



# OLD SOUTHENDIAN ASSOCIATION

## The Annual General Meeting of Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### Contents

Agenda Item		Page
	Notice and Agenda of the Meeting	2
2.	Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	3
4.	Chairman's Report	6
5.	Treasurer's Report	7
	Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	(Inserted)
6.1	Report on the activities of the Bowls Circle	8
6.2	Report on the activities of the Old Southendian & Southchurch Cricket Club	9
6.3	Report on the activities of the Old Southendian Organ Society	10

**Keith Spenceley (Tuscany, 1973-1980)**

**General Secretary**

**Email:** [secretary@oldsouthendianassociation.org](mailto:secretary@oldsouthendianassociation.org)

**28<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Notice of the Annual General Meeting**

**To be held at**

**The Southendian Club, Garon Park, Southend on Sea, Essex**

**On Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.45 pm**

**All Members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting, to contribute to the affairs of the Association and introduce new ideas for consideration by the Executive Committee**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
*Available as circulated with this Agenda and at [www.oldsouthendianassociation.org/news](http://www.oldsouthendianassociation.org/news)*
3. Any Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report, and presentation of the Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024
6. Reports of Sub Committees, the School, OSA Clubs and the Affiliated Organisations
7. The Election of Officers, the Executive Committee and the Honorary Auditor
8. Date of the next Annual General Meeting
9. Any other competent business

Notice of apologies for absence for recording in the Minutes may be sent to:

**Keith Spenceley, General Secretary**

**Email: [secretary@oldsouthendianassociation.org](mailto:secretary@oldsouthendianassociation.org)**

**26<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Southendian Association  
held at The Southendian Club, Garon Park, Southend on Sea, Essex  
on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 commencing at 7.45 pm.**

*Those Present:*

Andy Crow (in the Chair)	Alex Cass	Ken Carter	Kate Cooper
Daniel Garside	Jim Harrington	Sam Hodgson	Callum Hynes
Trevor Johnson	Geoff Kittle	Kevin Leigh	Sara Linney
Joseph Madren	Edward Marron	John Roy	Clive Shiret
Chris Sorrell	Keith Spenceley	Martin Stansfield	Jack Stevenson
Sophie Thickbroom	Joseph Zammit		

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> had been received from Karl Anderson, Dr Robin Bevan, John Goodman, Graham Glover, James Masson, Geoff May, Andrew Sargeant and Graham Winckless.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022:</b> The Minutes were accepted unanimously on a proposal by John Roy, seconded by Martin Stansfield and signed by the Chairman.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022:</b> There were none.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Chairman's Report:</b>
4.1	Andy Crow's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. His first year as Chair of the Association's Executive Committee had helped him understand the efforts of many members to grow the Association and maintain the strong links with the School. He thanked them for their efforts. He had attended many events at the School and been impressed with the high standards of the School and its students.
4.2	The membership of the Executive Committee now included 3 ladies and several members under 30 and Andy felt this was a trend that must be encouraged to understand what recent former students wanted from the Association and how it could support them. Sixty-five new members had joined from the 2023 leavers and this was an improvement on the numbers that were able to be attracted in the "Covid Years".
4.3	The Associated Clubs and Societies continued to flourish and were so important in maintaining those friendships formed through the School. It was hoped to produce a Magazine early in 2024.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report and Presentation of the Audited Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023:</b>
5.1	Dan Garside reported on the financial position of the Association and confirmed that income had broadly remained consistent but expenditure had fallen slightly, meaning that the surplus for the year had grown to £3,536 (compared to £2,966 in 2022). Reserves stood at a very healthy £46,639.
5.2	The Association had again been able to support the School financially at its annual Prizегiving and was very pleased to mark Clive Shiret's incredible service as Chair of the Executive Committee with a gift of a tankard.
5.3	In his Presidential year, Dan had campaigned that current members of the Association should recruit "Just one more" member from their friendship group to drive the membership of the Association, so that it remained well placed to support the School in its <i>ad hoc</i> projects and ensure it strengthened its own foundations as being the best alumni network around.
5.4	The Accounts for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 were adopted on a proposal by Clive Shiret, seconded by Jim Harrington.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Report of Sub Committees, the School, the Clubs and the Affiliated Organisations:</b>
6.1	<b>The School.</b> In tendering his apologies, Dr Robin Bevan had thanked the Association for their unwavering support of the School in the past year.
6.2	<b>Old Southendian Bowls Circle.</b> Trevor Johnson’s report had been circulated and it confirmed that the Circle had had a successful season with a total of 33 members playing some 20 outdoor fixtures, winning 15, losing 4 and with one abandonment. during the Summer. The indoor season was now underway. A pre-season pub lunch had been enjoyed by 21 members; it was hoped to repeat the occasion in April.
6.3	<b>Old Southendian Golf Circle.</b> Jim Harrington reported that the Circle enjoyed 4 events throughout the year as well as a successful tour to Sandwich. Graham Winckless was stepping down as the Circle’s representative on the Executive Committee and would be succeeded by Steve Clarke.
6.4	<b>Old Southendian &amp; Southchurch Cricket Club.</b> Woody Marron’s report had been circulated and reported a mixed season for the Club’s 5 Saturday sides, the highlight being promotion for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI after the disappointment of last season’s relegation. The Club continued to invest heavily in his youth section through winter coaching and other initiatives (including experiencing the Rajasthan Royals IPL facilities in India) to give invaluable opportunities for youngsters, including many current students at the School, to compete at a good standard of adult cricket. For the 85 <sup>th</sup> time, the Club ran a tour to Sussex; this one was very successful and the Club won all three games played.
6.5	<b>Old Southendian Football Club.</b> Andy Crow and John Roy reported that the Club was sadly running only 2 Saturday teams now, the 1 <sup>st</sup> XI and the Reserves, although it still ran 3 Sunday teams, the 1 <sup>st</sup> XI being mainly comprised of youth players. There was a big gulf between Youth and Men’s football and no link between the two, despite the strength of football in the School and the Club’s links to the School.
6.6	<b>Old Southendian Hockey Club.</b> Jack Stevenson reported that the Club was now the largest in the county, with 6 men’s sides and 4 ladies’ sides. The highlight of the last year had been the opportunity to train with the Hong Kong national team.
6.7	<b>Old Southendian Organ Society.</b> Joe Zammit’s report had been circulated. It celebrated the seven events that the Society had organised and continued to enjoy to mark the centenary year of the War Memorial Organ’s original installation. These included an opening recital by the Society’s President, Adrian Lucas, workshops, other recitals, a “Showcase” featuring School musicians past and present and, still to come, a <i>Cantare</i> concert just before Christmas. A number of the events were already on the Society’s increasingly popular YouTube channel. The Society continued to offer support to the School to maintain the tradition of student organists and had also ensured that the instrument itself was regularly maintained and tuned. The Society remained grateful to the School and to its members and donors without who it would not be able to provide this support or stage these events. The Chairman commended to the meeting Joe’s fantastic efforts in driving the Society to such great heights.
<b>7.0</b>	<b>The Election of Officers, the Executive Committee and the Honorary Auditor:</b>
7.1	The Meeting approved the appointment of the following Officers: Chairman* (of the Executive Committee – serving until the 2025 AGM) Andy Crow President* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023)* Dan Garside Immediate Past President* (to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023) Keith Spenceley President Designate* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023) Jim Harrington President* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024) Jim Harrington Immediate Past President* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024) Dan Garside
7.2	The Executive Committee proposed that the President Designate of the Association* with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 (to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024) and therefore its President in 2025 be Clive Shiret. This was carried unanimously by the Meeting.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute</b>												
7.3	<p>The following Officers had confirmed their willingness to continue to serve on the Executive Committee:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Treasurer*</td> <td style="width: 20%;">Dan Garside</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary*</td> <td>Keith Spenceley</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Registrar*</td> <td>Geoff May</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legal Adviser*</td> <td>Kevin Leigh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Publications Officer*</td> <td>Chris Sorrell</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>{Officers marked * are ex officio members of the Executive Committee.}</i></p>	Treasurer*	Dan Garside	Secretary*	Keith Spenceley	Registrar*	Geoff May	Legal Adviser*	Kevin Leigh	Publications Officer*	Chris Sorrell		
Treasurer*	Dan Garside												
Secretary*	Keith Spenceley												
Registrar*	Geoff May												
Legal Adviser*	Kevin Leigh												
Publications Officer*	Chris Sorrell												
7.4	<p>Before confirming the elected members of the Executive Committee, the Chairman asked the meeting to recognise the considerable contribution to the Association of Martin Stansfield who had served on the Committee for at least the last ten years but was not seeking re-election this evening. The following were elected <i>en bloc</i> to the Executive Committee to serve until the 2024 AGM: Karl Anderson, Ken Carter, Kate Cooper, Will Green, Sam Hodgson, Callum Hynes, Geoff Kittle, Sara Linney, Joseph Madren, Sophie Thickbroom and Joe Zammit.</p>												
7.5	<p>Executive Committee representatives from the Affiliated Organisations and Clubs were advised as:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Old Southendian &amp; Southchurch Cricket Club</td> <td style="width: 20%;">Edward Marron</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Old Southendian Football Club</td> <td>John Roy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Old Southendian Hockey Club</td> <td>Jack Stevenson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Old Southendian Organ Society</td> <td>Joe Zammit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Old Southendian Bowls Circle</td> <td>Trevor Johnson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Old Southendian Golf Circle</td> <td>Steve Clarke#</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>(# Representing his Club on the Executive Committee for the first time.)</i></p>	Old Southendian & Southchurch Cricket Club	Edward Marron	Old Southendian Football Club	John Roy	Old Southendian Hockey Club	Jack Stevenson	Old Southendian Organ Society	Joe Zammit	Old Southendian Bowls Circle	Trevor Johnson	Old Southendian Golf Circle	Steve Clarke#
Old Southendian & Southchurch Cricket Club	Edward Marron												
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Old Southendian Organ Society	Joe Zammit												
Old Southendian Bowls Circle	Trevor Johnson												
Old Southendian Golf Circle	Steve Clarke#												
7.6	<p>A partner of Azets, Julian Golding, has agreed to continue as Honorary Auditor.</p>												
<b>8.0</b>	<p><b>Date of the next Annual General Meeting:</b> The Meeting agreed that the 2024 Annual General Meeting should be held at The Southendian Club, Garon Park, Southend on Sea on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024, commencing at 7.45 pm.</p>												
<b>9.0</b>	<p><b>Any Other Competent Business:</b></p>												
9.1	<p>There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.23 pm.</p>												

**Keith Spenceley, General Secretary.**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Chairman’s Report**

This year has seen a huge amount of effort put in by many members of the Committee, and those outside too, which has not only seen the Association membership grow but also improved our already strong ties with the School.

From a personal point of view, I have attended various events at the School including Remembrance Service, Veterans Day, Prizegiving for both the lower and upper School plus several career days and I continue to be impressed by the high standard of the School and the students. I also hosted an online “chin-wag” event for members situated around the globe.

Obviously, the departure of Dr Bevan has been a huge change for the School, but Mrs Worth and the Governors have overseen the change seamlessly, and we await the announcement of the new Headteacher.

We have gained a record 71 new members from last year’s leavers with the possibility of more joining when we attend the Leavers’ event in December.

We continue to assist the School with their Scholarship scheme to support selected students with book purchases in their first year at university. Also, we have helped fund all prizegiving books, 6<sup>th</sup> form pizza and afternoon tea events, a prefect’s team bonding event and we have created a new funding scheme for departments within the School.

I would like to thank Alex Cass for all his hard work from within the School.

In August, Karl Anderson began an OSA work experience scheme, working closely with Clare Hamilton and we have already had 6 interested companies.

Our social media presence, run by Joe Zammit, Callum Hynes and Sophie Thickbroom has been a great success and has undoubtedly increased awareness of the OSA and attracted more members to events.

The Associated Clubs and Societies continue to flourish, with the Cricket and Football Clubs having very successful seasons. I feel it’s important that, as an Association, we encourage the current students to join all our clubs and societies so that they can maintain bonds and friendships that last forever.

I would like to congratulate Jim Harrington on a very successful year as President which saw nearly all his events fully booked and also encouraged many of his contemporaries to return to OSA events.

Chris Sorrell has as always worked tirelessly behind the scenes as has Sam Hodgson on the London Dinner.

Finally, I would like to thank all of those people that have gone out of their way to help me and the Association this year and I’m sure next year will continue to follow the fantastic growth we have seen in 2024.

**Andrew Crow (Athens, 1974-1981)**

## **Agenda Item 5 – Presentation of the Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

I am delighted to present the 2024 accounts for approval at the AGM.

I consider the accounts to be fairly self-explanatory but herewith are my comments:

- Good growth in annual subs based on a successful post A Level sign up in May 23 as well as some new joiners signing up via the website.
- NSA bond interest is back to paying a decent return but I will also explore how we can earn more on our TSB deposits.
- Creditors include two years of School Prize contributions due to getting information from the school later than normal. (The autumn 2024 contribution was paid directly to Waterstones earlier this month).
- Transaction fees relate to the use of the Square card reader and Go Cardless scheme for signing up the next generation.
- Stock is higher this year due to a delivery of polyester OSA ties and also silk ladies' scarves.
- We continue to make a loss on tie sales due to the annual give away of polyester ties to new joiners.

Any questions please let me know, always helpful to have them in advance of the meeting.

**Dan Garside FCCA (Tuscany, 1988-1995)**

**OLD SOUTHENDIAN ASSOCIATION**  
**ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**



**OLD SOUTHENDIAN ASSOCIATION**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OLD SOUTHENDIAN ASSOCIATION**

We can confirm that the accompanying Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account and Notes thereto in respect of the year ended 31st March 2024 have been prepared from the books, vouchers, bank statements and other information made available to us by the Treasurer and are in accordance therewith.

Julian Golding  
Azets  
1-5 Nelson Street  
Southend-on-sea  
Essex SS1 1EF

**OLD SOUTHENDIAN ASSOCIATION**

**GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	Year ended 31/03/2024		Year ended 31/03/2023	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME FROM SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>				
Life subscriptions	60		120	
Annual subscriptions	5,950		5,460	
		6,010		5,580
<b>INTEREST RECEIVED</b>				
National savings income bonds		829		276
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Magazine revenue	0		0	
(Deficit) on necktie/scarf sales/cuff links	-471		-461	
Life member donations	2,240		2,250	
Sundry donations	170		10	
(Deficit) on social functions (note 2)	-108		-213	
		1,831		1,586
		8,670		7,442
<b>LESS: EXPENDITURE</b>				
Publication of magazine	0		0	
Printing, postage & stationery	32		120	
SHSB trophies and prizes	1,246		1,742	
Awareness campaign associated costs	1,154		897	
OSA public liability insurance premium	1,022		1,004	
Donation to SHSB charity event	159		0	
Tankard for Clive Shiret's service	0		100	
Transaction fees	10		11	
Domain registration and hosting costs	32		32	
		3,655		3,906
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>5,015</b>		<b>3,536</b>

**OLD SOUTHENDIAN ASSOCIATION**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024**

	<b>31/03/2024</b>		<b>31/03/2023</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INVESTMENT</b>				
National savings income bonds		25,000		25,000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Stock in hand, at cost	4,096		2,046	
Sundry debtors	<u>0</u>		<u>500</u>	
		4,096		2,546
<b>BANK BALANCES</b>				
T.S.B. current accounts		<u>25,540</u>		<u>21,449</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		54,636		48,995
<b>LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Sundry creditors		<u>-2,982</u>		<u>-2,356</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>51,654</u>		<u>46,639</u>
<b>REPRESENTING: ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>				
General income and expenditure account (note 1)		<u>51,654</u>		<u>46,639</u>

Signed by:

.....  
**D. Garside - Treasurer**

.....  
**A Crow - Chairman**

**OLD SOUTHENDIAN ASSOCIATION**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

**1. GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Balance brought forward at 1st April 2023	46,639	43,103
Surplus for the year	5,015	3,536
Balance carried forward at 31st March 2024	<u>51,654</u>	<u>46,639</u>

**2. (DEFICIT) ON SOCIAL FUNCTIONS**

	<b>London Dinner £</b>	<b>Reunion Dinner £</b>	<b>Spring Lunch £</b>	<b>Autumn Lunch £</b>	<b>TOTAL £</b>
Income	3,740	7,315	637	884	12,576
Expenditure	-3,724	-7,486	-609	-865	-12,684
Net (Deficit)/Surplus	<u>16</u>	<u>-171</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>-108</u>
2023	<u>45</u>	<u>-258</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-213</u>

## **Agenda Item 6.1 – Report on the activities of the Bowls Circle**

I am pleased to report that the Bowls Circle has enjoyed another successful summer season. Twenty fixtures were again arranged, all 'away' at Clubs in and around the City, west to the likes of Benfleet, Castle Point and Rayleigh, and east to Thorpe Bay, Shoebury and Wakering. We won 14 matches and lost 5 and our game at Eastwood had to be abandoned due to heavy rain when we were well in front. Across the season, we won on 52 rinks and lost on 19. Shot count overall was our best ever at 1279 against 989.

Thirty-four members played for us during the summer, some playing just a few games to suit them and others considerably more. Our youngest member, Ben Amos, again played for us during the school summer holidays. Thanks to all players for their efforts over the season and particularly to those willing and able to stand in last minute for late call-offs. One way or another, we were able to field sides in all fixtures.

On a very sad note, we lost long-time member Richard Fenn in April.

Members and partners enjoyed a pre-season lunch at the Anchor in Canewdon in early May, including Association President and bowls prospect Jim Harrington.

Over the winter of 2023/24, Robey Wright organised 5 indoor fixtures. We won 3 and lost 2 of those matches. On rinks we won by 10 to 5, and on shot count by 250 to 224. A similar set of fixtures is already underway for 2024/25. Thanks to Robey for his efforts.

I have to report that Trevor Johnson retired as the Circle's Match Secretary at the end of the 2024 summer season. Trevor assumed the post in 2016 and, quite simply, has been magnificent. His many achievements have included a growth in member numbers, an expansion of our fixture list, the introduction of technology to an IT-resistant audience and instigating our annual lunch. Trevor, we thank you so much for your huge contribution and we look forward to continuing to play with you in years to come.

New members are always welcome. If anyone is interested in playing for the Circle, please email me at [ianfulton@sky.com](mailto:ianfulton@sky.com).

**Ian Fulton, Match Secretary (Tuscany, 1967-74)**

## **Agenda Item 6.2 – Report on the activities of the Old Southendian & Southchurch Cricket Club**

It gives me great delight to report on the 2024 season for OS&SCC, which was – by all accounts – the most successful in the Club’s history. This year saw the Club obtain four league titles through the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and U17 XIs, as well as a runners-up performance for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and a playoff final victory for the U11s. Particularly given the lack of success to celebrate this time last year, it is an incredible turnaround for the club, and serves as testament to the hard work and commitment shown on and off the pitch by countless club members and volunteers.

Max Craddock’s first season as 1<sup>st</sup> XI captain could not have been sweeter, with 13 wins out of a possible 17 seeing them crowned champions of Div 2. There were many notable contributions, but the 862 runs and 53 wickets contributed by Hafiz Yawer and Ahsan Yousaf respectively proved decisive in the team’s success, buoyed by the introduction of overseas spinner Hardik Varma from the Rajasthan Royals IPL Academy.

Henry Williams’ 2<sup>nd</sup> XI came close to achieving a second promotion in two years, with an outstanding runners-up finish with 12 wins from 17 in Div 2. Club Captain Sam Hodgson (49 wickets) again topped the bowling charts, while another overseas addition in the form of Australian Cooper Fawcett (624 runs) was a key part in the team’s success.

Two more success stories came in the form of Chris Pastfield’s 3<sup>rd</sup> XI and Martin Paige’s 4<sup>th</sup> XI, who were each crowned champions of their respective leagues. The performances of both teams provided ample evidence of not only the confidence placed in youth at OS&SCC, but also the resounding success that this can bring. In particular, the contributions of youngsters Declan Dear (403 runs) and Toby Owen (30 wickets) to the 4<sup>th</sup> XI were two of many examples of the strength in depth that the club can boast across all ages. Last, but certainly not least, the 5<sup>th</sup> XI – skippered by Rob Garwood – finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the same league as our champion 4s, amassing 6 wins (5 more than last year!)

Outside of men’s cricket, the U17 *Spectres* were standout league winners, capping off an undefeated season at Garon’s, aided greatly by the addition of the Clarke triplets – Harry, Luke and James. The U15 *Phantoms* also climbed to a high of 2<sup>nd</sup> place, winning 5 out of 7, with a special shoutout to Shaurya Singh, who amassed a staggering 300 runs. Further down the line, the U13 side showed some real potential for the future, whilst the U11s reigned victorious in their playoff final.

Whilst it is great to see success coming at such early levels, the focus in youth cricket remains on enjoyment and participation, and the respective coaches have done a fantastic job to cultivate a positive and inclusive environment in which all youngsters are encouraged to thrive.

There are far too many people to thank for the Club’s incredible success this year, but particular thanks must go to Andy McGarry and Max Craddock in their pivotal role in developing the youth this year, with help from the likes of Matt Darvill, Cooper Fawcett, Henry Williams, Darren Batt, Ben Wathen, Anthony Say, Hardik Varma, Isaac Burgess and the newly qualified Callum Powrie.

Finally, an enormous thanks as always must go to Keith Spenceley, our Honorary Secretary, for his unfailing administrative work behind the scenes, as well as CC Sam Hodgson and our most benevolent Chairman – Chris Sorrell – without whose work the Club would not function, let alone have achieved the heights of this year. Long may this success continue, up the Old Boys!

**Edward “Woody” Marron (Sparta, 2012-2019)**

### **Agenda Item 6.3 – Report on the activities of the Old Southendian Organ Society**

I'm pleased to report on another productive year for the Old Southendian Organ Society.

Since our last report in November 2023, we concluded our year of celebrations for the Centenary of the War Memorial Organ at the School with our final two concerts of the series. The first was given by Concert Organist Francesca Massey, who impressed the audience with her virtuosic playing and full demonstration of the organ's varied sound-world. The second was given by local award-winning ladies choir, *Cantare*, whose Christmas concert had it all – beautiful singing of familiar and new carols, other seasonal music, organ solos, and some special items accompanied by organ, and by a small group of instrumentalists. Special thanks to all involved in organising and performing throughout our 2023 series of seven concerts, and to all who supported and attended them.

In comparison, 2024 has been calmer in terms of concerts, however the work of the society has continued quietly in the background. We have been working with the School to establish tuition and support for the organ students, and we have been pleased to complete some outstanding work to the organ over the summer to ensure its reliable operation and quality of sound, which continues to be enjoyed at school assemblies and concerts, and at other local events held in the Main Hall.

This term, we resume our series of concerts with "A Southendian Showcase" on Saturday 16th November 2024 at 7:30pm, featuring current and former staff and students in a varied concert. Come to enjoy the sounds of the organ, alongside singing, piano, saxophone and much more besides. Tickets are available on the door, or via [www.osos.org.uk/events](http://www.osos.org.uk/events)

We continue to make available selected recordings, including from past concerts, on our website. If you haven't had a chance to hear the organ or other music from the Main Hall for a while, take a look at [www.osos.org.uk/videos](http://www.osos.org.uk/videos)

Our grateful thanks, as ever, to all our members, friends, many members of staff at the School who help enable our work and all others whose support we receive. Your generosity ensures we are able to look after the School's organists and our magnificent 101-year-old War Memorial Organ at the School with appropriate pride and care.

**Joseph Zammit (Tuscany, 2004-2011)**

**Publicity and Communications, The Old Southendian Organ Society**

[www.osos.org.uk](http://www.osos.org.uk)