

CLAPPER

Bizarre Life

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Inside:

A Bumper Mailbag!

Spencer McGuire Tells it like it is in the Ones (and it's not very nice).

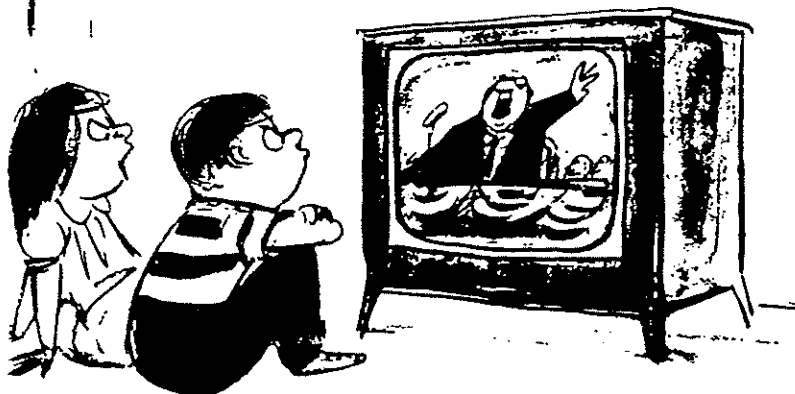
Sports Day 1925 - a copy of the programme - thanks to Dom. Joseph Warrilow of St. Mary's Abbey, Quarr, Ryde I.O.W. (and yes, A.J.Kennedy did win everything!)

Colin Garvey writes. Lots.

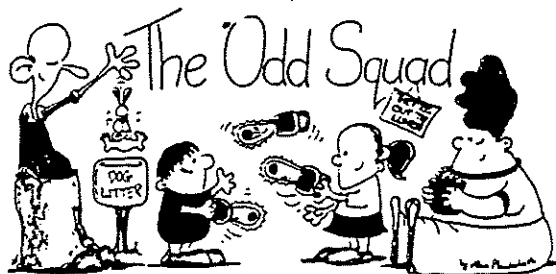
It shouldn't happen to a Vet, but it did.

As requested, John Woollard's speech from the night of the College closure dinner.

Bro Joseph's letter from Africa.



"For this they knocked off 'Wagon Train'?"



Personalla:

Paul Cousins, a contemporary of John Leatham, will have married Debra Evans on March 1st, by the time this goes to press. The wedding was at Christ Church in Reading. Paul's former schoolchums will be able to see him at the September Centenary bash, for which he has booked tickets. (Have you?-Ed)

Glastonbury Cricket Champions 1934:

A photograph of the above team is now on display in the Clubhouse. To date, only three players have been identified:- G.RILEY; (?) LANGLEY ; P. O'SULLIVAN. Can any reader help in identifying the others? (Was this the last time Glastonbury won anything?)

Patrick Furey writes to tell us that he has moved to a new address in Toronto; MEMBERSHIP SEC. PLEASE NOTE. 69 Warland Ave, Toronto, Ontario, M4J 3G1, CANADA and (get this) fureyp @ nts.ohn.hydro.on.ca - no way we're going on the net while this dinosaur is Editor.

David Nix, currently leading the Fourth XI revival, took some time off to welcome new baby Antonia into the world; Olcay Nix did all the hard work, congratulations to them both.

Fans of John McGuire's style and technique(?) will have the chance to watch or oppose him when he plays what can only be termed a "Testimonial" (as in 'watch your testes') on Cup Final Day, 17th May. John has played 35 years, man and old man, for the club; the 17th will be a good day in the bar one way or another. Don't forget that it's also Football Dinner that night - see Vic for tickets.

McGuire was joined by, among others, Webber, Pete Brown, Vic, Colin Garvey, Wilson, Mick Powell and Paul Hixson in the Vets versus Invitation League Vets game on 16th March; a good time was had by all and if you don't see the report elsewhere in this issue, it will be appearing in the Summer.

Brian Sanders mentioned, in the last issue, the Oval network. You should have been at Chelsea recently when the woodwork disgorged, among others, David, John & Mike Leatham, John McGowan, Mick Burke, Steve Webb, Paul West, Vic Roszkowski, Dan Condon, Ged Dolan; there's a good side there.

On pages following, there is a copy of the Sports Day Programme for 1925; this from Dom. Joseph Warrilow, OSB, of St Mary's Abbey Isle Of Wight. It's a cracker. Any stories out there?



"EMILY! REFINED LADIES DO NOT REVEAL AN ANKLE IN PUBLIC"

THE

BAND of the 23rd LONDON REGIMENT

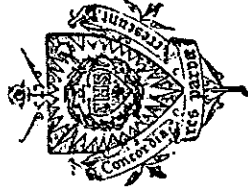
Under the direction of Bandmaster J. W. POOLE.



PROGRAMME

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| 1. March | "Children of the Regiment" | ... Fucik |
| 2. Overture | "Lustspiel" | ... Keler Bela |
| 3. Fox Trot | "After the Storm" | ... Nelson |
| 4. Selection | "The Girl in the Train" | ... Fall |
| 5. Valse | "The Valse of Love" | ... Yellon |
| 6. Two Step | "Avona" | ... Grey |
| | "Melody in F" | ... Rubenstein |
| 7. Selection | "A Musical Switch" | ... Alford |
| 8. One Step | "Welsh Medley" | ... Somers |
-
- | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. March | "El Abanico" | ... Javaloyes |
| 2. Overture | "Le Diademe" | ... Herman |
| 3. Valse | "Gold and Silver" | ... Fall |
| 4. Selection | "H.M.S. Pinafore" | ... Sullivan |
| 5. Fox Trot | "Sahara" | ... Nicholls |
| 6. Intermezzo | "Fragrance" | ... Ancliffe |
| 7. Fantasia | "Cavalleria Rusticana" | ... Mascagni |
| 8. Galop | "Post Horn Galop" | ... Koenig |

CLAPHAM (XAVERIAN) COLLEGE



Programme

OF

ATHLETIC SPORTS

SATURDAY, JULY 4th, 1925

Beginning at 3 p.m.

* * * * *

Judges:

Br. ANTONY, C.F.X. W. R. BAMBRIDGE, Esq. F. G. SANDERS, Esq.

Starter:

J. FLEMING, Esq.

Timekeepers:

Br. DUNSTAN, C.F.X.
T. F. BAGGALEY, Esq.

Official Scorers:

Br. DOMINIC, C.F.X. H. J. PARKINSON, Esq.

Committee:

S. HARRIS.	M. LALL.	F. DUNWORTH
J. PINDER.	S. RUTTER.	W. MACER.
F. PEREZ.	D. BEESON.	F. DANCER.

Hon. Organising Secs.

Br. LEO, C.F.X.
Bro. SYLVESTER, C.F.X.

f. 11. Inside

PROGRAMME :-:

EVENT.	WINNERS.			EVENT.	WINNERS.		
	1st	2nd	3rd		1st	2nd	3rd
1. † MILE 5 m. 55½ secs.	M. Lall	F. Hindle	F. Dancer	7. * LONG JUMP.	LALL RUTTER M. Liboz J. Rutter	HARRIS HINDLE W. Ottewill D. Baker	JONES J. Brook F. Flattery
2. * 100 YARDS.	LALL RUTTER LIBOZ RUTTER	WARRLOW HINDLE WATSON	HARRIS COX	Open 17 7½ Under 16 16 †Under 15 15ft. 10in. †Under 14 14ft. 9in.			
3. * 220 YARDS.	LALL MALCOLM	WARRLOW KNIGHT	WARRLOW	8. * 880 YARDS.	HARRIS F. Hindle W. Ottewill J. Rutter	LALL S. Rutter A. Cox J. Slattery	PINDER D. Croise M. O'Sullivan J. O'Sullivan
	Open 24 3/5 Under 16 31 3/5 Under 15 27 4/5 Under 14 31 Under 13 30 4/5 Under 12 33		INTERVAL.	9. POTATO RACE.	WARRLOW	HENRIQUES	JONES
4. * 440 YARDS.	LALL RUTTER RUTTER MADDEN	HENRIQUES SLEESON COX BERNARD BENITO	JONES WATSON	Open 4 8½ Under 16 Under 15 Under 14 Under 13 †Under 15 4ft. 5in. †Under 14 4ft. 2in.	RUTTER M. Liboz J. Rutter E. Potterill	LALL G. Watson & M. O'Sullivan (tie) L. Phillips	DANCER
5. SACK RACE.	CROMER	CROMER	CROMER	11. OBSTACLE RACE.	RAVENSCROFT CROMER		
6. INTER-FORM RELAY.				12. TUG-OF-WAR.	IVS REST SCHOOL SCHOOL		
				IVa v. IVd Up. Va v. Rest of School School v. Visitors SCHOOL v BORDS			

† Decided previous to Sports' Day.

* Counts towards Section Championship.

Readers Write



Most of the letters are addressed to Mick Power; please continue to write to his address as he is easily the more constant (stable?) of the two of us - Ed. (Also, anything critical might just get binned at my house)

Dear Mick

Chris Scott
4, Deer Leap
Shipham, Somerset
BS25 1QT

thank you for your note and the magazine - I enclose the COXA membership S.O. form, duly completed and am pleased that the Old Boys' Association is still running smoothly.

I believe that Brian Sanders may well have been a classmate of mine in the 50s but having moved all around the country it is very easy to lose touch.

The article by Henry Pinsent is very interesting and I well remember the pitch referred to in Clarence Avenue on which there was an air raid shelter, no changing rooms and when first discovered contained several concrete blocks set in the ground which were used as tethers for barrage balloons during the War and were extremely difficult to dispose of, hence the bricks and hardcore below the surface.

I have enclosed some photographs which I have of both school teams at Clapham College and some pictures of the Streatham Rovers team, run by my father, which included a number of Clapham College pupils. My father was a Police Sergeant when he ran the boys' soccer team but finished as a Chief Inspector at Regents Park.

I have noted the names of those I remember on the reverse of the photographs and it would be interesting if any of those not named could be identified by any of the Old Boys. Quin in one of the Streatham Rovers pictures was Head Boy when I joined Clapham College as an eleven-year-old.

I would certainly like to attend the Remembrance Mass on 26th September and also the Dinner on the Saturday; is the Dinner for Old Boys only or are families welcome as well?

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely, Chris Scott

* the photographs mentioned in Chris' letter show, inter alia, Denis Quin, Kevin Carroll, David Rowles and Ted Hayter. If you want to see how improbably handsome they were, get yourself down to the Clubhouse where Mick Power has put them on display with many similar shots.



December 31, 1996

Mr. D. Leatham
The Editor
'Clapper'
c/o 31, Elm Park Road,
London, SE25 6UD.

Dear Dave,

RE: 'TONE' OF THE CLAPPER QUARTERLY.

Firstly, let me convey my best wishes for the New Year to all Old Boys, especially those with whom I experienced Clapham College between 1969-76. I am alive and kicking in the West Midlands, married to Maggie, with a one year old daughter called Amber.

Mick Casserley made quite an impact on me, (not with a ruler I hasten to add), to the extent that I studied Chemistry in London, after leaving Clapham College, then joined the industrial gases business, first with BOC, then Union Carbide, now with MG Gas Products (Messer Griesheim), in Birmingham. I missed my vocation to become a Bishop and my chance to learn to play the piano in Bedford Hill!!

I enjoy receiving Clapper on a regular basis, the only criticism I would make is that occasionally I receive it too late to participate in an event that may be of interest to me.

I think you are doing a grand job as the Editor, without doubt it's a thankless task, and no matter how hard you try you will never be able to please everybody who is a recipient.

Do not subject yourself or Clapper to any form of imposed censorship, as to do so would surely destroy any individuality that us Old Boys are capable of or indeed represent.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. E. B. J. Ojak

P. S. I only wish I had a copy of 'Spell-Check', on a P. C. when Johnny Gibb, was teaching me English!!

4, Dagnell End Road, Bordesley, - Redditch, Worcs B98 9BJ - Phone 01527-596255

St John Fisher

Thamesmead South

New Timothy Finigan MA STL 7 St Bridges Close ERITH Kent DA18 4DT
Phone 0181 310 0534 Fax 0181 244 9751 email: timfin@cox.compolluk.co.uk

David Leatham
31 Elm Park Road
LONDON
SE25 6UD

23 January, 1997

Dear David

I was most grateful to receive my copy of the *Christmas Clapper* since it is entertaining and considerably more readable than general run of unsolicited mail that arrives daily at my presbytery. After assuming initially that it was sent *velle-volle* to priests of the diocese, I was flattered to discover myself listed on the COXA Life Clerics List.

However, if I might assume a role lay people tend to forget belongs as much to priests as to themselves, I must make a confession. I believe that I must be receiving your journal under false pretences; under the mistaken assumption that I am an old Xaverian.

Having spent the best years of my life swotting Latin and Chemistry at another of the Archdiocese's Institutions of Learning, I am (and presumably will remain) a John Fisher Old Boy; indeed the *Clapper* reminded me that I should give more active support to the JFOBA. So I feel duty bound to advise, in a spirit of charity, that your security procedures may have been compromised, your "firewall" breached and that vital information may yet be leaking from the *alumni* dedicated to the Jesuit Missionary to those under the protection of the more austere Yorkshire-born academic and martyr.

I remain yours baffled but humbly grateful

Fr Timothy Finigan

Eternal life is this, to know you the only true God
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. (John 17:3)

Dear Mick
South Drive

Holme House, 12
Wokingham RG40 2DH

I was given your name by Phil Schwenk who said you look after the Clapham Old Xaverians' Association. He let me have a copy of the standing order form but also mentioned that one could opt for Life membership for £75 which seems a pretty convenient way of doing things. If this is still the case I would appreciate the correct form.

I was a contemporary of Phil's at Clapham from 1958 to 1966 but never got around to following up on the Association. Better late than never!

Kind regards, Paul Shimell

Paul writes separately....

.....I was unable to consider the 10th Jan at such short notice, but I am Sure it was a great occasion. If you do get a party up for the Test, I would be interested; I would also be a keen "Old Fogie" as Clapper would have it, for any Golf that is going.

*****COXA GOLF DAY - JULY 25th -- EAMONN TAGGART FOR DETAILS (Ed)*****

Hello again Mick!

37 Ashleigh Road, Mortlake
SW14 8PY

very much enjoyed our COXA lunch yesterday, the jolly crowd on my table and of course making personal contact with you. Thanks for your efforts in setting it up.

Sheila Rowe gave me blank standing order forms, both for myself and for brother Michael which I will pass on to him.

I anticipate moving to Kingston upon Thames early in March, or sooner if my refurbishment programme permits.

With kind regards and thanks, Douglas Hadida

Dear Mick,

28 Churchdale Court, Harvard Rd
London W4 4EE

thanks for your note on the Christmas edition of Clapper. Unfortunately, I won't be able to join you on January 10th. It's entirely my own fault - I simply missed the paragraph in the Autumn edition and only became aware of the lunch when I saw Brian Sanders just before Christmas. By that time, sadly, I'd already committed myself to an all day sitting at Court which I simply can't get out of.

If the opportunity arises on the 10th, please let the lads know how sorry I am not to be with them in body - I shall be there in spirit, so God help the Baddies who appear in front of me that day!!

I hope to see you during the coming year - certainly in September, if not before.

To a very happy and successful 1997, yours, Cecil Pocock.

Xaverian Brothers
Bradley House
Little Trodgers Lane,
Mayfield,
E SUSSEX TN20 6PW

Dear Brian,

It was kind and thoughtful of you to send us a copy of the circular sent out to the Clapham Old Xaverians listing the events being organised to celebrate the Centenary year of the College. It is quite impressive and obviously a lot of work has been put into it. Well done!

Thank you for the invitation to the Brothers here to attend the Centenary Mass and/or Centenary Dinner, but, as I am sure you understand, because of the ravages of old age, time, distance etc we are regretfully unable to accept your kind invitation. However I feel that we should have at least one Brother representing the Brothers at the Centenary Mass/Dinner and I think that Bro Bernard Philpott would be happy to be that representative. It so happens that Bro Bernard is the sole surviving Brother who taught at Clapham.

With regard to the exhibition you are hoping to organise, we have nothing at Bradley House relevant to Clapham College that I am aware of. Bro Ambrose did have two albums of photographs from Clapham but these have been sent to our house at Strawberry Hill where our archives are kept. Bro Bernard might be able to help you in this. At present he is spending his time between Bradley House and Strawberry Hill. I suggest you contact him.

With all best wishes

Bro. David.

From Brian Casey (who didn't add his address and writes like a drunken doctor)

Dear Mick,

thanks very much for the little windfall and for keeping me up to date with Clapper etc. I really do appreciate hearing about what's going on even though I very seldom get the opportunity to visit. However, there's no way I'm going to miss the Centenary Dinner, so I've enclosed a cheque for £60.

Thanks again for keeping me informed and hopefully I'll see you in September. Give my best to the lads (or perhaps I should say Old Men by now) and even if they're not winning so often on the pitch now, I'm sure they're still winning in the bar.

Take care, God Bless, Brian.

From Paul Coley

(Josephians)

Dear Colin,

I felt I had to break with a lifelong tradition and finally write a thankyou letter. I really enjoyed last Sunday's game and felt honoured to be invited to join such a select group of old rogues and ne'er-do-wells.

It was a hugely enjoyable day as evidenced by my complete inability to put one foot in front of the other on Monday. It reminded me of the many happy occasions I've enjoyed Clapham's hospitality and regretted it the next day.

It was also reassuring to see the spirit of the Old Boys' League alive and kicking after all these years. Similarly the Clapham gamesmanship; I nearly died at half time when I saw a completely fresh, young and fit(-looking anyway) new XI appearing for the second half!

Thanks again for a wonderful day, kindest regards, Paul Coley.

From Jimmy Sanderson

Hello Dave,

another jaunt into those heady, carefree days of growing up in Glasgow. My friend, George O'Brien and I on boarding a tramcar on our way home from school were delighted to bump into George's brother-in-law on his way home on leave from the Parachute Regiment.

We stood in absolute awe of this John Wayne character, after all, we had never been on a plane, let alone jumped out of one. However our esteem for Big Dave somewhat plummeted when he made the fatal mistake of nonchalantly baling out of the moving tram to awake sometime later in the Victoria Infirmary claiming indignantly, "That Vampire Jet was flying far too low", only to be informed that it was a motorbike and that the rider wanted his mudguard and front number plate back. Possession being nine tenths of the law, it was technically Dave's mudguard. The surgeon in charge of the operation to retrieve the front of the bike was an expert in the field; unfortunately he was no good in the theatre; he did have letters after his name (like BSA - bloody sore arse). The operation wasn't so much of a success for medical science as a Triumph for motor engineering, VROOM! VROOM!! Dave made a full recovery, the only side effects being that to this very day he still walks around on his tiptoes and is the only man in Scotlan who can climb up the side of a gable wall at the merest hint of a motor approaching. Needless to say he was the only man in Glasgow to cheer at the demise of the tramcar in 1961.

All the best, Jimmy Sanderson.

From Derek Davy
10 Millers Croft
Great Baddow Essex CM2 8LJ
Dear Mick,

please find enclosed a cheque for £12.50 for the bow-tie (the tie is returned as I already have one).

I left the College in the summer of 1957 and can only remember a few names, but here goes:-

Michael Aldridge	Frank Burkhart
Michael Byrne	Frank(?) Carter
Michael Cooke	Myself
Frank(?) Delaney	David Etherington
(?) Guthrie	John Hogan
Bertie Lean	Mick McGrath
John Murphy	John Richardson
John Window	

This exhausts my memory of the 5 Alpha class register!

Yours sincerely D.J.Davy

We interrupt
this Chronicle
to
bring you
a sports update

FIRST ELEVEN REPORT 1996/97
BY SPENCER MCGUIRE

The end of another season draws to a close, but unlike the previous three, we will not finish the season in the Premier Division.

However before skipping through the league programme as quickly as possible, the season started on a bright note in the Glyn 7 a side tournament in August. With typical timing Clapham arrived half an hour late and the tournament underway. Swiftly making up for lost time Glyn "B" and Old Josephians were dispatched in a flurry of goals and silky samba football, taking us through to the knock out stages where we were eventually eliminated by Glyn "A" in the semis on penalties. To be fair they had a great deal of possession during the game and would have won without the need for penalties but for some heroic goalkeeping from myself. Unfortunately when it came to the crunch, the older heads of Ged Dolan and Martin Donald failed to test their keeper from twelve yards (one penalty nearly went in off the corner flag). Despite the temperature that day the younger players Jason Quinn, Pete McSherry Greg Ryan Dean Wardley did an enormous amount of running and Conor Rooney wandered about and scored a few goals.

Still delaying the review of the league programme it is time to describe our CUP RUNS! Unlike last year we survived longer than 90 minutes in both competitions - losing to Woking in the Surrey AFA after a replay in the first round (so we do have something in common with Millwall but is this anything to write home about?) and losing to Old Chomleans on penalties in the first round of the Old Boys Cup. This game was notable for the late drama. Clapham were the better side for most of the game despite being reduced to 10 men due to the sending off of Andy McCollin (unfortunately this was not the only time he was sent off and he managed to collect more disciplinary points than we got league points). However, with two minutes to go before penalties we conceded a goal to go 2-1 down. Time for Captain Marvel to don the cape, steal into the opposition penalty area and head home from 12 yards for the equalizer with only seconds remaining on the clock. So the drama moves on to penalties evoking memories of an 8-7 victory over Wilsons when all the players had to take a spot kick and the tie was not decided until the twelfth kick. The captain fresh from the last minute exploits is ready to take one of the five kicks, yet while he goes for the toss up the team have already decided which five heads are to be placed in the hangmans noose. Suffice to say we lost 5-4 and Dean Coulstock has been spotted on TV recently with a pizza bag on his head.

The league fixtures had us paired with the two newly promoted teams for what should have been a quick four points. Yet the only piece of luck we had until Christmas was a penalty that Steve Maloney missed in the first game only for the ball to roll back to him six yards out and allow him to put it in the onion bag. From that moment onwards with the luck we had one of our players must have been going out with a witch and been caught two timing her with a gypsy. Vaughans came back from one nil down to to score from two set pieces late in the game, we lost to Kingsburians and Glyn despite looking the better team. Then when we prepare to face Aloysians at home, Tony O'Shea gets caught in a ten mile tail back on the M25 because someone had to change their tyre in the outside lane and Pete McSherry who travels from Wycombe to play each week has commuter problems at Wembley. Trying to delay the kick off as long as possible I take my time going down to the pitch but the referee has already made us start the game with 7 men. We manage to bring in Paul West from the 7th XI

THE OLD BOYS' FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLES AS AT 29/03/97

PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
IGNATIANS	14	10	4	0	36	9	24
TENISONIANS	13	8	3	2	17	7	19
ALOYSIANS	10	7	2	1	25	13	16
HAMPTONIANS	14	7	2	5	29	19	16
VAUGHANIANS	14	8	0	6	29	20	16
HEADONIANS	17	5	5	7	28	34	15
C.MANNING O.B.	11	5	4	2	21	11	14
LATYMER O.B.	16	4	5	7	17	31	13
GLYN O.B.	12	3	5	4	21	18	11
KINGSBURIANS	19	2	4	13	15	43	8
CLAPHAM O.X.	18	2	2	14	14	47	6

ONE SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
JOSEPHIANS	19	16	2	1	62	22	34	
DORKINIANS	Res	16	11	1	4	35	22	23
REIGATIANS	Res	18	8	5	5	47	27	21
WILSONIANS	Res	19	6	8	5	32	32	20
GLYN O.B.	III	15	9	1	5	50	34	19
CLAPHAM O.X.	Res	19	5	6	8	31	36	16
CHELTSEY O.S.	Res	19	6	3	10	33	44	15
WOKINGIANS	Res	17	5	4	8	34	40	14
SUTTONIANS	III	15	5	3	7	29	34	13
HEADONIANS	IV	19	2	6	11	27	55	10
SEDCOPIANS	Res	18	2	5	11	25	59	9

Vic Roszkowski
0181 670 8235 (H)
0171 257 4108 (O)

TWO SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
JOSEPHIANS	Res	19	9	4	6	62	47	22
CHELTSEY O.S.	III	19	9	3	7	50	43	21
WILSONIANS	III	17	10	1	6	38	35	21
PAULINES	17	9	2	6	59	36	20	
TIFFINIANS	III	19	8	4	7	36	43	20
WOKINGIANS	III	15	7	2	6	36	27	16
ADDEYANS	Res	19	6	5	8	39	47	15*
CLAPHAM O.X.	III	19	7	1	11	31	46	15
TENISONIANS	IV	13	6	1	6	32	27	13
SENE O.G.	III	17	4	5	8	30	50	13
SUTTONIANS	IV	16	5	2	9	27	39	12

THREE SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
J.FISHER O.B.	Res	21	12	7	2	54	21	31
STRANDIANS	18	12	4	2	62	38	28	
SUTTONIANS	V	14	8	5	1	43	18	21
OLD ST. MARYS	Res	20	7	5	8	45	48	19
GLYN O.B.	IV	19	7	4	8	37	44	18
CLAPHAM O.X.	IV	18	6	6	6	31	33	16*
THORNTONIANS	Res	20	7	4	9	44	53	16*
WOKINGIANS	IV	17	6	3	8	32	44	15
REIGATIANS	III	18	5	4	9	28	33	14
TIFFINIANS	IV	17	4	5	8	31	39	13
SINJUNS	Res	19	3	6	10	22	39	12
HEADONIANS	V	17	4	3	10	28	47	11

FIVE SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
J.FISHER O.B.	III	18	13	2	3	46	29	28
CLAPHAM O.X.	V	18	11	4	3	45	25	26
REIGATIANS	V	17	8	6	3	49	39	22
GUILDFORDIANS	18	6	5	7	36	36	17	
OLD ST. MARYS	III	18	7	3	8	42	47	17
WOKINGIANS	VI	18	6	4	8	27	34	16
HEADONIANS	VII	17	4	5	8	39	42	13
SUTTONIANS	VI	15	4	5	6	29	33	13
WILSONIANS	V	18	4	5	9	26	35	13
GLYN O.B.	VI	17	3	3	11	22	41	9

SEVEN SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
CLAPHAM O.X.	VI	17	13	0	4	60	33	26
TIFFINIANS	VI	15	12	0	3	42	15	24
THORNTONIANS	IV	17	8	4	5	49	42	20
SUTTONIANS	VIII	18	8	3	7	51	40	19
JOSEPHIANS	IV	17	7	4	6	35	29	18
J.FISHER O.B.	IV	18	6	4	8	35	51	16
STRANDIANS	Res	13	5	4	4	34	23	14
WOKINGIANS	VII	17	5	4	8	41	49	14
CHELTSEY O.S.	V	17	4	4	9	36	38	12
SEDCOPIANS	V	16	5	1	10	21	51	11
DORKINIANS	V	13	1	2	10	24	57	0*

The Annual Football
Dinner at
The Queens Hotel
Sat. 17 May
£20.00 per head

Contact
Vic Roszkowski

EIGHT SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
CHELTSEY O.S.	VI	15	15	0	0	93	24	30
SINJUNS	IV	16	12	0	4	72	26	24
OLD ST. MARYS	IV	16	9	1	6	51	45	19
PAULINES	Res	14	8	2	4	32	27	18
CLAPHAM O.X.	VII	18	7	2	9	49	62	16
REIGATIANS	VI	17	7	2	8	37	50	16
HEADONIANS	IX	15	6	1	8	36	39	13
WILSONIANS	VII	18	4	3	11	24	62	11
ADDEYANS	V	14	2	2	10	22	55	6
WOKINGIANS	VIII	15	2	1	12	22	48	5

The Annual Football
Dinner at
The Queens Hotel
Sat. 17 May
£20.00 per head

Contact
Vic Roszkowski

Annual Football Dinner at the Queens Hotel, Crystal Palace on Sat. 17 May £20.00 per head.
Call Vic Roszkowski and join your team table!

PETER BROWN TO ORGANISE THE
VIETS TABLE.

FIRST ELEVEN REPORT 1996/97
BY SPENCER McGUIRE

subs bench to make his 1stXI debut (and we nearly had him buying drinks all night but he failed to score from his golden opportunity). We eventually get eleven men on the pitch but all in all did well to keep the score down to seven (and who says that is a lucky number?)

We also had problems travelling to Tensionians, this time starting with ten and waiting for players who have been telephoned at ten to three to arrive in cabs. Kieron Brady, the fourteen year old 7th XI goalkeeper started as centre forward and played until reinforcements arrived and yet again we lost when we did not deserve to. This game also saw the unfortunate incident when Gary McGuire was flipped upside down while going up for a header and landing on his neck. He was taken to hospital amid fears that he may have been paralysed, but thankfully he had only sprained his back.

Tennisons are a nice team, in the return they kicked everything that moved except the ball and for the party trick landed a headbut surely on my forehead. I understand the villain has appealed the sending off but has also been offered a part in the next Jean Claude Van Damme film (hopefully the bullets used will not be blanks).

The only real piece of luck we had all season came just before Christmas at Hamptonians. The dressing room resembled a 2nd XI reunion, Paul Williams made a welcome return to the 1st XI, Andy McDonald Gary Prince and Ian Anderson were all stolen from Chris Megoran and for the first ten minutes the performance was one of the worst that I have ever experienced from any Clapham eleven. Yet instead of being four down it remained nil - nil. We did in fact go one down, but with goals from Michael Carnegie and Gary Prince gave us our first victory of the season. Unfortunately this was followed by a succession of closely fought games where we kept losing by the odd goal and with one game to go have only managed one further victory.

The year did see a welcome return to the 1st XI of Paul Williams and Brendan Walsh plus some younger blood (but not necessarily fresher legs) in the shape of Jason Quinn, Pete McSherry, Conor Rooney and Michael Carnegie come through. hopefully some more players can come through to push the stalwarts for their places and next year a happier report can be written about a championship being won.



LETTER FROM AFRICA I

This is an introduction to the first of three letters sent by Brother Joseph 43 years ago to Bernard Plummer and myself. This was only a few years before his tragic death by lightning at an African mission station. I feel guilty in not circulating these letters sufficiently in the past and hope to atone now for this neglect.

Br. Joseph taught French at Clapham when I was there in the late forties, and after serving all too briefly as headmaster went out to Africa to teach. Those who were at Clapham in those days will recall how keen he was to get everyone involved in athletics: track, field, and cross country. I think everyone loathed cross country runs, but for some they were character forming. I made the mistake of doing well in the first one I ever run- after that of course you were expected to carry on doing well.

He had a 'fun' sense of humour, but it could be at your expense. He once unexpectedly turned a cross country into a steeplechase by re-routing it through the middle of one of the ponds on Clapham Common. I can't imagine anything like this happening today or someone might sue the school for falling over a submerged dustbin lid.

When thinking about the past my memory is snapshot. On a school rock climbing party in Snowdonia the most vivid picture I have of Br. Joseph is of him carefully laying to one side his glasses and his brand new and brilliant light blue anorak, as he prepared to tackle a difficult climb. Coloured anoraks like his were unusual in those days. Most of us beginners who were gathered round to watch him climb were in drab ex-army stuff and I for one was envious. Ramsey, a sixth former and very experienced, let down the rope and 'Joe' tied on and started the fifty foot climb. It was up a very vertical crack, only just visible in an otherwise smooth rock face. I think the crack was called 'The Innominate' and it was rated 'very severe'. It looked impossible to me but up he went, almost running up bits of it. It wasn't until later I realised that moving quickly sometimes is the only way to avoid coming off.

The present letter has been abridged slightly at the beginning. In places, the language of 1954 is different from what we would use today, but its impact is as fresh as ever.

Henry Pinsent.

Nyasaland, August 8th 1954

...it is good to hear that Gordon Grant is happy in his brewing. There is a good opening out here for a brewery. The stuff costs 3/3d. [about 17 pence, quite expensive for then] a bottle (pint). At that price, we have to do without. The natives make a home brew, but it is either too sweet or too potent (at least my little experience of it has been so). Furthermore, everybody drinks out of the same vessel and as most of the natives have pretty virulent diseases, one gets a bit apprehensive. They also make a violent, searing spirit and believe me, Shakespeare was not under-stating when he mentioned, "That way madness lies". The fine is £25 and imprisonment.

At a much lower academic scale [than the degree mentioned in the earlier part of the letter] is our little exam contribution from Mzedi. I heard today (subject to confirmation) that 35 out of 44 of our 2 top classes had passed the Government Exam. If this is so, it is an all time exam record for Mzedi. I had been somewhat worried because it was our first year, and also the first year that the lads had been taught entirely in English. Our first few months were trying both to the boys and ourselves, for they could only understand a little of what we were saying in class. That situation is now easing up. Furthermore, I was troubled about the Maths, as I found myself let in for that subject. Much midnight oil was burnt preparing my sums on Compound Proportion, Variations of Time and Speeds, Circles and what not. I breathed a special prayer of thanks when the news came through to-day. I can now pray in Chinyanja as well as English.

Last week I bounced into the office with a load of papers. Just as I got wedged into my desk, I heard the sound of a fiercely deflating football. I looked down and found a thick and angry puff adder almost at my feet. I would love to be able to say in true movie style that "To whip out my gun and shoot the thing through the head was the work of a split second." It would be far from the truth. I was absolutely paralysed with fear and was unable to move for what seemed several seconds. Then I fairly fled. I got the gun and tried to get a shot through the window, but the snake had gone into a recess and nothing short of a gun with a curved barrel could get it. However, I did manage it finally, first shot. These horrible things squirt 2 jets of poison at your eyes and they move pretty speedily. Whew! What an escape. I'm still dithering.

I had a few of the lads helping with a job for the first week of the holidays and I promised to take them home in the truck in return. They lived in a village about 70 miles away. We set off early one morning and soon drew away from the hills and out onto the hot and dusty plains. We could only make slow progress on the rough track and I got a good idea of the meaning of "desert". For mile after mile we bounced along through land baked by the sun and blackened by fires. For nearly 50 miles there was not a living thing visible- just seared and scorched and waterless country. The dust covered everything with a red film and the native lads assumed the appearance of copper-coloured Indians. I was probably equally funny to look at. After 50 miles we came across a sign "Bar and Restaurant" and I thought I was seeing a mirage. The "B & R" proved to be a native hut. Beer was off (Gordon) but we managed to buy some tea, eggs and tomatoes. As I sat in that sequestered "cafe" I saw it was August Bank Holiday

and I thought of Hampstead Heath and Brighton Beach and other English horrors. I happened to be humming a tune and the boys asked me to teach them the words. They soon had them off and I mentioned it was one of Bing Crosby's tunes. Their innocent query "What is a Bing Closby?" really made me feel how far away we were from anywhere.

Off again into the heat and dust and after 20 miles we reached a Mission near which the boys lived. This was journey's end. The "road" finished at a river and to cross the river was a swinging, bouncing, bamboo suspension bridge. This had to be crossed to reach the Mission. Here an Italian priest gave me a grand welcome and made me stay a couple of days. I needed no coaxing for I was very tired, and over many years the missionaries had turned what had been desert into a magnificent orange and tangerine plantation. Thousands of trees were heavy with luscious fruit. So I stayed and swam in the river (on the bed of which were flecks of gold) and ate oranges and tangerines and thought how pleasant life was. Unfortunately the Italian priest preferred company and for six years he had not had more than 50 visitors!

On the journey back quite a delegation of boys and parents and relations came to greet me at a native village. Some wanted a lift to Limba so I packed them into the truck (together with their belongings). They don't possess much but they always carry all they do possess. One of the boys' fathers presented me with a live chicken- it was a terribly thin mite, but probably his best. This was put in the truck and gave a real gypsy touch to the colourful, chattering cargo, So back to Mzedi where I started work on building a pig sty. It is now completed, albeit somewhat rough, and somewhat bulging where it would be straight. But maybe my pig sty will still be standing at Mzedi when cobalt bombs have rubble up London.

Every good wish and remembrance in prayer,
Brother Joseph

COXA

AGM

1996

Chairman's Report

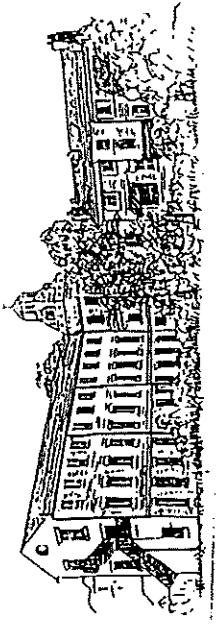
At risk of sounding boring, I must begin this year's report by going back to two points that I made last year. I wish once again, both for myself and for the Association at large, publicly to thank those members who, year in year out, give unselfishly of their time to ensure the smooth running of our sporting sections, the clubhouse and bar, Clapper, the 300 Club (now 400, I believe) and all the other activities that go to make up a typical Association year. I will not mention any of them by name as most of them are present in this room, and that brings me to my second, repeated, point. While new faces continue to appear in positions of responsibility on the committees of our sporting sections, for which we are most grateful, a similar process is not being seen to happen on the management committee. I warned last year, and I will say it again, that this problem must be addressed, sooner rather than later, before some of us start running out of steam and go well beyond our "best before" date.

In many ways the Association year 1995/96 was a fairly typical one. The football section had

a mixed, but on the whole successful season. The cricket section, while not so successful on the pitch as one would hope, will regularly fielded three teams per week end, and it is to be hoped that the new blood on the administration will sort out some of the problems which occurred off the pitch. The complications concerning the change of nursery and the renewing of our lease have kept the committee members on their toes, to say the least. We are pleased that an extra issue of Clapper was produced.

While a chairman's report, by definition, looks back at the last twelve months, I cannot resist looking forward, if only briefly, to what could be the most exciting year for the Association for a long time. September 1997 sees the centenary of the opening of Clapham College and already much has been done to ensure that our centenary year will be a memorable one. Naturally, I will have much to say on this topic next year (if I am re-elected this evening!) but it is to be hoped that the working party which has been set up will be able to realise the plans for the various events that are due to take place and that the members of the Association, especially the "lost" ones which we hope to find, will turn out in good numbers to support them.

I move the adoption of my report.



Clapham Xaverians 1897 - 1997

Telephone : 0171-639 4430

19, Limesford Road,
Nunhead,
London SE15 3BX

20 January 1997

Dear Old Xaverian.

Centenary Year Events

Following the enormously successful inaugural lunch at The Oval, fifty two people sat down, it gave me great pleasure to give you the list of other events which we have planned for the Clapham College Centenary Year. Please note them in your diary and do your best to attend some of them.

Fri. 7th Feb. QUIZ NIGHT at the Norbury Clubhouse start 8.00 p.m.
Admission £5.00 per team. Prize to winning team.

Contact : Brian Sanders 0171-639 4430

Sat. 1st Mar. CLIFF RICHARD NIGHT - Norbury Clubhouse at 8.30 p.m.
Two bands have been booked. Entrance £3.00 Pay at the door.

Contact : Mick Burke 0181-644 1228

Sun. 16th Mar. VETS CHALLENGE FOOTBALL MATCH at Norbury,
Kick off 11.00 a.m.

COXA Vets XI v. Old Boys' Football League Invitation XI.
Contact : Colin Garvey 0181-764 0313

Sat. 12th Apr. RACE NIGHT at Norbury Clubhouse start 8.00 p.m.
Six filmed races and Tote betting facilities.

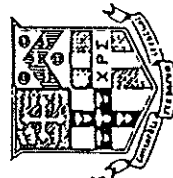
Contact : Dave Leatham 0181-653 7345

Sun. 20th Jul. MAYFIELD PICNIC at Mayfield College, Mayfield, East
Sussex. Bring the family! Meet at the Bicycle Arms,
Mayfield at Noon or see you on the field.

Contact : Eddie O'Brien 0181-644 1803

Jul. 25th. COXA ANNUAL GOLF DAY at Coulsdon Court.
(Date ~~to be~~ confirmed)

Contact : Eamonn Taggart 017375 57505



Stop press: this will be a "Bladno", with coach transportation from Norbury!

Fri. 26th Sept. CENTENARY MASS St. Francis Xavier College at 8.00 p.m. Enter via Malwood Road, SW12. Concelebrated mass will be followed by a social gathering.

Contact : Brian Sanders 0171-639 4430

Sat. 26th Sept. CENTENARY DINNER at St. Francis Xavier College at 8.00 p.m.

Contact : Brian Sanders 0171-639 4430

We are hoping to put on an exhibition at the College, illustrating the history of Clapham College and COXA. If you have any old photographs, realia, etc., that you would be willing to lend the Association please let me know.

Those of you that consider yourself old enough but still young at heart, are cordially invited join the Old Fogies get together at Norbury Clubhouse from 9.00 p.m. on 14th March. 9th May, 11th July, 12th September 1997.

We would like to contact as many old boys as possible. If you are in touch with any old school friends the Association may have lost contact with please let me have their details so they can circulate with our centenary events. The next copy of our magazine CLAPPER will contain further details of our proposed events. Please check this edition in case there are any unforeseen changes to our schedule of events.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Sanders
Chairman.

On the evening of 20th May 1989, a dinner was given to mark the termination of Clapham Xaverian College. There were many speeches to a packed hall, among them one from John Woollard; this is what he had to say...

I first went to Clapham College after Easter for the Summer term in 1924 and finally left ten years later at Christmas 1934. The school had about 250 boys and the premises were understandably considerably smaller than they were even before this new sixth form college was built. They consisted of merely three buildings. The school house, which was the living quarters of the brothers; the main classroom block, much as it is today, complete with its tower and chapel, but the top floor was used exclusively as dormitories for the boarders, and immediately under the chapel was their refectory. There were quite a large number of boarders then, many from overseas, including such far away places as South America, which was a very long way away in those days. Beyond that building at the far end of the playground was another small tutorial building which contained, among other things, the most important part of the school, as far as we were concerned, the Tuck Shop. Between the far end of the playground and the blocks of houses in Malwood Road was an orchard, until it was cleared, a few years before I left the school, in order to form what was called "the paddock", which was an additional playing field to supplement the main one at Norbury.

The Headmaster was the one and only Brother Bernadine. A very fine man indeed. Benign in manner and appearance, learned, a very good administrator, and who commanded respect from everybody simply by his manner, character and dignity. I feel I need add no more when I say that he enjoyed the finest Christian principles. His second in command was Brother Stanisclaus, a totally different type of man; a very severe disciplinarian, who certainly believed in the old Victorian adage "spare the rod and spoil the child". Corporal punishment was a way of life in those days. He was a man of sombre appearance, I cannot ever remember seeing him smile, and he always went about the place with a black clerical hat on his head, a sneer on his face and a cane under his arm.

During the Summer holidays of 1924, two very important events took place, which had a profound effect upon the school and very much to its betterment. Firstly the school acquired the adjacent property of Hollywood, which became the Prep school and consisted of the most junior classes - classes 1, lower 2 and upper 2. Class No.1 was run by the only lady teacher I think the school ever had, Miss Carlin, and upper 2 was run by a rather breezy brother, Brother Dominic until he left the Order and the school about a year later, to marry the Matron. The other event was that two senior teaching brothers joined the school. Brother Aloysius and Brother Silvester. Two outstanding and dominating personalities, excellent teachers, disciplinarians but humane and very good senses of humour. These two brothers under the headship of Brother Bernadine ran the school most effectively and efficiently. And according to the late Brother Dunstan, who just about everybody knew, and who spent almost his entire adult life at Clapham College, always maintained that in his opinion, during the time that these three brothers were at the helm it was indeed the golden age of Clapham College. Incidentally, Brother Stanisclaus left the school to become our headmaster at the college in Brighton. The Xaverian Order was very well established then, for apart from our college here at Clapham and the one at Brighton, they had other colleges at Mayfield in Sussex, Manchester and Bootle, and a seminary at Deeping near Peterborough. Overseas there were a number of colleges in America and one at Bruges in Belgium. A far cry, sadly, from the situation today. No review of the school for this period would be complete without a little more detail about the two brothers, Aloysius and Silvester, as they had a very great influence on the school and undoubtedly on us as well.

Centenary Lunch at The Oval
10th Jan 1997

Colin Garvey writes:

The Oval Cricket Ground has been the scene of many memorable sporting events over the years - in 1938 Len Hutton scored 364 runs against Australia; in 1948 Don Bradman was bowled for nought by Eric Hollies, and in 1953 Denis Compton hit the runs which regained the Ashes for England. However, January 10th 1997 saw an event equally memorable - 70 COXA members walked through the Hobbs Gates to the dining room, to celebrate the start of the Centenary Year with a Luncheon. (Several dozen members had already been celebrating the Centenary in the local Beehive pub.)

The luncheon itself was most enjoyable, partly for the pleasure of seeing old friends again but mainly for the sentiments expressed about Clapham College, first by the Chairman, Brian Sanders, and then by Jim Buttress, Chairman of the Old Boys' Football League. Both summed up the occasion perfectly - we all felt that we had so much to thank Clapham College and the Brothers for. Jim Buttress, before he offered a generous toast to the College, remembered his own schooldays at Sir John Fisher School - the teachers, the compulsory boxing, the character-building, the cold showers, the school dinners, "...it made men of us.... I hated every minute of it!"

With the meal and the speeches over, Old Boys looked out at the pitch, drank as much as they could, and were then enthralled by a trio (Dave Leathem, Tom Purcell and Brendan Williams) singing "The Wild Rover" to the tune of "Ghost Riders in the Sky". The ghosts of Hobbs, May and Laker must have winced at that! Long after dark, the more intrepid Old Boys returned to the Beehive to see if the Guinness tasted as good as it did at lunchtime. It had been a memorable start to the Centenary Year, except we could not remember much about it!

The guests were:-

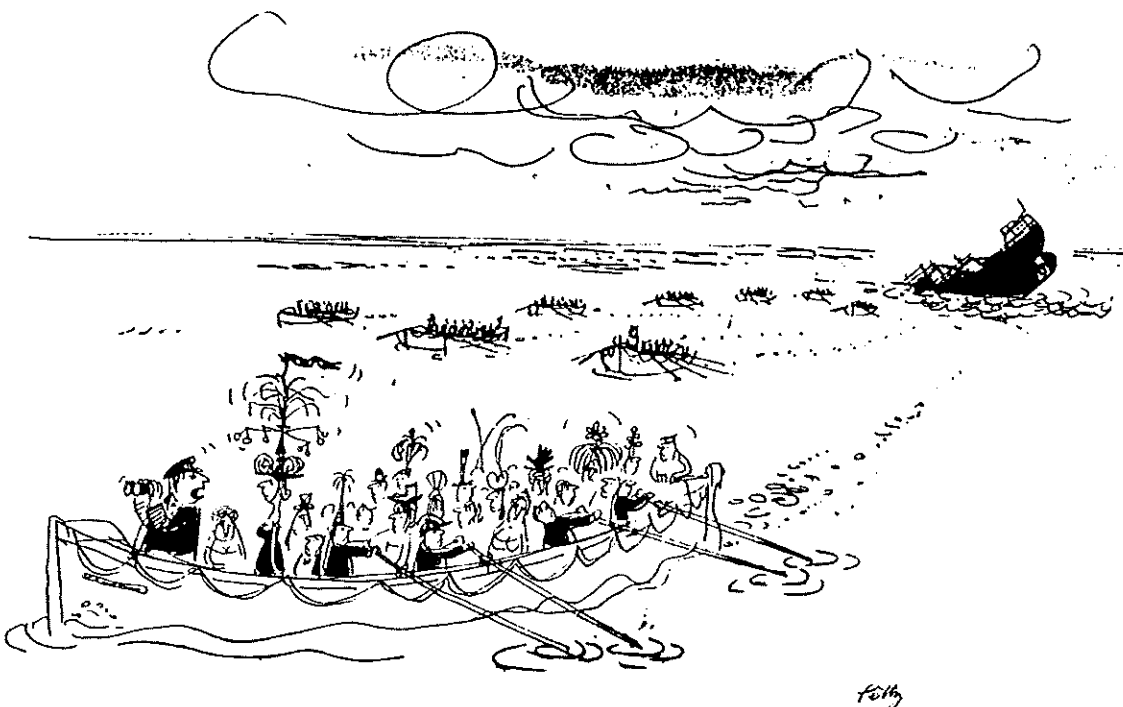
Harry Mellor	Martin Boyd	John Newman
Brian Sanders	Chris Megoran	Colin Bygraves
Dave Slattery	John McGuire	Stan Miller
Nick Scott	Dan Condon	Dave Leathem
Tony Morrish	Mick Wood	John Leathem
John Sheridan	Phil Roderick Jones	Wilson Bowers
John Tee	Mick Powell	John Mansi
Ben Benedict	John McGowan	Eddie O'Brien
Matt Benedict	Pete Keenan	Vic Roszkowski
Colin Garvey	Don Mulvihill	Kev Barnaville
Bernard Schwenk	John Woollard	Tom Purcell
Peter Brown	Peter Cemuschi	Mick Burke
Paul Davidson	Sheila Rowe	Tony O'Shea
Brendan Williams	Colin Brown	Ged Dolan
Paul Hixson	Mick Power	Kevin Horkan
Duncan Brown	Elvis McElhatton	& Jim Buttress



Brother Aloysius:- a very practical-minded and down to earth sort of man, excellent organiser, and when he was not trying to teach us French, he tried to improve the financial position of the school by introducing what he called an "extension fund", the purpose of which was to improve the facilities and amenities of the school for our benefit. The school was a fee paying organisation then, although we did have quite a number of boys occupying free places which they gained by their own merits and efforts by means of scholarship. In order to raise the money for this fund he organised raffles, concerts which were held in the school during the winter terms and a garden party, which was held in the school grounds in the summer terms. It was open to the public and was a very popular event not only with us and our parents, but also with quite a number of people in the locality. It was organised, managed and run very well indeed by him and consisted of all the usual sideshows, stalls, coconut shies and all the fun of the fair including a brass band and a gymnastic display put on by the boys.

Brother Silvester:- quite a different type of man, not so practically minded as Bro Aloysius, but an idealist, enthusiast and quite a showman, but he had that wonderful gift of being able to convey to his pupils that same enthusiasm which he himself enjoyed for the subjects he taught, viz English and Mathematics. A very good games player (cricket, lawn tennis), and as a young man I understand, a very good soccer player. But cricket was his love which he played very well himself, and here again, for those of us lesser mortals who tried to play that noble game, he managed to instill into us that same enthusiasm which he himself enjoyed for it. A stickler for good behaviour on the field - umpire's decisions were accepted without comment - and if you were hit with a cricket ball while you were batting, his only comment would be "Why did you not use your bat?" In the early summer of 1935, and only a few months after I had left the school, Brother Silvester at the age of only 40 years, died. It was a terrible loss, not only for us who knew him so well, and admired him immensely, but also for the school as a whole as a man of his calibre would be difficult if not almost impossible to replace.

I have emphasised these three brothers, Bernadine, Aloysius and Silvester, because they really dominated the scene, but all the other brothers and the masters, not forgetting Miss Carlin, were all quite excellent, first class teachers who, by their very example, manners and behaviour, guidance and instruction during our formative years, enabled us, that when we finally left school we were able to go out and face up to the outside world with confidence. And furthermore and once again, with all due credit and gratitude to our tutors, when that great test came in those dark years of 1939 - 1945, when the fate, in fact, the very future and existence of this our country and the world as a whole was very much in the balance, the old boys of Clapham College DID NOT FAIL.



"Be patient, Madam. The judging of the funny hats will resume as soon as we get ashore."

CRICKET FIXTURES FOR 1997

(at time of going to press , Sat 1stXI unavailable)

	2nd XI	SUNDAY COXCC	
April 26th	Olinda Vandals		
May 3rd	Private Banks		
May 4th		Olinda Vandals	Brown Acres
May 10th	Lloyds Register		
May 11th		Ham Moor	Ham Moor
May 24th	South Bank		
May 25th		South Bank	Dulwich
Jun 1st		Whyteleafe	Whyteleafe
Jun 7th	Natwest 5th		
Jun 8th		Beddington	Beddington
Jun 15th		Marlborough 1870	Dulwich
Jun 22nd		Ham & Petersham	Ham Common
Jun 28th	Croydon Gas		
Jun 29th		Syndicate CC	Forest Hill
July 5th	Raglan		
Jul 12th	Natwest Allstars		
Jul 19th	Private Banks		
Jul 27th		Claygate	Claygate
Aug 2nd	Barclays Bank		
Aug 9th	Bowring		
Aug 10th		Brookwood	Brookwood
Aug 16th	Carshalton		
Aug 24th		Thurlow	
Aug 31st		Redhill	Redhill
Sept 6th	Norwood		
Sept 13th	Natwest		
Sept 27th	Trinity Oxley		



C.O.X.C.C.

9 The Chase ,
Norbury ,
SW16 3AE.
Tel ; 0181 764 8282

Saturday 1st XI
Serge Cefai
The Pillars
Old Isleworth
TW7 6DL .

Saturday 2nd XI
Steve Adamson
172 Sutton Avenue
Hornchurch
Essex.

Sunday 1st XI
Kevin Horkan
11 Graveney Road
Tooting
SW17 OEG.
0181 488 8115

TEL (H) 0181 232 8085
Dear

At the recent cricket AGM I offered to monitor and bank match fees etc , and issue a regular report on these activities .

As you may be aware the quality of the information supplied at the AGM was , for a variety of reasons , very poor . In fact I felt that it was totally impossible to judge the state of the finances .

I have put together some working sheets (enclosed) which I would like completed after every match and forwarded to me with the appropriate payment .

On the sheets I have identified the levies which will apply for the coming year , for all levels of membership . I do not expect the poor captain to be responsible for collecting money and completing the form but unfortunately the captain will have to ensure that this task is completed .

I have enclosed enough forms and addressed envelopes for the whole season (I hope.) Cheques should be made payable to The Halifax Building Society , please do not send cash through the post although I am happy to bank cash if it is passed to me with the completed form .

With the exception of the Saturday 1st XI teas should not appear within the accounts . The Saturday 1st XI must show income for teas at home matches , this should be £2 per head plus £25 per team from the opposition . Based on last year's costs this should give us a profit of £9.50 for each home game . Please note this is paid on a monthly basis by the treasurer .

You will also notice that I have added some columns for the players scores etc . I might as well supply the averages , I am not bothered if you supply this information but we had no averages either , at the AGM .

With your support I intend issuing a regular report on the finances , probably monthly, along with the averages .

I would like next year's AGM to be quite clear on the Club's performance both financially and from a playing point of view .

If you have any comments or suggestions please let me know .

Thanks for your help and have a good season ,

Best Wishes ,

John Mansi .

COXA VETS VERSUS LEAGUE VETS INVITATION SIDE
Sunday 16th March 1997

Colin Garvey writes:

Clapham College was founded by the Xaverians in 1897. It is fairly certain that soccer was introduced quickly into school life. In the 1920's the Old Boys' Association was formed and soccer became one of its sections. A succession of dedicated individuals led the soccer section from strength to strength - starting with Don Mulvihill and John Woollard, Maurice and Steve Ward, Tony Brinn and Derek Rowe right through to today when so much is owed to Eddie O'Brien. Thus when the COXA committee was discussing events for 1997, one of the first choices was a soccer match.

On March 16th a team of vets from other friendly clubs in the OB football league took the field at Norbury against a team of Vets from Clapham. The Clapham team were taken off at half-time and another team of Clapham Vets went on, much to the dismay of the guests. They needn't have worried, the final score was 3-3. Players quickly made for the bar, where jugs of beer were exchanged with the guests. Brian Sanders thanked the guests for honouring the occasion and presented each one with a COXA tie.

On the day itself, and subsequently in letters, many of the guests paid generous tribute to the spirit of amateur football in general, and the OBFL in particular, displayed by Clapham over the years. One visitor told me that he always looked forward to playing Clapham with mixed feelings - his team would have to fight hard to gain even a point, yet afterwards he would meet old friends in the bar. Moreover he paid a further tribute, "When you play Clapham you have a great time on the Saturday and you regret it on the Sunday". Perhaps we in COXAFC have come close to the true Old Boys' spirit.

The Players were:

Guests:

Peter Ventress Josephians
 Billy O'Connell Salesians
 Roger Craddock Reigatians
 Martin Armstrong Suttonians
 Ricky Leach " "
 Sean Loughlin Fisher OB
 Paul Coley Josephians
 Dave Billing Reigatians
 Martin Fairclough Sinjuns
 Neil Tutt Thorntonians
 Eddie Myers " "

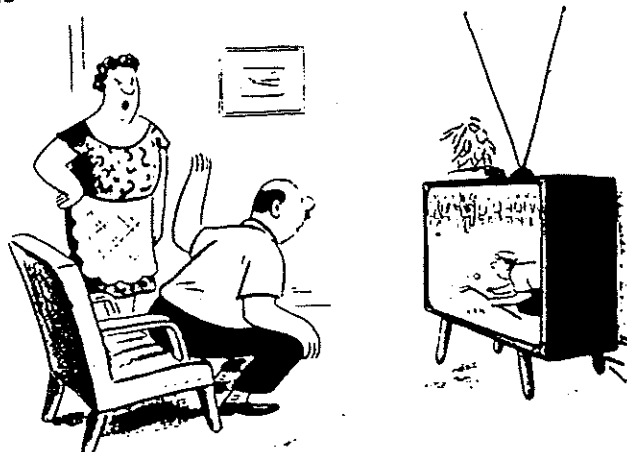
COXA

Mick Burke
 Colin Garvey
 Vic Roszkowski
 Eddie O'Brien
 Mick Powell
 Peter Brown
 John McGuire
 Wilson Bowers
 Paul Hixson
 Alan Webber
 Brendan Williams
 Peter Donoghue

Frank Barretta
 Neil Keogh
 Kevin McKenna
 Richard Januszewski
 David Murtagh
 John Leathem
 John McGowan
 Ged Dolan
 Joe Davorn
 David Leathem
 Eamonn Taggart
 Jim Thornton
 Colin Brown

(also present Pat Morrissey & Brian O'Connell - Salesians and J. Lloyd, Suttonians)

Referee:- John Williams



"So the putt is worth eight thousand dollars to him. What's your cut? Ten per cent?"

OLD SALESIANS FOOTBALL CLUB

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19th March 1997

Dear Colin,

On behalf of the Old Salesians F.C. may I pass on our congratulations on the Xaverians Centenary to the Clapham O.X.F.C.

Pat Morrissey, Brian and Billy O'Connell were particularly delighted with their invitation to the Vets. Representative match last Sunday, which formed part of the Centenary celebrations. The day was very much a success, with your hospitality reflecting the best traditions of the Old Boys Football League.

May you continue to enjoy your celebratory year and if the forthcoming events mirror the Vets. spectacular, you will have marked a proud and colourful history appropriately.

Long may our ties flourish.

Yours in celebration,

Dean Sanger

Dean Sanger
Hon. Secretary.

Our Ref. MCA/AHS/Personal

Southlands
Downs Side
Cheam
Surrey
SM2 7EH

0181 642 0226 (home)
0181 661 7878 (office)

C Garvey Esq
Hon Secretary
Clapham Old Xaverians
84 Norbury Hill
London
SW16 3RT

19th March 1997

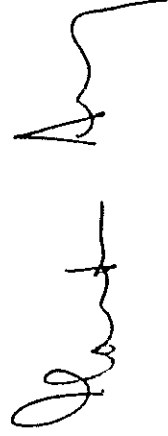
Dear Colin,

RE: CENTENERY GAME SUNDAY 16TH MARCH 1997

I should be grateful if you would convey my grateful thanks to the Clapham Old Xaverians Committee for their kind invitation to the event last Sunday. I would particularly like to thank you Colin for your involvement, it was a magnificent occasion and the company, food and hospitality was first class.

It was a great pleasure to meet so many old friends again and once more I would like to thank you and Clapham for your generosity and hospitality.

Yours sincerely



Please reply to:

Dean Sanger, OSFC Club Secretary
30 Wiltverley Crescent, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5LN

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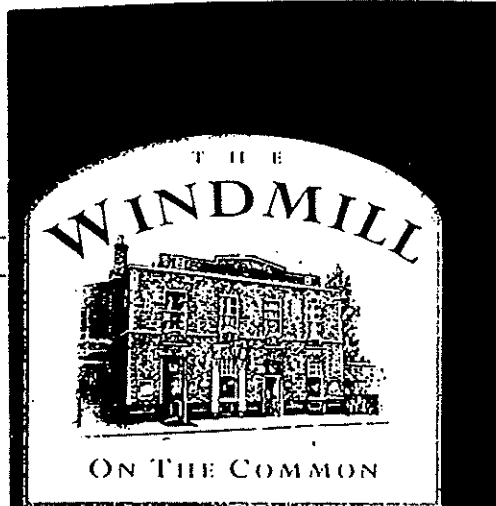
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