

NEWS OF OLD WILSONIANS

MARCH 2019



OLD WILSONIANS' ASSOCIATION
(FOUNDED 1904)

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<u>PRESIDENT</u>	NEIL KENDRICK neil.kendrick3@btinternet.com
<u>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</u>	MIKE PIKE Phone 020 8659 6443 owmikepike@yahoo.co.uk
<u>HON SECRETARY</u>	ROGER MATTHEWS Rogermatthews16@live.co.uk
<u>HON TREASURER</u>	CLIVE PECKOVER clive.peckover@hotmail.com
<u>SPORTS CLUB SECRETARY</u>	ANTON SNOWSHILL antonsnowshill@hotmail.com
<u>GROUND MANAGER</u>	STEVE MILLWARD Stephen_millward1@sky.com
<u>BUILDINGS MANAGER</u>	PAUL JENKINS Phone 07973 807070
<u>BAR MANAGEMENT TEAM</u>	GERRY ADAMS, JOHN DRABWELL, IAN PILGRIM Hayes Hill, Bromley, Kent Phone 020 8462 2600
<u>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE</u>	PAUL JENKINS, MARK MACE, MIKE PIKE
<u>SPONSORSHIP AND FUNDRAISING</u>	Vacant
<u>SUPERDRAW & PRIZE DRAW CLUBS</u>	GRAHAM WATTS Phone 0208698 1134 grawat@ntlworld.com Mobile: 07956 462 685
<u>SCHOOL ADDRESS</u>	Headmaster's Office Wilson's School, Mollison Drive, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 9JW
<u>OLD WILSONIAN'S LODGE</u>	Secretary, GREG KIRBY Phone 07860 802935 www.oldwilsonianslodge.com
<u>HON. EDITOR</u>	MALCOLM TAYLOR Phone 01233 463525 taylormalcolmhj@gmail.com
<u>OLD WILSONIAN'S WEBSITE</u>	www.oldwilsonians.com

Old Wilsonians' Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Wilsonians' Association,
held on Tuesday, 11th December 2018 at the Clubhouse Hayes, 19:30

Attendees: Neil Kendrick, Bill Hartley, Clive Peckover, Mick Pilgrim, Clive Prince, Mike Pike, Malcolm Taylor, John Drabwell, Stephen Millward, Ian Pilgrim, Paul Jenkins, Bob West, Jamie Parkinson, Colin Smith, Alex Forbes, Richard Smart, Jake Johnson, Mike Harris, Gerry Adams and Roger Matthews.

1. Apologies for absence

Doug Forbes, Anton Snowsill, Jeff Mascarenhas, Graham Watts, Mark Williams, Dan Harris, Pete Davis, Nick Mole, Jane Paton, Ross Hartley, Lou Barry and Nigel Jordan.

2. Minutes of previous meeting (Tuesday, 12th December 2017)

Neil Kendrick asked if it was agreed that the minutes of the 2017 AGM were an accurate record. This was Proposed by Colin Smith, Seconded by Mick Pilgrim and approved by the meeting.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Report of the President/Chairman of Council

"As I said a year ago I am greatly Honoured to be President and the past year seems to have flown by. The Association is extremely lucky to have a small band of volunteers that do so much around the club. These people know who they are and simply without them the club would not function. We are fortunate to have excellent leaders of our subsidiary clubs and the committees that they lead do fantastic jobs in providing sport, and all that it brings the Old Wilsonians and the local community.

On behalf of the Association I would like to thank each and every one of our members who makes this place such a special club. My first real job as President was to complete the redundancy of our long-term groundsman and tenant. I hope we were successful in doing this in a respectful manner. From the 1st April 2018 Ian Muir took over as our ground contractor and we started the task of renovating the bungalow. Around the same time we started refurbishing the Gents toilets in the main club house with these works completed a couple of months later. The bungalow renovation took a bit longer than we had hoped but I am very pleased to report Steve Millward has taken tenancy of what will be the newly named Britain Bungalow.

The Association hope to save in excess of £10,000 per year with the mixture of the new ground contractor and commercial let of the bungalow. I also hope all the sports sections are seeing and improvement in our sporting surfaces. We have doubled the hours our cleaner visits us and I hope you can see the benefits of this around the club.

Our website continues to evolve and shortly I hope we will add some additional functionality that will help us communicate in a more effective way with our membership and keep a secure database for all our sections. There is still much to do and in no particular order over the next couple of years here are some of the projects I would like to explore; Renovation and decoration of the main club house, including the Presidents lounge ladies changing room. Irrigation and water tank for the main ground. Contract out use of the kitchen to supply food for all events and functions.

3G 9v9 football pitch on Hawes Down including floodlights (assuming this would fit while keeping the cricket square and 2 x 11v11 pitches. Irrigation and water tank for the Hawes Down ground.

Restructure of the Old Wilsonian Association, its Sports Club and constitution (more of this later).

The main income for the club is its bar and clubhouse. Over the last year I have loved seeing the diverse usage that it enjoys. The bar team of Gerry Adams, John Drabwell, Ian Pilgrim and Archie Whitaker do an inspired job. Over the next year Ian Pilgrim will be standing down from his role in the team, though he will continue to carry out many of his other roles outside the Bar. He will be an almost impossible act to follow and I would like to thank him for his hard work, wise head and undying love of the CLUB.

Clive is leaving his position as treasurer as of now. He has done a great job without any real accountancy knowledge. His views are always wise and I very much hope he will be forming part of our working party to look into the constitution and governance of the club.

Over the past few years members of the Council have been looking into the constitution of the club and whether it is working as effectively as it can. We are very keen to make sure the makeup of the club is fit for purpose in the short, medium and long term.

We are fairly certain the direction we would like to move in is to achieve Charitable status. What we would like to do is to set up a working party to consider the future legal structure of the OWA and associated sports club. We would then report back to you and any changes to the constitution would be agreed at the next AGM or if appropriate at an EGM. Are there any questions before I go on to discuss more fully the resolution set out in section 5 of the agenda."

5.Resolution regarding status and structure:-

Legal Structure

NK explained that the current legal structure of the OWA is that of an unincorporated association and this leaves the Trustees very exposed. A possible option would be to once again look at obtaining CASC status, although the qualifying requirements for joining members within the Football Club's constitution, would probably mean that this was unobtainable. A second option would be to pursue the route of a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), which is suitable for small voluntary outlets.

Finance

NK emphasised that presently OWA pays Corporation Tax and also Business Rates. The size of the latter payment is very dependent on Bromley Council continuing to allow relief at its present level. If this should be withdrawn then it would put severe strain on the Clubs finances.

Framework

Going forward, there is currently a challenge for the OWA, which is to maintain the efficient running and growth of the Sports Club while fostering good relations with the School and its Alumni. It was the aspect of developing relations with the School and its past pupils that NK felt should be a greater priority for the President of the Association.

Bill Hartley enquired if consideration had been given to reinstating the OWA annual dinner, and NK confirmed that this was the type of thing that would assist in developing the

relationship with the School.

NK advised the meeting that it was for this reason that they were being asked to pass the following resolution. "To set up a working party to consider the future legal structure of the OWA and the associated sports club. Recommendations to be made and any changes to the constitution to be agreed at an EGM." The question was asked as to what the timescale was for reporting and implementation, and NK said that it was to be within the coming year.

Mike Pike while in favour of the proposal requested that everybody should have an opportunity to study the research and its findings before the EGM and CP thought this a sound suggestion. The resolution was Proposed by John Drabwell, Seconded by Paul Jenkins and approved by the meeting.

6. Resolution to amend the OWA Constitution

Section 12 Subsidiary Clubs and Societies, sub-section (c) to include v) Old Wilsons Football Club Juniors and vi) Old Wilsons Netball Club.

Proposed by Richard Smart, Seconded by John Drabwell and approved by the meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report

Clive Peckover's Report

Clive Peckover invited the AGM formally to adopt the audited accounts for 2016-17, on which he had reported in outline at the 2017 AGM. Proposed by Colin Smith, Seconded by Paul Jenkins and approved by the meeting.

CP advised the meeting that 2017-18 had been a reasonably stable year overall, with another excellent bar performance (to be confirmed in the figures in due course); the subsidiary clubs all in good financial shape; and domestic expenditures under control. The main items of the year had been the managed departure of the groundsman and the refurbishment of the bungalow, funded by the OWA share of the Brittain legacy.

CP paid tribute to Neil Kendrick for sorting out the departure of the groundsman and for managing the bungalow project. Both had been done in a professional and appropriate manner. CP said that thanks were also due to Lou Barry and Mark Mace whose support had been outstanding and that his role had been considerably helped by the excellent job done by the treasurers of the subsidiary clubs.

With regard to the future CP will complete the books up to the end of January and then handover to Nick Mole. There is a possibility that the Cricket Club's rent may be raised by £1,000 this year, as a fair reflection of its good financial position – to be discussed further with them – and Junior Football's rent will rise by £2,500 this coming year, in line with the successful expansion of that section.

Paul Jenkins suggested that the charge for electricity used by Squash and Tennis for their lighting should be reviewed. Ian Pilgrim thanked CP for all his efforts during his time Treasurer. The Treasurer's report was Proposed by Ian Pilgrim, Seconded by Alex Forbes and approved by the meeting.

8. Bar Report

John Drabwell's Report

Another good year for the bar with turnover, net of VAT increasing by 9.3% to just over £131,000. Staff costs have been maintained at 18.5% of net turnover after VAT. Unfortunately, final figures, including net profit are not yet available.

Our turnover continues to be boosted by outside lettings and functions and some 6 months ago by popular request, we introduced a premium lager "Birra Morretti" and this has been an outstanding success. Our concerns and worries at having to charge a higher price have proved completely unfounded and it has been literally flying off the counter. Unlike the "Spitfire" real ale which was replaced by Master Brew some months ago.

More recently we have experienced a much higher demand for Guinness and this could be because of the new all singing and dancing beer font on display which lights up the drink whilst it's settling. Because of the comparative high cost of the product the price will be increasing in the New Year.

During the Christmas period and into next year we will be introducing the odd "Guest Ale" to jazz things up a bit and add a little variety to the beers on offer. One of our main suppliers, I. M. Wines was taken over by "Hills Prospect", a sizeable concern based in Essex, and this has given us a much larger spread of product availability and was a trouble free transfer.

Our relationship with Shepherd Neame is now on a much better footing following the appointment of our new rep. Nick Robinson. Our barrel prices are fixed until February next year when we will meet to discuss and agree our new tariff. It may well be that there will be marginal increases either through overall product costs or imposed Government taxes and these will be dealt with by negotiation and mutual agreement.

My wholehearted thanks to the team and staff for their work and commitment during the past 12 months which, once again I believe, has enabled us to achieve an outstanding result which we should all be proud of.

9. Sports Club report

Although not in attendance Anton Snowsill submitted the following Report

Management of the cleaners has been handed to Steve Millward with his consent. This seemed inevitable as he was having weekly contact with them. The club hirings are constant with no great changes throughout the year. IP and AS agreed to increase the cost of hiring the clubhouse to £250.00 from January 1st. This is still much cheaper than anywhere else in the area. The use of the Google Calendar and iPhone calendar has been a great boon for all concerned, and any newcomers can be added if they contact AS by email.

10. Clubhouse report

Paul Jenkins' Report

General maintenance has taken place throughout the year, and in particular of late, lights have been changed in the shower and changing rooms. However, going forward PJ had concerns that Workforce weekends are not happening for most clubs, and there is a need for the Clubhouse to be decorated. His suggested solution was that each Club should be asked for a donation and for an outside contractor to be hired and the work completed within a week. Richard Smart said on behalf of the Football Club he thought that this was a

good idea. NK thanked PJ for all his hard work throughout the year.

11. Ground report

Steve Millward's Report

2018 has of course seen the maintenance of the main ground taken over by Ian Muir, with the departure of Colin McCausland at the end of April. We have also replaced the old unreliable cricket roller with a much needed new roller. There has been further expansion of the OW's Junior Football section to 25 teams, with training again provided to 2 groups of U6s. A new 9-a-side pitch is also now being provided at the main ground. The extensive use of the main ground and HD for both senior and junior football on Sunday mornings, now coupled with regular junior tennis coaching, continues to cause issues with parking, especially when junior tennis tournaments are held with no prior notification!

Main Ground

Football - The pitches were not in too bad a condition at the end of the 2017-2018 season and due to extensive watering throughout the hot, dry summer, were in very good condition at the start of the 2018-19 season. The OWFC is back to fielding nine teams on a Saturday and there are now four 11 a side junior teams on Sunday and a new 9-a-side pitch in constant use. The frequency of matches being played has therefore increased to very nearly full capacity. In spite of this, and considering the amount of rain recently, the pitches are in good condition for the most part. Unfortunately, grass in some parts of the penalty areas has recently been ripped up by crows, necessitating the use of sand and deterrents – imitation dead crows. It may be necessary to have the pitches verti-drained at a later date should the wet weather continue for a prolonged period. The goals have new nets with new folding supports and sheeting is now wrapped and secured around the base of each goalpost to prevent the nets being chewed and torn by foxes.

Most of the car parking duties on a Saturday afternoon are once again being carried out by Ian Pilgrim. I repeat my call for other volunteers to step forward to share this burden. And, once again my thanks to Mick Pilgrim for continuing to organise all senior fixtures on Sundays.

Note that the main ground will be available for football up to 21st April 2019. Renovations will then take place over the next 19 days prior to commencement of cricket.

Cricket – It was not possible to carry out pre-season rolling during March and the beginning of April as the ground was much too wet. Whilst extensive rolling was carried out in the days available before and continued after the start of the season, this was not ideal, especially when having to use the old roller. That said, I believe that the pitches provided were in the main acceptable most weekends. Again, there were complaints about the length of the grass on the outfield. Not sure why Ian Muir and I bothered to make such efforts in maintaining a lush green outfield throughout the hot, dry summer. I will be asking Ian to cut the grass shorter next year. I note that the overall marking of our facilities by league appointed umpires was much lower this year, ranking the club 9th (3rd in 2017) out of the ten teams in the division. In order to improve next year, I will be asking for feedback after each match.

The nets, covers, sight screens, repeater board and boundary rope will all require some attention next year to ensure they are in good working order before cricket resumes.

Tennis – Whilst Ian Muir has been regularly blowing the leaves off the tennis courts and brushing the carpet courts twice a week, leaves have been a particular problem this autumn. I have arranged for the overhanging trees from Ex-Blues to be cut back considerably. Unfortunately, Network Rail have deemed their trees not to be a nuisance and so a different solution needs to be found for these. All surrounds to the courts have

been regularly treated with weed killer. Alas, I am still having to turn off lights and close windows in the tennis pavilion at least once a week. Indeed, I found the front door wide open a few days ago. Members must be more responsible.

General – Ian Muir has purchased all of the machinery required to maintain the grounds and is now responsible for any maintenance and repairs. The Association still own the large tractor and a few other items and will maintain the new roller, owned by the cricket club.

A new irrigation system for the ground is required. I will not be continually repositioning five sprinklers around the outfield next summer.

This year, there have been few, if any, incursions over or around our fence or through the main gates. A motion detector and light now cover the main gates for added security.

As a new specification for the maintenance of the main ground has yet to be drawn up and put out to tender, Ian Muir will continue to be contracted to carry out all ground maintenance until this tender process is completed.

Hawes Down

Football – Although all pitches were being used extensively at the end of the 2017-2018 season, most of the ground was not too worn and held up well. Again in the summer, with a gap in the cricket fixtures, I took the opportunity to repair several worn and compacted areas, adding top soil, re-seeding and deploying the single sprinkler to each area in turn. Unfortunately, with only one sprinkler, it was not possible to maintain much of the outfield during the dry, hot summer and with the ground being so hard and having virtually no grass covering, I could only permit a small number of pre-season friendlies. With the recent wet weather, drainage is now the main problem. Again, 21 junior sides are playing regularly at HD this season, in addition to the mid-week school matches and training sessions, and the pitches are now beginning to suffer. I have arranged for HD to be verti-drained during the Christmas break and if necessary will have it verti-drained again at the end of February.

Please note that HD will be available for senior football up to and including Saturday 4th May 2019, with junior football guaranteed to Sunday 5th May.

Cricket – Because of the wet weather, little rolling of the HD square was possible pre-season, especially as more resource was required at the main ground. Unfortunately, as the square dried out very quickly at the start of the season, the pitches for most of the 2018 season were not as good as expected. The cricket square was fully utilised during the summer by the 3rd XI and 4th XI teams on Saturday and U18s on Fridays. Hopefully, with better weather and more volunteers to help pre-season rolling, pitches provided in 2019 will be much better. The roller will require servicing beforehand.

General - Whilst on Sunday mornings, the OW's Junior FC has been employing a car parking monitor from 9.30am to 12 noon and the number of parking issues has dramatically reduced, capacity is still a problem. It may be necessary to mark out additional parking spaces on the grass in front of the existing car park, behind the 1st XI goal.

The half size container at HD is now being fully utilised, with all cricket and football equipment, together with the small roller and most other machinery stored inside

The maintenance contract for HD comes up for renewal 1st March next year. The contract is subject to approval by both the OWA and the schools. Currently the schools contribute 60% towards the annual maintenance costs. There is a meeting with the Heads on Friday, 11th January next year and I will be seeking their approval of the new terms as well as going through any other issues that are included for discussion. Note that costs to outside contractors for verti-draining are paid 100% by the OWA.

Neil Kendrick paid particular tribute to SM, who he said was doing a fantastic job.

12. Confirmation of President for 2018/2019

Neil Kendrick said that he was looking forward to the second year of his tenure as President and that normally at this point, the nominated President Elect would be announced. However, given the circumstances of the project to review the structure of both the Sports' Club and its relationship to the Association, he had been asked if he would be prepared to undertake a third years presidency during the period 2019/2020, which he has agreed to do.

13. Election of Vice Presidents

Existing Vice Presidents:

Gerry Adams, Terry Adams, Ron Ashdown, Lou Barry, Bob Bevan, Fred Brindle, Mike Curling, Pete Davis, Mike George, Mike Harris, Mike Kendrick, Andy McClinton, Jim Matthews, Dave McCarthy, Dave Mew, Cliff Milledge, Clive Peckover, Mike Pike, Ian Pilgrim, Mick Pilgrim, Stan Quantrill, Ian Rayworth, Gerry Reaseley, Malcolm Taylor, Andy Udale, Dave Wakeford, Peter Wakeford, Les Wilks and Steve Wisson, Alex Forbes, Doug Forbes, Neil Kendrick, Stuart Paton, Mark Mace, Andy Smith and John Drabwell.

Bill Hartley nominated Roger Matthews as a Vice President in recognition of the work he has undertaken as Secretary of the Association over several years this was Seconded by Malcolm Taylor.

All existing Vice Presidents were re-elected on block, having been proposed by Bill Hartley and seconded by Malcolm Taylor.

14. Election of Officers for 2018/19

President: Neil Kendrick

President Elect: In abeyance

Hon Secretary: Roger Matthews

Hon Treasurer: Nick Mole

Club Captain Steve Millward

Hon Solicitor: Vacant

Sports Club Secretary: Anton Snowsill

Membership Secretary: Mike Pike

Editor of NOW: Malcolm Taylor

Webmaster: Jim Lloyd, Alex Forbes

Bar Management Team: Gerry Adams, John Drabwell, Ian Pilgrim, Archie Whitaker

Ground Manager: Steve Millward

Buildings Manager: Paul Jenkins

School Liaison Officer: Andy Parkinson

Membership Committee: Paul Jenkins, Mark Mace and Mike Pike

Disciplinary Committee: Gerry Adams, Clive Peckover and Mick Pilgrim

Appeals Committee: President and two members of the Management Committee

All of the above were Proposed and Seconded on block by Mike Harris and Bill Hartley respectively and unanimously elected.

16. Election of Honorary Old Wilsonians

Existing Honorary Old Wilsonians:

George Wing, Graham Watts, John Lucock, Ray Neve, Paul Jenkins, Denise Pilgrim, Stephen Millward, Clive Prince, Jasper Gundry-White, Nigel Jordan, Andy Steel, Nick Fuller, John Martin, Jill Forbes, Caroline Maxwell, Bob West and Judith Heayberd.

NK said how pleased he was to have received from the Tennis Club the nomination of Jake Johnson of whom Nigel Jordan had written:-

Jake started coaching at Old Wilsonians' LTC in 2009 at which time there was no coaching programme at the club, and very few members under the age of 50. In the 9 years since then Jake has worked with the club and local school to build a coaching programme that is drawing many more youngsters and IMPORTANTLY, many adults into the club. I estimate the number of new players who have attended OWLTC since he started at around 1000. Many of the neighbours who are seen propping up the bar first came to the club as a result of their children joining the coaching programme. The knock-on effect of Jake's work to the entire Association is immense, but is often overlooked or under-estimated.

Jake's coaching programme covers all the mini tennis levels as well as yellow ball. He runs group sessions for children and adults as well as 1-2-1 coaching. We now have a Performance Group and host external LTA Grade 5 tournaments. Jake was himself recognised as Kent Tennis Coach of the Year 2014 and has recently been asked to start getting involved in delivering county training to Kent's most promising youngsters.

Prior to Jake's arrival, we did not enter junior teams in the league competitions. We made our first junior team entry in the summer of 2012 and have done so every summer and winter since that time. The youngsters love it and are doing well.

For the first time in anyone's memory the club can now boast several successful coaching groups for adult novices – we are attracting lots of men and women who were previously completely inactive. Jake makes the sport fun, and his likeability and care means people don't drift away. They are more likely to drift into the bar!! The overall coaching programme has grown from zero to around 400 people today who take coaching weekly. More importantly, the vibrancy this has created is reinvigorating the club, leading to new volunteers and a general buzz about the place that has long been absent.

Speaking to other clubs around the county I am acutely aware that the special relationship Jake and I have forged has been built on trust, which is at the heart of this successful partnership. Our openness with one another, the complete transparency of decision-making and mutual support ensures that what works for Jake also benefits the club. Neither side benefits at the expense of the other.

So Jake has done an enormous amount to support the tennis club and through that the Association. He richly deserves recognition, and this was unanimously proposed by the recent tennis club AGM. The nomination was proposed by Neil Kendrick and Seconded by Clive Prince.

17. Reports of subsidiary clubs

Senior Football

Alex Forbes Report

The Senior Football Club has grown from 8 to 9 sides on Saturdays due to an influx from the School and the youth set up.

Both vets and Super vets continue to grow on Sunday .

The committee is very active, but there are too few doing too much and an opportunity will be looked for to spread the duties.

In summary the Club is in a good place.

Junior Football

Although not in attendance Mark Williams submitted the following Report

1. All our teams are competing and developing well with no major issues to report.
2. Our AGM was held on 11th October. Some changes to Committee roles and numbers were made reflecting the growth and requirements of the Club.
3. 3 of our coaches are currently undertaking their Level I Coaching badge. 10 have recently taken Emergency Aid courses and another 3 will be taking Child Safeguarding courses on Wednesday 11th December.
4. Despite the wet weather of late we have been able to fulfil the vast majority of our home fixtures at Hawes Down but we will need to manage this more carefully in the next few weeks as pitches are suffering.
5. We have held two successful Christmas parties for our younger teams with good attendance (and bar takings) at both. Special thanks to the Squash Club for allowing us to use their courts for the entertainment.
6. Our FA Charter Standard renewal is in progress.

Cricket

Mike Pike's Report

It has been a good season for the OWCC with the good weather adding to its pleasures. All of our sides did well with 3rd XI achieving promotion. The 1st and 2nd XIs are now both well established Second Division sides, with the latter well placed for promotion until the last month or so of the season and every effort will be made to go that extra mile in 2019.

The Sunday development side again won their league and this time went one better by defeating the Surrey champions in the play-off. The Sunday social side only played six games, which is a cause for concern, and we are looking at ways of combating the decline of this important aspect of the game.

The under 19s did not have the best of seasons results wise, but continue to develop our youngsters, as does our Colts section, and we proudly celebrated 21 years of colts cricket this year. With four new coaches taking courses during the winter months it is hoped that an improvement will be seen in the forthcoming season.

We had another excellent cricket week and, as a consequence, so did the Bar! We had two very enjoyable end of season awards evenings for both the colts and senior sections.

Sadly I have to report the death of another Vice President, namely Peter Hubert, who was a member of our 1st XI when we first moved to Hayes in 1959 and, indeed in the days when we played our cricket in Dulwich. This year also saw us lose Steve Press – yet another who has succumbed to the grim reaper over the past few years. As I'm sure you all know the Forbes family asked for a tree to be planted in remembrance of Ian and this stands proudly on the other side of the boundary rope and opposite the repeater board, and I have no doubt that, come the summer, his bench will be placed under it from which spectators can watch the cricket, whilst some of Ian's ashes have been placed in the cricket square as per his wishes.

Tennis

Although not in attendance Nigel Jordan submitted the following Report

The tennis club held its AGM on 21st November, which allowed us to reflect on a glorious summer. We have already planned for 2019, which we hope will be equally pleasant. The big news is that Nigel announced his intention to step down as Chairman – he wants someone to take over in 12 months' time. But hopefully he will stay around to help oversee all the activity of the juniors – which is a more specialist area. So the coming year will involve lots of coaxing in order to line up the people who will take the club forward again. Our other big priority for 2019 is the small hut – which needs significant attention over the coming 12 months. There will obviously be costs associated with that.

Overall, the tennis club remains in a good place:

- Our finances remain very solid but we are aware that we might have to start paying for lots of what has previously been done by volunteers.
- Membership is strong – a small increase over the previous year.
- Our new (paid) Club Secretary is making a real difference.
- Our coaching programme under Jake's RAW Tennis banner continues as strongly as ever. Jake was asked to deliver part of the Kent county training programme – a welcome recognition for him.
- Adding Oli Weller to the coaching programme – a home grown young level 2 coach - has been a real positive. He is playing an increasingly large role in the coaching programme generally, especially daytimes.
- We got a small grant so we could subsidise sessions for seniors – that means over 35 in reality – these were quickly snapped up and we've learned there is a significant demand we can tap into.
- We started some Sunday coaching this year –there is pent-up demand so getting that started, in a small way, is another step forward.

- The Grade 5 & 6 junior tournaments Jake ran were a great success. These require LTA approval and it is a sign of our new status as a large club that we were successful in getting that agreement.
- The hard courts were resprayed and look fantastic given they are now 10 years old.
- The carpet courts have looked even better since the new contractor groundsman took over.
- The floodlight controls have been switched over from card to cash now – and hopefully that will resolve many of the frustrations members experienced.
- We moved courts 5, 6 & 7 onto a new electrical supply to avoid the overloading problems we had started to encounter as the evening coaching and social sessions grew.
- Several new team captains emerged, some looking after the adult teams and others the juniors.
- Changing the date of the club's annual tournament from July to September seems to have been a good move.
- Our club's social side remains strong with terrific social events – some involving tennis, others not.

Our teams all held their positions in the leagues with our men's 2 team promoted after winning their division last winter. We are looking forward to entering a ladies team in summer 2019 for the first time in many years – a sign that our efforts to attract and develop female players are, at last, starting to pay off.

TennisMark ended as a concept on 1st October 2018. In future, LTA registration is much more focused on safeguarding issues. OWLTC successfully met those criteria this autumn.

Squash and Racketball

Although not in attendance Ross Hartley subsequently submitted the following report

- Mike Drodz has stood down as Treasurer, after two years of service. Tom Roberts elected to replace him.
- Ross Hartley to stand down as Chairman of OWSRC after what will be seven years of service. A successor to be identified this year and appointed at our AGM in October 2019.
- Both courts have received annual routine refurbishment this year to maintain playing conditions.
- The OWSRC Squash and Racketball handicap tournaments are scheduled to start in February and concluded in April.
- The OWSRC Priory League Squash team has been promoted yet again - a fantastic achievement.
- The OWSRC funds are very healthy. A proposal to be made to Council at next meeting.
- A request has been received from the OWSRC Membership for a drinking water supply to be installed in the changing area - to benefit both OWSRC and other OWA clubs. I will raise this at next Council meeting.

Netball

Although not in attendance Jane Paton submitted the following report

We have had a successful year.

The league netball team won their respective division in the North Kent league and continue to play in a competitive environment on Saturday mornings at indoor venues away from Hayes Hill.

The Wednesday evening "Back to Netball" club has continued term time outdoors on the MUGA. New members have joined, but numbers have tailed off slightly leading to sessions being called off on occasions. However, the group remain committed and these sessions provide netball for all abilities in a social environment.

I founded the Club with Denise Pilgrim in 2012 and have had an enjoyable five plus years but have now stood down from the Chair for personal reasons.

An EGM was held last week and Toni Junge was appointed as our new Chairperson, I trust the OWA will provide her with support and encouragement moving forward. Toni has also been treasurer of the club and we are in a healthy financial position with approximately £1,500 in reserves.

I wish Toni and the Ladies every success moving forward and will look to visit the Club whenever I can in the future.

18. Any Other Business

Mike Pike thanked Alex Forbes for all the work he had done on the website.

Ian Pilgrim enquired if the Level One football coaching sessions that are taking place three times a year on Saturdays and which are filled with outsiders are bringing in sufficient remuneration to compensate for their impact on the Club's facilities. He was advised that all aspects of these days are being kept under review.

The possibility of getting new lighting on the MUGA is being looked at by the Tennis and Netball Club.

Richard Smart suggested that as the number of attendees at the AGM was disappointing given the Club's overall number of members, then perhaps consideration should be given to moving the date of the meeting to January. This would avoid the inevitable conflict which takes place with outside social events in December. However, it was acknowledged that the weather in January tends to be more severe and a greater deterrent to people venturing outdoors if it is not necessary.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:55pm.

WILSON'S SCHOOL ALUMNI DRINKS PARTY 28/11/18

John (Wysocki) and I met outside Weatherspoons in Forest Hill at 5-45 before getting the 176 bus to Camberwell in order to attend the alumni drinks party. It has not always been a Weatherspoons; its previous incarnation was a Bingo Hall and, before that, a cinema and 60 years ago I used to look at the framed stills of the film showing that week as I waited for the No.12 bus to take me to school.

Some of the girls making their way to Notre Dame school, at the Elephant & Castle, were already on the same bus whilst others boarded further along the route. Their seat of learning was of the Catholic faith, so I suppose they were all apprentice nuns, although I have a feeling that many lost their way in that regard and I used to see some of them at the aforesaid cinema on a Friday evening. (Going to the cinema was a popular night out in those days).

It was a very wet night and, as John and I approached the school, we saw a bedraggled Stan Honor standing outside "Better get inside out of the rain", I suggested, and we did, having done so through the main entrance, which was not allowed back in my school days as it was for masters and staff only.

Some senior members, almost certainly prefects, of the current academy greeted us politely as we arrived and gave us the appropriate name tags which, although primarily designed to inform other attendees who we were, and for purposes of identification as some of us no longer had that fresh-faced look of our school days, it also helped us to remember who we were/are, something that gets increasingly difficult the older you get.

It was not long before I saw Alex Forbes, not the best way to start an evening, who was walking down the main staircase, something else you were not allowed to do back in the day unless you were in the 6th form. He was accompanied by Phil Gilmore, who called me 'Dave', but then there was always something of the 'Trigger' about 'Gillie' and Alex later recalled the event, and the evening per se, in his excellent weekly Old Wilsonian round-up as follows:

"Well done to Tim Edge for organising the get together at the school. It was the first time I have visited the old school and it was quite interesting being taken around by Phil Gilmore and Geoff Robinson. About 60 alumni attended and a great time was had and future school events are listed below and I'm sure will be as successful.

Well said Alex, and all involved are, indeed, to be congratulated. Some people took the opportunity to wander around the building and reminisce and check to see if the initials they had carved in the walls were still in evidence, but the event itself was held in 'The Great Hall', where we were served with canopies and drinks.

Tim Lissimore, a senior deputy head, took pity on me and we had a thought provoking chat before he wandered off to find someone more interesting to talk to – not difficult – before it was Rachel's, the head of the 6th form, turn to educate me about what happens in Mollison Drive – apparently there are over 300 members of the current senior school and 64 prefects. In the Camberwell days I there were just six attired in flowing gowns and only four of us in the History 'A' level set, including Roy Porter, who went on to enjoy a distinguished academic career.

As we were in the 'Great Hall' I regaled Rachel with the story of the disgruntled boy who, back in the 1950s, was so apoplectic at being dropped from the school cricket team that he threw a brick through one of the windows of said hall, purposely picking his time so that it coincided with the first night of the school play and thereby causing a great deal of disruption, before making his way to the school playing fields three miles away where he proceeded to strew all of the cricket gear around the adjacent Dulwich Park before setting fire to the school pavilion "And he was the head boy," I concluded.

Tim Edge then officially opened the evening before Nathan Cole, the Headmaster – am I allowed to

call him Nathan? began his address by saying, "Yes, I am the headmaster, not the Head Boy", a reference to his young looks. Nathan *always* begins his presentations in this way: you should ring the changes, headmaster – am I allowed to say that? Sixty years ago I would have found myself in the 'Punishment' book for such insolence, more of which later.

The *real* head boy, Will, then pointed out that "Mr Cole" had not been born when the school moved from Camberwell to Wallington in 1975, thereby substantiating his youthful claims, and he later told me that this was the first time he had spoken in public – well done Will; you did very well.

Neil Kendrick, the OWA President, concluded the official business by proposing the health of the school on behalf of the Association – it was a bit like an Old Boys Dinner – and reminded us that his Dad, Mike, had also gone to the school back in the Camberwell days.

It was then time for us to mingle and I was delighted to see Alan Lewis, the first time for about 55 years, who spoke about "a radical group of senior schoolboys who organised trips to the isle of Man and North Devon" - it's always good to be remembered as a radical after such a long time, and to know that nothing has changed and I am still in touch with some of those other 'radicals', whilst I seem to remember that Alan's Mum made delicious lemon meringues pies. We agreed to keep in touch and,, indeed, have already done so.

The classes of both '56 and '62 were both in evidence - they produced six Old Wilsonian Presidents between them - and Malcolm Taylor, who was one of them, recalled the day when he, and three others, were falsely accused of breaking some milk bottles and were summarily thrashed as a consequence. "It had nothing to do with us", he protested, "we just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time" and, later in the evening, Malcolm discovered that the incident had been recorded in the earlier referenced 'Punishment book', which contained a number of very familiar names.

The accompanying 'Commendation Book', however, was not so familiar as far as names were concerned, although it did contain that of my brother, John - and twice!

Over 60 people attended and there were more on the anticipated guest list – perhaps the bad weather had curtailed the numbers – and a repeat performance would be in order was the feeling of most.

A few days later I went to Mollison Drive to continue my work on the school archive and encountered the school prefect who had handed me the name tag and he remembered me; which is more than I often do!

Mike Pike

NATHAN COLE HEADMASTER'S SPEECH NOTES

The purpose of this event, quite simply, is to bring Wilsonians of all generations together; to facilitate their connection with each other and to promote their interaction with the School.

I am conscious that the School has not always been as effective as it might have been in helping to forge a community of alumni and I therefore view tonight as the first of many steps designed to bring you back in closer touch with Wilson's and its wider community. We realise you all have much to offer one another and the school long after your departure.

It is particularly fitting that we are meeting here in the Great Hall so soon after our Remembrance commemorations. The roll of the fallen which used to exist in this room was one of the few items transferred from Camberwell to Wallington in 1975.

The war memorial, as many of you will remember it, has since this time had a prominent place in

the Reception of our school at Wallington and our Remembrance commemorations for each year group at the School are designed to inform our pupils of the sacrifice of previous generations of Wilsonians. In total 730 Wilsonians and staff fought in the First World War and the war claimed the lives of 120 of them. This was a cause of deep sadness and distress for a community which at the time would only have been around 400 in strength.

It is sobering to reflect on the fact that in this very room a century ago the Headmaster Thomas Henry Knight would each day bring the school together to inform pupils of the death of Wilsonians who had fallen or were wounded or missing, many of whom were 18 or not much older. Some of you will have visited St Giles' Church earlier this evening and would have seen the wreath placed by the Wilson's memorial and it only seemed appropriate to bring one of our silent silhouettes – from the national There But Not There campaign used in our commemorations at Wallington - to place on the balcony here tonight, to sit representing those Wilsonians who left this Hall to fight, but never returned.

I don't think it would be appropriate to move on without saying just a word or two about Norman Friskney, who was the last Headmaster at the Camberwell site, in charge from 1958 to 1983 and died on the 15th November. Like prefects, Headmasters cannot be loved by everyone – or in my case it feels like anyone sometimes! However, some of you will know the anecdotal story as to why the school had to move to Sutton and others will know something fuller. Suffice it so say that in my opinion, Wilson's would not still exist as a boys' grammar school without him. Whatever his mistakes, he served the school for 25 years, a true example of NON SIBI SED OMNIBUS.

But now to less weighty matters...you may have noted our academic successes in the summer – being named as the highest performing school in the country. Many of you comment to me that you don't think you'd get into the school nowadays. I think that's modesty on your part. You will hopefully have seen that we were named as State Secondary School of the year by The Sunday Times at the weekend, which is a reflection of all of the wonderful things that go on in and beyond the classroom. William our School Captain will say a little more about the things which go on beyond the classroom which aided us in the selection for this award in a moment.

Despite benefaction over the years, much of it from old boys, Wilson's is by no means a rich School. Indeed, funding remains my biggest worry. As a state school we are subject to the vagaries of Government funding and recent significant budget cuts have led to hard choices about what we are able to offer our staff and pupils.

Despite these strictures, with the wonderful support of the Wilson's School Trust and Foundation chaired by old boy Clive Peckover who is here this evening, we have ambitious plans which, if they are to be realised, will require us to stretch our philanthropic sinews. The school in Wallington having been built for 500 boys and now educating 1200 means we have urgent and pressing needs.

Our indoor and outdoor changing rooms at Wallington, which some of you will remember without fondness, are on the verge of being unfit for purpose. Also, at present we cannot offer our boys something that every grammar school should be able to – a sizeable and inspiring library. Finally we need to recognise the excellence of our musical provision and culture by developing its facilities beyond two classrooms and a broom cupboard so that boys are no longer having lessons in store rooms. Our plans are bold and aim to inspire the Wilsonians of the next generation.

Alongside capital development, the Governors, Trustees and Senior leadership Team are also committed to providing as thorough going an approach to outreach as we can – working with primary schools, but particularly those in deprived areas, so that any bright boy, whatever his background, can have the chance to be a Wilsonian. I stand before you as an example of the transformative impact of education – I was the first from my family to attend university having attended a very ordinary state school and now I stand before you as Headmaster one of – forget that – the best school in the country. With the support of our community we can make sure that Edward Wilson's vision of educating those with no means continues.

The values of a Wilson's education – hard work, selflessness and kindness transcend our financial position. Everyone in this room both embodies and has helped to shape this. On a personal note, a thank you to all of those who have supported my first five years of Headship, it really does make a difference.

As my Deputy Tim Lissimore says, no one ever complains about a speech being too short, so I shall stop here and instead introduce our Head Boy – Will Hicks – who is going to say a few words about the enduring characteristics and qualities of Wilson's pupils and Wilsonians, whether they studied at Wallington, or at Camberwell. Thank you for your warmth, and your fellowship.

Nathan Cole

NORMAN FRISKNEY OBITUARY

I am very sad to announce the death of Norman John Friskney, who led the school as Headmaster from 1958 to 1983.

Mr Friskney played a profoundly important role in the history of our school. Educated at Jesus College, Oxford, where he read Geography, his university career was rudely interrupted by the Second World War. He fought on the battlefields of southern Italy, where he served as a young officer in the Eighth Army, as recounted in his 2015 book *With Gun and Gown*.

After the war, having finished his degree, he began his teaching career, arriving at Wilson's Grammar School in Camberwell as Headmaster in 1958. He felt there was much to do and set about it with characteristic vigour. However, perhaps his greatest professional challenge was to come in the 1960s when the Inner London Education Authority had plans for Wilson's which did not resonate with him or many of the then Governors. Whilst all schools were being forced to become comprehensive in intake, there were concerns that Wilson's was not of a suitable size for an 11-18 comprehensive school and should instead become a Sixth Form College. Edward Wilson's vision was in jeopardy.

By happy coincidence a fellow alumnus of Jesus College known to Mr Friskney, Harry Evans, worked for the Local Authority in Sutton. At the time Sutton was keen to open a new secondary school and had a prime site available for it which had formed part of the Croydon Airport complex. As a result of complex negotiations, with not inconsiderable hiccups along the way, Mr Friskney spearheaded the move to Sutton in 1975. The agreement was that the school would eventually become comprehensive and so there was much wrangling about the school's new name. 'Wilson's High School' was the council's preference, but as a compromise it was agreed to drop the 'grammar' and become Wilson's School. With the governors, Mr Friskney inserted a clause into the agreement which was to prove pivotal in the school's future: that Wilson's would only become comprehensive in intake when Wallington County Grammar School, Wallington High School for Girls and Sutton Grammar School did. With changing tides in politics, the push for a solely comprehensive education system lost momentum and as a result of this 'safety clause' the school which Edward Wilson intended was saved.

The uprooting of the school from the land bestowed upon it by its founder in 1615 was however deeply controversial. In an interview with several middle school boys in 2010, Mr Friskney said that one old boy wrote to him accusing him of 'denying history'. More problems were to follow – the crippling cost of the land after the promise of a 'peppercorn rent' and the bankruptcy of the company building the new school to name but two. However, as the former Headmaster said, *'for Wilson's there was actually no choice; it was do or die'*. Without his careful manoeuvring, it is beyond doubt that Wilson's as a boys' grammar school would have ceased to exist.

Following his retirement, he retained a strong interest in and love for the school, serving as a Governor through turbulent financial times. One could have forgiven him for being more conservative about changes, but not a bit of it. A current Governor said: *'Norman was robust in his*

views on the modernisation of the school, which he usually supported strongly against the wishes of many others at the time’.

I first met Norman in 2006 when I had just been appointed as Head of Year. He regaled me with many entertaining stories about the school during his much-loved visits to Prize Giving. He watched the school’s progress to a national leader in the early 2000s with real interest and contacted me to express his delight when Wilson’s was named national number 1 for the first time in 2017. Clearly emotional, at the end of our service at Southwark Cathedral on the 29th September 2015 (exactly 400 years since the school was founded) to mark our quatercentenary, he described the whole experience as ‘magical’.

Ever the teacher, he kept in touch, offering advice and (when needed) reassurance that ‘all these things too shall pass’. Having lived a long and fulfilling life dedicated to his family, he died on the 15th November 2018 and the thoughts of the school’s community are with those he loved at this sad time. We offer our deepest condolences.

Norman’s portrait hangs in the John Jenkins Hall and he is listed on the Honours Board as one of the twenty-four leaders of the school since 1615, a name etched in gold who throughout his life was the embodiment of the school’s motto, NON SIBI SED OMNIBUS.

Wilson’s owes a great debt to Norman Friskney. May he rest in peace.

NJ Cole (another NJ*Headmaster*)

The annual gathering of Old Wilsonian Presidents

There were 12 of us, but that is a numerical statistic not an explanation of our saintliness. The Last Supper? Hopefully not, as the occasion was the annual Past Presidents’ lunch and, Donald Trump permitting, there will be many more to come.

I say ‘Past Presidents’ but there, as large as life but nowhere near as beautiful, was Neil Kendrick, the current OWA President. It has become a tradition over the past years – maybe as many as ten, if not more – that the current incumbent is also in attendance and gives a state of the nation address, which is fine and always instructive.

It always gets a reaction from his predecessors and every word that Neil spoke was constructive, listened to intently and for the good and future of the Association.

He spoke about the difficult start to his Presidency – dealing with the redundancy of the groundsman, his replacement, the renovation of the bungalow so that it now has a living Association friendly tenant, the relationship between the sports club and the Association – i.e. former members of the school and those who use the sporting facilities – the future structure of the Club and the plans to make it a charity so that we can get the best value for money for all of those who visit Hayes Hill, and those who do not, and the return of the annual dinner.

They were all positive and inspiring words and the others in attendance, being of the same calibre and dedicated Old Wilsonians as they are, responded fitfully and with equally constructive contributions.

Steve Wisson, as well as being a past President, is also the current Chairman of the School Governors, and he spoke about future and exciting ventures for the school.

Pete Davis spoke of the need and inevitability for change, which seemed to involve a lot of cheese and who had taken his.

Mick Pilgrim was concerned about lads leaving the school and disappearing never to be seen again, but was re-assured that this not always the case – there are at least three members of

Football club, for example, who left 10 years ago and are playing important and significant parts in the OWFC structure.

Alex Forbes was his usual positive self – it runs in the Forbes genes – and was complemented on his weekly round-ups and assured us that he had plans to make them even more comprehensive and variant.

Ian Pilgrim felt that the Old Wilsonians has now become a community club and the good news is that many in the local community are playing their part and not just seeing it as somewhere to play their respective sports.

All of these proposals will take a long time and a lot of work to accomplish, there will be frustrations along the way but, in the end, it will have been worthwhile. Bert Bourner always said that he wanted the Old Wilsonians to be the best Old Boys Club in the land and there are already strong reasons to suggest that this has already been accomplished and what is being proposed will simply put the icing on the cake.

The Presidents' lunch started about 20 years ago – the innovation of Ian Forbes, whom we still all miss, and since the inaugural lunch we have also lost 'Mac', Ted Knevett and Bryan Watts, all great OWs and worthy of the highest position the Association can bestow upon them.

There have been a plethora of additional Presidents, of course, since that initial occasion, all equally worthy, and there will be others to follow.

Mike Kendrick, who was certainly one of the greats, was not able to attend and, as I'm sure most of you know, is being looked after in a local Care home. A number of us have been to see him and it is both disturbing and a joy to see him.

Every so often he gives a smile of recognition to his visitor and when you say something he does not agree with he will either say an emphatic "No" or give you that look of disdain he was so adept at when you made a mistake on the football pitch or on the cricket field.

I can still see the look of pride on his face when he was elected our President at the AGM all those years ago and his pride at seeing Neil follow in his illustrious foot-steps is total. "Playing is the easy bit", he always maintained, "but it is what you do off the pitch that is important" - and it also made him a great President.

He recently celebrated his 81st birthday and the devotion of his family can best be summed up by Maria when she wrote on Facebook "Happy 81st Birthday to the best Dad a girl could have x. You may not be the same now and barely know who I am, but I love you more than ever. We will give Maria, Anne and Neil all the support we can.

Clive Peckover was unable to attend as he was dealing with matters of State, whilst **Doug Forbes** – another with those invaluable genes – had work commitments.

Les Wilks – the father of us all, and don't take that literally otherwise there will be all sorts of awkward questions asked and a week of Jeremy Kyle shows (it simply means that he is the oldest surviving President) had just moved to Bexhill-on-Sea and was still getting his bearings. But he will continue to be a regular visitor to the Club, thanks to the taxi services of daughters Sally and Karen.

Bob Bevan was on a cruise – or was he simply cruising? – whilst the others taking part were:

Gerry Adams – the first of only three OWs to have been elected not only President of the Association but also of the Football and Cricket Clubs - the other two are Ian Forbes and Mick Pilgrim, whilst the Cricket Club have had the good sense to elect Ian Pilgrim their President whilst the Football Club should correct this serious omission to honour a man who continues to

work his socks off for them; who ensures that the car park is under control on a Saturday afternoon(?). Gerry also informed us that, if you turn your watch upside down, it will tell you the time in Mumbai – always a mine of information is our Gerry.

Mike Harris – who is also only the third Life President of the Football Club and taught Boris Johnson all of his diplomacy skills.

Lou Barry - our treasurer for an inordinate number of years – and he still does some financial work for us, and another who has also been President of the Football Club and one of just four members who have played over 1,000 games.

Malcolm Taylor – who left the lunch muttering something about contribution to the next NOW magazine, which he has been editing for well over 20 years, and the scorer of numerous goals with various parts of his anatomy.

Bill Hartley - who kept the Squash and Racket ball club going for many years, was a top high jumper when he was at school and made regular appearances in the school punishment book, invariably for insolence.

At around 4-30 the party started to break up; Gerry, Pete and Steve all went home, and the hard drinkers adjourned to the Real Ale Bar next door – the event had taken place in The New Inn in Hayes.

Neil made his way to Birmingham to attend Richard Smart's stag night – earlier in the week Anne had told me how their lives had mirrored each other – they both have two children, they both have been married twice, and they both have second wives named Louise – not to mention the fact that they both started at Wilson's on the same day.

The meal was excellent and George and Phoebe, the staff who were given the task of looking after us, did so with aplomb.

And so another enjoyable Presidents' lunch came to a conclusion – and sincere thanks to Mick Pilgrim for organising the occasion so adeptly - and we all look forward to seeing the progress the OWA will make over the next 12 months safe in the knowledge that all of the above will be involved in its fulfilment in their own unique ways.

The Cricket Club continues to flourish; even in the Winter months

As predicted in the November edition of 'NOW', by the time of the appearance of the next edition of this essential magazine the cricket Club will be preparing for the 2019 season, and that is exactly what has happened.

Indoor Nets started in January as players knocked off the dust – and rust – they had accumulated during the Winter months, with both the colts and senior members trying to impress our highly qualified coaches.

Talking of whom there number will soon be increased to the value of three as Dave Ellicott-White, Velson Devarajulu and Joe Jukes undertake their qualification courses.

Come April 1st – hopefully not a significant date! - we will be able to use the Nets at Hayes but not before some serious repair work has been undertaken as the ravages of time, and weather, have taken their toll.

A working party will be organised for this – members of the cricket club please take note and volunteer - whilst bodies will also be required to get the ground prepared for the summer and the anticipated festival of exciting cricket.

We have two new skippers this year, with Josh Holland leading the 3rd XI, replacing Howard Abbett, who moves up to lead the 2nd XI, with the ever-green Neil Treacher taking over from Jeff Mascarenhas for the 4th XI.

Spectators are always welcome and, if you lose interest in the cricket – highly unlikely – then you can retire to the Bar.

Pleased to report that Ginger's continue to sponsor us for yet another season and delighted to welcome two more sponsors, namely '**Cobra concrete**', thanks to Tony Sherlcok, and '**New India**', thanks to Azman Sahan.

Sincere thanks to all three, and we will endeavour to justify your faith in our sides.

Our Colts section continues to develop and flourish with Barrie Frampton again their Chair supported by a committed and knowledgeable committee.

We have our annual Quiz Night and pre-season get together on April 26th but before that we will again be participating in the Alf Parish Memorial Darts match on March 29th at Selhurst Park. The trophy is currently held by the Old Wilsonians' Football Club, so there is sure to be a bit of needle between the two OW sides.

A brief report this time but more in the summer edition – after we play some cricket!

In the meantime you can keep up to date with cricket news via our excellent website – oldwilsonians.com – and the monthly newsletter *Mike Pike (Secretary, OWCC)*

OW Golf Day- Bourner Jug

This year's Bourner Jug Competition will be held on the Thursday 25th April 2019 returning one last time to Banstead Downs before hopefully finding a new venue next year.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to book your place in an attempt to win the much sought after Bourner Jug - or for some of us just to come and play golf and be merry! Your reigning champion Malcolm Smart is eager to defend his title but the Champion's cut as always will require extra efforts in order to succeed!

The cost for the day is £60 for which you will enjoy the following:

Bacon Rolls and Tea/Coffee

Short game coaching with the Pro's

18 Holes of great (and some bad) golf

Beat the Pro on the 17th

Nearest the Pin Competition

Longest Drive Competition

The Ian Forbes Par 3 Trophy

Beers and Banter

Three Course Dinner

Trophies and Awards

There will as usual also be a raffle with some seriously top end prizes to win and our very own bookmaker Andy Parkinson will be on hand to take your bets for the day.

If you could please let me know at your earliest convenience if you are in and also please transfer your entry fees to me making sure you make clear reference to your name so that I know who's paid, it would be greatly appreciated.

Barnes Clanachan

Ten ways to abuse a scorer – and how the scorer should react

1. Never give a scorer a team sheet nor a batting order

The job of the scorer is to record the events of a game on a ball by ball basis so that, at its conclusion, it perfectly represents its content and, most importantly, its result. But the scorer also has to record the contribution each of the 22 participants make - e.g. runs scored by batsmen, wicket taken by bowlers and catches taken by fielders.

Cricketers tend to be precious and sensitive souls - see also 10 – and so it is important that runs, wickets and catches are assigned to the correct player and providing a scorer with a team-sheet and batting order helps him/her to identify the participants.

Teams tend to change from week to week – the only consistent member of a side is invariably the scorer – so the latter needs all the information he/she can get – apart from anything else he/she is out-numbered by 11 to one, sometimes 22 to one - see also 7.

The Scorer's rejoinder -- Make up team with the likes of politicians, actors, soap stars, pop stars, famous cricketers etc.

Your team may look something like this: Theresa May, Jeremy Corbyn, Vince Cable – it is important to be even handed – Marlon Brando, Judi Dench, Ian Beale, Ken Barlow, Mick Jagger, Pau; McCartney - showing my age there – Brian Lara and Dennis Compton; and again .

2 Stand in front of the scorer at every opportunity

This is very easy when the scorer's table or box is at ground level but becomes more problematic when it is raised in any way. In the latter circumstances the tallest members of the team should be designated for this purpose whilst others should stand on a box if necessary

The Scorer's rejoinder Sit in front of the sight-screen when it is the offender's turn to bat.

3 Never give a scorer a drink during the drinks interval.

The simplest way to ensure this does not happen is to bring out 15 cups - 11 for the fielders, two for the batsmen and two for the umpires. To add insult to injury, if there is some liquid left in the jug, throw it on the grass - preferably in front of the scorers

The Scorer's rejoinder - Go and get your own drink and make sure you have not returned by the time play is about to re-commence

4. At the tea interval, when scorers have a lot of work to do before partaking of said repast - e.g. reconciling the batting and bowling figures, putting the score of the team batting first in the appropriate place - pile up your plate with as much food as it can take even if you have no intention of eating it all so that there is little or nothing left by the time the scorer arrives.

The Scorer's rejoinder - Have a quiet word with the tea provider before the game asking if they can put some food aside for you.

5. Having ignored the scorers all afternoon – see also 6 - at the completion of the game hassle them for your bowling figures. If you are a batsman ask how many balls you faced – even if you know full well that the scorer does not count balls faced.

The Scorer's rejoinder: Explain, politely, that you have a lot of work to do at the conclusion of a game – see also 4 - and, of course, a player can see his/her bowling figures but please wait until they can be authenticated.

If a batsman wants to know how many balls he/she faced then let them have the book so that can count themselves, although your first comment should be “Not enough, otherwise you would not have been out”.

6. Never offer to change the score-board - interestingly, when Old Wilsonians played a pre-season friendly at Bromley Common, they provided both a scorer and a score-board operator.

The Scorer's rejoinder: Simply do not change the board.

7. When your team does not provide a scorer. This is when you really come into your element. Before the game do not apologise for this omission. If you are bowling first offer to provide the name of the bowlers but make sure that you do not fulfil this promise. As a tease you may let him/her know the names of the openers, although you should give them in the wrong order, but, after that, give no information at all. When you bat do not provide a scorer from the team and even if you do, make sure they change every few overs so there is no consistency

The Scorer's rejoinder: There is, in fact, employment law relating to lone working – it is illegal, so it depends on how brutal you want to be; you can simply refuse to work on your own, for example and this is well within your rights. If you wish to be more co-operative – scorers are always willing to help in any way they can - simply keep the score but not ascribe any runs to specific batsmen, whom you do not know – this is within the rules of the game. Alternatively explain that if you confuse the batsmen, as will almost certainly be the case as you have never seen them before – it is unlikely that he/she will be your next door neighbour nor work at the local supermarket - then it is the team's fault for not scoring; surprisingly this invariably makes no difference at all and the opposing side will say 'OK'

8. Swag

Scorers are happy to look after your swag bag but always ensure that they are full of mobile 'phones with the loudest of ring-tones.

The Scorer's rejoinder: Politely – scorers are always polite – ask them to turn off their mobile 'phones and remind them that although you are more than happy to look after their valuables you do so “at their own risk and are not responsible if anything goes missing”.

9 In a game without official umpires

Just as many sides do not provide scorers these days many do not provide umpires, so a player has to stand-in. If you do so then never inform the scorers that the game is about to start – i.e. just say 'Play' to those on the field and do not check to see if the scorers are ready and **never** signal wides, no balls, byes, leg-byes and boundaries

The Scorer's rejoinder: If the ball goes over the boundary and the umpire does not signal simply record the ball as a dot ball - there are many other examples but you get the picture

10. When you score a lot of runs or take a lot of wickets then ask for your stats to be put on play-cricket, even if it is only a game in the back garden with your little brother, who is six, and sister, who is four. In these days of league cricket virtually all games are put on play-cricket but there are a few which are not, and there is a reason for this, namely that they are not considered to be of such magnitude to warrant being recorded in such a manner

The score's rejoinder: Offer to put such stats on play-cricket, almost to the extent of insisting, if a batsman gets 0 and a bowler takes 0 for 60 in 5 overs

Old Wilsonians' Association

SUPER DRAW 2019

Draw Promoter: Graham Watts

Tel: 0208 698 1134 (h) 07956 462 685 (m)

Email: gawat@ntlworld.com

WINNERS LIST

DATE	NO	NAME	PRIZE	DATE	NO	NAME	PRIZE
JAN 1	71	S KIDD	£170	JUL 1			£170
JAN 15	66	D SMART	£70	JUL 15			£70
FEB 1	15	M PILGRIM	£170	AUG 1			£170
FEB 15	54	P WAKEFORD	£70	AUG15			£70
MAR 1	70	J TROUT	£170	SEP 1			£170
MAR 15	42	M. HARRIS	£70	SEP 15			£70
APR 1			£170	OCT 1			£170
APR15			£70	OCT 15			£70
MAY 1			£170	NOV 1			£170
MAY15			£70	NOV5			£70
JUN 1			£1000	DEC 1			£1000
JUN 15			£70	DEC15			£70



If you want to join in and buy a number just £12.50 a month by direct debit, then please contact Graham Watts as above



for

GOOD LUCK

The SUPER DRAW is part of the OWA Lotteries

All payments to Old Wilsonians' Association fund raising lotteries will be used to improve facilities in the Club House and on the Grounds for the benefit of all members

Old Wilsonians' Association
PRIZE DRAW 2018 ~ 2019

Draw Promoter: Graham Watts
Tel: 0208 698 1134 (h) 07956 462 685 (m)

WINNERS LIST

DATE	NO	NAME	PRIZE	DATE	NO	NAME	PRIZE
JUL 31	199	DONNELLY	£50	DEC 11		DONATION	£25
AUG 7	150	J QUANTRILL	£25	DEC 18	149	L BARRY	£25
AUG 14	190	Mrs M RAYWORTH	£25	DEC 25	72	C SMITH	£25
AUG 21	52	J GUNDRY-WHITE	£25	JAN 1	11	C SMITH	£50
AUG 28	117	A KIRCHIN	£50	JAN 8	160	C MILLEDGE	£25
SEPT 4	81	S MILLWARD	£25	JAN 15	197	D MARGETTS	£25
SEPT 11	1	A Mc CLINTON	£25	JAN 22	173	T FOREMAN	£25
SEPT 18	64	P WAKEFORD	£25	JAN 29	178	C EVANS	£25
SEPT 25	97	NIGHTINGALE	£50	FEB 5	97	NIGHTINGALE	£50
OCT 2	22	N MEACHAM	£25	FEB 12	174	J FORBES	£25
OCT 9	179	R BARR	£25	FEB 19	80	P JENKINS	£25
OCT 16	34	I RAYWORTH	£25	FEB 26	71	N. TREACHER	£25
OCT 23	150	J. QUANTRILL	£50	MAR 5	165	A. BRICK	£25
OCT 30	15	P RICHARDSON	£25	MAR 12	106	J. JENNINGS	£50
NOV 6	13	Mrs S SMITH	£25	MAR 19	13	S. SMITH	£25
NOV 13	80	P. JENKINS	£25	MAR 26	161	L. TUPPEN	£25
NOV 20	193	D RUSSELL	£25	APR 2			£25
NOV 27	19	J. TILLING	£50	APR 9			£25
DEC 4	28	J GRIMWOOD	£500	APR 16			£500

**If you want join in and buy a number for just £25
a year then please contact Graham Watts as above**

GOOD LUCK

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lotteries will be used to improve facilities in the Club House
and Grounds for the benefit of all members**