

SUMMER 2017

CHALLENGE 03-04

THE ARTS 04-05

COMMUNITY 06-07

LIFE 08



Bradford
Grammar
School

Mac Age

TV
Historian
delights pupils

Dr Lucy Worsley best known for her BBC documentaries including 'Six Wives with Lucy Worsley', visited BGS to share her passion for history ...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

In a special event arranged with Ilkley Literature Festival, Worsley – Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces, introduced her latest book, 'My Name is Victoria', to Year 6 pupils from Baildon Church of England Primary, Clock House School and Year 7s from Bradford Grammar School.

Feature





Welcome from the Headmaster

Almost 1,000 pupils from 40+ schools, including our Juniors from Clock House, joined together to take part in the Brownlee Foundation Mini Triathlon ...

It was great fun to spectate (but tropical hot poolside), the atmosphere was wonderful and the children from all schools were brilliant!

The 'mini-tri' gets a mention later and I hope you will enjoy this latest snapshot of school life. It is but a taste of all that has been ongoing during summer term, none of which would be possible without the sterling efforts of our talented staff and tremendous support of BGS families. Thank you all.

Finally, as is fitting, I'd like to play tribute to our students who continue to make the most of the opportunities to get stuck-in and enjoy success both inside and outside of the classroom, even when the prospect of summer exams sets nerves jangling. Maintaining balance and keeping up the things you enjoy, even when pressure mounts is essential. These pages pay tribute to this ethos.

Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ... bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



JUL

- 3 July Year 7 Transition Day
- 5 July Clock House Speech Day
- 9 July David Hockney's 80th Birthday

SEP

- 5 September First day of term
- 26 September Founders' Day
- 29 September World's Biggest Coffee Morning

OCT

- 7 October Junior and Senior School Open Day

Further thoughts ...

Wild things: Why we need to get outside

I believe in the benefits, for the sake of mind, body and spirit, of going outside from time to time to enjoy rural and wild landscapes. Additionally, I understand that children can experience such benefits as part of a broad curriculum and that teaching and learning is enriched greatly by venturing on occasion beyond the classroom. I also fully appreciate that not every family is quite as keen on tangled woodlands, muddy puddles and camping as we are at home and therefore our nation's schools have a role to play in broadening children's experiences, in part by offering an authentic taste of our natural world.



As a young teacher I brought my love of climbing and all things mountainous to the profession. Getting young people out and about and involved in the world around them is part of what I do as a Geographer and educator. Children can't get everything they need in a classroom.

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“...”

I love visiting schools to scout out the historians of the future.

LUCY WORSLEY, TV HISTORIAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

With the aid of props including enormous trousers, a plastic pineapple and many crowns, Lucy explained Queen Victoria's complicated family tree and the coincidences that brought her to the throne.

Lucy also met with BGS A Level history students and answered their questions on topics as diverse as the Russian Revolution, Ann Boleyn and why history is a great subject to study at university.

Hermione Baines, Head of History said, 'Lucy Worsley has made her reputation as an extremely effective and enthusiastic communicator of the stories that make up History on-screen. It was a real privilege to see her in the flesh. She had 200 schoolchildren spellbound with her explanation of the complexities of the Georgian succession problem – no mean feat!'



Laura Beddows, Programme Coordinator for Ilkley Literature Festival said 'We work year round to deliver events like this to schools across the region and it's always brilliant to see authors sharing their passion for a subject with students.'

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Discipline and dedication!

Two of BGS's pupils have had fantastic success in swimming recently.

Ciara Schlosshan, aged 15, from Leeds won 200m butterfly gold at the British Swimming Championships 2017 in Sheffield, after being selected by British Swimming to attend a training camp in Indianapolis and a US Grand Prix competition.

She has previously won gold in the Junior Women's 400 metres Individual Medley (15 years and under) and the bronze medal in the Junior Women's 200 metres Individual Medley at the National ASANER 2015 Short Course Championships where she also broke two Yorkshire records in those events.

Rebecca Clynes, aged 14, from Leeds recently qualified for the Junior women's final ages 14-17 in the 200m breaststroke at the British Swimming Championships 2017. Rebecca previously competed in the Welsh Nationals winning an abundance of medals – including 5 golds! Well done girls!



BGS breaks rowing world record

Students broke the World U19 Lightweight Concept 2 24 hour Rowing Club record with a final distance of 389,317 metres, beating the previous record set by Orlando Rowing club, Florida.

Rowing in two-minute shifts, a team of ten senior BGS rowers carefully practised changeovers to avoid losing momentum. The boys rowed all through the day and all through the night, with eight rowers involved in each two-hour shift allowing two of the team to snatch a little sleep before they were back on the ergometer.

The following morning, with over an hour to spare, the boys crashed through the existing world record and went on to row until 10 am, breaking the record by an impressive 18,182 metres!

Jane Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral) said: 'I had the pleasure and privilege of seeing this magnificent effort by our rowers. It is a tremendous achievement for the ten boys involved, and was a truly impressive event. Hours of training and planning have gone into it and the teamwork and the atmosphere were wonderful!'

“...”

Well done to our Concept 2 24 hour record breaking rowers! Our rowers organised themselves and showed great team spirit in the breaking of this record; I am tremendously proud of them all.

SIMON HINCHLIFFE, HEADMASTER

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CAPTIONS
1 Lucy Worsley
2 Pupils had the chance to test their historical knowledge with a quiz
3 Our record breaking BGS rowers!

Challenge



National French film prize winner

Sophie Still won a national competition run by The Department of French at Oxford University. There were almost 100 entries in total, with 69 in the Years 7 to 11 age category.

The entrants had to watch a film and rewrite the ending in no more than 1,500 words. The entrants had a choice of two films: 'Jean de Florette' or 'Mic Macs'. Sophie chose to study 'Jean de Florette' and her piece was so well received that the University asked permission to publish it on their website and blog.

The organisers of the competition, Dr Jenny Oliver and Dr Jonathan Patterson said: 'There was a very high standard of competition, which made judging a difficult task! But we thought that Sophie's entry was especially impressive as it both captured the mood and character of the film and dramatically reworked the ending.'

As well as receiving a certificate and getting her work published online, Sophie received £100. She deserves huge congratulations! Especially as she has done this whilst preparing for her GCSEs.

500th Duke of Edinburgh bronze award

Alicia Hawksworth was the 500th person to be awarded her bronze Duke of Edinburgh certificate at BGS since starting the scheme in 2002.

Nathaniel Davey and Mehreen Khalil (also pictured) have both completed their Gold award with the Sixth Form. Well done everyone.

Cyber fun!

BGS hosted the first ever Yorkshire and Humberside Cyber Games, organised by Cyber Security Challenge UK, and involved several different businesses and experts creating challenges based around cyber threats for pupils to solve.

Several teams from local schools entered the event to test their teamwork, problem solving and lateral thinking. The overall winner was a team from Bingley Grammar School.

Year 12 BGS pupils have also been doing an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in Cybersecurity as part of their Enrichment programme.

Year 11 pupils called Team ZMS (Zain Hussain, Marcus Steward and Saif Panni) entered the national PiWars competition at University of Cambridge.

They designed, built and programmed a robot to complete seven challenges devised by the competition organisers. The robot

was controlled by a small Raspberry Pi computer which the pupils programmed using Python. They attempted all the events and scored enough points to rank 8th nationally.

“...” Team ZMS ranked 8th nationally!

Two teams of Year 7 and 8 pupils went to University of Bradford STEM centre to compete against local schools in a Lego Sumo competition. The pupils had designed, built and programmed robots built from Lego Mindstorms that had to detect the opponent's robot and to push it out of the sumo ring. Our Year 7 team managed to beat the opposition in a close 2-1 final to win the whole contest.

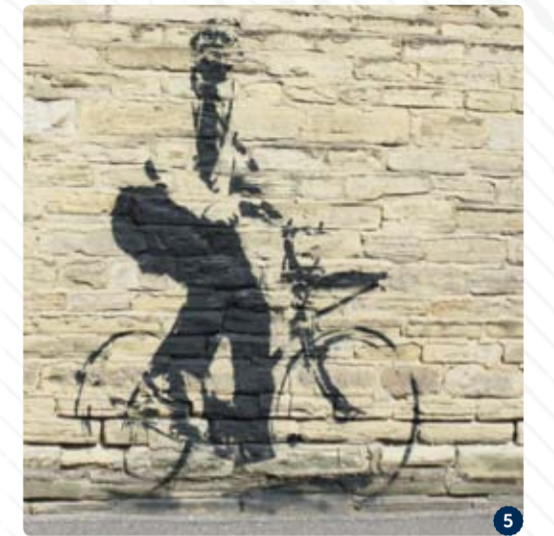
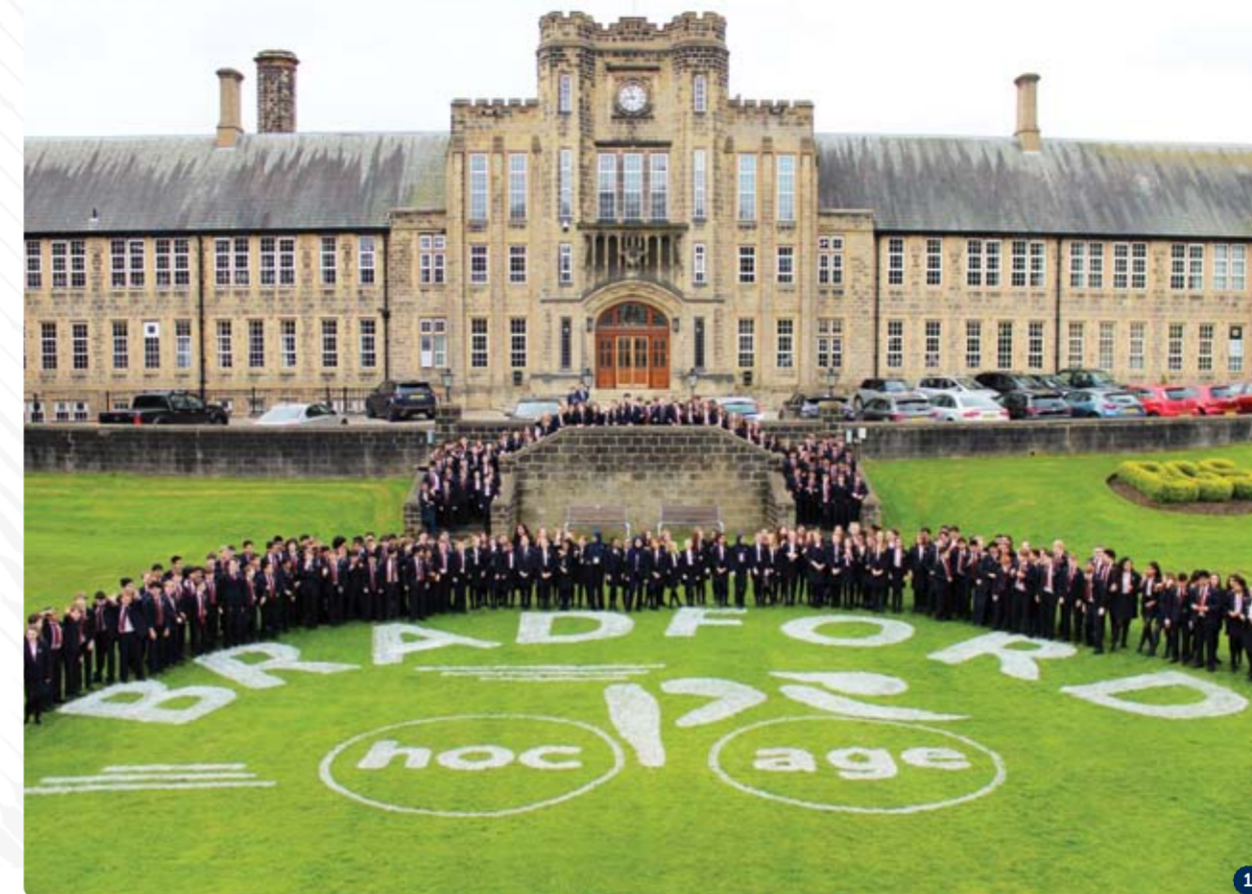
Arts

Diploma for our teenage soprano

Ruby Hendry has gained a distinction in a new diploma. Ruby, 18, took the first-ever Singing Diploma created by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

Previously, the performing examinations ended with Grade 8 but, this year, the board introduced an advanced grade, with the first entries in March.

Ruby has been studying singing with Ilkley tenor James Griffett for eight years and, following her A levels, will begin studying at Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester in September. She is well known locally for appearances with theatre groups such as the Upstagers, and for winning trophies at music festivals around Yorkshire. Last year she scooped a clutch of awards in the Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts.



Tour de Yorkshire!

The race was on as the Tour de Yorkshire visited Bradford. Our fantastic Handmade Club got busy sewing some lovely recycled yellow and blue bunting to adorn the School railings.

Thanks to Mrs Tomlinson and the club. We also took the opportunity to display the original handmade knitted bicycle that was created to celebrate the 2014 Grand Depart in Yorkshire.

The Art Department with a Year 7 and Juniors competition created land art for the Governors' Lawn. They were big enough to catch the eye of the helicopter pilots as they buzzed above the route in Lister Park.

The BBC even brought their drone to film the art and interview the Junior competition winners and BGS was featured on ITV Four (with an audience 60+ million) and 'Look North'.

Well done to the competition winners – Francesca, Tadayon, Rebecca and Annabel for the Juniors' design and Evie, Joseph, Ammar and Ishaq for the Seniors'. Thank you to Mrs Horsfield and Mrs Morley and all of the pupils for their fantastic designs – and of course to our amazing estates team for making the photos possible.

VIEW MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com/news

CAPTIONS

1 Sophie Still won this prize whilst studying for her GCSEs

2 National PiWars competition: BGS robot controlled by a small Raspberry Pi computer which the pupils programmed using Python

3 Alicia Hawksworth – the 500th person to be awarded a bronze D of E certificate

4 Ruby Hendry is set to soar!

CAPTIONS

1 Winning Senior School land art

2 Winning Junior School land art

3 The original handmade knitted bicycle created to celebrate the 2014 Grand Depart in Yorkshire, Lister Park

4 Winning Senior School TDY design

5 Wall art of Hockney created by street artist 'STEWY' – www.stewy.eu

Bradford
Grammar
School

bradfordgrammar.com

Our digital future...

A new website
that encapsulates
BGS at its best



IN DETAIL ...

Turn to the back page for further discussion
with BGS Headmaster, Simon Hinchliffe





“...”

The new website joins a suite of revamped school publications which bring to the fore aspects of BGS heritage, including our motto ‘Hoc Age’.

SIMON HINCHLIFFE,
HEADMASTER



The redesign of the Bradford Grammar School website has left no stone unturned, showcasing our truly astounding school and celebrating our pupils’ achievements.

1. Navigation completely overhauled
2. An inspirational window on life at BGS
3. Bite-sized content for ease of reading
4. Intuitive and engaging user experience



A new website that showcases all that is amazing about BGS

The creation of the new Bradford Grammar School website presented us with an opportunity celebrate our pupils' achievements and promote our astounding School.

We have consulted widely with existing and prospective parents, pupils and colleagues, all of whom have fed directly into the design process. A back-to-basics approach began by sketching things out with pencil and paper - clearly, traditional methods still have a place in an increasingly digital world.

Content and navigation have now been completely overhauled to create a more informative and intuitive 'user journey'. We kept an open mind about what might work best and after extensive user-testing (thank you to those of you who took part) have arrived at an outcome that we believe is a significant improvement upon the previous website. We recognise that the majority of pupils and parents will access the School website whilst going about their daily routines. Time is often (always!) short, so being able to deliver the School's notices and information in an engaging yet informative, 'bite-sized', way has been of primary importance. Visitors to the new website will also be struck by the imagery of everyday School life, our impressive architecture and a series of fabulous pupil portraits that tell a visual story of our School.

Apart from being a window on all that is amazing about BGS, the new site will evolve incrementally in order to represent BGS in the most effective way possible. Text, pictures, videos and such like can be added and amended at a moment's notice. Additionally, it has been vital to ensure that the new website is as future-proof as possible and we are delighted with the way in which it appears on mobile devices.

“...”

... the new site will evolve incrementally in order to represent BGS in the most effective way possible.

We have endeavoured to present these sympathetically with a modern touch. In so doing it has been our intention to provide an authentic impression of the school as it is today, defined by our historic foundations, values and cherished traditions, but also by our innovative and forward-looking approach.

With all of the above in mind, we hope you will agree that the new website encapsulates Bradford Grammar School at its very best!

bradfordgrammar.com



Simon Hinchliffe

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Our first Dragon Boat Race!

If it wasn't for a cold North Easterly wind, it would have been a perfect day for the first-ever UK schools' dragon boat racing event.

The race was held on the River Aire at Roberts Park, Saltaire at the beginning of May as part of the City of Bradford Lord Mayor's Appeal.

BGS has never participated this sport in before, so a scratch crew of Year 7 and Year 8 pupils entered with more enthusiasm than expectation to race against other schools teams, all of which included pupils two years older than them.

BGS pupils listen carefully and learn fast so our team's technique improved quickly. Each time we raced, we went faster and we were thrilled to post the second fastest time of the day and to finish second overall.

It was a great day out, and we will be back next year to see if we can finish one place higher!

“...”
Our pupils listen carefully and learn fast so our team's technique improved quickly ...



Volunteering for Barnardo's

Year 13 students mentor a group of young carers every week who work with Barnardo's to help with their schoolwork and homework.

This not only improves the young carers grades, but also gives them confidence in their own ability and for a short time they can focus on themselves and not who they are caring for at home.

Kerry McKenna Children's Service Manager at Barnardo's said 'On speaking to the young carers they were extremely positive about the whole experience – they had enjoyed going to the grammar school, building up the friendships with their mentors and benefitted with their studies. The mentors themselves talked about how they had found it rewarding and for some it had inspired them for their future career choices.'

The scheme has been nominated for the prestigious Queens Award for Voluntary Service – the highest award given to volunteers across the UK.



Spring Fair

The Parents' Association (BGS PA) has had another busy year supporting the School and funding a number of public events.

Including the Spring Fair, proving donations to local charities, bringing communities together and helping to provide spaces for conversation.

The theme for this year's Spring Fair was 'All Things Bradford', celebrating our great city and Yorkshire heritage! It was certainly a fun family day out featuring Otley Brass Band, giant games, music and a selection of stalls.

The BGS PA also continue to fund small projects such as the Photography Competition which was available to all pupils across the junior and senior schools; the purchase of several picnic benches which are in continual use by pupils, provision of a bowling machine that is used by cricketers and hockey players, fins for the swimmers and rugby pads and overjackets for the rugby players.

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Race for Life

The sun was shining when a group of staff, students and their parents formed TEAM BGS and ran the Race for Life at the beginning of May.

Runners, joggers and walkers donned their training shoes to cover the 5km route around the beautiful Lister Park to raise awareness of cancer affecting women.

Cheered on by the crowds of people, all the members of TEAM BGS finished with a smile on their face. Grace Dawson, in Year 8, finished in 19 minutes and five seconds, 27 seconds faster than last year when she also crossed the finishing line first. TEAM BGS also occupied second place as 11-year-old Rebecca Flaherty, in Clock House, finished in 19 minutes 47 seconds.

Definitely, the taking part counted, as the atmosphere was electric. The whole team made a sterling effort and they all did amazing, raising lots of sponsorship for such a worthy cause as well.

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Brownlee Foundation Mini Triathlon

We were excited to host the Brownlee Foundation's event for over 40 local Bradford schools. With almost 1,000 junior pupils following in the Brownlees' Olympic success, this was the biggest mini-tri to date. Almost 200 BGS Juniors participated and were handed their finisher medals by Mr and Mrs Brownlee, Alistair and Jonny's parents.



CAPTIONS
1 A perfect day for the first ever UK schools' Dragon Boat Race', River Aire
2 Pupils listened carefully ...
3 Pupils race against teams from other schools
4 Year 13 students mentor a group of Young Carers every week
5 Spring Fair
6 The whole BGS team made a sterling effort at this years Race for Life



Iceland

Fifty Year 8 to 11 pupils enjoyed a jam-packed tour of the geographical highlights of Iceland over the Easter break including a relaxing bathe in the healing waters of the Blue Lagoon and being in awe of the torrents of water at Gulfoss.

All members of the group braved driving hail to visit the snout of an active glacier, and swimming proved a hit too – the experience of bathing in 38-degree waters whilst temperatures fell below zero outside was something that will never be forgotten. Overall, the students were inspired by geography in action!

Physics lectures

This year has seen a wealth of opportunities for all students interested in Science.

In October 30 students in Year 11 to 13 attended a research lecture in the Physics Department at the University of Leeds on topological matter, and its application to quantum computing. This was followed in November with 50 students attending a talk on Black Holes by a visiting Oxford Professor.

In School, we have hosted the inaugural BGS Open Science Lecture Series with two successful lectures at Christmas and Easter. We have had scientists coming in and talking across disciplines about Extremophiles living in strange environments and the weird world of slime where everything you though you understood was turned on its head. With over 200 pupils, parents, siblings, staff and guests to the school attending, covering all age groups, more and more people are getting involved with science at BGS.



French exchange

'The French exchange was such a great experience. It was hard at times because of the language barrier, but we got through it as the family we stayed with were very kind and our French vocabulary improved drastically in such a short amount of time. During the time we saw some amazing parts of France. Our favorite part was the Puy de Dôme because the views were amazing.'

'We found it very fascinating as we didn't realise how different the French lifestyle was. For example they have lots of food and they present it much differently to how we do in England.'

VICTORIA AND LIZZIE, YEAR 9 PUPILS

'Being on the French exchange was a great experience, not only vastly improving and widening my speaking ability with the language but better still my independence and ability to make decisions. I have seen many exchanges come into school and always wondered what happened; my participation has shown me that it is far from what I expected.'

'I also think one of the most important things is to try and stay confident and not to worry about getting things wrong, as it helps to show your personality a bit more.'

DAISY, YEAR 9 PUPIL

Cricket success

The 1st XI has completed the first half of the season with the first weather affected match at QEGS. Despite a fairly modest record (W2, D2, L5), a young team has been competitive in all its matches and there have been a number of impressive individual performances.

We hope that the experiences of the first half term will lead to a successful second half of the season. For the first time the School hosted the initial group round of the National T20 competition with BGS beating Ashville, but losing to a very strong St Peters side who qualified for the next stage of the tournament.

The individual highlight of the season was Will Smith's very impressive unbeaten century against a very strong MCC side becoming the first BGS batsman to score a century against the MCC (first fixture 1966).



World Orienteering Day world record

People strolling in Lister Park on May 24 were greeted by the sight of over 240 children setting off in different directions armed only with a map – taking part in World Orienteering Day in an attempt to beat the world record for the number of people orienteering in one day across the globe.

Classics Trip to Sicily

The end of the spring term saw Classics pupils from Years 9 to 13 travel to Sicily to explore the wealth of Greek and Roman sites on this lovely island.

Sicily, a new destination for most of us, was full of exciting surprises, from amazingly well-preserved temples to the delicious and many-flavoured arancini ('little oranges': delicious balls of fried rice in all kinds of flavours).

Our itinerary took in the town and Greek theatre at Taormina, the temples and sites at Segesta, Selinunte and Agrigento, the mosaics at the Roman villa at Pizzolungo, and finally the wealth of ancient and modern delights at Syracuse.

“...”
Sicily was full of exciting surprises ...

We learned a huge amount about the Carthaginians, the Greeks and the Romans, and how far their power and influence extended beyond the countries with which we now associate those names: a fabulous and eye-opening trip for us all.



CAPTIONS

- 1 Pupils experiencing the awe of Iceland
- 2 BGS French exchange students
- 3 Physics lectures
- 4 Our cricket success!
- 5 240+ BGS pupils setting off on World Orienteering Day!
- 6 Pupils explore the wealth of Greek and Roman sites on Sicily