



# WOLF SALIENT

"NON SIBI SED OMNIBUS" - NOT FOR ONESELF, BUT FOR ALL.

ISSUE 3 • JULY 2022

## Reaching Out!

Find out about our work with local primary schools on P. 3



## A YEAR OF WOLF SALIENT!

Welcome to the third, termly edition of Wolf Salient. This edition captures the key news from the summer term at Wilson's, including another update (on [P. 3](#)) on the exciting work taking place on-site as our new building starts to take shape.

You can find details of our new Law Society (on [P. 2](#)), as well as details of the Class of 2021 reunion taking place on 1st September.

Thank you for giving Wolf Salient such a warm reception, and a special thanks to any of the Class of 2022 who may be reading - our youngest and newest Old Wilsonians!

BY WILL STRAW OW

WILSON'S SCHOOL  
ALUMNI E-NEWSLETTER

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Alumni News • P. 2

Development News • P. 3

School News • P. 4

Through The Archives • P. 5

Get In Touch With Us • P. 6

## THE 2022 OLD WILSONIANS CHESS MATCH: WILSON'S TRIUMPHANT!



After a long absence, the annual Old Wilsonians chess fixture restarted in 2013 with the matches being played in the Board Room after school on a weekday. In the years up to 2019 the Old Wilsonians regularly won the fixture, normally convincingly. During lockdown the event moved online using the lichess.org system. Still the Old Wilsonians triumphed.

This year, we were delighted to see the fixture return to being played in person, with the matches arranged for Easter Saturday. A bumper crop of OWs were keen to play, meaning the match was played over 17 boards.

The results in the first round highlighted how much the School Chess team had improved in recent years, with the School gaining a thumping 14½ - 2½ victory, with Tharshan Kuhendiran and Kiran Lee the only winners for the OWs. In the second game the OWs performed better but still lost 9½ - 7½ resulting in the school winning 24 - 10 overall.

Next year's fixture is likely to be played again on a Saturday in April 2023. All OWs are welcome to play. Initially please contact Will Straw, Alumni Engagement Officer, at [was@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:was@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk)

## ALUMNUS OF THE TERM - SIR ALAN COBHAM



Born in Camberwell in 1894, Sir Alan Cobham was a pioneering aviator who opened up routes to the Far East and Australia.

From an early age, Cobham was fascinated with flight. His love for aviation manifested itself in many ways, notably in the huge, self-fashioned kites which he flew over Streatham Common, and the bicycle-powered flying machine that he built with a friend. He showed great promise in his time at Wilson's, which was located in Camberwell at this time.

After leaving Wilson's, the advent of the First World War saw Cobham join the British Army. Initially, he became a part of the Veterinary Corps, earning the rank of Staff Sergeant through his work with injured horses. Cobham then transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. It was here that Cobham's legendary career in aviation truly began.

Once the War was over, Cobham went on to become a test pilot for the de Havilland aircraft company. He made many renowned flights, such as his 5000-mile air tour of Europe in 1921, as well as his round trips to India and South Africa - the first in the world to complete these journeys. Tumultuous crowds of up to 100,000 awaited the famed aviator's return home at the end of each trip. Over his many travels, he received numerous awards for his gallantry and contributions to aeronautics, such as the Air Force Cross and FAI Gold Medal. Perhaps most notably, he was the first person to fly from England to Australia and back, for which he received his knighthood.

Cobham is also well-known for "Cobham's Flying Circus", a tour of skilled pilots which provided pleasure flights to the public. Thousands experienced their first flight with the circus - it was hugely popular. His influence was so widespread and positive that a Wing Commander in 1939 informed Cobham that 75% of prospective pilots with the RAF had first flown with his circus. It's clear that the RAF section with the Combined Cadet Force at Wilson's has much to thank Sir Alan for!

Indeed, the entire world of aviation has much to thank Sir Alan for - he devised and developed in-flight refuelling; an essential technique used to extend flights without landing. His implementation was so advanced for its time that even in its fifth generation, his classic "probe and drogue" design is still in use and better than ever.

Coincidentally, Wilson's School relocated to the site of the Croydon Aerodrome two years after Sir Alan passed away in 1973 - the famed fields to which he returned many times from his remarkable flights.

BY NEO TANG OW

## 'WILSON'S LAW SOCIETY' LAUNCHED

Wilson's has set up a Law Society for all those pupils and alumni who are interested in a career in Law.

The Society will be chaired by David Walsh OW who is a commercial barrister with Essex Court Chambers in Lincoln's Inn.

The Society will organise social events for aspiring lawyers as well as career-based events that act as an introduction to the varied strands of the legal profession.

Joining the Wilson's Law Society LinkedIn Group ([click here](#)), will ensure you are able to access all the news on the Society and its forthcoming events.

Additionally, please feel free to invite other interested members of the Wilson's community to join too!



Wilson's Law Society



David Walsh OW

## TEN YEARS AFTER - 2012 LEAVERS MEET A DECADE ON!



We were delighted to see the Class of 2012 get back together on Saturday 26th March. A decade after leaving Wilson's, the Old Wilsonians had many memories and experiences to share.

Thank you to Kourosh Pakroo OW and 2012 Leaver for organising the event at the Hope & Anchor Pub in Brixton - here's to many more!

## EVENT NOTICE: CLASS OF 2021 DRINKS RECEPTION!

**Where: Wilson's School Sports Field**

**When: 3:30 - 5.00pm, Thursday 1st September**

Following last year's successful 2020 Leavers' Drinks Reception, which saw 89 alumni return to the school to meet old friends and catch up with teachers, we will be hosting a similar event this year for the Class of 2021!

If you would like to attend the free and informal event, please let Will Straw know via email at [WAS@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:WAS@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk) so we know how many people to cater for. See you - hopefully - soon!

## ON-SITE VISIT: FINISH LINE IN SIGHT!

On 15th June, the Headmaster and Development Team ventured on-site to explore the new build as the structure starts to take shape.



Building work continues at a pace!

Adorning the necessary hard hats, Mr Cole, Mr Edge and Mr Straw set off on the tour around the new building, capably guided by the Site Manager. On a brilliantly sunny day, the natural light flooding into the building was immediately noticeable, giving a taste of how the floor-to-ceiling windows will illuminate the spaces, particularly the rooms which face onto the sports fields.

Touring the entire site took over half an hour, and emphasised the scale of the build. With a brand new fitness suite, 9 music practice rooms, 3 classrooms, and new changing rooms all on the way, the new building will massively improve the facilities for music and fitness at Wilson's.



Our attention now turns to fitting-out the new building and a key way we plan to do this - via a 'Wilson's Giving Day' - is explained below!

## JONATHAN AU 'TALK!' SUCCESS

On Thursday 19th May, Wilson's Development Office were delighted to host the fifth event in their 'Talk!' virtual career series. The talk was delivered by Jonathan Au, a young Old Wilsonian, who has forged a successful career as a business consultant since leaving the school.



Jonathan Au OW, Class of 2007

Jonathan spoke about the value of gaining experience and meeting people, touched on the lessons they don't teach you at school, and explained the importance of defining success on your own terms. Following his presentation, Jonathan also participated in an active Q&A section, taking questions from the Wilson's community online audience, and the talk's host, Mr Straw.

A full recording of Jonathan's talk is available at the following link for anyone who may have missed the event, or wishes to recap what was discussed!

Jonathan Au 'Terms of Success' Talk!: <https://vimeo.com/711770292/dfabf7358c>

## EVENT NOTICE: WILSON'S GIVING DAY

We are excited to announce that on 22nd September, the Development Office will be organising an inaugural 'Wilson's Giving Day'.

Across a 24hr period, the entire Wilson's community will be encouraged to donate to the school in whatever way they can. Additionally, a surprise event at the school will get the boys involved and should motivate them to donate too!

All funds raised on the Giving Day will be used to fit-out the school's new building - due to be unveiled in November 2022 - with new music and fitness equipment.

Follow the official 'Wilson's Giving Day' Instagram account to stay in the loop by clicking on the event's logo on the right!

## WILSON'S GIVING DAY



22/09/2022

## REACHING OUT: WILSON'S CONNECTS WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Over the last three years, Wilson's, supported by a generous donation, has been engaging with local primary schools to support pupils with English and Maths tuition offered by Wilson's teachers and Sixth Formers. The aim has been to encourage more families to enter their sons and daughters for selective entry tests to local secondary schools.



The success of this programme has led to it being scaled-up across the whole of the Borough of Sutton from September 2022. Involving local grammar schools, and based on a model developed by Wilson's, the new outreach programme will provide significant extra resources to facilitate standardised core English and Maths tuition for disadvantaged primary school children across the Borough.

In related work, September 2022 will see the arrival of the first cohort of fourteen football scholars at Wilson's with a similar music initiative starting in the following academic year. This initiative means that boys showing an aptitude in sport and passing the selective entry tests can apply for a priority place in the school

## WILSON'S MUSICIANS PERFORM AT THE HORNIMAN GARDENS

The Wilson's Horniman Bandstand Showcase returned this year much to the delight of the hundreds of people enjoying the magnificent gardens of the Horniman Museum. With expansive views over London, our Wind Band, conducted by Dr Clayden, followed by the Wilson's Odyssey Big Band, led by Mr Kramer, thrilled parents and passers-by alike.



There were many comments from members of the public who were extremely impressed with the standard of music they heard.

Afterwards, Wilson's' musicians enjoyed a little free time with an opportunity to eat lunch together and visit the musical instrument collection in the museum. Special thanks goes to the supportive parents in the audience, and the sixth formers who returned to play with Wilson's for one final performance. Non Sibi Sed Omnibus! We wish them well in all their future endeavours, musical and beyond.



## WILSON'S MEDICAL SOCIETY: CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS



Led by Dr Whiting, the Wilson's School Medical Society is a very active, student-led society that meets weekly throughout the year.

Meetings are popular, often with around 40 students from Year 11-13 in attendance, all of whom are keen to learn more about topical issues in medicine and healthcare and how best to prepare for university applications to medical and dental schools. Typical activities include topical debates, delivery of student presentations and book reviews, and practise for interviews and aptitude tests.

We recently appointed three Year 12 students to the positions of Chair and two Vice Chairs, all of whom are keen to increase the number of external speakers coming in to speak to students. Our ambition is to establish a programme of talks running throughout the year, akin to a seminar series that university departments organise. Specifically, we would like to hear from parents and alumni who work as healthcare professionals (doctors/dentists/vets/nurses/ physiotherapists/ radiographers etc.) and would be willing to deliver a talk to students about their role, career pathway and explore some of the pertinent issues relating to their field.

If you would be willing to contribute to our programme, please contact Mr Edge ([te@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:te@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk)) providing some brief information on your experience, your role and where you work.

## KEEP ON RUNNING! WILSON'S STUDENT AWARDED ENGLAND VEST



Wilson's School is proud to announce that Alex (Year 9) has been awarded his first England vest following his exceptional Cross Country performances in March 2022.

Alex's two notable races saw him first finish 4th in the U15 age group at the British Athletics Inter Counties competition, an event where he was a year younger than most other runners. After this, Alex then ran brilliantly at the National English Schools' Cross Country Championships in Paddock Wood, to finish in 2nd place.

Our congratulations go to Alex following his great performances, and we wish him all the best of luck as he continues to represent Wilson's and England at Cross Country!



Squad photo of the Staff Team on Thursday 17th March 2022 following the 'Staff vs Students Football Match' in aid of the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian appeal. The event saw the staff record an impressive 3-1 victory, and a wonderful total of £3,816.38 raised for an important cause. A proud day for all involved - Non Sibi Sed OmniBall!

Wilson's boys in India in 2008. The group headed to the Himalayas to work on a community project with World Challenge.



Smiles all round on Wilson's School Chemistry field trip to Beddington Sewage Works circa 1985. Contributed by Andy Ray!



Wilson's boys visiting Italy in the summer of 1979. Photo taken by former teacher Jeff Shaw.



Wilson's Pride Society taking part in the London Pride Parade for the first time in 2017. The group now attends every year, representing themselves and the school!



Old Wilsonians' Football 1st XI photographed at 7:45pm on Monday 21st March 2022, prior to playing Carshalton Athletic FC U23s in the Semi Final of the Surrey Premier Cup. The OWs unfortunately went 2-0 down early on and, despite a second half goal from Harley Riman OW, were unable to get the result they wanted. A good performance which represented the club and school well with Mark Simmons ex-Head of PE pulling strings, current school coach Alex Karamath charging down the left wing, and School Alumni Engagement Officer Will Straw imperious at the back. Photo and report kindly contributed by Stu Paton OW!



Wilson's staff help organise and take part in the Summer Parkrun at Roundshaw Downs in 2014!



Moving forwards, the "Through the Archives" section of Wolf Salient will be aim to solely be a collection of alumni-contributed photos and memories. Please send these to [WAS@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:WAS@wilsonsschool.sutton.sch.uk) - thanks in advance!

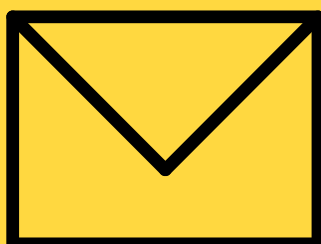
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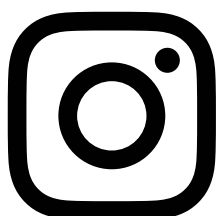
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## CONNECT WITH WILSON'S ALUMNI ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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FOLLOW THE WILSON'S GIVING DAY  
INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT [HERE](#)

WILSON'S  
GIVING DAY



22/09/2022

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