

OLNEWS

SPRING 2023 | Issue 49



Doing “All the Good we Can”

Giving Day 2023 –
a triumphant team effort

Spotlights

Anna Michel – from The Leys
to the high seas
Richard Anthony – insights from
a Cambridge College bursar

From the Archive

A box of delights –
remember the tuck boxes?

In this Edition



Message from the OLS President

Many congratulations to Julia Clarke on her excellent year as the first female President of the OLS. I am quite sure she will continue to be a great contributor to our Leysian world, not only in her role as governor but as a current parent.

And so it is we have a second female OLS President! I am honoured to take up the mantle, and look forward to a busy, exciting year ahead.

I joined The Leys as a boarder in Granta, in the second year of girls joining the School. Like Julia, I had been at an all-girls day school. It was not easy for me joining the sixth form in a heavily outnumbered intake of girls, but I clearly enjoyed it enough to send all three of my children here in due course. This made the third generation of our family to join The Leys.

My father, Richard Haryott, West 1954–59 and his brother John, North B 1952–57 attended the School, and my father subsequently became a long-serving governor and Hon. Sec. to the governors. Both my brothers, Jim and Charles, went to The Leys.

After school, I chose not to go to university and decided to take a secretarial course at MPW in Cambridge. It was there that I met my future husband, Robert. I then moved to London and eventually joined Reuters, spending six happy years there until my marriage and moving to my husband's family home and farm in Norfolk.

My current project involves finding ways to diversify the use of our land and gardens in order to generate estate income – a must for many UK farmers in today's economic climate. I'm consulting with wedding planners and have scheduled a styled photoshoot in May to help promote both the photographer's work and our venue. The scope for hire is vast and varied; anything from film location to steam engine rallies! Recently we had 200 metal 'detectorists' scouring the grounds, unearthing a wealth of discoveries including Roman buckles and brooches and Saxon coins.

I have been Chairman of the OLS Committee for the past four years and continue in that role in addition to being President. The OL community is a vibrant and well-supported one, and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the coming year.

Jo de Grey (née Haryott), Granta 1985–87



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Anna Fourie née Michel,
Granta 1987–89
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OL Updates

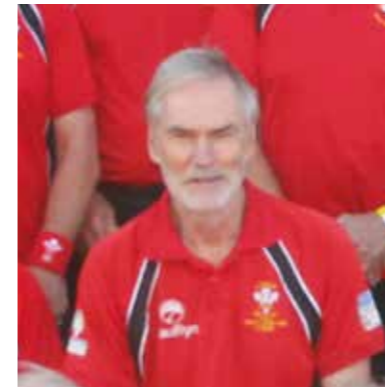
Anna Ewbank, Moulton/Dale 2018–15

"Since leaving The Leys having never played rugby, I decided to join a tag rugby team in 2020 to stay fit and meet new people. Since then, I have had the honour of being selected for the Great Britain Mixed Open squad. With the 2023 World Cup coming up this summer in Ireland, making the playing squad will be an exciting challenge!"



Anna in action

I would highly recommend tag rugby to everyone; there are various levels and leagues all over the UK and it's a great way to have a run around followed by a catch-up with teammates in the pub. If you want to know more or are keen to get involved, please get in touch: ewbank145@gmail.com"



Richard on top form

Richard Chapman, North B 1963–68

Having won bronze in Barcelona in 2018, a Welsh hockey masters side captained by Richard Chapman surpassed that by winning the gold in the over 70s division of the World Cup (Tokyo, October 2022). This is the first time that any Welsh side has won a world cup hockey tournament, so was cause for great celebration for the team and supporters. In the semi-final Wales beat Japan 3–2 in a closely fought match after falling 0–2 behind early on. Finalists South Africa beat Australia in a semi-final which went to penalties. The final itself was a less fraught affair, with Wales in control throughout and winning 2–0. In winning their division Wales were pleased to prevent Australia, who won the 60s and 65s divisions, gaining a clean sweep at the tournament. Japan were excellent hosts, and the team enjoyed their time outside the tournament visiting a country that was a revelation of customs and sights.

Sarah Duggan (née Frampton), Dale 1999–2003

"It was a career's morning in Lower Sixth that kick-started my interest in marketing: a creative job, 'in business', that got me to London. Fast forward 21 years and that's what I've been doing since studying History of Art at university ... as well as having two wonderful/tornado children.

I've created marketing campaigns for brands including Condé Nast and Anthropologie, shut down Oxford Circus for Topshop during the Diamond Jubilee and transformed Fortnum's overnight into an art gallery with 100+ works by famous artists. Mad, exhausting, but (mostly) hugely rewarding.

Two years ago, I fell into the music industry. I consult for global music artists, connecting them with organisations including Pokémon, Coca Cola

and RIXO. This year, I've set up my own talent partnerships agency, cymbyl, that champions independent artists.

I've got a lot to thank The Leys for: a place that encouraged me to explore creative avenues. Last November, on a rainy impromptu visit with my husband, it seemed like no time had passed as we scurried by the Lower Quad – rushing this time because of the rain, and not because I was late to a lesson ..."



Over Christmas 2022 three members of the Earle family came together in Bangkok to enjoy the festive celebrations. Fraser Earle, School 1950–56, provides an update.

"I retired from Standard Chartered Bank in 1995, and was widowed in 1998. After much research and travel to help decide where next to live, the decision was made to move to Thailand where a recent innovation was 'retirement visas'. Although I never worked there, we had become



L-R: Helen, Fraser and Kat

familiar with the country through frequent visits, usually at Christmas. By April 2004 I had found and bought a riverside condominium across the river from downtown Bangkok. Since then, Helen and Kat have been regular visitors.

Helen, Granta 1991–93, graduated in hospitality from Oxford Brookes, but decided it was not a career she wished to pursue. In 1997, she qualified as an EFL teacher in Thailand, then continued to Seoul, her late mother's hometown, to work at a Korean/International patent law firm. After six years away, Helen returned to the UK, to find that the funded route to a PGCE required being a teaching assistant for three years! Graduating from the University of East London, she became a secondary teacher at Highbury Fields School before moving to Mossbourne Park Academy, Hackney, in 2012. In 2019 she moved to the private sector, Kew House School, Chiswick and currently lives near Kingston upon Thames.

After a year out and a secretarial course, Kat graduated from Nottingham Trent University in 1999 and then took an EFL teaching course as a prelude to going to Korea. In 2004 she began her PGCE training at the Institute of Education, London, coincidentally the same institute from which her grandfather had obtained his final teaching qualification by correspondence. Now qualified, she joined the staff of SMMA Islington and progressed from primary to secondary, sixth form and special needs teaching. Kat married Chris Healy in August 2016 and in January 2021 moved to Thailand to be head of an international primary school on Koh Phangan, an island in the Gulf of Thailand."



Alexei Zouev, School 2011–15

"After completing my studies at The Leys, I attended the University of California, Berkeley where I studied Economics and City Planning. After finishing, I moved from California to New York and began a career in commercial real estate at Newmark Knight Frank, with a focus on international capital. Currently, I work at Silverstein Capital Partners, part of Silverstein Properties. My team is focused on financing large, mixed-use construction projects across the United States. During my tenure at Silverstein, I have worked to close over \$1.5B in loans, including movie studios (Wildflower Studios, New York), skyscrapers in master planned communities (Legacy Hotel & Residences, Miami), and standalone large-scale projects with condo, hotel, and retail components (Avenue Bellevue, Seattle)."



Des in character

Des Yankson, School 1990–95

"After leaving school I joined the National Youth Theatre as a direct result of seeing a poster in the Drama department; thanks Johnny (Supper, CR 1990–2003) and Sam (Pullen, CR 1992–97)! That summer led to reading Drama at the University of Exeter and now I work as a professional actor and voice-over artist. For those of you with young children, I play Mr Page in the CBeebies televised series *Biff and*

Chip, based on the reading books, 'Biff, Chip and Kipper'. The first series is on iPlayer and there will be a Christmas special and more episodes soon. I have also read a couple of audiobooks after getting a voice over agent from a play where I did not say a word! Recently I have been in Christmas ads for Tesco and Sainsbury's and probably my finest work, lying on a sunny beach for the holiday company 'On The Beach!'"

Richard Lau, School 1972–77

"During my recent trip to Muscat, Oman I attended an award ceremony to celebrate the validation by WHO confirming Oman's success in eliminating mother to child transmission of HIV and syphilis. Oman is

the first country in the Gulf and sixteenth in the world to achieve this. The ceremony took place at the Al Bustan Palace Hotel on Wednesday 28 September 2022. It was attended by WHO delegates and government officials. I previously worked as a consultant in Genitourinary Medicine and HIV at St George's Hospital but a chance meeting with a senior Omani doctor in 2017 took me to Muscat, where I worked on several HIV and STD projects between 2018 and 2021. I am now back in London, loaded with gifts from the many colleagues I worked with in Oman. Please contact me if you want any halwa (dates paste)!"

Richard receiving a plaque commemorating this achievement from His Excellency the Health Minister, Dr Hilal Al Sabti



Timothy Thurston, East 1955–60

has been in touch regarding the Paul Crosfield Choral Scholarships, and updated us on his musical career:

"My move from Cambridge to Dublin in 1963 was prompted by an offer of a job with a certain brewery – you may guess its name! As well as singing in various choirs I began broadcasting on RTE, the national radio station, featuring early music and contemporary jazz. My choral music programme, *Gloria*, ran for 18 years every Sunday morning. Some episodes are still available – Google 'RTE Lyricfm Gloria'. I also founded the Early Music Organisation of Ireland and ran five early music festivals, featuring the finest groups in Europe. My Jazz programme, *Con Tempo*, also ran for many years. When the broadcasts ended, I continued lecturing on musical expression. Following my 80th birthday in May I have now fully retired. I continue to listen avidly. Currently, my favourite groups are Vox Luminis, Ensemble Polyharmonique and Stile Antico – gorgeous sopranos with very little vibrato, my bête noire!"



George Johnson, Fen 1963–68

Like Richard Chapman, George is also involved in masters hockey; since its inception, he has been a player and organiser for England. Most recently he has been playing for the over 70s whilst organizing the over 50, 55 and 60 age groups! On medical advice his playing days appear to be over, but hockey's loss may be golf's gain.

Michael Major, Fen 1969–74



Michael is co-founder of the Institute of Neuroarchitecture in Brisbane. "With 68% of the world's

population set to be living in cities by the end of this century, the Institute aims to change government property policy one country at a time to ensure developments enhance rather than hinder physical and mental wellbeing. I intend to establish the Institute as a viable organisation before I retire, even if it takes another 100 years to fulfil its purpose! I'm currently working on an innovation precinct, aged care facilities and the Brisbane

Olympic Legacy 2032. In my spare time, I'm making two films: a satire on the property industry, and a documentary on neuroarchitecture design principles. In June I gave a talk to the Rotary Club on neuroarchitecture and the Olympic Fan Trails concept developed with my team and delivered on my father's birthday (Gordon Steven Major, West 1928–32: <https://youtu.be/wMPqdhNOC0w>). My wife and I have five children, with our youngest about to start his final year of school."



Blaise Mann, Bisseker 2011–14

“After The Leys, I moved to Hills Road to study A-levels in Philosophy, Psychology and Sociology. Philosophy emerged as the subject best suited to integrating my academic passions, which I then continued into BA and MRes studies at UEA. My Master’s thesis explored intersections of the Philosophy of Literature, Education and Politics, examining the roles of schooling, the curriculum and creativity in a student’s development of their own worldview. These themes have informed ideas for future PhD plans which I hope will take me on a path into academia. To kickstart some teaching experience, I am currently tutoring students in humanities subjects from GCSE onwards. Additionally, I am developing a new games, arts and local history venue with OtherSyde Ltd., opening this spring on Mitcham’s Corner. This includes Victorian and ‘Wittgenstein and friends’ tours of Cambridge which will launch the project to the public.”



Blaise relaxing between projects

Gustavo Prudente, West

1997–98 has had a successful career in Brazil as a national and international consultant and trainer, in topics related to sustainable leadership and cultural development. He is currently taking a Master’s in Cultural Sustainability at Goucher College (USA) and has lived in Switzerland since 2019 with his wife and daughter. Gustavo is working in business management and event facilitation within the international sports community, and this year he led training for the International Olympic Committee. The company he



works for is providing services for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. If you would like to reach out to Gustavo, you can email him at gustavobprudente@gmail.com

Claire Travers, Barker 2003–08

Alongside her humanitarian career, Claire produces podcasts and conference events, as well as working as a PADI certified divemaster and rescue diver seasonally. She consults for private institutions on pandemic-proof logistics and lives with her partner Lloyd Waldron.

“After leaving The Leys, I pursued a Bachelor’s at Cardiff University, and then a double Master’s from the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA), funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO). After graduating, I worked for the UNFPA New York Office and UN OCHA in Geneva, before deploying to field missions around Sub-Saharan and West Africa. I was given a grant from the Royal Academy of Engineering for my work on printing 3D humanitarian items in the field, and in 2022 was invited

to present my findings at the UN in Geneva. I feel satisfied with the part I played in many essential emergency responses around the world, and look forward to gaining my PhD in Supply Chain Management and Social Responsibility from the HUMLOG Institute in Helsinki.”



Lloyd and Claire on their wedding day

Special Events

Gail Brown, Barker 2004–07

Gail is pictured with her nephew, Torin Robert, born in December, four and a half months after his father Robert, Barker 2002–07, died in a climbing accident on Ben Nevis.



Gail with Torin and her dad Martin, CR 1984–2016

Dante O’Reilly, Moulton/Barker/East 2004–11

Dante and Jessie Lois Evans got engaged in the heart of the Stellenbosch winelands in September and plans are underway for a royal celebration with OL friends.



Dante and Jessie in South Africa

Connie Ng, Fen 2004–09

Connie Ng was recently married to Victor Lin and attended the Advent Service at The Leys whilst travelling on her honeymoon. Connie is now a solicitor at a law firm in Hong Kong, specialising in mergers and acquisitions.



Connie and Victor

Sam Herbert, Barrett 2007–12

Ever the all-rounder, Sam continues to keep things varied as a self-employed piano and singing teacher, brick layer and front man for wedding band ‘The Royal Affair’ <http://www.theroyalaffair.co.uk>. Sam recently married Ashley Crowell and joined her in New York last August. “My years at The Leys were some of my happiest. The musical opportunities allowed me to flourish, and I remain grateful for the support and patience of Mrs Culshaw, Mr Tillett and Mr Hall. My performance experience as a chorister means I am confident taking the stage now. The talented array of amazing peripatetic teachers further encouraged my development. My thanks to Mrs South, Mr Landymore and Mr Sherringham. I also had great sports coaches in Mr Copley and Mr Rowe, and the late Tommy Dann, who first played me at full-back; he saw something in me, and I owe him so much. After The Leys I studied at



Ashley and Sam on their wedding day

the RNCM as an opera singer and stumbled across my passion for teaching. The past few years I have worked closely with Camp Fiver, a children’s foundation in America.”

Nic Tan, Moulton/School 2010–17

Nic has recently become engaged and wrote to update us. “During my time at The Leys I met my now fiancée, Lily, who was studying just down the road. Our first year together saw a mix of A-level stresses and travelling to see each other at our universities on opposite sides of the country, but soon we found ourselves in our final year, living together in Newcastle and preparing for the move to Penang, Malaysia! Nearing the end of our first year in Penang and settling into our new home, I fooled Lily into thinking we were celebrating the completion of her PGCE but instead surprised her with an engagement ring alongside our new four-legged family member, Sesame. We plan to have an intimate wedding in the English countryside during the summer of 2025.”



Lily, Nic and Sesame



Visitors to the School



OLs who would like to visit the School can email development@theleys.net to arrange a visit.

Andrew Ross-Adams, Moulton/Bisseker 2003-08

"After leaving The Leys, I emigrated to Australia with my family, where I undertook a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Science and Research, respectively, at Macquarie University, Sydney. I am now two years into my PhD in the field of Integrated Photonics, and my work includes two world records pertaining to optical waveguide bend-losses and fibre

transmission density. I've also become a powered paragliding pilot, which is a fancy way of saying I hang from a giant flying handkerchief with a lawnmower on my back. Though it has been 15 years, I think of the School often, as my years there were among the happiest and most formative of my life. I made lifelong friends, I saw the world and I was afforded an education which both inspired and empowered me. I am deeply grateful."



Andrew most enjoyed visiting Bisseker!

Pete Matthews, Greg Heah and Neil Fraser, North B 1973-78

Pete, Greg and Neil visited on November 12 and enjoyed a tour of North B, Great Hall, Clapham and West, as well as meeting some current pupils and staff. After tea in the Pavilion they had the opportunity to chat with the Headmaster, Martin Priestley. Pete says: "We had a great time and made a special afternoon of our visit. The School looks in rude health. Thanks to everybody who shared their time, especially the Headmaster."

Greg, Pete and Neil with Martin Priestley and Emma Mayo (Deputy Head)



Gabriel back in School

Gabriel Man, West 1997-99

"I returned to Vancouver, Canada after leaving The Leys and spent ten years earning my BSc and MSc degrees in Electrical Engineering from the University of British Columbia (UBC). I also started and closed several business ventures, and worked as an engineer at several companies. I then worked at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel as a research assistant for a year, before undertaking a PhD in Applied Physics, Materials Science at Princeton. I got married to Dhelma Uliana Salazar in 2015, and our daughter Gabriela was born in 2017. I then worked for a year in Dallas as a solar cell device engineer and physicist, before returning

to academic research at Uppsala University as a postdoctoral and staff researcher. I am currently applying for my own research grants to transition to a fully independent scientist and research group leader. My current work focuses on using advanced spectroscopic techniques to unravel the complex physics of materials that have substantial potential for renewable energy applications.

An example of a recent project I have led, published in the elite scientific journal Nature Communications, can be found here."

<https://tinyurl.com/yc4cez8>

Sam Asante Regan, Moulton/West 2002-09

Sam visited in February and gave an inspirational talk to pupils in Lower Sixth. He spoke with great insight and honesty about how he made the move from school pupil to successful entrepreneur as part of the Lower Sixth careers-focused PSHE offered this term. Sam highlighted moments of great success but also the pressures he faced and how he made difficult decisions. Of key importance was how those values he learned at The Leys became the foundation for how he has since lived his life. The pupils were extremely appreciative that Sam came back to speak to them, and for Mr Earl it was a pleasure to see one of his Old Boys inspiring the next generation.



Kate and Kasia Lipka

Kate and Kasia are the daughter and granddaughter, respectively, of John G Collins, North B 1946-50. John spoke to them often and with great affection about his time at The Leys and promised to visit with Kasia one day. Sadly, he died before this could be arranged and so Kate and Kasia visited together in October to see the School for themselves and to imagine John in some of the spaces he would have frequented. Still grieving, it was something of a pilgrimage for them both and one they were very glad to have made.

Kate and Kasia on pilgrimage



Spotlight on

Anna Fourie née Michel

From The Leys to the High Seas

Microsoft's EMEA Talent Sourcing Senior Manager, Anna Fourie née Michel, Granta 1987–89, relives her time at The Leys and reflects on the early decisions and influences that have helped her navigate her extraordinary path through life.

As a teenager from a mixed comprehensive, what made you want to board at The Leys?

One summer I went to music camp, and everyone was talking about how much they loved boarding school. I decided I wanted that experience too. As soon as I saw The Leys I knew I wanted to go there. It looked amazing, right in the middle of the city. Girls were only admitted into sixth form. 400 boys and 30 girls – they were great odds! It was a lot of fun.

Those two years were formative in broadening my network and horizons. I had always lived in one town, so meeting people from Ethiopia, or Asia – that introduced me to cultural diversity, which has been central to so much of my work. My friendship group travelled as a pack: this continued at university with a big contingent going to Manchester. Simon Abbott, Tim Acheson, James Callum and Lucinda Nicholson all lived within streets of each other.

Are there any teachers you remember particularly fondly?

John Dillistone always made us very welcome and we could do impressions of him; he had a great accent! He took us on a fantastic art trip to France, which influenced my choice of History of Design at university. I also remember Jennifer Moseley, my housemistress, very fondly. And I loved Sam Grice! I was in the clay pigeon shooting club.

How did you progress from a degree in History of Design to a career in recruitment?

I got a job as an events officer after graduating, where I met my ex, and we moved to the US. I'd been considering training in accountancy and had an interview for a city job in finance. We had a great chat, then the recruiter said, "Anna, accountancy isn't really your passion, is it?" I realised I had to agree. He continued, "But I think you'd make



a great recruitment consultant!" So I literally just fell into it, and never looked back.

And from there to life on a boat ...?

My husband at the time wanted to do the Round Britain & Ireland Race, so we bought a boat and started to train. I then took three months off work so we could do the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC), crossing the Atlantic from the Canaries to the Caribbean. I had zero experience! As we departed the UK the weather came in, the wind reaching a gale force. At one point the whole of the mast and sail came down on the deck. When we eventually reached a safe harbour I kissed the ground, just so grateful to be on land. At that point a couple in a neighbouring boat popped their heads up: "Oh, welcome! Drinks at 5?" – and I thought, "I love this lifestyle!"

Whenever we came into a harbour, no-one asked about our day jobs; it was always about our journey, battery storage, solar power consumption, or where to find the best food and cheapest wine. Any problems, we'd have people on a dinghy pulling up to ask what they could do to help. The sense of community was amazing.

Did you know at this point that there was no going back?

We assumed we'd need millions of pounds to live that life, but then my ex came back from a trip on a really simple boat (no loo or fridge) and said, "We can do this today." So we spent our £20k savings on a boat which we collected from Oregon and sailed down the West Coast of the US, then across the Pacific. We were at sea for 25 days and could smell land approaching a day away (two days for the dog!)

Where else did your life and work take you?

We sailed to Australia, during which time I had my son and raised him on the yacht. I also got my Australian citizenship. Six years later I headed to Singapore, which exudes a real East meets West culture. I was part of the big OL community there, attending many events. There was always such a mix of ages, but you could tell we were all OLs – the culture, the energy, the conversation – everyone talking about how they used to break out of school!

I spent 10 years in Singapore, during which my ex and I separated. I didn't feel confident running a boat on my own but bought one



From left to right: Lisa Mangan, Lucinda Nicholson, Ruth Fitzgerald and Anna (all Granta); reclining: James Green (West)

with the help of a friend, who mentored me to captain it. I set up and coached a female sailing group, completing the annual Neptune Regatta for five years as the only female skipper, being crowned Queen Neptune – and most memorably, on our last trip, proposed to the very handsome and gorgeous Irishman, my now husband! We announced our engagement on the Regatta, resulting in a spontaneous party. Next, we had to decide where to live ...! We chose Portugal and haven't looked back: a beautiful country with amazing people – and excellent wine. It was the first time my son had lived on dry land, aged 11 (he's now 13). He loves having a big bedroom.

How difficult has it been to achieve your remarkable career success as a liveaboard on the move?

Microsoft has an incredible culture: "Come as you are, do what you love." It allowed me to be 'the boat lady' whilst running internships and graduate hiring across Asia from my boat. I was a single mum for six years and Microsoft gave me flexibility and the opportunity for us both to travel all round Asia. When I moved to Portugal, Microsoft helped me again, to identify my next role and lead the EMEA Talent Sourcing Team. For me, it's always been about the people rather than any corporate image.

As an expert in recruitment, do you have any top CV tips?

Share what makes you authentic and unique; it's how I've lived my life. The grades are just grades – what's important are your passions. If you love cricket and have been captain of a cricket club, I would want to know about that. Start to bring a 3D person to life from your flat piece of paper. Your CV is a marketing tool, an advert. Its purpose is to open a door and get you that first interview.



An 80s montage of happy memories

Profile photo opposite: Anna with son Louis

Giving Day 2023

On 24 March, our second Leys Giving Day raised over £30,000 for the Gift of Education bursary programme and the Community Fund.

The theme of this year's Giving Day, *Do all the good you can*, recalls John Wesley's famous motto well known to Leysians of all generations. The values of our founders are being translated into action in a variety of ways: providing bursaries; through our community partnerships and pupil and staff volunteering; and through the grants made



The Leys bobble hat travels the world – Andrew Ross-Adams, Moulton/Bisseker 2003–08



The Leys drama pupils say thank you



Olive, the Headmaster's dog

from The Community Fund to local charities and other good causes. We had fun making videos and messages from staff, pupils and OLs reinforcing the strong bond within our Leysian Community. Those following Giving Day on Facebook will have seen The Leys bobble hat circling the globe, travelling from Australia via East Asia and Europe to Canada by the end of the day.

Giving Day is a celebration of what makes the School so special – from the pupils and staff participating in home clothes day in support of their own house charities, to the Leys Connection who kindly arranged for

a Giving Day pick-up tea. We are grateful to everyone who made a contribution to its success, but our particular thanks go to the donors who supported us with generous match funding for our first time donor and overseas donor challenges. The challenges were ambitious, but they were all achieved, with 14 donors from outside the UK making a gift, and 41 donors making their first gift of any kind to The Leys.

Giving Day will take a break in 2024, but will be back again bigger and better in 2025 in time to celebrate The Leys' 150th Anniversary.

Over £30k raised



70 donors



41 first time donors

£6,500 in match funds



£23,800 for Gift of Education



£3,270 for the Community Fund

Leys Community Updates



The Community Fund at The Leys is an initiative between The Leys & St Faith's Schools Foundation and Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission.

It was established by donations from our Leysian Community and supports charity and community projects in the Cambridge area, and in the local community around City Road in East London.

During the 2021–2022 academic year 28 awards were made totalling £87,598 to support partnership activity, charities and community groups. Here is an update on two such projects.

THE 27TH CAMBRIDGE SCOUTS

The 27th Cambridge Scouts in Cherry Hinton help young people learn skills for life through fun and adventure. They received a grant to support a trip to ESSA, a charity providing water sports activities.

In July, 27 scouts and three adults spent the weekend at Paddle Sports Camp. Their

aim was to complete the British Canoeing Discover award, which covers all aspects of handling a kayak. They had great fun on SUPs and Mega-SUPs (paddle boards), and built rafts from barrels and staves, some more successfully than others! Thanks to the Community Fund, the camp was more affordable for local families and enabled more scouts to attend.

Andrew Varley, scout leader, said "It was a fantastic weekend and we were blessed with great weather. The scouts were able to take part in activities we would struggle to offer in Cambridge, many for the first time, and their appetite for more water sports is huge".

ROMSEY MILL, BLUE BAG PROJECT

This initiative, set up in 2021, aims to end period poverty amongst young people in Cambridgeshire. It provides access to free

menstrual products easily and discreetly, by simply asking a youth worker for a Blue Bag. It was set up in response to conversations with young people who missed school or experienced social isolation due to lack of access to sanitary products.

As a result of funding from The Community Fund, Romsey Mill have been able to widen the reach and increase role capacity of youth development worker, Emma Whitbread, to develop stronger partnerships and further distribution of Blue Bags.

Last year, provision was rolled out to Cambourne, Trumpington, Arbury, Great Shelford, Linton, Northstowe and Hampton in Peterborough through Romsey Mill youth workers. Blue bags are also available in the seven Cambridge foodbanks. Local schools not only supply the bags to young people, but use them during PSHE lessons on menstrual health and wellbeing.

"Young people are starting their periods earlier and can be caught out at primary school. Often parents aren't prepared, so the bags are a helpful way to educate children and their parents on what to expect. The leaflets in the bags are informative and easy to understand for children and their families."
– SENCo at a primary school in Cambourne

We are immensely grateful to all donors to the fund, who are making a real difference to the lives of others, and the members of the Community Fund Board who give their time.

By Kerry Chapman,
Senior Development Officer



The scouts gave it their all at Paddle Sports Camp

Spotlight on

Richard Anthony

(West 1980–1985), Bursar, Jesus College Cambridge



© Jesus College Cambridge

Bridging the Gap

Managing a centuries-old institution into the future

How did you become a bursar of a Cambridge College?

It's not one of those jobs that people think about when they leave school or university. It's really a second career. Most bursars have previously worked in senior positions in finance, business or the public sector, as the job involves many skills associated with these jobs but applied in a very unusual setting. When I left The Leys, I went to the University of Edinburgh to read History, stayed on to do a PhD, decided I didn't want to be an academic, and then moved to London and trained as an accountant. Once qualified, I worked in corporate finance for a large utility company and an accountancy firm. I then helped run the business affairs of a wealthy individual and ended up as a consultant at a private bank. Having moved back to live near Cambridge, I was looking for a job closer to home and successfully applied for the bursarship at St Edmund's College Cambridge in 2010. I moved to Jesus College in 2017.

How would you describe the role?

Rewarding, but also very challenging. The College is a registered charity and a self-governing academic institution, independent of the University. Led by our Master, Sonita Alleyne, Jesus is a community made up of around 130 Fellows, nearly all of whom are academics, 170 staff, and 930 undergraduate and postgraduate students. I am responsible for many of the things that fall outside of the academics' remit – finance, HR, legal, IT, investments, communications, buildings – with a colleague (the Domestic Bursar) covering the more operational areas, such as conferencing and housekeeping.

The Collegiate University, which is the description for the University of Cambridge and the 31 Colleges, is a complex, highly decentralised and symbiotically connected federation of academic institutions. Decision-making is undertaken through a series of bodies with multiple institutional representation, and usually by consensus. I am currently Secretary of one of these bodies (the Colleges' Bursars' Committee) and have served on a number of key University committees (including the University Council). You wouldn't design a university like this from scratch, but the decentralisation and complexity have clearly been part of the reason for Cambridge's success.

People have a lot of preconceptions about Cambridge Colleges, not all of which are accurate. Even those who may have studied here in the past do not necessarily understand how things work now. The challenge is to maintain the traditions of a five-hundred-year-old institution, with a strong sense of identity (including amongst its alumni), whilst making it relevant for the 18-year-olds of today. Take Jesus College, for instance. Historically its students were all male and pretty much all white. In 1979 this changed when women were first admitted. In our most recently published statistics, we celebrated the most diverse cohort in our history; for example, one in three students identified as BAME.

You mentioned challenges?

There are plenty.

On a personal level, the job is becoming more demanding. The three terms are particularly busy. My diary is packed full of meetings, with papers to read and prepare for them. Engaging with staff and Fellows is very important, especially as I am answerable to the latter for the running of many aspects of the College. Evenings and weekends are spent catching up, especially with emails. The university vacations offer some respite, but it only really goes quiet at Christmas.

Anyone who works in higher education knows how challenging the last decade has been, and Cambridge is not immune from this. The pandemic, Brexit and inflation have affected us the same as everyone else. We are under increasing pressure to do more with our limited resources. No-one seems to be in favour of a higher level of undergraduate tuition fees, and remember there has only been one small increase in them since the current system was introduced in 2012, yet our costs are increasing; so where is the money going to come from? I have to look at ways the College can supplement its income, for instance from investments and ensuring that we achieve a good return on our state-of-the-art West Court conference and hotel facility launched in 2017. I have to be prudent in how the College spends its money and always take a long-term view. The College has been here for 500 years; it's my job to ensure that it is in good financial shape going forward, long after my tenure is ended.

For me, one of the most significant challenges is growing external interest in the College, for example from the media. The College is often in the public eye, for instance when it proudly became the first institution in the world to return a Benin Bronze*. But media coverage is not always positive, and at worst can be inaccurate or misleading, and I spend much of my time working with colleagues to manage enquiries or deal with the consequences of this.

What are the most rewarding aspects?

The University of Cambridge is a remarkable place, and you meet amazing people here – Fellows, students, visiting academics and other College members. The academics are the best in their fields, and I get an opportunity to hear about their work and support them in their research, which can be of global importance. The students are filled with ideas and enthusiasm and, as the possible leaders of the future, will go out into the world and make a real difference.

The benefit of the Cambridge name is that we can have an impact well above our size. Recently I have been part of a number of initiatives within the College and across Cambridge focussed on what we can do about some of the major systemic risks that face us all today, including, but not limited to, climate change. It's something I feel very passionately about, particularly as I have a lot of contact with the younger generations who will have to deal with the consequences. These challenges can only be met on a very large scale, and we have been working with major banks and pension funds on how to deliver change through the global financial system. Closer to home, Jesus has become the leading Cambridge College in addressing sustainability

“The challenge is to maintain the traditions of a five-hundred-year-old institution, with a strong sense of identity (including amongst its alumni), whilst making it relevant for the 18-year-olds of today.”

across its buildings and properties, something that all institutions will have to confront in the future.

Jesus College was founded in 1496, created by the then Bishop of Ely out of the buildings and endowment of St Radegund's Priory. Parts of the College date back to the 12th century. I live with consequences of the decisions made by my predecessors decades and centuries ago. For better or for worse the decisions I am involved in today will have an impact well beyond my lifetime, a prospect that is both daunting and uplifting. This job is all about legacy, and the difference we can personally make to the future – that's what motivates me to do what I do.

* You can learn more about the history of Benin Bronzes from the British Library's website: <https://tinyurl.com/3vf64dvi>



First Court, Jesus College

© Jesus College Cambridge

OL Sport



TAG RUGBY

It is great to hear that Anna Ewbank is in the GB Mixed Open squad for the 2023 GB Season. The OL Men's Tag Rugby team look forward to a new season in Hyde Park running from April to September. They are keen to hear from any Old Leysian interested in playing in their 2023 campaign. They are also keen to hear from Old Leysians interested in setting up a mixed and/or women's team. Contact Jonny Horsford: jwhorsford@gmail.com or Anna Ewbank: ewbank145@gmail.com

The international experience of Dante O'Reilly, Moulton/Barker/East 2004–11, and others should boost their chances. Of the 2022 International season, Dante writes: "2022 cemented The Leys School's reputation as the premier breeding ground for British tag rugby talent, with its roster of international representatives increasing two-fold, to two. This number is set to increase further, with the Tag Rugby World Cup taking place in Ireland in August 2023 and The Old Leysian Tag Rugby Club's success in the parks



Dante in action against Ireland

of Zone 1 unearthing talent that will surely catch the selectors' eyes. For those spectators who failed to secure tickets to its brutish sister-tournament taking place in France in the autumn, remarkably, the Tag Rugby World Cup still has unsold seats available for those willing and able to travel. The foundations for a strong Men's World Cup campaign were set in 2022, with a clean sweep of tournament wins coming in the International Tag Series (Limerick, August), Ireland Test Series (Leeds, September) and South Africa Test Series (Cape Town, December)." Veteran tagger Dante played a central role in all these fixtures and is excited for what's sure to be a big year of ribbon-chasing ahead.

Anna is pictured, far right in the back row, at a try-tag-rugby session, along with Izzy Alexander, Fen 2010–15, far left in the front row



OLD LEYSIAN GOLFING SOCIETY

We had strong support for the Autumn meeting at Gog Magog Golf Club on September 9, with a close finish in the foursomes.

O L Cup (Medal)
R J Bentley, 72-5, 67 Nett
R J Chapman, 87-16, 71 Nett

Howard Cup (Stableford)
R J Chapman, 36 Points

Secretary's Salver (Spring & Autumn Aggregate)
R J Chapman, 68 + 71, 139 Nett

Tom Page Foursomes (Stableford 9 holes)
S C Amey & S J Pattinson, 25 Points
H C Blunt & I D Pinker, 24 Points

Grafton Morrish Finals October 6th – 9th

Both games at Hunstanton were decided on the 18th; we won against Charterhouse and lost against Epsom, who went on to beat Tonbridge in the final.

The following played: S D Cooper & A J R Smethers, C A Holden & R J Bentley, T L Williams & J D Bareham

A busy schedule lies ahead: in the Halford Hewitt we play Framlingham in the first round at Royal St. George's Golf Club on Thursday March 30 at 8am; our Spring Meeting is at Royal Worlington Golf Club, on Thursday May 11, from 8am; in the Senior Bernard Darwin (Over 65) we play Harrow in the first

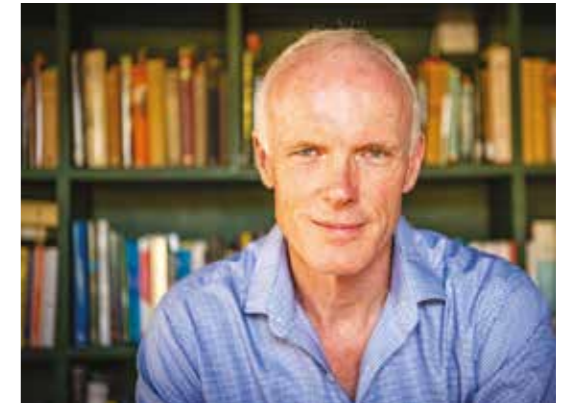
round at Woking Golf Club on June 13, play off at 9:35am; and in the Bernard Darwin Trophy (Over 55) we play Eton in the first round at Woking Golf Club on June 30, play off at 10am. We hope to field a team for the Veteran's Bernard Darwin (Over 75) on June 14, in the afternoon Stableford Foursomes Competition.

The Fixture List and OLGS updates are on the Old Leysian website and supporters are always welcome.

Players wishing to join the Golfing Society please contact Nigel Washbourn.
Email: nwashbourn@btinternet.com

Preparing for the Unpredictable

Former army officer, award-winning film maker and writer Tom Petch, West 1979–84, revisited The Leys to talk to pupils about his fascinating and varied career, answer questions, sign copies of his new book – and impart some golden advice.



What do you remember about your time at The Leys?

I remember West House – not as it is now, but the crammed, single study corridor and the TV room where we watched Top of the Pops. The junior common room still smells of burnt toast, so that hasn't changed! We had to wait on seniors in the dining room. I remember the sailing club with Mr Allison, John Dillistone's enthusiastic art lessons and biology with 'Beastie' Marshall. All happy memories.

What 'non-school' lessons have you learned in your life?

I thought I'd follow one career but it's been varied. You can't predict change but you can skill yourself up. Education doesn't end with school – keep learning in the outside world. You have the online resources I didn't. Resilience matters: you will have some hard knocks, but always look yourself in the mirror and say, "I can do this". I'm dyslexic and wasn't academic, and I've done OK.

Why did you choose to work on locations?

My first introduction to film production was from a location manager I knew. Always network. I walked into Soho and got a job largely by being personable, worked on film sets then started my company, Salt Film, three years later.

Which was more of a challenge, writing your book or directing your first film?

I'd say both equally. Filming is easier and cheaper than it used to be, but writing is easier logistically because you don't need a crew. Whatever your chosen career, writing is always important, especially in creative industries. During Covid-19 my industry shut down, so I used the time to pitch my idea to a publisher and write the book.

When you got your break into film, did you train or learn on the job?

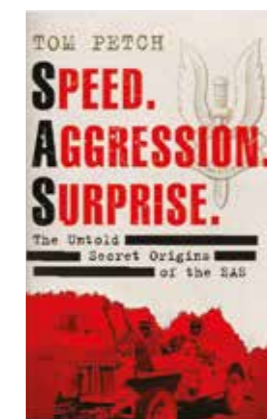
I took a short course at the National Film and Television School, but the best thing to do is get on a set. From there many routes are open to you: production, set design, acting ... though if acting, take a second job because it is hard!

Do you think you would have made it in the film industry without joining the army first?

Yes, though many of my army skills and experiences proved useful (working long hours, logistics, multi-management etc). If there's something you're passionate about, though, don't wait – go for it.

Anything you wish you'd learned earlier?

Broaden your horizons and talk to everyone around you. Don't get funnelled. I didn't know that film was an option for me. Being commercially aware is also invaluable: know your way around a spreadsheet and learn how to budget. Remember to enjoy yourself. No-one talked to me about mental health, so I'm talking to you. Do whatever helps you to relax (for me that's surfing), and get help when you need it.



Tom's acclaimed book, *Speed. Aggression. Surprise. The Untold Secret Origins of the SAS* is published by Penguin Random House

Obituaries

To read the full versions of these obituaries, please visit the School website.

If you do not have access to the internet or a computer and would like a printed document, please contact the Development Office on 01223 508545.

Tom Antony Bowker, West 1942–47

on 16 March 2022

Tom was born in Sheffield, in 1929, and died shortly before his 93rd birthday. He recalled his Leys School days with fondness – the companionship of the boys and the inspiration of the masters.

After National Service, Tom studied Mathematics at Christ's College, Cambridge. Here, in the Methodist Church choir, Tom met his future wife, Jean, a fellow Mathematics undergraduate.

On leaving university, Tom and Jean became Maths teachers, with Tom's first post at Monmouth School. His next, as a housemaster, was at Kingham Hill School, Oxfordshire, where alongside bringing up their four children Tom and Jean looked after children from disadvantaged backgrounds. In Tom's next position at Rydal School, North Wales, he joined headteacher Donald Hughes, an inspirational ex-Leysian English teacher. In Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, Tom became Head of the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, and in his final position he led Kettering School for Boys to change from a grammar to a comprehensive.



Tom Bowker

On retirement, Tom continued to educate himself, gaining an OU degree in Computing and studying History, Literature and Music with the U3A.

Tom led Methodist Church services for over 50 years, having been accredited as a lay preacher at 27. His Christian faith remained important to him all his life and he was ready to move on to the next one.

He is survived by his wife, Jean, and his children: Charles, East 1967–70, Julian, East 1969–74, Jeremy and Catherine.

Words by Julian Bowker

Richard William Bridge, West 1952–57

on 18 December 2019

Richard Crosskill, North A 1949–54

on 11 September 2022

Richard served as a magistrate at Norwich from 1970 to 2006. He also chaired the city's bench from 1991 to 1995 and was involved in countywide training and identifying potential new magistrates at Great Yarmouth and Cromer courts.

Richard was a director of his family firm, founded in 1810. He joined straight from The Leys but left aged 57 in what he described as a "back-to-front" move in order to complete an honours degree in Politics with Modern History at the University of East Anglia.

During his early twenties he chaired the Young Conservatives in Norwich, and later became President of the Norwich Junior Chamber of Commerce. His group



Richard Crosskill

researched the case for civic purchase of RAF Horsham St Faith and he was pleased to see a civil airport come about.

Richard became President of the Norfolk County Association of Parish and Town Councils, having already served at Bramerton. He was also an independent member of Forehoe and Henstead Rural District Council.

He edited the Bramerton group churches publication *Eleven Says* for 14 years, changing it to tabloid newspaper form. He also served on the Bramerton Society committee and had belonged to the Bramrocks drama group.

At the age of 72, he stepped down from the regional valuation tribunal service where he sat on appeals against domestic council tax and business rating.

He leaves his wife Merrilyn, known as 'Merry', daughters Alison and Caroline, and grandchildren Connor, Finn and Olivia.

From Richard's obituary in the *Eastern Daily Press*, edited for OL News by Liz Walden

Michael Dower, CBE, North A 1947–52

on 7 November 2022

Michael and I were second generation Leysians. Our father, John, North A 1913–19, died in 1947 of TB contracted on military service during the war. Michael witnessed his name being added to the School Chapel war memorial.

After National Service Michael read Estate Management at Cambridge, then studied Town Planning at UCL. However it was to Rural Planning that he turned his professional life. Joining the Civic Trust in 1960 he pioneered the work of community volunteers to clear wartime structures from requisitioned land. On one such camp he met Nan Done, a nurse from the University of Southampton; they married in 1960 and had three sons, John, Dan and Alex.

In 1965 The Architects' Journal published *Fourth Wave*, Michael's study for the Civic Trust analysing the impact of leisure activities on Britain's countryside and coasts. In 1967 he set up the Dartington Amenity Research Trust in Devon, seeking to bring together the often competing agencies of land management, conservation and the promotion of rural enterprise and well-being in research projects for national agencies and local government.

As CEO of the Peak District National Park from 1985 he found practical ways of pursuing this collaborative vision. In the same vein, his appointment as Director General of the Countryside Commission in 1991 allowed him to fulfil an ambitious policy to create the new National Forest across the old industrial belt of Leicestershire and adjoining counties, creating new jobs and new outdoor recreational opportunities.



Michal Dower

As Visiting Professor at the University of Gloucestershire he continued in Britain and across Europe to promote and sustain rural enterprise, heritage and social values to stem migration to cities.

Words by Robin Dower North A, 1952–57

DAE Harris (David), North B 1945–50

on 7 December 2022

David Harris joined the School in September 1945 for its last term at the Atholl Palace Hotel in Pitlochry. Back at The Leys North B House was quite a contrast; however, it turned out to be a very happy home for David for the next four years.



David Harris

He left in December 1949 as a School Prefect, 1st team colour at rugby, hockey and tennis, and the School's star squash player. This was followed by 18 months' National Service in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), latterly as a 2nd Lieutenant.

In October 1951 David was back in Cambridge at Peterhouse, reading Mechanical Sciences and playing hockey for the University Wanderers team.

From then on, David's life was largely spent abroad, initially working for the Aluminum Company of Canada (Alcan) in Canada, Melbourne, London and Geneva. On his early retirement he remained in Geneva, joining the staff of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and continuing to work in this capacity until the tender age of 75!

In 2016 he and his wife Eve returned to the UK to live in London, to be nearer to their three sons.

David died peacefully on 7 December 2022. The photograph shows him on top of the Saleve mountain overlooking his beloved Geneva, where he lived for 38 years. Taken in the summer of 2012, it was displayed on the screen in Mortlake chapel during his funeral.

Words by Hugh Harris, North B 1949–54

Chris Horne, East 1952–57

on 9 May 2022

Thomas Christopher Bannister Horne, Chris to family and friends and 'Honk' to his fellow pupils, was a home boarder. His father was the Director of the National Institute of Agricultural Botany in Cambridge. School friends invited to Sunday lunches with the Horne family at Hill Farm, Lolworth, enjoyed lively occasions, in marked contrast to the somewhat staid Sunday lunches in Hall.

Chris was a farmer at heart so it was natural that, after school, he went on to Seale Hayne Agricultural College. He then enjoyed a successful career with the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service (ADAS). He was posted to various areas in the UK including Devon, Cambridgeshire and Carmarthen. At the time of his retirement he was the Director of the Agricultural Division.

In 1964 he married Catherine Hargreaves, from Ulverston. They had three children, Sarah, Rachel and Richard, all married, and have eight grandchildren, from whom Chris derived enormous pleasure.

Although Chris never aspired to first team glory he was fanatical about sport. He was a keen golfer and cricket lover, being a long-standing member of the MCC.

In retirement Chris and Cath settled in the Towy Valley in West Wales where his many activities included being a local churchwarden, serving as an Assistant Director of the Royal Welsh Show and golfing at Glynhir Golf Club. His latter years were blighted by dementia, which he battled nobly.

Cath and his children survive him.

Words by John Radcliffe, East 1952–57

John Christopher Jeffery, West 1949–54 on 1 September 2022

Chris was born in Derby, the eldest of four children, and enjoyed an idyllic childhood on the family farm in Sudbury. He attended The Leys aged 13. Leaving in 1954, he had achieved both a place at Sidney Sussex College Cambridge to read Engineering and a Rolls-Royce apprenticeship. His career with Rolls-Royce took him from Derby to Canada in the early 70s. Back in the UK he held directorial design positions at Coles Cranes Sunderland, Froude Engineering Worcester, and with F W McConnell in Ludlow. At the age of 56 he reinvented himself as a lecturer in Agricultural Engineering at Harper Adams University, which he combined with a successful self-employed consultancy business.

Chris and his wife Dorothy enjoyed many happy years living in Ludlow, where they did much for the community, campaigning and fundraising, in particular founding the Fabric Trust for St Laurence’s church. Dorothy died in 2011 after celebrating their golden wedding anniversary that year. Parkinson’s disease took a steady toll on Chris’ own mobility, but he never complained, instead facing his challenges with fortitude and a wry sense of humour.

Chris was a devoted husband, wonderful father and adored grandfather. He is survived by his two sisters, his daughters Katie and Annabel, and his four grandchildren. Chris had a full life well lived and was loved and deeply admired by many. He is remembered with love by his large family and many friends as a good, kind, honourable and compassionate man; ‘one of the best’.

Words by Annabel and Katie Jeffery



Chris Jeffery

Robert Kime, North B 1959–63 on 17 August 2022

Christopher Richard Marsden, West 1955–59 on 4 December 2022

My father was born on 30 December 1941 in Sheffield. The family lived in Sandygate, at what remains the Marsden business’s head office. After preparatory school he attended The Leys until 18, then catering college in Huddersfield. Following his apprenticeship at Lyon’s Corner Houses, London, he moved north again to join the family business.

My father loved the Young Conservatives, where he met Margaret: they married and had three children, Victoria, Granta 1986–88, Matthew, West 1985–88, and Ben. His love of politics saw him serve from 1967–1974 on Penistone Urban District Council, and as Mayor from 1974–75. He loved hill climbing and his beloved Mark 1 Mini Cooper (aka ‘the Batmobile’), which he raced at weekends.

Working with his brother Michael (West, 1947–51) and his father, they went from milk bars to outside catering, hotels and restaurants, finally buying into KFC and building one of the leading KFC franchises in the UK.

My father played hockey for Huddersfield until his early 40s, before choosing a more sedate game – golf! – following numerous injuries. He could sail and learned to fly a plane.

After his divorce in 1989 he met and married Claire Broadbent. They lived in the stunning Yorkshire countryside with their menagerie of dogs and horses, until Claire went into a nursing home last year and sadly passed away a few weeks after my father.

After a full, busy and successful life, my father passed away unexpectedly on 4 December 2022, leaving his three children and three grandchildren: Hamish Malcolm Beever West, 2011–17, Henrietta and Gabriella.

Words by Victoria Beever (née Marsden), Granta 1986–88



Christopher Marsden

John Philip Pashley, East 1953–57 on 11 January 2023

John Spink, Fen 1966–69 suddenly on 26 January 2023

An obituary will appear in the next edition of *OL News*.

Lord Trevor Stamp, East 1948–53 on 20 October 2022

Trevor Charles Bosworth Stamp spent 25 years as Consultant Physician at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (RNOH), Stanmore. During a long and successful career the eminent physician helped to advance understanding of metabolic bone disease and vitamin D metabolism. He passed away peacefully at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, aged 87. A full obituary will appear in the next edition of *OL News*.

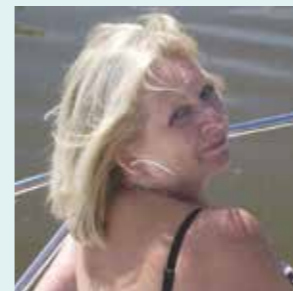


Trevor Stamp

Carol Terry, Support Staff 1978–2014 on 16 October 2022

Carol spent her early Leys career as a cleaner in Fen House. These were the days before house matrons, when the cleaners did so much more than just clean; they got to know the pupils well and were very much a part of the house family. In time, Carol was given more responsibility and finished her career as School Housekeeper, with overall responsibility for all domestic services. Directly or indirectly, hundreds of Old Leysians have cause to be thankful to Carol for her care and dedication to an aspect of school life so easily taken for granted by those of us who benefit.

Words by Andy Erby



Carol’s happy place was on the water

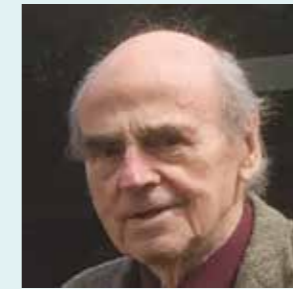
Cecil Garrett Walker (Garry), East 1942–46 on 7 September 2022

Born in Dublin on 4 April 1928, my father died at home on 7 September 2022, aged 94.

Dad attended The Leys School from 1942 to 1946 and all but his last two terms were spent at the Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry.

As a consequence of his own father’s untimely death in June 1946, aged just 49, during his final term at school, my father was unable to attend university, instead becoming articled with Stokes Bros & Pim, chartered accountants in Dublin, in August 1946.

He qualified as a chartered accountant in 1952 and became a partner in 1956. The firm merged with Kennedy Crowley & Co. in 1972 and, subsequently, through an association with the international firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co, the name became KPMG. He retired from the partnership in April 1989.



Cecil Garrett Walker

An accomplished hockey player (Three Rock Rovers), an occasional golfer and a member of the MCC, he was involved in many charitable activities. He also found time to reach the highest echelons in the Church of Ireland, being deeply immersed in parochial, diocesan and central church affairs. This was acknowledged in 2004 when the Archbishop of Armagh, Dr RHA Eames, appointed him an Honorary Lay Canon of St Patrick’s Cathedral, Armagh, in recognition of his particular and distinguished service to the Church of Ireland.

Married to Hazel for over seventy years, he loved family life in their Monkstown, Co Dublin home and delighted in his six children, twenty grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Words by Richard Walker, Garry’s son

Peter Nesbitt Young, West 1952–57 on 22 May 2022

On a passing visit through Cheltenham last Autumn, I discovered that Peter had sadly died.

Peter, Antony Grundy, the late Richard Bridge and I became lifelong friends during our overlapping periods in school, having a common interest in printing. This evolved into The Camfield Press, initially located under the Headmaster’s house – and the forerunner of the enlarged operation which continued for more than 50 years.

The son of Sir Frank Young, first master of Darwin College and distinguished Biochemist, and Ruth, Peter was the eldest of three brothers to attend The Leys.

Peter embarked on a medical career, specialising in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Later, as a lecturer at the Haile Selassie University (1965–68), an emergency led to

a change of direction. An anaesthetist could not be located for a life-saving operation, so Peter spent the night reading up on how to put the patient to sleep ... and – more importantly – to reawaken them. Thankfully his homework proved successful, leading eventually to his becoming a consultant anaesthetist.

In a busy life, Peter managed to include two marriages, to Jane and Anne, and was blessed with four children and five grandchildren.

He retired in 2004 and became full-time carer to Anne who had been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. The pair travelled extensively, never letting the wheelchair get in the way.

Peter loved music, particularly Grieg and Haydn. Following Anne’s death in 2010, he joined the Cheltenham Recorded Music Society (on one occasion inviting me to speak at a monthly meeting!), the U3A and even a Samba drumming group.

Words by Howard Cooke, East 1951–56 and Antony Grundy, West 1951–57, with contributions from James Young, Peter’s son



Peter Young



From the Archive

TUCK BOXES AND THE SCHOOL SHOP

Richard Haryott, West 1954–59, has kindly donated a 1920's tuck box to the School Archive. It belonged to K G Hopwood, North B 1927–30, the cousin of Richard's wife, Virginia.

It may interest Old Leysians to know that tuck boxes are still in use and available to buy in the School Shop, along with all items of uniform, as well as sweets, drinks, stationery and Old Leysian merchandise. The shop moved to its current location in 1988, at the north end of the Dining Hall with an entrance under the stone spiral staircase. Many Old Leysians will remember this space as the Lower Dining Hall.

As ever, the staff are very welcoming and they play an important role in the life of the School, especially for new pupils and their families as

they transition to The Leys. Most will visit the School Shop during the summer holiday for uniform and other essentials. Many of you will have fond memories of Mr McMurdo and Mrs Kirkup doing the same for you. The School Shop now also supplies uniform items for St Faith's pupils.

Opened by the Games Committee in 1881, revenue from the tuck shop proved a valuable assistance to the overstrained Games Fund which was under pressure from funding the laying of a new cricket pitch and the cost of building some perimeter fencing. During WWI the tuck shop opening times were periodically restricted, and the buying of food from town was prohibited to lower the boys' consumption of essentials necessary for the war effort. During 'thrift week', a prefects' anti-tuck ordinance encouraged the boys to visit the tuck shop less often and to refrain from meat



K G Hopwood's tuck box

at breakfast. Any savings made were then donated to the Public Schools Hospital Fund. Similar initiatives are used today to raise awareness of current global issues.



Mr Mac (30 years' service), Mrs Jay (8 years') and Mrs Kirkup (27 years')

The building that many generations of Old Leysians associate with the tuck shop, that overlooking the fen adjoining Old West House (now School House), was built in 1934. It was very well-received by the boys at the time, especially the café; it was so popular that, towards the end of term, boys had little money left to spend there! The tuck shop was a feature in the lives of the Pitlochry generation too, even serving cooked meals. In 1954 the School Shop came under the control of the Cambridge outfitters, Joshua Taylor. Innovations such as new glass cupboards with curly metal handles, and a streamlined refrigerator, were introduced but the look of the shop remained much the same.

Contemporary tuck boxes are smaller and less robust than K G Hopwood's and, some might say, not as essential these days. They were once the only private, lockable space available to pupils. These days pupils have more privacy, with lockable lockers and desk drawers, and kitchen spaces shared by manageable numbers of peers.

T C Smout, North A 1947–52, writing in the centenary edition of *The Fortnightly*, when asked: "What do you remember most vividly about The Leys?", replied: "Firstly, the ants in the tin of condensed milk which I kept



The School Shop today, still known to pupils as the tuck shop



Inside the tuck shop today

in my tuck box to comfort me in times of stress. We all lived on condensed milk, and used to retire to suck the tins, which had two holes punched in them. It's fine to have your Freudian consolations, but it's incredibly traumatic to find them with ants in."

Do you still have your tuck box? What do you keep in it these days?

by Andy Erby

Sources: *The Fortnightly*, *The School Archive*



The tuck shop built in 1934 (now the Medical Centre)

PETER SYMES, SCHOOL 1927–31

During the clearing of her late aunt's London house, Leeds resident Meryll Wilford discovered two photographs marked 'Peter Symes, 1932, Leys Cambridge', and kindly sent them in. "I can only assume that Peter was a friend of my late aunt whose maiden name was Doreen Coleman."

Peter Symes, School 1927–31 passed away in 1986, but his son Peter A Symes, School 1959–63, was delighted to shed some light on this fascinating find.

"In the photo of the quartet, my father is second from right. In the cricket photo he is on the far right sitting down. Interestingly, Brian (John) Bisseker, School 1926–31 is in the middle of the cricket photo. He was very friendly with Dad and his son, John

(Tilden) Bisseker, School 1959–64, was my contemporary in School House!"

Can you identify any of the other young men in these photographs?



The School Archivist is always pleased to hear from Old Leysians who have items which may be suitable for the School Archive.

Email: development@theleys.net



OL Events 2022–23

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

DATE AND TIME	VENUE	DETAILS
Friday 28 April 2023 The Leys End of Year Concert 19:00–21:15	Saffron Hall Saffron Walden CB11 4UH	Complimentary tickets are offered for donors and supporters of The Leys and their guests.
Sunday 14 May 2023 OL Reunion 10:30–16:30	The Leys Cambridge	Reunion for OLs who entered the School between 2000 and 2009, and Moulton 1998–99.
Wednesday 24 May 2023 OL Communion 12:45	Wesley's Chapel City Road London EC1Y 1AU	All OLs welcome. No booking required.
Thursday 31 August 2023 Cambridge Drinks 18:30–20:30	Sports Pavilion The Leys, Cambridge	All OLs welcome. Invitations will be sent, and online booking opened, nearer the time.
Friday 6 October 2023 Parent Wine Tasting	Great Hall The Leys, Cambridge	All Current Parents welcome. Booking details will be provided nearer the time.
Thursday 9 November 2023 OLS London Drinks 18:30–20:30	One Moorgate Place London EC2R 6EA	All OLs welcome. Invitations will be sent, and online booking opened, nearer the time.
Saturday 2 December 2023 OLS Annual Dinner 19:00–22:30	Newnham College Sidgwick Avenue Cambridge CB3 9DF	All OLs welcome. Invitations will be sent, and online booking opened, nearer the time.

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, large or small, would be a tremendous help.

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OLS Committee 2023

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President – Jo de Grey, Granta 1985–87
Vice President – Andy Erby, Former
Common Room
President Elect – John Rolfe, North B 1968–73
Past President – Julia Clarke, Granta 1986–88
Chairman – Jo de Grey, Granta 1985–87
Treasurer – Stephen Peak, East 1978–83
Secretary – Liz Walden

Committee Members

Andrew Cullen, North A 1998–03 (Singapore)
Sagan Daniels, School 1998–2003
Mark Elliott, Fen 1977–82 (Real Tennis)
Richard Haryott, West 1954–57
James Houlder, School 1996–01 (OLCC)
Charlie Kidman, North B/Fen 1963–68
(Benevolent Fund)

Katya Kornilova, Fen 2005–09
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)

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

OL News is produced twice a year by the Development Office. 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 July 2023.



The Leys
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www.theleys.net