



A guide to the OSOBS website

This document provides an overview of what can be found on the OSOBS website.

Of course over time things change and updates to the document will be made available as and when needed.



Revised September 2025 - v7



Ottershaw School Old Boys' Society

Home About Us Join OSOBS Events Old Boy Groups Gallery Notices & Deaths More Forum Log In Contact

At the top of our Home Page is a menu bar with options which lead to all the other sections of our website.
Below is a simple explanation of each of these options but you can find more detail on later pages.

Home This initial page shows the latest notifications and acts as an introduction to the rest of the site It contains links to what we think are the most relevant sections of the website.	About us Leads to several one page links: Welcome The Society Contact us School History Website history Notable Old Boys The Website Guide All these pages are pretty well self explanatory	Join OSOBS This item has just two sections. About membership Sign up These give an insight to the advantages of membership and provide a means to apply to join the society.	Events From this menu you can access details and dates of any currently organised Old Boy social events that we are aware of.	Old Boy Groups Here you can discover what social groups exist around the country for old boys. Currently they are: The 1960s and 70s Group Sixth School Surrey Lunch Group Old Boys in Yorkshire Group The links to these groups provide more information and galleries about the groups and provide details of where and when they meet up.	Gallery Contains photos and other images relevant to Ottershaw School. There are many sub-sections within each of five main sections these being: The School & Grounds Old Boys Activities Special Events Other More detail about each of the sections and their sub sections is explained on page six.	Notices & Deaths The section records the deaths of former pupils and staff. The section is split into the following categories which really need no further explanation: Announcements Known Deaths Obituaries Associates & others	More This is one of the most complex sections, The main menu items listed below lead to further sections with even more sub menus. The Archive Hot Topics Special Items Online Library Contents Our products Lists Location Service Park History Links and Downloads Please see page eight for more details of these menu items and their sub categories.	Forum This area is where people can make comments or leave memories from their school days. Although this forum is still live, in general forums are largely becoming redundant due to the emergence of other social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook. Despite this, we will keep this area live as it already contains some very interesting and historical material.	Log in Paid up members of OSOBS can use this menu item to access material which is restricted to members only. Items such as the Directory of members and various publications are also available from here. Further details of the contents are given on page eleven.	Contact Simply provides details of how to contact OSOBS and its officials by email, post or telephone.
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Depending on which type of device you are using, the appearance of our home page can change.

Normally on a regular pc the menu will appear at the top as shown on each page in this guide and you can select the sections by simply clicking on the item required. On a phone or tablet the menu will normally appear as a vertical item.

We normally post a picture on the home page. This may be in the form of an advert for some forthcoming event or a message, or highlight something more important, although it could simply be a picture of the school at some point in its history.

When something important occurs, such as news of a death or other incident, we post the details in a news flash.

Whatever device you are using, the main part of our home page will have details and links to the latest additions to the website.

From the home page you will also be able to quickly access the following regular items:

- Our latest posts and newly archived items;
- Guidance for logging into an account;
- A link to our Facebook page.

When appropriate you will also find special sections with details of “Planned Events” and of our “Old Boys’ Location Service”.



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The next three main sections are mainly self explanatory and are likely to be slightly reorganised in the future.

About us

Welcome	Provides a simple introduction to OSOBS.
The Society	Gives more details about the history and organisation of the society and its officers and their roles.
Contact us	A simple reference of who to contact and how in case of queries or questions.
School history	A short history of the origins and life of Ottershaw School.
Website history	How the Society websites have evolved over the years.
Notable Old Boys	Details of just some of the more famous or notable people who attended the school.
Website/Login guides	Downloadable PDF guides to the website and how to log in.

Join OSOBS

About membership	Explains the conditions and benefits of joining the society.
Sign up	Enables Old Boys to join the society and pay their subscription.

Events

Upcoming events	Gives links to further details and arrangements of our planned social and society events.
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There are a great many groups of Old Boys who meet up around the country and indeed the world. Some of them wish to remain private although there are some who are more open to other people joining in with their activities, and these are indicated on this page.

Currently we are able to advertise these following groups:

The 1960s and 70s Group

A group which was initially set up in 2010 with 7 people and which now has around 190 people following on Facebook. The group traditionally meets up every July but over more recent times has organised other social events for its members and other Old Boys.

Sixth School

One of the longest running groups which meets in London once a year. Primarily attracting Dodds era people but all Old Boys are most welcome.

Surrey Lunch Group

A small group which meets up several times a year for lunch normally in the Guildford area. In the past it attracted mainly the Foot era Old Boys but more now people from all eras of the school have joined.

Old Boys in Yorkshire Group

A new group set up in 2021 intended to attract people from the North of the country — it is hoped this will grow into a significant social group for that area.



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The photo gallery is in five main sections, each of which has many sub sections and details of these are outlined in the table below.

The School and Grounds

Classrooms
Formal Gardens
Mansion
Playing Fields
Tulk and West Houses
Mansion 2009
Mansion 1982
The park since School closure
Staff
Grounds and surrounds
Other Ottershaw images
The Chapel
Swimming pool
The mansion since closure

Old Boys

School Photos
Kandersteg
Boys at School
Boys after School
OSOBS events
Richard Fryer and friends

Activities

Athletics
CCF
Cricket
Football
Golf
Music
Plays
Rugby
Swimming
YFC and Estate work

Special Events

50th Anniversary
Family Day 2006
Mansion 100 years celebration
Visits to the School 2011—2013
Tom Weston Cricket Day
Mansion Visits (from 2012-2022)
Tulk house boys from the '70s return
Tom Weston at 90
Lunch with Tom Weston 2021
Tom Weston Funeral
The Spring Lunch 2025
Honorary members 2025

Others

Postcards
Run Like a Stag
Miscellaneous images



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Announcements

When we are notified of a death that information appears in this section and is updated when we know more about details and funeral arrangements. If an obituary is also posted there will normally be a link to that from this page.

Known Deaths

This is in three main sections:

- 1) A list of Old Boys organised in school number order with their and house and date of death when known
- 2) Members of staff known to have died in surname order. This list may be incomplete as we do not have contact details for many former staff.
- 3) Other persons who had important associations with the school again in surname order.

Obituaries

This is a list of obituaries received for former pupils and staff and others with important connections to the school:

The lists can be sorted by the viewer by either:

- 1) school number,
- 2) Surname,
- 3) Date of death.

Other deaths

Brief comments about other people known to have died who had some relevance to the school.



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The Archive	This page links to several other sections making up sections of our archive — more details on the Archive on the following page.
Hot Topics	Chronologically lists all the “latest notices” which have been displayed on the front page.
Special Items	Tom Weston - Featuring this iconic teacher with links to videos, photos, reminiscences and so much more Covid Lockdown - what members did during CV19 lockdown includes paintings by Pat Gibbon, and a paper on cancer by Malcolm Alison and a book written by Nigel Wright. The Spring Lunch - Details of the history of this event with links to photos and more. The Bertie Page - gives a wealth of school related photos and documents and photos from “Bertie” Bassett's extensive collection. Graham Reynolds - is a warm tribute to this popular Ottershaw Old Boy and also an Ottershaw teacher. Mansion Fire - a report on the tragic events of 2019 Image appeal - can you help update some of our website images?
On line Library contents	An index of the contents of the OWN and Gazette Libraries listing all available editions.
Our products	Run Like a Stag - the definitive book about Ottershaw School. Our quality metal and enamel School Lapel Badge. OSOBS and School Badge versions of Baseball Caps. Copies of The Gazette which can be ordered by non members.
Lists	Lists of people : School Captains House Captains, Games Captains, Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, Teaching Staff, Governors, All Ottershaw School pupils.
Old Boy Location Service	Is where Old Boys can seek information or the whereabouts of other people who's details do not appear in the members directory.
Ottershaw Park History	This section provided links to pages or websites which may be of interest to those looking at the history of Ottershaw Park.
Links Thanks & Downloads	Divided into the following four main sections : Related links - which give access to old OSOBS and other websites which have a connection with Ottershaw School. Benny Hill at Ottershaw - links to clips from the show — many scenes were shot in the grounds of the School soon after closure. Thanks - to people who have given special access to archived material. Downloads - a few items which may be of interest for Old Boys
The 75th Anniversary celebrations	Copies and links to several videos of the two day event, plus photos, speeches, documents and attendance lists etc



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The Archive

Documents: The sections are:

Administration
Music and drama
Newspaper cuttings
Personal Documents
Other documents
The sale of the school

A wide variety of PDF copies of documents relating to the running of the school.
Fixtures list and other documents relating to various sports activities.
A large selection of newspaper cuttings in JPG format about the school.
A small selection of school reports and other personal documents supplied by Old Boys.
About events organised by and for the school both during its opening and afterwards.
Various documents relation to the disposal of the grounds after the School closure.

Films, Videos and other recordings

A TV news film report
Audio recording
From an 8mm film
From a film recording
Life at school in the 1970s
From Pathe News 1975

A link to a TV film report made in 1977 about the closure of the school.
A rare audio recording of the school choir and orchestra
Taken at the school on a parent's day.
A film about life at school recorded in the 1960's
A video made from an 8mm film taken by Keith Douglas in the 1970s
A short video taken during a meal in East House dining room

Memorabilia

OTT23
A school cap
The School Scarf
The Music trophy
The pavilion clock
Ottershaw glass Plate

The origins of a number not allocated to any boy!
but not everyone had one of these.
Were you one of the few that had one of these?
This iconic trophy has a very interesting past!
This clock was housed in the cricket pavilion.
A strange artefact but we don't know why or when it was produced!

Other Items

Run like a Stag

All the images from the book can be viewed from here.

And available to members only

Copies of every edition of the Ottershaw Weekly News .
Copies of all *The Gazette* - free to members but can be purchased by non-members.



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Through all the generations of our website there has been a forum which we still have and some material in it is indeed very old. The Forum area was designed so people could make personal comments and add material without the need of being an actual member.

Any Old Boy whether an OSOBS member or not has access to the forum and after signing in can make comments under the various sections. Of course there is a site moderator who will censor or delete inappropriate or offensive material should that be posted.

Although our forum is still live, in general forums are largely becoming more redundant due to the emergence of other social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook.

The society has its own Facebook page but also so do some of the associated social groups and these platforms nowadays carry a lot of the general chit-chat which used to be more common on the forum.

Despite this, we will preserve the forum area and keep it live as it already contains very interesting and historical material.



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The main menu bar option will change from [Log In](#) to [Members' Area](#) once a member has successfully completed a login. This will then allow the following options to be accessed. NOTE: only fully paid up members have access to this section.

My Account

All Old Boys have an account on the database but only paid up Members can change their own details. Members can log onto this page in order to update their contact information or add photos of them both from school and how they appear now. It is important members keep their contact details up to date or they may be excluded from important society notifications.

The Directory

The on-line directory replaces older printed copies which used to be distributed annually to members.

The directory holds basic details for every boy who attended the school and contact details for OSOBS members which include:

- a) school number,
- b) house,
- c) surname
- d) first name,
- e) membership status (also will identify if Old Boy is deceased)
- f) last known country of residence.

Notices

Copies of all official notices and News Updates sent to members (*does not include notices of deaths*).

The Gazette Library

PDF copies of all available editions of *The Gazette* and earlier OSOBS newsletters which can be downloaded by members.

OWN & Acorn Library

PDF copies of every edition of the Ottershaw Weekly News (OWN) and most of Acorn. These can be downloaded or viewed by members. OWNs are grouped into PDF documents which each contain all the available editions for a complete school year (September to July).

New Members

Provides a list of the last fifteen people to have joined the society in descending date order of joining.

AGM papers

This is an archive of all papers relating to OSOBS Annual General Meetings. It is in reverse date order (latest first) and contains items such as agenda and minutes of meetings. The page also contains galleries of photos taken at more recent AGMs and luncheons.

Committee Papers

Similar to the above AGM page but holds agenda and minutes etc of previous and forthcoming committee meetings.

Correspondence

Copies of email or letters to the Committee requiring consideration and a decision, and any subsequent official replies.

Society Rules

The latest version of the Society's rules for membership



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This final page is simply to let visitors know how they can contact various members of the society. The basic information it contains is reproduced here:

To contact one of our officials, please use one of the e-mail links below:

The President	president@osobs.com
The Chairman	chairman@osobs.com
The Secretary	secretary@osobs.com
The Membership Secretary	membership@osobs.com
The Treasurer	treasurer@osobs.com
The Gazette Editor	editor@osobs.com
The IT Manager	itmanager@osobs.com

If unable to use any of the above links then please email osobsmoderator@gmail.com

Or you can contact us by post :

OSOBS Secretary
7 Woodham Way
Woking
Surrey
GU21 5SW
UK