



# BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT 2012

Incorporating The Bromsgrove School Foundation Report 2012

## CONTENTS

Message from the Headmaster

Development:  
The Medium Term Plan, projects completed and underway

Message from the Chairman of Governors

Governors' Overview - members and committees

The Foundation Annual Report

Donors

Alumni and Bromsgrovian Club

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER, CHRIS EDWARDS

"My education was interrupted only by my schooling," said Winston Churchill, possibly with eyes on aphoristic posterity as much as the truth. Whatever the genesis of the observation, it serves to remind me that without breadth, a school can easily become the Pink Floyd sausage machine that parents of a certain age will recall from a classic video. Chase pie-charts and graphs and you'll produce automatons. "The great aim of education," said Herbert Spencer, "is not knowledge but action." At Bromsgrove we agree. Now I know we can point to a lofty league table position these days, and I know too that we are becoming increasingly selective, but the league table that properly measures the quality of a school is the one that tells you what the pupils are doing when they are fifty. Or, better still, their state of mind when they are even older. Not simply, what are you scoring at sixteen or eighteen years of age? (though in a selective school such questions have their place), but what did you accomplish regarding the betterment of yourself and others?

Complacency is not a word I tolerate at Bromsgrove but the fact is the School has never been so popular, and I thank parents and guardians for their support over the past year. It is hugely appreciated. The successes at national, regional and local level have been legion and cannot be listed here, but I have no hesitation whatsoever in saying we are one of the most successful schools in the country when measured by any meaningful criteria. However, we are a million miles from perfect, so we welcome observations on the progress of the School and - when things go awry - being told where we have fallen short. That's how we can be even better in the future.

And just in case any strangers to Bromsgrove are reading this and thinking "Yes, but this could be any Head writing about any School", try the next section for size.

Once again, thank you all for your support.



## DEVELOPMENT: THE MEDIUM TERM PLAN, PROJECTS COMPLETED AND PROJECTS UNDERWAY

I am not aware that any independent school in the country is building as much and as quickly as Bromsgrove. Since the last Governors' Report we have completed: a new Mary Windsor boarding house, a part new and part refurbished Oakley day and boarding house, a new indoor sports arena with permanent seating for 500 people, a gym, a hospitality suite, dance studios, a new car park, a new gatehouse and Café 1553. The new Prep School boarding house, Page (refashioned from a gutted old Mary Windsor and White House) is probably the largest House of its kind in the country and receives its first pupils in September, while the Health Centre has been greatly extended to improve and extend services.

However, much of the master plan lies in the future. We move next to Housman Hall, where two new, state of the art buildings will replace the tired boarding wings. Work is set to begin at Easter. In the Prep School, meanwhile, we will be assessing how best to exploit the space created by the new Page House. And then, further down the time line but costed, scheduled and provisionally designed, we have a new dining room, music school and theatre facility.









## DEVELOPMENT

(Continued)

Elsewhere, difficult decisions will have to be made about selection and retention of pupils if waiting lists for the Senior School continue to grow as they have been, and Governors will be looking at this issue next academic year. We will always look to be loyal to committed, hardworking pupils but we must at least discuss minimum academic standards and ensure they are appropriate to the School as it is today.

Parents and guardians can be assured that the School continues to plan long term in all areas, with limitless ambition coupled to rigorous financial control.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS

"A remarkably impressive and exciting school driven with imagination and dynamism by an exceptional head. It produces engaged, friendly, unstuffy and highly successful pupils who thrive within an excellent academic and pastoral environment with national standard sports."

That is not a biased Chairman talking, but the verdict of the 2013 edition of the most read guide to the country's best schools: "The Good Schools Guide." The new edition will not be published until next year, but we were inspected a few weeks ago and have received advanced copy of the full report. Current parents might want to purchase the book if only to see how the most knowledgeable of guides sees us in the company of Britain's greatest schools. We will always strive to be better, but we are striving from the front.

I thank the governing body for its unfailing support and commitment to this great School. It is the business of the Headmaster and his Executive to lead the School and make the decisions that will improve further the quality of experience enjoyed by our pupils, but the Governors give freely of their time and expertise to help inform those decisions. The selfless but passionate dedication of the individuals on the governing body is a defining feature of modern Bromsgrove, and the whirlwind pace at which the School develops and improves is

testament to the closeness of the relationship between Governors and Executive. The vision is a shared one, and all Governors very much hope you are as excited as the governing body itself by what is currently taking place at Bromsgrove and, indeed, what is to come in the short and medium term.

I extend my thanks to all of you for helping make this School what it is today, and I trust parents and pupils alike will enjoy another academic year in the Bromsgrove School community.

Stewart Towe CBE  
Chairman of Governors



## MEET THE GOVERNORS

Below is a brief introduction to all of the School's Governors, the Committees they serve on and other specialist roles they perform.

**1. Stewart Towe CBE  
(Lupton 1965-1970)**

Chairman of Governors  
FPC  
Building Committee  
Marketing Committee  
Nominations Committee  
Stewart is Chairman of Hadley Industries plc, of the Black Country LEP and of Business in the Community (WM)

**2. Dr Vivian Anthony**

President of the School  
Liaison Governor for BIST  
Dr Anthony is an expert in the field of education having worked as a headmaster, inspector, adviser, lecturer and writer on education matters.

**3. Alison Brimelow CBE**

Education Committee  
Health and Safety Committee  
Nominated by the Bishop of Worcester, a former career civil servant with extensive European experience, ending her career as President of the European Patent Office. Alison has particular interest in governance, the arts and Europe.

**4. Richard Brookes  
(Lupton 1961-1965)**

Chairman of Building Committee  
A Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, with over 40 years' experience of property within private practice and commerce. Currently advises on property development within the healthcare sector.

**5. Ruth Heggett**

Chairman of Health and Safety Committee  
Education Committee

**6. Andrew Hodge**

Chairman of Nominations Committee  
Marketing Committee  
Investment Committee

**7. Fern Hordern**

Chairman of Investments Committee  
FPC  
A Director at Smith and Williamson Investment Management.

**8. Rupert Lane**

Education Committee

**9. Air Commodore Stephen Lilley**

FPC  
Building Committee

**10. Richard Noake  
(Elmhurst 1959-1964)**

FPC  
Investments Committee  
Nominations Committee  
Audit and Risk Committee  
Chairman of Bromsgrove School Foundation  
Formerly a Senior Partner at KPMG in Birmingham who has since worked in the building and engineering Industries and for Business in the Community (The Prince's Trust).

**11. Professor John Perry**

Education Committee

**12. Tim Pile**

FPC  
Marketing Committee  
Trustee of Bromsgrove School Foundation

**13. Dr Angèle Silk**

Vice Chairman  
Education Committee  
Marketing Committee  
Building Committee  
Child Protection Committee  
Child Psychologist, formerly Consultant Psychologist at Sunfield Residential School.

**14. Geoffrey Strong**

Building Committee  
Child Protection Committee  
Education Committee  
FPC  
Health and Safety Committee

**15. Dr. Nick Venning**

Chairman of Marketing Committee  
A Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing and Marketing Director at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Dr Venning is a director of Birmingham Forward and works in voluntary capacities for St Basil's, The Prince's Trust and Birmingham and Black Country Community Foundation.

**16. David Walters  
(Lupton 1981-1986)**

Chairman of FPC  
Chairman of Audit and Risk Committee  
An accountant of 20 years' experience, Mr Walters is a director at PricewaterhouseCoopers, specialising in advising on complex technical accounting issues.

**17. Dr Patrick Walsh-Atkins  
(Former Academic Staff 1972-2005)**

Chairman of Education Committee

**18. James Sommerville**

Company Secretary and Clerk to the Governors  
Clerk to Bromsgrove School Foundation

## ABOUT THE COMMITTEES

### FPC

The Finance and Property Committee deals with financial policy and the financial management of the School.

### Building

The Building Committee considers and monitors major build and refurbishment projects within the School.

### Investments

The Investment Committee receives termly updates on investment and performance from the Investment Advisers and reports these matters to the Board together with any proposals regarding changes in the Investment policy set by the Board.

### Marketing

The Marketing Committee considers the marketing and promotion of the School in liaison with the Foundation and Admission and Marketing Departments of the School.

### Education

The Education Committee deals with educational and related operational issues and brings recommendations and concerns with regard to such matters to the Board.

### Nominations

The Nominations Committee considers possible capability gaps with regard to the composition of the Board and makes recommendations regarding potential new Board members.

### Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Committee ensures that there are adequate policies and procedures in place to ensure the health and safety of all pupils and staff and to ensure that the School complies with all legislative changes.

### Child Protection

The Child Protection committee ensures that there are adequate policies and procedures in place to ensure the safeguarding of all pupils and to ensure that the School complies with all legislative changes.

The Committees meet at least termly and the full Governing Body meets three times a year.

## PUBLIC BENEFIT

The School's aims are charitable and we forget that at our peril. Public benefit goes way beyond allowing outside groups the use of School facilities. It is about bursarial support, increasing access, and working with schools and organisations less fortunate than ourselves. In Bromsgrove's case, the achievements over the last year have been marked, but much remains to be done.

All bursaries are means tested, and while the Headmaster's aspiration for a needs-blind School is probably many decades away, the School now offers over £1 million per year in means tested bursaries. The number of 100% bursaries continues to increase. Access is widening every year, and more and more pupils for whom coming to Bromsgrove was once a pipe dream now have a realistic chance of entry.

The process of identifying pupils who might benefit most from bursaries has become more sophisticated, and relationships with state sector schools (especially those without sixth forms) have been strengthened immeasurably. It is hoped that this partnership with the state sector will continue to grow in coming years.





## BROMSGROVE SCHOOL FOUNDATION

The Bromsgrove School Foundation was established in 2007 as a registered charity to promote and advance the School's charitable purposes and philanthropic aims. It also aims to foster a life-long relationship between the School and its alumni (Old Bromsgrovians), parents and friends.

The Foundation holds three flagship events each year - the Annual Lecture, the Annual Dinner and OB Reunions. Everyone with a connection to Bromsgrove is welcome to attend. Some highlights from this academic year include the September Reunion, which attracted 120 OBs from the 1985 - 1995 vintage. In October last year, the Old Chapel was full to capacity for a Foundation Scholars dinner, hosted by Trustee and former Foundation Scholar Lord Digby Jones. We were delighted to welcome Dame Julia Cleverdon as our Guest Speaker for the Third Foundation Annual Lecture at the Lansdowne Club in London, hosted by Governor and Foundation Chairman Dick Noake. In March, the Choir took part in Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, followed by a reception at the House of Lords, hosted by Lord Digby Jones. Trustee His Honour Judge Richard Foster hosted a 'Call My Wine Bluff' evening at the Reform Club in May for a most enjoyable and entertaining evening won by the OB table, who correctly estimated most of the wines!

Bromsgrove would not exist without the

generosity and vision of its benefactors. Over the centuries, philanthropic gifts have supported our pupils, endowed our Scholars and provided our buildings. Our mission is to attract the best pupils from the UK and across the world by being able to provide financial assistance to the brightest and best, and to enable them to come to Bromsgrove regardless of their ability to pay. Some may be children or grandchildren of Old Bromsgrovians and others will be new to the School. Means tested bursaries are fair because they ensure that fee reductions are given to those who really need it, and every application is assessed individually to ascertain the level of support needed. For the first time in its history, Bromsgrove will provide over £1 million in bursary support this year. This is wonderful progress but we have a long way to go before we are in a position to offer needs-blind admissions like the top US institutions. At the time of writing, the total Endowment Funds for bursaries is £735,000.

Fourteen recent leavers will be talking to 1,000 OBs this summer as part of Bromsgrove's first ever Telephone Fundraising Campaign to raise vital funds towards our first 'Foundationers' who need full fee support plus help with extras, such as uniform, trips and equipment. We work with charities which are based in communities where children often don't progress to sixth form, let alone University and where Bromsgrove could never be an option.

The UK has one of the lowest levels of social mobility and highest levels of educational inequality in the western world, and our mission is to provide a life-changing opportunity, not only for the child, but for their families and for their community, stemming from the remarkable opportunities provided by our School. The presence of these young people enhances the life of the School and ensures that our community continues to be a broad society, which is the best preparation for adult life.

The campaign will launch the Regular Giving Programme. Regular giving is one of the most powerful ways to support Bromsgrove because it enables the School to plan for the future and it enables donors to manage their giving most effectively. The accumulation of regular donations, however large or modest, will have an immediate and significant impact that will enable us to reach our goals.

All those who have made provision for Bromsgrove in their wills are invited to join The Sir Thomas Cookes Society. This is an opportunity to make a difference to the lives of generations to come and take their place amongst the School's most distinguished benefactors. We warmly welcome three new members to the Society this year.

Because the Foundation is a registered charity, tax concessions can substantially reduce the cost of the gift to the donor and increase the total value of the gift to Bromsgrove as well. Further information on tax effective giving can be found on the Foundation pages of the School website or by contacting either Jane Rogers or Megan Griffiths in the Foundation Office.

#### Dates for your diary 2012-13

##### **Saturday 8th September, 2012**

Young OB career event with current pupils

##### **Tuesday 20th November, 2012**

Fourth Annual Foundation Lecture, RAF Club, London  
Guest Speaker: Air Marshal Stephen Hillier, CBE

##### **Thursday 9th May, 2013**

Foundation Annual Dinner, Hagley Hall  
Host: Viscount Cobham, President of the Foundation

## THE FOUNDATION BOARD

### **Viscount Cobham**

President

### **Richard Noake** (Elmshurst 1959-1964)

Chairman of the Foundation  
School Governor

### **Chris Edwards**

Headmaster

### **Stewart Towe** (Lupton 1965-1970)

Chairman of Governors

### **Sir David Arculus** (Wendron 1959-1964)

### **Mark Escolme** (Lupton 1980-1985)

### **His Honour Judge Richard Foster** (Elmshurst 1967-1972)

### **Digby, Lord Jones of Birmingham** (Walters 1969-1974)

### **Clive Parkes** (Cookes 1966-1971)

### **Tim Pile** School Governor

### **John Rogers** Director of Services 1995-2007, Foundation Director 2007-2008

### **Rachel Scannell**

Assistant Head  
Vice-Chair of the Foundation

### **John Wheatley**

Former Chairman of the Foundation  
2007-2011

### **The Foundation Office**

#### **Jane Rogers**

Head of Foundation  
Tel: +44 (0) 1527 579679 ext 365  
[jrogers@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:jrogers@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

#### **Megan Griffiths**

Foundation & Alumni Co-ordinator  
Tel: +44 (0) 1527 579679 ext 366  
[mgriffiths@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:mgriffiths@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

# DONORS JANUARY 2007 - JULY 2012

The Trustees of Bromsgrove School Foundation, the Governors of Bromsgrove School and the Headmaster wish to reiterate their gratitude to all our donors for their generous support. We are delighted to acknowledge all those who have made gifts to the School from January 2007 to July 2012 (correct at time of going to print).

## Cookes House

Robin Berry (1964-1969)  
T. Matthew Horton (1962-1967,  
Parent, ex-Chairman of Governors,  
Former Foundation Trustee)  
Noel Nicholls (1963-1968, donation for  
BSEC)

## Elmshurst House

David Cariss (1949-1953)  
Hugh Furber (1952-1957)  
Robert Hurst (1945-1950)  
James Leek (1957-1962)  
Dick Noake (1959-1964, Chairman  
of the Foundation, School Governor)  
Charles Pearson (1960-1965)  
Anthony Rudell (deceased, 1960-1963)  
Topper Webb (1972-1973)

## Gordon House

CCJ Forge (deceased, 1933-1939)  
Clive Gummow (1952-1957)  
Rear Admiral Sir David Haslam  
(deceased, 1936-1941)  
Anthony Hilton (1945-1950)  
David Partridge (1934-1938)  
David Shirra (1950-1954)  
Brig. Anthony Spackman (1944-1949)

Emory Winship (1971-1972)

## Housman Hall

Wilson Hallett (2010-2011)

## Lupton House

A K (Jake) Barton  
(deceased, 1921-1929)  
Dr Roger Bishton  
(deceased, 1945-1950)  
Dr Kim Daniels (1960-1965)  
Peter Fielden (deceased, 1944-1949,  
Head of Biology, Housemaster and  
Bromsgrovian Club Registrar)  
Patrick Firminger (1942-1947)  
Prof Roy Haines (1938-1940)  
Philip Powell (1962-1967)

## School House

Paul Boardman (1965-1970)  
Henry Buchanan (1957-1962)  
Stuart Carmichael (deceased,  
1945-1950)  
John Clayson (1952-1957)  
John Cutler (1956-1961)  
Nicholas Esson (1964-1969)  
Anthony Horton (1954-1959)  
J. Roy Hughes (1945-1950)  
Charles Jay (1937-1941)  
Geoffrey John (1947-1951)  
Garth Kenderdine-Davies (1941-1947)  
Colin Kleiser (OB 1950-1955)  
James (Jim) Page (1945-1949; Staff  
1960-1989)  
Christopher Price (1939-1944)  
Michael Rees (1940-1950)  
Michael Roberts (1944-1949)  
David Roscoe (1944-1949)

John Rose (1948-1951)  
John Say (1939-1943)  
Robert Williams (1963-1968)

## Wendron House

Roger Brazier (1937-1941)  
Leslie Francis (1939-1942)  
David Harrison (1945-1950)  
Simon Lowndes (1973-1979)  
John Nicks (1935-1940)

## Parents

Patrick Adler  
Sqdn Ldr S Burch  
Dr Philip & Dr Louise Cox  
Neil & Brigitte Edwards  
Tang Sui Leung  
Shule Li  
Jane Lodge  
Kwan Kin Lun  
Dr Sadafumi Shikano  
Jacqueline Shrimpton  
Olga Starikova  
Dr and Mrs Ulrich  
Chan Chi Wong  
Mr and Mrs H Yan  
Mr Yanovskiy and Mrs Yanovskaya

## Other Donors

Viscount Cobham (President of  
the Foundation)  
J Davies  
Chris Edwards (Headmaster)  
Dr C Elliot  
Anthony Finn (Staff 1964-1992)  
Give As You Live  
Thomas Horton & Sons  
Dr Jeffrey Lewins (Former Governor)

## Old Bromsgrovian Lodge

Jon Moulton (Alchemy Partners LLP)

Eulalia (Eulie) Peto (deceased donor)

Jane Rogers (Head of Foundation)

Clem Schilizzi (Staff 1957-1982)

Celia Skitt (Staff 1959-1980)

Helen Smith (Staff dates unknown)

James Sommerville (Clerk to the  
Governing Body and Foundation)

Geoff Strong (Governor and Former  
Parent)

John Wheatley (Former Chairman of the  
Foundation, Foundation Trustee,  
Former Parent)

Ian Walker (Staff 1965-1970)

Tim Watts (Pertemps Investments)

1 Anonymous Donor



## OUR ALUMNI AND THE BROMSGROVIAN CLUB

Every pupil that attends Bromsgrove School becomes a 'Bromsgrovian' when he or she leaves the School, and in doing so becomes a member of the Bromsgrovian Club. With over 7000 members, the Bromsgrovian Club exists to promote the interests of Bromsgrove School by supporting the further development of the School and its facilities, by assisting the present generation of pupils in any way possible and through maintaining helpful contact between Bromsgrovians throughout their lives.

The Club is chaired by **Hans Rostrup** (**School 1972-1977**) and its President is **Tony Hilton (Gordon 1945-1950)**. Together, they lead an active Committee of Bromsgrovians focussed on organising events that keep Bromsgrovians connected to the School and with each other.

That contact ranges from social and sporting events, both in the UK and overseas, to making useful career connections through industry specific networking initiatives.

The Bromsgrovian Club will also consider providing financial support to Bromsgrovians who are either pursuing worthwhile projects during their Gap year or who need help with other assignments such as overseas placements during their University course. In the last year the Club has helped Bromsgrovians with various projects including a medical elective placement in the South Pacific as well as an expedition to Mount Everest.

## FRIENDS OF BROMSGROVE SCHOOL (FOBS)

Friends of Bromsgrove School has been established for current families, parents and Bromsgrovians living overseas to enable members to feel engaged in Bromsgrove School life even if they are living or working thousands of miles away.

Groups have currently been identified in Australia, North America, Germany, Hong Kong and Thailand. Committees have, or will be, established in each of these countries so that Bromsgrovians and Friends of the School always have a contact point in the country where they are living or working.



Bromsgrove School is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England.

Registered Charity No. 1098740

Registered Office: Bromsgrove School, Worcester Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B61 7DU

Telephone: +44 (0) 1527 579679 Email: [enquiries@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

[www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk)