

Gonville House Newsletter

Summer Term 2023

Unusually, I am writing this in August with the exciting new year looming and the pitches looking particularly verdant following an unpredictable summer. It is a sign of a good holiday, despite the weather, that I am working quite hard to remember all the details of May and June, but it is also exciting that there were a number of significant achievements and moments that still live clearly in the memory. The Gonville community is a wonderfully rich mix of different talents and personalities, but year on year the sum is greater than its parts. As great as the individuals are, it is in collective endeavours that Gonville always seem to punch above their weight. I am so proud to see boys throwing themselves into everything with the intention of doing their best and having fun. The results don't really matter, but they have been increasingly positive this year. Having been 2nd in the house standings for most of the year, it was a shame to be just bumped into 3rd at the end, but this still represents a really strong showing. At sports day, 50 of the 56 in the house competed in at least one event and the 3rd place was



truly a house effort and a fitting way to round off the year.

For the first time in my tenure, Gonvillians were required on stage in the speech day ceremony to receive one of the 'big' awards. **Alex Chapman** rounded off an excellent first year as a joint recipient of the Tom Lewis Award and **Ed Rowell** was selected as the winner of the Le Brocq Award. **Henry Tang** was rewarded for the outstanding academic performance in year 12.



As with every summer, the exams loom large, the sun shines and everyone looks forward to the long break around the corner. It is still remarkable to see the array of opportunities and achievements that pupils across the school squeeze in. As I approach the halfway point of my tenure in Gonville, I am excited to see what this special community will manage to do next.

KEY DATES:

MICHAELMAS TERM 2023

Wednesday 30 August

12pm New pupil induction day (year 10,11 & 12)

5.30pm New year 9 return

6pm Other boys return

Thursday 31 August

Lessons begin

Friday 22 September

U6th parents' meetings

Exeat begins

Sunday 24 September

Boys return after 6pm

Friday 20 October

L6th parents' meeting

Half term starts

Sunday 5 November

Boys return after 4pm

Saturday 11 November

Gonville Revue

Friday 24 November

Year 9 drama followed by parents' meetings

Exeat starts

Sunday 26 November

Boys return after 6pm

Sunday 10 December

Gonville Christmas Supper

Friday 15 December

Term ends!

Academic Review

eRC (effort) Wall of Fame

Year 13

Edward Rowell	6.14
Shin Kawagoe	6.00
Luke Burnham	5.86
Duc Dinh	5.75
Matt Geddes	5.75

Most Improved:

Matt Geddes	+ 0.26
Shin Kawagoe	+ 0.25

Year 12

Henry Tang	6.39
William Daniels	5.63
Oliver Du Feu	5.58

Most Improved:

Otto Klosterfelde	+ 0.57
Henry Tang	+ 0.34
Rohan Van de Ven	+ 0.33

Year 11

Archie Stephens	5.75
Jimmy Hall	5.4
Arsène Chaté	5.36
Lucas Jayaraj	5.36
Ryan Liu	5.3
Oliver Bearcroft	5.25

Most Improved:

Archie Stephens	+ 0.37
Ben Whiteley	+ 0.36
Lucas Jayaraj	+ 0.31
William Rennie	+ 0.28
Arsène Chaté	+ 0.28

Year 10

Isaac Lee	6.05
Samuel Lee	5.53
Dean Zhang	5.33
Atom Tian	5.23
Liam Lo	5.22

Most Improved:

Rowley Emus	+ 0.44
Atom Tian	+ 0.15

Year 9

Connor Morrell	5.78
Alex Chapman	5.44
Tom Robins	5.31
Seanan Wong	5.28

Most Improved:

Seanan Wong	+ 0.22
Martin Ris	+ 0.17
Connor Morrell	+ 0.17

Show Hsm Roll of Honour

(brackets denote Praise)

Isaac Lee	8 (9)
Rufus McCourt	5 (4)
Felix St John Parker	4 (2)
Liam Lo	4 (1)
Seanan Wong	4 (1)
Nazarii Dmyterchuk	3 (3)
Otto Klosterfelde	3 (2)
Jimmy Hall	3 (1)
Alex Chapman	2 (5)
Ethan Ajikobi	2 (5)
Martin Ris	2 (4)
Tom Robins	2 (4)
William Daniels	2 (3)

Prize-giving

It is always lovely to see the Gonvillians getting acclaim from the entire school. As mentioned above, the Speech Day prizes had a pink tinge this year, but there were also a pleasing number of Gonville boys called up in Prize-giving for various accomplishments:

Henry Tang won the prize for the outstanding academic performance in year 12, **Dean Zhang** the mathematics prize for year 10 and **Isaac Lee** won both the year 10 art and textiles prizes.

Shin Kawagoe	Tennis	Full
Finn McKeown	Tennis	Full
Emmanuel Bawa	Cricket	Full
Finn McKeown	Cricket	Full
Edward Rowell	Athletics	Half
Tom Hutton	Athletics	Half
Rohan Van de Ven	Tennis	Half
Harry Heming	Cricket	Half
Oliver Du Feu	Drama	Half
Harry Doe	LAMDA	Grade 7



The table records the boys that achieved colours or creative exam success during this term. **Emmanuel Bawa** was once again awarded the PG and DG Gilbert Prize for achievement in sport having captained the Zimbabwe U19 team at the World Cup and having scored over 1000 runs in the season (just 35 short of the school record). **Finn McKeown** achieved the rare and impressive triple colours having been awarded full colours in football, cricket and tennis.

Edward Rowell won the Golden Memorial Prize for services to Gonville.



House Awards

Academic Performance:

Herman Ris

Sportsman of the Term:

William Daniels

Matron's Award:

Rufus McCourt

Year group Awards:

Year 9:

Tom Robins

Year 10:

Samuel Lee

Year 11:

Jimmy Hall

Year 12:

Oliver Du Feu

Year 13:

Emmanuel Bawa

Gonvillian of the Term:

Rohan Van de Ven

Gonvillian of the Year:

Rowley Emus



The following pupils were awarded their class effort prizes for outstanding and sustained focus and work:

William Daniels

- Year 12 - Economics

Oliver Du Feu

- Year 12 - Business

Ryan Liu

- Year 11 - Textiles

Ryan Liu

- Year 11 - English

Rowley Emus

- Year 10 - Maths

Rowley Emus

- Year 10 - Drama

Samuel Lee

- Year 10 - Spanish

Connor Morrell

- Year 9 - Latin

Connor Morrell

- Year 9 - DT

In addition **Connor Morrell** and **Tom Robins** received department commendations in French for taking part in the Kirk-Greene French Reading Competition. **Tom Robins** was Highly Commended, just missing out on the trophy.



Creatives review

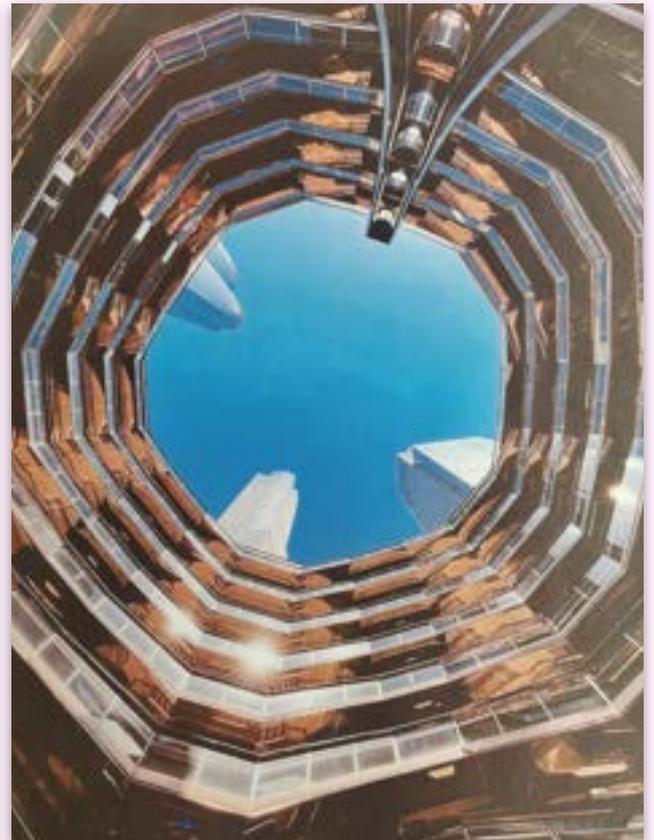
The term started and ended with remarkable achievements for **Isaac Lee** in textiles. His magnificent dress won the Royal Opera House costume design challenge and gained him entry to the Young Fashion Designer of the year UK competition held on the 2nd July. Incredibly he managed first place here, too, creating this eye-catching design in denim on the day.



Gonvillians continue to learn instruments in growing numbers. The house has enough guitarists and drummers for 5 or 6 bands and is crying out for a couple more lead singers. Perhaps we will see a Gonvillian on the Eastbourne Bandstand next year. This term saw **Arsène Chaté** compete in the Young Musician of the Year competition and saw the year 9 concert where all musicians perform either with instruments or iPads.



The last week of term saw the Dell Play, *Macbeth*. **Oliver Du Feu** gave a masterclass in rage and raw emotion as Macduff. As the play heads to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, I hope his vocal chords will stand up to a prolonged run. **Harry Prescott's** atmospheric music and lighting really enhanced this wonderfully entertaining and slick production.



Photographs from Otto Klosterfelde's recent trip to New York.

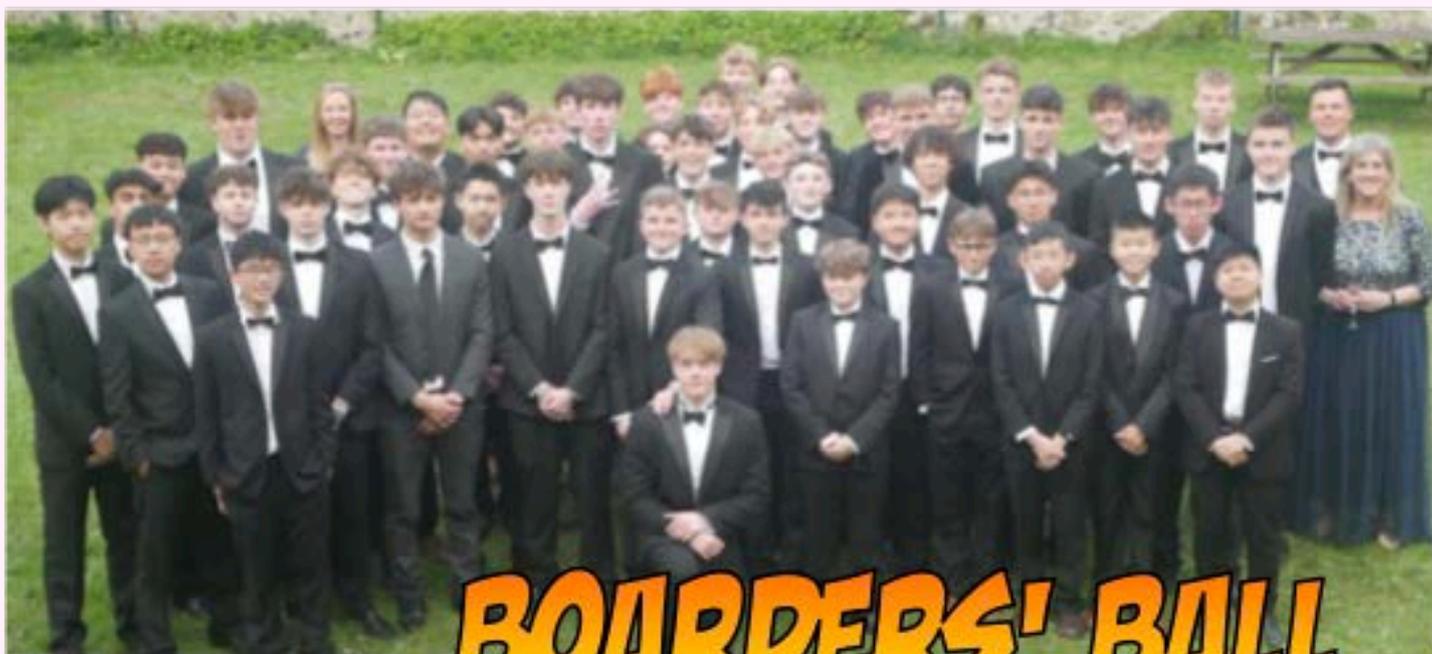
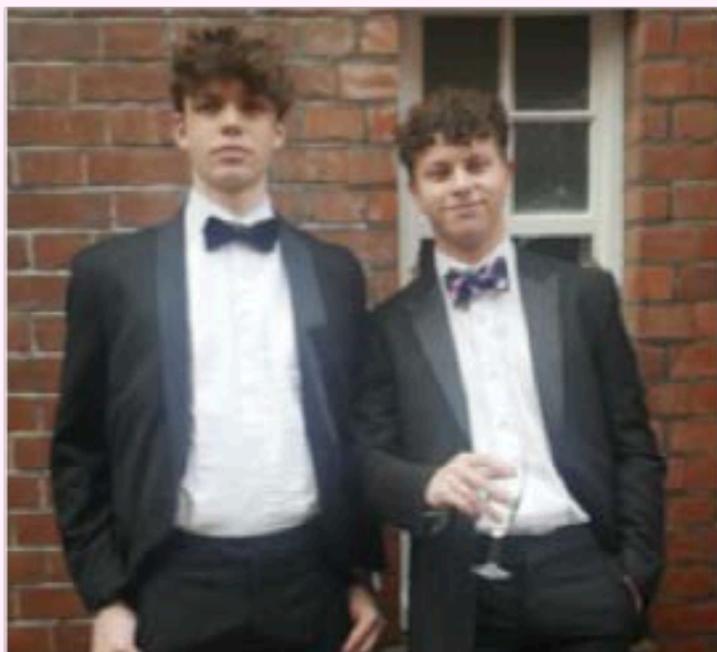
Service report

As the holidays began, seven of the year 11 set off for the Yorkshire Dales and their Duke of Edinburgh silver award. **Harry Prescott, William Rennie, Ben Whiteley, Archie Stephens, Oliver Bearcroft, Oscar Fox** and **Harry Heming** all completed the trip successfully.



Year 10 enjoyed their activity week that comprised a trip to London's Imperial War Museum, an overnight camp in the woods, raft-building and sailing in the surrounding countryside and some team-building. Here you can see kayak masters **Dean Zhang, Daniel Li, Sam Lee** and **Rufus McCourt**, sniper **Felix St John Parker** and carton kings **Rowley Emus, Harry Doe, Herman Ris** and **Jack Carr**.





BOARDERS' BALL

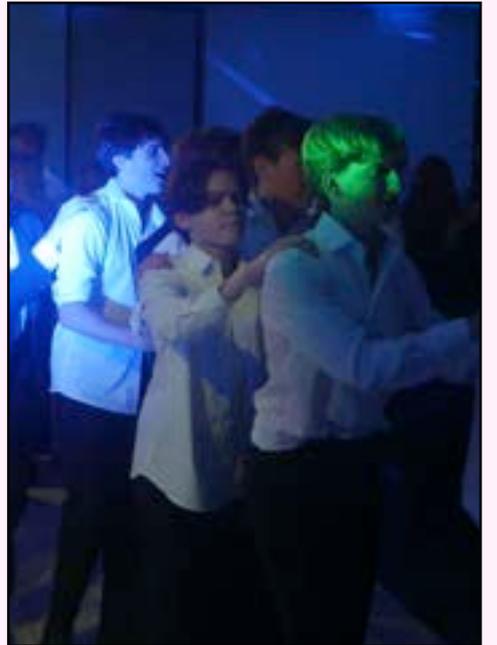












Sport Review

Sadly, the range of house sport this term was reduced from previous years. Some, like swimming, were contested earlier in the year, while others, like the Aquathlon, were cancelled. Frustratingly there was no house basketball or badminton competition this year, certainly a shame for Gonville as we were defending champions in both. There was some eye-catching and joyful competition in tennis, cricket, rowing and, of course, athletics. In cricket, while the house could field a very competitive XI from combining all five years, it is fair to say that split by year group, this competition allowed a lot of people to try a new sport! Some took to it readily, such as **Nazarii Dmyterchuk** with a top score in the first match against Reeves. Others were still puzzled at the end of the game, but all enjoyed the new format without pads and on smaller pitches. Sadly the seniors were unable to find time alongside their county success, but year 9 and 10 had fun in the sun and matched up against Pennell to decide 5th and 6th place. One final moment of note was a stunning catch taken nonchalantly by **Connor Morrell** off his own bowling. A hammered straight drive was flicked up in the air off his heel, behind his back and then caught. Cue 'scenes' as he was mobbed by both teams. Sadly I failed to catch this on camera, but the top image was just



in advance of the moment. House tennis was more solid ground with Gonville as heavy favourites. At one stage this year, in the National U18 cup first round, the entire school side was Gonvillian. In the end, the house had to settle for second behind Reeves in the senior and year 9 competitions due to clashes with other events and some very fine play from the boys in light blue. The year 10 side, composed of **Daniel Li, Jack Carr, Herman Ris, Rufus McCourt** and **Rowley Emus**, went unbeaten and claimed victory.





HOUSE CRICKET



YEAR 9: 5TH
YEAR 10: 6TH









HOUSE TENNIS









BOWLED ROUND HIS LEGS



Sport Review (contd.)

One event we were given the chance to retain, was the house rowing. With less of a marathon format, this year just five from the house had to row their fastest 2000m. **Matt Geddes, William Daniels, Harry Prescott, Jack Carr** and **Alex Chapman** got the house over the line. Special mention should be made of **William Daniels** who completed his leg in under 7 minutes.

The curtain was brought down on the year of competition by athletics. For once the weather was against us and waves of rain tested the resolve of the athletes and organisers. In the end the event was curtailed as the track became dangerous for those without spikes and the relays were cancelled. There was still a wonderful array of events and success for Gonville. This year saw the inaugural heptathlon, where four brave souls competed in seven events against other nominated athletes. Their efforts are summarised below along with the final house standing:

Heptathlon								
	Year 9		Year 10		Year 11		Year 12/13	
Event	Connor Morrell		Rowley Emus		Barley O'Connor		Emmanuel Bawa	
Hurdles	14.45	5th	17.77	4th	16.57	3rd	16.56	2nd
200m	32.45	6th	26.45	3rd	25.15	1st	25.99	2nd
800m	DID NOT COMPETE		2.38	1st	3.03	3rd	EVENT CANCELLED	
High Jump	1.2m	3rd=	1.45m	1st	1.4m	2nd=	1.6m	2nd
Long Jump	3.51m	5th	4.40m	3rd	4.27m	4th	5.31m	2nd
Shot	7.17m	5th	8.20m	6th	11.35m	1st	EVENT CANCELLED	
Javelin	18.02	3rd	12.24m	6th	25.72m	1st	22.96m	2nd
Overall Standing	5th		3rd=		1st		2nd	
Final Sports Day Position							3rd	

Congratulations to **Barley O'Connor** who gave up his chance to run the 100m (his favoured event) for his wonderful win, but, in fact, all four should be congratulated for their stellar efforts.



It was wonderful to see nine wins from nine different boys and in every age group. I have listed the best time or distance in each event as, sadly, the other results were not shared. It means that many of the fifty pupils that competed do not get represented in this table. That said, I am sure they will not mind, if they are your son, I am sure they will regale you with tales of arctic winds, dangerous hypothermia and heroic travails against the odds. The weather did not allow **Matt Geddes**, **Tom Hutton** or **Lucas Gorrill** to shoot for school records, but they did win very convincingly. **Tom Robins** blew the field away in the 100m (has a prop has ever won the 100m in the history of Eastbourne College?) beating **Max Colvin** into second place, who also won the high jump.

	Senior	Time	Place	Inter (year 11)	Time	Place
Hurdles	Luke Burnham	17.59	3rd	William Rennie	17.42	3rd
1500m	Tom Hutton	4.53	1st	Harry Prescott	6.03	4th
400m	Luke Burnham	59.28	2nd	Harry Heming	59.96	1st
200m	Finn McKeown	25.68	3rd	Barley O'Conor	03:36	1st
100m	Ricky Verger	12.18	5th	Oscar Fox	14.75	5th
800m	Matt Geddes	2.29:43	1st	Oliver Bearcroft	01:40	4th
High Jump	Luke Clifford	1.6m	2nd	Harry Heming	1.40m	3rd
Long Jump	Emmanuel Bawa	5.31m	2nd	Archie Stephens	3.88m	5th
Triple Jump	Otto Klosterfelde	9.09m	6th	William Rennie	9.42m	4th
Shot	William Daniels	11.30m	1st	Harry Prescott	8.27m	5th
Discus	Edward Rowell	18.55m	5th	Jimmy Hall	18.38m	2nd
Javelin	Emmanuel Bawa	22.96m	6th	Lucas Jayaraj	15.74m	5th
	Overall Standing		2nd	Overall Standing		4th
	Year 9	Time	Place	Inter (year 10)	Time	Place
Hurdles	Seanan Wong	16.21	5th	Harry Doe	17.31	3rd
1500m	Nazarii Dmyterchuk	5.37	2nd	Lucas Gorrill	4.58:87	1st
400m				German Ris	1.21:67	5th
300m	Alex Chapman	50.22	2nd			
200m	Jerry Pang	28.12	2nd	Daniel Li	27.44	5th
100m	Tom Robins	12.06	1st	Liam Lo	DNF	
800m	Alex Chapman	2.59	5th	Rowley Emus	2.38	1st
High Jump	Max Colvin	1.45m	1st	Rowley Emus	1.45m	2nd
Long Jump	Seanan Wong	3.77m	5th	Rowley Emus	4.4m	4th
Triple Jump	Nazarii Dmyterchuk	8.95m	2nd	Rufus McCourt	8.36m	4th
Shot	Alex Chapman	7.30m	4th	Ethan Ajikobi	9.56m	3rd
Discus	Jerry Pang	17.49m	5th	Atom Tian	13.13m	2nd
Javelin	Jerry Pang	21.83m	2nd	Jack Carr	27.23m	2nd
	Overall Standing		2nd	Overall Standing		3rd





SPORTS DAY









VALE

Tyrin Smit: We say farewell to just one member of staff this year, but he will be sorely missed. Tyrin is a wonderfully enthusiastic tutor whose experience and genuine care made him an instant hit with the pupils. His commitment to house life will make him an outstanding resident tutor: our loss is Pennell's gain. His patience and sense of humour were shown when another house tutor persuaded him the Christmas dinner was a fancy dress affair - in fairness, the pink fairy outfit didn't look too bad. I wonder if he can find one in purple.



Emmanuel Bawa: One of the unluckiest starts to a school career saw Emmanuel do two weeks quarantine, followed by another two weeks as a close contact. Even in the most challenging circumstances his smile was never far from the surface. Wonderfully talented, genuine and a loyal friend, he got used to the cold, but never loved it (apart from the snow). 1000 runs in a season looked like men against boys. In some cases it probably was! We wish him the best in the future whether home in Zimbabwe or in Cardiff.

Luke Burnham: After an outstanding two years, Luke is off to Bath to continue dominating economics. Tireless and tough on the football pitch whether captaining the 1st XI or kicking about in the garden. Missile-like strikes (reminiscent of Jimmy-Floyd Hasslebaink or Karol Porborski - football knowledge a bit out of date as I am not allowed to watch anymore) did damage to balls, goal frames and one arm. Genuine, approachable and totally reliable.

Luke Clifford: An original from the 2018 intake, Luke has seen plenty of change in Gonville, but has remained consistently great company and a leader in the house. He has driven the participation in house sport and other activities, choreographed unwilling dances and, on occasion, got some work in. He is off to Oxford Brookes to continue his academic journey. One of life's good guys.

Duc Dinh: Has anyone had such an impact on the house in a two year period? Loved by all for his sense of humour, direct comments and blitz spirit. Like a Vietnamese Jack Dee, he loved to moan about things while getting fully stuck into them, whether physics, chess or house concert. His tenacity and intensity on the football pitch was mirrored in his academic work where his excellence has won him a place at Edinburgh. An unforgettable character.

Herbie Flint: There are some pupils that you worry about heading into the real world and then others, like Herbie, seem destined for greatness. If interested, Herbie was incredibly focused. Football, photography, film-making and fashion from the 90s were all right up his street. Didn't really go for breakfast or a belt as willingly. Interesting to chat to and wonderfully personable, I have no doubt that Herbie will thrive in his chosen field. I look forward to hearing of his exploits at Kingston.

Matt Geddes: Not sure I have ever seen someone find so much time in the day for training and work. Matt's capacity for more was extraordinary. He was also impressive in his self-awareness and mature decision-making. In the end excellent A Levels and a place at Bath were his reward. Sad that he and Tom never really found out who was quicker over 1500m. If only we had had a *Chariots of Fire*-style quad to run around - one for the development plan. I suspect they are both happy assuming they are quicker! Good luck, Matt and start taking back control of your fingernails.

Tom Hutton: An extraordinary schedule took its toll at times, but Tom showed resilience that will be useful for him in his quest to run DI in the US. A wonderful all round athlete, it was nice to see Tom take part in house events when he could, although I am not sure Strictly will be calling too soon. I will have to start going to the gym to lift weights now that his weekly 300 tonne Amazon parcels of milkshakes have stopped arriving.

Shin Kawagoe: Shin will either be a doctor or Mr Universe. His regular gym trips made him sneaky-good at swimming, touch rugby, tennis and any other sport you wish to name. Happy not to shout about his many talents, Shin has been a wonderfully humble, kind and mature role model for two years. Whether he takes up his place at KCL or returns to study in Japan, I am certain of his continued discipline and care for others.

Aidan Lo: Hugely caring and sensible, Aidan helped many boys settle when they arrived in Gonville. At times I was not sure if he was doing prep or mining Bitcoin in his room, given the amount of electronics laid out on his desk. A wonderfully enthusiastic footballer with a deceptive turn of pace and plenty of drive, he was also captain of badminton (although no other school seemed keen to play against him) and won many a convincing match against his ageing and ailing hsm.

Finn McKeown: Finn will be remembered as a wonderful all-round sportsman and the first Gonvillian for about 10 years to get triple colours, but his first impressive act was social. He arrived from Mauritius with his kitesurfer blonde locks and confidence, and turned a classic British school social (boys in one group and girls in another) into a proper, grown up, mixed event. Finn lives with a smile on his face and enthusiasm in all eventualities (apart from house singing, perhaps). I wish him well in Leeds and hope to talk about him in these pages in the future scoring runs and taking wickets.

Ed Rowell: We will hugely miss Ed's ferocious enthusiasm for all things Gonville. He was a wonderfully positive force that got even the most truculent teenagers to buy into whatever he needed them too. His joy was unfeigned and his energy seemed boundless. The Le Brocq award has rarely had a more worthy winner and when you add the diligent work ethic and excellent A levels, he has done alright! While I am sad not to receive the agreed 25% cut of the prize-money, I look forward to reading about his escapades and future endeavours.



Also leaving us from other year groups:

Carlson Boltze: Carlson came to get an experience of the UK and certainly learned a bit about the NHS. A wrist-break, a ping-pong related scalp wound and a discussion between his earlobe and a hockey ball all saw him spending time in A&E. When healthy, it turns out he was quite a studious, likeable and talented young man with super silky hockey skills.

Arsène Chaté: Originally here for a year, Arsène just couldn't leave us, but now France is demanding that he returns home. We will miss his saxophone, his vocal prowess and his drumming might, but more importantly his kindness, sense of humour and his loyalty to those around him.

Harry Heming: An extraordinary sportsman who seemed to be good at everything. I am not sure he lost with a racket in hand, he made shedloads of runs and was pretty quick too. In fact it took three years for me to find something he was rubbish at, but I am sure his golf swing will improve when he is 80 and finally not young enough to play other sports! We wish him well at his cricket academy and hope to see him at Lord's in the future.

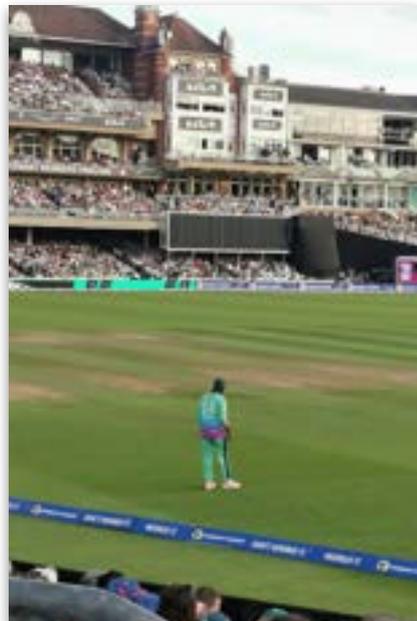
Max Colvin: The man they call Neymar has returned to Chile having wowed us with his sporting skills and super work ethic. I can only imagine what he could have done had he gone to sleep on time.....

Alfie Harman: A promising young Gonvillian has been drawn back by the bright lights of London. We will miss his quick feet, his ready smile and enthusiasm for sport (apart from hockey).



Old Gonvillian News

It is all too rare that we hear from leavers to update us on their progress, but it is nice to see some thriving in the public eye. Quite randomly, as I write this, an Old Gonvillian, Michael Praed, is competing in Celebrity Masterchef (although he is being beaten by a Black Eyed Pea). In more successful news, Tawanda Muyeye was part of the Oval Invincibles squad that won The Hundred at Lord's on 27 August. He has had a breakthrough season, establishing himself in the Kent 1st XI, scoring his first century (170 vs Gloucestershire) and being included in franchise cricket. Here is hoping that his career continues to go from strength to strength. I was lucky enough to be at the Oval to see him take a couple of catches in a win against the Trent Rockets. Here's to him scoring more runs next time I watch.



GARDEN TIME







With the next instalment around the corner it is left for me to congratulate those that got public exam results this summer and wish everyone the best for the term ahead. With 18 new boys in the house it will be an exciting new chapter. I look forward to filling more pages at Christmas with achievements and joyful pictures.

In the meantime, have a wonderful end to the summer, a warm Autumn and a very Merry Christmas!!

