

Merry Christmas Xaverians



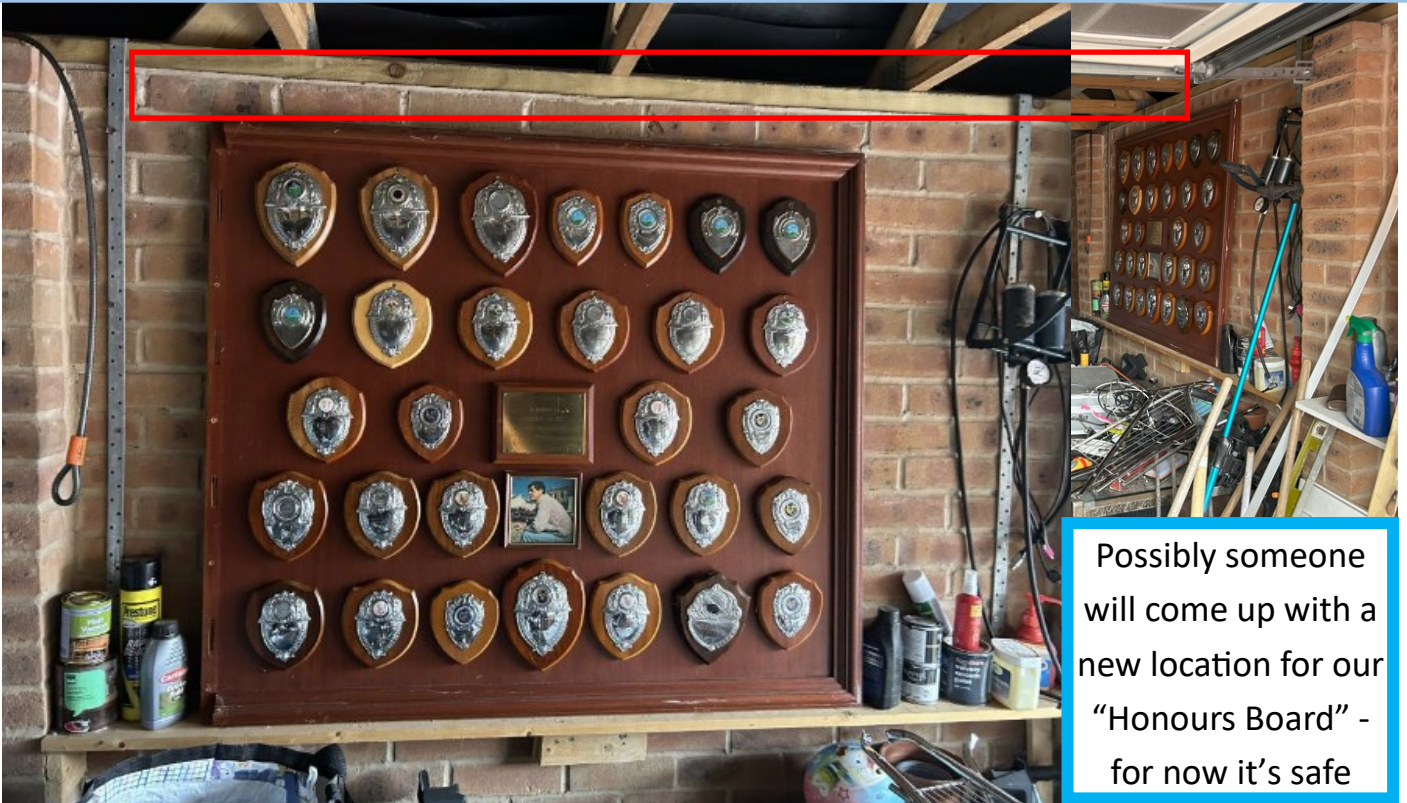
Concordia

Winter 2025 Number 35



Clapham finally left Norbury in August after 100 years

The Clapham Hall of Fame in it's new [temporary] home in my garage in Barnham



COXA Ramblers Edenbridge Walk....lovely day lovely views..... and livestock



September 16 Xaverians hit Edenbridge in Kent, lovely day some beautiful sites and views. Edenbridge offers a lively town and a great lunch in the Crown. Over 6 miles of great country walks. The company was First Class,



Selection of COXA-related photographs - 90% of you will know the relevance



Bill Hayley
always a winner



Worn only
once - without
much honour



Battlefield Pilgrims - see you in June 2026 for Lille



Published before - in b & w- Clapham College 1st XI 1970?

The Thoughts of COXA Chairman David Leathem

Some Thoughts Whilst Damply Freezing: Concordia Christmas 2025

The Annual Remembrance Mass now sits cosily in our memories of 2025. If you were there, you will know how good it was: - Fr Andrew Ebrahim led us in prayer, Scotty speaking without notes, or glasses, about two young men from different wars, who each had no business getting killed at all. (Very moving.) Glyn on the piano, Eric in the congregation, all the way from Plymouth), Brian and Ted each attending, with respectively Jackie and Sheila. Rita Cernuschi, an ever-present, and Terry Clegg sending apologies because he wasn't 100% on the day. (Much missed.) 50 souls singing lustily, Tom and Mick McLoughlin also on the firm, each more welcome for being accompanied by Emily and Bina. Mark and Eve Preece helped keep body and soul together with rolls and teas, and all under the benign eyes and patronage of Graham and Ciaran, our school principals.

The annual roll call of lost, dead members of our Association since the last mass was jaw-dropping in its length and the stature of our absent friends. (More inside, I'm sure.) Mick Power's sister and niece joined us for their first visit.

The caravan moves on, though, and soon after Christmas (29th December) we'll be rambling in the Surrey Hills again, and that event is less than 4 weeks before The Chairman's Annual Lunch (23rd January – buy a ticket, don't buy a ticket, it will sell out). Brendan Kearns will be our Speaker, and I am very much looking forward to that, having heard him before.

If 2026 is as full of events and joyful gatherings, whether praying, memorialising, walking, golfing, eating and drinking together ("com pane" – Thank you Tony Warr), then our continuing success as an Association is assured. Your continuing support for The Committee is a cornerstone of our Association ...

Merry Christmas,.... everyone! And a Happy New Year.

David Leathem [Dec 2025]

Hi all, [Editor Scotty]

Just a thank you to those Xaverians who have sent donations and/or stamps towards the costs of producing and dispatching your Concordias,

I know that Kevin Bond, Gerry Taggart and Terry Boley have been the latest "benefactors" to ply me with postage stamps and cash. [sorry if I missed any others].

Please don't let them be the last... Thank you, Scotty.

Post to **Don Macdonald 12 Farrow Drive, Windmills View Barnham, West Sussex, PO22 0FN** my email is **donmiamac1234@sky.com** [for anything Xaverian]



Clapham Mansions - the buildings next to Clapham College - home to a handful of “early” borders [some had servants] - the rest lived on the top floor of the teaching block - in **bleak dormitories**



Clapham Mansions 1892-3, large red brick mansion block in four sections. To their right No. 23, 4 storey flats with penthouse by Moxley & Frankl, 1995.

11 Broadoak, a mansion of c1877, built for the widow of Sir Titus Salt, mill owner and builder of Saltaire in Yorkshire. Adjacent and to the right is the Chapel of St Oliver Plunkett, c1885, in Italian Renaissance style, red brick with mosaic memorial over central window, stating that the Archbishop of Armagh was executed at Tyburn on 1 July 1681. To the left a former stable is now Nightingale Nursery with a large stone dog on wall behind. Until 2021 part of Oliver House Preparatory School.

7 formerly Hollywood, 1782, a 5 bay mansion with single storey wings and fine Coade stone details. Fire insurance plaque over central window. Until 2021 part of Oliver House Preparatory School.

3 Nightingale Lane, Nightingale Place a Retirement Home run by the Audley Group. The outdoor cafe is a most welcome addition to the area and much enjoyed by local residents. The project was financed by Apache Capital, designed by Quad Architects with interior design by Bernard Interiors. Opened in May 2020.

The walk concludes at Clapham South Underground

1920's interior



Garden Views



Nightingale Lane, a long established thoroughfare, has along its winding length a great variety of types and styles of 19th and 20th century domestic architecture as well as two distinctly different but no less interesting late C19 churches, the Ascension in Malwood Road and St Luke's on the corner of Ramsden Road and Thurlough Road.

Perhaps the most spectacular houses on the route are Nos. 69-79 Nightingale Lane designed by Thomas Collcutt for the Victorian Sanitary engineer, George Jennings, which are amongst the best buildings in the Borough of Wandsworth.

Concordias, Concordias, Concordias, but not a drop to drink!



Winter 2023

Merchant Taylors':
producing gentlemen
since 1561



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
School



Concordia

Winter 2024 - Number 33



Found this fabulous magazine online called "Concordia" - the School is 500 years older than Clapham, but this is only Concordia 17-we are 100



UNIVERSITÉ
Concordia

UNIVERSITY MONTREAL

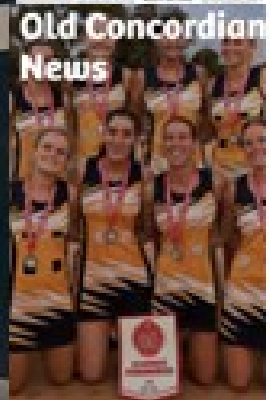


Imitation is the sincerest
form of flattery that
mediocrity can pay to
greatness, Oscar Wilde

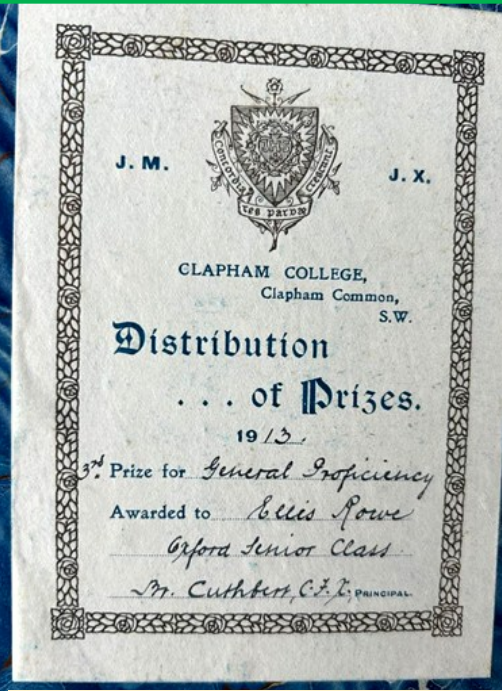
Next Year 2026 will mean 100 years of Clapham Old Xaverians—think about it, drop me a line, think of a "good" 100 year anniversary motif and think about what we can do



CONCORDIA



Why do we keep this stuff? - share it with me **today**; most [eventually] end up in the bin



These certificate were awarded to Clapham College boys. The 1913 one was to **Ellis Rowe** for "General Proficiency". The blue certificate is **Brendan Costello's** 1975 Wands.Sports Certificate. **Please send me yours!!**

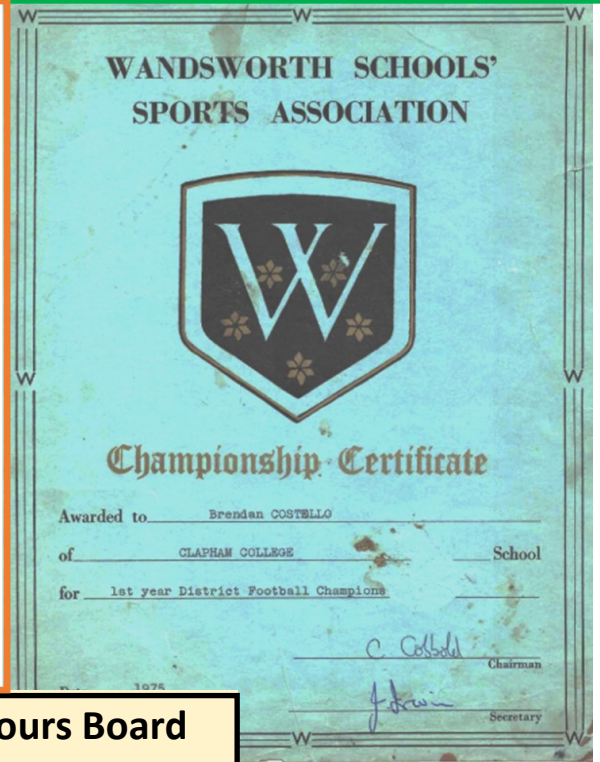
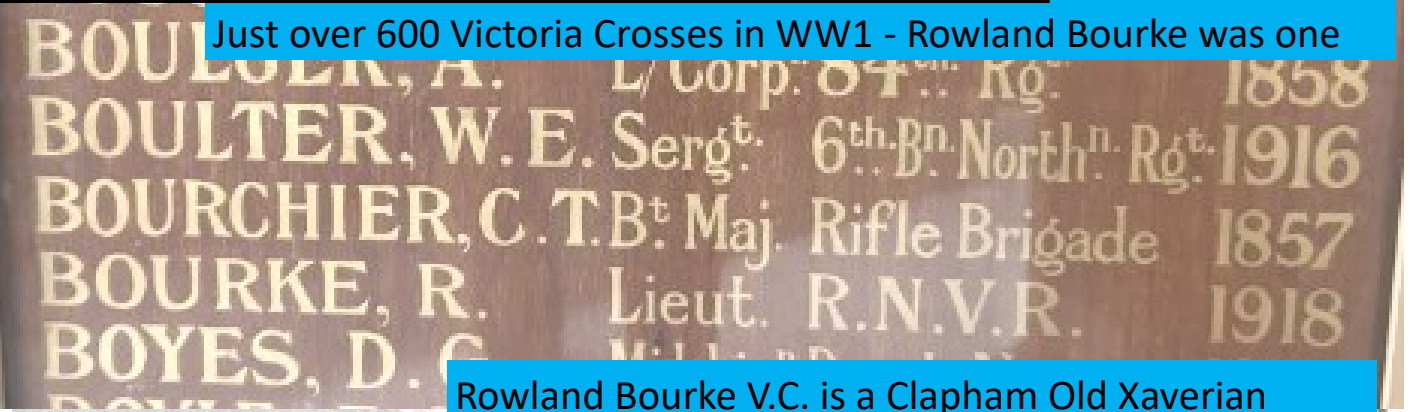


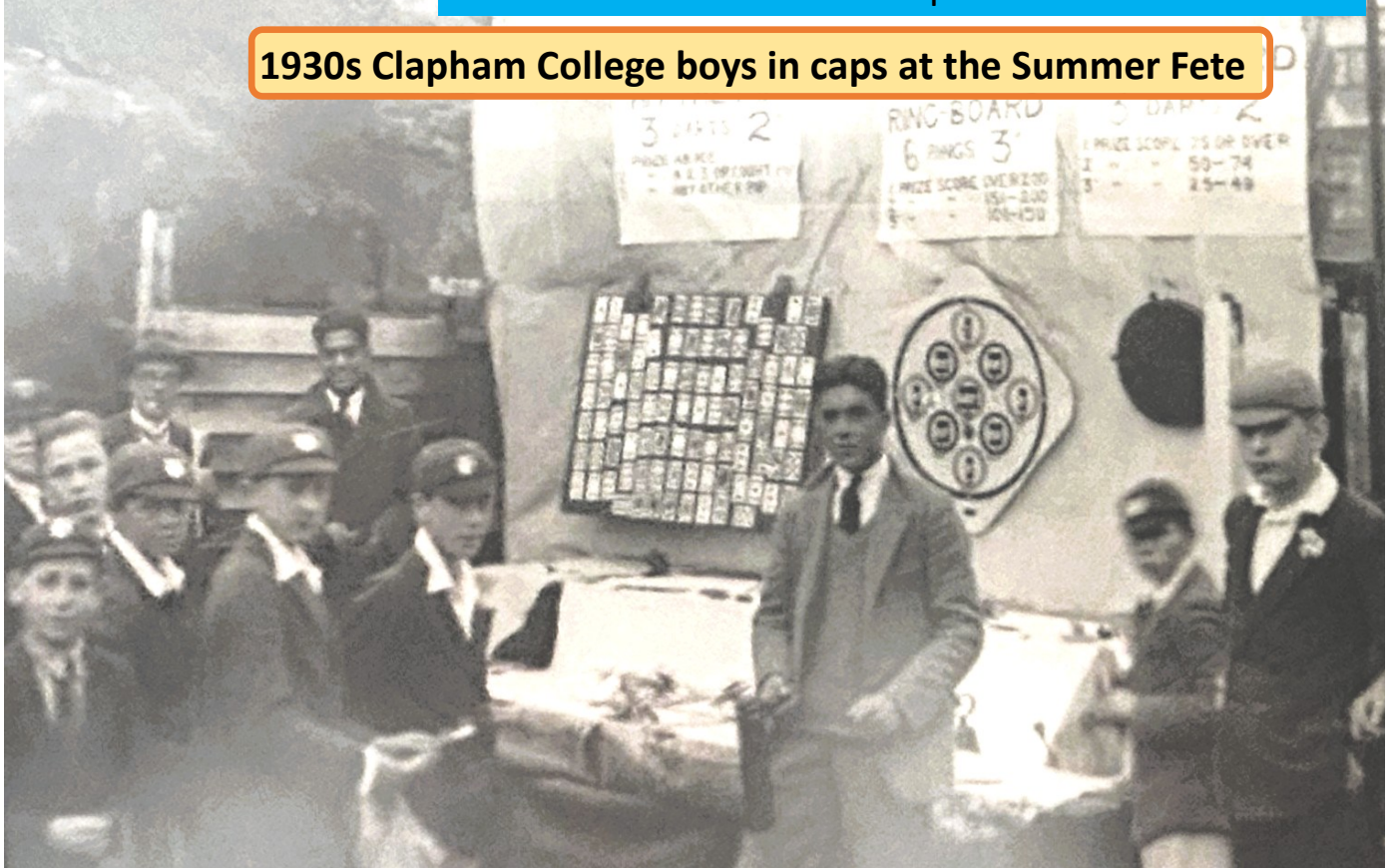
Photo below from the "Union Jack Club" Honours Board



Just over 600 Victoria Crosses in WW1 - Rowland Bourke was one

Rowland Bourke V.C. is a Clapham Old Xaverian

1930s Clapham College boys in caps at the Summer Fete



One inch flower found on the ground at a German cemetery on the Somme



I found this little blue flower on the ground at a German cemetery on the Somme. I looked it up ["Google it", as my children say]. I found the word **Volkstaertag** - the background of Volkstaertag [in Germany, as you would expect] is complex. as is the history of all Remembrance Day acts of symbolism that are observed.

We all know that Poppies are the Commonwealth flower of remembrance and most probably know that the Blue Cornflower is the French equivalent but until today I did not know that the Germans have adopted the 'Forget me not' as their flower for remembrance. 'The Forget-me-nots' on a German grave or memorial.....he piece below (translated) from the **VDK website**

Flowers as symbols of memory
Forget-me-nots, poppies and cornflowers: blossoms stand for commemorating war dead around the world.

Flowers are delicate, beautiful and ephemeral and perhaps that is precisely why they are a symbol in many countries for commemorating the dead of wars. In Germany it is the "forget-me-not", in English-speaking countries the poppy, in France the cornflower.

The "forget-me-not" flower I found in Belgium, is something I will now cherish.



Paul Brett Bibby

9th December 1952 – 1st November 2025

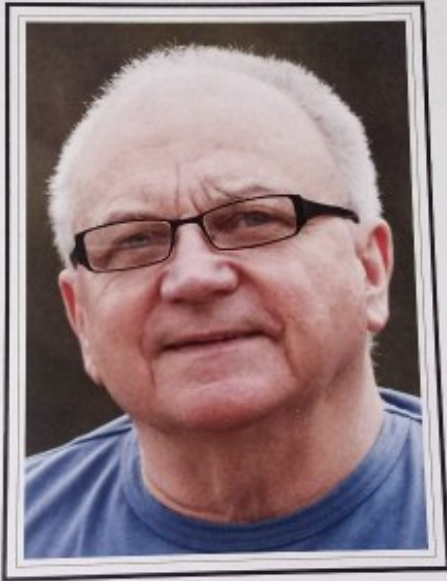


Paul Bibby 1952 to 2025, at Clapham College in the 1960s, before leaving for "the world of work". I remember Paul as a solid and busy centre forward. He has the usual Xaverian sense of enjoyment of life and "game for a laugh". He left the College to go into the Construction Industry, I think he continued in that trade. Paul "lost contact" with COXA but hopefully kept in touch with his classmates Ryan, Bond, Carrucan, McQueeney etc etc maybe have something for Concordia.

John Urquhart RIP, a true friend and great Xaverian - I never actually met

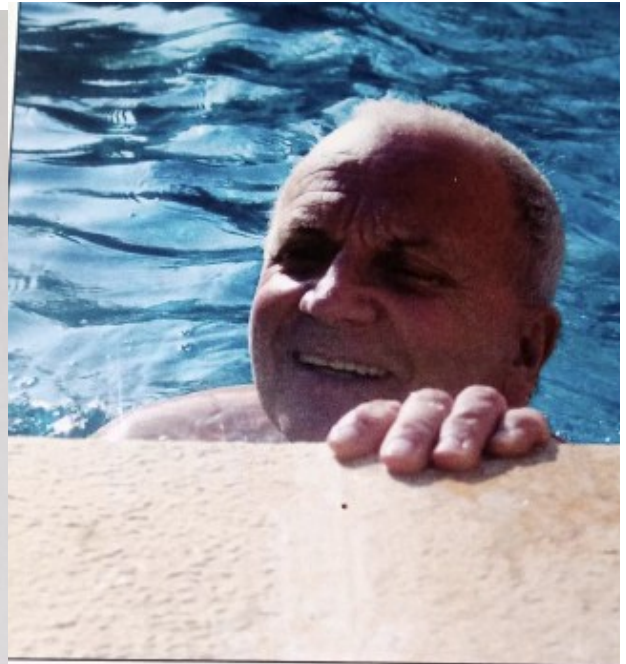
John Murdo Urquhart

1st July 1939 - 20th August 2025

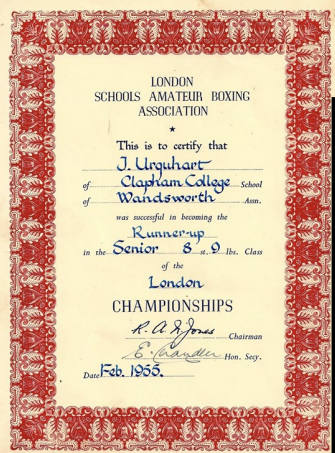
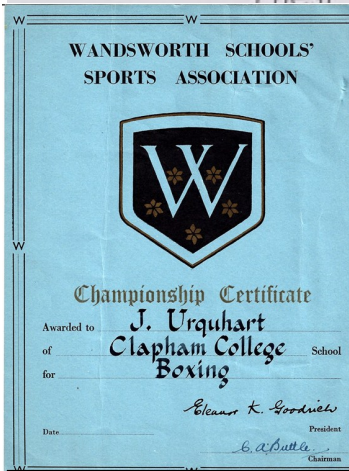


Service held at
 Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Howden
 Friday 5th September 2025 at 11.00am

Priest - Fr Niall Barr



Whatever life threw at me you were there.
 A strong and loving presence at my side.
 For nearly sixty years your love and care
 Made me so glad you chose me for your bride.
 And from that choice, came our two little ones.
 Martin and Alison, your legacy.
 And their dear families I have as well
 Four grandchildren I am so proud to see.
 And as the future years tick quickly by
 The Urquhart clan will flourish, I am sure.
 And all because you chose me to be yours.
 The love you planted then will still endure.



Some of the many articles from John, best read online, please try!



John Urquhart - questions, articles and photos, Clapham College 1950-58

In the top photo I have my foot on the stag's neck, Paddy Sullivan was trying to fit his head in the stag's mouth and A.N.Other is struggling with the antlers, I can't remember his name but he was very sophisticated. This statue was either at Versailles or one of the parks in Paris. Obviously Cecil was not around. The group on the bench are from the left are Montagnees, Ivers, and faces I remember but not the names.



The group in the Paris school quadrangle [below] are me and Paddy Sullivan in the front and a mixture of Clapham pupils and a group from Rome. The common language was French but we did manage to communicate.

My own biographical details are, firstly I left Clapham in 1958 with three A levels (failed).



I went to Campion House, Osterley under the Jesuits to study Latin and ancient Greek as a precursor to entering St Edmund's seminary. It became clear to me and the Jesuits after fifteen that the priesthood was not for me. I was called up for National Service but decided to sign up for six years in the Intelligence Corps. After six months training I was posted to the Counter Intelligence Unit in Cyprus in December 1960 but in April 1961 I was involved in a road traffic accident and paraplegia resulted from which time I have been a wheelchair user. In 1966 I married Aileen Cooney, the sister of a Clapham old boy Kevin Cooney. PTO



Dear Scotty, some ramblings from a mature gentleman. Please answer a question that often comes to mind. How did Clapham College morph into a state school from a private school? The first group passing the 11+ would take up the first form and presumably the other forms were either empty or taken up with private pupils none of whom would be new after 1945. When I joined in 1950 there would be enough state pupils to fill the school but what was the process moving from private to state? Answers please to me.. [Scotty]

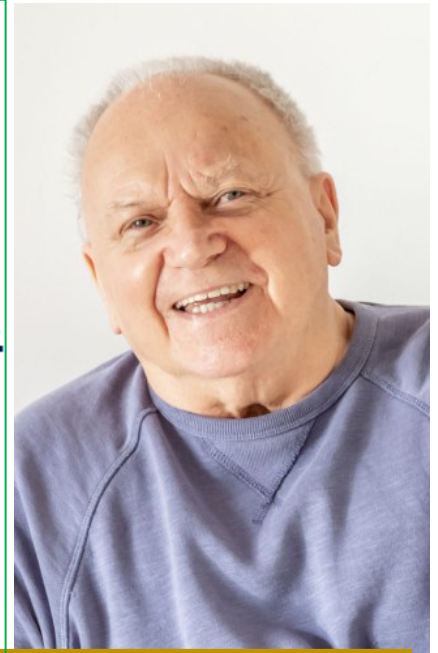
Continued from Page 15...Hello Scotty, on page 21 of Concordia Winter 2016 - Number 11 you said no "Scooby" to two photographs. The group on the left which was taken on the steps of a church in Paris during the Easter holidays. Here are some other photographs from the same trip. It was the school trip to Paris in Easter 1955. I was in the fifth form and I imagine it was for fifth and sixth formers only. I am the one in the centre with glasses and the smart cardigan (black & yellow if I remember) - the handsome fellow behind me looking to his left is Montagnees [Peter Montagnees?] (probably Fourth Form but bright) - I do not remember the name of the fellow (with the open neck checked shirt) behind him, also looking to his left but he features in the photo attached - to Cecil's right looking glum with open neck shirt is Paddy Sullivan - in the first row second from the right is Mick Ivers with light open neck shirt - perhaps the fourth form were included in which case the lad to Ivers's right might be Phil Leeder.

Difficult to read pieces, [look online] ..by and about John, from losing touch with COXA he rejoined and really enjoyed the journey. RIP John

Life Experience

John Urquhart's CV in his own words

I was born in London, and after leaving school I decided to train as a priest. After a year I knew this was not for me, and I joined the army. While serving in the Middle East I was involved in a road traffic accident and fractured my spine. Since then I have been a wheelchair user. I took exams in accountancy, and worked as an assistant accountant for several years in the private sector. I then joined the Civil Service. Eventually, I took voluntary redundancy and trained as a counsellor. The training was one of the hardest things I have ever done, as I had to explore every aspect of my life and personality, but I have found it infinitely worthwhile. It is a privilege to be involved with other people on part of their life journey. In 2003 my wife and I moved to Yorkshire, and are really enjoying rural life.



John was at Clapham College from 1950 to 1957, the same time as Tony Amura, Colin Luke, Jim Chambers and Brian Pryke. His terrible accident whilst serving with the Army in Cyprus shaped his life. But it did not stop him achieving great things during his lifetime.

++ RIP John ++

Qualifications

- Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision
- Cert. in Transactional Analysis. (*Institute of Transactional Analysis 2009*)
- Cert. in Modern Approaches to Self Psychology (*Wimbledon Guild 2003*)
- Diploma in Integrative Counselling (*Kingston College 2001*)
- Cert. in Human Attachment and Counselling (*Wimbledon Guild 2001*)
- Working with Depressed and Suicidal Clients Workshop. (*Metanoia Institute 1996*)
- Foundation Year of the Diploma in Person Centred Counselling (*Metanoia 1996*)

**Last Call for the
Chairman's Lunch**

**Eddie O'Brien
(hon.sec@claphamoldxaverians.co.uk)
07891 713693.**

**£55
Union Jack Club
23rd Jan 2026**

Spalding Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

Dear Scotty.

I have sent these photographs. Cut up if needed as I do know want to be returned. I forwarded the newspaper. Cutting to, which gives you a nice picture of Bernard, in words, not photography.

When I first met him, he was doing National Service in the Royal Engineers. this became a holiday in Cyprus for me, enjoying swimming and watching him play football in the good weather. His surveying career started on his return to the UK. and we got married shortly before we set off to live in Australia. We were one of the "Ten Pound Poms".

Four years later we return to the UK with two sons. His work in Surveying included. Building the Humber Bridge and The Llanidlots Powys Reservoir.

In 1963 he began his career with Jaric and was moved to Brampton, near Huntingdon. Bernard's job at Jares was at the Joint Reconnaissance Centre at R.A.F. Brampton. He enjoyed his work, but it was top security with visits to the USA and Canada.

When we first worked there, he was sent to work with two groups, the first was "the Loch Ness Monster hunt" in Scotland. Where he was great excitement when measuring and surveying for underwater movements, it was a scientific study. The second was with searching for the wreck of Bluebird, under Lake Coniston, after the crash which killed Donald Campbell. We had wonderful time during our trip to the Lake District. I hope there is something

useful in this section of information and photos which could be used in Concordia. His final job was working in Whitehall Best wishes,

Margaret Plummer.

Photo 1. Parents Day. 1952 Bishop Cowderoy.



Photo 2. Bernard giving, the Head Boy speech in Latin.

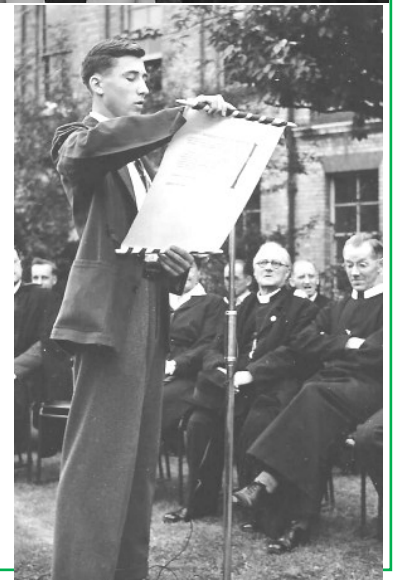
Photo 3. Climbing, led by Brother Joseph. [PTO]

Photo 4. Bernard - Clapham College football team, 1952

Photo 5. Mr Pocock presides over the Prefects.

Photo 6. The Prefects gang.

Photo 7. Bernard, surveying



Photos 3 to 7 - overleaf



3. Climbing



College football with Cecil



Bernard & the College Prefects

C
O
L
L
E
G
E

Clapham Old Xaverians at Henry Pinsent's funeral in Norfolk



Bernard lived life to full and at Clapham College he was a talented young man, an organiser and a participator. A well-liked student.



Donald Campbell's crash occurred on January 4, 1967, during an attempt to set a water speed record in his craft, the **Bluebird K7**, on Coniston Water, England. He tragically lost control of the vehicle, resulting in a fatal accident. Campbell had previously set seven water speed records between 1955 and 1964, but this attempt ended in disaster when his craft crashed, leading to his death.

It was Bernard and his team that were tasked with finding the "ill-fated Bluebird"

Bernard's story is and some of his surveying and structural achievements are continued overleaf as true legacy to his life

In the last Concordia I posted the sad news that Bernard Plummer has passed away, without a in-depth account on Bernard's association with the Old boys and his friendships with many of the "older" Old Boys. I met him a few years ago at Henry Pinsent's funeral where hr showed his deep friendship and respect for his old school mate Henry. Moving away from London in his retirement meant his attendance and interaction with COXA declined after his retirement. Due to lack of space and pressure on time details of Bernard's life and Old Boy's connections were scattered all over the Concordia, I am attempting to address this oversight in this edition of Concordia.



Donald Campbell

Some of Bernard's great achievements were linked to his training as a surveyor. On Bernard's CV - the Humber Bridge; building reservoirs/ HEP Stations in Wales, the hunt for "Nessie" - the official one not the "crazy ones with bait" also the search for Donald Campbell's Bluebird.



More detail on Bernard Plummer's interesting and varied career overleaf



Things were stepped up a notch in October 1987, when Nessie hunter and marine biologist Adrian Shine led 'Operation Deepscan' – at the time, the most extensive search of Loch Ness ever conducted. Over the course of two days, a flotilla of 24 boats equipped with echo sounders carried out a full-length sonar sweep of the loch.

£1m of equipment was used in the hunt for Nessie © Rex / Shutterstock

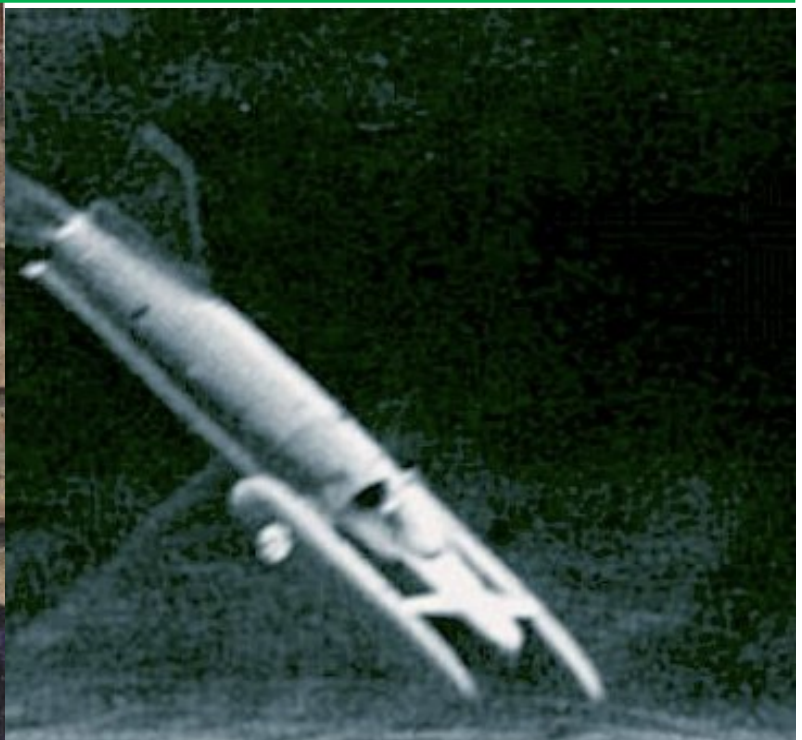
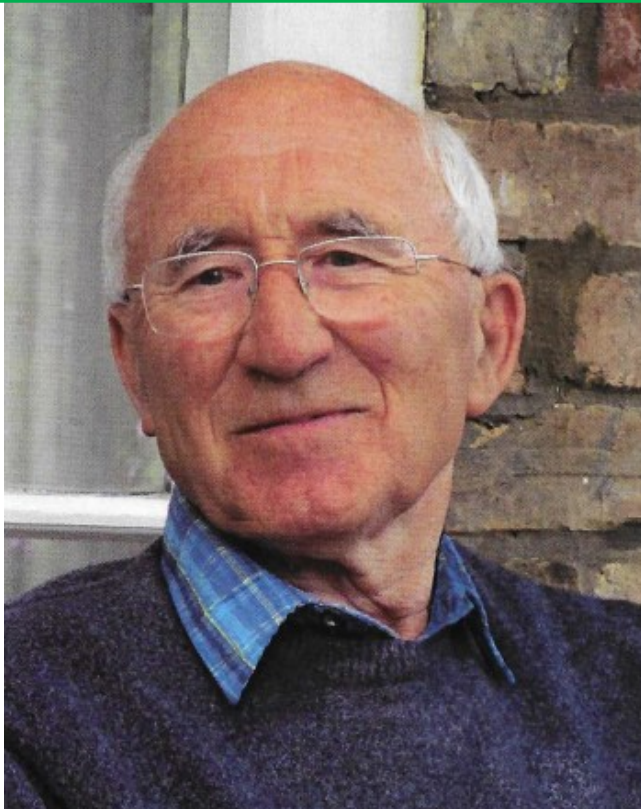


On three occasions, contact was made with objects in deep water that couldn't be identified, nor relocated when investigated later.

While unexplained and unlikely to represent fish, these 'contacts' were probably debris or thermal effects, or possibly even a seal.

Indeed, nothing that can be interpreted with confidence as a giant animal has ever been encountered in any of the several sonar sweeps performed since.





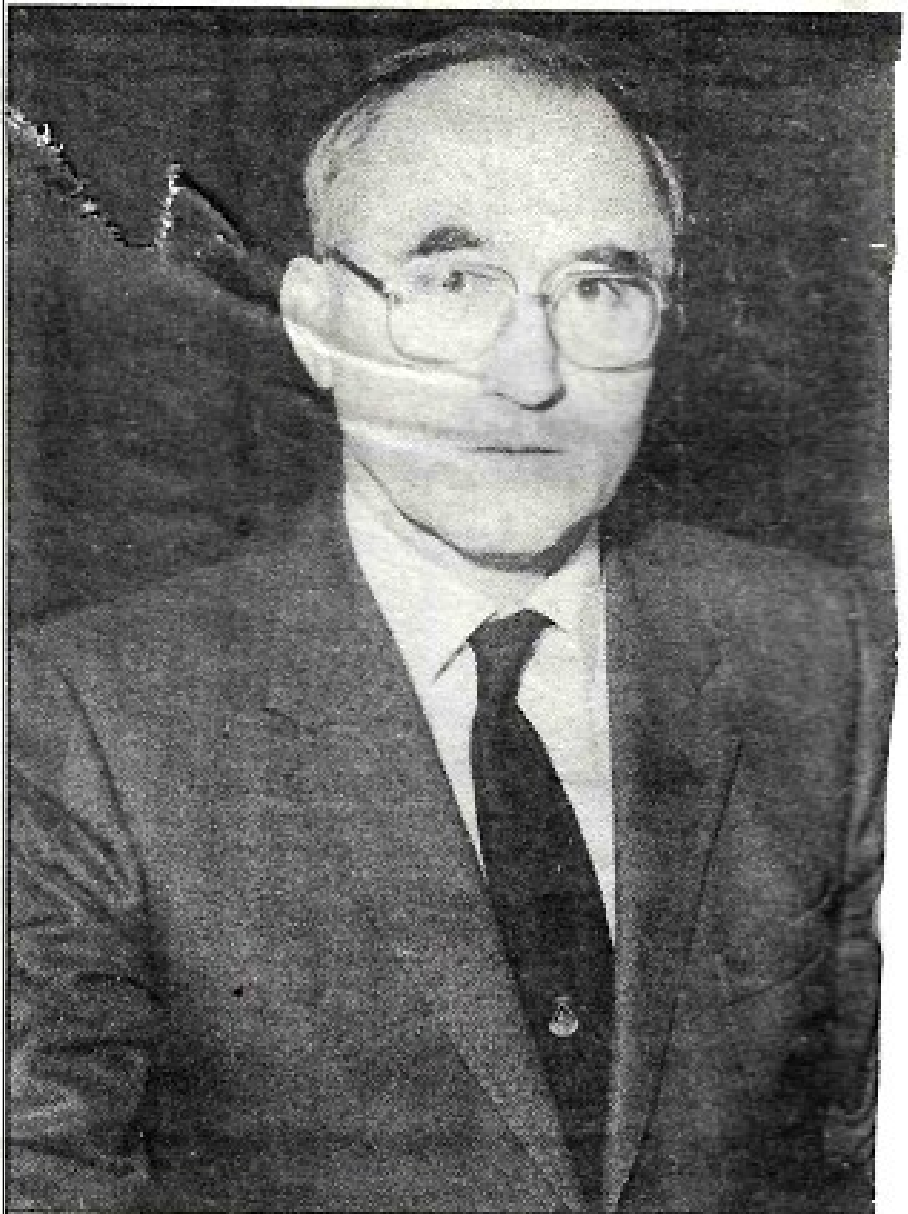
The discovery of Donald Campbell's Bluebird

THE INDEPENDENT - Tuesday, January 8, 1985

Mr Bernard Plummer, Chief Scientific Advisor at the Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre, RAF Brampton was awarded the OBE in the New Year's Honours List.

Bernard Plummer joined the Civil Service and took the appointment of Scientific Officer at JARIC in 1963. His career started on leaving London University in 1955 with a degree in Geography. Bernard then trained as a Land Surveyor and held various posts including 4 years working in New South Wales, Australia.

Since joining JARIC, Bernard Plummer and his wife Margaret have settled in Spaldwick and she is now headmistress at Thongsley Infants School, Huntingdon.



Tim Dinsdale's 1960 film . . . In February there arrived a weighty and closely argued case, to show that the object was almost certainly animate, 12-16 ft. long, 3 ft. high, nearly 6 ft. in beam, and travelling at ten knots. The ability of photographic interpreters to argue to less than an inch at 1,500 yards, strengthened our determination to attempt conclusive head-and-neck photography, and our thanks are due to Lord Shackleton, Minister of State for Defence (Air), and his Intelligence Staff, for their help . . .'

This report, which ran to some 2,000 words had a profound effect at the time, and has been printed as a pamphlet since. It is a Crown Copyright document.

In 1967, too, Dick Raynor shot his clear sequence of film off Dores, and again JARIC reported. They said an object broke surface where the wake commenced, measuring about seven feet in length.

The other scraps of long-range film have also been examined, but they are so brief, and the objects so far away, that it is hard to interpret them.

In consequence, the Monster-hunters have yet to achieve their main objective: good, clear, movie-film of Nessie taken at close range.

Scotty's Scottish Corner

Following Scotland's glorious qualification for the World Cup in the USA, I thought it would be an appropriate time to introduce "Scotty's Scottish Corner". The Loch Ness story was a great "lead in" and I did find someone wearing a silly "Tammie" - but still not as silly as **Wilson Bowers'** one! More to follow on such great themes.



The Clapham College / COXA Archive

“You can't take it with you” so please share your Clapham artefacts / treasured junk

See the IKEA shelving unit in my bedroom housing the **COXA Archive** see also **Pages 2, 32, 47** .. There are some of the bits I removed from Norbury at the end of August, the outside road sign, the Hall of Fame Board, our Trophies Board and an Archive Shelf. Eddie did a great job in offloading many other items - some had value [believe it, or not] and monies went into the Clapham Coffers.

The signs and Honours Boards as you can see are safely stored in my garage. Safely, I say as I can't imagine there is a trade for such items on the Chichester “Black Market”. The Archive has been copied and put into scrapbooks and uploaded onto the Clapham Old Xaverians Archive Website. **On view at the Archives Nite [SFX 27/02/2026] - try to attend.**



Hopefully this is in time.

The COXA Christmas Ramble. 29th Dec Hayes Station [Kent]. 10.45 three hours walk & a break at Greyhound Keston

Vic
07903544935
Mick Powell
07957285669

Maybe see you there?

The next 7 pages [14 photos of mainly cricket teams] was my “failed” tribute to leaving Norbury [few were snapped at County Rd] but they stayed in!



Not COXA teams - looks like Clapham College Staff [and children] kids probably all in their 40s now! Quality not great, but you know who you are [names help]

UNDER 30's

BACK ROW: P. BRENNAN, S. CEFAL, C. POWELL, M. CURNOCK, J. CRONIN, M. McGRATH.

FRONT ROW: K. KELLY, A. EVANS, S. COWDRY, D. FOX, S. LEADBETTER.



OVER 30's

BACK ROW: S. BRENNEN, D. KULIGOWSKI, I. MUIRHEAD, T. MONTERO, M. CASSERLY, L. MYATT,
B. SANDERS, G. HUDSON, K. FAGAN, R. CASEY.

FRONT ROW: P. DAVIDSON, D. BRUNWIN, K. CURTIN, D. WATKINSON.

Again, not Norbury “teams” again, however at least they are Clapham Old Boys



Brian Baker, Tony Gray, Mr Marshall [umpire] naming the three I know!





Top L Burgess. Dutton Nichols Grant Hayter
~~Gillam~~ Punsent. Gillam Hughes Sweet Minghi
Quintan



The angle of the photograph adds, well, a bit of chaos is good at times Ted Hayter there again!

Top L. Smith Butler Punsent Beech Barrett
Collins
Front L. Dufeu Quintan Hayter Minghi Sweet

The “Norbury Theme” of cricket teams gone again - “The Isle of Wight Tour”?



This was a photo taken at Norbury - Cecil dates it, but the names...sorry, needs “Ai”



Nowhere near Norbury; the goodbye theme - dead! Was this a Dorset Tour-1970s?



All I can recognise is a 20-year-old Brian Sanders. That smile!! Any other names?



Another modern-day cricket team - 100% Matt Benedict, need help with other tourists



A very old "Tour" photograph. Recognise some COXA "greats" Ben Benedict, Mick Power, Tony Amura, Stan, help with others and the venue, relevance?

1990s Cricketers and Footballers - I need more like these - please!



What started as a very lazy editing idea, putting in lots of teams that played at Norbury turned into a total disaster. It was also incredibly time-consuming. It was going to be cricket and football teams, but ended up being all cricket, hardly any at County Road. The photo above shows footballers of the 1980s, the one below must even pre-date **Ted Hayter**.



Send me your football team photos
- this one needs an Ai "makeover"

Great story - and a fabulous name, found in an old Concordia - Casimir Mamaduke de Bounevialle...what a guy...what a Xaverian hero

F/O Casimir Marmaduke de Bounevialle, known as 'Cas', had already flown a tour on 227 Squadron, and had been awarded the DFC on 7 December 1943:

'This officer has participated in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on roads, airfields and on shipping. On one occasion he took part in an attack on shipping off the Tunisian coast. During the action a large motor vessel and an F-boat were destroyed. On other occasions, Pilot Officer Bounevialle has attacked two large motor vessels, an F boat and a schooner with damaging effect. In air combat, he has assisted in the destruction of 2 enemy aircraft. This officer has displayed great skill, courage and devotion to duty.'¹⁷⁰

Prior to the war Cas had been an examiner in the Aeronautical Inspection Directorate, before becoming a garage proprietor in Luton. Things didn't work out for him financially, and a petition for bankruptcy was filed against him on 17 August 1939. With far weightier matters about to muddy the legal waters the petition was suspended *sine die* on 22 September 1939.

Now down in the Aegean drink for the second time, he and Albert were fished out of the water by the crew of a German vessel, and taken to Dulag Luft (Athens) for interrogation. They left on 10 October by train for Skopje, Yugoslavia, but progress was slow, their journey being restricted to daylight hours only as partisans had a tendency to attack trains at night. It was more than a week later before they reached Skopje. From there they were flown by Junkers

of 603's Beaufighters – aircraft NT893 'P' and NV205 'W' – and damaged four more. Only three of the vessels were damaged, and there were no reports of any sinking.

The pilot of Beaufighter 'P', Sgt D. Harrison, was killed, but his navigator, Sgt D.V. Bannister, was reported to be in safe hands. Both the crew of 'W' survived their ditching – F/O C.M. de Bounevialle (pilot) and F/Sgt A.E. Potter (navigator). They were seen to go down with their starboard engine on fire. Albert Potter – always called 'Gillie' by his pilot after the radio comedian of the time – thought that they might have hit a cable suspended from a balloon above the ship that they attacked. As he said: 'Never really discussed it. Just glad to get out of the water.' This was their second ditching. Barely ten weeks earlier, on 23 July 1944, they had been rescued from the sea off the island of Mykonos by a Greek caique, eventually rejoining their squadron via Turkey, Syria, and Cairo.

An Ode to Colin Garvey, and below a young Garvey relaxing

Colin Garvey, a name of light,

A guiding star, burning bright.

From Clapham's halls, his journey began,

A student, a teacher, a noble man.

Knight Commander of St. Gregory's grace,

In faith and service, he found his place.

With prayer and wisdom, hearts he won,

A legacy glows with the rising sun.

At Sacred Heart, where dreams took flight,

He nurtured minds with gentle might.

Through humour and care, he paved the way,

For futures bright, a brighter day.

Now he rests in the heavens above,

Surrounded by peace, embraced by love.

His memory echoes in lives he graced,

A soul eternal, in time embraced.



Urban Myths re-visited - the “playground of Colin Garvey

Urban Myths – Clapham College

Colin Garvey, to this day, has a collection of Urban Myths of Clapham College and the Old Boys, the exact content and facts fade with time – but I feel we need a section on this in each issue to remind us of these “goings-on” before they disappear from our “grey stuff” altogether.

Yes, dozens of Old Boys did follow Mick Carrucan [now Deacon Mick at St Anslem’s Tooting] on 50 miles runs to Brighton and the Walks over the Bridges of London to raise thousands of pounds for charity. Brother Dunstan did know everyone who ever went to Clapham.

Terry Clegg could kick the crossbar from a standing start. Was Eamon Taggart the Club’s great singer and most attractive male? Was Tony Amura really the best footballer EVER at Clapham and Henry Pinsent [or Michael Turvey] the greatest athletes? Which teacher at Clapham set you on the road to your career [or life choices] – Cecil Pocock, Brothers Peter or Christopher, Bill Blight- Colin Garvey even!

Does anyone remember Chairman Dave with red hair [why was he called “Mad Boy”?]

Did anybody actually enjoy a “Bren Burger” in the old bar [now the changing room] from our ex-Chairman?

Who enjoyed the mile and a half run, for our lunches, for all those years to Henry Cavendish School, or the walk to Wandsworth Common, or bus rides to Norbury for football?

Were “The George, The Windmill and the Nightingale” as great as I remember?

Did Brother Peter call anyone by their proper name rather than “Johnny”/ and why “Johnny”?



Colin's Corner



We are so blessed as an Association to have had **Colin Garvey** as one of our members. But as we all know Colin was so much more than that. In 2025 we have “lost” so many more of our shining lights, real characters; it is important to remember the love and investment they made to the Old Xaverians and their regret would have been to have missed 2026; the Centenary Year of COXA. We remembered them in our prayers at the Mass, may they RIP. If we don’t celebrate 2026 properly as an Association there would be real “ructions” in Heaven, so please join in our celebration events [starting with the Chairman’s Lunch at the end of January, then the Archives Night at SFX [Clapham College really]. Keep an eye on the Clapham Website for details, but make an effort to be there. Buy the “Memorabilia” and make our 100th year as an Old Boys Association a special one. Happy New Year - Scotty

1. TH
T Hayter >

Hi Don
Another excellent Concordia. Very nostalgic for me. Nino and I were great friends at school We went away on our bikes for the summerhols to Somerset, loading hay bales onto lorries. Money was good. Slept in my parachute silk tent and cooked on a small stove
First two years were great but the following year it rained every day for weeks. No job no money. We bought a bag of flour and lived off apple fritters and stolen eggs for several weeks. Needless to say we got home like skeletons. A was well until Nino contracted T B. His mother blamed me and

2. TH
T Hayter >

First two years were great but the following year it rained every day for weeks. No job no money. We bought a bag of flour and lived off apple fritters and stolen eggs for several weeks. Needless to say we got home like skeletons. A was well until Nino contracted T B. His mother blamed me and forbade me from seeing him. The end of an excellent friendship. He went to a sanatorium I went into the army. Paddy Gooch. Kept cricket to his bowling for hundreds of overs with Tony Steward at the other end. Julian Minghi was often at his house in Clapham North. Very posh. One day went to tea and Gigi was

3.

there. The most famous tenor in the world. Sat and didn't understand a word. All Italian! How many committee meetings did I sit with Mick and Colin? Enough said! Hope all is well. Hope to see you at the Mass, Ted

A lovely tribute from Ted to his life-long friend Nino. Footnote...future articles of any sort would be appreciated by email attachment, Not WhatsApp. But nice to know Ted has embraced Social Media, ..the Editor—Scotty

On this page is another article, which we ran in a previous Concordia, on Sir Patrick Gilliam, who passed away recently. He was another friend of Ted's. Bill Haley sent me a photo of the article from the Telegraph [which he'd photo'd for me]. Unfortunately, I think he'd had his chips in it first and it was impossible to use. I will find a better copy for this Concordia, or the next. No worries Bill, stick to horse racing you're great at that.

Look at the photo of Ted, it's great. I'm old, but "Ai" seems fabulous for B & W photographs.



Patrick Gilliam and Malcolm Williamson – setting the strategy for Standard Chartered

STANDARD CHARTERED is peculiar. It is a bank with its roots deep in Britain's colonial past. Indeed, in the foyer of its London headquarters, hard by the historic Guildhall, is a photograph of its first branch in Bulawayo – a tent pitched in the bush, soon after Cecil John Rhodes marched into what became Rhodesia and is now Zimbabwe.
In those days, when Britain had an empire, two great banking businesses were founded. One, Standard Bank of British South Africa, concentrated on Africa. The other, The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, focused on the east. In the 1970s they came together and Standard



Thanks Ted for this great, if unorthodox article by text, on his friend Julian Minghi. Please look at this "colour" photo online! Fabulous!!

The Xaverian Brothers' Reliquaries "come home" to our Chapel



Hendrik Brom, the artist and creator of our relics. The relics are now behind "lock and key" in a safe located somewhere "safe at SFX!! When they are displayed to the public they are housed in a glass presentation case.

The Reliquaria The Xaverian Brothers' Reliquaries consist of three silver reliquaries decorated in the art nouveau style, but with the chasse shape of the two saints' reliquaries firmly rooted in the mediaeval tradition. The 'central' reliquary houses the relic of the True Cross, and the two saints' reliquaries housing the relics of 16 and 20 saints respectively.

The reliquaries bear the makers mark 'BROM ULTRAI' which is the mark use by Edelsmedse (goldsmith's workshop) Brom, a well-known Catholic family workshop in Utrecht (1856-1961). They are dated 1913.

The Reliquary of the Cross is decorated with gold, enamel and stones, and has a central window behind which is a veil between the window and the relic. Around the window are the words: DE LIGNO SCĒ CRUCIS DOMINI NRĪ JHESU XPI (From the Wood of the Holy Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ). The Saints' reliquaries each have ten deeply bevelled glass windows so that the relics can be seen, and all but four of these windows contain two relics.

The relics in each window are sewn into their mounts (which are glazed at the front) with red silk thread, which is sealed closed with a red wax seal of the bishop who attested to their authenticity. The relics inside are stuck on to a red cloth background (now quite faded to pink) and each of the saints is accompanied by a printed label identifying the saint in Latin. Around the sides of the saints' reliquaries there are six round windows on the sides of each casket, two each on the long sides, and one each on the short sides. On the roof-shaped lid, there are four quadrilateral windows, two on each of the long sides.

More detail on the relics and information on the Saints whose artifacts are enclosed

The names of the saints and their dates re given below. The numbers relate to the windows on the diagram above, and ‘a’ and ‘b’ denote the upper and lower saint sharing a window. The inscriptions have been reproduced in the second column exactly as printed, including inconsistencies in case, punctuation and abbreviation. See below for a key to the abbreviations in columns two and three. The fourth column gives the feast day in the current calendar (former dates noted in the footnotes) and the fifth column gives the year of death (if the feast day is not the saint’s ‘*die natalis*’ the actual date of death is given in the footnotes).

Loc.	Inscription	Saint	Feast	Date
1	S. Joannis a Cruce	St John of the Cross	14 Dec	1591
2	S. Teresiæ, Virg	St Theresa V	15 Oct	1582
3a	s. Anselmi Ep. D.	St Anselm of Canterbury Ep D	21 Apr	1109
3b	s. Bernardi Ab	St Bernard of Clairvaux	20 Aug	1153
4a	s. Hyeron.Pr.C.D	St Jerome Pr C D	30 Sep	420
4b	s.Paulini Nol.E.C	St Paulinus of Nola Ep C	22 Jun	431
5	s.Bartholemaei ap.	St Bartholemew Ap	24 Aug	c.69-71
6	S. Steph. Prot.	St Stephen Prot M	26 Dec	c.33-36
7a	S. Monicæ Vid.	St Monica of Hippo W	27 Aug	387
7b	s. August. Ep. D.	St Augustine of Hippo Ep D	28 Aug	430
8a	s.Melaniæ v.	St Melania W	8 Jun	
8b	s.Paulæ Mat Rom.Vid	St Paula W	26 Jan	404
9a	s.Marcel. Vid	St Marcella W	31 Jul	410
9b	s.Ambrosii ep.c.d.	St Ambrose Ep C D	7 Dec	397
10a	s.Ioan Chris.E.C.D.	St John Chrysostom Ep C D	13 Sep	407
10b	s.Athanasii ep.c.d.	St Athanasius Ep C D	2 May	373

	8	7	
	6	5	
9			10
	1	2	
	3	4	

keyhole on this side

The “editor” has attempted to give a flavour of the relics, but probably failed. There are words I have never seen before [Grammar School educated] and as for their meaning.... Paul Barber had cherished the relics for years before gradually releasing them into the care of SFX and COXA. Paul gave a brief account of the relics for use as the Old Boys Remembrance Service ..but a better description; more editorial space will arrive in a future edition of Concordia. For the meanwhile, rest assured the “relics” unlike COXA “Memorabilia” from Norbury have an fitting and secure “home” for the future.

Saint's Reliquary 2

1a	s. Clarae As. V.	St Clare of Assisi W	11 Aug	1253
1b	s. Franc. Ass.	St Francis of Assisi	4 Oct	1226
2a	S. Franc. Sal E	St Francis de Sales Ep	24 Jan	1622
2b	S. Ioan. Fr. de chant. Vid.	St Jane Frances de Chantal W	12 Aug	1641
3a	s. Ignatii Loy.	St Ignatius of Loyola	31 Jul	1556
3b	s. Franc. Borg. C.	St Francis Borgia C	30 Sep	1572
4a	s. Elisab. R. Hung.	St Elizabeth of Hungary	17 Nov	1231
4b	s. Cathar. Sen. V.	St Catherine of Siena V	29 Apr	1380
5a	s. Gertr. v	St Gertrude V	16 Nov	1302
5b	s. Franc. Rom. Vid.	St Frances of Rome W	9 Mar	1440
6a	s. Pii V p.c.	St Pius V P C	30 Apr	1572
6b	s. Gregor. I P.C.D.	St Gregory the Great P C D	3 Sep	604
7a	s. Dominici C.	St Dominic C	8 Aug	1221
7b	s. Thom. Aquin.	St Thomas Aquinas C D	28 Jan	1274
8a	s. Henrici Imp.	St Henry II, Holy Roman Emperor	13 Jul	1024
8b	s. Phil. Neri	St Philip Neri	26 May	1596
9a	s. Birgittae vid.	St Bridget of Sweden	23 Jul	1373
9b	S. Pauli a Cruc.	St Paul of the Cross	19 Oct	1775
10a	S. Antonii Pat.	St Anthony of Padua	13 Jun	1231
10b	s. Bernardin. Sen.	St Bernardine of Siena	20 May	1441

The list of saints names include many famous ones and other rarer ones which require a "Google" search. The process of collecting all these artifacts, reducing them to a size where they can be "shared" and distributed fascinates me. Still have visions of a huge warehouse with large tables where they were cut, sorted, index and stored. Was it as simple as this or was it chaos? [Below, a sign looking for a "home" and Cecil colour "Ai"]



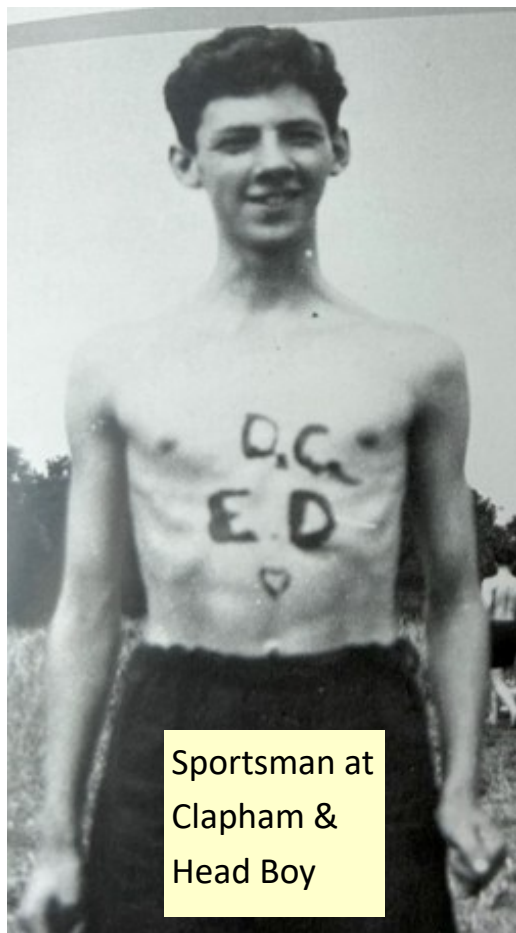
KORFBALL GAME, CLAPHAM COMMON



Phil and Victor chatting on a recent walk “remember Korfbal on Clapham Common?” this had already been covered in a previous Concordia [another two who do not read this publication?] Does anyone know the rules. Did any of our 400 members play Korfbal or spectated [or maybe a Dutch girlfriend] Meisje possibly ? Write in ..please

More on **Sir Patrick Gillam** [Ted Hayter’s friend] was of a top-class executive who demanded high standards and was not afraid of a fight, but who was also, as his Asda colleague summed up, “unfailingly sunny-side-up, with a deft touch in boardroom diplomacy. I doubt whether in the whole business world he had any enemies.” Patrick John Gillam was born in London on April 15 1933 to Cyril Gillam – a printworker whose own father was a piano tuner. Patrick was educated at Clapham College, a Roman Catholic grammar school founded by the Xaverian Brothers. He went on to read history at the London School of Economics, where he was later a long-serving member of the court of governors. After National Service in the Army, including a posting to Korea, he won a place in the Foreign Office in 1956 but stayed only a year before moving to BP. He was vice-president of BP North America from 1971 to 1974 and became a director of BP Trading in 1978. In his final role as one of several group managing directors, he was also chairman of BP Shipping. [there is so much more on Sir Patrick; ++ **MAY HE RIP** ++]

Visiting our War Dead; away from France & Belgium [Daniel Corey]



Sportsman at Clapham & Head Boy



Daniel at University



Visiting and praying our respects to our War dead, has been a theme for COXA over the past decade. Daniel Corey buried in Valetta, Malta, has been visited on three occasions. Other Xaverians have been visited in Canada, the Republic of Ireland, Switz. Lux, Italy, Norway and Myanmar. Look at the lists maybe you might be near one?



Daniel with his squadron in Malta



In Memory of
Flying Officer

Daniel Patrick Corry

154268, 267 Sqdn., Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve who died on 10 September 1944 Age 21

“Down our Way” [in the day] - pubs frequented by Clapham Boys



A popular pub in Clapham Common was the “Alex” opposite the station. It is still a popular “music” venue today, packed at the weekends. Clapham used to frequent it on Tuesday nights after training. What was that all about? Two hours of working out, running and football, followed by three hours and six pints in the pub [maybe a cheeky kebab or curry to round of the night home by midnight! The Alex closer than our other venues, [King’s Head at the Borough or the Fellmongers on the Old Kent Road]. Never really made the Nightingale, no music, although it was around the corner.

Nightingale Pub on Nightingale Lane. Established in 1853 on the historic Old Park Estate, this Grade II listed, Victorian cottage-style gem is still a local favourite!

A great photograph of the Nightingale in the early 1800s. Beer was delivered from the Watney yes, “Watney” Brewery in Mortlake. Later as a “Youngs Pub” beer was still delivered by shire horses from Wandsworth.

The quote above from “The History of Clapham”.





Pele the greatest forward ever born

The good thing about the Europa Conference League as a supporter is that you get to visit some out of the way, dumps in bleak places with obnoxious fans you'd never normally go to. [not my fonts - Editor]

As fans of teams drawn to play Crystal Palace will discover when they get to

Croydon **East Croydon** 5



Disgusting scenes at London Stadium as stewards are forcing West Ham fans to stay until full-time



Danish zoo asks for unwanted pets to feed its predators



One last plea from the Editor Hope you enjoyed your copy of Concordia.



Old Boys have asking if they can contribute to the cost of postage the answer YES. Send Book of Stamps. to Scotty, or donations to COXA marked "STAMPS"

Someone just accused me of plagiarism.

Their words, not mine.

Saint Francis Xavier Sixth Form College Celebrates 40 Years of Excellence

St. Francis Xavier Sixth Form College recently marked a major milestone, celebrating their 40th Anniversary alongside a gathering of past and present staff, students, and friends of the College including some "Old Xaverians" and members of the Garvey family.

The day was a beautiful reflection on their history, faith, and the community that makes SFX special. Highlights of the celebration included a mass of thanksgiving which was celebrated by Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopol Vicar for Education. The service focused on the "Charism" of St. Francis Xavier, reminding us of his mission to shape hearts and minds in the light of good news. This was followed by a blessing of a bench in memory of **Colin Garvey**, a friend and former Chair of Governors. Former Principal, **Stella Flannery**, gave a heart-warming speech, celebrating Colin's lasting impact on thousands of young lives. In her speech she reminded us that in 2003, Colin was appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of St Gregory, one of the highest papal honours, conferred on him for his conspicuous lay service in the Archdiocese of Southwark. Reflecting on the legacy left by Clapham College, current Principal **Graham Thompson** looked back on the



last 40 years noting that nearly 30,000 students had passed through the doors of the college, each taking the "Xaverian Spirit" out into the world to become ethical leaders.

"Everyone who comes to the college does so, in the end, to seek to better themselves... We ask for St. Francis' prayers that our journeys, whether as individuals or as a single united body, may continue in faithfulness and that we continue to achieve great things."

As Graham correctly states **Clapham College** left the Nightingale Lane site 40 years ago. We, as they, have thrived, and hopefully will continue to do so.



Gerry Salmon [the full story] having left out 50% of it, in Concordia 34]

What Did Clapham College Ever Do For Me?

What are secondary schools ever supposed to do for their pupils? I would feel differently on perhaps most fronts if asked in 1968 when I left and in 2024 when I was asked again. As usual hindsight is usually 20/20 vision. I expected it to be a place where I would grow as a person, grow as a Christian, help me attain the results that I would need to maintain a style of living that I chose.

Clapham definitely helped me grow as a person, and it gave me more knowledge of most religions so it helped clear my view on how I saw myself as a member of the Catholic Church, perhaps not even seeing myself as a member. I blame myself entirely for my lack of results although I can say it wasn't my fault entirely.

As luck would have it I was able to pass an interview and get a job I liked, and then another one shortly after. That I put down clearly to the time at the College. Some twenty years or more after that I faced another interview, this time for a position I really wanted, and the ability to be clear and precise, logical, be understandable, helped get me there.

It also gave me a sense of brotherhood with the other boys in the same year, the same form, same school. And it taught me the importance of friendships with other years' students, something that lasted long in my mind, names were always important to me, in the Upper 6th Year I knew every boy's name, perhaps not always and it helped tremendously. I recall getting on a bus in Auckland, New Zealand, and asking the driver if he could tell me when we get to the market. The driver looked at me, smiled, and said 'It's Salmon isn't it?' He was a year two or three lad when I was there, and we went on to have a good chat, we found a lot in common, but I couldn't remember his name. Likewise I remember lounging by the pool in Dubai many years ago and a stranger came and sat next to me. As he ordered a beer I knew it was Bill Kydd, I couldn't mistake his voice, I seem to remember he was working for The Metal Box Company near Wantage, where I lived. Unfortunately I was due to fly home a couple of hours later so dinner couldn't happen but it would have. Clapham helped me to realise that everything adds up life, a visit to a lake in Kenya meant we had to pass a big school nearby, and I was surprised to see it was The Saint Francis Xavier College.

When I left Clapham I was given a school scarf and a school silk square, and they stayed as a memento in my parents' house for many years afterwards. With hindsight, and almost certainly without knowing it, I received training in obedience, self control, a desire to carry on against difficult odds, confidence, keeping healthy. But perhaps above all else, I have a sense of belonging to a group that is traditional, very long lasting, helps itself to continue, and is very well led.

Gerry Salmon 1961 - 1968





Driving down the A34 should be time for quiet reflection, but when confronted by a Discordia Lorry my mind re-focussed on COXA. Why "Discordia", my research speaks of chaos and conflict [for a transport company?]. Why "bellows" ..to fan the flames? No idea why the largest haulage company in Bulgaria chose this name. Maybe "Sandra" on the Board of Directors would know?



Oleksandra Onyshchuk

Director DISCORDIA Ukraine

This post is also available in: [Polish \(polski\)](#)

Discordia was the goddess of confusion, discord and chaos. Equivalent to the Greek Eris. Her name comes from the word *discors* which means "discord".

She was an important deity of the underworld who created inconsistencies in life, caused wars and feuds between families and friends.

It had two manifestations: threatening and gentle: destructive dissent, causing wars, and creative dissent, being the spirit of competition, stimulating urgent action. It made the carpenter envy the carpenter, that each artist envied the other, and at the same time loved his own work. She was presented as a winged figure of a woman. In a military context, it represented rebellion.

Discordia was shown to be cruel and bellicose. **Virgil** mentions that the goddess lived at the entrance to Hell. She was also to be happy to take part in all fights, wearing a torn coat.

Today, *Discordianism* refers to the cult of the goddess. It is a contemporary philosophical trend aimed at undermining the very essence of religiosity by simulating one of them.



Eris on a Greek plate from 520 BCE.

Creative Commons Attribution license - On the same terms 3.0.

Discordia—something to store in the "grey matter" under "You live and learn" ...or just write more articles

Terence Boley.....

Clapham College 1948 ...writes

Scotty. the article by **Tony Gilford** on National Service brought back memories of my time towards the end of 1959 at the not-so-tender age of 23. The demand for young males to do National Service (NS) was falling rapidly so only the fittest were being chosen.

At the age of 18 I went to University (Imperial College) to study Electrical Engineering and this excused me from NS for 3 years. I then did 2 years as a College Apprentice with Metropolitan-Vickers (a large engineering manufacturer in Manchester sadly defunct for decades) and that excused me further. At that time such an apprenticeship after a university degree was essential for a professional career i.e. to become a Chartered Engineer. So I was 23, had got married to my wife, taken a new job in London and we were expecting our first child. Through the post came the message to report to a medical centre tucked down a passageway next to Blackheath station. As you can imagine I was not looking forward to 2 years of NS leaving my wife alone bringing up a baby on the meagre pay of a National Serviceman.

I knew that I had flat feet so decided to walk several miles to get to Blackheath. Having signed in we all went through the routine of inspections, well described by Tony Gilford, until I was finally ushered in to a large, darkened room at one end of which was a screen. I had been wearing prescription glasses from the age of 12 so I was asked to remove these. Then up on the screen came a typical eye test chart. I distinctly remember the top and largest letter was an 'H'. The examiner asked what I could see. My reply was 4 over-lapping 'H's and nothing else. This was checked a couple of times and then I was released.

Quickly a message came through that I was not fit for active service! What they didn't say was that I was probably a danger to my colleagues if I was given a rifle!



Obituary of Raymond Lewis Abrines

Raymond was at Clapham College from 1948-54 and contemporary with myself, **Brian Holohan** and **Christopher Swan** (both the latter are deceased). He died peacefully on the 23rd July 2023, aged 88. Latterly, he had been in a care home suffering from dementia.

Ray was one of the cohort of Sixth Form students in 1954 who went to University. Ray studied at Queen Mary College, University of London (QMC), where he obtained a First-Class Honours Degree in Mathematics, followed by an M.Sc. He then went into teaching, and for many years he was a Senior Lecturer in Mathematics at Kingston University.

Ray had to take early retirement due to ill health, but he was able to continue travelling around his beloved Spain on numerous occasions with his wife, Jo. They aimed to stay in every Parador in mainland Spain.

Ray is survived by Jo, whom he met at QMC, where she was also studying Mathematics, and their daughter Nicola. I have attached a photo from the Order of Service, which I hope will reproduce OK.

Terry Boley

Thank you Terry for your article and your "very" generous contribution towards our postage costs. Sorry that you had to be the one informing us of your friend Ray's death. Keep in touch and do write again, Scotty

Pen pictures of friends not forgotten

Harry Mellor and Norbury - a “thank you”

Harry Mellor was a great Old Xaverian. I first really got to know Harry in the early 1982. It was the time when the Diocese realised that the Clapham College Playing field at Norbury would be ideal for the siting of a new primary school.

Against the threat of losing the complete ground and clubhouse the Association needed to enter into legal discussions with the Diocesan solicitors. Our aim was to preserve the clubhouse and maintain a senior football pitch. Harry, a vastly experienced solicitor, responded to our call! He had previous dealings with the Diocesan solicitors and warned us that entering into legal contract with the diocese would be expensive.

Harry played a ‘blinder’ he drew up two agreements with the solicitors: a lease on the clubhouse and buildings and a licence on the pitch. These agreements were signed in the early 1983 and are still every bit effective today as they were thirty-five years ago. Harry was a true benefactor to the Association.

He waived all his costs and wasn’t wrong on the size of the Diocesan bill! He managed to reduce the other side’s costs by line by line scrutiny. He was surely dealing with a fellow Catenin but would never have said so. Since that time of getting to know Harry, he was a wonderful supporter of the Association.

Harry always attended our functions especially the Chairman’s Lunch and latterly our pilgrimages to the Somme Battlefields. A few years ago we toured the five landing beaches of 1944 Allied invasion of Normandy. Harry was on every beach. A difficult task for a man his age, as we were often walking on sandy beaches and steep dunes but not for Harry! He was brilliant. Nothing was too much bother and I’m sure he was saving himself for the end of day debrief in the restaurant and bar.

Harry Mellor was a regular at our annual mass of remembrance. Who could forget at the World War One Centenary Mass, when Harry movingly talked about his evacuation to East Grinstead in 1939 when the school was mobilised. The walk to Balham Station, his rations packed in a box (which he subsequently had eaten before he reached East Croydon) and life in the countryside thereafter. He had a passion for both Millwall FC (a season ticket holder) and Surrey CCC. He could remember matches, names goal scorers, bowlers, batsmen of a bygone era. He had a memory that took my breath away. Harry was indeed a devoted husband, father and grandfather. At quieter moments I would ask after his wife, a dementia sufferer.

On occasions he would be visibly upset as he told me that she didn’t always know who he was but nonetheless he always visited and cared for her. His love knew no boundaries and was always a loving husband. Until shortly before his death Harry was an active member of the Friday Club, the bimonthly meeting group (**Alec Morrish, Ted Hayter and Brian Sanders**), meeting in local hostelrys for a meal and a pint. Harry was a loyal friend to his school, his Association and the Actinians. He had a deep faith and a love of his religion. A true gentleman. Rest in peace Harry.



Letters to and from the COXA Committee Autumn 2025

Dear Bob, [Morris]



Just a short note of appreciation for all your effort that you have contributed to our occupation of County Road over the past thirty years or so. Without your support I doubt that the Association would have survived there for so long.

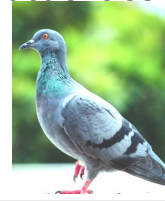
I know that you have invested some considerable time over the years supporting the clubhouse and indirectly the nursery, bar, tenant and footballers. There is much to be thankful to your and Tony's vast contributions. I especially would thank you for making our vacation from the clubhouse so easy. You have disposed of many unwanted items and made proper order of what was left. We were so lucky to have you and the racing club as good friends and partners. I will miss you all!



As you know I attempted to relinquish the site to the diocese on Monday morning with 'vacant possession' there was a delay, however, I eventually picked up the bungalow keys at 10.00 p.m. that evening.

I understand that the diocese will use a 'property guardian' service as security to periodically check up on the site. (I handed over a spare set of keys on the morning of the proposed handover. I have since posted mine and the bungalow keys off to the visiting surveyor). The site will eventually be put up for auction by Allsopp Auctions some time in October once the Nursery has completed their temporary licence.

That's all from me for the moment. Best wishes as always, Eddie



Gentlemen, **the Class of 1954 continues - minus a few sadly-missed diehards**

Just to let you know, those present at Wetherspoon's at Clapham Junction were:

Rich Clark, Tony Cleather, Tony Gilford, Tony Gray, Peter Keenan, Alec Morrish, Phil Roderick-Jones and your correspondent.

I think I can safely say that a good time was had by all, despite the odd physical discomfort.

Apologies for absence (mainly due to more odd physical discomfort) were received from: **Martin McGrath, John Quirk, John Rudd and Mike Walsh.**

Perhaps you could make a note in your diaries of the next get-together:

Wetherspoon's, Clapham Junction, from midday on Wed, 10th December.

Look forward to seeing you all there, healthy and convivial.

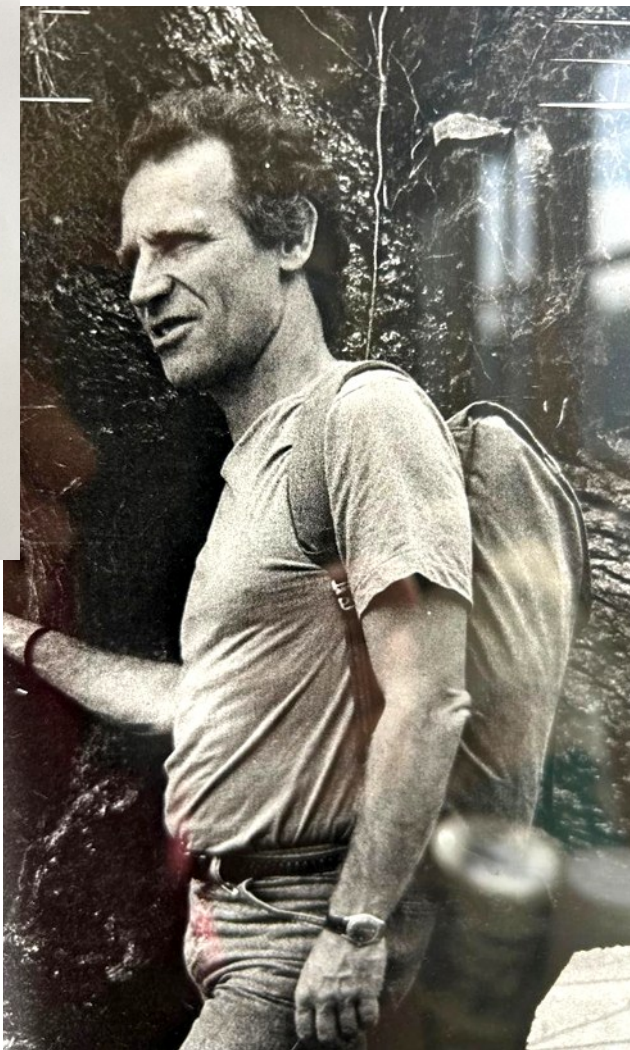
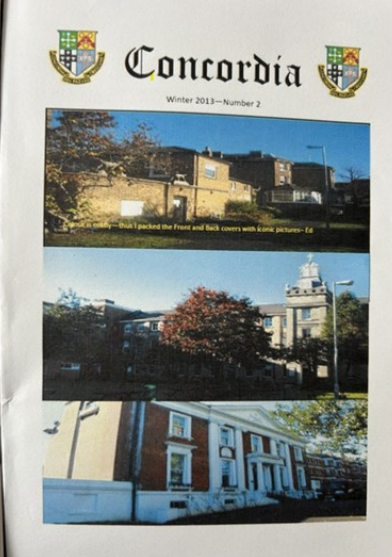
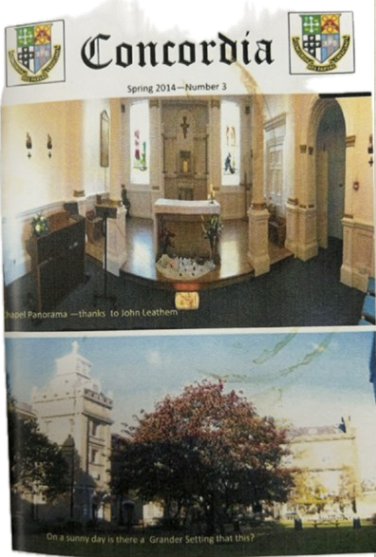
Best regards,

Pete Wills

The Class of 1954 - over 70 years ago!!



Charlton Heston "lives" - or are those wings?



This is my "Chaos" page. .my "appeal" for back copies of Concordia was answered by Jake Richins; proving someone reads Concordia [and is spurred into action]. The two above my Number 2 and Number 3 are still required..if anyone has kept them from 2014. Please have a delve and contact me if you find these rare editions. Below are 2 COXA signs, a century apart



A first COXA sign at an early fete at the College, and the final destination of our latest sign - my garage. Sad place to finish a story—any ideas?

Please "feed " the editor, stories, photos, CASH!

Write to the Editor, with anything Clapham College or COXA, Scotty [Don Macdonald] 12 FARROW DRIVE, WINDMILLS VIEW, BARNHAM WEST SUSSEX PO22 0FN.. Mobile 0750 800 1217 Or EMAIL me at ...editor@claphamoldxaverians.co.uk

Art Williams sponsorship requestand Glastonbury [the only one?]



A Glastonbury Medal? View online. Where are the others? Canterbury, Charterhouse, Walsingham. Does anybody have some. What were they for?

BUILDING HEROES



To donate to the charity, please go to the link on the **Old Xaverian Website.**



Scotty, I have sent you some photos and the fundraising link but here's some background for Concordia. I attended the college from 74-79, my claim to fame might be that I was the last student to be still wearing the blue blazer, as my mother would say, you'll grow into it!

I was an active footballer and tourist for the Old Boys up until emigrating to Australia in 1996. Since that time, I've lived in Melbourne but also in Auckland NZ for 4 years, I have worked in every capital city in Australia and NZ and have enjoyed a career in construction over that time.

Melbourne's claim to fame other than the mighty MCG cricket ground is that we were the most locked down city in the world during the covid-19 pandemic, during which time we were permitted to exercise outdoors for no more than one hour per day within a 5K radius from home, hence my late in life taking up running.

I have completed the Melbourne marathon three times and recently ran the Gold Coast marathon, I'm not setting any land speed records but I have achieved qualifying age group times for the London Marathon, however entering the ballot for the London Marathon is a whole other story, harder to get into than the Bon Bonne on a Saturday night !

Which brings me to this year, as you know my brother **Brendan** started a charity **Building Heroes** many years ago and I have followed with interest from afar the good work that they do.

The opportunity to run the marathon back in my old stomping ground in front of family and friends and for a worthy cause was too good to pass up so I have enrolled to raise as much money as I can for Building Heroes.

I very much appreciate the opportunity to share this story, some old boys are aware and have already sponsored me, (you know who you are) but I can only ask that if any one else was kind enough to donate I can promise this, I will run the course in true COXA style and spirit .

As an aside the first time I ran cross country at Richardson Evans I came second last, narrowly beating **Tommy Cauneen** who stopped for a ciggie, I've come along way since then!

Cheers **Arthur Williams**

A fitting venue and event for Colin's funeral - a packed Cathedral



These are three still photos from the video of Colin's funeral held at Southwark Cathedral. Bit like a Wembley final, this was the setting that Colin deserved. It was also the right capacity for a huge crowd of his friends



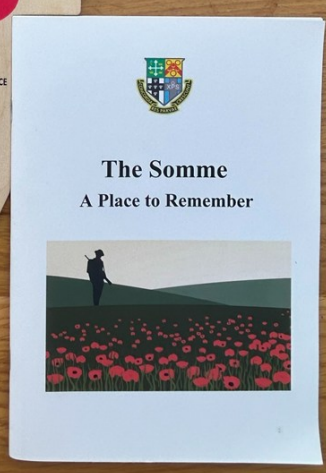
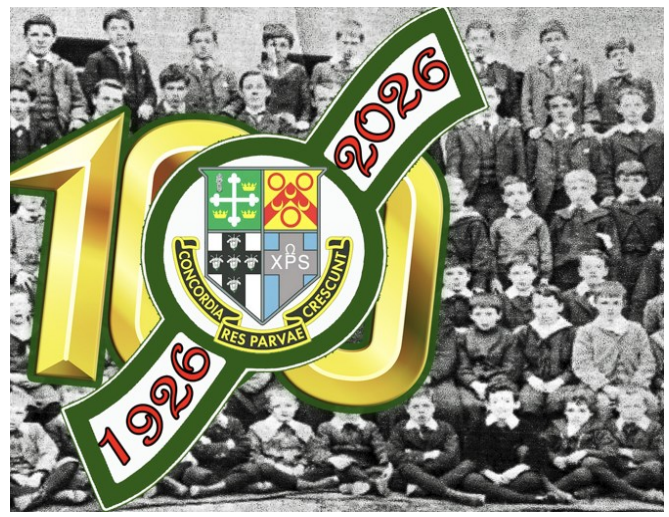
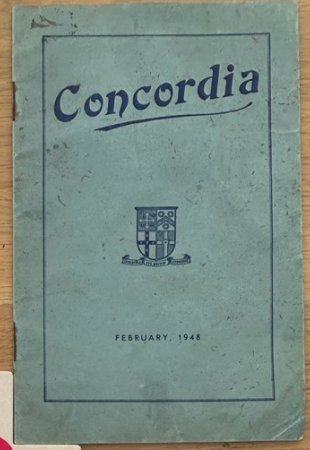
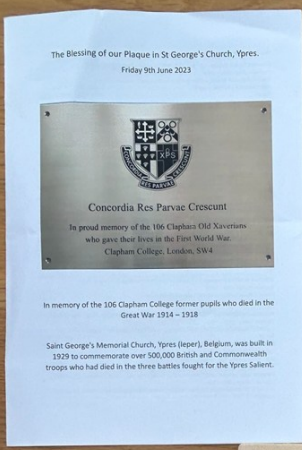
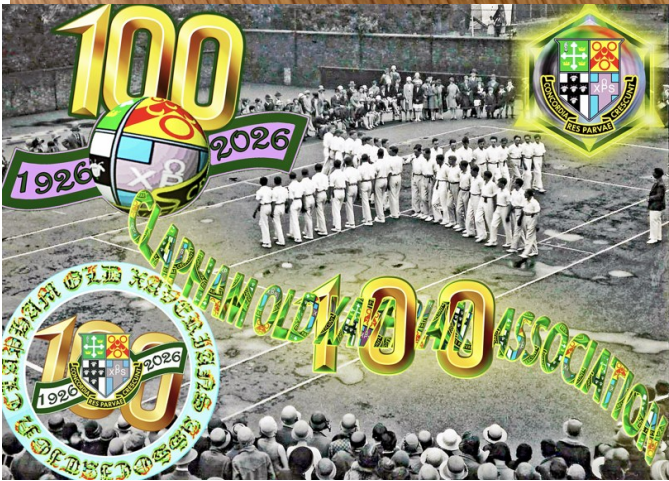
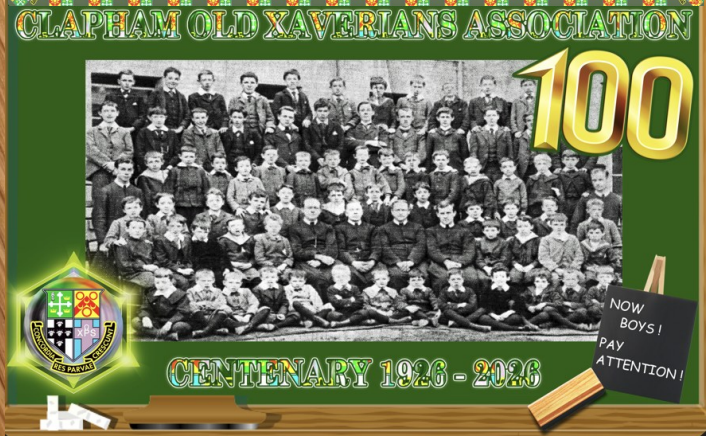
COXA Centenary 2026 - some ideas



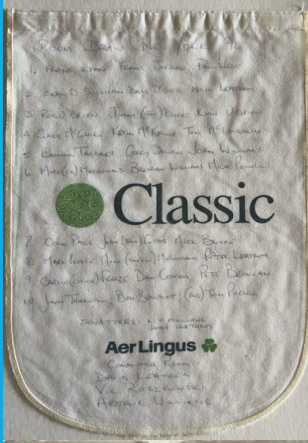
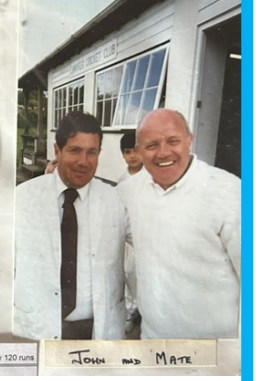
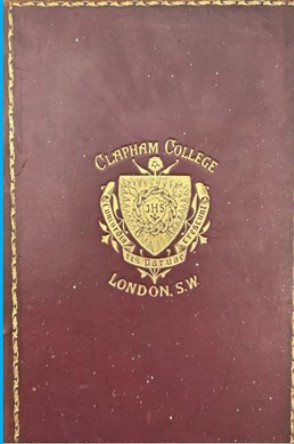
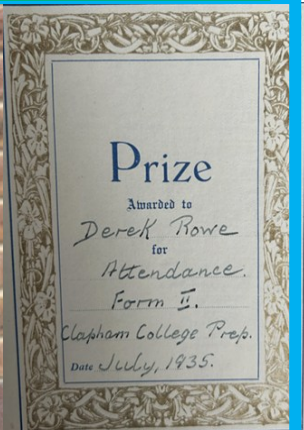
1929 Walsingham medal



100 year old belt clasp



Some of the "treasures" taken off the walls at Norbury—many looking for new homes



IS YOUR FAVOURITE FOOTBALLER'S PICTURE BELOW?

THE ROVER

No. 1806—MAR. 31st. 1956. EVERY THURSDAY. PRICE 3d.

NEXT WEEK

LOOK OUT FOR NEWS OF GREAT FREE GIFTS.



W. ELLIOTT
(Sunderland)



E. BENTLEY
(Chelsea)



G. ROBB
(Tottenham Hotspur)



E. EVANS
(Glasgow Celtic)



J. CHARLES
(Leeds United)

**11 of
BRITAIN'S
TOP
FOOTBALL
PLAYERS**



G. LEGGAT
(Aberdeen)

DO YOU LIKE SAVING UP SETS OF CARDS? NEXT WEEK, YOU'LL READ IN "THE ROVER" ABOUT A GRAND SET OF GLOSSY PHOTOS WHICH IS TO BE GIVEN **FREE.**



S. BAIRSTOW
(Charlton Athletic)



E. ALLEN
(West Bromwich Albion)



T. DOCHERTY
(Preston North End)



E. TAYLOR
(Blackpool)



E. AYRLE
(Charlton Athletic)

Any Comments to Scotty editor@claphamoldxaverians.co.uk