

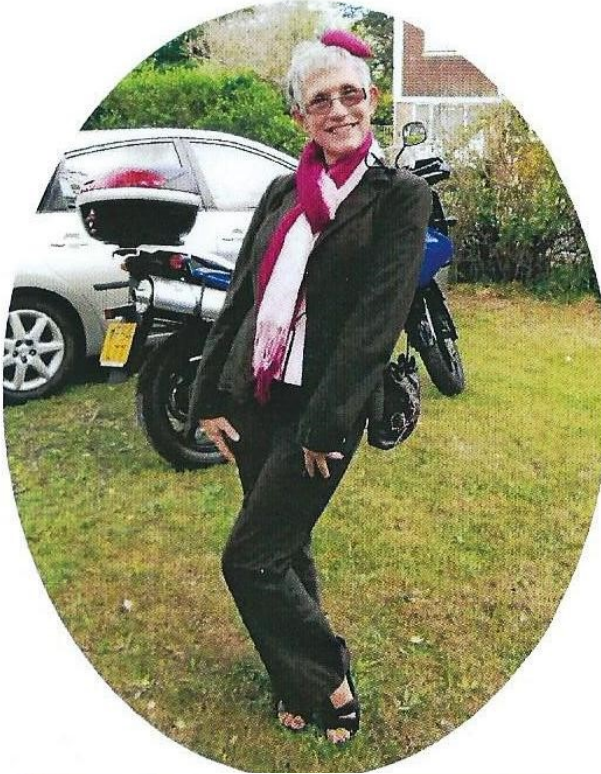


Concordia

Winter 2022 - Number 25

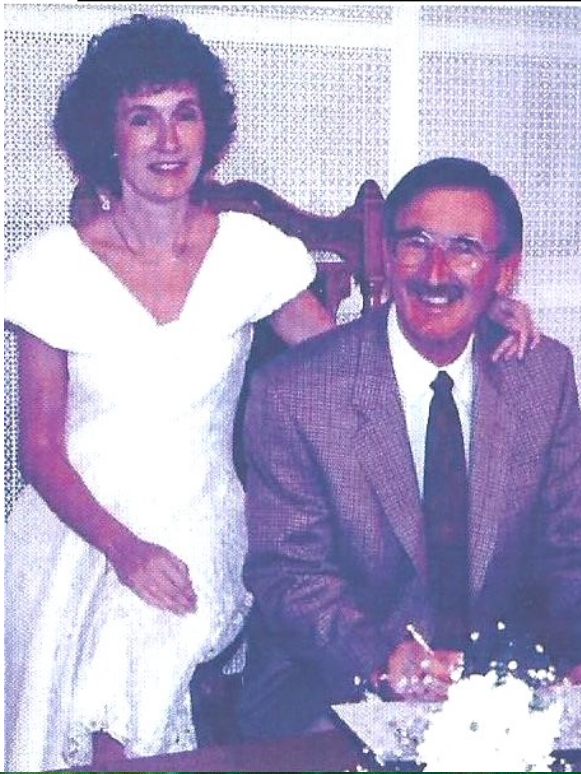


Goodbye Dot Power & Ben Benedict



Dot and Bene, Old Xaverians taken from us in 2021 + May they Rest in Peace +

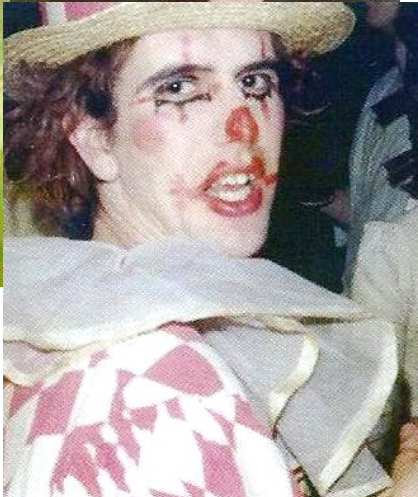
Dot Power and Ben Benedict - Clapham Old Xaverians



Dot and Mick Power. Dot born 14th Sept 1946, passed on 27st Nov 2021. Dot will be sorely missed by her family, Sutton Bowls Club and Clapham OX.



Ben Benedict
18th March 1953
to 29th October
2021
Clapham Legend



How would Ben have been liked to be remembered?
“sultry” good looks - the “Film-Star”, the Sportsman,
entertaining ...and always “the Clown” - Bene will be
sorely missed by his family and friends ++ RIP Ben ++

A “formal” Goodbye Lunch to Stella Flannery from COXA

Nostra bona amica Stella
Bona valetudo et Deus benedicat

Friday 8th October 2021

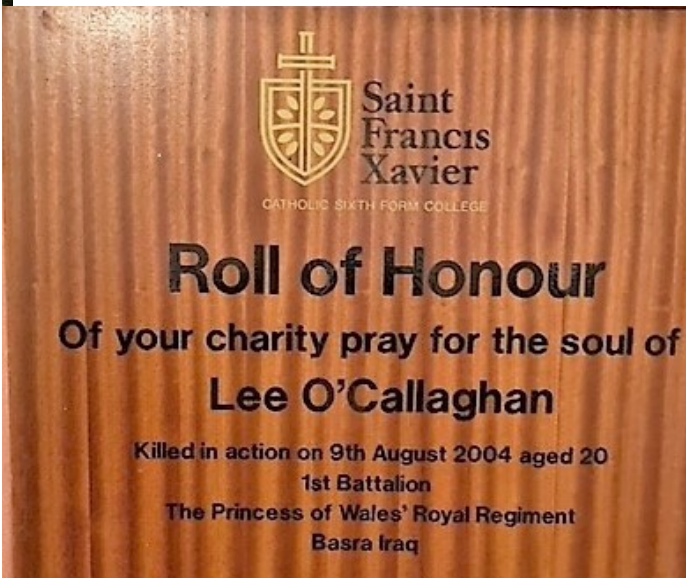


On behalf of Clapham Old Xaverians, YOUR Committee said “Goodbye” to Stella over an extended lunch at “Fredericks” [Islington]. This was a big “Thank You” for Stella’s support to COXA over the past decade. Stella writes to us on pages 8 to 9 [with more to follow!].

Lee O'Callaghan a plaque in the Chapel and a road in Southwark.



Lee O'Callaghan RIP 09.08.2004. Lee lived in Bermondsey and was a student at SFX College, Clapham. He was only 20 when shot in the chest by a Shia militiaman in Basra, Iraq on August 9th 2004.





Thoughts of Chairman Dave



Winter of Our Content

Honestly, life does seem to be somewhat better, given we're comparing February 2022 with the preceding 23 months; *doesn't it?*

I'm hopeful that, despite the almost annual litany of disasters - most of which we bore stoically pre-Lurgy, that the fast-approaching Spring gives our members cause for celebration, or at least hope of cause for celebration....

Since we last "met", we have had a couple of events which illustrate the above; Remembrance Sunday Mass at the School was a terrific day. No singing, because apparently that kills everyone, and our host Graham instead of Stella (who also attended) and Mark Preece-led refreshments brought us a sense of the normal ("new-normal"?). Even as November was waning, plans for The Chairman's Lunch were well-advanced and those plans (thank you, Eddie, Scotty, Colin, Brendan, Uncle Tom Cobbly) precipitated a grand day at The Oval. Over 130 diners and an excellent speaker in Gerry Morrison. Diners were delighted with new faces and returning long lost friends. Mick O'Brien (not *that* one) was at his second lunch, I believe, and Keith McElligott was at his first. Tom O'Dee hasn't changed **a bit**, and Westie met a classmate (sorry that name has gone) whom he had not seen for almost 50 years, The two conversed "as if we had never been so long apart", says Paul. That's a common thread, isn't it?

We lost several extraordinary Association members (not all men), and tributes will be paid elsewhere in this issue. Rest in Peace.

If this truly is "The Beginning of the End" (Churchill? What a guy!) then I look forward to reporting on various walks (Scotty Macdonald), Golf (Aidan Coletta) the Poppy Fields Trip (Mick McLoughlin, Aidan & Scotty), a Football Club VIP day in March (Frank Barretta and (drum-roll) The Chairman's Summer Lunch. (Brendan Williams/Eddie O'Brien). (Details to be confirmed.) This Association has weathered much in the way of adverse conditions, but surely it is obvious that your Committee has steered us through in some style. (Financially, Mick O'Sullivan has taken care of our pennies in fine fashion.)

Made Glorious, eh? David

SAD NEWS - At the time of going to print, the Association was notified of the sudden death of Christine Burke Seamus's wife] +++ May she rest in Peace +++

TOP TEN

BATTING

	Clapham Wanderers)	n.o.	82
	Wanderers)	n.o.	63
	I)	n.o.	63
	II)		55
	(star)	n.o.	52

BOWLING

Benedict (Clapham Old Xaverians)...	7 for 12
Boyd (Old Lambethans)	5 for 23
Cogger (Blue Star)	5 for 36

BOWLING

Benedict (Clapham Old Xaverians)	7-37
Lawrence (Old Grammarians)	7-78
Patel	4-1



Ben Benedict
Clapham College
1964/1969

Benedict (Clapham Old Xaverians)...	8 for 2
Oldfield (Dulwich Wanderers)	8 for 35
Millard (Old Lambethans)	7 for 57



Clapham Old Xaverians beat Graveney by 103 runs. Fine fielding and superb bowling by Ben Benedict (8 for 22) saw Graveney all out for 77.

GRAVENEY.—Boothe c Burns b Benedict 0; Upton c Jones b Benedict 34; Ranson c Mansi b Fry 6; Moss b Benedict 10; Rowbotham c Mansi b Benedict 0; Kearsey c Jones b Benedict 0; Simpson c Burns b Benedict 4; Amos b Benedict 0; James b Benedict not out 8; extras 14. Total 77.

Clapham Old Xaverians beat Haddon Hall by 65 runs

Clapham pace bowler Ben Benedict wrecked Haddon Hall with a tremendous burst of seven wickets for 12 runs in 13 overs

Ben Benedict RIP, footballer 225 games/213 GOALS 350 Ben thought

Ben Benedict asked me a while ago to research his COXA Football Stats - so here they are -

apologies to any others - this was a one-off I don't have the stats any more: Scotty

	3rd XI	4th XI	5th XI	6th XI	7th XI	8th XI	9th XI	Total	Total	
	App	Goals	App	Goals	App	Goals	App	Goals	Apps.	
71/72	3	1	2	1					5	2
72/73	3	1	4	2					7	3
73/74	2	0	15	14					17	14
74/75	6	7	15	17					21	25
75/76	3	3	16	28	1	2			20	33
76/77	2	2	6	4					8	6
77/78			3	2	4	4	7	5	14	11
78/79			1	1			3	1	4	2
79/80			1	0	16	20	1	1	18	17
80/81			7	8	1	1	4	4	12	13
81/82	3	1	7	7	11	4	4	4	21	22
82/83					20	20	1	1	21	21
83/84	1	0	6	2	18	15	3	2	37	28
85/86							6	5	6	5
85/86					2	0	2	1	14	11
					9	9	1	1		
Totals	20	15	83	86	69	73	31	24	225	213



The Stella Flannery Story [possibly Part 1?]

One of the reasons I became a principal was because I was never very good at taking direction, neither as a pupil nor an employee. So when Mr. Macdonald, the erstwhile teacher called and requested a hundred lines for "Concordia", I thought I could dodge around it and he might forget. Five years later and he's still persisting.

The other habit that teachers can't get over is telling you what to write. Mr. Macdonald has kindly provided me with a set of bullet points - "What I did on my holidays" - that kind of thing. It won't surprise you to learn that I have jettisoned those. What I have decided is to do a more panoramic reflection on my 36 years in teaching (nothing too political, Ed., but you can wield your blue pencil on it if you judge differently). [*never changed a word - Ed*]

The mathematicians amongst you will be wondering what this lazy young woman was doing with the other three or four working years after university. My husband refers bitterly to them as the "lost years" when looking at my teachers' pension. Contrary to unkind rumour, they were not spent at Her Majesty's Pleasure but more in career "sofa-surfing" (no, not the equivalent of the casting couch). I flirted with publishing but while the lunches were good the recompense was that befitting of a church mouse. I also dabbled with the NHS graduate entry scheme but I am taking no responsibility for the COVID shambles, although it might well take another forty years to clear that one up.

I firmly resisted teaching. For girls in the grammar schools of the seventies there were typically three career routes advanced; teaching, nursing or, for the girls who wore spectacles, something behind the scenes in a lab. In the thrusting south of England you might add social work because the teachers had heard of that job: a lot of them had dealings with their own case-worker. Needless to say, with three elder sisters and a brother who had trodden the teaching path before me, I was going to do something innovative...something powerful and glamorous. No, not the Post Office: something in the City requiring shoulder pads a la Alexis in "Dallas".

A couple of years later and I was (even more reluctantly) agreeing to take a full-time teaching job at Ernest Bevin where I had trained. It is the sort of school where Jimmy White made "top set" (whoops, might be libel not politics you need to worry about, ed. Useful 24 hour hotline offered by "Private Eye" I believe). Since moving to London I had worked as an assistant to an accountant in a dodgy car hire firm and garage in Kentish Town. They never paid the Taxman, nor any other creditors and I soon realised my critical role was to sweet talk the debt collectors (all male, of course). As the person who made up the wages, occasionally, on a Friday, I would have to head down to the garage and tell the "chaps" their wages were delayed. Bearing in mind that most of them had by this time already "chalked up" half of said wages in the pub across the road, it became evident that employing a young female to deliver this news was the wisest move the bosses could make. I learnt a lot about managerial strategy in this job! By that time, I had ditched the shoulder pad fetish and things were getting way too risky with the Inland Revenue along with the "Top Boy" boss who would insist on driving me home in his sky blue Rolls Royce. I needed the proverbial "proper job". I was keener on training for the Law than teaching but Law required two rather than one year's training and fiscal reserves were about as good as the Treasury's.

Anyone who worked as a teacher in the inner city in the 70s, 80s and, possibly, the 90s (for those with a serious addiction) remembers: the lunchtime drinking; the Banda machine fumes (a forerunner of the Class A drug spice); the opium den-like ambience of the smoking room; lunchtime nappers (we got a whole hour for lunch). Beyond this, my nostalgic Bevin memories also include the Head of the Learning Support Department who brought her neurotic Weimaraner (kept on a vegetarian diet) to school who once slipped his lead in the staff room and for several long minutes ran Disneyesque about the staff room, grabbing every trace of meat in the room until the PE boys wrestled him to the ground. And they think therapy dogs in schools are a new departure. I also recall those gifted and inspired teachers who never stayed in the classroom for more than ten minutes in a lesson but wandered the corridors shooting the breeze (known in the trade as "Gulliver's").



Continued overleaf

Stella Flannery SFX ...continued....

There is much criticism now of alleged indiscipline in schools and underfunding, but I remember this....when your £10.00 photocopying card issued for a whole half-term ran out you had two choices: go to the Deputy Head and explain why you had flagrantly wasted school funds and humbly explain why Banda copies weren't good enough for a jumped up PGCE entrant like you. Alternatively, you could queue at the local newsagent who had a photocopying machine (5 pence a copy). As an ambitious young teacher (who had the worst handwriting imaginable) only typed handouts were good enough. I spent half of my meagre wages on photocopying and most of my lunchtimes queueing outside the newsagents at Tooting Bec so I raise an eyebrow or two when the word "austerity" is bandied about in educational circles....or should that read "Banda-d" about! When we were told that Ofsted were coming (weeks of notice given then) the queues were like a queue for bread in Russia 1917 and the newsagent made enough to sell up and buy a yacht.

I began my teaching career in "Thatcher's Britain". It is true that the unions were somewhat out of control: as a young NUT member I was definitely more cowed by the Wandsworth NUT Officers than I was by any school manager. But the teaching unions did achieve one great thing which really improved working conditions : the "no cover" campaign of the mid1980s was very successful and treasured by teachers. I didn't have to cover a lesson after that for many years. Getting out of covering other teachers' lessons was another key reason why I became a principal.

Other NUT campaigns were more cynical but a great deal of fun. The health and safety legislation could facilitate a lightning strike by teachers, especially the discovery of asbestos, which could be found in any old school building if you looked hard enough. The greatest "jape" I recall was the day at Bevin when the NUT called an emergency meeting at lunchtime and ordered us to stay out of our classrooms as asbestos had been discovered...in the fire surround in the Deputy Head's office! She might have elected to commit suicide by Mesothelioma but we had a nation to educate. Or not! By this time, carnage had erupted in the classrooms in a mélange of St. Trinian's and "Lord of the Flies". By the time the NUT Regional Officer had abandoned his pub lunch at the King's Head and arrived on site, courage was waning and we slunk back to our chaotic classrooms, understanding that by now we were probably more likely to be slaughtered at the hands of Jack and Piggy in the classroom than by any floating asbestos fibres: white, blue or brown.

After five years, having vowed not to stay in teaching and with the laurels of "most cynical newcomer to the profession" wound around my neck, I was hooked by it: the absurdity and the small triumphs alike. It tired the life out of you but at least you could sleep the sleep of the righteous at night and that really meant something to me. These kids' experience of education was so different from my own: girls only, classical education from grammar school to Oxford College, and I wanted to instill some calm in their lives, maybe even an occasional yearning to sit down quietly and read a book. It wasn't always going to come off as I planned but it was worth a try.

By now it was time to leave Bevin and take my first step on the managerial ladder but I was going to miss it: my two little Italian tutees (cousins) who walked the school doing errands for the teachers in return for a huge tray of delicious pastries every few weeks from the family bakery. They never completed a lesson nor gathered any qualifications but they do run a fantastic Italian food operation now. I would even miss the dressing gown clad figures lurking in the corridors. Surprisingly, not the Senior Team. My classroom was at the corner of the grounds that abutted Springfield Hospital. There were no locked gates between the two estates so inpatients would often wander up and into our corridor. Sometimes they were a great disciplinary back-up: some would admonish the boys for rowdiness or play fightingsometimes genuine aggression....and if they caught them off guard they would straighten up and come to order.

But I was off to home ground, to Islington, to promotion. Life at my next staging post would be a bowl of cherries..... or not.

If you want the next installment of my life in education (a la Charles Dickens and his penny dreadful serialisations) you will have to lobby the Editor. If not, I shall save my exclusive stories for my true life expose with "The Beano".

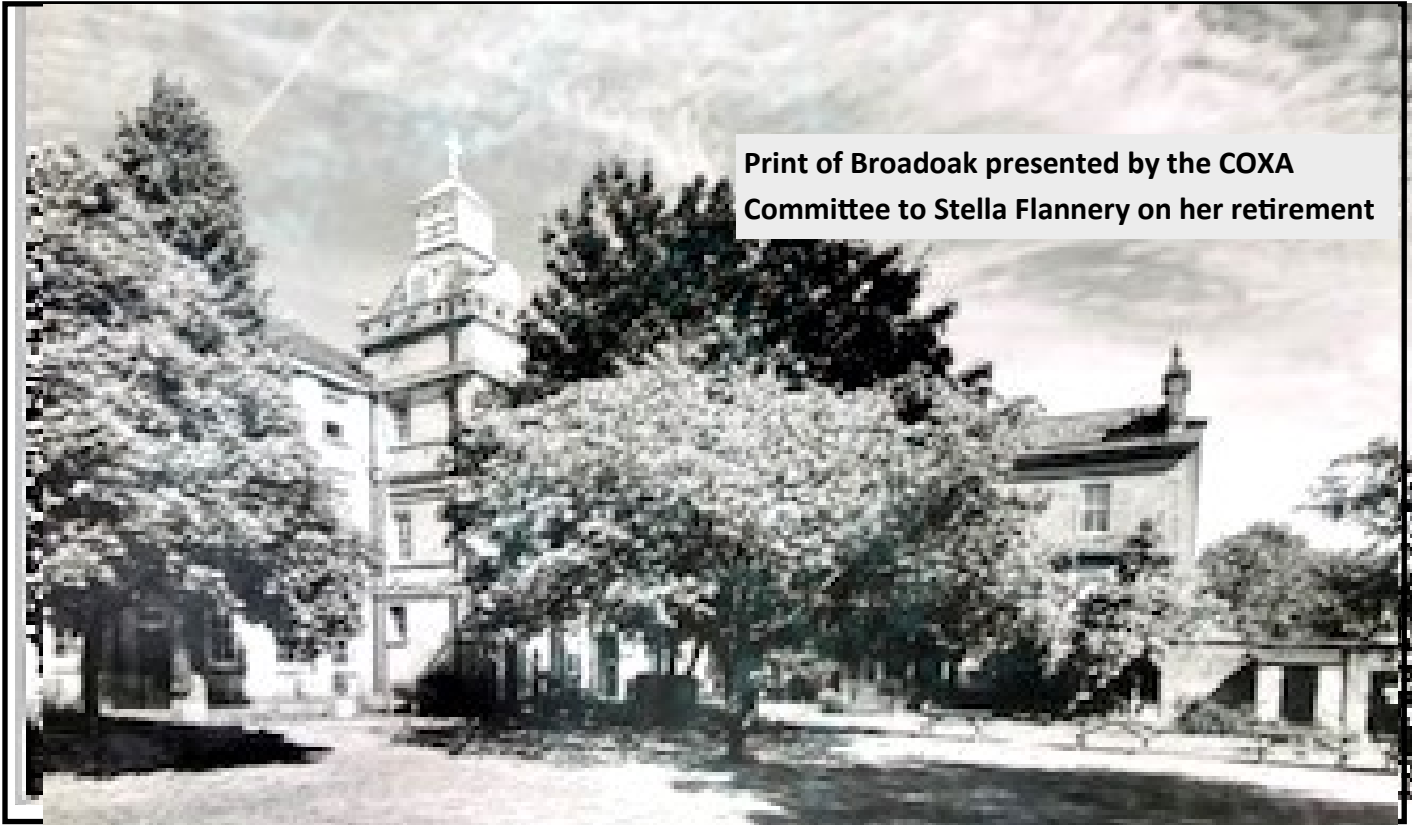
Stella Flannery

November 2021

[I'm right to keep pestering Stella - still want more news from her time at SFX Ed]

1890, View looking North towards Broadoak; and in 2021

Print of Broadoak presented by the COXA Committee to Stella Flannery on her retirement



These two photographs were taken a century apart of Broadoak, one taken from the orchard [before the Paddock was landscaped.] and the other was taken last year by Aidan Coletta from the window of Stela Flannery's Office in the new SFX building. [I don't think Aidan took them both!]. You'd be "hard-pushed" to work out that the one at the bottom of the page is 1890s Clapham and the top photograph is 2021 SFX. The Old Boys owe a huge debt of gratitude to Stella for all her support from her position as Principal of the 6th Form College to a nomad Association with a chapel in her building ... thank you Stella.





400 Club



2021 Winners

Jan	Tony Cleather	£1,000
Feb	Eamon Kearns	£100
Mar	Kevin Horkan	£100
Apr	Frank Barretta	£100
May	Mike O'Brien	£100
Jun	Ted Hayter	£100
Jul	Vic Roszkowski	£100
Aug	Brien Sanders	£100
Sep	Ben Benedict	£100
Oct	Mick Duffy	£100
Nov	Scotty Macdonald	£100
Dec	Kevin Howard	£100
Jan	David Sanders	£1,000

If you think some of that £3,100 from those “draws” could be a holiday [or new suit] for you, why not join the 400 Club -

Could I suggest to “readers” that they buy two tickets a month for a yearly cost of £24 [or more?]
Asking your bank to pay £2 on the first day of each month to

Clapham Old Xaverian Asso. Sport and Social Club

Sort Code 090155 Account number. 83056903

Issues with the PRINTING “last” Concordia [24]

I was delighted with the format and quality, as well as the content of Concordia 25. but when it was printed, some areas were too dark. or too light, disappointing!

OK, so yes, I think that a great deal is down to the quality of the photos/images I have access to. But even then it looked great online, but not so in final print. I have a colleague at the printers who investigated the “look” of the Autumn Concordia and he reported back that the machine used for the print was older, coming to the end of its “life”. The “black” was too dark. I had an apology for the technical difficulties. The Printer has taken on board the difficulties and all responsibility for the poor look. That printing machine has been replaced and I’ve had the promise of a good quality print-run in February 2022; their new machine is up and running. The analysis of Concordia concluded:-

- Page 2 – View from third floor of SFX college – low resolution
- Page 2 - Some of the images on page (inside front) – look low resolution
- Page 4 - Mgr. Cyril Murtagh – both look low resolution
- Page 4 - Fr. Mario Sanderson – left image [top hat] looks low resolution
- Page 14 - looks a bit ropey, possibly low resolution
- Page 27 - looks low resolution, could be due to being blown up maybe?
- Page 30 - map, and Page 46 - [Team photo] – low resolution.
- Page 47 - man on left hand side in middle is low res & photo next to it

Some of the darkness, is down to us (**machine which is now gone**).



COXA Battlefield Tour, Arras - 10th to 12th June 2022



After a break of two years, COXA is returning to France for their annual visit to the battlefields and monuments dedicated to the soldiers of WW1.

This year we will be billeted in a lovely Hotel Moderne in Arras, in the heart of Somme. The cost of the weekend per head is £270.00, if you wish to have one of the limited SINGLE rooms and £230.00 if you are SHARING a room. We need to know if you want a single, or double bed in your room.

“The city has some wonderful sites and good restaurants and bars. romantic weekend, a week of cultural delight or an inspiring family holiday. You can marvel at its unique architectural environment, its squares and its belfry. Lose yourself among the charming streets, as you browse the shops or hunt out the city’s heritage treasures. Linger awhile on a café terrace and savour the dolce vita in the air, you’ll have the time to enjoy life!” [Arras Tourist Board]

Travel, as usual, will be by coach from Purley Station [departing at 8 am] and returning to the same location around 8 pm on Sunday evening.

Once more we will be led by our Tour Guides [the McLoughlins] with Aidan and Scotty adding detail on the Clapham boys who served there in World War One. There are about 40 places available, please book early as the accommodation fills up very quickly, on 5th February we had 37 places taken].

The best way to book your place is to drop Scotty an email on:

members@claphamoldxaverians.co.uk or text on: 07508 001 217.

This year we are asking you to pay the cost of the trip to book your place, [the full £230/£270], obviously if the trip is cancelled/postponed you will get a full refund.

COXA Bank Details:
Bank: HSBC
Sort Code: 40-01-07
Account No: 90232459



Draft Itinerary: -

Friday 10th June - Morning, Traveling - leave Purley Station at 8 am

Friday 10th June - Afternoon, COXA Battlefield sites & memorials - Aidan / Scotty

Sat. 11th June - Major Tourist sites, a tour of the Battlefield – Mick McLoughlin

Sunday 12th June - Morning, [Mass] then COXA Memorial visits – Aidan / Scotty

- Afternoon Calais - evening ferry crossing arrive back Purley Station 8 pm.

What did you chat about? Xaverians at the Lunch spend 6 hours on average taking C.C. nostalgia. others extend this to twelve HOURS [in Hanover]. Write to ME about it. I will be offended if these stories DIE with YOU! Scotty donmiamac1234@sky.com or editor@claphamoldxaverians.co.uk PTO 4 more

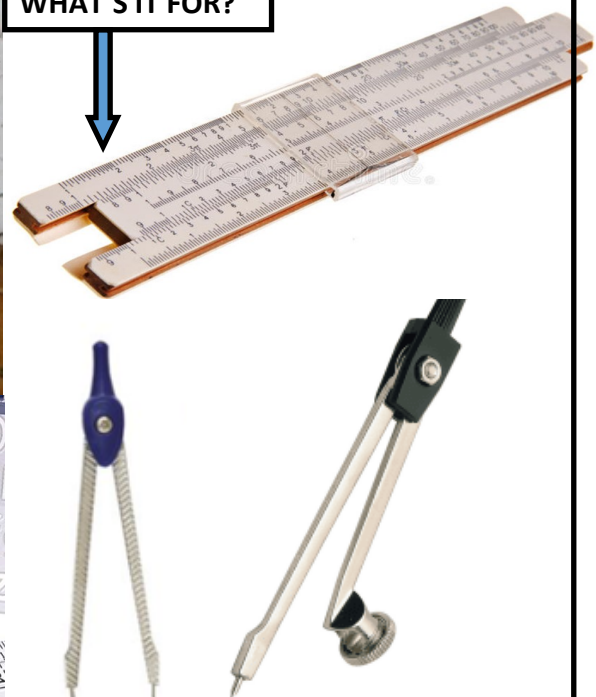
“All our Yesterdays” School Dinners and “Tools of the Trade” [Maths]



Clapham Old Xaverians “live” on nostalgia? - How many conversations at the Chairman's Lunch, involved “current affairs”? ... [yes, I know we are too old for “that”!]! Honestly, look at the images on this page, close your eyes, smell that food, think of the run down Cavendish Rd. Did anyone ever use the compass for anything but prodding your mates. The Geometry Box an essential, the lid always broke off - never used. The Ruler - ruled!



WHAT WAS THIS -
WHAT'S IT FOR?



Archbishop Peter Smith [2020]

Bill Collins

Matt Barnaville [Kevin's son]

Bernard Fincham [our oldest Old Boy]

Barney Townsend

Ron Kirby

Brian Holohan

John Gorton

Dennis Seradi

Fr Mario Sanderson [once a Xaverian brother]

Mon. Cyril Murtagh [famous Murtagh clan]

John McDermott

Cliff Wass [from Mick Power]

Amelia Macdonald [Scotty's Mum]

Ben Benedict [CC Sporting Legend]

Dot Power

Recent COXA RIPs; Remembrance Sunday was celebrated last November, another "healing event" as we move out of the virus. Apologies to any that I have missed, hopefully they were remembered in the last six Concordias. If not drop me a line, ++ May they Rest in Peace ++



Clapham Old Xaverians
Oval Luncheon
28th January 2022

MENU

Artisan bread rolls with salted butter

STARTER

Smoked ham hock terrine, cider pickled onions, mustard gel, puffed pork

MAIN

Poached stuffed chicken breast, Hasselback potatoes, root vegetables, champagne emulsion

DESSERT

Honey and burnt butter sponge, crème fraiche, caramelised pear, honeycomb



Please scan our QR code to see our allergens menu



OK Pete Wills, tell us "The Tale of the Tape!"

Apologies for the random nature of this page. The "scatter-gun" nature of Concordia reflects the Association, and my style as an editor! There are no sections, "news, football, RIPs, events, history", they "land" where they do hope some will interest our 400 members [of differing ages and persuasions]

Wonderful letter written to Brian Sanders in 1993 [was in feint blue ink]

[Brian was COXA Chairman at the time]. This took some typing – but worth the effort].

Dear Brian, 11th November 1993

[from Bill Madigan, Leighton Buzzard, Beds]

Your recent letter in Clapper, about the dire financial situation, set me thinking. I've been recalling the memories of games of soccer and cricket in which I played at the Green Lane ground of Clapham a Norbury, both in my schooldays [1924-1929] and subsequently for the Old Xaverians, up to the outbreak of WW2. More importantly I recall the many life-long friendships I made during those years. *[this letter is already following a well-worn path! Ed]*

The "Pavilion" [as we called it was a building of moderate proportions and provided basic amenities only, under the watchful eye of a remarkable character named "Tom". I have no idea if the present "Clubhouse" as it is now called is the original structure, but my guess is that I would not recognise it? However, what I find is as being so astonishing is that the Association is now turning out seven football sides and three cricket teams, as well as a myriad of social functions. It is clear therefore why your concerns and fears about the Clubhouse and the costs to maintain it are well-founded. I hope you get a good response to your appeal for the "Clapham Old Xaverian Bond". I am delighted as someone who benefitted greatly in my youth from the Club's facilities at Norbury to enclose my donation for £100.00 [there is no need to worry about the cost and effort of issuing me a Bond and forwarding it to me].

[£100 in 1993 equates to about £200 today – very generous – Ed].

I would like to take this opportunity on "touching" on those other two matters you were seeking information on in the **Summer 1993 Clapper**.

Firstly, in the recent Clapper magazine Mick Power [the editor] is asking for names of the school-boys appearing in the two photographs previously belonging to Brother Dunstan and now on display at Norbury. He omits to say whether they are soccer or cricket teams. It also happens that I was captain of the 1st XI soccer eleven [season 1928 to 29] and was also a member of the cricket team [in the summer of 1929], and I have photographs of each. I certainly know the names of all members of those two teams. However, it is important that we are both looking at identical photographs! A clue or test we could apply is as follows: - In the soccer team I am the boy seated in the centre with the football between his knees and the boy to my immediate right, also seated, is the captain of the 1st XI cricket team. He is seated in the centre of the cricket photograph, and I am seated to his left at the end of the row in that photo. If we are looking at identical photographs, I will let you know all the names.

Secondly, I own several items which may be of historic interest to the Old Boys.

Copies of Concordia from the first one in 1929 to 1964

A copy of the Old Boys "Roll of Honour" 1939 to 1945.

A Memorial Card for Br. Joseph CFX.

A College Blazer in excellent condition, and a cricket cap

A small silver "hallmarked" medal, presented to the School Captain.



Attree Villa was designed by Charles Barry (best known for his design of the Houses of Parliament) and completed in 1830. It was used as an Xaverian College for Catholic boys from around 1909-1966

Royal Pavilion and Museums Brighton & Hove

Having bought the parkland sometime between 1825 and 1830, Thomas Attree no doubt wished to use it as a setting for his own grand house. He commissioned Sir Charles Barry, who went on to become architect of the Houses of Parliament, to design it for him. This was intended to be the first of a series of similar houses encircling Queen's Park, but only one other, Cowell's Villa, was ever built. On June 30 1831 the Brighton Gazette mentions: 'Mr.W.S.Cowell and Mr.T.Atree have built two villas in the park, which add considerably to the beauty of the scene and will no doubt be speedily followed by the erection of many others.'

The mystery of the missing villa

There is still some mystery as to what happened to Cowell's villa. There is a plaque outside Queen's Park villa, or Pennant Lodge as it was known until 1983, stating that it was built in 1851. It seems unlikely to me that a villa less than twenty years old would be knocked down and a new one built on the same plot. Also a Lady Emma Pennent was residing in Queen's Park in 1845 and not at Attree's villa. There would appear then to have been more than one villa throughout the 1840s. The most likely explanation seems that Cowell's villa was rebuilt and became known as Pennant Lodge. As yet I have found no records to prove this though.

Restoration refused

Attree's Villa was designed in the style of an Italianate villa set in a terraced garden with a little gazebo. After Attree's death it was purchased by George Duddell and occupied by him until his death in 1888. It then remained empty until it opened in 1909 as Xaverian College, a college for Catholic boys. The college closed in 1966 and the villa became derelict and was repeatedly vandalized. The villa was full of dry rot with wet rot fungus on all the floors and the cost of restoration was put by the Department of the Environment at between £130,000 and £150,000. Despite a huge public protest and the fact that the Historic Buildings Council classed the villa as an 'outstanding' Grade 2 listed building, the villa was demolished by the Council in 1972 because of the cost.

Notes for a memoir – John Sabbagh

It is always a surprise looking back at one's teachers to realise how young they must have been. From the advanced age of my late 70's, anyone I meet aged between 25 and 35 – the likely age of most of my teachers at Clapham – now seems fresh-faced, free from the cares of the world and, perhaps, a little lacking in gravitas. And yet, those were the sort of people into whose hands our intellectual nourishment was placed between the ages of 11 and 18. I'd like to say that I don't think they did a bad job but, with one or two exceptions, I think that what I acquired from my time at school was more in spite of my teachers than because of them.

Clapham was not my first choice – or rather the first choice of my junior schoolteachers. There were two other possibilities – Christ's Hospital and Wimbledon College, if I passed my 11-plus. With help from the nicotined finger of Mr McCarthy's at St Mary's Junior School, pointing to the correct multiple-choice answers on the exam paper, I did pass. I don't remember what happened about Christ's Hospital, which didn't attract me very much anyway since it was also known as the Bluecoat School because the boys apparently went around in a silly costume. I managed to get an interview at Wimbledon, with the headmaster, and I remember two things about it. One was that when I told him I liked acting, he said "There's a walking stick on the back of that door – take it and walk around like an old man." This was a task quite beyond me though I shuffled bravely round his office, looking like an eleven-year-old doing a very bad imitation of a very old man. Now that I am old myself, I'm not sure that I walk very differently from how I have walked over the last fifty or sixty years. The second memorable moment was when he asked me who was my favourite author and I replied without even thinking about it "Enid Blyton." The fact was, this was the correct answer. Her books, and those of a few other authors of children's novels, made up most of my reading. I presume he was expecting, at the very least, Robert Louis Stevenson – who, now I come to think of it – would have been a better answer and not entirely untrue, but the enjoyment I got from the Blyton *oeuvre* was far greater.

I didn't get an offer from Wimbledon, and so I went across Clapham Common to Clapham College. I remember with some excitement a kind of induction evening where I went to the school for the first time to pick up the textbooks I would need. There is something about a book, and the promise it makes to you as you pick it up that within its pages are going to be all sorts of things you didn't know before, some of which will stay with you for some time. I remember a Latin textbook, battered at the corners with the cardboard showing through the scuffs in the cloth cover, and flicking through, it provided my first contact with another language and the possibility of eventually being able to understand it. Other books too held out the promise of hidden things which would become revealed to me once I started at the school.

I'm not sure at what point in my progress through Clapham that I began to be taught by Cecil Pocock, but he was the most memorable of the teachers, partly because he was a good teacher and partly because he was someone whose praise I sought, like most of the boys in the class.

I still have my history exercise books with Cecil's sweeping signature and semi-legible and usually favourable comments. In one exercise about the Romans, I wrote of someone being 'fatally injured', which I thought meant 'seriously' and he corrected me. When I started to learn Russian with a family friend, I discovered that Cecil's mother was Russian and he had studied the language, so I tried to use this shared interest to suck up to him. When I learned that he collected volumes of Punch I used to look out for them on my trips to second-hand bookshops, and pick up ones he hadn't got, usually for sixpence.

There is a chapter in the last volume of Proust's *Remembrance of Things Past* when characters the narrator met at the beginning of the eight volumes all assemble decades later at a lunch, and the narrator, who hasn't seen many of them for years, comments on this group of people who have something in common with the friends he once knew, but seem to have put on ageing makeup and rubber masks, and stuffed cushions inside their clothes. This chapter came to mind when I attended one of the annual COXA lunches and wondered who all these middle aged and elderly men were. Of course, I was one of them.

Continued overleaf

At some point during my time at Clapham, a man called Michael Rathborn joined the staff as art teacher. I was 'good' at art, which means that, in a very conventional sense I produced still lifes and portraits and imaginary landscapes, with shaky draughtsmanship, which got good marks without, in my view today, displaying any truly artistic originality, apart perhaps from a liking for surrealism which led to a few sub-Magritte effusions. (I don't think Magritte's draughtsmanship was up to much either but his ideas were far better than mine.) Mr Rathborn saw something in me that meant that in the fifth and sixth form he and I became friends as well as teacher and pupil. There was nothing sleazy about this. He was married and I got to know his wife, Yvonne, as well. They took me several times to the site of a house they were having built in Woldingham, as the walls rose, until I eventually visited them in the completed house. They also added to my musical education, through the Rathborn's love of Bach whose music I knew nothing about, apart from one piece which I knew as a signature tune on the radio without knowing who composed it. It was *Badinerie* from Bach's *Suite Number 2 in B Minor*. I liked it so much that when we were taught musical notation by Mr Smith, a thin, ascetic individual who was largely mocked by my classmates, I spent one evening trying to write out the melody of the Bach piece on a score sheet. I showed my attempt to Mr Smith the following day and he looked at it with a puzzled expression, and then hazarded a guess that it might be an attempt at the score of *Badinerie*, marred only by the fact that it was in the key of C major instead of B minor and I had used minims instead of quavers so the piece would play at a quarter the correct speed.

Michael also liked the countertenor voice of Alfred Deller, and his rendition of *Fine Knacks for Ladies* became a favourite of mine, which I would sing in falsetto occasionally – the equivalent of singing in the shower, except that I had never been in one. One day Michael started to grow a beard and another of the members of staff who knew of my alleged artistic talent asked me if I could do a cartoon of the process to put on the sixth form noticeboard. To my chagrin, try as I might I couldn't draw likenesses, and so my attempt, called *Michael or Little by Little*, fell rather flat I felt, though he was probably recognisable by his Kangol cap and the evolving facial hair. Looking back, I feel the Rathborns gave me more than I gave to them. One of the most memorable parts of the school year – for me – was the annual play organised by Cecil and John Gibb. I was in several of them until I developed stage fright and it was no longer enjoyable. A few incidents: Playing the Judge in *Toad of Toad Hall* I had to deliver the line to the clerk "Make a note I shall want a glass of iced water," which I unfortunately delivered in one performance as "Make a note I shall want a gllice of arsed water." This was entirely inadvertent, but I'm not sure that Cecil or John Gibb believed that.

In *She Stoops To Conquer*, during rehearsals as the Innkeeper my pronunciation of 'whore' had to be corrected since I didn't know the 'w' was silent in 'son of a whore'. (I'm not sure I even knew what it meant.) It was in that play that, while on stage I suddenly noticed that a member of the cast had omitted three pages of the script by combining two of his speeches. I was on the point of inventing some nifty dialogue to draw his attention to this so that we could get back on track when I realised that he hadn't done anything of the sort and was proceeding as scripted. I dread to think what would have happened if I *had* made my interjection and thrown the entire cast into confusion.

One last memory: John Mattock, whom I haven't seen mentioned in these pages, was the lead actor in several of the plays from 1956-59. In *The Duke in Darkness*, he had to be thrown over a balcony at the back of the set to his death on the rocks below (really a large mattress to break his fall). Unfortunately, on his way down, his foot caught on the beautifully painted backcloth of the French countryside, bringing the whole thing down to reveal the gym windows, and destroying the carefully constructed illusion that the audience was watching events in 16th Century.

Perhaps the best bit of the whole school play experience was the party at the end, with food prepared by Brother Columba and the kitchen team and a true spirit of friendship and shared enjoyment among staff and cast. Perhaps these memories are a corrective to the incessant harping on sport in the pages of Concordia, alienating those of us, maybe not many, who preferred higher mental activities. **John Karl Sabbagh [CC 1954—1961]** - lots on John on database-too much for one square in the grid!

Rowland Bourke - my favourite Xaverian - sorry Mick McLoughlin!!

Telegrams:- "Navy Accounts, London."
IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE:-
A.G.P.A. NP/EC. 18856.
AND ADDRESS LETTER TO:
THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL OF THE NAVY,
ADMIRALTY, LONDON, S.W.1.

ADMIRALTY, S.W.1.

10 December 1920.

H. C. E. Biggs,
late O.N. 522370

I have to request that your Service Certificate may be forwarded to this Department in order that a notation may be made thereon as to your having participated in the ballet for the award of the Victoria Cross granted for operations against Zeebrugge and Ostend on the night of 22nd-23rd April, 1918.

An addressed envelope, which need not be stamped, is enclosed for this purpose.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Walker

Accountant-General
of the Navy.

Historical COXA Letter found in the Archive. Rowland Bourke confirmed for his Victoria Cross. What a man - in his Clapham College notes in 1900, he was barred for physical exercise due to his poor eyesight - if that isn't an inspiration for every boy who was told he wasn't going to succeed, I can't think of one! A photo of Rowland and his actual V.C.



Sub-Committee investigating proposal for moving Clubhouse:

F. Barretta; D. Rowe; C. Taylor; A. Webber; B. Williams

LARGE DRESSING ROOM

1. Remove all benches and hooks.
2. Put panel partition outside main doors to exclude draughts and render entrance more attractive.
3. Remove half of small partition.
4. Put in new light fittings.
5. Paint walls and ceiling.
6. Ask Whitbreads for carpets and repiping of beer supply; ask Nino for furniture.
7. Put up dartboard.
8. Put in new door to showers.
9. Put in swing door behind 8.
10. Put up curtains.

SMALL DRESSING ROOM

1. Lock door between S.D.R. and L.D.R.
2. Build new partition down middle.
3. Put in benches and hooks from LDR
4. Put in new light fittings.
5. Put in sink for ladies loo.

BOILER ROOM

1. Take bar from clubhouse and resite where partition down.
2. Put up behind-bar shelves.
3. Put up bamboo curtain to restrict view.
4. Put in new light fittings.
5. Ceiling slats to hang glasses.

KITCHEN

1. Plumb in gas cooker and move electric cooker.
2. Larger draining board.
3. Work surface and shelves.

GENERAL

Rewire whole area.
SECURE MAIN AREA.

Obtain costing on:

1. Timber
2. Carpenter - Chris Taylor + school
3. Plumber - move sink to ladies loo.
4. Electrician - rewiring for cooker, new lights, etc.
5. Gas Fitter - plumb in gas cooker from boiler.
6. Light fittings.

This was going to be part of a "brilliant" article. The Clubhouse has gone through a whole series of up-grades in the last few months and is looking great. My plan was to look at the "original build" at Norbury in the 1950s, Alan & Frank's work in the 1980s, then finally an article and photos on the new replenished Clubhouse 2022. Just ran out of time and space - look out for it in Concordia 26!

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our father, Malcolm Corey, on 30 December 2021

Malcolm died peacefully at Meadow House Hospice, after a short illness

Due to the current Covid situation, his funeral will be for immediate family on 27 January

We hope you will be able to join us for a Requiem Mass on 18 March to remember both Malcolm and Jean

With love and best wishes
Fiona, Caroline and Sarah

Received this news really late - too late for a proper article. Will write more on Malcolm in the next Concordia. Condolences to his family

++ RIP ++

Another great photo sent in by Paul - I now need and article of "Kanssen" 1A to 5A Clapham College [1950s]



Paul Kanssen, Charterhouse
Clapham College 1948 to 1955

I used to run on 2 legs.
Now I run on electricity...

**Charles Tolman, at Clapham College
1904 to 1906. Killed in Action on the
Somme on 15th July 1916 - Aged 23**

Charles was born in Hendon in 1893 to Charles and Lizzie Tolman, his father ran a tailoring business. He had five sisters, and he attended Clapham College between 1904 and 1906.

Charles enlisted in the 8th Battalion East Surrey Regiment as a regular soldier in late 1914. After training at the battalion's headquarters at Codford on Salisbury plain, Charles left for France in July 1915. He was based sixteen miles west of Albert. His battalion saw no action until they were called to the front line at Carnoy in June 1916

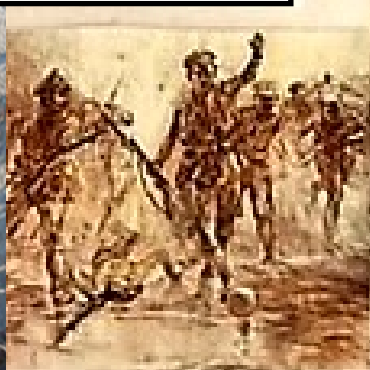
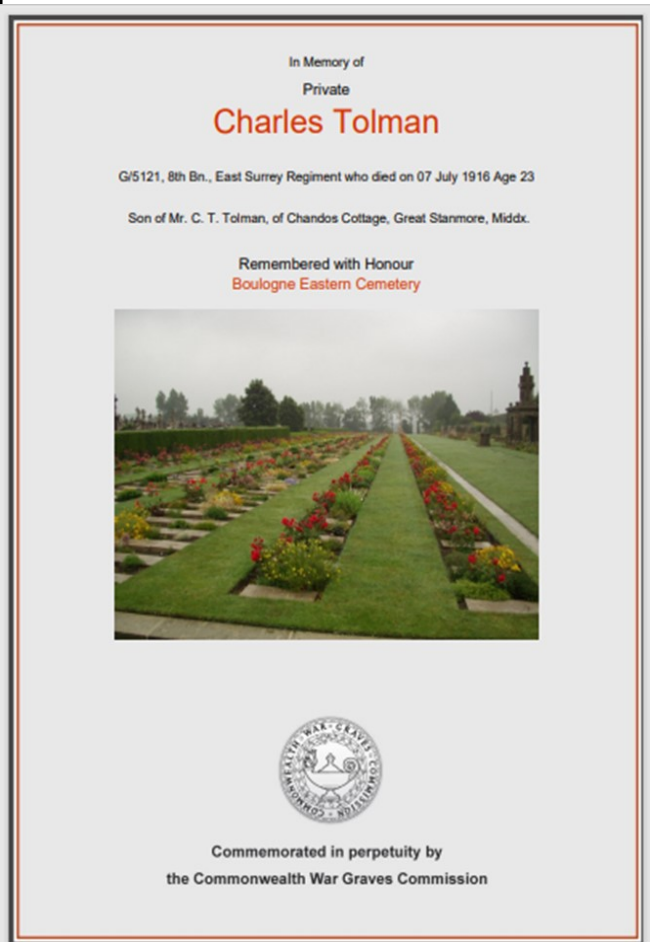
On day one of the Battle of The Somme, 1st July 1916 at 4:00 am, Charles was in the front-line trenches facing the enemy, two hundred yards away across no man's land. He was in the 8th Battalion East Surrey Regiment, 18th Division, part of the 4th Army. Their objective was to take the small village of Montauban to link up with the French army to the east.

At 7:38 am, the commanding officer famously led his men out of the trenches and into battle, by kicking a football into no man's land. Although they successfully destroyed two enemy machine gun nests, many remained operative and caught the infantry in a deadly crossfire. Charles was one of 3,700 casualties that day that the 18th Division suffered, mainly at the hands of those German machine gunners. The regiment achieved their mission and took Montauban by late afternoon, but Charles had fallen in the first wave crossing into no man's land.

He was carried from the battlefield to a field hospital in Carnoy and from there to one of the military hospitals in the Boulogne / Wimereux area. Charles died six days later from his wounds. He was buried in the Boulogne Eastern Cemetery on the July 7th, 1916. Charles had been in the Army for 20 months, his active "War" combat lasted less than half an hour, he was aged twenty-three.

Aidan Coletta researched this simple story of a name the Old Boy's know well. COXA has visited his grave and prayed for Charles and thanked him for his ultimate sacrifice.

Every year at the Remembrance Mass in the College Chapel the story one of those from our Roll of Honour is read out to the congregation. In 2021,



Charles' story was rather sad he was only on the battlefield for a matter of minutes, would not have fired a shot and died in a hail of machine gun bullets.

The Tolman story a tale of a volunteer serving his country and merely becoming a statistic. He didn't really have a full life, and is rightly honoured on our Chapel Wall.



Des O'Neil
Clapham College
1930 - 1935

Desmond Hugh O'Neil was born in December 1914 in Madras, India and arrived at Tilbury on 7th March 1922 aboard the SS *Orsova*. His parents were Lt. Col. Edward O'Neill and Ethel O'Neill, of Glasnevin Dublin.

He attended Clapham College 1930-34, the family was by now living in Downton Avenue, Streatham.

O'Neil joined the RAF on a short service commission and began his initial training on 17th January 1938. He was posted to 10 FTS Ternhill on 9th April and with his training completed joined 2 AACU at Lee-on-Solent on 29th October 1938.

He was later serving with 12 Squadron, equipped with Fairey Battles. O'Neil's first and only sortie with the squadron was made on 18th August 1940, an evening attack on shipping in Boulogne harbour.

Desmond volunteered for Fighter Command as he went to 611 Squadron at Digby on 20th August and moved to 41 Squadron at Hornchurch on 29th September.

He married Isabel Dunn in Ploughley, Oxfordshire in May 1940.

On the 11th October Desmond was involved in a mid-air collision with Sgt. LR Carter during a battle climb to engage Me109s on 11th. He baled out but was killed when his parachute failed to open. His Spitfire, X4042, crashed near the Crooked Billet, Ash. Hugh was 25. SUNSHINE PASSES SHADOWS FALL LOVING MEMORIES OUTLIVE ALL

" MATER AND PATER

No great war hero, just a former pupil of our school who did his duty as he saw it, he volunteered.

He like Charles Tolman years earlier] volunteered to serve.

They both would have experienced great fear and died in great pain. Like the nearly 200 names here on our Chapel Wall both Charles & Desmond, were true heroes, that we all owe a sincere debt to them all.

No greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends

VIP JET FLIES SOLDIER HOME

A N Army corporal with serious spine injuries was flown from Cyprus yesterday in War Minister Mr. John Profumo's jet Comet.

Then a waiting helicopter at London Airport flew the soldier—John Urquhart, of Sussex-street, London, S.W.—to hospital.

Mr. Profumo, who had been on a ten-day flying visit of Middle-East Army bases, heard John had just injured his back in a car smash. "So straight away I suggested that we bring him home in my own aircraft," said Mr. Profumo.

Front seats of the sleek silver, white and blue Comet were taken out to make room for a special stretcher.

During the five-hour flight to London the corporal and his VIP escort smoked and talked.

"He was very cheerful and very glad to be coming home," said the War Minister. "I think we talked for most of the way."

"It's a very fine feeling that a British Army corporal can be flown home in a high-speed Comet jet; have a helicopter standing by for him at the airport and have the best hospital treatment available."

"Of course, this is how it should be."

Scotty I was surprised and really pleased to see my boxing certificates in pride of place on the front of the latest Concordia. I felt so proud, and it made my day, nay week or who knows how long. I have copies of school reports which may be of interest and other biographical details e.g., the attached press cutting Brentford are now in the Premier League. Cecil will be over the moon! John.



"Good luck!" from the War Minister as Cpl. Urquhart is wheeled to the helicopter.

John Urquhart sent me this old newspaper clip of his flight back from Cyprus in 1961, following a motor cycle accident.

Scotty, mentioned my uncle John Harrington who attended the school post WW1 he appeared in an article recently [last Summer] in the Daily Mail it's been posted to me so I'll send it to you when I get it regards. Paul McCarthy [use it as a filler! [no a “centre spread”]

Daily Mail, Thursday, April 29, 2021

Back-seat drivers On a Mini mission

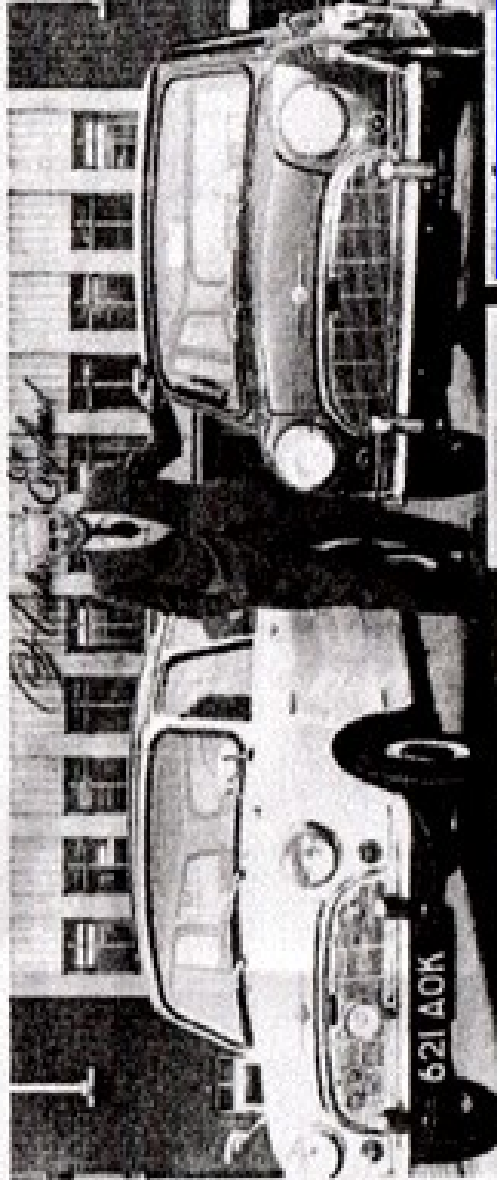
I READ with interest Ray Massey's article on the Mini, as my father, John Harrington, and the designer of the Mini, Sir Alec Issigonis, built their first car together.

They had met as young men studying engineering at Battersea Polytechnic in 1925-26.

They decided to put the car through its paces at Brooklands Race Track, which was not in use at the time. They were both 6ft. 4in and soon realised they had not given themselves enough legroom, so they took the front seats out, strapped them to the roof and drove down there sitting on the back seat. Just imagine doing that now!

Things were so simple in those days. Dad insisted that we three girls knew how an engine worked before we learned to drive, and my sister, at 75, still services her own car.

My gentle giant of a dad was born in 1908 and went on to become a metallurgical chemist. He came up with sound-to-light [sound-activated lights] 70 years ago, well before disco lights happened. We had an amazing



COXA Lads make the National Press and [Page 44 Connor Rooney makes headlines in the Croydon Advertiser!].



Car crazy: Sir Alec between two Minis. Inset right: John Harrington and his daughter Anne Griffiths

kaleidoscope of a sky at the back of our crib every year — especially when we played Elvis Presley on the record deck.

ANNE GRIFFITHS, Sevenoaks, Kent.



"Concordia"

The Official Organ of
The Clapham Old Xaverians'
Association

VOL. VII

OCTOBER, 1965

No. 1

ASSOCIATION CALENDAR, 1965/66

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Time</i>
Sun. 24th Oct.	A.G.M.	College Hall	3 p.m.
Sat. 30th Oct.	Autumn Dance	Park Tavern	7.30 p.m.
Sun. 14th Nov.	Annual Mass	College Chapel	11 a.m.
Mon. 27th Dec.	Football Match, Cricketers v. Footballers 1966	Norbury	11 a.m.
Sat. 19th Feb.	Dinner and Dance	Mostyn Hotel (Provisional)	6.45 for 7.15 p.m.
Sat. 26th Feb.	Football v. College	Norbury	3 p.m.
Sun. 6th Mar.	Lenten Retreat	Kelston	9.30 a.m.
Sat. 9th July	Cricket v. College	Norbury	2.30 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION, 1964/65

Chairman: P. J. Griffin

Vice-Chairman: E. J. Hayter

Secretary: A. N. Amura

Treasurer: A. J. Morrish

Immediate Past Chairman: J. T. B. Crouch

Editor, Concordia: B. F. Schwenk

Social Secretary: P. S. Leeder

Elected Members: Rev. M. Ivers, D. R. Quin, C. Fisher.

Section Secretaries:

Football: D. H. Rowe

Cricket: E. J. Hayter

Table Tennis: B. F. H. Sanders

Squash: M. J. Hayland

Club House: M. B. Ward

Associate Membership: Rev. Bro. Christopher, C.F.X.

Just take a moment [or two] to digest the content] - we are an ANCIENT/AGING Association - reminiscing is our core attribute - so look at the events, the names and the different COXA "Sections" in 1965 - there are some great memories on these pages

Football 1964 - 1965

For the second year running both the 1st XI and the 2nd XI have won promotion, and the 3rd XI, entered in the Old Boys' League for the first time, won their division by 7 points and are also promoted.

The 1st XI also won their Division (One South) in fine style. Last year they won Division Two with 8 points to spare over their nearest rivals, having been beaten only once and having scored over a hundred goals. This time the margin was 10 points over the same runners-up, Old Salesians Reserves, and the team was unbeaten in scoring 108 goals.

Results: Played 20, won 19, drawn 1, lost 0, for 108, against 31, Pts. 39. Goal scorers: McGuire 24, Hixson 21, Smith 18, Amura 16, Carpenter 10, Brown 5, Snaith 3, Cooney 2, Leeder 2, Pepper 2, J. Murphy 1, Spivak 1, o.g. 3.



THE 1st TEAM, 1964-65, WINNERS OF DIVISION 1 (S).

Standing: F. Hixson, P. Leeder, M. Meade, J. Keenan (Captain),
C. Garvey.

Sitting: A. Amura, P. Brown, C. Smith, M. Magee, J. McGuire.
Not in picture: J. Gavigan, W. Pepper, L. Carpenter.

Again - take time to review this photo and the names of the goal scorers: they could make up a team today, Hixson, Leeder, Garvey, Amura, Brown, McGuire, Pepper, McGee... maybe the "limbs" might not "take the field", but their stories could bridge the obvious fitness gap

Clapham Football 1965 continued.....

In similar circumstances to last year the 2nd XI were beaten into second place in Division Three (S.). At the end of a successful season they lost the last three matches and had to concede the title to Glyn O.B. Reserves. However, they are promoted because of the "two up and two down" rule which is usually applied by the league.

Results: Played 20, won 12, drawn 4, lost 4, for 77, against 45, Pts. 28. Goal scorers: Brown 13, M. Murphy 10, Pinsent 10, Cooney 9, Smith 8, Coletta 6, Cain 2, Dixon 2, P. Gray 2, McGuire 2, Whelan 2, Breslin 1, Fitzpatrick 1, Hixson 1, J. Murphy 1, Pryke 1, Snaith 1, Spivak 1, Sullivan 1, Walsh 1, o.g. 2.

We entered several cup competitions for the first time last season, but unfortunately did not distinguish ourselves. The 1st XI put up the most creditable performance in winning through to the semi-final of the Surrey A.F.A. Junior Cup, but they were then beaten 1-3 by Carshalton Reserves, who are not in the Old Boys' League. It is typical of the varying fortunes of football that this cup was subsequently won by Old Reigatians whom we had already beaten 3-2 in the league, and whom we again defeated 4-0 in the return league match after the final. In the London Old Boys' Cup, where opponents are drawn from all divisions of the three geographical regions of the league, both our teams went out in the first round.

But let us return again to success, and another trophy; the 3rd XI won Division Five (S.) at the first attempt, and alongside the First team will be presented with the Divisional Winner's trophy at the League's Annual Supper in October.

Results: Played 18, won 14, drawn 3, lost 1, for 66, against 35, Pts. 31. Goal scorers: M. Murphy 21, Spivak 8, Cooney 6, Clark 5, Baker 3, Dal-Din 3, Fulker 3, Pryke 2, Sanders 2, Whelan 2, Breslin 1, Dixon 1, Fitzpatrick 1, P. Gray 1, Hughes 1, Lewis 1, Nella 1, Sullivan 1, Smith 1, o.g. 2.

The new playing strip, which retains the traditional colours, was introduced by the first team last season, and is now to be worn by all three teams. In the season which is just commencing the 1st XI will be meeting much tougher opposition in the non-geographically divided Central Division, the Reserves will be in Division Two (S.), and the 3rd XI in Division Four. My main concern is for the Reserves, but with the very welcome return of two or three players from the universities to add to our strength, I trust that all the teams will acquit themselves well in these higher divisions. Pride in our successes, team spirit and loyalty to the club will be essential. Do not let us have any repetition of the few unfortunate occasions of last season when at least one match was probably lost because a player failed to

What I find "intriguing" are the names of the goal scorers for the 2nd and 3rd XIs, **Coletta, Smith, Cain, Pryke, Brown, "Wills", Clark, Sanders...** do any of these current Old Boys Members remember any of the "goalscoring exploits"? **Peter Brown** seems to remember more about the number of goals he's scored for Clapham, rather than the detail / quality of his "strikes" - [that is true Peter]. Why are so many current Association Members on these two pages? Why the longevity? My theory "**rationing and breast-fed War Babies**"!

And finally...from 1965 - "Clapham Cricket"

The A.G.M. of the section in '64 resulted in Tony Amura being re-elected as Captain of the 1st XI with myself as Vice-Captain and Secretary, and Peter Barry as Captain of the "A" XI with Brian Sanders as Vice-Captain. Phil Leeder was re-elected as Treasurer and Frank Hixson acquired the newly-formed but unenviable position of Match Secretary.

The outstanding event of the '64 season which was not covered in last year's Concordia was our first single wicket tournament. The contenders, sixteen in number, fought out a long and satisfying day at Norbury, where four overs without respite soon took toll of the more paunchy members of the section and left the young lions to fight it out to the end. Jimmy Howard and John McGuire ran an interesting and profitable book, and their odds offered showed a shrewd appraisal of the capabilities of the players. The semi-finals saw Ben Schwenk, a rank outsider, finally despatched by Frank Hixson, and Dusty Miller knocking out Maurice Barrett. Dusty, somewhat overawed by the occasion, battled well in the final, but Frank's cunningly disguised leg-breaks and ever-fluent stroke play saw him emerge the victor with a pewter tankard as reward for his sustained effort.

Connubial and pre-connubial bliss have sadly depleted our playing strength this season and many of the "old guard", Pat Gooch, John Bunce, Phil Leeder, Colin Luke, and Tony Steward have either moved too far away or have played only fleetingly during the season. This necessitated a quick re-assessment of the situation, namely to bring on the younger members of the section at a rapid pace. This has been quite successfully accomplished thanks to our younger brethren's willingness to knuckle down to the task. Dusty Miller, after a rather shaky start, has finally settled to the opening bat position and, so far, with a splendid 49, has hit our highest 1st XI score of the season. A promising bat in '64 John McGuire, is still improving and has been converted to an all-rounder with quite a few wickets to his credit. Chris Smith, with his nicotine pant, has been our bowling discovery of the season, but at the moment seems to have lost his run up somewhere in Norbury's outfield. However, both he and Brian Pryke have taken many valuable wickets and have risen nobly from "A" XI to 1st XI standard.

The old stalwarts in experience if not age—myself excluded—have given valuable service to the side. Frank Hixson, who leads the batting averages, and Tony Amura have scored vital runs at opportune moments to avert defeat, and indeed turn defeat into victory. We suffered a severe blow when Maurice Barrett, one of our most prolific bowlers, suffered a shoulder injury which put him out of the side for over two months. There have been compensations: Tony Cleather is still raking in quite a few wickets with his off-breaks; Terry Cain is now back with us, but it is not certain which will be higher at the end of the season, his runs scored or weddings attended!

PTO for the final comment on 1965

Postscript on - 1965 Concordia and “all that”.

I never apologise for “pulling” pages from previous Concordia - but if my efforts over the last four pages don’t lead to some articles and comment from the “dozens” involved, I’m wasting my time. [PS all the Concordia/Clappers/COXANs and Xaverian Magazines since 1936 are on the COXA Archives Website: claphamoldxaverianarchive.com]“nostalgia” Scotty

The **Somme and the Xaverians** [a place to remember] was launched at the Lunch by Aidan and a dozen copies were taken home. If more of you are interested, please email me at editor@claphamoldxaverians.co.uk and I’ll make sure Aidan gets you a copy



THE SOMME

A PLACE TO REMEMBER



Aidan Coletta's Book on
Xaverians & The Somme

A visit to the Somme battlefields is something everybody should do at least once.

Without standing on the same soil and breathing the same air, it is hard to imagine the impact of sites such as the Thiepval Memorial, Lochnagar Grater, Beaumont Hamel and Vimy Ridge. Every visit - and I've done a few - leaves me with an overwhelming feeling of hopelessness. These visits have brought to life the black and white pictures of soldiers leaving the trenches and given undeniable meaning to the veterans marching in Remembrance Day parades.

In walking the Somme, it's impossible not to think about how you would have faced the constant fear of death. And as you leave for home, you want to learn more about those who weren't so lucky. This booklet aims to encourage you to visit The Somme and, at the same time, visit some of the 39 Clapham Old Xaverians who never made it home.

THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME

MORE THAN THREE MILLION MEN FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE AND ONE MILLION MEN WERE WOUNDED OR KILLED, MAKING IT ONE OF THE DEADLIEST BATTLES IN HUMAN HISTORY.

1ST JULY 1916 TO THE 18TH NOVEMBER 1916
(140 DAYS)

RESULT - INDECISIVE



TO ALWAYS REMEMBER THE 106 OLD XAVERIANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN THE GREAT WAR. OF THESE, 45 DIED ON THE SOMME — 39 CAN BE VISITED IN GRAVEYARDS OR MEMORIALS CLOSE TO ARRAS IN NORTHERN FRANCE. THE REMAINING 6 DIED FROM THEIR WOUNDS AND WERE BURIED NEAR MILITARY HOSPITALS IN THE UK AND ON THE FRENCH COAST.

The Somme a Place to Remember - Aidan Coletta [continued]

Two more excerpts below from Aidan's Book on the Somme. If anyone would like a copy, please email Scotty [donmiamac1234@skycom] - some already have done this...

Our 106 World War One fallen heroes ... Their Glory Shall Not Be Blotted Out

David Horace Anderson	Edward Joseph Andrews	John Clifford Andrews
Walter Atherton	Robert Axtell	Hubert Percy Bailey
Gerald Wolstan Baillon	Ernst James Ballard	Andre Barral
Charles Barsby	Alec Scot Barthorpe	Gerald Francis Brady
Leonard Gloyd Brett	Harry Brewer	Frederick Henry Broad
Francis Brooks	Clifford William Buchanan	Henry Edmund Bulbeck
John Raiman Bunting	Louis Frederick Byrne	Daniel John Cannan
Bernard A Carroll	Bernard Cotter	John F Cronin
Kenneth Gordon Cumming	Joseph Francis Cunningham	Albert Dagge
Bernard Annis Davey	Oliver d'Argoeuves	Ralph de Normanville Guy
Frank Henry Doe	William Edmund Downey	Clifford Wilfred Elliot
AB August Enright	Albert Fisher	John Elrick Flanagan
Augustin Fockeu	Frederick Foote	Edward Fox
James Fox	Geoffrey William Freeman	Harold Cecil Gardiner
Laurence Henry Gibbs	Charles Keith Grant	George Herlihy
Patrick Joseph Herlihy	William Arthur Hill	Patrick Hogan
Reginald Hughes	Henry de Warren Hunt	John Jackson
Francis William Jackson	Jules Judah	Austin William Jukes
Algernon Kirkland	Dion Albert Lardner	Gerald Lawrence Lesmond
Fritz Alexander Levey	Percy Liddington	Joseph Howard Lofthouse
Patrick Joseph McCullagh	William Joseph McGrath	John McKenzie
Edmund C McLaughlin	William R McLaughlin	Cyril Edward McLaughlin
Felix Joseph McSweeney	Randal R McSweeney	Pierre Milandre
Walter J Napier	Sydney Joseph Norris	Frederick O'Donnell
William J O'Malley	Reginald S Page-Green	Albert Patrick Palmer
Denis Pastre	Charles Paull	Austin Peers
Helio Pereira	John William Potter	Rene Reuze
John Rice	Anthony Gerald Roberts	Thomas Russell
Thomas Francis Russell	Charles Jesram Salmon	Cornelius Sheehan
Henry James Simmons	John Charles Spencer	William Francis Squires
George Edward Stevens	Walter Sydney Stevens	William Sullivan
John Joseph Sutherland	Charles Tolman	Edward Oglivie Turnbull
G V Vainstein	Aonguo Walsh	Alan Brook Walton
Cecil Alberic Warre	Wallace John Welsford	Thomas Whiclelow
Ambrose Joseph Wilkinson	Leonard A Yates	Joseph Charles Young
Arthur Herbert Johnson		

Sixty-two are buried in known graves in France, Belgium, England, Ireland, Switzerland, Iraq, Egypt, Palestine, Russia, Israel and Greece.

++ The burial sites of the remaining forty-four are known only to God ++

Facts obtained from various publications, the internet & Don Macdonald (Canterbury 1963-71)

Compiled by Aidan Coletta (Charterhouse 1957-1963) Intended for field trip use only

Aidan Coletta's detailed research discovers 19 more Xaverian heroes from

Name	Age	Rank Regiment	Place of remembrance	Date of Death
Hubert Percy Bailey	28	2 nd Lieutenant, 17 th Battalion Welsh Regiment	Cambrai Memorial Nr Doignies, France Panel 7 Died in Battle of Cambrai 20 Nov – 3 Dec 1917 Remembered on his parents' grave at Ashford - Willes- borough Cemetery Kent. George and Katherine Bailey	24 th Nov. 1917
Andre Barral 1912		157 th Alpine Infantry French Army	Crest Dorm France On school register 1912	
Louise Frederick Byrne	22	2 nd Lieutenant 24 th Battalion Tyneside Irish Northumber- land Fusiliers	Gordons Dump Orvillers-La Boisselle Plot X.S.9 Born Dublin 1894 - Died on the first day of the Somme. Lochnagar Crater. son of Mrs LM Byrne Eldon Place Newcastle. Inscription on grave Requiescat in Pace.	1 st July 1916
Daniel John Cannan	19	Rifleman 16 th Bat. London Regiment Queens West Rifles	Arras Memoria Bay 10 Parents: Daniel and Mary Cannan, of 23, Martin St., Bermondsey, London.	28 th March 1918
Albert Dagge 1898-1901	32	2 nd Lieutenant 'B' Battery Royal Field Artillery	Connaught Cemetery Thiepval XIII.D.7 Died on the first day of the Battle of the Somme Portuguese Boarder on School Census 1901 Mogadours Portugal - 1 Midmoor Rd Wimbledon	1 st July 1916
Frank Henry Doe 1909	22	Rifleman 34th Battal- ion London Regiment	Taintignies Communal Cemetery France D4 Died of his wounds 13 days before the end of the War in the La Bassee area 10 miles North of Lens. Parents Alfred and Annie Doe, 87 Thrale Road, Streatham Park, London - Born 3/10/1896	29 th Oct. 1918
Frederick Foote 1907	23	Rifleman 14th Battal- ion Royal Irish Rifles	Tyne Cot Memorial Panel 138-140 Born 24/9/1893 - Missing believed killed - Only son of Cecilia Foote 13 Devonshire Road, Chiswick London.	16 th Aug. 1917
Laurence Henry Gibbs	24	Captain 10th Battal- ion Lancashire Fusi- liers	Couzeacourt New British Cemetery France 111. D.7 Son of Edwin and Josephine Gibbs, Valparaiso, Chile. Mother had written on gravestone; Mother and your country will never forget you and your comrades	18 th Sept 918
Jules Judah 1901		French Army	On school register 1901 - Born in Lambeth 19/7/1886	
Austin William Jukes 1909	19	Pte 2nd Battalion Honourable Royal Artillery	Tyne Cot Memorial Panel 7 Born 1/5/1898 [boarder] - Died of his wounds. - Called up 21/3/1917 died 7 months later- Father lived 41 Glenlia Rd, Eltham. Tried in vain to find his son.	27 th Oct 1917
Dion Albert Lard- ner 1915	20	2 nd Lieutenant 9th Battalion attach 1st Bn Bedfordshire Reg/	Thiepval Memorial Pier 2C Died in the Battle of The Somme -Son of Albert Edward & Mary Lardner, of "St. Marie," Nimrod Rd., Streatham/	4 th Sep. 1916
Pierre Milandre 1909		Corporal 1 st Regi- ment French Army	Unknown resting place in France Died from illness caught on duty. De Petit Jury, Paris	1 st Sept. 1916
William J O'Mal- ley 1901	19	2 nd Lieutenant Royal Field Artillery	Bedford House Cemetery Nr Ypres 41. H.13 [1901] Born Clapham 30/11/1893 and St Augustine's R C School Killed in Action Memorial: West-Vlaanderen Belgium	11 th April 1917
Denis Pastre 1905	26	Sgt Major 126e d' Infanterie Armee Fra	France Born 14/12/1888	30 th Sept. 1914
John William Potter 1903		14 th Battalion Suffolk Regiment	On school register 1902 - Lived Endlisham Road London Died as a POW in Germany (inattention & bad food)	Estimated 192,000 POWs
Rene Reuze 1902		French Regiment D'Artillery a' pied	France On School register 1902	1st Jan. 1917
Anthony Gerald Roberts 1908	19	Lieutenant The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers	Strand Military Cemetery Ploegstreert Killed in action - Born 29.7.1895 16, Dumbarton Rd., Brixton Hill. Buried in Ploegstreert, this was blown up	21 st Oct. 1914
Edward Oglivie Turnbull 1903	25	Driver Royal Reg Artillery 'A' Battery 110th Brigade	Arras Memorial Bay 1 Killed in Action in France - Born 28.02.1893 Lived Mo- rella Road London Died of his wounds in France	5 th April 1918
G. V Vainstein		Private 23 rd Battalion London Regiment	Philosophe British Cemetery Mazingarbe I A 20 Cemetery Between Bethune and Lens.	10 th Nov. 1915

BROTHER KEVIN (Arthur Harte)

Born: Manchester, England, June 25, 1913

Died: Manchester, England, June 8, 1980

We all remember
Br. Kevin, a real
happy diamond!

Neatness and precision were the hallmarks of Brother Kevin's service and love of the Brothers over the forty-nine years of his religious life. He served at Mayfield, Brighton, Wadhurst, Clapham, and Manchester as gardener, groundsman, sacristan, and his dedication to the work the Lord had given him to do was total and a source of inspiration to his Brothers.

BROTHER BERNARD (Thomas Mulroy)

Born: Farnworth, Lancashire, England, May 16, 1896

Died: Guildford, Surrey, England, July 4, 1967

Brother Bernard entered in 1923 at Deeping St. James when he was twenty-six. Prior to this time he had worked for the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Company and had also spent time with the Jesuits with the intention of becoming a domestic brother. His first assignment, as a second-year novice, was Clapham College. In 1931 he went back to Deeping to supervise the manual and domestic work of the novices. In 1939 he was at St. Edward the Confessor School at Foxhunt, and he remained to keep an eye on the premises when the student body was evacuated to Wales. In 1945 he was again at Clapham, serving as a combination refectorian-porter-sacristan. He remained there except for a brief stay at Brighton. He rallied for several weeks after a lung removal operation and died quite suddenly in his seventy-second year.

BROTHER CUTHBERT (John Unwin)

Born: Manchester, England, September 30, 1854

Died: Brighton, England, July 13, 1933

Brother Cuthbert was the "Grand Old Man" of the English Province. He died in his seventy-ninth year, his sixty-fifth in the Congregation. Entering in 1868, he taught in several of the elementary schools which the English Province staffed in those days and also at the Old Collegiate in Manchester. Appointed Headmaster in 1897 when Brother Gabriel (October 4) opened Clapham College, he remained in London until 1924 when he took charge of Xaverian College in Brighton. When Brother Bernard Gregson (May 10) was told that his ailment was cancer, he assigned himself to Brighton so that in his last days he could count on the saintly assistance of the "Grand Old Man."

BROTHER FELIX (Eric Norman Wood)

Born: Woodford Green, London, England, May 3, 1900

Died: Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England, August 14, 1997

Clapham College

Xaverian Brothers

Menology....continued

Born at the turn of the century, the youngest of six sons, in an Anglican family, Eric followed many young men of his generation into the armed forces at the end of World War I. In 1918 he was called up for service in the Royal Air Force as one of its pioneers, he did not see active service, but always remained proud of the fact that he was an early member of this service. "Chocks away!" was his way of signalling that it was time to begin some activity or event. He became a Catholic, was a tutor in business subjects at a correspondence college and married a young woman, Norah Cullen, who died suddenly after only three months of married life. After this traumatic event, he began to correspond with Brother Cyril, then novice master of the English Province about entering the Xaverian Brothers. In 1931 Eric arrived at the novitiate at Deeping St. James, and on August 15 took the name of Felix.

During his more than sixty years as a brother, Brother Felix lived and served in several Xaverian Communities: Manchester, Mayfield, Clapham, Brighton and Foxhunt. He taught several subjects notably geography and mathematics. But it was as school secretary and bursar and eventually as provincial treasurer that he excelled. Even up to the time of his going into the hospital where he died, he was still keeping the books for the brothers' community at Bradley House. He was known for his prodigious memory for dates, numbers, anniversaries. At Mayfield each student used to be assigned an identity number for laundry, books and other personal items. Brother Felix knew the number of every boy in school and used to amaze old boys many years later remembering not only their numbers but also their birthdays. "All done by mirrors!" he would say, "nothing remarkable about it." His remembrance of birthdays, feast days and anniversaries among the brothers was just as exact; just as extraordinary. Right up to the end of his life, these evidences of a lively mind and a sharp intelligence were evident. Brother Felix died at the age of 97, the oldest Xaverian to die in England, and was buried in the cemetery at Mayfield. The mass in the Mayfield chapel was attended by former students of the brothers' schools at Mayfield, Manchester, Brighton and Clapham, and by many local people, for Brother Felix was much loved.

BROTHER GREGORY (Joseph Holden)

Born: Preston, Lancashire, England, November 21, 1874

Died: Clapham, England, August 11, 1917

Brother Gregory from St. Walburge's Parish in Preston, where the Brothers had charge of the elementary schools, entered at Mayfield a month before his sixteenth birthday.

Clothed in the habit on Xavier Day in 1891, he was admitted to profession four years later on the same feast day. He went to Clapham College shortly after it opened and remained there all his life, teaching very successfully in the middle forms. He was an excellent community man, deeply religious, and always prompt to lend a hand. He died in his forty-fourth year during World War I from what doctors diagnosed as "cross paralysis" affecting his left side and right eye.

BROTHER PIUS (Francis McKeown)

Born: Birkenhead, Cheshire, England, June 9, 1906 Died: Manchester, July 30, 1963
Brother Pius taught at Brighton from 1925 to 1928, at **Clapham from 1931 to 1943**, and at Blackpool during the 1943-1944 school year. In 1931 he obtained an Honours degree in French from the University of London. He was Superior at Mayfield when, in 1950, he was named Eighth Provincial of the English Province. During his provincialship he closed the novitiate at Deeping St. James and opened a new one at Wadhurst in Sussex. In the hope of more vocations, he initiated the opening of St. Xavier's School at West Hartlepool. His sudden death in his fifty-eighth year, his fortieth in religion, was due to a thrombosis.

BROTHER HUGH (William Smith)

Born: Birkenhead, England, February 2, 1912 Died: Mayfield, September 1, 1969

Brother Hugh lost his father in World War I. His friends felt that this loss made him so introspective that he was never able to show his full potential. An all-round student, he took his degree in French at Manchester University and taught at Manchester, **Clapham**, and Mayfield, his favourite. Clever at all sports, he regarded his cycling trips to North Wales and the western counties as the high points of the year. A heart condition developed in 1965. It was not until July, 1969, that he entered Pembury Hospital and died suddenly when all signs indicated that he would be discharged in a few days

BROTHER STEPHEN (Daniel Dunn)

Born: Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, October 21, 1910

Died: Tunbridge Wells, England, September 1, 1991

Brother Stephen was one of several young men from the North East of England who came to the Xaverian Brothers between the wars. He entered the English Novitiate at Deeping Saint James in 1927, receiving the habit on August 15th of that year and pronouncing final vows five years later on August 15, 1932. He spent his active life teaching at the Brothers' schools in Manchester, Bootle, Mayfield, and **Clapham** (London). Most of his life he taught French in which he had a degree from London University. During the school year 1966-67 he came to Xaverian Brothers High School in Westwood where he taught French to mainly good but a few "cheeky" American lads. Brother Stephen was an exemplary religious and a dedicated teacher, very strict with himself and with his students but remembered with affection and respect by those with whom lived and those whom he taught. In his younger days he was a keen soccer and cricket player who coached and encouraged others in these sports. Throughout his life he did his best to foster vocations to the priestly and religious life by prayer and by direct encouragement. He would take likely youngsters on bicycle trips to visit seminaries, monasteries, or other religious houses. More than one priest in the diocese of Salford (Manchester) has acknowledged the debt he owed Brother Stephen in prompting and supporting his vocation. His last years were plagued by ill health of various kinds, but he continued to say his rosary for vocations to the Brothers. He also turned his knowledge of French to good use by writing letters to prisoners of conscience on behalf of Amnesty International as well as to some of our Zairean Brothers. At his death, Brother Stephen was 80 and had given sixty-four years to the Congregation.

COXA Social Events

It is our 125th Anniversary -it has been 125 years since the first Clapham College pupil entered our hallowed Nightingale Lane site. Yes, sure it was 42 years that the Xaverian brothers left the College. 36 years since the College shut on the Battersea site [the old Notre Dame School]. Coincidentally, the final London Xaverian boy left the College at the same location [complex] where in the 1850s the Xaverians opened their first London School. Watch out for 125th Anniversary events. The “Clapham ethos” has been kept “alive” over the past 36 years by “us” Clapham Old Xaverians.

Colin Garvey writes.....**Gents,**

My best moments from previous battlefields trips (no particular order.)

- The Last Post at the Menin Gate (several times).
 - A beer with **Harry** at Pegasus Bridge.
 - **Brendan** reading ‘ Dulce et Decorum Est ‘ at the Wilfred Owen grave.
 - Tyne Cot - the size, yet intimacy of it.
 - **Eddie** reading prayers over COXA graves .
 - **Mick** telling us about Noel Chevasse VC. [double Victoria Cross winner]
 - **David** saying over so many COXA graves - ‘ We may be the only ones to have prayed over this grave in a 100 years.’..possibly the ONLY visitors
 - The section of the Somme battlefield , where two Old Xaverians died on July 1st & 8th.
 - That guy saying to us in lift in our Arras hotel - ‘ You’ll be here for Gay Pride , lads ?’
- Thanks to David, Mick, Scotty, Aidan and all...great days

Col. Garvey

COXA [past] Social Events

COXA Social Events in the 1960s and 1970s.

In the past there was always a position on the Committee for a “Social Secretary”. There tended to be one “younger” one [**Andy Anderson**] and one more “senior” Old Boy [**Tony Morrish**]. I don’t really think they worked as a team, more like one thought up and organised events for the younger “sporting Xaverians”, discos and the like, while the more senior Committee member organised the “Tea Dances, Cigarettes Evenings and Dinner & Dances” to offer that strange event in COXA life of the evening with your partner in the company of Clapham Old boys.

I have added three “flyers” for these COXA social events on **Page 36**; A **Spring Ball** at The Washington Hotel, Curzon Street, in the West End. Seemed very reasonable at 10 Shillings per head, reminding us that “dancing” did not start until 9.30pm.....”dancing” - I’d be really surprised if it started that early!! Secondly, A **Sausage & Mash Evening** at the Brown Bear in High Holborn, again 10 Shillings per head [only Clapham could add pay at the door! - organisational nightmare]. Finally, The **Christmas Dance**,



Don't forget
COXA Golf on
Fri 17th June
contact as
usual

SPRING BALL

Spring Ball:	I says
Oh yes	you says
You've not sent in your application form	I says
Haven't I?	You says
No	I says
Who do I send it to	you says
Andy Anderson	I says
When	You says
Like now	I says
Like right now	I says
(Wonder what upset him	You says)

COXA SPRING BALL, WASHINGTON HOTEL,
CURZON STREET, LONDON W.1.
SATURDAY APRIL 12th. 7.15.p.m. FOR 7.45.p.m.
Dance only from 9.30.p.m. 10/-

CONTACT

Andy Anderson,
116 Basilidon Road,
London S.E.2.
855 3870(Home)
626 7941(Office)

Tony Morrish,
51 Alderbrook Road,
London S.W. 12.
673 4293(Home)
636 8600(Office)
Ext. 8688.

" SAUSAGE & NASH "

at

THE BROWN BEAR

HIGH HOLBORN

If you haven't yet booked
for this social evening, please
phone for your ticket not later
than Wednesday.

Contact either:-

ANDY ANDERSON - home 855 3870
- office 626 7941
or
TONY MORRISH - home 673 4293
- office 636 8688
ext 383

The price is only 10/- each

PAY ON THE NIGHT

- o o o -

Dates for your Diary 2022

Grand National Sweepstake Sat 9th Apr -Website for details

Ramble Sun 27th Feb contact Scotty look - on Website

Another "VP" Day at Norbury Sat 26th March



SATURDAY NOV. 30th.
8.00 - 12.00 bar open till 12

76^d

PARK TAVERN · MITCHAM LANE SW1



Clapham Old Xaverians' Association

Annual General Meeting held on 21st October 2021 via Zoom virtual meeting

M. O'Sullivan furnished the following report

- 5.1 **Main expenses for the year were** Savings Account = £21,572, Concordia = £3,111, Memorabilia = £1,442, Donations = £900 and Website = £325.
Main incomes for the year were: Business Grants = £20,384, 400 Club = £2,512, January 2022 lunch = £850, Grand National = £830, Subs = £542 and Summer 2021 lunch = £392.
- 5.2 **Summary & Outlook for the future:** The account ran a headline loss of £1,922. However one needs to take into account £21,572 was paid into the savings account & £850 is advance money for the January 2022 lunch. So, the real profit was £18,800. The major source of profit were the various business grants that were obtained in order to offset the impact of COVID. These grants are not repayable. Other sources of income were from subscriptions & from the 400 Club as well as the Grand National. The main expense for the year has been Concordia and Memorabilia of £4,553. There were also minor expenses covering the annual mass, the website, and a donation to raise money for Vlad's organ.
- 5.3 In future years this account is expected to run at a small loss, and this will have to be funded from our Savings account.
- 5.4 B. Williams, as auditor, stated he expected COXA to see small losses year on year. Having seen the opening and closing balances he had no reservations on the accounts presented.

Chairman's Report: David Leathem stated that his report for last year's AGM could be equally applied to this year. We are a resilient Association despite a number of cancelled events....Battlefields, Remembrance Mass and the January Chairman's Lunch. On Remembrance Sunday a small group gathered outside Broadoak to commemorate fallen Old Xaverians by prayers, the planting of poppies and crosses. We demonstrated how the Association could respond to COVID and accepted the rules imposed on us. The Chairman's Lunch was celebrated in June at the Union Jack Club. Members felt that the Lunch was a great achievement.

David went onto thank the Committee for the sterling work put in over the past year. The Committee had a many times postponed lunch with Stella Flannery, the retiring Principal of SFX College, at Fredericks in Islington. Stella, and her husband Howard, were guests of the Association, where Stella was presented with a framed photograph of the grounds at buildings Clapham. Sadly, Brian Sanders and Ted Hayter couldn't attend the event and they were sorely missed. But the half dozen Committee Members there conveyed the Association's gratitude for the way Stella had embraced the Old Boys and built an on-going relationship between the past and present incumbents of the school. The work she carried out on the Chapel and the links she forged with COXA are areas we should be forever grateful .

Election of Officers:

	Proposed	Seconded
President- - Bro. Philip Revel CFX [USA]	D. Leathem	C. Garvey
Chairman - David Leathem	C. Garvey	S. McGuire
Vice Chairman - Colin Garvey	B. Williams	A. Coletta
Hon. Sec. - Eddie O'Brien	C. Garvey	D. Leathem
Treasurer - Mick O'Sullivan	S. McGuire	C. Garvey
400 Club - Aidan Coletta	C. Garvey	D. Condon
Membership- D Macdonald	A. Coletta	J. Benedict
Concordia - D Macdonald	A. Coletta	J. Benedict
Social Sec. - David Leathem	S. McGuire	D. Macdonald
Webmaster - Frank Barretta	J. Benedict	C. Garvey
Auditor - Brendan Williams	J. Benedict	C. Garvey

Election of Vice Presidents:

A. Amura, Mrs S. Flannery, C. Garvey, E. Hayter, D. Macdonald, D. Martin, M. Powell, M. Power, J. McGuire, R. Morris, A. Morrish, E. O'Brien, C. Pocock, B. Sanders, E. Tope, A. Webber and B. Williams.

11.0 **Any other business:** C. Garvey enquired about the Chairman's Lunch 2022. E. O'Brien had made contact with the Oval and planning has started. Gerry Morrison (1976), formerly of the BBC was to be guest speaker & requested video equipment.

C. Garvey also wished confirm details of the annual mass. A. Coletta confirmed that D. Rowles has agreed to read and D. Macdonald speak about two old Xaverians from two world wars. E. O'Brien has written to Stella Flannery about new the Lee O'Callaghan plaque and tribute. Refreshments will be available after mass.

C. Garvey reiterate the spirit of COXA. Some years are never easy but events always take place and we always make the best of it.

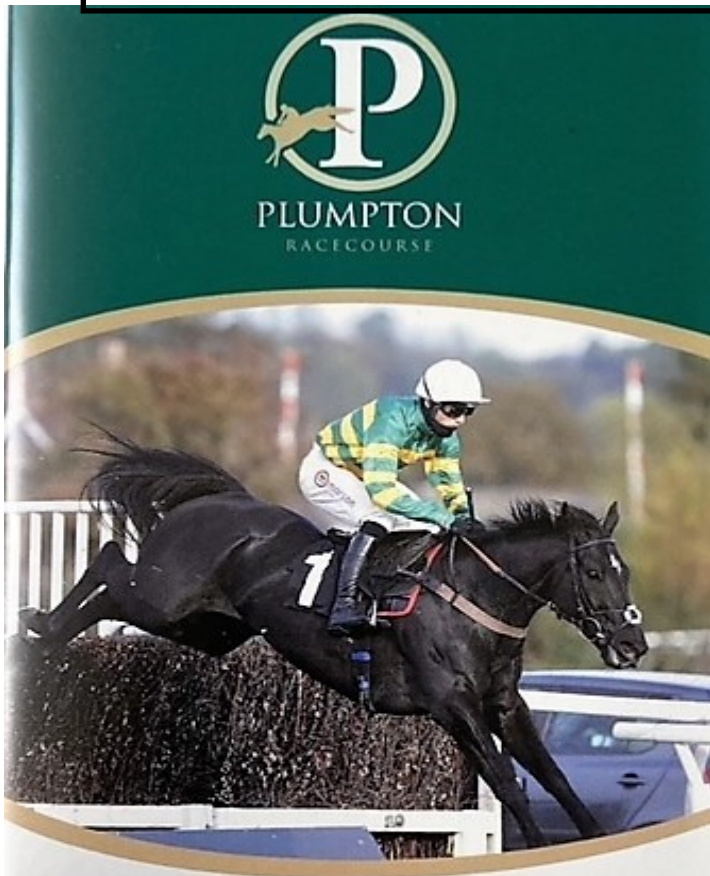
Aidan Coletta carried out the October 400 Club draw. Winner of £100 – No 109, Mick Duffy.

The Prodigal Sons - Joe and Keith McElligott return to Norbury after over 30 years



Then Joe pitched up to shake hands with his "idol" Kevin Bond at the Union Jack Club

COXA return to The Bob Champion Charity Race Day at Plumpton



PLUMPTON RACECOURSE

40 YEARS

Bob CHAMPION
CANCER Trust



40 YEARS
Bob CHAMPION
CANCER Trust
CHARITY RACEDAY
18th October 2021
THE MARQUEE



After a two-year break, due to the pandemic, COXA returned to the races at Plumpton. As usual the Chair had a good day and the party joined in fund-raising for what is a worthwhile event. Scotty and Brendan won £100 in the sweepstake

when last seen out in May. Not discounted on his return.



2 BROTHER PAT 20 days

541312 b.g Muhtathir - Comtesse du Sud (FR) (Enrique)
T: Donald McCain Cholmondeley
O: Birkdale Bloodstock
S: Proactive Personnel Limited
C: black, royal blue striped sleeves, black cap

6 11-9

J: Theo Gillard (5)
B: Mill House Stud (Shropshire) Ltd

Brother Pat - a Xaverian-friendly bet did not finish!

Already a dual winner at Market Rasen and Worcester this season. Posted another good run when second in at Sedgefield (21f) 20 days ago. Expected to be bang there with step up in trip a plus.



3 ON THE METER (IRE) 11 days

24548 b.g Eastern Anthem (IRE) - Party Belle (Silver Patriarch (IRE))
T: David Bridgwater Slow-On-The-Yield
O: Premier Plastering (UK) Limited
S: Premier Plastering (UK) Limited
C: Pink, white star, pink sleeves, white stars and cap

7 11-1

J: Brendan Powell
B: Noel Gowen
E: cheekpieces and tongue strap

Seems to be going the wrong way over hurdles, last of 10 in handicap at Worcester (20f, soft) 11 days ago. M debut with lots to prove.



4 ONE FOR DUNSTAN (IRE) 202 days

892138 b.g Sholokhov (IRE) - Park Rose (IRE) (Roseller (FR))
T: Robert Walford Blandford
O: Gale Force Six
S: Tote
C: Yellow, orange braces, yellow and grey halved sleeves, yellow cap, orange stars

6 10-13

J: Bryan Carver (3)
B: Mr Daniel Keating
E: cheekpieces

Winner of 3m handicap hurdle here in January but off since pulled up at Warwick in March. Offered little previous runs over fences, so hard to warm to.

Random Personalia Tit Bits [remember that?]

Ray McNally, I attended College from 1956 to 1962 and enjoyed the annual trips to Mayfield school camp and would like to see the file for 1962. If you can help .Thanks Ray McNally [sent Ray the registers for 1962 - am awaiting his comments]

Dear Scotty

Many, many thanks for sending me the copies of Concordia. A good read as always.

I do apologise for my failure to pick up your earlier messages. The security software on my machine decided to consign your emails to the spam folder for some reason.

Anyway, your package arrived safely and provided the inspiration I needed to finally get round to sorting out life membership of COXA.

I've really got a tremendous amount out of the association over the past few years and I am very grateful to you and the others who put so much effort in to keeping it going.

I do hope that you and yours are keeping safe and well in these strange times. I look forward to meeting up again when the **plague** has gone away. With kind regards and thanks **Richard Riley**

Hello Scotty. I was surprised and really pleased to see my boxing certificates in pride of place on the front of the latest Concordia (Number 23). I felt so proud, and it made my day, nay week or who knows how long. The pictures are so clear.

I see you have also included my ramblings and photographs,

I have copies of school reports which may be of interest and other biographical details e.g., the attached press cutting [see Middle Pages for the Profumo's Comet Story]

Once again thank you for your hard work in collecting memorabilia.

Brentford are now in the Premier League. Cecil will be over the moon! **John Urquhart**

Hi Scotty, It was sad to hear of **Ben Benedict's** passing at the end of last year. He was definitely one of life's characters. Having not seen him since I moved out of London in the mid 1970s I did manage to catch up & have a brief chat with him at one of the Oval lunches a few years ago. Despite his obvious physical problems he was still in great humour. I note that there are some memories posted on the COXA website (mostly cricket-related) so thought I would add one from back in the days when we both played on the odd occasion for the 4th Eleven football team. This would have been way back sometime around 1973/4 so I hope I am remembering all this correctly. Ben played as a striker & gave himself his own title of 'The Governor'.

Anyhow, it was a cup game in the middle of winter & due to the nature of the tie we had a 'proper' referee. It was somewhere out in the east of London (Hackney Marshes?) & the set-up was that the changing rooms were separated from the pitches by a dual carriageway that you had to cross via a footbridge. It was a typical winter's day, cold & wet and having changed into our kit, crossed the road & found which pitch we were assigned we were all getting prepared to kick-off when the referee suddenly noticed that there weren't any corner-flags & asked if anyone knew where they were. Somebody answered that they must have been left behind in the changing rooms, to which the referee replied "Well somebody is going to have to go back & get them. We can't start without them. They are very important". At this point I'm not sure if the ref made the mistake of looking at Ben but something prompted him to reply "Oh come on ref, they can't be that important. If they were so important you'd put them in the middle of the pitch where everyone could see them, not hidden in the corners". The ref was not amused & booked Ben before we had even kicked-off!

All the best & hoping to catch up with everyone before too long. **Phil Manktelow**

Further to the story of Lee O'Callaghan who you featured in the last issue of Concordia, there is a local memorial to him in a small park in Catesby Street, Walworth, Southwark.S.E17.

I have attached photos which you might like to publish.

Thank you **Kevin Williamson**

Kevin thanks for the photos, ran out of space, sorry, but Lee is remembered elsewhere in this issue.

Personalia snippets [shambolic organisation, sorry]



On a lighter note I have finally achieved having a photo of myself in Concordia, page 25, outside the Rose and Crown Mayfield. That's me in the front wearing the snazzy braces!!!

Regards

Kevin Williamson

The photo to the right should be easy to annotate "The McGuires", thankfully they met at the Lunch in the Summer [and not in a "dark alley"]. Great Xaverians - always want them on your side!



Dear Scotty, Thank you for your note, I can imagine that it is demoralising only getting responses from a few people. I am afraid I am not a great responder! However, I loved my time at Clapham College and I relish reading the Concordia whenever it arrives. I find it fascinating and am constantly amazed by the detail and the fascinating facts/history of the school. went to Clapham College with my two younger brothers Patrick and John. If you are in contact ever with Mr Brennan who taught me English Lit between 1978 and 1980 - please send him my regards. His teaching had a profound effect on me. I remember Waugh's Decline and Fall, Kafkas The Trial, Hardys Mayor of Casterbridge and Dicken's Hard Times with great relish. He really brought the literature alive and opened up the hidden meanings and beauty of the literature.

I always wanted to write a novel after that and thought I failed several times, I eventually finished one recently - I hope to have it, under a nom de plume, up on Amazon in the next month or two. Please be aware that I am sure that there are many others who find the work you put into Concordia, truly fascinating and enjoyable to read. I have very fond memories of Clapham College, my school friends and teachers and I love to be reminded of those happy days.

Regards **Mike** ... apologises **MIKE**, I managed to save and publish your article - but lost your **NAME!** HELP

Hi Scotty, thanks for remembering despite being "so pissed". Pat wants to know why "lunch" involves leaving home at 10.00 in the morning and getting back (very pissed) at 9.30pm, unable to speak? Cheers **Mick Powell** {obviously - Transport for London to blame, or 10 Guinness's!}

JOHN DAVID COOPER
Attended Clapham College
1944 (Taunton) -1949

Joined RAF with Michael Mayhew 1950

Please forward contact details for me ref - Membership

{contact was made with John}

Vets Football at Norbury and another VIP Day



You NEVER loose it

Vets football VIP Day - see Website for details



A "Vets kit bag" - whatever next!



Vets Football, very healthy [obviously not if you play] - good social event too

Connor Rooney writes

Hey Scottie, I've been searching through social media and have found the original news article that goes with that photo you sent. This was from 1996. I also found some photos of the final at Leyton which the first report refers to, which was 1995.

Below is the squad for the final at Leyton Orient. I'm 4th in from the left of the back row. Stood next to me (on left) looking away from the camera is Nigel James, the father of Eng. & Chelsea right back Reece James. Nigel played a few games for COXA back in the 90s.

Also in that photo are Errol McCarthy (2 in from the left, back row) and Tony Whelan (3 in from the right, back row) who both played a few seasons for COXA. A few others in there also played a handful of games for COXA at the time. Interestingly though, that write-up of the game at Leyton was in 1995, but that photo was taken the following year, after another successful season. Someone somewhere must have edited the two together... **Connor Rooney**



Forget Man Utd's double they've done the treble

ST FRANCIS Xavier College in Balham's football first XI scored a cup hat trick for the second successive season by beating their own second XI in the final of the Further Education Colleges Cup, their third cup final in 10 days.

In their first final they dispatched Christ the King College in Lewisham 3-1 to win the Palmer Cup. Next came Wimbledon College, who



● From the left goalkeeper Connor Rooney, team captain Maduka Okeke and Danny Grainger

were beaten 6-1 as the St Francis Xavier team claimed the Catholic Cup. Then in a unique final at the Midland Bank Sports Ground in Beckenham

they came up against the St Francis Xavier Second XI who had also fought their way through to the Further Education Colleges Cup Final.

A flavour of the 2022 Chairman's Lunch



A few speeches some booze and grub - but it's the meeting and greeting we go for.



Insert your own captions for this great event



COXA Football Tour to Ilkley in the 1980s - young faces [your Ed on the left - leather jacketed!]



COXA Ramblers—The Godstone Walk October 2021



Anything Concordia email donmiamac1234@sky.com



Footnote-Please Log in to either of our Websites for a much easier read and clear colour photos Ed

Plus a couple of "Box Hills"