-final, Harrow had a close match against Highgate. Nick Dendy joined us to support. In the final, Harrow won against Winchester in a 19th hole finish.

Our team

A.C.I. Cox & D.W. McClean
R.N.A. Wood & T.H. Walton
T.D. Page & J.S. Edwards

The OLGS webpage is regularly updated with news and the 2022 fixtures:
bit.ly/ol-clubsandsocieties



Bernard Darwin

Old Leysian Tag Rugby

REPORT BY DOUGIE TURNER, WEST 2008–13

Another summer in London passed, another tag title won in Hyde Park by the Old Leysian Tag Rugby team. With some fresh faces joining the team this summer and supporting the more “seasoned” members of the squad, the Tag Rugby team continues to go from strength to strength. In a season affected by torrential rain and the pandemic, the team has done incredibly well to maintain high standards and successfully win the league. The team is fortunate to be spearheaded by the resident Team GB players, Dante O'Reilly, Moulton/Barker/East 2004–11, and Jonny Horsford, School 2005–10, who contribute immense skill and ability to an already very capable squad.

This Tag Rugby report would not be complete without a mention of Toby Stockley, West 2007–12. He has been awarded Player of the Match at nearly every game in the season, and, thanks to his agility and footwork that have caused many a rolled ankle on the boggy dunes of Hyde Park, concluded the season with an incredible record of over 30 tries.

We are always open to new players and encourage any recent OLs to reach out to any member of the team. We are also interested in starting a Mixed and/or Women's team and invite any OLs who would be interested in those teams to get in touch!

For more information, please contact Jonny Horsford (jwhorsford@gmail.com) or Dougie Turner (dwt1@mac.com).



The team win the Hyde Park Division 1 Men's League

Old Leysian Cricket Club

REPORT BY JAMES HOULDER, SCHOOL 1996–2001

At the time of writing, mid-August 2021, the Old Leysian Cricket Club are enjoying another exciting season, sitting third in the table and with promotion to Cambridgeshire's top tier of league cricket looking like a distinct possibility. Despite a slow start with narrow losses in our first three fixtures, we were soon able to rediscover our game, and have been unbeaten in our last ten league matches. With three games left and all to play for, the team are looking forward to another tense end to the league season.

In addition to our league campaign, this year has also seen the club's inaugural entry into the Cricketer Trophy, a private school alumni competition affiliated to the prestigious Cricketer Cup. With King's Taunton forfeiting in the first round, the OLCC was able to beat alumni teams from St Benedict's, Wellingborough, and King's Wimbledon to win the trophy and stake a claim for entry into next year's Cricketer Cup. This is a fantastic achievement, and a great way to mark our 12th year as an active club.

The season so far has seen a number of strong performances from key individuals. Amongst the batsmen, Andrew Gale has been the standout, playing some of his best cricket to date and scoring 689 runs so far at 68.9, with 5 fifties and one century. He has been well supported by captain Milan Mniszko (492 runs at 35.14) and Paddy Miller (309 runs at 38.63). With the ball, evergreen Adam Newman has been the pick, his seam-up taking 25 wickets at 19.28.

STOP PRESS The OLCC finished the season top of Division 2 and will be promoted to Division 1.

The club has seen a number of new players join this year and continues to grow. We always welcome new players with open arms, so if you are interested in joining, please do not hesitate to contact me on james_houlder@hotmail.com.



Leys Community

“Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

In the eighteen months since UK schools first closed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, our education system has faced a series of extraordinary challenges. Remote learning, closed facilities, cancelled exams and social distancing restrictions have made this an incredibly difficult period for educators, pupils, and their families. As you would expect, Leysians have proven themselves to be remarkably resilient in the face of adversity, and this summer's excellent exam results have been the just reward for their hard work and tenacity.

However, the disruption caused by the pandemic and subsequent school closures has not been experienced equally. Study after study has demonstrated that the Covid crisis has further reinforced existing educational attainment gaps, with those from low income and disadvantaged backgrounds being impacted the most.

At The Leys we know we are incredibly fortunate. Together with our pupils, parents, staff and Old Leysians, we have not only weathered the storm, but we have also flourished as a Leysian community. Other schools have not had the same support and, like me, I am sure many of you are asking how this widening gulf of educational disadvantage can be addressed?

The Leys has a long tradition of providing bursaries to allow pupils from all backgrounds to study at the School. Long before any of us had heard of Covid-19, The Leys was already developing a transformational 110% bursary programme, called the Gift of Education, to offer the life-changing opportunities of a fully funded Leysian education to pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In early 2020 we finalised our partnership with Royal SpringBoard, the UK's largest boarding



school bursary charity. Royal SpringBoard carefully identify young people who will benefit most from the positive impact of a boarding school environment and match them with the school best suited to them. The pupils recommended to us by Royal SpringBoard will be children struggling with a variety of difficult circumstances, but all face some form of social or financial disadvantage. Royal SpringBoard supported 422 children in leading schools in 2019/20. With a 96% retention rate within schools, we are confident that the pupils they match with The Leys are most suited to thrive and succeed here.

Please visit goe.theleys.net to find out more about the programme and our relationship with Royal SpringBoard, and to hear some of the inspirational stories of young people who have already benefitted from bursary places at other schools. In August we held our first telephone campaign since 2019, enabling us to speak with over 260 Old Leysians and current parents. We were delighted by how many of you



“The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about a level of disruption to young people’s education at a scale previously unimaginable in modern times. And at every stage of this crisis, young people from the poorest backgrounds have been hit the hardest. Without urgent action significant enough to meet the extraordinary challenges posed by the pandemic, there is a real risk that prospects for social mobility will be irreversibly damaged for a generation of young people.”

Learning in Lockdown, January 2021, The Sutton Trust

are already showing your support for the Gift of Education programme as we take this significant step to widen access to a Leysian education for young people in disadvantaged circumstances.

Quite simply, The Leys is proud to be championing the Gift of Education programme. We believe it is the right thing to do, and that the time for action is now. If you would like to join fellow members of our

Leysian Community and make a gift you can do so online at goe.theleys.net/make-a-gift. We are particularly grateful to donors who choose to make a regular gift, showing their commitment to supporting a child throughout their years at The Leys.

Alternatively, you can speak with a member of the Development Office team by calling 01223 508545 or email development@theleys.net

Whether you choose to support the Gift of Education financially or not, in the post-Covid era I hope you will be interested in hearing about the progress of our young people and how this bursary programme will create opportunities for generations of Leysians to come.

Donna Thomas-Watson
Director of Development

A LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE



Richard Rothwell-Jackson

Currently we have two fully funded 110% bursary pupils studying at The Leys, supported from school funds and by gifts from our donors. During 2021 the School has received three outstanding legacy gifts. The far-sighted generosity of Richard Rothwell-Jackson (North B 1943–48), John Long (School 1938–42, right) and Keith Fairweather (North A 1944–48) will mean that from September 2022 we will be able to significantly increase the number of fully funded 110% bursary places available at The Leys. A nine-year programme has been planned and fully costed, and will support sixteen pupils in total, ten attending for Sixth Form only, and six from year 7 through to the Upper Sixth.

Stephen Long (School 1968–72), son of Dr John Long, recalls why his father was so enthused by the possibility of helping more young people study at The Leys:

“My father held a life-long love of The Leys from his own days as a schoolboy scholar to becoming Chair of Governors. He was passionate about encouraging following

generations to fulfil human potential and helping to open opportunities similar to those that he enjoyed during his long and varied career.

He would be pleased and proud that his legacy supports the Gift of Education programme, allowing more young people to have the opportunity to enjoy an outstanding Leysian education.”

Rebecca Rothwell-Jackson (Granta 1987–89) knows that her uncle Richard Rothwell-Jackson felt the same:

“My grandfather, Major Harry Rothwell-Jackson, was one of the earliest pupils, which is why my uncle, Richard ‘Rex’ Rothwell-Jackson, attended The Leys. Rex remembered his time at Pitlochry with fondness. He would be happy to know that his legacy will help young people who may otherwise not have had the chance, to attend the school.”

Our ambitions for the Gift of Education extend far beyond this initial nine-year period. To ensure this amazing programme can continue into the future and help still more young people, we must now secure additional funds from other donors. In time for the School’s 150th Anniversary



Four generations of Long boys: John Long, Stephen Long, Andrew Long and his three sons in 2018

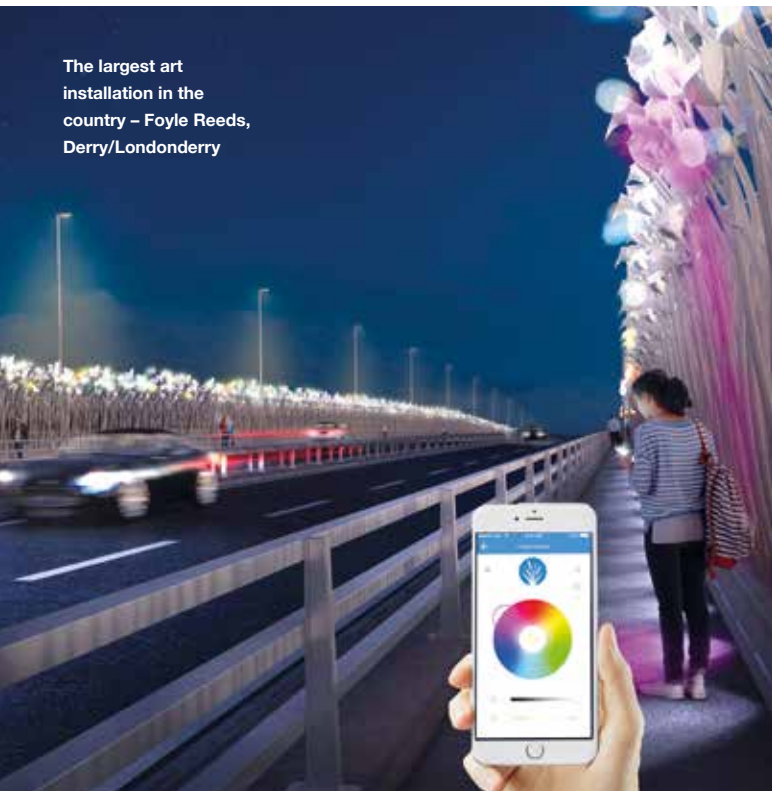
in 2025 we are seeking to raise an additional £5million, with £100k per year in monthly and annual gifts.

For many of us, a legacy gift is the largest donation to charity we will make, and brings the satisfaction of knowing that the work we believe in now continues long into the future.

If you would like to explore how you could make a difference to a child’s life through a gift in your will, please contact Donna or Millie at development@theleys.net. Members of our Leysian Community who leave a gift in their will are thanked in their lifetime as members of the 1875 Society.

Spotlight on Jak Spencer

North B/East 2000–05



The largest art installation in the country – Foyle Reeds, Derry/Londonderry

Since leaving The Leys, Jak, motivated by his love of design and its pivotal role in society, has successfully founded his own company, Urban Scale Interventions (USI), a Belfast-based creative studio which uses design to solve difficult city challenges. We got in touch with Jak to find out all about it!

What first sparked your interest in design?

I think my interest in design has probably always been there. I grew up in a family of 'tinkerers' who were always looking to get their hands into new projects, but it was definitely at The Leys that I realised there was a process to design and opportunity to be had in a future in design.

In what way did your time at The Leys inspire you to pursue a career in Design?

I was in the era of Mr George, Common Room 1986–2017, and Mr Mower, Common Room 1997–2006, in the Design Department. They were both so enthusiastic about their specialisms; Mr George was the 'maker' and Mr Mower was the 'strategist,' always thinking of the user experience. I especially remember building a wireless speaker by connecting an old computer speaker with a radio transmitter, to a mobile phone battery, charged through an electric toothbrush charger! This was back in 2004 when wireless technology was right in its infancy, so it got me thinking about 'DT' as more than just woodwork. I also remember a couple of fantastic trips to Barcelona and Paris that opened my eyes to a career in design as we visited several design studios.

Tell us about your journey after The Leys and what led to the creation of Urban Scale Interventions.

After The Leys (and a bit of travelling), I decided to take design further through a degree in Industrial Design at Loughborough University. This gave me an understanding of a holistic approach to design and problem solving that used a people-centred, rather than technology-centred, perspective. This led to a PhD which focused on how the design of our products, systems and spaces affects how we behave, and how we can change this behaviour for better social and sustainable outcomes through good design.

A couple of working stints then followed. First, at an innovation agency that helped big clients put people's needs at the heart of their innovation, with some exciting projects for the likes of Facebook and Google's Moonshot projects. Then, I worked as the lead of the Social and Global Research Lab at the Royal College of Art, where we applied design thinking for social impact – with projects across social issues such as mental health, migration, ageing, mobility etc.

That led to establishing Urban Scale Interventions in the Spring of 2019.

Can you tell us a bit about Urban Scale Interventions?

Urban Scale Interventions is a creative studio that tackles challenges in the places we live, work and play. It was established by two of us in Spring 2019 and has since grown to a 20-plus strong team of purposely broad creatives, including architects, graphic designers, technologists, urban planners, researchers, filmmakers, and illustrators.

In a nutshell, we help cities, governments and organisations tackle social issues through creative engagement and design-led interventions.

Our projects include:

- Reframing a city riverfront for cultural uses to improve community wellbeing.
- Developing the largest art installation in a country, that also acts to prevent suicide in a public area.
- Reframing a motorway that cuts a city in two as a new urban greenway that connects communities.
- Repurposing grey and abandoned spaces in deprived neighbourhoods to overcome community tensions and foster civic pride.
- Building new sustainable tourism experiences to improve the economic prosperity of rural regions.

What is the most memorable project that you have worked on at USI and what impact did it have on its local community?

We're based in Belfast, and that's been a new learning experience for me – exploring the history and politics of an area of the UK that still has impacts today. All our projects deal with division and deprivation, and we do a lot of work with the Department of Health on mental health and suicide in public spaces, so they are rewarding projects that make a positive impact on communities.

My most memorable project, however, is about to open! We are transforming a huge 19th-century abandoned spinning mill in a deprived and divided part of East Belfast into a centre for innovation, training, tourism, and sustainable heritage. Through our engagement work, we learnt that bananas are an important part of the mill's history, from importing them to supporting workers' rights, so we are opening the Belfast Banana Block. This will be Northern Ireland's first

'living museum' that tells the story of innovation in Belfast through a banana field in a listed mill, and in the process, involves the local community in a new type of neighbourhood tourism experience. <https://bit.ly/leys-BananaBlock>

What do you enjoy most about your work?

We are in a lucky position where every project we have on the go now has some interesting social value so they are all enjoyable, but I'm happiest when I'm talking to real people and communities and working out how we can creatively develop solutions to their challenges that align to strategic goals. I'm also happy to be in a diverse team with a wide range of specialisms which is a great breeding ground for weird and wacky ideas!

What advice would you give your Leysian self now?

Hard question really! I suppose just to enjoy yourself, not to worry too much about the future, and to make use of all the great things available inside and outside the classroom. And of course, build your network: the people around you will go on to do some amazing things and that's always useful further down the line!



Above: Banana Block
– a new living museum
and venue

Right: a 'green teepee'
in North Belfast



Obituaries

To read the full version of these obituaries, please visit the school website. If you do not have access to the internet/computer and would like a printed document, please contact the Development Office on 01223 508545.

Simon Marsden Barker, West 1951–56
on 29 June 2021

Moira Barry, Former Support Staff
1986–90 on 16 July 2021

Moira was appointed from Imperial College Finance Department as Assistant Bursar at a time when there were significant building projects going on and the School was installing a computerised accounting system. We needed someone with expert knowledge and experience to lead on the transition and Moira did a superb job. A colleague has written: “She was good fun, hard-working, intelligent, independent, thoughtful, and kind”. To which I can only add that her work ethic and loyal support were invaluable to me when the Bursary had so many challenges to face. She left to become Bursar of The Cardinal Vaughan School in Kensington, a role she filled with equal success.

*Words by Colonel Michael Marchant OBE,
Bursar 1981–90*

Peter Bates, West 1963–66
on 30 April 2021

Pete was the middle of three brothers who were all brought up together at Grey End



Peter Bates

in Buxton. After school, Pete went to the Army on a short commission in the Royal Corps of Transport – his first professional contact with high-powered vehicles and the opportunity to learn to drive aggressively but safely. In 1985, Pete and Nics got married and they soon reconnected with Rhosneigr in Anglesey, the scene of many family holidays. In 1987, their daughter, Charlotte, was born, and their son, Oliver, the year after.

Pete’s love of all things automotive led him inevitably to the motor parts industry and the creation of Exhaust Distributor Company (EDC) in 1988. Pete had done a fantastic job of building up EDC from nothing through sheer hard work and incredible persistence in the face of cut-throat competition. He was hugely admired by his loyal staff for his hard work and leadership in a tough business. He sold EDC very well in the mid-90s, bought a house, paid for Olly and Charlotte’s education, and enjoyed his fast cars and speedboat!

Bravo Pete – you’ll be sorely missed.

Words by John Bates, School 1963–68

Thomas Oliver Dann, Common Room
2014–18 on 18 February 2021

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.” Pericles

The Leys Community was shocked and deeply saddened by the passing of our friend and former colleague Tommy Dann, who died unexpectedly.

Born and bred in Cambridge, Tommy was a brilliant sportsman who played rugby for Cambridge and Shelford and cricket for Northamptonshire, Histon and Madingley. He was an exceptional schoolmaster, an outstanding coach, and a hugely popular colleague and friend; a good listener and a true gent with a kind, caring nature who had

time for everyone. He was a valued member of the Moulton House team where he worked hard to get the best from all the pupils and he was great company on their camping trips, devising inclusive games all could enjoy.

He did not take himself too seriously and his friends quite often joked with him about his short stature. However, what he may have lacked in height, he made up for in heart; the commitment, passion and dedication he put into his role was there for all to see in the way pupils and colleagues responded to his guidance and leadership. As a rugby coach he allowed his teams to play with freedom and flair and he raised Leysian rugby to a new level. Just prior to leaving The Leys he led a successful Year 9 Rugby Tour to Belfast and the Rugby Sevens team reached the semi-finals of the prestigious Rosslyn Park Sevens Tournament.

Dearly loved son of James and Helen and loyal brother to Lucy, beloved husband of Rachel and devoted father to Oliver, Harry, and Wilfred, Tommy will be truly missed.



Thomas Dann

Geoffrey Dunkerley, North A 1938–43
on 10 April 2021

Geoffrey was the eldest of three brothers who went to The Leys, as did his son. He loved his time at the School and was there when it was evacuated to Pitlochry during the war. Whilst at the School, he captained



Geoffrey Dunkerley

the school cricket and hockey teams, enjoyed his time as a member of the scouts, and was Senior Prefect. He continued his love for sport at Cambridge University, playing cricket, hockey, and rugby, and went on to play for the Lancashire Cricket 2nd XI and was awarded his county cap. He also represented the north of England at hockey. Geoffrey was a GP in St Helens for over 20 years before retiring to Anglesey. He leaves eight grandchildren.

**Brian Teasdale Herbert, North A
1943–49** on 24 January 2021

Bryan was born in Bingley, West Yorkshire, and in 1943, he went to The Leys. His National Service was in Gibraltar in the Royal Artillery. He went to Christ's College, Cambridge and graduated with a master's in Law. He proceeded to Articles with Booth & Co, a Leeds firm of solicitors and later became a Partner in the firm. He married Mary in 1958 and they enjoyed over 62 years of happy marriage.

Bryan's life was filled with activities: he co-founded Leeds United Nations Association; he reached the rank of Major in the Territorial Army attending camps in Germany and the UK; he was a member and President of Leeds Junior Chamber and Leeds Rotary Club; he was a governor of Silcoates School; he was a contestant chauffeur for the Leeds International Piano Competition; and he bowled with Leeds Probus Club. Bryan also took part in the twinning of the cities of Leeds and Dortmund, and in the partnership of St Andrew's URC with churches in Bernberg and Frankenthal.

**Clive Heng Boon Howe, North B
1966–71** on 1 May 2021

Clive was at St. Faiths between 1964 and 1965 before joining The Leys. He was later a law student at Queen Mary Law School, London University, from 1974 to 1977 and was called to the Bar in 1978. He was attached to Murphy and Dunbar, Singapore, after his pupillage and became a junior partner. He later took over the running of the family business as well as being the legal adviser until the time of his sudden death.

Alan Clive Holloway, North B 1958–63
on 16 November 2020



Alan Clive Holloway

Alan was the son, grandson, and great-grandson of Old Leysians. His great-grandfather joined the School in its second term, his great-granduncle was one of the original sixteen pupils, and his great-great-grandfather and great-great-granduncle were pivotal in its foundation.

In his early years, Clive found fishing, and so in 1970, packed his rods and set off around the world fishing. In 1973, he settled in Victoria, Seychelles, and then in Mauritius. After returning to London in 1981, Clive was determined to republish Negley Farson's classic 1924 fishing manual, *Going Fishing*, and thus began Clive Holloway Books, with their iconic niche on the countryman's bookcase or coffee table. Subsequent publications featured the work of leading wildlife artists such as Charles Tunnicliffe, Keith Shackleton, and Simon Coombes.

Clive lived life to the full; he loved and was loved by his family and closest friends, and he could strike up new friendships on the slightest pretext. He will be remembered too for his love of salmon, eggs and moules marinière – and (with some trepidation

among the family) as an obsessive player of Poker and Monopoly!

Words by Jane Dyson née Holloway

Arthur Johnson, Fen 1977–81

**Edward Llewellyn-Jones, Former
Common Room 1975–79**



Edward Llewellyn-Jones

Edward arrived at The Leys in 1974 to do his PGCE and subsequently started teaching RE in 1975. He was also Assistant Housemaster in Fen House. He went on the Spitzbergen expedition with the School in 1976 and renewed his love of rowing as a coach. Edward married his wife Frances in the summer of 1977, with the School Chaplain as his best man.

In 1980, Frances, Edward, and their baby son Henry, moved to Nottinghamshire where Edward taught RE and Psychology in a Church of England school. Despite three brushes with cancer, Edward led a very full life – teaching, family life (three sons), DIY, local politics, and a bit of rugby training. He managed to squeeze in an MA at Derby University and lastly, after leaving teaching, a doctorate in Liberation Theology from Nottingham University, of which he was very proud. Unfortunately, he collapsed in 2015, and after a cardiac arrest, lost his sight and short-term memory. His final five years were very difficult and sad. He did however enjoy the weddings of our three sons and saw two of his five grandchildren before his collapse. He is much missed.

Words by Frances Llewellyn-Jones and family

David McCraith, North B 1966–70

on 6 June 2021



David McCraith

David was always popular and a born salesman. He got on with everyone, always seeing the positive side of things even when times were tough. 'Just getting on with it' became recognised as his inimitable style; he was always ready to try anything new and enthusiastically threw himself into different activities, frequently rallying us to join him.

After leaving The Leys, he went to Lanchester College (now Coventry University) where he read Business Studies and continued his career in sales. He had a variety of successful jobs from selling container space in Saudi Arabia, to various management positions at Anglian Windows, Marks and Spencer and Rentokil. More recently, he supplied holiday campers with canoes and equipment in the Dordogne. Since leaving the School, we remained close friends along with Simon Musgrave, North B 1965–69, and for over 50 years we would meet up at regular intervals, often in Cambridge.

He leaves behind three children, James, Andrew and Jennifer, and his beloved wife, Karen. He will be sincerely missed.

Words by Paul Shelley, North B 1966–70

Alexander McLachlan, School 1981–86

on 24 March 2020

Alexander was born in Cambridge and joined The Leys in 1981 from King's Choir School where his talent for languages had emerged. Alexander was an able and successful pupil, excelling academically and musically, and enjoying cross-country running, rowing, and 'Strong' camps.

Alexander thrived at Magdalene College, Cambridge reading English. His adventures included a trip to Berlin to see the fall of

the Berlin Wall and an expedition to Papua New Guinea.

He joined the Civil Service and later the European Union Civil Service in Brussels. Travelling all over the Middle East and South-East Asia, he was soon promoted. In 2007, he was posted to Beijing as director of the EU diplomatic office.

Alexander met his husband, Jingchao Peng, in China, in 2007. They got married in Brussels on 9 September 2019.

Alexander's charm, intelligence and gentlemanly manner made him an excellent diplomat and loyal friend. He is greatly missed.

Words by Mark Buckingham, School 1981–86 and Andrew McLachlan



Alexander McLachlan

John Nettleton, School 1947–52

on 10 January 2021

Whilst at The Leys, John studied Latin and Greek under Maurice Howard, Common Room 1936–65. He joined the Navy in his National Service and attended the Joint Services School for Languages in London as a Russian interpreter, benefitting from his Russian studies in his last year at school. John went on to read Russian and Classics at Clare College. He then joined the National Coal Board and spent the whole of his business career there until he retired. He had a gentle and quiet manner with a wry and often wicked sense of humour. He was passionate about cricket and spent many happy days watching matches with his wife Margaret at Lords and The Oval. He is survived by Margaret, his daughters Sally and Jo, and his four grandsons, Ben, Stanley, Tom, and Edward.

John sadly died from Covid-19 on 10 January 2021.

Words by Michael Frank Woods, North A 1946–52

Richard Gruffudd Owain-Jones, East 1945–50

on 21 January 2021

Whilst at the School, Richard captained The Leys Hockey XI, played cricket and rugby for the first teams, and obtained triple colours. He also broke a twenty-year record in the field of athletics.

Richard married in 1956 and had four children. He spoke about his time at The Leys, right to the end of his life, with great affection.

James Roderick Palmer, North A 1950–53

on 18 July 2021

Peter Rodger, North A 1959–64

on 8 November 2020

Peter was born in Glasgow in 1946 to Scottish parents. In his early years, he and his family lived in Africa and India, before returning to the UK as a boarder at St Faith's from 1955 to 1959, and then at The Leys. After school, Peter studied Law at Edinburgh University and graduated in 1968. While living in Edinburgh, he met his wife Louise Thomson and they married in 1972. In early 1977, they moved to Bermuda where they made many good friends and were involved in community work. There were many opportunities for travel, work, and pleasure, and they made the most of it. Peter enjoyed hockey, and he and Louise both played tennis and squash before golf took over!

Peter died peacefully at home in Bermuda, aged 74, after a courageous battle with cancer. He retained his wonderful sense of humour and positive outlook on life throughout. He leaves his wife of 48 years, Louise, and two sisters, Jennifer and Alison, as well as a nephew, a great-nephew, and nieces.

Words by Louise Rodger



Peter Rodger

Professor Kurt Karl Schwarz,
East 1940–44 on 7 February 2021



Professor Kurt Karl Schwarz

Kurt was born in Czechoslovakia to Austrian parents. He lived in Germany until 1938 when his family moved to England to escape persecution. He spent his whole time at The Leys in Pitlochry where he made friends for life in Roger Thatcher, East 1940–44, and the Soothill brothers (John, West 1939–44, and Edward, West 1937–42). He won an exhibition to Christ's College, Cambridge to read Engineering, and graduated with First Class Honours in Electrical Engineering in 1947. While at Cambridge, he fell in love with a fellow engineering student, Brenda Patricia (Pat) Pilling, and they were married in 1949. His other interests included rowing and music; he conducted the college choir and played the cello in concerts. Kurt and Pat lived in or near Norwich for their entire married life but travelled extensively. They had three children, David, East 1963–67, Jenny, and Mary, and took great delight in their nine grandchildren and (eventually 12) great-grandchildren.

Kurt died on 7 February 2021 after a short illness and is greatly missed by his family and friends.

Douglas Seager, School 1939–42

Andrew Foot Sebire, West 1956–61

John Slade, Former Common Room 1963–67 in July 2021

Colin Smith, School 1950–53
on 12 August 2019

Old Leysians wishing to be reconnected with friends can contact the Development Office for assistance.

Paul Crosfield Choral Scholarships



“Paul was a great supporter of and contributor to the choir at The Leys, and I’m sure he would approve of this initiative that we hope will encourage more young singers to come to The Leys.”



Paul Crosfield

The Paul Crosfield Choral Scholarship was established in memory of Paul Crosfield, Director of Studies at The Leys from September 2010 to December 2019, who sadly died in April 2020. Paul was passionate about music, especially choral music, and sang in both the Chapel and Chamber Choirs. Paul’s family therefore expressed a wish to create a musical memorial in his name, both to honour his life, and to reflect his character and interests. Paul’s family and the wider Leysian community have shown great support for this initiative by generously donating to a fund in his name.

Over the last year, the Director of Music at The Leys has successfully established a choral partnership with The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge, one of the world’s greatest choral ensembles. This partnership is aimed at developing talented young singers from around the country and supporting them to reach their full singing potential. Paul Crosfield Choral Scholars at The Leys will be given a unique opportunity to learn about and participate in the activity of Trinity College Choir as an integral part of their scholarship.

As a result of this partnership, Paul Crosfield Choral Scholars at The Leys will be given the opportunity to observe choir rehearsals and attend services regularly at Trinity College, shadow a Trinity College singer and join a rehearsal once a term, be mentored by a Trinity College Choral Scholar, and attend concerts. In addition to this, the Scholars will receive free singing lessons and an annual allowance of £100 to purchase sheet music.

I am delighted that we have been able to create Choral Scholarships in the name of our former colleague, Paul Crosfield. Paul was a great supporter of and contributor to the choir at The Leys, and I’m sure he would approve of this initiative that we hope will encourage more young singers to come to The Leys. Coupled with the newly formed choral partnership with The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge, there is now a unique opportunity for singers to join the strong choral tradition already established at The Leys and be part of the next stage of choral growth and development.

Max Kenworthy
Director of Music

We hope to be welcoming the first recipients of the Paul Crosfield Choral Scholarship in September 2022.

If you would like to make a gift to the Paul Crosfield Choral Scholarship, you can do so online at <https://bit.ly/leys-makeagift> or by contacting the Development Office at development@theleys.net

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Looking Back



The Leys Archives act as a repository to preserve and make available many of the official records of the School's activities and administration from its foundation in 1875 to the present day. They contain a wide range of information, photographs, and artefacts about Old Leysians and school life, and are available to the Leys Community as a historical record and educational resource. Over the last few months, the School Archivist, Alison Lainchbury, Common Room 2004–present, has received a wide array of donations which we are delighted to share with you in this issue.

Building a Career by Christopher John Raven Ratcliff, East 1944–49. This is Christopher's autobiography with an interesting chapter about his time at St Faith's and The Leys.

Winnicott – Life and Work, by F. Robert Rodman, M.D., a biography of Donald Winnicott, North B 1910–14, has been purchased. We are also seeking to add each of the books written by Donald during his career as a psychoanalyst. Laura Robson Brown, a current parent, was in touch recently to remind us of this distinguished OL. She is doing a course at the Faculty of Education at the University of Cambridge and encountered Donald's book *Home Is Where We Start From* as part of her studies. Laura writes, "What a wonderful man to have connected with the School in this age of focus on young people's emotional well-being. It was apparently while at The Leys that Donald first decided he would like to study Medicine, having broken his clavicle and wishing he could treat himself." Donald was a major figure in psychiatry and a principal influence on the leading child development experts of our time.

An album of photographs recording the British Public Schools Cricket Tour of Canada and the USA, August–September 1939. It had previously been in the archive of a school which was not represented on the tour. The tour was led by P.M. Heywood, Common Room 1937, 1939–45, captained by Neil White, North A 1933–39, Common



1939 British Public Schools Cricket Team

Room 1948–82, and included Arthur J. Witherington, West 1934–39. Of the 14 matches played, 7 were won, 5 drawn, 1 tied and 1 lost. Neil topped the batting and bowling averages, and Arthur was listed 3rd and 4th, respectively.

A collection of old *Fortnightly* magazines dating from March 1880 to May 1914 were donated by Anthony Eastwood, East 1946–51.

A menu from an East House Dinner on 20 March 1958, signed by staff and pupils, was donated by David Russell, East 1954–59. He notes that the Headmaster, Dr W G



East house menu

Humphrey, Common Room 1934–58, and his wife were present, along with the Housemaster Alan Pattinson, Common Room 1952–59.

Two photos of Prince Philip's visit to The Leys in 1962 were gifted

to the archives by Stan Whitehead, Common Room 1957–92, following the death of the Duke of Edinburgh earlier this year. Stan was responsible for establishing the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at The Leys in the 1960s, and so welcomed the Duke to the School so he could see the scheme in action.

Prince Philip was shown an eclectic series of demonstrations by pupils from local schools: first aid, a rescue operation from a 'bombed building', lifesaving, and baby bathing in a 'mothercraft' section. Boy scouts and local firemen even put out a 'blazing oil patch'!

Stan says that "The Duke's visit gave a definite boost to the interest in the scheme among pupils. Sixty years on it seems even stronger. It has given me great pleasure to see how many people are taking part in the scheme at The Leys today."



Prince Philip enjoys a first aid demonstration



Prince Philip watching a life-saving demonstration. Onlookers are (second from the left) Sir John Hunt and Alan Barker, Common Room 1958–75, while on the right is Geoff Houghton, Common Room 1957–93.

If you have items which you think may be of interest to the Archivist, please email development@theleys.net and we will be happy to help.

Common Room News



Ben Barton, CR 2005–present, has relinquished his History teaching duties after 16 years but will remain in North A for his tenth and final year as Housemaster before leaving The Leys in June 2022. He has been accepted as a suitable candidate for training for ordained ministry in the Church of England. He will be training for ordination at Ridley Hall Theological Training College from September 2022.

Ethna Prosser, CR 2003–present, stepped down from her role as Housemistress of Bissek House in June after 13 years in post and **Damian Rigden**, North A 1998–02, CR 2007–present, has been appointed to succeed her. Ethna will continue teaching Mathematics and she will assist **Nick Robinson**, CR 2013–present, with the university admissions process for leavers.

Alison Lainchbury (née Myers), CR 2004–present, is stepping down as Assistant Housemistress of Dale House and is succeeded by Rachel Senior, CR 2020–present. Rachel teaches English.

Anna Hunt, CR 2014–present, stepped down as Assistant Housemistress of Granta in December 2020 and is succeeded by Sarah Byrne, CR 2015–present. Sarah is an ESOL teacher.

Helen Williams, CR 2012–present, received a special mention in the German Teacher Awards 2020. She is known in school for her infectious enthusiasm and unfailing positivity; numbers of pupils studying German at GCSE and A-Level have held up against the national trend of falling numbers and excellent results are supported by a busy programme of activities, challenges, and trips.

New roles have been created in the Day Houses for an Assistant Housemistress and an Assistant Housemaster, each to serve all three houses. **Anna Garret**, Head of English, and **Alex Bennett-Jones**, Head of ESOL, are now in post.

Stephen Hancock, CR 2007–present, got married on 9 April 2021 in a small ceremony which included traditional North-Eastern US fare such as Boston Cream Pie and Raspberry Lime Rickeys. His wife, Moira, is from Boston and is PA to the President of the International Myeloma Society.

Congratulations to **Karen Cox**, CR 2009–present, who remarried in October 2020! Her name has changed to Karen Sears.

Sylvia Sloma, Granta Matron 2013–present, is happy to announce the arrival of Tymon, born on 27 November 2020.

Chloe Emery (née Knights), CR 2013–present, is happy to announce the arrival of Madeleine, born on 23 May 2021.

Alex Bennett-Jones, CR 2012–present, and his wife Emma, are happy to announce the arrival of Lloyd, born on 26 January 2021.



Alex, Lloyd and Emma

Simon Dorman, CR 2000–10, was appointed Headmaster of Monmouth School for Boys in December 2020 following a term as acting Headmaster. He writes, “I left The Leys just over ten years ago to take up the post of Second Master at Monmouth School. It is a job that suited me well, as it had a strong pastoral focus, and seemed like a natural extension of being a Housemaster. Moving to Monmouth suited us well as a family; my wife, Miranda, is from Wales, and it meant that our daughters saw a lot more



Simon Dorman

of their Welsh cousins and grandparents. I thoroughly enjoyed being Second Master; as with being a Housemaster, no two days are ever the same. It was also fun getting stuck into the challenges of organising whole-school events, such as the celebrations for our 400th anniversary in 2014, which included a service of thanksgiving in St Paul’s Cathedral and a royal visit the week beforehand. Internal appointments to headships are not that common, but it was certainly an advantage knowing the school inside out as I took up the reins, especially given the challenges of Covid-19. It has been a rollercoaster of a first year, but I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges and I have valued the support of fellow Heads in the family of Haberdashers Monmouth Schools. My experiences at The Leys definitely helped too; I was incredibly fortunate to work with so many amazing people at The Leys and I will always be grateful for the opportunities that I had there.”

Old Leysians who were following the Rugby Sevens at this year’s Olympics may have seen **Tony Roques**, CR 2013–14 interviewed on television. After leaving The Leys, Tony became Assistant Coach of the England’s Men’s Rugby Sevens team until 2018 when he became Assistant Coach of the USA Men’s Eagles Rugby Sevens team. In December 2020, he was appointed Head Coach of the Great Britain Men’s Rugby Sevens team and hastily began preparations for the Tokyo Olympics. They were beaten by Argentina in the match for the bronze medal.

OL Events 2021–22

All events listed below are subject to the ongoing pandemic and will be regularly reviewed in line with Government regulations. We will keep you updated by email and social media.

DATE AND TIME	VENUE	DETAILS
11 November 2021 London Drinks 18:30 – 20:30	The Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London	Please book online at goe.theleys.net/event/london-drinks/
1 December 2021 OLS AGM 18:00 – 19:00	Zoom	All OLs welcome. Invitations will be sent out nearer the time.
9 December 2021 1875 Society 17:30 – 22:15	The Leys	Pretheatre supper followed by the School production of <i>Little Women</i> for members of the 1875 Society.
17 February 2022 University Drinks 18:30 – 20:30	Oxford	A drinks reception for our Leysian Community studying in Oxford, or living in the Oxford area.
23 March 2022 Leys Gives	The Leys, Cambridge	A whole school day of philanthropy in support of the Gift of Education Campaign and House Charities.
8 May 2022 OL Reunion	The Leys, Cambridge	Reunion for OLs who entered the school between 1980 and 1986, and all those who entered those year groups at a later date. Invitations will be sent nearer the time.
25 May 2022 OL Communion 12:45	Wesley's Chapel, London	All OLs welcome. More details nearer the time.

THE OLD LEYSIAN BENEVOLENT 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 anyone who knows of someone who may perhaps qualify to receive help from the fund, should contact:

The Secretary, Charlie Kidman
(North B/Fen 1963–68)
165 Huntingdon Road,
Cambridge, CB3 0DH
Telephone: 01223 323956
Email: charliekidman@btinternet.com

Any request for help is always dealt with in confidence and with discretion.
If you would like to help the Fund in its ongoing and valuable work, please contact the Secretary.

Any donation, large or small, would be a tremendous help.

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OLS Committee 2021

Officers

President – Nick Lloyd, Fen 1966–71
Vice President – Andy Erby,
Former Common Room
President Elect – Julia Clarke (née Cooper),
Granta 1986–88
Past President – N/A
Chairman – Jo de Grey, Granta 1985–87
Treasurer – Stephen Peak, East 1978–83
Secretary – Amanda Zuckerman

Committee Members

Andrew Cullen, North A 1998–2003 (Singapore)
Mark Elliott, Fen 1977–82 (Real Tennis)
Richard Haryott, West 1954–57
James Houlder, School 1996–2001 (OLCC)
Charlie Kidman, North B/Fen 1963–68
(Benevolent Fund)
Katya Kornilova, Fen 2005–09
Steven Levy, East 1978–80

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

It is now possible to receive *OL News* electronically. If you would like to receive this version in the future please let us know.

We are always on the look-out for good high-resolution photographs to include featuring news of OLs or OL events. Please email them to us if you would like them to be included in a future issue.

If you have queries regarding any of the events please contact the Development Office at:
development@theleys.net

OL News is produced twice a year by the Development Office. If you wish to contribute to a future edition please email the editorial team at:
development@theleys.net



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