



Emanuel School

The Rose & Portcullis

## Issue 38 - October 2023

Welcome to our newest OEs - the Class of 2023

Emanuel School

## GIANT STRIDES

### New All Weather Pitch opens

We were delighted to celebrate the opening of our new All Weather Pitch and cricket nets at Blagdons, our Off Site Sports Ground, as the new term started.

The All Weather Pitch was officially opened by Councillor Hina Bokhari and the Headmaster with the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate the occasion. They were joined by GB hockey player and Olympic gold medal winner, Giselle Ansley, and hockey star Chris Griffiths as well as Merton's Cabinet Member for Sport, Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah.

The All Weather Pitch allows us to offer a broader range of co-educational sport with provision for netball, tennis, football and hockey, as well as cricket and rugby on the existing pitches. The new facilities give us a home ground for girls' and boys' sport and demonstrate our commitment to sports, wellbeing and fitness for our pupils and the wider community.

The development is just the first phase in upgrading our 14-acre Off Site Sports Ground.

If you would like to find out more or support our capital project, please email [development@emanuel.org.uk](mailto:development@emanuel.org.uk) or visit our [website](#).



[Find out more](#)

## A level and GCSE success

At GCSE level, 41% of grades were level 9, our highest outcome in any examination year. Over two-thirds of results were graded 9 or 8, nine pupils achieved perfect GCSE grades (each receiving ten grade 9s) and over half the year group attained a grade average of at least 8.0. Excellence was achieved across the academic spectrum:

Almost fifty pupils elected to take an additional Further Mathematics qualification (85% of whom received grades 9-7)

Performance in the creative subjects demonstrated the breadth of talent in the year group (95% of Art, Design Technology, Drama and Music entries were graded 9-7).

At A level, pupils achieved the highest Oxbridge results for two decades and there was a sustained growth in performance. 9 pupils gained Oxbridge places and more than a quarter of the year group achieved 100% A\*-A grades. Over 85% were awarded their choice of university place with 76% opting for Russell Group institutions and 84% going on to top tier universities including Bath and St Andrews. 32% of offers were for STEM subjects.

You can find out more about GCSE results [here](#) and A level results [here](#).



[Find out more](#)



## Join us for Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral

The school choir, Emanuel Singers, will be at St Paul's Cathedral on **Monday 6 November** to sing Evensong at 5pm.

The choir will sing responses by Richard Ayleward, a setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D minor by Thomas Attwood Walmisley, and S.S. Wesley's

anthem *Blessed be the God and Father*.

If you would like to attend, please take your seats by 4.45pm. No tickets are required.



## Class of 1980 reunion

We were delighted to welcome back Old Emanuels (OEs) who joined the school 50 years ago for an archive display in the Terrace Room and a tour of the school.

Many thanks to Brian Cassidy who put a huge amount of work into bringing such an impressive number of the year group together for the event.

[Find out more](#)

## *More Perfect* by Temi Oh

Congratulations to Temi Oh (OE2009-11) on her second book, *More Perfect*, a science fiction novel set in the near future which reimagines the Greek myth of Eurydice and Orpheus. Temi's first novel, *Do you Dream of Terra-Two*, won the American Library Association's Alex Award in 2020 and was an NPR Best Book of the Year in 2019. She has also written stories for Marvel's *Black Panther*, *Dr Who* and *Overwatch*.

After leaving Emanuel, Temi graduated from King's College London with a BSci in Neuroscience. While at KCL, Temi founded and ran a book club where she led discussions about science fiction books focusing on the brain. She has also been awarded an MA in creative writing from the University of Edinburgh.





## An interview with geologist Ted Rose (OE1952-59)

We love hearing of more than one generation of the same family attending Emanuel and were delighted to catch up with Dr Ted Rose when he returned to the school after more than six decades for an event involving his granddaughter. After leaving school in 1959, Ted studied Geology at the University of Oxford and went on to

an incredibly rewarding and successful university career teaching and researching Geology and Palaeontology. He was also a military geologist for 21 years, making field studies during university vacation periods to support military projects, exercises or operations all over the world. On full retirement in 2003, Ted was appointed an Honorary Research Fellow at Royal Holloway.

[Find out more](#)



## Black History Month

This year's Black History Month at Emanuel was brimming with events and activities to illuminate, educate and inspire. It was a time when we came together as a community to commemorate the profound contributions, struggles and triumphs of the black community throughout history. The line-up of events is a testament to the diversity and

richness of this heritage, offering a tapestry of experiences and perspectives that exemplify the essence of Black History Month.

From thought-provoking discussions in the Senior Debating Society, in which students examined the implications of affirmative action, to the Junior Debating Society's contemplation of the continued relevance of Black History Month, these debates challenged and provoked insightful conversations about our society today.

[Find out more](#)



## Arkwright Engineering Scholarships

Congratulations to Kathryn and Thomas in Year 12 for becoming Arkwright Engineering Scholars.

An Arkwright Scholarship is the most esteemed scholarship of its type in the UK, designed to inspire students to pursue their dreams and change the world as an outstanding engineer of the future.

Kathryn and Thomas were selected from nearly 1400 applicants and underwent a

rigorous and competitive selection process, from an online application to the aptitude exam, culminating in a virtual interview.

Katherine will be placed with The Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers and Tom with the Royal Air Force (RAF).

[Find out more](#)



## Actor Eddie Elliott gives Drama workshop

Drama scholars were treated to an informative and practical workshop on Status by OE actor Eddie Elliott (OE1995-2002). Eddie has just finished a limited run of *The Strange Loop*, the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning Best Musical, at the Barbican. He has a string of West End productions to his name including *The Lion King* and *Motown* and has appeared at The National in *Blues for an Alabama Sky*.

Eddie appeared in many school productions such as *The Wizard of Oz* (the Cowardly Lion) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Claudio). Eddie was also a terrific singer and a member of the a cappella group, *Panache!*

## Obituaries

We regret to announce the death of the following OEs.  
Please click on the names for more information.

[Terence Ernest Clark \(OE1950-57\)](#)

[Howard Jones \(OE1963-70\)](#)

[Graham Francis Marshall \(OE1947-55\)](#)

[Geoffrey Henry Thorne \(OE1958-65\)](#)

[Colin M White \(OE1954-61\)](#)

Samuel Waylen (OE1963-71) - obituary to follow in the next edition



Graham Marshall (pictured above)



### Dr Robbie Murray visits Emanuel

The Physics department were delighted to host Dr Robbie Murray (OE1999-2006) for a talk to our A level students about his career.

Robbie is a lecturer in Photonics in the Physics department at Imperial College London, developing next-generation mid-infrared light sources for a range of applications. He discussed his research on lasers, the medical and military applications of his research and what it's like to work as a scientist.



## John Blanchard and David Salinger

John Blanchard (OE1959-66) and his wife recently hosted David Salinger (OE1960-67) and his wife at their home near Alicante, Spain.

John and David played cricket together while at school; John was School Captain and Captain of cricket in 1966. David was Captain of cricket in 1967. Both played in the 1st XI that beat the MCC, captained by OE Stuart Surridge in 1965. David also shared with Roy Lobb in a 1st XI record-opening stand of 188.

As a school teacher, John focused on how language can be used to help people teach and learn better. He worked with colleagues in higher education and continued doing so as an education consultant. He has written several books;

his last one, *To make a better future What must we do?*, was published this year.

David developed a course in hair and scalp diseases at the University of Southern California and has trained students in the specialty of Trichology throughout the world. He is Director of the International Association of Trichologists and lives in Australia. His book, *Hair Loss Handbook*, has been used at colleges in several countries.



## Do you have a story to share?

Please let us know if you have a story to share in this year's edition of *The Rose and Portcullis* magazine and other alumni communications.

We're looking for stories about interesting and varied careers, entrepreneurship or setting up your own business, achievements and awards, books you have written or other subjects you think OEs would like to read about.

If you have a story to share or an interesting idea for an article, please email Anna Van Es at [oe@emanuel.org.uk](mailto:oe@emanuel.org.uk) to let us know.





## Ask the Archivist

Archivist and Senior Librarian, Tony Jones, has worked at Emanuel School since 1999 and in those early years did not relish receiving archive enquiries which began something like, "Could you please tell me about my great-uncle Charlie who attended your school over a hundred years ago." This was because the Archive as we now know it did not exist and nothing was digitised. To answer enquiries meant long browses through dusty *Portcullis* magazines or

rooting through old boxes. Often answering enquiries felt like looking for a needle in a haystack.

However, when the library was modernised and relocated to the old Senior Dining Hall and Buttery in 2007, the modern Archive was born. With the help of OE donations, we began a long, complex process of rebinding, restoring, digitising and collecting everything connected to the school. Fifteen years later, we are very proud of our collection of photos, medals, uniforms, newspaper clippings, programmes, memoirs and everything else which helps celebrate the proud history of Emanuel.

Instead of dreading enquiries from OEs, professionals or members of the public doing family research, they are now a fun part of Tony's job. We answer most questions successfully, but have come to realise that some questions might never be answered, such as when an OE asked whether we could provide the ingredients for a mid-1970s dessert!

If you have a question for the Archivist or would like the password for the Digital Archive, please email [oe@emanuel.org.uk](mailto:oe@emanuel.org.uk).

[Visit the Digital Archive](#)

---



## From the Archive

Flannel's Day (now known as Dacre Day) has always been a popular occasion in the school calendar, dating back to the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when it was originally called Founder's Day.

Occasionally a celebrity would make an appearance, perhaps to award raffle prizes or make a speech of some kind. In the 1980s, Nicholas Parsons was a regular on television both as actor and presenter (perhaps best known for *Sale of the Century*) and caused a stir when he appeared at Flannel's Day. Mr Edward Foley (OE1981-85) very kindly gave us this photograph and recalls the fine occasion:

"Nicholas Parsons was invited to inspect the school CCF Guard of Honour that used to perform the 'Keys Ceremony' each year along the Drive with the 'guard' coming out of the main porch and challenging the 'keys and escort' which was always a highlight. A

few of the pupils appearing in the photo with me are Dom Brockes, Roger Brodie and Barney Trowbridge."

Teacher George Cannon (who is a bit blurry) stands to the right of Nicholas.



## Is this the shortest cricket match ever?

The sport of cricket is notorious for discussions over obscure statistics and records, ranging from the longest, to the shortest and endless variables in between. However, when you explore the 'records' beyond international and county cricket level it becomes incredibly difficult to verify as the

scorecards do not exist.

We recently heard from John Sullivan (OE1947-57) who played in an incredibly short school match and he was interested in exploring whether this was a record of some type.

Historically, *The Portcullis* only provides full statistics of First XI cricket fixtures and we are, therefore, fortunate that the magazine verifies John's 1953 recollection, in which the Colts XI (usually an U15 or U16 team, or a mix of both) defeated Alleyn's in a mere three balls. The exact quote notes:

*"Much of their hard work will be rewarded in the future, but the immediate fruits were realised this year when the U15s beat Epsom, Eltham, Reading and finally - by the handsome margin of 10 wickets - Alleyn's (Alleyn's, 9 all out: School, 10 for 0 wkts. in three balls).*

[Find out more](#)



Bob Barlow and Mike Hogg.

*From Stuart Cameron-Waller (OE1961-69)*

## Over 2000 appearances for OERFC 1st XV

In June, ten OEs from the '50s, '60s and '70s gathered in Central London on the occasion of what is fast becoming Ed Nice's annual trip home from Melbourne.

We worked out that back in the day the group had collectively made over 2000 appearances for the OERFC 1<sup>st</sup> XV – not to mention countless appearances for some in lower sides. Still going strong (but not on the rugby field!) are (from left to right) Andy Bryce, Bob Archer, Ed Nice, Stuart Cameron-Waller, Paul Quade, John Williams, Paul Ventham, John Sturgeon,

---

## Old Emanuel Golf Society report

I am sorry to report that we were unable to hold an Autumn Meeting this year because of lack of numbers. It's just one of those things, with regulars unable to attend for a variety of reasons. We are planning to return to Kingswood next Autumn and will arrange a date in good time for everyone's diaries.

A reminder for old and new members that our 2024 Spring Meeting at Cuddington GC will be on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who has not played with us before will be most welcome. If you have any questions, do get in touch.

Simon Muskett, Secretary of the Old Emanuel Golf Society

[slmuskett@yahoo.com](mailto:slmuskett@yahoo.com)

0771 290 5218

---

## Old Emanuel Luncheon Club

The next meeting of the Old Emanuel Luncheon Club will take place on Monday 11 December 2023 at Doggett's Coat and Badge, 1 Blackfriars Bridge, London SE1 9UD (12.30pm for 1.15pm).

All OEs are welcome. Why not use this opportunity to meet up with a group of old friends from your time at Emanuel? For more information, please contact Stuart Cameron-Waller on [stuart@cwt2001.com](mailto:stuart@cwt2001.com) or 07725693175.

---



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Emanuel School

Emanuel School Battersea Rise London SW11 1HS