

Harry Walks the London Underground for Beirut

Monday 17 August 2020

Former pupil Harry Sargeant (Moser 2009-2014) has found a healthy way to get to know his new home city and raise money for the Beirut rescue effort at the same time.

Walking along the Capital's streets, Harry will cover the length of every London Underground line and take a selfie in front of each station entrance.

Teacher Harry, who moved to South London recently, explained: "I have always had a fascination with the London Transport System and its iconic map. I walked the route of the Circle Line for something to do since moving here and it's relatively short (19 km). But when I saw what happened in Beirut, I felt I really wanted to help in some way so I decided to walk the routes of all eleven underground lines to raise money for the British Red Cross, who are working closely with the Lebanese Red Cross."

As well as the Circle Line, Harry has now also completed the Victoria Line (23 km) and Bakerloo Line (24 km). Both Circle and Victoria took him five and a half hours. Bakerloo took an exhausting seven and a half hours in the August heat.

He has the District lined up next. Harry said: "And yes, I will walk to Amersham along the route of the Metropolitan Line and even then...that's not the longest one! I'm hoping some of my friends will join me for some of the way. Yesterday I was delighted when Daniel Lo (School House, 2010-2015) came along for part of the Bakerloo Line."

"I've set up a Just Giving page for anyone who would like to donate to the British Red Cross to support their efforts in Beirut."

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/harry-sargeant1>

Shrewsbury School Headmaster Discusses Exam Results on National Radio

Tuesday 18 August 2020

Headmaster, Leo Winkley, was interviewed on 17th August 2020 on LBC Radio regarding the sector's views on the exam results situation.

Interviewed live on air by Shelagh Fogarty, Mr Winkley stated that "teachers and pupils are all in this together, no matter the type of school".

He concluded by saying that "The only next logical step would be to allow pupils to receive the teacher assessed grades, which were much more carefully produced and much more carefully moderated than mock exam results".

The interview was conducted in the early afternoon of the 17th August, prior to the Government's announcement that A-level students and GCSE pupils would be awarded their centre assessed grades (CAGs), rather than the grades calculated by official exam regulator Ofqual using an algorithm.

Please follow this link for a summary of the interview with the Headmaster on the LBC Radio website - <https://www.lbc.co.uk/radio/presenters/shelagh-fogarty/furious-headmaster-calls-teacher-assessments/>

The full interview is available until 23rd August via this

link: <https://www.globalplayer.com/catchup/lbc/london/b8DN6bF/>

(The interview begins at 00:20:13.)

Message from the Director of the Salopian Club

Tuesday 18 August 2020

The Salopian Club is now back in action

I am writing to let you know that we are currently operating on a part-time basis, so please bear with us if responses are not always instantaneous.

Sadly, because of the current health situation, all Salopian Club social events are on hold, and it will not be possible to hold the planned Old Salopian Day on Saturday 19th September this year. However, we will ensure that those whose anniversary leaving date reunions were due this year will be included in the next Old Salopian Day. Members of the Sabrina Club and the Salopian Drivers' Club, whose AGMs usually occur on Old Salopian Day, will be contacted by their respective committees.

I do hope you have managed to endure lock-down with Salopian insouciance and that we shall soon be able to resume normal activities. In the meantime, for person to person contact may I recommend joining our OS Connect platform via the OS section of the School website? It's free to use and provides a direct link to fellow Salopians who have signed up for it.

With all good wishes,

Nick Jenkins

Ill-Fated 2020 Dubai Annual Cricket Match and Supper

Tuesday 18 August 2020

It was scheduled to be the mother of all cricket games – Old Salopians v the Rest of the World in Dubai on an ill-fated Friday 13th March. What could possibly go wrong?

It was during the 2019 Dubai Salopian get together, whilst conversing with fellow Old Salopian Charlie Barlow that he suggested how good it would be if the following year we could arrange a cricket match to be followed by prize giving and the usual supper. The seed was planted and the challenge set.

In early December 2019, Martin Cropper was able confirm the date for the event as he would be visiting Dubai for the annual Public Schools Exhibition, which The School usually attended in the previous 7 years. So, with a date set for Friday the 13th of March I set about the challenge of putting together 2 cricket teams – one of pure Salopian selection and one Rest of the World XI.

With Jebil Ali Cricket Ground booked for a 20/20 game, a feeler email to the Middle East Salopian community was sent out early – providing plenty of notice! At one point a pure Old Salopian team was confirmed and I had managed to scrape together a Rest of the World XI, with even a couple of subs.

Fellow Old Salopian Anthony ‘The fireworks Man’ Samuel helped me confirm the venue for the evening prize-giving and supper, which was located on the world-famous Palm Jumeirah boasting iconic views and a well-renowned menu. The guest list was up to 40+, including old boys, staff, current/prospective parents, family and friends of the school. An excellent example in early preparation and we were all set. What could go wrong?!

7/2/2020 – Martin informed me that he would no longer be travelling to Dubai in March for the exhibition due to the ever-growing worldwide corona virus situation (and quite rightly so).

26/2/2020 – The Chinese National football team, who had come over to Dubai for a week of winter training were refusing to travel back due to the corona virus situation and needed our cricket pitch for their daily training. I did put up a fight with the owners but alas, it was an already a lost battle considering the Chinese were spending circa \$275,000 a week at the hotel and I’d only put a deposit down of £100 (they did eventually manage to make it back if anyone is wondering).

In the following weeks and as the pandemic worsened, public group sporting events were all shut down and cancelled in the UAE.

By the time Friday the 13th of March rolled around lock-down was just around the corner, but not quite! The troops rallied and a team of 12 made it onto the field for the evening supper. The night consisted of the usual Salopian conversation we all know and love with plenty of laughter and temporary subsided thoughts on what was going on elsewhere.

We are all aware of what has happened around the globe since, with our health becoming the main consideration and priority. To all Salopians and their families around the global, I hope you are keeping well, safe and positive about the future. Once normal travel resumes and if you happen to find yourself in Dubai on a visit or a work placement, please do not hesitate to get in touch – rupert.connor@gmail.com.

Floreat Salopia!

Rupert James Connor (S. 92 – 97)