



The Rose & Portcullis

Issue 24 - June 2020

Whilst the school may have been closed since March, staff and pupils have been incredibly busy behind the scenes. Teachers embraced the challenge of remote learning with engaging and innovative lessons delivered to students in their homes. We have been amazed by the creativity and enterprise of students in taking up challenges of all kinds and in adjusting to the unprecedented situation.

The lockdown has demonstrated the tremendous spirit of the Emanuel community. We have launched and supported a range of local community projects detailed below, the DT department has manufactured face masks for use in doctors' surgeries, parents have sewn PPE gowns, virtual choirs have produced impressive performances and records have been set – all in lockdown!

Development update



local partner primary schools

With the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic, we focused our fundraising on local initiatives to support those most impacted in our community.

This began with the donation of perishable food from our kitchen stores to a local food bank and a homeless shelter when the school closed at short notice, enabling the shelter to cook over a thousand meals.

Other initiatives included:

Food deliveries to vulnerable families at

We have delivered nearly 3000 meals to 700 vulnerable families in seven of our local partner schools to date. Many of the most vulnerable families in our partner schools are not going outside for fear of the virus or because a family member or their child suffers from a severe medical condition. Prepared by our catering team and delivered by staff volunteers, our provision of a hot, nutritious family meal has addressed a very real need.

We are now providing families with a meal-in-a-bag which gives them flexibility to prepare their meals when most needed. This option also has the unexpected benefit of providing parents with an opportunity to cook with their children. Colette Morris, Christ Church Primary's head teacher, stated: "The meal kits have been received really well with pupils excited about helping their parent to cook."

Wandsworth Foodbank and Spires donations

We raised a fantastic £3,000 for the Foodbank Wandsworth and Spires. Both organisations struggle to meet demand but with Covid-19, the demand has grown exponentially. With your support, we helped these organisations to provide emergency food, basic essentials and clothing to struggling individuals and families in our local area.

[Find out more](#)

Christ Church School book donations

With school and library closure, our partner primary school Christ Church Primary, who have a high proportion of children on Free School Meals, worried that many pupils would not have access to books at home. We set up a book drive to provide bundles of books to Christ Church pupils. Over 130 books were purchased by the Emanuel community.

Power to Connect

We have so far donated 15 laptops and tablets to Power to Connect – a campaign launched by Battersea Power Station and Wandsworth Council to combat digital poverty. Each will be repurposed into Chromebooks by a team of volunteers working at the Power to Connect hub and then distributed to our local schools.

[Find out more](#)

Virtual open event

With the school closed, all events have been cancelled - including major open events for prospective families. Instead, the school has created a 'virtual open event' video, the majority of which has been produced during lockdown with pupils presenting from home using their own recording equipment.

The video replicates the schedule of events on a normal open day and is a great collaborative effort.

The introductory film, featuring a soundtrack created by Viv (Lower Sixth), is a project we have been working on in-house with pupils and the Film and Media Department over the last year.

Headmaster, Mr Robert Milne, then gives an insight into Emanuel assisted by Ms Hannah Windsor (Head of Lower School) and Year 8 pupil Nicholas.

In the virtual school tour, pupils from various year groups remotely present their favourite parts of the school site.

[Click here](#) to see the 'virtual' experience.



British rowing records set by Emanuel team



During the Covid-19 lockdown, our rowing team have continued their training at home and have set themselves impressive new challenges.

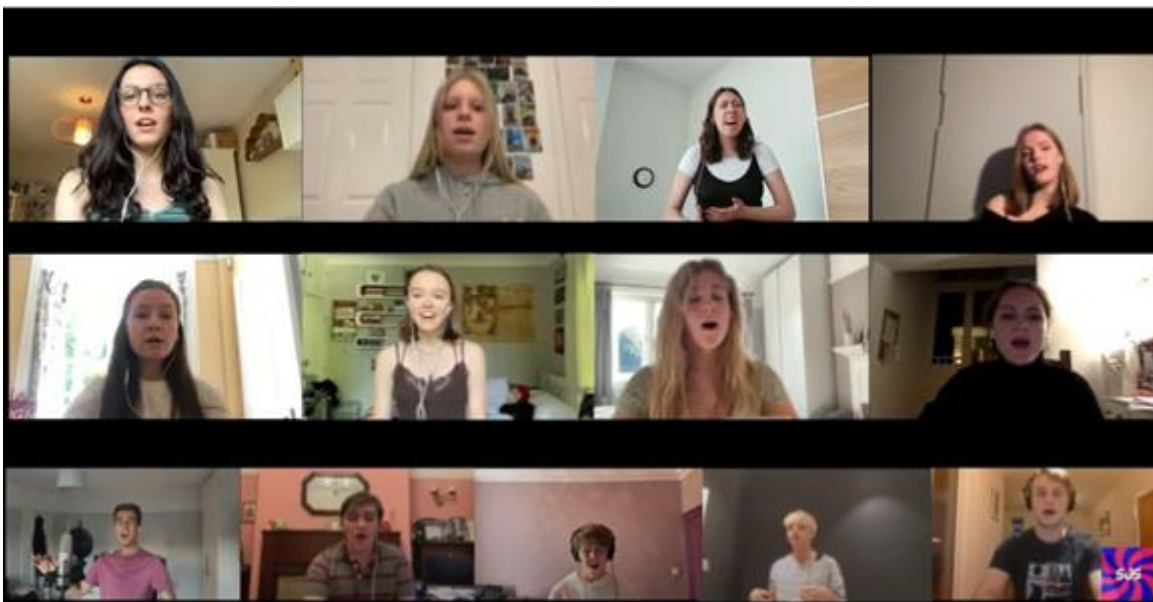
Ollie, our Captain of Boys' Rowing, broke the British Junior Lightweight Men's Record for rowing a marathon distance on the ergo and has set a new record time by rowing 42,195 meters in 2 hours 54 minutes and 50.2 seconds. You can read more about his achievement [here](#).

Guy (Upper Sixth) not only beat the British Record for the 10,000m Lightweight Men 17-18 category, but broke it by 25 seconds, setting a new time of 36 minutes and 28.7 seconds. Guy set his aspirations on the 10,000m record, a middle distance which would require a high intensity sprint row to be the best. In preparation he spent a week monitoring and adjusting his diet to ensure he would weigh in under 72kg and meet the lightweight rowing criteria.

Maddy (Year 11) set a new record for the Womens' 15-16 category, completing 10,000m in 42 minutes and 59.1 seconds.

Many congratulations to Ollie, Guy and Maddy for these exceptional achievements and for their continued dedication during lockdown.

Uplifting virtual performances



During lockdown, current pupils and OEs have participated in online choirs and produced their own songs. We hope you enjoy the selection below:

[OE Lorelei Piper - 'My Narrow Man'](#)

Former Head Girl and Oxford University student Lorelei and her jazz acappella group 'The Oxford Gargoyles' performed this song at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival last year and put the video together recently. The number was arranged by talented singer Tom Lowen (pictured in

the bottom left corner) and the songwriter Gwyneth Herbert has since heard and shared the arrangement.

Sam - 'This is me'

Lower sixth student, Sam, and his choir along with six instrumentalists perform 'This is me' from the hit musical 'The Greatest Showman'. The Emanuel pupils featured are Sam (producer), Susanna (descant), Hugo, Emily, Jasper, Luke, Erica, Ethan, Lucy and Isaac.

Siddiq - 'O Come, O Come, Emanuelites'

Siddiq, current Head Boy, wrote and recorded his own isolation-themed song, 'O Come, O Come, Emanuelites'.

The Lower School choir, 'Roar'-'Royals' by Lorde

Organised by Mr House, teacher of Music and Head of Year 8, each member of the choir digitally submitted a video of them singing their part, which Mr House subsequently pieced together into a full choir rendition of the song.

Art lockdown challenge



The Art department had so much fun taking part in the Getty Museum challenge over the Easter holidays that they were inspired to set up a challenge for Emanuel students.

The challenge was to recreate a famous artwork with any items that could be at home.

There were some very impressive submissions and the overall winner was Seb in year 7 for his fantastic rendition of Waterhouse's 'Lady of Shalott'.

You can see more of the [winning entries here](#).

Emanuel science podcast

Emanuel science teachers have created a fascinating new lockdown podcast in which they discuss both fact and fiction, theories and discoveries, the real and the ridiculous.

Presented by Mrs Brown, Mr Shetzer and Miss Wells, the Emanuel Science Podcast is aimed at everyone, whether you have a keen interest in Science or need something to accompany you in your downtime. This lighthearted and fun podcast, recorded in three separate locations during lockdown, aims to stimulate, inspire and give you a weekly dose of fascinating science. If you would like to feature on the podcast or have anything that you would like us to discuss then it would be fantastic to hear from you. Please email oe@emanuel.org.uk

Emanuel Science Podcast is available to listen to on Anchor, Spotify, RadioPublic, Google Podcasts and Breaker. Find it on Anchor [here](#).



Royal Academy of Arts success

The Royal Academy of Arts have selected artwork submissions by two of our Upper Sixth students for the Royal Academy Young Artists' exhibition.

Poppy and Abbie have had their work selected for the online exhibition from over 17,000 entries. However, the excitement doesn't end there; they have also been selected for the Royal Academy Young Artists' on-site exhibition. The RA are hoping that the exhibition will take place in the autumn depending on the situation with Covid-19.



Poppy's sculptural performance piece investigates the perception of the female form and our societal attitudes. As part of the performance a model wore the piece on the Underground and in the supermarket to challenge viewers' thinking. Abbie's ceramic sculpture is inspired by the continuity and change in buildings when overcome by both man-made and natural degradation.

Both submissions can be seen [here](#).

Ms MacMillan (Head of Art)

Sixth form leavers

In 'normal' times, our outgoing Upper Sixth cohort would enjoy a leavers' day and a ball to mark the end of their time at Emanuel. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis, such plans have had to be put on hold.

Just before half-term, the Sixth Form team held a Zoom get-together for the Upper Sixth, additionally entertained by Head Boy Siddiq's great Kahoot quiz and photo slide show.

The Upper Sixth officially become OEs on Dacre Day, which takes place in early July each year. While Dacre Day is not going ahead for 2020, plans are being put in place for the Upper Sixth to return to the school to celebrate their Emanuel years when it is appropriate to do so.

The traditional yearbook is also being planned to coincide with this get-together, so the students can sign each other's books as they would have done on leavers' morning.



Emanuel News episode 16



The latest episode of [Emanuel News](#) is live and a very unique episode it is, with pupils broadcasting from home. Featuring positive news from within our community, including the performance of Oliver! (filmed before social distancing guidelines were put in place), virtual choirs and several charitable initiatives.

VE Day memories



May 1945.

Friday 8th May marked the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Emanuel pupils were evacuated to Petersfield for almost six years during the Second World War. They shared the teaching facilities of Churcher's College or were taught in any available locations, including pubs, youth clubs and churches.

Ron Williamson was 13 years old when VE Day was announced in Britain. [Click here](#) to read more about Ron's memories as an Emanuel pupil in Petersfield during World War II and the town's celebrations on 8th

You can [read more](#) about how Emanuel celebrated VE day from our Archivist, Tony Jones, [here](#).

The Emanuel School Choir put together a beautiful rendition of 'Thine be the Glory' remotely especially for the occasion and you can [listen to it](#) on our You Tube channel [here](#).

Lockdown film



The school's media department held a short film competition over the Easter holidays, for which Head Boy, Siddiq, submitted this creative interpretation of life in lockdown. You can see his film [here](#).

Siddiq has been offered a place to read Mathematics at Somerville College, Oxford. He's been a regular attendee of the Hans Woyda Mathematics Club and was invited to the Department of Computer Science at Oxford in February as a finalist in the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. He's taken part in British Maths and Physics Olympiads, Senior Maths Challenges, the Weizmann Institute's annual safe-cracking challenge and the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, for which he won a silver award. He also recently produced his own isolation-themed song, 'O Come, O Come, Emanuelites', which can be found [here](#).

OE lockdown tales

During lockdown, the development team has taken the opportunity to catch up with OEs across the globe to hear about their memories of Emanuel.

Here, we bring you stories from two OEs living in Australia: Ed Nice and David Heywood.

Ed is currently Adjunct Professor at Monash University and brings us tales of his escapades at Emanuel.

[Read Ed's lockdown tales here.](#)



After a long and distinguished career in teaching, Dave is now teaching ancient history in Queensland. Amongst other recollections, Dave has an amusing CCF story to relate.

[Read Dave's lockdown tales here.](#)

Open House London 2020 cancelled



We regret to inform you that, due to the ongoing implications of Covid-19, the Open House event due to take place at Emanuel on Saturday 19 September, 2020 has been cancelled. Open House London is the world's largest architecture festival, giving free public access to 800+ buildings, walks, talks and tours over one weekend in September each year.

We very much hope we will be able to be involved in the festival again next year.

Visit the [Open House London website](#) for details of other venues.

OE gives Science Society talk

Paula Darwin (OE 2015) came in to give a Science Society talk on the work she did in Iceland on bacteria that degrade crude oil.

Paula discussed the projects she had taken part in and how she got involved in researching deep sea bacteria called alteromonads. These were found in the sudden disappearance of the deepwater horizon oil spill in 2010 and Paula and her team were assigned to see if, based on this, the ones found in Iceland could degrade biopolymers and how closely they were related to another.



Boxing at Emanuel



halfway there.

During the lockdown we've managed to catch up with many OEs and here Barry Boddy recalls house Boxing in the 1960s:

"Firstly boxing, why do it? Well it was on the list of games to be held one term each year rather like Cricket and Athletics, so if you were keen on sports you just got sucked in - with a little encouragement from some masters. At home my father had bought boxing gloves for my brother and I, [Tony, who was a highly distinguished rugby player] plus a spring boxing punch ball, so we were

First rounds at school were held in the gym and the finals held in Hampden Hall with a real boxing ring raised above spectator seats where it seemed the whole school was collected. I still remember the feelings of apprehension, self-importance, exhilaration and thrill, not to mention the sheer joy and relief at leaving the ring to cheers at the end of the bout.

I remember Ed Nice, and boxing amongst others with Jeremy Tearl, Brian Morgan, Mick Peters all of whom I came across again in the last decades. I really enjoyed my school life, but fully appreciate that it was of its time. I visited the grounds a couple of times in the last few years and my mind was full of nostalgia. However, I saw things have moved on, after all it is now over 50 years gone so I will cling to my memories."

Coach of the Year nomination

We were delighted to hear that Ant Theodossi (OE1994-2001) has been nominated for 'Coach of the Year' by the governing body of the Eton Fives Association. This is exceptionally well deserved as Ant lives and breathes the sport. In OE circles Ant is undoubtedly known as 'Mr Fives' who has both played and coached to very high standards.



Recent photo donations



We have been fortunate to have received some fantastic [photo donations](#) from OEs recently.

Our thanks go to:

[Mic Dixon \(OE1966-73\)](#) - 1974 photos of a rugby knock-around involving many of the school rowers on Duke's Meadow

[Mostyn Field \(OE1969-76\)](#) - 1973 J15 winners of the Schools Head of the River

[Alistair Tinker \(OE1976-82\)](#) - late 1981/1982 rowing photos (Putney)

We are always looking for ways to develop our archive collection, so if you have a fascinating item at home or photographs from your Emanuel days, we would be really interested in hearing from you. Please email our Archivist, Tony Jones – tony.jones@emanuel.org.uk

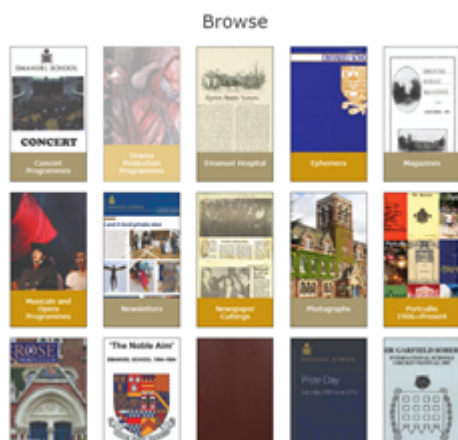
Obituaries



We are sorry to announce the death of OEs Roger Udall (OE1956-61), John Postlethwaite (OE1939-47), [Trevor John Stremes](#) (OE1945-48), Frederic Hopkins (OE1931-38), [Dennis Godfrey Bunce](#) (OE1935-40), Vernon Stanley James Leader (OE1938-45) and John "Benny" Gordon (OE1956-63). We also regret to inform you of the death of Margaret Hendry, widow of former Emanuel headmaster, Peter Hendry (Headmaster 1976-84) and Sheila Lovegrove, widow of OE Ken Lovegrove (OE1936-43).

Frederic Hopkins died recently in Reigate. He became ill soon after his 100th birthday. Frederic's daughter told the OEA by letter that he had exceptionally fond memories of

Digital archives



If you haven't already, take a look at the new archive material which is now available on the Emanuel Digital Archive system [here](#) (or click on the image to the left!):

User name: genguest

Password: genguest

All older links in our OE e-news, apart from the most recent issue, will no longer function. If you have saved the link as a favourite, make sure you update it.

Some of the latest updates include:

- History of Emanuel School by Scott Giles, two versions (also supplement)
- Dr Iain Reid's Rowing Photographic Memoir of the 1960s (covering the first golden era of school rowing. This is genuinely amazing and well worth your time. It is an absolute treasure trove).
- Emanuel 1999/2000 Girls' Sports Yearbook.
- OE Peter Harrington's excellent History of the Houses.
- CCF Operation Hebrides, 1962 and 1967.
- Vintage sports day, cricket, rugby and drama programmes and fixture lists.
- Rose and Portcullis Issue 5 (2019).
- Second World War Memorial Book 1939-45.
- 2009 Reunion to celebrate the school's evacuation 1939-45.

<http://emanuelschoolheritage.cook.websds.net/>

Old Emanuel Luncheon Club



Unfortunately, the June meeting of the Old Emanuel Luncheon Club had to be cancelled due to the current crisis. Whilst there is widespread enthusiasm for getting together one way or another, we will have to make a judgement call on whether the autumn meeting scheduled for Monday 14 September will go ahead and under what conditions (bearing in mind the potential impact of social distancing). I have made a provisional booking at the Union Jack Club for this date but a final decision on whether it goes ahead will be made nearer the time. Please also note in your diaries that the

Xmas lunch is scheduled for 7th December. This is a week earlier than we would normally meet but we have brought the date forward to give a little more space between the lunch and any other Christmas festivities. Please contact me for any further information.

In the meantime, take care and I send you and yours every good wish in these difficult times.

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