

THE OLD BLUE

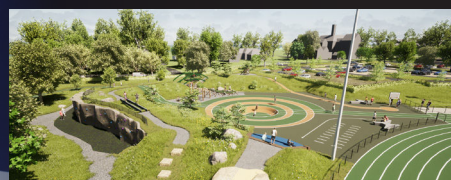
SPRING 2024



Claire Barrow - The Ultimate Quiz Ninja



CH Ambassador takes on the Atlantic!



A new generation of sports facilities for all



50 Years of the CH Band at The Lord Mayor's Show



Sir John Daniel -
Distance, Open
and Online
Education



Book now for
Old Blues Day
18th May 2024



All your events,
news and
updates...



CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

DISTANCE EDUCATION, OPEN LEARNING AND ONLINE TEACHING

Sir John Daniel (PrepA, MdA 52-61) is a former university leader and educationalist. With more than 400 publications on a range of topics, including education and distance learning, we asked Sir John to share some of his valuable knowledge and advice.

After CH, Sir John studied first at the University of Oxford, where he received first-class honours, and then, at the University of Paris, for a DSc.

He was a leading figure in distance education and open learning for more than 40 years. While Vice-Chancellor at the Open University (OU), he oversaw significant changes, including the rapid expansion of online teaching.

During his lifelong career in education, Sir John has received 32 honorary doctorates from universities in 17 countries. He was knighted in 1994 for services to Higher Education.

What has been the highlight of your career?

The 11 years (1990-2001) that I spent as Vice-Chancellor of the Open University. The founding ideals of the OU, articulated in 1969, echoed those that inspired CH in 1552. I found the OU's mission: 'open to people, open to places, open to methods and open to ideas' compelling. It was also like CH in its impact on the social mobility of its students. Moreover, I was there at a wonderful time: the student body grew from 100,000 to 200,000 during the 1990s and the OU was ranked fifth among UK universities for the quality of its programmes.

What is it like working in the education sector?

Apart from a few months in the USA, where I used my training in metallurgy to help change the metal used for US coins (quarters and dimes), I have not worked in any other sector. I've enjoyed education enormously, largely because I was always seeking to change things, mostly by promoting open, distance and digital learning.

In your time at the OU, you saw a lot of technological change. What are your thoughts on how digital learning is changing due to technological developments, including AI?

Play it long. New educational technologies don't usually live up to the initial hype, but they can have unpredictable impacts in the longer run. Follow the students — if they eagerly adopt a technology then take it seriously. AI will seem just part of the general toolkit in a few years' time.



Sir John, Chancellor of the Ascenda School of Management (2018)

How have you handled new technologies entering the workplace and what advice would you give on such changes?

You must both lead and follow the users. At first (early 1990s) we had to cajole OU students into adopting computers, but within a few years (later 1990s) the students were pestering the OU to move faster. In 1995 there were 5,000 OU students online, by 2000 it had grown to 120,000.

Left: Sir John at the OU's 50th anniversary celebrations (2019)



1961 Grecians with Sir John Daniel front centre

'My nine years (1952-61) at CH, wearing the Bluecoat uniform, were happy and stimulating. The teaching was superb and we had great freedom to explore our own intellectual interests as we matured. I was named Senior Grecian in my final year and won a scholarship to Oxford.'

What advice would you give...

...to Old Blues looking to further their education?

Study what will open new doors and looks interesting. I've been a part-time student almost continuously throughout my career. While my Oxford degree, and my doctorate from the University of Paris, let me get my foot on the ladder, it was my later part-time studies that led me into a wonderful and varied career.

...someone when applying for a new job?

Brief yourself thoroughly on the content of the new job and the organisation. Then show the interviewers that getting this job is the most important thing in your life. I've chaired dozens of interview panels, and these two qualities are what make candidates stand out.

...an Old Blue thinking about taking their career abroad?

Do it! Throw yourself deeply into the new

environment. Learn the language, which I had to do for my doctorate in Paris, and get citizenship, as I did in Canada. Living in another country is culturally enriching, quite apart from job benefits.

...distance learners or someone considering this?

Try it! I find that the flexibility and the autonomy make it the best way to study. But ask around and find someone who has used the institution you're looking at. Distance learning provision is of variable quality (like any other form of education). Check how much support the institution will give you if you encounter difficulties.

...someone who is entering a new chapter of their professional life?

Prepare as well as you can. When I switched from university work to becoming a UN bureaucrat I took an OU course, so that I at least knew the vocabulary of the domain I was entering.

...an Old Blue who is looking to use their skills following retirement?

If you've had an active career, I expect that opportunities will find you. My three main post-retirement activities all came to me through previous contacts. Make it known you're available.



Sir John being inducted as Officer of the Order of Canada by Governor-General David Johnston (2014)

My time at CH



A family affair

John was able to support two of his grandchildren to do their last two years of schooling at CH. Both say it was the most important experience of their lives so far.

Sir John is pictured below with grand-daughter Rose Chisholm (ThA, GrW 18-20) (second Monitor) and Senior Grecian André Da Silva-Jenkins (MaB, GrE 13-20) at the St. Matthew's Day service in London (2019).



How has CH impacted you personally?

Immensely! As well as excellent teaching, which opened the door to a good higher education, it gave me a lifelong commitment to equity and equality of opportunity. I found people I could admire: many CH teachers and especially the Headmaster, Clarence Seaman.

How did CH help you to get to where you are today?

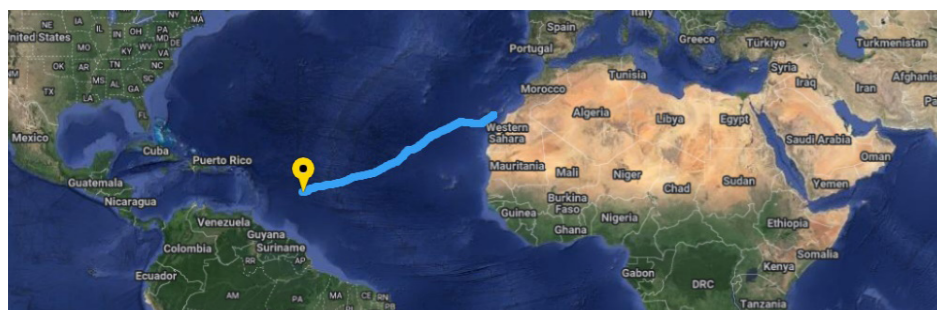
By giving me confidence that I could try new opportunities and have a good chance of succeeding in what I attempted.

CH EXPEDITIONARY EDUCATION AMBASSADOR TAKES ON THE ATLANTIC

Athlete and businesswoman Linda Blakely, an ambassador for Christ's Hospital's Expeditionary Education programme, whose nephew is an Old Blue, embarks on a solo row across the Atlantic Ocean!

We are delighted to congratulate the remarkable Linda Blakely on her attempt to take on the ultimate endurance test of rowing 3,000 miles, solo across the treacherous Atlantic Ocean in her Rannoch 10, Ulster Warrior. And this is with only one small cabin for sleeping, one for storing the rudder and no proper toilet facility. Linda said that, although her challenge was voluntary, it felt like she and her boat were going into battle with the Atlantic.

Linda set sail from Gran Canaria in January with the target of rowing the 3,000 miles to Barbados and raise money for Action Medical Research for Children.

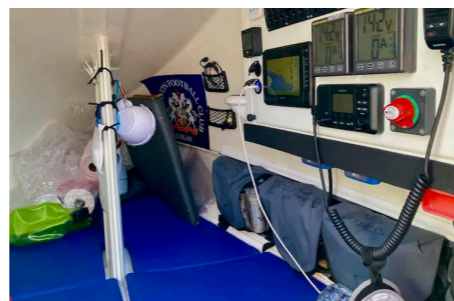


Facing the Odds

Adding to the test of perseverance, until very recently, Linda had never rowed before and over the first few days of the challenge, Linda's mind and body had to become accustomed to the brutal rowing regime that she was putting herself through, of three hours on and three hours off. This was not a challenge for the faint hearted. On week one, Linda's boat capsized and one of her oars floated away, but Linda doesn't let 'little things

like that' faze her and she ventured on in what were challenging conditions for her tiny rowing boat.

What makes Linda's endeavour even more extraordinary, is that she celebrated her 50th birthday, alone, in the middle of the ocean during this challenge. Sending imagery back required a lot of time and energy to connect to the right satellites, which was time and energy she did not have, so she was very cut off from family and friends.



An Inspirational Woman at 50

The support that Linda has received is immense and having that behind her would have been a true driving force.

Linda is a true inspiration to all. TV presenter Davina McCall interviewed her by video and later posted on Instagram 'WHAT A WOMAN!!! Rowing the Atlantic'

Linda wants to 'prove that menopausal women can still do great things, still have dreams. Instead of just hanging our trainers up, we can still achieve the things we want to do.'

Women and Home said 'I'm utterly gripped by Linda Blakely's solo Atlantic row' and the Belfast Telegraph described Linda as 'a fearless Co Armagh adventurer' taking on 'the challenge of a lifetime'.



'WHAT A WOMAN!!!
Rowing the Atlantic'.

Davina McCall

A Challenge-Seeker

Linda is one of only four women in the world, and the first British woman, to have climbed Mount Everest and then neighbouring Lhotse, the world's fourth-highest peak, within 24 hours. She is an Ironman Champion, taking first place in her age group, and raced the Kona Ironman World Championships three times. Linda has also represented Team GB as a long-distance triathlete, and took silver in her age group. This year's adventure however, was her most challenging to date.



A Philosophy of Inspiration

Expeditionary challenges are not all Linda does. Her company runs three children's homes in London, providing essential support for young people with emotional and behavioural issues and learning disabilities. They offer 24-hour care and an environment that promotes independence and the opportunity to thrive. This reflects her philosophy in sport and expedition, encouraging self-confidence, development and independence, to pave the way for young people to achieve their potential.

An Inspirational CH Ambassador

We are honoured to have Linda as an ambassador for CH's Expeditionary Education programme. Her extraordinary accomplishment serves as a powerful example of what can be achieved through

determination, passion and a commitment to pushing one's boundaries. No doubt Linda's incredible feat will become a source of huge inspiration to Christ's Hospital students.

Linda is looking forward to speaking to students at Christ's Hospital this summer, to both inspire them and give them the opportunity to find out how they can pursue their expeditionary passion.

Her dedication and perseverance are an inspiration for our students, and Linda's involvement with CH adds immeasurable value to our Expeditionary Education programme.

Expeditionary Education at Christ's Hospital gives students the opportunity to step out of their comfort zones into transformative outdoor and adventurous activities. Hearing from inspirational

speakers, such as Linda, gives CH students the motivation to empower themselves with the belief that they can tackle any challenge they face.

The news of Linda's Atlantic row has already created a buzz within the school community, and we eagerly anticipate the positive impact that her story will have on CH students.

Linda has a close relationship with CH. 'My nephew was fortunate enough to board at CH. Learning that they have introduced an outdoor-expedition scheme to their timetable for all the students, I was very honoured to be asked to be the ambassador for expeditionary education.'

Linda met Sir Ranulph Fiennes, the 'world's greatest living explorer', in November, when he spoke to CH students in the theatre to mark the 350th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Mathematical School. She said: 'What an absolutely remarkable man Sir Ranulph Fiennes is. He was engaging, funny, unbelievable and incredibly brave.'



A NEW GENERATION OF SPORTS FACILITIES FOR ALL

Christ's Hospital believes passionately that education extends far beyond the confines of the classroom, playing a crucial role in fostering self-confidence, resilience, teamwork and goal-oriented expression. As part of the school's ongoing efforts to enhance the overall educational experience for students, we are embarking on a new initiative to expand and innovate our sporting facilities within the Bluecoat Sports Centre (BCS).

This ambitious project will complement the academic, pastoral and broader curricula, and represents the unique contribution CH can make by giving every student the opportunity to thrive.

Due to be completed in summer 2025, the new facilities will include: a six-lane, 400m running track with extensive track and field facilities; a unique outdoor exercise adventure trail – the first of its kind in the UK; and four courts for padel tennis - a mix between tennis and squash, which is the fastest growing racket sport in the UK.



Responding to Inactivity

Christ's Hospital's sports expansion project is not just about constructing facilities; it's a commitment to fostering a healthier, more active and inclusive community. The project aligns seamlessly with the Government's ambitious plans to tackle high levels of inactivity across the country. Its 'Get Active' strategy aims to encourage an additional 2.5 million more children and one million more adults in England to lead physically active lives by 2030. Furthermore, at a local level, the Active Sussex organisation is calling for additional dedicated physical activity facilities to address inactivity levels and cater for the rapidly growing local population.

Recognising that schools house a significant portion (37%) of the nation's sports facilities; CH takes pride in responding to this initiative to deliver opportunities to get active. CH has a responsibility to meet the needs of our young people, as well as the wider community, to tackle the problems they face both in terms of access to sporting opportunities, and in relation to physical health (weight, diabetes etc), inactivity and mental wellbeing.

Driving Participation at Every Level

CH strives to create a welcoming environment to foster participation at all levels and instil a lifelong interest in sports and physical exercise. While the new athletics track and field facility will meet the needs of traditional competitive athletics, the unique Get Active Trail has been designed to stimulate interest and participation among newcomers to sport and exercise, opening up CH's sports facilities to a broader audience.

Enhancing Athletic Performance

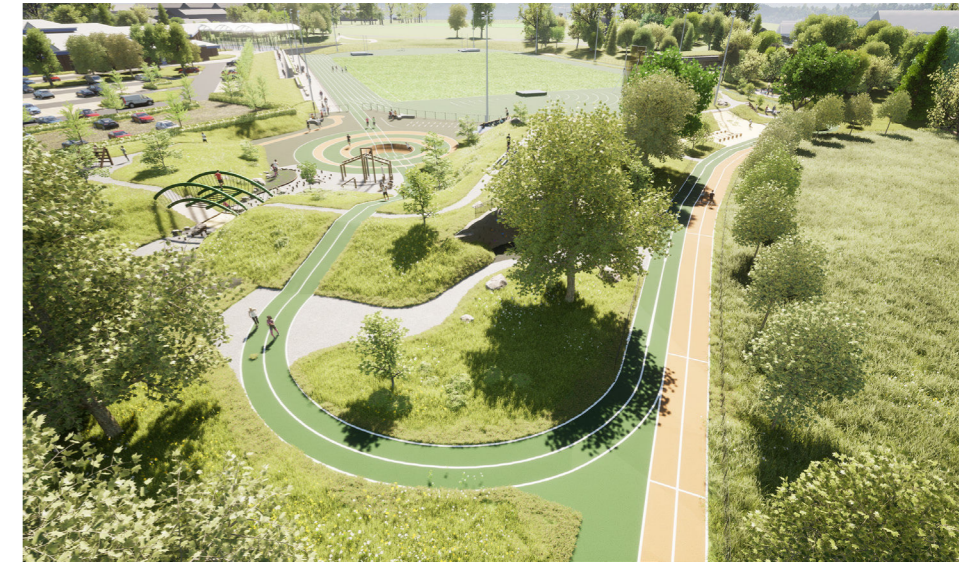
Athletics has always been important at CH and is a tried and tested arena for driving individual skills, attributes and, in turn, self-confidence. The introduction of new facilities will not only enhance athletic development and performance, but also ignite enthusiasm, creating opportunities for students, Bluecoat Sports members, local sports clubs and various community groups. Key features of the athletics track and field facility include:

- A 400m, six-lane all-weather running track with ancillary athletic facilities, including an eight-lane 100m sprint section.
- Ancillary field facilities encompassing a discus/hammer throw cage, javelin run ups, long and triple jump run ups with sand pits, a dual pole vault run up with landing mats and pole sets, a high jump run up with bar stands and jump mat, a steeple chase pit, water jump and a shot-put circle.
- A grass infield will provide a landing area for the field events and will be marked out as a rugby training pitch for winter and spring use.



Innovation for Participation

The Get Active Trail is an innovative and inclusive facility, the first of its kind in the UK. The aim is to encourage activity for people of all ages and abilities including those who wouldn't normally take part in sport, providing an inclusive and exciting alternative to the formal and elite athletics facility. The trail adapts the format of a traditional running track into a rolling landscape, interspersed with physical challenges and more unconventional obstacles. It is designed to inspire a pioneering and imaginative approach to exercise and physical wellbeing through a range of running, jumping, balancing and climbing activities.



Embracing New Sports

The addition of four padel courts responds to growing demand for the sport while also encouraging a diverse demographic of people to engage with a non-elite, easy to learn activity. Less physically demanding than tennis, the sport is more accessible to everyone, whether a seasoned athlete, or a newcomer looking for ways to stay active.

How can you help?

This ambitious project will create a space that breaks down barriers, providing individuals of all ages, abilities and backgrounds the platform to cultivate their talents and surpass their own expectations. This new space is where individual motivation and teamwork will flourish and empower lifelong engagement in physical activity.

But to realise the potential of this project, CH needs your support. Although we have successfully raised a substantial amount to allow work to commence, a funding of £1.5 million remains to reach our final target. Your support can make a significant difference and ensure the success of this transformative endeavour.

For more information on how you can support this project please, contact the Development team on:

T: 01403 246570
E: development@christs-hospital.org.uk

A SPORTING EVOLUTION



Cinder Track 1953

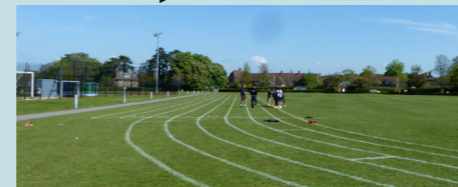
PAST



Cinder Track 1998

Remember the old cinder running track?
In 1949 CH athletes ran on a surface of crushed cinders when the first track (five laps to the mile) was constructed. The surface was renovated in 1973 later becoming the main school car park around 2000.

PRESENT



Current students use a makeshift grass track on the 1st XV rugby pitch limiting usability due to weather conditions.

FUTURE

New innovative facilities will offer a multi-use setting for traditional competitive athletics, and offer variations that encourage participation by those of all abilities, benefitting students, local sports clubs, Bluecoat Sports members, and the wider community.



QUIZZING HER WAY TO THE TOP

Quiz junkie Claire Barrow (1s 77-84), has put her mind to the test and taken on several TV quiz shows, including *Countdown*, *Mastermind*, where she reached the final and most recently, *Only Connect*, a BBC quiz show where “knowledge only gets you so far.”

As well as being a top quizzier, Claire has a successful career in “death and taxes” as a chartered tax advisor and trust and estate practitioner. She is a keen cyclist and is “happiest on two wheels!” We caught up with Claire to quiz her about quizzing.

Where did your love of quizzing start?

I used to do the general knowledge crossword in the Sunday paper with my dad, usually after church and before lunch. We would sit together with various general knowledge books such as *Pears Cyclopaedia* and the atlas to try to find out anything we didn't know. There was no internet back then! I also remember being given a grand encyclopaedia of knowledge which I read voraciously.



Claire with celebrity quizzier Mark Labbett at the Meet and beat *The Beast* show

How did you get on to TV quiz shows?

I discovered daytime quizzes when I was on maternity leave with my daughter Harriet (born in 1990). I would be sitting, feeding her, while watching *Fifteen to One* and *Countdown* on Channel 4 in the afternoons, and *Catchword* on BBC2. I sent off for the application forms for all of those and was successful in getting on all three. These days it's all done by email of course and you very rarely need to travel to auditions anymore because of Zoom.



What is your favourite of the quiz shows that you've been on?

Definitely *Only Connect*. Everybody in the quiz world says it's the most fun show to do and I have to agree. Everybody involved is just so lovely, and the games themselves are great to play.

Which TV quiz show is on your hit list?

I was unsuccessful in an audition for *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* in 2018 as none of the audition questions post £32k had fallen in my wheelhouse until the £1m question. The next audition was successful and I was shortlisted for the show in December 2019, only to get an email a month later to say that I wasn't required and that they always shortlist more than they need, which was very disappointing.

How do you prepare for a big quiz show on TV?

Following the *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?* let-down, I was determined that wouldn't happen again so I decided to make myself a “Quiz Ninja” and set about learning all the lists I could think of, such as US state capitals and nicknames, names of NFL, NBA and MLB teams, Formula 1 flag colours, greyhound racing colours, national flags and capitals and the whole periodic table.

I read a book on “Memory Palaces” and learnt all the US presidents by putting them in locations in my house and designing an order of walking through the house to find them all. Tyler was in the bathroom, Polk (polka) was on top of my piano and I took great delight in putting Trump in the dustbin outside!

What is the worst answer you've given to a quiz question and was that on TV?

You can come out with some stupid things on *Mastermind* in an effort not to pass. In the final I was asked the name of the country club where Cole Porter had the fall from his horse which crippled him. I didn't remember even seeing that in the book and just bumbled “Tonkin” – no idea where that came from.



Claire with *Only Connect* host, Victoria Coren Mitchell, at the after-show party

Taking on Mastermind



What made you apply for Mastermind?

The main reason I applied for *Mastermind* was to cheer myself up from the disappointment of *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?* and show them what they had missed. I prepared for that by writing loads of questions for things that I thought were likely to come up.

What was it like being in the Mastermind final?

There was an awful lot of waiting around because there was a celebrity show being filmed first and that took forever. It was 2020, so full Covid restrictions, and we all had separate dressing rooms; so it wasn't fun at all. Added to that, I had a very swollen arm because of a bad reaction to a flu jab; so I was generally fed up. Once we got into the studio, though, it was much better, and it was fantastic to be part of it. I was completely in awe of Jonathan Gibson's range of general knowledge, and he also chose one of my favourite subjects, Flanders and Swann.

What were your chosen subjects on Mastermind and why?

Two of the subjects I originally chose, Gilbert and Sullivan and the history of the Tour de France, were disallowed. I remembered that I had heard somebody do Mark's Gospel in a series long ago so I thought I could do John's Gospel, and also that I would thoroughly enjoy immersing myself in it. Last year at church, we had a sermon series on John, and I did wish it could have been three years earlier!

I chose Cole Porter because he is also a wordsmith. I adore the wordsmithery (I think I have made that word up!) of WS Gilbert, Michael Flanders and Cole Porter; so it was a pleasure to delve more into the various musicals. My semi-final subject came about because I had read a book on my Kindle called “*The Long Nineteenth Century*” largely about all the wars in Europe between 1780 and 1918. There wasn't much time in that period when part of Europe wasn't fighting with another part so it was very interesting. (I did chemistry at CH instead of history but have been fascinated by history ever since.)

After I read that, my Kindle suggested that I might like to read about the Russo Japanese War of 1904-05, which, I confess, I had never heard of. You don't have to pick a subject you know anything about, just one that you're prepared to study and that's what I did. Of course, when you know nothing at all, you study everything and don't miss out a part that you think you know quite well already.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to get into quizzing?

- Join the *Online Quiz League*. Go to www.quizcentral.net to find out more.
- If you're at university, get into *Quiz Bowl* (the organisation for all things to do with student buzzer quizzing in the UK).
- Get involved in the in-person quiz leagues around the country such as the *Quiz League of London*.
- Read about everything.
- Learn lists.
- Use flashcards.
- Learn memory techniques.
- Watch quizzes.
- Do quizzes.
- Consume pop culture (this is a “do as I say, not as I do” as this is where I most often fall down).



Fond memories of CH

I used to watch *Mastermind* at CH with Miriam McKay (née Radley) (7s 76-83) and we would go to the TV room and compete against each other on the general knowledge rounds. She would make an excellent contestant!

CH gave me some lovely friends, many of whom I still see now. It made me value my parents more, apparently, I was a bit of a little madam at age 11!

WHO WILL REMEMBER THE CHARGE?
I WILL

Leave a legacy to Christ's Hospital



Writing your Will is an important exercise, as is the decision about who will benefit from it. Please do consult a solicitor before making or changing a Will.

For further information or assistance please do not hesitate to contact:

Sam Bushell, Partnership Manager

T: 01403 247588

E: development@christs-hospital.org.uk

The Counting House, Christ's Hospital, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 0YP

OLD BLUES DAY 2024

SATURDAY
18 MAY 2024

10AM - 4PM | CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

- Head Teacher's Welcome
- Chapel Service
- CH Museum
- Giant Lawn Games
- Music Recital in Chapel
- Gift Stalls and Raffle
- Ice Cream Van
- Safari Wood-fired Pizza
- Band Parade
- Theatre Open
- CH Sports fixtures
- Old Blues Ramble*
- Charity Cake Sale
- Picnicking on Big Side
- Picnic Lunch in Court Room*
- Avenue Boarding House Visits



Book Your Picnic Lunch in Court Room

Enjoy a picnic lunch in Court Room. Example lunch includes sandwiches, crisps, sausage rolls, mini cakes and a cold drink. (Limited availability)

*These will be allocated on a ticketed first-come, first-served basis and tickets MUST be presented on the day. If you do not receive tickets by post within ten working days of returning your form, this unfortunately indicates that the activity is fully booked – in the case of lunch payments, no money will be taken and cheques will be returned. Food and drink will also be available to purchase from our woodfired pizza vendor, snack van and ice cream truck on the day.

Old Blues Day Registration Form

Please return this form to the CHOBA office to register your place and to book for lunch or the ramble

| Ticket Type | Quantity |
|---------------|----------|
| Adult (free) | |
| Child (free) | |
| Ramble (free) | |

Name.....

Address.....

Email.....

Phone No.....

| Lunch Booking* | Price | Quantity |
|----------------------------|-------|----------|
| Picnic Lunch: 12.45 –14:00 | £12 | |

Online booking and more information is available at choba.org/events/333

Please note: We may take photographs (on occasion using a professional photographer) at events. These could be used on our website or social media pages or for CHOBA publicity. When you book onto a CHOBA event, we will automatically include your name and CH dates on an online attendee list. Full Ts&Cs can be found on the Old Blues' section of the CH website. CHOBA, The Counting House, Christ's Hospital, West Sussex RH13 0YP

Dietary requirements.....

- I enclose a cheque made payable to Christ's Hospital for £.....

- Please debit my Credit / Debit card for the sum of £.....

Card Number / / / Expiry Date / CCV



OUR IMPACT 2022/2023

Our latest impact report offers a snapshot of the highlights and accomplishments from the last academic and fiscal year. It demonstrates a clear picture of the unparalleled opportunities we give to young people to fulfil their potential. Our work challenging disadvantage through transformative education would not be possible without the wonderful support of many Old Blues, parents and other friends. We are enormously grateful for this support.

96% HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED ONTO UNIVERSITY COURSES

96 FREE PLACES FOR STUDENTS AT CHRIST'S HOSPITAL



Over 20% of our students meet the eligibility criteria for **Pupil Premium** The Government measure for disadvantage

47% OF THE 290 students from London meet the eligibility criteria for Pupil Premium

651

bursaries received by students averaging



£7.2 million IN DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

84%

remission of fees

£21 MILLION IN BURSARY SUPPORT

97% said that CH allowed them to develop new skills and interests

89% said that being at CH provided them with a strong foundation for the future

91% said that their experience at CH helped them challenge themselves and develop new skills and knowledge

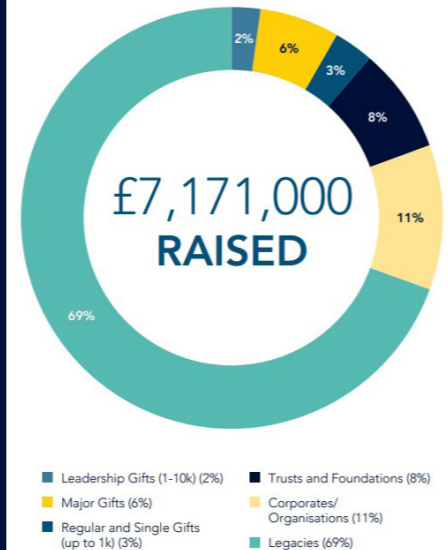
78% said that their experience at CH helped them grow in confidence

81% said that their experience at CH helped them set and achieve goals

78% said that their experience at CH helped them develop their values

90% of our main intake (Year 7) comes from state/maintained schools

What we raised together



605 people have chosen to remember Christ's Hospital in their Wills

This year, legacy gifts amounted to **£5 million** and made up **69%** of our overall fundraised income

To download the full 'Our Impact 2022/2023' report, please scan the QR code or visit: www.christs-hospital.org.uk/about-christs-hospital/information/publications/



WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES

In just 36-hours, 587 generous donors rallied together to raise an incredible £164,000 to support CH for our first Giving Day in November. Thank you to everyone who took part!

Giving Day exemplifies the power of collective action. Together, you've demonstrated that even in a single day, we can make a significant difference. Thank you for your kindness and generosity, and for being a vital part of the CH community.

Our community joined activities from cycling to netball matches, cheering on Sol Woodall's (M&A, GrW 15-20) remarkable marathon challenge, and welcoming Diana Garnham (6s 66-73) back to lessons. It was a wonderful atmosphere of community support, and Hertford emerged as the winner of the house donor leaderboard, with Lamb B in second place. Every donation on Giving Day has made a tangible difference. **This difference is all thanks to you.**



YOUR GIVING DAY IMPACT

Blue Fund Bursaries:

Your generous support propelled us closer to our goal of providing another Blue Fund Bursary to a deserving student. With your continued support, we hope to welcome a seventh Blue Fund Bursary student in September and to make a lasting impact on their lives.



Expeditionary Education:

Your support has been vital to advance our Expeditionary Education programme. Your gifts will ensure 350 students can participate in a summer 'Expedition Week' to experience archery, canoeing, mountain biking, climbing, bushcraft and more. With your support we have purchased vital equipment including canoes and mountain bikes, and have witnessed students step out of their comfort zones, develop key skills in resilience, teamwork, leadership and communication.



Student Hardship:

Your gifts are providing crucial assistance to 280 of our most disadvantaged students, as well as those unexpectedly encountering financial difficulties. We've been able to offer essential resources from sports kit to laptops, as well as provide support for travel expenses to school. Thanks to you these students can fully engage in every aspect of school life, regardless of their financial circumstances.



Your generosity is transforming lives. THANK YOU!

50 YEARS OF THE CH BAND AT THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW

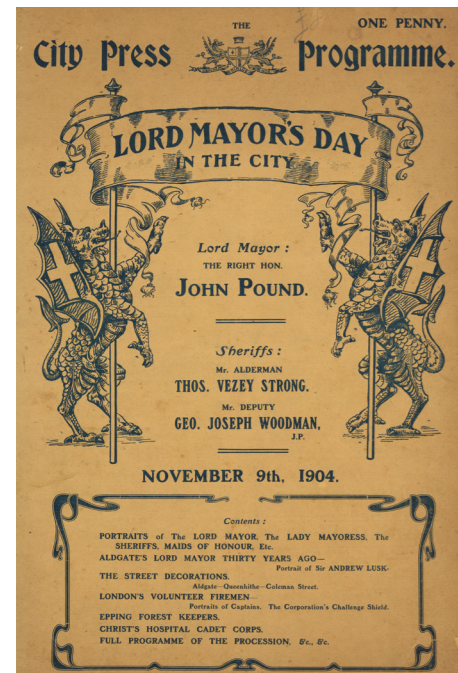
This year marks the 50th anniversary of the CH Band participating in the esteemed Lord Mayor's Show. On Saturday 9 November 2024, the CH band will once again take pride in performing in the world's oldest civic procession.

Christ's Hospital's relationship with the Lord Mayor dates right back to its founding in 1552, when Sir Richard Dobbs, the Lord Mayor of London, was instructed by King Edward VI to form a committee to found the Royal Hospitals. CH and the Lord Mayor have been closely involved ever since.

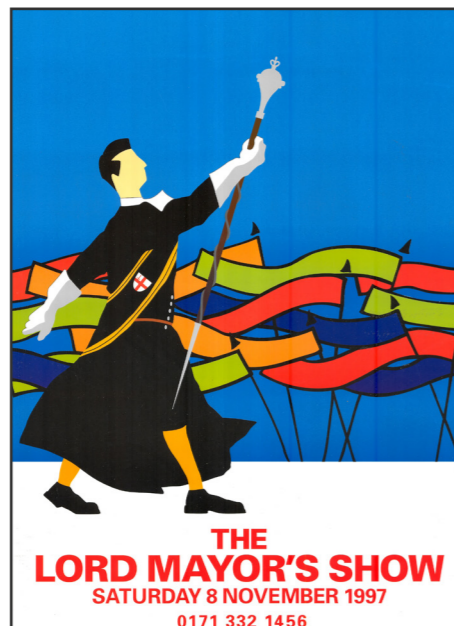
Until 1854 the President of CH was always the Lord Mayor, or an Alderman, of the City of London. Since then, it has had a Royal President. Christ's Hospital has always enjoyed a close relationship with both Royalty and the City of London. Many of the more enduring customs and traditions which are unique to CH originate from these connections, including the honour of attending the annual Lord Mayor's Show.

The first known CH involvement with the Lord Mayor's Show, in the history of the school, was on 9 November 1904 (shown in the Sir John Pound programme below), when the Headmaster, Rev A W Upcott, and three Grecians were invited to attend. The CH band was invited to participate in the Lord Mayor's Show in 1974, then annually from 1981, where it impressed the Lord Mayor so much, that it has had the honour of being invited to this unique, invitation only, celebration every year since.

Now broadcast live on BBC television, the CH Band joins in this ancient community celebration annually, reaffirming the school's historic connection with the City. The Band has led the procession on numerous occasions, also leading the Lord Mayor's own procession. The school's adopted anthem "Sussex by the Sea" is usually played as the Band marches past the Lord Mayor, through the City and among the thousands of spectators lining the route.



1904 marked the first known involvement of CH at the event, but the band did not attend until 1974.



1997 The Lord Mayor's Show poster featuring the CH band, for Old Blue, Sir Richard Nichols' inauguration as Lord Mayor, when CH led the procession.

LEARN MORE AT CH MUSEUM
Open Tuesdays and Thursday 10am-4pm. Free admission. Prior booking required.
Please contact: chmuseum@christs-hospital.org.uk or 01403 247444.

History of the Lord Mayor's Show

Described as "the oldest, longest, best loved and least-rehearsed civic procession in the world," some records show it dates back to King John in 1215, when he granted that the City of London could appoint its own Mayor.

Each new Mayor was required to visit Westminster and swear loyalty to the Crown and mark their first full day in office. This tradition has continued for 800 years and today, held on the second Saturday in November, the new Lord Mayor travels from Mansion House to the Royal Courts of Justice to take an oath of allegiance to the Sovereign. This occasion has grown into a fantastic community celebration of colour and pageantry, that takes to the streets of London to mark the inauguration ceremony.



The 695th Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarship Programme

The 695th and current Lord Mayor of London, Professor Michael Mainelli, has had a close relationship with CH since 2010, when he was co-opted to the Council of Almoners of Christ's Hospital. In 2023, Michael Mainelli introduced the 'Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarship programme, to mark the 350th anniversary of the Royal Mathematical School (RMS). The programme will enable young people from less advantaged backgrounds to have a transformative education experience at CH.

Driving Valuable Support for CH Students

Thanks to the Lord Mayor, the RMS Scholarship has gained huge traction and is driving valuable funding for CH students. We are delighted to announce that the Maurice Upperton Foundation has confirmed support for the first Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarship. Named in honour of Maurice Upperton, the in-perpetuity scholarship will enable sixth form candidates from naval, building/construction or West Sussex backgrounds to experience a transformative two years at CH.



We extend our sincere thanks to the Trustees of the Maurice Upperton Foundation, Hugh and Frances Coster and were delighted to welcome them for a recent visit to CH, along with their daughter, and member of our Old Blue community, Charlotte Coster (CoLA, GrW 03-10). It was a wonderful opportunity to affirm the Maurice Upperton Foundation's generous support for our Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarship programme.

To support the Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarship programme, please contact the Christ's Hospital Development Team on:
Email: development@christs-hospital.org.uk or Telephone: 01403 246652

DID YOU KNOW?

Three former Lord Mayors were Old Blues:

Sir Richard Nichols
(CH 1947-1955) Lord Mayor in 1997



Sir Walter Vaughan-Morgan
(CH 1840-1846) Lord Mayor in 1905



Sir John Pound
(CH 1838 -1844) Lord Mayor in 1904/05



Sir John Frederick was Lord Mayor of London in 1661 and was a major benefactor of CH. His generous support played a pivotal role in the reconstruction of the Old Hall, on the west side of the main quadrangle at the London site, following the Great Fire in 1666. In addition, he generously bequeathed £400 to CH, a sum that in contemporary terms would exceed £77,000.



EVENTS ROUND-UP

Here are just some of the highlights since the last edition



St Matthew's Day - September



NSW Founder's Day Lunch - October



CHOBA Carol Concert - December



East Sussex Old Blues Christmas Lunch - December



Oxfordshire Founder's Day Lunch - October



Hong Kong Founder's Day Dinner - October



New Zealand Old Blues Christmas Lunch - December



Big Band Concert - January



Devon Old Blues Lunch - October



OB's Golfing Society Meeting at Effingham and Westerham - November



Sweeney Todd Production - December



Royal Marines Concert - February

Old Blues Summer Heritage Day

Tuesday 20th August - 10:30am to 4:00pm

Join us on this FREE open day for Old Blues and friends of Christ's Hospital.

Explore our fabulous grounds, history and heritage from 1552 to today!

Visit the: * Chapel *Dining Hall *Big School *Museum

Picnic on Big Side, bring bikes and scooters for a ride around the Mile and play lawn games.

Learn the history of our buildings, paintings and sculptures on a guided walking tour with our Museum Curators.



Discover our newly refurbished CH Museum and vibrant contemporary gallery space, filled with nostalgia-inducing artefacts, photographs, uniforms, The Blue magazine and intriguing stories.

Explore music, sport, wartime and boarding house traditions from London, Hertford and Horsham, and uncover your own personal CH history within our 500-year timeline. Our Museum is open all day with our curators and Old Blue volunteers ready to answer your questions.



More information and booking available in late May.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY EVENTS

Old Blues Day
Saturday 18 May, CH

CH Heritage Day
Tuesday 20 August, CH

Founder's Day dinner
Friday 4 October, Mansion House, London

REUNIONS

60 Years on Reunion
Wednesday 17 April, CH
(for leavers of 1963 and 1964)

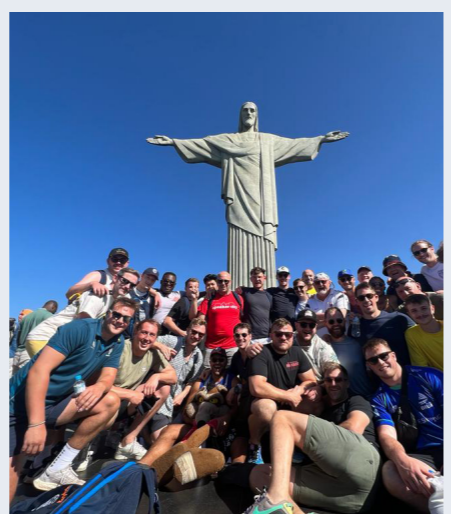
20 Years on Reunion
Saturday 18 May, CH
(for leavers of 2003 and 2004)

65+ Years on Reunion
Wednesday 5 June, CH
(for leavers of 1958 or earlier)

Brazil Tour OBRFC

The Old Blues celebrated the conclusion of the 150th anniversary in style with a landmark tour to Brazil - 51 Old Blues of all ages travelled over the Atlantic to embark on the tour of a lifetime. The two-week itinerary included time in Sao Paulo, Ilhabela, Sao Jose and Rio de Janeiro with five games of competitive rugby thrown in for good measure.

Special thanks goes to John White, Fernando Filet, the tour committee and Keyhole International for organising this 150th tour which will live long in the memory of the Old Blues RFC and those who were fortunate enough to share it.



Calling Old Blues involved with the Theatre in the 1970s

Chris Grady (MaB, LaA 69-76), is organising a group of OBs to attend a special performance at the CH theatre to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the drama dept and the 50th anniversary of the start of productions in the theatre.

Please contact:

Chris at chrisgradyorg@gmail.com if you would be interested in getting involved.



Founder's Day Dinner - 6:00pm, Friday 4 October

This year's Founder's Day Dinner will be held at the magnificent Mansion House in London. Guests will be joined by the Lord Mayor of London, Professor Michael Mainelli, alongside the Lady Mayoress and both City Sheriffs.

Michael Mainelli is a former Alderman of CH, and recently launched the 'Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarship' programme to support CH students during his tenure and will share his insights as one of the main speakers of the event.

Retiring Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, Christopher Steane will also speak while we extend a warm welcome to incoming Treasurer, Miriam McKay, as she assumes her new role the same day.

Join this rare opportunity to dine in historic splendour and reconnect with old friends. The festivities extend beyond the evening, as the entire school marches through the City culminating in a service at St. Paul's Cathedral earlier in the morning.

Secure your tickets via the dedicated website: www.chfoundersdaydinner.com.

For inquiries contact John D Williams on: jdw.wor@btinternet.com

Please note this event is organised by the Stewards of Founder's Day and NOT the CHOBA office.



OLD BLUE NEWS



Join in 'Run Barns Green' - 29 September

To honour the memory of Justin Brotherton (PeB, MdB, MdA 87-94) **Justin Sheppy (MdA 87-94)** is looking for 30+ runners, for their 30th anniversary of leaving CH, to run the Barns Green 10k with the aim of raising £10k for CH's mental health programme. If you would like to get involved, please contact: jmsheppy@gmail.com.



Join our Old Blues netball group

The Old Blues Netball Group has been given a new lease of life by some of our more recent CH leavers, and they are on the lookout for more Old Blues to join them. Contact folu.ojikutu@yahoo.com for details.



Rachel Hobley (LhB, GrE 05-12)

has launched a new venture, The Flavour Narratives - a website focusing on food and slow travel. The website is all about the stories behind the plate, delving into the people, places and produce that make up our world by looking into the most human experience of eating and sharing food. Find out more at www.theflavournarratives.com

Olly's Future

Oliver Hare was a pupil at CH from 2005 to 2012. After going on to get a First at UCL, Olly tragically took his own life in 2017. Since then friends from Christ's Hospital and family have created a phenomenal legacy through the suicide prevention charity they founded called Olly's Future. Oliver would have turned 30 this February and Olly's Future is now making a film to raise awareness of the impact of losing such a bright young star to suicide.

Olly's mother, Ann Feloy, along with two Old Blues, recently visited 10 Downing Street to deliver the charity's suicide prevention training to the PM's Office, following an award she received from Rishi Sunak.



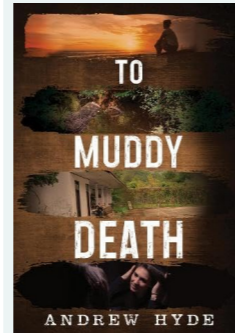
Adam Vidovic (MaA, LaA 81-87) and Simon Light (MaB, LaB, MaA 81-87) Adam received his Reiki 1 certificate from Reiki Master Simon Light in Paris recently. There are two levels - with the first level you can take care of yourself, friends and families.



Peter Newman (PeB, LaA 93-00)

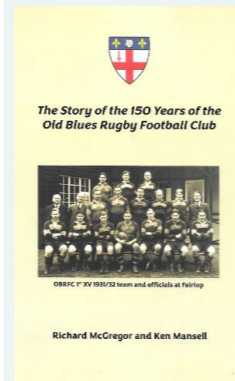
has been selected to contest the next Westminster election in the new constituency of Inverness, Skye and West Ross-shire for the Scottish Green Party.

Old Blues in Print



Andrew Hyde (BaA, ThA 66-72)

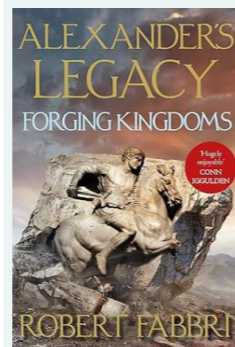
Andrew's first novel 'To Muddy Death' was published on 30 November. A crime thriller with an undertone of the paranormal.



Ken Mansell (PeB 1953-61)

CH museum volunteer has joined forces with **Richard McGregor (MaB 1948-57)** to produce a book to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Old Blues Rugby Football Club. For further

details or to order a copy, please contact ken.mansell@btinternet.com



Robert Fabbri (MaB, MdB, PeA 72-79)

Robert's new book, Forging Kingdoms, is an epic, brutal and bloody series about a group of power-hungry warlords in competition

for the late Alexander's throne.



Nicholas McInerney (BaB, ThB 72-79)

has organised a Go Fund Me appeal for his new play 'Common People'. Nicholas said 'I blame the extraordinary CH theatre and the amazing Duncan Noel Paton for inspiring me.'

MESSAGE FROM THE CHOBA CHAIR

Spring symbolises a new cycle of life, so perhaps Simon Reid's timing was deft to announce his plans to step down as Head at the end of the summer term 2025.

Simon was a teacher during my time as a student at CH and I have also had the pleasure of working with him as Head Teacher during my time on the CHOBA Board. I know the Old Blue community will continue to support him as the school begins the transition to a new Head Teacher.

The CHOBA Board is in the process of refining the strategy around the careers project we have proposed over the next three years. We are aware that many Old Blues are already operating in this space both in a professional and/or voluntary capacity. CHOBA doesn't want to reinvent the wheel or tread on toes, our function is to act as a conduit of communication and networking between the school and the Old Blue community.

We would like to be able to build a matrix of these individuals and groups, so the

community has a clearer view of the resources and help available; to connect the network!

If you are involved in careers and see the benefits in forming a broader Old Blues careers network matrix, please drop me or any of the Board members a message through www.choba.org or contact oldblues@christs-hospital.org.uk who will be able to connect you with the CHOBA Board. If you aren't already registered on www.choba.org please take five minutes to create a profile. The school has invested in a great site as a community hub. It would be fantastic to see more people posting and engaging in conversations there and it can be used in conjunction with the unofficial but vibrant Facebook groups and message boards.

CHOBA plans to send a survey out later this year which will have a careers slant and notice of this will be given.

On a separate but equally important note, Old Blues Day is on Saturday 18 May.



It would be fantastic if we can get as many Old Blues along as possible this year. Some groups use the day as an unofficial reunion event, and I know there are movers and shakers amongst you that can spur action.... make it happen and if you are trying to organise a reunion event or similar, make yourself known to us, CHOBA is here to help you!

Chris Thomas (ThA, ThB, GrW 94-01) Chair, CHOBA board.

REMEMBERING

Christ's Hospital extends sincere condolences to the friends and families of those listed below who have recently passed away.

(John) Iain Adams (PrepA, MdB 48-53)
Jane Armistead (nee Barber) (1s, 8s 55-65)
Geoffrey Austen (ThA 48-55)
Ian Baillie (PeA 53-60)
Bridget Bamford (nee Byrne) (4s 33-41)
Peter Banner (PrepA, CoLA 44-52)
Richard Beckley (LaB 60-66)
Andrew Bellars (MaB 49-57)
(Ann) Carol Bolton (nee Grattan) (7s 46-54)
John Burrows (ThB 44-49)
Bernard Carter (PrepA, PeB 48-55)
Julian Cox (PrepA, ThB 52-61)
Susan Craig (6s 46-53)
David Day (PrepB, BaB 41-50)
Jawad Elattar (PeA, GrW 01-08)
Trevor Gay (LaA 42-49)
Godfrey Harriman (BaA 46-53)
Stephen Hawes (LaA 42-45)
James Jeans (ThA 40-47)
Roderic Peter Jones (MaA 52-60)
Annabelle Lake (1s, 3s, 4s 62-70)
Susan Lewis (nee Horth) (3s 53-61)
Jennifer Maclean (5s, 7s 45-55)
Kathleen Marking (Nee Triton) (6s 27-35)
Alexander Matthews (PrepB, LaB 45-54)
Brian Nesling (MdA 47-52)

Joseph Odukoya (ThB 75-82)
John Ollerhead (PeA 44-52)
David Orr (MaA 49-55)
Geoffrey Orton (PeB 58-65)
Sara Ann Packer (nee Phillips) (3s 62-69)
Prudence Peskett (nee Goatly) (6s 36-43)
Richard Phipps (MdA 57-64)
Peter Pugh-Cook (BaB 53-60)
Eleanor Stanier (Former West Gifts Almoner)
Geoffrey Ribbans (BaA 47-54)
Adrian Scripps (MdA 47-55)
Shirley Smith (nee Hicks) (2s 46-51)
Adrienne Stockley (LhB, GrE 01-08)
Adrian Sweeny (CoLA 72-78)
Michael Wear (MaB 58-65)
Robert Wilkins (BaB 47-54)
Colin Wilson (MaA 40-46)
Bridget Woollard (3s 66-73)

Please pass any obituary information you may have, or would like to see published, about any of those named to the CHOBA office at oldblues@christs-hospital.org.uk



Jack Doyle (PrepB, MdA 40-48)

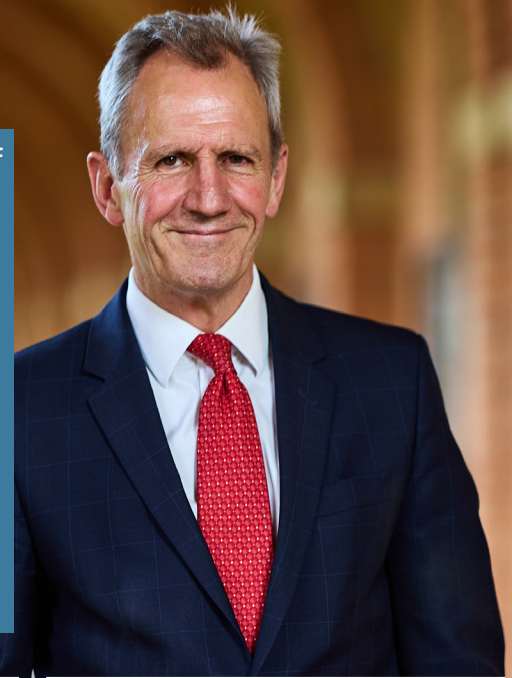
We were deeply saddened by the news that Jack Doyle had passed away. Jack was one of the most significant supporters of CH in the past 100 years or more and personally funded 25 Donation Governorships, taking a keen interest in each student, and forming friendships that lasted many years. Jack created the Friends of Christ's Hospital in the USA and since it has been established, several £ million has been donated to CH. He has been a great source of inspiration as well as support for equipment, new initiatives, and the major redevelopment of the Design Technology School. Jack stands as a wonderful example of the impact that CH can have for a young person. We hope that his example will shine brightly for others to follow.

THE END OF AN ERA

After what will have been eight years of outstanding service as Head Teacher of Christ's Hospital, Simon Reid has announced he will be retiring next year, at the end of the summer term 2025.

'This great school is strong at the moment and, notwithstanding the buffeting it has taken from the pandemic in recent years, there is real pride for us in reflecting on the fact that Christ's Hospital is a place where students know they are cared for and can entertain real ambition and confidence as they emerge with the gains of its curriculum. At a time when, as they grow into adulthood, so few young people around the world can say this, it is no mean thought.' **Simon Reid, Head Teacher**

The process for recruiting Simon's successor has begun in earnest and with confidence that Christ's Hospital will attract the finest candidates to lead the school in the coming years. The Treasurer will make an announcement about the appointment in the course of the summer term this year.



STAY CONNECTED

KEEP IN TOUCH

Keep your details up-to-date to receive the latest news, invitations and publications.



oldblues@christs-hospital.org.uk

JOIN OUR OLD BLUE NETWORK

Join your local Old Blue community or business group to network and attend events with other Old Blues.



choba.org

MAKE A GIFT

Donations of all sizes offer more young people the life-changing opportunity of a CH education.



www.christs-hospital.org.uk/support-us

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