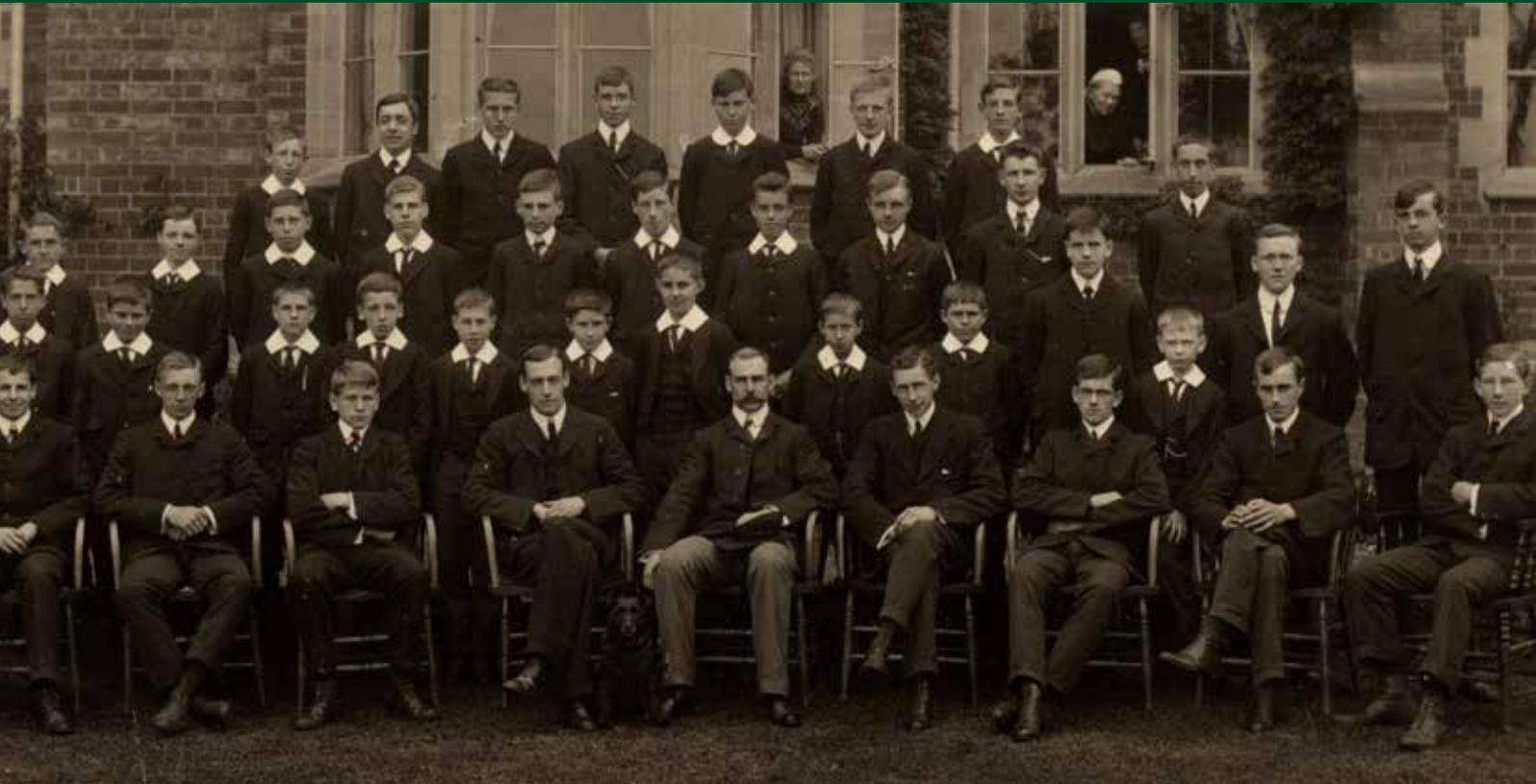


BROMSGROVIANS

# connected



BROMSGROVE'S ALUMNI MAGAZINE ISSUE 5 2018/19



*Ten years before the start of WW1: Gordon House 1904 - R.G. Routh (centre), Edmund Page (who later went on to fight in the Great War) on the extreme right, with R.G.'s mother and sister, and Matron Jane, looking through the windows*

## The first word...

We are told that young people born today, certainly in more developed countries, will reach a previously unimaginable average life expectancy of 100 years. It is a remarkable thought; that the prospect of living for a century will soon become the norm. For those of my vintage, 100 years is a tantalising, almost mystical span. Far enough back for events to be just out of reach of our time on Earth. Yet close enough to be within touching distance of our personal experiences and memories. The events of 100 years ago are still the antecedents of the lives we are living today.

Which makes the current commemoration of the end of the First World War all the more poignant. Much in our School remains the same as it was in 1918. The young men, boys in truth, whose faces stare out of the Bromsgrovian magazines of the day, would have walked the same paths as we do. Sat in the classrooms of Kyteless, Big School and Millington. Scored tries on Lower Charford. Sung hymns in Old Chapel. That so many went on to die on the fields of the Somme, Passchendaele, and Ypres is haunting and painful because they seem no different from last year's Leavers. Their presence seems tangible, their sacrifice remains relevant to the lives we enjoy today.

There are none alive anymore who knew the Bromsgrovians of 100 years ago. Yet it is still possible to remember them with a familiar ease and we do so with great pride. Like the ever-present, benevolent shadow of the great Headmaster of the day, R.G. Routh, our forebears of 1918 are a daily presence in the School today.

**PETER CLAGUE  
HEADMASTER**

## Welcome from the Chairman

It's a real privilege to welcome you to another wonderful anthology of news, stories, and experiences that demonstrate the diversity and international scope of the Bromsgrovian community. Of course, this year is also one of reflection as we remind ourselves of those Bromsgrovians that made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of their country, particularly in World War 1. Their sense of duty and wholehearted commitment to their cause is a lesson that transcends the generations and characterises Bromsgrovians the world over. So, as you read on and share in celebrating the recent achievements of talented Bromsgrovians of all ages, pause for a moment and remember those whose contribution to the world was, perhaps, more important than any.

**HANS ROSTRUP**  
**CHAIRMAN**  
**(SCHOOL, 1972-1977)**

# Picture This...

A LOOK BACK AT THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2017/18.



Our Prep and Pre-Prep Survivors, as well as the whole Class of 2018, were welcomed into the Old Bromsgrovian community at the end of the Summer Term, marking the end of many years at Bromsgrove School.

The School's new Performing Arts facilities were opened in November 2017 by Professor Julian Lloyd-Webber and Lord Cobham. Each seating 300, both the Theatre and the Concert Hall boast magnificent performance spaces for pupils and the local community alike.



Parents, pupils and Old Bromsgrovians joined together to celebrate the School's annual Commemoration Day. We welcomed OBs from a range of years to the Old Bromsgrovian marquee, as well as a number of those celebrating anniversaries.



*The Pierglass*, written by our very own Director of Performing Arts, Tim Norton, was the major School production of the year.



A Level, IB, BTEC and GCSE pupils celebrated their exam results over the summer. 42.4% of GCSE pupils achieved an A\*/9, the highest proportion of the top grade in the School's history. At A level, just under 80% of the year group scored 144 UCAS points. The School's largest ever IB cohort achieved an average IB score of 38.4 points (equivalent to 4A\* at A level). Of the 48 BTEC entries this year, students achieved 30 Distinction\* and 14 Distinctions.



Bromsgrove School continued its partnership with the Bromsgrove International Musicians' Competition (BIMC) and its sister Platform for school-age children, holding the auditions and finals in the new Routh Concert Hall.



# Picture This...

EXTRA-CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017/18.



As Deputy Head (Co-Curricular), Paul Mullan is responsible for the wider variety of academic extension activities that occur at Bromsgrove School. Here, he gives you a run down from the 2017/18 academic year.



The Chicken, our electric kit car, once again raced its way into the World Championships.



The opening of the new Cobham Theatre has seen an impressive array of dramatic offerings on the stage this year, including the Fourth Form's performance of *Grimm Tales*, cleverly adapted so that all performers had a main role.



The opportunities that Bromsgrove pupils have had this year included trips to Ireland (Rugby), France (Languages), Germany (Languages), Spain (Languages), Dubai (Cricket) Prague (CAS) and to Madagascar (Biology).

The highlights of our musical calendar included the return of Pop and Jazz in Routh Concert Hall, the purchase of a brand new Bösendorfer Grand Piano and performing Haydn and Nelson Mass, where the two concerto movements were played by our own students.



Students take part in a range of Bromsgrove Service activities including volunteering at local animal sanctuaries, inviting local care home residents to the School and raising money for charity.

“The School prides itself on a broad and varied co-curricular offering across a wide range of sports, cultural and service activities.”



The Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to go from strength to strength with record numbers completing their bronze, silver and gold.

CCF continues to flourish. Indeed, we have one of the largest contingents in the country and the amount of different activities cadets can choose from increases year on year.



It was another outstanding year for sport, with the School ranked fifth overall independent school in the country. It is very pleasing to see the re-emergence of the girls' cricket team, as well as table tennis, badminton and squash.

There was a memorable performance at New Road for the 1st XI, when they won the Chesterton Cup.



This year the School's Young Enterprise activity has seen significant success from its team, Ki Moments. Their very first trade fair proved a success, progressing through to the Regional Finals where they won four awards: Best Product, Best Finance, Best Trade Stand and Best Overall Company.

However, they did not stop there - Ki Moments have since gone on to have their unique product (a photo frame combined with a key rack) stocked in Webbs Garden Centre, showing just how far they have progressed throughout the year.



# About You

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

## Elmshurst

Congratulations to **Philip Hobson** (Elmshurst 1948-1952), who, aged 83, married his childhood sweetheart, Sue Fryer (née Feeny) on 24th February 2018, at the Chapel of the Poor Clare's in Duncan, British Columbia. He would like to hear from other OBs living in British Columbia so please do get in touch.

Philip recalls a Canadian at Bromsgrove in his time, whose name he thinks was Culwick. If you can help with his quest, please contact Philip direct by email: hobson799@btinternet.com



It's always a pleasure to show OBs around School in and out of term time. Donald Ka-Tsun Cheung (2004-2009) visited us during half-term to take a look at the recent developments.

The Futures department was delighted to welcome **Jakob Langen** (2010-2012) back to Bromsgrove. Jakob spoke to students about his progression from university to Deutsche Bank.



It was great to see **Henry Walker** (2005-2016) being cheered on by Mr Widdop when he played for England U20s vs Springboks at Sixways in May. Henry recently presented his World Cup Final shirt to Mr Jones at the Prep School. Henry has sixteen caps for England as a hooker for the National side. He currently plays for Gloucester.



Houseparent, Mr Fallows, enjoyed a surprise visit from 2017 leaver, **Aram Andreasyan** (2013-2017) in November 2017. Aram is now studying Economics at Durham, and Mr Fallows tells us that Aram wins the prize for the first 2017 leaver to re-visit the House.



Thank you to **Prashant Gurung** (2011-2017) for hosting a lunchtime session earlier this year. Prashant spoke to pupils about the International Citizen Service and his experiences in Nepal.



## Gordon

**Jeremy Hilton** (1950-1955) was recently in touch to let us know that he met up with four other OBs for their annual lunch in London. Present were Trevor Grocock (Wendron 1951-1955), Rod Kirkland (Wendron 1952-1955), Jeremy Davis (Gordon 1946-1954) and John Allan (Gordon 1949-1954).

**John Illsley** (1962-1967) performed at the Artrix theatre in October 2017. Richard Brookes and a number of OBs went along to the concert and met up with John after the show.



## Hazeldene

A huge thank you to **Dr Natalie Nokes** (1994-1999) who spoke to the MedVet Society. Whilst visiting the School, she also managed to catch up with her Biology teacher, Dr Johns.



We also welcomed back **Caroline Robbins** (1984-2005) to the School. Caroline is a 'survivor' and went right through the School from Pre-Prep to Senior.

It is great to see the latest L'Oreal ad campaign featuring Old Bromsgrovian **Iskra Lawrence** (2004-2009). Iskra has walked in the L'Oreal catwalk at Paris Fashion Week for the last few years, and is currently a L'Oreal Prince's Trust ambassador. You can read more about Iskra in our 'Them & Now' feature further in this magazine.



**Rachel Xuereb** (2006-2012) made her West End debut at the Other Palace Theatre, London during July 2018 with the new musical, *89 nights*, and the independent theatre company Troubadour Stageworks.

This performance is a London preview show that took place in anticipation of the company's month of performances at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.



Rachel Xuereb (2nd left) in the photograph

We've recently been sent this photo of Old Bromsgrovian **Candy Lockett** (2012-2017). Candy is studying at the University of Mount Olive in North Carolina and is part of the athletics squad out there.

Her Coach, Justin Potter, said this of Candy, "I'm so proud of this young lady and all her work so far this fall. She is doing awesome in the classroom and has been looking great with the discus and her beloved hammer!"

Earlier this year, Candy won the Conference Carolinas Championships in the 20lb weight throw.



## Housman Hall

Batsman **Will Fraine** (2012-2014) has joined Nottinghamshire. Notts Outlaws signed Will ahead of their Royal London One-Day Cup title defence, where he made 27 runs. Will made his first class debut on 22nd July 2018 v Surrey.



## Lupton

The Modern Languages Department were very pleased to welcome **Richard Bishop** (1976-1985) to the School to give a talk about modern languages in the work place.

After leaving Bromsgrove, Richard studied Modern Languages at Durham and took a business management qualification in Paris. He then had a varied career in international marketing and has lived in Germany, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands.

As a passionate linguist, Richard subsequently founded Languages Sandpit, which provides language services to a variety of businesses.

The pupils were keen to hear about Richard's varied life and career experiences all of which have languages at their core. Mr Beet then showed Richard around the School, and particularly, Lupton House where he was able to find his name on the honours boards.



Congratulations to **Stephen Page** (1978-1983) on being awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Derby.

Stephen, who was our Foundation Lecture speaker in 2016, is CEO of Faber & Faber and has been helping the University in its development of a Masters in Publishing. He also acted as a mentor to their first tranche of students.

In recognition of Stephen's contribution to publishing education and the creative industries, he was presented with the Honorary Doctorate at a ceremony last November, in the presence of his family, including his father, Jim Page (School 1845-1949 and former Headmaster of the Junior School 1961-1989).



### Lyttelton

Thank you to **Myles Griffiths** (1957-1961) for taking part in a talk to current pupils on the judicial system. Myles then helped with the mock interview evening, arranged by Bromsgrove Futures, to help pupils with upcoming university entrance interviews.

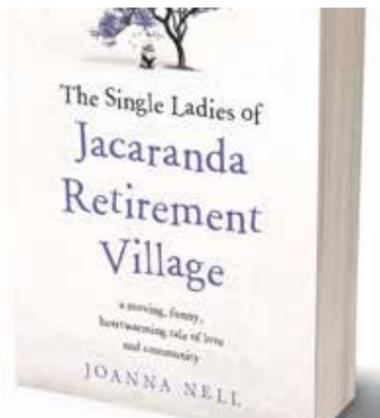


Credit: Exeter Rugby Club/JMP

**James Freeman** (2004-2009) made his 1st XV debut for Exeter on 4th November 2017. At the time of writing, James has made three appearances, scored two tries and accumulated a total of ten points.

### Mary Windsor

**Jo Nell** (née Spain, 1980-1985) has written her debut novel entitled *The Single Ladies of Jacaranda Retirement Village*. The novel is a life affirming story of a 79 year old widow's unexpected journey of self-discovery. The book was published in Australia in paperback and ebook by Hachette in September 2018, and UK in hardback by Hodder & Stoughton from January 2019. We wish Jo every success with its publication.



**Nikki Simpson** (Cobham and Mary Windsor 1989-1995) has also just had a book published through Routledge Psychology. The book, *Finding Our Way Home*, is written by women who attended a number of boarding schools in the 1960s to 1990s.

Nikki says that this book is the first to explore the boarding school experience from a purely female perspective, and offers an intriguing insight into the upbringing of girls born in the mid-to-late 20th century.



Despite the deluge of snow back in March 2018, we were delighted to welcome Eugenia Lam (Mary Windsor 2004-2010) and Brian Tsang (School 2006-2009) for a tour of the School.

Brian now lives and works in Amsterdam. Eugenia is a qualified solicitor, currently doing a masters degree in London.



### Oakley

**Tammy Anne Anzano** (née Lewis, 1992-1997) moved to North Devon four years ago, having lived in Lanzarote for sixteen years. She met her Italian husband there and they now have five children aged 11 to 1. Since their move to Devon, Tammy has been preparing to launch her creative business as an artist and sculptor. Tammy says that she now has her dream job and family.



**Camilla Lewington** (1999) was recently invited to sing at the Women in Leadership lunch at The House of Lords.

Camilla also appeared on the BBC One singing show, *All Together Now*.



It was lovely to hear from **Sina Henke** (1999-2000) who updated us on what she has been up to since leaving Bromsgrove. She and her husband (the German Ambassador) are currently living in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Sina works for the German Development Cooperation in a project called "Good governance in the mining sector" where she is responsible for all human rights issues. She has also worked with the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, establishing an African think tank for peace and security issues, was posted on temporary duty in Nairobi, Kenya, with the civilian component of the Eastern African Standby Force Coordination Mechanism and had the chance to visit the UN/African Union peacekeeping mission in Darfur (UNAMID) in El Fasher, Sudan.

Apart from work, Sina and her husband welcomed a new addition to their family, Clara Alexandra, who was born September 2017 in Hamburg, Germany.



### School

It was a pleasure to meet **Jim and Bob Wilson** (School 60-65 & 61-66 respectively) at Bromsgrove during the summer holidays. Jim was over from Norway and wanted to take a tour of the School. Both were accompanied by Matthew Horton (Cookees/School 62-67, President of the School and Chairman of the Foundation).



**Michael Perkins** (School 1948-1952) recently sent in this photograph of him wearing his OB tie, for his second son's Degree Congregation at the University of Manchester this summer.

It's great to see pictures of OBs wearing school-related merchandise. If you have any photos to share, do send them on to us.



**Alex Rajkowski** (1993-1998) has a new single out called *Dancing in the Rain*. You can listen to this on SoundCloud at <https://soundcloud.com/the-buskers-74/dancing-in-the-rain>

Alex, a guitarist-singer with the band 'The Buskers', is currently based in Morzine, France.



A warm welcome to **Tom Jude** (1997-2004) who has joined the School as our new Theatre Manager.

Thomas was previously Production Manager at the Artrix, and has been volunteering with Bromsgrove CCF for a number of years.

**Jonny Cheung** (2004-2009) returned to School for a tour during one of our sunnier days. He commented on the number of changes which had taken place since he left almost ten years ago.



We spotted **Chris Griffiths** (2004-2009) on the red carpet at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year awards, meeting up with fellow Old Bromsgrovians **Henry Cowen** (Lyttelton 2004-2009) and **Ben Cox** (Walters 1999-2010). The trio witnessed Mo Farah pick up the 2017 award.



### Thomas Cookes

**Rachael Mack** (2001-2010) took part in the Jaffa Super 6s Final with her team, Leicester Ladies, earlier this year. The opposing team were Bowdon Club, with another Old Bromsgrovian, **Sally Walton** (also Thomas Cookes 1994-1999) playing in the number 4 shirt.

Sally put Bowdon into the lead after just four minutes of play. Rachael then scored a field goal in the 19th minute for Leicester. Bowdon were crowned the overall winners of the final (2-1).

### Walters

**David Stafford** (1991-1996) has shot a film adaptation of *Journey's End*. It was released in February 2018, in time for the anniversary to mark 100 years since the end of World War One.



**Dr Luke Simonds** (2003-2008) took time out of his busy A&E schedule to help potential medics with their Personal Statements for university application.

Although it is almost ten years since Luke left School, he still remembers the application process and how the MedVet Society helped him prepare for Medical School. Luke is a regular contributor to the MedVet Society along with other OBs who help with all aspects of applying to Medicine and Veterinary Science.



Thank you to **Ben Cox** (1999-2010) for working with our keepers on their skills and knowledge of the game. Ben made his debut for Worcestershire whilst still at School, and in 2016, agreed a new long-term deal as wicketkeeper-batsman at New Road.

More recently, Ben helped Worcestershire secure victory in the Vitality Blast T20 Final, where he was named Man of the Match.



## Wendron-Gordon

**Adrian Powell** (also of Cookes 1967-1972) visited brothers **Jonathan Palmer** (Elmshurst 1967-1972) and **Jeremy Palmer** (Elmshurst 1963-1968) in St Vincent and the Grenadines during December 2017. Jonathan owns Mustique Airways and flew Adrian and his wife to St. Vincent.



Well done to **Anthony Sharman** (1990-1995) who won the inaugural Wavell Room writing competition, a site for Contemporary British Military Thought Site. Anthony's piece was entitled 'Does diversity dilute the warrior ethos?'. You can read more at [wavellroom.com](http://wavellroom.com)

Good luck to **Guy Thompson** (1997-2005) on his move to Leicester Tigers. Guy joined Wasps in 2013 and has become a reliable member of Dai Young's squad. Of his departure, which happened in May, he said that leaving Wasps was the hardest decision he has had to make and thanked the club for the opportunities it has given him.



Photo Credit: Wasps Rugby Club

**George Goodall** and **Beck Cutting**, both 2017 leavers, returned to see their old House earlier this year.

George is at St. Andrews and Beck is at Bath. Beck is also playing for Worcester Warriors, recently making his 1st team debut in the Anglo Welsh cup.

Here they are pictured with their former Houseparent, Mr Bell, and Housemother, Mrs Batchelor.



**Miles Rosbrook** (2012-2017) appeared in the Young Pleasance production of *The Red Shoes* during Edinburgh Fringe this summer. Miles played the character of Franz. A recent review stated that "This talented young cast is certainly one to watch."



## Staff News

Congratulations to our staff on receiving their long service awards, including **Steve Kingston** for thirty years' service at Bromsgrove School in September 2018.



In addition, Oakley Housemother, **Marion Astill** received her twenty years' award, along with **Sarah Cronin** and **Rachel Scannell**.



We wish **Jean Batchelor**, Housemother of Wendron-Gordon, well in her retirement. Jean retired at the end of the Summer Term 2018, and is looking forward to spending more time with her family, after looking after so many WG boys throughout the years!



## Llanwrtyd Wells

The School was again represented at Llanwrtyd Wells by Old Bromsgrovian **Christopher Price** (School 1939-1944), himself a pupil when Bromsgrove was evacuated to Wales.

Christopher laid a wreath on behalf of the School and OBs at the town's War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, 11th November 2018.

Next year marks 75 years since the start of World War Two and the School's evacuation to the smallest town in Wales. It is hoped that a larger contingent from Bromsgrove will join the townspeople in their remembrance commemorations.



## Sports News

### OB Netball

It has been another busy and successful year for OB Netball...

#### Victorious Cannons

The OB Cannons' team were victorious in winning the Worcester Summer League Division 1. It was a close fought battle between us and Zodiac, but we ended up on top. This means we will be playing in the Premier Division next Summer, which is likely to be a challenge (but one we welcome!)



#### Charity Tournaments

The team took part in many charity tournaments over the last year. Our very own Georgie Eales organised a tournament held at Bromsgrove School as part of her London Marathon fundraising – her chosen charity was Anthony Nolan, which is close to many of our hearts. It was a thoroughly enjoyable day with many teams taking part from the County and wider areas.

One of our favourite tournaments of the year is the Millbrook Tournament, which raises money for the Millbrook cancer treatment unit at Kidderminster Hospital. The organiser is a good friend of ours and has raised more than £10,000 over the past seven years.

We also took part in a couple of mixed tournaments, with husbands, boyfriends and dads who all roped in to help – they loved it!

#### OBs on Tour

OBs travelled to Butlins Skegness in September to take part in a National netball event. The team played fifteen short matches over two days, winning nine of those comfortably. We placed mid-table at the end of the two days, which was a good result considering the high standard of teams in attendance.

The team also made the most of the leisure facilities on offer at Butlins, and enjoyed dancing the night away on the Friday and Saturday evenings to classic 80s and 90s tunes!



#### Socials

Keeping up tradition, we have enjoyed several socials this year – our favourite so far has to be Ghetto Golf in Birmingham; crazy golf and drinks and DJs. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all.



#### Next Year...

Next year, we hope to attract even more new members to the Club and continue the growth and development of our younger players.

The future looks bright for OB Netball!

And last but not least, we'd like to say a big thank you to the School, Alumni Office and the OB Club for their continued support.

*If you would like to find out more about joining the OB Netball Club, please email the Alumni Office in the first instance - [oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk).*

### OBEC

The OB Lodge joined forces with the Old Bromsgrovian Expedition Club (OBEC), their families and friends to take part in a walk using the canal from Droitwich, via Salwarpe Church to Churchfields Farm for cream teas and homemade ice cream. An informative and interesting tour was conducted at the farm, with Old Bromsgrovian Gillian Davies (Thomas Cookes 1983-1993), owner of Churchfields, joining the group later that day.

OBEC meets throughout the year and often enjoys weekends in Wales. It is a real family affair and new members are always welcome.

### OB Golf

The Old Bromsgrovians Golf Society has had yet another full and interesting year. We had a quiet start as the annual Match v School was snowed off in March, and the first OB meeting at Edgbaston in May was rained off too.

The School currently have a very good crop of golfers and they always look forward to the OB match at Blackwell for the Webb Cavill Cup - it was a shame that the weather put paid to it as their 2017/2018 golf team was captained for the first time ever by a female pupil, Charlotte.

Sadly, the Old Bromsgrovians did not qualify for the finals of the National Public Schools Old Boys' Grafton Morrish competition. This is scratch foursomes, so we could certainly do with some of the low handicap players who have recently left. However, we have a new non-playing captain in Ian Powell, and the tremendous enthusiasm of Lee Bould who has volunteered to encourage them to play. (We hope you young ones are reading this!)

Last year, having won the main M.K. Foster Challenge Cup at Little Aston in the Midland Schools Old Boys' competition, we just missed out this year in coming third, and runners-up in two of the individual prizes. This is a closely fought competition within a convivial atmosphere involving Bromsgrove, Repton, Malvern, Harrow, Rugby, Oundle, Uppingham, Cheltenham, Rossall, Shrewsbury, Wrekin, KES, and Stowe each fielding a team of eight.

There was a good turn out for our OB Invitational meeting at Ombersley in August and this continues to go down well, particularly with such a good venue.

The big one for the Old Bromsgrovians this year was hosting the Welsh Public Schools' Old Boys on 5th October at Blackwell, for the Edward Harris Cup (first inaugurated in 1938). Having won the trophy in 2017, Bromsgrove had the honour of hosting this prestigious event. There were seven schools taking part – Bromsgrove, who fielded two teams, and one team each from Christ Church Brecon, Malvern, Dean Close, Cheltenham, Hereford Cathedral School, and Wycliffe.



*The Old Bromsgrovian Teams line up for the Edward Harris Cup at Blackwell Golf Club, 5 October 2018*

*L to R: Bill Jordan, Philip Eve, Mark Blake, Alan Powell, Michael Taylor, Lee Bould, Willy de Lloyd, Steve Webb, Adrian Powell, Ian Powell, Ian Mellor, David Greenhouse, David de Lloyd, Andrew Parffrey, Alex Kay (Missing: John Dillon, perhaps still in the bar?)*

Apart from Brecon, Bromsgrove could certainly claim to have good Welsh credentials in that they were located at Llanwrtyd Wells throughout WW2. The other schools have joined over the years due to the steady drop out of schools in Wales.

Wycliffe won the cup this year with Bromsgrove coming a close third and fourth. Adrian Powell, our non-playing Captain and organiser of the schools on the day, bravely gave the grace in Welsh, and the meal of Welsh Lamb was absolutely excellent. We had the honour of the President of Blackwell, Ashley Cox, being our guest for dinner, and a thoroughly good day was had by all. From feedback, the organisation of whole event was much appreciated by all the schools taking part.

We wrapped up the year with our usual OB meeting at Blackwell with yet another glorious sunny day, and a very convivial dinner.

Prizewinners:

Blackwell Bowl – Michael Taylor  
Graham Fowler Medal Cup – Steve Webb  
Hayes Millennium Salver – Mark Blake  
Bayliss-Orme Seniors Salver – Adrian Powell

The John Beharrell Plate for young golfers was again not awarded this year, so to all of our recent Bromsgrove leavers, get your mates together and come and join us! We have good days mixed with some quite competitive golf.

*To join the Old Bromsgrovians Golf Society, or to find out more, simply e-mail the Hon Secretary, Anthony Webb: [anthonywebb41@btinternet.com](mailto:anthonywebb41@btinternet.com)*



*OBs, former staff and family pictured include L to R: Lindsay Mackay, Neil Gibbs, Jeremy Chilton, Antonella Gibbs, Steve Pritchard, John Gunton, Helen Rowberry, Liam Chilton, Matthew Gibbs, Carol Crossan, Michael Davies, Tim Boffey, Mrs and Roger Hawkins, Mark Gunton, Tim Powell and Michael Woodall*

## Wedding Bells

Congratulations to the following Old Bromsgrovians who were married this year. Do let us know if you'd like to feature in the next issue.

We were delighted to hear from **Hannah Schofield** (Hazeldene 1999-2010) about her recent wedding.

Hannah married Patrick Deane on 30th June 2018 at her family home in Warwickshire. Her father Philip, who was in Gordon House, walked her down the aisle. In addition, Hannah's brother Will, also an OB, was an usher.

Bridesmaids included older sister Gemma (Hazeldene) who was Maid of Honour, younger sister Phoebe (Hazeldene), and School friends Bethany Wright and Ellie Trow (both also Hazeldene).



**Chloe Deval-Reed** (Hazeldene 1997-2010), daughter of Mrs Deval-Reed, our Prep and Pre-Prep Headmistress, married David Bishop on Friday, 17th August at St Mary's RC Church, Harvington.

Maid of Honour was Old Bromsgrovian Sophie Spurgin (Hazeldene 2002-2010). Deacon Sean Loone (Assistant Chaplain at Bromsgrove School) was the celebrant. We wish the happy couple all the very best for the future.

**Hollie Taylor** (Webber/Mary Windsor 1997-2003) got married in Cornwall this June to Francis Bell. There were many OBs present including brothers Ben and Sam Taylor (both School House) and School friends Nikki Broadbridge (Oakley) and Caroline Noble (Mary Windsor).

After leaving Bromsgrove, Hollie undertook a placement at Great Ormond Street Hospital, and in 2010, qualified as a Paediatric Nurse. She moved to Singapore three years ago and now works as a school nurse at Stamford American International School.



*Hollie with Old Bromsgrovians Nikki Broadbridge and Caroline Noble*



**Ella-Siobhan Barker** (Prep/Thomas Cookes 2003-2007) married fellow OB and current member of staff, **Tom Jude** (Prep/School 1997-2004) on 9th September at Stanbrook Abbey in Worcester.

The wedding was attended by Old Bromsgrovians Daryl Sullivan (School), Alex Homer (School), James Kimbley (School), Sarah Powell (Hazledene) and Jessica Kingston (Thomas Cookes). Their former drama teacher, Clare Buchanan (née Smith) also attended their Reception, held at Kidderminster Town Hall on 22nd September.



## Wedding Bells

**Jessica Kingston** (Thomas Cookes 2002-2009) recently married Connor Williams in our Memorial Chapel, with School Chaplain Paul Hedworth leading the service.

Jessica's dad, Steve Kingston (current academic staff) walked her down the aisle, with her sister Fran Kingston and school friend Jodie Poole (both OBs) as bridesmaids.

We are delighted to see a selection of photos from Jessica and Connor's day showing off our wonderful grounds and buildings.

Congratulations Jessica and Connor!

**Eleanor Johns** (Thomas Cookes 2001-2010), daughter of Dr Johns, our Director of Sixth Form, married fellow OB, **Peter McCullagh** (Lupton 2003-2008) at Rowton Castle in Shrewsbury on Saturday, 3rd March 2018. Eleanor says that it was the weekend of the Beast of the East so they had an unexpected white wedding.

It was quite an Old Bromsgrovian affair, with Dr Johns giving Eleanor away, James Skinner (Lupton 2001-2008) as Best Man, Georgina Lees (Thomas Cookes 1999-2010) as Maid of Honour and Katy McCullagh (Hazeldene 2005-2010) as one of the bridesmaids.



**Joanne Smith** (Thomas Cookes 2004-2009) married **Dr Ashley Hayden** (Lyttelton 1999-2008) on Saturday, 30th June at St. Catherine's Church, Blackwell. They then headed off to Billesley Manor, near Stratford-upon-Avon, for their wedding reception and celebrated into small hours.

Jo and Ashley were surrounded by family and friends, many of whom were Old Bromsgrovians. Jo's maid of honour was her eldest sister, Alice Smith (Thomas Cookes 2005-2013), and bridesmaids included Emily Smith, Jo's youngest sister (Oakley 2007-2016), and lifelong friend Eleri Davies, who Jo met at first school in Cardiff. Ashley's best man was Michael Pearce (Lupton 1999-2008), and ushers included James Busby (Lyttelton 2000-2008) and Sam Strangward (Walters 1999-2008).

Jo and Ashley now live in Oxfordshire, but despite moving some distance away, they remain in close contact with lifelong friends they made at Bromsgrove School. The picture below is of all the former OB 'Gents' who attended the wedding. This also marked ten years since they left Bromsgrove - empathising the special bond of friendship. The couple had an amazing time and would like to thank all their family and friends for making it such a special day for them, and without Bromsgrove School, they would have never met one another!



Top (L-R): Sam Strangward, James Busby and Michael Pearce; Bottom: (L-R): Ed Westlake, Ashley Hayden and Simon Powell

**Would you like your wedding featured in the next issue?**

Contact the Alumni Office  
[oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)  
 or Tweet us @OldBromsgrovian



L-R: John Dillon (Elmshurst), Anna Roochove (née Compton, Oakley), Paolo Perkins (Elmshurst), Claire Bennison (Oakley), Edward Horton (Elmshurst), Caroline Fontanili (née Palethorpe, Mary Windsor), Neil De Freitas (Elmshurst), Paula Clarke (Oakley), Rob Stitch (Elmshurst)

### #OBsinLondon

A group of 1989 leavers assembled in London for drinks, dinner (and then more drinks!) in November 2017. Whilst many have been in touch and have met up over the years, it was the first time that they had been together as a whole group since Commem in 1989.

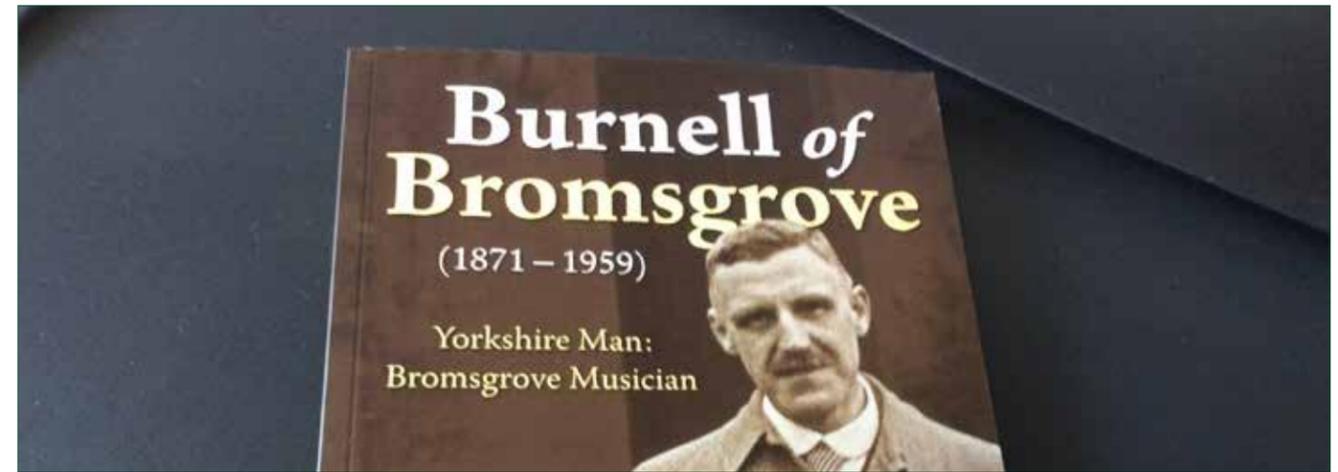
If you meet up with a group of OBs regularly, let us know so we can feature you in the next '#OBsin...' feature.



### Golden OBs

Congratulations to Old Bromsgrovians Daniel Johnson, William Draper-Barr, Olivia Bond, Rebecca Reeves, Callum Stirrat, as well as Ellie Miners, Ellie Moore and Esme Weston, who received their Gold DofE certificates earlier in the year.

Some of the group were invited to Buckingham Palace where they received their awards from Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, Prince Andrew, Duke of York, and HRH Countess of Wessex, and others went to St James' Palace to collect theirs.



### Book Launch

Megan Griffiths of the Alumni Office and School Archivist, Nikki Thorpe were delighted to attend the book launch for *Burnell of Bromsgrove* by John R. Arrand in Routh Hall on Saturday, 16th June.

The book tells the story of Isiah Burnell, a man of humble Yorkshire origins, who for almost fifty years taught, developed, encouraged and made music in his adopted town of Bromsgrove. He was Director of Music at Bromsgrove School for twenty-five years and he wrote a piece of music for the dedication of the School's Memorial Chapel in May 1931.

During the event, the School's Staff Choir performed Burnell's best known work, 'Surely The Lord Is In This Place' and we heard from the author, John Arrand, about his research into this great musical icon of Bromsgrove.

### Dragon Boat Race

A number of Old Bromsgrovians, their family and friends took part in the Dragon Boat Race on the River Severn in Worcester on 1st July 2018.

The team were only four or five seconds behind the quickest boats. They finished eighteenth out of thirty-nine boats, seventh in their Class and had the sixth quickest time overall.

The team raised over £1,500 for the Festival 2022 appeal.



### School Celebrations

We had a number of groups return to Commemoration Day to celebrate their leaving anniversaries - here is one such group (the Class of 1986) having a jolly time celebrating turning 50!

Present in the photograph are: Jeremy Ellis, David Walters, Gavin Badland, Christian Gregory, Steven Waters, David Bridge, Lloyd Hadlington, Chris Thomas, Matthew Griffiths, Jason Sadler, Craig Hall, Scott Beattie, David Bradshaw and Guy Escolme.



## Worcestershire Veterans - An Article by Emily Horton (Oakley 1998-2001)



*This article first appeared in the Sunday Mercury last year, and Emily Horton (Oakley 1998-2001) has kindly allowed us to reproduce it here. Emily accompanied Worcestershire veteran Harold Wilson on a special trip to the battlefields of Normandy where he fought during the Second World War, and this is the story of their visit together.*

### Worcestershire veteran revisits WWII battlegrounds

By Emily Horton

Last month I accompanied 96-year-old Harold Wilson from Pershore on a special trip to the D-Day beaches in northern France, where he landed as a young tank driver in June 1944. Then aged just 21, Harold found himself part of the Allied assault on Normandy that began the reclamation of Western Europe from its Nazi oppressors.

Thanks to the Royal British Legion, Harold was joined by twelve other veterans for a fully funded six-day tour. The sight of these courageous, resilient men standing together, reciting their stories, resplendent with medals and old regimental caps, was striking enough. More remarkable still, however, was the evident camaraderie between this group of total strangers; the shared empathy born of a bloody, all-consuming episode in a long-ago sliver of time.

In the quiet cemeteries containing the graves of their fallen colleagues, the valiant survivors recalled the experience of fighting their way up from the beaches. Eyes filled with

tears; bodies trembled with emotion as the memories came flooding back. Harold was accompanied by his son, Ian, himself a veteran of the Army and SAS. For father and son it was a once-in-a-lifetime trip, their familial bonds strengthened by a sobering shared intimacy with war. As Ian outlined the bare details of his father's service, Wilson Senior would provide the colour, chipping in with recollections of people, places and battles: the turbulent remembrance of things past.

In fighting his way across France and Belgium, and on into the Netherlands, Harold saw his inevitable share of tragedy. He lost more than one tank and, more importantly, several colleagues – tank commanders were especially vulnerable, standing with their heads out of the vehicle so as to effect navigation. We visited the grave of one such commander, Trooper Peter Reagen, who was killed during the first major offensive, Operation Epsom – a fierce battle for the important Normandy stronghold of Caen.

Another veteran from the West Midlands was James Kelly of Sutton Coldfield. Having lied to enlist in the Army at the age of just 14, James was still only 17 on D-Day when he parachuted onto Pegasus Bridge – a strategic site in facilitating Allied progress into France. Remarkably he survived, jumping safely from an engineless glider that had carried him and several others across the Channel.

Our tour guide, ex-policewoman Eugenie Brooks, was kindness itself, dispensing hugs and kisses to the veterans throughout their emotional week. And how they needed it: one

93-year-old was utterly overwhelmed to stumble upon the graves of twenty-three comrades in a single cemetery. As for our French hosts, they were truly wonderful. The young staff at Arromanches Museum were typical, embracing the veterans upon their arrival and giving each of them a memento, presented with heartfelt thanks for their vital part in securing the freedom of France. Naturally the recipients were tickled pink, the simple kisses of the young women reassuring the veterans that the hardships they endured in that rapidly receding past are still remembered more than seventy years on.

All of which points to an imperative: that as many veterans as possible are made aware of the existence of these trips. In small, but effective ways, they contribute to the store of healing, bringing families together and giving veterans permission to shine a soothing light into this harsh, tumultuous corner of their lives.

And one final thought. It is a privilege both rare and shocking to see a fragile 96-year-old, tears streaming down his face, shuffle laboriously across the sands on which he once landed as a vigorous young man of war. But when he tells you of his fears for tomorrow, one cannot help but recall the words of a despairing Macbeth and wonder whether, in the end, all our brave yesterdays have only lighted fools the way to dusty death.

- Emily Horton

## Evening Reception at the Hong Kong Club



# You're Invited!

Join us at our Old Bromsgrovian Dinner in London



Our inaugural London Dinner for Old Bromsgrovians will take place on the evening of Friday, 18th January 2019. Come along and celebrate the new year with us.

This event will be held in the Long Gallery and Ballroom at The Lansdowne Club set in the heart of Mayfair, just off Berkeley Square, and kindly hosted by Richard Noake (Elmshurst 1959-1964), a Trustee of Bromsgrove School Foundation. Built in 1763, Lansdowne House became a social club in 1935. Unlike its contemporaries, The Lansdowne Club has admitted men and women with equal social status since its doors opened. Today it is considered one of the most exclusive and traditional private members' clubs in London.

We warmly welcome Old Bromsgrovian Charles Byrne (Lyttelton 1979-1985) as our guest speaker. Charles has worked in both the commercial and third sectors, having started on the UK high street with Oddbins. He then moved to international retail with World Duty Free and the development of Terminal 5 at Heathrow. Prompted by the support the family received when his father was diagnosed with cancer, Charles crossed sectors to work with Macmillan before joining the Royal British Legion in 2012 as Director of Fundraising.

Charles was appointed as Director-General in August 2016, a position he still holds, and will lead the development of the Legion's extensive welfare services and the upcoming commemorations marking 100 years since the end of the First World War.

At our dinner, Charles will speak about the role of the Royal British Legion in today's society and his journey since leaving Bromsgrove. This will be a particularly fitting and poignant talk, following our own connections to the OBs killed during the Great War.

The Dinner is open to all Old Bromsgrovians and their partner/guest and we hope that you will be able to join us for what promises to be a superb evening. The cost to attend is £70 per person, which includes a welcome drink, three-course dinner and wine during the meal, in the magnificent and historical surroundings of the Ballroom at the Lansdowne Club.

For those travelling from Bromsgrove, a coach will depart from the School mid-afternoon and return after the dinner has finished. The transport is an additional £20pp (£90pp in total) – you will be able to select this option when selecting your ticket.

Places are limited and allocated on a first come first served basis. You can book individual tickets, or a table of ten. Get a group together and have a fun evening in the company of other Old Bromsgrovians.

**Venue:** The Lansdowne Club  
Mayfair, London

**Time:** 7.00pm arrival

**Speaker:** Charles Byrne (Ly 79-85),  
Director-General of the  
Royal British Legion

**Dress:** Lounge Suits for gentlemen  
Cocktail Attire / Gowns for  
ladies

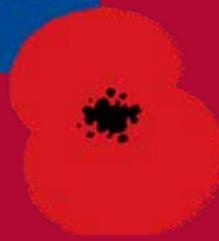
**Tickets:** £70 per person  
which includes a welcome  
drink, three-course dinner  
and wine during the meal

£90 per person  
which includes all of the  
above, plus return coach from  
Bromsgrove School

To book your tickets, please visit our Online Box Office at [www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on)

or contact the Alumni Office by telephoning 01527 579679 ext 357/366

THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION



Charles' Grandfather is shown in the above photograph (sitting down, first on the left)

## Thanking a Special Generation

Charles Byrne discusses the Royal British Legion's #Thankyou100 campaign

Not so many men and women stand between us and the First World War. I was at Winterfold when I heard that my grandfather had died. Ross Ryan had served on the Western Front and was wounded during the battle of Loos. I remember him more clearly than what I did last weekend. He seems to me to be no more than just beyond my arm's reach.

Last month, caught in a spotlight, a man struggled with imaginary chains on the stage at Sadler's Wells. The corps de ballet arrived, forming an intricate mechanism to lift him to his feet and into the arms of a woman. The man is dance legend Akram Khan and the woman is Tamara Rojo, principal dancer and artistic director of the English National Ballet. What makes the performance extraordinary is the audience, most of whom have never before seen a ballet or modern dance. They are Armed Forces veterans and their families of all ages. Some have life changing injuries, some are Chelsea Pensioners, and all are having a brilliant evening.

This is how the ENB said "Thank You" to mark 100 years from the first Armistice, with a gifted performance of *Lest We Forget*. "I never take the freedoms of this country for granted," Miss Rojo, who arrived here from Spain in 1996, told the audience at the end. "I want to thank you all for defending my freedoms."

The Royal British Legion has been keeping Remembrance alive since the years following the First World War, along with the poppy as a symbol to provide a memory for the fallen and a future for the living. In this final year of the Centenary, people across our

country are finding new ways to say "Thank You" to that generation from the First World War.

The Centenary began in August 2014 with the spectacular display of the poppies at the Tower of London – each one a powerful silent tribute to the fallen. In the months leading up to the Centenary's end on 11 November 2018, the Legion will be paying tribute to those who died and also to all who served and survived, to those men and women who served on the Home Front, to all those from Britain and the Commonwealth who lived through the war and the remarkable legacy of social, artistic and technological change they gave to us. Uncertain how it would be received, the charity issued a call for the nation to say Thank You to "all who served, sacrificed, and changed our world." The response has been overwhelming.

In Cornwall, Sir Michael Morpurgo asked to partner with the Legion on Poppy Field – the story of a Belgian girl in wartime Flanders who meets Col John McCrae, whose poem *In Flanders Fields* inspired the poppy as a sign of Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.

Recently he met with girls from Queen's Gate School in Kensington, "Isn't it sad to think about the war?" one of them asked. "Yes, terribly sad," he replied. "But what we mustn't do is forget it, because it is part of who we are... We should know our past to be able to understand our present."

Elsewhere, we are creating a special edition of the poppy made from khadi, the handmade cloth from India which Mahatma Gandhi spun on his wheel. The Legion will share these red poppies with Britain's Asian community in mosques, mandirs, and gurdwaras as a reminder of the huge contribution by pre-partition India to the First World War – they will also be a central attraction at Diwali in London.

It is estimated as few as two percent of British Asian youth are aware of the role played by 1.3 million volunteers of the British Indian Army. "Our identity is our destiny and so third and fourth generation Asians should know that their fathers and grandfathers didn't just come to Britain as immigrants," says Thank You ambassador Lord Jitesh Ghadia. "Our ancestors fought for this country and for freedom and democracy – even though they lived in a colony at the time. We therefore have as much stake here as anyone else."

Elsewhere, supporters of Leyton Orient are reviving *The Greater Game*, a play retelling how the players and supporters of their team volunteered together for active service. The movement is inspiring activity by large charities such as the Scouts and smaller ones, such as the many knitting circles which have sprung up to complete poppy "waterfalls" to decorate church altars on Sunday 11th November. So far the movement has signed up more than 70 national organisations and 500 local ones to say Thank You. It has also seen members of the public individually honour each of the 1.1 million British and Commonwealth dead on the digital tribute, Every One Remembered.

The tragedy and cost of war must be remembered anew by each generation. The First World War is now just beyond an arm's reach. The challenge for us is to recognise the legacy that generation gave to us, to pick up the torch they have passed to us, to build upon the best of those British values they defined for us.

During Remembrance this year the Legion invites us all to reflect on all they did for us – and, in our own ways, to say Thank You.

For more information, visit [rbl.org.uk/ThankYou](http://rbl.org.uk/ThankYou) or search for #ThankYou100

## The Goodall brothers, James and George, take on Everest Base Camp

During the Summer, Old Bromsgrovians James and George Goodall (Lupton/Elmhurst 2007-2014; 2007-2017 Lupton/Wendron-Gordon respectively) travelled to Nepal to set their sights on Everest Base Camp. This is their story and the reasons why they embarked on such a trip.

Three years ago our dad received a kidney transplant and now he is as good as new (well, almost!). It has been life changing for him and us; he has been able to ski again, scuba dive and travel; all things that for six years were out of the question whilst he was on dialysis for eight hours every night.

There are currently 6,500 people in need of a kidney transplant. Kidney Research UK desperately need funds to continue to make transplants more readily available, to cut waiting times and find a cure for kidney disease. Between 2016 and 2017, 411 people died whilst on the waiting list.

In August this year, we set ourselves a huge challenge to raise money for Kidney Research UK, travelling to Nepal to trek to Everest Base Camp. It would be Monsoon season which would make it all the more challenging. Fourteen days of trekking at altitude, covering 180km distance in total, climbing up to 5,644m altitude and trekking for up to eight hours a day.

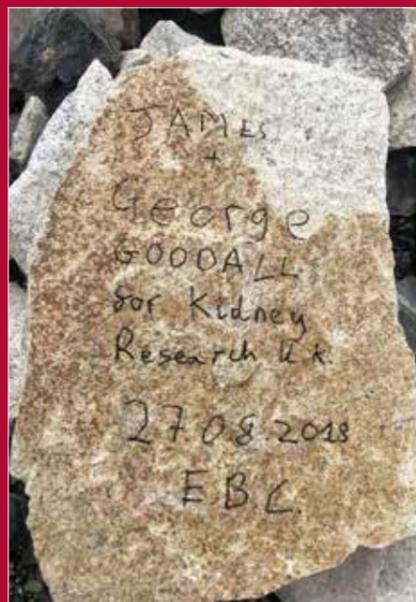
The first challenge was to arrive safely at "the world's most dangerous airport", Lukla Nepal. A tiny fourteen seater plane landing on a runway only 500m in length and with a fourteen degree gradient.



The trek commenced and was fairly straightforward until we reached 4,000m. We stayed en route at "tea houses"; small three ply wood cabins where temperatures dip down to -20 degrees Celsius inside at night in the winter.



August is the warmest month to trek, but the downside can be torrential rain, storms and the summit of Everest is often obscured. However, advantages are that the routes are virtually empty of other trekkers and the wild flowers are at their most spectacular. We were so lucky that it only rained on one day and the rest of the time during the night. We had endless stunning views. We visited monasteries and passed yaks, wild dogs, ponies and goats along the way.



The walking became really difficult as we got higher and once over 4,000m, we both suffered with altitude sickness; pounding headaches and breathlessness. The symptoms got progressively worse day by day, and putting one foot in front of the other on steep inclines became such an effort. The final eight hour ascent to Base Camp was the hardest and most demanding thing we have ever done. We were rewarded by an unseasonably clear blue sky just when we wanted it. What an amazing feeling it was to actually be at Base Camp finally and to hear that day that we had raised more than £1,000 for the charity that is so close to our hearts.

The descent was much quicker, but took its toll on our knees and hips! It felt so good to have a great nights sleep once we got below 4,000 m.

We have had an amazing trip, spending three weeks travelling around Rajasthan, India before the trek. We'd love to summit a mountain one day but we are going to leave Everest to Ben Fogle!

- James and George Goodall

## Commemoration Day 2018



## 1980-1989 Leavers' Reunion

More than 70 Old Bromsgrovians and former staff attended the 1980-1989 Leavers' Reunion on Saturday, 8th September. After a moving Chapel Service, OBs took a walk down memory lane during their tour of the School.

A visit to the Old Chapel prompted discussions about 80s hairstyles when looking through School photographs, and a visit to their Houses could not end without OBs hunting for their old bedrooms and study's.

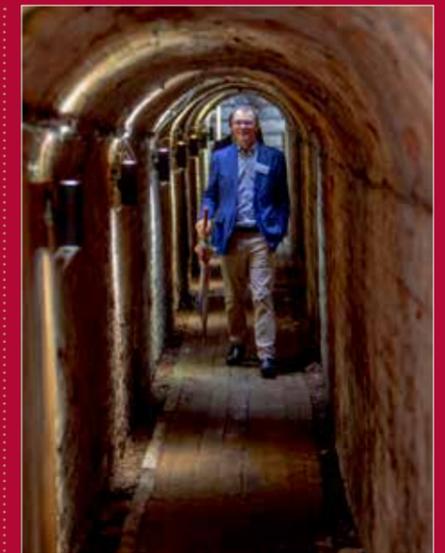
Over lunch in the hospitality suite, stories and photographs were passed around from table to table, including the Monitors' book, where, to this day, the School Monitors still line up to sign it during the official 'signing in' ceremony.



*Miles Trigg, Zeb Shahin, Linda Baker, Jane Brown, Richard Cook, Jonathan Finn, Mark Gunton, Helen Gunton, Michael Ireland, Graham Jones*



*Zia Leech, Chris Atkins, Sarah Atkins, Jayne MacBryde, Louise Humphries, Victoria Thornton, Rachel Horn, Katherine Cox, Susan Oliver, Megan Griffiths*



*OBs walking through the tunnel by Hazeldene*



*Richard Windmill, Jonathan Williams, Simon Williams, Ian Walker, Mark Shaw-Hamilton, John Gunton, Tony Finn, Christopher Banner, Ivor Allchurch, Al McClure*



*Victoria Thornton, Rachel Horn and Katherine Cox looking through the Archives*



*Helen Gunton, Michael Ireland and Jonathan Finn on a tour of the School*

## Former Teaching Staff Pre-2005 Reunion

For the second year running, Bromsgrove was delighted to welcome back former members of the Common Room for a reunion with colleagues and friends.

Guests were shown around the School by current pupils, and many got a sneak preview of the new Performing Arts developments.

Our next reunion takes place on Saturday, 8th June 2019 for all those who were teaching at Bromsgrove pre-2010. Please make a note in your diary now, and look out for your invitation in the New Year.



*Richard Barr, Bernard Hall-Mancey, Gail Hayward and Duncan Langlands*



*Former Headmaster, Tim Taylor with Mike Perry*



*Matthew Horton (Chairman of the Foundation) and Iris Brant*



*Duncan Langlands, Zia Leech and Liz Langlands*



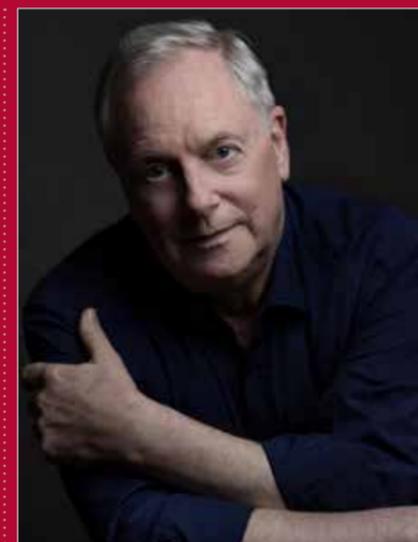
*Ann Charlish (nee Shipman) and Pauline Kenward*

## A Novel Idea: Stephen Harvard Davis (Lupton 1967-1972) on writing a fictional story

Firstly I should say that writing a novel isn't the head-banging exercise filled with frustration and despair as one struggles with writer's block that some authors would have you believe, although, trust me, at times the editing process can be just that. For me writing a story that turns into a novel is a walk through my own head space and a fun adventure. It's my world; one that I get to design, populate, creating dangers and emotions for my characters, and at the end I bring all of the pieces together in a conclusion, like playing out a movie. Since I've been writing fiction I've found people love to engage with an author. At book signings and meet the authors evenings I've been offered advice on the story I'm writing, topics for a story I should write and, on one occasion, the reasons for the story I shouldn't have written. However, in September I was asked the more usual questions at the launch of *A Duty To Kill* at Waterstones in Piccadilly; where do I find the ideas for my novels and what techniques do I use for writing a novel of seventy-two thousand words?

Answering where I find the ideas for my story is easy. Even as a small boy I've had a passion for history and this was strengthened during my time at Bromsgrove by the excellent history lessons. At that time many of the senior staff had been through WW2 as combatants and brought vibrancy and detail to their stories that could only have been known by those living through the events. It taught me to bring the same detail into my novels and it's why I spend hours on research so that my story includes the texture and ingredients of bread made by bakers in Russia during the revolution, the experience an SOE agent feels as he's parachuted into France by Halifax bomber, the smell of plastic explosive as it's unwrapped and made ready to derail a train. A second source of inspiration for my stories is unsolved financial mystery and scandal, and there's enough material on that topic for a few dozen more books.

Secondly there is the power of word construction. During my first term at Bromsgrove I asked someone about joining the debating society. Within days, and out of a desperate need for Lupton to have a junior debater for the school's debating competition, I found myself appointed as the third member of Lupton



Lupton won the School's debating cup (I was second in the junior competition) and in a rash move by the delighted Head of House, I was awarded the House Colours. Quite understandably there was outrage from those who had been at Lupton House, running, swimming, playing rugger and a multitude of other activities for years without such recognition. Under pressure, the Head of House allowed me to retain the award but the tie had to remain in its cellophane for two years. That taught me that not everyone views one's success in the same way. My reason for recounting the story is that my coach for the debating competition was W.G.P.H. Davies who, that same year, went on to win the Observer Schools' debating Mace, now known as the English-Speaking Union Schools' Mace, and in teaching me the rudiments of debating, sowed the seeds of some things I would bring to my writing. These were to engage with the audience, how to structure words to paint pictures in people's minds and the power of humour and delayed gratification in a story.

So I guess I should talk about how I write my story. Whilst I have an idea of what my characters look and sound like they tend to develop as they get written, often telling me as I write what they want to do in the story. Usually I'm happy to go along with that as long as they behave, move the story forward and remember they are but a sentence away from death. This is best illustrated in *The Tsar's Banker* where Sophie Tagleva gives birth to twins. I had intended the twins would be central characters in a future novel in the trilogy, however, soon



after they were born, I fell out of love with them and as a consequence they have been relegated to a mere mention in book three.

Another important consideration for me is observation. When my family and friends see me gazing into the distance I'm probably thinking how to make my character's lives more miserable than they are at present and if you catch me staring at you, then I apologise, I'm not being rude, I'm trying to decide if I want you in my next story, and if I don't like you I'm probably working on a plan to kill you off.

- Stephen Harvard Davis

**BIOGRAPHY:** *Stephen Harvard Davis was a boarder at Lupton House between 1966 and 1971. He began his writing career in his twenties with his own business column in the South Wales Echo and has become an award-winning writer and a broadcaster. An energetic entrepreneur, Stephen runs a successful business consultancy and is regularly invited to speak at business conferences and meetings. He's the author of two business books and his business articles have been featured in over thirty business magazines, including Accountancy Age, Solicitors Journal, CEO Magazine and People Management. The Tsar's Banker was the first novel in the Tagleva trilogy which follows the fortunes of Philip Cummings and his family as they battle for survival through two world wars and beyond. When not working, Stephen enjoys golf, swimming, cooking and travel.*

# Our News to You

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE BROMSGROVE ALUMNI OFFICE.

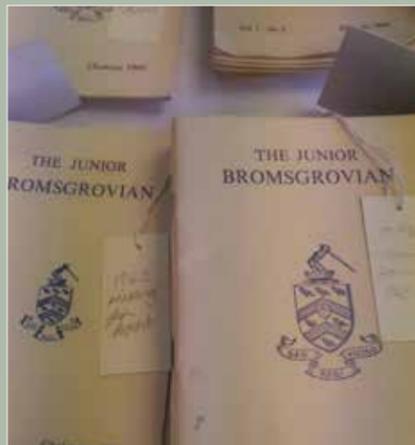
## Junior Bromsgrovians

We are missing the very first two issues of the Junior Bromsgrovians 1947 and 1948 and also 1959, 1962 and 1987 to 1990 inclusive.

If you have spare copies of these issues we could have for the archive it would be much appreciated. Alternatively, if you wish to hold onto your copy, we could scan and send it back to you within a matter of weeks.

Please do spread the word among OB friends who attended the Prep School.

If you are able to help, please contact our Archivist, Nikki Thorpe. Email: [nthorpe@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:nthorpe@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or telephone 01527 579679 ext 365.



## WW1 Worcestershire

The Alumni Office visited Bromsgrove Town Library at the end of May 2018 to view some of our pieces on display for the WW1 Worcestershire People's Collection exhibition.

The collection was displayed at the Bromsgrove Library in May and June, and then moved around the county until November 2018.



## OB Visit

It was lovely meeting a host of OBs at Bromsgrove on 30th January 2018. Richard Brookes (Lupton 1961-1965 and School Governor) brought along John Hall (Gordon 1958-1063, one of our former Governors and a Vice President of the School), Norman Hill (Gordon 1950-1955), Keith Hill (Gordon 1954-1959) and Anthony Jones (Elmshurst 1959-1963).

The group enjoyed a tour of the School including familiar haunts such as Gordon House (now known as Wendron-Gordon) and the recently



refurbished Routh Concert Hall. The OBs were also able to join us for the Lunchtime Concert which they thoroughly enjoyed.

If you would like to come back for a tour of the School, please do not hesitate to contact the Alumni Office: email [oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or telephone +44 (0)1527 579679 Ext. 357.

## Original Letter

We were delighted and honoured to receive a visit from Hugh Furber and Victor Matts, on behalf of the Old Bromsgrovian Lodge, who presented the School with an original letter written by Dr Collis (a former Headmaster of Bromsgrove),

The letter, which describes Shakespeare's birthday celebrations in Stratford-on-Avon in 1873, was recently found online and purchased by the Old Bromsgrovian Lodge. This will now form part of our archive collection for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you to all Lodge members for their generosity.



## The Grand Opening of Performing Arts



Lord Cobham, Tim Norton (Director of Performing Arts), Professor Julian Lloyd-Webber and Peter Clague (Headmaster)



A scene from *The Pierglass*, performed during the Grand Opening in Cobham Theatre



The official opening of Cobham Theatre and Routh Concert Hall took place on the evening of Wednesday, 22nd November 2017.

Lord Cobham, former President of Bromsgrove School Foundation, opened our new Theatre, and Professor Julian Lloyd Webber of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire officiated at the opening of Routh Concert Hall.

If you would like a tour around the new buildings, please contact the Alumni Office - email [oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or telephone 01527 579679 ext 357/366.

Do you have any stories about performances in Routh Hall from your school days, as well as any photographs you would like to share with us? Please contact the Archivist, Nikki Thorpe - [nthorpe@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:nthorpe@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or telephone 01527 579679 ext 365.



The interior of the new Routh Concert Hall

## From the Archives...

Along with the regular ongoing tasks of collection and preservation of the School Archive, the primary focus for this year has been the preparation of material for our WW1 armistice centenary commemorations. This brought some new material to us via loans and donations from alumni and relatives of former pupils, and has led us to uncover new stories of OBs who fought in WW1. We are very grateful to the families of OBs for sharing their family stories and enabling us to share these with the School community.

Archive After School club for Bromsgrove Service students in Years 10 and 11 has seen returning students this year who have been supporting those new to Archive Club, developing their skills to research and answer external enquiries, assist with draft listing and repackaging items and producing small exhibitions for the Headmaster's dining room, including one on Suffrage to coincide with the Representation of the People's Act Centenary. The current exhibition, again curated by the students, features Edmund Page's WW1 collection of material and includes some amazing hand drawn sketches of trenches, secret maps and photographs of the Ypres area, all loaned to us by the family. One of the student curator's commented, "This collection gave me a rather intimate view of World War One. It exceeds general knowledge by showing an emotional insight through the eyes of Edmund Page; this wasn't just a war for him, it was an unforgettable experience."



I have worked again with Year 3 students from the Preparatory School on their polar exploration topic, showing them the sledge and giving them the history of OB Reginald Skelton. A copy of the recently discovered photograph of Skelton as a naval cadet at Plymouth naval college from our collections is now on display as part of the digital interactive gallery at Royal Museums Greenwich's Polar Worlds gallery, which opened in September 2018. Megan Griffiths and I were delighted to attend the launch of the new galleries which were opened by Sir David Attenborough. The curator was most interested to hear of the sledge we have in School and has offered to tour pupils around the Polar Worlds gallery when they next study the topic.



All Year 8 and Year 9 pupils have taken part in WW1 archive workshops, as part of creative writing inspiration, using Bromsgrove School related WW1 archive material. Students produced a creative writing piece in response to what they had seen and these were judged by myself and Philip Bowen for an opportunity to visit the WW1 memorial at Ypres and a former Bromsgrovian's grave at St Quentin in October this year. The students' work has also been incorporated into the WW1 exhibition in Routh Hall from 5th November 2018 to the end of the Michaelmas term, part of the WW1 Centenary commemoration events in School during November. Significant loans from OB families have contributed greatly to the WW1 exhibition, giving us new information about the role of former pupils in WW1 and the legacy to the School of that role. The WW1 online gallery of archive material, currently in progress, will ensure that these loans and the archive material will be accessible for the School community in the future.

As well as ongoing discoveries within existing collections, such as Skelton's photo, original drawings of Routh Hall and the trowel used to lay the foundation stone for the Memorial Chapel by Mrs Spreckley, we have had many new acquisitions to the archive via donations and loans from alumni.

Alumni events have brought forth not only valuable oral history recordings of student and staff time at Bromsgrove School but also artefacts, photographs and documents of their time leading to greater knowledge of the history of the School and greatly enriching the collections for curriculum use, research and exhibitions. Donations of material this year include items relating to Otilie Hild and the early establishment of the Pre-Prep School, as well as a photograph album from the Prep School, informally documenting 1970s to 1990s. We have also had donations from families of OBs and former staff who have died this year and are extremely grateful to the families of John Baron and Revd Alan White for taking the time to donate items to the School archive.

In the Summer term, we had a visit from the family of Leonard Corbett and Hugh Keeble, former Housemasters of Gordon House in the 1920s and 1940s. The received memories that were shared by the family gave me a fascinating insight into what life was like at School during that period, "My aunt Joan Keeble remembers that the floor was American teak and very highly polished! Then when the School was requisitioned (by the MOD in 1939) it was covered with lino!" I also heard that five babies were born at Gordon House and Leonard's daughter Joan married Hugh, so the family had a strong association with the House for many years and were delighted to visit WG and match family photos to what they saw.

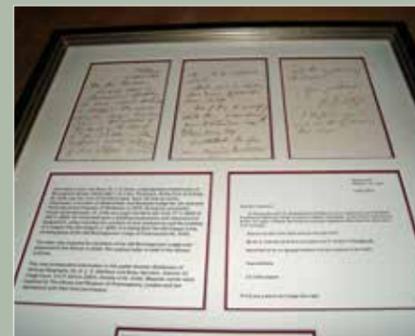


Gordon House 1926 - Mr and Mrs Corbett



The centenary match between Bromsgrove and KES Birmingham, November 1930

We have also had a generous donation of a purchased document of a letter from The Revd. Dr J. D. Collis, Headmaster of Bromsgrove School 1843-1867. The letter is after Collis' Headship when he was the Vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon and describes the Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations in 1873 in correspondence to a fellow Brother of the Lodge. It is a significant addition to the archive and thanks are due to Old Bromsgrovians Hugh Furber and Neil Gibbs for tracking down, purchasing and donating the item. It will be formally presented to the School by the Old Bromsgrovian Lodge later in the year.



All items stored in the Old Chapel have now been archive boxed and draft listed, and to date there are approximately 150 boxes containing well over 1000 listed items in store. There still remain many unpackaged and unlisted items, and many photographs and items on display in the Old Chapel that are in need of conservation, digitisation and protection from light and environmental damage.

This is part of a planned strategy over the coming three years to ensure the preservation of unique items for the future and in line with the planned bespoke store and museum for the archive. Items in temperature and light controlled units will give potential for many items to be on permanent display.

A partnership with the Archive of Recorded Church Music ("Preserving a unique & priceless recorded heritage from choirs of gentlemen & boys singing in the English Cathedral tradition") has led to some wonderful recordings of Bromsgrove School Chapel Choir, from as early as 1938, being digitised for us and therefore preserved and accessible for the School community. In fact, the 1938 recording of *Good King Wenceslas* was played to accompany a reading at the Evening of Words and Music Remembrance Event.



Old Bromsgrovians may be familiar with an enduring fixture between the Bromsgrove 1st XV and KES Birmingham. A recent photo discovered in our collections confirmed our belief that this fixture dates back to 1830 and is, we think, the oldest school boy fixture. If any OBs have relatives who played in the centenary match of 1930, featured in the photo we would be delighted to hear from you.

Our digitisation project over the last two and a half years, working with SDS Heritage, has put all Bromsgrovian magazines (Junior and Senior School) online, as well as a substantial amount of Winterfold material. It is hoped with appropriate protections that this material can be publicly available to researchers in the near future, raising the profile of the archive further, attracting more contributions to the archive as well as valuing the lives and experiences of staff and pupil alumni.

- Nikki Thorpe, Archivist

Gordon House First XV., 1908.



100 years ago... The 1st XV of Gordon House. Just ten years later, many of these Old Bromsgrovians would be lost in the war

100 years ago...Some of the Old Bromsgrovian soldiers who served in the Great War



*Edmund Page*



*Jonathan Philip Brazier*



*Ralph Lesingham Spreckley*



*Eustace Jotham V.C.*



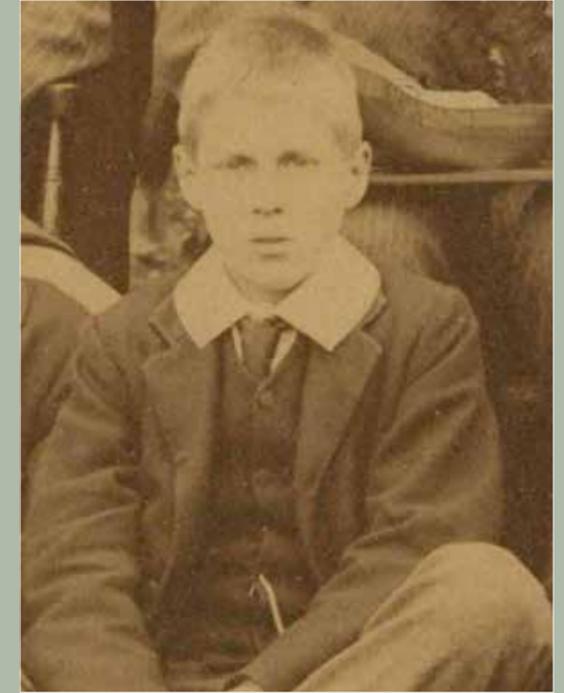
*Guy Lesingham Spreckley*



*Charles Whitley M.C.*



*Athelstan Chamberlayne*



*R.E. Surman*

## 'Bromsgrove School - the one place where I most want to be remembered, for my heart was in it'

Lieutenant R. Hartley  
Killed 26/10/1915 aged 24 years

So much of uncovering stories in archive collections is about breathing life into the documents, imagining the personality in a photo, a family's pride at a sporting achievement and the despair of a Headmaster who is writing his fifty-ninth letter of condolence to a family whose barely 20-year-old son has lost his life on a battlefield.

In our office based at Bromsgrove School, there is a complete set of Bromsgrovians dating back to 1881. They are an incredible insight into life at Bromsgrove in times gone by. This made us think about what was written in these School magazines during the Great War, exactly 100 years ago. What was School life like then? What did our young pupils really think about the conflict?

At the beginning of 1918, Europe, and indeed the World, was still in the midst of WW1. At Bromsgrove, there were no big celebrations for Commemoration Day (suspended during wartime), there were no female pupils on campus (we are now co-educational), no Routh Hall or Memorial Chapel built yet (two of our most prominent buildings on campus, the latter built to honour those who were killed in both world wars). 427 Old Bromsgrovians went to war and many never came back (ninety-four to be exact); their obituaries pepper The Bromsgrovian magazines of that period like the constant shelling they experienced in the trenches.

Some things, however, never change - even through the echelons of time. Between 1914-18, just as they do today, boys played against KES Birmingham in the annual rugby match, purported to be the oldest continuous rugby fixture between two schools in England. There was an increasingly popular debating society, staff reading prizes were handed out (albeit called 'Masters prizes' back then) and Field Days were relished by The Corps. All of these very same activities are enjoyed by Bromsgrove pupils in 2018.

As we approached the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1, our thoughts and prayers turned to the fallen. We will continue to remember the individuals who sacrificed their lives for the benefit of those in the present and future for ever more. But 2018 was different. This was 100 years - as our Headmaster has said to pupils on many occasions, it is far enough back for the events to be just out of reach of our time on Earth. Yet close enough to be within touching distance of our personal experiences and memories. This is especially true when many of those accounts are so close to home.

It is striking in our School archive collections how many WW1 items belonging to families we have; telegrams, letters of condolence, war medals, School achievement medals, photos of boys at School and in army uniform. Families of boys killed or who fought in the war, whether at the time or much later, felt a need to donate these items to the School where, in most cases, their son had spent the most recent part of their life, a community they knew their son felt part of and a source of strength for the families when they lost their child.

Bromsgrove School held a number of Remembrance activities in the lead up to Armistice Day. We were keen to get pupils involved too, within drama and music by recording extracts of personal accounts from the trenches and having a 'flash mob' of soldiers around the School in unexpected locations. Our biggest project was creating an outdoor 'field' of acrylic poppies, each one unique to the OB who lost their life. This was then the stepping-stone to creating a cluster of smaller events around our idea of a 'Remembrance Week'. On Armistice Day itself, pupils and staff laid wreaths on behalf of the School and Old Bromsgrovians, as part of a very poignant Remembrance Service. In addition, on the evening of the 11th, the Imperial War Museum gave us permission to show the original 1916 silent film, *The Battle of the Somme*, set to a live orchestra, performed in our Concert Hall.



As you read some of the accounts of OB soldiers in our Archive - including actual diary entries from OB soldiers during WW1 - it is clear that School had an impact on the person they became, whether it be from the discipline taught on the rugby field or the skills learnt in the classroom - Bromsgrove made them the dedicated soldiers they were. Indeed, Headmaster Routh's incredibly moving correspondence to Mrs Green, mother of Charles Arthur Green killed in 1917, which featured in our Remembrance exhibition, reveals the deep connections between family and School.

As we remember those lost, we also look to the future, ensuring that we continue to learn from the past, challenge our own views and enjoy every new experience that comes our way.

We will never forget. *Deo, Regi, Vicino.*

- Megan Griffiths and Nikki Thorpe



### January 1915

Eustace Jotham, d. 07/01/1915  
At School: 1899-1901  
Regiment: Sikhs  
Buried: Delhi Memorial and Miranshar Cemetery, North Waziristan, India  
Awarded Victoria Cross

### January 1918

Harvey Staunton, d. 14/01/1918 aged 45  
At School: 1883-1889  
Regiment: Royal Army Chaplain's Department  
Buried: Baghdad North Gate War Cemetery, Iraq

Norman Curtis Hartley, d. 20/01/1918 aged 19  
At School: 1911-1916  
Regiment: Royal Field Artillery  
Buried: Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

### January 1920

Athelstan Chamberlayne, d. 14/01/1920 aged 41  
Regiment: Duke of York's Own Lancers  
Buried: Delhi Memorial and Jandola Cemetery, India

Francis Wykeham Wallace Birch, d. 23/01/1920 aged 20  
At School: 1914-1917  
Regiment: King Edward's Own Gurkha Rifles  
Buried: Delhi Memorial and Jandola Cemetery, India

### February 1919

Hugh Stuart Gibson, d. 19/02/1919 (died of wounds) aged 32  
At School: 1903-1905  
Regiment: South Staffordshire Regiment  
Buried: Hampstead Cemetery

William Aldworth Aubertin, d. 20/02/1919 aged 38  
At School: 1894-1897  
Regiment: Royal Welch Fusiliers  
Buried: Cairo War Memorial Cemetery

### February 1920

James Reginald Russell, d. Feb 1920  
At School: 1908-1913  
Regiment: Royal West Kent Regiment  
Awarded DSO  
Died of Pneumonia

### March 1915

Wynne Owen, d. 10/03/1915 aged 30  
At School: 1899-1903 Gordon  
Regiment: Dogras Indian Army  
Buried: Laventie Military Cemetery, Nord, France

William John Grogan, d. 14/03/1915 aged 54  
At School: 1868-1871  
Regiment: Royal Navy  
Buried: Cheltenham Cemetery

Ian Montgomery Jones, d. 20/03/1915  
At School: 1910-1914  
Regiment: Royal Fusiliers  
Buried: Manchester Southern Cemetery

Lionel Henry Massy, d. 28/03/1915  
At School: 1900-1906  
Regiment: Royal Munster Fusiliers

### March 1916

Thomas Garrett Elkington, d. 04/03/1916 aged 23  
At School: 1906-1911 Gordon  
Regiment: Suffolk Regiment  
Buried: Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium

Reginald Harvey Chattock, d. 13/03/1916 aged 19  
At School: 1908-1914  
Regiment: Gloucestershire Regiment  
Buried: Sucrierie Military Cemetery, Somme, France

### March 1917

Ronald Maynard Ross, d. 04/03/1917 aged 21  
At School: 1912-1914  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Fins New British Cemetery, Somme, France

### March 1918

Norman Toynbee King, d. 22/03/1918  
At School: 1911-1915  
Regiment: Dragoon Guards  
Buried: Pozieres Memorial, Somme, France

Arthur Green, d. 26/03/1918 aged 34  
At School: 1897-1902  
Regiment: Manchester Regiment  
Buried: Pozieres Memorial, Somme, France

### March 1920

Gerald Jasper Martin, d. 01/03/1920  
At School: 1902-1905  
Regiment: Royal Irish Regiment  
Buried: Gibraltar North Front Cemetery  
Died from injuries received in the War

### April 1915

Percy Patridge Bigwood, d. 22/04/1915  
At School: 1892-1897  
Regiment: Auckland Regiment  
Buried: East Mudros Military Cemetery, Greece

Alan John Steuart, d. 30/04/1915 aged 25  
At School: 1903-1904 Gordon  
Regiment: Canadian Engineers  
Buried: Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery, Belgium

### April 1916

John Garth Morgan-Owen, d. 09/04/1916  
At School: 1897-1902  
Regiment: South Wales Borderers  
Buried: Amara War Cemetery, Iraq

Julius Henry Beilby, d. 23/04/1916  
The School's Doctor  
Regiment: Worcestershire Yeomanry

Rorbert Essex Surman, d. 23/04/1916 aged 24  
At School: 1906 Gordon  
Regiment: Worcestershire Yeomanry  
Buried: Jerusalem Memorial, Israel

Randolph Noel Churchill Murray, d. 28/04/1916 aged 21  
At School: 1909-1912  
Regiment: Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers  
Buried: Philosophe British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

### April 1917

Joseph Leslie Dent, d. 11/04/1917 aged 28  
At School: 1904-1907  
Regiment: South Staffordshire Regiment  
Buried: Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France  
Awarded DSO and Military Cross

#### April 1917

Charles Whitley, d. 11/04/1917 aged 28  
At School: 1899-1906  
Regiment: King's Royal Rifle Corps  
Buried: Hibers Trench Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France Awarded Military Cross

William Dobree Chepmell, d. 12/04/1917 aged 21  
At School: 1909-1914 Gordon  
Regiment: Royal Sussex  
Buried: Aix-Noulette Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

William Martin Musgrove, d. 15/04/1917 aged 20  
At School: 1910-1914  
Regiment: Border Regiment  
Buried: Warlincourt Halte British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Frederick Herbert Mark Collier, d. 23/04/1917 aged 27  
Regiment: Sherwood Foresters  
Buried: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

Guy Lesingham Spreckley, d. 23/04/1917 aged 32  
At School: 1902-1907 Gordon  
Regiment: King's Royal Rifle Corps  
Buried: Ypres Menin Gate Memorial, Belgium

Cecil Oliver Eachus Price, d. 28/04/1917 aged 24  
At School: 1906-1908  
Regiment: Canadian Infantry  
Buried: Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

#### April 1918

Clifford Mostyn French Dewdney, d. 04/04/1918  
At School: 1910-1914  
Regiment: Gloucestershire Regiment  
Buried: Pozieres Memorial, Somme, France

John Dobree Chepmell, d. 10/04/1918 aged 39  
At School: 1899-1907  
Regiment: Royal Warwickshire  
Buried: Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium

#### April 1919

Robert Douglas Cotton, d. 05/04/1919 (died of wounds) aged 20  
Regiment: London Regiment  
Buried: Bromsgrove Cemetery  
Awarded Military Cross  
The only OB to be interred close to the School

#### May 1915

Leopold Colman Smith, d. 16/05/1915  
At School: 1903-1909  
Regiment: Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry  
Buried: Le Touret, Pas de Calais, France

#### May 1917

Herbert Cecil Cutler, d. 10/05/1917 aged 26  
At School: 1902-1908  
Regiment: Royal Flying Corps  
Buried: Templeux-Le-Guerard British Cemetery, Somme, France

#### May 1918

Victor Robert Wheelock, d. 20/05/1918 aged 19  
At School: 1915-1916  
Regiment: Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers  
Buried: Esquelbecq Military Cemetery, Nord, France

#### June 1915

Henry D'esterre Head, d. 01/06/1915 aged 20  
At School: 1910-1913  
Regiment: Royal Dublin Fusiliers  
Buried: Bailleul Communal Cemetery, Nord, France

Walter Henry Fox. d. 16/06/1915 aged 20  
At School: 1910-1913  
Regiment: South Staffordshire Regiment  
Buried: Le Touret, Pas de Calais, France

Philip Malcolm Kerwood. d. 25/06/1915  
At School: 1904-1909 Gordon  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Bailleul Communal Cemetery, Nord, France

#### June 1916

Arthur Coke Thomas, d. 02/06/1916 aged 30  
At School: 1902-1904  
Regiment: Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry  
Buried: Bedford House Cemetery, Belgium  
Awarded Military Medal

Ernest Gordon Bennitt, d. 04/06/1916  
At School: 1890  
Regiment: Royal Warwickshire  
Buried: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

Henry Alfred Butt, d. 08/06/1916  
At School: 1877-1882  
Regiment: Gloucestershire Regiment  
Buried: Pont-Du-Hem Military Cemetery, Nord, France

Jack Victor Lauria, d. 18/06/1916 aged 26  
At School: 1906-1908 Gordon  
Regiment: Sherwood Foresters  
Buried: Bailleul Communal Cemetery, Nord, France

#### June 1917

Nathaniel Fuhrman Clarke, d. 01/06/1917 aged 31  
Regiment: Royal Flying Corps  
Buried: Sutton Coldfield Cemetery

Lewis Dudley Richard Huggard, d. 26/06/1917 aged 23  
At School: 1904-1908  
Regiment: York and Lancaster Regiment  
Buried: Albuera Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Frank Bernard Wearne, d. 28/06/1917 aged 23  
At School: 1904-1908  
Regiment: Essex Regiment  
Buried: Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France Awarded Victoria Cross

#### June 1918

Basil Vassal Bruton, d. 15/06/1918 aged 39  
At School: 1893-1897  
Regiment: Gloucestershire Regiment  
Buried: Boscon British Cemetery, Italy

Frederic Dixon, d. 18/06/1918 aged 20  
At School: 1913-1917  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Rue-Des-Berceaux Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

#### July 1916

William Alexander Delap Goodwin, d. 01/07/1916 aged 23  
At School: 1906-1911  
Regiment: York and Lancaster Regiment  
Buried: Blighty Valley Cemetery, Authuille Wood

Denzil Clive Tate Twentyman, d. 01/07/1916 aged 26  
At School: 1904-1909  
Regiment: York and Lancaster Regiment  
Buried: Somme, France  
Awarded Military Cross

Percy William Hemming, d. 03/07/1916  
At School: 1897-1904  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

Richard Greaves Tasker, d. 03/07/1916 aged 27  
At School: 1900-1908 Gordon  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Ovillers Military Cemetery, Somme, France

Geoffrey Francis Silvester, d. 17/07/1916 aged 23  
At School: 1905-1911  
Regiment: King's Shropshire Light Infantry  
Buried: La Neuville British Cemetery, Somme, France

Douglas Estill, d. 18/07/1916  
At School: 1903-1905  
Regiment: South African Infantry  
Buried: Delville Wood Cemetery, Somme, France

William Lawton Roberts, d. 30/07/1916 aged 22  
At School: 1906-1911  
Regiment: Royal Welch Fusiliers  
Buried: Heilly Station Cemetery, Somme, France

#### July 1917

Charles Arthur Green, d. 13/07/1917 aged 20  
At School: 1911-1915  
Regiment: Royal Garrison Artillery  
Buried: St Martin Calvaire British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France  
Awarded Military Cross

#### July 1918

Arthur Eldred Barker Sutton, d. 04/07/1918  
At School: 1910-1912  
Regiment: Royal Air Force

#### August 1915

Hewitt Huggard, d. 07/08/1915 aged 26  
At School: 1908-1913  
Regiment: East Yorkshire Regiment  
Buried: Helles Memorial, Turkey

Spencer Robert Valentine Travers, d. 09/08/1915 aged 22  
At School: 1908-1913  
Regiment: Royal Munster Fusiliers  
Buried: Helles Memorial, Turkey

Norman Kingsley Street, d. 10/08/1915  
At School: 1896-1900  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Helles Memorial, Turkey  
Mentioned in Dispatches

#### August 1917

Walter Henry Lewis, d. 04/08/1917 aged 23  
At School: 1909-1913  
Regiment: Royal Field Artillery  
Buried: Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

John Bromley Rawlins, d. 16/08/1917  
At School: 1905-1909  
Regiment: Royal Army Medical Corps  
Buried: New Irish Farm Cemetery, Belgium

#### August 1918

Harry Oliver Blay Newey, d. 27/08/1918 aged 22  
At School: 1908-1913  
Regiment: Royal Field Artillery  
Buried: Bray Military Cemetery, Somme, France

#### September 1914

Ralph Lesingham Spreckley, d. 14/09/1914 aged 21  
At School: 1905-1911  
Regiment: Connaught Rangers  
Buried: Vailly British Cemetery, Aisne, France  
Awarded Military Cross  
Mentioned in Dispatches  
First OB to be killed in the Great War

#### September 1916

Philip Reeves Vaughton, d. 02/09/1916  
At School: 1907-1910 Gordon  
Regiment: London Regiment  
Buried: Niederzwehren Cemetery, Hessen, Germany

William Henry Charlesworth, d. 15/09/1916  
At School: 1896-1899  
Regiment: King's Own  
Buried: Delville Wood Cemetery, Somme, France

Norman Kennedy Steuart, d. 15/09/1916 aged 25  
At School: 1903-1909 Gordon  
Regiment: Connaught Rangers  
Buried: St Pierre Cemetery, Somme, France

George Stanley Charles Baker, d. 23/09/1916 aged 21  
At School: 1908-1912  
Regiment: Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry  
Buried: Canford Cemetery, Bristol

#### September 1917

Albert Edward Brazier, d. 20/09/1917 aged 28  
Regiment: Royal Warwickshire  
Buried: Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium

#### September 1918

Leslie Wingfield Sweet-Escott, d. 25/09/1918  
At School: 1908-1913  
Regiment: Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry  
Buried: Ypres Menin Gate Memorial, Belgium

#### October 1915

Wilfred Hugh Holroyd, d. 13/10/1915 aged 23  
At School: 1906-1910  
Regiment: Norfolk Regiment  
Buried: Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

Reginald Hartley, d. 26/10/1915 aged 24  
At School: 1903-1910  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Brown's Road Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

## Roll of Honour: The Great War

### October 1915

Ian Vaughan Brembridge Melhuish,  
d. 27/10/1915 aged 23  
At School: 1907-1911  
Regiment: Prince Albert's  
Buried: Rue-Du-Bacquerot 13th London  
Graveyard, Pas de Calais, France

### October 1916

William Henry Francis Burrows Lloyd,  
d. 03/10/1916 aged 21  
At School: 1907-1912  
Regiment: Devonshire Regiment  
Buried: Philosopher British Cemetery,  
Pas de Calais, France

Samuel Cecil Webb, d. 03/10/1916  
aged 30  
At School: 1902-1903  
Regiment: Royal Munster Fusiliers  
Buried: Struma Military Cemetery,  
Greece

Robert Lancelot Gibbs Hunt,  
d. 07/10/1916 aged 21  
At School: 1909-1912  
Regiment: Oxfordshire and  
Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Buried:  
Caterpillar Valley Cemetery, Some,  
France

Leonard Cameron Kidd, d. 12/10/1916  
aged 23  
At School: 1905-1910 Gordon  
Regiment: Royal Flying Corps  
Buried: Arras Flying Services Memorial,  
Pas de Calais, France Military Cross with  
Bar

Walter John Gerald Hoare, d.  
25/10/1916  
Regiment: Royal Fusiliers  
Buried: Courcellette British Cemetery,  
Somme, France Awarded DSO

### October 1917

Frederick Bentley, d. 04/10/1917  
aged 42  
At School: 1890-1894  
Regiment: The Queen's Royal West  
Surrey Regiment  
Buried: Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium

Henry William Pearman, d. 05/10/1917  
At School: 1908-1910  
Regiment: Gloucestershire Regiment  
Buried: Godewaersvelde British  
Cemetery, Nord, France

Donald Court Halsall, d. 09/10/1917  
aged 19  
At School: 1910-1916  
Regiment: Lancashire Fusiliers  
Buried: Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium

Gerald Aubrey Pilcher, d. 26/10/1917  
aged 21  
At School: 1909-1914  
Regiment: Royal Field Artillery  
Buried: Dozinghem Military Cemetery,  
Belgium

### October 1918

Stuart Leslie Keppel-Palmer,  
d. 03/10/1918  
At School: 1907-1911  
Regiment: Royal Tank Corps  
Buried: Prospect Hill Cemetery, Aisne,  
France Awarded Military Cross

Harvey Gerald Carminow Carter,  
d. 08/10/1918 aged 22  
At School: 1908-1914  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Hargicourt Communal Cemetery,  
Aisne, France

Vernon Dockeray Johnson,  
d. 19/10/1918  
At School: 1912-1913  
Regiment: Worcestershire Regiment  
Buried: Dunhallow Ads. Cemetery,  
Belgium  
Master at the School, joined Elmshurst in  
May 1912 and stayed until July 1913

Charles Holbrook Rosling, d. 22/10/1918  
At School: 1917-1918  
Regiment: Duke of Cornwall's Light  
Infantry  
Buried: Rocquigny-Equancourt Road  
British Cemetery, Manancourt, France  
Attached to our OTC for instructional  
purposes

Maurice Neville Meredith, d. 26/10/1918  
aged 23  
At School: 1909-1913  
Regiment: Duke of York's Own Lancers  
Buried: Beirut War Cemetery

### November 1917

George Rupert Hailstone, d. 06/11/1917  
aged 25  
At School: 1907-1910  
Regiment: Royal Welch Fusiliers  
Buried: Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel

Herbert Ward Milligan, d. 21/11/1917  
At School: 1901-1903  
Regiment: Lancashire Fusiliers  
Buried: Cambrai Memorial, Nord, France

Noel Johnstone Sievers, d. 30/11/1917  
At School: 1904-1909  
Regiment: Essex Regiment  
Buried: Cambrai Memorial, Nord, France

### November 1918

Douglas Stephen Corlett, d. 12/11/1918  
aged 21  
At School: 1910-1913  
Regiment: Royal Fusiliers  
Buried: St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, Pas  
de Calais, France

### December 1915

Arthur Freer Spreckley, d. 30/12/1915  
aged 27  
At School: 1902-1906 Gordon  
Regiment: Gurkha Rifles  
Buried: Chatby Memorial, India

### December 1917

Herbert Arthur Dyer, d. 07/12/1917  
At School: 1901-1907  
Regiment: Royal Flying Corps  
Buried: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais,  
France  
School Music Teacher until 1907

## An Extract from *Bromsgrove School At War 1914-1919* by Philip Bowen

With the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 this year, a number of events have taken place to commemorate the fallen OBs and fellow soldiers who died in the Great War.

In 2014, Philip Bowen (who retired as our Deputy Headmaster in 2015), wrote a book about life at School during the war years. Here, we have reproduced an extract from Philip's poignant introduction.

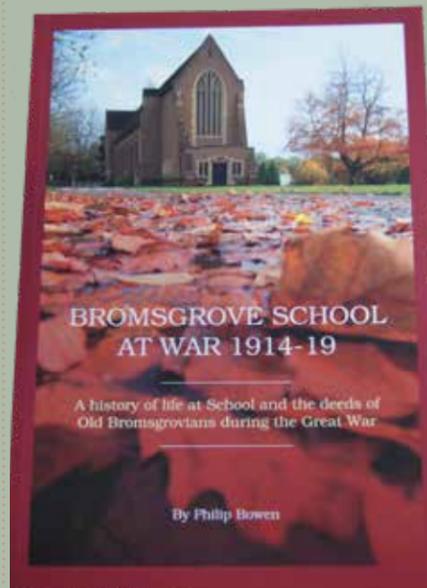
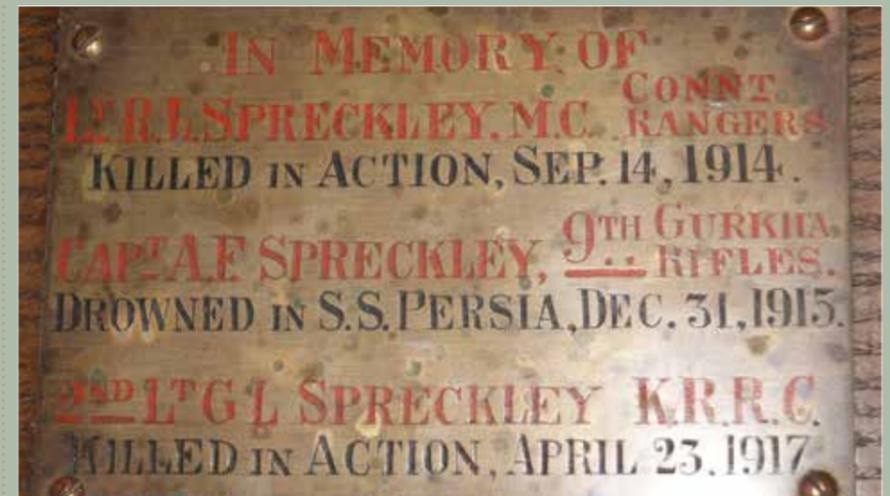
### Bromsgrove School At War 1914-1919: Introduction

In writing this book, three particular reflections came to mind.

Firstly, how different a world it is today. Empires gone, the map of large parts of the world barely recognisable and many technological revolutions. Yet it is a mere century - the lifespan of a very old person. It is not all that long ago.

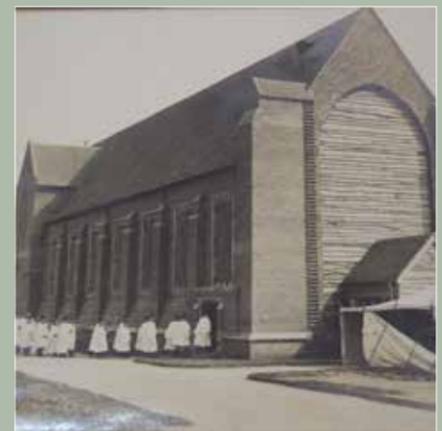
Secondly, our School makes a fascinating contrast - there is much that is different but in 1914, sport was strong, the Green and its surroundings, the slopes of Charford, had already taken familiar shape, and the House system was being expanded. Much can be identified with today. When OB soldiers returned from leave in 1916 to visit their old School - as quite a few did - the line of buildings viewed from the corner of Gordon Wall i.e. Kyteless, the Headmaster's House, the building of 1693, Old Chapel, Big School, Millington and Gordon were all complete. Only the Staff Centre of the 1960s which replaced the demolished Gymnasium and the Library of the 1990s which was built on the Headmaster's Garden interrupt that view today.

Thirdly, Mr Routh. Many of his Head Monitors (of Gordon and the School) died. What emotions did he feel, especially at Commemoration when he read out the names of the Fallen? Routh, masters and boys regularly heard of losses of those they knew so well in a very small School. Two masters died and even the School Doctor.



Recently, we have been very conscious of the impact on families, communities and schools too of soldiers lost in Afghanistan. That also reminds us of the impact that would have been felt during the First World War. It has been said in some books that it was met with stoically and resolutely - the 'stiff upper lip' of the time. Be that as it may, we cannot readily discover the emotional impact beneath but can surely guess.

I am privileged to occupy Routh's study which he moved into in 1915. As I write these words, I often think of him opening letters and telegrams, writing to bereaved parents and reflecting on what words to say to the School. I look out towards Kyteless and Chapel. Did he look out on Kyteless too but also see in his mind's eye beyond and his vision of a Memorial Chapel? We honour the memory of the Fallen but also the leadership at School of one great man.



One can understand his utter determination to build a Memorial Chapel and to see it finished, albeit as late as 1960. His address at the completion must surely be the greatest ever made by a Headmaster of our School:

'Ninety-one years of age he stood like a pillar of rock in the Sanctuary. He only moved when he came to the chancel steps to preach. He made a robust sermon, speaking in a firm, clear voice. He did not move his head, his hands or his feet, and made no gestures. "Never," he said, "let anyone come in here without reverence for those in whose memory this building stands." His voice broke slightly with emotion, and he was heard in awed silence.'

You can purchase a copy of *Bromsgrove School At War 1914-1919* from the School Shop - telephone 01527 579679 ext 220 or visit our online shop via the School website.

## Archive Exhibition: Suffrage

Suffrage was often a topic for the debating society recorded in the Bromsgrovian magazines. In 1908 the motion 'That Parliamentary Suffrage should be extended to Women' was argued strongly by P.M. Kerwood. Motion lost by eight votes.

Interestingly, Old Bromsgrovian Laurence Housman features on the new Millicent Fawcett statue in Parliament Square, London. He supported the women's suffrage movement, was a founder member of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, published advice on strategies for protesting in the Women's Freedom League newspaper, and was a public speaker on women's issues.

To mark 100 years since women first won the vote, the Archive Club produced a display of artefacts related to the School during that time.



# Then & Now...



Credit: L'Oréal Paris

**Iskra Lawrence**  
(Hazeldene 2004-2009) looks back on her time at Bromsgrove...

*"I will be forever grateful for my Bromsgrove years..."*

### Tell us a bit about yourself and what you're up to now...

After A levels at Bromsgrove, I went into full-time modelling. I'm now a professional model living in the USA and working internationally. I've walked in Paris Fashion Week (2017 and 2018) and debuted at New York Fashion Week in 2016. I am a brand ambassador for the US National Eating Disorders Association, and I regularly campaign for body diversity and self-care.

### What do you love about your job?

I have embraced who I am, and I am grateful my job allows me to inspire other people to accept and love themselves for who they are too.

### What do you wish you had known when you were younger?

When I was younger I wish I'd known everything will be OK, that we are all unique for a reason and that we are all enough.

### And what advice would you give to pupils at Bromsgrove today?

The advice I would give to current students is to embrace the traditions, opportunities, values, and work ethic Bromsgrove provides. These instilled a confidence, which helped prepare me for my career, whether that was walking in Paris's largest ever Fashion Show, handling tough questions from Piers Morgan on UK breakfast TV, speaking at Harvard University, or addressing US lawmakers and politicians on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.

Current students should also take time to have fun and enjoy their time at Bromsgrove. I am still friends with many of my OB classmates and we all know how special our years at Bromsgrove were.

I will be forever grateful for my Bromsgrove years and the academic and pastoral support given with so much care from Bromsgrove staff. Teachers such as the Deputy Headmaster, Mr Bowen (or PB as we used to call him) believed in me more than I did.

*Iskra Lawrence is represented by JAG Models and Models1. She is the global Role Model for Aerie, a brand of clothing from American Eagle Outfitters, and creator of the NEDA Inspires Award. In 2018, Iskra was announced as a L'Oréal Prince's Trust Ambassador.*

Photographs: Iskra in our own School catwalk show, circa 2007 (left) and today as a professional model, during Paris Fashion Week 2018 (right).

# The Inside Story

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

## Dr Sonya Hill

(Hazeldene 1983-1993) will become our Tenth annual lecture speaker in March 2019. We caught up with her ahead of the Foundation Lecture to find out more about her time at Bromsgrove and what she has learned in her career to date...

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

Over the ten years I was at the School, there are definitely a lot of memories. After attending a small village primary school just outside Bromsgrove, the Junior School seemed massive and a bit overwhelming at first, but I remember the joy of being let loose at morning break to run around the School grounds with my friends (even if we did have to change our shoes to go outside!). Afternoon breaks involved 'buns', including a cup of very sweet tea or strong orange squash and lemon curd sandwiches, dished out from a trolley by Matron, Sally Heavens. Certain teachers stand out in my memory, such as Miss Bettridge, my teacher in the First Form, who was always so kind to us all, and Mrs Brant, who took me under her wing and got me involved in my first of many school plays. I remember Mrs Egremont reading Roald Dahl's *The Witches* with us, and trying to teach me how to do joined-up writing in a certain style, but mine looked such a mess, I just went back to doing my own thing. Mr Adams and Mr Cooke made French and History lessons really entertaining, and Mr Cooke also led some fun French trips, even though we probably ran him and Matron ragged for the week.

I had wanted to work with primates ever since I was about 18 months old, and this was cemented further when I was eight and first heard about the work of Dr Jane Goodall DBE in Gombe Stream National Park, Tanzania, studying wild chimpanzees. In the Senior School, certain teachers (who shall remain nameless!) really did not 'get' my lifelong career ambition at all; one of them even told me, in a serious careers' tutorial, that I had "clearly watched too many Tarzan films."



On the other hand, my Houseparents, Duncan and Liz Langlands, were always very supportive of my career aspirations, as was my Biology teacher, Peter Fielden, and they always treated it as a very normal thing to want to do. Mr Langlands and some of the other teachers even very kindly gave up their time to supervise several all-night '12 hour sponsored sports' events that I organised in the Sports Hall, to raise funds for the Jane Goodall Institute UK ([www.janegoodall.org.uk](http://www.janegoodall.org.uk)), a charity dedicated to empowering people to make a difference for all living things, and for which I am now a Trustee.

I remember discovering the 'cello' for the first time when I was eleven, in a class 'taster session' with all the School's music teachers, including 'cellist Nikki Kristy (née Chivers). I fell in love with the 'cello straight away and lots of lessons with Nikki followed, leading to me achieving my Grade VIII. I played in the School Orchestra, string quartets and Light Music Group (with Ian Walker) over the years. I still play now, and I am in the Chester Philharmonic Orchestra, but I certainly don't do anywhere near as much practice as I did in my schooldays. As well as music, acting in School plays under the direction of Paul Hands was a big part of my Bromsgrove experience. I can remember how he would sometimes get us to 'freeze' in position at the end of performing a School play, while the lights went down slowly and atmospherically in anticipation of the audience's applause, and how us pupils

would all be biting our tongues and digging our nails in our palms so we wouldn't get the giggles and ruin it (or maybe that was just me!).

### Do you have any memorable moments you'd like to share with us?

In Cobham, lasagne and chocolate mousse were definite lunchtime favourites for many, including me, and there was always a long queue at the hatch in the dining hall for 'seconds' for your table. Tapioca, semolina and rice pudding had the opposite effect, and asking for a 'small' portion still seemed to result in far too much of that evil stuff being put in your bowl. Food aside, I loved the feeling of a bit of freedom by the time I went into the Senior School – being allowed to go into town at break times (albeit it with a 'chit'); watching *Neighbours* with my friends in the Hazeldene day room; and having such large grounds to walk around in and meet up with friends from the other Houses. I was lucky to have a nice peer group at the School and it was great to have our own desks in our Study, and to customise it with iconic postcards from Athena, and pictures that we'd cut out of Smash Hits. I'm sure we did actually do some work as well.

### And after Bromsgrove?

After leaving Bromsgrove, I went to Durham University to study Anthropology, which allowed me to focus on both the biological and social side of the discipline, but specialising in biological anthropology. The degree was made up of various 'courses' (which we would probably refer to as 'modules' today), and my favourites were those relating to animal behaviour, primatology, and human evolution.

After graduating, I went to Tanzania to volunteer with the Jane Goodall Institute on their Roots & Shoots programme, which empowers young people to become involved in hands-on projects to benefit their local community, animals and the environment we all share. While in Tanzania, I also spent time in Gombe Stream National Park with Dr Jane Goodall DBE – a childhood dream come true, as this was where Dr Jane had first set foot in 1960 to begin her (still ongoing) field research of wild chimpanzee behaviour. After an episode in hospital with drug-resistant malaria, I returned to Durham to undertake an MPhil in Biological Anthropology, focusing my research on zoo-housed gorillas and chimpanzees (I was originally supposed to study chimpanzees in Congo-Brazzaville, but the civil war had started and so I had to change my plans).

Following the MPhil, I moved to the Department of Veterinary Medicine at Cambridge to undertake my PhD on behavioural and physiological investigations of welfare in gorillas, which involved working with various zoos around the UK and rest of Europe.

### How did that shape your future career?

Towards the end of my PhD, I accepted a job as Research Assistant for the North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo), which was only supposed to be for a fixed term of eleven months. My plan was always to return to academia, but when the zoo offered me a permanent post as Research Officer, managing the Research Department, I was happy to stay on and ended up working at the zoo for a total of ten years. I left in 2014 to take up post as a Lecturer in Animal Behaviour and Welfare, in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Chester, and was recently promoted to Senior Lecturer. I am the Programme Leader for the BSc degree in Animal Behaviour and Welfare, and also hold roles as the Departmental tutor for Disability, as well as for Careers, and I am a Mental Health First Aid Champion. I work with national and international zoo associations working to promote the best possible conditions for animals living under human care, and I supervise postgraduate and undergraduate student research, much of which is primatology-based.

I proudly sat on the famous 'red sofa' for BBC Breakfast last year, in advance of the release of the National Geographic film, *Jane*, and got to talk about the work of Dr Jane Goodall DBE and her major influences in the fields of animal behaviour, conservation, and the Roots & Shoots programme.

### Do you have any words of wisdom to current pupils at Bromsgrove today or advice for Old Bromsgrovians just starting out in their careers?

It might sound a bit corny, but I would say definitely follow your heart. Get involved in the things you enjoy, whether it be sport, music, drama, chemistry, monkey watching, or something else entirely. Ask questions, and don't be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone every now and then (what is the worst that can happen?). Ask for help when you need it. Don't listen to people who have told you that you have watched too many Tarzan

films; if you want to achieve something, work hard, try your best, be adaptable and never give up. Life has its twists and turns and what you want to do in five, ten or twenty years' time might be different to what you want to do today, and that is fine too.

*If you would like to hear more from Dr Hill, you can now book tickets for our Tenth Annual Foundation Lecture on 7th March 2019. The event is open to Old Bromsgrovians, current and former parents, and friends of the School. Please visit the box office at [bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on](http://bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on) or contact the Events team on +44(0)1527 579679 ext. 357.*

# Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2017/18.

**R.A.A. Edwards (Lupton 1937-1942)**  
d. 12th January 2017

Allan Edwards was fireproof. He became Managing Director of John Hall Ltd who made refractory products including firebricks for the Steel Industry. The company owned a large hole in the ground at Amblecote from which fireclay was extracted.

He was born in April 1926 and died aged 90. One of the few boys who joined Bromsgrove at the start of its wartime exile at Llanwrtyd Wells, he left in April 1943, a term before the School's return to Bromsgrove. With many other boys, he relished the freedom to explore the hills and valleys of Breconshire, as it then was, usually on his bicycle. His love of Wales led him in later life to acquire a property in Cardiganshire and he took an active part in organising reunions at Llanwrtyd Wells.

After training with the Royal Armoured Corps at Bowington, he was posted to the Fife and Forfar Yeomanry which formed part of Montgomery's final push into North Germany in early 1945. As a member of the crew of a Churchill tank, he witnessed the one in front being hit by an enemy shell and "brewing up". Thus, he was one of the youngest Bromsgrovians to see active service in World War Two.

His wife, Gwyn, predeceased him and he is succeeded by their two children, David and Lizzie.

- Christopher Price

**John M. Baron (School 1944-1948)**  
d. 26th July 2018



John Maurice Baron was born on 5th March 1930 to Hilda and Rupert in Hull. His brother, Patrick (also an Old Bromsgrovian) was born two years later, and they remained devoted brothers. Their father's job and the War necessitated moving several times, and the boys had memorable stays in Bray, near Dublin, and in Suffolk, where they have loved to visit ever since. The family eventually moved to Sutton Coldfield.

John's schooling was rather fractured due to the War – he went to three grammar schools but eventually settled at Bromsgrove where he excelled academically, on the sports field, commanded the CCF and was Head Boy. He later won a place at Downing College, Cambridge to read law.

Having left School, John enjoyed work experience with Gateley's – a firm of solicitors in Birmingham - where he learned about conveyancing, giving him the direction he needed for his future career. Two years of National Service with the Royal Artillery followed, eventually taking up his place at Cambridge in 1951. These were halcyon days. He drove an MG sports car, captained the Downing College rugby team, was a member of the College rowing eight, made life-long friends (and did a bit of work!)

In 1954, he was articled to Horton & Thomas in Birmingham, having graduated from Cambridge after taking his finals three times. He gained good legal experience from his time as an Assistant Solicitor in Smethwick, and in 1960, was invited to join Lee Crowder & Co. in Edgbaston, where he spent his entire distinguished career, culminating in him becoming senior partner and retiring in 1995.

John asked Jill to marry him on the day he passed his finals after an eight-year courtship. They began married life living in Jill's flat in Edgbaston, before moving to Selly Oak where their children – Catherine, David, Lizzie - were born. He adored his family and was very proud of all they did. He was enormously fond of both his son-in-laws, Jack and Will. He took an inquisitive interest in his grandchildren, Harry, Charlie, Edmund and William, Imogen, Charlotte and Jamie, and always wanted to know about the varied and exciting endeavours they were up to.

John took a daily interest in the stock market, trading stocks and shares all his adult life and poured over the Investor's Chronicle right to the end. Another great interest was family history and John was obsessive about genealogy, spending many happy hours researching the family tree back to almost 1066. At the age of 70, he took to his computer and embraced technology, a real lifeline for him. However, he resolutely refused to learn to use a mobile phone, although he did master FaceTime on his iPad, which enabled him to speak to Jill and the family once he was living at Hoar Cross Nursing Home - even if we could only ever see his eyebrows and the top of his head!

John had a life-long, proud association with Bromsgrove School – as a pupil, a Governor and Trustee, a parent, secretary of the Bromsgrovian Club and a Vice President of the School. He barely missed a Commemoration Day (fifty-five of them to be precise).

Following National Service, John joined the Territorial Army with the 268 Warwickshire Field Regiment (Royal Artillery). The stories of the regimental balls, TA weekends and the annual camp were legendary. He commanded his regiment from around 1966 until it was disbanded in 1973, by which time, he was the regimental Honorary Colonel. John was a founder member of the Edgbaston Rotary Club, a member of the Remnant Club in Birmingham, and a little closer to home, enjoyed the Barton Men's Dining Club, where he forged good friendships in the village. He had been a keen squash player, and as well as playing rugby for the 1st XV at School and Downing College, he also played for Moseley Rugby Club. He enjoyed the family shoot at Yoxall Lodge and at Bedstone in Shropshire. He was a good bridge player and in his later years enjoyed his bridge foursome.

John was a man of deep Christian faith. This was reflected in being Church Warden at Newchurch and as a member of the PCC at St. James' Church. He loved his cattle at Brankley (it was not unusual for him to be seen selling his cows on a Monday morning dressed in his best city suit en route for a day practicing the law!)

For many years, he was a member of the Area Health Authority of the Birmingham United Hospitals, the Birmingham Council for Old People and was on the board of the YMCA. He was Chairman and latterly a director of Waterloo House, a property company in central Birmingham, receiving his last remuneration the day before he died. His wise counsel was much respected and this demonstrates his deep sense of duty and an advocate for 'giving back to the community'. As a result of this, he had a rich and fulfilling life.

However, his son, David's death in October 1983, aged only 20 had a profound effect on the whole family. John developed rheumatoid arthritis and coupled with osteoarthritis, caused by injuries sustained playing rugby, he suffered a great deal. This wretched disease curtailed what he could do physically but he showed enormous resilience. His (and Jill's) philosophy was 'have wheelchair and crutches, will travel'. They travelled extensively - holidaying at their house near Cadiz in Spain and visiting Lizzie, Will and their family in Bermuda. They entertained enthusiastically - not forgetting Lizzie's and Catherine's wonderful weddings, their own Silver and Golden Wedding anniversary parties, Jill's 70th and John's 80th birthday parties and frankly any other excuse they could find. They never knowingly turned down an invitation to a party, enjoyed visits to the theatre and loved the Lichfield Festival, NADFAS trips around the UK and Ireland and lectures at the Lichfield Scientific & Engineering Society.

John's cousin, David Wilkinson, described him as 'a magnificent man, a man of great principle and an honourable man'. He was also loving, courageous, loyal and intelligent, with great humility and integrity. He was a natural leader and had no side to him. He had a sense of the ridiculous and a wonderfully dry sense of humour and wit. He did not suffer fools gladly. Many people held him in high regard and they had deep respect and admiration for him. Most of all, John Baron was a gentleman.

- Catherine Lovell (daughter of John and Jill Baron)

**Nigel Creese (Staff 1952-1955)**  
d. 31st August 2018



Nigel Creese, AM, died on 29th August 2018, at home, as he had wished.

Nigel liked people. He also liked organisation. These two qualities lay behind all his private and public relationships and career.

The schoolboy who won a scholarship to Blundell's School, Tiverton, had the good fortune at a young age to share a study with Stephen Gorton, whose father, later Bishop Gorton, had a significant influence on his teenage life, introducing him to the Lake District. This was a far cry from his birthplace, London, Hounslow, and embedded him with a love of hills, lakes and countryside, along with a full sense of Christian values. Nigel's father, badly wounded in WWI, had died when he was 14, and his mother left his education largely to the influence of Blundell's. Military service took him to Palestine, where he recorded that he and his Sergeant in the RAF regiment flew the last British flag in Jerusalem. It was here where he encountered his first experiences with war, and terrorism, of which he very rarely spoke. After three years in the RAF, he went to Brasenose Colleg, Oxford in 1948. He studied 'Greats' (Latin, Ancient Greek and Ancient History) and much enjoyed Oxford life. A member of Vincent's Club, President of the JCR, he gained Blues in both rugby football and swimming, took the lead in several plays and met Val, whom he married in July 1951. (cont. overleaf)

# Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2017/18.

## Nigel Creese cont.

Rugby football tours took him to the South of France, to Africa (where he captained the combined Oxford/Cambridge side) and, controversially at the time, to Japan. He was even a Reserve for the England trials. As a 'Blue' he quickly found a teaching job at Bromsgrove School, at the same time captaining Moseley Football Club for four years, to two premierships. Out of the blue, in 1955, a neighbour remarked that Rugby School was looking for a young schoolmaster – she unearthed 'The Times' from the dustbin, he applied and got the job!

Nigel and Val had happy years at Rugby, making good friends and enjoying all the school activities. Nigel took to producing plays with great success and acting in the staff plays; he also ran the Rugby football and the gliding club. He was always an excellent and natural teacher, making sense of Latin to the many to whom it was incomprehensible.

This teaching career was to lead subsequently to becoming Headmaster of Christ's College, New Zealand, in 1963 at the young age of 35 – a huge leap professionally for Nigel and personally for the family. Life in Christchurch was as delightful as it was unforgettable. The family loved the School, the community and the city. His time at Christ's College was deeply formative. He threw himself into his new role – teaching 24 periods a week, trying to get to know all the boys, marking essays, speaking on radio and television and at Old Boys' events, breakfasting in the Dining Hall, and working very hard to meet the demands of the Appeal to pay for the Assembly Hall.

In *College – a History of Christ's College*, Don Hamilton describes him as "an impressive figure as he swept across the Quad with his head up and his gown billowing behind him." He was much loved and admired by most boys.

Indeed, as one student recounts: "It was, I think, both of our misfortunes that I ended up in 4A and 5B Latin, his because he wasted so much time and effort trying to install the basics and mine because for the first time in my life I came across either an irresistible force or an immovable object, neither of which were pleasant. Despite this I developed a great affection and utmost respect for him as he always treated me fairly, courteously and consistently. He taught me so much, to think before you speak, to treat people as you would like to be treated, to have good values and hang on to them in the face of change. The value of good manners and respect. Never be afraid to tell the truth. Teachers are human."

Nigel and Val had always planned to return to the UK but that wasn't to be. In 1970, Nigel was appointed Headmaster of Melbourne Grammar School, where he remained until his retirement at the end of 1987. In his years at MGS, he made an enormous and varied contribution to Australian education. The 1970s were a difficult period in which to take on school leadership - unrest in society due to the Vietnam War and changes to tertiary education created complex challenges. The School notes that Nigel took on these challenges with uncommon intelligence, vision and patience, and a tremendous determination to succeed, also with integrity, diplomacy and a continual search for excellence.

It was under Nigel's leadership that girls entered Grimwade House, that the Robert Knox camp at Woodend was established and curriculum innovations in numerous disciplines occurred. He reorganised Grimwade House and Wadhurst, creating the framework for the structure of the School that still exists today, and proactively sought to employ more female teachers. Together with Free Strickland, he created the Grammar Foundation and many building campaigns, and buildings, ensued.

Nigel chose never to lose contact with the boys, working with them directly through establishing the Quad Play and directing annual productions, teaching Latin, coaching Rugby, giving scripture lessons and all those sermons in Chapel, even bringing the individual boy or two to live with the family in Domain Street when occasion required. His school reports, handwritten for every boy in the senior school, were signed with the immediately recognisable 'NAHC' and reflected on each individual's strengths and weaknesses with encouragement. Many tributes have flowed remarking on his fairness, humour and values. He was certainly a great man for many.

In retirement, Nigel took on other responsibilities and interests. Following his period in 1985-7 as first National Chair of the Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia, having played a pivotal role in its establishment, he became its inaugural part time Executive Officer. He acted as interim Head at Beaconhills Christian College; served on the Board of several schools, including Lauriston Girls' School (where he was instrumental in the establishment of the Howqua campus), was Chairman of Christ Church Grammar School for nine years, and Chairman of the GAP Scheme in Australia (now known as Lattitude). He taught Latin and scripture at Fitzroy Community School; volunteered with Lifeline, and with U3A (teaching Latin of course and running drama groups); as well as starting a bridge group at the local Neighbourhood House.

Nigel held a sincere and active Christian faith and was a regular parishioner at Holy Trinity Kew where he was well known amongst the "8am-ers" most Sundays. He did not speak of his faith but it sustained him throughout. He was well-known and well-liked in the many things he did so unselfishly within 'his' schools and the broader community. He will not easily be forgotten.

- Val Creese and family members  
With thanks to James Aitken, Christ's College,  
Melbourne Grammar School and AHISA

## Geoffrey Richards John CBE (School 1947-1951) d. 20th August 2018

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Geoffrey John, a distinguished Old Bromsgrovian and great servant of our School for almost five decades.

Geoffrey joined us from Llanelli Grammar School in 1947. He joined the Fourth Form in School House, was a Music Scholar, Secretary of the Music Society, played in the 2nd XV and was a Lance-Corporal in the C.C.F. After leaving in 1951, Geoffrey obtained a 1st Class Honours degree in Economics at University College, Cardiff. During his National service he was a Pilot Officer in the R.A.F.

An illustrious business career ensued. Geoffrey began work at Cadbury's. He was then successively Chief Executive of Dalgety-Spillers Food, Chairman of Allied Bakeries, Dairy Crest, the Meat and Livestock Commission and Food from Britain.

His commitment to education was life-long and wide-ranging. He was a Governor of Hereford Cathedral School and Pro-Chancellor of Aston University from 2003-2008 where he received an Hon. D. Litt. in 2010.

Here at Bromsgrove School, his service has been unique. A Governor from 1965 to 1994, Geoffrey was Chairman of Governors from 1982 to 1991 and President from 1994 to 2010. Many parents and OBs will recall his brisk but eloquent delivery at many Commemorations. His interest in the School and its progress and well-being remained undiminished to the end.



Geoffrey brought a keen mind and unrivalled business acumen to the Governing Body, firstly in difficult times and then in a period of great change for Independent Schools. He played a leading role in our School's remarkable growth and success in recent decades. He crucially supported the expansive vision of several successive Headmasters and they greatly valued his listening ear, wise words, encouragement, unwavering loyalty, support and belief. He also recruited on to the Board a succession of individuals whose wide-ranging experience served the School so well.

Geoffrey was a proud Welshman and an avid rugby supporter. It was a fortunate day for us when this boy from Llanelli joined Bromsgrove School just after the war. Despite his exceptionally busy career, his devotion to our School and his impact upon it makes him one of the very significant figures in our history. But best of all, he was a gentleman and whether you were a Headmaster, teacher or pupil he always had a kind, encouraging word for everyone. We shall not see his like again.

A celebration of Geoffrey's life was held at Hereford Cathedral on Friday, 21st September 2018. Many Old Bromsgrovians and representatives from the School attended, and our own Prep Choir performed during the Service.

We offer our condolences to his widow Lyn and his daughters, Stella and Judith.

# Obituaries

## OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2017/18.

### David Roscoe (School 1945-1949) d. 20th October 2018

William David John Roscoe (David) died peacefully at home in Kingswear, Devon on October 20, 2018.

A contemporary and friend of Formula One driver, Peter Collins [Bromsgrove OB], David raced cars himself in the 1950s, and again from the 70s to the 90s.

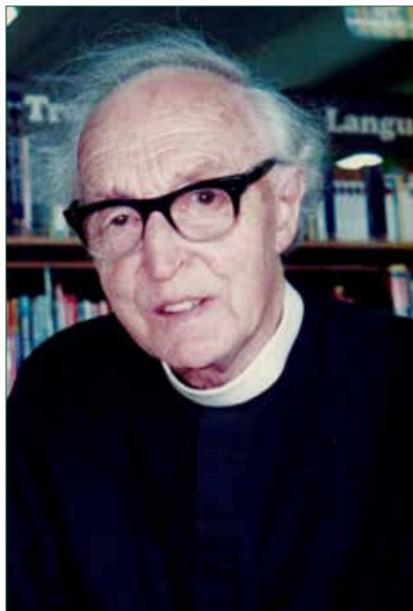
After National Service in the Army, he started his career in London in advertising. He moved to Rolls-Royce Motor Cars in 1971 as director of public relations and was appointed to the same role in engineering company Vickers plc after those two companies merged. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Public Relations.

Retirement allowed him more time for his passions of sailing and the restoration and racing of vintage and classic cars. He supported a number of charities, including the RNLI and the Transport Trust, through pro-bono work in support of their communication and marketing efforts.

David was a kind, generous and witty man who had a life well-lived. He leaves his wife, Diana, two sons, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

- Adam Roscoe (David's son)

### Reverend Alan White MSc MA M.Ed 1918-2017 d. 20th May 2017



Alan was born in Manchester in 1918. He was a pupil at the William Hulme Grammar School before going on to Manchester University, where he gained a 1st Class Honours Degree in Mathematics in 1940. He then went on to Ripon Hall, Oxford University, to read for his Theology Degree, after which he went to St. Margaret's Church in Leicester to serve his three-year curacy. It was here that he met Fran, and they were married at St. Margaret's in 1944.

Alan began his teaching career in 1945 at Leeds Grammar School where he taught Mathematics and was School Chaplain. During this time, he continued his schoolboy interest in scouting by running the school scout troop, and he studied part-time for his Masters degree in Education at Leeds University.

In 1956, Alan was appointed Head of the Mathematics Department and Assistant Chaplain at Bromsgrove School. He also ran the School Scouts, writing a report each term in the Bromsgrovian magazine of scout activities.

At the end of every School year, he organised scout camps in this country and took them abroad many times. Alan was Form Master of the Sixth Formers each year and was always based in K3. He was affectionately known by the nickname 'Daz'. His post of Assistant Chaplain became that of Chaplain in 1972.

Alan was supposed to retire at age 60, which was the compulsory retirement age at the School. However, he didn't actually retire until five years later in 1983! During these years, he was called back four times – to be School Chaplain again 1981-83, a Sixth Form Master twice (still in K3) and to run the Scouts, and now the Guides, again, all at the same time as fulfilling the role of Registrar of the Old Bromsgrovian Club, from 1981-1989, keeping in touch with the hundreds of old boys and girls. In 1989, Alan agreed to become part-time Priest in charge of the Parish of Tardebigge, which he did for eleven years until he gave up to look after his wife, Fran, who died in 2001. He continued to assist the new Vicar by conducting two services each month at Tardebigge and Bentley Churches, plus some Christenings, Weddings and Funerals. He preached his last sermon in February 2017.

Alan has a life long love of steam railways and canals. He was the author of five books written about the Salt Industry in this area, the history of Tardebigge covering the twentieth century and The Worcester and Birmingham Canal, of which he was historian. He was a member of Bromsgrove Rotary Club for fifty years and a member of several other societies.

He died peacefully in May 2017, after living a very active and fulfilling life.

- Margaret and Helen (Alan White's daughters)

## Old Bromsgrovians who also passed away in 2017 & 2018:

D. Michael Barnes  
(Gordon 1948-1952)  
d. 16/12/2017

Richard Ian Biddle  
(Gordon 1949-1954)  
d. 26/08/2017

Mat Hodge  
(Wendron 1988-1993)  
d. Sept 2018

Richard A. Huins  
(School 1947-1952)  
d. 02/02/2017

Michael Chattin  
(Wendron 1953-1958)  
d. Sept 2017

Peter Grindal  
(Elmhurst 1956-1961)  
d. 26/02/2018

Keith Dunn  
(School 1950-1954)  
d. 22/12/2017

David Gittins  
(Wendron 1946-1951)  
d. 01/03/2018

Jenny Harding  
(Former Support Staff)  
d. 19/12/2017

Christopher J. Hawthorne  
(Elmhurst 1944-1949)  
d. 20/06/2017

Matthew Hodge  
(Lyttelton 1988-1993)  
d. 20/09/2018

Alan Hurlbut  
(Former Academic Staff)  
d. Oct 2017

Colin Kleiser  
(School 1950-1955)  
d. 20/05/2018

John Marshall  
(School 1950-1954)  
d. 26/06/2017

John McGregor-Smith  
d. Oct 2018

Nigel Murray  
(Lyttelton) Deceased date not known

Roger Priest  
(Wendron)  
d. 2011  
*Editors' Note: We have only just been informed of Mr Priest's death*

John Robshaw  
(Gordon)  
d. 01/12/2017

Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha  
(Former Parent)  
d. 27/10/2018

Anthony Eric Smith  
(Lupton 1953-1958)  
d. 27/11/2017

Harry W. H. A. Thompson  
(Lupton 1954)  
d. Feb 2018

Christopher Thomson  
(School 1951-1956)  
d. Oct 2017

Raymond Way  
(Wendron 1951-1956)  
d. Nov 2017

Iris White  
(Headmistress of Otilie Hild School)  
d. Feb 2018

Lt. Col. Arthur Richard Wood  
(Wendron 1956-1961)  
Deceased date not known

# The Foundation

THANKING OUR DONORS, LEGACY MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS.

## Appreciation Lunch

Current donors and members of the Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society returned to Bromsgrove at the start of 2018 for the annual Appreciation Lunch. We are pleased to continue to honour the kind gifts given by our donors and legacy members.

Would you like to know more about the Foundation?

Email:  
foundation@bromsgrove-school.co.uk

Post: Bromsgrove School Foundation,  
Worcester Road, Bromsgrove,  
Worcestershire, B61 7DU



*Nikki Thorpe, Roy Hughes, Matthew Taylor and Jessica Lomas*



*Gareth Morgan, Rosalie and John Vine, Una Morgan*



*Colin Butterworth, Roger and Jane Hurley*



*Matthew Horton (Chairman of the Foundation), Helen and Dick Noake*



*Sandra Leversha-Clague, John Cutler, Roma Watkins*

## 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 legacy board listing those who have made bequests over the years will be erected around the School.

If anyone is interested in making a gift in their will to Bromsgrove, please contact the Foundation Office:  
foundation@bromsgrove-school.co.uk or  
telephone 01527 579679 ext 366.

## The Donor Tree

The Donor Tree, by the stairs leading up to the Hospitality Suite, is our way of formally acknowledging and expressing our appreciation for your support. Donors giving £250 and over can have a bronze, silver or gold leaf engraved in a name of their choice.

On your next visit, make sure you pay a visit - you may spot some familiar names listed on the tree.



## An opportunity to own a limited edition print of the historic quarter of Bromsgrove School

This is your opportunity to own a stunning limited edition print of an 1884 painting of the historic quarter of Bromsgrove School.

Beautifully capturing the scene of 134 years ago, this one-off print is from an original painting by the Birmingham artist Walter Reeves - depicting Hazeldene and Cookes House (the then Headmaster's house), the Drama Studio (Big School) and the old School Chapel (once the drama studio and now the School's Archives).

With the original painting having recently been donated back to the School after an absence of nearly fifty years, the Foundation has commissioned 500 high-quality prints - and this is your opportunity to own a rare souvenir of your time at Bromsgrove.

Perhaps your nostalgia will be stirred by your memories of time spent at School, Cookes or Hazeldene Houses? Or for those whose love of art, drama and the humanities/literature was kindled in one of the buildings shown?

Or maybe you are one of the School's eldermen who is able to recall running along the famous tunnel that lies out of sight, underneath the centre of the scene whose origin and reason for construction dates from the time the painting was commissioned.

By claiming one of just 500 available, you will not only have your own special memento of Bromsgrove School, but you will be making a most worthwhile contribution to the Foundation. Since its inception in 2007, the Bromsgrove Foundation's foremost objective is to provide life-changing bursaries to current and future pupils who are in need and determined to succeed against all odds.



Each limited edition print is numbered and signed by Headmaster, Peter Clague and accompanied by a history of the buildings by former Deputy Headmaster, Philip Bowen. For those who are keen to have the very first print (1/500), there will be an opportunity to bid for it in an online auction later in the year.

By visiting our online shop at [bromsgrove-school.co.uk/categories](http://bromsgrove-school.co.uk/categories), you can purchase your print at a modest £135 for a mounted but unframed edition, or £185 for a mounted and framed print (plus p&p or free collection from the School).

All funds raised from the sale of these prints will be donated to Bromsgrove School Foundation to provide life-changing bursaries to those who would not otherwise afford to come to the School.

Once your order has been received, we will contact you to confirm the method of delivery (courier or collection from School) and let you know when it is ready. The Alumni Office is on hand to answer any questions as to delivery or collection options and process your order by email or telephone if need be. But be quick - we expect demand to be high, and once the 500th print has been sold, there will be no more.

Thank you in anticipation of your support for a most worthy cause.



## The Ninth Annual Foundation Lecture (March 2018)

The School welcomed parents, Old Bromsgrovians and guests to their annual Foundation Lecture on Thursday, 8th March 2018.

With thanks to Old Bromsgrovian and Foundation Trustee Mark Escolme for being host member at the Royal Geographical Society in Kensington, and to guest speaker Andrew Dunnett for his thought-provoking talk on the work of the Vodafone Foundation both in the UK and overseas, and particularly in Africa where they are making huge strides in the way technology is used.

We are delighted to announce that the guest speaker at our 2019 Foundation Lecture, in our tenth anniversary year, will be Old Bromsgrovian Dr Sonya Hill. Dr Hill is an animal behaviour and welfare scientist with particular expertise in exotic wildlife. She began her academic life as a biological anthropologist, and went on to gain valuable field experience with the Jane Goodall Institute in Tanzania, as well as husbandry and research experience in several UK zoos. Following an MPhil at Durham, Dr Hill gained a PhD from the Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge, for work on behavioural and physiological investigations of welfare in gorillas. This involved working within a range of zoos in the UK, Germany and Portugal, as well as the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna, Austria. Currently working as Programme Leader for Animal Behaviour & Welfare at Chester's Department of Biological Science, she also spent a decade spent working as a scientist at Chester Zoo.

The Tenth Annual Foundation Lecture will take place at the RAC Club, Pall Mall on Thursday, 7th March 2019.

You can read more about Dr Hill in our interview with her on page 48.



*Matthew Horton (Chairman of the Foundation), Andrew Dunnett (Guest Speaker) and Peter Clague (Headmaster)*



*Catherine Maund, Rob Lines and Chris Parker*



*Justin Williams and Stanley Williams*



*Timur Chairutdinov and Yulia Drobysheva*



*Theodora Dyakova, Natalie Krashnikova, Zia Leech*



*James Sommerville and Gina Horton*



*Matthew Horton presenting one of the limited edition prints to Andrew Dunnett*



# Donor Roll

THANKING OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT DURING 2017/18.

(GIFTS RECEIVED FROM SEPTEMBER 2017 - SEPTEMBER 2018)

## Cookes

Kim Daniels (Lupton and Cookes 60-65)  
Matthew Horton (School and Cookes 62-67, Chairman of the Foundation, President of the School)  
Matthew Taylor (Walters and Cookes 68-73, Foundation Trustee)

## Elmshurst

David Cariss (49-53)  
Hugh Furber (52-57)  
Richard Herbert (53-58)  
Philip Hobson (48-52)  
Jerome Keyte (69-73)  
Ian McDonald (58-63)  
Dick Noake (59-64, Foundation Trustee)  
John Ruck (50-53)  
Topper Webb (72-73)

## Gordon

Barry Dumughn (50-55)  
Clive Gummow (52-57)  
Jeremy Hilton (50-55)  
Andrew Parffrey (68-73)  
Graham Sim (69-74)  
Anthony Spackman (44-49)  
John Vine (45-50)  
Emory Winship (71-72)

## Hazeldene

Amy Mason-Towers (11-16)  
Natalie Nokes (94-99)

## Housman Hall

Haotian Cui (15-17)  
Christophe Fostier (15-17)  
Liberty Guillamon (15-17)

## Lupton

Richard Brookes (61-65, School Governor)  
Kim Daniels (Lupton and Cookes 60-65)  
Francis Dunne (60-65)  
David Dutton (56-61)  
Patrick Firminger (43-47)  
F. Rufus James-Moore (53-58)  
Felicity Melley (née Dow, 77-79)  
Kelvin Morris (76-81)  
Philip Powell (62-67)  
David Reeve (50-54)  
John Steveni (75-80)  
Stewart Towe CBE (65-70, Chairman of Governors 2010-2016)  
David Walters (81-86, Governor)

## Lyttelton

Richard Hemingway (School and Lyttelton 57-62)  
David Higgs (53-57)  
William Lockhart (05-16)  
R. Gareth Morgan (53-58)  
Jake Perryman (04-13)

## Mary Windsor

Victoria Underwood (82-87)

## Millington

John Cutler (School and Millington 56-61)

## School

John Baron (44-48)  
David Buller (48-53)  
Andrew Clark (47-52)  
John Cutler (School and Millington 56-61)  
John Denby (56-65)  
Richard Hemingway (School and Lyttelton 57-62)  
Matthew Horton (School and Cookes 62-67, Chairman of the Foundation, President of the School)  
J Roy Hughes (45-50)  
William Jay (61-66)  
Jim Page (45-49, Academic Staff 61-89)  
Edward Perkins (56-60)  
Christopher Price (39-44)  
Richard Pyatt (72-74)  
David Roberts (53-58)  
Christopher Tan (61-66)  
Jim Wilson (60-65)  
Robert Wilson (61-66)

## Walters

Jenny Bossard (72-74, Support Staff 11-17)  
Matthew Taylor (Walters and Cookes 68-73, Foundation Trustee)

## Wendron / Wendron-Gordon

Sir Roy Meadow (46-51)  
John Taylor (55-60)

## Friends of the School

Old Bromsgrovan Lodge  
Julie Ashmore  
Jeremy Bourne  
Lesley Brookes

## Friends of the School

Peter Clague  
Linda Cocksedge  
Chris Edwards  
Anthony Finn  
Andrew and Catherine Maund  
Rachel Scannell  
Clem Schilizzi  
James Sommerville  
Richard Stephens  
Ann Taylor  
Margaret Werrett

## Parents

Mr Antsiferova and Mrs Basova  
Mr Antpöhler  
Mr Avdoi and Ms Savelyeva  
Mrs J Avdoi  
Mr and Mrs Baditescu  
Mr and Mrs Batham-Read  
M and Mrs Bolger  
Mr and Mrs Brede  
Mr Chang and Ms Yung  
Mrs M Cockayne  
Mr Crowder and Ms Callaghan  
Mr C Davenport  
Mr and Mrs Elliott  
Mr R Evans  
Mr and Mrs Grove  
Mr and Mrs Hadlington  
Mr and Mrs Hales  
Mr and Mrs Holland-Bunch  
Mr and Mrs Hubscher  
Mr and Mrs Humphries  
Mr R Hurley  
Mr C Jakobsen  
Mr and Mrs Kim  
Mrs F Kong  
Dr B King  
Mr Lam and Mrs Tong  
Dr and Mrs Lette  
Mr M Luckman  
Mr and Mrs Meredith  
Mr Mir and Mrs Valero  
Mr and Mrs Neilson-Watts  
Mrs Nichols  
Mr T M Peters  
Mr D Pulsiriv  
Mr Reid and Mrs Palmer-Reid  
Mr and Mrs Shaw  
Mr and Mrs Smith  
Mrs J Williams  
Mr and Mrs Wong  
Mr Ying and Ms Lu

# Foundation Trustees



Sir David Arculus  
(Wendron 1959-1964)  
President of the Foundation



Matthew Horton  
(Cookes 1962-1967)  
Chairman of the Foundation



Philip St J Bowen  
Former Deputy  
Headmaster



Mark Escolme  
(Lupton 1980-1985)



His Honour Judge  
Richard Foster  
(Elmshurst 1967-1972)



Peter Clague  
Headmaster



Digby, Lord Jones of  
Birmingham Kt.  
(Cookes/Walters 1969-1974)



Jane Lodge  
(Former Parent)



Michael Luckman  
(Current Parent  
and Governor)



Dick Noake  
(Elmshurst 1959-1964)



Rachel Scannell  
Vice-Chair of the Foundation  
Assistant Head



Matthew Taylor  
(Cookes/Walters  
1968-1973)



Stewart Towe CBE  
(Lupton 1965-1970)



Paul West  
Chairman of Governors



James Sommerville  
Clerk to the Trustees

To contact the Chairman of the Foundation, or any of our Trustees,  
please email [foundation@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:foundation@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or write to us at the School address

# Events

WHAT'S ON AT BROMSGROVE DURING 2019 AND BEYOND.

## January 2019

### Old Bromsgrovia London Dinner

Friday, 18th January 2019

Venue: Lansdowne Club, Mayfair

Guest Speaker: Charles Byrne (OB)

Time: 7.00pm

Tickets: £70 per person, which includes a reception drink and a 3-course lunch with wine. The dinner is open to all Old Bromsgrovians and their guests. Tickets can be booked through our box office at [bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on](http://bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on) or by telephoning 01527 5797679 ext 357/366.

## March 2019

### The Tenth Annual Foundation Lecture

Thursday, 7th March 2019

Venue: RAC Club, Pall Mall, London

Guest Speaker: Dr Sonya Hill (OB)

Time: 7.00pm - 9.30pm

The Foundation Lecture is open to anyone with a connection to Bromsgrove School. Numbers are strictly limited; Tickets can be booked through our box office at [bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on](http://bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on) or by telephoning 01527 5797679 ext 357/366.

### Appreciation Lunch

Thursday, 21st March 2019

Donors from the current and last academic year and members of the Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society are invited to a special lunch with the Headmaster. All eligible Old Bromsgrovians, parents and friends of the School will be sent invitations in the Lent Term.

### Mothering Sunday Service

Sunday, 31st March 2019

Led by Reverend Paul Hedworth, School Chaplain

Venue: Memorial Chapel

Time: 10.30am

All welcome - please email [events@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:events@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or telephone 01527 579679 ext 357 to book your place.

## April 2019

### Old Bromsgrovia Get-Together in Germany

Saturday, 6th April 2019

Venue: Anglo-German Club, Hamburg

Time: TBC

All Old Bromsgrovians, Parents, and Friends of the School living or working in Germany are invited to a special reunion at the Anglo-German Club in Hamburg with the Headmaster, Peter Clague. We are also delighted that former Deputy Headmaster, Philip Bowen, will be in attendance. Please book your place via the online box office.

## June 2019

### Former Teaching Staff (Pre-2010) Reunion

Saturday, 8th June 2019

Venue: Bromsgrove School

Time: 11.00am - 2.30pm

Former Teaching Staff, who were at the School before 2010, are invited to a special reunion, following a very successful event last year. Invitations will be sent out during the Lent Term.

### Commemoration Day

Saturday, 29th June 2019

Old Bromsgrovians, families and their guests are warmly invited to the OB Marquee on Lower Charford between 1.00pm and 5.00pm. Invitations will be emailed in the Summer Term and OBs are encouraged to sign up to register their attendance.

## September 2019

### 1990-1999 Leavers' Reunion

Saturday, 7th September 2019

Venue: Bromsgrove School

Time: 10.00am - 3.00pm

If you left School between 1990 and 1999, this reunion is not to be missed. Invitations for eligible OBs will be sent out at the beginning of the Summer Term.

## April/May 2020

### Old Bromsgrovia Get-Together in North America

We are hoping to organise a dinner for our North American OBs, either in New York or Los Angeles. We'd love to hear from you if you'd be willing to support this event. Date and location to be confirmed. Please make sure we have your postal address listed as USA or Canada, and an up-to-date email address, so that you receive your invitation. If you're going to be in the North America during this time for work or leisure, you are also very welcome to attend.

## September 2020

### 2000-2009 Leavers' Reunion

Saturday, 12th September 2020

Venue: Bromsgrove School

Time: 10.00am - 3.00pm

Invitations for eligible OBs will be sent out at the beginning of the Summer Term.

## On-going

### Bromsgrove Futures & OB Networking

In conjunction with the careers department, we are looking for Old Bromsgrovians who would be willing to undertake mock interviews with current pupils, typically the type of interviews you would have for university entrance or a leavers' work programme. In addition, the Bromsgrove Futures department are always looking for guest speakers to give a presentation or advice to small groups of current pupils.

**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)

Tel: +44(0) 1527 579679 ext 357/366

Or contact us the good old-fashioned way: Bromsgrove School | Worcester Road Bromsgrove | Worcestershire | B61 7DU

Box Office:  
[bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on](http://bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on)

Online Alumni Events Diary:  
[bromsgrove-school.co.uk/alumni-events](http://bromsgrove-school.co.uk/alumni-events)



# Update Form

NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGES TO YOUR DETAILS BY COMPLETING THIS FORM.

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## Personal Details

Title: ..... First Name: .....

Surname: ..... Honours (e.g. CBE, FRS): .....

Preferred First Name: ..... Surname on Leaving: .....

Marital Status: ..... Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY): ..... / ..... / .....

## School Details

Senior School House: .....

Preparatory School House: ..... Additional House? .....

Start Year (YYYY): ..... End Year (YYYY): ..... (If you started in Pre-Prep or Prep, you can begin with this date)

## Contact Details

Home or Correspondence Address: .....

City/Town: .....

County/State: ..... Postcode/Zipcode: .....

Country: .....

Email Address: .....

Mobile Number: ..... Home Phone No: .....

If you have your own website, please specify it here: [www.....](http://www.....)

Twitter Username: @..... Facebook Profile: .....

LinkedIn: ..... Instagram: .....

## Professional Membership

I am a Non-executive Board Member: .....

I am a member of a livery company: .....

Other details you wish to share: .....



## Higher Education

1. Degree Subject: .....

Degree Type (BA, BSc etc): .....

Grade: ..... Year of Graduation: .....

Institution: .....

College (if applicable): .....

City: .....

Country: .....

Please Circle: Undergraduate / Postgraduate / Further

2. Degree Subject: .....

Degree Type (BA, BSc etc): .....

Grade: ..... Year of Graduation: .....

Institution: .....

College (if applicable): .....

City: .....

Country: .....

Please Circle: Undergraduate / Postgraduate / Further

3. Degree Subject: .....

Degree Type (BA, BSc etc): .....

Grade: ..... Year of Graduation: .....

Institution: .....

College (if applicable): .....

City: .....

Country: .....

Please Circle: Undergraduate / Postgraduate / Further

## Occupation Details

Position: .....

Industry: .....

Employer's Name: .....

Location: .....

## Events and Communications

Where provided, we will use your email (and occasionally postal address), as given by you, to send you news, invitations and information we believe to be of importance to our Alumni. You can opt-in or out of communications yourself by logging on to [www.bromsgrovians.com](http://www.bromsgrovians.com). To view a copy of our Alumni Privacy Notice, please visit [www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/PrivacyPolicy](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/PrivacyPolicy)

## How you can help

There are many ways in which you can help the Alumni Office and School. Please tick the box where relevant.

I can offer careers advice or insight into university courses

I am happy to offer my services as a speaker on my chosen career/university subject

I can suggest work placement or recruitment opportunities

You can pass my contact details and occupation to the School Careers Department

I would like information about leaving a legacy

I have pledged a legacy to the School

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Alumni Office, Bromsgrove School, Worcester Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs. B61 7DU. Or email: [oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

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