

Hilary Term
2021
18.04.20

OULTC Hilary Term Newsletter

Dear all,

At long last, it seems things are finally looking up!!

With the relaxing of restrictions, we had our first session back at Iffley Road on March 30th, in line with the University's guidelines for use of sports facilities. We now have all 10 teams and social members back training regularly and hope to return to a regular training schedule during Trinity Term. With all training happening outdoors this term, we hope to be able to return to a regular training schedule whilst keeping in line with University and Government guidelines.

With the pandemic situation having improved rapidly since Christmas thanks to a stellar vaccine rollout, all Varsity matches are scheduled to be played as normal just after the end of Trinity Term:

- Blues Varsity will be held at the stunning Moor Park Golf Club on 26th and 27th June. We are working with Moor Park to organise what promises to be a weekend packed with entertaining and tensely fought tennis. Be sure to put the dates in your diary – we'd love to see lots of you there!!
- The Men's and Women's 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s and 6s Varsity will also take place on the 26th and 27th June in Oxford.

The new guidelines mean we are allowed to play fixtures against other teams from 21st April. This will mean an exciting and long-awaited return to the match court for our teams in Trinity Term. The men's and women's Blues already have fixtures lined up against the International Club of Great Britain and our Old Blues among other prestigious clubs to help us prepare for Varsity.

Despite this having been a very quiet Hilary Term, I am pleased to share with you some of the exciting things we have been up to since Christmas.

New kit

We have worked with our new kit sponsor, Canterbury, to produce a brand-new playing kit this year which is available to all members and alumni. With the easing of restrictions, members will be able to collect their kit orders from Blue Blood in Oxford in Trinity Term.



Pilot alumni career talk

On March 15th we had our first alumni career talk with Michelle Goulty, currently Head of Foundation Partnerships at City Football Group (owner of Manchester City Football Club among various other Clubs across the globe). This was a fantastic event with Michelle providing members with a valuable insight into a career in the sporting industry.

This is an exciting way for alumni to engage with current members, giving members the opportunity to hear about the exciting work of our alumni and the pathways into different fields of work. A special thanks to Michelle for being our first speaker and we hope to be able to do many events like this in the future.

We would be extremely grateful to any of you who would be interested in speaking in the future!

Clubhouse updates

I hope you all read in our Christmas Newsletter about our exciting plans to redevelop the clubhouse and revitalise the grass courts at Iffley Road. If you haven't heard about this or want to take another look at our plans, please [click here](#).

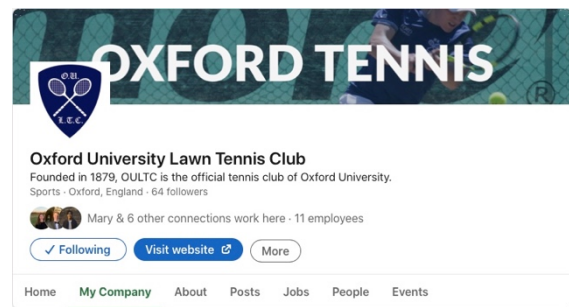
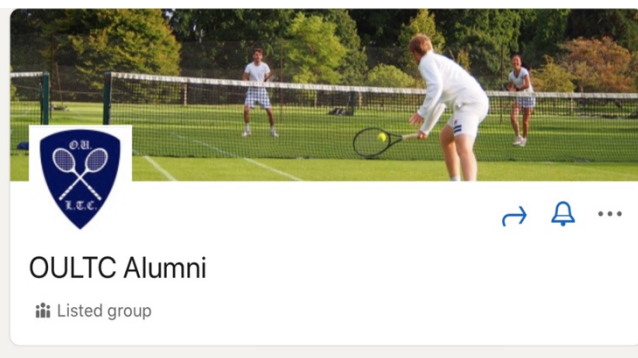
As you can imagine, the pandemic has meant that we have not been able to complete the project according to our original schedule. Nevertheless, with the future looking a little more certain now, we are currently discussing a new time scale for completion and we will be sure to update you on any progressions.

Alumni dinner

Due to the pandemic, we were unfortunately unable to hold our annual alumni dinner which normally takes place in the first couple of weeks in March. As the pandemic situation progresses, we hope to be able to welcome you all to the Queen's Club for a belated annual dinner in the near future.

LinkedIn

It remains one of our primary goals to keep in touch with as many alumni as possible. So with the help of previous Women's' Blues Captain and Club President, Nanami Yamaguchi, we have set up a new [OULTC LinkedIn page](#), and a LinkedIn group exclusively for [OULTC Alumni](#).



Whilst the group is where alumni can engage with each other and share professional opportunities, we hope to use the page for posting more alumni-orientated content, such as alumni dinner, networking events around London, Varsity information (with information on special events for alumni, such as the champagne reception at Blues Varsity) and more.

Alongside our alumni database, the LinkedIn page will also be a way for players to stay connected to the club after they leave, ensuring that we continue to be in contact with as many members of our alumni community as possible.

Please follow the page and join the group using the links above!!

Stay in touch

Please stay in touch and be sure to visit our website for updates on what we're doing. As ever, if you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at

oultcalumni@gmail.com. Look out this term for emails updating you on plans for Varsity and more.

If you are in touch with any OULTC alumni who don't receive these emails, please encourage them to sign up to our mailing list using this [link](#).

Take care and stay safe,

Roman Kenny-Manning, Alumni Officer, OULTC