

NEWSLETTER



Friends of
Christ's
Hospital

Message from the President

Dear Old Blues and Friends of Christ's Hospital,

It has been a while since we last communicated with you by newsletter – indeed for some of you this may be the first time ever!

We recently undertook a survey of Old Blues in the US in partnership with the school. Thank you to those of you who responded to the survey. Among other things your responses have prompted the FCH Board to reinstate the newsletter as a means of providing you with updates about the School and FCH. We aim to produce two of these newsletters a year and hope you will find it interesting and a useful way of staying in touch with what is happening in the Old Blue community in the US.



We have a lot to catch up on. In this issue we report on recent Old Blue events; an update on the Friends of Christ's Hospital Board membership; a report on FCH finances; and in our Chairman's Message, important information about a refocusing of the mission of FCH. Please let us know what you think; and whether there are topics that you would like to see covered in future issues.

With warmest regards and thanks for your engagement with FCH and with Christ's Hospital.

Sally O'Brien
(Knatchbull-Hugessen, 5's 70-77)
President

Founder's Day Dinner 2024 - Lexington, KY

The 2024 Founder's Day Dinner was held on October 19 at the beautiful Manchester Hotel in downtown Lexington, KY.

The dinner was hosted by FCH Board Member Nik Feldman (MaA 09-10). Nik spent time at CH as an exchange pupil from the Gilman School in Baltimore as part of the Transatlantic Exchange program. He is the creator and owner of The Manchester Hotel. Andrew Wines (Assistant Head, Admissions) captivated the group as the guest speaker.

Photo: Matthew Adams* (LaB, MdB, GrW 95-02) & Katherine Lynn; John Cottage* (LHA, LaA 68-74) & Julie Cottage; Nik Feldman* (MaA 09-10) & Nancy Feldman; Hervey Howell (PeB 50-56) & Barbara Bennett; Frank Huggins (PrepA, BaA 57-66); Carl Kirker-Head (BaA, ColB 70-76) & Mona Kirker-Head; Mackenzie Kirker-Head & Henry Bradley; George Matcham* (PeB 63-70) & Wei Matcham; Louis Mullinger (CoLA 58-67); Sally O'Brien* (5s 70-77); Oskar Schortz (MdA, GrE, GrW 05-12); Andrew Wines (Assistant Head).



* FCH Board Member

This year it was really a Founder's Day Weekend as Old Blues and their guests were able to enjoy visits to the Coolmore America Ashford Stud farm, get up close and personal with two Triple Crown winners (Justify and American Pharoah), enjoy a tailgate and afternoon of racing at the Keeneland Racetrack, and have a private tour of the Castle & Key Bourbon Distillery. These additional activities were generously organized by Old Blue Carl Kirker-Head (BaA, Col B 69-76), his wife (Mona), daughter (McKenzie) and their friend, Henry Bradley. It was indeed a wonderful weekend spent with fellow Old Blues and their partners!



Celebration of the 350th Anniversary of the Royal Mathematical School (RMS) at the British Ambassador's Residence (Washington, DC, Nov 1 2023)



The British Embassy celebrated this significant milestone in the history of the school, for two reasons. First, is the strong probability that many of the navigators on the ships bringing settlers to the New World had been trained at the RMS – Between 1673 and 1887 just over 2,000 boys were trained at the RMS school. Second, is that Professor Michael Mainelli, the first ever US-born Lord Mayor of London, chose to highlight the Royal Mathematical School in his mayoralty through the creation of the Lord Mayor's RMS Scholarship programme. You can learn more at: support.christs-hospital.org.uk/appeal/rms-scholarship-programme



Senior Grecian Zaphaneth (2023/24), speaking during the 350th celebration of the Royal Mathematical School at the British Ambassador's Residence in Washington, D.C.

New FCH Board member - John Cottage

We are pleased to welcome John Cottage (LHA, LaA 68-74) to the FCH Board. John lives in West Chester, PA with his wife Julie and their children, Elizabeth (22) and James (20). After graduating from Lancaster University (BA, Acc & Fin) and three years of public accounting in London John came to the US in 1981. Following a varied career in academia, retail, consulting and pharmaceuticals he recently retired from Pfizer after 20 years in Global Marketing. Along the way John obtained an MBA (Wharton) and an MSO D (American University). Originally from Sheffield, John especially loved the sports and "growing up in the countryside" at CH. John is a Presentation Governor.



2024 UK Founder's Day Dinner, The Mansion House, London



Keith Worker (MaB, CoIA 71-78), FCH Board) and his daughter Emily Heywood attended the Service of Thanksgiving to mark the 350th Anniversary of the Royal Mathematical School and the St Matthew's Day Parade at St. Paul's Cathedral on October 4, which were attended by the whole school. In the evening, Michael Mainelli (first US born Lord Mayor of London) hosted the Founder's Day Dinner at The Mansion House.

The splendid black-tie event included the main speech by the Lord Mayor and introduced the new Treasurer Miriam McKay (7s 76-83). The outgoing Treasurer, Christopher Steane (MaA, CoIA 69-75), gave the response. A total of 300 guests attended, including Old Blues, The Head Teacher, Senior Grecian and other school representatives.

No longer with us

It is with sadness that we note the passing of ...

- Jane Armistead (8s 54-63)
- Jack Doyle (Prep B, MidA 40-48)



Transatlantic Exchange Dinner – Baltimore, April 2024

The annual Transatlantic Exchange dinner was hosted in April by FCH Board President Sally O'Brien (5s 70-77) at the Mount Vernon Club in Baltimore. About 30 guests (including Old Blues and parents, faculty and exchange students from Gilman and Bryn Mawr, our two exchange schools in Baltimore) came together for a traditional CH dinner complete with toasts and a rousing cheer of Housey!

We heard from CH exchange pupils Tanitoluwa Odusina and Rebecca Brown who had jumped right into life at an American high school; having already been shown the sights of New York and Washington DC by their host families.

Started in 2005, the Transatlantic Exchange Program provides opportunities for a CH boy and girl to attend the Gilman and Bryn Mawr Schools in Baltimore for a month over the CH Easter break. They then host a Gilman boy and Bryn Mawr girl at Housey in the summer. To date some 40 CH pupils have enjoyed the opportunity to experience school in the US and many have gone on to attend university in the US as a direct result of that early exposure. Indeed, our very first CH exchange student (and former FCH board member) Mark Laichena (MaA 00-07) was a Moorehead Scholar at the University of North Carolina.



Pictured above: John Cottage (LHA, LaA 68-74), Keith Worker (MaB, CoA 71-78), George Matcham (PeB 63-70) and Roger Thomas (PeB, 52-60)

My name is Tanitoluwa Odusina and I had the amazing pleasure of embarking on the Baltimore Exchange in April 2024. While at Gilman School I was exposed to a different school culture based around supporting one another as brothers and pushing each other to be the best versions of ourselves. Watching the athletics meets and seeing how high the standard of sport is showed me why the USA has been so dominant at the Olympics all these years. The Smiths who were my host family were the most extraordinary people and I am happy to say I am still in close contact with them. They took me to see a range of different attractions and monuments with my favourites being The White House and The Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC (where I learnt about why they are key parts of America's identity) to the hustle and bustle of New York's Time Square where I discovered a love for corn dogs. I am extremely proud to say I was chosen for this exchange programme and will forever be grateful to The Friends of Christ's Hospital for making such opportunities available.

Tanitoluwa Odusina, Exchange Student

News From Horsham

St Matthew's Day

St Matthew's Day at St Paul's Cathedral (4 October). The whole school attended the service alongside 1,000 guests including CH President HRH The Duke of Gloucester and the Duchess of Gloucester. Then marching through the City to Guildhall to receive the Lord Mayor's largesse.



Term dates:

Christmas Term 2024 ends on Saturday, December 14; Lent Term 2025 begins on Sunday, January 12

A Message From The Chairman

FCH was founded in 2001 by two extraordinary Old Blues, Jack Doyle and Lance Reynolds, as a forum for Old Blues in the US to connect with each other; and to provide a tax efficient vehicle to make donations to Christ's Hospital for those wishing to do so. It was Lance who adopted the phrase "friend-raising" and made every effort to know just about every Old Blue located in the United States.

Jack and Lance were the first of many Old Blue volunteers who have served on the board of FCH. Thanks to their initiatives, we have enjoyed a Founder's Day Dinner in the USA just about every year since 2001 (pandemic excepted) and provided massive support to CH, most recently through our Blue Fund Bursaries, that have sent three pupils to CH fully funded. Sadly, we lost both Jack and Lance in recent years. If you did not know them and would like to know more about these extraordinary individuals, you can check out their obituaries on the FCH or CH websites (www.fchusa.org or www.christs-hospital.org.uk), or please ask me.

Another Old Blue who has given great service to FCH is Belinda Reiser. If you had any communications from FCH in the last decade, you would have seen Belinda's name on them. Belinda recently stepped down from the Board after 15 years' service, so I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Belinda for all the "heavy lifting" she has done over the years to support and build the US Old Blue community - Thank You, Belinda!

The FCH Board recently met and renewed FCH's commitment to focus on "friend-raising" - enhancing the community of Old Blues across the United States; organizing events to bring us together; and providing a forum for communication and connection. This is a subtle but real shift in the focus of FCH. From here on, the CH Development Office will take the lead in fundraising with US Old Blues (although FCH will continue to maintain the 501(c)(3) charity status that provides a US-tax-advantaged vehicle for those Old Blues who wish to donate to CH). So, please rest assured that you will not be asked to make a donation when you attend FCH events.

Three very memorable FCH events that I've enjoyed immensely in the last 12 months are the British Embassy Reception in DC last October, organized by Sally O'Brien; an Old Blue barbecue hosted by John and Julie Cottage this summer at their home in West Chester, PA; and the recent Founder's Day Dinner weekend in Lexington KY, hosted by Nik Feldman. Whenever Old Blues get together, I'm struck by how quickly and easily we all get on, with our shared experience of Christ's Hospital.

As I look to the year ahead, I hope, given FCH's increased focus on "friend-raising", that we can help more Old Blues to connect with others, meet up and build our network. If you would like to know which Old Blues live near you, please ask us. And if you would like to get involved with FCH, also let us know. I am sure you will enjoy it as much as I do.

Best wishes for the Holidays!

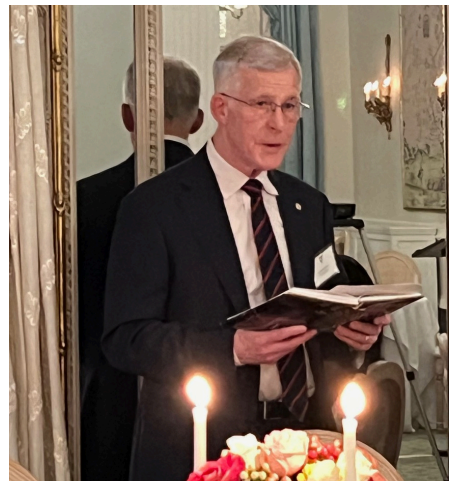
George Matcham

The FCH Board consists of the following Old Blues:

Matthew Adams (LaB, MdB, GrW 95-02) (FL), John Bell (LHB, LaB, MaA 80-86) (CA), John Cottage (LHA, LaA 68-74) (PA), Nik Feldman (MaA 09-10) (KY), Geoff Hunt (BaB, LaA 76-82) (WA), George Matcham (PeB 63-70) (NJ), Rupert Munro (ThB, MdB, GrE 98-05) (TX), Sally O'Brien (5's 70-77) (MD), Keith Worker (MaB, CoIA 71-78) (PA).

Useful Links:

- FCH Facebook - www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofchristshospital
- FCH website - www.fchusa.org/
- CHOPA website- www.choba.org/
- CH - www.christs-hospital.org.uk/



Treasurer's Report

by Keith Worker

FCH provides Old Blues and others residing in the US a tax-efficient way to support Christ's Hospital. As a tax-exempt public charity under sections 501(c)3 and 170(b)(1) (A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code, all donations to FCH are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

Income from donations in 2023 was \$231,745 (vs \$458,901 in 2022 - which included a very generous one-time donation from an Old Blue. In 2023 there were 41 individual donors. These included significant donations from Jack Doyle (Deceased), Anthony Furnivall, Andrew Fyfe, George Matcham, Roger Moseley, Lance Reynolds (Legacy) and Roger Thomas.

Disbursements to Christ's Hospital in 2023 totaled \$445,643 (vs \$187,000 in 2022).

FCH's account balances on January 1, 2023 were \$361,475. The closing account balances on December 31, 2023 totalled \$142,712.

Expenses were \$5,080 (vs \$5,260 in 2022). Expenses as a % of income continued to be low (2.2%).

Financial Report & Report on Giving 2023

Financial Summary for 2023

Beginning Account Balance	\$361,475
Total Income Received	\$231,960
Total Disbursements	\$450,723
Ending Account Value	\$142,712

Income Received

Donations	\$231,745
Bank Interest	\$215
Total Income	\$231,960

Disbursements

Grants to Christ's Hospital	\$445,643
Administrative Expenses	\$5,080
Event subsidies	\$808
Legal & Accounting	\$1,800
Office, Print, Mail	\$772
Insurance	\$983
Bank Fees	\$717
Total Disbursements	\$450,723

We acknowledge with gratitude the donations that Friends of Christ's Hospital received in 2023 from Old Blues and Friends

Matthew Adams	Geoff Hunt	Matthew Petersen
Thomas Aveston	Richard Johnson	Gavin Reckless
John Bell	James Keeley	Belinda Reiser
Simon Chadwick	Kate Kerr	Lance Reynolds (Legacy)
Catherine Clark	Robin Kinloch	David Robinson
Raymond Clarke	George Matcham	Betty Rushbrook
John Cottage	Kenneth McDonald	Geoffrey Summers
Richard Dixon	Roger Moseley	Patrick Ternan
Jack Doyle	Louis Mullinger	Roger Thomas
Michael Felix	Rupert Munro	Joann Wood
Anthony Furnivall	Sally O'Brien	Keith Worker
Andrew Fyfe	Jonathan Osborne	R. Rosh Wright
Michael Hartley	Paul Parker	Henry Young
Colin Hattle-Spence	Theresa Perlis	

There are a variety of ways for making a tax-deductible gift to Friends of Christ's Hospital:

Check: Please send to: Friends of Christ's Hospital, Post Office Box 5171, Lancaster, PA 17606 USA

Gifts of Stock or by **Credit Card:** please contact Keith Worker (FCH Treasurer) directly at kworker3@gmail.com. Stock and Mutual Fund donations can be made by transferring the shares to FCH's Wells Fargo Brokerage account. Please contact Keith Worker for information regarding this account. The full value of the stock at the date of transfer may be tax deductible for US taxpayers. Please consult your tax adviser to learn more.

Matching Gifts: FCH can accept all tax-deductible contributions from corporate matching gift programs. Our federal id number is 91-2162264 and our California Corporation number is 2350816.

Pledges: We welcome multiyear pledges of support to FCH. Please contact Keith directly: kworker3@gmail.com

As required under U.S. law, while the Board of Directors will always consider the expressed preferences of its donors when making grant decisions, the Board must retain discretion and control over the use of all contributions it receives. FCH has very low operating costs and its volunteer Board directly contributes to the organization's operating expenses. Checks written and mailed to FCH in the latter half of December, although tax deductible to the donor, may not clear until the following year. If these amounts are substantial the grants shown on our Federal Return (Form 990) may be less than the grants actually made from the donations received.