

The Hawk

MICHAELMAS 2010



London Dinner returns to Savoy



Only once before 2008 has the dinner not been at the Savoy. That was in 1974 when the club celebrated its centenary at the Guildhall. Now, after 2 years, and a budget of over £220 million, the Savoy's refit is nearing completion, and the Hotel will reopen on 10th October. Our dinner on 8th December will therefore be one of the earliest users of the spectacularly redesigned interior. So you have three incentives to attend this year's dinner - first because you are a Hawk, and second, to see just what they have done to this most iconic of the capital's hosteries.

Your third reason for attending this year is most certainly the Guest of Honour, Ian Pattinson, Pembroke College 1970-73, and CU Golf Club, of which he was captain in 1973. He describes his game at the time as a "2 handicap player with a tendency to



quick hook, and occasionally shank the golf ball". His successes he ascribes to a knack of "dragging opponents down to his own lowly level". We think that he is entirely too modest, as Cambridge won the Varsity match in 1972, and only lost in 1973 by one match.

He has remained a major force in the golf world, being a member of the R&A Rules of Golf Committee 1994-2003 (Chairman 1999-2003), and currently a member of the Equipment Standards Committee, of which he has been Chairman since 2006. He has also refereed 9 Open Championships (including the playoff in 2002), 10 Masters Tournaments, 2 US Opens, 3 Walker Cups, and 1 Curtis Cup for which he was the Chief Referee. He has also been the Rules of Golf advisor to the BBC at every Open Championship since 2004.

Ian did law "in his spare time", and is now a solicitor at Birketts in Cambridge, specialising in family law.

The Chairman for the dinner is Ben Duncan, who was President of the CUBC in the academic year 1973-4 (Goldie 1972, Blue Boat 1973 and 74) and President of the Hawks Club in 1974-5, the Club's Centenary Year when the dinner was held at the Guildhall. He attended St. Catharine's College and is an associate partner of Strutt & Parker practising as a Rural Surveyor and living in Staffordshire.

Trust benefits from *your* generosity

Since our appeal in the last 'Hawk' the Trust has received over £9,000, including a single donation of more than half that amount. The thanks of the Trustees, and all those men and women who benefit from the Trust, to those who have so contributed.



May we hope that many more of you will follow this example. Remember that your contributions go to swell the capital fund which is conserved for the future. It is the annual income which goes to provide the sporting bursaries. Managed in this way we expect that it will continue to make a significant contribution to the cream of the University's sports people for many, many years to come, and your donation, however small, can be a part of that.

Our picture shows Harry Leitch - squash player extraordinary in the company of professionals, but he is an *amateur*! Our support for him as he studies to become a doctor is crucial. We are delighted to be able to report that Harry will be representing Scotland at this year's Commonwealth Games.

To make a donation download the forms from our web site (at www.hawksclub.co.uk/public/trust), or contact Sarah at the clubhouse (see back page for details).

From the President

As an American and a lacrosse player, I was by no means a traditional candidate for the presidency. I am consequently honoured to have the support of the membership as I assume this office. I am further enthused to be working with an absolutely excellent Junior Committee this year comprised of sportsmen representing ten different University sports. Together with Mike and Karen Gurney and Sarah Malcolm, the Junior Committee and I will ensure that the resident portion of the Club continues to thrive. To that end, I would like to share briefly with you some of the key missions I seek to accomplish this year, in addition to maintaining the tradition and character of the Club.

The first initiative I've sought to realize is the creation of a Hawks' Talks Speaker Series through which distinguished Hawks are invited back to Cambridge to



Ian Ralby
Ah, the sweet smell of Varsity Match success!

give an address at the Cambridge Union, followed by a dinner in the Clubhouse. We're delighted to welcome Gavin Hastings back to Cambridge in Michaelmas (17 Nov.) and Mike Brearley in Lent (18 Feb.). Once confirmed, we will also announce an Easter Term speaker.

The second item on my agenda is the enhancement of sporting facilities within Cambridge. Having competed in NCAA Division I sport in the United States, I recognize the value of first-rate sporting facilities not just to those men and women who represent the University in sport, but to the broader student population. With an eye toward diplomacy, I hope to continue the work of my predecessor in raising the visibility and urgency of this difficult issue within the higher echelons of the University administration.

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River triumph - an insider's view

From Deaglan McEachern, CUBC President 2010, and No 5 in the boat:

It is never easy sitting down to write a few words meant to encapsulate an event in the lives of fellow athletes. There are so many stories, so many different perspectives that give weight to the experience of the team, that to write as an individual undervalues bonds that were forged over the campaign. In acknowledging that limitation I hope I can remind you of your own teams and the trust placed in one another, and illustrate a few examples of what it meant to pick up a light blue oar and beat Oxford on April 3rd 2010.

The first thing to remember is that we beat Oxford as a team. Goldie and Blue Boat both rowed the outside of the Surrey bend to break their opposite men. Make no mistake about that, what we set out to do was break Oxford; to make them quit. We had to take away their belief that they could win. That's what it takes to win the Boat Race. That's why we start in September. You need a belief in yourselves that is going to outlast the dark blues. Our belief was steadfast and was reinforced on the stake boats upon hearing that the GLOD had done just that. They had come back from an seemingly insurmountable deficit to win. That inspired us.

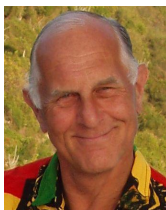


Cambridge approach the finish with prideful supporters in pursuit.

The second thing I remember is how well our crew responded to Ted's call for a push. A push or a move in rowing is a tricky thing. If everyone doesn't commit then those that do use too much energy for the amount of speed gained. If everyone as one pushes on from what already seems like maximal effort the boat takes off, almost feeling lighter. Oxford got out to an early lead on our first bend, and were pressing hard into their first bend. Give up anything more and we were sure to lose. So when Ted asked for it, the whole crew responded, and stuck right on them. Ted was aggressive with the rudder and we didn't let them move an inch, slowly we reeled them back.

Finally, and this is the memory of the boat race we will take to our grave, is the sound bellowing from the following boat full of old blues. "CAMMMMBRIDDDGGEEEE!" Over and over we could hear that as we pushed on past Barnes Bridge, closing in on the finish line. The race was in our control by then, we had gone through the outside of the Surrey bend and broken Oxford. The realisation that victory was within our grasp energized our aching legs, and as we did we could hear the old boys there with us. I have never felt prouder in my life than I did representing Cambridge on that day, to win for everyone who cares so much, and for those I rowed with in previous campaigns that helped us to that finish line. Cambridge surely won that day because of the commitment of the 18 guys in those boats, but our feat was only made possible by the enthusiasm and support of everyone that bleeds light blue.

Oldies still have it!



Peter Leach (Queens' 1964-7, CU Swimming & Water Polo Club) writes:

"Having been a half blue in Swimming in 1965/6 and 1966/7, I took a swimming hiatus for 37 years. I started swimming competitively again at the age of 60 and my performances have been improving over the last 5 years. This year swimming with the Technosport Club at the Canadian National Masters Swimming Championships (swum long course – i.e. in a 50 metre pool), my club coach assigned me to a very competitive mixed medley relay team. Masters relays are run in 40 year cumulative age brackets and this team was in the bracket from 240-279 years. The competitiveness of the team

was as we had expected and we beat the old record by a significant margin. We set a new world record time of 6 minutes and 3.27 seconds for the 240-279 4 x 100 Mixed Medley relay, long course.

Unfortunately, our record was broken again only 20 days later by a German club team, but it isn't everybody that comes to get a World Record (even if for only a few days in our case), not even all Hawks!! This relay team still holds the Canadian Record for this event."

Our congratulations to Peter. If any other Hawks of a certain age (or indeed, any age) have stories to tell, please share them. Email editor@hawksclub.co.uk.

The Hawk by email

Those of you who have email addresses on the members' database will have received a message from Oliver Slack telling you that you will, this year, receive the London Dinner invitation by this means.

With the very evident savings in postage that this will entail we have decided to do the same with this edition of The Hawk. We will however have some spare copies printed, so if anyone who has received this by email would like a printed copy please get in touch with Sarah at the Clubhouse, who will send you one.

For those of you who have received this by post, please consider whether you could receive future communications from the Club by email, and if you are so inclined, either send your email address to Sarah, or update your own record in the database - go to the Hawks' Only section of the web site (www.hawksclub.co.uk/private/login.aspx).

From the President

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Finally, I have set out to improve the network of the Club within its membership—residents and alumni alike. Throughout the year, I will be reaching out to alumni to be more involved in, or at a minimum welcomed to, the activities of the resident members.

In the spirit of that last point, I'm delighted to invite all Hawks of all eras to help us in an increased effort to support charitable causes this year. That focus will be both internal via the Hawks' Charitable Trust and external via Right To Play (www.righttoplay.com), an outstanding charity with which we are partnering for the year.

If you have any questions, comments, memories, concerns, news items or ideas that you'd like to share, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time at president@hawksclub.co.uk.

I look forward to hearing from you, meeting you, getting to know you, working with you, and representing you this year.

With warm regards and GDBO!
Ian M. Ralby
President, The Hawks' Club 2010-2011

Hawks in Tandem Across Africa

In July 2011, Stuart Block (CUCC & CURUFC 1998-2001) will be setting off from Cape Town on his tandem bicycle with the aim of getting back to London in time for the 2012 Olympics in London. The nearly 10,000 mile ride is to raise money for Beyond Ourselves, an educational charity working in Zambia set up by fellow Hawk Ben Collins (CUCC Skipper 2001) and other charities working in Africa. Ten other Hawks are already signed up, covering about one fifth of the legs, helping Stuart pedal back to the UK.

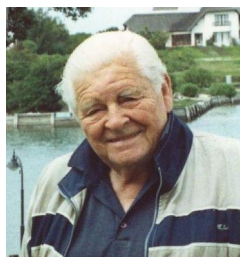


Next stop Cape Town: Richard Humes (CURUFC 1999-2001) and Stuart pose with tandem at Cranleigh School.

If you fancy joining him or helping in other ways, drop him a line on: bike@beyondourselves.co.uk. For more info on the project, and sponsorship, see www.beyondthebike.org. Future editions of The Hawk will bring you news of their progress.

OBITUARIES

Robin Simpson (1923-2009)



Excelling at everything from a young age, Robin Simpson matriculated from Durban High School at the age of 16, and went straight to what was then Natal University College. He graduated as a Civil Engineer, having been

SRC President and captained the University Rugby Team.

From there he saw active service with the SA Engineer Corps in the Middle East and Italy, during the Second World War.

On his return, he won a scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated with a Master's degree in economics. He represented Cambridge and Harlequins in rugby and also found time to court Rachel, who was at Newnham College, returning with her as his wife to South Africa in 1951.

Starting at Wiggins Teape, his business career was meteoric, and he soon became involved at the highest level managing businesses that either needed "fixing", taking-over, or frequently both. In due course he moved on from corporate life, and joined three other ex-chief executives in setting up, from scratch, a personnel and management consultancy, which, when he retired seventeen years later as chairman, was the leader in its field.

On retirement he became heavily involved in local affairs, with particular emphasis on conservation issues. He wrote several books, including a coffee-table book "The Monument Around Us" which documented the development of St Francis bay, where he spent his retirement years.

From material supplied by his daughter, Kim

Michael Mavor (1947-2009)



A prodigious energy displayed from his school days saw Michael Mavor become Head of School at Loretto, Captain of Cricket, Hockey and Golf, first team rugby and tennis player, and pipe-major in the school

band. He matriculated to St John's college where he was Trevelyan scholar and Exhibitioner in English. He played Rugby for the University although narrowly missing his blue. It was there that he met his future wife, Elizabeth.

After a period in the United States, and teaching at Tonbridge School in Kent, at the age of 31 there began a period in which he successively headed 3 major public schools - Gordonstoun, Rugby and Loretto - all of which he left in significantly better shape than when he joined them.

The most unstuffy of Heads, he once astonished the pupils of Rugby by skateboarding down the aisle of the school chapel. On another occasion he demonstrated to the assembled Loretto students the need for pin-point accuracy by driving a golf ball straight down the centre of their chapel. He regularly turned out in rugby kit to help with coaching, directed school plays, and played the bagpipes. He later took up Archery and won the famous Musselburgh Arrow in 2007. With all this he still had time for everybody, whether pupil, staff or parent.

His legacy is huge, from turning round the academic standards of Gordonstoun, successfully making Rugby co-educational, to creating a golfing academy at Loretto. The governor of 14 schools in all, he was a significant influence in the development of the public school ethos, improving academic standards, staying in touch with modern developments, and becoming involved in as broad a cross-section of society as possible.

Geoffrey Woolley (1915-2010)



Born in South Wales, Woolley was educated at Clifton College and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. He won his half-blue in athletics for running the half-mile.

After a short introduction to journalism Woolley was soon involved in the war in the Royal Artillery. He took part in the D-Day landings, and was subsequently one of the first Allied soldiers to witness the horrors of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. He was mentioned in despatches, awarded the Territorial Decoration and ended the war as a Major.

In 1946 he returned to The Times, where he began in the Obituaries and Letters department. After a stint in the United States, in 1953 he became Editor of the Letters department - a position he held for the next 30 years.

Over this time he elevated the Letters to The Times columns to a national institution, creating a forum and sounding board for the establishment, and creating an ethos that any member of the public could contribute to the debate. His erudition, his knowledge of the public figures involved, and his sensitivity to what constituted the most important issues of the moment considerably enhanced the column's role in public affairs. The space it occupied in the paper flourished accordingly, growing to a full page of its own. Nor could it ever be thought of as boringly serious - Woolley maintained a keen eye for the humorous, honing the "bottom right" letters into a parade of the British at their most whimsical and droll.

The Times became very much a family to him, and he remained devoted to it in retirement. His other passions included opera, bird-watching and collecting Cardiff porcelain, mid 20th century British books and pictures. Above all he enjoyed gardening, which he shared with his partner, Australian born garden designer, Ian Mylles, who survives him.

Gray Hughes (1925-2009)



Gray Hughes was born in Wales, but his father dying when he was 10, he was sent to board at Canterbury.

In 1943 he came up to Trinity Hall on a Royal Navy short course, after which he served as a Lieutenant in UK and Pacific waters.

In 1946 he returned to Trinity Hall to read Law, and played Hockey - captaining the University team in 1949 and winning both the League and the Cup. He was capped 6 times for Wales.

After graduating and taking articles he served as a solicitor in Newport and Cardiff. In 1982 he was appointed a District Judge in Swansea, retiring in 1997.

Hughes was a keen pianist, and became musical director of the local amateur society in Llandaff. Always faithful to his church he served at various times as sidesman, reader, server, acolyte and sacramental assistant.

From his wife, Eleanor

Dick Webster (1914-2009)



To this day no British pole vaulter has equalled Dick Webster's equal 6th place in the Olympics. Set in 1936, his jump of 4m also remained a national record for 15 years.

Webster was educated at Bedford School, representing it at the Public School Championships when it won the team event on 3 separate occasions. He then went up to Christ's College where he was awarded a Lord Kitchener Memorial Scholarship. He won the pole vault in all 3 Varsity matches in which he competed, and set the first of his U.K. records. Following the 1936 Olympics in 1937 he toured with the Achilles team and won the World Student title.

He had a distinguished Army career. As a member of the BEF he was evacuated from Dunkirk and served in North Africa and Italy where he was mentioned in despatches. After the war he moved up the ranks, culminating in a posting as Brigadier Royal Artillery Northern Command.

On leaving the army he farmed in South Africa for 15 years before returning to Wiltshire.

Results-Results-Results

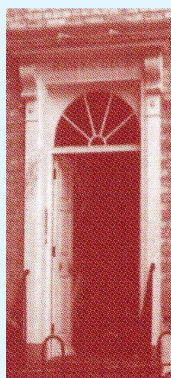
Sport	Varsity Result
Athletics - Track & Field	Cambridge 107.5-102.5
Athletics - Track & Field Women	Cambridge 112-89
Cricket - 20-20 Match	Oxford 20 runs
Cricket - 1 Day Varsity	Cambridge 5 wickets
Cricket - 4 day Varsity	Oxford, an innings & 28 runs
Cricket - Women's Varsity	Cambridge 10 wickets
Lawn Tennis	Cambridge 13-8
Lawn Tennis Women	Cambridge 18-3
Riding	Cambridge
Rifle - Full Bore	Cambridge 1153.125-965.75
Rifle - Match Rifle	Cambridge 783.49-732-27

Where have all the Presidents gone?

James Waldegrave	1962-3	Jono Arscott	1992-3
	1963-4	Justin Davies	1993-4
Paul Marsh	1964-5	Christopher Thompson	1994-5
John James	1965-7	Colin Carter	1995-6
	1967-70	Adie Spencer	Part 1996
Bernard Cotton	1970-1	Ed How	1996-7
	1971-3	Robert Ashforth	1997-8
R M Wilkinson	1973-4	Oliver Slack	1998-9
Ben Duncan	1974-5	David Cassidy	1999-2000
	1975-81	Bruce Cummings	2000-2
P A Dempsey	1981-2	Ali Newmarch	2002-3
	1982-5	Russ Abel	2003-4
John Pritchard	1985-6	Dan Barry	2004-5
	1986-7	Steffen Buschbacher	2005-6
James Skelton	1988-9	Tom Edwards	2006-7
Mike Risman	1989-90	Jez Hansell	2007-8
Trevor Castledine	1990-1	Mike Collins	2008-9
Dan Wooler	1991-2	Patrick Crossley	2009-10
Clubhouse opened	1992	Ian Ralby	2010-11

You can see from the above that we have a full list of Presidents from 1988 to the present, but it is a very different story from 1963-1987. If you can help to fill any of the blanks please drop a line or email to Sarah - details below

We are also short of photographs of the Presidents and Committees of the 1967-83 era. If you have any such please let us have a sight of them. We will scan them and return the original to you.



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Congratulations Sir Michael Marshall, CBE

Michael Marshall (Jesus College 1952-55, CU Boat Club) was awarded a Knighthood in the 2010 New Year's Honours List.

Dates for your Diary

16 Oct 2010	Hawks/Ospreys Charity Ball in favour of the Right to Play charity. To be held in, and with, the Union. Tickets £35 for Hawks, £40 for non-Hawks. To book see our website, www.hawksclub.co.uk .	
17 Nov 2010	Hawks Talks - speaker Gavin Hastings (Magdalene 1984-86, CURUFC, Scotland and British Lions). 6.30pm at the Union. No booking required.	
24 Nov 2010	Steele Bodgers - the Cambridge networking event of the year, Grange Road. As usual the marquee is sponsored by Januarys Consultant Surveyors, for which our grateful thanks. The bar in the marquee is open from 12.00 and stays open until the beer runs out. Lunch in the marquee is at 1.00pm and can be booked as Individual seats or tables of 10 at £40 a head. To make your booking contact Sarah at the clubhouse	
08 Dec 2010	The London Dinner. Now returned to the Savoy. 7.15 for 8.00pm. Sponsored by Cobra Beer, for which our thanks. See front page for details.	
09 Dec 2010	The Varsity Match. Twickenham kick-off at 2.00pm. The Clubhouse will remain open all afternoon, with large television screens in operation in both the Member's lounge and the Bar.	
14 Jan 2011	The Welsh Dinner - Cardiff and County Club. For details contact Stephen Whitehead at whiteheads@hotmail.com	
18 Feb 2011	Hawks Talks - speaker Mike Brearley (St John's 1960-63, CUCC and England). 6.30pm at the Union. No booking required.	