



## Issue 27 - February 2021

### Happy new year!

With schools closed this half term, pupils have been busy with remote learning and an impressive range of online co-curricular clubs and activities.

At this difficult time, our thoughts have also turned to those in our community most in need during lockdown with book and coat drives, meals-in-a-bag for partner primary schools, repurposing of laptops for those without digital devices and planned catch-up sessions for local schools. You can read about all of these initiatives below and about our community initiatives, social mobility and infrastructure aims in our latest [Donor Impact Report](#). As Headmaster, Robert Milne, observed, 'This year, more than any other in recent history, we have needed everyone's energy, kindness and commitment to helping others.'

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## 43 for the BRT - support us

This year, we launched our new fundraising initiative, 43 for the BRT. We asked pupils, parents, OEs and staff to get involved by completing 43 of an activity or sponsoring a fundraiser to raise money for [The Battersea Rise Trust](#).



It's been fantastic to see so many great fundraising initiatives – [Miss Mott](#) is drawing 43 portraits, [Mr Andrews](#) is doing 100 press-ups a day for 43 days, parent [Juliet Barclay](#) has recited 43 Shakespeare sonnets in unusual places such as supermarket aisles and building sites, pupils are cycling or running 43k, dancing for 43 hours, completing 43 ice swims at the lido or doing 43 bakes.

43 for the BRT aims to raise £43,000 so that two more children can benefit from a transformative free place at Emanuel. So far, we have raised over £24,000 and are over 55% of our way towards our goal.

Please help us to fund two transformative free places by doing your own fundraising or by visiting [our JustGiving page](#) and supporting others in their challenges.

You can see the fundraisers in action and find out more [here](#).

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## Chaplain's Chat

As pupils have been unable to congregate in Chapel, Father Stuart Labran, our school Chaplain, has been recording weekly online talks for pupils covering a wide range of thought-provoking subjects. We asked him to record a new year Chaplain's Chat for you too. In this video, Father Labran talks about resolutions and

counting our blessings. He has also included a lovely recording of the Emanuel Chapel Choir singing *Come Down, O Love Divine*.

If you enjoyed the Chaplain's Chat and would like us to continue the feature in future editions of the e-news, please drop us a line to let us know – [oe@emanuel.org.uk](mailto:oe@emanuel.org.uk). We always enjoy hearing from you.

[Watch Chaplain's Chat video](#)

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## Help us to combat digital poverty

Our local partner primary schools are desperate for laptops to give to children who are unable to get online to do their schoolwork. The Department for Education has delivered thousands of devices to primary and secondary schools across the

country, but the demand still significantly outstrips the supply. As you know, children's inability to access online learning is crippling - not only is it impossible for them to access their schoolwork but also it exacerbates social isolation and mental health issues.

We are asking for your help in one of two ways:

1) By donating old laptops if you live locally

If you or your friends or neighbours have an old laptop (or tablet, at a pinch) that you no longer use or need, even if it is old and very, very slow as long as it turns on, please donate it. If your workplace is upgrading devices, we would be thrilled to redistribute the old ones to our

partner schools. We will refurbish the laptops and distribute them to our partner schools as soon as possible.

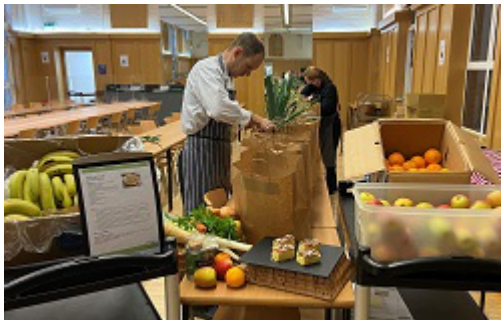
2) By making a donation towards the purchase of Chromebooks

If you would like to donate money towards the purchase of Chromebooks for our partner primary schools, please [click here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Irwin, Deputy Development and Community Partnerships Director – [lisa.irwin@emanuel.org.uk](mailto:lisa.irwin@emanuel.org.uk)

[Find out more](#)

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## Community partnerships update

With the impact of Covid-19 and the resulting school closures, planned partnership activities have had to be postponed. Instead, we have focused our fundraising and community partnership activities on supporting those most in need in our local community.

During the first lockdown, we launched a meal delivery programme and delivered over 5520 nutritious meals to nearly 1400 families in seven of our partner primary schools. Many of our partner schools are asking us for help again with meals. Families are really struggling financially this year – more than ever given the impact of Covid-19 – and putting together healthy delicious meals for their children is really challenging. We put out an appeal to parents and staff to fund meals and have been overwhelmed by the response. Thanks to generous donations, we are planning to deliver over 4000 meals to 1035 vulnerable partner school families before half term and will review provision if schools remain closed.

Last week alone, we delivered 940 meals to 235 families at 12 partner schools. Each meal-in-a-bag includes a recipe card and all of the ingredients to make a tasty meal for a family of 4.

“Thank you so much for your incredibly generous and delicious looking food packs. They will be greatly appreciated.” (John Burns Primary)

“MASSIVE thank you for the donation of these gorgeous, fresh meal bags for our families most in need. It means so much to all of us that we are part of such a caring community!” (Chesterton Primary)

Many families in our partner schools have few, if any, books at home. We organised a book drive for gently used books and new books. We have delivered almost 4000 much-needed books to our partner schools to distribute to pupils.

Our partner primary schools were delighted to receive such a fantastic array of books. Emilie Haston, Headteacher of Goldfinch Primary, wrote to thank everyone who donated books. ‘They are great! Our English leader was beside herself. We are going to get them out to families who are learning remotely. We really appreciate it!’

[Find out more](#)

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## Good Schools Guide

We were delighted with the review the Good Schools Guide published about Emanuel recently. Some of

the comments made about the school include, 'Emanuel is an outward-looking and community-minded school that wants to be of use to the local population.' and, 'there is a tangible buzz about the place.'

You can read the full write-up covering all areas of the school [here](#) or by clicking on the link below.

[Find out more](#)

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## Obituaries

We regret to announce the death of the following OEs:

John A. McManus (OE1944-50)

Leslie Elvin Fearnall (OE1955-61)

[Raymond Geoffrey Sampson](#) (OE1953-58)

Here is an extract from Raymond Sampson's obituary.

"His pre-Dorset days were all London-based and he attended Emanuel School, Wandsworth. He enjoyed school and was a keen scholar, and this thirst for knowledge never left him. Ray's memory was phenomenal and his family named him The Oracle as whenever an answer was required, he could somehow summon the right one."

You can read the full obituary [here](#).



## Volunteering with The Kids Network

After graduating from the University of Leeds with a degree in Psychology, Maya Chauhan-Sims (OE2010-2017) decided to volunteer with [The Kids Network](#), a community of children and young professionals connecting

through fun, friendship and hardship for positive social change, to gain experience and to support the community. 'It is the perfect way to give back to your community as well as gain experience and figure out what is it that you enjoy doing.'

The experience has sparked an interest in children's mental health for Maya and she is now looking to train to become a children's and young people's well-being practitioner.

We caught up with Maya to find out about her experience. You can read Maya's interview [here](#).

[Find out more](#)

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## Darcy Jennings (OE2010-2017) - student athlete at the University of Alabama



Darcy Jennings is completing her final year as a student athlete studying Chemical Engineering at the University of Alabama. Appointed Captain of Boats, Darcy was a legend in Emanuel rowing, winning gold at the National Schools' Regatta in the Coxed Four and a silver the following year in a Double. At the University of Alabama, she has continued her successful rowing career and is captain of the university team, training hard to compete all over the

States.

We caught up with Darcy to find out what it's like to be a student athlete in the US.

### What made you decide to study in the States?

I remember my mum was the first to tell me about the option to study in the US after coming across the Sporting Elite agency tent at the National Schools' Regatta. The most inviting part of the opportunity to study in the US was the full scholarship; I could leave university with no student debt. Then I researched how highly American universities regard their athletes and how many benefits they receive and that was really impressive to me. It felt like the closest I could get to feeling like a professional athlete while still pursuing a degree. The facilities are unreal too.

Read Darcy's full interview [here](#).

Find out more

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## Virtual Boat Club race against St George's College, Weybride

Dear OEs

I was hoping you may be able to get behind the ESBC in a virtual race against St George's College, Weybridge. There is no need to dust off the Lycra just yet, but perhaps you could pop on some trainers and give 21 minutes of your time to show your support for your School's Boat Club over this weekend.

Any time between **5-7<sup>th</sup> February**, we are asking you to run or fast walk for 21 minutes and submit your best distance (in km) in the time by clicking [here](#) or on the link below. Full details of how to get involved are also on the link. There will be prizes awarded for each group and an overall prize for the Boat Club who completes the furthest distance so every kilometre counts. This is a group effort so let's go ESBC!

It would be fantastic to see as many rowers, supporters, OEs and parents get involved with this fun challenge as possible.

The deadline is 17h00 Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Winners will be announced on our school sport social media pages (all details are below).

I am new in post having started as Director of Rowing in December. Working alongside Miss Blaikie, I have been incredibly impressed with the rowers, the facilities and the support from staff and parents. I do hope with your continued support and perhaps even presence at Henley Royal and Henley Women's (when we return to normal) that we can meet, reminisce and continue to build on such a fantastic culture within ESBC.

I would like to encourage you to follow our various social media pages and continue your support for the Boat Club:

Instagram:

Emanuel\_School\_Sport

Emanuel\_rowing\_

Twitter:

@EMS\_Sport #EMSSPORT

Best wishes

**Tim Liversage, Director of Rowing**

[Find out more](#)

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## Virtual performances

### One Day More

Deputy Head Boy, Sam Stocks, kept busy during the first lockdown by organising virtual choirs with friends to raise peoples' spirits through the power of music. Now that we are in lockdown again, Sam has brought the choir and band back together, including faces old and new, with a rendition of Claude-Michel Schönberg's [One Day More](#) from the musical *Les Misérables*. It fittingly premiered on YouTube on New Year's Eve.

[Watch One Day More here.](#)

### The Oxford Gargoyles

OE Lorelei Piper, currently studying Classics at Oxford University, is a member of The Oxford

Gargoyles, Oxford's foremost vocal jazz group.

The group were only able to rehearse briefly with some new members in the autumn term before the second lockdown. During their two-hour meeting, they rehearsed and recorded this rendition of [Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas](#), which felt particularly poignant this year with the lyrics "some day soon we all will be together, if the fates allow. Until then we'll have to muddle through somehow".

The Oxford Gargoyles can be found on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music etc. and on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook [@oxfordgargoyles](#) if you want to keep up to date.

We would also like to share The Oxford Gargoyle's rendition of [Fools Rush In](#) (Johnny Mercer and Rube Bloom) arranged by Lizi Vineall, one of their musical directors this year which they were due to perform in concert in March 2020 but unfortunately it was cancelled due to the pandemic.

[Watch Fools Rush In](#)

[Watch Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas](#)

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## Interview with Paul Slaughter (OE1961-69)

OE Paul Slaughter has had a varied, interesting and impressive career. He trained in the Metropolitan Police and joined the parachute club there, going on to represent Great Britain in parachuting. He has also worked as a Close Protection Officer and run his own security firm for many years. He was an Investigator

on the London riots in Peckham, security manager for the 2012 Olympics and has worked on countless Police investigations, including Operation Yewtree, the Savile enquiry.

Our Archivist, Tony Jones, caught up with Paul to find out more about his colourful life.

[Read the full interview](#)

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## House music e-zine: Ekow Armah (OE1969-76)

OE Ekow Armah is taking part in our 43 for the BRT campaign to raise money for The Battersea Rise Trust. Ekow is a music writer, player and producer and the creator of Biggroove Music's House music e-zine which brings quality dance tracks and a piece of summer all year round. Through [Ekow's JustGiving page](#), you can donate to 43 for the BRT as well as sign up for his free House music e-zine. For every 43 people who sign up to the e-zine, Ekow will make a donation to the 43 for the BRT campaign.

Ekow told us that his love of music originated at Emanuel:

'My ongoing passion for music has a huge part to do with my time at Emanuel School where I was involved in a number of choirs and music events. Also, it was fortuitous that we moved into a house off Lavender Hill that came with an upright piano. That, combined with being able to compose in my head, lead to me getting together keyboards, recording equipment and singers, to 'do my own thing'. Over 100 tracks later, the House e-zine was born, mainly to share my tracks and their back stories with people who like music and to create a slice of summer all year round.

[Find out more](#)

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## Emanuel in top 100 senior schools for cricket

At the end of last year, *The Cricketer* magazine published its Schools Guide 2021, featuring the top 100 senior, the top 50 prep/junior, and for the first time, the top 20 all-girls schools. We are delighted that Emanuel School is featured in the top 100 senior schools list.

All entries were judged against an extensive set of criteria, which included a compelling commitment to cricket in the curriculum, facilities, fixture programmes and coaching.

*The Cricketer* magazine editor Simon Hughes said: “This year’s Schools Guide is particularly important in showcasing our schools who have kept the game alive through a very challenging summer. Whether it has been remote video sessions, drills in the garden or even Zoom quizzes, schools cricket has emerged resolutely from this pandemic and the appetite to get back out on the playing fields is palpable.”

Find out more

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## Felix Rackow: Why I want to return to university

Felix Rackow (OE2013-2018), currently studying English Literature at Edinburgh University, wrote a fascinating and well-written article in the Metro newspaper recently about the tough decisions and predicament facing students currently at university, or stuck at home.

You can read the full article [here](#).

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## Do you have an interest in Buddhism?

OE Richard Bainbridge (OE1957-64) commends lifelong learning to anyone, and he has plenty of experience in that area. Richard is about to start his tenth degree and would really like your help with his research.

Richard says, “As well as working I have been a lifelong student. I am just about to start my 10th degree (is that an OE record?) in Buddhist Studies at





the University of South Wales. I am hoping to undertake a dissertation based on interviews with people who are attracted to Buddhism (the last dissertation at the University of Birmingham involved 133 Quakers and their life stories/spiritual journeys). This can be a life commitment or an interest in Zen books or even a love of a Buddha in the garden as part of 'performative religion'.

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be interested in being interviewed."

Richard Bainbridge

[rmbainbridge@gmail.com](mailto:rmbainbridge@gmail.com)

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## From the archive: Emanuel in the 1930s and 1940s

The 1930s and 1940s were fascinating periods in Emanuel School history and in his revealing memoir, first published in 1998, the late Professor David Stockton (OE1937-44) recalls his time at the school and the excitement of the evacuation to the Hampshire town of Petersfield.

After leaving school David joined the Navy and eventually served at Bletchley Park as a code breaker. In his last year he was School Captain and won an open scholarship to read Classics at Magdalen College Oxford; he later became a professor at Brasenose College where he taught for the remainder of his career. In 1998, when the memoir was written, he was an Emanuel School

Governor and was best known for his book *Cicero: A Political Biography* which is widely recognised as one of the very best works about the famous Roman statesman.

Read David Stockton's memoir [here](#).

Find out more

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## Ken Harrison recalls the JTC and CCF of the 1940s

We were delighted to recently hear from Ken Harrison (OE1945-50) who told us about his experience in the Junior Training Corps (JTC) which was later renamed the Combined Cadet Force (CCF). Ken also has an interest in oral history, which he references at the start of the article.

Ken left Emanuel in 1950 after Fifth Form (5 Arts) with the rank of L/Sgt in the CCF and having passed his War Office Certificate "A".

This recollection is of an era which disappeared almost seventy years ago whilst in the School Corp. When I joined, it was called the JTC (Junior Training Corp) whereas pre-1939 it had been the OTC (Officer Training Corp). It later changed to the CCF but due to the connections with the City Corps, we were allowed to use the regimental Royal Fusiliers cap badge. Being in the CCF thus allowed the school to have a light blue ATC section.

[Find out more](#)

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## From the Archives: the origin of Rugby Union at Emanuel

Last week, England Rugby marked its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Here, Archivist Tony Jones looks at the history of the game at Emanuel School.

On 26<sup>th</sup> January 1871, a meeting between representatives of 21 English rugby clubs took place, which led to the birth of one of the oldest sporting governing bodies in the world. Within a few months the first ever rugby international fixture took place, against Scotland. Although rugby quickly became a very popular sport, it took eighteen years for the first 'official' fixture to take place at Emanuel.

It is well documented that in 1883 Emanuel played football (and cricket in the summer) as its main sports. However, its first official rugby fixture took place, almost twenty years later, on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1902. Issue 28 of *The Portcullis* noted of the occasion:

*"April 5th Emanuel School brought their football season to a close with a match, under the Rules of the Rugby Football Union; as a first attempt, it was most successful. The Catford Bridge F.C. kindly sent a team to oppose us; the day was unfortunately wet, and there were many "muddied oafs" to be seen about the School after the game. Our boys must be congratulated on the plucky game they played. Final score: Catford, 1 goal, 3 tries (14 points), Emanuel, 1 goal (5 points). Mr. Brough scored our try, and Daintrey kicked the goal."*

[Find out more](#)

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## Can you help us find any lost OEs?

We have lost touch with a number of Old Emanuels. If you are in touch with someone who doesn't receive communications from us but would like to, please ask them to send us their details via email at [oe@emanuel.org.uk](mailto:oe@emanuel.org.uk)

We have no contact details for many OEs from the 1970s in particular.



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