



Concordia

Autumn 2021 - Number 24



Yesterday once more..

Not a Clapham College view, but a view of Clapham College



It's a view from the third floor of SFX College [the Paddock]



Football Presentations at Norbury for the 2020/21 Season. Report on Page 37

The Darent Valley Walk - Farningham and the Crown in Shoreham, Kent



Farningham rd Station to The Crown Pub in Shoreham.



Distance
6.74 mi

Elevation Gain
272 ft

Moving Time
2:56:06



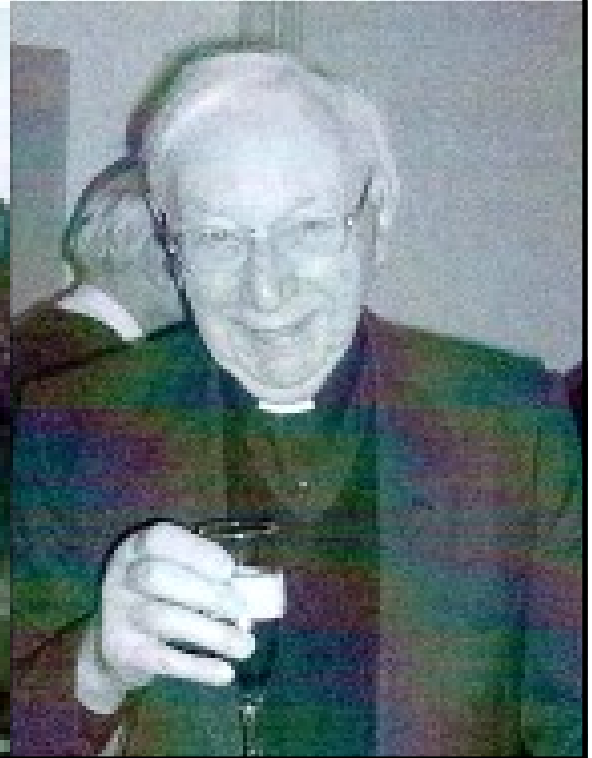


Fond farewell to two Xaverian clerics



Mgr. Cyril Murtagh 19.01.1926 - 18.08.2021

Clapham College 1937 to 1944 [Glastonbury] a Xaverian for 84 years



Fr. Mario Sanderson

17.02.1931—16.08.2021

Clapham College Sec. 1952/53





Thoughts of Chairman Dave



Dear friends and fellow Old Boys,

“How are you?”. We ask it a lot, rarely waiting for an answer, until 2020 and the past 18 months determined that we really do care about an answer. Maybe you might think this is all a bit “Nanny-Chairman”, but if you’re on of us, and the answer is “Not very well; not very well at all.”, then please know; for many years now, we have not been just a sports club, but a proper Old Boys’ Association. Need help? Need a visit? Need a pint? Let us know; let me know, if you like. (I’ll send someone round...!)

Were you at **The Chairman’s Summer Lunch?**, it was fantastic; Low-Blether, as promised, but for a joyous, unconfined celebration of our community of friends, it was as good as any last-Friday-in January, and better than some. Ms Mansfield and Vlad the (organ) Repairer were in fine form. Tom Purcell continues to record PBs on drunken happiness, like a Drinkers’ Sergei Bubka. Noel Curran (Niagara) came from even further than Tam did (Glesgae), but left early. Your Chairman was in his cups before 7.30pm and slipped away unnoticed, (his departure matching his arrival).

Clapham Golfers Golfed again and Clapham Ramblers rambled again. Plans are afoot for a Somme/Battlefields Tour in 2022. The Mass will be celebrated, on Remembrance Sunday (one way or another, but as I type, at the School Chapel).

I sincerely hope that we all are reunited soon, and that those who (understandably) are less keen on congregating are kept in touch by those of us who are closest to them, ahead of that happy day.

People have always said “Stay safe”; now we mean it.

Yours, David Chairman, Clapham Old Xaverians Association

David Leathem 26th September (SS Cosmas’ & Damian’s Day)

Dates for your Diary - [Keep checking the COXA Website - every week]

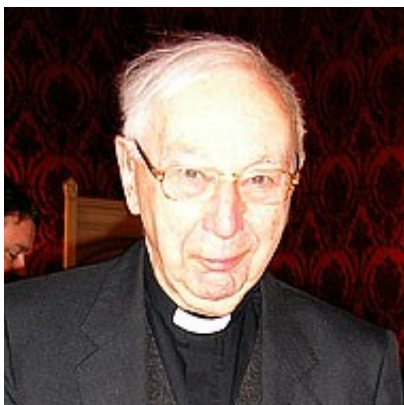
COXA A.G.M. - Thursday 21st October..... [6:30 p.m. via Zoom] [Eddie O’Brien]

Remembrance Service, College Chapel - 14th November [Eddie O’Brien]

Chairman’s Lunch, Oval - 28th January 2022 [Eddie O’Brien]

COXA Battlefield Tour [Arras] 11th to 13th June 2022 [Scotty]

Rambling Events/Dates [Scotty] V.I.P Events, Norbury [Frank Barretta]



Rev. Mgr Canon Cyril Murtagh

**Cyril's roles
for his
beloved
Catholic
Church**

Born on 19th January 1926

Seminary Formation

Entered Seminary of Venerable English College in Rome, where he was Ordained to the Priesthood on 27th October 1957.

Appointments in the Diocese of Portsmouth

From 1958-1968 he served as an assistant priest at Portsmouth (Saint Joseph's), Jersey (St Mary & St Peter) and in Southampton (St Boniface).

His first appointment as Parish Priest was to Southampton (St. Colman) in 1968.

From 1969-1972 he was Parish Priest of Our Lady, North Hinksey, and his final placement as Parish Priest was in Petersfield from 1972-2001.

In 2001 he became the Priest in Charge of Liphook until his retirement in 2018.

Monsignor Cyril served in a number of roles within the Diocese.

He was Vicar General (for 3 periods), a member of the Council of Priests, the College of Consultors, and the Diocesan Finance Committee.

He was the Administrator of the Diocese after the death of Bishop Emery. He also served as Judicial Vicar, Moderator of the Tribunal, Moderator of the Curia, and was a Member of the Cathedral Chapter.

Died 18th August 2021

Requiescat in pace



Cyril Murtagh's Funeral, was a grand affair, with over two dozen clergy on the altar and three Bishops all there to celebrate his life and dedication to the Church and the Diocese and to thank him for the numerous roles he had undertaken over his ministry. There was the thanks to Cyril "the Man" who did things in his own calm and humorous manner.

OBITUARY - MONSIGNOR CYRIL MURTAGH

Monsignor Cyril Murtagh (1944) has died, at the age of 95, after a short illness.

Cyril joined the Clapham College preparatory school (based in the Hollywood building) in 1935 and then moved up to the main school in 1937. Two years later the school was evacuated to East Grinstead. During this period the staff included Br. Bernardine (Headmaster), Br. Alphonsus ('Doggie'!) and Br. Dunstan.

After leaving Clapham in 1944, Cyril spent four years in the army before going up to Pembroke College, Oxford in 1948 to read English. Among the lecturers were JRR Tolkien and CS Lewis. Having graduated from Oxford in 1951, Cyril then started studying for the priesthood at the Venerable English College in Rome and was ordained at the English College in 1957. He served as Parish Priest in Portsmouth (where the curate in an adjoining parish was his fellow student from the English College, Fr Cormac Murphy-O'Connor), Jersey, Southampton, Oxford and then Petersfield from 1972 to 2001.

In 1968, Cyril was appointed a Canon Lawyer and practised in this capacity in the Matrimonial Tribunal. From 1980 to 1993 he was the Vicar-General of the Diocese of Portsmouth and at one point ran the diocese for 10 months while a new Bishop was appointed. He was appointed Monsignor by Pope Paul VI.

His final appointment was as the Parish Priest at the Immaculate Conception, Liphook, in the Portsmouth Diocese. Cyril managed to cope with the demands of parish life until early 2019. He then retired to Maryfield Convent where he was cared for by the Dominican Sisters. Well into his nineties, Cyril was still able to enjoy a glass of sherry in the evening with the other retired priests!

Cyril always remembered his formative years at Clapham and some years ago was the guest speaker at the Chairman's lunch.

His nephews John Murtagh (1969), Matthew Murtagh (1972), David Murtagh (1974) and Bob Murtagh (School Captain 1977) also attended the College. May he rest in peace.

Cyril's funeral took place at Portsmouth Cathedral

Cyril's funeral took place on Wednesday 1st September 2021 at 11.45am at St John's Catholic Cathedral in Portsmouth.

His burial was later that day at Petersfield cemetery followed by a gathering at the Church Hall in Petersfield.

Many of his friends, parishioners and fellow priests gathered on the day to celebrate his life. Chairman David [and Scotty] from Clapham attended to offer their thanks to a well-loved Clapham Old Boy and offer condolences to the Murtagh brothers. Cyril prepared his own funeral arrangements, prayers and hymns, and of course St Francis Xavier got a mention.

+++++ God Bless and Rest in Peace Cyril +++++



MARIO (WILLIAM) SANDERSON:
1931-2021

Mario's
roles for his
beloved
Catholic
Church

Born: Leeds, 17th February 1931

Received into Catholic Church: 28th October 1947

Joined Xaverian Brothers: 8th September 1948

First Vows: 19th March 1951

Perpetual Profession: 19th March 1954

Transferred to the Benedictines and clothed in the habit:
25th October 1979

Solemn Profession as monk of Prinknash: 24th October 1981

Transferred to St Michael's Abbey, Farnborough, Hampshire:
22nd November 1984

Ordained priest: 15th December 1985

Leave of Absence from Farnborough: 29th September 1991

Exclaustrated from Farnborough: 29th September 1993

Incardinated into the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton:
16th January 1997

Retired: 2018

Died: 16th August 2021

Appointments in the Diocese

Assistant Priest, Godalming: 1991-1995

Assistant Priest, Hove: 1995-1998

Parish Priest, Hove: 1998-2003

Parish Priest, Mayfield: 2003-2018

Father Mario died on 16th August 2021 at Holy Cross Care Home, Cross in Hand, East Sussex, aged 90.

Father Mario Sanderson was well known to Clapham Xaverians and was visited by various Old Boys at his Mayfield Parish many times over the years. He was always a friend of COXA and loved his Clappers and Concordias and often sent the "odd" article to the editors. Even in the past year he "Came to the Fore" when I published a series of 1950s / 1960s photos of Xaverian Brothers, and Mario photocopied four or five, annotated them, and sent a letter of explanation; all published in Concordia.

"Brother" Mario CFX started his ecclesiastical life as a Xaverian Brother and thus his affiliation to the Xaverians of both Clapham and Mayfield [also Manchester]. He was School Secretary at Clapham College in 1952/53 under Brother Joseph. He was a "Brother" for 31 years, until he was ordained in 1985. He became parish priest of St Thomas of Canterbury [in Mayfield Village], thus continuing his association with we Xaverians.

Mario retired only a couple of years ago to the Covent of The Holy Cross, East Sussex, where he continued being an encyclopaedia of all things Xaverian, enhanced by his many stories and experiences. At 90 years old he still had that sharp mind that our "older" Xaverians remember him for... +++ RIP Mario +++ Scotty

Mick Weir had spotted in the Daily TelegraphFather Mario. Died on 16th August 2021 at Holy Cross Care Home, Cross in Hand, East Sussex, aged 90. Xaverian brother and teacher for many years then monk at Prinknash and Farnborough Abbey. Parish Priest at Godalming, Hove, and Mayfield. His coffin was received into St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Mayfield on 20th September followed by a Vigil Mass.

Funeral Mass at St Thomas' on Tuesday 21st September at 12 noon followed by burial at St Dunstan's Churchyard, Mayfield. He asked for Masses to be said for his soul rather than flowers.

+++++

Dear Scotty, Thank you for the latest Concordia, it is lovely to read up all the stories and gradually see more names that I am familiar with, either at school, or playing for the old boys when at school, or playing for the old boys when I was an old boy. The pictures are great as I see myself being able to identify people of my era and reminds of what a great school it was and what characters there were either in the teaching staff or amongst the brothers, it certainly gave me a great education and a foundation for life. It is amazing how often **Latin comes back into mind despite all the arguments about it being a dead language**; big problem, I am fluent in Italian so sometimes got the two confused much to irritation of the Latin teachers I had, although **Begley** loved me, as I could have long conversations with him while he was rolling his pipe tobacco before he set fire to it. Many kind regards,
Ted Corrigan [a regular contributor]
More on the "demise of Latin" from 1975 [overleaf] - Ed

Clapham College School trip St Gallen in Switzerland



Mike Collins has sent in these fabulous photos, evoking memories of his time at Clapham in the 1960s. This is the real “stuff” of Concordias - everyone loves them! Think this was 1968. School trip with Gumley [Brother Christopher], John Walsh, Seamus Leahy, Mick Murphy, John Cleak., are in the photo to the right.

The other photo is Brian Shortall. [St Gallen in Switzerland.]

CLAPHAM COLLEGE · NIGHTINGALE LANE · S.W.4

The Governors of Clapham College have confirmed the award of a Grammar School place to your son on the results of the Junior Leaving Examination. It is understood that you agree that your son must stay at school until he has taken the Advanced Level Examination of the General Certificate of Education at the age of eighteen.

The Autumn term will begin on Monday 7th Sept 1964
School hours are from 9.10 to 12.50 and from 2.0 till 4.0.
There is no Saturday school.

All pupils must be supplied before entry with white gym-vest, shorts and plimsolls which must be marked with the pupil's name. Pupils must wear the school uniform of blazer, cap, badge and tie. When they are playing football a school shirt and school stockings must be worn. All articles of school uniform can be obtained at the school, and the date Saturday 5 Sept. has been set aside for the distribution of books and clothing.

The Headmaster invites the parents of all new boys to attend a meeting in the College on Wed July at 7.30pm. At this meeting you will be given full information about the education of your son. You are asked to inform the Headmaster should you be unable to attend.

Mike Collins acceptance letter for Clapham College. This was the letter we all presumably got saying we had a place, **No Saturdays** must have been what swung it for most of us.. Surely there must be more out there? On the next page is one of those famous Teamsheets, you can almost smell the blue spirit on the Banda. Mike has also added the photos I always ask for “Past & Present”!

Mick Collins sent this 1973 Team-sheet packed with great names and memories.

CLAPHAM OLD XAVERIANS FOOTBALL CLUB

Team Sheet No. 33.

For week ending Saturday, 21st April, 1973.

Last Saturday's RESULTS:

- 1st.Xl. v Old Wokingians Res. (League) Home. Won 6-1. Hixson P. 3, McGrath, King, e.g.
- 3rd.Xl. v Old Suttensians 1V. (League) Away. Won 2-1. McElligott, Bowers.
- 4th.Xl. v Old Thorntonians 1V. (Friendly) Home. Won 4-3. Collins 2, Wills, Webber.

GOALSCORERS (In League matches only - except 4th.Xl.)

- 1st.Xl. Burnham 23, Hixson P. 12, Larkin 8, King 7, McGuire 5, Fulker 3, McGrath 3, Duffy T., Macdonald, McNicholas, e.g. 4.
- 2nd.Xl. Reszkewski M. 9, Larkin 7, Reszkewski V. 6, Macdonald 5, Taggart 5, Brown 4, Hixson P. 3, Gray, Mansi J., McElligott Price.
- 3rd.Xl. McElligott 20, Gavigan S. 9, Hixson F. 9, Murphy J. 7, Brown 6, Collins 3, Miller 3, O'Dee 3, Bowers, Ciechanowicz Z., Duffy M., Pinsent, Price, Simpson, e.g. 2, Gavigan B.
- 4th.Xl. Collins 19, Findlay 16, Webber 13, Mansi A. 11, Pinsent 8, Wills 7, Gavigan B. 6, Burke 2, Galtrey 2, Macdonald 2, Casserly, Wloch, Murphy P., Manktelow, Mahon, Hickey, McElligott J., Benedict, Jauszewski, e.g.

PETER BROWN left a pair of football boots at Norbury on Saturday, 31st March and would like to get them back because of the special instep supports inside. Would all the 2nd.Xl. and 4th.Xl. players who were at Norbury that week please check their kit bags to see if they have got the boots by mistake. Please phone Pete on 942 0600 at home if you find them.



Mike Collins 1966



...and 2020

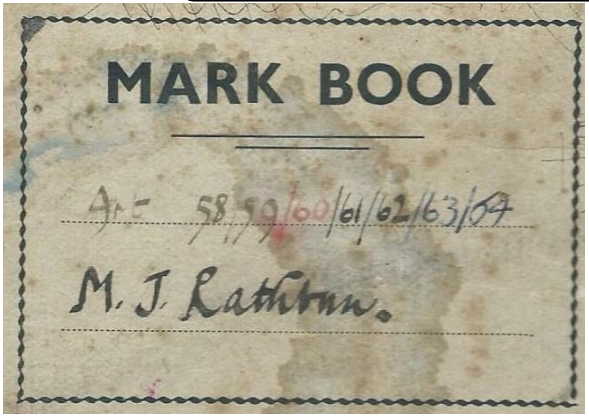
What a stylish room - a perfect venue for Art [oh, and Music!]



One wonders what brilliant “Curriculum Planner” [Xaverian Brother] decided that the old store-room above the stables, in the courtyard next to Broadoak would be the best venue for our “Creative Arts Department”? Who would have thought in their wildest dreams that this unique room could accommodate our budding Artists and Musicians? 33 boys were an idea number [apparently] to put into this 40 foot x 20 foot venue? The perfect combination of “Gobo “ and ”Jake”/Rathbun? Did Mr Smith and Mr Richins have only half timetables - otherwise how could they have taught Music while Art classes were on? From the Art Register extracts below there was “A”-Level Art in 1959/60 “ **Luckhurst, Streeter, McGrath, J. Murphy [Sabbagh deleted] in 1960 Haynes, Hennessey, Neary and Barker.** But “A” Level Music - no idea, [do you remember Art followed by Music in that room???

London A level '59				London 'A' level 1960	
1	L.V.I	X Luckhurst.	x	Haynes	More on Art/Music overleaf
		Sabbagh		Hennessey	
1		X Streeter.	x	Neary	
1		X McGrath.	x	Barker	
1	Sa	X J. Murphy.	x		

The Art / Music "Combo" continued...



THE REVEREND BROTHER DAVID, C.F.X.
 PROVINCIAL OF THE XAVERIAN BROTHERS,
 CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BODY,
 will take the Chair.

ENTERTAINMENT

THE HEADMASTER'S REPORT.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE PRIZES BY
 F. W. BALDWIN, ESQ.

PROGRAMME

CHOIR

"Non Nobis, Domine" (Kipling) *Quilter*
 "Shenandoah" *Sea Shanty*
 "The Great Sea" *French Round*

* * * * *

P. DOWD

"Hey, Rattler" *American Folk Song*
 "There, but for Fortune" *American Folk Song*
 "If You Try" *Words and Music by P. Dowd, Esq.*

* * * * *

CHOIR

"Go Down, Moses" *Negro Spiritual*
 "Chevaliers de la Table Ronde" *French Drinking Song*
 "The Bold Gendarmes" *Offenbach*

SCHOOL OFFICIALS.

	1964-1965	1965-1966
<i>School Captain :</i>	A. Davis	P. Shimell
<i>House Captains :</i>		
Canterbury	J. Utting	R. Williams
Charterhouse	<u>J. Condon</u>	J. Wood
Glastonbury	A. Davis	P. Dowd
Walsingham	A. Fulker	<u>J. Rayer</u>
<i>Games Captains :</i>		
Athletics	P. Schwenk	R. Davis
Cricket	A. Davis	J. Wood
Football	B. Baker	J. Rayer

Hi Scotty, found the attached when clearing out mum and dad's house. Letter informing us of the new arrangements with the new school. I was in Two Alpha so had the pleasure of **Charlie Bond** in 3Bd. Can remember it like yesterday. Hope you can use this? Thanks, **Michael Barker**

Clapham College,
11 Nightingale Lane,
LONDON, S.W.4.

16 June 1975

Dear Parent,

As you know, Clapham College, as a Grammar School, ceases to exist at the end of this term. On 1st September, we will reassemble as a Comprehensive School, still to be called Clapham College, and formed by amalgamation with St. Gerard's School. Until the new buildings are ready for use, probably in January, the new school will operate on the two existing sites. Your son(s), however, will not be affected. He/They will continue to attend at the college site as before and he/they will remain with the same class as before. There will, inevitably, be some immediate changes and it is these that I wish to bring to your notice.

THE SCHOOL DAY : as from 1st September school will start at 8.45 a.m. and the daily schedule will run as follows:-

8.45 - 9.00	Registration and Assembly
9.00 - 9.45	First period
9.45 - 10.30	Second period
10.30 - 10.45	Break
10.45 - 11.30	Third period
11.30 - 12.15	Fourth period
12.15 - 1.20	Lunch break
1.20 - 1.30	Afternoon registration
1.30 - 2.10	Fifth period
2.10 - 2.50	Sixth period
2.50 - 3.30	Seventh period and dismissal

* PLEASE NOTE THAT FIRST YEAR BOYS ONLY will start on 2 September at 9.30 a.m.

THE SYLLABUS : basically your son will continue to follow those courses which he has been taking up to now subject to the following variations:-

- Latin will be phased out, except for boys currently taking Latin in the fourth forms. They will continue to study Latin in the Fifth form up to O level.
- Boys currently in the fourth forms, who pass English Language at O level, will be able, in September, to choose between English Literature and Sociology in the fifth forms.
- Boys entering the fourth forms in September will have a double option : Biology OR Economics AND Art OR Sociology.
- Boys returning to the sixth form and wishing to follow an A level course will choose three subjects from the following groups (not more than one subject from any one group):-

Group A	: Maths, History, Italian
Group B	: Chemistry, Geography, French
Group C	: Physics, Sociology, Art, British Government
Group D	: Biology, Literature, Religion, Economics

They will also be able to supplement their O levels if they so desire

PASTORAL SYSTEM : Each form will have a form master as follows:-

Present 1A	: new 2Ct	: Mr. Curtin
Present 1a	: new 2M7	: Mr. McConway
Present 2A	: new 3So	: Mr. Solomon
Present 2a	: new 3Bd	: Mr. Bond
Present 3A	: new 4Jm	: Mr. James
Present 3a	: new 4Sl	: Mr. Scanlon
Present 4A	: new 5Gv	: Mr. Garvey

Obituaries

Tony Hendra

Satirist who co-founded Spitting Image and discovered John Belushi

**Clapham College
in the Times &
Telegraph**

Tony Hendra found fame as the manager of the world's most dysfunctional heavy metal band. That the band was entirely fictitious did not prevent his charges from entering the rock'n'roll pantheon after they appeared in the 1984 mockumentary *This Is Spinal Tap*. In that film Hendra played the hapless Ian Faith who tried to keep his dimwitted and monstrously hairy group on the straight and narrow during a disastrous tour of America.

If Hendra didn't quite steal the show, he commandeered several of the film's most comic moments. It was Hendra's character who smashed a TV screen with a cricket bat and declared that "in the topsy-turvy world of rock and roll, having a good solid piece of wood in your hand is quite often useful".

He was also Hendra who commissioned the replica of Stonehenge for Spinal Tap's stage set. Owing to his confusion over the measurements, when it was delivered the model was a mere 18 inches high instead of the required 18 feet.

Later in the film, on finding that the 14-strong entourage had been booked into a single room in a Memphis hotel, he asked the desk clerk how they were all going to fit into the same bed. "Don't forget me, sir," comes the reply.



show as irreverent as *Spitting Image*. It was no coincidence that when he wrote a book about the subversive art of satire a few years later he titled it *Going Too Far*. In his view, there was no other way.

In America — where he arrived in 1964 for a two-week engagement and stayed for 57 years — he was known as a stand-up who appeared alongside Lenny Bruce and Woody Allen and helped to launch the careers of John Belushi and Chevy Chase while editing *National Lampoon*.

In 2004 he published *Father Joe: The Man Who Saved My Soul*, a memoir

which detailed his long friendship with Joseph Warrilow, a Benedictine monk who supported him through the depths of despair and self-loathing at the lowest point of his life when he had attempted suicide with a cocktail of vodka and diazepam the night before filming began on *This Is Spinal Tap*.

The book made the bestseller lists and the conservative commentator Andrew Sullivan declared that it belonged "in the first tier of spiritual memoirs".

However, on its publication Jessica Hendra, the younger of two daughters from his first marriage, submitted an



proof. The paper's ombudsman subsequently examined the circumstances and expressed regret that the story had been published.

Jessica repeated the accusations in a 2005 memoir, *How to Cook Your Daughter*, the title of which mockingly echoed the headline of a satirical cover story her father had once written for the *National Lampoon*. The allegations were never tested in court.

He is survived by his second wife, Carla Meisner, whom he married in 1990 after his 20-year marriage to Judy Christmas ended in divorce. In addition he is survived by his daughters Katherine and Jessica from his first marriage and three children from his second, Lucy, Sebastian and Nicholas.

Anthony Christopher Hendra was born in 1941, in Willesden, northwest London. His father, Robert, was a stained-glass artist whose commissions included colouring Westminster Abbey's Battle of Britain memorial. His mother was of Irish descent and a "good Catholic", although her son noted acidly that she did not allow her faith "to interfere with her daily round of gossip, bitching, kid-slapping, neighbour-bashing, petty vengeance, and other middle-class peccadilloes".

He was educated by Catholic monks at St Columba's College before transferring to St Albans School, linked to the Anglican cathedral and where Stephen Hawking and the film director Mike Newell were classmates. Despite excelling in various sports teams and winning a scholarship to Cambridge, his headmaster told him he could never be head boy because he was a "papist".

By then he had already come under the influence of Father Joe in unusual circumstances after a middle-aged woman had attempted to seduce him when he was 14. The woman's husband took him to see the monk at Quarr Abbey on the Isle of Wight for his spiritual care and to keep him out of their lives.

On leaving school Hendra was determined to follow in his mentor's footsteps as a monk but Father Joe insisted that he took up his scholarship at St John's. Inspired by his love of *The Goon Show* and *Beyond the Fringe*, at Cambridge his religious vocation and his studies were soon eclipsed by a talent for satire. As a member of the Footlights he performed alongside Tim Brooke-Taylor and the future Monty Python founders John Cleese and

Graham Chapman. Father Joe gave his approval. "What a contemplative monk and a satirist do are very much the same thing," he told his disciple. "We see the evil in the world around us and we go about trying to do something about it."

After university Hendra formed a comedy duo with Nick Ullett. In 1964 they were the supporting act at a London show by the American comic Jackie Mason, who invited them to New York. One of their first appearances was at the Cafe Au Go Go in Greenwich Village, opening for Lenny Bruce. On the third night the police raided the club and arrested Bruce for obscenity.

The duo's British sense of humour got them invited on to television and they appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show* six times before Hendra broke up the partnership in 1969 and headed for Los Angeles to become a comedy writer.

His sojourn was short-lived. Working on a show sponsored by Chevrolet, he sabotaged his career by publishing an open letter to the company's chairman, taking him to task for the car manufacturer's record on pollution. "I was flooded with supportive calls but I was finished in network television," Hendra later wrote.

He returned to New York to become managing editor of the newly launched *National Lampoon* magazine and revelled in running such bad-taste features as "The Case for Killing Our Aged (You've had your fun. Now butt out)" and a cover showing a collie with a gun to its head and the strap line "If You Don't Buy This Magazine, We'll Kill This Dog".

In the 2018 drama *In A Futile and Stupid Gesture*, which documented the history of the magazine, he was played by Matt Lucas. During his eight-year stay Hendra also turned *National Lampoon* into a lucrative franchise with spin-off books, records, films and stage shows. On 1972's *Radio Dinner*, the first album under the brand, he performed a John Lennon parody titled *Magical Misery Tour* on which he repeatedly screamed "genius is pain". The next year he co-wrote and directed the magazine's off-Broadway revue, *Lemmings*, a parody of Woodstock in which he cast John Belushi and Chevy Chase in their first starring roles.

Belushi had sent him an audition tape and Hendra flew to Chicago to sign him up. "From the moment I saw him, I knew he was amazing," Hendra said.

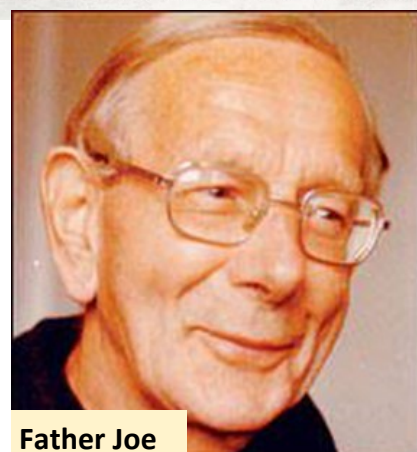
Belushi was also a thoroughly bad influence on Hendra's already wayward lifestyle and there were some wild, drug-fuelled nights together before Belushi died of an overdose in 1982.

Yet it seemed even his friend's death and the best efforts of Father Joe could not restrain Hendra's hedonistic excesses. "You could be out for four days," said his friend Roger Law, who recalled him once hurling a dustbin through a plate-glass window while on a cocaine binge. "In the middle of all this, he would suddenly take you to a Catholic church. Then back to the bar."

Tony Hendra, satirist, was born on July 10, 1941. He died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis on March 4, 2021, aged 79

Tony Hendra died in 2021. He was NOT an Old Xaverian, but he maintained a very close friendship with **Bro Joseph Warrilow**, a Benedictine monk who supported and mentored him through a successful, but drug and drink-fed career, that involve co-founding Spitting Image, writing for **Monty Python** and creating **Spinal Tap**. **Joseph Warrilow** was a Clapham Old Xaverian who had become a Benedictine and lived at Quarr Abbey [quarry], on the Isle of Wight. Joe, was born in 1901 in Lambeth and went on to be educated at Clapham College, he was an outstanding athlete [Clapham College 1910 to 1916]. He went on to be ordained into the priesthood, before deciding to live the life of a Benedictine monk at the Abbey, and was a regular contributor to Concordia. He mentored the "Wildman" Tony Hendra for over 40 years until he died in 1998. Joe was the subject of Hendra's best selling memoirs -

"Father Joe, the man who saved my soul"



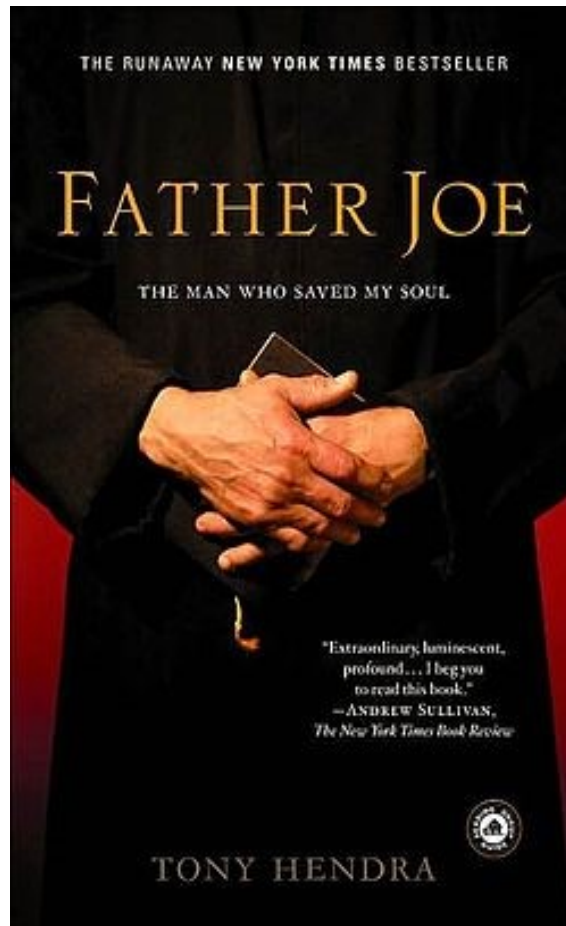
Father Joe

Father Joe: The Man Who Saved My Soul (2004) is a memoir written by Tony Hendra, an English humorist and satirist. It was on the *New York Times* Best Seller list for many weeks.

When Hendra was 14, he had an affair with a married woman. When her husband, a devout Catholic, discovered them in each other's arms, he took Hendra on a trip to Quarr Abbey, a monastery on the Isle of Wight off the coast of England. Hendra, expecting to be disciplined, was surprised when a "cartoonish" monk, Father Joseph Warrilow, instead treated him kindly.

Quarr and decided to

When Hendra reached the age of eighteen and time at Quarr, Father Joe had received a scholarship and he urged Hendra to obtain a degree before he could legally begin his education. Hendra attended a theatrical revue called *Beyond the Fringe*. The brilliant performance by Peter Cook, Dudley Moore, Alan Bennett, and Jonathan Miller had such an impact on him that he set off on a totally different course. In that theatre a monk. I'm going to save it of his decision not to continued to visit Father years, until Father Joe's



Hendra fell in love with and decided to become a monk.

the age of eighteen and time at Quarr, Father Joe had received a scholarship and he urged Hendra to obtain a degree before he could legally begin his education.

Hendra attended a theatrical revue called *Beyond the Fringe*. The brilliant performance by Peter Cook, Dudley Moore, Alan Bennett, and Jonathan Miller had such an impact on him that he set off on a totally different course. In that theatre a monk. I'm going to save it of his decision not to continued to visit Father years, until Father Joe's

I came across this book by accident: it had been left in the kitchen of a flat that I was moving into and, because I had nothing better to do, I began to read it. And I read and read and did not want to put it down. At some points I read with tears streaming down my face. This is one of the most honest and accessible modern spiritual autobiographies I've ever read. Tony Hendra, most famous in the UK as a member of Spinal Tap and as co-creator of Spitting Image, charts his own spiritual life from a boy of 14 having an 'affair' with his catechist's wife through aspiring monk, apostate satirist, drug addict, womaniser and, eventually, devoted husband and father. He was guided, informed & unconditionally loved throughout this journey by Dom **Joseph Warrilow**, a Benedictine monk who lived at the enclosed Benedictine abbey of Quarr on the Isle of Wight from 1926 until his death in the 1990s. Fr Joe radiates from the page, the author's deep and respectful love for him as strong as Fr Joe's deep spiritual (although not, as we are comically told, physical) beauty. This is a great book. The story of friendship and spirituality that is told is honest and profound. The author is blessed with great insight into his own character and that of Fr Joe. His great skill with the written word does justice to this powerful account of a monk who reached out from behind an enclosure and touched lives. I'm very grateful to the former inhabitant of my flat for giving me the opportunity to have read it

Organ wanted so boys built it themselves

TWO years ago it was decided that the chapel organ at John Fisher school, Purley, Surrey, needed overhauling and enlarging.

The cost of having it done professionally would have been too high, so organist Fr. Anthony Richins got together a group of 12 boys with the intention of doing it themselves.

The boys didn't have any experience and decided to construct a simple organ first to get in some practice.

Cost only £400

Now that "simple" organ is nearing completion and it has turned out to be a modern-looking, two-manual and pedal instrument with 12 stops, and electrically operated. Cost: only £400, for most of the parts were made by the boys. But its market value to-day is nearer £2,000.

When it is finished — about Easter time — Fr. Richins plans to hold a series of recitals to raise money in order to rebuild the old organ.

In the meantime the "practice" one will take its place in the school chapel.



ABOVE: The boys put on the finishing touches.



RIGHT: Fr. Richins seems well pleased with the "feel".



Father Anthony Richins

And ...2021 brings Clapham "organs" full circle with "Vlad's Quest" for funding

Remember the Days - COXA Scratch Cards



I'm no expert, but which one of these three would you select to launch your advertising campaign? Maybe it's about their fees? [clue - only one is a Xaverian!]



I visited the Windmill Pub on Clapham Common for the first time in many years last month. I noticed this sign outside the Public Toilets. I think I was aware of the contents of the notice, but nice to see it in print!

Continuing a "series" I stopped a year ago, I have found a 41-year-old "Clapper" - Mick Power [editor] - his first edition.

CLAPPER

2nd Issue

1990

EDITORIAL

Let us turn our attention away from world matters and the ERM for a moment and dwell upon the future of the Association. From a recent newsheet I reproduce the following item:

Old Rutlishians are going the way of all old-boy set-ups. A closed club since 1923, they have been forced to "go open" at their Merton Park ground in South London after an alarming decline in membership from the school and a consequent slump in fortunes.

(Daily Telegraph 1.10.90)

Does this have a familiar ring? Well, where in your opinion do the fortunes of the Association stand today? The membership base was broadened some years ago to take in the feeder schools. Although this opened the gates for a widening of our membership, our links today with the feeder schools are of a tenuous nature and it is in doubt whether these will secure our future. Is it time to consider following the same path as Old Ruts?

Unless marked progress is made in forging more binding associations with the feeder schools - and especially the Sixth Form College - then going open may be the only way forward.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As the Association year comes to an end it is perhaps right that we reflect first on the year gone and then look forward to the coming year.

After the euphoria of the farewell to Clapham College Reception the usual COXA support to social functions surfaced. Those events that took place were enjoyable, however, despite poor attendances. We even had the embarrassment of having to cancel the re-union buffet through lack of interest (shame on you all).

The Football Section's performance, on the field, continues to disappoint and I believe it will continue to do so until the problem of lack of recruitment from the Sixth Form College and feeder schools is solved. Despite its lack of success on the field the Football Section has successfully established an end of season 5-a-side tournament (thanks mainly to John Leathem) and the end of season football tour is fast becoming a must for all Irish footballers with any tenuous link with COXA (thanks to Tommy Purcell and Mickey Burke).

The Cricket Section continues to remain fairly strong due mainly to the tireless endeavours of the three captains: Tony Amura, Seamus Burke, and Ben Benedict. Our first season of League Cricket has proved to be a great success (thanks mainly to Ben Benedict and Kevin Horkhan), ending with a mid-table position. But never fear, we will be much higher next season.

It would appear that from within the ranks of COXA a Golf Section is evolving. A tour to Ireland, a COXA Championship, and a COXA Team Champions of the Old Boys, with many other ad-hoc golf days, suggest that there is a good future for golf within the Association.

Looking to the future, the Association's main problem is old and well-known ... lack of support for any events arranged, and the refusal of the membership to join the Committee and instill some fresh impetus and enthusiasm. **Mick Brien (Treasurer) and Colin Brown (Bar Treasurer)** have stepped down for the coming year. Our thanks go to them both for all their efforts over the last few years. We are now looking for a Treasurer and Bar Treasurer. Any offers?????

Mick Power has agreed to become Clapper Editor (this is his first edition); please help Mick with articles, views, comments, etc.

The Committee intends to hire a **Bar Person** to run the Bar every Saturday. (No complaints please over price rises.)

Introducing the Feeder Schools

Let's get to know each other! I begin in this edition by introducing ERIC TOPE and his school, ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE.

Eric, an active member of the Association for many years, and currently Secretary, is the Headmaster of St Thomas the Apostle School, which is situated at Hollydale Road, Nunhead, SE15 2EB. Scotty McDonald and Rob James, among several other members of the Association, teach at the school, and the Football section in the past has used its facilities for training.

I reproduce Eric's own leaflet introducing the school and setting out its aims and achievements:

OLD FOGEYS' CLUB

Of all the names - polite and not so polite - given to the group of more senior members of the Association who meet for a drink and a chat at Norbury, "Old Fogeys" seems to be the one that has stuck, and since none of the aforementioned gentlemen has raised any objection to it we'll stick with it for the time being.

Our meetings, now once every two months, instead of once a quarter, constitute what is probably one of the more consistent features of the Old Boys' social calendar. Our next gathering will, of course, take place on the occasion of the Annual Mass in the chapel of St Francis Xavier College at 11.0 am on Sunday 11th November, and afterwards in the club, when every member - not just the older ones - should make an effort to attend.

Meetings in 1991 are scheduled to happen at Norbury from about 9.0 pm on the following Friday evenings: **Jan 11, Mar 8, May 10, July 12, and Sep 13.** The Annual Mass in 1991 will be on Sunday 10 November.

It would be nice to report that our club is thriving. In fact, while we have a very regular band of stalwarts our numbers have hardly increased at all over the last couple of years. The reliables include Don Mulvihill, Maurice Ward, John Woollard, Nino Caraccio, the Cernuschis (all three of them), Harry Mellor, Del Cooper, Derek Rowe, Colin Garvey, Dave Slattery, Ted Newman, and Brian Sanders. Other visitors have included Denis Quin, John Noulton, Peter Brown, Doug Hadida, and Rudolph Massara.

We do put a very liberal interpretation on the word "old"; on one occasion, John Noulton brought his sons, and apart from lowering the average age somewhat they seemed to enjoy themselves. So, if you feel like an inexpensive night out, wallowing in nostalgia washed down with generous amounts of your favourite tippie (we now even lay on bar snacks as well), why not make a note of the above dates as soon as you get your 1991 diary and join us?

DOWN MEMORY LANE by John McGuire

I was asked if I could put forward my "all-time side" from the Club. People may agree or disagree with my selection below, but it is purely a personal point of view.

People asked what it was like when I first started playing, in 1960. There was none of the luxury of "meet at Morden" or "meet at Balham". The message you received was simply: Reigate, Dorking, Guildford, or wherever, with the kick-off time. Travelling to those places was like going on holiday. The only luxury was a lift back in Derek Rowe's Fiat 127 or Ted Newman's 3-wheeler (when it was going and when he wasn't suspended from driving). Yes, we had drink/driving offences even in THOSE days.

There was no Clubhouse at Norbury, and it was generally down to the Sussex for a quick drink and then home. However, on one occasion, arriving back at London Bridge from Sidcup, I think, with Mick Meade, his comment was "Fancy a quick one, John?". After waiting for the pub to open, as far as my hazy head remembers we were then thrown out at closing time. My then girlfriend was not too pleased at me failing to turn up to meet her.

Gradually the luxuries came in: bar at Norbury, cars, meeting places, and such.

John McGuire completes his article in Clapper 1992

With regard to my all-time side, I found this somewhat difficult, but really have confined it to people I have played with or indeed seen a lot of.

There have been a few good Goalkeepers over the years in the way of Phil Gray, Frank Barretta, or Dave Mackie, but I have gone for my old mate Mick Meade, having had experience for an against him when the old bugger was on a cup-winning side against me many years ago.

The Full-Backs were, I think, the easiest to pick and really there can be no competition in my view between John McGowan at Right Back and Colin Garvey at Left Back. Both were very good Full Backs in their own particular way. There were other notable contenders, however, in the way of John McNichols, Dave Murtagh, and Terry Cain - but John and Colin, I think, were in fact streets ahead of them.

The Centre Backs, however, posed a problem because no-one really sprang to mind like John and Colin. However, I have gone for Mick McGrath and Tony Gray. Individually they would not have made it, but as a combination they would have worked very well. There were no other notable contenders; the only one I could really think of was Gerry Fitzpatrick, who must be classed as the "original stopper".

Mid-field did not create many problems because Tony Amura and Phil Leeder immediately came to mind and the only question-mark was over the Centre Midfield. Micky Foy and Kevin Bond were contenders, but I finally came down with John Leathem and I defy anyone to try and pass them or, indeed, out-talk them. Noel Curran was another one, and also may I be cheeky enough to put myself in there.

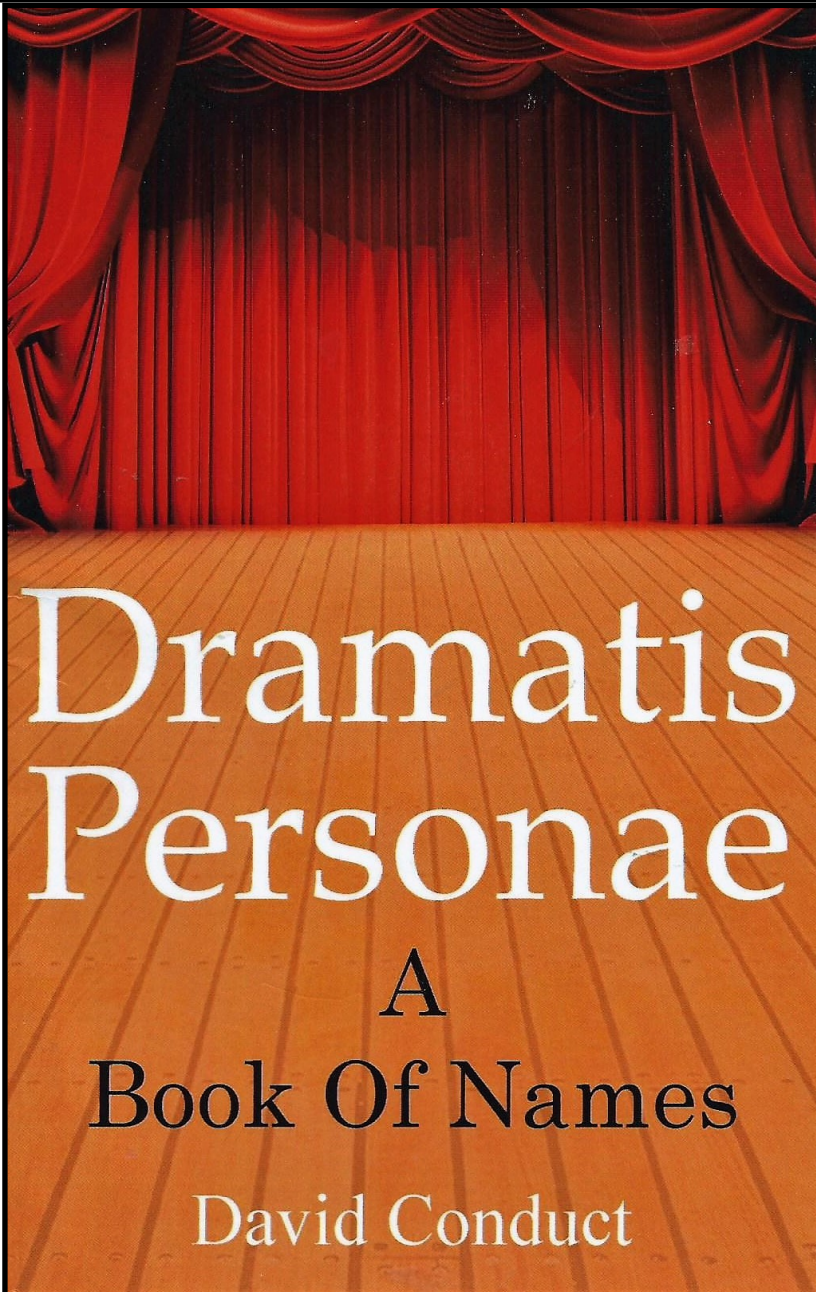
The Forwards did create a bit of a problem because there have been many good forwards over the years in the way of Lynn Carpenter - but he always headed for the corner flag because he was all right-footed - and Chris Smith, who could only score from six yards (but 25 a season), and Ray Gibbs. I did not see much of Ray, nor did I play in the same side. However, his record speaks for itself; but I can only really pick from what I saw, and I ended up with Keith Proctor - when he was not absent from the clubhouse on other duties.

With regard to the Wingers, I had in fact the novel choice of the three Hixson brothers. With no disrespect to Tim I finally plucked for Paul and Frank. These 3 Forwards would guarantee 50 goals a season in the league. They were all two-footed and could also head the ball.

With regard to the substitutes, I have modestly included myself on the basis that I could cover for the whole defence, and Ray Gibbs because he could cover for the front three.

No doubt there will be serious disagreements on my selection but we will simply never know.

MEADE			
McGOWAN	McGRATH	GRAY	GARVEY
AMURA	LEATHEM (J)	LEEDER	
HIXSON P	PROCTOR	HIXSON F	
Subs: GIBBS McGuire			



This page has been set aside for our resident COXA author [no not me] - David Conduct. This is the latest of his dozen books. Available for less than a "fiver"... the Committee have purchase 5 copies ...purchase from Amazon...do it - it's a great way to put together an autobiography..[I know o few of you out there have "aspirations"]. I have copied the Clapham College "bit" on pages 24 and 25..you might need to zoom in [online] - it's the modern way. Scotty

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1993–1999)
 + **Dramatis Personae**
 15 | 46min | Action, Adventure, Drama | Episode



Dramatis Personae was also an episode of Star Trek [Chicken or the Egg?]



David, who regularly writes to Concordia has been given the "centre-page spread" to show off his writing skills. Pages 24/25 is a synopsis of his "Clapham Days"- enjoy.

"Dramatis Personae" is an attempt at autobiography, which takes as its starting point the long - held belief that the world is a stage and life a play. Most literary fiction is based upon this notion which allows a few to be remembered while the vast majority of us go "unwritten-up".

In an attempt to make some amends for this oversight, the author of "Dramatis Personae" simply records the names of those who have shared his experience and so made up the cast-list of his life.

It will, of course, have little significance for anyone whose name does not appear on the list but it may encourage others to keep a similar record of their life. For that reason, at the end of the book, are several blank pages on which readers can list their own "Dramatis Personae".

A retired history teacher, David Conduct now lives in Durham where he taught for over 20 years. This is his tenth book. When not writing, he can be found busking from home on Periscope@durham-busker and on YouTube @durham-busker.

Scene 3 1952 – 60 Clapham College

1 →

Fellow Students

- “Auger, Bonthron, Bouchard, Bunce, Callaghan...” the names that came before me in the daily register.
- Ben Hogan, sportsman and friend and best man at my wedding. Eugene Smyth, footballer and friend. I was best man at his wedding.
- Frank Burkhard, a stylish bowler and superb winger.
- Mick Aldrich, scholar and friend whose motto was: “Suaviter in modo, fortiter in re.” He invented on-line shopping.
 - Jacob Schwenk, smoker and friend.
- Bertie Leen, a very short sportsman, wicket keeper and brilliant inside forward and friend.
 - Ted Bell, sportsman and friend.
- Colin Luke, the best footballer I ever played alongside.

- Dave Whitehouse, athlete and friend.

2 ↓

- Mick Gowan, athlete and friend.
- Mike Turvey, athlete and friend.
- Peter McDermott, sportsman and friend.
- Tony Curtis, cricketer and friend.
- Jim Rogers, card-player and friend.
- Tom Wedgeworth, an “unknown” friend ~ see “Rock ‘n’ Roll Years P. 19.
- Jean Bouchard, a friend with whom I toured W. Germany.
- Philip Lovelock and John Howie, intellectual friends.
- John Sabbagh, a brilliant student with no time for God or Religion.
- Dave Whyte and Alan Jones, musical friends with whom I first performed in the streets of Soho 1957.

Teachers

- Cecil Pocock, History teacher and friend.
- Alexander Begley, English and Italics.
- 1958 – 59 I study classical guitar at the Spanish Guitar Centre near Leicester Square. Len Williams, father of John, is my tutor. A useful experience but classical music not really my scene. As Len observed of my playing: “If you want to mess about get a banjo.” I depart to become a Folk and Blues singer.

- Brother Xavier, “Louie”, my Latin teacher and friend.
- Mr. Atkinson, Scholarship English and T. S. Eliot.
- John Gibb, A-level English with Wordsworth and cigarettes.
 - Bill Blight, maths in fear and trembling.
- Joe Church, maths but with soccer and cricket.
 - Ron Clover, French with groceries.
- Nat Barrier, Physics with failed apparatus.
- Brother Peter, Headmaster who called every boy, “Johnno.”

Scene 4 1957 – 1960

3 →

- Exploring London with my cousin Josie who thought it was all “reely” fun. Half in love, this was our “London Holiday.”
- “Basement 7” years with Colin Johnson, John Hall, Danny Gerlach, Dave Jones, Dave Llewelyn, Mick Fleming and me. Skiffle and Jazz in Colin’s coal cellar ~ the Basement ~ where we wasted much of our youth planning what to do next; like Desperadoes waiting for a train; or simply waiting ~ for anything.

4

My Memories of Clapham College 1952 – 60

The sad news in 2015 that Cecil Pocock, my history teacher, had to go into a care home prompted these reflections on Clapham Xaverian College and what it meant to me. My views are shaped by my own relatively brief experience of the College (1952 – 1960) but I am sure that they will strike a chord with former Xaverians whom I have never known but who share my fondness for the school.

There is certainly something quite unique about the place and this was brought home to me many years ago while I was a student at Hull University (1960 – 1963). One evening I went round to see Mick Aldrich ~ a contemporary of mine from Clapham and also studying at Hull. I was accompanied by my girlfriend and another friend, not from Clapham. The conversation ~ as I am sure is frequently the case when Old Xaverians meet ~ soon became a nostalgia fest as Mick and I recalled past days at Clapham. After an hour or more of this, I overheard my girlfriend ask my other friend: “Did you go to Clapham College?” To which he wearily replied: “No, but I feel that I did”!

So what made Clapham College so special?

5

It was, of course, owned and run by a religious order but never, I am glad to say, in a doctrinaire fashion. Relatively few of the teaching staff were actually members of the Order and those that were seemed very old. No one, to my knowledge, ever joined the Xaverian Order and the result was an educational establishment with a spiritual dimension but remarkably free from dogmatism or missionary zeal. My daily prayers are still those I learned standing in the school yard where the outdoor assembly was held. The spiritual retreats for the Upper School which took the place of normal lessons during a three-day period in Lent left a deep impression on me, but others, I know, were completely untouched by them.

My first impressions of the school, in 1952, were of a rather forbidding place. On the wall, outside the narrow alley-way which led past the school gym, someone, acquainted with Dante's "Inferno" had carved the words: "Abandon hope all ye who enter here."

Stories abounded of the horrors endured by First Year boys: did they really have their heads pushed down toilets? I was more in awe of the masters in their intimidating gowns. Bill Blight always had a conker or two tied up in the wings of his and used them to painful effect. The Sixth Formers seemed enormous and for some time I thought they were members of staff.

Eccentric is the word which springs to mind when I think about my teachers at Clapham but, on reflection, the whole school set-up was somewhat bizarre.

How many schools, I wonder, had their assemblies in the school yard, come rain or shine? And how many

farewell to pupils as they trooped past his stage on the steps of Broad Oak...and him calling everyone, "Johnno," for some unknown reason; Brother Joseph, my first Headmaster at Clapham, saying goodbye to the school, shaking hands with everyone ~ nearly breaking mine ~ as he prepared to transfer to a Mission School in Africa, where he was soon to be struck by lightning; John Gibb ~ Head of English taking an A-level class and smoking a cigarette at the same time...and Jacob Schwenk saying to me: "I don't mind him smoking, but I wish he'd pass them round"!

And, of course, Cecil. Only in his early twenties when I first met him but already, it seemed part of the very fabric of the school; telling the story of History in such a dramatic fashion that his lessons were never dull and with a boundless energy which inspired all his extra-curricular activities. In short, a friend, and one with whom I have exchanged Christmas cards for the past fifty years.

And, my fellow pupils: "Auger, Bonthron, Bouchard, Bunce, Callaghan, Conduct..." How I remember the daily litany of morning registration. Most of the names which came after mine I have long since forgotten, but I have happy memories of the time and space that we shared. Academic rivalry was a feature of our relationships but it generated respect rather than resentment. To this day I can still recall the intellectual pleasure of talking to people like Philip Lovelock and John Howie and I can still look back with admiration on fellow pupils, like John Bunce, who always seemed to beat me into second place in class.

In the same way, sport at Clapham College provided wonderful opportunities to grow and develop. I was very fortunate in being surrounded by talented

schools had to send their pupils out for lunch every day? In the 1950's there were no dining facilities at Clapham and so we had to use those at a neighbouring primary school ~ a mile walk away or a ride on the tube to Balham station. And how many schools in London had an adjacent Paddock, large enough to stage a cricket match, throw discus and javelin, and accommodate a nursery garden?

6

An obvious feature of the school and, of course, one which at the time it shared with many other boys' schools was the complete absence of women. They just didn't seem to play any part in what was a truly "blokey", male world, dominated by sport and academic study. I suppose that this explains Bill Blight's declaration, when initiating a class of terrified First Formers in the mysteries of Mathematics that Arts subjects were "the equivalent of knitting." I never did come to accept this point of view but something of it did survive in the attitude of the Track and Field squad of which I was a member in 1959 - 60. Each of us used to evaluate his performance relative to those of women. If you couldn't beat the Women's World Record in your particular event you really weren't up to much!

And, of course, the teachers. What remarkable characters they were: Brother Dunstan, the oldest member in the Order, who was forever blowing himself up in the Chemistry laboratory; Brother Xavier ~ or "Louie" as he was known to us all ~ a kind, old man whose favourite pastime seemed to be that of stroking the back of the school cat's head with the rubberised end of his walking stick...but a learned man, too, who I once recall conversing in classical Latin with a visiting cleric from Italy; Brother Peter, the Headmaster, who could be found every morning and afternoon welcoming or bidding

sportsmen, with whom it was a pleasure and privilege to participate...Frank Burkhard, Bertie Leen, Ted Bell, 'Ben' Hogan, Eugene Smyth, Peter McDermott, Dave Whitehouse, Mick Gowan, Mike Turvey, Colin Luke...you were all brilliant in your different ways and memories of your sporting achievements remain with me to this day.

One, in particular, I remember involved Colin Luke. Though a few years older than me we played alongside each other briefly in the same First XI football team. I recall a particular match against an Army team at their Chelsea Barracks in King's Road. The pitch was very heavy, the ball weighed a ton but Colin seemed to skip across the surface, banging in goals from every angle. He scored four: I watched in awe.

8

In my mind's eye, I am still that young boy playing alongside Colin; and in spite of the ravages of time, I guess that's how we all feel. And so, Cecil, frail as he now is, remains for me the vibrant life force that he ever was. It is very good to have known such a fine man.

This was a "clumsy attempt" to copy excerpts of David's latest book relating to Clapham College into Concordia, try to read it on the Websites - or buy it.... Scotty

As Colin Garvey would say... 'honestly, it's a true story'.....but incomplete....

NORBURY What does County Road, Norbury mean to you? For some of my non-sporting contemporaries from my time at Clapham College, it means very little or indeed nothing at all. To others like myself, it means a great deal. For many of us growing up in our early teens and who enjoyed our sports, County Road would evolve from just being the school sports ground, to become a new social, adult world that I would go on to embrace fully. We got a glimpse of teachers and older pupils playing cricket, football and socialising. They would cram into the clubhouse bar afterwards and talk about 'the game', drink beer, play darts and sing songs.. Ohhh, the Clapham boys are....; Black Pudding; Drummer Boy; American Pie; Wild Rover; The Cow Kicked Nelly In The Belly In The Barn, the list goes on and on. Whether as a school boy or latterly an old boy, many of us have our own memories.

Remember, remember the fifth of November 1983

Picture the scene.... Norbury clubhouse (as it currently looks) 1983, September. A COXA Sports and Social Committee meeting (the bar used to be open during meetings back then, so your hard working committee could have a 'Clapham Half' to ease the pressure. Not any more). Steadfastly going through the items on the Agenda we came to the popular section of 'Social'. New Chairman and Senior Norbury groundsman, Alan Webber, had an idea for the next event. Our first ever Bonfire and Fireworks Display at Norbury, which would just happen to fall on Saturday 5th November that year. The committee gave Alan a free reign to set it up. Being that we would be charging an entrance fee, it wasn't going to be just a couple of £9.99 luxury boxes of Standard Fireworks, Alan knew a bloke who can get hold of the 'professional stuff'. A few phone calls the next morning and Alan tells me we are sorted. Bert, the owner of 'Shock and Awe' will drop them off!! Saturday 5th November soon arrives, and as junior groundsman I get to the clubhouse, I find Alan in the garage, waist high in packaging that has come out of both, five foot by five foot boxes containing what we very soon realised were almost 'weapons grade' fireworks. "Come and have a look at this lot, I did wonder what £100 cash would get us" said Alan. He bent down and pulled out a four foot mortar tube, telling me that according to the Chinese instructions, to avoid 'disfigurement or fatality' we had to bury the 'firing tubes' 3 feet deep into the ground, angled at 60 degrees, a minimum of 50 feet away from any form of life or structure. Well, being as unfamiliar as I was with ordnance, and what would have certainly been called 'impressive' by the IRA at the time. The list of 'don'ts' attached to the side of each one of the malevolent shells made for frightening reading and we had 18 of the 'bastards', so aptly named by Alan.

Delving further into the boxes there were two Catherine Wheels the size of car tyres. Alan was convinced the crowd would be safe! There were also dozens of 2 foot long 'Ariel Bombers', 'Cyclone Barrages' and 'Land Mine Surprises'. Not a 'Twinkling Waterfall', 'Glowing Vesuvius' or 'Rainbow Fountain' in sight. Darkness falls and the bonfire is lit at 7pm. With all 8 Clapham sides under strict orders to get back to the clubhouse, there were close to 100+ old boys with friends and family there. The clubhouse was roaring. All eyes then turned skywards in anticipation, then without any further warning the spectacular audio visual bombardment started. On and on it went, every firework seemed better than the preceding one, it was a sensory workout for the eyes and ears, and everything was going like clockwork. Alan and I had decided to go for a finale. We would attempt to set off 10 of the largest fireworks we had within a few seconds of each other. In preparation, they had been put to one side at the bottom of the water tank, which we had placed on its side in a remote area away from the main display for safety. The crowd in their excitement were oblivious to what happened next..... **Will be in the COXA "Book"**. That night whilst the crowds were dancing the night away, I met my future wife, **Sue Butler**. Remember, 5th November, I certainly do. **Frank Barretta - 'A' (1971 – 1978), Glastonbury.**

BROTHER CHRISTOPHER (Edward Hazlehurst)

Born: Manchester, England, May 21, 1908

Died: Manchester, England, March 10, 1988

Brother Christopher's long career found him at many of the missions of the English Province, teaching geography, history and English. His longest mission was Clapham (1958 to 1975) where he was the last Xaverian to serve. Xaverian presence at Clapham (now St. Francis Xavier College in honor of the Xaverians) ended with Brother Christopher's retirement in 1975. An avid gardener and geographer, Brother Christopher busied himself in his retirement with these hobbies. In 1975 with Brothers Evan (September 30) and Valerian (March 22), he made a trip through the United States which he described thoroughly in a journal which he kept. He not only described the areas he visited but did a geographical survey of them as well. Brother Christopher's long life nearly ended earlier due to his generous hospitality to two visiting American Brothers. Brother Christopher took the two Brothers on a tour of the Lake District such as no visitor to England has ever had. On a lonely country lane headed for a very much out of the way inn for tea, the American Brother who was driving momentarily forgot that the English drive on the left. Brother Christopher was not at all flustered by the near disaster which followed as he calmly told the American Brother that he was on the wrong side of the road and not the lorry which was rushing at them.

BROTHER BERNARDINE (John Barry)

Born: Kensington, England, January 12, 1875

Died: London, England, April, 16, 1950

Brother Bernardine, Headmaster at Manchester and at Clapham, left his scholarly impress on both institutions. Provincial of the English Province from 1925 to 1931, he served again from 1947 until his death in 1950. In any assemblage he was a person of consequence. Ability and charm shone out all over him. He was one of our great men, recognized as such in every Province. He died in his seventy-sixth year at the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth in the London that he loved.

BROTHER CHRYSOSTOM (John Daly)

Born: Tipperary, Ireland, January 2, 1892

Died: Clapham, England, April 23, 1970

John Daly joined us in 1912, a week after his twenty-second birthday, and received the habit on his twenty-fourth birthday. As a novice he was called up for military duty in April, 1918, and was released in January, 1919. In his fifty-seven years as a Xaverian he was sacristan, refectorian, or porter in practically all the English houses but chiefly at Brighton and Clapham. He died in his seventy-ninth year of coronary thrombosis.

BROTHER JUSTIN (John Sanke)

Born: Niesen, Prussia, October 12, 1850

Died: Manchester, England, April 28, 1923

Entering at Bruges on April 4, 1868, in his sixteenth year, Brother Justin was the cook at Mayfield, Clapham, or Manchester for most of his fifty-five years in the community. In his last two years, when he was at Manchester, he was so crippled by arthritis that he had to depend on a wheelchair for locomotion. Still he managed to lend a hand with the preparation of the vegetables. On the night that he died, he asked a visitor to join him in singing the "Salve Regina." Then he asked for Brother Bernardine Barry (April 16).

"Ah, Brother Superior, may I die?"

"Of course, you may if God wants you."

"Thank you, Brother."

And that was all that was needed. In two hours he took his place among Our Dead.

BROTHER SYLVESTER (Frederick Wearden)

Born: Longridge, Lancashire, England, October 2, 1891

Died: Mayfield, England, May 23, 1935

Brother Sylvester entered the novitiate, then located at Manchester, on January 10, 1908. For four years he had been outstanding at Mayfield, especially for his prowess in sports. His first assignment was to the newly-opened Xaverian College at Brighton. Here he remained fifteen years. He helped to organize the Cadet Corps which in open competition with sixteen other cadet Corps won the much-coveted Challenge Cup. After Brighton he went to Clapham for ten years where he was again invaluable. In 1934 he went down to Mayfield in the hope that the Sussex air would help him. He died the following spring at the age of forty-three.

Remembering those Clapham Old Xaverians who became priests, then Bishops



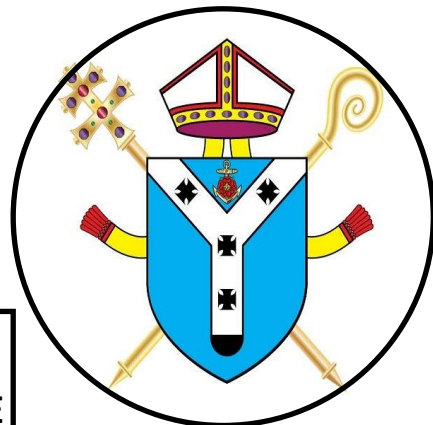
RIP 2020



RIP 1978

Archbishop Peter Smith, bishop of Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark. [pity nothing has as yet, been named after Peter....maybe in time...]

Archbishop George Beck bishop of Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool . [Archbishop George Beck Catholic Sports College in Liverpool is named after him]



And then there are these THREE



COXA Ramblings - Summer 2021



After a break of nearly eight months “The Ramblers got “out” again in May and June. The lovely Darent Wall Walk, following the 1936 COXA Walkers was still a wonderful walk. It's was about 7 miles and as well as being a really attractive area [except for the crossing of the M25] it has tons of great pubs. We settled for the garden of the Crown pub in Shoreham, after travelling through Horton Kirby, Farningham, Eynsford and Lullingstone, all along the River Darent. Dan Condon had train difficulties [he also met Jim McQueeny, arrived an hour late and made up the time to join us for the final stretch .. a real trooper - well done Dan! [.the “ninth” Rambler]

Oct - the Godstone Walk - then EPSOM

If you do still reside in the London area and fancy joining us, it is a good way of keeping fit-[ish], spending time “talking Xaverian”, seeing beautiful parts of the South East [for FREE] and the opportunity for a bit of lunch [and a pint - or two].... Please try us - just the once - who knows. The forty-odd who have joined us to day on our six walks seem to love it [and many keep coming back for more. After “Godstone”, and then “Epsom” at the end of October, we are planning and then Sevenoaks with Headley - Box Hill “pencilled” in as a “clear you head / purify your body” between Christmas and New Year.

This is a “mixed event”, therefore nobody excluded, [both “As” and “Alphas”] and even Glastonbury and Walsingham invited to join the athletes of Charterhouse and Canterbury. Oh, “other halves” and pooches invite as well...some have even brought “friends”...



This is a great COXA activity, we want as many Xaverians as possible to have access to it, and join us.....email me on donmiamac1234@sky.com or TEXT me on 07508001217.. Join in.....until we next meet again,..... Scotty

CLAPHAM COLLEGE, S.W. 4
GOLDEN JUBILEE
1897-1947

DEAR OLD BOYS, PARENTS AND FRIENDS,

We are happy to be able to celebrate this year with some degree of festivity the Golden Jubilee of the opening of the College.

The Celebrations, including a Solemn High Mass of Thanksgiving, a Garden Fete and a Symphony Concert in the College grounds, will culminate in a Reception and Banquet on Saturday, July 19th, at the Connaught Rooms, W.C.2, at which His Eminence, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Westminster, has graciously consented to be the guest of honour.

This occasion will provide a unique opportunity for Old Boys of the last fifty years to renew former friendships, and for all parents and friends to make closer contact with the College.

To facilitate the organisation in these difficult times I would ask you to intimate to me in writing by May 1st a provisional acceptance of this invitation to the Banquet, stating the number of tickets you will require. For this purpose a card is enclosed.

The tickets are One Guinea each.

Evening dress, though desirable, to honour the occasion, is not essential either for ladies or gentlemen.

Yours sincerely,

R. Nicholas

Headmaster.

April, 1947.

An Alan Webber Story

Alan Webber told me a funny story the other weekend, one which I'd never heard before and he asked me to write it up for Concordia so here it is.

On our recent visit to Lancing to see Alan Webber he told me a story which I'd never heard before about our dear departed friend **Jimmy Gallagher**. Here is the abridged version which had Alan in tears of laughter as he was telling it.

Alan recounts....

Many years ago, in his mid to late teens, the unassuming and talented Jimmy Gallagher was invited to play his first game for Clapham Old Boys. He was playing for the infamous 4th XI away to Old Minchendenians (North London) and not really knowing many other lads in the side he decided on this wet October Saturday to make his own way to the ground. Jim (a defender) played well for the whole 90 minutes and after the 2-0 clean sheet win, both sides adjourned to the warm Minchendenians clubhouse for several jugs of local ale. After a while the singing started and everyone was fully appreciating the marvellous hospitality, for Jim this was a brand-new experience and one he was thoroughly enjoying.

A few hours later it was time to return to Norbury and tell a packed clubhouse back home of the away win. Alan being the nominated driver (one of the only people in Clapham who owned a car and was renowned for getting 11 people into a Ford Capri) loaded his car back up with the guys he had brought to the game but then noticed Jimmy looking a little drunk and a bit forlorn at the prospect of making his own way home in the rain.

Determined not to leave him stranded but with the car already packed with bodies, Alan somehow managed to squeeze Jim into the back seat along with 3 others. Already in the boot, with the parcel shelf removed and securely wedged amongst the kit bags, was a pissed Ernie Larkin who had seemingly taken the more comfortable option.

Off they set with the car shrouded in St Bruno tobacco smoke from Alan's blazing pipe and Ernie's dulcet tones ringing out from the back, regaling songs from the Clapham repertoire. The journey home flashed by (normally because red lights were an ignored nuisance) and soon the car was pulling up outside the clubhouse in County Road. Everyone slowly crawled out from of the Capri in various stages of cramp, last out was Jim, quiet and looking a little sheepish.

They entered the buzzing clubhouse and immediately chalked up the win on the noticeboard to a raucous cheer! ...Another memorable night passed in a haze of laughter, smoke and beer. It wasn't until the following weekend that Alan met Jimmy again and asked if he enjoyed his debut the previous Saturday. 'Yes' he replied. 'But I thought my initiation was a bit over the top'. 'What initiation?' said Alan.....'Larkin puking up into hood of my anorak whilst we were in your car. I've washed it twice and it still reeks' said Jim.

He really thought that it was his Clapham initiation. Alan made sure Ernie apologised and told him to buy Jim a beer every time he saw him for the rest of the season.

Cheers Frank [Barretta]

An “insight” into COXA Committee Business [each month]

Attendance: S. Macdonald, D. Leathem, B. Sanders, M. Power, J. Abaddon, E. O’Brien, C. Garvey, J. Benedict. S. McGuire, F. Barretta, E. Hayter, M. Benedict, A. Coletta, B. Williams, B. Morrish.

Minutes and matters arising: these are read, discussed and signed off....

Correspondence:

E. O’Brien then goes through the month’s correspondence to the Association and advises the meeting on “action”. This meeting the deaths of a couple of Old Boys were reported, as was a letter from Br. Peter Campbell from the USA Xaverians on the Mayfield account of the “Brother’s Garden”, he thanks the Association “for continual care of the cemetery and faithfulness to the Brothers”.

Co-opted members to the Committee: O’Brien proposed that the following are co-opted:

B. Sanders, E. Hayter, J. Abadom and B. Morris. Seconded by D. Leathem. Carried nem con.

Membership: Scotty Macdonald reported on changes of address and new additions to the Association

[only one or two each month—we won’t be finding many new Members in 2020!!] Peter Steer and Richard Riley, were that month’s new Members.

Social Events - these are reviewed each month and “dates for the diary”, going forward are added to the COXA diary. This Meeting the following were added St. Patrick’s Night - March at the Clubhouse. Somme Trip, June to Mons. A. Coletta reported the Golf Day will be in June at Surrey Downs GC.

Chairman’s Lunch: E. O’Brien reported that 192 confirmed attendees. Timings of the day’s schedule were confirmed. On the day pre lunch set up duties were outlined by E. O’Brien. Table plan on-going.

Clapham Website: F. Barretta confirmed the website annual fee has been paid. (£220.00) Frank will contact Anthony Gold Solicitors (S. McGuire) and request their ongoing sponsorship of the website. Regular reports are being received from the football section. Pitchero hosts many club websites and Frank appears to be happy with their current offering. On the question of our user’s access to the website Frank hoped that member’s IT security software was up to date.

400 Club: A. Coletta announced December winner £100.00 was Will Annison.

Clapham and the Xaverians [The Clapham College Story -“The Book”]: B. Williams reported that he had now gathered information sources to produce the final product. He envisaged that the publication will consist of approximately 500 pages. Brendan reported that he now had a good understanding of the shape and voice of the book. However before final publication the book will

need an editor to make the book project enjoyable and readable. A preview version of the publication “The White Booklet” will be available at the Chairman’s Lunch. Brother Philip Revell [Xaverian USA]

Concordia:

D. Macdonald reported that the next edition will be printed before the Chairman's Lunch.

E. Hayter had handed to E. O'Brien a number of old Concordias for Scotty's attention.

Gerry Salmon has written a piece on the death of John Utting RIP.

400 Club: A. Coletta, in absentia, reported that John McNicholas was the November winner £100.00.

Finance: Little to report on the current finances other to comment that they look about right!

Website: Frank Barretta reported:

Regular team sheets now being received.

End of season report and photos now on the website.

Cost of the website domain is £23.98 payable in November.

Invoice from hosting site on Pitchero is £220.00

Sponsorship from Anthony Gold Solicitors, if they continue their sponsorship.

Mayfield: S. Macdonald was concerned that the new crosses may not have been planted deep enough.

Social: Visit to the Somme to be scheduled end of May/early June. (after the half term)

Annual mass was a great success. The Last Post, Fr. Michael Creech, Story of wartime, blessing of the plaques, the deacons, the poppy display, eulogies, post mass refreshment - all brilliant.

S. Macdonald was keen that a St. Patrick's night event takes place at the Clubhouse.

Chairman's Lunch:

Presentation to be made to Fr. Michael Creech on the diamond jubilee as a priest. Michael to be asked to talk about his time at the College

It was agreed that the speeches last year were too long. Colin Garvey to introduce guests and David Leathem to announce notices post main course.

Oval menu not confirmed. Fish - a good non meat alternative. E. O'Brien to pursue with the Oval.

Any other business:

It was reported that Paul Barber has Xaverian relics at his home.

4.0 Chairman's Lunch:

4.1 E. O'Brien reported that 192 confirmed attendees.

4.2 Timings of the day's schedule were confirmed.

4.3 On the day pre lunch set up duties were outlined by E. O'Brien.

4.4 Table plan on going.

7.0 Clapham and the Xaverians [The Book]: B. Williams reported that he had now gathered information sources to produce the final product. D. Leathem proposed a vote of thanks to Brendan Williams and Scotty Macdonald.

Denis Myers Clapham College 1963-1970 - writes.....

Scotty, I am writing in response to your note sent in May 2020 Concordia. I do feel for you regarding the lack of responses from Old Boys, I've been involved in projects which rely on audience participation [with just 5 out of 64 bothering to respond even during lockdown]!

As Denis discovered, my "request for content" filled the last 3 Concordia - I'm blessed!

I have come up with an idea and the delay in getting back to you was due to my trying to carry out some research. So my article is as follows. I leave you to edit it as you see fit. I left the College in 1970 after my A levels. While at Clapham we did not have a Dining Hall on site, we went to Cavendish Road school, a mile and a half away, and used theirs.

I went with the likes of **Brendan Kearns, Peter Dobing and Finbar Hunter** sharing a table. We were all involved in the schools cross country team and began to jog there. I recall that the likes of **Ernie Larkin** used to join in and, a certain **Scotty Macdonald**. It always ended with a sprint over the last 100 yards. One thing for sure after lunch, often included jam roly poly or spotted dick, we would not be running back!

Of course it also meant we could more slowly pass the convent school girls hidden behind the massive walls of La Retraite. Who can recall the age old tradition at the end of the 4th form, of throwing your school cap over the wall then scarpering as quickly as possible before the head nun came out looking for those responsible.

I remember the said lady complaining bitterly to Tony Warr, the Latin teacher, who called an assembly to give everyone a telling off and to ensure it didn't ever happen again. He was a former pupil of Clapham and I recall after a few drinks down at the Nightingale, Eric Tope revealed that Tony had himself chucked his cap over the wall in the 4th year.

Now onto my main theme. When I left Clapham I joined the Commercial Union Assurance Company in the City. The school had an arrangement with the CU to allow them to be represented at our 6th form careers evenings. They took on quite a few over the years, including my brother, Brendan Kearns, Eamon, Brian Joyce and Martin Fowler.

I became involved in arranging social events where I met Frances Collins (Mike's sister) later become my wife. Frances was a good friend of Elizabeth Hudson who subsequently met and married John Murtagh, [That Clapham College and La Retraite link!]. Any other marriages of Xaverians with La Retraite girls? Another thought did anyone go further than simply lust after the girls from Marianne Thornton and marry any of them? A Mr Taggart in our year was certainly in the former category, but at that time was not the marrying type.

I am attaching photos of Frances and I, plus John and Elizabeth, [Page 36] on our respective wedding days. Keep well Scotty and many thanks for producing Concordia. **Denis Myers**

+++++

Hi Scotty, Congrats on the Archive Website. So many memories! I have attached a pic of myself taken in 2019. I was at Clapham from 1958 to 1965. I am going from a distant memory here. I think Mick Turvey set a school record in the triple jump of about 51 feet when the world and Olympic record was 55'10, Sean Byrne.

[apologies Sean, mislaid photo - please re-send!]

Hi Scotty, thanks so much for the Concordia. My brother John was the instigator! I was at Clapham 50-56. In my first day class Blight was doing the name call and when he came to my name he hemmed and hawed and focused his eye for a while then pronounced PERCH. I was stuck with that name for 6 years and when my brother **John** came to College a few years later he was called, yes...**PERCH Junior!** I will try and get some photos from that far ago time if I can find them. Best wishes. **Rafal Przednowek.**

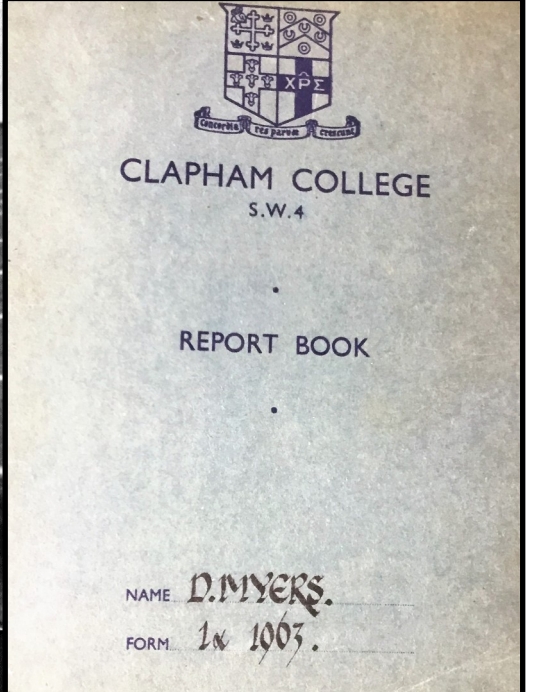
Mis-mash Editing, I know, - but frankly, just cramped for space



**“MIX & MATCH”
COXA
STYLE**




Denis Myers & John Murtagh’s wedding photos explained on Page 35. But Henry Pinsent, Mathematician, top Xaverian, genuine nice bloke, photos speak for themselves. Great Snaps



H. PINSENT. STARTING IN THE OPEN 440 YDS.

WE FINISH OFF THE SEASON AT NORBURY

1st Team  Intermediate Division South

BY FRANK BARRETTA

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Old Paulines	18	13	4	1	42	18	24	43
2	Clapham Old Xaverians	18	10	4	4	33	25	8	34
3	London Welsh	18	10	3	5	37	30	7	33
4	Blackheath Wanderers	18	7	4	7	41	32	9	25
5	Old Tenisonians II	18	7	4	7	38	40	-2	25
6	Reigatians II	18	6	5	7	36	42	-6	23
7	Witan	17	7	1	9	36	35	1	22
8	Old Whitgiftians	18	4	5	9	32	41	-9	17
9	Royal Bank of Scotland II	18	5	2	11	27	37	-10	17
10	Brent	17	3	2	12	20	42	-22	11

A good crowd at Norbury saw 2 games of silky football finish off the season. 50 footballers returned to Norbury to play in back-to-back end of season friendly games. The bar was open and it was an opportunity to enjoy an end of season drink given we did not think football would return at one stage. There were medals to be handed out at an "informal" awards ceremony, whereupon Chairman Dave Leathem "did the honours".

Club player of the year: John James Thornton

Young player of the year: Louie Conor

Vets player of the year: Sam Emmery

Clubman of the year: Gordon McCarthy

COXA Vets - Season Roundup and News on Next Season

The Vets league was cancelled for COVID reason but it was a strong half of the season where we lost won only one game and were in contention for the league crown. If we play as well next season, it will be a good season next year.

We had great numbers for each game and so much so we managed to get a second vets team out on 4 occasions for friendlies and could have played more. So the hope is to get a Vets (friendly) 2nd XI on a semi-permanent basis next season with a mixture of friendlies and cup entries. We will be looking for ex-Clapham players to brush off their boots and help with forming a second vets team.

There is also a possibility of entering a Super Vets team as this is being mooted by the SVFL Division for +45 aged players which may suit the return of our ex-players. Watch this space. We are also considering entering a Summer League of friendly matches with six other clubs over the summer to get ready for the new season. We hope to hold a pre-season football tournament for the club (possibly 5 aside) free to enter and near the start of the season. Keep in touch - COXA Vets football is back on the map; be part of it!



For ex-players who are interested in getting back into Vets football please call 07799466921 or email gordon_mccarthy73@hotmail.com

COXA Vets Review 2020-21

After the disruption of the previous season, there was enthusiasm and optimism for the season ahead with a stronger squad shaping up. The other priority was to continue the good work in strengthening links with the COXA Association and delivering on the "Action Plan" provided to the COXA Association Committee.

After developing our Covid-19 Risk Assessment, the season kicked off with an enjoyable run out against the COXA 1st X1 at Norbury. The COXA 1st X1 were an impressive side (congratulations to them on promotion and a cup win later in the season). COXA Vets started the season in encouraging form with five wins, a draw and a narrow injury time defeat placing them close to the top of the table. The team looked fit and focused, with Mark Hignet an excellent addition and good performances from Spencer McGuire, Matt Cefai, James Allen, David Bromfield and Luke Roszkowski in those early games. Further lockdown then brought a suspension to the league. Kent was then designated a different Covid level to London, prolonging the suspension.

When football was eventually re-started, the South London Vets league was (unlike the Amateur Combination) cancelled. An exciting program of friendlies, aiming to make use of Norbury and give game time to as many as possible across the extended squad, was put in place. Results were mixed but the social side was excellent. There was a cup exit away in Dartford, against strong opposition but in hindsight tactics were too negative. The end of season game took in two matches followed by some end of season awards. It was great to see father and son combinations in the first match: Colin and Jack Brown: Spencer, Josh and James McGuire: Spencer and John McGuire (ref) besides John McGowan and Chris Mcloughlin returning for a run out. The second game ended in a 6-3 defeat to the (by then reigning Cup winning!) COXA 1st X1 side with good performances by Sam Emmery, Rio Boggle and Martin McCourty. It was also good to see the Chairman and Association members supporting and to socialise with the 1st X1 – a good bunch of lads. Congratulations to Gordon on winning "Clubman of the Year" and Sam Emmery on winning "Vets Player of the Year".

Over the season, there were four games played by a "friendly" X1, often a mixture of Vets and younger players. We think there is enough interest for this team to play one friendly a month and enter a cup in the coming season, although this should be discussed across the football section and with the Association. In offering game time to the extended Vets squad and those with COXA connections this has its merits and somebody to run this team would be ideal. Our WhatsApp group was great fun and support through the season, but occasionally we needed to watch the tone. There were some (isolated) complaints about selection policy but on balance the aims of selecting on ability and respecting commitment and long-term association to COXA were achieved. Thanks to Spencer, Damo, Alex Jayes, Gordon McCarthy and Mike Garvey for their efforts in running the team this year and to Eddie O'Brien for getting Norbury ready for re-start (and for refereeing several games). Damo will be taking on some of Spencer's secretary role for the season ahead so thanks to Spencer for all his efforts. **Steve Gordon Summer 2021**

Clapham Old Xaverians – Club Captains Report Season 2020/21

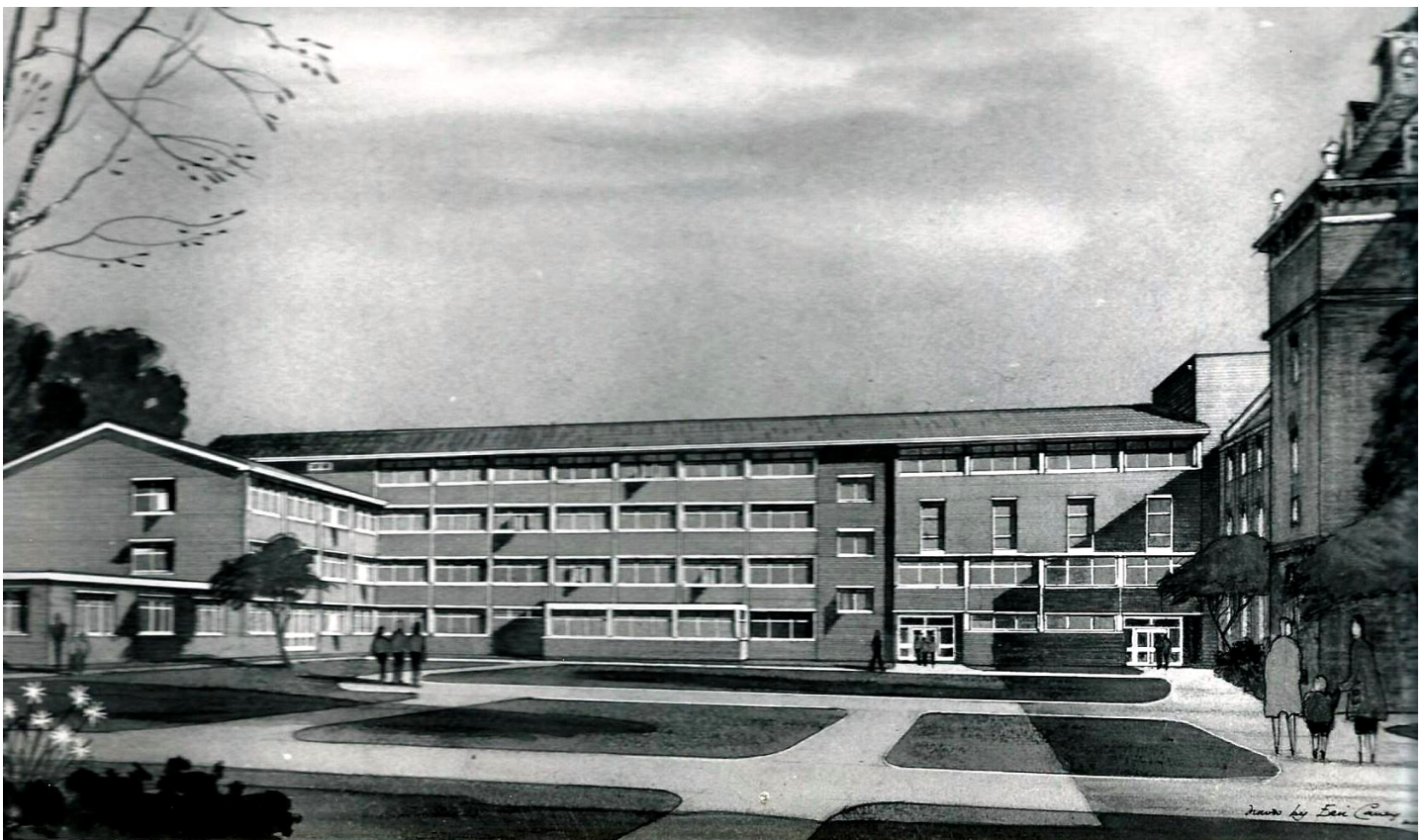
The 1st XI had one of their most successful seasons that **Dom and Conor's** sides have had for COXA. A large factor, in the good season, was a well-organized and well-attended Wednesday evening training session. After the lockdown restrictions allowed for outdoor sports, the 1's had many attendees for each training session which allowed for a 11-a-side match each Wednesday. This had a huge impact on the moral of the squad and the whole team's overall fitness. After a tough loss to take on the opening game against Whitgift the 1's travelled to North London the very next week to win the London Cup Final which had been put on hold from the previous season, due to COVID. The game allowed for COXA Alumni to have a drink in the pub with the 1st team after watching one of the biggest games for COXA in recent years. It was one of the days that were intended to take place when discussed in COXA meetings "building the link between football section the Association". The Cup Final was the start to a great season for the Firsts. Lockdown rules muted some of the regular Saturday post-match festivities. However, the Wednesday training continued and the 1's built some great momentum in the league. At the end of the season, despite dropping a few points against the top teams in the league, the Firsts were able to secure 2nd place in the league and win promotion. There were some great team performances this year and the commitment to COXA is at a high within the club. It's been great to have the friendlies with the VETS to grow that relationship and this will only continue in the upcoming season as restrictions lessen and we are able to have a few drinks in the clubhouse together - hopefully to be attended by some of the COXA Alumni. **Laura** did a fantastic job as the fixtures secretary and we have tied her down for next season, or **Conor** has, as they celebrated the birth of their first child Ava last week. The rest of the senior players have stepped up with taking small admin roles within the team to make match days run smoothly. The One's would like to thank **Steve, Spencer and Gordon** for their work to get the club in a good administrative position while always being quick with the banter. Personally, this is the most enjoyable COXA Officials WhatsApp group I have been a member of. Everyone has the same mission and does their job with a smile. It's great to see. Onwards and upwards next season, after a great season, it's well worth remembering the position we were in some 12+ months ago and where we are now. **Dominic Taggart**

Two artists impressions of the “new” Clapham College from the 1970s



The first drawing shows the “new” Dining Hall which was actually built, and lasted for only 18 months. it brought to an end the long “run” down Cavendish Road, past La Re traite, to Henry Cavendish Primary School in Hydethorpe Rd . Imagine a Secondary School going a mile to a Primary School every day for lunch.

Artist’s impression Number Two, the “quadrangle”, in front of Broadoak



The “final” Artist’s Impression of the new **Clapham College Comprehensive School**. Later, in 1985, following the South London Catholic Schools Secondary re-organisation it became “St Francis Xavier Sixth Form College”. The “Artist” got it 100% right; huge increase in “intake” from our 380-boy Grammar School.

84-year-old Xaverian Paul Kanssen defeats Covid-19

What a year!

Having achieved the golden age of 84 I set about enjoying the golden weather - I love the sun! And with the help of a good friend, forsaking my mobility scooter, I started to walk again, first with the help of a wheeled support, and then unaided.

At the end of October, I had walked a fairly hilly hour and a quarter unaided when my mobile rang. "Mr Kanssen, you have tested positive for Covid 19." Very soon the coughing started. And then my asthma kicked in. The family rallied round and my son Julian moved in to look after me. The wonderful NHS sent a team of paramedics to monitor me, and a machine turned up to boost my flagging oxygen levels. Several times the medics asked if I would prefer to go to hospital, several times I replied 'No!' Gradually the hours/days of sheer exhaustion and weakness, often with a painful cough as chest muscles protested, passed and I began to feel human again. Now, approaching Christmas, although still prone to bouts of tiredness, I'm getting more and more active and can even drive my car.

But, as for walking, I've got to start the whole learning process again!

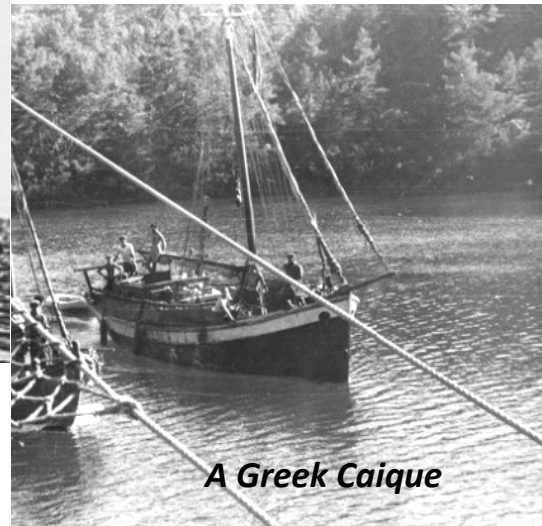


*Paul Kanssen
wishes you a very
Happy & Blessed Christmas
and trusts you will be
be free from Covid in 2021*



Arado Ar-196 flying boat

**Casimir Marmaduke de Bounevialle
DFC, Clapham College 1922 to 1930.**



A Greek Caique

On 23rd July 1943, a mission by 603 Squadron lost three aircraft, the last one flown by Flying Officer Cas de Bounevialle, he was shot down by an Arado Ar-196. He had just been back on operations for a second tour. He and his navigator F/Sgt A.E. 'Gillie' Potter, were rescued from their dinghy by a Greek Caique, which took them to the mainland of south east of Athens. The R.A.F. airmen were told to wait for partisans, but after four days nobody had arrived and they began to walk. When they at last made contact, the partisans took them to the island of Euboea, from where a caique carried them to Izmir in Turkey [*where Scotty's Mum "Amelia was born, sorry*]. They were accommodated in the south of this town by a likeable English lady, 'Ma' Perkins, who ran a hostel for RAF internees somewhat on the lines of seaside landlady, providing bed and breakfast. Restrictions were not severe during their short stay, and they were even able to visit the Kursaal Nightclub. From Izmir they were taken back by rail to Aleppo in Syria and then flown to Cairo, from whence they were sent straight back to 603 Squadron in RAF Gambut, Libya. On 3 October 1943. Aircraft 'W' was crewed by F/O Cas de Bounevialle was "ditched" again, with his starboard engine on fire, not far from the position where he had ditched six weeks earlier. He, and his co-pilot Flight-Lieutenant Potter, were not injured, but were picked-up by a German UJ-Boat and taken prisoner to Piraeus. From there they were escorted to Athens for a brief interrogation, and then put on a train for Yugoslavia. The train travelled only by day, since partisans were apt to attack at night. They reached Skopje and were then flown by Junkers Ju52 to Zagreb. Another train took them to Vienna and Budapest, and eventually to Frankfurt. Ending up in Stalag Luft III at Sagan in Upper Silesia, they were marched out in January 1945 and liberated by the Russians near Berlin. Bounevialle and Potter were unlucky, as, **three days after they ditched**, British Forces began to land on the mainland of Greece. Athens was occupied on 14 October. **Cas's Bristol Beaumont shot down twice.**





Cas de Bouneville ..continued

Cas went on to work as a commercial pilot after the War. He was a founder member of Donaldson International Airways providing inclusive tour and charter flights for Mercury



Air Holidays of Glasgow. The airline took delivery of Britannia turboprop aircraft and commenced flights from London Gatwick Airport and Glasgow Airport. Donaldson Airways started charter flights across the North Atlantic with the delivery of two Boeing 707 aircraft in 1971. Cas and his Donaldson colleagues, took part in the evacuation of Ugandan refugees during the 1972 expulsion of Asians from Uganda in 1972, flying a Boeing 707 to London Gatwick Airport; the airline ceased to trade in 1974. Cas eventually retired to Sussex and in 1996 [aged 83].

THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

I stood and watched these future Englishmen
Out in the playground, during morning break.
Some huddled close to whisper furtively
Of hidden things. The more sophisticate,
Flaunting their rising masculinity,
Laughed loudly, swung their shoulders as they walked,
Kicking the football with excessive force.
The smaller ones, with voices shrill and sharp,
Played games with frenzied energy : football
And tag and variations of their own,
Absorbed and serious, deeply aware
Of rules and infringements thereof. There were
The quiet, studious ones, faintly self-conscious,
And faintly nervous, waiting for the bell
And the security of class and teacher.
Bad boys, marked down as such from early days,
And ever battenning on their reputations,
Flocked in the toilets, puffing greedily
At cigarettes they neither liked nor wanted
And wrote obscenities of puerile worth
On plastered walls. With conscious dig nity
Aloof, unhurriedly, the prefects strolled
In twos, superior eyes observing all around
Reproving more in sorrow than in anger.
This microcosm of humanity
Passed by. The bell rang out, the groups dissolved.
The balls were gathered up, the fag-ends dropped
Into the toilet basin. The classes
Formed again and individuality
Was swallowed up into the common form.

*No Poet's Name,
no Date. Could it
be one of Cecil
Pocock's? Poem
was buried in the
Clapham Archive.*

Cecil Pocock's "run-in" with the Law - 1966 Parking Violation - Greendale Police

PARKING VIOLATION WARNING

License No. 458-863 Make COMET TAN

This warning is recorded against your name at Police Headquarters for the violation listed below.

If you have received a previous warning, you will be summoned by mail to answer this present charge.

Name _____

Address _____

Violation No parking over 2 hrs. 2A-6A w/o Per

Location 6704 Conifer Time 5:40A

Officer J. Puroak Date 5-17-66

GREENDALE POLICE

S 3 66

Cecil Pocock a "bastion" of the Law, but never above the Law, - whilst on his Teacher Exchange Year in 1966; ended up on the wrong side of that line.

Avoid arrest for parking violations by understanding the parking regulations and abiding by the intent thereof.

A car is parked when it is stopped in any street or alley for any purpose other than obedience to traffic signs or signals or the direction of a Police Officer, except while actually loading or unloading passengers.

1. Do not double park.
2. Do not park within 15 feet of any fire hydrant.
3. Do not park where there are "No Parking" signs.
4. Do not park in such a way as to block driveways, sidewalks, or footpaths.

This warning is a further effort to give the motoring public a square deal by focusing their attention on the persistent violator and overlooking a single violation which may be unintentional. It is used only in case of illegal and improper parking. Its value will depend upon your cooperation.

THE GREENDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

I sure there was "some mistake" using Cecil's well-used phrase, but there it is, in B&W, or black and blue! He parked his Comet Tan for over two hours outside 6704 Conifer Ave - "BUMMER"!



Dear friends, I always enjoy browsing through Concordia and seeing some of my old footie muckers spread across the pages in various phases of age and weight. Therefore, I have been inspired to dig out some photos of band nights through the years and reflect on my treasured time as an Old Boy where I made some of my best friends.

I was introduced to COXA by **Jimmy the Jug** in 1989, who I worked with, and when I moved to Wandsworth, he was quick to get me along. Jimmy was a legend at work, and I was soon to realise his status was similar at Clapham although sadly he didn't play much once I had arrived as he headed north. Clearly in my own mind I was an extremely gifted player and was convinced I would play at the highest level of the club; I never quite made that! After my first game travelling back to the clubhouse with **Steve Parker**, tactful as ever, he said he reckoned I was at best an average second team player. I still had my eyes on the 1's and dipped my toe in on occasion but played most of my football in the two's under **Eamon** or further down in the 3's and 4's inc one famous promotion season under the stewardship of **Ade!**

I lived for those Saturdays and away games were especially fun meeting at that Cafe in Tooting, or at Morden tube station, for a long trek into Surrey. When I eventually got a car, we would drive in convoy back to the clubhouse and, I swear, in a line of seven cars we all stayed together often with the third or fourth going through a red light with everyone else following. The stop offs on the way home were a highlight too, such as the Star and Garter in Putney.

There are too many games and memories to go through, like beating a team at Eltham College in the cup with a last minute goal when I have never seen Jim Thornton so pumped up after the game, or playing a Sutton UTD team off the pitch at Norbury when they were used to playing on flat surfaces, or taking personal belongings to a very combative centre half in hospital after playing Dorking when he broke his collarbone and realising he was a Copper which made a lot of sense, or playing with two **Andy McDonalds** in the same team; one tall and Scottish and one a Rasta, but we could all go on forever.....Who remembers **Neil Keogh** asking the ref after one minute of every game how long was left or **Mad Boy** telling us to mark someone; not because you were closest but because he told you he didn't like them!

My last game was for the vets a couple of years ago against Jimmy Bullard's mob of mainly ex semi-pros. I came on after we went down to 10 men in the first 15 mins; here we go again I thought. But that day playing with **Brownie, Roy Boy, John Leatham, John McGowan, Andy Brannon, Spence and Paul Williams** brought back to me that Clapham spirit; rolling back the years.

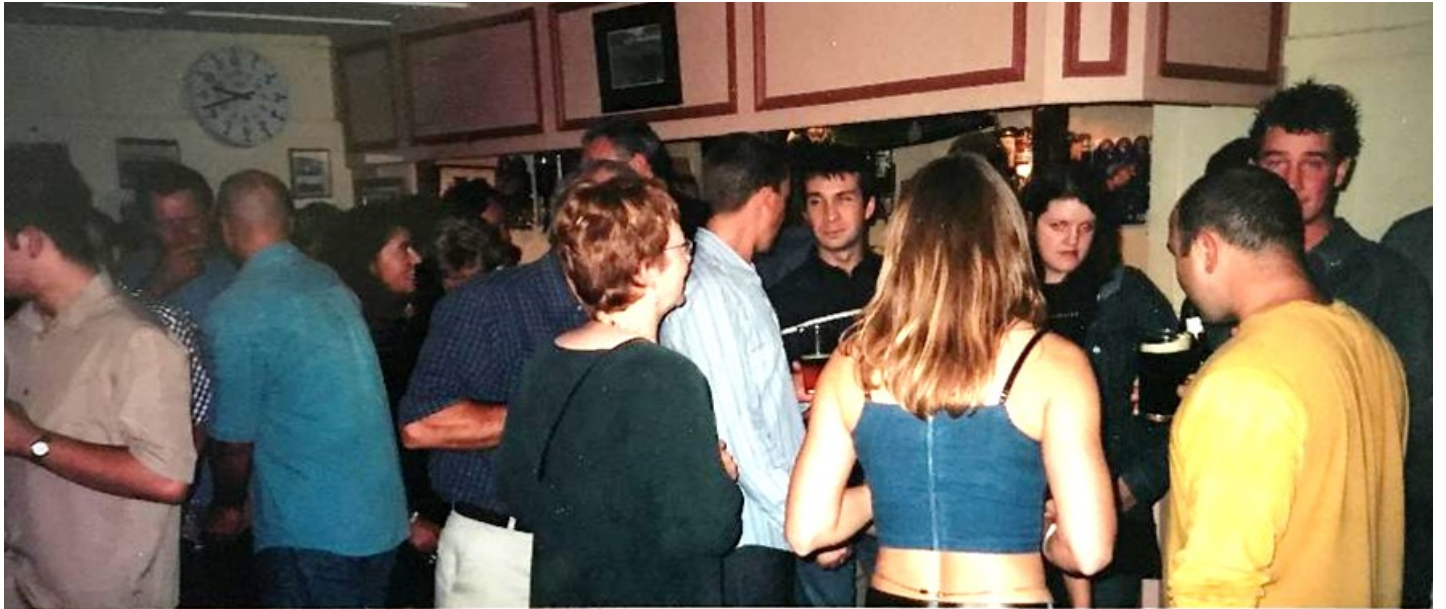
Clapham was also a remarkable musical club and the band nights got very amateur musicians like me involved. This is something I have gone on to try and replicate with other groups of friends over the years and I have roped in **Mickey Burke** and **Pete Bolan** for a bit of class when needed. The photos [**Page 47**] show Mickey (smile Mickey!) on the drums, **Pete** on bass and yours truly on guitar. One of **Brownie** I am sure knocking out Saturday Nights Alright for Fighting and then dancing on the table with **Briony**. In another Ade is providing his usual coolness, a mate of mine **Keith** who I roped in one evening playing what is now **Joe Williams'** telecaster, one of Mickey's mates, **Tony Hall**, on percussion who was a professional playing in the West End and gave up his time to join in and last, but definitely not least, **Eamon** sprinkling his star quality on the band.

I have also included a shot of the bar and crowd and will leave others to spot faces and old friends; maybe Concordia can run a competition to name as many as possible!

Anyway, thanks for reading this and even though I am not around Norbury too much you are all very close to my heart and our club is a very special thing.

Best regards, **Platty** Steve Platt [**Steve sent this in almost a year ago - worth the wait!**]

Steve Platt - COXA Band Night at Norbury



Famous Clapham Names and Faces



Another "Day at the Races"

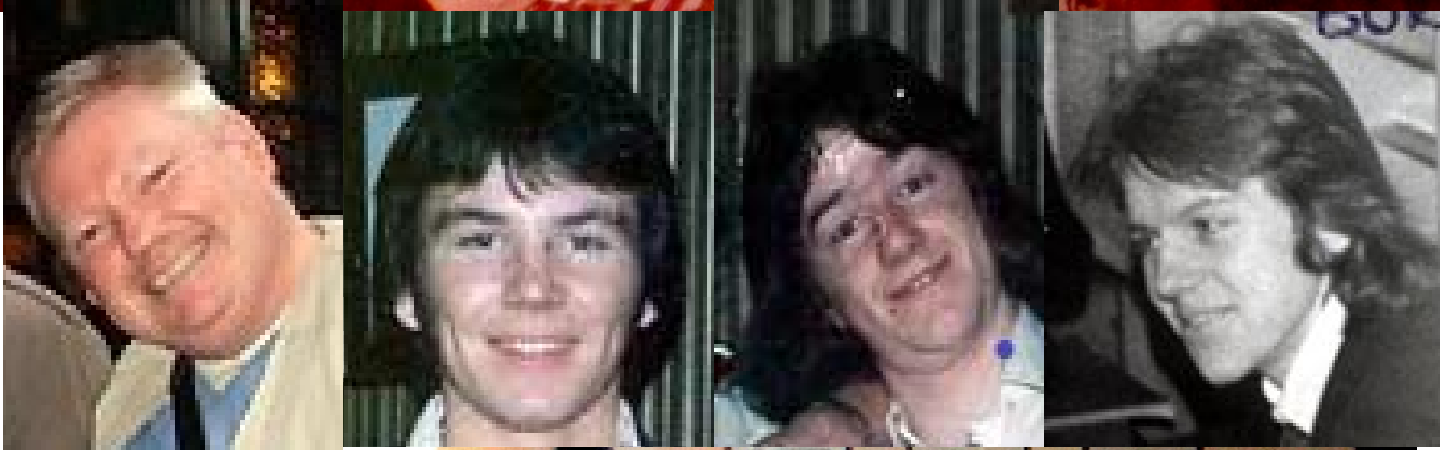
COXA Football Tour, Ilkley, Easter 1983



Martin McGrath, Mick Grice & Seamus Burke, RIPs - who would have thought

Chairman with red hair & holey shirt & socks

1970 Committee Dinner, Jan Luba's "crew" & Norbury celebrations



COXA "Football" Tour to Krakow, Poland 2009

9 YEARS AGO

Thanks to John Leathem - he has 100s of these [watch future editions!]

