



The Rose & Portcullis

## Issue 39 - December 2023

Happy Christmas from us all at Emanuel School and thank you for your support.

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### **St Cecilia's Concert: Celebrating 430 years of Emanuel School**

This year's St Cecilia's Concert was held at St John's Smith Square, one of London's great concert venues, to mark the 430th anniversary of the foundation of the school.

We welcomed over 400 guests to enjoy a celebration of the superb musical talent within our pupil body. Some of the highlights included the Symphony Orchestra's rendition of Vaughan-Williams' English Folk Song Suite, the Senior Strings playing two movements from Holst's St Paul's Suite, the Concert Band playing two movements from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, a fully orchestrated version of the Emanuel School Song and a medley from Phantom of the Opera featuring the school choir, organ and orchestra.

You can watch a great video round-up of the event by clicking on the link below.



[Watch the video](#)



## Emanuel inside top 10 of all fully co-ed independent day schools

Emanuel is pleased to again see some excellent outcomes in [The Sunday Times Parent Power](#) publication.

Following on from our excellent [GCSE examination results](#) in the summer, the school was ranked 6th amongst fully co-ed

independent day schools. When combined with our strong [A level results](#) the school was 11th among fully co-educational independent day schools.

Just as we never measure a pupil's value by examination outcomes alone, we see that these indicators of academic performance are just a small part of what our pupils achieve during their time with us.

## OE survey - please tell us what you think

We would love to know what you think about our alumni events, communications and plans.

If you have not already done so, we hope you will help us to improve what we offer by filling in our survey. It will only take a few minutes to complete.

[Fill in the OE survey](#)

## 35th anniversary of the Clapham Rail Disaster

On 12 December, 1988 three trains collided at 8.10am very close to the grounds of the school after a signalling failure. 35 people were killed and almost 500 injured in what later became known as the Clapham Rail Disaster.

On the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragedy, a large number of survivors, family members, train drivers, union members, as well as the police and ambulance services gathered at the memorial on Spencer Park to pay their respects and lay wreaths.

The organisers of the event also thanked the school for its quick response to the disaster. It was a very moving ceremony and our thoughts are with the families affected.



[Find out more](#)

## Ana Zigic (OE2006-2013) takes on Atlantic Challenge

As you enjoy the Christmas festivities, spare a thought for Ana and the other three members of the There she Rows team as they take on the Atlantic Ocean. The gruelling 3000-mile race from La Gomera to Antigua started on 12 December and will take 30-40 days. The team aims to inspire the next generation of girls and women through sport and showcase that with self-belief, their own Atlantic Oceans can be crossed and conquered.

A couple of days ago, team spirits were high with massive waves pushing them in the right direction and giving them a bit of a speed boost. They were then 2nd in the women's category but knew that they were about to contend with some challenging weather conditions.



The team can be found on Instagram at [@theresherows](#) and Ana's account is [@anaontheboat](#)

[Find out more](#)



## Scottish Rugby awards retrospective caps to Alan Friell (staff 1992-2012)

Due to the expansion of world rugby, many older games which would not have qualified for a full international cap have been reclassified. Internationally, former Head of Sport and all-round sportsman, Alan Friell, spent many

years as the understudy for the great Jim Renwick who amassed 52 caps between 1972 and 1984, whilst Alan sat on the bench or played for Scotland 'B'. One of Alan's 1974 games against the Netherlands has been reclassified and he is amongst eighteen players to be recognized with a ceremony.

Alan joined Emanuel in 1992 after spending many years teaching at Dulwich College Prep School. As Director of Rugby, he coached the 1st XV for many years and in later years returned to his roots, coaching junior pupils in the U13 and U12 teams. He put in a huge number of hours away from rugby, running almost single-handedly swimming and athletics for all of his twenty years at the school, as well as taking cricket teams in the summer. These days Al is more likely to be spotted on the golf course (or bowls lawn) than the rugby touchline and is remembered fondly by many with Emanuel connections.



Find out more



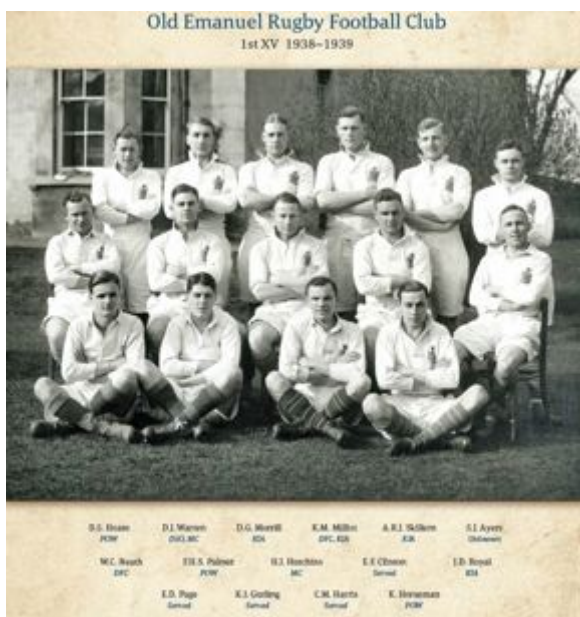
## Emanuel in the Community

We have an active [community and partnership programme](#) that involves pupils, staff, parents and the wider community. We are delighted to share some of the highlights of our activities this term [here](#).

The Independent School Council's 2023 [Celebrating Partnerships booklet](#) was published on 27 November to mark the start of Partnership Week. The booklet showcases the incredible partnership work taking place between state and independent schools and highlights the transformative impact of these collaborations. We are delighted to be included in the booklet again this year for our Ukrainian Coffee and Conversation Hub.

You can also read our latest Emanuel in the Community Spotlight booklet by clicking on the link below.

Find out more



## Old Emanuel First XV of the 1938/39 season

If ever there was a photo which could tell a thousand stories, this one of the Old Emanuel First XV of the 1938/39 season is it.

Fourteen of the fifteen men featured in the photo served in the war; we are unsure about the final member of the team. Four of the fifteen lost their lives, another four received military awards of high distinction, a further three were POWs at some point in the conflict and two were Battle of Britain pilots. Find out more from our Archivist, Tony Jones, who has chronicled the stories of the First XV rugby team .

Find out more



## Art Foundation OEs

In November, Poppy Sendell (OE2012-2020) and Ethan Bailey-Smith (OE2014-2021) visited the Art department to give a talk on Art Foundation courses.

Poppy discussed her experience at Kensington and Chelsea College (now Morley College), where she specialised in fashion design, and spoke about her current degree in Womenswear Fashion at Central St Martins, showing examples of her work.

Ethan spoke about his time at Central St. Martins, where he completed a Foundation course, and his current degree in Performance: Design and Practice at Central St Martins, an interdisciplinary performance course where students develop both live and screen-based work.

[Find out more](#)

## Obituaries

We regret to announce the death of the following members of the Emanuel community.

Peter Betts (OE1970-77) - obituary in *The Guardian* [here](#)

Ron Coppock (OE1950-55) - obituary to follow

Mary Davies (staff 1954-95) - obituary to follow

John Ronald Miell (OE1941-45)

[Samuel Waylen \(OE1963-71\)](#)



Samuel Waylen



## Episode 27 of Emanuel News

In episode 27 of the Emanuel News, Media Club pupils from Year 6 and 7 share some of the highlights of the Autumn term.

[Find out more](#)



## The Chairman's Prize returns to Emanuel after almost 120 years

When Christopher James Bowles left Emanuel in 1905 to pursue a successful career in banking, he could not have imagined that one of the trophies he was awarded as a pupil would find its way back to Emanuel well over a century later.

We were delighted to welcome Christopher's grandson, James Bell, to Emanuel to present their family heirloom to the School Archive after more than thirty years in his possession.

At Emanuel, Christopher had a successful academic and sporting career, culminating

in being awarded the Chairman's Prize for the 'Half-Mile Handicap' (scratch race) in his final year in school. *The Portcullis* magazine notes he passed several sets of local Cambridge exams and was awarded various shorthand certificates. He was also awarded other prizes for good conduct, punctuality and in 1904 a certificate for "faithfully discharging the duties of a Monitor" in the era before we had prefects. Christopher won both Mathematics and Music prizes and returned to Emanuel in 1908 to sing in a musical event involving OEs. For the 1901 Mathematics prize he was presented with *Tales from Shakespeare*, a book still in the possession of his family.

[Find out more](#)

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## 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.



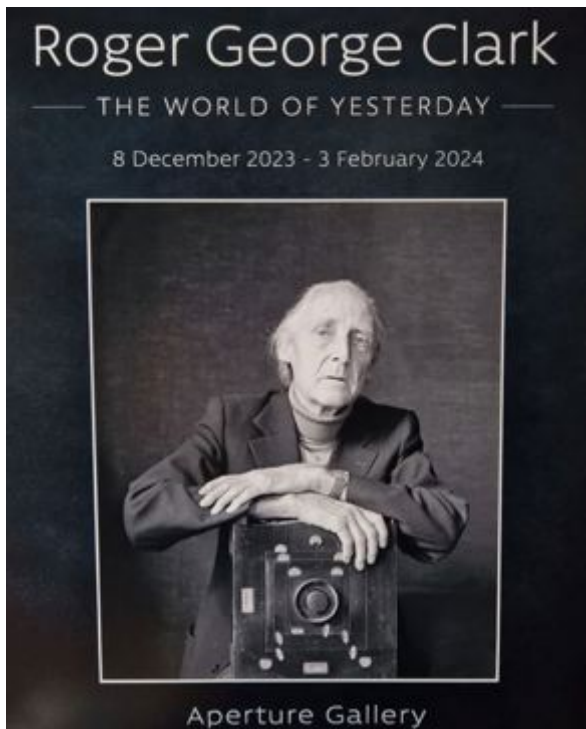
## Max Browne (OE1964-69) - cameraman, photographer and author

Max Browne's early career was in rock stills which for many years appeared in the popular music press such as *NME* and *Melody Maker*, before he moved into documentary filming. As a specialist art historian, Max has written books and articles on artists from William Blake to the Pre-Raphaelites and beyond.

Click to find out more about Max's time at Emanuel and career beyond.

[Find out more](#)





## The World of Yesterday Exhibition

Distinguished photographer Roger George Clark's (OE1956-63) work is being exhibited at the [Aperture Gallery](#) throughout December until 3rd February, 2024.

Roger took up photography whilst studying at Emanuel and his earliest work was published in *The Portcullis* magazine whilst he was in the Sixth Form. Over this period he took many striking photographs of the school building, rowing squads in training, Combined Cadet Force camps, the trainspotting club and other day-to-day school activities. These were the seeds of a remarkable career in which Roger

photographed many personalities including some of the world's most famous photographers such as Norman Parkinson, David Bailey and Jane Bown.

[Find out more](#)



## Old Emanuel trailwalkers

A team of OEs completed the 100km Trailwalker across the South Downs Way from Southampton to Brighton within 30 hours in aid of the Gurkha Welfare Trust. William Taper summed it up in the following words, "Far, far too many hills. Lots of cows and sheep. 4 broken bodies! £3600 received so far."

The Gurkha Welfare Trust provides vital support to Gurkha veterans, their families

and communities in Nepal through the provision of financial, medical and community aid.

The OE team comprised Simon Dillsworth, Daniel Preedy, Tim Seaton and William Taper.

You can still support their efforts [here](#).

## Old Emanuel Golf Society

Now that it's winter, golf may not be in your thoughts! However, the snow, frost, wind and rain will soon pass and your thoughts will return to outdoor activities again. How about a thoroughly

enjoyable day of golf combined with meeting up with friends for catch ups, reminiscences and a moderately competitive day's sport?

If you are a golfer, please consider joining other members of our Old Emanuel Golf Society on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Cuddington Golf Club (near Banstead) for 18 holes of golf and a dinner in the evening.

The Society holds two meetings a year, the Spring Meeting at Cuddington, and an Autumn Meeting, which this year will be at Kingswood Golf Club (date yet to be confirmed).

If you have any questions, please get in touch.

Simon Muskett (slmuskett@yahoo.com)

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## **Old Emanuel Luncheon Club**

On 11 December 2023, 53 OEs and their guests made it to Doggett's Coat & Badge at Blackfriars to celebrate another year of Connection, Camaraderie, Charity & Community Sport, the four pillars of membership of the OEA.

OE Rev Charles Lawrence started proceedings with grace. During a pause between courses, Michael Russell, the school Bursar, gave a brief but impressive summary of the school's recent achievements and future plans, taking questions along the way. We later heard from Justin Latta and Simon Parley on the way forward for OERFC and the incredible work that has been/ is being done to upgrade the new OERFC HQ at Taunton Avenue. The simple message was for all OEs to go along and see it for ourselves – and take in a match or two - if we haven't already done so.

After a super meal, our chair Yann Maidment brought his year in office to a conclusion with a round of storytelling and announced that Andy Robertson will chair the Luncheon Club through 2024. Our thanks are due to Yann for all he has done this year and our best wishes go to Andy as he takes up the reins.

The next Luncheon Club is scheduled for 11 March 2024. More details will be published in due course but if you are not on the regular mailing list and might wish to attend do register your interest with Stuart Cameron-Waller on [stuart@cwt2001.com](mailto:stuart@cwt2001.com).

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## **Happy Christmas from us all at Emanuel**

This year's Christmas card was designed by Art Scholar, Madeleine, in Year 9.



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Emanuel School Battersea Rise London SW11 1HS