



THE JOURNAL

THE LANSDOWNE CLUB 2011/12



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TASTE...

Tempting gastronomic delights await you!

From our more formal Dining Room to the casual atmosphere of AQUA and the Winter Garden, the Club has something to suit all tastes.

Be sure not to miss our delicious Lansdowne Afternoon Tea which is served in the Garden Brasserie and Adam Room, from 2:30pm to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday.

Bookings should be made directly with a member of the Concierge team.



INVIGORATE...

Our first-class health and fitness facilities are the best in Mayfair:

- 23.8m indoor heated swimming pool
- 3 x squash courts
- 3 x gym areas
- Free weights, cardio & resistance
- Exercise Studio for Zumba, Ballet, Spinning, Yoga, Boxercise and more!
- Salle d'armes
- 3 x treatment rooms
- Steam room

Also, enjoy the benefit of our extremely talented and experienced personal trainers, swimming instructor, physio and massage therapists.



GOING FOR GOLD!

The Lansdowne's

OLYMPIC HOPEFULS

THERE IS A HIVE OF ACTIVITY IN THE LANSDOWNE FENCING SALLE AT THE MOMENT AS A GOOD NUMBER OF YOUNG BRITISH FENCERS GEAR UP FOR THE CHANCE TO REPRESENT GREAT BRITAIN IN THE 2012 LONDON OLYMPICS. AMONG THEM ARE CLUB MEMBERS RICHARD KRUSE, CLAIRE BENNETT AND LAURENCE HALSTED, THREE DEDICATED AND SKILFUL FENCERS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN A GRUELLING TRAINING SCHEDULE IN AN ATTEMPT TO REALISE THEIR OLYMPIC DREAMS. WE WISH THEM THE VERY BEST OF LUCK AND WE WILL BE WATCHING AND CHEERING THEM ON COME JULY!

RICHARD KRUSE, AGE 28

Richard, who studied civil engineering at university, is now a full-time fencer and currently ranks no. 1 in Great Britain. He competes in the men's foil discipline in both the individual and team events and has been a Member of the Lansdowne Club since 2004. Prior to training at the Club, Richard was at Salle Paul Fencing Club for 10 years with his current coach, Ziemek Wojciechowski. Richard and the British National Foil squad train at the Club four to five times per week on average and occasionally make use of the Club's pool and gym to vary their training. In addition to this gruelling schedule, Richard and the team have strength and conditioning coaches to ensure they are in peak condition. To keep things fresh, the team also trains abroad or brings in foreign sparring partners to Britain. Between now and the London Olympics, the squad has around seven more competitions to attend. Having competed in several past Olympic Games, Richard cites his favourite competitions to date as the Athens and Beijing Games and says: "The Olympic title is the most prestigious title in our sport, so having a chance to fight for it is an honour in itself." Unfortunately British fencers haven't won any medals in an Olympic Games for over 40 years but Richard and the squad have a very definite aim in mind – to receive at least one medal of any colour in 2012!



Richard Kruse



Claire Bennett

CLAIRE BENNETT, AGE 26

Claire has her sights set on competing in Britain's Olympic fencing team in the women's foil division. Taking up the sport at the tender age of 10, fencing captured Claire's interest due to its combative and challenging nature. "It's a wonderfully fun and challenging sport. It's great for fitness and for the mind. You learn a lot about outwitting your opponent and reacting positively under pressure," says Claire. The fact that the Games are taking place on home soil has revealed Claire's patriotic side. "I feel very proud! Nothing beats fencing at the highest level and flying the flag for Britain at the same time is a dream come true." Competing at this elite level is no mean feat. Claire trains for three to four hours a day at the Lansdowne Club, whilst also putting in four to six hours of boxing to keep her cardiovascular fitness up. Claire admits her rigorous training regime does make it difficult to fit in a social life. "In some ways it makes meeting up and going out with friends all the more special when I do get to go out. Luckily I have some very understanding friends." Among the characteristics Claire deems important for a professional fencer are commitment, discipline, sharpness of mind, fitness, passion and mental toughness.



LAURENCE HALSTED, AGE 27

Laurence is unwavering in his ambition; he wants Gold come July! This super-keen British fencer stands in good stead as both his parents were previously fencers at Olympic level. He began fencing at the Finchley Foil Club at a young age and soon found himself competing on the European stage winning Gold at the 2001 Junior European Championships. Further success came in the 2002 Junior European Championships where he played an integral role in helping Great Britain win a Bronze medal in the team event. Whilst studying social psychology at the University of Sussex, Laurence proved himself to be the best fencer in academia taking Gold at the British Universities Sports Association's annual fencing competition in 2006. Competing in a field of over 100 fencers from across the country, his victory gave him a new-found confidence to help take his fencing to the next level and he went on to win Bronze at the World Student Games in 2007. After leaving university, Laurence committed himself to fencing, turning professional and training with the Great Britain squad at the Lansdowne Club. As a result of his high intensity training schedule, Laurence began to establish himself as a real force on the world fencing stage. In the 2008 Senior European Championships he picked up a Silver medal and a year later, in the same event, he won Bronze. Add to this a Silver team medal at the Venice Grand Prix in 2009 and it's easy to see why Laurence is touted as a major medal prospect for the 2012 Olympic Games in London. (For news on Laurence of a very different nature, please see page 25).



Laurence Halsted

MEET A MEMBER MUSIC MANAGER AND PERFORMER PAUL PACIFICO

ANNE WRIGHT MEETS ONE OF THE LANSDOWNE CLUB'S MOST MUSICAL MEMBERS

Paul was born into a musical family. His grandfather was a professional jazz saxophonist and classical cellist and his three great aunts were a close harmony trio entertaining troops during World War II.

Paul started learning the violin aged 3 but fell out with his violin teacher at Harrow aged 14 as he wanted to learn jazz, having been introduced to the music of Stephan Grappelli and Yehudi Menuhin at home. The summer he turned 16 he discovered the blues harmonica and never looked back. Coincidentally this was the same summer he joined The Lansdowne Club!

Paul read French at Sussex University and then embarked on a career in the City. In 2003, in his spare time, he established Specific Music, which specialises in looking after some of the world's top session musicians, known as 'The AllStars Collective', making use of their down time between world tours for major artists to deliver bespoke music for one-off events. He finally gave up his day job in 2005 to work full time in music. He continues to manage 'The AllStars Collective', works with soul singer Jocelyn Brown and legendary American Saxophonist Maceo Parker, as well as providing consultancy for various major brands involved in the music industry.



Paul in action



“Food is like music!”

Paul has recently rediscovered his passion for the blues harp and plays an unplugged residency every Thursday at the Back Room Bar on Old Park Lane with his band 'Pacifico Blues'.

HOW DID YOU FIRST GET INTO THE MUSIC BUSINESS?

Many members of my family are professional musicians and I grew up with music all around me. I very nearly became a professional musician straight from university, but instead got a 'proper' job in the City under strong parental advice!

I did my best both at a large investment bank and then a niche strategy and business intelligence consultancy where I qualified as a Certified Fraud Examiner, but I was never very corporate. I really enjoyed my last job but it was intellectually satisfying rather than really being my passion.

I started promoting gigs on the side with some friends and out of that came the opportunity to form 'The AllStars Collective', which very much took over my life!



Paul with his wife Sarah and daughter Zena

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST PASSION?

My family – and music – oh yes and food and wine and skiing and martial arts!!!

WHAT ACHIEVEMENTS ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?

- Convincing my wife to say yes!
- Having our beautiful daughter
- Creating a new way for great musicians to earn money and be recognised for their talents in a world that celebrates them less and less in the mainstream media
- Breaking the world record for the longest ever performance of a single song (168 hours)
- Helping raise over £60m for various charities over the last 8 years

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST REGRET?

Wasting time.

WHAT PROJECTS ARE YOU CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN?

I still manage 'The AllStars Collective', which continues to go from strength to strength. I am also having a huge amount of fun playing in, and developing, my blues band 'Pacifico Blues'.

My company is also working with soul singer Jocelyn Brown and legendary American Saxophonist Maceo Parker – in fact we have just got him a book deal for his autobiography with fellow Lansdowne Member and literary agent Diane Banks!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD?

Food is like music – there are all different types for all different moods – that's probably why musicians are so into food! Overall though, I think Chinese – Dim Sum!



Paul and his band. Back row (L-R): Tony Mason, Richard Simmons, Chris Newland, Otto Williams. Front Row (L-R): Dean Dyson, Paul Pacifico

WHAT DO YOU DO TO RELAX?

Relax??? I work on average around 80 to 90 hours per week so don't get much down time but I have the huge advantage of my work also being my absolute passion, combining my love of music with my enjoyment of doing deals!

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE IN THE WORLD?

Home.

WHAT LUXURY WOULD YOU TAKE TO A DESERT ISLAND?

My blues band!!!! If not, how about a set

of harps (preferably the new Hohner Crossovers) and a stack of old blues records?

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT THE LANSDOWNE CLUB?

The atmosphere. I think places with real class can be smart and a little formal but without feeling pretentious or snooty. Its atmosphere makes the Club appeal to nice people and these two elements are what have always kept me at the Club even though I spend very little time these days in suits!

The Lansd

AT THE LANSDOWNE, WE'RE PROUD TO HAVE AN INTERESTING AND VARIED SOCIAL PROGRAMME, WITH A HOST OF POPULAR EVENTS RANGING FROM STYLISH BALLS AND RELAXED SUMMER JAZZ SOIRÉES, TO COOKERY MASTERCLASSES, HILARIOUS COMEDY NIGHTS AND EVEN OUR VERY OWN CELEBRATION OF THE BRITISH FOOD FESTIVAL. OUR EVENTS COORDINATOR, DANIELLE SMITH, PROVIDES MEMBERS WITH AN ARRAY OF SEASONAL EVENTS TO TANTALISE ALL TASTES AND, RAIN OR SHINE, OUR LIVELY SOCIAL EVENTS PROGRAMME THRIVES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. HERE'S A ROUND-UP OF SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE EVENTS IN THE LAST YEAR...

AUTUMN

As the summer months of 2010 faded into autumn, with leaves turning a lovely shade of amber and temperatures dropping, the Club's social events calendar was certainly warming up!

September saw the Club play host to the inaugural U35s' Hog Roast in the Courtyard. This sold-out event offered Members a mouth-watering hog roast accompanied by a selection of delicious salads and plenty of wine. The clear and mild weather conditions provided the perfect backdrop for a wonderful evening.

The British among us would have felt immensely proud of our culinary heritage when the Club held a British Food Festival in the Dining Room over three Saturday's in September and early October. Executive Head Chef, Neil Ramsey, prepared a magnificent menu incorporating some of our finest fare from hillside to shore – an event definitely to be repeated!



Later in October, the Club hosted the U35s' Inter-club Halloween Moveable Feast. Members mingled with members from several other London clubs over a sumptuous three-course dinner. The Ballroom tables were adorned with carved pumpkins, ivy and candles and each course had a spooky Halloween theme, starting with a "Witch's Cauldron", followed by a "Goblin's Feast" main course and "Dracula's Delight" for dessert. At the end of each course, guests switched seats so they had a new conversation partner for the next course which proved a great way to network. Further Inter-club events will be organised throughout the coming year.

The theme of the Club's 75th Anniversary Ball, held on 5th November 2010, was Fire and Water. Upon arrival, guests enjoyed a champagne reception and were dazzled by fire-twirling ballerinas. The concierge team, dressed in fire-themed outfits, ushered Members and guests through to the Crush Hall where an area of the floor had been turned into a virtual pond giving guests the illusion of walking on water. The menu was suitably themed, the pièce de resistance being the Fire and Water inspired dessert. Weaving his way through the lava lamp-lit Ballroom, 'Sav the Deceptionist' entertained guests with his show of illusory tricks. A mini casino was set up in the Adam Room where guests could try their hand at Roulette and Blackjack, whilst those in search of a guaranteed win bought tickets for the charity tombola, proceeds of which were donated to the Richard House Children's Hospice. (The Hospice carries out invaluable work supporting children and young people with life-threatening conditions or complex healthcare needs, as well as their families, during their journey through life to death). This year the Club managed to raise just shy of £2,000 for the charity. The evening's spectacular entertainment culminated in a midnight fireworks display and although the fireworks were slightly dampened by the light rain on the evening, Members spirits, thankfully, were not. Music rippled through the air with Members dancing the night away in the Ballroom until the wee hours of the morning.

Later in November, Members were treated to a wonderful night of Sushi & Champagne prepared by Head Chef of Ta-Maki Sushi, Jiang. A brief talk was given on the origin of sushi, including some little-known quirks of the trade, before guests had the opportunity to sample some truly delicious sushi, have a go at making their own and enjoy a glass or two of champagne.



OWN SEASON

WINTER

The Club was abuzz with festive cheer as we geared up for the winter social season by hosting the annual Charity Christmas Carol Concert, performed beautifully by the Francis Holland School for Girls. Mulled wine and mince pies were served to dispel the winter chill and we'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated so generously.

The wine was chilled and the hors d'oeuvres delicious at the Meet & Eat Singles Dinner. The dinners, open initially to Members in five different age groups from 30 to 65+ years were a great way to meet other singles of a similar age with common interests over a three-course set dinner and glass of wine. These events will be continued in 2012, although in a slightly more relaxed fashion with single Members of all ages being able to enjoy wine and canapés whilst mingling and socialising with like-minded people.

Tired of detoxing, the U35s decided to throw a Retro Re-tox Party in rebellion! Party-goers came dressed in outrageous and vibrant outfits to tie in with the retro theme and we were lucky enough to nab three barmen from Maggie's in Fulham for the night who entertained the crowd with a colourful cocktail demonstration. The sounds of 80s pop music filled the air as barmen mixed four different cocktails for all to try. The night was a huge hit, albeit with many a Member nursing a sore head the next morning!



Retro Re-tox Party. Members Nicola Merritt, Alison Ayre, Sophie Morrison, Samantha Read and Charles Perrett with barmen from Maggie's



Sophie Hollender, Stephanie Lavy & Leonor Chen



Eric Lampaert



Jeff Leach

The U35s' Comedy Night, yet another sold-out event, proved hilarious with comedic talent from some of Britain's most entertaining up-and-coming comedians. The event was hosted by Jeff Leach of Big Brother's Big Mouth fame, and guests laughed their way through performances from Eric Lampaert and Rebekka Bowling. Eric won the Latitude Comedy Best New Act of the Year competition in 2010 and has had a busy summer on the British comedy circuit, and some may remember Rebekka from BBC1's Not Going Out. Given the overwhelmingly positive response received from Members, we will endeavour to put on another similar event very soon!

Film nights have become a staple feature of the Lansdowne social diary. Over the last year, Members have enjoyed films ranging from old classics such as Casablanca to later releases including The King's Speech and The Reader. Members can sit back and relax in one of the comfy Club armchairs whilst enjoying a glass of wine and nibbles and, at the end of the film, they have an opportunity to discuss the film and mingle. Film suggestions are most welcome!

SPRING

There was no better way to kick off the season of 'rebirth' than by hosting an Italian gourmet dinner and capitalising on the amazing spring produce available. We were fortunate enough to receive a visit from renowned chef, Omar Pigozzo, who hails from Castello del Nero, the luxury hotel and spa in Florence, to teach us a thing or two about traditional Italian cooking. Members enjoyed a spectacular five-course dinner and all who attended were left happily replete and with a great appreciation of fine Italian cooking delivered by a highly talented chef.

We all went a little cupcake crazy in April when Amanda, our very own Sous-Chef, hosted a cupcake masterclass in the Ballroom kitchen for an exclusive number of Members. Not only did attendees have the opportunity of participating in the whole process from mixing the batter to adding the finishing touches, they were also able to get a behind-the-scenes glimpse of one small aspect of the Club's kitchen operation. Vanilla, red velvet and chocolate were some of the tempting flavours on offer and attendees had a marvellous time decorating their own cupcakes whilst sipping champagne. At the end of the evening Members were able to take a little piece of cake heaven home with them.



SUMMER

There's nothing quite like summer in London! A more relaxed atmosphere abounds and people are in less of a rush, happy to linger over a chilled glass of wine or two after a busy day. Summer is also the time when Lansdowne events are at their peak and this year was no exception.

The first of our summertime events was the Reeling Ball. Members and guests arrived in their traditional kilts and sashes and were welcomed with champagne before sitting down to a three-course dinner announced by a piper. For those of you unfamiliar with reeling, it's a type of Scottish country dancing that involves three or more dancers following a set pattern. Reeling is fun, social and energetic! After dinner, Members took to the floor to dance the night away to a traditional ceilidh band.

First to try out the newly-purchased barbeque and rotisserie were the U35s at their Summer Drinks and BBQ Party. Unfortunately the weather was not on our side and the title "Winter BBQ" may have been more apt! Nevertheless, it didn't discourage too many from attending and the party went at full tilt under cover in the Long Gallery and Garden Brasserie.

Club Member, Tony Bowran, and his five-piece jazz band played to a packed audience at this year's Summer Jazz and Hog Roast. The sound of the band and the aroma of sizzling hog greeted Members on a beautiful summer's evening which made for a perfect event all round.

The theme for the U35s' Summer Ball was 'A starry, starry night'. Members and guests, adorned in black tie and beautiful shimmering dresses, mingled in the Courtyard whilst enjoying a glass of champagne before moving into the Ballroom which was awash with fairy and star lights. After one of Chef Ramsey's creatively compiled three-course menus, well-known DJ Jethero provided an upbeat mix of music for Members to party under the stars.



L-R David Organ, Duncan Forbes, Lotte Brouwer, Quirijn Ryan den Rooijen, Justin Chilton and Henri Von Franquemont



L-R Quirijn Ryan den Rooijen, Michelle Taylor and David Organ

A SMALL TASTER OF EVENTS COMING SOON TO THE CLUB...

NOVEMBER 2011

Friday 4th	Club Ball "Out of Africa"
Thursday 17th	U35s' Winter Drinks Party
Monday 21st	Art Exhibition Week Opening Night
Thursday 24th	Thanksgiving Dinner

DECEMBER 2011

Thursday 1st	Christmas Cocktail Party
Wednesday 7th	Charity Christmas Carol Concert
Thursday 15th	Christmas Reels Ball
Wednesday 21st	U35s' Inter Club Ball

JANUARY 2012

Thursday 5th	Jazz Night
Thursday 19th	Mix 'n Mingle if you're Single
Thursday 26th	U35s' Retox Party

FEBRUARY 2012

Tuesday 14th	Valentine's Dinner
Thursday 23rd	Debating Society

MARCH 2012

Monday 5th	Club Supper
Tuesday 13th	Piano Recital

THE GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

BY ERIK BROWN

IT LOOKS LIKE CHILD'S PLAY, BUT PRODUCING A GOOD BOARD GAME IS A COMPLEX BUSINESS THAT TAKES A LOT OF CONCENTRATION. ERIK BROWN, LANSDOWNE COUNCIL MEMBER AND PUBLISHER OF MAYFAIR TIMES, EXPLAINS HOW HE LOST PART OF HIS LIFE EDITING THE MANUAL FOR ONE AND TALKS TO FELLOW CLUB MEMBER GEORGE ALLEN ABOUT THE FIVE-YEARS IT TOOK TO GET HIS GAME ONTO THE MARKET.

Playing is learning, any nursery teacher will tell you that. But, personally, I've never been a player of games – not of the conventional board and pieces sort anyway. My issue with chess, for example, is that all of my pieces seem to want to end the game as quickly as possible.

So, it's strange that in the last year I have become heavily involved in the creation and marketing of a board game – and that, for this piece, I've just interviewed Lansdowne Club Member George Allen who has invented one, called Flaggo.

But to roll the dice and start at square one, as it were.

Fred Sirieix is the general manager of Galvin at Windows, the Michelin-starred restaurant on the 28th floor of the Park Lane Hilton, and a great friend. A Frenchman from Limoges, he is also passionate – unbelievably passionate – about front-of-house service.

Earlier this year, he appeared in a BBC2 TV series called Michel Roux's Service in which a group of young people were trained to be front-of-house superstars. Some struggled to grasp the life skills necessary, leading Fred to utter the memorable phrase: "You 'ave 'urt me in my 'art." He developed quite a following after that.

By the time shooting had started on the eight-part series, he had already begun to develop a board game as a training tool for his own team. And, as he always does when he gets behind an idea, he threw every ounce of energy he had into it.

When he asked me to look at the manual, I said sure. And what a biblical piece of work it was: a 70-odd page tome on everything you need to know to run front-of-house service in a Michelin-starred restaurant, from how to hold a tray to how to deal with a wealthy drunk and when to smile.

It was littered with sporting and military metaphors – Fred loves a good metaphor – and it needed editing like a drowning man needs a life belt.

We set to, me and my daughter Lucy (also

a professional editor), and while we caught the typos and corrected the grammar and challenged the clarity, Fred continued to add and delete and overwrite until the whole thing began to move in and out like a concertina.

Meanwhile, I had found a graphic designer to work with him on the board and packaging – Grace Trozado, sister of the Lansdowne Club's personal trainer Gillian Trozado (now Depala), and founder of her own graphics company, Like Surgery. To be honest, I think there were times when we all wondered what we had got ourselves into.

At various points, I tried to persuade Fred that the manual was more valuable than the game, and that there was more money to be made in training (he's passionate enough to be a motivational speaker). But Fred stuck to his guns and with chaotic creativity and help from his friends he went ahead and produced *The Art of Service* – details of which are at www.theartofservice.co.uk.

It is very good, I have to say. And Fred has gone on to be an expert in service, appearing regularly on TV and radio and speaking to audiences ranging from catering industry professional to Jaguar salesmen.



Erik Brown



While all of this was happening George Allen was coming to the conclusion of a five-year project to develop Flaggo – a board game that got as far as TV's *Dragons' Den*.

"I'm a creative person anyway," he explained, "because I paint and write short stories. And I love colour: I was always impressed with the bureau de change, with all the flags there. And one night I remember waking up thinking, I've got a great idea ..."

The idea was that the flags of all nations could be converted into an exotic quiz in which people flew from country to country answering questions about the countries they landed on. Since George started to develop the game, he has added layers of strategy and skilful manoeuvre in which players have to collect the letters of the game's name – F-L-A-G-G-O – to win.

"It took me five years," he says. "There is a great deal of preparation in terms of patents and so forth. Then there's the information in terms of the questions and answers. And then, of course, you have to do a huge amount of trialing, taking the game to various schools and Oxford and Cambridge universities... you don't start manufacturing the game until you've got the perfect product."

Getting on to *Dragons' Den* was a coup – it showed the game had merit – although he didn't persuade any of the *Dragons* to invest. "I should have told them that it would make a great TV game, which I think it will," he said.

Flaggo has had rave reviews elsewhere and can be purchased from www.flaggo.com for £19.99 + postage and packing. It has also made its way into United Nation bookshops in the USA and would make a great Christmas present for anyone who loves to travel.

A BREATH OF *Fresh Air!*

ANNE WRIGHT CHATS TO LANSDOWNE COUNCIL MEMBER, PAMELA CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON, ABOUT HER CURRENT ROLE HELPING THE CLUB TO REDISCOVER SOME OF ITS WONDERFUL PIECES OF ART.

Members who have visited the Club recently can't fail to have noticed that the Lansdowne has embarked on an exciting building project to transform the basement area. However, when completed, it won't be the bricks and mortar and structural steels that will be noticed, but rather the new internal space, interior furnishings and choice of art that graces the walls.

And it is precisely the art that has captured the interest of Pamela Campbell-Johnston. Pamela is serving her second term on the Council and, with the help of others, is currently conducting an audit of all the art in the Club. She is looking at what art the Club currently has on display and what is hidden in its archives. The project isn't about change for change's sake, but about breathing new life into the Club's existing treasures and perhaps introducing some new complementary pieces.

Pamela worked at the nearby Royal Academy of Arts for over twelve years and was one of only a small number of her contemporaries at St Andrew's University able to use their MA (Hons) Art History degree in a professional career. Here she tells us more about her current project at The Lansdowne Club:

"The Lansdowne Club and this particular building has an incredible history, some of which is partly reflected by what is hanging on the walls. A number of the portraits in the Adam Room, for example, have great social and historical importance to people with past connections to the building, and we are incredibly lucky that these works have been lent to the Club for display. As many Members will know, the Round Room was the place for the important signing of the Treaty of Paris and it is fabulous that we have a facsimile of this document and a work of Benjamin Franklin on the walls.

"On the flip side, however, there are a number of prints and paintings which have no significant place in the Club, short of filling a blank space on the wall. It is our aim to make the most of the treasures that the Club does have and ensure that we display them in the best possible light so that they become conversation pieces for Members to enjoy.

"The architectural fabric of this building is very special. We have 18th century grandeur, combined with stylish Art Deco on some floors and soon, a 21st century Sports Area. With each floor having a different



Pamela Campbell-Johnston

feel, we can tailor the art on display to ensure there is a relevance and connection. For instance, the simple act of moving works of art around and giving them a new home in a different room will inject freshness. Likewise, re-mounting and re-framing some of our existing works could be very effective."

The present Ballroom was originally designed as a library, before being remodelled as a sculpture gallery to a design by George Dance and completed by Royal Academician Robert Smirke. Pamela would love to see more sculptural pieces in the Club, especially as Lord Shelburne began his collection of ancient sculpture back in the 1760s, for which Lansdowne House became famous. The Club has a number of Busts, and these pieces could sit very happily under the same roof as some more contemporary pieces of sculpture and some beautifully-decorated objets d'art. Further, the Garden Brasserie could be a fabulous space for some three-dimensional works of art, including light installations.

When working at the RA, Pamela noted that visitors often couldn't help but be impressed by the stunning 19th century Main Galleries. Although traditional in style, these top-lit galleries, with their exquisite gilding, work equally well whether displaying the majestic portraits of Van Dyck, the enraptured sculpture of Rodin, the historical pieces of the Aztecs or its annual Summer Exhibition; the largest open contemporary art exhibition in the world, drawing together works by established, unknown and emerging artists. It's with this flexibility in mind that Pamela feels we could look to display a few more relevant historical works in the Club, combined with some modern pieces.

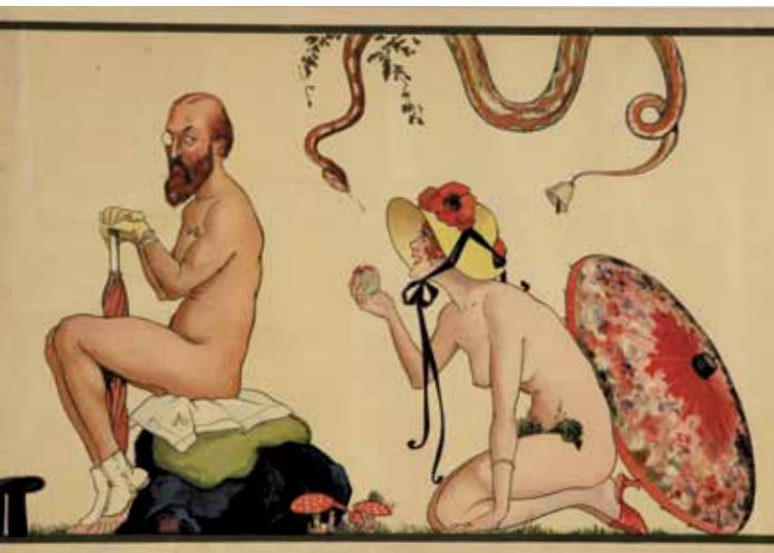
Outside the Club's Dining Room, there is currently a work by the Royal Academician, Allen Jones. Allen Jones's work presents great mastery in his use of colour, and his works reflect glamour and style, often focusing on his aesthetic of beautiful women. One only has to think of Tamara de Lempicka, the Polish Art Deco painter who epitomised the cool, yet sensual style of the Art Deco Movement to wonder if Jones has been influenced by her. The firm, White Allom, who fitted out the great Cunard Liners, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, was commissioned to decorate the Club in the 'Art Moderne' style. By having Allen Jones's work displayed on this floor of the Club, it really works and helps the historical dialogue between the two. We also have some fabulous prints of 'Art Moderne' figures in the Sun Room.

Conversely, we have no works of art at all hanging in the Shelburne Room (and for that matter, the Findlay Room), and Pamela hopes to rectify this soon. The six or seven existing plaster surrounds in the Shelburne Room, after all, form a natural frame.

Photography is an often overlooked medium and we are fortunate that some wonderful photographs exist of the original front of Lansdowne House before Fitzmaurice Place was constructed. Pamela would love to see these displayed in the Club in a more permanent and prominent way. There are also fascinating photographs of the garden and its carriage way which the house lost in 1925, as well as architectural drawings of the original building. With today's technology, these photographs could easily be printed onto canvas to make an interesting display for Members.

The Club, with support from the Arts Group, is keen to continue hosting the Members' temporary art exhibitions and there is a dedicated space within the Club for Members to display their work.

Over time, Pamela would love to commission some new pieces for the Club and also work with art students who have recently graduated from some of London's art colleges to support the future generation and help make our visits to the Club even more visually-enriching experiences.



Cartoons replicated from the series by C Jerome dated 1917 on display in the Sun Room

PLEASE DON'T CALL IT BRITISH!



Three Choirs Vineyard



Hugo Dunn-Meynell



Alice Wooledge Salmon



CLUB MEMBERS AND REGULAR JOURNAL CONTRIBUTORS ALICE WOOLEGDE SALMON AND HUGO DUNN-MEYNELL EXPLORE THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH WINE AND CELEBRATE OUR DEVELOPING WINE INDUSTRY.

English wines have been playing hide-and-seek with us ever since Roman conquerors may have been the first to establish vines and ferment enough grapes to top up consumption of their imported Mediterranean cupfuls.

Ignored or replanted during subsequent centuries of social upheaval, vineyards flourished after William's Norman conquest augmented the number of wine-blest monks and courtiers. By the early 1500s, their southern English and Welsh vineyards had multiplied to more than 130 before declining, for complex reasons, into a long obscurity occasionally defied by robust gentleman-viticulturalists. From the 1920s to the 1950s, English and Welsh winemaking slipped, beyond grapes-from-the-garden, into total commercial eclipse.

But the nation's legacy of Vine and Vineyard Groves, Lanes, Yards, and Roads – there's a very urban Vine Street within a mile of the Club – was ripe to be revitalised by the vision of post-World War II pragmatists who revolutionised the choice of grape varieties and stimulated enthusiasm for so many aspects of growing and production that the southern English and Welsh resumed planting vineyards! And have continued, through ensuing decades

and the predictable extremes of pioneers' vicissitudes, to the present tune of some four million bottles emerging each year from over a hundred wineries servicing ten times as much hectareage.

Forget, please, the notion of such English tipples as an experiment in lightish, sweetish, muddle-through whites at 'ouch!' prices, to be sampled once or twice and then ignored. As our vinous tastes have grown brighter, so the most enlightened English vigneron and winemakers have made serious investment in the right grapes for suitable sites and learned or employed a tonnage of expertise, while current global warming – however caused – benefits ripening in this ever-capricious, essentially cool climate.

Hence, from Kent, Chapel Down's Flint Dry, where chardonnay, bacchus, huxelrebe, and other grapes yield convincing depths of acidity and fruit; from the same address come complexly aromatic Pinot Blanc and a gooseberry-tweaked Bacchus. Three Choirs in Gloucestershire has one of the country's largest and oldest vineyards, with sheltered dips and pockets of soil producing a spectrum of interesting whites, while Cornwall's much-praised Camel Valley contributes the floral zest of Bacchus Dry to enjoyment of local seafood and the wine list of The House of Commons. Reds are not ignored, several vineyards enhancing what buyer Matt Smith at supermarket Waitrose ace wines' department calls England's stock of 'hopeful pinot noirs'. From this chameleon of a grape derives the

peachy-red silk of Bolney Estate's West Sussex Pinot Noir, and Berkshire's Stanlake Park's occasional versions, which have impressed in blind tastings against worthy competition.

But England's star wines, holding their own across the world, are well-aged, bottle-fermented sparklers, found at Chapel Down, Three Choirs, Camel Valley and beyond. At Breaky Bottom, on the calcareous soil of the East Sussex downs, some 200 miles northwest of Champagne's similar geology and uncertain weather, Peter Hall has produced, since 1994, an elegant succession of vintage Bruts based on whistle-clean seveal blanc, blended, in this year's release of the 2007 vintage, with the first of his classic Champagne grapes. Chardonnay, pinot noir, and pinot meunier are the names of the latter; at Nyetimber in West Sussex, this noble trio, similar growing conditions, and plenty of vinous nous have ensured a multitude of international awards and trophies for the winery's rich and full-bodied range.

With additional sparklers from Kent, Surrey, and now even Welland Valley in Leicestershire, let's drink to English wines, to Welsh versions – but not, please, to 'British' wine, legally a different beast made on industrial scale from imported grape concentrate. With results you can imagine.

And let's not forget to toast the imminent arrival of English bottles in the Club's cellar – a first, we believe, for the Lansdowne's comprehensive list.

MASTERPLAN UPDATE: THE BASEMENT PROJECT



Resistance Gym

EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING AND THE END IS IN SIGHT FOR COMPLETION OF THE 2000 MASTER PLAN'S BASEMENT PROJECT. THE NEW SPORTS AREA WILL SEE MEMBERS ENJOY FIRST-CLASS GYM AND FITNESS FACILITIES UNPRECEDENTED IN THE CLUB'S COVETED CENTRAL MAYFAIR LOCATION. ALL WORKS ARE ON SCHEDULE FOR THE GRAND OPENING IN EARLY 2012, WHEN THE CARDIO AND FREE WEIGHTS AREAS, THE EXERCISE STUDIO, THE MEN'S AND LADIES' CHANGING ROOMS, THE SQUASH COURTS AND VIEWING GALLERY, ONE ADDITIONAL TREATMENT ROOM AND THE STEAM ROOM WILL BE UNVEILED. THESE FANTASTIC NEW AREAS WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE NEW SPORTS RECEPTION, AQUA AND TREATMENT ROOMS 1 AND 2, ALL OF WHICH HAVE BEEN OPEN AND FUNCTIONING FOR SOME MONTHS NOW.

The cardio area, located off the swimming pool balcony and above Bruce Court, will house all of the equipment needed to improve your cardiovascular fitness such as step machines, cross trainers, bikes, treadmills and rowers. Included in the free weights area, located directly above the cardio area, will be several sets of various weights such as dumbbells, barbells, weight plates and kettle bells, an assisted chin/dips machine, an EZ bar and preacher curl bench, medicine and Swiss balls, as well as an extra treadmill and cross trainer. Several other pieces of equipment will be available for use including an adductor, abductor, shoulder, leg and chest press, leg and arm extension, leg and arm curl, lat machine, pectoral flies, seated rower, Stairmaster and two rowers. In total, the two new floors of space will provide 46 additional pieces of gym equipment.

The exercise studio, located beneath the cardio gym area, will include an extra nine new spinning bikes to meet the growing demand for places in the spin class. The Club currently offers a wide assortment of classes, ranging from more traditional classes like ballet, aerobics and circuits, to exciting new classes like zumba and boxercise. We also offer yoga and pilates to help nourish your mind, body and spirit. There is something to suit everyone so be sure to check out the Club's website for the full class timetable.

The remodelled upstairs ladies' changing room, as well as the extended men's changing room, will provide Members with the opportunity of renting one of 200 additional lockers.

Bruce Court will be fully reconditioned and, when re-opened, will have the additional benefit of a remodelled viewing gallery which will provide Members with a wonderful vantage point from which to watch players battle it out on court. Courts A & B will feature a double-height glass-backed wall as part of the total renovation and all three courts will be fitted with sprung floors.

Treatment rooms 1 and 2 are already fully functioning, whilst Treatment room 3 will open in early 2012. Currently the Club offers physiotherapy and sports massage but in the New Year we plan to launch a selection of new health services and spa treatments. We hope that these will include an in-house chiropodist, chiropractor and osteopath to help Members suffering from injury or muscular pain, along with a range of spa treatments for a bit of added luxury and pampering. More details coming soon!

The final element that will complete the sports area will be the steam room, located directly beneath AQUA. This will open as a unisex



Free Weights Gym



Cardio Gym

facility so please bear in mind, costumes will be required! A steam room is very similar to a sauna with well-documented health benefits, some of which are relaxation and deep skin cleansing, relief from muscle fatigue and stiff joints, immune system enhancement, lymph detoxification, blood circulation improvement and sinus congestion relief.

For regular updates on the progress of the Basement Project, as well as details of any proposed work on the horizon, simply go to our website, www.lansdowneclub.com, click on The Club tab on the homepage, then select MasterPlan and Projects and then Basement Project.

WATCH THIS SPACE!

From early 2012, the Club will be offering a range of new services aimed at improving the overall experience of using the Lansdowne sports facilities.

As previously mentioned, an additional 200+ lockers will be available for use in the men's and ladies' changing rooms.

A laundry service will be introduced which will offer Members the opportunity of having their gym kit laundered and returned for use the next day.

'Breakfast 2 GO' will be available from AQUA on a pre-order basis. Simply place your order and we will have it ready and waiting for you to collect after your workout or swim. A full menu will be available from early January.

Keep an eye open for details of our new spa treatments, which will be offered over weekends.

THE SOCIAL NETWORK



THERE IS NO DENYING THE HUGE IMPACT THAT SOCIAL MEDIA HAS ON OUR DAY-TO-DAY LIVES AND HOW IT HAS CHANGED THE WAY IN WHICH WE COMMUNICATE. TO REMAIN AS CURRENT AS POSSIBLE, THE LANSDOWNE CLUB IS NOW ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND LINKEDIN.

Facebook is a fantastic way for us to keep in touch with Members and notify you of the latest Club happenings and events. You will be among the first to hear about the latest tempting offers from the Dining Room, news and information from the sports team, details of forthcoming social events and much, much more! Simply log in to your own Facebook account, search for **The Lansdowne Club, Mayfair** and click 'like'.

With all social network mediums, communication can work both ways. Members will have an additional forum to have any questions or queries answered, as well as a simple way to communicate with fellow Members. We would like to encourage all Members to like, follow or join our pages as we will increasingly be using this medium to communicate Club happenings, events and news to Members.

Also, if you haven't already provided us with your email address, we urge you to do so now. Email is the quickest and easiest way to keep you up to date with what's going on and ensures you don't miss out on any of the fantastic experiences the Club has to offer.

Did you spot the curious black and white square on the cover of this year's Journal? For those not in the know, this is a quick response code, or QR, which can be scanned by devices such as iPhones, iPads and smartphones to take you to a video clip, website or other link. The QR on the front cover of this issue of The Journal takes you to the Lansdowne website, whilst those on the page opposite and on page 25 take you to YouTube clips of The Apprentice featuring The Lansdowne Club and to the music video Laurence Halsted stars in. Clever!

To check out the Lansdowne Club's social media pages, go to:

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Lansdowne-Club-Mayfair/>

Twitter <http://twitter.com/#!/LansdowneClub>

LinkedIn <http://www.linkedin.com/company/the-lansdowne-club>

KEEPING IN TOUCH

As part of our commitment to provide the best possible service to our Members, we need to ensure that we remain as up-to-date as possible.

To update your contact details or address, simply log onto the Club's website, click on Club Online, Member Statements, then Update Billing Info. Make your changes then click Update.

Updating your details online is, for many, the fastest and easiest method. However, if you would prefer to update your details in writing, we have enclosed a Members' update form with your copy of the Journal for your perusal. If your contact details have changed, please indicate any new information on the form and return it to us either by fax to +44 (0)20 7318 6170, by email to Membership@LansdowneClub.com or lastly, by post to The Secretary's Office at the address on page 3. Should you require an additional form at any time through the year, this can be downloaded by going to www.LansdowneClub.com and clicking on Member Services and then Club Online.

In order to keep informed of events taking place at the Club, please don't forget to email your current email address to SocialEvents@LansdowneClub.com. Details of events are sent on a weekly and monthly basis.

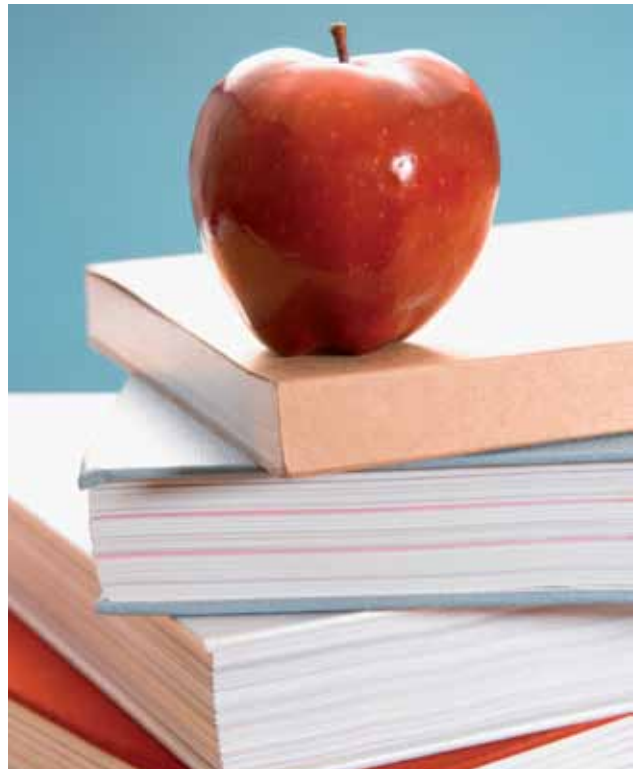
Finally, the website Noticeboard is for Members to use, so if you have something to advertise, whether it be a holiday home rental or tickets to the theatre, simply send your text, including any relevant information, to Marketing@LansdowneClub.com.

SCHOOL'S OUT! IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE CLUB 1824S...

Being in your late teens and early 20s is an exciting time. You may either be at university or college studying – and partying – hard, on a gap year, just starting out on your chosen career or perhaps one of the many young people who are struggling to find work. Whatever your situation, networking and friendship are very important during this time in your life in order to make useful contacts for the future, as well as enriching your present. And what better way to hone your networking skills, meet like-minded people of a similar age and make new friends than by joining the Lansdowne Club as a Club 1824 Member?

The Club's 1824 membership scheme has been specifically designed for young people who will receive all the benefits of Lansdowne Club membership for an unbelievably affordable one-off payment of £300, with no additional joining fee to pay. This equates to an annual membership fee of only £45 if joining at 18!

The scheme was launched in 2009 and the Club now has nearly 200 Club 1824 Members, a number which is continually growing. A tailor-made social programme for Club 1824 Members is currently being developed and is something that the Club will be investing more significantly in over the coming year. Club 1824 offers Members a multitude of benefits and use of the Club's first-class facilities which include use of one of London's most beautiful Art Deco pools, our brand new, fully-equipped gym and the several restaurants and bars. The location of the Club is another draw for younger Members, conveniently



located near famous galleries, night clubs and Bond Street's designer shops. Members can relax at the Club before hitting the Mayfair nightlife, perhaps stay the night and wake up to a delicious English breakfast the next morning.

If you, or someone you know, are interested in joining Club 1824, all that is needed is a letter of recommendation from the school headmaster or headmistress from an HMC (Headmasters and Headmistresses Conference), GIGS (Girls Independent Grammar Schools) or other associated educational organisation where secondary study was undertaken.

Existing Members may be interested to hear that a Club 1824 membership can be purchased as a gift for your own children as well as for friends, relations and godchildren. The perfect present for any young person working or studying in London!

For further information on Club 1824 membership, please contact Julie Hodgson, Membership & Subscriptions.



YOU'RE HIRED!

The more observant Members among you may have spotted the fact that the Lansdowne Club made an appearance on the popular BBC1 television programme *The Apprentice* in June 2011. During the programme, contestants were tasked with creating a free magazine in a day and then had to pitch their ideas to potential advertisers. Members of the winning team were treated to a fencing lesson courtesy of British Olympic fencing team coach, Ziemek Wojciehowski, in the Club's Ballroom as a reward, before enjoying cocktails in the Piano Bar. Inventor Tom Pellereau went on to win the programme and an investment of £250,000 from Sir Alan Sugar.



INTRODUCE A FRIEND

Why not introduce your family & friends to the benefits of Club membership?

If you have a friend, colleague or relative who you think would benefit from Lansdowne Club membership, why not introduce them to the Club? As a token of our appreciation for proposing them we will send you vouchers to the value of £50 to be spent in the Club if they become a Member. Should you propose three Members within a 12-month period, this amount will be increased to £100 for the third new Member who joins. Please note that this offer does not apply to Club 1824 membership.

For further details please contact the Secretary's office.

ANTIPODEAN ADVENTURE

ANNE WRIGHT CHECKS OUT A SELECTION OF RECIPROCAL CLUBS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND THAT WELCOME LANSDOWNE MEMBERS WITH OPEN ARMS.

Those of you about to embark on a trip Down Under may be interested to know that there are a total of 31 reciprocal clubs in Australia and New Zealand available for Lansdowne Members to use. Many of them are residential clubs and most are conveniently situated for both business and leisure pursuits, as well as being ideal pit stops for a 'couple of beers' at the end of a busy day.

Details of all 265 reciprocal clubs are available on our website. Wherever your travels may take you, we would love to hear about the clubs you've visited along the way. Please email the Secretary's office with any feedback, both positive and negative, on Secretary@LansdowneClub.com.

AUSTRALIA

THE ATHENAEUM CLUB, MELBOURNE

www.athenaeumclub.com.au

A proud resident of Collins Street, Melbourne since 1868, the Athenaeum is one of Australia's oldest and finest clubs, confident in its heritage and traditions, yet enlightened and contemporary in its outlook. Members and guests can relax in the reading rooms, play billiards or snooker, enjoy a workout, stay in one of 16 bedrooms and enjoy a choice of different dining options. The club's location, service, facilities and first-class dining support its well-deserved international reputation.



The Athenaeum Club

THE AUSTRALIAN CLUB, MELBOURNE

www.theaustralianclub.com.au

Established in 1878, The Australian Club was originally founded by English settlers as a venue for Melbourne and Victorian businessmen to lodge and associate. Today, the club welcomes male and female guests and still serves as a destination for those looking to escape the strain of modern life and relax in an inviting and friendly atmosphere. All the original architecture remains intact and the club boasts 17 bedrooms and suites, all decorated in Victorian style.

THE AMERICAN CLUB, SYDNEY

WWW.THEAMERICANCLUB.COM.AU

After a full renovation by global award-winning interior designers, Peck Von Hartel, the American Club Sydney has recently reopened. The club, which has graced Sydney's social scene since 1947 is in one of Sydney's most prestigious locations with enviable panoramic views of Sydney Harbour and the Botanical Gardens. Offering first rate business facilities and an excellent bar and restaurant, the American Club is an exclusive private members club with a contemporary twist just five minutes' walk from Sydney Opera House and Circular Quay. No accommodation.



The American Club



The Australian Club



Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club

ROYAL SOUTH YARRA LAWN TENNIS CLUB, MELBOURNE

www.rsyltc.org.au

Royal South Yarra has been an integral part of the Melbourne tennis scene since the 1880s. This fine establishment boasts 25 tennis courts (10 grass and 15 all-weather) and runs an active tennis programme for members. The club also offers two squash courts, two full-size snooker tables, a 25-metre heated pool, a fully-equipped gym and a range of fitness classes. In addition, there are four boutique apartments adjacent to the clubhouse and a further one-bedroom apartment which can be booked by members and guests. Royal South Yarra has a reputation for excellent food, fine wines and value for money.

THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB, CANBERRA

www.commonwealth.com.au

The Commonwealth Club was established in 1954 as a social meeting place for ladies and gentlemen and moved to its current location in Yarralumla in 1965. Set in two acres of gardens, the clubhouse overlooks Lake Burley Griffin and the city of Canberra. The club boasts 17 en suite bedrooms, most with lake and city views, along with a restaurant, terrace, library, billiards room and floodlit tennis court. Parliament House, the National Library and the Australian National Gallery and many other attractions in the national capital are all within easy walking distance.



The Commonwealth Club

NEW ZEALAND

THE NORTHERN CLUB, AUCKLAND

www.northernclub.co.nz

The Northern Club was founded in 1869 by a group of prominent businessmen when the popularity of gentleman's clubs was at its peak. In 1991 women were admitted and today the club has a thriving membership amongst Auckland's business community. The Northern Club has a popular bar and restaurant, a lounge area, a gym and a number of en suite guest bedrooms renovated to a high standard. The Club is within walking distance of Auckland's central business district and the city's theatres and restaurants.

THE HAWKES BAY CLUB, NAPIER

www.hawkesbayclub.co.nz

The Hawkes Bay Club was established in 1863 when Napier was barely eight years old. The club offers conference facilities, a choice of three dining rooms, a snooker room, a bar and several self-catering rooms available for short and long-term rentals. It is located in a very convenient position less than two minutes' walk from both the beach and the city centre!



The Hawkes Bay Club



The Wellington Club



The Wellington Club

THE WELLINGTON CLUB, WELLINGTON

www.wellingtonclub.co.nz

The Wellington Club is New Zealand's oldest residential Club. Founded in December 1841, it now owns an elegant seven-storey building on the same terrace site as the previous two clubhouses. The present building was opened in February 1990 by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, who is an honorary member of the Club. The club is located in the capital city's central business district and has 10 en suite bedrooms, a billiards room, a choice of dining options, a health and fitness centre and a library and reading room.

CLUBS WITHIN THE CLUB



NETWORKING BREAKFASTS

by Diane Banks

The popular monthly Networking Breakfast Club is held on the first Wednesday of every month from 7:45am until 9:00am in the Thirties Room and has been going strong for two years now. The breakfasts provide an excellent opportunity for those unable to make evening Club events to meet and network with other Members prior to making their way to work. The emphasis is on informal discussion and as such we either invite one or two Members to speak for 3 minutes on a topic of their choice, which is followed by a group discussion, or alternatively select a newspaper in advance and discuss the lead headline on the day. It's an enjoyable, invigorating and often thought-provoking way to start the day, so do come and join us. There is no charge but you must book your place in advance with Danielle Smith, Club Events Coordinator.



U35S

by Andrew Robinson

With the Club's ever-expanding younger membership, our events continue to be a great success. Highlights over the past year include a port tasting given by Alan Montague-Dennis of Mentzendorff; a cocktail evening with demonstrations by the barmen from Maggie's in Fulham; and a comedy evening with a great line-up of up-and-coming young comedians. Make sure you don't miss our next event, Winter Drinks Party on Thursday 17th November 2011! For more information about our events, please email Danielle Smith, Club Events Coordinator.



ARTS GROUP

by David Shalit

The Arts Group's main activity over the last year has been the Art Exhibition which is to

be held again this November. Besides paintings and drawings, jewellery, sculptures, fashion and photography have all been shown in the past. We are privileged that Club Member and Royal Academician Dame Elizabeth Blackadder continues to offer support, having previously shown at our Exhibition herself. The group's previous Chairman, Nicholas Mackey, has had the distinction of having a photograph accepted for display in the last two Royal Academy Summer Exhibitions, an enormous success for an amateur, and he will show with us this year too. We are also starting informal lunches at the Club with bookings made directly with the Dining Room. There is no agenda, just like-minded people getting together. If you would like to learn more, please email dmshalit@hotmail.co.uk.



REELING GROUP

by Lucy Stewart Lee

Scottish reeling evenings take place in the Ballroom and there are eight social evenings from September through to May with balls in December and June. For those who wish to learn or be reminded of the reels, we have several beginners' sessions starting at 7:00pm and with supper and dancing, we finish at around 10:30pm. You don't need to come with a partner and the evenings are very social so please drop by and see what it's all about! Details of the dates will be advertised in the Club's social diary.



BRIDGE CLUB

by Merle Sasson

The Bridge Club had another busy year. We continue to meet every Wednesday evening for duplicate bridge with a director to oversee proceedings. The standard is competitive but social and most weeks we have light refreshments before we sit down to play. We also now have bridge suppers on the first Wednesday of the month with a one-course meal, with wine, which have proved very popular. During the year we hosted an inter-club match with the Hurlingham Club and I'm delighted to say we won! We were fortunate to be invited to take part in The Royal Automobile Club Centenary Cup along with a number of other Pall Mall and St James's

clubs. We didn't win on this occasion but had a very respectable result. Last autumn the group went for their annual bridge weekend which was enjoyed by all, an event always eagerly anticipated. For anyone who would like to improve their bridge we hold supervised bridge on Monday evenings. If you are interested in joining in please email me, Merle Sasson, on merlersasson@hotmail.co.uk.



DEBATING SOCIETY

by Marcus Warry

This year the Lansdowne Debating Society has gone from strength to strength, and I'd like to extend a big thank you to all the amazing debaters and Members who have helped make this happen. Always held on the last Thursday of every month in the Sun Room, we've debated AV, Grammar Schools, The Big Society, Freedom & Democracy, CCTV and many other fruity subjects. Always lively and incredibly informative, we've had such fun and have grown to well over 100 Members! We are always welcoming newcomers too, so please email marcus.warry@gmail.com if you'd like to join the Society and, more importantly, join the debate!



BOOK CLUB

by Jenny Whitehouse

The Book Club has had another successful year with a steady stream of Members participating in our discussions. The wide range of interests and opinions brought to the discussion are reflected in the monthly choice of book which is decided by the Members themselves. Many different authors and titles have been studied, both fiction and non-fiction, covering a range of publication dates. The chosen title is published each month on the website and also a notice is posted on the information board in the Crush Hall so that there is plenty of time for Members to source and read the book before the meeting. The Book Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:45pm to 8:15pm, usually in the Sun Room. New Members are most welcome and if you have any queries please contact Danielle Smith, Club Events Coordinator.

SPORTS CLUB NEWS



L-R Paul Boyle (captain), Tim Garner, Rags Gupta and Jim Bristow

SQUASH

What a year it was for squash at the Lansdowne! Not only did both the 1st and 2nd teams take out the prestigious Bath Cup in their respective divisions but the 1st team backed it up by winning the Cumberland Cup in the same season. This was no mean feat as both competitions are notoriously competitive. The 1st team for the Bath Cup and the Cumberland Cup was made up of Paul Boyle (captain), Jim Bristow, Tim Garner, Rags Gupta and Andy Moore. The 2nd team for the Bath Cup Division 2 was made up of Mike Bowie, Rick Balfour, Graham Lind, Thomas Petzing and Paul Robbins (captain). Congratulations to them all for a remarkable achievement!

Squash is a fantastic sport, ideal for those who like a fast-paced, competitive game that really gets the heart rate up. The Club has adopted a ladder system to determine a player's ranking. This system proceeds via a series of challenges. Any player can challenge a player above him or her on the ladder. If the lower placed player wins the match, then the two players swap places on the ladder. If the lower placed player loses, then he or she may not challenge the same person again without challenging someone else first. There is no limit to how many rungs above themselves players may challenge, however it is usual practice to play the more skilled players at the bottom of the ladder and work your way up.

With the new squash courts scheduled to open in early 2012, the first-class facilities will hopefully mean that the great results achieved in 2011 will continue. Bruce Court and courts A & B are being completely refurbished and once complete, Members will have the pleasure of an unprecedented playing experience. The squash club plans to expand its already successful internal ladder with other leagues and to hold regular competitions. In the near future we will also be introducing squash club nights to help integrate new Members into the flourishing squash scene. All levels and ability of player are catered for so if you have ever thought of trying the sport, why not give it a go in January when the new courts open? For more information on court booking times, please contact a member of the Sports Reception team on Sports@LansdowneClub.com.

Tim Garner

SWIMMING

The Swim squad continues to flourish with an unbeaten record in 2010. The first-ever Club Championships held in October were a great success. Due to unavailability of several of our better swimmers, 2011 started with a narrow defeat by the Royal Automobile Club (24-20) but it is hoped that the squad will be able to avenge this defeat at the big Royal Automobile Club Centenary 4-Club gala later in 2011. This year's Club Championships are on October 25th – make a diary note now! The squad trains under Charles Doxat, Tuesdays 6:45pm to 8:00pm.

Charles Doxat



FENCING

This has been a very successful year for fencing at the Club. With membership currently standing at 225 fencers, the Lansdowne Club can proudly say that it has a Salle d'Arme to rival all others. In October we hosted the fourth Lansdowne International Challenge, this time against the Japanese National Team and it was a thrilling evening of top-class fencing. We are looking forward to the Japanese National Team returning this year for another Challenge on Monday, 26th September.

The Junior Fencing Club was established in 2010. To date, it has been hugely successful with parents and many of our young fencers already achieving great results in competitions. In particular, congratulations to Matthew Abrahams and Eleanor Blackwood on their recent achievements. Matthew fenced brilliantly this season coming 2nd in the Dieppe International Under 11s and then going on to win the U11 English Youth Championships. He is currently ranked 9th

in the UK in U11 boys' Foil, and knowing Matthew, this is something that he will be keen to better next season. Eleanor has also done so well this season with her best result being 3rd in the Arnold Under 15 Épée. For someone who hadn't fenced competitively until this season, we are proud to see that she is ranked 8th in the U15 girls' Épée.

I would also like to congratulate this year's winners of the Club competitions: Julian Ghosh (Sabre), Ben Sommer (Épée) and John Troiano (Foil) and we must mention our women foilists Sophie Troiano, Claire Bennett and Liz Ng who won gold for Britain in the team foil at the 2010 Commonwealth Games – a truly phenomenal achievement.

The Lansdowne Club has been very generous in its support to our Olympians over the past five years. You can watch them train most afternoons from the Fencing viewing gallery and find out more about some of them on page 6 if you haven't already done so.

Rupert Davies-Cooke



British Women's Foil Team win gold at Commonwealth Games 2010

MEMBERS' NEWS

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to:



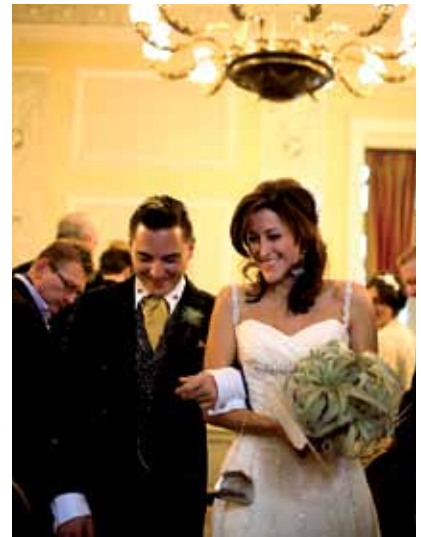
Matthew and Charlotte (née Ball) Wilson who held their wedding ceremony in the Adam Room, followed by a reception in the Shelburne Room, on Sunday, 3rd October 2010



Edwin and Kate (née Brader) Cook who held their wedding reception on Saturday, 26th February 2011



Matthew and Camilla (née Chorfi) Roche who celebrated their wedding with a reception in the Ballroom on Saturday, 11th September 2010



Chris and Siobhan Ridley who held their reception at the Club on Saturday, 25th September 2010. Siobhan is the daughter of Club Member Mrs Shaunagh Bromley



Ole and Caroline (née Miller) Rollag who celebrated their marriage with a reception on Saturday, 9th April 2011

Hugo and Laura (née Picken) Miller-Brown who celebrated their marriage with a reception on Saturday, 18th December 2010. Hugo is the son of Club Member Mrs Diana Skidmore



Mark Price and Lisa Ardley who held their wedding reception on Saturday, 28th August 2010

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Congratulations to:

Robert Poster who celebrated his 70th birthday with a dinner in the Ballroom on Thursday, 24th June 2010

Anita Butt who celebrated her 40th birthday with a party in the Shelburne Room on Friday, 29th October 2010

Diane Dennis who celebrated her 75th birthday with a lunch in the Shelburne Room on Friday, 15th April 2011.

Rodney Batchelor who celebrated his 50th birthday with a dinner in the Ballroom on Saturday, 7th May 2011

Mr Antony Thesiger who held a christening reception for his daughter, Hermoine, in the Adam Room on Sunday, 8th May 2011

Mr & Mrs James Long who celebrated their ruby wedding with a lunch in the Ballroom on Friday, 27th May 2011

Mrs Elaine Bollinhaus and her husband who celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary in the Ballroom on Sunday, 3rd July 2011

Lucy Whitcutt who held a christening reception for her daughter, Siena, in the Shelburne Room on Sunday, 3rd July 2011

OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Jennifer Powell, Georgina Illing and Alan Wolfley, three prominent Lansdowne Club Members, all of whom will be very sadly missed.

Jennifer Powell was a Member for over 20 years, joining in 1989. She was an active and valued member of the bridge group and for many years she acted as secretary and arranged the very popular and successful annual bridge weekends. Although she lived in Bournemouth, she managed to regularly attend weekly duplicate bridge sessions. She bore her illness with great bravery; many fellow Members were unaware of the extent of her illness as she never complained.

Georgina Illing, a long-time Member of the Lansdowne Club, died in Oporto, Portugal on 29th December 2010. Georgina was the founding director of GES-Export, a major supplier of Next from her offices in Portugal, Morocco, Tunisia and Italy. She was very active for many years in the cultural life of Northern Portugal and was also engaged in numerous philanthropic work in education and the arts.

Alan Wolfley, first of three generations of Wolfleys who are Members of the Lansdowne, joined the Club in 1982 and sadly passed away this year at the age of 79.

MISCELLANEOUS

FITTING IN FITNESS: ONE MEMBER'S STORY

Lansdowne Club Member and supermum, Emma Huepfl, not only juggles looking after her three children whilst working full time, but she also manages to maintain her fitness and run marathons in her spare time. Here Emma takes some time out to fill us in on how she manages it...

"I took up running again in between the births of my children who are aged seven, four and one. Time is limited, but my training regime fits in surprisingly well. Half an hour allows for some meaningful training and post children there's no prevaricating, I grab the chance to go whenever I can! My office is only a stone's throw from the Lansdowne; I change at the Club and get out running in the parks most days. My weekly training is structured as two hard, short sessions (hill training or intervals), two steady runs of 5 to 8 miles, and one longer one at the weekend (15 to 22 miles). I try to do a gym session too; the circuit class is a great way to share the pain with fellow gym attendees and although there are only two or three female regulars, the group is very welcoming and supportive of my marathon mission. Most of these people work in property so I get the occasional business lead too!

"The staff at the Lansdowne have helped me in numerous ways - encouraging me, sympathising when I've been injured and also with assisted stretching. David Wells is a brilliant masseur, if only I had time to book in with him more often! Sarah Lawson, the physiotherapist, was very kind and strapped me up after an unfortunate encounter with a dog in Regent's Park left me with a broken elbow six weeks before the London marathon. It was touch and go, but I made it and crossed the finish line at 3 hours, 10 minutes and 5 seconds. It was a hot day and it hurt a lot more than I expected. Running with huge crowds was very different from my solitary training and was quite overwhelming, but I was exceptionally grateful to supporters who helped me raise £5,000 for Leukemia Care."



Emma in action



CLUB MEMBER STARS IN MUSIC VIDEO!

Lansdowne Club Member of seven years and British Olympic hopeful Laurence Halsted swapped fencing for filming when he starred in a music video for his favourite band. Brighton six-piece Two Spot Gobi's video for new single Simon's Song (Alright) sees Halsted ham it up as a frustrated fencer in full GB regalia, taking on team mate Ed Jefferies, before a victorious finale on the piste in front of an adoring crowd.

"I'm pretty much their biggest fan," Halsted, the world number 25 in men's foil fencing, told BBC Sport, "but the acting was weird. When we did the winning scene, with an audience of people I didn't know, I had to do it seven or eight times. It was horrible.

"I don't like seeing myself on camera and I think it's a little bit cheesy but it's a music video. It could have been a hell of a lot worse."

The band says the song relates to "a conversation with an old school friend who had been overseas serving in the Forces". James Robinson, the band's frontman, said: "Simon's Song is all about overcoming adversity with the message that we all have the ability to do great things in life. Almost instantly it occurred to us that it would be cool to link it with some sort of sporting story."

The group, mentored by American singer-songwriter Jason Mraz, released the song along with new album *The Sun Will Rise* on 16th May 2011.



STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to:



Inga Trimalova, Events Coordinator, on her recent engagement. Inga's fiancé Marius popped the question on bended knee in Luxembourg Gardens in Paris in April, on their 10th anniversary as a couple. Congratulations to them both!



Martie Nauschutz, Subscriptions Manager, and her husband Carl on the arrival of their baby boy Kristian on 10th April 2011 weighing a healthy 3.54kg. Martie, used to dealing with all things membership-related, loves her new role as mum and we are looking forward to welcoming her back to the Club in the New Year.



Agnieszka Latka, Reception Supervisor, and her husband Robert on the birth of their baby Dawid on 8th September 2011, who weighed 3.63kgs. We wish Agnieszka and Robert all the best!



Congratulations to Tomas Vegys, Receptionist, who married Aura, who incidently worked in housekeeping for a period, on Saturday 10th September in Alytus, Lithuania.

Head Concierge Alan Bush who celebrated his 60th birthday on 25th June 2011. He marked the milestone in style by holidaying in Paris and Deauville, France. His friends surprised him by showing up in Deauville to join in the celebrations and he also managed to fit in a trip to the races at the Deauville-La-Touques Racecourse.

STAFF LONG SERVICE AWARDS

The Staff Long Service Awards lunch was held on 18th May 2011 in recognition of the long and loyal service of the following Club employees:

Steve Ronan, Barber	23 years
Richard Chatterley, Sous Chef	18 years
Eunice Kahira, Executive Housekeeper	18 years
Richard Anson, Kitchen	15 years
Isaak Frimpong, Housekeeping	15 years
Alan Bush, Head Concierge	14 years
Natasha Gouseinov, Housekeeping	12 years
Mark Anderson, Club Secretary & CEO	11 years
Viorel Rupa, Banqueting	10 years



L-R Isaak Frimpong, Richard Chatterley, Mark Anderson, Natasha Gouseinov, Alan Bush, Steve Ronan, Viorel Rupa and Richard Anson

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Neil (left) is congratulated by Club Secretary and CEO Mark Anderson

The Lansdowne Club Employee of the Year Award for 2010 went to Neil Coggins, Assistant Maintenance Manager. Neil joined the Club in January 2010 as a Maintenance Plumber and always carries out his duties competently showing excellent knowledge of the Club's utilities services. When the Club's former Assistant Maintenance Manager left in October 2010, Neil showed good leadership skills and was promoted to the new position. His previous experience includes working for British Gas and as a foreman for a large plumbing and central heating company. Some of the comments which led to Neil's win were, "outstanding ability" and "strong knowledge of his trade with a refreshing attitude". Neil's interests outside work include martial arts and socialising with his family and friends. Congratulations Neil!

REST...

Relax in comfort in one of our 72 en-suite bedrooms.

We offer double, twin or single rooms, all of which are fully air-conditioned with WiFi access.

We will always go the extra mile to ensure your stay is as memorable as possible.

Whether you need help finding your way around London, tickets to the latest London attraction or that West End show you've been dying to see, why not contact our concierge team? We're always happy to help.



UNWIND...

Our social scene has it all:

- Glamorous balls & cocktail parties
- Reeling evenings & music recitals
- Networking breakfasts & film nights
- Gourmet dinners & tasting evenings

Within the Club we also have a number of special interest groups from Arts and Debating to Bridge and Book Club.

These are just a few of the many events in the Lansdowne's lively and varied social programme.



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