

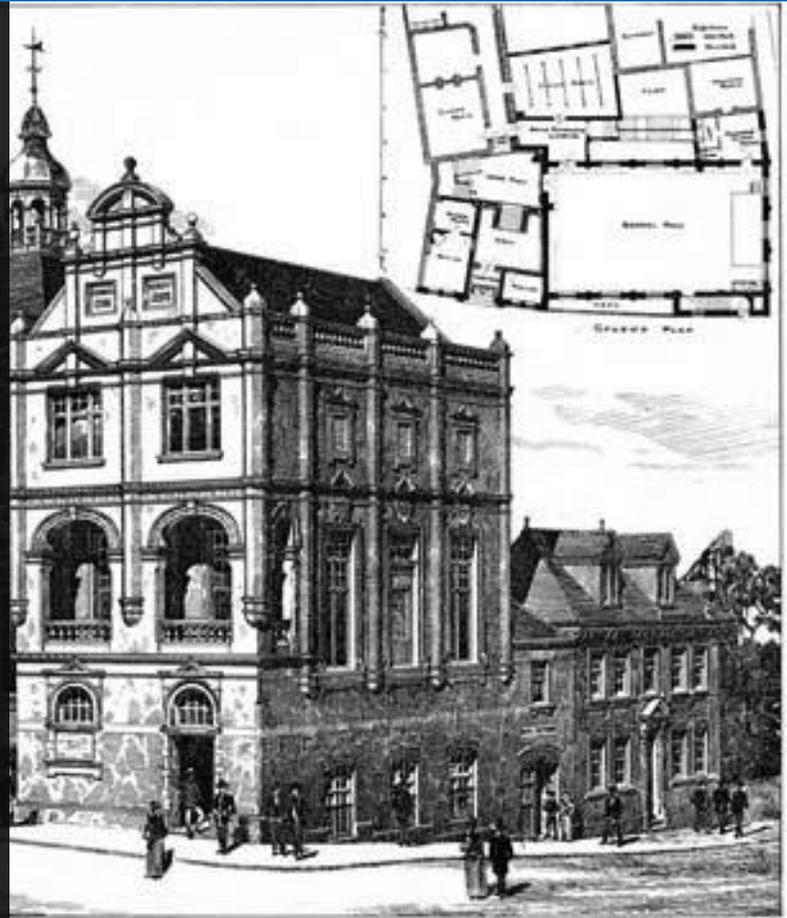
SIR JOSEPH WILLIAMSON'S
SCHOOLS,
ROCHESTER.



OLD WILLIAMSONIAN CLUB

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2020

oldwillamsonianclub.co.uk



G. E. ... & J. W. NASH, ARCHITECTS.

The first edition of the Club Newsletter was very well received. However, we do not want this publication to become a mouthpiece of the OW Committee and we welcome contributions from OWs the world over. I am delighted to say that in only our second edition we have an article from John Morgan (1949-1954) who shares with us his experiences of life in Germany. We hope that future editions will benefit similarly; several have suggested they have something to contribute – now is the time to deliver!"



THE OWC ANNUAL DINNER

As many of you will already be aware, back in September we made the sad decision to cancel the 2020 OWC Annual Dinner. When I say "cancel", perhaps "postpone" would be more accurate as we plan to have exactly the same event menu wise etc. just 11 months later than originally planned on:- **Saturday 23rd October 2021**. You will see that we have changed the date to slightly earlier in the year, the reason for this being that the old date clashed with the Home Internationals (rugby union) which apparently prevented a whole swathe of people from attending. The cost (£30) and all other important things will remain the same as planned for 2020. I am hoping this move means we will be able to have an "unrestricted" event in 2021 and I am further hoping that as all our lives have been so severely disrupted in recent times, the 2021 Annual Dinner will be the best supported ever!!

PS: To maintain your spirits here are some pictures from the 2019 Annual Dinner which was a hugely popular event.

Ian McLeod - Chairman



CLUB OFFICIALS

President: Mr. E HODGES

Chairman & Trustees Representative:
Mr. I McLEOD
Vice Chairman: J Doust

Immediate Past Chairman: David Routledge

Treasurer: G Lee

Secretary & Assistant Treasurer: J Barney

Governors Representatives: L Tyrell & C Halls

School Liaison: S Pepper

Bar Secretary: C Halls

Committee Members:

R Boast

C Bowie

J Fry

S Goddard

V King

K Kitsell

Dan Routledge





Hockey – it's back! (or it was...)

Training was the first thing back. As the next step, we managed to have a couple of inter-club friendlies (all whilst complying with England Hockey guidelines). To summarise, it is all looking very positive and league had just started! Some very positive results from the early fixtures is cause for great optimism. We are hopeful for a return to league hockey once Boris gives the nod (somewhere between grouse shooting and rugby on the list of sports we suspect).

The success, driven by the hard work of so many at the club, has led to the introduction of a new men's team. This brings the total number of teams (men's and ladies) to an impressive eight, and we are hoping it won't stop there.

Whether a complete beginner or seasoned professional, we always welcome new members. The club prides itself in making hockey free for under 16's. Please contact Jeff Doust (jeffdoust@hotmail.co.uk) if you have any questions.



RUGBY

OWRFC training had returned to the school. Following months of uncertainty training was back under way, before being put back due to the new lockdown. We will be back under way on the other side, once Boris gives the nod.

The Old boys would like to welcome Elliot Blackmore as the new first team coach to the club. Elliot has a wealth of experience and a great coaching philosophy which meets the club's values and ethos.

The club is, as ever, looking to welcome new members of any standard or ability. If you are interested please get in touch with Dan Routledge (dr.outledge@me.com/07738 242474) if you want to try it out.

LODGE

We are still waiting for clearance to hold meetings and some sense of normality. As far as is known, all members are safe and well. Please contact Ray Boast (rayboast4605@gmail.com) for any further details.



CRICKET

In what was a very truncated season where over half the planned fixtures were lost, the Club did play three friendly fixtures.

In the first against Newington, Dicky Dalton (4-24) and, colt, Deji Oyesola (3-23) were the main reason why the opposition were reduced from 70-0 to 129 all out. David Child starred in the field with three catches. DC (36) also lead the reply before he and two others were dismissed. In what was looking like a tricky situation, Luke Butcher (36no) joined Deji. Man of the Match, Deji (46), was brilliantly caught out near the boundary going for his seventh six as the boys soon after romped home by 6 wickets with plenty to spare. The other highlight was seeing Fish start his bowling spell with a "Harmison" to somewhere between first and second slip!

The second match at Borstal ended in a spirited defeat involving a much changed team. Batting first, a determined Borstal hit 190 for five that included a century partnership. Hugo Parnell, playing his first game for eons, took 2-16 bowling his usual box of tricks. In a disappointing reply, only two of the top seven got into double figures and so it was left for captain, David Bage, to smash the bowling to all parts with a quick fire 60 ably supported by Matt Clark (16) as we came up short and bowled out in the final over.

The final match was at Cudham Wyse against their Friendly Sunday XI. You would say, man to man, looking at the two sides that OWs were favorite's. However, that didn't take account of a certain J Thomas (6-17) bowling his medium quick away swingers on a drying wicket. OWs were all out for 35. Only one batsman reached double figures. In reply, Cudham also struggled and after 21 overs were incredibly 15-4 with Dave Bage bowling 11 overs for 5 runs, including 8 maidens and a wicket with his quickies and Luke Butcher 10 overs taking 3-8 with "spin"! Unfortunately, a very late substitute call up for Cudham, and arguably their best 1st XI batsman, was next in and with a mixture of great shots and some good fortune, rattled 24no off 2.5 overs to win the game for Cudham by 6 wickets. Extraordinary game.

As with everything else, the end of season function has had to be cancelled but we look forward to 2021 when maybe the world will be a healthier place. Contact Chris Halls if you are interested in playing (chris.halls@btopenworld.com / 07768 558656.)

Footnotes from the Chairman:

1. On the subject of tight bowling figures, Ian McLeod, OW Chair: In the season before the OWCC joined the Mid-Kent League (possibly 1975/76), we persuaded most of our opponents to adopt the league format even though the games were actually just friendlies. In those days the games were 44 overs per side and in a game against Stoke I managed to return 11-10-1-1.
2. On the subject of low scoring games, around 1975 the OWCC 2nd XI went to play a Maidstone council staff team called Invicta. As their ground was next to Maidstone crematorium, naturally these were always referred to as "Ashes" matches. When going out to the pitch prior to the toss, the two captains were horrified to discover someone had ridden a horse right down the middle of the pitch leaving some very nasty hoof prints. OWCC were inserted and in just under 2 hours managed to grind their way to 32 all out, the cause of much derision from Invicta during tea. However, when Invicta went out to bat, they managed just 28 all out, again in just about 2 hours. A game which will never be forgotten by anyone fortunate enough to have participated.

OTHER NEWS

JOHN MORGAN – PUPIL 1949-1954



My earliest memories are of trying to sleep in an air-raid shelter whilst we were being bombed by the Luftwaffe. Who at that time would have believed that one day I would regard Germany as my home and that most of my closest friends would be Germans?

When I left school in 1954 at the age of 16, I obtained a traineeship at a Rochester firm of surveyors and studied by correspondence course for the examinations of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors ("RICS"). After qualifying as a chartered surveyor in 1960, I specialised in the valuation, management, sale and letting of commercial properties, working for various firms in Kent and London.

I had married a German girl in 1959 and she persuaded me to learn German, so I could converse with her family. This was to have a huge influence on my later life. In 1969, I moved to Zurich to work as European Director of Real Estate for a US conglomerate owning property throughout western Europe. Unfortunately, my wife died soon after our move, our three sons being aged only six, four and two years at the time. My first thought was to return to the UK but my employer persuaded me to stay on in Zurich for the time being and paid for a housekeeper for me and the children. Subsequently, I met my second wife, also German, who was brave enough to take on me and adopt the boys. As my German was better than her English, the family language soon became German. Subsequently, we had a son together.

In 1972 we moved to Frankfurt, where I set up the German subsidiary of a UK firm of property developers. In 1979, a Dutch friend and I founded a firm of commercial property consultants and over the years developed it into the leading firm of its kind in Germany, eventually selling it to a bank. In 1994 I left Germany for three years to carry out research in the Departments of Land Management and Sociology at Reading University, being awarded my PhD in 1998. I then returned to Germany once more to work as a consultant, finally retiring in 2001.

Throughout my professional career, I took an active part in the affairs of the RICS, being instrumental in founding the German Society of Chartered Surveyors in 1992 and serving as the President of the European Society of Chartered Surveyors from 1997 to 1999. I was also actively involved in establishing degree courses in Land Economy recognised by the RICS at several German universities. In recognition of my work for the RICS, I was presented to HM the Queen when she visited the Institution's headquarters in 1998.

My wife and I now live on Lake Constance and I have just published a cartoon book about Germany (*Beer & Sauerkraut – An Insider's Guide To Germany*). I have enjoyed a tremendous amount of luck in life and this certainly includes passing my 11+ examination for the Math!

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!

If you would like to contribute to any future newsletters or have any queries, please contact James Barney on barnj001@yahoo.co.uk

Membership

For membership queries, please contact Geoff Lee
(leegsjw@gmail.com)

200 Club

£300 annual award

£30 monthly first prize

£15 monthly second prize

The funds raised are to aide the sporting sections of the club and the school.
To join (up to 5 shares at £1 per month each) please contact James Barney
barnj001@yahoo.co.uk



