



## 2021-2022 Recap

The academic year saw a strong and consistent growth for OULTC, with a record membership of over 600 students and staff and an addition of a ball machine which has been in popular use among both social and team players. With the club's growing numbers, OULTC welcomed our new administrator, Fiona Fanthome to complement the work with the junior committee, senior committee, and coaches. We thank Oxford Asset Management for their continued support of OULTC since 2017.

After challenges brought by the pandemic, the academic year brought back a complete OULTC calendar for the first time since 2018/2019. The teams went on tour: the Blues to California and the 2nd/3rd teams to Portugal. The Blues teams competed in their friendly matches including against AELTC, Queen's, UKAF, Roehampton, Campden Hills, and Old Blues. BUCS Wednesdays were a regular over the first two terms, with a particular impressive singles performance by Izzy Marshall, who reached the semi-finals of the BUCS individuals. Over Trinity, New College took home the Cuppers trophy, Sama Malik and Brendan Emmanuel took home the singles cup, with Izzy & Brendan winning the mixed doubles championship. Socials were scheduled on Wednesday evenings, box leagues and social tennis coaching was consistently at capacity. It was an exciting year for all.



We saw the return of a full-scale Varsity, with thanks to Embedded Insurance, our Varsity sponsor. For the first time in 2019, we welcomed supporters—including a coach transport from Oxford—for the 132nd Lawn Tennis Varsity in Moor Park, and held the Varsity dinner at the venue. The Oxford women's team lost to an extremely strong Cambridge team 5-16, while the men's team won 12-9. The men's team retains the trophy after last year's 11-10 win.

Every two years, Oxford and Cambridge take on Harvard and Yale on the Prentice and Seabright Cups, with venue alternating between the two countries. The Summer of 2022 saw five Oxford players Izzy, Mandi, Jack, Ross, and Louis travel to the East Coast of America for the Prentice and Seabright Cups, rescheduled from 2020. The women's Oxbridge team returned with a convincing 10-2 win while the men's team, in a true Prentice classic, won with a nail-biting 11-10 score. 2022 marks a historic year in which both the Oxbridge Prentice and Seabright teams won.



In October, a few members of the Blues team travelled to Paris, for the annual Clay Court challenge by HEC Paris. Previously held in Monte Carlo, the invitational tournament for European universities was held in 2022 in Roland Garros, Paris. After losing in 2021 against Cambridge in the semi-finals, this year OULTC lifts the runner-up trophy after with Cambridge again taking the title.

Full match reports for the 132nd Lawn Tennis Varsity and Prentice & Seabright Cups are listed on our website: <https://www.oultc.org/blog>.

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## Clubhouse Refurbishment

In partnership with the University Development Office, we are excited to announce a new campaign in support of the OULTC Tennis Clubhouse.

We are currently seeking to redevelop our clubhouse that has stood on the Iffley Sports Grounds since the 1980s (!). This project will allow us to utilise significantly more of the current footprint that the building provides and to make it a more modern, hospitable space for club members and visitors to socialise before and after matches/training sessions.



If you would like to get involved, we would love to have your support. You can make a gift via the [University's online giving pages](#), or if you would like to talk to someone about a significant investment in the club, please contact the University of Oxford Development Office at [sport@devoff.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sport@devoff.ox.ac.uk). Donors in the US can give tax effectively via the [North American website](#). Please add the club's name to the comment box on that site.

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## 2023 Alumni Dinner

After a successful return of the annual alumni dinner last year, we are pleased to invite you to the 2023 OULTC Alumni Dinner on **Friday, March 3, 2023** in London. The full details regarding the venue and tickets will be released in the next couple of weeks, but for now please put the date on your calendar.

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## OULTC Archive

The committee is seeking your help in filling up our OULTC archive, as part of a new project by the Alumni Officer. OULTC is a club rich in history and it is only appropriate to ensure that these are passed down through the generations of OULTC members.

Thanks to our Director of Tennis and members of our senior committee, we have filled in some of the blanks (including that in <https://www.oultc.org/varsity>), however if you have any of the following information, please send them to [oultc alumni@gmail.com](mailto:oultc alumni@gmail.com) with the subject "OULTC Archive":

- Varsity results and venue
- Club Championships winners
- Men's and Women's Blues Captains
- Dates of milestones in the club, e.g. first women's Varsity, construction of courts and clubhouse
- Any other exceptional stories or athletes you can think of!

With relevant permission, we are looking to include these information on the website, as well as feature some historical snippets in our future newsletters.

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## Looking Ahead

Our teams will have a full coaching schedule throughout Hilary and continue to compete in BUCS, along with some friendly fixtures. If you're playing for a club within reasonable distance from Oxford and would like to arrange a friendly fixture, please contact our [team captains](#).

The Winter Old Blues match is scheduled on Sunday, February 19th 2023; if you are an Old Blue and would like to reach out to the Old Blues Captains, please email [oultcalumni@gmail.com](mailto:oultcalumni@gmail.com).

The Blues teams will be heading to Tokyo in March for their annual tour; we would welcome any connections or recommendations to be added in the itinerary. The 2-5s Varsity will be hosted by Oxford this year, further information on the Varsities will be confirmed in the next couple of months.

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## Pablo Eisenberg: in Memoriam

*Past members of the Oxford and Cambridge tennis teams, and many people in the tennis world, will be sad to hear of the death of Pablo Eisenberg, one of the stars of Oxford tennis in the 1950s; he died on October 18 in Rockville, Maryland, at the age of 90.*

*Pablo was one of three Americans who made a huge contribution to Oxford tennis in the 1950s. The others were Ham Richardson and John Ager. All three played at Wimbledon. Richardson reached the semi-final in 1956, losing to Lew Hoad; he was ranked No 1 in the US in that year. Ager and Eisenberg reached the quarterfinal of the men's doubles in 1955.*

*Pablo was born in Paris in 1932 into a musical family; his father Maurice was a distinguished cellist, and his godfather was Pablo Casals. He came with his family to the US in 1939 and grew up in New Jersey. He was educated at Princeton and at Merton College, Oxford. After serving in the US army and then as a foreign service officer in Africa he spent most of his working life in the non-profit sector, focusing mainly on improving the lives of deprived urban communities. For 23 years he was a director of the Washington-based Centre for Community Change. He became a tireless and persuasive advocate for the role of philanthropy in tackling social problems.*

*Pablo Eisenberg will be remembered as a social reformer, a fine sportsman, and a wonderful friend.*

*Geoffrey Owen, captain OULTC 1955-56.*

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## Stay in touch

For more information about any of our projects, how you can support us, and to recommend your how to stay in touch via our alumni database, please visit our website at <https://www.oultc.org/alumni>. As ever, if you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [oultcalumni@gmail.com](mailto:oultcalumni@gmail.com).

We wish you all a happy 2023.

Hayyu Imanda (Inda)  
OULTC Alumni Officer 2022-2023