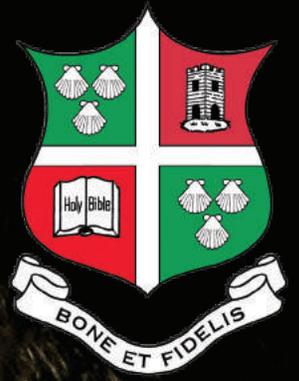


# Χαίρετε



**"This Girl Can"**  
In fact this Girl has!

Ellie Kildunne (11-16) England Womens Rugby 2017  
Made in Yorkshire - a product of GROVE SPORT

*Photographer - Bob Bradford / Camerasport*



## Welcome From The Chair

On the 12th of November 2017, it was my honour and privilege to be elected as Chair of the Old Grovian Association. Principally this involved taking charge of the hammer and gavel from Roger Howard and donning a rather fetching mayoral type chain! The process feels very ceremonial and is a nostalgic reminder of a school steeped in tradition and history and one of the things I love so much about The Grove.

I took the opportunity to thank Roger Howard on behalf of the OGA, for everything he has done in his capacity as Chair for the last 2 years. He is certainly a tough act to follow and I am very grateful that he has agreed to stay on the committee offering support and guidance from the wings... especially when it comes to putting together next year's rugby team!

As I glanced around the room, it was wonderful to see so many Old Grovians still attending the annual meeting and supporting the OGA. Many of those attending left school many years before I even began my Grovian journey and it struck me as an incredible thing to still have such longstanding connections to your school (your **'family'**) well after retirement age.

I hope that next year we will see representatives of all ages attending the AGM. With that in mind, we are calling for year group ambassadors to come forward. I am hoping we can find a couple of people from each year to act as a conduit between school and the rest of their year group. It will not involve a huge commitment. Just a couple of hours to attend the Annual General Meeting in November and sharing OGA information with your year group through social media or otherwise. If this is something you might be interested in, please email [foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk)

## The main OGA objectives are:

- To promote mutual acquaintances with former pupils and drive their interest in the School
- Assist the academic and recreational life of the School
- Further the interests and reputation of the School

I have incredibly fond memories of my time at the Grove and, as a boarder, those memories are so much more than classrooms and lessons. 27 years later, the buildings may have changed, but there is a definite air of familiarity about the place and a surprising number of my old teachers working alongside Old Grovians that clearly couldn't bear to leave the place.

My own connection with the school is as strong as ever. Now a parent, with Archie in year 8 and Harry in year 6, I certainly have a vested interest in ensuring that the OGA benefits Grovians both past and present.

The OGA already does far more than I realised. Most of us have read Xaipete or have perhaps attended a reunion, but the OGA also raises money, which is used to support the work of the Trustees of the Southern's Scholarship Fund and has even supported the OGRUFC recently. I know Roger would also wish for me to prompt you about the work of the newly formed Woodhouse Grove Foundation and its focus on raising funds to support bursaries enabling pupils to continue to access the opportunities so many of us enjoyed at the Grove.

During my year as Chair, I would really like to draw from my experience as a consultant Civil and Structural Engineer to further those objectives. Like many other businesses, one of my biggest challenges is to continually develop new work streams and effectively communicate with clients and peers.

Like me, I'm sure many of you will understand the benefits that a strong commercial network provides. It would be wonderful to create a similar network that covers all sectors with links to School at its core.

A true **"OG"** network that provides mutual benefits to its members and also opportunities for career progression to the students in the form of career guidance, mentoring, work experience or apprenticeships.

A link between school or university and the commercial world will provide a crucial stepping stone for the students turning from full time education to full time employment. I would encourage anyone with links to the School to join the network whether they be parents or Grovians.

The more diverse our network is, the better. The network is already set up as a group on LinkedIn under the name Old Grovian Business Network. If you would like to benefit from the OG Business Network, please take a moment to sign up.

I am currently working closely with the OGA committee to organise our first networking event. Full details will be issued in due course and further information will soon be available through the usual mediums and our new LinkedIn group.

One of the most pleasurable duties as Chair is to attend the various reunions that are set up throughout the year and I look forward to renewing some old friendships and making new ones as I head to Manchester, London, Leeds and Edinburgh. Please have a look at the Old Grovians Diary at the end of this edition for details of times and locations.

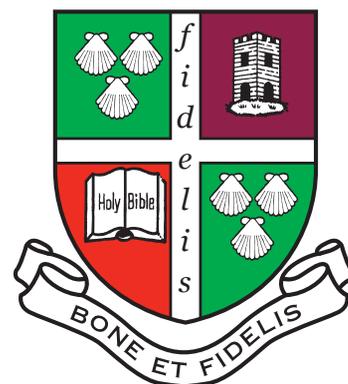
Finally, it is important to stress that the OGA committee's primary focus is to serve its members, so I would urge you all to get in touch, keep us up to date with any news and most importantly let us know what you want from the Association. In this digital age that couldn't be easier.

**Michelle Davison (86-91)**

# The Woodhouse Grove School Foundation

The Foundation is a Charitable Trust formed and run by the School for the purpose of organising and coordinating our fundraising and development work. As a Trust, it is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) developed by the Headmaster and Governors and overseen by an appointed group of Trustees. Though in its infancy, the Foundation is seeking to enhance existing fundraising structures and develop relationships to broaden knowledge of the School's immediate plans and longer-term vision.

As a dynamic and forward-thinking establishment, constantly adapting to meet the demands of educating young people in the 21st Century, we are anxious to retain our distinctive values and ethos while adapting to the demands and requirements of the modern world. In this sense of heritage and continuity it is to our Alumni and wider group of friends that we shall be seeking to raise levels of awareness. While our most immediate focus is to the requirements for bursary funding we shall remain constantly receptive of giving to specific School projects towards which potential donors might feel a particular affinity and passion.



## Introduction to the Work of the Foundation

For over 200 years, Woodhouse Grove School has embraced a strong sense of social responsibility, charity and care and has remained true to the founding Methodist principles upon which the School was created. Today, these values of giving back, community and mutual respect remain strong and fundamental to the School.

Recent Independent School Inspectorate (ISI) judgements of **"Excellent"** provide evidence that our School continues to positively evolve and develop. Present and former pupils have a School in which they can feel justifiably proud. We have a flourishing Alumni Association, confirmed by growing numbers attending events and reunions both at the School and in more distant locations. We now wish to engage greater numbers of Old Grovians and Friends of the School to ensure even better opportunities for our pupils to flourish and develop within a culture and environment which is undeniably unique.

With excellent levels of attainment across the board being reached, the current generation of Grovians are doing their very best to realise their full potential and ensure they are doing all they can to enhance the School's reputation in academia, community work, the arts and sport. Carrying the torch of legacy is a multi-generational consideration and we would like to be more proactive in recruiting the support of the wider Woodhouse Grove family.

This will help preserve and build upon present and past achievements and to help secure the future success of the School. We wish to create opportunities for wider numbers of deserving pupils to benefit from the Grovian culture, which has shaped us and provided such rich, happy memories, arming us with a range of experiences to take out into the wider world.

As a proud Old Grovian, I am humbled to be given the task of leading the Woodhouse Grove School Foundation and hope you will feel able to explore more fully the array of opportunities available for you to support this wonderful and exciting School.

Throughout its history, Woodhouse Grove has benefitted from former pupils, parents and friends expressing their gratitude by making gifts to the School. Through the achievements of both Alumni and current pupils along with our role in the local community and wider world we are strong, yet more than ever need the support of our friends.

Paying back to the School will, it is hoped, become firmly entrenched in the principle of **"Giving Forward"**, facilitating the continued development of and accessibility to Woodhouse Grove School. This will enable prospective Grovians to benefit and prosper from an excellent all-round education which lies at the heart of the School's core values and ethos, securing our heritage for future generations. Building on the successful introduction of a legacy giving programme at the time of the School's Bicentenary, the wide range of fundraising options and ways to pledge your support will now be embraced under the **"Fidelis"** banner. From making a simple donation through to a more diverse range of bequest, legacy and other forms of charitable giving, it could not be easier to pledge your support.

Please feel free to contact us at the Foundation Office on **0113 250 2477** or email us at [foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk) to find out more. We would be delighted to hear your personal story of how your time here at the Grove has influenced your life and shaped your character.

*We are Grovian*  
**ΧΑΙΡΕΤΕ**

**Roger Howard (71-78, St 82-)**  
Foundation Director

**Sarah Lockwood (st 16-)**  
Foundation Officer



## Fidelis Lunch

Tuesday 21 November saw the inaugural Fidelis Lunch at WGS. Around the table were a plethora of WGS grantees; former staff, governors, parents and supporters of the School.

The lunch was held in order to thank those attending for their unstinting and ongoing support to the School. It was also an opportunity to give an update on the creation of the WGS Foundation and the new role of the Foundation's Director, Roger Howard.

A sumptuous three course meal was enjoyed whilst Roger sprang into action and delivered his presentation. There was also an opportunity for audience participation and many stories of times past were shared around the table together with thoughts and ideas for moving the School forward into its next chapter.



Ellie with Grove Squads at Rosslyn Park last year and includes brother Sam (Y10)



Resplendent Elm Tree Farm

## OG RUGBY GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Over the past few years Old Grovian Rugby has seen an almost meteoric rise, starting in 2006 with a season of six friendlies – all won, progressing through the ranks of the Yorkshire R.U. to the serious Rugby of Yorkshire 2. That all this has been achieved without the cushion of a second team says much for the commitment and team spirit of the players.

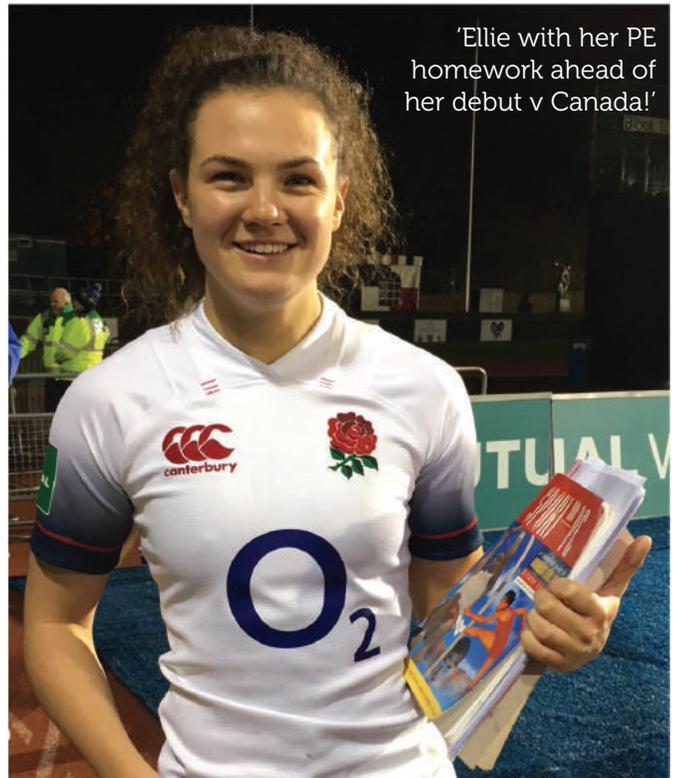
Along with President Tony Bramwell, whose strident tones of *‘Go Grove Go’* can be heard all over the ground, the support and help off the field has been strong, with outstanding contributions over the years from Dan Gullick, Bob Griffin, John Hinchcliffe and Dan Nulty in particular. The Club is also greatly indebted to Simon Wood, the Chief Groundsman at WGS, for all his time and hard work keeping the pitch at Elm Tree Farm in pristine condition.

In 2017 a very generous gift from the OGA along with a matching contribution from the Rugby Football Union has enabled white fencing of superior quality to be placed around the ground. This has also allowed followers to show their support in a more concrete manner by adding a named plaque, purchased for a small amount, to the fencing.

The support and help of WGS is greatly valued and it is hoped that the OGRUC can in its way contribute to the School. In October The Club was delighted when ex-Chairman of Governors, Mr Brian Greenwood, accepted the offer to become its Honorary Life Vice President.

The present season is now over halfway through and at the time of writing the team sit comfortably in the top half of the table, having given their supporters some heart stopping moments as matches have see-sawed one way or another. Hopefully everyone will reach the end of the season in one piece to enjoy one of the highlights of the year, The Annual Ball, held in a marquee in the grounds of The Stansfield Arms on Saturday June 23rd 2018.

**Kath Dawson (st 82-99)**



‘Ellie with her PE homework ahead of her debut v Canada!’

## Ellie Kildunne (11-16)

Ellie announced herself to millions of Sky Sports viewers with 2 stellar try scoring performances for England Womens Rugby during the *“Old Mutual”* Test Series against Canada. Her contemporaries at the Grove already knew of her talents and a number of our current successful 1st XV will vouch for this as the photos would indicate! The pace and strength she showed in scoring tries for England were always evident in her sporting exploits at the Grove which included (junior) boys rugby (opponents will likely still have recall of her physicality in defence!), athletics, cross country, badminton and netball.

Ellie is currently studying at Hartpury College (Biology, Geography and PE) with a view to studying for a degree at Loughborough.

Her inclusion in the full England team is no overnight success story, Ellie has always worked hard and been prepared to make sacrifices in pursuit of her dreams. This has involved uprooting herself from her beloved Yorkshire and the immediate support of *“Team K”* to find further challenge and progress in the women’s game at Hartpury. Already an established county player, Ellie has subsequently played a key role in Hartpury’s successes at Rosslyn Park and was vice captain of England U18 when they won the European Sevens Championship recently. Ellie prefers to play full back, but has the versatility to play across the back 3 and as a centre. England appear to have a strong squad developing and we look forward to Ellie continuing to progress in what is a very competitive structure. As we go to press we eagerly await news of the England squad for the forthcoming 6 Nations campaign.

Well done Ellie!

## REUNIONS AND GATHERINGS

### OGA London Reunion 2017

Held for the second year at *"Doggett's Coat and Badge"*, Blackfriars Bridge, a venue which appears to meet the approval of the growing numbers of those attending. However, one or two of the *"Class of 78"* were heard to grumble when they were finally moved on in the early hours!

While some rain limited the use of the outdoor terrace the evening was most enjoyable with Grovians from a broad range of generations enjoying *"mutual acquaintance"* despite having to endure a fairly typical dirge from the Chairman, which many felt was made more bearable by the heckling of the Class of 78 notably aided by the Headmaster. A substantial buffet ensured the dedicated attendees could sustain their determined efforts keeping the bar staff fully occupied.



This is an event which continues to grow in popularity, favoured by a number of Grovians plying their trade in the London area, but also joined by several from further afield in the South West and beyond. Notably, and in my mind one of the great successes of this evening, is that for several attending this was their first OGA function in many years and the view was expressed as to how welcome and comfortable they had felt. This should not be surprising as *"We are Grovian!"* after all, but I would encourage those who might feel reticent about re-engaging after a number of years to feel reassured that a warm welcome awaits.

My thanks to all for attending, especially to the Headmaster for his continued support of this event, to Sam Cadman for her drive in establishing this as a key event in the OGA calendar and to a number of my contemporaries who attended the event and despite over indulging at the bar still had enough about them to avoid providing my employer with too much detail of some of my teenage indiscretions. Thanks, you made my night-we must do it again next year!

**Roger Howard (71-78)**

### OGA Summer Reunion 2017

In the Friday encounter, a strong OG batting line up posted an impressive 231-9 in 50 overs, with Jibrael Malik and Patrick Dixon each scoring 48 along with lively 20s from Charlie Morgan, Bailey Worcester and Jack Hartley. The School's bowlers worked hard to contain this strong batting line up and George Butler and Ali Hassan Ahmed took 3 wickets each. Joel Godfrey led the School reply with a typically defiant 57, but a well-balanced Association attack bowled the School out in 31 overs to triumph by 110 runs. Evergreen Richard Graves taking 3 key wickets along with Henry Boggie.

In the T20 encounter on Leavers' Day/Family Fun Day, a self-styled OG *"Legends"* team played a Leavers team, who had greatly enjoyed the ball the night before. The game was played in a convivial, yet competitive spirit, with the Legends totalling an entertaining 148-7. Joe Bedford and Will Hatfield led the way with a stylish innings of 31 and 28 respectively and a cameo of 24 from Anthony Cadman ensured the Association of a competitive total. For the leavers, Rebecca Newark was the outstanding bowler, taking 3-32. For the School, Joel Godfrey again led the chase, but when he fell for 45 the School response faltered and at the close they were still 38 runs short.

Unfortunately, the Association failed to raise a team for the scheduled tennis match, with Will Cran, the solitary OG to show. Will, however, enjoyed his afternoon playing doubles in an impromptu tournament run by the various Grove pupils and Staff who were present.

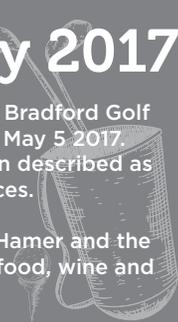
It is hoped that the Association will put a full team out next summer and gauge the quality of the resurgence in **GROVE TENNIS**.

Overall a joyous and memorable day, with something for all, commencing with a moving Leavers Service, followed by sport, BBQ, Bouncy Castles, Dance routines, Music and Singing performances. The weather remained fair and the year ended on a high note.

### OGA/WGS Golf Day 2017

The annual OGA/WGS Golf Day was held at The Bradford Golf Club, Hawksworth on a bright and sunny Friday, May 5 2017. Eight teams competed on a course that has been described as one of Yorkshire's outstanding golfing experiences.

The winning four ball was led by parent Darren Hamer and the players went on to enjoy a fun-filled evening of food, wine and old times!



Attendees: Andrew Barker (73-78), Paul Beaumont (95-09), Katherine Berry (85-90), Michael Bingham (71-78), Simon Brau (96-11), David Clare (74-84), Will Coker (79-84), Josh Cook (96-09), James Croft (57-64), Chris Fagan (07-09), Richard Gaunt (86-91), Martin Griffiths (86-94), David Haigh (84-93), Philip Hall (70-77), Kathryn Leng (85-92), John Milner (65-72), Geoffrey Newton (38-47), Tim Pennett (78-86), Ron Reynard (46-53), Luke Stratford-Higton (95-09), Ross Thomson (84-94), Lesley Tischler (86-88), David Vasey (65-71), Ned Taylor (87-94), Simon Yeomans (72-79), Rebecca Worrall (04-11), David Harrison (71-78), David Walker (70-78), Jeremy Fletcher (71-78), Sam Cadman (89-96) (st 2011-), James Lockwood (86-92) (st 2016-), Roger Howard (71-78) (st 82-)

# OGA November Reunion

A poignant Remembrance Service in the morning led by Reverend Paul Glass (Chaplain to Kent College, Canterbury; Pastoral Visitor to the Methodist schools and former Governor of WGS) was followed by an AGM (where incoming Chair Michelle Davison was inaugurated) and a buffet lunch. Matters then moved into sporting mode, with the annual netball fixture against a senior school VII, followed by rugby where the OGA Chair XV faced an in-form OGRUFC XV.

The Old Grovian's netball match saw the return of leavers from 1996 to 2016. A mixed school senior team had a tough opposition with the formidable pairing of Jo Cadman and Annie Isles in the shooting circle. The centre court was made up of Brooke Donkersley, Emily Killoran, Sam Cadman and the Dearden sisters; who were back in action for the OG's. The School shooters were faced with great defence driven by Emma Humphreys.

The victory was claimed in the final five minutes by the Old Grovians after a highly competitive game. Thank you to all those who came back to play, we look forward to seeing you again next year. If you are interested in playing on a weekly basis for the Old Grovians' Netball team, please get in touch with Brooke Donkersley.



OG team: **Sam Cadman 89-96, Anna Dearden 07-14, Georgia Dearden 09-16, Brooke Donkersley 93-08, Emma Humphreys 96-06, Annie Isles 97-11, Emily Killoran 04-11, Faye Martyn 11-16, Jo Saunders (Cadman) 92-99 and Charlotte Walsh 10-12**

The Michelle Davison XV was captained by Joe Bedford and featured a useful blend of youth and experience. Ultimately the Chairman's team triumphed in a high scoring encounter, with Tom Ryder (st 16-) officiating proceedings with great empathy.

The match was extremely physical given that many had played the previous day, while for others this was their first match since last season's encounter. Several were heard in post-match conversation to comment that perhaps this was their last playing involvement.

Possibly stalwart performer Duncan Sayers spoke loudest in these terms and was awarded the Scott Eastwood-Smith "**Spirit of the Game**" Award (much to the chagrin of Tony Greig), while the contrasting athleticism of 2017 leaver Ben Waddington deservedly won the Player of the match Award. Particular thanks to OGRUFC for once again fielding a strong side amid all the demands of the competitive Yorkshire League schedule.



## This is what it's all about!

Fiona Baker-another "*ambassador*"? pictured with a group of contemporaries who continue to remain in touch. Keep making sure November Reunion remains in the diary girls!

**Sarah Holmes (nee Copeman) 92-97, Sarah Smith (nee Baker) 92-99, Eirian Walsh-Atkins (nee Elizabeth Leckey) 90-97, Fi Baker 90-97, Carole Seaman (nee Colton) 90-97, Julia Day (nee Bradshaw) 90-97, Sarah Bower (nee Denby) 90-97.**

## Class of 93-94

Well done to these "*Galacticos*" on making getting together an annual event. It would appear that an International rugby match and "*Tavern time*" are generally involved. Really good to see Mr Kondras and Mr Griffiths come along to keep an eye on these characters! Photo shows: **John Hinchliffe, Chris Gallagher, Ross Thomson, Mr Kondras, Anthony Cadman, Martin Griffiths, Danny Kondras, Ned Taylor, John Griffiths, Nick Clark, Mr Griffiths.**



# 2017 Leavers' Reunion, December



It was excellent to see so many of the Class of 2017 return for the December leavers reunion. The HLG was extremely lively with OGA Chair Michelle Davison greeting all to the event. Everyone was reminded of the importance of *"staying engaged and in touch"* both with each other and with the School. Katie Mortlock and Darcy Worcester have taken on the role of year group Ambassadors so we are sure there will be some lively future gatherings!!

## Class of 84

We are pleased to receive from Will Coker photos of what appeared to be a very convivial evening held locally. Thanks to Chris North for keeping all in touch and for attempting to keep the likes of Pete Burnhill in check (almost) especially as the evening turned into the early hours.



The following attended: *Will Coker, Chris North, Peter Burnhill, Nick "Arthur" Padgett, Martin Isbister, Sam Ferrington (nee Bolshaw), Judith Jackson (nee Firth), Mark Busfield, Paul Coaley, Simon Ibson, Alistair "Geordie" Wight (& wife Kerry), Rob "Alf" Garnett, Robert Dransfield and Blair Roebuck*

## "Friday Night Lights"

Once again the *"Friday Night Lights"* match against Bradford Grammar 1st XV provided an opportunity for Old Grovians to meet up and enjoy some banter with Grove contemporaries and Old Bradfordians of similar vintage. This year the match was excellently hosted by Keighley RUFC on their splendid new 3G pitch.

As last year, our proud warriors *"did the business"* putting our good friends from Frizinghall (who had been enjoying a successful season) to the sword in no uncertain fashion in front of a crowd estimated to be around a thousand. Both sets of supporters provided a great atmosphere.

A number of OGs (*see photo*) of the 1990s were prominent and were pleased to see *John Cockshott (71-78, st 84-)* in attendance and in improving health following a serious stroke suffered last July. We wish John well in his continuing rehabilitation and physiotherapy programme.



Thanks are due to Keighley RUFC and their Director of Rugby, *Russell Gibson (82-86)* for allowing our use of their facilities and to *John Oakes (04-06)*, the Bradford GS Master of Rugby, together with the host of parents and Keighley members who helped make this such a successful event.

## The OGA Scottish Reunion 2018

We are pleased to have the Scottish *"Gathering"* back on our official calendar. This year is the 25th year of the gathering and it is still based at 700-year-old Culcreuch Castle.

For the stalwarts, it has burgeoned into a 5-day extravaganza, with a broad programme of activities and a range of options of length of stay based around the formal Scottish Reunion Dinner (including *"Call of the Pipes"* etc.) on the Saturday evening.

The Foundation and Association will I am sure wish to thank Richard Thornton for his role in recent years maintaining the smooth running of the weekend and welcome the return of David Littlefair as *"Scottish Secretary"*. Here's to a convivial (5 day!) weekend - enjoy the trip on the Jacobite Railway line, bowls completion and all the related walks, rambles and socialising!

Next year's event is already in the diary (23-28 January 2019). Please contact David by email for more information: [info@stokegabriellodgings.com](mailto:info@stokegabriellodgings.com)

## Carols From King's

The world renowned Christmas Eve “*Carols from King's*” featured key contributions from two Old Grovians, Chris Nehaul (08-15) and Meenu Anil (08-15). Choral scholar Chris contributed throughout the Service and performed a solo, the verse of Melchior in “*The Quest of the Magi*” (better known as “*We Three King's*”). Meenu read from Luke, Chapter 1. Both as you would expect produced accomplished and poised performances of the highest quality. Here they give an update of life at Cambridge:

### Chris:

*I've been studying Music at King's College, Cambridge, for around a year and a half. This is with a Choral Scholarship in King's College Choir, where we sing seven services a week, as well as going on tours during the holidays. This also includes singing alongside the close harmony group The King's Men, where we do tours both abroad and in England. Usually we are split into halves for the England Tours; one group travels to the North - so Yorkshire, the Lake District and the Midlands for example, performing in different venues and areas; the other group does the same thing in the South - so areas such as Kent, Hampshire and Surrey.*



### Meenu:

*It took me a while to get used to the work required for medicine. It is challenging, no doubt, but it is also interesting and fulfilling, especially this year when we have the option of doing a research project. School prepared me well for this work, especially Mrs Ainscoe, whose advice helped me realise what to expect. Despite the intense workload, there is also the option of getting involved with many incredible opportunities. Carols from King's was one of these! It was an enjoyable experience, seeing how much attention and effort the people involved put into the programme. The rehearsals reminded me of drama at school and lessons with Mr Archdale. Being on TV was so strange though! Overall, I have enjoyed my time in Cambridge so far - the college system helps form close bonds with people doing a variety of different subjects and I will have many fond memories to look back on, much like those from School.*



**William Watson (96-03)** William graduated in medicine from the University of Cambridge in 2010 following an undergraduate degree at St Andrews. Training in Cardiology in hospitals throughout the East of England, William has also worked at Papworth hospital, Britain's biggest heart and lung transplant centre. He is now at the University of Oxford where he will undertake a PhD researching new methods of treating heart failure as well as teaching for the University and working part time for a management consultancy company. He has written a textbook, twice been Doctors' Mess President at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and helped to produce two hospital pantomimes.

**John Binns (69-76)** Former Deloitte partner and mental health adviser, John Binns, has been awarded an MBE for his services to mental health in the Queen's birthday honours list. As well as advising many other corporates nationally and internationally on mental health and wellbeing, John is currently the mental health and personal resilience adviser to Deloitte, having retired from the partnership in 2013. He is a respected public speaker and media commentator on how to maintain wellbeing and resilience in the workplace.

**Jack Haire (10-12)** graduated from Northumbria University with a 2.1 - BSc in Human Bio Sciences. He started work in June at a Financial Services company in Wetherby; they offered him a job before final exams a year after a summer work placement. He will start studying for exams to become an Independent Financial Advisor.

**Beth Haire (12-14)** graduated with a BSc in Sports Science and Injury Management from York Minister. Beth intends to further develop her massage skills whilst working in Austria ski guiding.

**Asa Gartland (06-13)** After achieving a 1st in his film making degree, Asa is currently making short films on the “*festival circuit*” ahead of applying for a place at one of the London Film Academies.

**Lucy Branford-White (00-05)** We are delighted to report that Lucy has recently graduated from Sheffield University with a First Class Honours degree with Distinction in Librarianship. Congratulations Lucy!

**Matthew Tallant (04-11)** is working in Financial Services for local firm, Bartlett Wealth Management in Horsforth. Matthew has contributed significantly with guidance, advice and his expertise at a recent Law and Finance careers evening at the School.

**Lloyd Dalton-Brown (65-67)** Lloyd is currently spending the majority of the year living in the Costa del Sol and is keen to catch up with any OG's who might also be enjoying the more ambient temperatures of Southern Spain.

**Nick Houghton (66-73)** Former Chief of the Defence Staff has become a cross bench peer and succeeded Lord Richard Dannatt to the role of Constable of the Tower of London.

**Seb Storey (02-17)** has been awarded the Irene Martin Prize for Pianoforte from the ABRSM. It is an annual award, given to the candidate who achieves the highest result in piano at either grade 7 & 8, taken in the Bradford area. [ABRSM stands for Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music if you would like to know.]

**Richard Sanderson (06-13)** has graduated with a first in Songwriting and now hopes to develop a career in this area. He is also putting his A level DT skills to good use making music related items such as clocks from cymbals and bookends from old records



**Andy Banks (79-81)**

Tom Daley, Tonia Crouch and Jack Laugher were among our leading international medallists expressing their appreciation of, and gratitude to, Andy Banks (79-81) when news broke of his move to become Australian National Coach. We all wish Andy well in this new challenge and offer our congratulations also on his award of an MBE for “*Services to Diving*”, in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2017, recognising both the work undertaken coaching elite performers at Olympic level, but also being the architect of our national elite programme, which was initiated back in the 1980s, when diving did not involve the profile it enjoys today. Well done Andy!



# ROYAL AIR FORCE RED ARROWS™

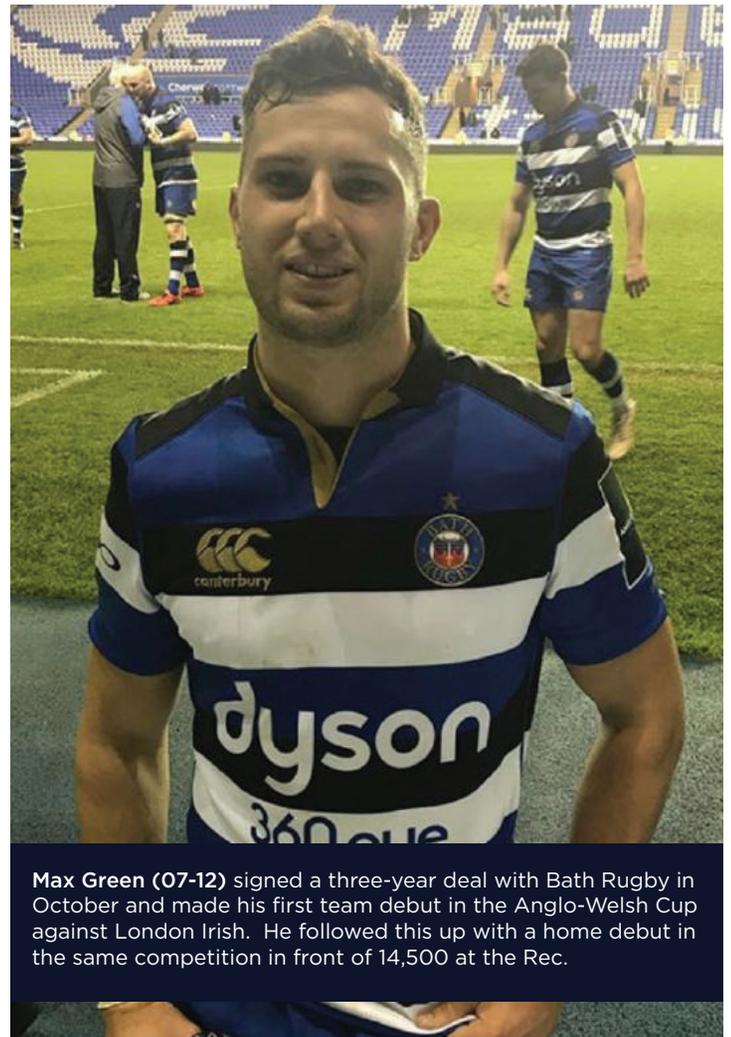
**Danielle Goldsworthy (94-01) & Tom Bould (93-00)** It was lovely for Danielle to return to the Grove with her husband, Red Arrows pilot, Tom! After the permitted 3-year stint, Tom retired from his display duties at Christmas as Red Arrow 6 (Synchro Leader). From this point he will apply his vast experience, gained in duties throughout the world to teaching the next generation of Red Arrows jet pilots as he, Danielle and their 2 children relocate to Anglesey.

Tom delivered a most informative whole School address and presented us with his Red Arrows Flying Suit. After Assembly he took the time to point out to Danielle what a good rugby player he had been, with a photo opportunity taken next to a displayed picture of the all-conquering 2000 squad who won **“Rugby World Team of the Month”** for February that year. Good luck for the future Danielle, Tom and family.



## Alex Young (03-06)

Alex has been in touch to tell us of his recent amazing feat of endurance. Alex took part in the Pyongyang Marathon in the DPRK coming 3rd out of a large and hugely competitive field. By taking part in the race, Alex was able to get a better understanding of the current geopolitical situation in North Korea as well as enjoying a very unique experience. Alex is a Chartered Accountant and owns a Technology company in London called Centaur Ventures.



**Max Green (07-12)** signed a three-year deal with Bath Rugby in October and made his first team debut in the Anglo-Welsh Cup against London Irish. He followed this up with a home debut in the same competition in front of 14,500 at the Rec.



**Angus Hastings (07-14)** has been enjoying success on the Soccer Field since arriving at Fairfield University in 2014. Playing for the University's Soccer Team, the Fairfield Stags as a defender, he picked up All-MAAC honours in his Sophomore season after playing in 17 contests. As a Freshman he earned a place in the United Soccer coaches Scholar All-American team for his performance in the classroom as well as on the pitch.

Angus also earned a spot on the United Soccer Coaches All-Region team and this season has seen him crowned **‘Most Valued Player’** with his team winning the 2017 MAAC Championship. Angus is enjoying life in the US and should be very proud of his successes both on and off the pitch!



**Alex Laird (15-17)** has been offered a full contract with Bradford City and started pre-season training as soon as he had finished his A-Levels!

Alex says that he finds it a bit strange to think that he is in a full time job straight out of sixth form whilst others have gone onto University or an apprenticeship. Alex made his debut in a cup game against Manchester City.

# WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS



Ed Radcliffe (97-04), our unofficial Ambassador in the "Land of the Long White Cloud" married Jordyn in April 2017. Other Grovians attending were "Best Man" Tim Heaton (97-04) and Nicki Robertson, nee Weaving (98-04). Ed is a Police Officer living in Auckland.



Faye Coulbourn (nee Tiritoglu 97-04) married Rob Coulbourn at Woodhouse Grove Church in August 2017. A number of OGs attended, including Rebecca Ives, Nick Page, Ellie Wooler (Curtis), Nicola Minshull, Helen Duce and Nicki Robertson (nee Weaving).



Congratulations to Nick Page (97-04), resident in Boston Spa, who has announced his engagement to Katie Johnson.

Also, congratulations to Dan Dyson (97-04), who has announced his engagement to Sinead.



RACHEL HALLAM (NEE GARNER) (88-00, STAFF 09-) AND HUSBAND ANDREW WELCOMED THEIR SECOND CHILD, MILLIE ISLA HALLAM ON 4.3.17. ← THE PHOTO IS MILLIE TOGETHER WITH OLDER BROTHER HARVEY.

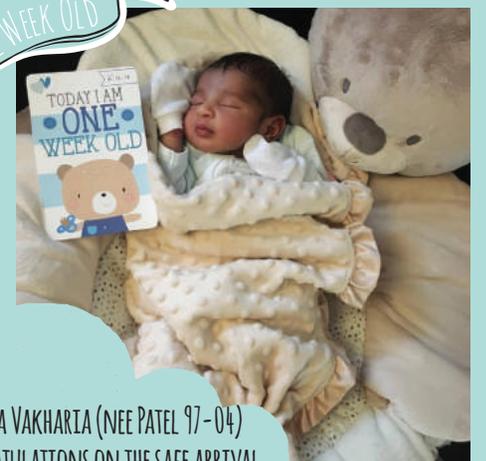


MEET ISABELLA, CHARLOTTE AND BEATRICE, BORN APRIL 7TH, 2017 TO KATE JACKSON (95-02)



SARAH ANTHONY (NEE ELLIS) (93-00) JULIETTE FLORENCE ANTHONY WAS BORN ON 13TH JULY IN MAURITIUS WEIGHING 3.02KG. SARAH IS MARRIED TO MERVIN ANTHONY AND THEY CURRENTLY LIVE IN MAURITIUS.

ALSO CONGRATULATIONS TO OLIVER WOLFENDEN (97-04) AND SARAH ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR FIRST CHILD.



KRISHNA VAKHARIA (NEE PATEL 97-04) CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SAFE ARRIVAL OF HER FIRST BORN!

# From Afghanistan to Vanuatu, Grovian values to the fore.....

By Colonel Martin Dransfield (70-77, Head of School and Captain of Rugby 76-77)

*"Each year I travel across the world to celebrate my Dad's birthday, this year he will be 98, and to share Christmas with him. Usually I also have the joy of watching him climb into the pulpit of one of the local Methodist Churches and continue to inspire the congregation with the wisdom he has acquired over almost a century of experiences.*

*I write this because Roger has kindly asked me for an update, and it provided the opportunity to think of those individuals who inspired my generation (1970-77) of Old Grovians. Those teachers who instilled in us the ethos and values of courage, commitment, comradeship and integrity that set us up for life, whilst ensuring we had the resilience necessary to overcome any and all obstacles.*

*For me two names immediately came to mind: Freddy Windle and David McCarthy.*

*Freddy lived in a small farmhouse in Timple, just North of Otley, and each year I make the trip there and fondly remember a man who, despite his small stature, was a giant to me. As a teacher he made Physics easy through his "keep it simple" approach, and as the 1st XV coach he transformed us into a tough and uncompromising unit underpinned by his statement, repeated before each game, "get stuck in." And we did!*

*David McCarthy was an impressive musician and a fantastic English teacher. He was second to none as a mentor, who genuinely cared about his students and more importantly Woodhouse Grove and all it stood for. He now lives in Todmorden with Liz and each year I enjoy catching up on their news.*

*As for me, I am still thriving in my chosen career serving the Queen in the New Zealand Army, I am married to Fiona, and our 4 children (Isaac, Leah, Jacob and Sarah) are pursuing their dreams, and I am confident that they will achieve more than I ever dreamt possible.*

*I keep in touch with two of my best friends from the Grove, Martyn Thomas (now in Melbourne) and Chris Crowley, and each year I catch up with two of my 1st XV, Roger Howard and John Cockshott. We repeat the same stories, laugh at the same jokes and fondly remember the same characters."*

Sadly, Martins father passed away shortly before Christmas and we pass on our condolences to Martin and the whole Dransfield family. Ken Dransfield set a fine example to all through his work as a Church missionary establishing a modern education system in Uganda and after his return working as a Head teacher in North Yorkshire, combining his love of life with preaching on the local circuit, voluntary work in school and also writing children's books.



The photo shows Martin most recently in Afghanistan, where aspects of his work involved engagement with local communities and school building projects in devastated, remote villages. Perhaps not entirely dissimilar to some of his fathers work 40+ years ago in Uganda?

Martin has served throughout the world, including peace keeping duties in East Timor and Afghanistan. Modestly his "update" overlooks an international reputation for his leadership and co-ordination of international task forces and the complex logistics and politics involved. Back in 2001 Martin was recognised in the Queen's birthday honours list with the award of ONZM, the NZ equivalent of an OBE.

## Philip Hall (70-77)

The date is September 1970. A shy, "self-possessed boy" [to quote the exact description used by the headmaster at the time, F.C. Pritchard] arrived at Woodhouse Grove School.

I was 11 and overawed: many of the pupils appeared to be as tall, and nearly as old, as the teachers themselves, and the most senior - the 'School Prefects' - were possessed of almost as much authority. The air was laden with tradition: honours boards stretching back to the 19th century, austere benches rather than chairs in the dining room, a school culture that emphasised the primacy of boarding over day pupils (I was of the latter persuasion), and a raft of new academic challenges in languages ancient and modern, sciences and mathematics. From being one of the most important children at my previous primary school, I now felt like the smallest, most unimportant person in the world.

Fast forward to my leaving date in December 1977 and I found myself in possession of a place at Oxford to read oriental languages (Japanese), I held a number of school offices including the first ever head of the newly-formed Towlson house, head librarian and school chess team captain. Jumping on again to the perspective of early 2018, I am now entering retirement, but the foundations laid between 1970-77 enabled me to pursue a career as an international investment analyst covering Japanese healthcare. I served as head of my bank's research department for five years, including a traumatic period in 2008-09 managing the business through the worst financial crisis for 80 years, I visited over 60 countries on five continents for both work and leisure, lived half my life overseas, and picked up a second (MSc) degree in my 50s in my lifelong passion, astronomy, while still working. The shy, self-possessed boy who had barely left northern England in 1970 had become an international executive, manager and world traveller. The Grove - what happened in those seven years in the 1970s - had been transformational.

It is not easy to distill the essence of this transformation from seven years and a myriad of experiences, but I believe there are only two crucial components: exposure to exceptional teaching, and an institutional ethos that respects each student as a unique individual encouraged to find his/her own way.

Passable teachers are common, good ones much less so. To encounter a truly great teacher is a rare privilege that many students never experience. In all my school and university studies I have had only one, but it was thanks to the Grove that I was blessed with that precious honour. I.D. Cleland arrived in 1976, just in time to oversee my A level in history. He was the embodiment of Plutarch's admonition to educators, "The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled". Cleland knew facts are sacred, but also that we are each on a journey, and indeed have a personal responsibility, to understand and develop our own values, to think for ourselves and not as others would have us think. Good teachers help you pass exams. Great teachers equip you for life and safeguard our most precious freedoms. As regards the second ingredient - encouraging each individual to find his/her own way and arena of greatest potential - the Grove has always offered a rich array of options: academic, sporting, musical, drama, hobbies as well as opportunities to take on leadership and responsibility, not for its own sake but as a means to serve the school and the wider community. We can see this evidenced in the school's publications and the testimonies of former and current teachers and pupils, including my own as briefly described above.

If the price of freedom is eternal vigilance, the price of great education is continuous self-examination. Are we kindling the mind's fire? Are we respecting individuals and helping them find their essence? How can we enhance our offering? The Grove has succeeded precisely because of such self-examination and reflection, attributes which are a sign of strength, not weakness. It must never cease asking itself those questions, but I am quite sure it never will.

# Obituaries

The Grove community offers its condolences to the family and friends of the following Old Grovians and members of the Grove community who have passed away since the last publication of Xaipete.

## **Ken Butterworth (37-40)**

*Informed by the Butterworth family*

Born in 1924 in Mirfield. Christened John but known to all as Ken. Following in the footsteps of his two elder brothers, Ken attended Woodhouse Grove School for three years.

With the advent of the Second World War he joined the Royal Artillery and trained to fight in Norway. He spent time 'guarding' Scotland's distilleries and acquired his love for the country and its national beverage. Ken was involved in the D-Day Landings and remained in Europe till de-mobbed in 1946. There followed a period with the Nat West Bank where he studied for his accountancy exams.

He married in 1948 and moved to Reckitt and Coleman in Hull living in Beverley. It was here that the next generation joined his family. By 1957 he had left Yorkshire to work for Eastern Counties Farmers at Ipswich, in Suffolk, as Company Secretary. It was here that he lived until his death.

Ken loved to travel and together with his wife Mabel they enjoyed cruising together with their family. Scotland was his favourite destination and many holidays were spent there visiting right up until his death aged 92. His family was the most important part of his life and his Christmas parties will be remembered forevermore.

Ken attended Old Grovian reunions as and when he could and always took a keen interest in the School. For the last few years of his life he attended the school Remembrance Day Service accompanied by son Andrew.

The family kindly donated Ken's rugby shirt and Colours tie to the School at the last Remembrance Day.

## **Dr John Anthony ('Tony') Chappel (41-45)**

*Informed by David Chappel*

He said that his mother was keen to send him to the relative safety of Woodhouse Grove during the bombing of Bradford. However, he always thought he was more of a target, with an important railway line nearby where he watched military equipment rumble past. He nevertheless survived and after the war, the family moved to London where he went to Westminster Medical School after national service in Egypt.

John (as he became) worked as a GP in Aylesbury for 30 years at a successful town centre practice. He also ran the GP maternity unit and supported the local learning disability hospital. On retirement, he worked for several charities. He also read avidly, collecting old medical books.

A keen sportsman since school, he played rugby for Westminster and then Aylesbury and later moved onto squash, tennis and golf. He was a serious walker, adventurous traveller, photographer and movie maker.

He died suddenly but peacefully at home aged 85. Beloved and much missed by friends and family; particularly for his Yorkshire wit which never left him.

## **Paul Robertshaw (44-48, Governor 94-12)**

A true Grovian, who epitomised "*Bone et Fidelis*". Paul greatly enjoyed his time at Woodhouse Grove School, both as man and boy. Despite standing down just a couple of years ago as a WGS Governor he maintained a regular interest in the School through the exploits of James and Lucy, the last of the current Robertshaw "*dynasty*" to come through the Grove.

As a Governor Paul was highly respected, having a wealth of experience in the property world he brought wisdom, business acumen and genuine awareness of wider educational issues to the school for over 18 years. Paul was a kind and generous benefactor to the School.

Paul had a memorable time at Old Grovians events including a very special London visit to the Tower of London and the Ceremony of the Keys, organised by Michael Walker whilst Chief of the Defence Staff.

On the 21st April 2017 a Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving at Woodhouse Grove Church was well attended with moving contributions from a range of generations of Paul's immediate family.

## **The Rev T Brian Coleman (st 79-84)**

Brian died in Truro on August 5 2016 aged 96. He came to WGS in 1979 after serving as chaplain to Truro School and being a successful and popular minister at Punshon Memorial Methodist Church, Bournemouth.

At WGS Brian and Dorothy operated as a joint pastoral team, for the Chapel was a Circuit Church with its own congregation and outreach. Brian never felt that he did enough for the school, though he taught throughout the school and was a great support to the boarding life and the music department, not least through the formation of a jazz group. He took assemblies and was in charge of the Chapel services as well as preaching in the Circuit. The manse was always 'open house' to staff pupils and parents.

Throughout his life Brian was an accomplished musician and was delighted to see that talent emerge in his grandchildren. He was a fine pianist, composer and arranger of music and played a major role in the compilation of "*Partners on Praise*" - a modern hymn book for young congregations. He was also a noted accompanist. Out of school he enjoyed playing golf on Mondays (his day off) and walking in the Dales.

Returning to Cornwall in 1984, to what he expected to be retirement, he became Minister to a group of churches to the north of Truro, centred on Probus. A decline in rural Methodism had already begun and it was a struggle from which he did not flinch. He was soon absorbed into Cornish music as accompanist to the Tresillian Singers and Celtic Chorale. He was much in demand at weekend concerts in the seaside resorts and his arrangement of songs such as 'Stranger on the Shore', 'Softly as I Leave You' and '*Moon River*' were popular favourites. In his leisure moments he was able to enjoy surfing and swimming and returning to Truro School to serve as a governor.

Brian's final years were spent in a retirement flat in central Truro where he was a neighbour of the Rev Ron Crewes. It was conveniently close to the Methodist Church, the Cathedral and the Pasty shop which supplied all the sustenance he needed. In his ministry, his teaching and his music Brian was thoroughly professional and it was a privilege to know him as a friend and colleague.

His kindness and sympathetic approach, as well as his rich sense of humour, endeared him to all and he and Dorothy are remembered with great affection. Our sympathy in their passing goes to John & Nancy in their passing goes to John & Nancy in Watford and Lois in the USA and the three grandchildren.

## **Denis W. Greenwood CBE (34-43)**

*Informed by  
Brian Greenwood (34-45)*

Died peacefully in a Harrogate Nursing Home on the 1st October 2017, aged 92.

Denis was for many years co-Chairman and Chief Executive of the Greenwoods Menswear business, which, at its peak, operated some 300 menswear shops as far apart as Swansea and Dumfries or Torquay and Berwick. He was made CBE in 1991 for his services to the Conservative Party, as Chairman of the Yorkshire Industrialists Council.

He was a Director and for many years Chairman of the Leeds Cricket, Football and Athletic Club, that is to say Headingley. He enjoyed the honour of leading the Leeds Rugby League Team on to the Wembley pitch for the 1994 cup final.

A staunch supporter of the Grove, he was partly responsible for the Greenwood family's gift of the first major improvement to Bronte House - The Greenwood Wing - which opened in 1974. His wife Marjorie pre-deceased him, as did two sons-in-law - Stephen Rawson (a much missed WGS Governor) and John Hanson who succeeded Denis as Chief Executive of Greenwoods Menswear.

His three daughters Denise, Diane and Melissa have children and grandchildren and thus Denis lived to see great-grandchildren.

Denis was an excellent sportsman, both at the Grove and in later years where he was a founder member - and Captain - of the Old Grovian's Lacrosse Club which flourished for some 20 years in the 1950's and 60's. During the War the RAF noted his sporting prowess and made him serve as a P.T.I. (Physical Training Instructor) throughout his service.

Well-known as an excellent host - parties at his home, Woodlands Grange (a stone's throw from the Grove) were always a particular joy to the many guests he and Marjorie entertained there.

He had a long and full life - he will be much missed.

It was with shock and sadness that the school learned of the sudden death of our former colleague and Old Grovian, Ken Robinson.

“Mr Ken” as he was affectionately known at Bronte House, inspired countless Grovian athletes and Cross-Country runners among all his other wide ranging contributions to the school he loved.

Probably most happy outside the classroom, Ken opened up a wider world of the outdoors and adventure to wide numbers of Bronte pupils.

Trailblazing marathon and long-distance runner for Bingley Harriers both in his prime and as a veteran, Ken was also OG Cross country convenor for many years.

Retiring early from teaching he enjoyed developing a new enterprise with his wife Sue (“Mrs Ken” to the Bronte pupils) in France, and together they pursued an impressive range of outdoor and adventurous activities, skiing, mountain trekking, sub aqua diving in all parts of the globe and of course walking throughout the UK and his beloved Lake District.

*The first article (right) and photo (above) were originally planned to be an informative piece for Xaipete, while the second article (below) is a brief obituary offered by Sue, Ken’s wife.*

#### **Kenneth Mark Robinson (65-72) (BH St 78-08)**

*Informed by Sue Robinson*

Ken was born in May 1954 the eldest of three brothers who all attended Woodhouse Grove as boarders.

After gaining his Teachers Certificate at Durham University he joined the teaching staff at Brontë House where he worked until 2008, during this time he gained a Masters degree in Sports Coaching at Sheffield University.

He married his wife Sue in 1987 in the school Chapel and in 2008 they ‘retired’ to Southern Burgundy where they opened a B&B and gite, followed by a ceramic painting studio and a couple of apartments. Ken enjoyed welcoming the guests and helping run the various businesses.

Sadly Ken passed away in early November.

The photograph below, showing Ken and Alwyn together together at Kanchenjunga North Base Camp, is one which Ken intended to provide for inclusion in Xaipete.



#### **Ken Robinson (65-72) (BH St 78-08)**

*by Alwyn Nixon (65-72)*

Ken and I boarded at the Grove from 1965-72. We were friends from the first year, when we were both part of a group of boys allocated to sleep at Bronte House, as there was insufficient dorm space at the senior school. I recall that the dormitories we slept in were called Everest and K2 – perhaps this fired our subsequent passion for high places! The dorms were located on the very top floor of Bronte House, with access through the windows onto the roof, and I remember Ken and I being stranded on the roof for quite some time on one occasion when the duty master decided to check on the dorm when we were clambering about outside.

Ken became a keen cross-country runner while at the Grove, eventually becoming school cross-country vice-captain and also gaining his school colours. This formed the foundation of his later fell running and road racing achievements.

Ken had local knowledge of the Lake District, and from our late teens onwards we developed a shared passion for the mountains. We began by climbing all of the Lake District summits (the Wainwrights) together, mainly through a series of multi-day treks, back-packing and camping or using youth hostels. Following this, in 1976 we back-packed the Pennine Way together, taking 14 days. At around the same time we embarked on a quest to climb all of the 540 or so Munros (mountains over 3000ft) and subsidiary Tops in Scotland, climbing most of these together and experiencing some of the roughest and remotest parts of Britain in the process.

Afterwards, Ken began to spend more of his free time abroad, initially in the Alps and then further afield. The breadth of his activities increased, but he never lost his passion for the mountains. Whilst a teacher at Bronte House he introduced a generation of youngsters to the challenges and joys of the great outdoors, through annual expeditions along various UK National Trails, ably assisted and supported by his wife Sue.

Ken was unluckily struck by an unknown viral infection while we were on a trek together in eastern Nepal to the north and south base camps of Kanchenjunga, at 8534m the world’s third highest mountain. The 22day trek passed through fascinating and varied remote areas from the Himalayan foothills at about 900m above sea level to the foot of Kanchenjunga itself at 5180m.

Ken became progressively more unwell after reaching North Base Camp, and was eventually airlifted to Kathmandu when it became clear that he could not continue the trek. Sadly, after some days being treated at the international travellers’ clinic there he developed sepsis and died soon afterwards, on 4 November.

Ken was remembered and laid to rest at a very personal funeral service at Old Hutton Church just outside Kendal, attended by many members of his family, friends and former colleagues.

## Mrs Kathleen Miller

*Informed by David McCarthy (st 53-92)*

We record with great sorrow the death of Mrs Kathleen Miller on 18th December 2017 and extend our warmest sympathies to David and the family. She was 85 years of age. Born and bred a Southerner, and trained as a nurse, she quickly and enthusiastically adapted to the demands of life in the north when husband David was appointed Headmaster of the school in 1972.

In her unofficial post of **"Headmaster's Wife"** Kathleen performed countless tasks in giving David her unwavering support. Her role was carried out unobtrusively backstage, but this was in any case Kathleen's manner. She inaugurated post-match teas for parent-supporters in the old Memorial Hall, an early morning swimming club in the old swimming pool, assisted with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, played flute in the school orchestra and helped out with teaching duties when required.

Kathleen also served a wider community for a number of years as a Justice of the Peace. In whatever she did she showed integrity, compassion, a boundless generosity of spirit, a gentle sense of humour and a most endearing graciousness.

After David's retirement in 1991 she put herself at the disposal of their new community, happy to perform even the humblest tasks, in the locality of their home in East Morton and notably in Keighley, becoming a highly respected Methodist Local Preacher and an influential member of the congregation at Keighley Shared (Anglican and Methodist) Church. Until her latest years Kathleen was a knowledgeable and skilful gardener and a keen walker.

The funeral took place at Keighley Shared Church and was attended by a large congregation, including David, Valerie, Peter and Jenny, the present Headmaster, former and present members of the Grove staff and representatives of the many aspects of Kathleen's life.

## Mike Featherstone (57-63)

*Informed by Garth Featherstone*

Mike Featherstone, 6th June 1946 - 16th November 2017. After leaving Woodhouse Grove, he became a Chartered Accountant which he practiced until moving to Hambro Life and on to becoming an Independent Financial Adviser with his own company. He continued in this role using his Chartered Accountants' background until last year.

Mike was both a talented and enthusiastic golfer throughout his life (playing such diverse courses as Baltisrol in New York and Sun City in South Africa) and continued his athletic talents from the Grove completing various 'Marathons' including New York and Berlin. He was a keen skier, tennis player and an avid follower of Liverpool FC.

His inherently charming and gentle nature ensured that he made lifelong friends and consequently he had a full and varied life made that much more interesting by his travels around the globe and helped along with his wit and very easy-going attitude to life.

He leaves his children, Henry and Alexandra and all his friends with happy memories.

## John Caird (32-37)

*Informed by Don Bowder*

Remembered by his good friend Don Bowder as more than a consummate Bridge player John lived a full and active life. John passed away peacefully surrounded by family love on 21st December 2017 in his 97th year. John proudly served in the RAF during the Second World War as a Flight Lieutenant piloting B24 Liberators. After the war he embarked on a career in Insurance, where he remained active until fully retiring aged 96!

He loved his career and became President of Eagle Star and later Halton-Caird Insurance.

At the age of 65 he obtained a Political Science degree and also continued with French classes into his 90's. A long-time member of Oakville Country Club, Oakville Golf Club, the Rotary club of Oakville Trafalgar and Probus.

An example to us all, our condolences go to all John's family and friends and especially to his wife of 65 years, Betty.

## Mrs Jean Margaret Pritchard

*Informed by her daughter Jenifer Percy*

Born 1914 and passing away in 2015. The following appreciation was contributed by her daughter Jenifer Percy.

When Dr. F.C. Pritchard took over the headship of WGS in 1950, it was a huge challenge not just for him, but his wife Jean too. Post war rationing was still in place, and Britain was at a low ebb.

The family were obliged to live within the school, in various rooms dotted around the premises, the fabric of which was then in a very poor state. Together Jean and FCP faced and tackled many challenges, at the same time managing to maintain a happy, united family life.

Jean's role was always to give wholehearted support: she was a quiet, shy person, but she took very seriously her part as hostess to the many guest speakers, preachers and visitors to the school. She was also proactive in organising certain events, on one occasion supervising a fashion show to raise funds for much-needed new buildings, at other times making costumes for school plays and helping out as a nurse during flu and impetigo epidemics and at Bronte house when asked to do so.

During school holidays, there was still work to be done, as for several years there were few other staff around to keep the place running. In those early years and throughout the following decades, Jean never failed to provide a strong, stable, and loving support to FCP, helping him to carry the school through some difficult times.

## Brian Marks (47-54)

*Informed by Donald Richards (48-52)*

Brian died on 24th March 2017 after a short illness. Over 250 attended his funeral at St Peter's Church, Rawdon, on 10th April.

After gaining an HNC in electrical engineering from Metropolitan Vickers in Manchester, he spent his working life at the Central Electricity Generating Board in Leeds.

His retirement years gave him the opportunity to embrace his passion for cars owning a Singer 9 Le Mans and Lotus, he was a member of the Ilkley and District Car Club.

## We have also learned of the sad passing of the following Old Grovian members of the school;

**John R Taylor (33-39), Maurice L Hopkins (42-47)** (informed by Alan Bell), **Nigel J Winder (57-65)**, informed by John Martin (54-63), **David Morris (52-59)**, and **John H Derrig (08-11)** (informed by his parents). In addition, we learn of the passing of several former members of our community; **Hazel Davy** (informed by Roger Davy), along with former members of staff, **Connie Oworescki** (Catering) and **Sister Joan May** (Medical).

## Thomas Vernon Whitfield (37-44)

*Informed by Brian Greenwood*

Died peacefully at his home on 7 January 2017 aged 90. He was a long-retired mill owner and well-liked man throughout his long life.

He was a keen sportsman and a member of the Old Grovians lacrosse team for some 20 years in the late 50's-60's.

## Edward "John" Haslam

Born on 23rd March 1942, John passed away on the 19th December 2017 peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family.

John had a long-standing association with the Grove community, with Jessica, Edward and Henry all enjoying stellar Grove careers, with his wife Georgina being our dedicated vice Chair of Governors (and throughout last year, acting Chair). John was a staunch supporter of all school activities, especially rugby and cricket.

Excellent company and known to all as a **"lovely man"** John will be greatly missed at Woodhouse Grove, especially on the touchline or boundary.

# KENNETH PELMEAR

## Music Master 1949-1959



I can see him now in my mind's eye, in his younger more slender days, scurrying with quick steps, the collar turned up and his hands deep inside the pockets of his not-so-new light brown overcoat. He would be hurrying down the school back drive and across the empty playground and disappear into the dark shadows of the Covered Shed and then walking quickly up the stone steps of the old north building to his two, small, sparsely furnished rooms overlooking the centenary clock tower.

Ken arrived in Yorkshire to be head of Music at Woodhouse Grove in September 1949. **'Arrived'** may not be the correct word, perhaps the best expression would be to say he **'drifted in'** because that was a phrase he would use and although he made his presence felt during the ten years he spent at the school, I am sure he may have felt he was just marking time until he was able to **'drift out'** again and return to his beloved Cornwall.

Ken's Father had been a tin miner near St. Day in the old Carharrack mining district in the area surrounding Redruth. This bleak area of central Cornwall still shows the scars of an abandoned industry, with ruined pit heads, grass covered spoil heaps and red stained streams. Ken spoke of his Father as **"One of that stout-hearted band of Cornish miners of an age gone by, and a rigger man from first to last who taught me to appreciate the great game"**. During the Second World War Ken did not have the choice to join the armed forces as he was considered to be a Bevan Boy working down the mines as the compulsory alternative to being in the services. He had been captain of his school XV and was a midfield player of marked ability, his high promise, like many others of his time, was never fulfilled owing to the outbreak of war.

After studying at Westminster College in London he came to Woodhouse Grove and entered fully into the life of the community as a popular head of music and a rugby coach. He taught music throughout the school and was the choir master and a fine player of the piano in the daily morning prayers and the organ in the school chapel which we boarders had to compulsory attend every Sunday for a morning and evening service. On warm summer evenings our heavy woollen jackets would gently adhere to the varnished back of the pine pews. I can remember looking down the crowded nave from my place in the choir's bass pew with the setting sun shining through the west window creating a pink glow through the ears of everyone facing the preacher. Those were the days when, in addition to daily morning prayers for the whole school, we had an epilogue each night in our dormitories. We accepted and took for granted that we learnt to sing many hymns and the school songs which we did lustily and with great fervour. I still hear the lofty echoes of those resounding tones produced by three hundred young male voices, particularly during the last verse of the last hymn on the last Sunday evening of each term.

During the winter terms Ken would coach the junior rugby teams and was a regular referee of the fifteen-a-side House matches. I remember watching one game when one team was completely overwhelmed by the other and when the score reached something over one hundred and thirty to nil, Ken did not bother to move from the centre spot and eventually blew his whistle to end the game and to save the failing team further humiliation.

Ken was a popular raconteur in the staff room but socially he kept a low profile whilst at the Grove. Quite often though he did attend the Saturday evening **'hops'** at the university union in Leeds and catch the last steam train home to Apperley Bridge station. Occasionally I was part of the group of Vinter House prefects who would be enjoying a late cup of coffee in our house master David McCarthy's room and we would hear hurrying steps coming up the stairs and Ken would arrive to regale us with stories of what new innocent conquest he had made with some young lady he had met in a **'gentleman's excuse me'**. I do not believe these fairly regular trysts ever went anywhere but Ken would tell the tale with much seriousness and fervour that we always happily enjoyed the latest episode.

Ken Pelmear spent ten years at the Grove and eventually drifted back to Cornwall to teach music at Truro School. He wrote a history of the Cornish Rugby Union and compiled a popular published anthology of the game. Through this book in 1961 at Bude Castle he was elected a Bard of the Gorsedd which maintains the national Celtic spirit of Cornwall. Ken took early retirement from teaching to concentrate on composing and arranging music which had a strictly Cornish influence and flavour. His music was first published in the 1950's and it rapidly became a firm favourite with local choirs and brass bands. If you asked him why his many compositions became so popular he would reply **'There is a very Cornish feel throughout the music. I don't intend it that way, it just happens.'**

Sadly Ken died at an early age in 1995. Apart from the occasional visit to visit a lady friend in Geneva with whom he shared a mutual love of music Ken never left Cornwall after he had returned from Yorkshire. He once confessed to me that he had had a real anxiety of escorting a school rugby team out of the Duchy and that he was so glad to get back across the River Tamar. Assuming that he must have had to travel as far as Norfolk it turned out he only went to visit a school just across the river in Devonport!

In July 2006, ten years after he died, I was invited to say a few words about Ken's years in Yorkshire at a memorial concert of his music. The concert was held at Gwennap Pit, a large open-air amphitheatre near St Day which was formed many years ago from old mine-works and which was also a way-side pulpit where the roaming Methodist preacher John Wesley spoke on several occasions. The evening was warm, mellow and still and the very large audience and augmented local choirs were accompanied by Camborne Town Band. It was a memorable and nostalgic occasion.

One of my favourite tunes which was played and sung by the several hundred visitors present that evening is one that Ken wrote as a setting to the Easter hymn written by Isaac Watts **'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross'**. If he had composed little else, Ken's fine tune **'Great Soul'** would have made his life worthwhile. If you had said that to him he might look at you in his characteristically Cornish way with a twinkle in his eye and say **'Think so, do you?'** Yes Ken, I do.

**Roger Davy MBE (47-57)**



## Grove Careers and Enrichment Evenings

Organised by a team of sixth form and careers staff in conjunction with the School Marketing and Development Departments; a series of 6 events were held covering a range of fields; Medical and the Armed forces, Social work, Voluntary and Teaching, Engineering, Law and Finance, Creative, Media, Sport and Hospitality. Representatives from a range of professions, companies, Universities and colleges were present. It is also pleasing to note that a number of Old Grovians made significant contributions to the evenings: **Victoria Craven (nee Petty 89-94)**, **Matthew Tallant (04-11)**, **David Webster (83-93)**, **Emma Humphreys (95-06)** and **Brigadier Tim Hodgetts (74-81)**. Also particularly noteworthy were the number of current Grove parents also contributing. The atmosphere in the Theatre, Hastings Long Gallery and "breakout" rooms was described as "buzzing".

*In response to being asked what the most enjoyable aspect of the evening was, some specific comments included:*

*'learning more about various job possibilities I wasn't even aware of'*

*'very good line-up of stands - lots of variety and very helpful people'*

*'love these events. Please keep them running. So great to open minds. Any help school could give to see what to study/do through WGS to support careers on show helps make tangible what to do today to achieve these aspirational futures.'*

Roll on the next one!

## ISI Inspection!!

This year saw Woodhouse Grove receive an Educational Quality inspection reporting on the quality of the School's work. The inspectors observed lessons, conducted formal interviews with pupils and examined samples of pupils' work. They held discussions with members of staff and with the acting chair of governors, observed a sample of the extra-curricular activities that occurred during the inspection period and attended form meetings, chapel and assemblies. Inspectors visited boarding houses and the facilities for the youngest pupils, together with learning support and educational resource areas. The responses of parents and pupils to pre-inspection questionnaires were analysed, and the inspectors examined curriculum and other documentation made available by the School.

The inspection focused on two key outcomes:

***The achievement of the pupils, including their academic developments, and the personal development of the pupils.***

We are delighted that in both these areas, Woodhouse Grove has received the highest possible ranking of "Excellent."

Later in the year also saw Bronte House relishing the opportunity to demonstrate their best practice and belief in the value of what they do to external scrutiny.

An experienced team of inspectors duly made their visit, met and spoke with staff and children alike, observed countless lessons and perused a huge amount of policy and paperwork. Bronte House was also delighted to receive a resounding "Excellent" in both key areas and together with Woodhouse Grove, a status of being fully compliant with the myriad of regulations that govern independent schools.

To see the full report, please visit [woodhousegrove.co.uk](http://woodhousegrove.co.uk)

iHola! My name is Pablo Benito Martin Martin Pascual Vicente Garcia Rueda Lopez Sanches... but you can just call me Pablo. I am in Year 10, I board in Brodwell house and my family live in Madrid, Spain. I recall the day when my Mum first told me that there was a possibility that I could come to school in England for a year. I said "yes" straight away as I knew that being able to speak English would give me much better career opportunities back in Spain when I am older. I am very grateful, as I know not many people get this amazing chance.

I first heard about Woodhouse Grove because my parents and the agency told me that it was one of the best schools in England for my academics. Originally, I was supposed to be living with a host family and just be a day pupil, but a week before starting I decided that I wanted to try boarding to see what it was like. I had been researching the school online and noticed how fun and exciting life in Brodwell House looked because of all the activities. Two days before starting I came for a visit and met with Mr. Vernon and the other boarding staff, they made me feel very welcome. My first impression was that the school was very big and that it is full of history, the only thing I didn't like was the weather! However, I knew straight away that I must come to this school.

On my first day, I moved into my room and said goodbye to my parents. I wasn't very sad saying goodbye as I was so excited to get started, however my Mum cried a lot! I read the induction book from cover to cover as I didn't want to make any mistakes on my first day. I also remember getting fairly lost trying to find my way to class. I found my bearings and settled in very quickly. At the end of the first week I rang my Mum to tell her that I wanted to stay in boarding and at the school for more than just the one year because I had made a lot of friends and enjoyed all the classes. I really enjoy living in Brodwell House. It's helped me to make a lot of friends across all the different year groups and from all around the world. The boarding staff are great because they are very friendly and are always there to help whenever I have any problems. I definitely feel at home.

When I lived in Spain I had never even heard of rugby, only American football. The very first time that I played I thought it was quite scary and very rough. The more and more that I played the more I fell in love with rugby. I now train with the U15 B team and occasionally play for the A team. I also represent the school for the U16 basketball team, it's my favorite sport. We are so lucky to have all the amazing facilities and activities on offer in school and boarding each night and during our weekends.

I have just picked my GCSE options. Some of the subjects I have never studied before but I like to give myself a challenge. I love life here at Woodhouse Grove and would recommend it to anyone (except anyone who's Spanish because I like being the only one - the girls love the accent!). I am very happy.





### "Moh Ritson Racing" Go Moh, Go!

In October 2017, Year 11 student Moh Ritson travelled to Kirkistown circuit in Northern Ireland to take a test for a racing licence. He was driving a race built Citroen Saxo in which he will race in the British Junior Saloon Car championships this year. Following completion of both practical and theory elements Moh passed first time and gained the coveted National B Licence required.

Later in October he was successful among a field of 60 other 14-16 year old drivers in a selection procedure, including track sessions in a Ginetta G40 Race Car, fitness tests and media sessions. Over a 2 day process the 60 were whittled down to a final 12 to compete in this year's Ginetta Junior Championship.

Moh has now joined Tockwith Motorsports, who have raced and been successful in events such as the 24 Hour Le Mans, Britcar endurance championship and other LMP Championships. This year's season will commence fully in March in the Junior Saloon car Championships and continue through until September, with venues including Silverstone, Brands Hatch and Donnington Park. During the same period Moh will also be competing in the British Prokart Endurance Championship (races of 6, 12 and 24-hour duration), which will also include one race at Spa in Belgium. These endurance races provide valuable further experience and help build fitness and specific neck, shoulder and arm strength.

Future aspirations include moving from the Junior championships at aged 16-17 and into the GT classification. Ultimate goals include racing in the British Touring car championship, the British GT and hopefully the World Endurance Championship. Good luck Moh, as you seek to emulate OG **Sam Tordoff (00-07)**, currently driving in the British Touring Car Championship with "**TeamJCT600 with GardX**" coming second in the 2016 standings, narrowly missing out on winning overall.

Good luck to both Moh and Sam-be fast, but keep safe!

More info on Moh can be accessed through "**mohritsonracing**" on a range of social media sites.



### ANNABEL GRACEY

There is no stopping Annabel Gracey, Y8 who has been offered another contract with School of Rock in London's West End. Annabel was due to finish her first professional and West End debut in February but her new contract will see her performing on stage until September. This is a great compliment to Annabel and we wish her all the best for her additional performances.

### Slovenia Music Tour Easter 17

by Amy Sharp, Y13

When we told people we were going to Ljubljana for our music tour at Easter, it left them both confused on the pronunciation of the word and the actual location of the city itself. We found the country of Slovenia to be beautiful and welcoming during our four day trip. We performed three concerts over the course of the tour; one at a school, one in a church and the third at a concert hall, each was well received and attracted a large audience.



Alongside this, Grove Singers were able to sing in the Postojna caves 120m underground, as well as at the castle of Lake Bled, overlooking the famous lake. Exploring the city centre everyday was also really interesting - especially the unique shops and architecture that came along with this. A music quiz held on the third night of the trip included three rounds full of music trivia, which seemed well suited for the theme of our tour. It was a great opportunity for all the students in the music department and our thanks to all the teachers who made the trip a really memorable experience for us all.

## You shall go to the Ball

This term, The Grove Theatre was transformed into the village of Hardup for the traditional family pantomime, 'Cinderella'. Directed by Miss Couper and designed by Mr Middleton, the monochrome set became the perfect backdrop for a host of colourful characters. Archie Rika-Rayne's portrayal of 'Buttons' warmed up the audience ready for their participation. His quick thinking ad-libs, joke telling, perfect comic timing and soft spot for Cinders was definitely competition for Billy Pearce! Two Cinderellas graced the stage, one each night, and both Emily Grote and Ellie Monaghan developed the role in quite different ways, both perfectly executed in their true professional style.

The performance of this year's comedy duo, Jake Fletcher Stega and Isaac Birdsall, was outstanding, if a bit messy with their slapstick scenes as Salt and Vinnie.

This was a strong cast of students, who worked tirelessly 4 nights a week to achieve a brilliant performance of such a difficult style of theatre. Congratulations to all the cast and crew. One last time, "**It's behind you!**".



# GROVE SPORT

All Change, **GROVE SPORT** Keeps Moving Forward!



The U16 Squad and our friends from Truro at the inaugural presentation of the Crewes Cup. Ron would have been proud of all the players and the spirit in which the game was played.

## Rosslyn Park Sevens Success 2017

All 3 teams entered in this prestigious national competition at the highest tier level and excelled themselves. All very much appreciated the encouragement of a number of London based OGs who showed their support during the week. Early in the week the U16 VII progressed through the group stages and in doing so included a victory against our fellow MIST school, Truro. The team were awarded the Crewes Cup in memory of former Woodhouse Grove Chaplain and Truro Governor, Reverend Ronald Crewes. Success continued into the second day with further victories before being defeated by Millfield in the quarter finals.

During the closing 2 days of the week-long tournament both the U14 and 1st VII's remained unbeaten after the first day to qualify through to the knockout stages. The 1st VII progressed unbeaten through the so called, "group of death" of Tonbridge and three RFU Academy educational institutions (Saracens, Northampton and Worcester).

On the second day both teams suffered defeat in the elimination rounds which saw them moved into their respective Plate competitions. Here they continued to collect some prestigious scalps on their way to the finals.

On a memorable day for **GROVE RUGBY** the U14 triumphed convincingly against Marlborough College, while on the main venue pitch, watched by a large crowd and streamed live on the internet, the 1st VII won a pulsating Final against prestigious Wellington College. Friday 24th March 2017, a day that will live long in the memories of all present associated with **GROVE RUGBY**. The team secured a reputation which so many Grove teams in previous Rosslyn campaigns have worked so hard to build.

The victorious 1st VII Squad after their thrilling victory against Wellington college in the Final of the Rosslyn Park U18 Plate Final, 19-14



## GROVE RUGBY GROVE NETBALL

Stronger than ever? With over 20 players involved with Yorkshire Carnegie, through the RFU ERDPP scheme and U18 Academy, a further player with Leicester Tigers U18 Academy and 2 of these in the current England U17 squad, yet another trialling with Scotland U18 and 2 more selected for the National Independent Schools Lambs these are heady days for **GROVE RUGBY** and 1st XV coaches Joe Bedford and Tom Ryder.

Top honours go to Mr Frost's exciting U12 team, who have completed an unbeaten season, P10, Won 10, while the 1st XV face St Peter's, Gloucester in a home semi-final of the Nat West Plate Competition and the U15 are through to the quarter finals of the Nat West Cup, away at Manchester GS.

More girls are playing than ever before, with C teams at U13 and U12 playing regular fixtures, on occasions at Senior level a 4th VII has also been fielded.

Playing results are good, with several teams still well placed in national and local competitions. The promising U13 are through to Rd 2 of the Plate in the Independent Schools National Cup and the U19 are well placed in Round 3 of their respective competition after a recent comprehensive victory over Grange School.

A talented and hardworking U16 squad have qualified through to the Regional rounds of the Nationals at the end of January.

At U19 level, 3 girls have represented Yorkshire, Maisie Bickerton, Kirstie Thomson and Chloe Harrison.

Some mega fitness sessions are being undertaken in the sports hall in preparation for the massive games lying ahead.

Well done to all the players and coaches, especially Miss Thompson in her first season in charge.

## GROVE SPORT

Update-a brief overview

For more detail please view the most recent "The Grovian" publication on the School website [www.woodhousegrove.co.uk](http://www.woodhousegrove.co.uk)

Among our High Achieving "Elite" Performers, 2 have been recognised for nomination for the prestigious Bradford Sports Awards. Winners will be announced in March.

Hard work does make dreams come true!

A number of performers here to keep a look out for in the future perhaps?

## GROVE ATHLETICS

A fine athletics season for the Grove, which can be read about in more detail in the Grovian magazine. Highlights included Y9 Freddy Clark's qualification to represent West Yorkshire for All England Championships in July, individual success at the HMC (North) Championships, success for greater numbers of athletes at County level (19 Grove Athletes representing Bradford District, 4 becoming county champions in their respective events) and this combined with League success at District level (Junior Girls and Inter Boys). The benefits of athletics preparation commencing in the Spring term seem to be bringing benefits. A lively, supportive team spirit was evident among the various age groups and squads, ensuring fun and enjoyment remained at the heart of the activity. Cross country continues to thrive, with teams competing in local leagues and championships with Y7 Ben Hill excelling...

A new initiative gaining momentum has seen pupils undertaking Triathlon competitions and preparation at the Brownlee Triathlon Centre, Leeds. Pleasing to note also that the Brownlees have also enjoyed using our Jubilee Pool to supplement their own training.

## GROVE SWIMMING

After many years coaching swimming Mrs Watson and Miss Russell stepped down in October. Miss Barron, Miss Holloway and Mr Gough with the support of Swim Coach, Shane Dudley have ensured the maintenance of a comprehensive programme that caters for a large number of swimmers throughout the year.

## GROVE CRICKET

In what was to be a challenging 1st XI season a young team emerged with great credit. A lively 2nd XI showed encouraging promise to produce a very respectable playing record, while all the Junior squads combined similar promise with great enthusiasm and a genuine love of the game. Pride of place must go to the U14 XI who after victories against Horsforth, Whitcliffe Mount, Holmfirth HS, Bradford GS in the earlier rounds Shelley College in the semi-final and a relatively comfortable victory against Ilkley GS in the final.



## Hermione Roe

If a haul of 34 County and Regional Championship gold medals (along with a further 6 silver and bronze medals) were not sufficient Hermione has crowned an excellent year learning that she has been selected for English Schools (NE) for a Regional Championship Gala held in London, in March. Top of a magnificent list of achievements are Hermione's times for the 50m Breast stroke, which place her top of the "GB All Time Best" lists for both Long and Short Course events. Currently topping the GB age group rankings in 7 events Hermione has a host of achievements in a range of strokes and is now training with and competing against Olympians and other adult international swimmers in her pursuit to be the very best she can.

Hermione is a member of the English Swimming (NE) Talent Programme and in addition to swimming for Woodhouse Grove she represents City of Bradford SC. With a host of events upcoming, Hermione's hard work deserves to bring success.

**Well done to Hermione, Harrison and all our athletes on Elite Pathway Programmes. We are proud of you-please remember you not only have the support of the School in your endeavours, but also countless generations of proud Old Grovians throughout the world behind you.**

Go well!!



## Harrison Green

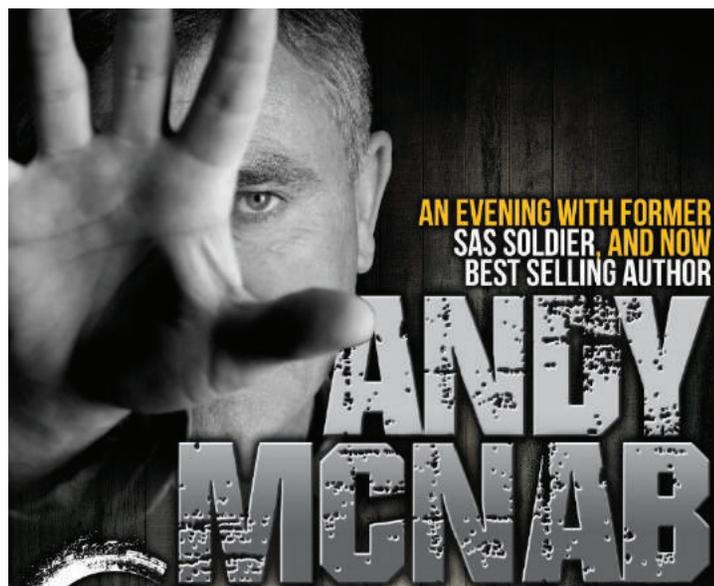
International recognition for our star gymnast. A real "wow" factor here. Harrison is British Gymnastics Double Trampoline Event Champion. Harrison is a real asset to the school and is certainly "one to watch" for the future.

After becoming National Champion, for the second time, last September Harrison was selected to represent GB at the World Championships in Bulgaria, a fantastic achievement and great opportunity for a 16 year old!

[www.harrison-green.co.uk](http://www.harrison-green.co.uk)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DOAmG05Q5o>

## The Woodhouse Grove Bradford City Partnership

This is a unique, commercial arrangement between a School and Football League Club. All the club's fulltime players, 1st team, U23 and U18 train at the School and both U23 and U18 matches are hosted here also. The U18 "Youth", who are on a Football League Apprenticeship, also undertake the education element of their course at the Grove, BTEC Level 3 Sport. Mr Chris Softley, a member of the GROVE SPORT PE Department leads this course and also serves as the BCFC Education Officer, overseeing the numerous players in the "Academy", from 8-16 whose coaching and match programme is undertaken on the School site on weekday evenings and Sundays. Several apprentices have also become valuable members of the Grove Boarding Community in recent years, while Alex Laird (15-17), progressed through to a "Full Time Pro" contract through the less fashionable "schoolboy forms" route.



### PRESENTATION AND EVENING

One of our nation's most decorated soldiers spoke with humble candour of his life and experiences to a packed Grove Theatre.

Some of the material did not always make for comfortable listening, particularly details of his wartime incarceration in Abu Ghraib prison at the hands of Iraqis suffering the allied bombardment at its peak. However, the audience was riveted throughout and the subsequent Q&A session demonstrated the degree of interest the topic held for all ages.

Central pillars of the importance of education and core values in dealing with life and developing resilience were prominent themes which have enabled this one time abandoned baby develop from borstal boy to war hero and world-famous writer.

This insightful and inspirational evening was organised by Chris Jackson, Y13 to help to raise money for the 2018 Rugby Tour.

# Old Grovians' Diary 2018

Tuesday 24th April

**Manchester Lunch**

**Malmaison Hotel, Manchester**

*Spaces are limited so please email*

*foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk or call*

*0113 250 2477 if you would like to attend*

Date TBC

**Leeds Drinks**

Friday 4th May

**Golf Day at Headingley Golf Club**

*For tickets please visit*

*www.ticketsource.co.uk/woodhousegroveschool*

Sunday 1st July

**Summer Reunion and Family Fun Day**

Thursday 20th September

**London Reunion, Doggett's Coat and Badge, Blackfriars Bridge**

Sunday 11th November

**Remembrance Service, OGA AGM and Autumn Reunion**

Friday 14th December

**2018 Leavers' Reunion - WGS**

Wednesday 23rd - Monday 28th January 2019

**Scottish Reunion at Culcreuch Castle, Fintory**

*Including Reunion Dinner, Saturday 26th January*

Thanks to all who have contributed to this edition of Xaipete. The Woodhouse Grove Foundation are delighted to compile the publication but we do rely on receiving information from OGs with regards updates and news of themselves and family or contemporaries and friends. From near or far, and whether large or small, we would welcome your stories and of course photos.



## WGS Golf Day

On Friday 4th May

At Headingley Golf Club

# £240

# for a 4 Ball

For tickets please visit

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/woodhousegroveschool](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/woodhousegroveschool)

## Challenge and Opportunity

Exciting times (and challenges) ahead! As you may be aware there is forthcoming legislation coming into force later this year relating to GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). In its simplest interpretation, this means we will need to engage with each other with regard to our use of existing and future data we hold on you along with reassuring you that these details will be held securely, for School/Foundation/OGA business only. Our database is expanding and requires some refining and this should prove an opportunity to ensure we are compliant with measures necessary to effectively communicate with a wide audience in the 21st Century. Moving forward the Woodhouse Grove Foundation will be prioritising increasing awareness and support for our Bursary project, but alongside this we also aim to ensure we have a social media profile which promotes the objectives of the OGA. A particularly exciting initiative, made possible through the generous financial support of the School and OGA, is an "Archive Digitisation" project, to build on the work painstakingly undertaken already by the dedicated pairing of Richard Thornton and Chris Hanson, supported by the "Chief Wizard" of Grovian record keeping Hugh Knowles. Hopefully over the next 18 months much of the material available in the archives will become more accessible through the Foundation area on the School website.

## Please take a minute!

*Have we got your up to date details?* You could be receiving Xaipete electronically. You can let us know via the website or address below.

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tel: 0113 250 2477 email: [foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk)



Visit our Facebook page - *Old Grovian Association*

