

BROMSGROVIANS

# connected



BROMSGROVE'S ALUMNI MAGAZINE ISSUE 1 2014/15



## Chairman's Welcome

Welcome to Bromsgrovians Connected, the new magazine for Old Bromsgrovians. It's designed to provide news about OBs, young and old, and information about achievements and upcoming events. We have chosen, as our logo, the martlet, which is the small bird on the School crest. In heraldry, the martlet signified someone who had to make their own way in the world through hard work and perseverance. The modern interpretation is of a 'constant quest for knowledge learning and adventure'. Both of these are great descriptions of today's Bromsgrovians who, you'll see, are pursuing their dreams all around the world. And the martlet bird has further links to the School - our OB cricket club was formerly called The Martlets.

I hope you enjoy reading about your contemporaries, and those from outside your own time, and will send us your news.

HANS ROSTRUP  
CHAIRMAN

*An extended version of The Chairman's Welcome is available online at [www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk)*



*Future Old Bromsgrovians: The Heads of School 2014/15 with the Headmaster, Peter Clague*

## The first word...

What a privilege; the first word of the first edition of this wonderful new magazine for Old Bromsgrovians. I have had the great pleasure of speaking with many alumni since I took up the post of Headmaster in September. For those I haven't yet met, that's me in the photo above – for once, I'm the short bloke!

Amongst the myriad of challenges that face any new Headmaster is the need to quickly become conversant with the School's history. In the case of Bromsgrove's five centuries, that's quite a task. Fortunately I have had the great benefit of being tutored by the redoubtable Deputy Headmaster, whose knowledge of the School's past is encyclopedic. However, as you may be aware, Mr Bowen will retire in June after 34 years of loyal service. At which stage, I shall be on my own.

To compensate, I am currently working on a strategy to enhance the School's collection and display of its memorabilia and to ensure that we capture and preserve the stories of those who have passed through this great School. Most of those tales and items associated with School life come from Old Bromsgrovians, so I relish the opportunity to meet many more of you in the years to come.

PETER CLAGUE  
HEADMASTER

IN THIS ISSUE: The year in photographs... The inside story... About you...

# Picture This...

A LOOK BACK AT THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14.



School For Scandal was the School's major production of the year. The same play was performed by pupils in 1926, when the cast was decided by committee!



A Level, IB, BTEC and GCSE Pupils celebrated their superb exam results over the Summer. 87% A\*, A & B at A level, 38 point average for IB and 88% A\* to B at GCSE.



Remembrance Day 2013 was a poignant reminder of what sacrifices Old Bromsgrovians had made during the war years. At Pre-Prep, pupils commemorated former pupils with a poppy, each inscribed with a fallen soldier's name.



We were delighted to welcome back so many Old Bromsgrovians and Friends of the School to Commemoration Day this year. Particularly special as it was outgoing Headmaster, Chris Edwards' final 'Commem' after ten years of dedicated service.



The dining room, opened in 1964, is currently undergoing a refurbishment programme which will see a complete transformation of the whole building. Once completed our new Dining Hall will rival the best in the nation.

The Matthew Taylor Observatory was officially opened on 29th June 2014. Matthew Taylor generously funded the Observatory for the benefit of pupils at the School.



Launched in 2014, to coincide with the 100th Anniversary of the Great War, Mr Bowen's Book and Presentation 'A History of Bromsgrove School at War 1914-1919' proved to be an instant hit.



Handel's Messiah was the Choral Society's major performance of the year, performed in Routh Hall.



Housman Hall has undergone a complete transformation throughout 2013/14, with the official re-opening of the House taking place in November 2014. You can see in the photograph opposite that it is almost unrecognisable from how it looked just 12 months ago.

Our Day Houses are now scheduled to undergo a refurbishment programme, ensuring that they match the very high standard of accommodation offered in the boarding houses.

Bromsgrove School partnered with the Bromsgrove International Young Musicians' Competition (BIYMC), where they held their four-day competition in Routh Hall.



# Picture This...

EXTRA-CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2013/14.



As 2nd Deputy Head (Co-Curricula), Paul Mullan is responsible for the extra-curricular activities that occur at Bromsgrove School. Here, he gives you some highlights from the 2013/14 academic year.

New performing initiatives began, such as the Sixth Form Recital and Informal Concert Series in the Old Chapel.



Thirty-eight pupils have received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award since September 2013, with a further seventy-seven gaining Silver and 149 awarded Bronze.



The School was delighted to host Colonel Bob Carruthers OBE and his team, who conducted our Biennial Review, the CCF equivalent of an Ofsted inspection.



Our Chapel Choir sang Evensong at Gloucester Cathedral and the Chamber Choir took an overnight trip to St David's.

“Outside of the classroom pupils take enriching opportunities seriously”

Pupils continue to successfully achieve RADA awards, and in 2013/14 pupils gained a number of Silver and Gold.



The U18 girls finished 4th in the indoor hockey National Finals. Bromsgrove is proud to regularly host National Finals and competitions in the Arena.



160 pupils undertake Bromsgrove Service every week, and they have access to a wide variety of voluntary activities from charity shop helpers, language learning mentors, support mentors for international pupils, gaining Sports Leader awards and working alongside SEN pupils at a local school.

CAS Projects have offered IB students the opportunity to organise events, such as the one for local residential homes.



During the last academic year, the Upper Sixth European Youth Parliament team won the National Finals and represented Great Britain. A Senior team also won the Three Counties Debating Competition.

Informal lunchtime debates continue to attract good audiences.



Bromsgrove School is currently ranked 4th best independent school for sport, awarded by School Sport Magazine.

Our senior cricketers won the regional Chesterton Cup, played at New Road, for the second year running.



# About You

FIND OUT WHAT OLD BROMSGROVIANS FROM YOUR ERA ARE DOING NOW.

## Prep School



Credit: Richard H Smith

We are delighted to hear that former Prep School pupil **Rufus Norris** (1975-1978) has been chosen as the new Director of the National Theatre from 2015. We wish Rufus the very best and look forward to following him in his new role.

## Elmshurst

**Will Fisher** (98-07) is currently working for ITV based at Southbank. After studying ancient history at St John's College Durham, Will worked at the BBC for a brief spell before getting a prestigious graduate trainee production

**Max Schwahn** (08-11) is keen to reinstate the German OB Committee. If you are interested in connecting with Max, and other Bromsgrove Alumni in Germany, please contact him by email at [max.schwahn@googlemail.com](mailto:max.schwahn@googlemail.com)

**Nikita Hertz** (formerly Enotov, E 06-09 / HH 09-11) recently got in touch to let us know that he has co-founded a company called SOLVY. Nikita explains that it is a personal guide to real-life math. It helps users discover the power of math as a tool for solving real-world problems. Nikita studied Financial Economics at City University London before undertaking an internship with Runa Capital last year.

## Gordon

**Paul Coslett** (57-62) visited the School while he was in the area for a conference. Paul was very impressed with the new sports facilities but also thoroughly enjoyed re-visiting Kyeless, Routh Hall, the Memorial Chapel, Gordon House and the Old Chapel.



We were delighted to receive these photographs from **Emory Winship** (71-72). One is of the Gordon House Hockey Team and the other is of a few cricketers sitting next to the Pavilion. If you're in the photographs, please let us know.



## Hazeldene



**Rosemary Flint** (00-05) has taken on the role of Art Technician at School and is thoroughly enjoying life on the other side of the pupil / staff divide. Rose appeared on the BBC One quiz show Pointless in February 2014.



**Ellenor Caswell** (09-14) visited the careers department in September before going off to start her teaching degree in Worcester. Ellenor spoke one-on-one to students about the university application process for teaching.

## Housman Hall

**Helen Wicks** (née Fisher, 01-07) completed her degree in applied theology and is working for Woodlands Church, an active Church in Bristol. Helen is a youth worker and is happily married to Martin Wicks - a GP trainee.

Former Housman Hallians might like to follow the **Housman Hall blog**, written by current students. You can read all of the blog posts on the School website at [www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/housman-hall-blog.aspx](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/housman-hall-blog.aspx)

## Lyttelton

**Richard Hemingway** (57-62) recently wrote to us enquiring about Mr Bowen's book and gave us a little bit of background to his connections to Bromsgrove: Richard's parents came from Bewdley and both his father and younger brother were at Bromsgrove, as well as a grandfather and a couple of great uncles. His father's cousin Kenneth Hemingway died in WW1 in 1916. Guy Jarrett was Richard's mentor in the Classical Sixth.

Richard went on to read Mods and Greats at Worcester College Oxford. He keeps in touch with a number of OBs and they regularly get together in London for mini-reunions.



**James Millington** (Ly 96-07, Head Boy) is currently living in Hong Kong with his new wife Stephanie. James got married in August at a cricket ground in Stokenchurch, Buckinghamshire and the ceremony was attended by many Old Bromsgrovians. Congratulations James and Stephanie!

## Lupton



**Harry Heath** (96-12) appeared on University Challenge in September 2014 with fellow students from Exeter, where he is currently studying History.



**Maxime Cox** (04-13) spent time with prospective medics at Bromsgrove in September. Maxime is currently studying medicine at St Hilda's College, Oxford.

## Oakley



**Joanne Shum** (05-07) competed in the Asian Games, as part of the Hong Kong National Water Polo team. Although her team lost - they are classed as an "amateur" team because they are working or students - whereas the other teams are professional athletes. Joanne trained with the team for two hours per day.



**Mengmeng Yan** (05-08) graduated in January 2014 with an MA (Distinction) in English Literature from Durham, and is now currently undertaking a PhD in the same subject.

Mengmeng tells us that she spent three of the most meaningful and enjoyable years of her life at Bromsgrove, and she is very grateful to the School for first enlightening her exploration in literary studies.

**Elizabeth Beatty** (86-91) organised a legal workshop for current students interested in law, with her firm Harrison Clark Rickerbys. This has become an annual workshop for which we are very grateful to Elizabeth and the HCR team who volunteer a day of their time. Elizabeth currently leads the Commercial Litigation team at the Worcester Office.

## Oakley

**Helen Chen** (08-10) returned to the School for a tour, along with her parents who were visiting from China to attend her graduation. Walking around the campus, Helen caught up with Mrs Helmore and Mrs Smith in Oakley, her former House. She also enjoyed reminiscing with Mrs Boonak and Mr Riley.



**Veronika Kubisova** (08-10) gained her First Class Honours in International Business and French with an Integrated Industrial Placement Year Abroad, and now works as HR Advisor for BP at their International Centre for Business and Technology in London.



**Sarah Mogg** (11-13), one of the previous winners of the Gauntlet Award 2013, returned from five months in Costa Rica earlier in 2014. She undertook an internship in terrestrial wildlife conservation with Global Vision International in Tortuguero National Park. Sarah also spent a month volunteering with The Ara Project, for the conservation of the scarlet macaw and the great green macaw.

We were delighted to hear that Sarah was later offered a position as one of their field staff to help out during the busy peak green turtle season over the summer.

## School



**Michael Holden** (62-67) visited the School with his wife and daughter. Mike and his wife now live in France but dropped by whilst in the UK.



*Ian Mellor (3rd left) with fellow Hockey players*

**Ian Mellor** (63-68) was selected for the England Grand Masters Hockey squad which won the Bronze Medal at the World Cup in Den Haag over the Summer of 2014.

During the Summer Holidays, **Richard Pyatt** (72-74) came back to School for a tour. **Jenny Bossard** (née Gricks, Ws 72-74) showed him around. Richard loves working with wood and is very proud of his workshop. He makes all manner of objects from keyrings to furniture.



*Nigel, Richard and Mike on Lower Charford*

**Richard Fabricius** (70-75) was recently back in the UK and came along with **Nigel Cavill** (E 71-75) and **Mike Woodall** (E 69-74) to the 1st XV game against Millfield.

Richard is married with two daughters. His work took him to Chicago and then Australia where he presently lives.



*Jeremy (middle) with his team at the Emmy Awards*

**Jeremy Elwell** (90-93) has been nominated for an International Emmy Award for the *Late Nite News with Loyiso Gola* (Diprente Films / eNCA, South Africa). Jeremy works on the location sound, sound design and final mix for the show and travelled to New York for the awards ceremony.

In what has now become an annual session for students, **Simon Bucknall** (90-95, Head Boy) returned to School at the start of the Michaelmas Term to speak to the current Fifth Form about effective communication and what makes a good speech.



We were delighted to celebrate the wedding of **Liam Mullan** (97-07) and his bride Charlotte, who were married in the School Chapel on 2nd August 2014.

A drinks reception was held in Routh Hall, followed by the Reception in a marquee on Gordon Green.

A number of current staff members were present, as well as Old Bromsgrovians from 2007.



*Liam with Old Bromsgrovians Karl Lockley (Ly 99-07), Matt Mullan (S 97-05), Nick Williams (Ly 00-07) and Rob Lisle (Ws 02-07)*

## School



*Chris (right) playing in the European Hockey league*

We offer our heartiest congratulations to **Chris Griffiths** (04-09) who has been selected for the England squad for the Champions Trophy in India in December.

## Thomas Cookes

**Alex Avern** (06-08) married Jonathan Boulter in the School Chapel on 1st November. We send our best wishes to the Bride and Groom.



**Jessica Kingston** (04-09) has embarked on a number of different journeys, but the two things which have meant the most to her have been her gap year and degree. In January 2010 she left the UK for Port Elizabeth in South Africa, spending three and a half months volunteering as a teacher and in a children's home. On her return to the UK she studied at Birmingham City University for a degree in Quantity Surveying. Jessica gained work experience at Gleeds, a management and construction consultancy firm, who then offered her a job whilst completing a degree. Jessica graduated in 2014 and now works at Capita, where she hopes to work towards becoming a Chartered Surveyor.



**Alice Batham** (05-12) climbed Mount Kilimanjaro with Leeds RAG in July 2014. Alice says that it was a wonderful experience, despite it taking the group five days in total. Alice is now currently studying in Australia on a year abroad.

## Walters



**Luke Simonds** (03-08) joined the careers department for one-to-one sessions with current pupils interested in medicine. Luke spoke to the students about his journey through medical school and answered questions about the application process and what the course entails.



**Aden Symonds** (97-11) finished his year-long placement with Mercedes AMG High Performance Powertrains earlier this year. Aden now has a guaranteed place on their Graduate Training Scheme, on completion of his Masters Degree at Loughborough.



**Tom Caswell** (07-12) is currently working and studying on the KPMG School Leavers Programme, and returned to Bromsgrove to talk to current students about the scheme. Tom is studying at Exeter, one of three universities which run the programme in conjunction with KPMG.



**Matt Osborn** (05-14) joined the Lee Westwood Golf Academy in June and it was remarkable to hear his recent news. He met Lee Westwood who was presenting prizes at the finals of the Lee Westwood Junior Golf Series. The students then all travelled up to St Andrew's and Carnoustie to assist with the Dunhill Links European Tour event as part of their work experience programme.

Matt was assigned to walk the course as a course marshal with Rory McIlroy, the world number 1, who Matt said was so down to earth and pleasant. At the end of that week his task was to walk as marshal alongside Sir Nick Faldo.

## Wendron / Wendron-Gordon



Congratulations to **Brian Massey** (57-62) on being awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours, for services to the community in Hexham Northumberland. Now retired as a Land Agent, Brian and his wife, Margaret, run a bed and breakfast business in rural Northumberland.



**Steve Chan** (96-04) recently visited Bromsgrove with his family. They enjoyed a full tour of the School including a visit to the dining hall, Memorial Chapel and even his old House – WG.



**Adam Robertson** (03-11) and **Dmitry Eremeev** (06-11), both of Wendron-Gordon, returned for a visit in September. Dmitry is now in Japan, working in the IT sector and Adam is interested in a career in Politics.

## Llanwrtyd Wells



*Gwen (centre) with Former Head Groundsman, Eric Burford and Deputy Headmaster, Philip Bowen*

Originally from Merthyr, **Gwen Ceridwen** worked for the School during its exile to Llanwrtyd Wells, and then at 14, with six other young ladies, moved with the School back to Bromsgrove in late 1943. Gwen mainly worked for the Headmaster and his wife, Mr and Mrs Walters. Gwen commented that Mr Walters was a wonderful man.

Gwen and the other housekeeping staff resided on the top floor of what is now Lyttelton House. Their sitting room is now the Chaplain's Study, one of the mathematics classrooms was the kitchen and the Housman Room the dining hall. They served food through a hatch and on Gwen's visit, she found that hatch boarded up. The classrooms now on the Lupton and Lyttelton corridor were studies. The cellars below Lyttelton (now their changing rooms) were the air raid shelter.

As with most of the other girls, Gwen never went back home. She later married and finished work with us in about 1950.

If you remember Gwen or any of the other House staff from Llanwrtyd Wells, we'd love to hear your stories!

We intend to hold a **special lunch** for our Llanwrtyd Wells pupils at Bromsgrove during the Lent term. The Alumni team will be in touch with further details soon.

On behalf of the **Llanwrtyd and District Heritage and Arts Centre**, we would like to thank all Old Bromsgrovians who have provided Pat Dryden and the other Project Managers with their memoirs and oral histories.

These stories and photographs will be made available in the town's Heritage Centre, giving visitors and young people the opportunity to learn about the wartime experiences of Bromsgrove pupils.

We hope a copy of these memoirs and digital recordings will be available to view in the Old Chapel once the group has finished collating their findings.



Llanwrtyd Wells is held dearly in the hearts of many former pupils, and Bromsgrove enjoys a special bond, especially when **Remembrance Sunday** comes around each year.

This year **Jenny Bossard** (née Gricks, Ws 72-74) and **Christopher Price** (S 39-44) attended the town's Remembrance Service, and a wreath was laid on behalf of the School, with our respects paid to all of the lost former pupils and townfolk of Llanwrtyd Wells.

## BIST



**Jack Slattery** (Ws 07-14), who is currently undertaking a gap year at **Bromsgrove Interational School Thailand** (BIST) travelled from Bangkok to Kanchanaburi for their Remembrance Service.

Jack laid two wreaths on behalf of Bromsgrove UK and Thailand, and for the Mercian Regiment, to whom the Bromsgrove CCF are attached.

## 25-year Reunion

Over forty **leavers from 1989** gathered to celebrate 25 years of leaving School at Commemoration. They all met in the OB marquee and followed this with an evening dinner at the Holiday Inn. The event was organised by **Robert Sitch** (E 84-89), **Paula Clarke** (O 84-89) and **Adam Temple** (W 84-89).



*John Dillon, Victoria Small (née Phipps), Gareth Chidlow, Victoria Cockburn, Edward Horton, Penelope Bryant, Chris Bywater, Nikki Bywater (née Hawkins), Jayne Cheshire, Vicky Hill, Paula Clarke, Debbie Thompson, Rob Sitch, Adam Temple, Anna Compton, Claire Bennison*

## 50-year Reunion



The **1964 1st XV Rugby team** recently held their 50th Reunion at the School. Twelve former players, as well as Tony Finn (64-92) who was their coach, enjoyed a delicious lunch in the Old Chapel and then wandered down to Lower Charford to watch the present 1st XV beat Millfield 15-5. Celebrations continued at a local pub late into the evening.



*L-R: Ian Sanders, David Powell, Richard Strugnell, Martin Smith, Albert Adams, Ian Matthews, Charlie Pearson, Bill Jay, Tony Finn, Simon Hill, Peter Robins, Frank Dunne, Roger Bowen*

## A Family Affair



*Georgina & Tim Boffey, Lydia & Richard Evans, Chloe & Colin Broomfield and Pascale & Simon Massey*

This delightful photograph of **Old Bromsgrovian fathers with their daughters** who were, at the time, all current Upper Sixth pupils, was taken at the National Hockey Finals.

The fathers never imagined that their children would all be team mates and friends at the same School which they attended over 30 years ago.

## The Class of 2014



We were delighted to welcome the **Class of 2014** officially as Old Bromsgrovians at the end of the Summer term. We hope to see the 2014 Leavers at our OB events and wish them every success for the future.

## The Social View... What are OBs saying on Social Media?

**Mark Donkin** (S 77-82) asks,

*"Geography Field Trip to Harlech... does anyone remember?"*

If you were on that trip with Mark and remember teachers Don Gibbon and Patsy Davies taking you to Harlech, have any photographs of your time there or would like to pose another question to OBs, please email us or write to us at the School address.

## OB Netball



*Jennifer Muddyman, Ally Tafi, Becky Alton, Helen Reilly (née Lambert), Brittanie Adams, Lisa Nash, Emma Rowe and Kirsty Wells*

It was lovely to see so many Old Bromsgrovians return for the **annual netball fixtures** against the School teams. The 1st team match led to a School victory of 40-16 victory, and the OBs won the 2nd team match 38-16.

The **OB Netball Team** is looking for new members. They play in both the Redditch and Worcester leagues, with training on Monday evenings between 8pm and 9pm at Bromsgrove School. Players of all abilities are welcome and membership is open to OBs and non-OBs; it is a great way to meet new people and get fit at the same time.

For more information please contact Helen Reilly (née Lambert, TC 97-02) at helenlouise83@live.co.uk or Harriet Eales (Hz 00-08) at hcveales@hotmail.com.

## OB Golf



*L-R: Mark Blake, Alex McIntosh, Patrick Dolan, Tommy Robinson, Lawrence Hill, Sam Williams, Richard Vaughan, Nick Poxon, Chase Edwards, Matt Fell, Alfie Broadhurst, Andrew Parffrey, Anthony Webb, Sam Bellamy and Harrison Hill*

The **Old Bromsgrovians v the School annual golf match** at Blackwell was a highlight of the Michaelmas term. For the first time in eight years the School won.

Anthony Webb made a gracious speech on behalf of the OB team, followed by the Captain Harrison Hill. Golf is in great heart at School with a number of other talented young players waiting in the wings.

# Our News to You

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE BROMSGROVE ALUMNI OFFICE.

## New OB Merchandise

On Commemoration Day, we were delighted to launch our new OB Silk Ties, Bow Ties and Lapel Pins. They are still available for OBs to purchase from the School Shop.

Email: [Schoolshop@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:Schoolshop@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) / Telephone 01527 579679 Ext 220.



Tie £23.50

Pre-Tied Bow Tie £30.00

Self-Tie Bow Tie £30.00

Lapel Pin £11.00



Umbrella £36.00 (please note this item is collection only.)

Have you purchased one already? Let us know what you think and send in your photo wearing the new tie or pin!

There is more merchandise on the way, but if you have anything specific in mind which we might not have considered, please let us know.



Robin Evans and John Darby, along with Jonathan James-Moore and John Mence escorting the Queen Mother

Tim Smith (G 64-68) has sent us a selection of photos from 1965 (below) which he retrieved from his own album. He remembers that the Queen Mother had come to Bromsgrove from visiting Malvern College (who also had a centenary celebration) and landed in the helicopter before being driven off to the Junior School. The QM later returned through the Station Road gates to visit the new Dining Hall.



Tim Smith's photographs of the Queen Mother arriving by Helicopter on Lower Charford



The Queen Mother chatting with Chairman of Governors, Lord Cobham and the Headmaster

## The Queen Mother's visit in 1965

2015 marks the 50th anniversary of the Queen Mother's visit to Bromsgrove. Chris Arnell (L 60-65) remembers,

*"That was my final day at Bromsgrove and what a special day it was! We enjoyed fabulous weather and there was a great buzz of excitement. The helicopter, in which the Queen Mother was transported, was a sort of high viz red; this was standard for VIPs such as her. It was a lovely end to my time at Bromsgrove."*

Robin Evans and John Darby (both S 60-65) were on the 'front line' to greet the Queen Mother. As School Prefects, they escorted the Queen Mother for part of her visit near the Chapel. Robin particularly remembers that the Queen Mother was accompanied by very little security, and she was a 'very warm lady who managed to appear genuinely interested in all she was told.'

Robin and John, along with Jonathan James-Moore and John Mence can be seen in the photograph opposite.

If you'd be willing to share your stories with us, please get in touch.



## Overseas Receptions

Over 100 Old Bromsgrovians, parents and guests attended **Receptions in Thailand and Hong Kong** at the start of the Michaelmas Term. The attendees welcomed the new Headmaster, Peter Clague, as well as Peter Ruben and Rachel Scannell, where they were able to meet parents whose children are currently studying at Bromsgrove.

Old Bromsgrovians networked with other former pupils and parents, and two superb evenings were enjoyed in the respective countries.



Alison Ip, Margie Tam, Tracy Mok, Esther Cheung, Carol Lee



Lee Falconer and Peter Ruben with two of their former pupils



Richard Wilmot, Peter Clague, Low Pak Khuan



Rachel Scannell (centre) with OBs



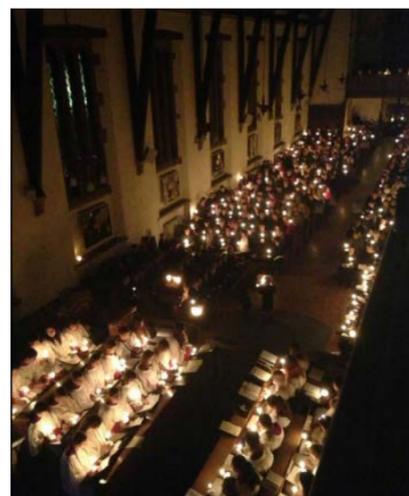
Peter Clague, Thiti Pawakranond, Dr Daniel Moore



## Did you know?

The School produces an **Online News Review**, packed with academic achievements and sports information, as well as extra-curricular activities and snippets of news from OBs.

The News Review is available to view on the School website at [www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/download-area.aspx](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/download-area.aspx), and where we have an up-to-date email address on the Alumni database, all OBs receive an email when each issue is ready to download.



## Advent Service

The **Christmas Advent Service** at Bromsgrove is always a delightful occasion and this year was no exception. With carols under candlelight, Year 2 pupils and the Prep School Choir performed their favourite pieces of festive music. The Senior Chapel Choir sang *Creator of the Stars of night* by Malcolm Archer and the Chamber Choir with *There is No Rose* from *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten.

All Old Bromsgrovians are warmly invited to attend this Service each year.

## Can you help with careers and university visits?

We're launching a **new initiative** that will bring together current pupils who are hoping to study at particular universities, and OBs who are already studying there. We're hoping to visit universities including Warwick, Birmingham, KCL, UCL and more. If you are currently studying there, and would be willing to show current Sixth Form students around and answer their questions during an organised trip, please let us know.

We're always interested to hear what **job sectors** our Old Bromsgrovians have gone into, and if they are willing to come back to School to speak to current students. Would you be interested in helping us with sector-specific events? If this sounds like something you'd be willing to take part in, please contact us (contact details can be found on the back cover) with your full name, years at School, House and your current occupation/sector.

## Just for fun

We recently snapped this **honours board** in Cobham Hall at the Prep School. Do you recognise any of the names, or are you one of the pupils listed? Let us know!



## Former School Coach leads the way for USA



Credit: USA Field Hockey

**Craig Parnham** (Former School Hockey Coach) is currently Head Coach of the USA Women's Hockey Team. In a recent game against the Blacksticks, Craig successfully coached USA to a 2-0 win and has gained much respect from the American side since his appointment at the start of last year.

## Staff Leavers

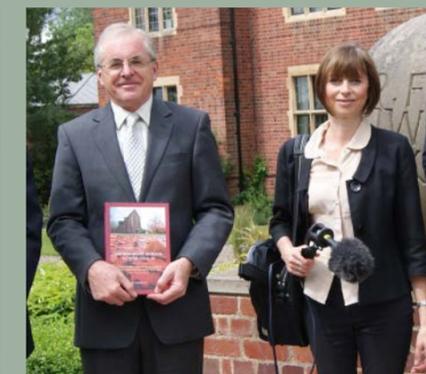
The following staff members, who all gave 10 years or more service to Bromsgrove School, retired or left at the end of the Summer term. Many OBs will remember their teachers with great affection, and if you would like to send your best wishes to any of the former staff listed below, please contact us so we can pass the message on.

**Mary Harris (86-14)**  
**Andrea Mellar (88-14)**  
**Dr Alan Woolhead (91-14)**  
**Richard Barr (98-14)**  
**Margaret Bourne (99-14)**  
**Lindsay Caldwell (99-14)**  
**Enda O'Brien (02-14)**  
**Norah Barton (04-14)**  
**Chris Edwards (04-14)**

## F1 Sponsorship

A group of current Upper Sixth students are hoping to take part in the **F1 in Schools** competition. Part of this involves acquiring sponsorship so that they can buy the necessary materials. They are interested in contacting any OBs who might be able to help, but specifically those with a knowledge or interest in engineering or manufacturing. If you are interested in sponsoring the students, please contact us and we will pass your details on.

## Radio 4 Broadcast



Philip Bowen with BBC Producer Maggie Ayre

In late June, the Deputy Headmaster, Director of Music and some members of the Sixth Form recorded a special piece for **BBC Radio 4's Soul Music** programme, honouring A.E. Housman and the soldiers of WWI. This was broadcast on Tuesday, 11th November.

The roll call of the Fallen, as well as extracts from Mr Bowen's book and poignant songs, were recorded in the Memorial Chapel at Bromsgrove School by one of the Radio 4 Producers. If you didn't catch the programme, you can still listen to it on BBC iPlayer at [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer).

## Bromsgrovian 2014

We will be having a small print run of **The Bromsgrovian 2014** this year. If you do not have access to email or the internet in order to download a copy, and you require a printed edition, please contact the Editor, Megan Griffiths by telephoning 01527 579679 Ext 366 or writing to her at the School address. All OBs who have previously requested a copy will receive one.

## Advent to Christmas CD

The Music School, under the direction of Director of Music, James McKelvey, have produced a **Festive Advent CD**, recorded in the Memorial Chapel.

Comprising of Year 2 pupils, the Junior Choir, Prep Choir, Prep Chapel Choir, Senior Chapel Choir and Chamber Choir, the CD called **Advent to Christmas with the Choirs of Bromsgrove School** brings together the voices of over 300 pupils and staff.

Highlights include the Year 2 version of *Light the Advent Candle* and Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* performed by the Chamber Choir.

The CD is priced at £10 and orders can be taken by email: [music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or by telephoning **01527 579679 Ext 235**.

# Alumni Commitee

## INTRODUCING THE NEW BROMSGROVE ALUMNI COMMITTEE.

We are pleased to introduce the new Bromsgrove Alumni Committee, set up in 2014 to provide a comprehensive events programme to all of our alumni, parents, staff and friends of Bromsgrove, bringing together the School, the Foundation and the Bromsgrovian Club.

If you would like to find out more about the work of the Alumni Committee, have ideas about events or venues, or would like to help at one of our functions, please contact us at

[Oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:Oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

or telephone 01527 579679  
Ext 357/366.



Chairman  
Hans Rostrup  
(S 72-77)



Secretary  
Jenny Bossard  
(Ws 72-74)



Bursar  
Lesley Brookes



Headmaster  
Peter Clague



Adele George  
(O 97-02)



Social Media/Web  
Megan Griffiths



William Jordan  
(G 66-72)



Rose Lake  
(TC 01-06)



Assistant Pastoral Head  
Catherine Maund



Chairman of Foundation  
Dick Noake  
(E 59-64)



Head of Foundation  
Jane Rogers



Assistant Head  
Rachel Scannell



Chairman of Governors  
Stewart Towe CBE  
(L 65-70)

# The Inside Story

AN IN DEPTH LOOK AT WHAT OUR OLD BROMSGROVIANS HAVE ACHIEVED.



## Ha Anh Vu

(Mary Windsor 00-02) is an international model, author and former Goodwill Ambassador for Unicef. Here she talks to us about her time at Bromsgrove and what her hopes and aspirations are for helping others achieve their dreams...

### **What do you remember about your time at Bromsgrove?**

My time at Bromsgrove was memorably fruitful and enjoyable, both in and out of the classroom. Drama and Theatre Studies in particular was most helpful in building my confidence during my first days under the spotlight.

The School took special care of our circumstances as overseas students living abroad without family support; my teachers took great care and efforts to make sure we quickly adapted and thrived under the Bromsgrove system, even though English is not our first language.

### **What's your favourite memory of School?**

The memory of Spring in Bromsgrove is something I always cherish, like the rolling lawns carpeted with beautiful daffodils.

My three cousins, who also had the opportunity to study at Bromsgrove, have all gone on to enjoy great successes in further education and their subsequent careers, which has further cemented Bromsgrove's reputation in our circle of acquaintances.

I hope that these fortuitous opportunities may come again in the future so that more of those like us can maintain this tradition and help spread Bromsgrove's good name all over the world.

### **What did you do after leaving Bromsgrove?**

I went on to read Business Studies at university, studied Artist Development at the British Academy of New Music, and I had plenty of opportunities to travel the world as a fashion model. These were the stepping stones on my path to success, and thus gave me the power to inspire countless others.

### **And after university and modelling?**

More than being a model and an artist, I have constantly sought to reinvent myself as a household name, hosting various popular shows such as Vietnam's Next Top Model 2010, Global Angels Award at the Roundhouse in London and Miss Global in Los Angeles to name but a few. I have recently published my first book named *It's me, Ha Anh* - a collection of memories and anecdotes along my journey in life, including the years at Bromsgrove.

### **You've obviously done a great deal in your career, but what would you say has been your greatest achievement to date?**

My public exposure is the ideal platform to realise my passion of helping others. From 2010-2013 I was appointed Goodwill Ambassador by Unicef Vietnam. In 2013 I was also appointed International Goodwill Ambassador by Global Angel Foundation alongside popular names such as Joss Stone, Natasha Bedingfield and John Forte.

### **And your final words to Old Bromsgrovians reading this?**

I have reached out to many Bromsgrovians in Vietnam, and would like to extend the network to other Bromsgrovians around the world to build up a sense of community and to support one another in our paths.

*(Editor's Note: To get in contact with Ha Anh, please email or write to us at the School address and we'll pass on your details.)*

## Feature Me!

If you'd like to feature on The Inside Story page, please email us at: [Oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:Oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) and include in the subject line 'Feature Me! Inside Story'. Please include a mini-biography about yourself and some recent photographs. We'd love to hear from you!



## Tony Ingle

(Lupton 76-80) tells us all about his role as Chief Winemaker in South Australia...

### **What does your role as Chief Winemaker entail?**

I work for the Angove Family Winemakers in South Australia, founded in the late 19th century. Angove make wine and brandy which they sell in Australia and in many other countries around the world.

I am responsible for all issues relating to the picking, creation and maturation of their wines, and then have the onerous duties of tasting and showing the wines at dinners and presentations in various markets at home and abroad.

### **And what do you do in your spare time away from the winery?**

I actually own a small vineyard myself! I spend time with my family, and my daughter, who is 19, is about to spend the next year in Europe which is very exciting, whilst my boys (16 and 13) are at boarding school in Adelaide and enjoy playing Aussie rules.

I'm also passionate about rugby, but in South Adelaide it is not a popular sport. Throughout the summer months, I watch cricket at the Adelaide Oval.

I am following the Bromsgrove School rugby season through my nephew, Charley Robinson, who is currently studying at the School.

# Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2013/14.

## John Ash, S 44-48 d. 11th April 2013

John Baylis Ash was born in Birmingham on 19 February 1930 and died near Toronto on 11 April 2013. He was in School House from 1944-1948 and sang alto in the School choir and played the 'cello in the School orchestra returning for many annual concerts after he left.

John attended the (then) London School of Printing and Graphic Arts and emigrated to Canada in 1957. He later graduated at McGill University and spent much of his life teaching and in later years was very involved in community and voluntary work.

John is survived by his lifetime partner Horst Weidemann whom he met in 1958 shortly after he had left East Germany and also by his sister Barbara who lives in Dallas and by his nephews and nieces and their children.  
- *Bryan Pickering (School 51-54)*

## Alan R Clarke, S 45-50 d. 29th June 2013

Alan Ross Clarke (School House/Millington) died on 29 June 2013 following an eighteen-month battle with cancer aged 82. He was predeceased by mother Marian and father Alan Percival Clarke of Wilmslow, Cheshire, and a baby sister Anne Monro. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lise; a son Nigel; daughters Geraldine, Constance, her husband Brian Surerus, and their two sons Spenser, Andreas and daughter Lindsay; daughter-in-law Michiko, her daughter Akiko and son Dexter.

Ross left England for Canada in 1955 and settled in Vancouver BC where he pursued a career painting and teaching Art.

The funeral was held on 13 July 2013 in Burnaby, Vancouver BC.  
- *Ian Clarke (School 49-53)*



## Edith Cooke, Piano Teacher 79-99 d. 9th September 2014

Edith Cooke was a much valued member of the Music Department, who had a very distinctive voice having trained as a singer as a young girl. She joined Bromsgrove School in 1979 under the Director of Music at the time, Bernard Hall-Mancey.

Many Old Bromsgrovians will have been taught by Edith over her 20 years at Bromsgrove, and the School was saddened to hear of her death in September 2014.

Our condolences go to Edith's family and friends in Exeter, and all those who knew her at Bromsgrove.



## David Cross, E 51-54 d. 18th September 2013

David Spencer Cross died at home in Kidderminster on 18 September 2013. David had fought a brave and dignified

battle against lung cancer for eighteen months. Married for nearly fifty years to Sally who has always been by his side with loving support, he also leaves two devoted daughters Katie and Jennie, two beloved sons-in-law and four adored grandchildren.

David Cross was born on 14 January 1938 in Birmingham. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant and was a partner in private practice for many years until he retired in 2003. He was previously a trustee and National Treasurer of the Western Front Association. He remained a director of Auto Suppliers Ltd. He had a keen interest in the Great War 1914-1918 and has written an account of life at School and the deeds of Old Bromsgrovians in that war. He discovered three Old Bromsgrovians who had been awarded the Victoria Cross whilst researching for his book. He always enjoyed buying, renovating and selling antiques, drinking fine wine, fly-fishing and shooting. His interest in motorsport began at an early age with a visit to Shelsley Walsh Hill climb. Although never a competitor in motorsport, he was closely involved with the Team Bond Formula Junior racing cars, admiring the spirit which engenders that "fast is good – faster is better!"

David was a stalwart of Team Bond and it was in 2008 that he managed to persuade Chris Featherstone to part with the Bonds which he had kept for nearly fifty years. In 2013, David Cross was the recipient of the International Historic Motoring Award for Publication of the Year, for his first Dalton Watson Fine Books publication, *Inside the Paddock* (which was widely reviewed to great acclaim and featured as Book of the Month in Classic and Sports Car and Octane). The book, for which he worked so hard to gather photographs from around the world and write the fascinating script, has a foreword from The Earl of March. A sequel went to the publisher just before he died.  
- *Dalton Watston Publishers*



## Revd. John Nicholas Francis Earle, Headmaster 70-75 d. 3rd January 2014

All pupils and staff contribute to a School's history and help build and develop it but a Head provides the ultimate contribution - vision.

During his fourteen-year Headship Nick fundamentally transformed the School. Nick introduced co-education which at the time was brilliantly far-sighted. We were one of the first traditional public schools to make the change. He oversaw the smooth assimilation of girls into the School from the age of 8 so it was done properly and by stages.

A purpose-built girls' day and boarding house - Mary Windsor - was opened. There were major changes to boarding and its location. Houses in the town were brought onto the Campus with the opening of Elmhurst and Wendron (now Oakley) which began the substantial development of the School near the South Gate. Below the outdoor pool and squash courts - other than the sports fields - there were gardens, orchards and grass tennis courts. The entrances to the School were at Routh Hall and the pedestrian gateway below the Cookes building. Our sports facilities took a great leap forward under Nick with the building of our first sports hall and a new indoor heated swimming pool. Nick was passionate about raising academic standards.

He was a fine scholar with a double first in Maths and Theology at Trinity Cambridge. He was an eloquent speaker and formidable preacher in the Memorial Chapel. He was never afraid to challenge an audience or congregation. Geoffrey John - Chairman of Governors in the latter part of Nick's Headship - wrote: 'I was very sorry to hear of Nick's death. As an ex-Chairman of Governors I had the privilege of working very closely with Nick.'

He gave superb strategic guidance to Governors as well as giving them the confidence that the recommended policies would be successfully implemented'.

'The huge success that Bromsgrove School has subsequently achieved was in no small measure achieved by the foundations laid during Nick's Headmastership. In particular I recall vividly his carefully considered view that girls should not only be brought into the School but that they should be introduced from an early age. This was in contrast to many Schools at that time and Nick must take substantial credit for the success of co-education.' Nick and Ann spent their long retirement in their much-loved Dulwich. After Bromsgrove he returned to the classroom to teach some Mathematics and Philosophy at Dulwich College.

The School was well-represented at the Memorial Service held at St Faith's Church in January. Headmaster Chris Edwards, Nick's Deputy Tony Finn, Jim Page, three colleagues all appointed by Nick in September 1981 - Julian Foord, Catherine Maund and Philip Bowen - were present, and Hans Rostrup led the representation of Old Bromsgrovians. Children Charlotte and Harriet read the lesson and delivered the eulogy respectively. In a moving address, with much celebration and wit, Harriet captured the essence of her father and the man.

As a young Curate, he had served in Bristol, New York and Whitechapel. In 1961 he authored a Penguin Special *What's Wrong With the Church*, a study of the Church of England, by a young priest who asks whether the C of E in the 1960's is outdated and living in the past. It foreshadowed many of the changes to come. He wrote other books on Logic and Maths. He was always an original thinker. He spoke at Speakers' Corner and on Thought for the Day.

Bromsgrove School was a relatively short part of his long life but he joins the pantheon of those Heads - a fairly small number since 1693 - who altered our direction and changed our appearance. The School conveyed its sincere condolences to Ann, his widow, children Titus, Harriet and Charlotte. May his soul rest in peace.  
- *Philip Bowen (Deputy Headmaster)*



## Prof Sir Michael Drury OBE, L 39-43 d. June 2014

Professor Sir Michael Drury was one of our most prominent Old Bromsgrovians. A Luptonian from 1939-43, he was one of the last remaining Bromsgrovians to have spent his years at School in Llanwrtyd Wells during our Welsh exile.

After studying medicine at Birmingham, he qualified in 1949 just after the birth of the NHS. He practised in Bromsgrove for many years and was our School Medical Officer, as well as the Cottage Hospital Doctor. He set up the Department of General Practice at Birmingham University, became its first Professor in 1981 and one of the best-known GPs in the land. He was a distinguished President of the Royal College of General Practitioners in 1985 and knighted in 1989 for services to General Practice.

In a biography – *Just a G.P.* a reviewer admired 'a sense of humour, winning our affection; honesty, commanding our respect: two qualities that can fairly represent general practice itself. A book then to be commended to all who would teach, or learn, about being "just a GP".'

He was a very supportive Governor and Chairman of the Education Committee at Bromsgrove for much of the 1990s. Latterly, he was a Vice-President. In his later life he always enjoyed his visits to his old School, especially at Commemoration.

The Headmaster, Chris Edwards and Matthew Horton (Vice-President) represented the School at his funeral and we offer our sincere condolences to Lady Drury and their family. Sir Michael was a famous son of Bromsgrove – Town and School – and his service to our local community was both lengthy and distinguished.  
- *Philip Bowen (Deputy Headmaster)*

**Roger Neville Jeffries,  
O 46-51  
d. 12th September 2009**

*(Editor's Note: we have only been recently notified of Mr Jeffries' death)*

Roger was the second generation of Jeffries to attend Bromsgrove School after his father Cedric and his two uncles, Keith and Philip, the latter whose name is inscribed on the Bromsgrove School Chapel wall for his heroic death during WWII. After attending Bromsgrove School, Roger boarded at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School in Sutton Coldfield and later attended Battersea Polytechnic Institute in Surrey.

During the late 1960s he decided to travel the world so he quit his job, packed his backpack with a sleeping bag and left for an around-the-world backpacking trip starting in France. He eventually ended up in Tokyo, Japan where he resided for the rest of his years. Roger was a respected lecturer at a number of prestigious universities in Tokyo including Waseda University, Gakushuin and Aoyama Gakuin, along the way publishing English conversational books for Japanese students. He was also a keen sportsman. As well as being a sportsman, Roger enjoyed playing chess, igo (Chinese chess) and shogi (Japanese chess).

He leaves behind seven children, Kathryn, Amanda, Philip, Violet (OB 96-98), Margaret (OB 92-93), Juliet and Camelia, and nine grandchildren.  
- Violet Pacileo (nee Jeffries)



**Ian Durie Kerr MA,  
MB., B.Chir., (Cantab).  
D.A., D.Obst.R.C.O.G.,  
F.R.C.G.P., G 53-58  
d. 7th April 2014**

Ian died on 7th April at home with his family around him. He suffered a long illness which he bore with typical dignity and lack of complaint. Ian was Head of Gordon and Head of School before studying medicine at Magdalene College, Cambridge and The Middlesex Hospital, London.

He undertook postgraduate training in Exeter and joined Clare House Surgery, Tiverton, Devon on his 30th birthday. He was a partner for exactly 30 years and looked after 1,700 patients. He was an excellent GP, loved by his patients.

Ian was also School doctor at Blundell's for 10 years and was one of the first GP trainers. He was made Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners in 1989.

Ian and his wife Judith went to Nepal in 1995 for a sabbatical of three months where Ian worked as an Anaesthetist in the Western General Hospital in Pokhara. A life-changing experience. On separate occasions they trekked to the base camps of Everest, Kanchenjunga and Annapurna. Ian was a great enthusiast and doer.

He taught himself the flute to Grade 8 standard and he was a keen sailor, photographer and walker. He retired in 1999 to spend more time on his hobbies and was always occupied.

His attitude was always positive even when he was unwell. He leaves his wife Judith, four children and eight grandchildren. His youngest grandchild (and first granddaughter) was born at the time of his death.

- Ian Houston

**John Edmund Page,  
S 39-43  
d. 20th March 2014**

John Page (born 28 January 1926) who died in March 2014 at the age of 88, was the elder son of Miriam and Edmund Page, who was himself one of R. G. Routh's first boarders in Gordon House when it opened in 1898, and later was to become a long-serving Governor.

John Page joined the School during its evacuation to Llanwrtyd Wells and became Head of School on the return to Bromsgrove in 1943. Following his father's footsteps, he went to Oxford to read Greats after service in the King's Royal Rifle Corps during the final two years of the Second World War, spending his time in Palestine during the British withdrawal.

He spent almost his entire career as a classics teacher at Brighton College, where he is remembered with great respect and affection, not least for showing tolerance towards the liberal attitudes of the 1960s and 1970s. He was an attentive and principled housemaster for whom pastoral care was of the highest priority, and as Head of Department he ensured his many pupils understood the benefits of a quality classical education.

His first marriage was to Jancis Hillier, with whom he had three children, and after taking a sabbatical year teaching in Oman in 1977, he married Jackie Hine, a leading fashion model of the day. He embraced her four lively offspring with warmth and understanding, reliving his idyllic Somerset childhood with his step-children, his speciality being country rambles and camping trips which paid scant attention to the prevailing health and safety culture.

In his retirement he continued to live in Sussex before moving to Winchester, leading a physically active and mentally fulfilling life. Although the months leading up to his death were difficult, he died at home surrounded by Jackie, his wife for 37 years, and other members of both families. A bench in his memory has been placed near the Chattri Memorial on the Downs outside Brighton.

- Jim Page (School 45-49, Head of Lower School 60-89)

**Christopher Peace,  
W 51-56  
d. 1st August 2013**

Chris came from Sheffield where his family – Samuel Peace and Sons – had been file makers for many generations. However, mass competition in the market forced Chris into a new field of engineering and having armed himself with an MBA, he started a laser cutting business, still based in Sheffield. He developed in this field successfully, tackling a range of cut materials with different equipment over many years and retiring about ten years ago.

As a youth, Chris was a Queen Scout and always a practical man. He spent many years renovating and improving an old stone farmhouse on land close to the River Derwent near Hathersage. He always had a love of things nautical and over recent years of poor health had enjoyed views overlooking the Tyne at Newcastle from an apartment there and where he and his wife, Gillie, could be near to the families of his children, Richard and Anna.

Innovative and determined in business, humorous and generous with friends, a lover of good food and wine, his family held a most fitting memorial service on 4th October 2013 – with a traditional jazz band playing, a couple of rousing hymns and happy words from friends and family. A good friend, he will be well remembered by fellow Wendronians.

- Ted Beaumont (Wendron 52-56)



**Mike Rees, S 40-50  
d. 17th February 2014**

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Michael Rees at the beginning of the year. Michael joined the newly created junior school after Bromsgrove was exiled to Llanwrtyd Wells during WWII and he was instrumental in helping us with the

Freedom of the Town ceremony back in 2007.

Michael was Chairman of the Bromsgrovian Club in 1996 and stayed in touch with many of his contemporaries, regularly organising Welsh get-togethers. He wrote a book of his experiences in Llanwrtyd Wells and kindly donated the profits of his book sales to the School.

In 2008, Michael, along with his daughter Catherine, attended the Pre-1950s Reunion held at the School which was to be his last time at Bromsgrove.

The funeral took place on 3rd March 2014 in Llandeilo Parish Church.

**Major Sam Townsend,  
Millington 34-36  
d. 15th October 2013**

Major Sam Townsend was awarded an MC in 1945 as one of the youngest majors in the British Army. Major Townsend was born on July 27 1919. He played rugby for the first XV and spent his last term's allowance on gunpowder to make a large rocket which exploded on the cricket pitch just before he left the School.

Serving with 4th Field Squadron Royal Engineers, Major Townsend landed at Arromanches on D-Day+6. He linked up with 7th Armoured Division south of Caen and was immediately involved in the battle of Villers-Bocage.

In January 1945, as the 7th Armoured Division advanced towards Germany, Major Townsend was given the task of building a bridge over the Vloed Beek canal near the Belgo-Dutch-German borders. After clearing a number of booby traps, he was able to push a bridge over the canal on rollers despite coming under heavy fire from railway guns sited some four miles away. Major Townsend was awarded a Periodical MC. After the war, he worked for the Cleveland Bridge Co before moving to a firm of management consultants. In 1950 he joined John Crossley and Sons of Halifax and was managing director from 1964 to 1968.

In 1971 he retired on medical advice and settled in the Lake District.  
- Extracts from *The Telegraph*

**Barry Walters,  
S 47-15  
d. 8th June 2014**

James Barry Thomas Walters, aged 81, passed away peacefully at Norewood Lodge Nursing Home on Friday 6th June 2014 after a short illness.

He was a much loved father to Kate, Megan and Mark, father-in-law to Brian, Steve and Louise and Grandpa Barry to Rosie, Emma and Penny.

A former District Councillor for Portishead Coast ward, Leader of North Somerset Council and former Chair of Portishead Town Council. The Funeral Service took place at St Peter's Church, Portishead on Tuesday, 17th June.

**Old Bromsgrovians  
who also passed away  
during academic year  
2013/14:**

Peter Beddall, S 57-60 d. 25/6/14

Jeremy Bent, S 68-73 d. Nov '13

John Clayton, E 55-59 d. Jan '14

Jack Harris, S 48-53 d. Aug '14

Richard John Massen, Former Staff 59-64 d. 29/12/13

Ronald Melville-Smith, Lu 33-37 d. 4/4/14

Anthony Merrington, W 45-50 d. late 2013

Michael Mould, 1940 d. 2013

Kenneth Murdoch, G 42-47 d. 2014

Jonathan Nelsey, W 63-68 d. 8/10/13

John Nicks, W 35-40 d. 31/10/14

Derek Richards, G 51-56 d. 7/9/13

Paul Stevenson, S 55-58 d. Dec '13

Jim Vernon-Allen, E 37-42 d. 7/9/13

Keith Weaving, G 43-48 d. Nov '12  
*(Editor's Note: We have only just been informed about Mr Weaving's death)*

Jonathan Whitehouse, L 85-90 d. 10/9/2014

Chris Williams, Lupton 63-67 d. Mar 14

# Thank you!

## The Matthew Taylor Observatory

The new Observatory, complete with dome and two telescopes was officially opened on 29th June (Commemoration Day). This will allow GCSE, A level and IB students to take part in astronomy projects, as well as the new GCSE Astronomy course.

Matthew Taylor, who was a pupil from 1968 to 1973 in Walters House, generously donated all of the funds for the Observatory and its equipment. During his time at School, Matthew was Secretary of the Astronomical Society and the project is very close to his heart.

# The Foundation

The Bromsgrove School Foundation was created to provide bursaries for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, who are genuinely in need and determined to succeed against all odds. In January 2014, Foundation funds passed the £1million milestone, thanks to the generosity of Old Bromsgrovians, parents, Governors, Trustees and friends. 400 new donors have made gifts, donated venues or auction prizes or pledged a gift in their wills to Bromsgrove. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Foundation.

The Foundation works with children's charities: the Royal National Children's Foundation and Buttle UK Trust, who provide grant funding for children who meet their criteria. With your support, we can help transform lives, and every penny raised goes directly to supporting these children.



Recent leaver Jack Slattery says, 'Bromsgrove School has given me the grounding, stability and platform for life, which has enabled me to gain a Gap placement at BIST, and also to become CSM within the CCF. This has helped me on my road to Sandhurst. I am very grateful for this privilege and the opportunities that have been available to me at Bromsgrove.'



Jack's mother, Anne-Louise says that the School has provided her son with a 'brilliant education, preparation for life, pastoral care and guidance'; she has seen him grow into a 'confident young man with an exciting and bright future that I could never have envisaged 18 years ago. We are very proud of him and we thank you all very much for changing our lives.'

## Donor Tree

The Donor Tree, which is in the stairwell of the Hospitality Suite, is our way of expressing our appreciation for your support. Donors giving £250 or more can have a bronze, silver or gold leaf engraved.

## Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society

The Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society acknowledges and thanks all those who have made a gift in their wills to Bromsgrove. Members are invited to an annual lunch and a new memory board listing those who have made bequests to the School over the years will soon be placed alongside the Donor Tree.

Jane Rogers, Head of Foundation is very happy to talk to anyone interested in making a gift in their will to Bromsgrove: [jrogers@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:jrogers@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or telephone: 01527 579679 Ext 365.

## A Few Words from our North American Friends

The English Speaking Union (ESU) scholarship program is a coalition of boarding schools in the US and UK. Students at these schools may apply for a scholarship to enjoy one year at a participating institution. For our former pupils from North America, Emory Winship, Topper Webb and Wilson Hallett, this represented spending a year at Bromsgrove School. We are enormously grateful to each of them for so generously supporting the Foundation.



OB Wilson Hallett (HH 10-11) says: 'I first heard about the program because my brother had done it. Topper Webb (E 72-73), a graduate of my boarding school in the US, had gone to Bromsgrove in the 1970s and was instrumental in getting me placed there.'

The memories and experiences that I had in those few months will always be with me, some more physically than others (for example, the surgical rod and screws after shattering my leg during a rugby fixture). The year was a chance to explore. I participated in a number of classes and activities that I wouldn't ever have had the chance to experience.

Now that I'm preparing to leave university life and venture into the working world, I especially realize the gift that Bromsgrove gave me for allowing me to spend a year on its campus. I will always support the School and the dedication it has to making every student's experience as meaningful as mine.'



Emory Winship, who attended Bromsgrove from 1971-1972 says:

'The English Speaking Union, and especially Bromsgrove, were truly some of the more important formative experiences of my life. Forty years later I still think of them fondly, in part motivating me to gladly give regularly to the Bromsgrove fund.'

I made many good friends and memories whilst I was at Bromsgrove; I wouldn't trade any of them for the world. Of them all, I'll never forget these few words that Mr Finn, my Housemaster left with me. We were down on the playing fields and I observed to him foolishly that cricket really was a bit of an odd sport. He looked at me with his clipped, stern smile and said, "Winship. Cricket is not a sport. It is a way of life."

Thanks to Mr Finn, the friends I made, Bromsgrove School and the ESU, I had a taste of that way of life, which made my own way of life a good bit richer and my world view a great deal broader.'

# Donor Roll

THANKING OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT DURING 2013/14.

## Cookes

David Baker (63-67)  
John Dunstall (63-68)  
Ian Gibson (66-71)

## Elmshurst

Julian Adams (83-89)  
Mark Chown (81-86)  
Justin Golby (85-89)  
Robert Jolly (60-66)  
John Kirkus (50-55)  
James Leek (57-62)  
Tim Mitchell (46-51)  
Antony Neales (48-53)  
Richard Noake (59-64,  
Foundation Chairman)  
Ian Routh (53-58)  
John Ruck (50-53)  
Simon Skelding (57-62)  
Richard Smith (72-77)  
Ben Turvill (93-00)  
Stuart Wadsworth (58-63)  
Alexander Walsh (94-99)  
Topper Webb (72-73)  
John Withers (51-56)

## Gordon

Mark Adams (72-77)  
Richard Brook (45-50)  
Paul Bryan (58)  
Jeremy Davis (46-54)  
Robert Dowler (57-62)  
Barry Dumughn (50-55)  
Trevor Eve (64-69)  
John Faulk (46-51)  
Andrew Fryer (60-64)  
Sir Robert Hastie (43-51)  
John Illsley (62-67)  
Nevil Malin (48-53)  
Andrew Parffrey (68-73)  
Bryan Parkes (48-53)  
Raymond Sancroft-Baker (62-67)  
Graham Sim (69-74)  
John Thorpe (52-57)  
John Vine (51-55)  
Emory Winship (71-72)

## Hazeldene

Joanne Gilfillan (87-92)  
Caroline Merritt (89-94)  
Amy Morgan (98-03)  
Lucy Walmsley (89-98)  
Rebecca Zakrzewski (91-01)

## Lupton

Richard Astbury (55-58)  
Richard Brookes (61-65,  
School Governor)  
Peter Byng (60-64)  
Kim Daniels (60-65)  
Guy Escolme (81-86)  
Mark Escolme (80-86)  
Carlton Douglas (83-88)  
Francis Dunne (61-66)  
Paddy Firminger (42-47)  
Eric Walker (56-59)  
Deborah Williams (née Evans, 75-78)

## Lyttelton

John Boardman (57-63)  
Drew Bradman (98-03)  
Bill Byrne (78)  
Ian Elliot (74-79)  
Roger Harrison (76-81)  
Rufus James-Moore (53-58)  
Stuart James-Moore (49-54)  
Alex McIntosh (96-04)  
Andrew Muir (64-74)  
Kelvin Morris (76-81)  
David Reeve (50-54)  
R Shakespear (59-64)  
John Steveni (75-80)  
Stewart Towe CBE (65-70,  
Chairman of Governors)  
David Walters (81-86)  
Gareth Walters (70-81)  
Adrian Yates (73-78)

## Mary Windsor

Ayesha Bell-Paris (99-06)  
Debbie Dawes (83-89)  
Caroline Logan (91-96)  
Caroline Moore (87-98)  
Victoria Underwood (82-87)

## Oakley

Theodora Dyakova (05-07)  
Samantha Evans (89-94)

## School

J Alexander (53-58)  
Julian Barnes (77-82)  
Simon Bucknall (90-95)  
David Buller (48-53)  
Andrew Clark (47-52)  
Thomas Ellis (87-92)  
William Friel (62-67)  
Charles Grundy (65-70)  
Michael Hales (47-52)  
Richard Hemingway(57-62)

## School (cont.)

David Higgs (53-57)  
Ian Hodge (56-61)  
J Roy Hughes (45-50)  
Benjamin Kemsley (94-99)  
Colin Kendon (76-81)  
David Moore (66-71)  
Rowland Morgan (53-58)  
Matt Neal (78-84)  
Alan Powell (48-53)  
Christopher Price (39-44)  
David Pulham (58-63)  
Richard Pyatt (72-74)  
John Pyke (53-58)  
David Roberts (53-58)  
John Say (39-43)  
Paul Snape (58-62)  
William Stallard (51-56)  
Gregory Watkins (72-76)

## Thomas Cookes

Olivia Knight-Adams (91-94)  
Suzanne Middleton (95-00)  
Claire Pottinger (81-89)  
Olivia Safe (92-94)

## Walters

Richard Gard (76-81)  
Alex Hadley (96-98)  
Digby, Lord Jones of  
Birmingham Kt. (69-74)  
David Kilburn (73-78)  
Stephen Morris (67-76)  
Matthew Taylor (68-73)  
Jack Slattery (07-14)  
Stephen Williams (68-73)  
Adam Wood (75-80)

## Wendron / Wendron-Gordon

Sir David Arculus (59-64)  
Andrew Broadbent (63-67)  
Tony Collett (55-60)  
Ralph Duncan (46-51)  
Thomas Evans (45-50)  
Neil Gaylor (58-64)  
Ben Key (79-84)  
Jeff Lomax (49-54)  
DSE Miller (68-73)  
James Nailer (90-95)  
Will Packwood (07-11)  
Tim Ridge (62-67)  
Tim Roberts (63)  
Philip Root (65-69)  
John Taylor (55-60)  
Stanford Wong (01-06)

## Friends of the School

Acorn Arable Ltd  
Flowers of Worcester  
Old Bromsgrovian Lodge  
Rathbones  
Rudell The Jewellers  
Thomas Horton LLP  
Paul Adams  
John Benjamin  
Lord Cobham  
Sally Cross  
Chris Edwards  
Martin Greenstreet  
Alastair Jones  
Cyrille Regus MBE  
James Sommerville  
Michael Whitehead

## Parents

Mr and Mrs Bannister  
Mr and Mrs Bloor  
Mr Blunt  
Mr Chiu and Ms Wong  
Mr Coffee and Ms Grimmitt  
Mr and Mrs Cooke  
Mr and Mrs Cox  
Mr and Mrs Derriey  
Mr and Mrs Domuschiev  
Mr Eaves  
Mr and Mrs Fraine  
Mr and Mrs Gibson  
Mr and Mrs Grigorov  
Mr and Mrs Guo  
Mr and Mrs Hales  
Mr and Mrs Haynes  
Mr Hurley  
Mr and Dr King  
Mr and Mrs Langford  
Mr Lau  
Mr Lawrence and Ms Hughes  
Mr and Mrs Lloyd  
Mr and Mrs Maumi  
Mr and Mrs Morris  
Mrs Peel  
Mrs Pridden  
Mr and Mrs Shinner  
Mr Smith  
Dr Stiff  
Mr Ward and Mrs Stirling  
Mr and Mrs Sun  
Mr and Mrs Turner  
Mr Westman  
Mr and Mrs Weston Smith  
Mrs Wilson  
Mr and Mrs Yuan

## Foundation Dinner Dance at Grafton Manor



Ann Towe, Stewart Towe CBE, John Benjamin, Lord Digby Jones and Olivia Safe

A hundred OBs, Parents and Friends of the School gathered for a splendid evening in May 2014. They were entertained by opera singer and OB Olivia Safe, who was herself a bursary recipient and Music Scholar.

An auction followed in aid of Foundation bursaries with John Benjamin from the Antiques Roadshow as Chief Auctioneer, supported by Lord Digby Jones, a former Foundation Scholar.

We wish to thank everyone who attended, donated or purchased one of the wonderful auction prizes. Over £10,000 was raised, more than double the original target. These funds will enable severely disadvantaged children to access Bromsgrove School.

Thanks to Stephen and Wendy Morris for providing the superb Grafton Manor venue, and to Sarah Derriey, Claire Hales and Sharon Stirling for their help and support in making the event such a success.

## Mailing List

If you are not currently receiving invitations to our events but wish to be included, please contact Megan Griffiths: mgriffiths@bromsgrove-school.co.uk or telephone 01527 579679 Ext 366.

Anyone with a connection to Bromsgrove is welcome to attend any of our events.

## Telephone Campaign



Charlotte Collie, Calum Slater, Andrea Lloyd and Sam Adamson

Lord Digby Jones hosted the 2014 Campaign, where a team of twelve recent leavers telephoned alumni and former parents to update them on School developments and events, and ask if they would be able to consider supporting Foundation bursaries or help build a musical instrument pool.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in the Campaign, which raised just over £70,000 in gifts and pledges from 171 donors, and helped us to further develop careers support for current pupils.

The Campaign provides work experience for our young OB callers, and employers' state that they particularly value this type of work. Each member of the calling team also received an employment reference from Lord Jones.

# Events

## WHAT'S ON AT BROMSGROVE DURING 2015.

### February 2015

#### Donors' Lunch

Saturday 28th February

Venue: Bromsgrove School

Time: 12noon – 2.30pm

Donors from the last academic year are invited to a lunch at Bromsgrove School. All eligible Old Bromsgrovians, Parents and Friends of the School will be sent invitations in the Lent Term.

### March 2015

#### Pop & Jazz

Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th March

Venue: Routh Hall

Time: 7.30pm

For bookings, please contact

[music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

or telephone 01527 579679 ext 235

#### Mothering Sunday Service

Sunday 15th March

Venue: Memorial Chapel

All welcome

#### Choral Society Concert

*Gabriel Faure's Requiem and Cantique de Jean Racine Ralph Vaughn Williams, Five Mystical Songs*

Saturday 21st March

For bookings, please contact

[music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

or telephone 01527 579679 ext 235

### April 2015

#### Ladies' Lunch

Saturday 25th April

Venue: Bromsgrove School

Time: 12noon - 2.30pm

Places: £15 per person

#### The Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society Lunch

Thursday 30th April

Venue: Bromsgrove School

Time: 12noon – 2.30pm

Members of The Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society are invited to an annual lunch at Bromsgrove School.

All eligible Old Bromsgrovians will be sent invitations in the Lent Term.

### May 2015

#### Heads of School Lunch with Mr Bowen

Saturday 16th May

Venue: Bromsgrove School

Time: 12noon – 2.30pm

Heads of School from 1982 – Present (the period Mr Bowen has been at Bromsgrove School) are invited back for a special lunch. All eligible Old Bromsgrovians will be sent invitations in the Lent Term.

#### Special Preview of Hagley Park

Sunday 17th May (provisional)

Venue: Hagley Hall

Time and Price: TBC

Old Bromsgrovians, Parents, Staff, Pupils and Friends of the School are invited to an early summer event where they will get a sneak preview of the restoration work that has gone into transforming Hagley Park before it is open to the public. There will be cricket between the School and Hagley teams, as well as music from Bromsgrove pupils.

### June 2015

#### Commemoration Concert

Thursday 25th June

Venue: Routh Hall

Time: 7pm

For bookings, please contact

[music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

or telephone 01527 579679 ext 235

#### Commemoration Day

Saturday 27th June

Old Bromsgrovians, Families and their

Guests are warmly invited to the OB

Marquee on Lower Charford between

1pm and 5pm.

### Date TBC

#### London University Visit

#### German Reunion

To find out more about any of these events, or if you have suggestions of your own, please email us at: [Oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:Oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

Telephone Jenny or Megan on 01527 579679 Ext 357 / 366

Or contact us by post:

Bromsgrove School

Worcester Road

Bromsgrove

Worcestershire

B61 7DU



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