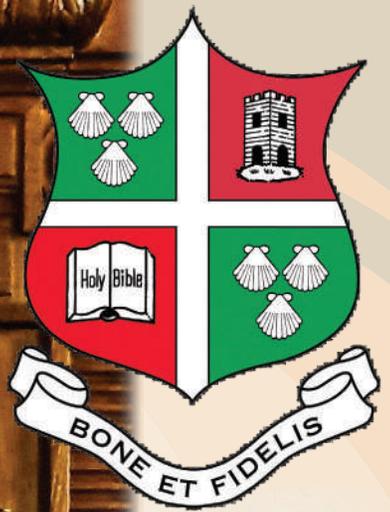


Χαίρετε

Winter 2018



1914

1918

BONE ET FIDELIS

H. AGAR	H. H. MITCHELL
L. F. BARNES	C. A. MOON
N. H. BARR	A. MOORHOUSE
J. P. BARRITT	A. B. MOORHOUSE
J. P. BOURNE	I. MURRAY
J. G. BRAITHWAITE	H. MYER
F. C. M. BROADBENT	E. T. PAHR
G. S. BROADBENT	H. R. PARTRIDGE
G. K. BROWN	A. P. PHILLIPS
E. BUTTERWORTH	G. W. POWELL
H. W. CASH	J. A. POWELL
G. CLAUGHTON	A. F. PYCROFT
R. CLAUGHTON	H. RAYNER
A. C. J. COOMBS	H. REASON
E. MAY	P. F. T. KELLY
R. CRITCHLEY	J. H. ROBINSON
H. N. DANBY	H. SINCLAIR
A. E. DAY	A. V. SKEVINGTON
H. J. DICKINSON	C. H. STAMPE
S. L. DOWN	J. C. STARKIE
J. EDDISON	H. G. STRINGER
W. J. GOULDIE	L. C. TURTON
F. S. GREGORY	N. O. VINTER
T. H. HEATON	C. E. WAINWRIGHT
A. V. HIRST	E. WALES
S. L. HITCHEN	H. WALGATE
A. HODGSON	J. E. WARNER
R. A. HOLIDAY	J. M. WHITEHEAD
R. K. JAMES	J. W. WHITEHEAD
A. C. KENT	R. N. WILDMAN
A. LEE	A. T. WOODCOCK
W. MCINTOSH	G. E. WOOD
M. MACINTYRE	H. WOODS
W. A. MARSDEN	C. G. WYLD
J. R. MASHFORD	W. P. YATES
N. B. MIERS	T. VAREY
R. PLUMPTON	

THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR
EVERMORE

Welcome

From The Chair

Faye Hutchinson OG 1995 - 2001



I was delighted to be elected as Chair of the Old Grovian Association for 2018/19. I felt honoured to wield a rather historic gavel used for the AGM inscribed with the initials of all the Chairs since 1965 indicative of the significance and tradition of the Association. I enjoyed speaking with the long-standing members and it was fascinating to hear their accounts of the School long before my time, whilst discussing the future visions and values for the Association moving forward.

It was also a valuable opportunity to thank Michelle Davison (nee Tudor) for her tremendous work over the last year in her capacity as Chair, championing the setting up of events and touchpoints to promote business networking

opportunities for Old Grovians along with attending OGA functions and meetings.

It was incredibly moving to be invited by the School to lay a wreath and read a poem written by a WWI Officer as part of the Remembrance Service in the School Chapel. It was wonderful to look around the building that I visited most mornings before school lessons commenced and still feel a sense of belonging and familiarity after all these years.

For all of us to enjoy a flourishing OGA for many years to come I must extend the invitation to you to consider becoming an ambassador to represent your year group. This would involve being invited to attend the Annual General Meeting in November then sharing OGA news and information with your year group and other WGS friends through social media, sports clubs etc. If this is something you would like to become involved with, please email:

foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk.

The OGA is a dynamic organisation and undertakes far more activities than I was ever fully aware of. Most of us are familiar with Xaipete or have perhaps been back to School to attend a function or reunion, but the OGA also raises money, which is used to support the work of the Trustees of the Southern Scholarship Fund and has even supported the OGRUFC recently. I know Roger Howard would also wish for me to prompt you about the work of the newly formed Woodhouse Grove School 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.

I look forward to my year as Chair and plan to expand the inaugural Next Generation Networking event held in Leeds city centre on the 8th November 2018. This was a very successful evening of networking aimed at Old Grovians, current parents and sixth formers. We decided to target it specifically towards the "Built Environment Industry" a sector shared by both

myself and Michelle Davison and going forward we will look to roll it out as an all-encompassing business event to help further this exciting format. It feels very special belonging to a school that keeps on giving long after you have left the classroom.

Details of future Next Generation Networking events will be announced through the usual mediums and our new LinkedIn group; I do hope you can join us.

I am very much looking forward to attending a variety of functions planned throughout 2019, further details of which are listed towards the rear of this edition of Xaipete. All of these are opportunities for us to promote the objectives of the OGA.

Finally, I would like to say that the OGA is a very worthwhile Association and the relationships we already have and the connections we can make through being part of it are incredibly powerful. I would urge you to become involved and remember to keep the OGA up to date with your news. Please send any information or feedback as to what you may like to see from the Association to either myself or the Foundation.

Faye Hutchinson

We Shall Remember them...

Our front cover is of course in recognition of all Grovians who served in the First World War and particularly those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The number of acknowledged casualties steadily increased after 1918 as more became known about those who had served and died. Throughout the 1920s, the number of identified Grovian casualties continued to increase and be more accurately recorded. Today the total number stands at 73.

Following a query from an Old Grovian's family, dedicated research by Old Grovian archivists Richard Thornton and Hugh Knowles, including archived correspondence of Dr Vinter, confirmed that Thomas Varey was an Old Grovian (OG 1889-1893) and that this was a name that needed adding to our memorial board.

He was a Private in the 2nd Battalion Duke of Wellington's and he died in 1915 as a result of a gas attack at Ypres. Complications, including locating suitable craftsmen to undertake this task meant that it was to be some time before his name was added.

During this time, a historian and researcher, Peter Hastie, made known to the School the death of Robert Plumpton (OG 1898-1900) (2nd Lieutenant, 6th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment) whose body was located in a grave at the new British cemetery in Murmansk. It transpires that Robert was killed whilst serving his country on Christmas Day, 1918. We hope that this sees our memorial boards complete and we remain grateful to Messrs. Thornton, Knowles and Hastie for their dedication to this matter together with the work of David Whithorn in adding details of all records on our memorial boards.

Shortly before the Remembrance service on the 11th November 2018, work on the Honours board was completed with both names added and the School is grateful to Richard Thornton for his donation to cover the cost of this overdue work.

The Woodhouse Grove Foundation Trust: One year on...

“Striving to make a difference”

Overall, it has been a busy and positive year, with pledges and donations approaching £50,000 being achieved for our bursary support programme. We are particularly grateful to the donors who have contributed directly and all who have helped by supporting our functions.

At a time when the School's standing has arguably never been higher and where pupils enjoy enviable facilities in a supportive environment, we are mindful of our heritage and commitment to our local community. In all of this, the Woodhouse Grove Foundation Trust has a key role to play.

The Foundation has been formed, most specifically, to help support pupils access opportunities at The Grove both in the classroom and beyond, affording them the life changing opportunities enjoyed by previous generations of Grovians.

Successes this year

Working in conjunction with the OGA, we have hosted a number of reunions and held an inaugural Networking event. These have provided effective arenas to introduce the Foundation to wider audiences and have undoubtedly been boosted by our social media platforms, primarily Facebook, “Old Grovian Association” and LinkedIn “Old Grovian Business Network”.



Since launching, the Foundation has been able to contribute to fee support for several pupils in our Sixth Form, as well as providing supplementary assistance to enable such pupils to participate in and benefit from school trips, additional equipment and tuition along with offsite activities. We seek to continue to raise awareness of our purpose and how this has the potential to change lives and ensure the unique “atmosphere” of the School is secured.

Looking Forward and How you can help?

The Grovian community can support the Foundation in many ways. Collectively, small contributions can make a big difference. Be this in the form of one-off financial donations, legacy giving or via regular amounts through a standing order, it soon adds up.

We seek to ensure a culture of giving, or “Paying Forward”, becomes firmly embedded across all generations of Grovians and the Grove community. Our aim is that all Grovians feel comfortable and able to support us. If we can convince all Alumni to contribute according to their means, then together we can make a big difference.

Additionally, you can offer your time, expertise and opportunities to the School as exemplified in the recent visit of Old Grovian, Professor Ashley Ward. This was also demonstrated at the Next Generation Networking event and the School's own Careers Convention, supported by many OGs. Perhaps an easier way of helping would be to take a holiday through our newly formed partnership with Anne Monaghan at Not Just Travel (see back page).

Details of how to give are available in the Foundation area of the School website or by request via post, or email at foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk.

Clear communication is a key area for the Foundation and OGA moving forward. The Foundation is pleased with our developing social media presence, but there are aspects of our communication which can be reviewed and assessed. In the era of GDPR and PECR it is vitally important the contact details we have for you and your preferred means of us contacting you are up to date.

The Old Grovian Association

Acknowledging the legacy of those who have gone before, inspiring Grovians of today and securing the School for generations of Grovians to come.

The Foundation's OGA focus at present is to reconnect and re-engage with as many OGs as possible whilst adapting to the needs and wishes of the existing cadre of active Association members. Essentially, the two organisations, Foundation and OGA, are mutually dependant.

The retirement of Heather Garner, a dedicated and long serving member of the School Staff has fortunately not meant Heather's services have been lost to the Association and we are pleased that Heather has chosen to remain as OGA Secretary.

It is important that OGs remain connected with the Association if they wish to ensure that as Alumni they have a body which runs not only to serve the needs of the School but also its members.

With this in mind, and following a motion from the 2017 AGM, the OGA Committee are exploring possibilities for developing the November Reunion to a 2 day event in order to attract and involve greater numbers.

A weekend event opens up a variety of opportunities and we are always open to your ideas.

A significant work in progress for the Foundation is the digitisation of school archives. The School remains grateful to the extensive work of OG archivists, Richard Thornton and Chris Hansen. In addition to this, a specialist company has now been engaged to scan a large number of Grovian magazines and convert thousands of photographs already on file.



These are our best record of the School's history and heritage. We regularly deal with queries from families of Old Grovians, historical researchers or similar and the contributions of our volunteer archivists and key researcher, Hugh Knowles, are invaluable. The digitisation project is being jointly funded by the OGA and the School and more details will follow when the archive is ready to launch.

The School's facilities offer a wide range of scope for hosting functions and reunions of all sizes. Small-scale lunches can be accommodated in our recently refurbished Rawson Room (formerly known as the staff dining room to many) and Headmasters Lounge, along with dinners or gatherings for up to 120 on the Hastings Long Gallery or School Dining Room. In addition, an indoor marquee can be housed in the Sports Hall with capacity for up to 400 Banqueting guests.



You are very welcome - just let us know how we can help!

3 Important Tasks for Old Grovians in early 2019: ACT NOW!

1. **Update** - We are only as good as the information we receive. We need up to date, accurate contact details and your preferences for means of communication.
2. **Engage** - Come and visit the School, feel confident coming to functions, even consider organising a reunion for your year group, tour squad, production team/cast, choir or Orchestra. You might also consider becoming a class ambassador.
3. **Commit** - Please consider the various options for "Paying Forward", thereby both helping the school and changing the lives of deserving students by enabling them to experience the education and opportunities we were privileged to enjoy.

Thank You 2018

A definition of Philanthropy: "A love of (philos) humanity (anthropos). The practice of doing good to one's fellow men", Day, Goldie and Stevens 1988.

We are particularly grateful for the support of a growing number of the Woodhouse Grove family and indeed business partners for contributing specific gifts to the Foundation during its first year (see list below). In the terminology of fundraising, these should perhaps be referred to as 'Leadership gifts', in that they will hopefully inspire others to follow and give similarly.

Woodhouse Grove Foundation

Mr R.H. Thornton (51-59), Mr J.R. Udy (63-70),
The Friends of Woodhouse Grove School, Mrs Lise Laycock,
The estate of Mr John Brodwell, Dr G. Haslam and family,
Woodhouse Grove School, Project "Grove Willow",
Northern Powergrid Old Grovian Association, Mr E.R. Howard
(71-78, St 82-)

Old Grovian Association Network Event Sponsors

Evora Construction, MJM Consult, Pagabo

WGS Rugby South Africa Tour Player Support

Mr K. Keighley (93-00), Mr M. Allewell (90-01),
Mr G.E. Moore (05-07), Mr D. Williamson (92-99),
Mr J. Griffiths (86-96), Mr J.L. Beane (89-99),
Mr S.S. Basra (83-94), Mr A. Brimacombe (87-98)

Reunions & Gatherings

London Reunion Doggett's Coat and Badge

Once again, a well-attended event at a venue that all seemed to find agreeable. With several attending for the first time expressing how much they had enjoyed themselves and that they would recommend the event to all especially their contemporaries. Unfortunately, those attending had to suffer Roger Howard once again extolling the need to support the Foundation in his typically boring and monotone fashion. This was the only blight on an otherwise successful evening and once he had been told to shut up all continued to enjoy themselves catching up with each other and also learning from the Headmaster of the current state of school affairs. We are looking forward to next year's event which will be held once again in Blackfriars at the Coat and Badge (located directly opposite Blackfriars station on Blackfriars bridge) on Thursday 19th September. Roger has promised he will do his utmost to tempt several recently retired members of staff to join the 2019 event.



Manchester & Cheshire Reunion 2018



On 24th April we held the Manchester & Cheshire 2018 reunion lunch at the Malmaison Hotel in Manchester. The event was well attended by a strong contingent who were leavers from the 50's and 60's and talk around the table centred on catching up and recollections and tales from time at School. OGA Chair, Michelle Davison spoke warmly about the importance of the Association and its strength and we look forward to next year's event.

Old Grovian Weekend November 2018

A beautiful autumn day commenced with a well-attended remembrance service in Chapel with our very own ER Howard delivering the address. After light refreshments on the Hastings Long Gallery, a purposeful OGA AGM took place. It was moved to explore integrating the AGM into the Saturday immediately preceding Remembrance Sunday and develop opportunities hopefully involving an occasion to incorporate School sport, OG RUFC, a tour of the School and possible social event that evening. OG Squash, Netball and Rugby would continue to follow the Remembrance Sunday service.

Incoming OGA Chair, Faye Hutchinson, introduced herself and her opening address expounded her belief of following the key principles of the Association and integrating the networking principles successfully established by outgoing Chair Michelle Davison and the Foundation.

On this year's sports programme, it was pleasing to see the return of squash with the School competing against a host of maestros convened by Dan Nulty (OG 90-97). All the games were played in great spirit with the Old Grovians guiding and supporting their less experienced opponents in a wonderful atmosphere.

In the Netball, an accomplished School team proved too strong for the Old Grovian ladies in a very enjoyable and energetic encounter.



While the Rugby proved to be a game of two halves, with the Chair's XV making a strong comeback following a half time deficit with a final score of 42 each being a most fitting end to an extremely physical encounter. It was promised that nothing would be said of Chair's Captain Joe Bedford (OG 00-02) shanking a drop goal conversion attempt to win the game.

All present enjoyed post match hospitality and presentations on the HLG where the highlight was the presentation, after many years, of the Paul Morris trophy for Squash gratefully received by Russell Payne (OG 88-95).

A really enjoyable day with excellent hospitality provided by Catering Manager Franco Caroleo and his excellent WGS Catering team.

London Marquis Pub

David Cope (OG 64-73) gathered a group of his contemporaries together in London (photo below) at the Marquis Pub in Covent Garden. It was a fun afternoon and great to catch up after many years!



Working from back to front down the left hand side of the table as you look at: Bryan Brown (OG 69-73) Nick Houghton (OG 66-73) Gordon Coggrave (OG 66-71) Peter Busfield (OG 66-73) And down the right Steve Cuthbert (OG 66-73) David Cope (OG 64-73) Matthew Sharp (OG 66-72) Chris Senogles (OG 64-73) Richard Pullan (OG 63-71)

Golf Day



Friday May 5 saw 10 teams compete at Headingley Golf Club on a bright and sunny day. Bacon sandwiches consumed, the teams headed out onto what is the oldest golf course in Leeds to battle it out. Teams included OGs, Governors, Parents and Friends of the WGS Foundation, all competing for various prizes it was ultimately the Foundation team who triumphed with a score of 93!

Thanks to all who took part - a really enjoyable day!

Old Grovian, Leavers and Family Fun Day 2018

On a gloriously sunny day, the OGA defeated a spirited Leavers XI in a T20 match watched from the boundary by significant numbers from all generations. Spectators were also able to enjoy a wide range of entertainment and distractions including a variety of live music, scheduled and impromptu, courtesy of the music department, a bouncy castle and inflatable assault course. Sustenance was provided at the BBQ, Ice cream van and Bridge Bar.

All in all a most enjoyable day, rounding off a memorable weekend. The Leavers service during the morning was a poignant occasion, with stirring music (congregation and especially choral) and an inspirational address from Rev. Peter Whitaker.

Sunday T20 OGA 207-6 (Will Hatfield 54 ret, George Marsden 54 ret, Anthony Cadman 31)
Leavers 149-4 (Ali Ahmed 46 no, Joe Green 34, Joel Godfrey 3-25) OGA won by 58 runs

The following represented the OGA in one or both of the matches: Ben Brown, Tim Dalton, Josh Wheatley, Patrick Dixon, Abdi Ahmed, Jack Harley, George Styles, Tom Cummins, Joel Godfrey, Anthony Cadman, James Hole, Will Hatfield.

Thanks to Ben Brown for convening both XI's and for those offering their services to play, especially those travelling significant distances. It is hoped that the OGA will be able to



At the end of the afternoon, Foundation Director, Roger Howard, presented OGA Cricket Convenor and Captain, Ben Brown, with the Curry Cup for the OGA victory in a high scoring 50 overs match on the preceding Friday v the School 1st XI as well as the T20 Cup for Sunday's triumph v a Leavers XI.

Friday's Match WGS 204-7, (Owen Tennant 79, Nicky Bulcock, Josh Wheatley, Tim Dalton took 2 wickets each)
OGA 207-4 (Joel Godfrey 54 no, Nicky Bulcock 49, Josh Wheatley 43) OGA won by 6 wickets

hold a tennis team next summer to play the School. While a convenor is sought, those wishing to play should please contact the Foundation to confirm their availability for selection:

0113 250 2477 or foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk

The Leavers of 2018 pictured here gathered together in the Hastings Long Gallery in December to reunite and share stories of what they've been up to since leaving School in the Summer. It was lovely to see them all again and they seemed to enjoy being back on familiar ground.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW...



Jason Latto (OG 77-85)

Jason is living in Singapore (8 years and counting), is married to Lillian and together they have 2 children. Jason settled in a career in IT from 1992, 6 years with his first company, 17 years with IBM and now with an ex client, DBS Bank in Asia. As well as balancing work and family life, Jason is a Ruby Union coach at a local Singapore club and he harks back to schoolboy Rugby and the lessons it instilled in him. *"Whilst I know it may not have shown at the time, you (his coaches namely ERH, JKJ, BDCS) had a profound effect then and in the years following. This spans across my passion for rugby, guiding principles in work/life and the more positive memories of my time at The Grove. I know I was far from the model pupil but the strong and positive recollections are from the rugby pitch, training, match days and tour times."*



George Sanders (OG 04-11)

Previously Head Boy at the Grove and after 7 years of hard work, George was awarded a PhD in Sports Science this year and is shortly taking up a post at a university near Sydney. George had this to say: *"I would not have been able to achieve this without the lessons of patience, determination and knowledge instilled in me from my time at the Grove! The Grove made me who I am today and for this I will be forever grateful."*

Tim Hodgetts (OG 74-81)

Brigadier Tim Hodgetts CBE has been named as Senior Health Advisor to the Army and Honorary Surgeon to Her Majesty the Queen. This means he has also been appointed a Commissioner of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Cecilia Zhao (OG 09-17)

After leaving School, Cecilia started University life at St Catherine's College, Oxford and in her first year of studies she was on the Standing Committee (aka the Governing Body) of the Oxford Union, the world's largest speaking and debating society. She is now currently Vice President of Oxford University Boxing Club (with 500+ members) and the College Netball Social Secretary. Of her brother Richard (OG 09-15), Cecilia informs us that he has just started his Masters in Data Science at Kings College, London.

Tom Mcmeeking (OG 85-96)

Tom has been made a Doctor of Philosophy PhD from the University of Leeds. He completed a 100,000 word research piece looking at the impact of John Major which will duly be published. Tom studied A Level History, English and Politics at WGS before completing a Law degree at Durham University. He regularly comes to speak to our A Level History and Politics students and shares his knowledge. Well done Tom!



Alasdair Wright (OG 75-80)

Alasdair was in Stephenson House and played rugby for WGS, which continued after he left school until a back injury curtailed his involvement in playing the sport. He did various jobs before joining Cumbria Police in 1990 and from where he will be retiring next summer. His career has latterly been in the Comms Centre. He carried out Home Office funded research in the mid-late 90s restricted to police eyes only, but was used in the Stephen Lawrence Enquiry (McPherson Report). Researching this allowed him to travel the country visiting other Forces including the RUC (as it was then) and across the pond to the USA in order to tag along with a couple of SWAT teams in Montgomery County and the US Parks Police. Alasdair feels that none of this would have been possible had it not been for his schooling at WGS. *"I had lived in Jamaica before starting at WGS where my education had fallen behind. WGS changed that and gave me the knowledge and confidence to progress and do the things I wanted. I thoroughly enjoyed my time there and made some good friends"*

Ashley Ward (OG 80-89)

Ashley left WGS after A Levels keen to make some mark on the world but equally keen (ironically) that University would play no role in that.....In the event, I bumbled around some unrewarding jobs for a few years before I finally made a hypocrite out of myself. In the event, what brought matters to a head was when my employers 'let me go'. Even though I'd excelled myself by failing biology O Level the first time around, biology, or more particularly, animals, were always my greatest fascination. Imbued now with a sense of urgency and a need to make up for 6 lost years, I enrolled at college to do a one year intensive course of four science A Levels. This time, regrettably unlike at WGS, I committed myself to the task. Having finished those, I went to the University of Leeds to do a degree in Zoology. In the final year of that course, I met Prof Jens Krause, who is a world-leading figure in the study of animal behaviour. The possibility of doing a PhD came up and I decided that if I managed to get a first, I'd do it. In the event, I did scrape a first and so followed three more years at Leeds, doing my PhD. Suddenly, I had the time, the support and the facilities to explore the questions that most fascinated me and for the first time, I knew where my future lay. I got my PhD in 2001 and spent four more years as a post-doctoral researcher, examining topics such as how animal groups, from insects to humans, form, stay together and function. In 2007, I was offered the chance to join the faculty at the University of Sydney. I'd never been to Australia, so it was a bit of a punt, but it worked out well. I rose through the ranks until I became a Professor in 2017. I've been incredibly lucky to be given the opportunities that I have and after a bit of a rocky start to my adult life, I'm now doing what I dreamed of doing. I'm not a rich man in terms of money, but I'm rich in terms of what I've seen and done. I have a wonderful wife and two equally wonderful sons, aged 4 and 9.



Claire Carlile (OG 92-02)

Old Grovian, Claire Carlile and sister-in-law Helen Brimacombe have launched a new Children's sleepwear and accessory brand. Lister & Bruce Ltd; Beautifully Designed for Little Minds. The business is a real family affair with their children being the original guinea pigs for their products. Even the company name comes from Claire and Helen's own mums - Lister being Claire's mum's maiden name and Bruce being Helen's mum's maiden name. A lot of thought has gone into every detail of MyJamas (their first product launch). The range is designed in the UK, manufactured in Portugal and is made from 100% organic cotton. This is super soft against the little one's skin and means they work well throughout all seasons. Go to listerandbruce.com for more.

Michael Peter Benson (OG 96-02)

Michael gained his Private Pilot's license and was working on his commercial Pilot's licence when he successfully applied for a place at NATS Training College at Hern. Post graduation he validated as an Air Traffic Controller at Heathrow. He now also trains new Controllers and develops Risk Assessments for the service.

Andrew (Andy) Page (OG 82-89)

Andy is now a Captain with Virgin Airlines.

Lewis Williamson (OG 97-01)

Lewis completed his first degree BSc Hons in Geology and Petroleum Geology in 2010 from Aberdeen University. He has just graduated with an MSc in Decommissioning, also from Aberdeen University and in its inaugural year. He has been nominated for the Society of Underwater Technologies Martin Richmond Award. This award provides recognition across the offshore industry and following the review of nominees for this year's award, Lewis has been selected as the outstanding candidate.

Lewis attended WGS both as a boarder and day pupil and had the following to say when he recently got in touch: *"I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the School ... the support I received during my education in particular from the Dyslexic Unit and my strong involvement of sporting pursuits instilled great values that will stay with me for a lifetime. The School motto "Bone et Fidelis" has helped shape me as a person and how I have tackled life's challenges and pushed me to achieve my goals. I look back on my Woodhouse Grove years with fondness and it was a privilege to have attended the School."*



David Beardsall (OG 64-72)

David recently informed us that he is regularly in touch with Tim (OG 64-71) and Richard (OG 63-70) Light and that they enjoy frequent walks in the Yorkshire Dales and Peak District. David is married to Margaret and they have two daughters and two grandsons. He retired last year from a life working in sales although he had qualified as a teacher in 1975. David is very much involved in his local Methodist church and is currently training as a local preacher.

Emma Waller (OG 06-13)



Congratulations to Emma who has recently graduated from the University of Birmingham with an MSc in Physiotherapy (pre-registration) following a demanding 2 year course and has also accepted her first Physiotherapist post.

Patrick Sheard (OG 57-64)

It was great to reconnect with Patrick Sheard who hopes that more of his contemporaries will attend the London reunion in 2019.

Eleanor Elphick (nee Kennedy) (OG 07-12)

Ellie has been awarded a Masters in Medieval Studies from Royal Holloway.

Heather Garner

After an association with both Bronte House and Woodhouse Grove dating back to 1992, Heather took the decision to retire at the end of the Summer term 2018. Heather has played a valuable part in the School community across a wide range of roles including Secretary, Boarding Houseparent and Boarding administrator. Heather's care and attention to detail has been invaluable to countless Grovians over the years. We are delighted that Heather has agreed to remain in her honorary post as OGA Secretary whilst enjoying a busy and productive retirement.



Alan JM Sunderland (OG 66-73)

We really appreciated a visit to the school in early November from Alan who was staggered by the changes since his last visit. He promised to pay more attention to OGA correspondence and hoped to attend next year's London reunion and meet up with more of his contemporaries. With a successful career in Finance, Alan now enjoys his role as Credit Manager at Wycombe Wanderers FC.

Xaipete Winter 2018

Jessica Ambler (OG 89-94)

It was a great Christmas for the Ambler sisters, who spent it together for the first time in over 10 years! Jessica has her own Marketing business in Auckland, New Zealand, and two lovely children, Joel and Sofia. Louise (OG 87-92) lives in the Calder Valley and is a Practice Manager, heading up a team of social workers specialising in child protection. Kate (OG 90-99) divides her time between London and Hebden Bridge. She is a scriptwriter and editor and also runs a performance skills business.



Jake Armstrong & Max Green

Having both "graduated" through the GROVE RUGBY and Yorkshire Carnegie pathways, Jake Armstrong (OG 10-12) and Max Green (OG 07-12) have previously competed against each other in the Championship in the professional game and now find themselves as adversaries in the Premiership, Jake with Bristol Bears and Max with Bath Rugby. Pictured here at the start of the Premiership season, where Bristol won the honours in front of a crowd of over 26,000.

Subsequently both have enjoyed impressive performances in other televised matches and are enjoying progressing in their professional careers. Max has recently enjoyed prominent television coverage scoring his first try for Bath against Wasps in a recent European Cup encounter.



Phil Barraclough (OG 47-55)

We were delighted to meet with Phil who lives in Yeadon and after a long and fulfilling career in teaching is enjoying retirement. Phil is looking forward to returning to the Grove and meeting up with contemporaries from his era. A reunion is planned for later in the year so please contact foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk if you fit into these years and would like further details.

Christine Jackson (OG 95-04)

Currently in the UK seeking to develop her career and pursue musical interests, she is starting to rebuild a normal life after enduring the 2017 British Virgin Islands hurricane, Christine recently visited the School. Her siblings, Michael and Kate also send their best wishes to their Grovian contemporaries.

Belinda Frost (St 83-18) and Anne Howard (St 03-18)

I'm sure Grovians of all generations would wish former catering manager Belinda Frost a Happy Retirement along with Anne Howard who we gather already has her hands full with granddaughter Emi and puppy Reggie!



Ellie Kildunne (OG 11-16)

Following her 9 tries in 8 appearances for England's Red Roses last season, our cover girl of Xaipete 2017, Ellie, is part of the England Women's Sevens team currently competing in the HSBC World Sevens competition. Ellie is combining her degree studies at St Mary's University, Twickenham, with touring the world playing tournaments in Colorado, Sydney, Dubai, Canada and a little nearer to home in France. Ellie is still very much top of her game, scoring 2 match winning tries in the Dubai sevens (early December '18) as part of the World Series.

The key aim of this process being to qualify England and thereby represent Team GB at the 2020 Olympics in Japan. Good luck Ellie!

Other OGs playing more close to home include: Max's cousin Joe Green (OG 07-18) who is on loan from Yorkshire Carnegie at Huddersfield RUFC in National League 2 (North), where he and Jack Maplesden (OG 07-14) share and compete for scrum half responsibilities. Chris Jackson (OG 16-18) is also contracted to Yorkshire Carnegie and was enjoying a successful loan spell (before being injured) with Sandal RUFC (North Premier Division), coached by Simon Worrall (OG 01-03) and player coach Joe Bedford (OG 00-02). Tom Fountain (OG 08-15) also plays at Sandal. Otley RUFC (also National League 2 North) have a number of OGs on their roster, including Louis Fraser (OG 10-17), Ben Magee (OG 07-14) and Kieran Wilyman (OG 16-18). Blake Morgan (OG 15-17) plays at Ilkley RUFC (Northern Premier Division) along with Matt Burke (OG 16-18).

Lucinda Yeadon (OG 87-97)

Luci has recently taken a new post in the commercial world following over 10 years working as a Leeds City Councillor. After leaving the Grove to take A-Levels at Park Lane, Luci subsequently graduated from Trinity and All Saints College in Communications, Culture and Media. She then worked at the Royal Mencap Society before moving into local politics in 2008. In 2009, she was appointed to the Executive Board of the City Council holding various positions and responsibilities in subsequent years including Adult Social Care, Culture and Sport (including the Grand Depart of the Tour de France), Children's Services and finally Sustainability.

In 2015, she became Deputy Leader of Leeds City Council and by 2018 Luci had chosen to leave her council responsibilities taking up a post with CEG as Community Liaison Manager utilising her skills and knowledge gained both through her studies and time in local politics. Luci is enjoying her new post, which includes a focus on the development of the Kirkstall Forge site but also includes Temple Mills and Southbank, which remain key development areas for Leeds. The work involves links with local communities, commercial partners and local councils where the aim is to add social value to these regeneration areas. Well done Luci and keep up the good work!

Anthony (Fred) Peart (OG 69-76)

Contact with John Binns (OG 69-76) acknowledging his MBE award subsequently enabled us to establish contact with Anthony (Fred) Peart (OG 69-76) (see photo). Difficult to imagine Anthony, now passed his 60th birthday, winding down from his role in a burgeoning bike business in London, as a doting grandfather enjoying the opportunity to ride his bike and still play his guitars. Aficionados of Grove music will recall both Johnny and Fred playing in Fred's band, Gnasher, to a packed Memorial Hall. Brilliant that they are still playing together in a group called If, who play up to half a dozen times each year at events and parties, covering songs from the 70s, 80s, 90s and also from the Noughties. Perhaps at some point we could welcome them back to the Grove to play at a 70s reunion?



Elizabeth (Lizzie) Watson (OG 08-15)

Lizzie graduated from St Catherine's College, Oxford with a BA Geography, 1st Class Honours and is now studying MA Global Development Futures at Queen Mary University, London.

Martin Dransfield (OG 70-77)

Martin has been given the opportunity to return to Timor Leste where he commanded a New Zealand Battalion on the border with Indonesia in 2000.

This involved a series of clashes with militia as they provided the security necessary to rebuild a country which had been destroyed, literally burnt to the ground, in the wake of the national vote to become an independent nation.

He then returned in 2011 and 2012 in command of the UN observers and was delighted to be part of one of the United Nations' most successful missions, which came to a conclusion in December 2012.

His current role, which commenced in 2018 and will finish in 2021, is as an adviser to the Timorese Defence Force (now in its 18th year). This involves being part of a Timorese led, multinational team, drafting their strategic plan, and providing advice on their aspiration to actively contribute to peacekeeping operations.

Michael Allewell (OG 90-01)

After a successful career working in banking "in the city", Michael Allewell has moved back into the area to establish his own business, Allewell Financial Management. He is pictured here catching up with contemporary Joe Bedford and former coach Roger Howard. At least 2 in the photo would come into any argument/discussion of great/most successful Grove rugby captains.

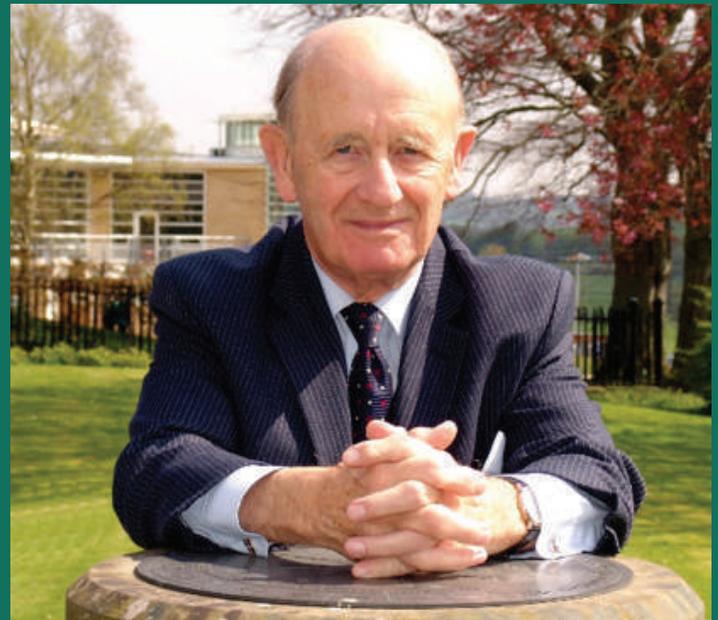


WG President Helping the Homeless

Having driven past the former Harrogate branch of Greenwoods Menswear in Parliament Street one evening, Mr Brian Greenwood (OG 34-45) noticed two homeless people sleeping in its doorway and, deeply moved by what he saw, the 92-year-old former co-owner of one of Britain's biggest menswear chains has decided to try and help.

Woodhouse Grove's longest serving Chairman and current President is the driving force behind a project to set up the first Greenhaven Hostel for the homeless in his former premises in Harrogate. Mr Greenwood said: "It's a disgrace that in a prosperous town and a fairly prosperous country that some poor devils should be sleeping on the pavement outside a shop. It's to the shame of Harrogate and British society that this should be happening. I knew the problem existed and I knew that there are bodies trying to help homeless people here but I spent a sleepless night after seeing the problem with my own eyes. I thought something should be done about it and I thought I should be part of that."

With the support of Harrogate Mayor, Councillor Bernard Bateman, and working with the local authority and other local homeless initiatives, Mr Greenwood still has several hurdles to overcome but much progress has



been made towards an early opening of the hostel. Particularly optimistic about his talks with the Salvation Army, Mr Greenwood hopes that this organisation might even run the new hostel. If successful, his ambition to help where he can extends beyond Harrogate. He said: "There's so much inequality today in Britain in terms of wealth, it's bad for everyone. One thing is for certain: I won't be here in ten years' time, but if the first Greenhaven Hostel works, it could go nationwide."

John Haslam Memorial Bench

The school were grateful to receive a bench in memory of John Haslam, presented by the family on Old Grovians day in November 2018. The bench will be used during the summer months over looking the cricket field, a position dearly loved by John.



Chaplain's Retrospective

It doesn't seem possible that I am half a year away from becoming an Old Grovian. Having seen nine year groups of students pass through the Leavers' Service, this year I will be tagged on to the end of my tenth cohort as we all walk out of Chapel on 30 June. When school reopens in September, I will have been installed as a Methodist Presbyterian in the Uttoxeter section of the Trent and Dove Circuit, starting another phase of work and life with five congregations under my care.

These ten years have passed quickly in so many ways. Measured out in terms and half-terms, they come as packages of tasks and opportunities with a fair degree of intensity, followed by holidays that always feel necessary and welcome. Once, when preaching at a church in the local circuit, I was asked if I found enough to do at school to keep me occupied! There has always been something to do.

I've largely enjoyed being in the classroom again, teaching RS and PHSEE – always waiting for the next new question that someone expects me to field, and hopefully giving reasonable and appropriate responses. I think I have been fairly unshockable, with the intention of giving freedom to people to ask the questions they may otherwise be afraid to raise, and I apologise to students who I have shocked by taking their sometimes frank statements (perhaps meant to shock me!) seriously, writing them on the board verbatim and discussing them in the lesson. I will miss the interaction with students, though I probably won't miss the marking.

The opportunity to address over a thousand students and staff a week is one of the biggest opportunities and challenges of the Chaplain's work. Crossing age barriers, interest levels, juggling being faithful to the Christian tradition and Methodist heritage of the school, while being sensitive to those of other faiths and none, is a big ask. You have to be the judge of whether or not I have succeeded. I believe that life is an exploratory process, and exploring spirituality is a key part of that process. Knowing that I have helped some young (and not so young) people to move a little further forward in their journey is part of what I take with me in my sense of satisfaction.

Supporting people in their growth and their struggles is also a deeply satisfying thing. Listening, sometimes advising, occasionally involving other people and agencies, but sometimes just being alongside someone until things get better – this is a privilege not to be missed. A Chaplain doesn't have a magic wand. Things don't always go as well as we would like them to. Sometimes there are no answers; sometimes people don't help themselves in ways that would benefit them. Being there is important. It is often invisible, and it comes on the back of a huge amount of time spent being available and involved. Working with staff and students has been a privilege, because people let you in to their hearts and minds.

The real joy of the job comes from the deep work of sharing life. Probably this has been most obvious for me in boarding. Of course, there have been days and weekends when the last thing I have wanted to do is spend my energy and hours with teenagers, but boarding has been one of the things that has enabled me to get to know a smaller group of people more intensively over a long period of time. It has been a vehicle for helping people to find some stability and direction, and to have a real influence on their well-being and sometimes their future direction in life.



For ten years, I have been part of a way of life that has made me laugh and reduced me to tears. I have been excited and exhausted, frustrated and amazed. I wouldn't have missed it for the world. A huge 'thank you' to all of you, current and Old Grovians, who have allowed me to teach you, support you and maybe to influence you in some way – you have all had a part in shaping and changing me, and I am grateful beyond words.

The Oldest Grovian?

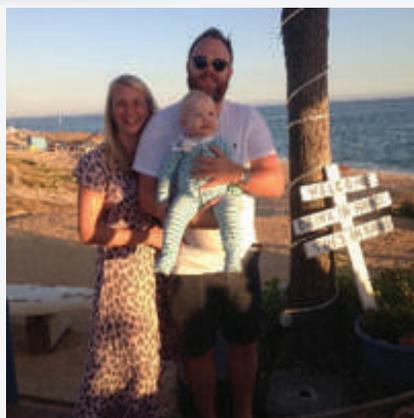


We were pleased to hear from the family of Hugh Myers Dickinson (OG 30-35) who we believe to be the oldest living Grovian at the age of 101. Hugh has led an interesting and varied life after being rescued from the workhouse in Oakworth by Thomas B Dickinson, a highly respected Methodist lay preacher. During the war years, he worked in London's East End helping out with the evacuation of children to safer zones and he always maintained he was more at risk there than on the front line.... He was also an aid to Ghandi when he visited London. Hugh went on to enjoy a successful business career in Keighley before retiring in 1962 to design his own home and remains a passionate gardener to this day. A talented artist, Hugh is also an expert in Ikebana (the Japanese art of flower arranging). We hope to meet with Hugh and welcome him back to the Grove in the near future to learn more of this extraordinary life along with his experiences of his time at School. In closing, it is his family's firm belief that much of his drive and ambition was instilled whilst a pupil at Woodhouse Grove.

Births



Emi Anne Saliu-Lawal, born 28th April 2018 to Amy (nee Howard), (St 03-10) and husband Dave Nosakere Saliu-Lawal. A real bundle of joy to all, especially her grandparents!



Full name: Hugh Stanley Peter Carlile but we call him Huey. Born in Dubai on September 8th 2017 to Claire Carlile (OG 92-02 nee Brimacombe) and Nick Carlile (OG 89-00)



Sebastian El-Azab safely arrived on 12th June 2018 at 11.43 weighing in at 3.4kg, born to proud Old Grovian Dad Sammy El-Azab (OG 91-00)

Engagement

Charles Cockshott (OG 98-10) has got engaged to Christie Petty



Obituaries

David Anderson Miller (St 72-91)

A tribute from David McCarthy (st 53-92)

We record with sadness the death of David Anderson Miller. David Miller succeeded Dr F. C. Pritchard as headmaster of Woodhouse Grove School in September 1972, having been educated at King's School, Chester and Balliol College, Oxford before becoming senior chemistry master at Epsom College.

Amplly qualified in science, accomplished in music, thoroughly experienced in outdoor enterprise (he had been instructor in mountaineering at Aviemore) and thus well equipped to further the advances of his predecessor, he would need other abilities to cope with the rapidly changing political and educational climate of the time, not least the threat of the discontinuation of the Direct Grant system and the school's becoming independent.

This and the later crises of increasing competition, changing curriculum, funding and political uncertainty he surmounted with his unique brand of jovial imperturbability. A sharp mind was leavened with an impish sense of fun that was not always under his complete control, so that many of reduced perception failed to detect it completely. Chemistry lessons, infused with spontaneity, were more entertaining than was customary, but never at the cost of scientific rigour. His integrity and concern for his pupils was beyond dispute – as for those seeking careers advice. Amid all the structural and organisational changes, David Miller's first concern was always for the betterment of his pupils. Generous with his time, he readily welcomed opportunities to give them reassurance and guidance, even beyond their school days, to all who approached him.

A drastic conversion to the schoolroom, for over a hundred years perhaps the focal point of the school, was only the first in a long series of "adaptations" and extensions required to accommodate a rapidly growing school. In 1971, there had been 437 pupils; in 1976, when the school became independent, 561; in 1991, when he retired, there were well over 700. The school had benefited from a three-form entry since 1973, and in 1978 (at last!), girls (six, including one boarder accommodated in the san) were admitted.



An inspired move was to set up a special needs unit (in a converted gardener's cottage) to provide specialist assistance for those frustrated by dyslexia. In 1981 this was, on a national level, a pioneering step. Ever aware of the changing demands of a widening curriculum and a world increasingly disposed towards business affairs, David initiated a business management school in which business studies, economics and modern languages would be based. This was opened in 1989.

At the same time, he never lost sight of the specific personal needs of pupils. He vigorously resisted calls to discontinue the boarding element, for example, and strove, where finances allowed, to improve the standard of boarding accommodation.

His imaginative scheme to transplant the art department across the A658 (aka Apperley Lane) to a modified former Sunday school depended on British Rail's agreeing to the construction of an underpass to it on land it no longer needed. This arrangement more than hinted at David's fascination for railways, a fascination dating back to the daily journeys from his home in Prestatyn to school in Chester.

Music was another passion, more intense, dare one say, even than chemistry. Soon after his arrival, he displayed his skill on the French horn in a recital to a Memorial Hall audience and followed it up (but not the same evening) with his stabilising presence in the trombone section of the school orchestra and by launching and directing the school wind band. He was also an esteemed member of the Airedale Symphony Orchestra.

Devotion to the Times crossword provided him with his earliest daily challenge, at least cerebrally, and his skill, which gained him qualification to compete in the most advanced national competitions, he retained til nearing his final days.

Although necessarily based in the main school he never lost sight of his responsibilities towards Bronte House, and a parallel programme of development and extension unfolded there. The increase in numbers, spurred on by a newly-established Bronte House Association (BHA) was inevitably accompanied by (and encouraged by) a greater range of facilities, a significant increase in teaching staff and resources. The success and contribution of the BHA led ultimately to the Friends of Woodhouse Grove at the senior school and indicated the much closer involvement of parents that David sought and valued. Girls were admitted in 1985 and the following year Bronte became a member of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS), a recognition that promoted a wider range of resources and support. One of David's final proposals was to ensure a guaranteed intake into Bronte House by establishing a pre-prep department, Ashdown Lodge, in the grounds.

His was a restless soul, impatient to improve situations, circumstances, standards, and in his restlessness his manner was benevolently forthright, sometimes one, sometimes the other, even in his careers advice, which was invariably wise and well-informed, even in his local preaching, which was provocative and scholarly, even in his friendships, which were generous and unflinching.

"Through all these changing scenes" he derived constant support and strength from Kathleen and after their retirement to East Morton they together involved themselves in the life of the village community, David becoming their representative on the Keighley town council, where, as chairman of the council planning committee he was deeply respected, as by so many, for his unwavering calmness and scrupulous fairness. Add also kindness, magnanimity, compassion and you have the outward signs of a deep

Christian faith that impelled David Miller to a life of such momentous service.

He died on October 15th aged 86 and his funeral took place at Keighley Shared (Anglican and Methodist) Church attended by a large congregation representing his widespread interests and connections. We extend to Valerie, Jennie, Peter, and their families our most affectionate condolences especially that, within a matter of months, they should have so grievously lost both their parents.

There will be a memorial service in the WGS Chapel on Friday 22 March 2019.

John Cockshott (OG 71-78 & Staff 83-2018)

A tribute from Roger Howard (OG 71-78) (St 82-)

John Cockshott passed away on 12th September 2018. In July 2017, he suffered a severe stroke, strong and resolute, he battled bravely to recover some mobility and speech in the ensuing months. An encouraging recovery, ended shortly after the New Year when a further stroke left John trapped in hospital where he finally succumbed.

John's passing came as a great shock to many, who were not aware of his initial stroke or had seen John on his trips out during his first period of rehab. He enjoyed a visit in to School, watching an OGRUFC match and taking great pleasure in watching the 1st XV triumphant against our good friends from Frizinghall under lights at Keighley RUFC. The delight so many friends, OGs and pupils showed on seeing him meant a great deal to John and reflect the respect in which this long serving, true Grovian was held.

At John's funeral, my eulogy opened with the mottos of the 2 great educational establishments which influenced his career "Bone et Fidelis" of Woodhouse Grove and "Ut Vitam Habeant et Abundantius" of St John's College, York. Translated literally as "that they may have life and abundance". John epitomised these ideals and loyally served this School as both man and boy. The address referred to four distinct "chapters" of John's life:

Chapter 1 - A quiet, shy boy John found aspects of School life a challenge and this perhaps later influenced his patient and understanding approach in his teaching. At school, he showed sporting prowess in rugby and athletics, but also really blossomed in the workshop under the caring tutelage of John Baker.

Chapter 2 - Growing confidence and the "Wilder Years" (16 to 25 ish years old), where as a pair we got into (and out of) more than our share of scrapes and John took a particular liking to what he referred to as "having a bit of a rumble". Early elevation into the 1st XV at 16 and growing confidence especially in his college days saw John developing a reputation as an "enforcer" on the field, with one of his contemporaries referring to him as 'a "fixer", when things got a bit heated on the field, he was someone you knew had your back'.

After teaching in Cambridge, John returned to the Grove and boarding life, losing the "tyro" image, likely influenced by a young (resident) music teacher, Georgina Slater!

Chapter 3 - Parenthood and Professional Progress, here John recommenced his partnership with John Baker and projects such as "Coed-ty Gelli" and refurbishing the CDT



Malcolm Smith (OG 45-53)

Tribute from David Whitney (OG 45-54)

I would like to pay tribute to my lifelong friend Malcolm Smith who died early summer 2018 after extended ill health. He was largely instrumental in me attending the Grove and thus influencing the course of my life.



Our parents had been friends prior to their marriages and they set up homes close to each other in Burnley. Malcolm's father Clifford, who had been at the Grove in the 1920s, was our family solicitor. Malcolm was born in August 1935. We attended the local primary school together and when not at school we were constantly in each other's company. It was always intended that Malcolm would go to the Grove and when it came to that time, I was given the choice of going with him. My two older sisters were already away at boarding school so it was not a difficult choice for me to make. We went to Bronte House in September 1945 (see photo) and we were able to support each other during our first separation from our parents.

In September 1947, we progressed to the Grove with Malcolm being placed in Findlay and me in Vinter. We met frequently in other aspects of school life, particularly on the sports field where we were often on opposing sides in house matches and together in school teams. Malcolm excelled at rugby, cricket and tennis and gained school colours in both rugby and cricket.

After the Grove, Malcolm had three years in the army including involvement in the abortive Suez Campaign and then joined the local Burnley Building Society. He married Kath in 1961 and moved to work at the London office of the building society. Malcolm and Kath went on to have two children, Fiona and Anthony of whom he was so proud. They eventually settled in Cheshire and ran a greengrocer's for 25 happy years. Malcolm played tennis, squash and golf and was an ardent Manchester United fan. We continued to meet and in particular at the annual Old Grovian Manchester dinners. It was a real privilege to have known him and he will be greatly missed.

Department. The patient and caring manner of his teaching and organised approach marked John out for pastoral responsibility and via Head of Year, Head of Section and Housemaster (Stephenson), John was elevated onto the School SMT. Throughout most of this time, he retained a strong commitment to School rugby along with some athletics and rowing, assisting Glynis Wilkinson. Time constraints, including running a rowing programme (on a shoestring budget) after Glynis' retirement, John withdrew from rugby. This did create some additional opportunity to spend enjoyable time and shared motorsport and rugby interests with Charles and Katy.

A promotion letter extract from David Humphreys to John in 1999 is insightful:

"This post in the Senior Team recognises the high esteem in which you are held and is just reward for your huge commitment to every aspect of your professional role at the School".

Chapter 4 - The Final chapter, incorporating John's love of family and home life. In recent years relinquishing SMT responsibilities saw John with more teaching time, assisting the perplexed, encouraging creativity and industriousness in the workshop environment he loved. Always a black coffee in hand, often sharing irreverent comments and non-pc humour with 6th form students, is how many Grovians of recent generations will best remember John. Perhaps he was addicted to this atmosphere? Shortly before the onset of illness, he confided in me that he had no wish to retire and felt he had several years teaching ahead. Sadly, John's passing came 2 days after his 59th birthday.

The Cockshott legacy at The Grove will remain in the hearts of those who knew him as both friend, colleague and teacher. His dedicated service to this School was indeed good and faithful.

John Tunstall (OG 47-57)

Informed by his son Robert Tunstall

John passed away from Motor Neurone Disease on 30th January 2018. Born on the 4th March 1940, John was a boarder at Bronte and later Woodhouse Grove from 1947 to 1957.

John worked for the Bank of England for 25 years. In later life, he became a recognized painter and his work has been displayed in art galleries, art books and the London Underground.

He lived and worked in Belgium, France, USA and Spain and then retired to Wraysbury in Berkshire to be closer to his 5 children and 8 grandchildren.

John was an ardent supporter of the Association and former Chair (2008).

John Barnett (OG 54-63)

Informed by Andrew Verity (OG 54-63)

John started at Bronte House as a dayboy when boarders outnumbered dayboys 3-1!

John was the only son of the Rev Maurice Barnett, a well-known and loved Methodist Minister of Eastbrook Hall, Bradford and Westminster Hall, London.

John left the Grove to study Medicine at Charing Cross Hospital, London and went on to be a lifelong GP in Sheringham, Norfolk. He was well regarded and became the medic for the lifeboat at Sheringham and the RNLI area.

John was a natural and excellent musician from an early age and could play the Eastbrook organ, piano and guitar. Latterly he became a singer/songwriter and player for the Shanty Men – a group who sang seafaring songs locally and on tour to raise funds for the RNLI for which he was an ardent fundraiser.

John died on 21 February 2018 aged 72 and fittingly his ashes were to be scattered at sea from the Sheringham lifeboat.

He is succeeded by 3 sons and 6 grandchildren.

Nigel J Winder (OG 57-65)

Tribute from John Martin (OG 54-63)

Nigel often played the fool, usually going way over the top to the delight of the other kids. He was also the best mimic I have known. He could imitate all the masters. Once he and I were carpeted by Dr. Pritchard, the Headmaster, who gave us a long telling off and finished by shouting: "You are categorical idiots." With complete sangfroid, Nigel asked: "What does categorical mean, Sir?" Pritchard was speechless and spluttered incoherently before saying: "It means it means..... total". That is my imitation of Nigel imitating Pritchard

Nigel took part in school plays at WGS. His best-remembered performance was Long John Silver in Treasure Island. He became a professional actor and was successful in theatre and television – there is a massive string of credits on his website. At the time of the World Cup in 1974 he was constantly on television advertising Gillette razors and the quick one two, a football manoeuvre made popular by the Dutch team, his face full screen as he shaved and splashed water on his cheeks. He said it was really uncomfortable, as he had to shave repeatedly for the best take. About the same time, he could be seen riding a horse as a cowboy, on the underground and on the street advertisement hoardings selling cigarettes, Come to Marlborough country.

In due course, as our parents might have said, he got a proper job, at British Telecom as complaints manager – his voice, manner and emollient approach were perfect for it. When he retired in his fifties, he went back to acting, mainly commercials, but also films and corporate videos.

In the last ten years of his life, his Hampstead Heath website gained widespread acclaim with its information but above all Nigel's photographs of the Heath, the trees and Kenwood House in all seasons. He died on 9th December 2016 peacefully in a London hospice after the cancer he had been living with for more than ten years suddenly became aggressive.

John Bottomley (OG 41-50)

John Bottomley was born and brought up in Leeds. His mother, Helen Dow, died six weeks later as a complication of the birth and his stepmother and father brought him up.

He was educated at Woodhouse Grove School then at Leeds College of Technology, where he studied engineering.

His father died when he was 15 so he went to Leith to work with his uncle's firm Geo.A.Morrison & Co, where he worked his way up through the ranks, eventually becoming chairman in 1980. On his way, he became a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers in 1960, a High Constable of Leith and Swedish Consul, both in 1975. In 1987, he was appointed Consul General for Sweden and appointed Commander of the Royal Order of the Polar Star.

Much to his uncle's despair, he was not a golfer but was a keen rally driver and keener skier. His love of the sea made him the ideal traveller on cruise ships and other forms of transport and he managed to get to most parts of the globe in his later years.

Paul Sharp (OG 63-68)

The following is an abridged version of the eulogy given at the funeral of Paul Sharp (OG 63-68) 1952-2018.

Paul Stephen Sharp (Sharp) was born in Bradford on 1 June 1952, and attended Wellington Road Primary School before gaining a scholarship to Woodhouse Grove where his sporting prowess shone. He represented the school at first team level in cricket and rugby, gaining his colours in both. I'm sure a lot of you remember the horrendous colours blazer that he dusted off at every opportunity and wore with immense pride!

In 1967 he moved to Marple Hall Grammar and then onto Sheffield Polytechnic to study Hotel and Institutional Management. After the first year of socialising and playing sport, dad moved on, and completed an SRN course at Withington Hospital.

Between 1975 and 1979 he achieved a host of additional health and emergency qualifications and then mum and dad, having married at Christ Church, Stannington, in 1974, decided to take a big risk which would change the path of their lives forever. They bought Vienna House in Stockport and opened their first care home for the elderly. Having outgrown these premises by 1982 they bought Watford House in New Mills. Over the next 25 years, Watford House took up a massive portion of mum and dad's lives as the proud owners of a 40-bed residential care home.

Dad was an avid Bradford Northern rugby league supporter, and a keen rugby union player, joining Marple RUFC in 1975. He became 1st XV captain in 1978, a position which he held for four seasons.

Two of dad's other sporting passions were cricket and skiing. He captained both the first and second teams at Birch Vale CC; and, loving his time on the slopes, he was also vice president of the Greater Manchester Ski Club.

Putting his sporting achievements aside dad's greatest love was Christine, his wife, and his family.

John Douglas Bottomley (OG 55-60)

Informed by his sister Freda A. Bottomley

John died suddenly on July 14th 2017 aged 73 years. Dearly loved husband of Ann, much-loved son of John and a very dear father, grandfather and brother.

JD's strengths at school were in sport, especially rugby and athletics, and practical subjects. He was not very strong in academic subjects and decided to leave school before taking public exams. He initially showed a keen interest in farming, which encouraged his love of the outdoors but after two years, chose to change track to work with dad in a leather conveyer belt manufacturing company. He played rugby in his spare time but after a serious head injury concentrated his efforts on training the juniors at Keighley Rugby Club.

John always had a strong work ethic and although not academically gifted at school we feel he did benefit from his time at WGS.

John married his first wife, lived in Riddlesden and became the proud father of three sons, who in turn gave them three grandchildren. Unfortunately, this marriage ended but he later married again in the late 80's and moved to Addingham, starting a new life with Ann. Here he started his first allotment in 1989, which soon expanded to three! He became a very active member ending up with the title of Hon. Life Member.

There were more than 257 people at his Thanksgiving Service last year, which I think says it all about my caring, helpful brother. Although he didn't excel at school, he certainly did in life!

Mike Featherstone (OG 57-63)

Informed by brother Garth Featherstone (OG 57-64)

6th June 1946 – 17th November 2017. After leaving School, 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 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 easygoing attitude to life.

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

Joan Lyall Walker

A great friend of the School died 3 November 2018 (informed by her Son David Walker (OG 70-78)). Joan was the wife of former head of PE and Games John G Bairstow (St 47-84)

John F Hansen (OG 48-55)

Informed by brother Chris Hansen (OG 50-58)

John died peacefully after a short illness on the 10th July 2018 at the age of 81. Although he returned to school only once, he was always interested to hear of its development and contrasted the present splendour with memories of more Spartan times!

From School, John did his National Service in the Royal Signals and then went to Westminster College and qualified as a Secondary School Teacher. However, he spent most of his career in industry, followed by many years of sterling work as regional organiser of fund raising for the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council. He made numerous friends and was highly regarded by all who worked with him and by those in the many organisations he supported, particularly St Matthew's Church, Wilsden. His funeral at that church was attended by about two hundred mourners.

He leaves a widow, Astrid and son Philip who is married to Lynda.

Governor – Ian Murray Small

Tribute from Alan Wintersgill, Chairman of Governors

Ian passed away on 29th October 2018. Ian was appointed a Foundation Governor in November 2005 following his retirement as Headmaster of Bootham School in York.

A highly respected member of the Board, he was Chairman of the Education Committee and a member of the Moorlands Committee. Ian was also the Governor with a specific interest in boarding and had served as the Chairman of the Boarding School Association from 1993 to 1995. He was also the Boards AGBIS representative always ensuring his attendance at the Annual Conference and AGM.

He was a Governor at Abbotsholme School, Derbyshire and Minster School in York.

Ian's passion was the theatre; he was a theatre historian and regularly took part in the York Mystery Plays.

Ian was a gentleman with a lovely gentle humour and will be greatly missed at our Board meetings.

John David England (OG 46-54)

John died peacefully in hospital on 26th November 2017 aged 79.

He joined Bronte House in 1946 and after moving onto the Grove left in 1954 to join the family in their grocery business.

After many years in the grocery trade advancing into managerial positions, John purchased a milk round, covering several villages in the York area, until retirement.

John leaves behind Barbara, son Christopher and daughter Sara Jane. Sadly missed and much loved.

We have also learned of the passing of the following OGs:

Osborne Wain (OG 40-48), JE Fleeman (OG 40-44), K Walker (OG 48-53)

Jonathan Walker (OG 95-99)

Musician, songwriter, activist, campaigner and devoted father.

23rd July 1980 – 14th March 2018

Jonny and I met first met at Woodhouse Grove when we were about 14 years old. I seem to remember him having an exotic backstory of growing up in South America. (Paraguay is a world away from Apperley Bridge.) He was a dynamic combination of sharp intellect, an inquiring mind and mischievous sense of humour. In addition, he could give many of the teachers a run for their money. He challenged – not to cause trouble – but, probably, because he was a step ahead of everybody else. His free spirit was evident even then and he loved to make people laugh.

Jonny's gift for music and entertaining was obvious during our time at school, accompanied with his interest in politics and love of cricket. Decades later Jonny would speak fondly of Mr Clay and Mr Welsh, both of whom took time to nurture and encourage his talents, for which he was always grateful. Jonny would seek his own path – often the one less travelled and rockier than the rest. He developed his own sense of social justice, his own philosophy of life, religion, politics and culture. His impact on the many people he met and those who followed him on social media was immense. While busking for many may not be the obvious choice – for him it made perfect sense. In his trademark floral shirt, vibrant trousers and a distinctive hat – Jonny, the wandering minstrel, was known up and down the country. An early adopter of social media, fans would log onto his live streams from all corners of the world – his audience was loyal and his reach was massive.



During his time busking he also gained a great insight into the lives of people whom he shared those streets with. In 2016, footage of Jonny singing Summertime with Bernard, a homeless man, went viral and has now been seen on YouTube over three and a half million times.

He was a fierce defender of civic freedoms. In 2012, he founded Keep Streets Live, an organisation campaigning for the rights of buskers and street entertainers. At the same time, he also worked collaboratively with other local authorities to develop informal codes of conduct and positively influence council policy. From political lobbying, High Court action, celebrity mass busks to establishing the Church of the Holy Kazoo with comedian Mark Thomas (to get round a legal loop hole in Camden Council's policy) – Jonny's massively effective activism would be done with passion, integrity, grace and good humour.

However, aside from his activism and campaigning – Jonny was still at heart that young boy who I went to school with.

You would never see Jonny at his happiest – until you saw him with his beautiful children. The role he cherished the most.

One of my favourite quotes from Jonny was published in the Times shortly after his death – he said about busking “Don't focus on the people who will ignore you or even the few people who may heckle you, your audience are the people who stop to listen or smile at you as they walk past. Focus on them. Remain positive.”

I am incredibly lucky to have been one of the people in Jonny's life. He was a unique force of nature. He was a true friend and he is missed and loved by so many.

Lucinda Yeadon (OG 88-97)

Clifford Guy Wood

Informed by Nick Wood (OG 74-78)

The 6th March 2018 was undoubtedly the end of an era, when my uncle and Old Grovian, Clifford Guy Wood, the last surviving Wood brother and youngest of the five, passed away after a short illness. For a number of reasons, Guy's passing was very emotional for everyone in the wider Wood family and, of course, for his wife Cilla and Cilla's daughter and sons. Although not in perfect health, Guy enjoyed life to the end, spending time in the West Indies just two weeks before his passing, to celebrate the marriage of Cilla's eldest son.

Guy was born on 22nd October 1942, the youngest son of Clifford and Alice, into a well-known and prominent Bradford family. Guy followed my father Greg and his other three older brothers, Jim, Steve and George, to Bronte House and The Grove. At home and school, my father and uncles, with their blond hair, distinctive looks and tall frames, were well-known for their adventures, attributes and various talents.

Of the many stories never forgotten, the chauffeur would drive Granny to school in the Rolls and in the words of others not mine, out would step this tall, beautiful and elegant blond lady with treats and goodies for her sons and other boys. The brothers' contemporaries talked regularly to me, my Old Grovian brother Tim and to my children Camilla and Oliver, our third generation Grovians, about this and so many great stories involving the brothers. Apparently, most of the bounty delivered by my Grandmother was quickly taken and consumed by some of the masters of the day! I think the fish and chip order and run to Greengates also helped to keep a few masters happy.

Guy left the Grove to accompany my Grandmother to New Zealand for a lengthy stay, before returning to work in the family business.

Alongside working very hard and successfully throughout their lives (with my Father, from the early sixties, regularly away in different parts of the world) the 'Wood Boys' lived life in the 'fast lane' – at times quite literally. Stories and very happy memories also abound about the phenomenal times at Oakwood Hall, the family home that my Grandmother and the brothers turned into a country club. Also of course, the unique and glamorous days of the late fifties and sixties were epitomised by my Father's, Jim's and Guy's international rallying and motor racing, and my Grandmother's racehorses and her love of horseracing.

Guy was heavily involved with the Ilkley Motor Club and his interest in cars led him to a successful career at JCT 600, before coming back to work with part of family Wood.

We remember my father Greg, Jim, Steve, George and Guy. We live on and look to our exciting futures not the past; but Guy's passing is definitely the end of an era – thank you for everything that era and world has meant to us all: RIP

Sharman Todd (St 87-09)

Tribute from Jackie McGrath and Sally Russ

Sharman was a loyal servant of WGS in a range of administrative and commercial roles, serving staff and pupils alike. Her first position commencing in the general office, while her final role was as Sports Lettings Manager. She brought warmth, humour and professionalism to everything she did.

Much of her time was spent front facing in the school shop, happily engaging with new families, making sure everyone had correct PE kit and a blazer that fit! (Or at least one that could last a few years).

Along with her husband Ron, she helped with internal and external functions within the school, often working weekends, staying late and going that extra mile. The Leavers Ball being one of her triumphs, organising everything from the food, music, décor and even the teaspoons. No detail was left to chance.

She will also be remembered for the Millennium Appeal. An important member of a team of people who worked tirelessly to raise funds for our significant facilities developments at this time, such as the theatre and sports centre. The results of which are used daily by all.



Sharman (pictured centre front) along with Julie Whitham (Left), Mollie Peet (Right) and Joan Hainsworth (Centre top)

Sharman had a love for the job and you could tell, from organising the school bus service, boarders' travel, ordering a school tie or pulling a pint, she did everything to the best of her ability. She was popular with staff and pupils alike. Nothing was too much effort for Sharman and she could always be relied upon.

Away from WGS, Sharman spent most of her time with her first love, husband Ron, along with her two boys and her cherished grandchildren arriving in later years. Her family was always a priority, always a talking point (along with cherished holidays to Spain) and something she was very proud of.

A person of strong faith, Sharman enjoyed a role supporting a local charity after leaving the Grove and was a popular and highly respected member of the local community.

Sharman passed away on the 21st March 2018, aged 66, following a brave battle with pancreatic cancer.

Xaipete Winter 2018

A day in the life of Brodwell House.....

It is 7.20am and the office is open. It is still quiet and the first cup of coffee has given the kick start needed before waking up the boys. At 7.25am, you are doing your best impression as the Brodwell 'town crier', ringing the bell to the boys' dismay who felt like they had at least another half an hour in bed. Knocking on doors, turning on lights, "morning lads" and then sleepy replies of "morning sir". The boarders are awake and start getting ready for the day ahead.

Most are in breakfast by 8am to tuck in to the choice of morning delights. Will it be a full fry up, or some cereal and toast? Staff pop back to the boarding house to pick up any stragglers who only woke to go to sleep again to grab an extra ten minutes in bed. With everybody fed and watered, you check they are ok for the day ahead and if anybody needs to go to the medical centre. Once back at the house they make their beds, tidy their rooms and ensure they are ready for school. Boarding staff go room to room to ensure they are organised and encourage them to leave for school on time. They won't be back until 4pm so it gives staff the chance to check the rooms and house kitchens, ensuring everything is as it should be. Food orders are completed for the same evening, as one thing they never cease to do is eat!! Their laundry is picked up and returned a few hours later folded and ironed in their docketts.

4pm arrives (favourite part of the day to welcome the boys) and they have never been so happy to see the staff and the boarding house. They go to their rooms and either change for their favourite sport or hobby, or to venture out locally to get some much needed pop! It is a real hive of activity and brings a warm feeling to the house when everyone is there. Some choose to play pool or table tennis; others choose to chill out watching their favourite show on Netflix.

Come 5.45pm it is time for evening meal, again sampling the delicious food from the Grove kitchen. This is an opportunity to sit down together as a boarding community to talk about their school day or a trip that is running at the weekend and is usually a jovial atmosphere. After this, students are back to Boarding for a House Meeting where they are given information on events for the week, things that need to be achieved in house and the all-important room of the week prize, followed by 'slip of the week' to raise a few laughs. After this, boarders go to their respective areas for prep and study hard for at least 75 minutes depending on their year group. Once the serious stuff is over it is back to watching TV or taking part in one of the many activities on offer for that evening. With squash courts and a climbing wall just next door, they are spoilt for choice. It gives the staff chance to chat to the boys to see how they are doing in school and in boarding, as well as building relationships, which is often the best part of boarding life.

It is 9.30pm and the first round of bed checks for the younger ones. Devices are reluctantly handed in to take away temptation and ensure a sound night's sleep. Every 15 minutes the next year group goes to bed until all the rooms have been checked and everyone's lights are out. Boarding staff carry out final checks of the rooms, kitchens and common areas ensuring everything is ready for the next day.

Then to bed for some much needed sleep to do it all over again. The staff would not have it any other way as it is a unique and very rewarding experience working in Boarding with such a variety of talented young people.

By Alex Whitlam, Head of Boys Boarding

'NOOP, THE HUN, & HECTOR'

A significant date will occur during 2019 at least the date will be of interest to some of those of my Grovian contemporaries. The nick-names 'Noop', 'The Hun' and the actual first name 'Hector' will strike some resonance with generations of Grovians now sadly becoming fewer. To explain this anniversary, it will be ninety years in 2019 since S C Wilson, A E Reed and H Lamb joined the staff at the Grove.

Those of us who grew up at the Grove in the forties and fifties will remember these three gentlemen with mixed emotions. Compared with the liberal atmosphere today in the School and the generous rapport now apparent between many of the staff and present day Grovians, our experience was in many cases very different when many teachers were more aloof. That is what it was like and it was accepted.

In our day for the morning assembly the whole school would be seated in serried rows in the School Room which is now occupied by the staff room. The Sixth formers were at the back and the first forms at the front and I can see Stanley Wilson now, leaning slightly forward, hands on hips, holding back his gown, and glowering down at us through thick spectacles, as he robustly emphasised to all of us any pronouncements made by the Head, and woe betide anyone who spoke or ignored his instructions. Mr Wilson, 'Noop', was the second master, very conscientious, and he also acted as the liaison officer between the Head, we boys, his teaching colleagues and all the support staff. He did his best to teach me French but was not too successful. He was approachable, had a sense of humour and during my time encouraged the formation of the Young Farmer's Club and the keeping of pigs in a sty on the Top Field, fed on scraps from the school kitchen. For many years he was the loyal, encouraging secretary of the O G A and for many years he edited 'The Grovian' when it was published three times a year at the end of each term. 'Noop' daily rode his large bicycle down the long hill to the school from his home in Greengates and finally retired in 1969 after forty years service to the Grove.

To me A E Reed was a more shadowy figure as he only supervised me later for writing General Knowledge essays. One essay subject he gave us was to discuss the greatest asset available to the Pilgrim Fathers on their arrival in the New World. After we had made many and various sensible suggestions, he told us with his dry sense of humour which made him almost chuckle, that the greatest asset to the 'founding fathers' was the plentiful supply of leaf mould to help them to grow their crops! Mr Reed had the nick-name 'The Hun' and those of you who remember the almost skeletal school master Chalky in Giles, 'Daily Express' cartoons, will understand how appropriate that was with his square-jaw and bullish head. He did not smile much and if he did, it looked as if he was in pain. He was a disciplinarian, feared by the little boys but respected by older ones and particularly those to whom he taught history. He also ran the Games Committee for many years. My abiding memory of Mr Reed will be the constant aroma which preceded, surrounded and followed

him everywhere he went. At home in his garden on Woodlands Drive he grew and then dried his own pipe tobacco and he smoked it constantly, creating its own gently-acrid atmosphere. Albert Reed retired in 1963.

Hector Lamb did not have a nick-name, his first name was sufficient and he was always known as 'Hector', but never to his face. He had come to the Grove to teach English but without any specific responsibilities. Woodwork had been taught in the school since 1888 and when a vacancy occurred in the early 1930's the Headmaster offered the position to Mr Lamb. He was semi-isolated from the rest of the school, working constantly in the Woodwork Shop near the 1938 swimming pool. He came and went often without using the staff room and was quite canny in creating little side-line businesses one of which was to encourage particularly the younger boys to buy plaster-cast models and plaques that he would make from moulds and sell them to the boys to paint and varnish and give to our hopefully appreciative parents. My mother had for many years my painted interpretation of 'Anne Hathaway's Cottage' on her bedroom wall.

Mr Lamb had a pronounced limp, I've never known whether it was congenital or a war wound but in his workshop he long provided the opportunity for less academic boys to learn useful skills which would later serve them well. He retired in 1966

These three gentlemen were teachers of their time, characters unknown today, but remembered by many generations of Grovians. They provided a necessary continuity and stability in the School, particularly during the privations experienced at the Grove during the Second World War when the younger masters were away in the services The description 'Good and Faithful' is not out of place when we remember them.

ROGER DAVY MBE (OG 47-57)



More than Rocket Science!

I was a day boy at Woodhouse Grove School from 1947 to 1953. My interest in chemistry was lit and stimulated by Mr. J. H. Auty and I was also encouraged by Dr. Frank C. Pritchard who became Head-Master in 1950. He urged me to stay on for an additional year after I had done my A levels and to go to Cambridge to sit their entrance exams. I was unsuccessful but then in spring 1953 I went to St. Andrews to sit their entrance exams and was awarded a Matheson Scholarship to study Chemistry.

I started at St. Andrews in the autumn of 1953 and greatly enjoyed student life, living in St. Salvador's Hall, where my best friends were studying classics, english and languages. I also met my wife to be, playing badminton. I graduated in 1957 with a First Class B. Sc. degree in Chemistry and then I stayed on for a further three years to study for a Ph. D. on using mass spectrometry to investigate fast gas reactions. I completed my Ph. D. in 1960, married my wife, Susan, and after a week's honeymoon in the Cotswolds we sailed on the Queen Mary to New York to start a two year post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Rochester, New York State, located on Lake Ontario some 300 miles north west of New York City.

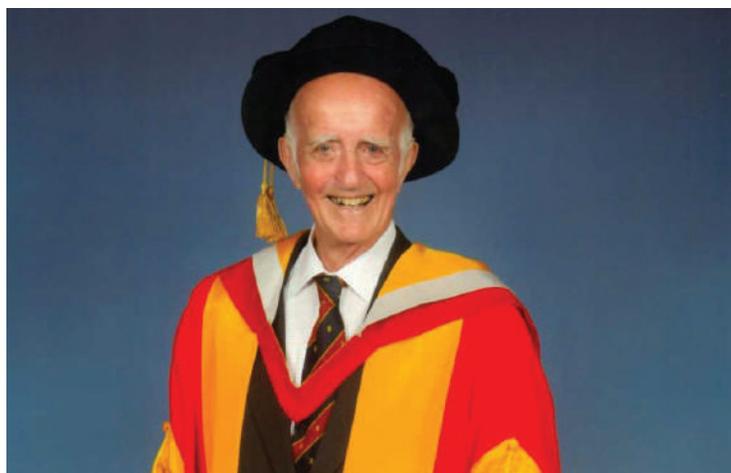
We had a lovely two years there, spending our weekends camping in the Adirondacks. In 1962 we made a 10,000 mile journey in our 1956 Chevrolet station-wagon when we headed south down the Appalachians to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and then went west to Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, where we went down the Grand Canyon on mules. Next, we went to Monument Valley before heading further west through southern Utah to Las Vegas, then across Death Valley, where we encountered a sprinkle of rain, to California, where we crossed the Tioga Pass into Yosemite National Park before going on to San Francisco. From there we drove north along the coast in California, then Oregon, visiting Crater Lake, and on to Washington State and Mount Rainier before visiting the World Fair held in Seattle in 1962. Finally, we headed east to Glacier National Park before driving through Chicago and thus back to Rochester, New York.

Whilst in Rochester, I applied for an interview with the North American Board, which interviewed British students in North America for posts in the British Civil Service. They offered me the position of Senior Scientific Officer at the Rocket Propulsion Establishment at Westcott, Buckinghamshire which I took up in 1962. Seven years later, I became a Liaison Officer for Rocket Propulsion and Explosives in Washington, D.C. Typically, I would make a journey out to the West Coast about once a month to visit the US establishments engaged in rocket propulsion and explosives to exchange information about what was happening in the UK. Amazingly, on my first flight west, the movie shown on the flight was "If it's Tuesday it must be Belgium" about American tourists to Europe in those years - and that film was symptomatic of my experience in the USA - if it's Monday it must be the US Naval Weapons Centre at China Lake, California and so on! What I learnt during my three years in Washington, D. C., was how to make notes and to write them up so that I could inform my colleagues in England of what their counterparts in the USA were doing. I also learnt about American punctuality - when we invited my contacts for an evening to our house in Bethesda, the American guests would be walking up and down outside just before 7 pm whereas my British colleagues would show up half an hour or 45 minutes after the time on the invitation!

I returned in 1972 to England to work in many different places - in London, then in Bath, then back in London as Technical Adviser/Explosives, Material and Safety (Polaris), then Principal Superintendent at the Propellants, Explosives and Rocket Motor Establishment at Westcott, before being Deputy Director 1 and then 2 at the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment at Fort Halstead in Kent. I then became Director General/Research and Development for the Royal Ordnance Factories before being invited in 1984 to become Director of the then Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down.

I greatly enjoyed over the next 11 years being Director and later in 1991, Director General and Chief Executive of the Chemical and Biological Defence Establishment. I especially appreciated becoming involved in the ongoing negotiations in Geneva to strengthen the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention which totally prohibits the use of such weapons. I enjoyed using the English language to explain to diplomats and policy makers - from around the world including non-native English speakers - how the British proposals would bring benefits for all the countries who were party to the Convention. In addition, in a similar way, from 1991 until I retired in 1995, I enjoyed as Director General answering written Parliamentary Questions about the activities at Porton Down and learned how to use the English language to give comprehensive and accurate responses. In 1990 I was delighted to be awarded a C.B. in the Birthday Honours List for my contributions.

After my retirement in 1995, I became an Honorary Visiting Professor of International Security in the Division of Peace Studies of the University of Bradford. In that position I continued to be active over the next 20 years in writing in excess of 150 Bradford policy papers, written for the diplomats and policy makers of all the States Parties of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) addressing the effective implementation and strengthening of the Convention, I also wrote two books, The UNSCOM Saga and The Search for Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction. I was consequently delighted to be honoured in July 2018 by being awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University by the University of Bradford. It seemed very fitting to be so recognised within five or so miles of Woodhouse Grove School.



To conclude, I have over the past 15 years worked as a volunteer archivist on uncovering the fascinating history of the world famous garden at Hidcote given in 1948 to the National Trust by its creator, Lawrence Johnston. I have written two books - one an account of the garden's history entitled Hidcote: The Garden and Lawrence Johnston whilst the other is the first biography of the American who created the garden at Hidcote entitled Lawrence Johnston The Creator of Hidcote.

Dr. Graham Pearson CB (OG 47-53)

Influencing the world beyond the Grove....

The Grovian of 1977 contained an article written by Dr Stan Utting of his work in Korea. Recently, an article of Stan's was published in the Summer edition of the British Korean Society's newsletter which covers the history of some remarkable work undertaken by the British in their relationship with South Korea. Obviously, very forward thinking in his approach, Stan Utting has enjoyed a fascinating and very International career, details of which he has provided for us here...

I met my wife in Seoul in 1972. After eight years working setting up a University Library for the Jesuits she was now the Embassy Information Officer and we married in 1973. Our two children were born in Busan----Jane in 1974 and Hugh in 1976. We left Korea in August 1976.

We were then in Nigeria where I was appointed as Head of Department of Mechanical Engineering at Kaduna Polytechnic on a three year contract. Life in Kaduna had a different range of interests and challenges from those in Ulsan but gave invaluable experience with an international staff of colleagues and friends. There was chance for another contract with Kaduna but the increasing number of qualified Nigerians capable of doing the job proved a potent reminder of the fact that one major objective of my task was to hand over to one in whose country I had been privileged to earn my living! The opportunity then presented itself for a possible boost to my earning power----which is on the face of it the least worthy motive for spending 5 years at Liverpool University on a research job. As a "rather mature student" the department at Liverpool were kind enough to make me a "University Fellow" as I set off on a PhD research contract. After some Post Doc. work the family and I were ready to set off on another adventure in 1985.

I obtained a post of Senior Lecturer of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Technology in Lae, Papua New Guinea. PNG has some exotic fauna and flora and a human population in formerly scattered communities using



hundreds of separate languages. It was interesting working with staff and students whose parents and grandparents had experienced two millennia of technological development in one afternoon when men in clothes arrived in an aeroplane - "creatures from another world!!" We were enjoying PNG and the children were doing well in the expats' school - (Australasian Curriculum) - when we had mid-contract home leave at Christmas 1986. We were returning to PNG in January 1987 when we had a planned four day break in Los Angeles and I had a heart attack! Fortunately, it occurred in the best heart hospital in the area and I survived! A couple of weeks later we had no option but to return to England.

I was much better after a summer of convalescence and we bought a house in Crewe. I was then fortunate enough to obtain a temporary post as Senior Lecturer at Liverpool Polytechnic - which a few years later became Liverpool John Moores University. My post became permanent and so I completed the last eleven years of my career in Liverpool.

Since I retired, I was able to enjoy life as a Governor at the South Cheshire College for eight years. (The College - as Crewe Tech. - was the place where I was a part-time student in 1950 after I left the Grove and became an Engineering Apprentice in Crewe Locomotive Works. I won my Technical State Scholarship there in 1952 and went to Sheffield University in 1954.) I was also a Governor at Coppenhall High School and was their last Chair of Governors before Coppenhall merged with Victoria School in Crewe. I was a school Governor for sixteen years - the longest post in my "career" and the only job for which I was never paid!

Other activities during the nearly 20 years since retirement have been learning a bit of Japanese - an A at GCSE level - and a three week stay with a Japanese family as an exchange student from Keele where I did a part-time course. Three visits to Australasia Railway Conferences in Melbourne, Perth and Wellington were combined with visits to family members and old friends from Korea days. These activities have been punctuated by the ordeal of the arrival of TB - it was probably dormant since Korean days 30 years earlier - and a Stroke in 2011 which has affected some right side movement and the more annoying symptom of some Aphasia of some speech and - more importantly - the



reduction of my understanding of words from other people. I went to the Manchester OGA dinner shortly afterwards and no doubt those who were there will remember that when asked to propose the Loyal Toast - as the oldest Grovian there - I foolishly agreed and dried up very quickly - that had not been a problem before my stroke!! Now I am "a poacher turned gamekeeper" and help at a regular meeting of the Stroke Association Communication group.

My wife and I are now less mobile than we were so as well as limiting our outings to events like OGA occasions, we have had to turn down an invitation to stay with our son and his family in Seoul. Hugh is in the Foreign Service and his current posting is as Head of Trade Policy in the Seoul Embassy - the place where his parents first met in 1972!

Dr Stan Utting (OG 46-50)

School News

Harrison Green

In November 2018, Harrison competed for Great Britain in the 2018 Trampoline, Tumbling and DMT World Age Group Championships in St Petersburg, Russia. At 17 years of age, Harrison finished 4th in the Men's Final (17-21 years). Harrison said, "I felt nervous before my routines but also really excited to compete on such a big stage. The key for me was to try and keep calm."



School Trips

As usual, there have been a whole host of trips and tours conducted by our students during the year. As well as Ski Trips to Andorra and Italy, a netball tour to the Caribbean and a rugby tour to South Africa, there has been a Y11 trip to Iceland, the annual Battlefields trip and a three day visit to Berlin visiting the many sites. Over last summer, 12 of our Y8 students enjoyed the first WGS school-to-school visit to Kentucky in America where they were hosted by Kentucky Day School families and enjoyed their time being thoroughly immersed in American School life.

Hermione Roe

Hermione, Y9, recently swam in the North East Regionals winning 8 Gold medals and 1 Bronze. Hermione achieved the 50m breaststroke qualifying time so now has 5 qualifying times in total to travel to Sheffield for the senior Winter Nationals.

Annabel Gracey

Congratulations to Annabel, Y9, who has made it to the final 40 in the Yong Drummer of the Year 2019 competition. Annabel waits to hear if she has been chosen to play in the final, which takes place in February.

Wellbeing Award

We are delighted that our commitment to the mental health of our pupils and staff has been recognised and we have been awarded the Optimus Education Wellbeing Award for Schools.

We are the only independent school in the UK to achieve this accolade.

The Award has been developed in partnership with the National Children's Bureau with a focus on ensuring effective practice and provision is in place within schools to promote the emotional wellbeing and mental health of both staff and pupils. It centres on the long-term culture of a school, embedding an ethos where mental health is regarded as the responsibility of all.

At The Grove, we have always been known for our unique approach to education, with a focus on nurturing the individual and helping each pupil grow into the very best version of themselves that they can be.

Xaipete Winter 2018

Eavie Amos

In August 2018, Eavie, Y10, won the TDCI International Scholarship at the British Championships, representing the IDTA in the Junior Tap section. Imogen Amos, Y13 recently won 2 more Championship titles; the TDCI Netherwood Senior Tap Champion and the TDCI West Riding of Yorkshire Senior Song and Dance Champion. The sisters head to Blackpool next for the Champion of Champions event early in 2019.

The Importance of Being Earnest



Pupils committed to 10 weeks of intense rehearsals to take on Oscar Wilde's 'trivial comedy for serious people', The Importance of Being Earnest. Staying true to Wilde's style meant authentic costume choices, farcical characters and a lot of complicated lines to learn for our ambitious cast! There was some seriously impressive acting performances which made for an evening of colourful performances showcasing an array of talent.

Cameron Ford



Congratulations to Cameron Ford, Y9, who has been selected for British Canoeing's Northern Super Regional Squad for white water slalom racing.

Moh Ritson

Moh has had a very eventful season with many ups and downs along the way – a real learning curve. He has managed to finish 10th overall in the Championship out of 21 at the end of the year despite a tough start in the first few races. Over the course of the season, Moh has made a name for himself when it comes to race starts and following a successful final weekend of racing at Brands Hatch in front of more than 30,000 people in November, Moh is currently considering his options for 2019.



Ashdown Lodge Anniversary



Ashdown Lodge celebrated its 25th Birthday at the beginning of October 2018. We welcomed current and former parents, Governors, staff and pupils to a celebration held in the dining hall at Bronte. Music, stories and presentations were accompanied by two fantastic cakes and a fun fair!

It was a great event and a real trip down memory lane remembering all the children who have passed through Ashdown in the last 25 years as well as all the wonderful activities and trips during that time.

International Boarding An insider's perspective.....



My name is Hayden Hart and I have joined the lower 6th form at Woodhouse Grove School to do my A Levels, from the south of sunny Barbados. As a 16 year-old travelling all the way to Yorkshire, I thought it would be a scary and much more challenging task, due to the entirely different culture and atmosphere that the UK portrays.

However, I was taken aback by the friendliness, helpfulness and understanding of the people here. From the staff, to the students, who never hesitated to offer a helping hand when needed, I almost immediately felt right at home in the boarding community, with people from China all the way to Barbados! Each and every one of them has made my experience in boarding a fun-filled, hard-working and most of all a rewarding first term due to the family culture here within the boarding house.

I thoroughly look forward to the oncoming Spring term when the eagerly anticipated cricket preparations begin. Net sessions start the first week back to get all the players involved ready for the tour to the West Indies in March. There are also the local league games as well as tournaments, which I can hopefully make a significant impact on, in the coming months. Although the main sport I've been playing my whole life has been cricket, it has been an amazing experience to get involved in squash, which I've represented the School at a few times, and soon to be football as well. I might even delve into rugby next year. With all the excitement of Woodhouse Grove's incredible rugby history, still being crafted today, through the hard work of the coaching and truly impressive players it sparked an interest of rugby in me. Not only is the sporting department fantastic, but the academic side of the school really holds up to the prestige of the Sport. With dedicated teaching staff, well-dispersed lesson time and top tier teaching, the subjects I take have been a joy to partake.

Woodhouse Grove has been an amazing experience so far and I hope that it continues to be that way throughout my school life and beyond.

Grove Sport

Athlete Education Programme

Woodhouse Grove School launches unique Grove Athlete Education Programme for pupils excelling in sport.

Due to the ever growing talented athletes at The Grove a support programme has been set up called the 'Grove Athlete Education Programme'. Currently, there are 60 students involved on the programme participating at International, National, Regional or County level – or who have been signed by a professional academy. The athletes are spread across a range of sports, which include Horse Riding, Trampolining, Rugby and Netball.

GAEP is a unique initiative within the regional Independent school scene with a holistic approach, providing pupils with guidance on well-being, psychology, fitness programming, physiotherapy and career advice. Woodhouse Grove's objective is to provide these talented young athletes with the support they require to enable them to coordinate academic life around their sporting commitments - and maximise their potential.

Specialist Woodhouse Grove sports staff work with GAEP participants to create training diaries and liaise with external coaches to establish tailored training programmes. GAEP athletes attend Sports Psychology and Drugs in Sport workshops.



Netball

It has been a strong start to the year for our Netball squads. The highlights have been both U19 and U14 teams qualifying for the regional round of the National Schools competition and the U15 team getting through to the 3rd round of the Independent Schools Smile Cup.

In addition, we have had some individual successes in representative Netball with selection to squads including Leeds Rhinos and West Yorkshire, with four girls representing Leeds Rhinos at competitive level (U15-U19).

Cricket

Cricket successes include the U15 winning the Yorkshire T20 competition and the U14 being runners up in the Yorkshire section of the Lord's Taverners competition. Owen Tennant represented Yorkshire U19. Josh Stephenson represented Yorkshire U15 and Rhys Newman scored heavily for the Halifax league junior representative side.

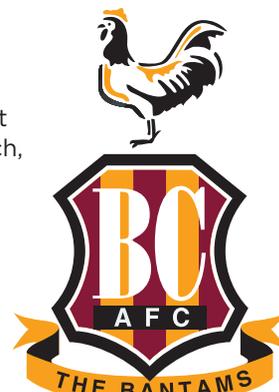
Bradford City scholar's integration into boarding at Woodhouse Grove School

After 6 months, the 3 U18 scholars, Matthew Birchill, Finn Couzen Dawson and Hayden Smethurst, who have been staying at Brodwell house as part of the partnership with Bradford City Football club and WGS, have only positive experiences to share regarding this experience.

These include:

- Mixing with the pupils at WGS
- Opportunities to access the excellent facilities on site, i.e. pool, gym, 4G pitch, sports hall.
- High standard of meals provided, which fits in with their diet and nutritional needs.
- A wide variety of activities that they have participated in with their boarding housemates.
- Trying out new sports and having new experiences.
- Considerate and very understanding staff that have provided excellent support.

The scholars generally go home after their game on a Saturday but look forward to returning to their boarding accommodation and their new found friends.



Football

Football at The Grove continues to develop and we have now got more students playing than ever before. Regular fixtures continue to be played in the Spring term with most teams having 12-16 fixtures within the 10-11 week term. Recent team success has seen some of the 1st team players win the annual 6-a-side tournament in York and last season saw the overall win percentage by all teams being the highest it has ever been. Some individual successes have seen; Harvey Ormerod (Y11) selected for the ISFA U16 National team and Daniel Francis (Y12) selected for the ISFA U17 National Team. Both are also involved with Bradford City AFC at U16 and U18 level. Daniel has also been on a week-long National Camp for Sierra Leone U18/Senior team.

A busy and exciting term is ahead with a lot of fixtures and it is going to end with the first ever WGS Football Tour which sees 37 Y9/10 students going to Lisbon in April.

*A fantastic year for School sport -
For further details of Woodhouse Grove Sport
and more please visit
www.woodhousegrove.co.uk*

Rugby

Grove 1st XV are through to the semi-finals of the National Schools Cup competition for the first time at this age group after securing wins over Rodillian Academy, QEGS, King's School Macclesfield, RGS Newcastle and a hard fought victory against Wirral Grammar School for Boys in the quarter final. The semi-final will be played on Saturday 9 March at Allianz Park against Warwick School.

Our other rugby teams are also performing really well with high win ratios for 2nd XV, U16A, U13A and U12B. The U15 XV progressed well in the NatWest competition reaching the last 16.

A number of current 1st XV have been playing in the Premiership Academy programme since December, but it was a quite unique occasion when Joe Carpenter (Yorkshire Carnegie) and James Whitcombe (Leicester Tigers), not only found themselves opposing each other, but also Captaining their respective teams. The match was played at Tigers historic Welford Road ground kicking off in front of a good crowd following a Tigers-Ulster clash in the European Cup. James won bragging rights over his good friend, but Joe could hold his head up, leading a spirited challenge against the all-conquering defending Academy champions.

Both these Y13 students look to have great futures at the highest levels of the professional game.



Old Grovians RUFC

Old Grovians RUFC was formed just over 10 years ago by three former members of the school, John Hinchliffe, James Philips and Nick Fawcett. The club has had a very successful start to its life and now plays in Yorkshire Division 2 having started life in Yorkshire 6. The last 2 seasons have proved somewhat trickier as our small army of volunteers have been struggling to keep up with the increasing demands of playing at a higher level.

You may not have seen the significant steps taken by the club lately, but the conventional formal rugby club committee has been joined by a crack team of dedicated ex-players, coaches and current players to form a management group which we call the RMG (Rugby Management Group). This group is

headed up by a number of ex-players and the founder of the club, John Hinchliffe, to provide support to Dan Nulty. Dan Nulty's job over the last few years has been very difficult and with a small squad of players what he has achieved can only be described as magic tricks. He has the admiration of everyone who has watched him and worked with him over the last few seasons, keeping our team in Yorkshire division 2 among many, very well-established, bigger clubs with long history in the county is a considerable achievement.

On the coaching front Andrew Hinchliffe has taken over as head coach. Andy is a well-known local man and has been an excellent player in his time, coaching at Ilkley for many years.

The RMG had 3 initial goals when it was formed:

1. Increase the player base - To that end we have signed 15 new players in the last 2 months.
2. Start to create a non-playing membership scheme - In less than 2 months we now have 50 paid up members. It costs £40 and you're given an Old Grovians RUFC hat along with the ability to apply for England tickets through the Club.
3. Improve training facilities - We've purchased 8 new floodlights. This means for the first time ever in Old Grovians short history we know when and where we will be training on a weekly basis. We are incredibly grateful for our small number of generous sponsors in helping to make this happen.



What happens next?

The club have ambitions to create their own changing facilities at Elm Tree farm and are currently working with the school and the RFU to establish the best way forward. We completely understand the magnitude of this task and we will require significant support. We believe it's imperative for the club to push on and achieve it's potential. There is an exciting future ahead for Old Grovians Rugby Club. If any ex Grovians would like to assist the club in any way, please contact OldGroviansrugby@gmail.com or feel free to join our growing membership base by filling in an online form:

www.pitchero.com/clubs/oldgrovians

On a final note, we'd like to place on record our thanks to the School for their continued support, without their help we would not be in existence. Special thanks must go again to Simon Wood for keeping Elm Tree Farm in tip-top condition. Once more, the club wishes to send a hearty thanks to all OGA members for their generosity and support. Without this support the club would not exist - in return it pledges to uphold the true spirit and good sportsmanship and the tradition and good name of the School.

Significant Change but No Change

“At five in the morning all the boys meet together. From six they work until breakfast; for as we have no play days (the school being taught every day in the year but Sunday) so neither do we allow any time for play on any day. He that plays when he is a child will play when he is a man. On fair days they work according to their strength in the garden; on rainy days in the house.”

Given the extract above from an outline of the school's routines in the middle of the 19th Century I think it would be fair to say that Woodhouse Grove has certainly changed. In the mid 19th C corporal punishment was a regular and often violent course for correction and conversion. It is reported that William Greer, the Headmaster in 1838, would summon 30 boys out of 100 to be caned on a Monday morning. (All of a sudden current day Monday morning assemblies do not seem quite so painful!) However, it is quite chastening to think that in the late 1980s corporal punishment, though rare, did still exist, and it is quite a good starting point for reflecting on the significant changes that have occurred at The Grove over the last 30 or so years.

It really was quite a different place 30 years ago both as teacher and pupil. Every week, with the whole school sat in perfect manipulated silence in the Memorial Hall for assembly, staff would parade across the quad in academic gowns, trundle up the stairs, past what served as the green room, and onto the stage, led by the senior member of the common room. Eight 40 minute periods a day followed. After assembly, staff might teach on the Mezzanine or in the Junior Block, (a 30 year old “temporary building” with square plastic lockers and unconvincing windows), whilst pupils sat on grey plastic chairs which were occasionally torn at the seat and potentially very dangerous! Pupils would open their pencil cases replete with fountain pens, felt tips and Tippex whilst teachers would scratch words or pictures in chalk on the blackboard. The pupils might enjoy watching slides projected onto a screen, or videos on bulky televisions wheeled into the classroom on a trolley. Pupils might visit the gymnasium and climb the wall bars; or go to the Attic; the Pritchard Room; the Library Annexe; Vinter Comm; the Tuck Shop; the Covered (or Cupboard) Shed. They might cross the road to Art lessons past the guilty faces in the underpass, or descend the stairs into the Wintershed to sit their exams on sunken and occasionally damp canvas seats.

Did teachers really fill their pockets and desks with different coloured chalk, and produce handouts for the class on the Banda machine? Did boarding staff really get fed a far superior diet to the boarding pupils? Did everyone really come to school on Bank Holidays and on Saturday mornings for 4 lessons? Did members of the academic staff really lock all the doors at 10:30pm? Were there two boxes with telephones in outside the staffroom? Did a tea trolley supporting an enormous stainless steel teapot rumble along the Headmaster's Corridor three times a day? Surely not.

Whilst much of the above may now seem strange and furiously antiquated to both teacher and pupil alike, it did not at the time. Those same pupils and staff who inhabited those corridors and classrooms of the recent past, can and do visit their old school open mouthed as they witness what is now the norm for those in the Grove Community.

Boarders enjoy facilities which put many university Halls of Residence to shame. Staff relax in an updated and modernised staff room whilst pupils enjoy the striking new social space in the quad or in the positively luxurious sixth form centre; one and all drinking cappuccino and munching on hot snacks from the cafe. They eat quality food from an extensive menu; they work in new workshops or studios; they play in Sports Halls or on climbing walls; they perform in theatres or recital rooms and they swim in a stunning 25m pool.

Any Old Grovian who has not taken a tour of the school in recent years should do so. They may well be envious of some of the opportunities on offer today, and may of course lament the absence/disappearance of some of the elements etched in the memory from their particular time at school. However, what they will find that has not changed from their time at The Grove is the school's essence. Much of the body may be new and improved but the beating heart remains the same. The Grovian Values succinctly articulated in recent times have underscored school life in the last 30 years, reflected in the sense of inclusiveness and mutual respect which so importantly characterises The Grove, and makes it such a special place, no matter where you sit. Pupils and staff do not seek to simply take and absorb but rather to give and grow....and they grow together in an all pervading atmosphere of serious fun. This is all borne out of two ever present and as yet unsung values of Humanity and Humility.

These two tenets spring from the quality of staff appointed, a rigorous and yet sensitive pupil admissions process, and a clear understanding from one and all about what the school stands for. And that is its beauty - breadth of background, breadth of ability, and breadth of opportunity; where we praise loudly and blame softly, and where every member of the community feels challenged and valued.

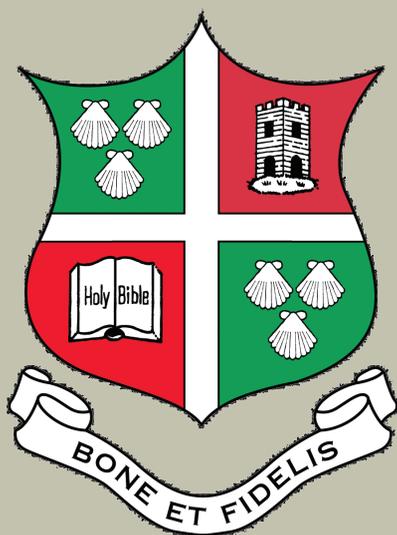
Here is to the next 30 years.

DNW (1987-2018)

David Wood retired at the end of the Summer term 2018. In his typically self-effacing manner his preference was to have this marked with a dinner in School on the Hastings Long Gallery involving friends, former colleagues and current colleagues. A joyous and memorable occasion where all were entertained by the merciless verbal jousting between the Rev Robert Morton (St 95-12) and David himself, indicative of the great friendship between the two protagonists. We wish David and Theresa a long and happy retirement.



Old Grovians' Diary



2019

Scotland Reunion - 23-28 January, Culcreuch Castle, Fintry

David Miller Memorial - Friday 22 March, WGS Chapel

Manchester Lunch - Tuesday 30 April, Malmaison Hotel, Manchester - please email foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk if you would like to attend as spaces are limited

WGS Golf Day - Friday 17 May, Headingley Golf Club

Leeds Drinks - Thursday 13 June, Lamb & Flag, Church Row, Leeds

Old Grovian Cricket Match - Friday 28 June, Woodhouse Grove School

Summer Reunion and Family Fun Day - Sunday 30 June, Woodhouse Grove School

London Reunion - Thursday 19 September, Doggett's Coat & Badge

Next Generation Networking Event - Date TBC

Remembrance Day & November Reunion - 9/10 November, Woodhouse Grove School (Programme TBC)

2019 Leavers Reunion - Wednesday 18 December, Woodhouse Grove School

If you would like to be considered for selection for any of the Old Grovian teams (Rugby, Cricket, Netball, Tennis, Squash, Cross Country?, Football?) and are unsure who to contact, please email foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk

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Not Just Travel

Anne Monaghan



I am a proud parent of an old Grovian. Eleanor left the Grove upon completing her A levels in July 2018 after 9 years studying at both Bronte House and the Grove. I can honestly say that she loved every single day of her school life and she definitely did not want to leave.

I am a single parent and I have, during part of Ellie's time at the Grove, been in receipt of a bursary. I was so grateful for this facility because I knew that if I had to move Ellie from the Grove, she would have been heartbroken. The fact I received a bursary helped me tremendously. It relieved the pressure I felt on my personal finances as well as emotionally, as I realised my daughter could remain at the school she loved so much. I was determined that one day I would give something back to the school to help other parents who might be feeling the pressure financially.

I am now in a position to help provide the Foundation with a constant supply of funds. In addition, parents, staff, old Grovians and other supporters of the school can also help without having to make a personal donation. All they have to do, is when they book their holiday, book through me. I have trained to become a travel consultant and have a franchise with Not Just Travel. This is an award-winning travel company that has been operating for 16 years. Not Just Travel has won numerous awards including Travel2 Homeworking Agency of the year for the past 4 years running. The company is affiliated to Hays travel which gives us multi million pound buying power. I can provide holidays from companies that are on the high street eg Jet2, Thomas Cook, Kuoni etc and I have access to hundreds of suppliers who only deal with the trade. All the holidays are governed by the new Package transfer regulations, are Abta and Atol protected and are competitively priced. Travel suppliers pay the consultant's commission, so it doesn't cost you a penny to use my services. Unlike the internet or the high street you get to speak to someone who really cares about your holiday. I will spend time finding out exactly what you want from your next trip away, from preferred airport destinations down to the activities you want to do whilst on holiday.

Now, here's how helping the Foundation fits in. The company offers a scheme called "Partners in Travel" which effectively means that when someone associated with the school books a holiday through my franchise the Foundation gets a share of the commission I receive, to use in whatever way they want. Commission is calculated and paid by the accounts department at headquarters, direct to the Foundation bank account, once a month.

So what are you waiting for?

Get in touch and let me help you plan your perfect holiday and together we can help the Woodhouse Grove School Foundation raise well needed funds.

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Remember: 1 – Update 2 – Engage 3 - Commit