BROMSGROVIANS
connected
BROMSGROVE'S ALUMNI MAGAZINE ISSUE 4 2017/18

Old Bromsgrovians and former staff from the 1970s era taking a tour of the School with current pupils

The first word...

Nostalgia often seems to be the exclusive preserve of older people. As if the past must be long passed before it can be fondly rekindled. Certainly at Bromsgrove, reunions of those now in their later years are always nostalgic occasions. Smiles crease and eyes grow misty, as distant decades are unearthed. Those who knew the School under Headmaster Walters, who can conjure up stories of making-do at Llanwrtyd Wells, who grimace as they recall ice growing inside the 18-bedder. Nostalgia, from the Greek, is a compound of "homecoming" and "ache". If our reunions tell us anything, they tell us that the School was a very different place in the 1940s and 1950s.

Yet equal emotion flowed at the recent reunion of 1970s Old Bromsgrovians. Far from elderly, those men and the first women ever to attend the School, were just as nostalgic. Somewhat envious of the focus, facilities, and food that today's pupils enjoy perhaps. Nevertheless, they wore their tales of gruelling sports practices and demanding academic schedules as badges of honour. So they should, for in a tumultuous decade, the School produced alumni who went on to serve their communities with great stead.

Younger still, even our most senior pupils are not immune to nostalgic musings. The current School Monitors engaged with some of our youngest Bromsgrovians from the Pre-Preparatory School during the Michaelmas Term, working together to plant an orchard. Conversation quickly turned to "Remember when…". Testimony to the fact that no matter our age, we all look back in fondness to our childhood. Therefore, may the news and happenings contained within this latest edition of Bromsgrovians Connected spark a pleasant ache of homecoming within every Old Bromsgrovian.

PETER CLAGUE
HEADMASTER

IN THIS ISSUE: The year in photographs… The inside story: Andrew Dunnett (Lupton, 1980-1985)… News from your era…

Welcome from the Chairman

2017 marks my own anniversary at Bromsgrove - indeed, it is 40 years since I left the School. It could be said that the 1970s era was famous for bell-bottoms and the rise of disco, but it was also an era of economic struggle, cultural transformation and technological revolution. The decade signalled a change at Bromsgrove too, with the introduction of girls to the School. I am pleased to see that 40 years later not only does co-education continue to flourish, but our diverse and truly international community adds immense value, both when they are at School but once they become Old Bromsgrovians. From Hong Kong to Hereford, Birmingham to Berlin, Old Bromsgrovians are getting together, organising events across the globe and participating in all manner of wonderful things.

As you look through *your* magazine, you will not only find the School in good heart, but the pages are filled with many Old Bromsgrovians who share their experiences with you. Whether it be volunteering overseas, returning to the School to assist current students or giving back to others, all of these experiences continue to show that you may leave Bromsgrove, but Bromsgrove never leaves you.

HANS ROSTRUP
CHAIRMAN
(SCHOOL, 1972-1977)

Picture This…

A LOOK BACK AT THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/17.

A joint venture with Bromsgrove UK and Mission Hills China was announced. Bromsgrove School Mission Hills is a not-for-profit international school with a Board of six governors, half from Bromsgrove and half from Mission Hills Group.

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.

Hairspray was the School's major production of the year. For the first time, almost all technical aspects of the production were undertaken by students themselves.

A Level, IB, BTEC and GCSE pupils celebrated their superb exam results over the summer. More than a quarter achieved the equivalent of an A* at A level, there was a 39.1 point average for IB and 36% of the total grades achieved were graded A* at GCSE, representing Bromsgrove's highest ever top end result.

Bromsgrove School continued its partnership with the Bromsgrove International Musicians' Competition (BIMC), holding their four-day music competition in Routh Hall - even during the refurbishment works!

Netball has had a fantastic set of results this year:

- U19 and U14 County Champions;

- U16s West Midland Champions;

- U14 and U16s both participated in the National Schools Finals (the first time the School has had two age groups represented at the same time);

- U15s won the Independent Schools' Cup and School Sports' Cup (the first time the School has won either National Competition).

Picture This…

EXTRA-CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2016/17.

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 2016/17 academic year.

Over 250 pupils have taken part in Bromsgrove Service in twenty-five activities, with a number carrying out short term projects for IBCAS.

We have seen the highly successful re-introduction of House Music and House Drama competitions in both Schools, while a series of workshops for string players and jazz musicians has resulted in a number of opportunities for the Seniors and Prep students to play together.

Over 200 School trips have been undertaken during this academic year, including summer expeditions to Snowdonia (DofE), the Himalayas (World Challenge), South Africa (CCF and Rugby) and New Zealand (Hockey).

The Chamber Choir's annual visit to sing Evensong took them to Worcester College, Oxford. Worcester College shares its benefactor, Sir Thomas Cookes, with Bromsgrove. A Reception for OBs was held after the event for those who studied at the College.

During the Summer Term, Cadets were able to take a short ride in an RAF helicopter, which made a planned pitstop on Lower Charford.

"From Trips to the Himalayas and New Zealand, to the Choir performing at an Oxford College, our pupils take part in a range of extra-curricular activities."

Many pupils have represented the School at County and National level, including Rugby, Hockey and Cricket, as well as with Team GB for Swimming and Wakeboarding.

A significant amount of students throughout the year were awarded their Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE Award.

The 1st XV fought hard in the semi-final of the NatWest Schools' Cup 2017, but sadly lost to Bishop Wordsworth's 41-19.

The Young Enterprise Company, 'Embark', decided on their product of a balancing wine bottle holder early on in the process and have spent the year updating their designs and ensuring high quality. The team placed third at the Worcester Christmas Market and went on to win Best Trade Stand and Best Overall Company at the Spring Trade Fair. The end of year competition saw them take home Best Company Report and Best Overall Company.

About You

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

Cookes

Clive Parkes (1966-1971) along with **Richard Willetts** (Cookes/ Walters 1968-1973) met up with fellow Old Bromsgrovian **Jonathan Palmer** (Elmshurst 1967-1972) in the Grenadines in March 2017. This was the first time both had seen Jonathan in about forty-six years.

Digby, Lord Jones of Birmingham (1969-1974, also of Walters House) visited the School for a guest lecture on 'The Current Challenges facing Business', as part of the Bromsgrove Futures lecture series.

The School is extremely grateful to **Matthew Taylor** (1968-1973, also of Walters House) for his most generous donation for the restoration of our two most treasured paintings, the portraits of Sir Thomas Cookes and R.G. Routh. After many years in Cookes Room and the old Headmaster's House respectively, there was extensive work required to repair and conserve the paintings. We are now pleased to report that both are safely back with us in School.

Elmshurst

Peter Fry (1956-1960) and his partner, Wendy visited the School from Vancouver, Canada where they live.

Peter had not been back to Bromsgrove for over fifty years so was very interested and impressed to see all the changes that have taken place in that time.

Clive Bromilow (1963-1968) visited the School at the start of the summer term for a tour. He was visiting the UK from South Africa, where he now lives.

Glen Kong (1998-2003) and his family returned to Bromsgrove in September 2017. Glen was visiting from Hong Kong. He was eager to see his old House, where he shared some toast (just like the old days) with the current pupils!

Elmshurst

Howard Kwan (Elmshurst 2006-2010) met **Guy Shirra** (Gordon, 1960-1965) at the HK Police Tactical Unit Passing Out Parade on 3rd March 2017. Thank you to Guy for the photograph.

Last year's Head of House **Henry Walker** (2005-2016) made his debut for England U20s against Italy earlier this year. In June, he figured in all five England games in the World U20 Championship in Georgia. Henry is pictured here with fellow Old Bromsgrovian, Justin Clegg (Lyttelton 2004-2015), who is also part of the same squad.

Gordon

Congratulations to **Professor Christopher Hood** (1960-1965), who, along with co-author Dr Ruth Dixon, have recently won the W.J.M. Mackenzie Book Prize from the Political Studies Association for their book, *A Government That Worked Better and Cost Less?* The book evaluates three decades of reform and change in UK Central Government.

Gordon

Guy Shirra (1960-1965) was recently invited to speak at the Hong Kong Club on the topic of 'Policing 20th Century Hong Kong'. Guy arrived in Hong Kong in 1967 as a Probationary Inspector. He served in CID, Tsim Sha Tsui and the Emergency Unit, Kowloon West and Kowloon City. He took early retirement in the rank of Superintendent in 1997.

Hazeldene

Iskra Lawrence (2004-2009) was named by the BBC as one of their '100 Women of 2016'. In addition, Iskra was awarded the title of #GreatGirlLeaders by the World Girl Guides - one of only six women chosen worldwide.

Credit: Ashley Jo Photography New York

Most recently, Iskra was invited by L'Oréal to walk in their first show for Paris Fashion Week. The whole Champs-Élysées was closed off for the walk, which included celebrities such as Jane Fonda and Helen Mirren. Vogue magazine covered the event.

Credit: L'Oréal

It has been an incredibly busy and fulfilling year for Iskra having been chosen as a global Role Model for American Eagle Outfitters, selected by YouTube as a Contributor and a brand ambassador for the National Eating Disorders Association.

Since graduating from Loughborough University, **Amy Harris** (2006-2011) and **Charlotte Slaney-Smith** (2009-2011) have co-founded Subscription Street - the UK's first non-affiliate e-commerce website solely dedicated to selling subscription boxes. Subscription Street is passionate about creating more moments of happiness, whether this be through receiving a monthly subscription of your favourite ground coffee in the post or by sending a loved one a gift subscription of Gin and Tonic.

Housman Hall

We wish good luck to **Nathaniel Wilde** (2000-2011) on his new venture, Afterjam. Nathaniel's aim has been to design a brand which would seamlessly blend with the vibe of the mountain ski resorts. Having skied on the British University circuit, Nathaniel knows what raw talent this scene holds. The company offers sponsorships and opportunities to become Brand Ambassadors and they are constantly on the lookout for talented individuals to expand the AfterJam family.

Nathaniel says, "We aim to be as environmentally conscious and as supportive of the British snow sports industry as we can. With aspirations to become one of the few British ski manufacturers, we have some exciting times ahead". Afterjam also provide custom made merchandise to snow sports clubs, personalised for ski trips or just for general merchandise purposes. As a gesture to the School, Nathaniel has created a discount code (BROMS25) on the company website which will provide 25% off to anyone who uses it.

It was lovely meeting **Leila Ruyun Zhang** (2011-2013) and her parents at the School during the Michaelmas Term. Leila wanted to show her parents around Bromsgrove, as they had not visited before. It was Leila's first visit back since she left four years ago, and she was keen to see her old boarding house and some of the recent changes around the campus.

Anna Phillips (2011-2013) won the 2016 UCAS 'Love Learning' video competition. UCAS asked current undergraduate and postgraduate students to bottle their enthusiasm for university and express it in the form of a 500 word essay, or a thirty-second video. Anna's winning entry was entitled 'What Could I Be?'

Will Fraine (2012-2014) made his first-class debut for Durham MCCU in March 2017, playing against Gloucestershire. The following month he opened the batting against Essex.

Housman Hall

Connie E (2013-2015) recently shared her experiences of volunteering in South Africa. She went on a Dialogue of Civilizations to Cape Town to study social entrepreneurship. Whilst there, she worked with Likhwezi Educare, an early learning childhood educational center in Langa, Cape Town. They are engaged in teaching local children and preparing them for Primary school. These children come from homes where some parents are unemployed and cannot afford to pay fees, and the school is also on limited resources itself.

Likhwezi educare are a registered Non-profit organization (NPO number: 164265), and always appreciate any assistance with books, educational toys and clothes.

Connie has written an article about her experiences in South Africa, which you can read in full on page 16.

Lupton

Richard Brookes (1961-1965), Bromsgrove School Governor, visited Bromsgrove International School Thailand (BIST) earlier in the year. Richard has recently taken on the role of UK Governor on the BIST Board.

Richard spent three full days touring the school, sitting in on lessons and talking to both the staff and students.

BIST, offering a British curriculum with a large proportion of second language learners, is situated on the outskirts of Bangkok on two campuses. The main one comprising the Primary and Secondary school is adjacent to the Windsor Park 36 hole Golf Club and a further campus about 20 minutes' drive away caters for the Early Years.

Of his visit, Richard says *"In lots of ways it feels like Bromsgrove UK but in a warmer climate (35 degrees when I was there) with Houses called Walters, Taylor and Edwards. Students undertake the Bromsgrove Badge and there is a "Bromsgrove's Got Talent" competition. The uniforms are similar in colour with Bromsgrove printed in red on the backs of the shirts or blouses."*

BIST has been shortlisted for an academic award under the British International School Awards 2017 with the winner's ceremony being held in London in January 2018. The Headmaster, Dr Dan Moore will be present and also visiting Bromsgrove UK during that month.

Author, **Graham Jones** (1977-1982) visited Year 2 pupils at Bromsgrove Pre-Prep. Graham has written children's books about Time Travelling Toby and his adventures back in time to famous historical events. Graham's presentation involved the children building the Saturn V rocket, tasting astronaut ice-cream and recounting fascinating facts about this significant event in history.

Jonathan Finn (1978-1983) presented a Bromsgrove Futures seminar on the European Convention of Human Rights. Jonathan, who lectures at Aston School of Law, challenged the students' knowledge and then gave them a case to work on.

Colin Jones (1969-1972) recently reconnected with us after being out of touch for some time. He says that most people would know him by his nickname at School, "Wally". After Bromsgrove, he did a teaching course and taught in London for twelve years. Whilst living in the capital, he shared a flat with his old friend from Bromsgrove, **Mitch Rowland** (Lupton, 1967-1972). He also met his wife, Lorraine in London and they celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary in October 2017.

Colin now lives in North Lincolnshire with his family. He still sees Mitch and his brother Graham, who is also an Old Bromsgrovian (Lupton 1974-1979).

Sam Adamson (2005-2014) returned to Bromsgrove in June to take part in the Higher Education Applications Day. Sam, who is currently studying at Oxford, spoke to students about the Oxbridge process and what it is like to study at such an institution.

Lyttelton

Congratulations to **James Freeman** (Lyttelton 2004-2009) on his new two-year deal with Exeter Chiefs.

Credit: Exeter Rugby Club/Pinnacle Photo Agency

Aidan Bartlett (1998-2003) recently visited the School with his mother and girlfriend. Having finished University, Aidan has now decided to become a priest and will soon be attending seminary school.

Congratulations to **Justin Clegg** (2004-2015) on being named in the England U20 elite Rugby Squad. In an article for the Worcester Warriors website, Justin thanks his parents for allowing him the opoprtunity to attend Bromsgrove and names his School coaches, Shaun Ruwers and Tony Windo for recognising his ability and helping to develop his skills in the loose.

Credit: England Rugby

Oakley

Thank you to **Theodora Dyakova** (2005-2007) who has donated her keyboard and accessories to the School. The keyboard now takes pride of place in Oakley, where pupils have been very grateful - especially as it arrived just in time for House Song practice!

Emily Taylor (2009-2014 and Head Girl 2014) has been offered a revered place with the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London on their postgraduate MA Theatre Lab course. After completing an extremely intensive audition, interview and examination process, Emily will be one of only sixteen students invited to study in this world renowned institution. This will be an interesting, exciting and rigorous year ahead for Emily, and she says that all those rehearsals for the annual Bromsgrove School productions and time spent with the School Choir will have all helped hone her craft.

Congratulations to Upper Sixth leaver **Diana Saakyan** (2014-2017) who has been awarded the Luys scholarship from the President of Republic of Armenia, for her future studies at the University of Chicago.

School

Three OBs (including two previous captains of the School Sailing club), went sailing off the coast of Northern Sardinia, en-route to Bonifacio at the southern tip of Corsica, in June 2017.

From left to right : **David McMullen** (1955- 1960), **Paul Richards** (1952-1956 and **Matthew Horton** (School and Cookes 1962-1967)

The additional photograph below is of the complete crew. From left to right, **Gina Horton, Hilary McMullen, Gill Richards, Paul Richards, Matthew Horton** and **David McMullen** at Porto Portisco, Northern Sardinia.

Matt Mullan (1997-2005) was part of the England team which took on Wales during the Six Nations Tournament. The match ended 16-21 in England's favour.

Credit: England Rugby

Thomas Cookes

Ally Taft (1988 -1993) sent in this photo of her and other OBs who met up over Christmas 2016 for a walk up the Clent Hills followed by lunch.

Chelsea Callaghan (2005-2010) visited the School's DT department to give a talk to Sixth Form students about working in the design industry.

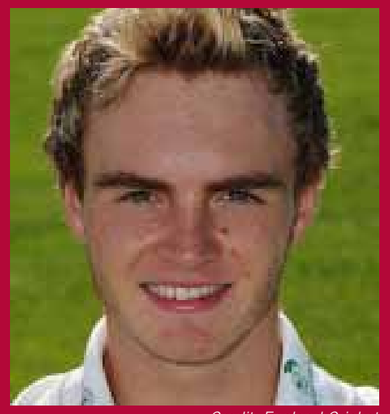
Walters

Chris Thomas (1981-1986) adjudicated the resurrected House Drama competition in December 2016. Chris was a leading light of the Bromsgrove drama scene in the 1980s, playing leading roles for most of his time in the Senior School. Perhaps the highlight was co-writing the rock opera, *Pilgrims Progress*, which was performed by the School in Routh Hall and later in Worcester Cathedral.

After Bromsgrove, Chris studied English and Drama at the University of London and The Central School of Speech and Drama. After several years working in advertising and on the London fringe theatre scene, he completed a PGCE in Drama and English at Cambridge University.

Chris gained considerable teaching experience in a number of schools before taking a year out to study creative writing under Andrew Motion, Jo Shapcott and Susannah Jones. Having now completed his MA in Creative Writing, he teaches drama at all levels at Canford School as their Director of Drama, which he combines with his work in the Classics department.

Ben Cox (1999-2010) has been recognised by his peers after being voted part of the Professional Cricketers' Association Team Of The Year.



Credit: England Cricket

Wendron/Wendron-Gordon

During an Upper Sixth field trip to Birmingham, pupils met **Tim Webb** (1998-2001). He gave the group an impromptu discussion about his company and what they make, including bridges and radiation shields.

Thank you to **Dr Stanford Wong** (2001-2006) for visiting the MedVet Society and giving pupils tips on their medical applications.

Viet Duong, Greg Kozhinov, Stefan Shakhazizyan, Leo Hu and **Arsen Melikyan** visited their former Housemaster, Mr Bell and Housemother, Jean Batchelor in Wendron-Gordon. They are all now living in London and in their last year of university.

Andy Wang (2009) has recently founded a camera equipment rental startup in Hong Kong, Pak1Pak.com. Andy works alongside another OB, **Felix Ng** (2013) who is their Head of Development. They have styled themselves as an AirBnB for cameras, in which their online platform connects the camera's owner to people who want to rent them, to take photos for events, or to try out new equipment.

Staff News

Peter Lee-Smith (Prep Headmaster 2001-2009) recently emailed us this photograph of former Bromsgrove Preparatory School staff.

Left to right are **Chris and Mary Harris**, **Peter and Sue Lee-Smith**, **Colin and Sue Pickering** and **Steve and Margaret Purdy**, sunning themselves after tea at Saltmarshe Hall, East Riding, Yorkshire.

It is lovely to hear from our former colleagues - do let us know if you have any news you'd like to share on this page for the next edition of the alumni magazine.

Llanwrtyd Wells

The Eleventh of November is always a poignant time in Llanwrtyd Wells as it holds great significance to Bromsgrove and for those who were evacuated there when the Government requisitioned our School buildings for the War effort. Many former pupils and members of staff were killed during World War Two, and their names, along with those from the town, are commemorated at the War Memorial. Each year, representatives pay their respects and a wreath is laid on behalf of Bromsgrove School.

Christopher Price (School 1939-1944), along with Megan Griffiths and Nikki Thorpe from the School's Alumni Office, were in attendance to represent the School this year.

Sports News

OB Netball

The OB Netball Club has had another successful year. We're continuing to grow with more OB members than ever and we've secured our place in the top local leagues.

We now enter two full teams into Redditch League division one, and our top players compete in Worcester League division one, which is always a great standard of netball. We're also trying a new fun league in Rubery, so there really is something for everyone within our Club!

A lot has happened in the past year, other than our regular league matches. We've travelled to Pontins Brean Sands for the annual netball tournament: Two full days of netball, plus big nights out and a spot of sightseeing thrown in – exhausting but brilliant; we'll definitely be returning next year for round two!

We've also recently returned to Bromsgrove to play the School 1st and 2nd teams. The standard of netball was extremely high, so unfortunately the games didn't go in our favour, but it was a fantastic experience and we will return again next year to win back the trophies.

And let's not forget our social events – a Bromsgrove pub crawl, tapas and dancing in Worcester, and our next night out is at Pad Thai Birmingham for food and karaoke.

For more information, please visit our official Facebook page – OB Netball (Bromsgrove). Or email us at obnetballclub@yahoo.com. We're always looking for new players to join us – all ages and abilities welcome.

OB Rugby

The Old Bromsgrovian Rugby team, the Buffaloes, once more took part in the Sparkle 7s Tournament.

The Tournament is held annually at Felsted School in aid of the Sparkle Foundation. The charity was established to carry forward the ethos behind Sparkle Malawi, a community based project which provides education, nutritional support, medical treatment and care to children in Malawi, Africa.

The team won their two games 34-19 and 34-12 (the first match against last year's finalists), but sadly could not maintain form. In the latter stages, the team were reduced to five men and had to pull out due to injury.

Well done to Blake Edwards and Harry Lloyd Jones who were voted players of the day by the team.

We hope that next year's tournament will bring better success for the OBs.

OB Golf

What a year Old Bromsgrovian golf has had. It started in October 2016 with a golf day and an extra special Anniversary Dinner at Blackwell to mark fifty years since the formation of the golf society, as we know it today. It was inaugurated by a few good friends getting together, playing golf and having a very convivial meal afterwards. This ethos still exists today, and our President Tony Hilton, one of the founder members, had the pleasure of hosting some thirty guests, including the Headmaster, Peter Clague, and another surviving original member, Denis Hayes. Philip Eve won the Denis Hayes Salver for the 18-hole competition on the day, and this was very appropriately presented by Denis Hayes himself.

Over the years, the School has produced some extremely notable golfers. Two of the most prestigious of all are the late John Beharrell, who was the youngest ever player to win the British Amateur Open and in recent years had the distinction of being Captain of the R&A (HRH Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, came after him). Denis Hayes, too, has been at the forefront of Worcestershire Golf and was a distinguished Chairman of the R&A Rules of Golf committee.

The Old Bromsgrovian Golf Society won the M.K. Foster Cup at Little Aston for the first time in fifty years. There were around 110 players competing from many of the Midlands' Independent Schools. The team consisted of: Philip Eve and Peter Bingham, Sam Williams and Alex McIntosh, Mark Blake and Michael Taylor, Lee Bould and Alex Kay, Chris Gupwell and Chris Firminger. To complete a fantastic day, Bromsgrove continued their success with Mark Blake and Michael Taylor winning the "Pud Bowls" for the best gross score of the day, and after a very convivial lunch, Philip Eve and Peter Bingham won the Repton-Uppingham Salvers for the best afternoon score by partners with a combined age of over 110. To cap it all off, a very jovial Alex Kay and Lee Bould won the wooden spoon.

The OB team went on to win The Edward Harris Cup, an event organised by the Welsh Public School Old Boys Golf Society. Bromsgrove are always honoured to play in this tournament and even more delighted to have won it this year. Congratulations to the team of Andrew Parffrey, Ian Mellor,

David Greenhouse, Ian Powell, Chris Firminger, Mark Merton Jones, Mark Blake and Michael Taylor. The OBs will now host the competition in 2018 at Blackwell Golf Club.

March 2017 saw the OB Golf Society soundly beaten in the Match v. School for the Webb Cavill Cup at Blackwell.

At the OB Meeting at Edgbaston Golf Club in May, there was a good turn-out on a beautiful sunny day, followed by an excellent dinner. The winners of the Harry Clayton Goblets were John Dillon and Jonathan Butt, and the Tony Hilton Cup was won by Mark Merton-Jones.

Towards the end of August, the always enjoyable OB Invitational Day at Ombersley Golf Club was held. This is an easy Texas Scramble format, a chance to ask some non-OB pals along, a nice supper and all at a very reasonable price. The competition was won by the team of Adrian Powell, Mark Merton-Jones, Mark's pal Arran, and Malcolm McCoy, with an amazing score of 10 under par.

The last event of the year was the OB Meeting at Blackwell in October. Despite the weather, the golf was enjoyed and the prize winners were,
Blackwell Bowl: Michael Taylor; Graham Fowler Medal Cup: Matt Grice; Denis Hayes Millennium Salver: Mark Merton-Jones; Bayliss-Orme Seniors Salver: Andrew Parffrey. The John Beharrell Plate for young golfers was not awarded.

A message from Anthony Webb (Hon. Secretary): *Please come and join us if you play golf at all, but the lower the handicap you have the better. You can see we have a good mix of relaxed enjoyable days, and some good competitive golf days too. The OB Golf sub is only £20 a year and this is easily offset by the good deals offered to us by Blackwell, Edgbaston and Ombersley.*

To get on the list, please contact
Anthony Webb
Email: anthonywebb41@btinternet.com
Tel: 01746 785596
Mob: 07831 506746

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.

Ailsa McQuaid (Thomas Cookes 2000-2007) married James Zaremba in our Memorial Chapel in December 2016. They held a drinks reception in the Old Chapel followed by more nuptial festivities in the Hospitality Suite.

Tara Saili (Thomas Cookes 1997-2004) recently celebrated her engagement to future husband, Ben with family and friends in London.

There was a double celebration for the Saili family - Tara's sister, **Roxanne** (Thomas Cookes 1998-2005), married Amin in two ceremonies - one in Iran and the other back in the UK.

Congratulations to the Saili sisters!

Rose Lake (Thomas Cookes 2001-2006) married Ed Brown on 1st July 2017. Her bridesmaids and guests included a number of Old Bromsgrovians.

Anna Davey (née Teisen), Dalia Jaffar, Ella Parkes, Kavita Sodha, Rose Lake, Lindsay McPherson, Sophie Hunt and Meghan Jordan

Brothers **Thomas and Daniel Geh** (Lyttelton 2003-2010) married within nine months of each other. Thomas met his wife, Imogene, whilst studying at Cambridge. The marriage ceremony was conducted in the chapel of Christ College, where Imogene was a student and the reception was held at Fitzwilliam College where Tom was a student.

Daniel and bride, Isobel, were married on 6th May 2017 in his home village church in Barnt Green. He and Isobel met whilst studying at Birmingham University. Each brother was of course best man to his twin!

Both are now working as junior doctors and hold fond memories of their years at Bromsgrove School.

Charles Jones (Lupton 1997-2008) married his bride, Emma on 17th June 2017 at Pendrell Hall, Codsall.

It was a real Old Bromsgrovian affair, with the best man, Reggie Jones and groomsmen, Ben Viney and Josh Coldicott in the wedding party. There were another thirty or so friends from Charles' Bromsgrove days in attendance.

OB Guests: Jon Hollway, Josh Coldicott, Dan Hunt, Reggie Jones and Kesser Sadiq (kneeling is James Bellerby who isn't an OB)

Golden OBs

Old Bromsgrovians **Kirsty Beswick, Nina Boersch, Brittany Collie, Will Edwards, Charlotte Fraser, Jacob Hucker, Elliot James, Georgina Lord, Paige Maddox, Amy Mason-Towers, Michael Matthews, Fraser Merrick, Toby Nellessen, Imogen Sapstead, Dan Stokes** and **Nicole Wijnen** attended St James's Palace to receive their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

They were asked where they completed their expeditions and what they had done for their residential section.

Our OBs executed themselves with aplomb in conversation with the various dignitaries. It was a lovely regal affair with the focus very much on celebrating the achievements of those young people who had completed such a challenging award.

#OBsinGermany

Lisa Antonacci (Housman Hall 2008-2011) and **Max Schwahn** (Elmshurst 2008-2011) organised a German Reunion in Hamburg. They enjoyed a BBQ at Niklas Koffta's house and then met up the next day for a Team OB Lazer Tag event. That evening, the group enjoyed socialising over drinks at a local bar and restaurant.

Let us know what you've been up to for our next #OBsin... feature.

20 Year Anniversary

Robert Gough (Elmshurst 1992-1997) organised for his year group to return on Commemoration Day 2017 to celebrate their 20th anniversary.

After joining us in the OB marquee, the group continued their celebrations outside of School.

The Alumni Committee would be happy to assist OBs who wish to organise future get-togethers during Commemoration Day celebrations - please contact us.

The Power of Proximity, by Connie E (Housman Hall, 2013-2015)

The millennials are a socially conscious and politically active generation. We get infuriated by the state of the country, we are champions of social justice, we go on streets to protest and some of us even aspire to devote our career to make the world a better place. Yet, how much do we actually understand of the problems that we're trying to solve, or the people that we're trying to help? Ever since I was a kid, I've wanted to "make a difference" in the world - but what difference exactly? It wasn't clear to me until I came to college (Northeastern University in Boston, USA). My passions are in international development and public policy. It wasn't until this summer that I realised the power of proximity.

Bryan Stevenson is a lawyer, a social justice champion and is often described as the living Martin Luther King Jr. He created the Equal Justice Initiative that is dedicated to ending mass incarceration in the United States and challenging racial and economic injustice. When he delivered a speech to Northeastern freshmen at the beginning of this semester, he mentioned four key points on how to "change the world," the first and most important being getting proximate to the problem that you're trying to solve. It struck a chord with me because, while there is a plethora of Westerners going to poor communities and trying to help, few of them truly understanding what the communities need.

This summer, I had the privilege of going to Cape Town, South Africa to study social entrepreneurship with my fellow classmates from Northeastern. It was an opportunity to be confronted with my own privileges, biases and ignorance. Before the trip, the only preconceived notion I had was that South Africa would be somewhere in between Sub-Saharan Africa and the West in terms of economic development and culture. Little did I expect the sheer level of inequality and legacies of the apartheid era. I took the opportunity to be fully immersed in the culture, the people and their daily lives. My most memorable moment was when I was playing the violin for a classroom packed with children, their eyes all lit up and some of them even moved with the music.

I spent a week volunteering at that kindergarten without speaking a single word of Xhosa, their local language, yet I was still able to establish such a connection with the children through music, body language, smiles and sometimes awkward sketches. As an English-speaking, Chinese volunteer hailing from the United States, there were moments of cultural shock and discomfort. But it was also those interactions that made me feel like a part of the community. I gained a deeper understanding of the people that I aspire to help through NGO work or policy.

As I left South Africa and returned to the comfortable life of being a college student, I thought a lot about how to process my new perspective on privilege and poverty, as well as let those moments of discomfort be a constant reminder of the inequality that still exists not only on the other side of the world, but also in my own communities. Stevenson's speech brought incredible clarity and direction to my clustered thoughts and feelings from South Africa. Stevenson himself had a humble upbringing in Montgomery, Alabama. After graduating from Harvard Law School, he turned down well-paying jobs on the East Coast and chose to return to the South where racial injustice and mass incarceration are more prevalent. In other words, he chose to get proximate to the incarcerated people that he is trying to help.

Whatever you are passionate about doing, there is a purpose behind the work and a community the work will benefit. This is an invitation for you to question your assumptions about what you already knew, and to actually immerse yourself within the people and community. There is power in proximity.

Connie E

Expedition to Thailand

Marie Kriegler (Oakley, 2012-2015) has recently returned from Thailand, where she volunteered for several months.

Marie has written a special piece about her trip for Bromsgrovians Connected:

You will never ride an elephant after reading this.

As deputy leader of the Thailand duck expedition, I travelled with seven other girls to Petchaburi to volunteer with various abused animals. The sanctuary, Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand, is responsible for over 550 animals. Some animals were previously humanised as pets by forcing them to wear clothes, treating them like humans and giving them the wrong diet. This upbringing has changed them forever, leaving some unable to return to the wild. At the sanctuary they receive the care that they deserve. If an animal is hurt and brought here it will only stay until it is strong and healthy, and then returns to the wild. There is a strict "no hands policy" meaning you cannot touch the animals to give them an upbringing closest to as it would be in nature
The animals I worked with range from different ape species over otters, bears, iguanas to the beloved cassarory, Bernie.

I also volunteered at an elephant refuge. My main message is: don't ride elephants. Many people wrongly believe all elephants are gentle giants who are so powerful that riding on them causes no harm. However, elephants' strength does not lie in their backs. They use their legs and trunks the most. They are exploited for the logging, begging, trekking and film industry. Even if they are hurt, they are forced to work. No elephant would let a human sit on him or her naturally. In order to do so, they have to go through the torture method called "phajaan" when they are still a baby. No mother would give up their baby by choice so in order to train a baby elephant the mother is killed.

Then the elephant is deprived of food and sleep in order to break its spirit. Eventually, the elephant will give in and let the tourists sit on her for many hours. My daily work included cleaning the cages, preparing food and enrichments for the elephants, going on their daily walks and sometimes showering them.

Being in Thailand has made me much more aware of the wildlife trade. I truly believe that animals should be wild and free. If you would like to support this project, your donations are welcomed or you can come to Thailand and volunteer.

Marie Kriegler

1970-1979 Leavers' Reunion

Old Bromsgrovians who left the School between 1970 and 1979 returned to Bromsgrove on Saturday, 9th September 2017 for a Reunion.

The day began with a welcoming service in the Memorial Chapel with a special Anthem by the Chapel Choir, memories recounted by the current Heads of School and a reading from the Deputy Head (Pastoral), Mr Al McClure. Pupil guides then escorted the OBs on a tour of the School and Old Chapel. Lunch followed in the hospitality suite and later in the afternoon, OBs were invited to record memories of their school days on camera.

Richard Pyatt, Donald Miller, Simon Brown, Matthew Taylor, Mark Perrins, Penny Ribbeck, Clem Schilizzi, Nikki Thorpe, John Butler, Michael Woodall

Tony Finn, John Palmer, Nick Daniel, Michael Amos, Stewart Towe CBE, Sarndra Leversha-Clague, Peter Clague, Ian Walker

John Gunton, Jess Lomas, Peter West, Julian Jenkins, Bill Jordan, Fraser Gates, Robert Parry, Simon Reid, Megan Griffiths

Celia Skitt (formerly Gibbin) and Sarah Edwards (née Gibbin, Lupton 1975-1979)

Robert Lennox, Mark Adams, Felicity Melley (nee Dow), Edward Allen, Michael Brooks, Kim Wells, Joyce Egremont, Charles Faulds, Barry Gibbs

OBs taking a tour of the School with pupils

Jonathan Phillips, Jennifer Phillips, Sarah Edwards (née Gibbin), Celia Skitt (formerly Gibbin), Al McClure, David Hope, Nick Sanders, Philip Schofield

Jonathan Phillips and Philip Schofield

Former Teaching Staff Pre-2000s Reunion

The School was delighted to welcome back many former members of the Common Room for a reunion with colleagues and friends, as well as some current members of staff who were at Bromsgrove before the year 2000.

We hope that the reunion will become an annual event and look forward to welcoming back many more staff members in future years.

Our next teaching staff reunion takes place on Saturday, 12th May 2018 for all those who were teaching at Bromsgrove pre-2005. Please make a note in your diary now, and look out for your invitation in the New Year.

Al McClure, Richard Barr, Pauline Kenward, Ann Charlish (née Shipman) and Amanda Bradshaw (née Parr)

Venetia Cosier and Elizabeth Pittaway with one of the maroon books

Liz Langlands, Steve Kingston and Venetia Cosier

John Gunton and Catherine Maund

George Carey and Wendy Carey

Bob Newton with current pupils

BIST Reunion

Todd Sundaravej (Elmshurst, 1972-1977), a former academic staff member of Bromsgrove International School Thailand (BIST), organised a reunion with pupils and staff members including Bromsgrove UK's Steve Challoner (a previous Headmaster of BIST).

OBEC 40th AGM

For the **Old Bromsgrovian Expedition Club's** 40th anniversary dinner, Old Bromsgrovians, friends, guests and partners gathered in the Tyn Y Coed Hotel in Capel Curig, Wales. It was an excellent evening with speeches about the mountains and OBEC, and perhaps most importantly the fellowship they get from meeting up twice a year in the hills of Snowdonia.

Despite the best efforts of Storm Brian, the majority of the Club's members enjoyed the local surroundings. The hardy attempted, but failed, to reach some low lying summits and others (the sensible ones!) took a low level walk to Betws-y-Coed down the valley.

This year the age range went from teenagers to somewhere north of 80. Names that you might recognise from across the generations include John Gunton, Simon Hill, Michael Woodall, Terry Reis, Neil Gibbs, Craig Hudson, Phil Gibbs, Mark Gunton, Andrew and Catherine Maund, Tony Blacker, Duncan Harper, Chris Bywater, Phil Blacker, Andrew Plewes, Tom Thompson, Chris Parker, Jamie Veitch and Jon Badger.

OBEC welcomes new members (come once and you're a member for life!) to join them in the hills. If you would like to know more, please get in touch with Jon Badger (Walters 1985-1990) at jonathabadger@outlook.com

300th Anniversary

The **Old Bromsgrovian Lodge** celebrated their 300th anniversary with a special ceremony and dinner at the School.

In attendance were Lodge members and their wives/guests, and Old Bromsgrovian Fran Kingston (Thomas Cookes, 2002-2013) provided some pre-dinner entertainment. The Headmaster, Mr Clague, was guest of honour.

Commemoration Day 2017

Rededication Ceremony

The Rededication ceremony for Old Bromsgrovian Lieutenant Leonard Cameron Kidd MC RFC (1905-1909), who was killed in 1916, took place at the CWGC cemetery at Caterpillar Valley, France.

Bromsgrove pupils and two members of staff were present at the ceremony on 12th October 2017, exactly 101 years after Lt Kidd and his navigator 2nd Lt Phillips were tragically killed.

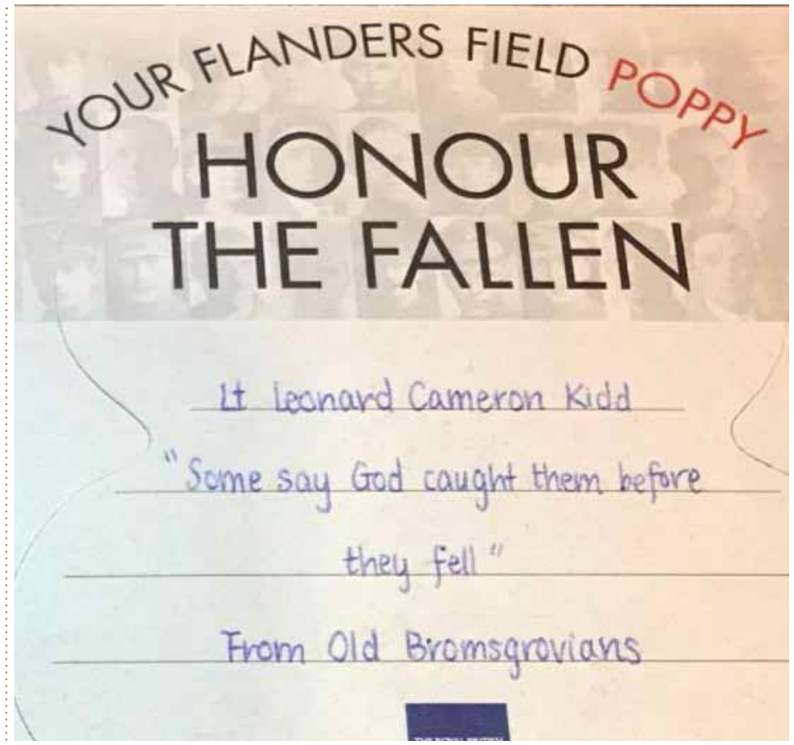
Until recently, both Kidd and Phillips were buried together in an unmarked grave.

The service was attended by RAF representatives, Defence Attaché, local dignitaries and family members.

The School is committed to remembering Old Bromsgrovians killed in conflict and we have been commemorating First and Second World War anniversaries.

This coming year, we are commemorating the end of WWI with a series of activities involving current students and highlighting the involvement of Bromsgrovians from the past.

Kidd's significant contribution and the identification of his grave is an important part of the remembrance and we were honoured to be asked by the MOD to attend the re-dedication ceremony.



Our News to You

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE BROMSGROVE ALUMNI OFFICE.

Online Shop

The School, in conjunction with the Alumni Committee, have launched a new online shop for Old Bromsgrovians. You can now purchase your OB tie, lapel pin, umbrella and much more online via the School website at www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/categories.aspx

You can also still call the shop to purchase your items - their telephone number is +44 (0) 1527 579679 ext 220.

We hope you will enjoy using the new online shop, with more items being added in the coming months.

Ten Years of Service

Congratulations to our Alumni Communications & Social Media Manager, **Megan Griffiths**, who was recognised for her ten years of service to Bromsgrove. The Bursar, Lesley Brookes, made the presentation on behalf of the School.

Farewell, Jenny!

During the summer holidays, we bade a fond farewell to Bromsgrovian Executive Assistant, **Jenny Bossard** (Walters, 1972-1974). Jenny was one of the School's very first female pupils in 1972 and we were delighted when she applied to work here to help with Alumni Relations and external events.

Jenny has returned to America to be closer to her son - we wish her all the best.

Class of 2017

The Upper Sixth leavers received their OB tie (boys) and OB pin (girls) during a special ceremony led by the Headmaster at the end of the summer term.

We congratulate the **Class of 2017** and look forward to welcoming them as Old Bromsgrovians to our alumni events.

Welcome to Jess Lomas

We offer a warm welcome to **Jess Lomas** (née Williams, Hazeldene, 1992-2000) who has joined us as Alumni and Events Assistant. As well as being an Old Bromsgrovian, Jess has worked at the School for a number of years, firstly in the Sports Centre and latterly as Art Technician. She joins us to assist with the work of the Alumni Office and to help with School and external events.

You can continue to contact Jess and Megan in the Alumni Office on the usual email account - oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk, by post to the School address or by telephoning 01527 579679 ext 357/366.

The New Routh Concert Hall & Cobham Theatre

The interior of the Routh Concert Hall with tiered seating and an extended stage area

The new Music School, connected to Routh Concert Hall

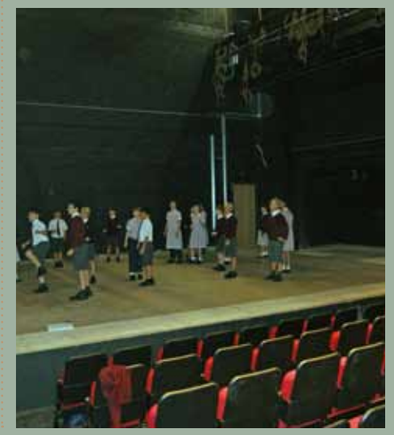
The interior of the new Cobham Theatre at the Preparatory School

We are pleased to bring you a sneak peek inside the new Routh Concert Hall and the Cobham Theatre (on the Prep School site).

We look forward to using these fantastic facilities for our upcoming music and drama productions.

If you would like a tour around the new buildings, please contact the Alumni Office - email 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 or telephone 01527 579679 ext 365.



From the Archives...

It is hard to believe that I have only been in post for two years as School Archivist at Bromsgrove School! In some ways I feel like I've been here forever with enquiries throwing up familiar names and places and taking me back to the same records to delve further and discover anew. Some days, surrounded by unsurveyed boxes and piles of documents and photos still waiting to be repackaged and listed, I feel like I've only just started!

This gives a clue to the fact that archive work does not radically alter from year to year. The key tasks of preserving and making accessible what we have, collecting and seeking what is missing are the bedrock for the exciting stories, exhibitions, alumni displays, museum loans and school workshops.

This year we have uncovered, had donated and acquired a wealth of exciting archives relating to the history and heritage of Bromsgrove School.

An enquiry I had from a researcher about OB Lt. L.C. Kidd who flew during the Somme battles and was killed in France in 1916, led to me looking into letters published in The Bromsgrovian about Kidd at the time of his death.

L.C. Kidd (middle) as a pupil in Gordon House, 1908

Kidd and his co-pilot were in an unnamed grave as there was not enough evidence to identify them but the additional information from us with extensive research already done meant the MoD agreed to re-dedicate the graves. This took place on 12th October 2017, near to Eaucourt L'Abbaye, where our records say Kidd's plane came down. He is listed on the Arras memorial. The Bromsgrovian, with its wealth of detail and now fully digitised, has proved invaluable in many enquiries but this was a particularly exciting and moving outcome.

Repackaging photographs so they are not exposed to damaging light or damp, removing corroding tape, interleaving photograph albums with acid free paper to keep them from sticking to each other are all ongoing tasks that help to preserve one of our most valuable and engaging forms of archives. Sometimes this work brings forth a treasure.

When repackaging former Headmaster Millington's "Album of Old Bromgrovians", I came across a photo of a young boy in a naval cadet uniform, unnamed but taken in 1877 at a Plymouth studio. His youth and the uniform led me to look further and we now believe it to be an early and previously unseen photograph of OB Admiral Reginald Skelton, Scott's Chief Engineer on the Antarctic Discovery Expedition. This photograph, showing Skelton as a naval cadet at Devonport, aged just 14, is set to feature in the new Explorers Gallery at Greenwich Maritime Museum in 2018.

This photograph is believed to be a young Reginald Skelton in his naval cadet uniform

Oral History recordings at alumni and former staff events have been ongoing and make an important contribution to the oral history archive, documenting experience of life at school from many different perspectives. They have also provided a valuable opportunity for students at the school to engage in their school's history and to learn the skills of interviewing and recording.

Just some of our oral history participants this year

Some of the students involved in the oral history work have come from Archive After School Club, part of Bromsgrove Service. Sixth Form pupil, Tundun, shared her experiences as a 'young archivist':

"I got to do so much this year, learning the history of Bromsgrove, finding information for people (or their family members) on their lives here and even interviewing Old Bromsgrovians on their experiences which was fascinating and in some cases hilarious!"

Bromsgrove at the schools' head of the river race in 1998. Stroke: Jenny Dodds; 6: Laura Thomas 5: Claire; 4: Emily
We need to know who is in number 7, 3 and 2 seat and the Bow. Can you help?

Alumni and Former Teaching Staff Reunions have had a tremendous impact on the archive both in terms of acquiring new collections and in being able to name, date and bring life to existing material through the anecdotes and stories that have been recorded at these events. A favourite donation of mine has been the Bromsgrove girls' rowing team Splash top from 1998 donated by Amanda Bradshaw (née Parr). Until this donation, along with the accompanying photos and story from Amanda about her time as a teacher here, I had no idea there had ever been a girls' rowing team at Bromsgrove! This deposit is just the beginning of the story however, we are still trying to name the team so please get in touch if you can help with that.

The hard work of the students at Archive After School Club resulted in many additional items being preserved and listed in the catalogue, updated displays in the Headmaster's Dining Room, new oral history recordings with staff who were leaving and articles in the student magazine, 201, which helped to raise the profile of the School archive among the students.

Hopefully, last year's young archivists will be the advocates for the archive for the future, ensuring we continue to preserve, capture and share the history and heritage of Bromsgrove School.

The 1998 Bromsgrove School Girls' Rowing Team

90 Years Ago...

Programme.

1. Ould John Braddleum (revised version). ...
   Chorus—
   With a rum tum taddleum
   Ould John Braddleum
   Jolly Wendron lads are we.
2. Recitations:
   "Matilda." ... . J. Stark.
   "Henry King," ... W. D. Higgin.
3. Song: "Rich Man," ... .
   J. Warhurst, H. S. Sherry,
   C. F. K. Bamford, B. E. Nichols.
4. Crosswords, ... T. A. F. Punnett,
   J. F. A. Vellacott.
5. Songs:
   "Yankee Ship," ... R. D. Vulliamy.
   "Woad." .. ... P. R. Quartley.
6. Songs:
   1—"I Married a Wife."
   2—"Shenandoah."

INTERVAL.

A Happy Christmas!

Programme continued.

7. Jazzology,
   1—"Here in my arms."
   2—"Birth of the Blues."
   3—"Broken-hearted."
8. Conjuring, ... A. D. K. Sidebottom.
   A. J. A. Beck.
9. Kikuyu Love Song, ... N. G. Leakey.
10. Flip-Flap, ... H. H. J. van der Werff,
    H. S. Sherry, B. E. Nichols.
11. Rounds: 1—Dickery, Dickery, Dock.
    2—White Sand and Grey Sand.
12. Ghost Story, ... C. F. K. Bamford.
13. Cinematograph, H. H. J. van der Werff.
    Featuring Harold Lloyd in—
    "A Trip to Paradise."
14. Jazz: 1—"Muddy Water" (Syncopated).
    2..."Crazy Words" ... (Sextet).

School Song. Auld Lang Syne.

God save the King.

Richard Brookes (Lupton 1961-1965) recently sent us this programme from Wendron House, Christmas 1927 - exactly 90 years ago.

Do you know who designed the elaborate cover?

If have anything you'd like to share with us for the next edition of the Alumni magazine, please email us at oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk or write to us at the School address (details on the back).

50 Years Ago...

Ian Mellor (School 1962-1968), William Kay (Cookes 1965-1970), Rodney Hare (School 1964-1969) and Trevor Snape (Gordon 1965-1970) celebrating their 1967 win in the BBC Sporting Chance Competition

An extract from the *Bromsgrovian 1968* about the BBC Sporting Chance Competition in 1967:

One day during last Autumn the Headmaster was asked by the BBC if the School could take part in their radio Sporting Chance Competition. Mr Cox was asked to take charge and he soon had quite a long list of those willing to take part who were then encouraged to "swot up" sporting facts. At the beginning of the Easter term, various eliminating tests and procedures were held and the following team was selected: P. R. Hare, W. Kay, I. S. Mellor and T. J. Snape, who was appointed Captain, with J. R. Moody as reserve. The seven major sports upon which questions would be asked during the Competition were then allocated amongst members of the team so that each sport was covered by at least two members of the team.

Trying to appear calm, the team walked on to the stage of Routh Hall, faced with the prospect of having to score more than 60 points, this being the total which the BBC indicated was required. Some three-quarters of an hour later, the round had been completed, although some members of the team doubted if 52 points would be enough to get us into the next round. We anxiously waited some three weeks or more, which seemed an eternity, before we were told that our score was good enough.

In our semi-final, by excellent team work and some inspired answers, we amassed 69 points, the highest score in this year's competition, and, we believe, the highest ever attained by a school. When we passed the 60 mark, the cheer in Routh Hall was tremendous. Three minutes later, with the immortal words "might as well" uttered by our Captain in response to Brian Johnston's request as to whether we wanted to continue with further questions, the score had risen to 69, and we were then in the final. At this stage we did not know who our opponents would be, and we did not care, for we were confident.

Our opponents, Bradfield, finished their questions and scoring, and Bromsgrove stormed through in a dramatic way by getting the last three questions right and so winning the final in the last seconds of the competition (and with the very last question). The audience at Bradfield were very sporting and generous in their applause, particularly when the BBC presented us with a very handsome Cup.

Our thanks go to Mr Cox who gave a lot of time to preparing us and who took us down to Bradfield College, where, unfortunately, his car managed to acquire a flat tyre (Was this by accident or design?) It was no surprise that one or two of the many questions fired at the team by Mr Cox during practices actually came up during the rounds. We must also thank the School for the very fine and eager support and encouragement they gave us, and the cheer that went up when we passed the 60 mark in the semi-final will long be remembered.
T. J. SNAPE

The Inside Story

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

Andrew Dunnett

(Lupton 1980-1985) will become our Ninth annual lecture speaker in March 2018. We caught up with him ahead of the Foundation Lecture to find out more about his time at Bromsgrove and what he has learned in his career to date...

What you remember about your time at Bromsgrove?

The first thing I remember arriving at Cobham House was the length of day, double what I was used to, Saturday school and endless sport almost every day. I still remember the first try I scored, and being at a school where there was so much to do. I even joined the Printing Club.

Thinking back thirty years, it's strange what comes to mind. The beauty of Gordon Green, the prominence of the Chapel, heading to Kyteless for 4.15pm afternoon lessons as the nights closed in, and the musty smell of Routh Hall. I slept in A. E. Housman's room in my last year, a lodger in my Housemaster's attic, and have been a big fan of Housman ever since.

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

There were many memorable antics that happened around the House. Lupton studies was then opposite the Headmasters' secretary's office - just a small quad separated us. I remember during one afternoon, we smacked a golf ball against the wall of the study hoping to catch it, but instead it flew out, narrowly missing the Headmaster's window. During House rugby, I recall scrumming against Wendron-Gordon - it was a bit like taking on the All Blacks. We had a second row who began the game by asking where to put their heads! However, there were lifelong friendships made and even now I still get stick for winning a House shield for getting the 144 bus to School from Edgbaston! I have never lived it down.

And after Bromsgrove?

I went to York to study Politics. I ended up sharing a room, washed my roomates contacts down the sink on the first morning and found that I was not ready for University. I needed some time out, and my former Headmaster, Nick Earle was very kind to me, advising me to start again. I had a year off and went up to Durham the following year to study Theology, I had a great time there.

How did that shape your future career?

At Durham I spent most of my time reading ethics, and left with a desire to work in politics. I got a job as a parliamentary aide and spent most of my 20s and 30s around Westminster, working in public affairs, getting on the Conservative candidates list and standing for Parliament. I stood for the Conservatives in 1997, stood as a councillor a number of times, and narrowly missed selection for a by-election in 2000. It was a great time and while I remain fascinated by current affairs, standing as a candidate is something else, and so I worked instead as a ministerial adviser before Lord McLaurin, formerly Chairman of Vodafone, interviewed me to join the company. Vodafone is an extraordinary British success story, a small electronics company which went on to become one of the largest communications companies in the world. It's now powering the mobile internet revolution serving over 460m customers every day.

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

Two things spring to mind.

Firstly I have never really approached or thought of work as a career. Rather I have tried to find my purpose, what some career coaches call your north star, what you love doing. It's not easy, for most of us it could be a number of things, but when someone comes for a job interview, those who have a sense of purpose shine through every time. Steve Jobs said 'Do what you love and you'll stand the best chance of doing something great'.

Secondly I would advise anyone leaving School not to worry about what people think of their ambitions and plans. By all means test ideas, but the world as we know it is only this way because people like us decided to try and make their mark.

Go for it, there's absolutely no better place than Bromsgrove School to launch you!

Chris Griffiths

(School 2004-2009) tells us about his hockey career and being part of Team GB...

What memories do you have of Bromsgrove?

I look back at my time at Bromsgrove with fond memories. We won the U13 IAPS tournament at Millfield School - a great start to my School career. I also loved playing cricket and rugby, although I wasn't particularly good at either and just tried to hit the cricket ball like a hockey shot. Academically, I enjoyed the more hands on subjects such as PE, Art and Design Technology, but most of all I remember the friendships.

What did you do after leaving Bromsgrove?

I moved to Loughborough to study Sports Science where I spent four and a half years. I continued to play hockey for the university team, which competed in the English Premier League.

I graduated in 2014 and moved down to Bisham Abbey to join the Great Britain hockey squad.

Tell us a bit about your career to date...

I am currently part of the GB and England hockey squad. I made my debut for Great Britain in November 2014 in a 10-1 win against France. I then made my England debut the following month in a win against Australia. I have been fortunate enough to represent England and GB at a number of tournaments over the last couple of years including the Champions Trophy, World League and Europeans.

What would you say has been your major achievement?

Qualifying for the Olympic Games was a major achievement. This year has been a particularly good year for us as a team - we won the Sultan of Azlan Shah tournament, qualified for the World Cup and won a European bronze this summer in Amsterdam.

Personally, I feel my biggest achievement is overcoming a long term injury and returning to play. I ruptured my ACL prior to the Olympics and missed a year of competition. I received my 50th combined international cap this summer which was a special moment.

What advice would you give to those just starting out in their careers?

I would say to anyone starting out to enjoy the journey they are on. I would also encourage them to take any opportunity that is presented, even if they think it is irrelevant - you never know where it may lead or what door it may open further down the line.

Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2016/17.

Mrs Chalo-chalai Balankura
d. 11th April 2017

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Mrs Chalob-chalai Balankura, widow of Old Bromsgrovian Chamkad Balankura who is commemorated on the WWII tablet in our Memorial Chapel.

Mrs Balankura died peacefully aged 100 years and four months on 6th April 2017.

Our condolences go out to the family, friends and associates of Mrs Balankura in Thailand and around the world.

Dr Jomi 'Joe' Michael Beck (Broom/Wendron 51-56) d. 18th May 2017

I am sad to report the passing of a good School friend on 18th May 2017, from a brain tumour, only recently diagnosed. Known as Jomi or Joe to his friends, he was two terms ahead of me at Broom House, both of us then to Wendron, Christmas Term 1952, under Tom Boyer. We were thrown together in classes in the Middle IV and V, but diverting in the VI, since he was a Medical with Bunny Littleton. Academically, he was always the brighter student and he successfully negogiated his A level examinations.

Jomi came from South Wales, where his father was a GP in Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil. This made Sunday leaves difficult for him, so we enjoyed a few lunches at my home in Malvern and then some time in the holidays in South Wales. I well remember an exciting ride in older brother, Felix's Triumph TR2, along the winding Brecon Road!

South Wales of course brought a love of rugby football, which was stimulated by the presence of the late John Gwilliam, past Welsh Captain, an international player and School Coach from 1952-1956. Both of us enjoyed House/Colts level matches with enthusiasm and bruises to exhibit! In later life and more affluent times, Jomi had debentures in the Cardiff Millenium Stadium and so many friends enjoyed his hospitality there. He achieved Ceriticate 'A' and Lance Corporal Rank in the CCF and we were fellow House Monitors for a few terms. Checking the Bromsgrovian, I see that he was Treasurer of the Film Society in 1956 and I stage managed Ron Eyre's Julius Caesar. Happy days!

On leaving Bromsgrove and following family footsteps, Jomi qualified from Birmingham Medical School in 1962 and as a junior doctor worked in various Midlands hospitals and then to Bournemouth as a House Officer. He became one of the first trainee GPs in the country and later a respected trainer himself. He joined an established Southbourne Medical Practice, expanding and amalgamating two premises in 1985, becoming senior partner in 1991 and finally retiring in 2001. He also brought specialist knowledge to the Royal Bournemouth Hospital and Dorset Healthcare Trust.

Jomi had developed an interest in golf whilst at Bromsgrove and was able to foster this at Broadstone Golf Club, becoming Captain in 1974 and latterly President 2012-2015. Rugby and golf, he enjoyed them both.

Our paths separated after School, but we finally met again in June 2012, 56 years later. He was unable to attend a School Reunion with me in 1993 but we did enjoy the official Pre-1960s reunion in 2015, renewed old friendships and relived Wendron days.

For 36 years, he was a highly respected and much loved GP, a talented and caring doctor. He was above all a devoted family man and so to Sue, hs wife of 56 years and to his daughters, Jacqui, Nicky and the five grandchildren, sincere condolences are given.

His funeral was held at Poole Crematorium on Thursday 8th June 2017.

- Ted Beaumont

A. David Dyer (School 40-45) d. 19th November 2016

"He Lived and Died Giving a Damn"

Arthur David Pearson Dyer (David), former pupil of Bromsgrove School, died peacefully after a short illness on 19th November 2016, and his funeral was held several weeks later at St Carthage's Church in Parkville, Melbourne, Australia.

David was born on Easter Sunday in 1927, in Giggleswick Settle, the second child of Marjorie and Arthur. David's secondary schooling took place at Bromsgrove School where he was Head Boy in his final year. As the School buildings were acquired by the armed forces during the war years, the Headmaster at that time, David (Dai) Walters, moved the School to Wales.

David held many fond memories of his time at Bromsgrove and enjoyed returning there with his older brother John, who also attended the School, and his wife Betty to share reminiscences of these times. One such memory was of the senior boys riding their bikes in the pouring rain from one village pub to another where classes were taught. Possibly David's love of the outdoors that he later realised as a young man arriving in Australia, was borne of hiking through the Welsh countryside as a schoolboy. Later, as a headmaster himself in the 1970s and 1980s, David made a point of visiting Bromsgrove to meet the School's current Head and be shown the new capital developments and curriculum initiatives. On one such visit to the UK, David and Betty were invited to lunch by his former Headmaster, Mr Walters and his wife, who David continued to hold in exceptionally high regard.

Having completed his secondary education, David joined the Fleet Air Arm of the Navy where he served for two years. This was a relatively brief though significant period in his life, providing him with the opportunity to live and work alongside other young men from a range of backgrounds and life experiences.

As the war ended in the year of David's 18th birthday, he never saw active service and upon leaving the Navy, commenced university studies at Brasenose College, Oxford. Some life-long friendships were forged at Oxford and David maximised his enjoyment and participation of university life by balancing his academic pursuits (English and History), with rugby, cricket and a robust social life.

At BNC, David was influenced by former South Australian Rhodes Scholar Tony Jose to travel to Australia and he secured a teaching position at St Peter's College in Adelaide, arriving as a "ten pound Pommy migrant" in 1951. He immediately embraced everything that Australia had to offer, exploring the outback, coastal regions and bush. He remained at St Peter's College for nine years, returning briefly to England to teach at Portsmouth Grammar School and to gain his Diploma of Education. Returning to St Peter's College in 1956 to a position of Housemaster, he met and later married Betty McFarlane, an Australian nurse. In August 1960, David successfully applied for the Headmastership of Ballarat College and the young couple and their two children moved to Ballarat where they were to remain for a further six years.

Ballarat College of the early 1960s was a regional boarding school that had been hit hard by the downturn in the rural economy, and at the time of David's arrival as Headmaster, it was at risk of closure. He stepped into his new role as very much a 'hands on' head; focussing immediately on improving the school amenity for both boarders and staff, and working tirelessly with school council members to garner community support for the 1965 Centenary Building Appeal.

In 1966, the family (now with three children), moved from Ballarat to Melbourne where David took up the position of Head of Camberwell Grammar School and remained until his retirement in 1987. During these years, he led the school into a new era of growth, capital development and academic, artistic and sporting excellence, always with a firm commitment to ensuring the education offered by CGS was accessible to as many as possible. His study tours abroad led to new ideas and innovations that he had seen and he was keen to implement these at CGS. However, alongside his vision of expansion of facilities and programs, David focussed on managing a school budget so that student fees did not disproportionately increase.

David's contribution to education did not end at the front gates of the school of which he was Headmaster. He served on the Whitlam government appointed School's Commission in the 1970s and later was Chair of the Block Grant Authority, touring the country and providing advice to Government about funding priorities. These experiences strengthened his commitment and belief that educational opportunities must be just, inclusive and open to all, and on Australia Day 1983 he was awarded an Australia Medal for services to education. After his retirement he remained actively engaged in educational policy and continued to contribute through participation on committees, school councils and boards and as a mentor to younger principals and those aspiring to positions of leadership. David has been described as a lifetime teacher and also a lifetime student. He never reached the stage where he believed he knew it all - that there was nothing left to learn.

He had an open heart and an open mind and was not constrained by any ideological box. On the contrary, he was always open to test and challenge thoughts, arguments, policies and beliefs. This intellectual growth continued throughout his whole life, right to the end. He never deviated from his lifelong commitment to supporting those less fortunate than he, but his social justice efforts took on a renewed expression in his retirement as a founding member of the Ballarat branch of the Asylum Seeker Support Network, his work with the homeless and destitute and his advocacy for tighter gun control.

Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2016/17.

A. David Dyer (cont.)

In his retirement David also focussed on the most important relationships in his life, with his wife of almost fifty-nine years, his children and their partners and his seven grandchildren. They, along with his sister Elizabeth will forever love and remember him as a man of passion and integrity who cared about the world and the legacy he was leaving for future generations.

- Elizabeth Fahie (daughter of David)
Thank you also to Nigel Creese (OB) who sent in a similar obituary to the one provided by David's family.

John Faull (Gordon 46-51)
d. 21st June 2017

John Faull died nine days short of his 84th birthday. He was one of the famous British & Irish Lions who helped the tourists beat New Zealand in Auckland in 1959.

Born in Morriston, he was educated at Bromsgrove School, where he played at centre, before doing his National Service in the Royal Navy, where he was a full back. He had a dramatic introduction to senior club rugby in Wales when he played against the All Blacks in only his third game for Swansea at the age of 20.

He made the first of his twelve appearances for Wales in the back row in March 1957 and missed only one international appearance over the following two years. Until his death in June, John was one of eleven surviving Lions from that game.

John Gwilliam
(Former Staff)
d. 21st December 2016

Former Wales Grand Slam-winning captain John Gwilliam - who was part of the last Welsh team to beat New Zealand - has died at the age of 93.

Gwilliam was captain of Wales when they won Five Nations Championship Grand Slams in 1950 and 1952.
He was also in the team that beat the All Blacks 13-8 in Cardiff in 1953.

Away from rugby, he served as a tank commander during the Second World War and was headmaster of the independent Birkenhead School from 1963 to 1988.

Born in Pontypridd, number eight Gwilliam played 23 times for Wales between 1947 and 1954, and captained the team in 11 of those games.

When he led Wales in the 21-0 win over France in Cardiff in 1950, it ended a thrity-nine-year wait for a Grand Slam after the first "Golden Era" had yielded three in four seasons between 1908 and 1911.

He had lost the Welsh captaincy to Bleddyn Williams by the time he played in the side which beat the All Blacks in 1953, the last time Wales have beaten the New Zealanders and, after losing his place for Wales, he hung up his boots in 1955. He had played for Wales, the Barbarians, Newport, Cambridge University, Edinburgh Wanderers, Gloucester, Llanelli, Wasps and London Welsh.

Gwilliam had a long and distinguished career in teaching. From Bromsgrove, he went on to be Head of Lower School at Dulwich College, before, in 1963, he was appointed headmaster at Birkenhead School, a post he filled for 25 years until his retirement in 1988.

- Credit: BBC/Scotsman.
Thank you to Garth Kenderdine-Davies for sending in a copy of this obituary.

Professor Roy Martin Haines
M.A., M.Litt (Dunelm.), D.Litt (Oxon.), F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.
(Lupton 38-40)
d. 1st February 2017

Roy Martin Haines was born in Newport, Monmouthshire, but lived mainly in Worcestershire for the early part of his life. He was educated at St Michael's School in Otford, Kent, and as a Foundation Scholar at Bromsgrove School, was evacuated to Llanwrtyd Wells during the war. After a year with Lloyds Bank, he went on to read History at St Chad's College, Durham, where he was the only historian amongst a group of clerics. Following a period of teaching at St Michael's, he undertook further research for a doctorate in Medieval History at Worcester College, Oxford. After a year as an Assistant Editor with the Victoria County History of Oxfordshire, he was appointed to teach History at Westminster School where he became Housemaster at Wrens.

In 1966, he took up an Associate Professorship at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick, Canada, moving to Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, where from 1972 until retirement he was Professor of Medieval History. He was a Canada Council Senior Killam Research Scholar (1978-1980), and appointed a Visiting Fellow of Clare Hall Cambridge in 1987.

Roy wrote and published continuously throughout his career including *The Church and Politics in the Fourteenth-Century – The career of Adam Orleton* (Cambridge University Press 1978) and *Archbishop John Stratford* (The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies 1986). His last major work *King Edward 11 – His Life, His Reign, and Its Aftermath, 1284-1330* was published by McGill-Queen's University Press in 2003. He wrote extensively for the New Dictionary of National Biography and of the Royal Historical Society, he was awarded his D.Litt by Oxford University in 2010.

Professor Haines leaves his wife, Carol, whom he married in December 1957, two surviving daughters and five grandchildren.

Hugh Michael Harvey
(Gordon 53-58)
d. 15th March 2017

Hugh Michael Harvey (Mike), aged 76, died on Wednesday 15th March 2017 in Spain after a long battle with ill health. He was born on 10th September 1940 in Birmingham to Bob and Nancy Harvey and was the eldest of three sons, all of whom attended Bromsgrove School. Mike excelled both academically and at sport, playing for the School in hockey, squash and tennis. He went on to win Junior Wimbledon in 1958, beating Roger Taylor 6-2, 6-2 in the final and was selected to play for the England Schools' Hockey Squad.

After leaving School, Mike turned down the opportunity to take up a career in professional tennis and went to Leeds University, where he first studied Modern Languages before going on to read Law. Once he qualified, he joined Glaisyers Solicitors in Birmingham where he worked his way up, becoming head of their Company and Commercial Department, and then Senior Partner of the Birmingham practice. During this time, his sporting life continued, he was a regular member of the Worcestershire tennis team, won the county badminton championships, played squash at county level and was a key part of Edgbaston Hockey Club – a leading Midlands team.

In 1989, an opportunity arose for him to change direction, and he moved to the south of Spain where he took over the legal practice of Glaisyers in Gibraltar, running the law firm in conjunction with a trust and company management business (which he headed up with his wife, Claire). The business was sold in 2007 and Mike retired to enjoy golf, travelling and his home and garden in Spain. Unsurprisingly, he took to golf with his usual determination to be the best he could at anything he tried and became a very skilled practitioner with a much envied 'short game'.

Mike married Jan (nee Shufflebotham) in 1964. They divorced and he subsequently married Claire (née Mullett) in 1984. She survives him, together with the two children from his first marriage, Tracy and Simon, along with Mike's two brothers, David and Joe. Both Tracy and Simon had moved to New Zealand by the time Mike retired and have settled there with their families. Mike had many happy trips to visit them, and was able to explore the beautiful New Zealand countryside, enjoy the excellent wine and food, and play some of their magnificent golf courses.

Mike was a man who lived life to the full, always the life and soul of the party and a very generous and convivial host. He is very much missed by his family and all his friends.

- Wife, Claire, son, Simon and brother, Joe.

Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2016/17.

Professor K. Brian Haley (Former Bromsgrove School Governor & Vice-President) d. 25th December 2016

Professor Haley died aged 83 on Christmas Day 2016. He was born on 17th November 1933 in Smethwick and attended King Edward's School, Five Ways. Having read maths at the University of Birmingham in the 1950s, Professor Haley was a research assistant in the Department of Engineering Production at the University between 1953 and 1957. From 1959, he taught at the University, becoming the country's first formal lecturer in operational research. In 1968, he became Professor of Operational Research, based at the School of Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering, University of Birmingham. He was the editor of International Abstracts in Operations Research in 1960, serving on the ORS Publications Committee 1960-1980. He also spent four years on the ORS Council and was editor of the Journal of the Operational Research Society.

He met his future wife, Diana, at the University, where she was a secretary. They were married at St Germain's Church, Birmingham on 2nd April 1960. Brian was a keen sportsman and sailed for ten years at Barnt Green reservoir, played squash (with squash partner and Old Bromsgrovian, Tony Finn), badminton and latterly archery.

Another major activity for nearly forty years was as a Governor of our School, creating an L.P. model to evaluate alternative fee-structures. He was appointed as an Endowment Trustee in 1980 and became a Governor of the Incorporated School company in 2003. He was a respected and valued member of the Governing Body, whose knowledge of statistical matters was always first class. After retiring in 2008, Brian was a very deserving Vice-President of the School and continued to show great loyalty to Bromsgrove, attending every AGM until his death.

Alasdair John Hogarth (Cookes 62-67) d. 30th August 2017

Old Bromsgrovian, Alasdair John Hogarth, who has died aged 67 years was the former Headmaster at Archbishop's School in Canterbury and went on to establish a charity to raise money for schools in Africa.

Mr Hogarth came from Bromsgrove and was the son of Wendy and the late George Hogarth. He was born in July 1950 and attended Bromsgrove School from 1960 to 1967, being awarded a Foundation Scholarship in 1960 and an Exhibition in 1963.

After university, he chose teaching as a profession and taught in several schools across the UK before becoming Headmaster of Archbishop's School, Canterbury, in 1984, at the age of thirty-three. Over the next twenty-five years, he transformed the school from a non-selective school with no A-level provision into a comprehensive with a large Sixth Form. In 2005, the school achieved an Outstanding Ofsted inspection in every single area and in 2008 he was named Kent head teacher of the year.

From 1994, he offered pupils the opportunity to go abroad in the Easter holidays. The first destination was Greece, and trips were continued annually all over the world for the next fourteen years. After a visit to Kenya in 1996, he raised money to build a primary school in Kenya. Over the next few years, the pupils raised enough money to build a further two schools in Kenya and a school in South Sudan. In 2007, the year before he retired, he formally set up a charity, the KajoKeji Educational Trust Africa.

After retirement he became more actively involved in St Dunstan's Church, Canterbury, including writing the history of the church and being the Chairman of Friends of St Dunstan's. He was also a churchwarden from 2008 until his death. Mr Hogarth held other posts including Chairman of Streynshams Charitable Trust, a Trustee of Pilgrims Hospices, East Kent and Chairman of the Canterbury Diocesan Board of Education.

He is survived by his mother, Wendy, wife, Mary, daughters, Laura and Clementine, granddaughters, Rosie and Isabel, and sisters, Jenifer and Louise.

After his death was announced, many of his former pupils posted tributes to him on the Archbishop's School alumni website. The following three quotes are typical:

"He was the very heart of that school, and genuinely cared about every single pupil that passed through those doors."

"He was a truly gentle and golden hearted man and will be forever loved and remembered fondly."

"[Alasdair] was a truly inspirational and kind man."

Alasdair J Hogarth receiving the Kent Headmaster of the Year award in 2008

- Dr Jenifer Harding (sister of Mr Hogarth)

Sir Paul Judge (Former Bromsgrove School Governor) d. 21st May 2017

Sir Paul Judge was born in South London in 1949. Ever the entrepreneur, he made money by selling programmes at Blackheath rugby club on Saturday afternoons.

Sir Paul was rated one of the "Top 40 under 40" by Business Insider Magazine in 1986, by which time he had already successfully led a management buyout of Cadbury Typhoo the previous year. By May 1986, Premier Brands was formed and when he sold the company in 1990, it was worth £310 million. Just a couple of years later, he was appointed director general by Norman Fowler, chairman of the Conservative Party.

More recently, Sir Paul was a founder of the Guild of Entrepreneurs, an organisation formed just three years ago.

Sir Paul was a very good strategic thinker, who made a positive and valuable contribution to Bromsgrove during his time as one of our Governors.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara and his two sons from a previous marriage.

Margot Langley (Cobham/ Mary Windsor 83-88) d. May 2017

Margot was one of the first intake of girls at Bromsgrove Preparatory School as an eleven-year-old boarder. She stayed until she had completed her A levels, when she won the German prize. She went on to study Russian and German at Exeter University. She had a gift for languages, became fluent in Italian and French, and worked as a bilingual secretary in Italy.

Margot liked children and took an HND in Social Care and trained as a Nanny, taking a job with a German family in Dubai, then two spells in Germany. She also taught English as an Additional Language in Germany.

Margot enjoyed studying and surprised Worcester College by successfully completing the two-year accountancy course in one year, something no one else had ever achieved. When she became too ill to work, she used her accountancy skills to set up a property business, buying houses. She installed new floors, kitchens and bathrooms, re-decorated and rented them out as comfortable, much needed homes, gradually building up a portfolio.

Margot enjoyed clothes, music, cooking and pursuits such as sewing, embroidery, knitting and crochet, as well as teaching these skills to others. She was good at woodwork too, and did voluntary work at New Start, restoring old furniture for the homeless and mentoring youths there.

Margot made friends easily and still kept in touch with School and university friends. Friends came as far away as Belgium and Germany to her funeral. Suffering from anorexia since she was 16, and often in pain, she had great courage and always presented a cheerful face to the world. She is remembered for her kindness, helpfulness, her sense of fun and interest in everyone she met. She will be greatly missed.

- Margaret and John Langley

Hilary Newton (Former Staff) d. 11th April 2017

It is with great sadness that we report the death of our friend and colleague, Hilary Newton (Academic Staff 1992-2012).

Hilary, along with her husband Bob, began their twenty-year journey at Bromsgrove School in 1992 and navigated it with such passion and joy. Hilary was a truly loyal and dedicated member of the Maths department and seven years after joining the School, both she and Bob were appointed as Cobham Houseparents, always making the pupils feel secure when they were such a long way from home. Even during the holidays, they ran Easter trips to places such as Hyde House in Dorset where pupils could develop skills such as sailing and raft building. Here, children could run about in the countryside and develop skills such as sailing and raft building, all unavailable in the normal School working year.

There was a memorial service at Canley Crematorium, and many colleagues, friends and former pupils paid their respects, including some of the very first Cobham boarders.

Hilary will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2016/17.

Robert Pruden (Lyttelton 55-60) d. 27th September 2017

Robert Pruden was born on 7th May 1942. He never knew his father, an RAF pilot who lost his life in the war. His mother was a Terry of the well-known family of Redditch spring manufacturers. She was a devoted and caring mother to Rob and his sister Jill, and they also benefited from the support of grandparents, uncles and aunts.

An aptitude for Latin and Greek at the Prep School vectored him into Upper IV Classical when he moved to the Senior School in 1955, as a member of the Lyttelton half of School House. He was also in the choir in 1955/56, surprisingly as a bass. The classical curriculum was strangulatingly narrow; we were not exposed to anything scientific, other than one period a week for a term in the Lower Sixth with the venerable Mr Alexander, who taught us very basic concepts in physics. We studied Latin, Greek and Ancient History under Joe Carson, Anthony Powell-Price, Peter Needham and Guy Jarrett, with the lugubrious portrait of Professor A E Housman OB looking down upon us (we were later to learn from our Latin Professor of Housman's penchant for analysing texts to death). By way of light relief, the redoubtable John Hedley exposed us to the dangerous political delights of dialectical materialism.

Rob's Valete records enthusiastic sporting endeavour as a member of the athletics team in 1960. It also has him as a corporal in the CCF. He was a member of a proud platoon of self-selected rogues in the Motor Transport Section, which we invented when we ran out of exams to take in the Signals. It also relieved each of us of responsibility for a WWI Lee Enfield rifle. Officially we were under the supervision of Harvey Bryant OB, who had the BMC garage in the High Street and he did teach us a lot about motor vehicles, but on CCF days, after the parade, we all retreated behind the armoury to tinker with an old Standard, stripped of its bodywork, and if it started we would drive around Middle Charford.

On leaving School in 1960, Rob went to Trinity College Dublin to read Classics, later dropping Greek in favour of French, thus laying groundwork for his eventual life-changing move to France. It can be said without reproach that he availed himself of the extra-curricular cultural and social opportunities which Dublin presented, much enhanced by the pulling power of a very smart VW Beetle convertible, a 21st birthday present. He managed to squeeze a four-year degree course into five years. In 2011, his son, James, took Rob back to Dublin, where they visited many of the favourite haunts of his student days.

After TCD, Rob was employed in marketing at the Raleigh bicycle company in Nottingham, where he met his first wife, Bruna, who presented him with a son, James, in 1971. By this time Rob had joined an advertising agency in Birmingham and they were living in Bromsgrove. Things didn't work out and Rob and Bruna parted company in 1977. He moved to run his firm's Wolverhampton office and, with custody of James, he saw him through Tettenhall College, before moving to France in 1988 with his second wife, Pauline. They took over the small hotel, Rose des Vents, near Ribérac. It was hard work with very long hours for both of them and required them to balance French and British clientèles. Rob with his genial, sardonic wit was bilingually at home in the bar, while Pauline earned the respect of the natives for her cuisine

They retired from Rose Des Vents after fourteen years and moved to nearby St Martial, where Rob threw himself into local life, becoming a local councillor. The respect in which he was held was attested by the turnout at his French funeral. This was followed by a graveside service and interment of ashes at the family plot in Redditch, attended by family and friends from his Bromsgrove and Dublin days. Fittingly a reception was held at Southcrest, now a hotel, built in 1921 as a grand residence by Rob's great uncle, Charles Terry.

- David McMullen (Millington 1955-1960)

John Taylor (Wendron 55-60) d. 28th May 2017

Credit: Des Gershon Image Archives

John Mark Taylor died on 28th May 2017. He was born in Hampton-in-Arden in 1941 to Wilfred and Eileen (Martha). He began his education at Eversfield, Solihull and was an Exhibitioner and Boarder at Bromsgrove. In his book, *Please Stay to the Adjournment*, John remembers his own time at the School as "happy and amusing", although he admits it wasn't always like that.

After Bromsgrove, John went on to study Civil Engineering at the University of Birmingham but soon switched to Law. He was very successful with his studies and in his career, however it was during his time at Bromsgrove that he decided that his main ambition was to become an MP.

Elected politics began on Trafalgar Day 1971 when John was elected as a Solihull Councillor for Shirley South. In 1974, he stood for Parliament in Dudley East twice and famously "Dudley East fought back!" In 1974 he was elected to the West Midlands County Council and the following year became Leader.

In 1979, John was elected as a European Parliament MEP for Midlands East in the first direct election, which included Hampton-in-Arden, consisting of seven Westminster Parliamentary seats. That same year, he married Ann in Hampton Church on his birthday, 19th August 1979.

9th June 1983 marked the day that John was elected as MP for Solihull. Upon his appointment, John returned to Bromsgrove as guest speaker at Commemoration that same year and was later President of the Bromsgrovian Club.

During his time in Westminster he held various appointments under Margaret Thatcher and John Major, including the first Commons representative of the Lord Chancellor's department. John held various Whips' office appointments, including Vice Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household.

John's life away from Politics continued with an enjoyment as a member of the University of the Third Age, watching sport, reading widely and an everlasting interest in politics. He enjoyed his visits back to Bromsgrove in his later years and was a member of the School's Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society. He delighted in visiting the cricket pavilion where he saw his own name and that of his brother's on the honours boards. Sadly he was not well for a number of years but continued to fight with stoicism. His last days were peaceful in Solihull hospital, where he died at 10.30pm on 28th May 2017.

Roy Snape (School 34-39) d. 13th January 2017

Roy Snape died peacefully aged 94 on 13th January 2017. He was the beloved husband of Jo and will be greatly missed by his children Peter (School 63-68) and Sarah and his grandchildren and great grandchildren. After war service as a Captain in the Royal Artillery he returned to South Wales and became a local solicitor. He was later made a Recorder and served as a judge in North Wales and Cheshire. He was a keen rugby player at school and had a lifetime love of the game as well as being a keen golfer. He wore his OB tie with pride all of his life.

The funeral was held at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend.

OBs who also died in 2016/17:

John Cook (Former Staff)
Date of death not known

Martin Cook (1950-1954)
d. 9th April 2017

Robert Arthur Allen Edwards (Lupton 1937-1942)
d. 12th January 2017

Major John Gardner (School 1940-1944)
d. early 2016

James Heward (School 1953-1956)
d. 29th March 2015
(Editor's Note: We have only just been informed of Mr Heward's death)

William Richard Hickman (Elmshurst and Oakley 1949-1958)
d. 24th July 2017

Alan Hurlbut (Former Staff 1969-1975)
d. October 2017

Eric Lloyd (Gordon 1937-1942)
d. 2nd November 2017

Homer McCririck (Lupton 1936-1941)
d. 30th January 2017

Ted Morris (Lupton 1942-1947)
Date of death not known

Gordon Leslie Moss (Gordon 1959-1964)
Date of death not known

Michael Roxburgh (Elmshurst 1949-1953)
Date of death not known

Revd. Alan White (Chaplain 1956-1964)
d. 19th May 2017

The Foundation

Appreciation Lunch

It was wonderful to welcome so many of our current donors and members of the Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society back to Bromsgrove in April 2017 for our Appreciation Lunch. OBs reminisced about their School days and listened to the Headmaster talk about the developments taking place today.

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

Hugh Furber, Carol James-Moore and Rufus James-Moore

Nevil Malin, Kelvin Morris, Una Morris and Nikki Thorpe (School Archivist)

Gareth Morgan, David Buller and Una Morgan

Paddy Firminger, Val Firminger and the Headmaster, Peter Clague

Andrew Clark, Wendy Clark, Caroline Godsall and Geoff Godsall

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.

The Eighth Annual Foundation Lecture (March 2017)

The School was delighted to welcome so many parents, Old Bromsgrovians and guests to our annual Foundation Lecture on Thursday, 2nd March 2017.

With gracious thanks to Old Bromsgrovian and Foundation Trustee Mark Escolme for being host member at the RAC Club, and to guest speaker Vice-Admiral Ben Key CBE for a superb talk about his journey from Bromsgrove to the Royal Navy, where he is now Fleet Commander. Ben has been privileged to command four ships: the mine hunter HMS Sandown, the frigates HMS Iron Duke and HMS Lancaster, and the aircraft carrier HMS Illustrious.

We are delighted to announce that the Ninth Annual Foundation Lecture will take place at The Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, on Thursday, 8th March 2018, with guest speaker Andrew Dunnett (Lupton 1980-1985), Director of the Vodafone Foundation.

You can read more about Mr Dunnett in our interview with him on page 30.

The Headmaster, Peter Clague with Vice-Admiral Key

Robert Dowler MBE, Shirley Gummow, Edward Dowler, Quentin Gummow

Jenny Bossard and Mave Turner

Andrew and Catherine Maund

Geoff Strong, Lesley Brookes, Professor John Whiteman, Rachel Scannell

Christopher Parker and Geoff Strong

Donor Roll

THANKING OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT DURING 2016/17.

(GIFTS RECEIVED FROM SEPTEMBER 2016 - SEPTEMBER 2017)

Cookes
Kim Daniels (Lupton and Cookes 60-65)
Richard Kenchington (65-69)
Donald Robbie (67-72)
Matthew Taylor (Walters and Cookes 68-73, Foundation Trustee)

Elmshurst
William Gardner (65-68)
Richard Herbert (53-58)
Jerome Keyte (69-73)
Ian McDonald (58-63)
Dick Noake (59-64, Chairman of the Foundation)
John Ruck (50-53)
Hadyn Thomas (87-89)
Topper Webb (72-73)
Michael Woodall (69-74)

Gordon
Richard Brook (45-50)
Jeremy Davis (46-54)
Barry Dumughn (50-55)
Clive Gummow (52-57)
Sir Robert Hastie KCVO CBE (43-51)
Andrew Parffrey (68-73)
Colin Pimble (69-74)
Anthony Scott (52-57)
Graham Sim (69-74)
Anthony Spackman (44-49)
John Vine (45-50)
Emory Winship (71-72)

Hazeldene
Alexandra Lloyd (01-06)
Amy Mason-Towers (11-16)
Alice Middleton (91-96)
Katherine Parnell (98-03)

Housman Hall
Haotian Cui (15-17)
Christophe Fostier (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)
Kelvin Morris (76-81)
Philip Powell (62-67)
David Reeve (50-54)
Gregory Smith (92-97)
John Steveni (75-80)
Stewart Towe CBE (65-70, Chairman of Governors 2010-2016)
David Walters (81-86, Governor)

Lyttelton
J Myles Griffiths (57-61)
David Higgs (53-57)
William Lockhart (05-16)
Rowland G. Morgan (53-58)

Oakley
Theodora Dyakova (2005-2007)

Mary Windsor
Victoria Underwood (82-87)

School
Simon Bucknall (90-95)
David Buller (48-53)
Andrew Clark (47-52)
John Gardner (40-44)
Mike Hales (47-52)
J Roy Hughes (45-50)
William Jay (61-66)
Garth Kenderdine-Davies (43-47)
John Massey (62-67)
Jim Page (45-49, Academic Staff 61-89)
Edward Perkins (56-60)
Christopher Price (39-44)
Richard Pyatt (72-74)
David Roberts (53-58)
Paul Snape (58-62)
Christopher Tan (61-66)

Walters
Matthew Taylor (Walters and Cookes 68-73, Foundation Trustee)

Wendron / Wendron-Gordon
Vice Admiral Ben Key CBE (79-84)
Tim Roberts (58-63)

Friends of the School
Bromsgrove Court Leet
Old Bromsgrovian Lodge
Linda Cocksedge
Chris Edwards
Andrew and Catherine Maund
Rachel Scannell
James Sommerville
One Anonymous Donor

Parents
Mr Andreasyan and Mrs Osipyan
Mr and Mrs Bruten
Mr Fitzmaurice and Ms Cowper
Mr Iec and Mrs Chu
Rev and Mrs Khan
Dr B King
Dr Leung and Dr Chow
Mr and Mrs Humphries
Mr R Hurley
Mr and Mrs Meredith
Mr and Mrs Muir
Mr Nian and Mrs Qiu
Mr and Mrs Ose
Mr and Mrs Prince
Dr Romagnoli and Dr Saverio
Mr Trofimov and Mrs Trofimova
Mr and Mrs Tseng
Dr and Mrs Weston
Mr and Mrs Wiklund
Mr Yip and Ms Lam

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

Mr 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 or write to us at the School address

Events

WHAT'S ON AT BROMSGROVE DURING 2018 AND BEYOND.

February 2018

Ladies' Lunch
Saturday, 3rd February 2018
Venue: Bromsgrove School
Guest Speaker: Sarah Derriey
Time: 11.45am - 2.30pm
Tickets: £22 per person, which includes a reception drink and a 3-course lunch. The Ladies' Lunch is open to all female parents, Old Bromsgrovians and friends of the School.

March 2018

The Ninth Annual Foundation Lecture
Thursday, 8th March 2018
Venue: Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London
Guest Speaker: Andrew Dunnett (Director of the Vodafone Foundation)
Time: 7.00pm - 9.30pm
The Foundation Lecture is open to anyone with a connection to Bromsgrove School. Numbers are strictly limited; please contact us to reserve your place.

Mothering Sunday Service
Sunday, 11th March 2018
Led by Reverend Paul Hedworth, School Chaplain
Venue: Memorial Chapel
Time: 10.30am
All welcome - please email enquiries@bromsgrove-school.co.uk or telephone 01527 579679 ext 222 to book your place

Appreciation Lunch
Thursday, 15th March 2018
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.

March 2018

School Jazz Concert
Thursday, 22nd March 2018
Venue: Bromsgrove School
Time: 7.00pm
Tickets will need to be purchased in advance. For bookings, please contact music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk or telephone 01527 579679 ext 235

May 2018

Former Teaching Staff (Pre-2005s) Reunion
Saturday, 12th May 2018
Venue: Bromsgrove School
Time: 11.00am – 2.30pm
Former Teaching Staff, who were at the School before 2005, are invited to a special reunion, following a very successful event last year. Invitations will be sent out during the Lent Term.

June 2018

Commemoration Day
Saturday, 30th June 2018
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 2018

1980-1989 Leavers' Reunion
Saturday, 8th September 2018
Venue: Bromsgrove School
Time: 10.00am - 3.00pm
Invitations for eligible OBs will be sent out at the beginning of the Summer Term.

January 2019

London Dinner
Friday, 18th January 2019
Venue: Lansdowne Club, Mayfair, London
Time: 7.00pm
Tickets: £70 per person, which includes a welcome drink and a 3-course dinner. For all Old Bromsgrovians and partners/guests, not just those living in London - details will be sent to you by email in due course.

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 on particular career paths and university applications. If you are able to help, please contact us.

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

Telephone us on
01527 579679 ext 357/366

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

Update Form

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

Please detatch and complete this form in CAPITALS. Further details of how to return the form can be found overleaf.

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 specifiy it here: 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

Occupation Details

Position: _____ **Industry:** _____

Employer's Name: _____ **Location:** _____

Events and Communications

We will use the email (and occasionally postal address) provided to send news, invitations and information we believe to be of importance to our Alumni. To opt-out, please tick the box. ☐

(You can also opt-in or out of communications yourself by logging on to www.bromsgrovians.com)

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 email and occupation details to the School Careers Department ☐

I'd like information about leaving a legacy ☐

I have pledged a legacy to the School ☐

Data Protection Statement: All data is held securely and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Your details will not be passed to external organisations or used for any purpose other than promoting the welfare of The School. Please note that core data (which is in the public domain and consists of your name/s, your year of admission, your House, your year of leaving and a photo, if you have uploaded one) is automatically made available to other alumni on the OB database. You can change any of these settings to make your data visible or not visible to other alumni at any time - just visit www.bromsgrovians.com

Please detatch and complete this form in CAPITALS, and then post it to:

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

If you require more than one form, you can download additional copies from **www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/ob-documents.aspx**

You can also update your own details instantly by logging on to **www.bromsgrovians.com**