

## **Oxford University Cross Country Club**

**Alumni Newsletter** October 2024

Dear OUCCC alumnus

The leaves are turning brown and the streets of Oxford are filled with parents unloading boxes, kettles, and toasters from car boots as they leave off their daughters and sons to university. It can only mean one thing: the start of a new academic year, and with it a new season for OUCCC. Our members are already focused on the challenge of Varsity at the far end of this term. However, there is much excitement before then, including Cross Country Cuppers on Saturday 26 October. This year Cuppers is open to alumni as well as university students, staff, and members of the wider community. It will be followed by an alumni-friendly lunch at Vincent's Club and the launch of the Anniversary Campaign, to which all are invited. Sign-up form for Anniversary Campaign launch

Find out more about what has been happening at the club and what is coming up

below.

## Next year will mark 50 years of women's Varsity participation, while in 2026 we will

**Anniversary Campaign Launch** 

celebrate OUCCC's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To mark these important milestones, we are launching a landmark campaign, aiming to reconnect different generations of the club, celebrate our history, and secure an exciting and prosperous future. To inaugurate the campaign, we are inviting alumni from all generations to join current students for lunch at Vincent's Club on Saturday 26 October, followed by a presentation explaining the Anniversary Campaign's motivations, objectives, and milestones in greater detail. We already have sign-ups from over half a century of alumni but it would be great see some more of you there. If desired, there is the option to run at Cuppers too! So do sign up if able, and if already attending, please encourage your friends to come too. Registration for the lunch will close **next Thursday (17 October)**. Cuppers and Anniversary Campaign Launch Sign-Up



### Michaelmas term kicks off with the welcoming of new members at Freshers Fair and our very own Freshers Run this week. The term concludes with the eagerly-

anticipated Varsity matches. In between, we are looking forward to a busy schedule of social events and to training on the beautiful new (and blue) track at Iffley Road. It would be great to have some alumni support at our major competitions this term. Some of the key dates are listed below:

**LOCATION** 

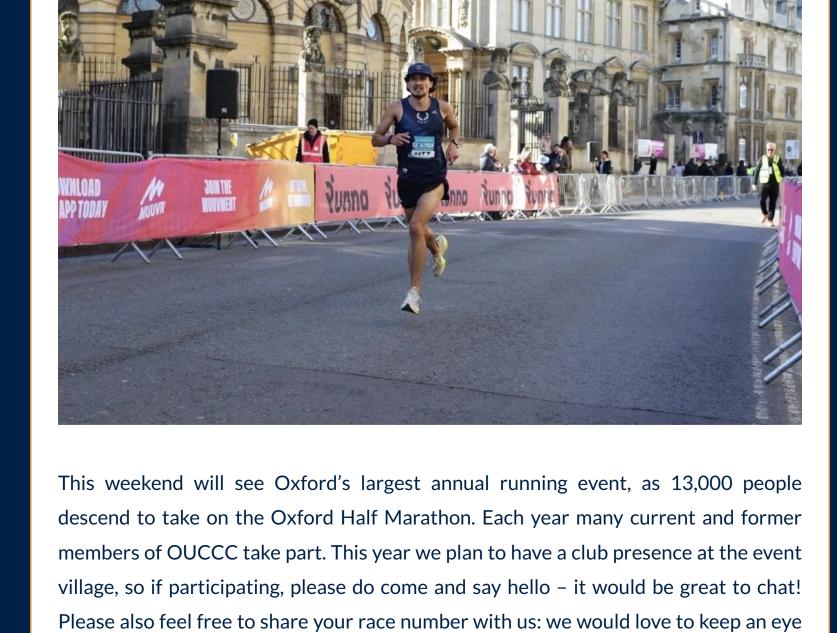
**TIMINGS** 

**EVENT** 

DATE

Saturday 26 October	Cross Country Cuppers	South Park, Oxford	Cuppers: ~10am,
	Anniversary Campaign Launch	Vincent's Club, Oxford	Lunch: ~12.30pm
Saturday 30 November	II-IVs Varsity Matches	Shotover Country Park, Oxford	From ~12.30pm
Saturday 7 December	Blues Varsity Matches Alumni Race Post-Varsity Dinner	Wimbledon Common, Roehampton	From ~1pm



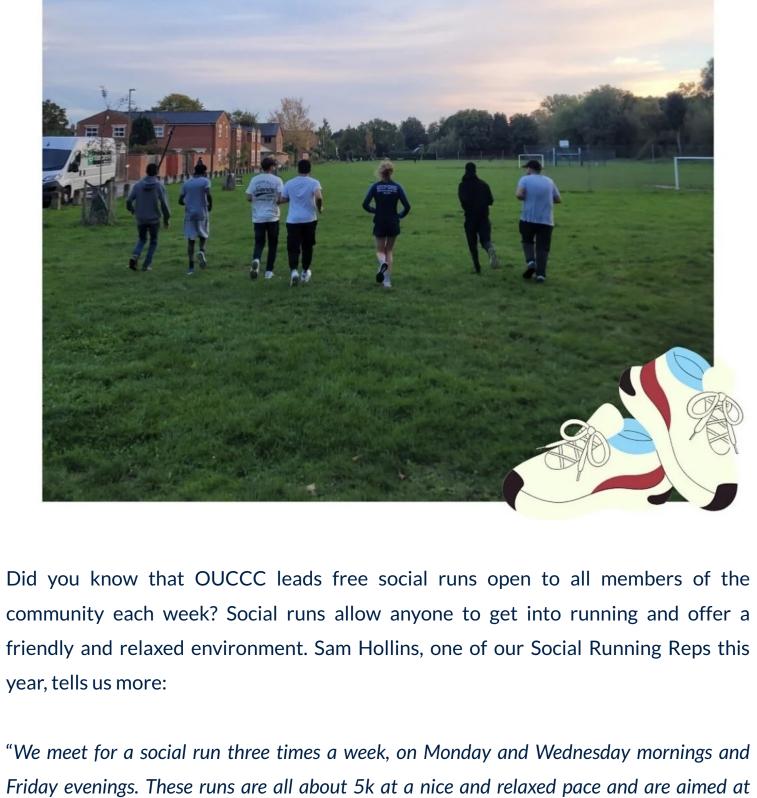


on your progress and cheer you on come race day. **Social Running at OUCCC** Oxford Refugee

helping newly arrived refugees

navigate health systems

Health Initiative



current group consists of about 15 runners, and was slowly increasing in size over last term. Going into the coming year, we plan to expand the group further by advertising more on social media." Each Friday at 5pm, we also collaborate with Oxford Refugee Health Initiative to

provide social runs for locally-based refugees and asylum-seekers. For those that

attend, they are a great way of improving physical fitness, developing friendships, and

runners of all abilities. This has been a great way for runners who are not fast enough for

club runs to get involved with the club. I have really enjoyed leading these runs as it has been

a brilliant way to make new friends and just to enjoy exploring the sights of Oxford. The

exploring Oxford. **English National** 



## community outreach, with volunteering at Telford Parkrun, as well as activities such as trips to Ironbridge and an afternoon of football as a group of us became

Last month, over 30 attendees assembled in the picturesque Shropshire village of

Much Wenlock for OUCCC's annual pre-season training camp. The next several days

included an abundance of training, team-building, and organised fun. There was

Kidderminster Harriers fans for the day (alas, a late own-goal meant a 1-0 win for Alfreton Town). It was great to welcome large numbers of incoming students keen to get involved with the club. And thankfully, camp concluded just before swathes of Shropshire were submerged by floods. **Fundraising Update** Since we introduced the Anniversary Campaign last month, we have had an excellent response, with significant numbers of one-off donations and new regular supporters. It has been especially gratifying to see a substantial take-up of regular giving among

final year students. Should you wish to make a donation to OUCCC, you can do so

Donate Here

# Our supporters

OUCCC could scarcely function, let alone progress and grow, without the generous support of current and former members. Sincere thanks therefore goes to all those listed below who have donated to the club in the past year, and especially to those who signed up as supporters since we introduced the Anniversary Campaign last month.

Joe Morrow

Bethanie Murray

Jamie Parkinson

**Rhiannon Paton** 

Christopher Phillips-

Colin Phillips

Glen Power

Hart

Simon Gisby

Alice Beverley Luke Gribbin **Robert Bowyer** Matthew Holland Jonathan Brooke Bethan Hopewell Alex Howard Fiona Brown **David Bruce** Jay Howard Emma Huepfl Matthew Bryant **Charlotte Buckley Daisy Jowers** John Coggins Larry Mathews Jamie Darling Ian McAllister

**Thomas Renshaw** Phillip Scarr Harrison France Simon Molden **Nick Scroxton** Alex Gaskell Ben Moreau Rachel Skokowski We hope that you have enjoyed this email. If you have any updates that you would like to share on a future newsletter, or any suggestions about how to improve our

communications, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing our Alumni & Sponsorship Rep (Jared Martin - jared.martin@stx.ox.ac.uk) or our Club Captain (Anika Schwarze-Chintapatla – <u>anika.schwarze-chintapatla@trinity.ox.ac.uk</u>). We also warmly welcome written submissions, especially those focused on the history of the club. Yours in Dark Blue

The 1876 Trustees

below.

**Andrew Arbour** 

Jared Martin **Thomas Renshaw** Jamie Darling

Anika Schwarze-Chintapatla

Emma Huepfl Simon Molden Colin Phillips

Bethan Hopewell