OURC Newsletter 2016-17

Club news

This was a great year for the club, with record uptake at the start of the year, with 103 new members joining.

We are now firmly placed at Summerfield's School in Summertown, and will continue to hold our small-bore training there. We are also in the process of placing gun lockers in the school's armory, this way the dreaded "gun-run" will be abolished, allowing more time for training.

We intend to seize this opportunity next year, with the club taking full advantage of the time we have on the range to ensure that our small-bore performance is just as impressive as our full-bore. Next year we will also hopefully be able to take advantage of the Otmoor Range, giving us the chance to do more term-time full-bore training.

The strides we have made this year, both in small-bore and full-bore, are down in no small part to the continuing generous donations from our alumni. These donations have been a great help in buying these new lockers, as well as give all our rifles a much needed servicing, and any donation is always appreciated.

A message from the incoming president

Dear all,

Having had a super time at the Imperial, I've returned back to reality. I am now, after a brief 14-hour nap and a few more days rest, sufficiently recovered to say a little something about the coming year.

I am honoured to be taking up the reins as President. I take over from Michael Horrell, our glorious leader who enslaved himself for two years and played no small part in making OURC what it is today. Michael has shown an extraordinary amount of dedication, going far beyond what was expected of him to better the club and I have very big boots to fill indeed. Special mention also goes to Jonny Page, the outgoing secretary who has worked tirelessly and shown impressive organisation skills. Michael will captain the tour to Jersey before the handover in September, but thankfully stays on with

OURC having secured a PhD. On behalf of all, I thank Michael and the 2016-17 committee for their brilliant work.

I have attached the list of the new 2017-18 committee members. Hattie Mansell and Chloe Jacklin join me on the executive committee as secretary and treasurer respectively. Katherine Lightbown remains as our match rifle captain and Sam Jauncey will be taking on the role of senior adviser in Hilary Term. I speak on behalf of all of the new committee when I say we are incredibly excited for the coming year, which we hope will be full of more fun and a spot of tab shoeing.

On a serious note, we are now in a position to really focus on individual and team training – OURC has a great deal of talent and potential, and I wish to raise our game even more when it comes to shooting as a sport.

I am always happy to hear from our alumni and friends, and am already overwhelmed by the offers of help - should you wish to contact me, my email is abigail.howell@worc.ox.ac.uk. OURC would not exist without your support, in the form of kit donations, coaching, or otherwise, and I do hope you will continue to help us this coming year as we look to achieve new highs.

I have been told many times over this Imperial that one never truly leaves OURC (no matter how hard they try). I will work hard with my 2017-18 committee to ensure that all alumni and friends are proud of this club.

I look forward to seeing you all at the annual dinner, if not before.

Vs & 3s, Abi

OURC Committee 2017-18

President: Abi Howell (Worcester)
Secretary: Hattie Mansell (Jesus)
Treasurer: Chloe Jacklin (Hertford)
Social Secretary: Phil Marks (St Cross)

Match Rifle Captain: Katherine Lightbown (Pembroke)

Training and development officer: Michael Horrell (St Hugh's)

IT Officer: Brett Chung (Keble)

Health and Safety Officer: Kate Foye (St Edmund's Hall)
Police Liason Officer: Kate Foye (St Edmund's Hall)
Alumni Officer: Jonny Page (Lady Margaret Hall)
Senior Advisor: Sam Jauneau (Morton alumni)

Senior Adviser: Sam Jauncey (Merton-alumni)

Heslop & Bentata Matches

We came into these matches stronger than ever before, thanks to the implementation to a strong training programme- for which we would like to thank various members and alumni, especially the Cockerill family. While we did not secure a sporting success over Cambridge with scores of 1526 to our 1466 we certainly maintained our moral victories, which we undeniably win every year. The club also gained new half-blues this year, with Shushan Toneyan and Olivia White both achieving a score of 191 for their efforts in the smallbore matches.



Our 2017 Heslop and Bentata Teams, with David to cheer us on

Kensington, 3rds & Lermann Matches

This year the Kensington, 3rds and Lermann were also held at the Cambridge University Smallbore Range. These matches are always an excellent opportunity for those new to the sport to get some experience before moving on to the Heslop and Bentata teams the next year. OURC had a great contingent of new recruits for the Kensington match, all keen for a taste of competition after the Heslop and Bentata matches. The OURC team were beaten by CUSBC by 1125 to 1046, but scored 76 points more than last year. The Lermann (three-position) was also won by Cambridge with OURC scoring 795 to CUSBCs' 990, with OURC scoring nearly 90 points than the 2016 match.



Our 2017 Kensington, 3rds and Lermann Teams

Easter Bisley

This year we had our most successful Easter Bisley in memory, with over 20 people attending. Never before have the attendees, most of whom were new to fullbore shooting, got to a stage where we were able to have a run through of a Chancellors style match by the end of the TR days. As always, the success of this week was truly helped by the alumni who came to help us, including Sam Jauncey and Benjamin Craig. We are also very thankful to all those who came on the Match Rifle days, including Ashley Abrahams, David Dashwood and Rosanne Furniss. Perhaps the best sign of how successful our Easter Bisley camp was is the fact that Abigail Howell, our incoming president, and a complete fullbore beginner, achieved a possible in both TR and MR during the camp!

Humphry Match

This year OURC fielded a very strong Humphry team. With the help of coaches Mike Bailie-Hamilton, Hamish Hunter, John Lindsay, Derek Lowe and Gary Alexander OURC gained a total score of 826.52. We were very pleased with our performance, especially considering that CURA gained a record score of 860.93, which we congratulate them on. One of the newest members of the club, Sam Sutton, was also awarded a half-blue for his performance in the match, achieving a score of 210.12.



2017 Humphry Match

Chancellors Cup

There was a strong uptake of TR this year, and the strength of the shooters was reflected in our Chancellors team. One of our focuses of Easter Bisley had been our team-coaching, and we saw this in our performance at the match. While we didn't emerge victorious, we continue to close the gap between us and Cambridge, scoring 1069.74 to their 1120.82, so bring on next year! We are also very grateful to David Bentata who, as always continues to come and support the team at the match.



The whole Chancellors team and their helpers!

Road's Cup

This year, it was once again with black-powder pistols that we battled it out with CURA for the Road's Cup- ending the Imperial with a victory over the tabs, which was well celebrated at the Chancellors Dinner, and then at a barbeque with the Kenyan Rifle Team.

Alumni Appeals

I have been contacted by Julian Peck, Secretary of CULRRC, asking for assistance in identifying the below member of OURC who took part in the 1999 Cambridge Cup.



This is the shooter CULRRC are trying to identify- he is either Michael Mortensen or D Smith.

We have also been asked to see if any of our alumni have a copy of the picture taken at the 1995 Cambridge Cup, which was won by Alex Cargill-Thompson. So, if anyone can identify the shooter, or has a copy of the photo, please let me know.

Furthermore, I have included a list of alumni from the 1980s and 1990s whose half-blue certificates we found languishing in the English VIII gunroom. If anyone has any contact details for them and would be able to pass them onto Jonny Page, the incoming Alumni Secretary, or myself we would be very grateful.

Save the Date!

OURC's annual dinner will be held at Somerville College on the 25th November 2017. Formal invitations will follow at the end of August and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thanks

This year has seen a new high for the club, something which many external members, both in smallbore and fullbore have commented on. Not only would we then like to thank all the alumni who continue to help us not only with their time but their resources, but also as always the members of the L&G and OCRA who continue to support the club in all its endeavors. Not only that but we would like to thank the English VIII, LMRA and RAFSAA for their continued support.

Most importantly, our thanks go to Tom Rylands. Tom has dedicated his time immensely over the past year to OURC, helping us across the Imperials, and our Easter Bisley, for which we are all immensely thankful-as our outgoing secretary commented: 'Rylands Rescue Services strikes again'.

We would finally like to thank our outgoing Senior Adviser, Tom Hendriks, for the support he has given the committee these past three years, and welcome in our new Senior Adviser, Sam Jauncey.

Lost Half-Blue Certificates- contacts wanted!

College unknown

Kevin O'Sullivan: 1987/88 Andrew Pulham: 1988/89

College known

Marcus Paige: 1994/95 (St Edmund's Hall) Timothy Green: 1994/95 (Christ Church)

Geoff Dance: 1991/92 (Queen's) Henry Stacey: 1992/93 (Pembroke) Reg Watson: 1992/93 (Pembroke) Roger Brazg: 1986/87 (University) Alex Kershaw: 1987/88 (Linacre)

Contact details

The Alumni Secretary for 2017-2018 will be Jonathan Page. You can contact him by email at jonny.w.page@gmail.com .