



Concordia

Autumn 2020 - Number 21



Going, Going, Gone Clapham College staff 1970s and '80s

- 1984 December — Mr. M. Gleeson retires.
- 1985 January — **Mr. R. Sparks, Headmaster.**
July — Clapham College closes on the Clapham site to re-open in September on the site of Notre Dame Girls School, Battersea.
- 1986 The Notre Dame Convent is sold. Pupils move into the I.L.E.A. building in Raywood Street.
- 1988 October — Remaining school, boys and staff, spend a week in Italy to mark forthcoming closure.
- 1989 July — Final closure of Clapham College.

COXA plays COXA at Stamford Bridge - if the faces are not clear [or the print too small] please log in (or get someone to log you in to either of the two Clapham Old Xaverian Websites online to be able to see this Concordia in much better quality which cannot be produced in this A5 format.



COXA Teams play at Stamford Bridge where else!]. This was “Birthday Boy” Tom Purcell’s Team. It was Tom who somehow “blagged” two COXA Teams onto the Stamford Bridge pitch. I hear they are still trying to replace the divots!. I have tried to collect information on the day, but all I’ve got so far is a 1-0 win [for “one” of the Teams] and that Frank Barretta saved a penalty.



The “other” COXA team - why would they wear Sunderland shirts? So I suppose if you were supporting one of these two sides you'd obviously go with Page 2 rather than Page 3 -and that's a first! This is the Roy Hartnett XI of 2000 . There are so many famous/infamous faces on show - so there must be a myriad of stories about this day, the “Match/Pre-match and Post Match” reports [with names] please.. Looking at all the faces there is more of a COXA social mix rather than a sporting selection.. Which is the COXA way...and why not...so stories from the “players” please.

Frank and Roy's Players

Roy Hartnett
 Frank Barretta
 Chris Megoran
 Joe Davorn
 Eddie O'Brien
 James Burke
 Vic Roskowski
 Keith Sawyer
 Sean Lowry
 Spencer McGuire
 Tom McLoughlin
 John Leatham
 Brendan Williams
 Richard Januszewski
 Mick Butler
 Paul Butler

Mick and Tom's Players

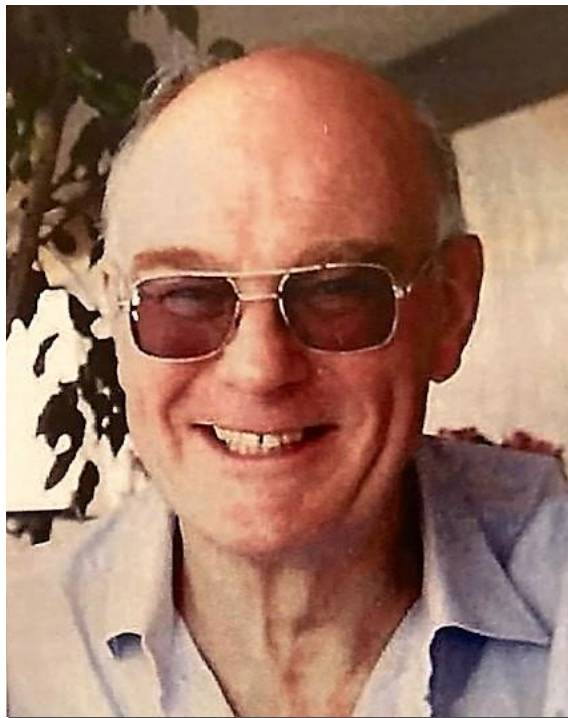
Tom Purcell
 Michael Burke
 Ron Harris
 Gary Chivers
 Martin Gaudiano
 Paul Williams
 Dave Leatham
 Andy McDonald
 Lawrie Mullane
 John Purcell
 Kevin Atkins
 John Butler
 Ralph Findlay
 Paul West
 Dave Murphy
 Tommy Purcell (fr)

Referee: Brian Davy

Team Mascots: Sam Hartnett, Matthew and Alex Barretta

Team Mascots: Will Atkins, Ria and Sophie Burke

DENIS QUIN 1ST SEPTEMBER 1929 – 14TH AUGUST 2020

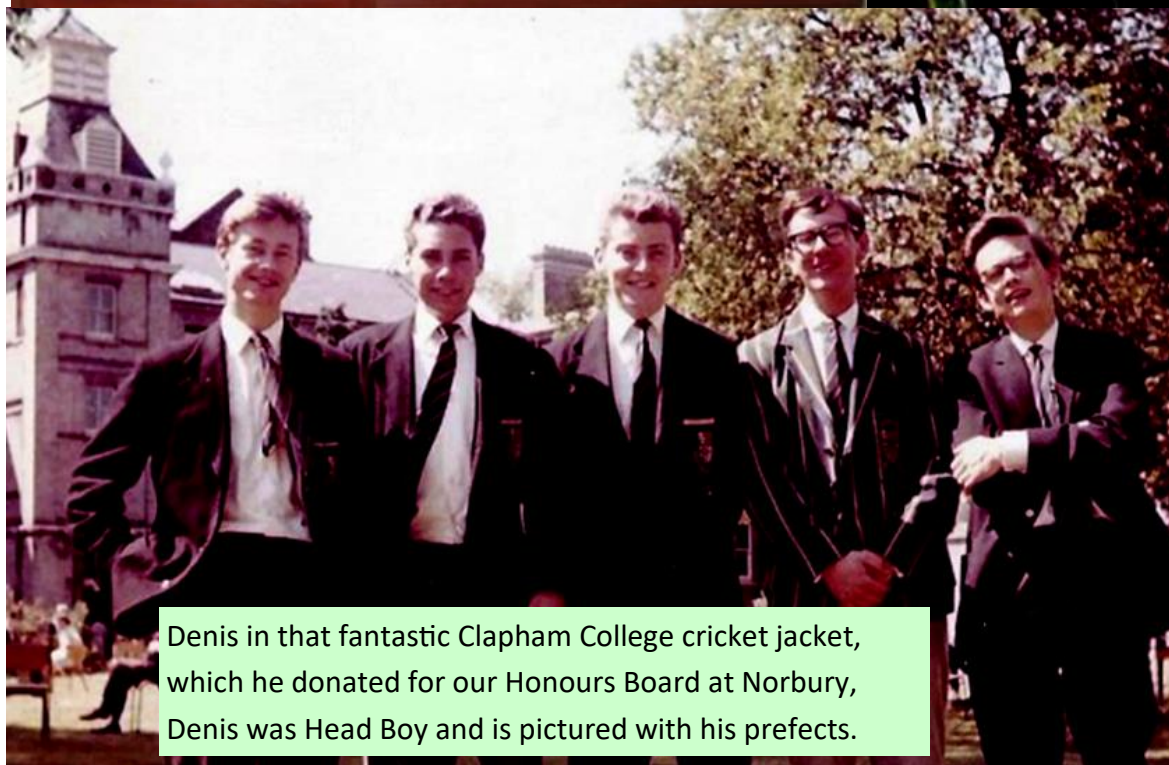


Denis Quin, past Chairman of Clapham Old Xaverian was buried on 11th September after dying at home, in Bromley, on 14th August. Our condolences to his wife Mary. Denis's strong Catholic beliefs came out throughout the service; the time he gave to the Church, his charitable donations, his wish to not just turn up, but to participate in service, He was never backward in identifying himself as a Catholic, even to wearing a large Carmelite Scapula under his football shirt when playing football for COXA.

Only a couple of dozen mourners attended his funeral due to COVID 19 restrictions, the congregation was made up of family, friends, parishioners, members of the Carmelite 3rd Order and the parish choir. Colin Garvey, Ted Hayter and Scotty from COXA attended. Above all Denis was a lovely, kind, very religious man who was a major force in the early days of Clapham Old Xaverians and will be sorely missed by those who knew him. ++ RIP Denis ++

On the right is a "clip" from a 1975 Concordia, COXA football [a Denis insight]

There are two incidents involving Denis Quin. At Reigate once he scored a goal from the half way line. He apologised profusely to everyone saying it was an accident but nevertheless Derek Rowe ran up and kissed him! On another occasion Denis was late in arriving at Balham so he took two taxis and the train to arrive on the pitch at Reigate just on three. Unfortunately, after five minutes he kicked the ball into the lake and as there was no spare ball the match was abandoned.



Denis in that fantastic Clapham College cricket jacket, which he donated for our Honours Board at Norbury, Denis was Head Boy and is pictured with his prefects.





Your Chairman speaks....



Matures with age



Autumn Notes from Your Chairman

Welcome to this Autumn edition of Concordia. Another triumph from Scotty Macdonald, and full of news, pictures and teasers for further perusal of The Website and The Archive. See links elsewhere.

I write this on the Sunday following the Football 1st XI's marvellous 3-1 win over pre-match favourites Hale End Athletic in the AFA Challenge Cup. The trophy has some famous names of past foes (and some friends) on it, so Clapham OX will sit nicely as the latest to be carved into the old silverware. Match report elsewhere, but crikey, it was good to see a Clapham side play with such talent, strength and commitment against a big, slightly nasty bunch of Northeast Londoners. Well done Captain Dominic Taggart and his boys, and a special mention to Joe McLoughlin who sustained a broken collar bone at the end of a first half where his outstanding saves and strong presence were as much game-winners as any of the goals we scored. Well done also to Aidan Coletta, who on the day before the football, pulled off the Covid Golf Day without a hitch (unless 50 MPH winds can count as a hitch). Tom McLoughlin took individual Honours (what's Mexican for "honours"), while his fellow players, Mick McLoughlin, Brendan Williams and your present communicator, took the team prize, easily, to general acclaim. Well done, and thank you, Aidan.

Our friend and former Chairman Denis Quin has died. (obit. elsewhere). R.I.P. Denis; without him and without his contemporaries, there would be no Association. When we look at other schools, whose old boys have little or no remaining connection, we can be proud of the foundation that Denis (and Ted and Brian and Derek and...) built and maintained for us.

This is the second Concordia since "lockdown" and I'm sure you each have a story and an opinion about the past 6 months (and the next six months). I will spare you mine. Cancellation of VIP Lunches at Norbury, reduced numbers at church ceremonies (including Denis' Funeral), and Committee meetings by Zoom, with members struggling, and some failing, to electronically attend. Notwithstanding, thanks in great part to Eddie O'Brien & Colin Garvey, some events will still occur. Our AGM goes ahead, by Zoom on October 15th. Please make every attempt to "attend". Tentative nominations for officers are in, but will be confirmed (and voted upon) on the day.

Zoom link for the AGM starting at 6:30 prompt!: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3447148134?pwd=ZXNPRVI5d0tvV3UraUxqdjJDTk5nZz09> Meeting ID: 344 714 8134 Passcode: coxa

The Remembrance Mass will also be celebrated, with much reduced limits on numbers, so if you are keen to attend, please contact Eddie as soon as possible. There may be (*may be*) an Old-Boys-only stricture. Rules may change. Some of our readers have had difficult times, I'm sure, and equally, many of our readers will have endured much worse than this. With best wishes,

It is my continuing honour to be, Your Chairman,

David September 27th 2020

May 15th 2020

Dear 'Scotty'

In all the years that you have been sending me your old Clapham magazine, this is the first time that I have your home address! You appear to think that everyone has access to all the latest electrical 'know-how', even one who has begun his 90th year! Be disillusioned! I have no modern technology, and would not know how to use it if I had! It is 72 years since I put on the Xaverian Habit and 40 since transferring to the Benedictines. As you will observe from this poor handwriting, my hands suffer from dreadful arthritis and writing is painful! But if I can be of any help in supplying names of old Xaverians I can speak on the phone (number above) on page 16 of the recent 'Concordia' you have photo of Br. Dunstan and xxx. The xxx is Brother Xavier who taught French and was part of the Clapham Community in the 1960s when I lived there as a student at St. Ann's Training College. On page 19 the Brothers are standing outside Mayfield's 'New Wing' (built 1931) I know them all and have tried to provide names, I cannot write copious pages but if you phone any evening between 7pm and 8.30pm I can talk - much easier than writing!!

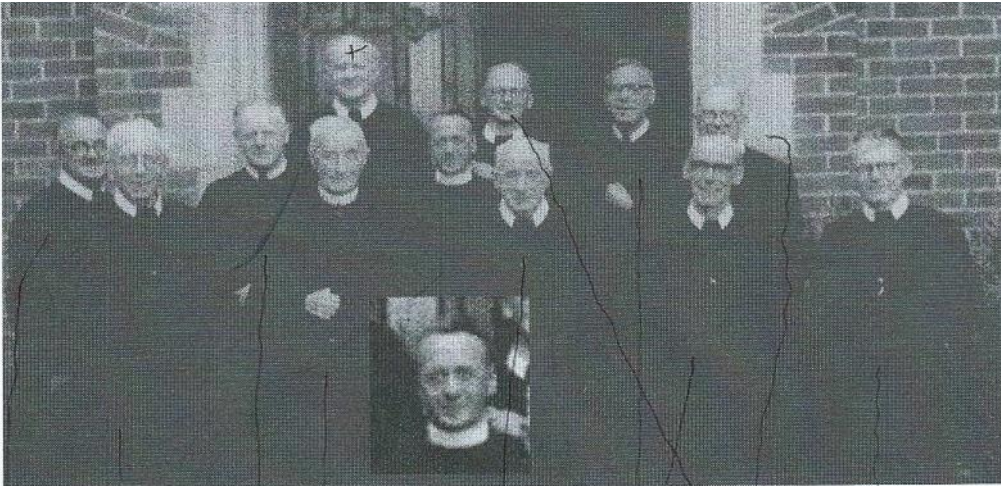
Regards Fr Mario - from 1978 - 1979

BROTHER
Mario



Mario wrote to me in the summer, and added detail to some of the photos in the previous Concordia; for example he told me "the Brother next to Dunstan was Br Xavier" [from Concordia Page 16]. He went on to annotate another photo and add some more detail to the gaps in my Xaverian knowledge! ...next page.....

Mario - an "interactive" Xaverian—adds detail to my article



I have no idea about this photograph. It's of English Xaverian Brothers, possibly a Conference, or, with Brother Chris there, maybe a Xaverian Brothers Teacher's Meeting. I don't really have a decent photo in my "collection" of Brother Christopher so I picked him out [inset].

Fr. Mario was formerly the Parish Priest at Mayfield for many years and has now retired to a countryside retreat in Sussex. He was once himself a Xaverian; I'm so happy that he took the time to put pen to paper and put names to the faces in the last Concordia.

Below Mario puts his detail to the "Polish celebrations" at Clapham College - Come on you Poles out there add more detail [photos in Nation Dress would be good!

Handwritten notes and names:

- Chad (Mayfield)
- Jerome
- Gabriel
- Dunstan
- Anthony
- Alphonsus
- Henry
- Bede
- Felix
- Charles (Gabriel's brother)

* An American who must have been seconded to the English Province

The photo is of a Jubilee Celebration held at Mayfield before 1954 (when Jerome died)

The photograph above is of the guest house that Clapham College went down to in the Summer Term for their "Summer School" by the sea at Rottingdean, near Brighton. The "White House" is still in Rottingdean - I have no stories [yet!]...one for the "older" Xaverian-



No "writing" on the back of this photo - Polish Festival at the College - 1960s?

During the 50's and 60's the College Chapel was the Polish Centre for the exiled Polish Community led by Fr CYNAR. This is the annual Corpus Christi procession held in the College grounds. On Sundays there were 2 Polish Masses and the Screens were opened at the back of the Chapel for more room. They had special celebrations on May 8th for Polish dead at Angio and Montecassino. One year a famous Polish General came for the Corpus Christi procession. Mounted Police near the gates and special Tube Trains to carry the enormous number who came. It was a very nationalistic and emotional day!

What's New on the Archive Website ?

Many of you ,I know, have “found” the new Clapham Archive More items are added weekly., since the last Concordia additions have been made to the Clapham College “our school” category and Prize Day as well as Cecil Pocock; Many additions to Clapham Buildings and the Special Archive find us on claphamoldxaverianarchive.com.

For current news in these difficult times “log in” to Frank Barretta’s [main] Web-

“Publications” is the best place to start a search of the Website, the latest Concordia is there too. During April and May 2020 new articles, brochures and photographs have been added, with over 20 each in Cecil Pocock, Brothers, Clapham Buildings and Prize Days [please contact me if you have of the missing ones]..”Brilliant **John Rayer**” found 1964 & 1966 for me and a photo of his father in the 1930s Walsingham team who won the football House Championship [last time they did I think!]. The Lunch 2020 and Special Archives have another 20 new pieces and the Chapel, Letters and Norbury 10 each.

Website May to September 2020

On the front page of the Archive Website are the main areas where addition have been made to the photographs and articles. From it’s launch in the Autumn of 2019 1,000 pieces on Clapham College and the Xaverians were added to the records of “Our School” over the past 123 years. It’s for “YOU” about “YOU”. Prior to that it was as selection of random pieces of paper in boxes and drawers scatter across South London. The purpose of spending a large chunk of the Association Savings on it was for it to be accessed by ALL Xaverians. If you haven't been there, then more loss to you, I ask WHY? If your obsession / interest isn't “The Brothers”, Chairman’s Lunches, COXA Sport, the School Buildings/ Events, Cecil Pocock, Battlefield Tours/Roll of Honour, videos of Clapham activities, they are in the “Archive”....and if it’s not there, or you are not there get in touch, report what’s missing, I’ll add it, be part of it....

From the Chairman’s Lunch at the end of January 2020 another 500 pieces of Clapham College / COXA / Xaverian memorabilia, artefacts and knick-knacks were added during “Lock-down” and prior to the printing of Concordia “20” in May.

The task since then has been to add the remaining drawers and boxes collected over the past 100 years and add them to “our story” and leave it there as a permanent record of our time at SW4 and our endeavours since it finally shut for good at the Notre Dame site in Battersea in 1989. So there you have it, everything “on Clapham” is finally on the WWW at claphamoldxaverianarchive.com/ [Unless you know different] or have something in your back of your own “knickers drawer” you wish to share...1500+ not my annals any longer - I’ve wanted that responsibility “off my back” for a decade now, I can rest in peace.....Scotty

Committee - 2020 - living with COVID 19

What a COXA "Zoom" Meeting looks like.



Dates for your diaries - COXA has functioned well on Lock-down - **Football** is back...

Next Ramble - Weds Oct 7th 9.30 Leatherhead Station about 5 miles - socially distancing.

AGM Thursday 16th October at 6.30pm on Zoom - if you are unsure of what ZOOM is all about contact me [Scotty] 07508001217, or get your grandchildren to help!

Remembrance Mass Sun Nov 8th -Wait for update could be reduced attendance IF we go ahead

Chairman's Lunch Oval the last Friday Jan 2021. But all open to COVID-19 regs and changes. Log in to the Website, ring me [Scotty] on 07508001217 for news - will be reduced numbers.

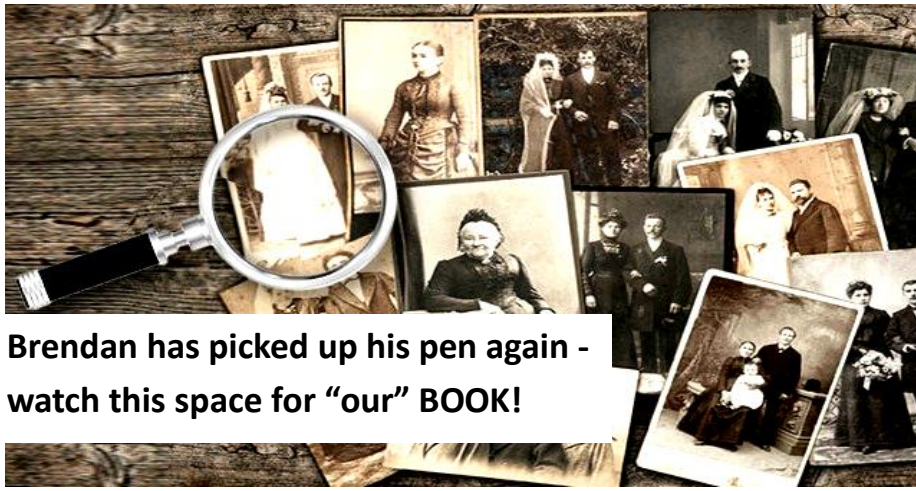
Check the MAIN Old Xaverians Website for "up-to-date" news on COXA events....



COVID 19 means some of these will change but hopefully all will go ahead



The Clapham Old Xaverian History Project 2020



Brendan has picked up his pen again - watch this space for "our" BOOK!



Always room for a St Gerard's boy [Micky Burke in celebration mood]....more pics please

I know I've used this photograph below before - "classic" of a Clapham College School Trip



John McNicholas was on this trip and has brushed off those cobwebs and annotated this photo. There are some "real names" there any more comments?



1A 1962		FEB '63	JULY '63	FEB '64	JULY '64
Acheson T.		30	45	30	45
Appleford K.		45	60	45	60
Brown G.		40	70	45	60
Chiecanowicz T.		45	45	25	40
Couche M.		45	70	40	65
Creal A		30	-		
Curley C		45	55		
Davies J.		55	65	50	50
Dines G.		65	70	65	50
Fowler M		65	50	60	55
Fell N.		50	45	55	35
Galtry P.		45	30	20	40
Green L.		30	45	50	60
Guyatt P.		35	25	45	40
Hickey J.		55	65	60	50
Keams A.		30	25	30	35
Kenny D		40	35	A	
Lucas R.		30	50	50	40
Luxton S.		60	60	A	50
McDonough R		30	25	35	40
McNicholas J.		55	60	70	65
Mansfield A.		40	55	15	40
Manzi J.		30	45	15	35
Murtagh J.		465	35	45	40
O'Sullivan P.		55	60	50	60
Pearson R.		465	55	60	
Price T.		45	45	45	45
Riley R.		55	55	35	45
Smullen J.		65	45	50	60
Stafford J.		30	35	30	40
Stambridge R.		45	50	55	40
Wright C.		60	45	65	55
Fanell			70	50	65
EVANS				55	70
HERTZ				55	40

"COXA Platinum"

I am easily excited, as people who know me will tell.... But when I "lay my hands" on a piece of Clapham History", it very quickly makes me realise I'm holding not "GOLD", but "PLATINUM". Jake Richins gave me an old, scruffy Mark Book from the College, I thanked him and trotted off. It was only when I opened it that I realised I had 10 years of Clapham boys in a Register format, that would update "Class Lists" on our Archive from 1954-64. From **Len Luckurst A-Level** to **Kevin Bond in 1 Alpha**. A bonus is **Mr Rathburn** taught classes of 1st Yr. **Geog!** Was **Mick Powell** better at Art then Chem in his 4th Year switch? What would Ofsted say about a teacher whose Art Register recorded **SIX sets of marks in FOUR years?** If you are one of these **660 boys** see your Register under "**Special Archives**" on the COXA Archive Website. **Ecstasy!**

Whatever happened to the original stained-glass Chapel window?



Moving with the times isn't always the best road.. In the 1970s there was a special relationship between the **Holy Ghost Church** in Nightingale and the College. With the re-building of the "new" Clapham College, there was no need to have the dingy basement kitchen, which was were "cooks", such as Brother Louis ,prepared the Brother's meals for nearly a century. **Father Bennett**, of the Holy Ghost, was a real businessman [he purchased the side-Chapel back from the BBC, that has been requisitioned for the War Effort. He increased the collections from his congregation with the objective of improving the parish and the canonising of **Blessed Oliver Plunkett**, [something he achieved]. Father Bennett requisitioned the old basement kitchen and the "**Oliver Plunket Social Club and Bar**" was created. He went on to change the stained-glass window on the right of the Chapel [above] but what did it replace? What was the scene in the original window [unclear]?. Does anyone know what happened to it - surely it wasn't just destroyed? Maybe a chat with the Holy Ghost Parish Priest? Possibly there is a record in it's "Archive"? -Watch this space.

Clapham Brother Menology II

More on the Clapham Brothers Menology, the full story is on the Archive website. It's in the order of the date the Brother died. Last Edition I stopped on brother Columbia...next..

BROTHER ATHANASIUS (Joseph Taylor)

Born: Preston, Lancashire, England, October 4, 1881

Died: London, England, February 1, 1916

Brother Athanasius, another Xaverian from Preston, entered on November 19, 1904, received the habit on December 30, 1905, and was professed December 27, 1907. Assigned to Clapham College, where he assisted in the dormitory and in the boys' refectories, he was the embodiment of regularity. His hobby was refereeing the football matches, and he was always available. He was only thirty-four when he died at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

BROTHER PHILIP (Philip Webb)

Born: London, England, February 26, 1862

Died: Clapham, England, February 26, 1927

Brother Philip goes back to the early days. He was one of the first boys enrolled at Mayfield. He entered the community on October 4, 1878, in his sixteenth year, and received the habit five years later on October 17, 1883. For a time he was the cook at Mayfield and then the infirmarian at Manchester where he made castor oil the hated panacea. In 1910 he became the Assistant Novice Master under Brother Edmund with whom he visited the United States. His last assignment was at Clapham. A silent man and an ascetic one, he had a fine sense of humor and wit. Much of the community badinage revolved around him. Hospitalized at St. Anthony's Hospital in Cheam because of tuberculosis, he could not stand the life. He left on his own, notifying nobody. He died on his 65th birthday.

BROTHER LIVINUS (Frederick Van Massenhove)

Born: Icteghem, Belgium, October 27, 1842

Died: Clapham, England, March 6, 1902

Assigned to Clapham in 1899, Brother Livinus lived there only three years when he passed away in 1902 at the age of fifty-nine. He had spent twenty-four years in the Belgian Province. Entering in April, 1875, he spent almost twenty-seven years in the community. He is buried at Mayfield.

Menology Continued

BROTHER ALOYSIUS (John Clarkson)

Born: Preston, Lancashire, England, April 26, 1890

Died: Wadhurst, Sussex, England, March 4, 1968

I just "LOVE" Aloysius, he "held the fort" at the College in WW2. See his letters on the Archive Website - brilliant!

Brother Aloysius was very proud of his Catholic forebears who had kept the faith. He attended the Xaverian school in Preston, and at fifteen he went to Mayfield as an aspirant. In a very short time he was off to Bruges where he remained, receiving the habit in 1909 and teaching in the English section of the Institute until the outbreak of World War I. Back in England, he taught at Brighton, Manchester, and Clapham where he was appointed Superior in 1930 and where his affability made him the logical person to be put in charge of such sources of revenue as garden parties and whist drives. As a teacher Brother Aloysius was no less than brilliant. He had a particular aptitude for languages and was quintalingual, having added Italian to the French, German, and Flemish he had acquired as a youth. Superiorships at Brighton and Bootle followed Clapham, and then, on January 1, 1938, Brother Aloysius was appointed the sixth English Provincial, a post he held until 1947. As an administrator he must be given credit for doing much to hold together the English Province during the devastating years of World War II. It was not easy to live in England when bombs were falling daily. Brother Aloysius and his lone companion, a Brother studying at London University, lived almost exclusively in the cellars. Attending the Fifteenth General Chapter in Bruges in 1947, he was elected Third General Counsellor and spent the next eighteen years in Rome, sometimes teaching at the Sacred Heart University near the Generalate. Returning to England in 1965, Brother Aloysius lived on for three more years. At the time of his death, he was seventy-seven and had spent fifty-nine years in religion.

BROTHER DUNSTAN (James Hill)

Born: Alston, Lancashire, England, January 2, 1885

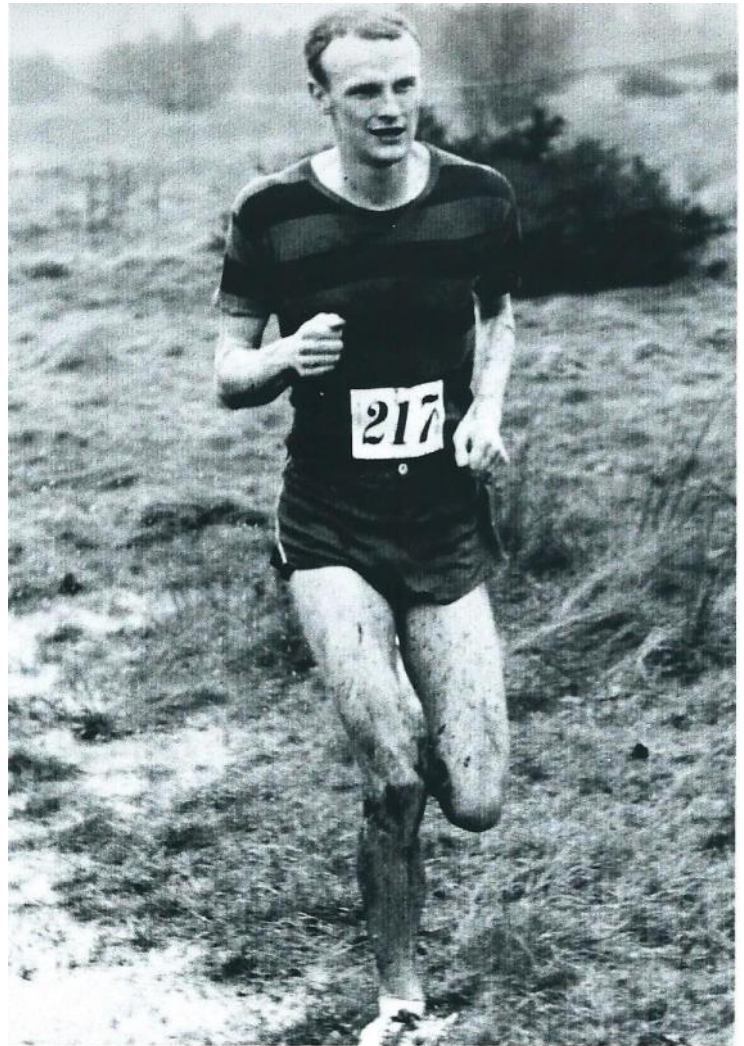
Died: Mayfield, England, March 2, 1979

Just thought "Dunny" would be longer and more involved

Patriarchal Brother Dunstan died at ninety-four, having been a member of the Congregation for seventy-nine years. He had entered in 1900 from Mayfield where he and his brother John were enrolled. His life had been Clapham College where he taught chemistry from 1914 until his retirement in 1950. He remained on in residence until we disposed of the property in 1970. His subsequent days were a cross of deprivation. Clapham Common, Nightingale Lane, and Clapham College were his sinew and bone. He was lost even at Mayfield, especially when his eyesight failed. Death spared him from his great dread -- a nursing home.

Mick Gowan [1954 to 1960] Clapham's Running Machine

Mick Gowan [Clapham College 1954 to 1960] writes: - Having been asked to contribute some "distant" memories of my time at Clapham; here goes....I will never be remembered for my academic ability at the College [join a long list Mick!], but possibly for my sporting achievement [join another long list Mick!], my only "claim to fame". I did some running, initially to get fit for football, so when the yearly, compulsory cross country came around, I joined with gusto. The route went down Nightingale Lane, Bolingbroke Rd, up Broomwood Rd, then half a lap of Clapham Common. I think I was one of the few boys who enjoyed the race, which I managed to win on two, or three, occasions. According to **Colin Garvey**, I did not carry money, as others did, in the hope of jumping on a 189 bus down Nightingale Lane, when out of sight of the Masters, [as usual Colin swears it's true.....except the 189 only ran every 40 minutes!].

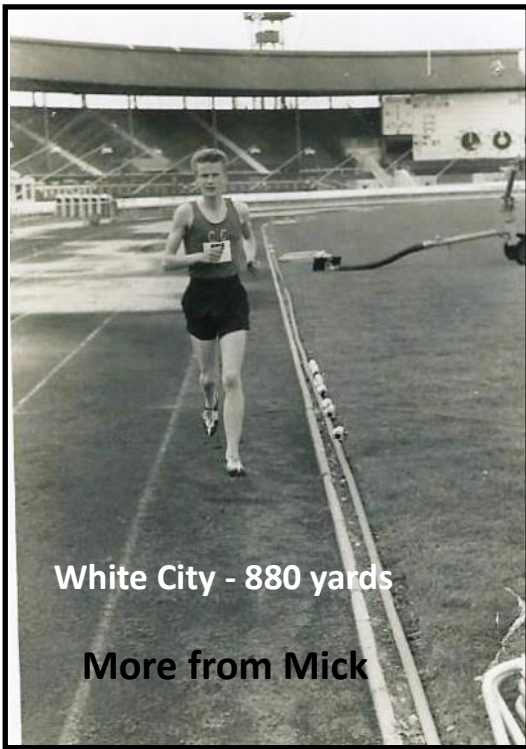


South of Thames Senior. Ist. Wimbledon Common. 1967

Playing for the football and cricket teams through the years was a joy, as was Sports Day at Tooting Bec Track. However, the highlight of my sporting years was Clapham winning the London Grammar Schools Athletics Championships at the White City Stadium in 1959. Clapham had a small, but versatile team, led by **Mike Turvey**, and included **Dave Whitehouse**, **Ian Griffin**, **Ben Hogan**, **Johnny Jones**, **Dave Conduct**, and myself [plus others that I have forgotten – sorry!]. We were triumphant beating St George's College, Weybridge, who were the firm favourites. Clapham boys, parents and Xaverian Brothers filled the Home Straight and even Brother Peter, the Head, was said to be cheering and clapping.

Mike Turvey [long-jump and triple-jump] and I were selected to represent English Catholic Schools in San Sebastian in the European Student Games. This was quite an honour for a school the size of Clapham, to have two selected! Mike got injured out there and I managed a silver medal in the 3,000 metres and a bronze in the 1500 metres.

I joined Herne Hill Harriers in 1959, and I managed to represent the English National Team on the track and Cross-Country. However, my dream of running a sub-four-minute mile, fell just short with a PB of 4 minutes one second; that took me up to the top five in G.B. What I would have given to run on a modern track, rather than the "cinders" of my day; Ah, well!



White City - 880 yards

More from Mick

One other run I remember well was an “Hour Track Race” at Tooting Bec Track, on a cold evening, when I ran 12 miles 212 yards in an hour, putting me 10th on the World All-Time list in that event. It was one of those days when you feel good and can push yourself to the very limit.

I regret to admit that my weakness was never physical, but nerves / temperament on the big occasions. In those days there were no Sports Science, or Psychologists to support us. They were good times, before money, greed, politics, and drugs ruined sport. We all took part because we loved the challenge. We fitted work around twice-daily training sessions, through winter and summer. The standard and depth was extremely high, whereas these days, apart from the elite few, times are extremely poor.

In 1964 at 20 years of age, I won the mile in the Surrey Senior Championships in 4.04.7 seconds which still, after all these years has only been won in a quicker time on three occasions. County Championships were a big deal at the time and was shown on BBC TV’s Grandstand. Today, I do believe that sport at Clapham set me a high standard for both sport and life in general. I keep fit and cycle about 150 miles per week, and at 76 years old, it is only “the virus” that has curtailed my racing in cycle time trials as a veteran. Take care all, and stay healthy; my very best regards to all who remember me [and those who do not] – Mick Gowan

CLAPHAM COLLEGE,
NIGHTINGALE LANE,
LONDON, S.W.4.
30.5.60.

Congratulations to Mick Gowan.

Surrey County Championship Meet.

Motspur Park. 28.5.60.

Mick Gowan won the Youth Mile in a new County and School record time of 4 minutes 31.2 seconds. With this win he has gained his first County gold Medal.

Congratulations.

Br. Peter.

Mick winning The Mile at the South London Grammar School Meet 1960



Motspur Park

Mick kept this letter from Brother Peter, think he originally stated writing “Johnny”. A bit “stark” for such an achievement!

The "GREATS" amongst us - Mick Gowan

As Editor of a magazine sent to 450 aging South London boys from a school which closed 35 years ago it's often hard to get copy from aging "voyeurs" let alone generate "new" ideas. However, a simple note dropped into the last Concordia opened up the "world" of **Mick Gowan** [Clapham College 1954 to 60??]. Mick has written us a fabulous letter - but then a little research unearthed the information below on a great, but "understated", Xaverian.

The report on Athletics is revealing. How many Old Xaverians knew that the College supplied two representatives for the English Catholic Grammar Schools' Team which took part in the European Catholic Sports held in Spain? Moreover, these two Clapham boys between them gained two silver medals and one bronze medal in these sports. Michael Turvey, who has since left the College, was second in the triple jump and Michael Gowan was second in the 3,000 metres and third in the 1,500 metres.

With the local press and the national Catholic press only too willing to publicise successes of this kind, it seems a great pity that the College does not avail itself of the opportunity to do so. Need we be so self-effacing?

We are having great difficulty in keeping up with MICK GOWAN (1960). So are many of the milers in this country. In fact we think he may be the first (and probably the last) O.X. to break the four minute barrier. Mick runs for Herne Hill Harriers, and, in case you didn't know, is Surrey mile champion this year.

Following Mick's contact, I read through a dozen Concordia of the 1950s and 60s to unearth these two short "snippets" on his achievements, which **Brother Peter** had included in his Report from the College, under Athletics. Hardly the "fanfare" of a sporting genius... but then Pete never really got enthused about much, it wasn't the style of a "Child of the Raj"!!

Profile for:- Michael Gowan

SURREY COUNTY TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS (No of Entries = 9)

<p>30 May 1959 , Motspur Pk Youths 1 Mile FINAL 4th 4:38.1</p> <p>28 May 1960 , Motspur Pk Youths 1 Mile FINAL 1st 4:31.2 CBP</p> <p>3 June 1961 , Motspur Pk Jun Men 1 Mile FINAL 3rd 4:21.5</p> <p>25 May 1963 , Motspur Pk Sen Men 1 Mile FINAL 7th 4:11.1</p> <p>30 May 1964 , Motspur Pk Sen Men 1 Mile FINAL 1st 4:04.7</p>	<p>29 May 1965 , Motspur Pk Sen Men 3 Miles FINAL 5th 14:13.4</p> <p>20 May 1967 , Motspur Pk Sen Men 3 Miles FINAL 3rd 13:54.6</p> <p>8 June 1968 , Motspur Pk Sen Men 3 Miles FINAL 8th 13:49.4</p> <p>7 June 1969 , Motspur Pk Sen Men 1500 Metres FINAL 5th 3:48.9</p>
--	--

SURREY COUNTY CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS (No of Entries = 7)

05.01.1963 JM 22nd	01.01.1966 SM 4th	07.01.1967 SM 5th	04.01.1969 SM 24th
13.11.1983 M40 7th	11.11.1984 M40 8th	15.10.1989 M40 85th	

SURREY COUNTY ROAD & CROSS-COUNTRY RELAYS (No of Entries = 4)

11.09.1965 SM 13:29	09.09.1967 SM 13:57	14.09.1968 SM 14:00	06.09.1969 SM 15:04
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

INTER-COUNTY TRACK & FIELD

<p>CAU Inter-Counties</p> <hr/> <p>16/18 May 1964 White City, London Sen Men 1 Mile 5th 4:10.1</p> <p>London Univ v RAF v Surrey</p>	<p>Essex v Middlesex v Surrey Junior Men</p> <hr/> <p>26 August 1961 Carshalton Jun Men 2 Miles 1st 9:57.6</p> <p>Kent v Surrey Junior Men</p>
--	--

Mick Gowan's "profile" ...continued

6 May 1964 Motspur Park

Sen Men 2 Miles 1st 8:57.0

5 May 1965 Motspur Park

Sen Men 1 Mile 2nd 4:11.5

18 August 1962 Wimbledon Park

Jun Men 2 Miles 1st 9:13.6

ANNUAL BEST T&F PERFORMANCES BY EVENT (Ranked performances only)

880 Yards

1964 Sen Men 1:54.4 Wimbledon Park 01/07/1964

1965 Sen Men 1:55.9 Erith 30/08/1965

1500 Metres

1964 Sen Men 3:59.7 Crystal Palace 01/08/1964

1965 Sen Men 3:45.3+ Motspur Park 21/07/1965

1966 Sen Men 3:54.0 Wimbledon Park 16/07/1966

1969 Sen Men 3:48.9 Motspur Park 07/06/1969

1 Mile

1959 U17 Men 4:38.1 Motspur Park 30/05/1959

1960 U20 Men 4:23.0 21/09/1960

1960 Sen Men 4:23.0 21/09/1960

1961 U20 Men 4:24.8 Tooting Bec 04/10/1961

1961 Sen Men 4:24.8 Tooting Bec 04/10/1961

1963 Sen Men 4:11.1 Motspur Park 25/05/1963

1964 Sen Men 4:02.8u Motspur Park 22/07/1964

1964 Sen Men 4:09.8 White City, London 10/07/1964

1965 Sen Men 4:01.0 Motspur Park 21/07/1965

1967 Sen Men 4:08.8 26/08/1967

3000 Metres

1965 Sen Men 8:03.14 White City, London 13/08/1965

1969 Sen Men 8:14.0 Reading 11/06/1969

2 Miles

1961 U20 Men 9:33.0 02/08/1961

1962 U20 Men 9:13.6 Wimbledon Park 18/08/1962

1963 Sen Men 8:57.0 Motspur Park 27/05/1963

1964 Sen Men 8:48.6 Tooting Bec 13/07/1964

1965 Sen Men 8:50.0 00/00/1965

1966 Sen Men 8:55.4 Whitley Bay 30/07/1966

3 Miles

1962 U20 Men 14:41.6 00/09/1962

1963 Sen Men 14:21.0 29/06/1963

1964 Sen Men 13:48.6 Wimbledon Park 18/07/1964

1965 Sen Men 13:34.0 Motspur Park 19/06/1965

1966 Sen Men 14:00.8 Erith 29/08/1966

1967 Sen Men 13:41.4 Tooting Bec 16/04/1967

1968 Sen Men 13:49.4 Motspur Pk 08/06/1968

5000 Metres

1968 Sen Men 14:08.4 Wimbledon Park 27/07/1968

1969 Sen Men 14:56.4 Crystal Palace 26/07/1969

6 Miles

1962 Sen Men 30:41.2 26/08/1962

1966 Sen Men 29:46.8 Tooting Bec 21/08/1966

1967 Sen Men 29:15.4 16/08/1967

1968 Sen Men 30:31.8 30/06/1968

1969 Sen Men 28:49.2 Tooting Bec 19/04/1969

1500 Metres Steeplechase

1962 U20 Men 4:32.5 15/08/1962

There, Brother Peter, that's the way you should have reported Mick's progress, the "we are having great difficulty keeping up with Mick Gowan [1960]" is **VERY TRUE!**

More on “our” Brothers at Clapham College

Comments on the “Brothers” from the last edition of Concordia - from Colin Garvey -

Brother Julian - ran off with the money . Pete cried when he informed us.

Brother Columba - known to us as Brother Kitchen , for obvious reasons. He retired to Bradley House, Mayfield. Cecil met up with him each year, as he (Cecil) would spend two weeks’ holiday in Bradley House.

Brother Kieran - Young, energetic, but he left after about two years (1960s)

Brother Randall , American, did a job swap with Cecil in the 1960s . Known for a bit of violence ! [politically correct violence of course]

Brother Matthias , I think he was the Provincial , but he was in Clapham a lot.

What about former Heads - **Brothers Nicholas and Bernadine** ? Well respected .

Colin Garvey

Can you feed me any names I've missed on the list below?

Bro Christopher

Brother Peter

Brother Ambrose

Brother Dunstan

Brother Joseph

Brother Hugh

Brother Stephen

Brother Sylvester

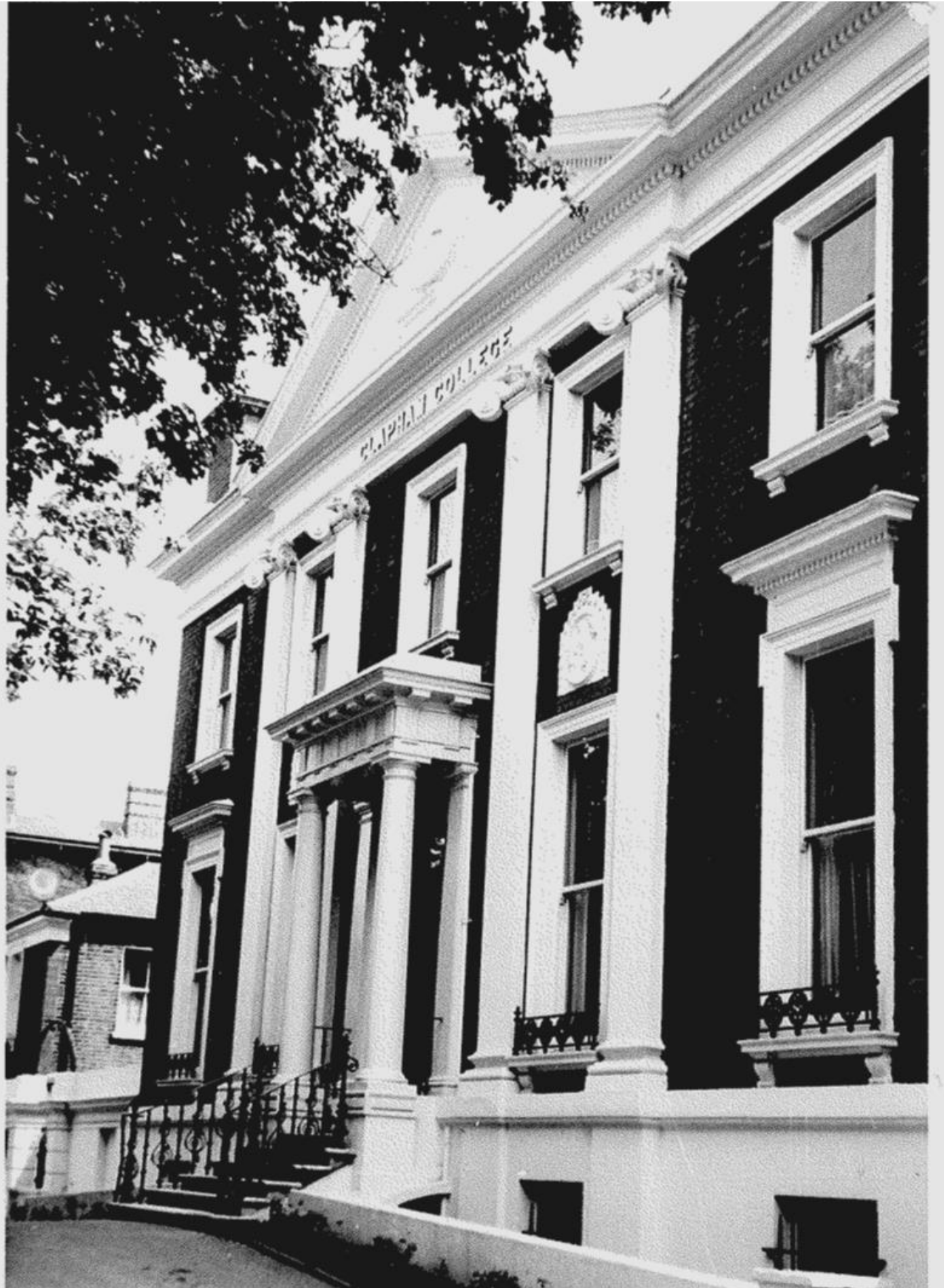
Brother Kevin... Personal stories are always very well received—or any half-truths!

Brothers cannot take the same name as a “living” brother, but even so, there are several “**Brother Ambroses, Dominics, Josephs, Louis[s] and Vincents**”with nearly 900 Xaverian Brothers and “the Editor’s” poor info on some of them - confusion reigns!



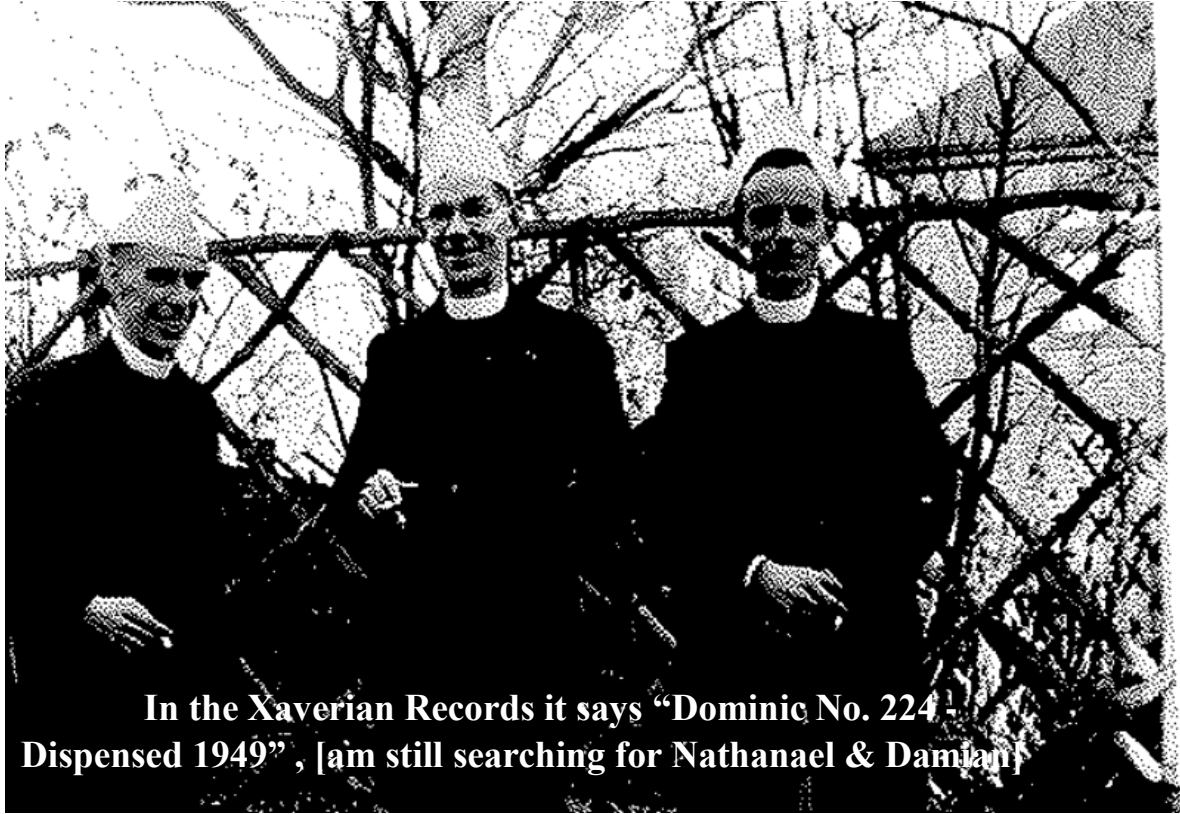
I can fairly accurately be sure that this photograph of the Xaverian Brothers at Clapham College was taken in 1931, as I have the names of four of them. Looking at the “range” of dates they spent at the College, “1931” was the only year they were all there at the same time. Names are “jumbled” - Br Cyril writes “the photo was taken by Br Aloysius”; in photo are Brothers Gregory, Fidelis, Aidan, Louis, Thomas [standing] & sitting Celestine, Alban, Vincent, in no particular order!

The magnificent frontage of Broadoak, Clapham College



The Front of the Brother's House, Broadoak, was used by TV and film companies on a number of occasions as being a typical town house of the 19th Century. Many a coach and horses were filmed going up to the grand entrance. Br Dunstan goes on the say the Brothers were handsomely paid

Dunstan has written on the back of his photo "Brothers en-route to Mayfield for cricket match; Brothers Dominic [Troy], Damian, Nathaniel and - I though they were wearing party hats!] - again no dates



Formulae for Benedictine (type liqueur).

[Preparation from absolute Ethyl alcohol (99.9%); the finished product being of approximately published strength (43° VP)]

① Benedictine Absolute.

Rp	Oil of Coriander	1
	.. Cataway	1
	.. Mace	10
	.. Orange (Sweet)	20
	.. Orange (Bitter)	20
	.. Lemon	20
	.. Juniper berries	12
	.. Ginger (English)	4
	.. Calamus	4
	.. Cassia	2
	.. Annamom	1
	.. Balm Melissa	6
	.. Clove (Amboyna)	8
	.. Peppermint (Exotic)	2
	.. Bay Laurel	1

} Parts by Volume.

This is a great item from the "Dunstan Achieve", 1932

② Benedictine Essence:-

Rp	Ess. Angelica (1 in 5)	20
	Oil of Cardamom (English)	1
	Benedictine Absolute (above)	4
	Ess. Celery (1 in 10)	75

} Parts by Volume

③ Prefixation of Alcohol:

	Jinct. of Myrrh B.P.	4
	Cognac. Ess. Absolute	2
	Compound Solution of Tartrazine B.P.C.	4
	Solution of Burnt Sugar.	2
	Absolute Alcohol . . . to . . . 1000	

Sanolamach 2 gms

↑

} Parts by Volume

④ Benedictine finish:-

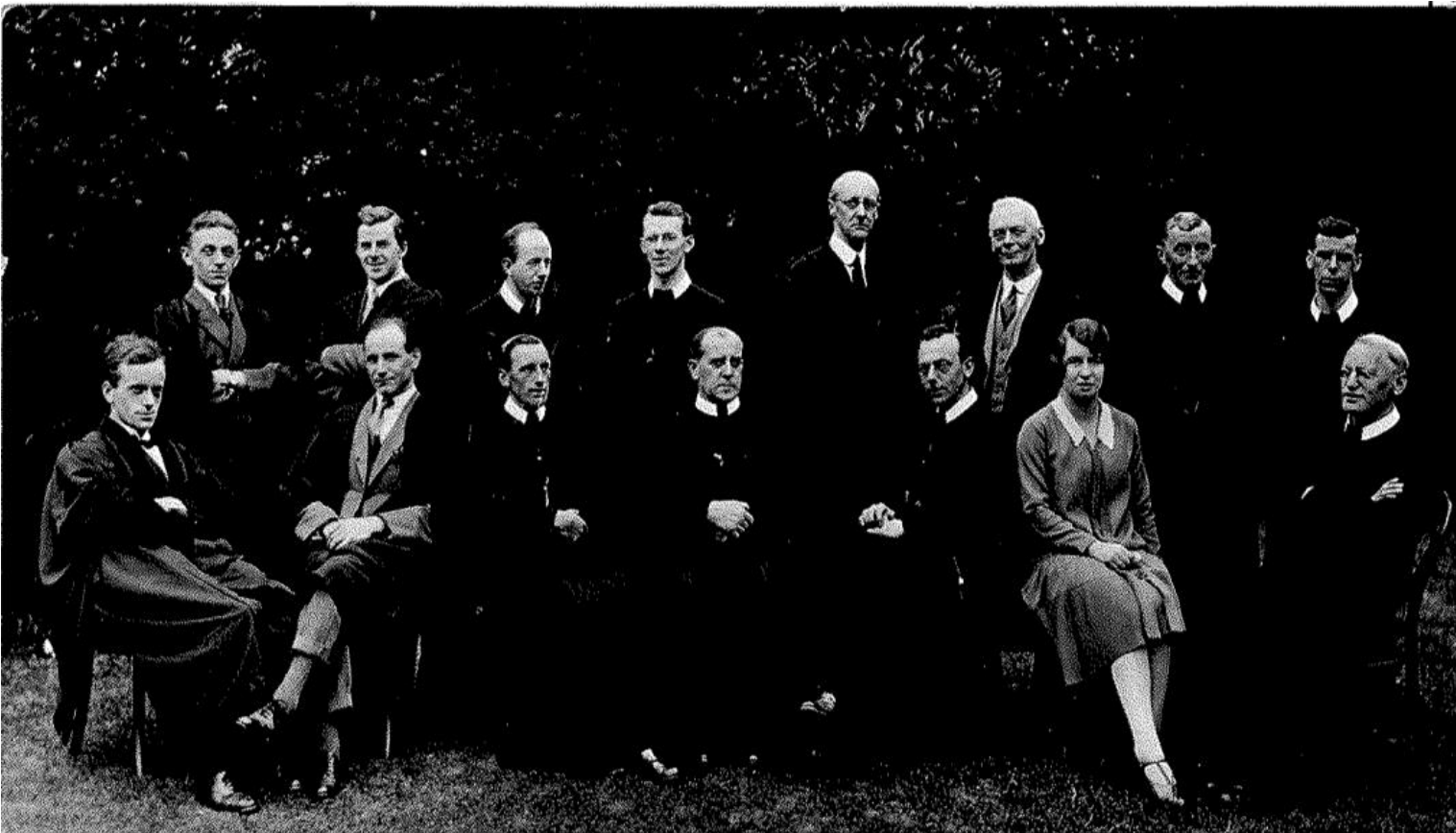
	Prefixed Absolute Alcohol	320	Parts by Volume
	Pure Cane-sugar (white)	320	.. w/v (water=1)
	Benedictine Essence (2 above)	3	.. by Volume
	Water . . . to . . .	1000

Only Br. Dunstan would have this formula for Benedictine - I know I've used this before - but THREE sides!



Clapham Collg. Lord Morris. 31.8.23

Lord Morris was the Chair of the Governors of Clapham College—more on him on page 36



No idea on the Clapham staff in 1932—Br Dunstan and Br Bernardine - but the rest? Any ideas?

1960 Brother Dunstan's Golden Jubilee Celebrations at the College



Br Dustan [right] Br Vincent [Harrington [left] - didn't think of naming the "Third Man" -



So, around the table for Dunstan's Celebration Lunch were Br Christopher at the back, then moving forward - -Br Godric, Br Hilary, Br Sylvester, Br Vincent, Br Bernard, Br Francis [will be checking if they were all Clapham Xaverians!

On the next page is a photograph taken at Mayfield [outside the Chapel] of a group of Xaverian Brothers at the Golden Jubilee of Brother Berchmans [Joseph Hollebeke]. In the group photo I think I spot five Clapham Xaverians, 4th left back row, Br. Kevin, 8th Br. Christopher, 5th Middle Row Br. Dunstan, Front Row to the left Br. Mathias and to the right Br. Peter. Br. Mario, later of Mayfield, is next to Kevin. Have I missed any?



1953 - Xaverian Brothers gather at Mayfield for a photograph in front of the Chapel. They came from all five Xaverian Colleges and this was the largest gathering of Xaverian teachers in England. It was for the Golden Jubilee of Brother Bertram. There are half a dozen Clapham Brothers in the

op Row: Fr Sidney Farmer, M.H.M. Keane, Marie, Charles, Thomas, More, Berke, Felix, Antoninus, Christopher
 Plunkett, Calthbert, Gerard, Camillus
 Middle Row: Chad, Alphonsus, Patrick, Raymond, Dustin, Bonaventure, Thomas, Gabriel, Anthony,
 Henry
 Row Row Anselmi, Matthias, Breverton, Jerome, Paul, ^{Kevin} Berckmans, John, Peter, Benedict
 George,
 Taken at Mayfield: Golden Jubilee of Jerome & Berckmans 1953

The Myth of the Xaverian Archive

[or.. Grandad, what did you do in the COVID-19 Lock Down?]

For many years, since 2013, when I took over the role of Editor of Concordia, I have propagated the “Myth of the Clapham Archive”. Well, I say editor, I really am the “scribe” of this organ, apart from half a side from David, our Chairman, every edition and the odd letter from 70-year-old “plus” Xaverians, the rest of it is “ME”...twenty Editions made up of random photographs and letters from the past. I can, edit and paste emails [that possibly I should not] beware those who communicate with me I use them as a source of “Personalia”!

Many of the photos and articles I have published in Concordia had “nothing written on the back” [my Mum would be appalled, no date, location or description of those in the “snaps”]. I have begged and begged, but over the years I have only had a handful of Clapham College / Old Xaverian documents passed my way. Maybe my “desperation” shines through. There are too many “Oh, I chucked them all away q month ago!” ...having kept them in a box for 50 years... WHY, why keep them and the WHY, why chuck them away. I always feel too that “deceased” Old Xaverians would be good source of Clapham “memorabilia” ..what would their widow want with old bits of Clapham “tat”, but timing is important, and to be honest I chicken out and have never got anything from an Old Xaverian widow, until last year, when Dick Benson’s widow Linda, sent me his cricket memorabilia from his time at the College.

I have managed to cobble together all the Concordias from 1928 to 1970, and all bar about six Clappers [in the 1980s/1990s] and then all of Alec Morrish’s Clappers. I have read them all too.. they really are a great read and in their own way they tell the COXA story, nine decades of old men who never really grew up. In some strange way are drawn back to their old school and classmates, and over time they move up and down the different Clapham cohorts, befriending the older and younger generations who somehow that that same Xaverian way/peculiarity running through their veins. There are over a hundred Concordias and Clappers and without doubt the 1940s and 1950s are real works of quality literature, written by truly well-read, and well-qualified editors. Their articles and language were of a period long past, they knew their audience and creatively let the audience into the various themes. Xaverians should look up “Publications” on the Xaverian Archive Website and appreciate those works of literary. They put my recent “cut and stick” Concordias to shame, these early editors were truly gifted Xaverians. I’d say my last twenty Concordias are more aligned to Dave and Viv’s Clappers than the 1940s/50s great works of literature. Alec Morrish squeezes his ten Clappers between “ours” and “theirs” [they were good Alec, but then you were awarded the “Latin Prize” at Clapham, so you had a head-start on the other recent editors in terms of a classical education].

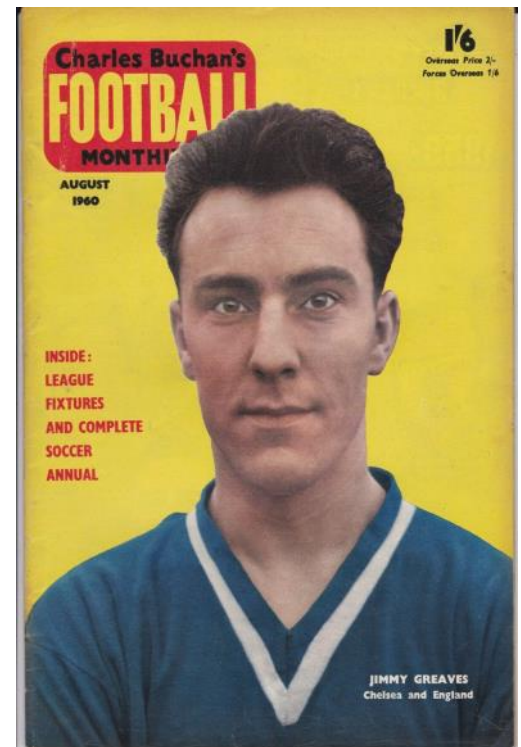


Clapham Archive...continued

The articles in those early Concordias reflected the themes of the times, Evacuation, WW2 heroes, cricket and football, on the up! There was trips Africa and the USA, school trips to Europe [those Bedford vans], climbing in the Lake District with Brother Joseph, articles by headteachers and “Personalia” from all over, people kept in touch and were happy to share changes in their lives, changes of job, qualifications, National Service, travel, marriages and new arrivals...suppose we are all too old for that sort of “nonsense” now! Recent Concordia have been more a set of photos [old and new] held together by the “Sellotape”, that are my attempts to add detail and background [more shame, these early editors were truly gifted Xaverians. I’d say my last twenty Concordias are more



aligned to Dave and Viv's Clappers then the 1940s/50s great works of literature. Alec Morrish squeezes his ten Clappers between “mine” & “theirs”. They were good Alec, but then you were awarded the “Latin Prize” at Clapham, so you had a head-start on the other recent editors .



I'd say The Dave and Vic Clappers and my Concordias are more “SHOOT”, than “Charles Buchan's Football Monthly”! In terms of literary prowess

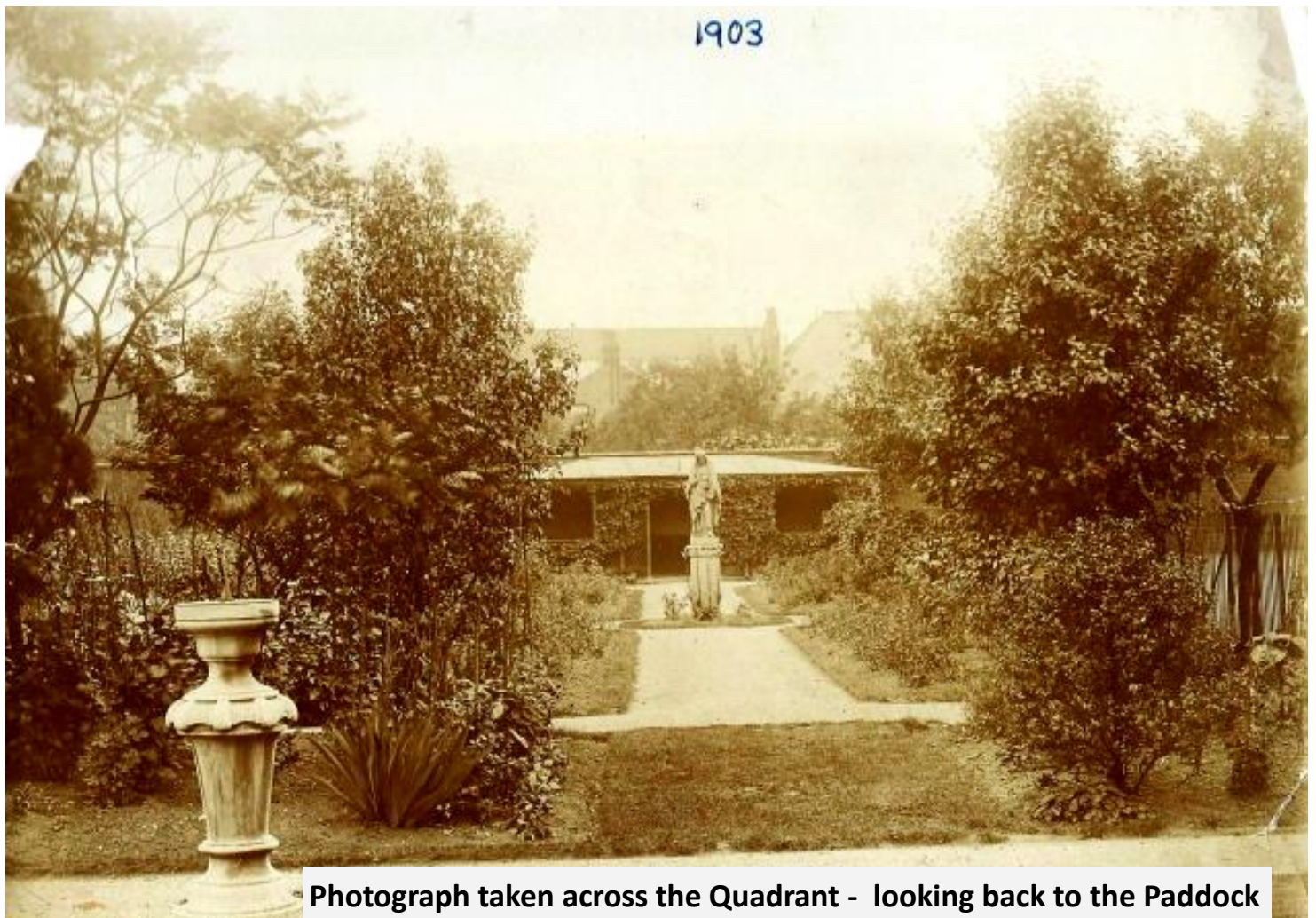
A great deal of the detail I get is from the Clapham Archive, yes, finally back to that..well the truth is, that it does not really exist, thus the need for this new Website.

So, what does the Archive look like? Well apart from the Clappers and Concordia, there was a box of random event programmes, a few letters and photos and some minutes to Meetings. In the attic at Norbury I found two boxes in one was the “Borders Books” 1898 to 1903, great sources of information. I also found a few class list of Clapham College and Brother Dunstan's bits and bobs. The trip to Notre Dame, Indiana mean huge “odd” pieces of Xaverian Literature which “filled a few more “gaps”. The cricket section and football team-sheets added another layer, Frank Barretta's COXA Website is another asset as have been the dozens of Xaverians who sent me their “class-lists” from a bygone age. There is a series of COXANS [remember the blue ones from the 1970s] and Prize Day progs.

Clapham College 1903 Brother Dunstan's first photos of the College



Broadoak - "new and shiny"



Photograph taken across the Quadrant - looking back to the Paddock

I did not know **Len Griffith** he started to research Clapham College during WW2 - he was evacuated to East Grinstead; he only had Concordias and letters from old Xaverians and research at the Records Office. There was no online help, COXA Membership were less than 100, he did a great job...it's nowhere near complete [RIP 2005]. I've added his work on the Archive Website ["College in Exile"].

Clapham College Pupils and Staff. As at November, 2001.

.....
(Notes: (M) = Matriculation.)

Adams, Pat; Lower Third Form Aug 1939. Evac to EG area. Red-headed.

Ager. New pupil in Form Lower 111 Sept 1941.

Alphonsus, Brother. (James Duffy. "Doggie".), Superior 1941. 1942. Taught Latin.

Angel, W. Form Upper V, annual prize 1938 and School Certificate (M). .

Anselm. In College cricket team summer 1939.

Bailey, Ken ?; Lower 3rd 1939.

Bambridge, Mr. W.R. Born 1882. Master and instructor in ATC 1941. 1942. Known as "Bambo/Bamby", he had a walrus moustache and stentorian voice, and taught PE, carpentry and craftwork. Had been an ex-regular (army ?) sergeant.

Barreau, Roger. Lower Third August 1939. Evac to EG area. Anglo-French.

Barry see Br. Bernardine.

Bashal see Br. Wilfred.

Batty, Peter. 1940s ?

Becker, H. School Certificate (M) July 1939.

Bell, Ken. Form 4 Sept 1939.

Bernardine, Brother.(J.Barry). Headmaster 1939 (?) to 31/7/1940. Benign in manner and appearance, learned, a very good administrator , who commanded respect from everybody simply by his manner, character and dignity.

Best, Pat. Lower Third Form Aug. 1939. Evac to Ashhurstwood. Became a priest. Now deceased.

Bharier, Mr. Nathan. Born 1907. Of the Jewish faith. Master 1942.

Bird, Ronald. Pupil Lower 3rd Jan 1941.

Blackie, G. School Certificate (M) July, 1939.

Blight, Mr W.C.A. Born 1906. Master.

Bone, Peter. Pupil Lower 3rd Jan 1941.

Booth see Br. Joseph.

Bowden, Jimmy. Dates ?

Brennan, Paddy. Pupil Lower 3rd Jan 1941. Ipswich ?

Breslin, Pat. Lower 3rd form Sept 1939.

Brookes, R.C. Joined CC in Lower 3rd form 3/1/1941. Now Dr.

Brooks, Peter. Lower 3rd form Sept 1939. Lived with his parents in London Road, East Grinstead. Shared a billet with Edwin Entecott in Taunton.. Captain of Glastonbury 1944/5. In Government Service first with Hugh Dalton, then Harold Macmillan and then Private Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister, etc. Emigrated to New Zealand and joined NZ Public Service.. Now Sir Peter.

Brooks, R. School Certificate (M) July, 1939.

Bundock, M. School Certificate (M) July 1939.

Burbridge, R. School Certificate summer 1942.

Burke, P. Form Lower 11A annual prize 1938.

Burbage, Richard. Form 4 Sept 1939.

Burrage. Known as Budgie. Lower Third Form Aug 1939. Evac to EG area. Good at Maths and physics.

Butler. Mr F.B. Master and instructor in ATC 1941. "Boney". Taught Physics. Left 1942 for post in London after 15 years.

Cannon, Desmond. Form 4 Sept 1939. (Not evacuated ?)

Campion. In College cricket team summer 1939.

Carlin, Miss H.A. Teacher in the preparatory school when it closed in 1939. Came to East Grinstead for a short while; on teaching staff 1941 at another school.

Carroll, Kevin. Obit 1993.

This earliest-ever attempt to collate COXA data was undertaken by Len, but never "published". Please have a look on the Website at the 8 sides he produced [late 1990s]. It's a tribute to a Xaverian who had a real passion for Clapham College

A BIT ABOUT RON KIRBY Clapham College 1951

I have had a previous appearance in the newsletter in the summer 2011 edition when it was called Clapper. In the winter 2008 edition there was a picture of some cross country runners asking if anybody could identify any of them and I responded saying that I thought the second boy on the left might be me and I also gave a brief resume of myself. The cross country picture was included plus a photo of me when I was about 13ish I would think and a bit about me.

This brought back a memory of my time at Clapham. When I first went there in 1951 I was the classic unlikely athlete and in my first couple of cross countries I came in last or thereabouts. I have no ball sense so didn't get involved much in ball games of any sort but I did start running and I remember training evenings at Herne Hill Harriers track on Tooting Bec Common. I ended up as not too bad a runner and actually came second in later cross countries. I could never come first because the winner was always a boy called Churcher I think?

I went to Clapham in 1951 and didn't have a very distinguished academic career there and I left after a brief spell in the 6th form. I started an electrical engineering apprenticeship which I didn't complete and I signed on in the RAF and everything then changed. I discovered I could learn and specialised in radar and ended up in the Test Equipment Calibration Centre at RAF Henlow.

The electronics experience gained there meant that I was ideally suited for the new industry called computing and in 1963 I joined J. Lyons who had recently built the first ever computer in the world to run a commercial application. I then stayed in computer related jobs for the rest of my career.

As an aside I give a talk about the first commercial computer LEO 1 [Lyons Electronic Office] and the rise and fall of J. Lyons and the rise and fall of the British Computer industry which are all interrelated. I recently joined the Leo Computer Society and a few days later had a message from Neville Lyons a member of the original family and I believe my presentation is now on their website.

Several years before I retired I moved down to the New Forest and I now live a few hundred yards from the sea in Barton on Sea which is half way between Lymington and Christchurch. Following my retirement I was very lucky in taking up a retirement hobby of local history and I am now, probably, busier than I was during much of my working life. I am a Trustee of a local history Society and give regular talks on various aspects of history in this area and until this year I gave local history guided walks.

The society gives regular lectures to our members with an attendance averaging 80 plus attendees and because of the corona virus we have had to suspend these and I am now producing podcasts which can be accessed via our website. [if anyone is interested they can be seen on milfordhistory.org.uk and go to podcasts.] I do look in detail at the Clapper magazines but have not found a reference to anybody that strikes a chord with me but that could be due to my fairly poor memory of past events. But like, I suspect, many people I have a good memory for things related to my occupation and local history.

I'm so appreciative to Xaverians such as Ron Kirby for writing in - he is one of 40 Old boys who listened to my request [on a scribbled note in the last Concordia—it's given me enough detail and articles for this and the next two Concordias..but I'm greedy for more. But for now in the word of David our Chairman " you can stop moaning now!! Terry Boley 45/52, Jake Richins 54/59??, Mick Power 57/62, Alan Keating 1962-69, Mick Collins 63-71, Mick Gowan 54 – 61, John McNicholas 62 to 70, Gerry Morrison 61 to 69, Philip Sanders, Brian Sanders, Micky Burke, Peter Steer, David Leathem, Frank Barretta, Bob James, Bob Morris [Pigeon Club], Ted Hayter, Tony Grey, Brendan Kearns, Mick Casserly, Graham Hudson, Father Mario [Xaverian Brother then Parish priest Mayfield, John Boyd, Spencer McGuire, Steve Platt, John Rayer, Tim Hixson, Bene, Martin Fowler, plus many others THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

Ron Kirby - "continued" - with his "Now and Then" photographs



May 2020 – Ron on Mudeford Beach. His first outing in 2020 since “lockdown” started a first trip out after 8 weeks! Good luck Ron, seems to be enjoying life on the Dorset Coast, but fondly remembers his days at CC - SW4.



Ron Kirby in 1953 - looking dapper in his Clapham College uniform. I have dozens on photos of my children in new school uniform, but parents never generally took such photos 50, 60 [or 70 years ago as Ron did, or did they? PLEASE forward if yours did!

Ron has been brilliant
 1] to reply to my request,
 2] to write his article,
 3] to enclose the two photos, Clapham College blazer is a “classic”.
 4] to “mark the photos “Now and Then”; he is obviously aware of my poor eyes/editing skills!! Together with the photo of Alan Keating's brother is another “boy in uniform” photograph. John Rayer's to come!

Photo below taken from the Paddock is just a “space filler”.

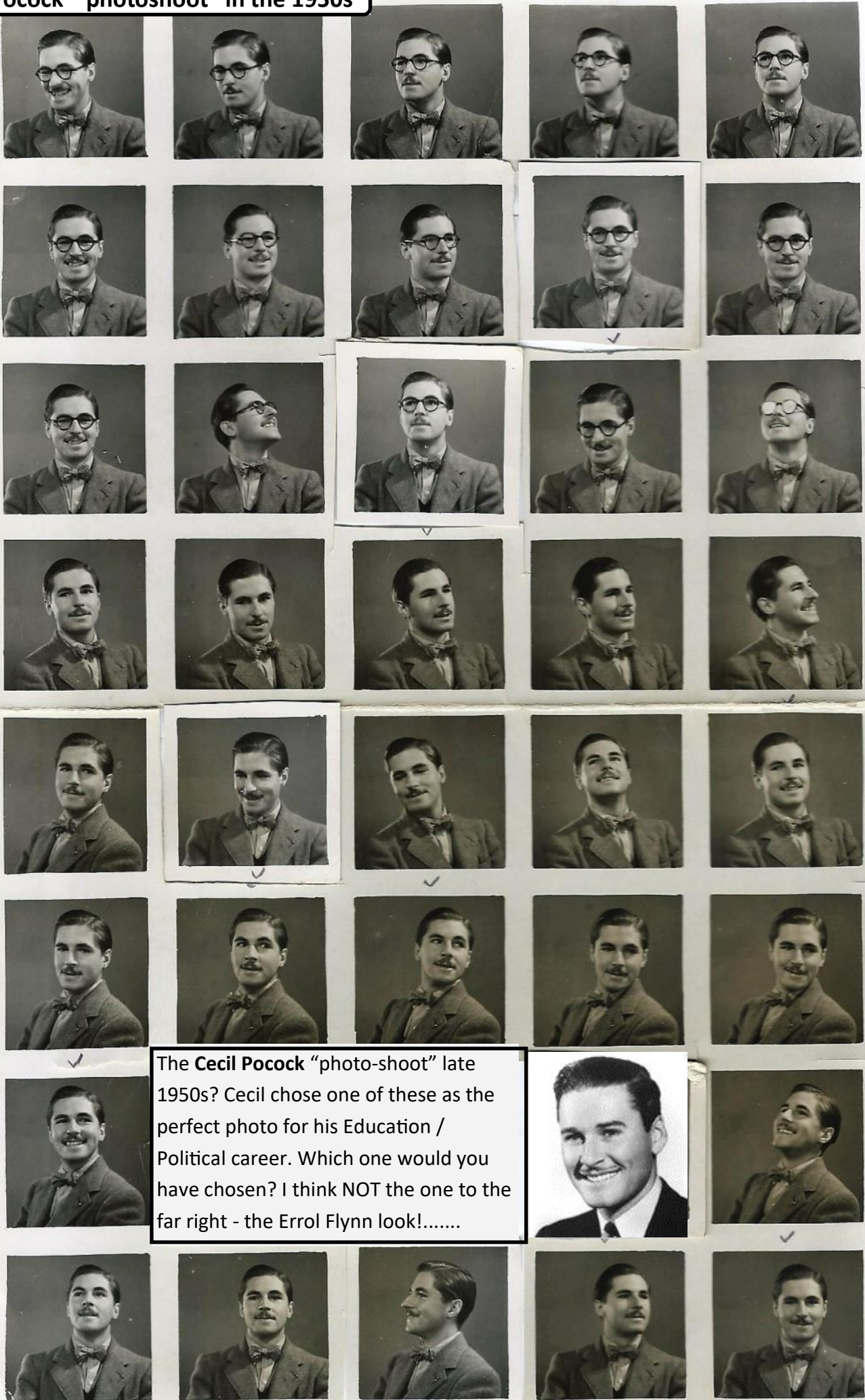


“Those were the Days” - when your teacher could take you to the Pub!



The “Rose and Crown” in Mayfield. How many of us ended up there whilst away camping with Cecil, or after COXA picnics? That’s all “history” now; the “P.C. Brigade” means this will never happen again. Did it do us any harm? Same as “the cane” - well maybe let’s not go there..... Scotty

Cecil Pocock "photoshoot" in the 1950s



The Cecil Pocock "photo-shoot" late 1950s? Cecil chose one of these as the perfect photo for his Education / Political career. Which one would you have chosen? I think NOT the one to the far right - the Errol Flynn look!.....



COXA MEMBERSHIP - DONATIONS - [“YOU CAN’T TAKE IT WITH YOU”]

Dear Member, The cost of becoming a regular Member of the Association is only £10 per year.

Many of you made a one-off payment and become a **Life Member**. The cost of **Life Membership** varies with age is as follows: **80 or over: £20.00 - 70 or over: £40.00 - 60 or over: £60.00 - 50 or over: £100.00**

Cost of **Annual Membership** is **£10.00** Concordia costs £13 per Xaverian per year! **WOULD ANY XAVERI-ANS OUT THERE SEND ME A ONE-OFF DONATION - possibly some who’s parents paid TEN GUINEAS for Life Membership back in the 1950s? COME ONE BRUSH OFF THAT CHEQUEBOOK—My home address 29 Greenhurst Drive, East Grinstead RH19 3NE ..any amounts gratefully accepted...Scotty**

COXA Bank Details: Bank: HSBC Sort Code: 400107 Account No: 90232459 To help us track any payments to us, make sure you add a ‘reference/description’ which allows us to identify you.

If you still have a chequebook, fill in the final cheque and send a donation [any size/amount] to me; Scotty Macdonald, 29 Greenhurst Drive, East Grinstead, RH19 3NE [I will exclude these Life Members **Alan While, Kevin Bond, Alan Keating and Tony Grey**, all without prompting, have recently sent me donations of £100 to Association, just because they are just good blokes! And I know there are hundred more reading this....

Footnote - I am the **Membership Secretary**, but was too efficient at getting Life Members 4/5 years ago [about 120] and “killed off” all annual membership payments. I got many of £20 and £40 Life Members - now they’ve had VRM, but nothing compared to those who became Life Members [for ten guineas] in the 1950s! There will be “no income” to COXA in 2020, and all you pensioners “out there” have increased your “savings” - [I know]! After all you can’t take it with you! Maybe it could cover the costs of a 4th Concordia in 2020? Who knows?



We beg you, don't turn to the next page, read this appeal.

They don't look like the type who would have “taken it with them”! We can only dream!1908 Clapham College play

Had to include this for the outfits, the shoes and the expressions - **Macbeth?**

PERSONALIA

OLD BOYS JOTTINGS



Cecil Pocock in March 2020

Managed to visit Cecil just before “Lock-down” in March - he was in good health and fine form. COXA and Clapham are always warm in his heart. Stories of Mayfield, Clapham College, the Brothers, members of staff and school trips always cheer him up. “Names” are sometimes a problem, but photos are viewed with huge enthusiasm.

Last Concordia detail / information from Peter Steer [he’s been busy]

I notice that a photograph of a **COXA team for 1948** is in fact Nick Scot's fathers team Streatham Rovers and have **Ted Hayter** and myself as well as **Peter Ralph** and **Kevin Carroll**. The only person missing is **Fred Insole**. I also notice a letter about Nick **Scott** from **Henry Pinsent** where Henry stated we lost to Chelsea Juniors 10-0 it was actually 13-3 and half of the Chelsea team went on to play for Chelsea's First Team including **Bobby Smith who played for Chelsea, Tottenham and England** . He broke two of my ribs in that game and I returned it with interest when he head my knee with his face. The pitch Henry talks about was also used by the school on occasion and the rough bit was my side, where I played left back **Peter Steer**

Page 17 Concordia—more from Peter

Scotty, I may be able to help with the names on some of the people in this picture and the Brothers in the picture. I agree it is **Denis Quin** on the back row with **Peter Freddi** on the left of the middle row with **Henry Pinsent** four in from the left and **Nicholas Scott** on the far right . I think the boy on the left front row is **Brian Sweet** The Brothers are **Benedict, Damian and Nicholas** who was the Head when I was at Clapham. Brother Benedict if I have name right was our tutor when we were in **Taunton at the Bishop Foxes Girls School** and when I was there with him I was always near the top of the class I again soon with more news. I knew all you 1951 Prefects and **Hughes** was our only rugby playing injury after we got fed up with playing 22 a side football which is more like rugby
Regards **Peter Steer** [Thank you Peter - some great info and a wonderful memory]

"COXA Bits and Bots"



What's occurring here? County Wicklow!



Lord Morris [Page 21] & Senator James Moran T.C., directors of the Liffey Power Company.



....seen here boring operations at Poulaphouca, Co. Wicklow as part of a Hydro-electric development and still in use today- Chair of Governors, Lord of the Realm and Irish Entrepreneur. Lord Morris is third from the right—"what a man".

Finally, 1980 Car Rally - and my trophy!



CAR RALLY - SUNDAY 1st JUNE 1980

At last (!) another COXA Rally. Dave Martin's devious brain has at last been addressed to the task of driving COXA motorists up the wall one pleasant summers afternoon. The venue will consequently be Essex. Dave has decided that in view of the price of petrol (and his fear of travelling too far from home at the end of the weekend) distances will not be great but there will be more clues to solve than in past years.

DETAILS

The meeting place will be the 'WAKE ARMS' which is on the last roundabout before EPPING on the A 11. Meeting will be at 1.30 for 2.00 start and expected finish time will be at around about (or do I mean at a roundabout?) 7.00pm. In order that sufficient O/S maps may be purchased and details printed names should be telephoned or sent to WILSON BOWERS 11 MULREADY HOUSE HILLSBANK LONDON S.W.1. 01 821 6013 by Saturday 24th May.

Entrance fee, to cover costs, will be £2.00 per car; there will of course be prizes and an explanation in the pub afterwards.

Clapham College 1st XI Cricket Team 1961 - Averages

BATTING AVERAGE SUMMARY CONTINUED SEASON 1962

DATES	BENSON		CAMMELL		MAGEE		GAVIGAN		CLEATHER		GRAY		HIXSON		MEADE		SHEA		COLETTA		RANDOLPH		FISHER		RICE		BROWN		DAVIS		SILWENT		OSTROWSKI	
	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS	RUNS	WIKTS
BROUGHT FORWARD																																		
TENISON'S 12.5.62	0		1		2		1		0		10		1		8		3		1		0*													
4100 P. 16.5.62	2		0		14				1		2		3				3*		1		0		1		0									
FUNCHLEY 10.5.62	26		4		0				21		2		11		6		2		15		13*		5											
OLD BOYS 20.5.62	4		3		0				1		0		1		2		0		3*		0		2											
MONK MOORE 26.5.62	9		5		2				15		0*		3		15		1		1		0		6											
TASE HILL 30.5.62	15		7						0		3		14		0				2		0		7			3		1*						
SHANE 7.0.62	5		0		0				0		0		1		0				4*				12			0		2						
ROPERIDGE 9.0.62	9		32*						3		9		4		6		0		8				7			6								
SIXES AND 5 14.6.62	26		5				2		4		13		7		0				0*				13			1		0						
C. VAUGHAN 23.6.62	42*		0				4		0		14		5*		5				4*				0			14								
W.R. ANDERSON 30.6.62	73*		6				0		22*		29		3		-				1		-		1			2								
SALES AND 7.7.62	7		2				1		0		18*				2				0				2			5								

BOWLING AVERAGE SUMMARY CONTINUED SEASON 1962

D A T E S	1 SHEA				2 GRAY				3 RANDOLPH				4 CLEATHER				5 MEADE				6 RICE				7 HIXSON				8 DAVIS				9 FISHER				10 BENSON			
	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.	OVERS	MDNS.	RUNS	WIKTS.				
	BROUGHT FORWARD																																							
12.5.62	8	2	13	-	2	-	3	-	3	1	11	-	1	-	8	-	1	-	6	-	4	1	8	1																
16.5.62	4	1	12	2	4	-	6	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-																
19.5.62	10	2	16	3	9	3	23	1																																
20.5.62	14	6	25	5	11	4	14	2	4	-	15	-	6	-	33	2					4	1	18	1																
26.5.62	11	4	27	1	15	1	49	-	3	-	22	1	4	-	33	1	2	5	14	1	3	-	33	-																
30.5.62	-	-	-	-	20	2	35	7	5	-	9	1	5	1	5	-	1	3	-					15	8	10	2													
2.6.62	-	-	-	-	12	4	26	1					9	2	28	5	-	1	-					3	-	14	10	1	27	2										
4.6.62	15	2	50	5	13	1	63	2					9	4	45	1	3	21																						
16.6.62	-	-	-	-	19	4	63	6					7	-	33	1	-	-																						
27.6.62	-	-	-	-	0	5	1	29	5				2	-	12	-	-	-																						
30.6.62	-	-	-	-	15	7	18	2	6	1	12	-	7	1	24	3	2	15	-																					

COPYRIGHT

ORDER FOR BATTING AVERAGES							ORDER FOR CATCHES	
NAMES	TOTAL RUNS	INNINGS	MOST IN INNINGS	TIMES NOT OUT	COMPLETED INNINGS	AVERAGE	NAMES	TOTAL
1	Benson	218	12	73*	2	10	Coletta	11
2	Gray	100	12	29	2	10	Benson	6
3	Cleather	67	12	22*	1	11	Fisher	6
4	Cammell	65	12	32*	1	11	Cammell	5
5	Fisher	58	10	13	-	10	Brown	3
6	Coletta	40	11	15	4	7	Meade	3
7	Hixson	53	11	14	1	10	Gray	1
8	Meade	44	10	15	-	10	Hixson	1
9	Brown	26	6	14	-	6	Gavigan	1
10	Davis	12	4	9	1	3	Randolph	1
11	Randolph	15	7	13	2	6		
12	Magee	18	6	14	-	6		
13	Shea	8	5	3*	1	4		
14	Gavigan	8	5	4	-	5		
15								
16								
17	Ostrowski	5	1	5	-	1		
18	Rice	0	1	0	-	1		
19	Silwent	0	1	0	-	1		
20								

COPYRIGHT

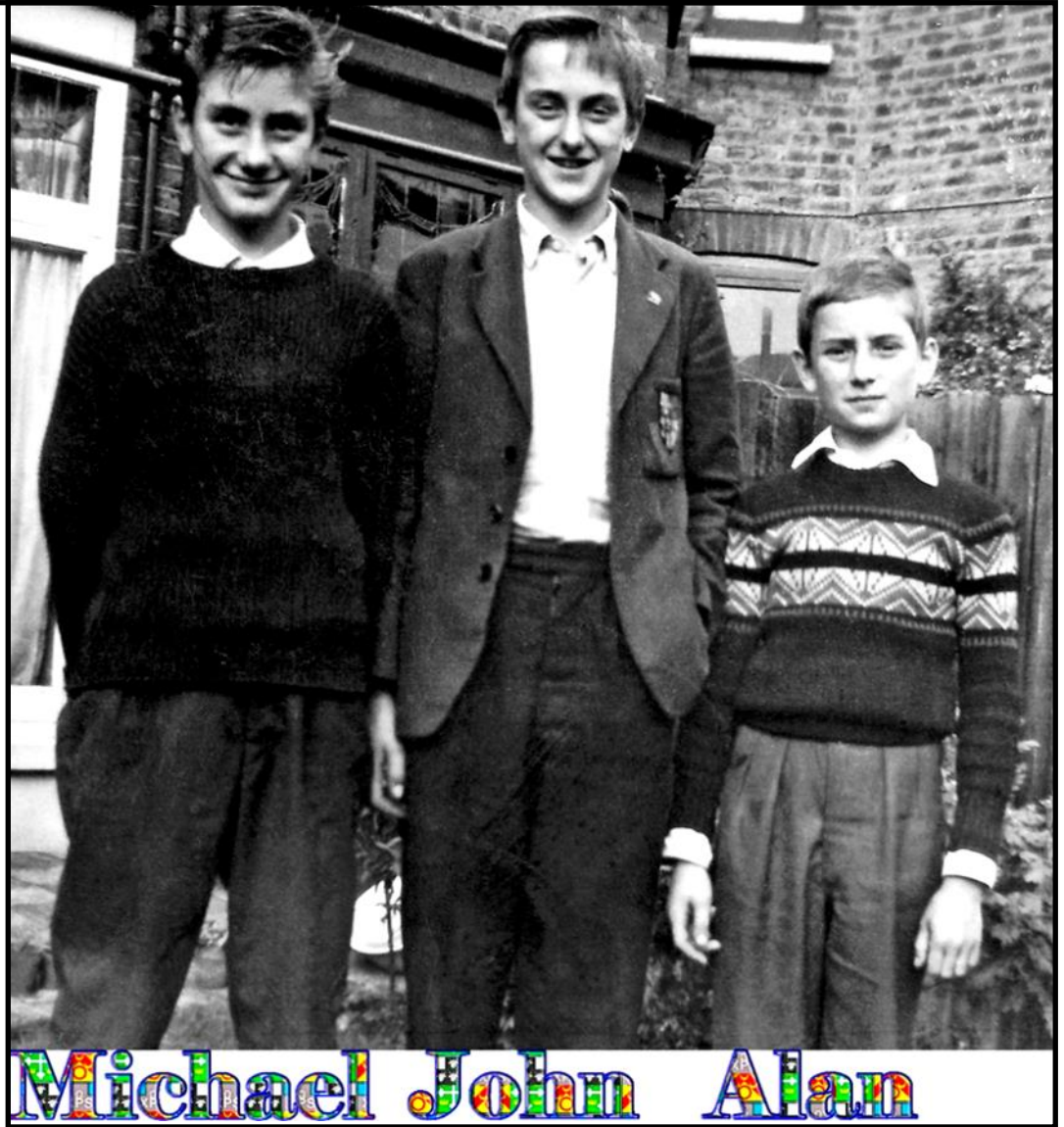
ORDER FOR BOWLING AVERAGES												
NAMES	WIDES	NO BALLS	OVERS	MAIDENS	RUNS	WICKETS				TOTAL WICKETS	AVERAGE	
						BOWLED	CAUGHT	L.B.W.	HIT WICKET STUMPED			
1	Shea	1	4	62	18	143	4	4	3	-	16	8.93
2	Davis	1	5	51	13	98	4	6	-	-	10	9.80
3	Gray	-	1	14	31	340	11	15	3	-	29	11.72
4	Cleather	-	-	51	3	241	1	9	2	-	12	20.08
5	Randolph	-	-	27	3	87	2	1	-	-	3	29.00
6	Hixson	-	1	14	-	78	-	-	-	-	-	-
7												
8												
9	Fisher	-	-	7	1	27	1	2	1	-	4	6.75
10	Rice	-	1	4	1	8	-	1	-	-	1	8.00
11	Meade	4	-	9	1	51	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Benson	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
13												
14												
15												
16												
17												
18												
19												
20												
MATCHES PLAYED			12	STUMPING								
" WON			2	WICKET KEEPER				TOTAL				
" LOST			9	COLETTA								
" DRAWN			1									

Please excuse the "size" of these tables - if you look at the "online" versions on the **Websites** you will be able to actually see them in greater detail. On the "Achieve Website" under "cricket" you will be able to see the "scoresheets from that season - **Garvey, Gray, Coletta, Cleather, Meade, Hixson, Gavigan** etc..

The Keating Brothers Michael, John, Alan [AKA "A.K"].

CLAPHAM COLLEGE : GATEWAY TO ACADEMIA

My parents moved to the leafy, backwater suburb of Streatham Hill, so that my father didn't incur the burgeoning travel expenses to his new job in Park Lane, London. The newlywed lifestyle, and the arrival of their boys on the Brocks Estate, North Cheam, post WWII, was no more. The move to Streatham Hill prompted my arrival into the world. The family unit was complete: parents and 3 sons. As time progressed, there were less sons available for 'bonding'. "Where's John gone Mum", "He's off to school". The same logic applied to Michael. 1954, my turn for 'Primary School'. At 5-years old I had one heck of a row with Mum, I definitely didn't want to go. "It's the Law of the Land, you have to go". So, kicking, screaming and a lot of crying; I was off to Corpus



Christi, Brixton Hill, with my brothers. The one event that sticks from Corpus Christi, in my final year, regarded pumping the Church organ at Benediction on Fridays. The task fell to Pascal Hannigan and I. We watched in amazement at the concertina type bellows rise & fall, with our every stroke of the huge wooden handle. Easy-peasy 'pump the handle', not rocket science. We got complacent. One Friday; which turned out to be our last Friday in the post: I still wonder why, to this very day. We pumped the bellows up to full extension, and decided to let it fall to a level at which we perceived it needed to be reinflated, WRONG! We missed the 'cut'. The choir sang to the music of a cacophony of scalded cats, the Mighty Wurlitzer, mortally wounded, was having death throws, couldn't hold a note. We pumped for all we were worth: but to no avail. It was the end. We were both SACKED. A new school, a new term, **CLAPHAM COLLEGE** awaits. I didn't do too well, with the bulk interview with Brother Peter. The other boys from Corpus Christi seemed much better at the 'Quick Fire Round', than I. I secured a place. Hurrah! I think Brother Peter must have struck a deal with Mum, that the Xaverian Bank Balance was bolstered by the amount of School Uniform shifted by the Keating Boys. Allowing another Keating to enter the hallowed halls would boost the coffers to the next level. Having elder brothers at the College was a mixed bag. Mostly, "We're gonna get you, when your brothers leave". Yes, I was dutifully 'got'. The gated development that is Clapham College, is a secure learning environment. A place of peace & tranquillity, to ponder and absorb; spend your formative years gaining the tools to go out in the world and thrive. Seemed to just pass me by. School years, the best years of your life? Well they are; if only you knew that at the time. The only year that we were all at Clapham together was 1960-1961. "Where's John gone Mum", "He's off to work". The one-liner suited Michael, as he went out into the world, to seek fame & fortune. My 5-years at Clapham were varied. Caned 3-times. Two 2s hands, 6-on the backside. A chequered career, the chequering mostly on my backside. I found that I was slow on the uptake of knowledge, and still to this day. 1960 1A ,2nd Week, Bill Blight, Simultaneous Equations; "I can't hold the whole class up you Keating". That theme followed me through the College, and life! The Keating Boys did alright, as their parents would have wished. **ALAN KEATING 1960 1A.**



The article on the previous page by AK Keating was prompted by the death of his brother John in April.

Another Clapham, RIP, or as AKK said “another one bites the dust”.

My brother John Keating 74, passed away in April. He attended Clapham College, from 1956 - 1961.

He was an Alpha, in a Class with **Kajik. Ostrowsk**. Not sure of any other class mates. The 3 x Keatings who attended Clapham College, didn't level a lasting scholastic mark on the College fundament. Covid-19 has thrown a spanner in the works of a Coroners & Funeral. I'm, generally, a 'let's get it done' person (sounds like Boris Johnson). I'm having to go with the protracted flow; it's just the way it is, right now.

All the Best. AK May **John ++ RIP ++**

Clapham Boys at Hull University - Standing Room only...

After three years of beer, football and women (in what order we don't quite know) COLIN GARVEY (1961) has achieved a very fair degree of success at Hull University in the shape of second class honours in history.

MIKE ALDRICH, DAVE CONDUCT & DAVE WORLEY seem to find Hull University much to their liking. The view of the Senior Common Room is not known. Anyway, they will shortly be joined by COLIN GARVEY, PHIL GRAY, TERRY CAIN and BEN SCHWENK.

As I was browsing the latest newsletter of the “**Friends of West Norwood Cemetery**” [who doesn't?] I notice the article [on next page [Page 40] on a Past Chairman/President of Clapham Old Xaverians. COXA has visited the grave of his son Lieutenant Alec Barthorpe who died in WW1 .. The family lived in Leigham Court Rd in Stratham, and as well as being on the Board of Governors at the College, he sent his three sons there - a true Xaverian with Xaverian sons!



Friends of
West Norwood
CEMETERY

Sir Frederick James Barthorpe JP (1857-1942)

by John W Brown

An old photograph album has recently come to light featuring various views of a family enjoying summer holidays in the 1940s. Among the snaps is one of an elderly gentleman standing in the garden of his home, a large, impressive Victorian building. On closer examination the house would be familiar to members of the Streatham Society and the local Darby and Joan Club as it is *Woodlawn*s, 16 Leigham Court Road, where both organisations hold their meetings. The man enjoying his garden is Sir Frederick James Barthorpe JP who was buried in West Norwood Cemetery on 5th March 1942 (grave 37,815, square 124).

Sir Frederick was Chairman of the Marconi International Code Company and Chief Joint General Manager of the London County and Westminster Bank Ltd., which later evolved to become the NatWest Bank. Among his many other positions he was a Fellow and President of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and a Fellow of the Institute of Bankers. As an author he wrote such erudite books as *Consols and the Sinking Fund* and *Indian Currency - its first and second lines of defence*.

He played an active role in civic affairs, becoming an Alderman of the City of London in 1921, and on his retirement from the office of Sheriff of the City in 1925 he was knighted by King George V. He was due to become Lord Mayor of London, but sadly shortly before the time of his appointment, he became seriously ill and had to have an operation after which he was advised by his doctors not to take up the office as this would be detrimental to his health.

He attained the rank of Major in the 4th City of London Battalion of the London Regiment of the Royal Fusiliers. Although he retired from active service in 1911, he subsequently assisted in the raising of the 26th Service Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers, known as the Banking Battalion, and was also involved with the National Guard Volunteer Corps.

Sir Frederick was a devout Catholic worshipping at the Church of the English Martyrs in Streatham. In 1926 he was honoured by the Pope who appointed him a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great for his services to the catholic church. He also received the Legion of Honour from President Doumergue of France.



It is with great sadness that we have just received the news that Martin McGrath has died



We received news from Rob James who had been contacted by Carl Egan, that sadly Martin McGrath passed away on the 28th April. Carl was one of ten people who attended Martin's funeral in Melbourne this Bank Holiday Friday 8th May (V E Day).

Some recent comments from those of us that knew him: Many, many wrote - very sad and shocked

"Sorry to hear the news. Martin was a good lad and a very under rated footballer. I have many happy memories of him in Hollywood in the 6th form and on Clapham Common playing for the school team. May he rest in peace". (Ray Murphy)

So sad, we were in the same class and I remember him nicking a goal in the last minute away to Josephians to win 1-0and it all kicked off. RIP Martin. (Tom McLoughlin)

""That's sad news, Martin was a fine athlete and a good scholar too". (Sean Walsh)

"Sad news, my memories of Martin was that he was a genuine nice guy. Must be especially difficult for his family & friends in these strange times". (Dave Nathan)

"A real talent on the field and a fun guy in the bar, at Norbury and elsewhere. When he moved away (geographically) from the Old Boys, he was much missed. Too young. RIP, Martin". (David Leathem)

Hi all, very sad to hear about Martin, as Dave says, thoroughly genuine and likeable person.
Keep safe all. Mick [O'Mara]

"I knew Martin as a pupil at Clapham - bright, hard-working and very pleasant. He was quieter and more shy than his brother, Big Mike. I then knew Martin as a footballer - he must have played for COXA for ten years - a winger, skilful, even classy, he knew where the goal was. After some years, he returned to Clapham as a teacher. He remained a gentleman, and a valued colleague. Sometime in the 1980s, he emigrated to Australia. My memories of him are of - loyalty, integrity, and a quiet humour. Rest in peace". (Colin Garvey)

"Very sad news about Martin. I remember him as a classmate from our days at primary school, and then on to Clapham College. He was always a studious type, and very useful footballer. If you look at the 1975 prize giving document on the COXA website, it's obvious he made the most of his time at Clapham academically, (and as stated by everyone on this thread), both socially and as a sportsman. RIP Martin. (Gerry Morrison)

Jake Richins always thinks of Martin as a lovely, talented "2nd Year" boy that he taught Art to at Clapham. Even though Martin became a colleague, teaching Geography, at the newly-built Clapham College.

Scotty remembers Martin as the younger brother of Michael ["Big Mike"]. It's so sad, I always think of Martin as that "Twenty-Year-Old, he was a breath of fresh air, a talented footballer, he just wanted to play - whatever team whatever level. He enjoyed life to the full, he was a listener more than a chatter, but he had that infectious laugh, loved a drink, a real "ladies man" and wasn't averse to a game of "Stop". So, so, sad a real loss, pity his last days were on the other side of the world - but maybe that's as he wanted it. **Lovely bloke - RIP Martin**

In May, I received this letter [and photos] from **Peter Steer Clapham College 1944**
“I thought you might like to view a piece I did for my granddaughter’s schools VE celebrations”

World War Two - Wartime experiences

When the War began I was 6 and my wife was 5 and just before it kicked off the first things that happened were people had shelters dug in the middle of their gardens and these were made of corrugated iron in a U shape and sunk into the ground at about 4 feet and covered over with the soil from the original hole and 6 adults could take shelter in one of them during an air raid. The next thing that happened was officials came round and issued everyone including children with Identity cards and this was followed by more officials issuing everyone with gas masks made of rubber and metal with Perspex screens and we all carried them around with us in cylindrical metal cases hung over our shoulders for most of the War

When the air raids started in 1940 they were mainly in the day time, the weather was sunny with lovely blue skies, just right for the German bombers. I borrowed binoculars to watch the dog fights over London in which the Spitfires and Hurricanes knocked hell out of the German aircraft and I saw many shot down. Life could be risky even out shopping, as the Germans were able to machine gun high streets and back gardens; on one occasion when our shelter was being enlarged to take our family and our four neighbours, I was picked up by a workman and we dived into the shelter to avoid the blast. The R.A.F were so successful that the German largely stopped daylight raids and started night-time bombing. On another occasion my wife had just returned from school when it took a direct hit; cleaners were killed. After that, most children did not go to school for months. When the night-time bombing commenced, we moved to a new house, as our lovely flat had lost all the windows and ceilings and internal walls were wobbling. Our new house did not have a shelter so we all got into the coal cellar under the stairs; we had the three sisters and the son of one of them in this tiny space [there were 10 of us underneath the stairs]. We went to bed but had to get up when the wailing sirens went off in the middle of the night and go down to the cellar. We had to put up with a mobile gun which would fire from the railway at the bottom of our garden and the whole house appeared to jump into the air. Many children of course were evacuated to the countryside without their families [the German raids were eventually stopped as we developed a night fighter]. We also had another weapon of defence in the form of huge barrage balloons flown at different heights to disrupt the Germans flight path.

Of course, we all had ration books during the War with meat, butter, eggs, margarine, sweets and clothes all rationed along with many other items. When the hens were not laying you could go weeks without a egg and then get six allocations all at once. Fruit was another thing that was difficult to get hold of and bananas were not available at all

Towards the end of the war the Germans started using a V1 flying bomb which had a rocket motor and its engine would suddenly stop and the bomb would fall to the ground and explode, these attacks were launched from France, these stopped by bombing the launch pads and using RAF planes to tip their wings and making them crash over into the fields of Kent. The V2 came next, this was a rocket launched from Germany, and came without warning and could do substantial damage. One landed in South London where my father worked and threw a railway line half a mile into the air, the blast dented the father’s cigarette case in his coat.

in the final year of the War we all went back to school and against all the odds, we did the Eleven Plus Exams and we both went to Grammar Schools but my school was in Taunton so I was evacuated with my friends, we took a 5 hour train journey from Paddington for what is a just over a hour now! We were met at the station and allocated to families and my friend Pat and I went to stay in a large house with two families which had previously had servants, our room was the servant’s quarters. We had many adventures in the countryside as none of us had this opportunity before in our lives - being chased by a bull and fishing for roach in the River. My wife's experience of shelters was to sleep under Mann Crossman Brewery cellar, on beer crates with a mattress on top, which was not exactly comfortable

When the war ended there were enormous celebrations and I remember being out in the street at 4 in the morning and we all went to street parties. On a subsequent occasion. my father took the whole family to Buckingham Palace to see the King and Queen and the two Princesses [and Winston Churchill]. Later in the month we all went to Westminster to see a fabulous firework display with

Obviously. our wartime experiences were much more than this. but I hope this gives you an impression of what it felt like during the War.

[Thanks, Peter, I’ve been fascinated by your story – I’m sure it went down well with the Primary School]

Some Memories of Clapham College 1971-78 Nick Crean

Classroom reminisces:

Cecil's debrief in his British Constitution and Law classes of his dealings with the Brentford football hooligans at the bench a few days earlier.

Cecil always at the gate to welcome you. Like Mount Everest, wherever you looked, he seemed to be there.

Always taken by the great camaraderie and spirit amongst the staff – I am sure this sense of community rubbed off on all the students and is the reason why the school is held in such affection still to this day.

The other Elvis. Two years of banter with Graham Hudson when the new Elvis (Costello) arrived. How could he possibly compare to the King? It was all of our Economics class against Graham. He never relented, nor did we.

Colin Garvey who made History seem exciting and enjoyable and inspired me to become a History teacher!

The incredible Richard Fountain – so much knowledge, so many amazing stories, crazy. You would not believe it if you weren't there.

Visiting Richard's house with the upper sixth and getting a blow by blow account of that fateful day in 1975.

Terry Clegg's self-defence class. We were having some trouble with a local secondary school so Terry took it upon himself to teach us some self-defence in a Physics lesson. He asked the toughest boy in the class (our very own John Coyne, a martial arts fanatic) to put him in a headlock and then he intended to show us how to get out of it and... Unfortunately, he picked the wrong boy and within 30 seconds he could hardly speak. Eventually after much persuasion from the class, John released Terry from his grip. As a red faced Terry commented afterwards "not everyone you meet will be as strong as John Coyne!"

Getting to school early to copy the Maths homework answers off the few boys who could understand the work. Dreading the prospect of having to show your working out on the board in the next lesson.

A classic Clapham teachers day out, an Economics 'A' Level visit to Youngs Brewery. Glad we weren't driving.

Read on and look at Nick's Photos from his class of 1971

Can anyone fill in the gaps in the Class of 1971– 1978?

This is Nick’s version of his class, the “A” class of 1971 - f you can help us with the “Alpha class of that same year I’ll print it in the next edition to match Nick’s Alpha.

Nick’s brother Francis was Head Boy could do with a photo!!!

No, not Nick Crean, but Peter Steer 1951 - article elsewhere in this edition; sorry ran out of space!



Archbold	Michael
Bardzinski	Joe
Barretta	Frank
Bosnik	Michael
Coll	Brendan
Costello	Kevin
Coyne	John
Crean	Nick
Drudy	Andrew
Duncan	Andrew
Falco	Frank
Farry	Bernard
Flynn	John
Frizicki	Andrew
George	Steve
Hartnett	Roy
Healey	Mark
Januszewski	Michael
Knight	Dave
Laghi	Henry
McGowan	Michael
Moore	Michael
Mortimer	Colin
O'Neil	Barrie
Page	Nick
Pererra	?
Poidevin	?
Podruski	?
Purcell	Tom
Reynolds	Mario
Royeski	Bernard
Skinner	Tony
Turner	Barry

Random Thoughts—A perfectly timed Bomb scare during our ‘O’ Levels – we were all evacuated to Clapham Common. We stood in silence and discussed every aspect quietly! Listening to the top five on the radio at lunchtime at 12.45pm with Johnny Walker. Discussing films all day – Clint Eastwood was the main man. The serious card schools that began in the sixth form and seemed to last forever. ‘Penny Up’ against the wall at break time normally in the small court yard at the bottom of the Art/Music room stairs.

Nick Crean - Clapham College 1971/978 [see some of the “Class of 1971” on Page 45].

Clapham College "Gold" - great photos from Nick Crean

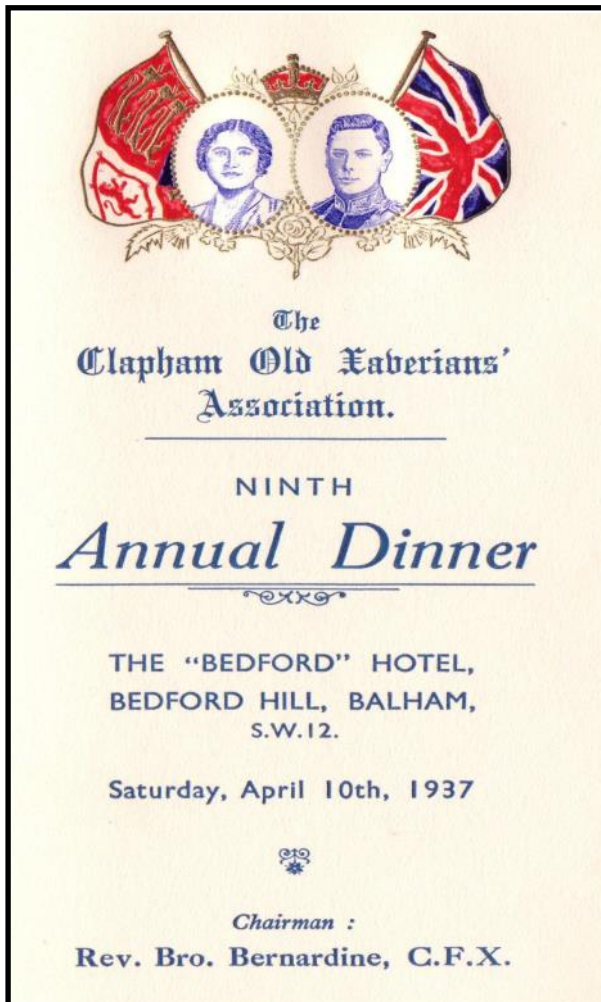


Blankenberge circa 1973

Mick McGowan, Kevin Cotter, Mickey Moore, Mark Healey, Barrie O'Neil, Frank Barretta, Henri Laghi



L-R: Greg Alexander, Nick Crean, Mick McGowan, Dave Knight, Glen Flaherty, Brendan Hollier, Bob Audino, D'Sousa, Bernard Rajewski



Brazilian President, **Jair Bolsonaro**, outspoken on coronavirus even as his country becomes the second-worst after the USA, was jeered at as he posed for a photo with a girl, despite not wearing a face mask. Not the most popular then, but why must he continually wear that **Clapham Old Xaverian tie**?



Sorry I just love the programme [on the left] of the 9th COXA Annual Dance in 1937. It's just such a beautiful thing [just "screams out COXA Patina"].

COXA Chairs—be sensible in the sun!

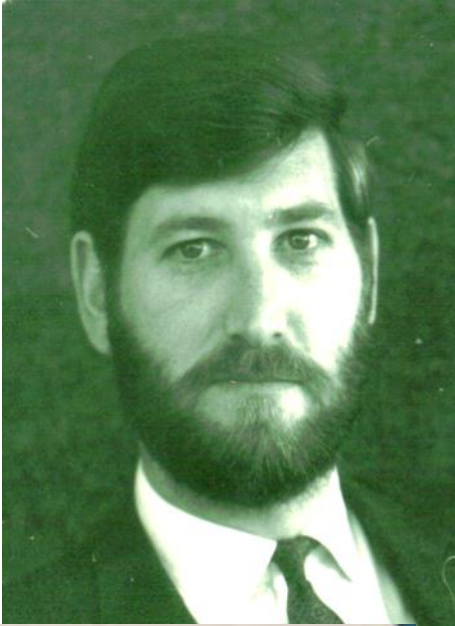


Five men were enrolled into the Catenian Association at an impressive ceremony for the inauguration of a new group at St George's Cathedral's Amigo Hall in Southwark, south London, on January 13. Terry Grange is the new group's chairman. Catenian Association's Grand President Vernon de Cruz and the director, **John Rayer** were present at the ceremony. Before the ceremony, Holy Mass was held in St George's Cathedral concelebrated by **Canon James Cronin**, who is Dean of the Cathedral, Fr Prior Francis Kemsley, who is the parish priest of English Martyrs, Walworth, and Fr Thomas Udie, who is the parish priest of Immaculate Conception in Rotherhithe.



Not 2020, but a photo of two Clapham "boys" worth inclusion!

Past and Present - "Before and After" - Growing Old Graciously



"Before and Now", **Mike Scott** "gets it". I've been asking for photos of Old Boys in the Past and "now" and with one simple email and attachment Mike has achieved it. It updates the COXA Database and gives us the desired opportunity to gossip/have a laugh!. Thanks Mike - anyone out there brave enough to follow him?



Serge Cefai 1980s
Clapham College
youthful, PE teacher



Serge now -Super-Head



Above - **Dan Condon**
COXA tourist and ,
right getting old
graciously [well sort of]



Another great story
Peter Steer evacuated
with Clapham College.



Peter Steer in the
snow at Taunton
1945 [with his host
family] and Peter
now, remember 4ft
snowfalls?

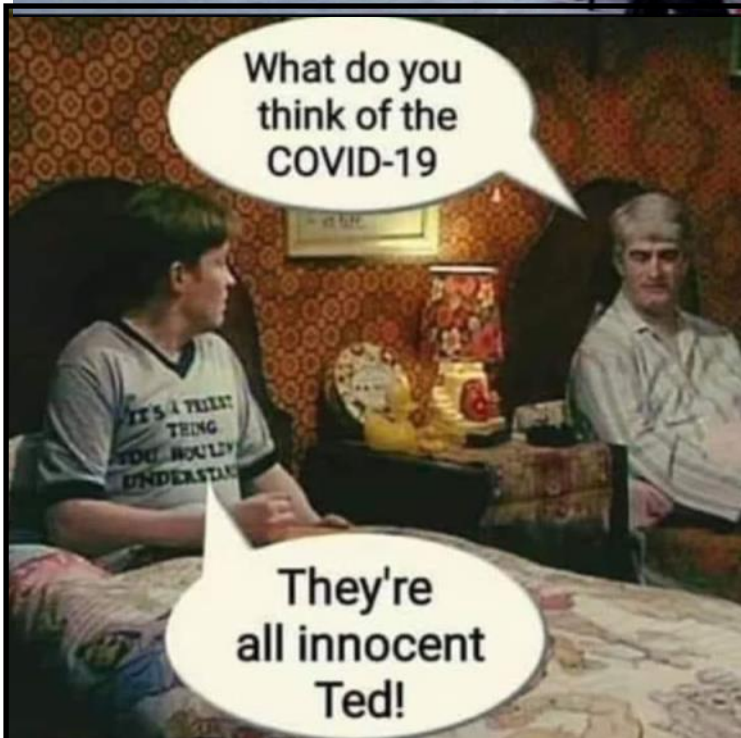
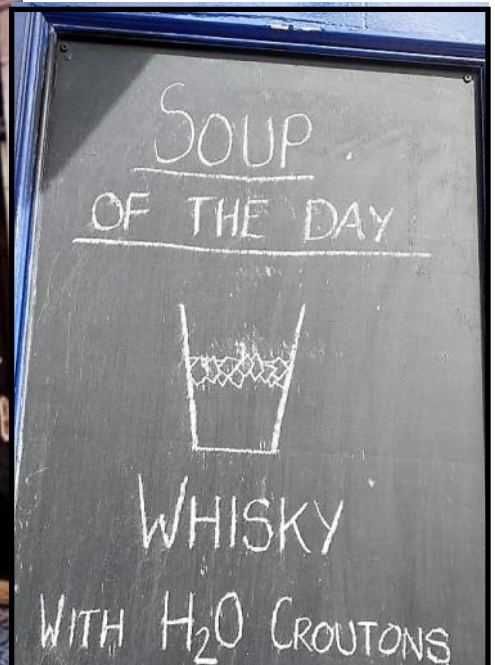


Humour has changed with "The Virus" - well mine has anyway!!



As I get older, all I need in life is a Specsavers, a Boots and a Greggs...

Yep, life is all specs and drugs and sausage rolls!



INJECTING CIDER WILL

