

The Old Bradfordians Association Magazine



Medic and TV personality inspires BGS pupils

Dr Amir Khan

News Features Events Obituaries

2021 Edition



WELCOME

... from the President

As I sit here on a cold December day, the rain and wind beating against the windows, I have tried to reflect on 2021 as the year comes to an end. We had high expectations for the year with the long-awaited recovery from the pandemic.

Unfortunately, starting the year with a long lockdown didn't get the year off to a good start. However, with increasing numbers receiving the vaccine there was a hint of improvement. Indeed, 2021 was not all doom and gloom, and life seemed to restart itself in the fashion we were used to experiencing.

Before I go any further, I should like to congratulate Simon and his team on getting through the year with its varying complex regulations and remaining sane! Similarly, Lindsey and her team have worked hard maintaining contact with the OB community, and Donna has worked hard keeping the OBA Committee on the straight and narrow. Thank you one and all, you have supported us very well.

Sadly, we lost some friends and colleagues this year; in particular I mention Trevor Smith (1970), former Governor and OBA Committee member. Trevor will be remembered by many for his role in the World War I project. Moving onto a happier note, the President's medallion was updated thanks to John Hammond's (1951) hard work. I was honoured to be presented with the medallion (which reflects the fact that we are a co-educational school) at the first face-to-face Committee meeting in autumn. We have also managed to ascertain that the Charter hung on the wall in the DH Room is 'real', and work is underway to ensure it is preserved in the right conditions.

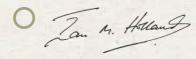
Administratively, with Donna's help, we have maintained Committee meetings, initially on Zoom but reintroduced face-to-face meetings in autumn. I do have a certain attraction to Zoom, it allows you to control the difficult questions – I'm surprised Boris doesn't use it more often! It was good however to meet in person again and to welcome a new member, keen to join the Committee, lan Walker (1995). As with the Committee meetings, some functions were virtual, such as Speech Day with Dr Amir Khan (1999) giving an interesting talk, whilst on the other hand Founders' Day in September 2021 was opened to more people and I was able to attend. The sun shone that day – a good omen! Although it was possible to hold some in-person events, the Committee decided against holding the 1940s & 1950s

Dr Ian Holland (1966) OBA Committee President Reunion and Annual Dinner in the interests of protecting members. It is hoped that normal service will be resumed next year, though as I write this, the new variant is gaining ground, so we will have to see how the story unfolds. The London Club did however hold its Annual Dinner, which was very successful despite numbers being slightly down.

To keep us all happy and amused, talks from a range of OBs were organised by the Development Department, which members were able to join online. These included Aidy Smith (2009), Sir Stephen Morris (1976) and Ross Raisin (1998). Drop-in sessions were also arranged in the last term to allow OBs to talk to 'the pupils of today'. In addition, some small Christmas gifts were organised for those OBs living within easy reach of School. All in all, the organisation is alive and kicking, coping well in difficult times and keeping in touch with OBs.

It just leaves me to wish friends all the best for the future and for a better 2022, though this path could still be rather bumpy! Thanks go to all for their continuing support of School and we are always pleased to hear from you. Many thanks are also given to Simon, Lindsey, Jess, Donna and Luke for their help in ensuring the OBA is supported in its activities.

Take care and stay safe!





Dr Simon Hinchliffe BA, MEd, PhD, FRSA Headmaster

... from the Headmaster

Welcome to the latest edition of 'The Old Bradfordian'.

Choral harmonies, intermingled with a refrain or two from Abba's 'Dancing Queen', are currently wafting down the corridor and constitute a pleasing reminder that, after so much disruption, we are enjoying a relatively 'normal' year thus far at BGS.

'Normal' is now a rare and treasured commodity. But what does 'normal' look like at BGS? In terms of recent headlines, and at the time of writing, (early December 2021), we are delighted to note the following national recognition ...



'Daily Telegraph'

Amongst the 14 Best Value Independent Schools in the UK 2021

Independent Schools Council/Schools Together

Contributor, 'Celebrating Partnerships' report 2021 launched at The House of Lords

'Independent Parent'

Independent School of the Year 2021 for Social Mobility

'Times Educational Supplement'

Independent School of the Year 2020 for Wellbeing Initiative of the Year

'Sunday Times'

Independent Secondary School of the Year, North in 2018 and (reflecting pre-pandemic exams) ranked top 3 in the North 2021

Suddenly 'normal' looks rather 'notable'. Needless to say, it is gratifying for BGS and Bradford to have been acknowledged in these ways. It reflects, of course, a significant amount of work on the part of everyone associated with BGS and we can all take pride in these achievements. I have always said that our School has a brain, and that it has a beating heart too. I believe this mix of accolades speaks to our academic credentials, but also our public spirit and historic purpose on the civic stage.

The 1662 Fund, for example, has got off to a good start under the trusteeship of our Development Committee chaired by Lady Morrison (also Chairman of Governors). Over £1 million has been raised in the first year of fundraising, building on the great work of previous bursary campaigns. But we need to go further, to be more ambitious if we are going to secure Bradford Grammar's future as an inclusive and aspirational independent school in the north and to transform more young lives for the better. There is no more vital work ongoing at BGS today than that which supports the 1662 Fund, social justice and mobility for the north. But I'm just the Headmaster. Existing and potential benefactors have an opportunity now to be far more influential than any Head, current or next generation, to shape and secure the future of our School and to be remembered for it. This is something to contemplate.

Meanwhile, our public benefit partnerships have been praised in the House of Lords and included in the latest iteration of the Independent Schools Council's 'Celebrating Partnerships' report 2021. Programmes with, for example, Skipton Tennis Centre, St Cuthbert and the First Martyr's, Beckfoot Heaton and Frizinghall Primary Schools amongst others, NEESIE, a platform for single mums locally, and Tim Rogers of Future Transformation reflect our increasingly outward facing School. This behaviour, married to our ambition to double the proportion of Assisted Places at BGS, speaks volumes about School character and scruples.

Our 2020 wellbeing award is not overlooked either. Pastoral care for all is our priority. This does not mean going soft on pupils, or colleagues too for that matter. We expect much of ourselves and each other and ambitions remain high. Rather it is about looking after our community and sustaining our endeavours and wellbeing to make the most of our opportunities and overcome the challenges of modern living. To my mind, the fabulous array of wider pursuits and interests that are followed by pupils at BGS all contribute to a healthy body and mind.

To that end, we applaud the ongoing success of our hockey teams, winning games against notable opposition and reaching the final stages of various prestigious cup competitions. Hockey has never been so popular and successful at BGS. Swimming is also notably on the up. Similarly, has running ever been so strong at BGS? Our intermediate girls retained their national title at the prestigious Prince Henry's XC Relay Championships and also won the English School's National Fell Championships in September, with one of our athletes being crowned as the outright winner. The boys finished in a credit worthy seventh place. Additionally, BGS XC athletes have competed for England at international fell running meets in the Lake District and Northern Ireland. Our U13 Boys are British Schools Orienteering Champions and, news just in, our senior girls are English Schools XC National Champions, again with one of our number finishing in gold medal position. This is remarkable success.



... MY GRATITUDE IS EXTENDED TO OUR OLD BRADFORDIANS AND FRIENDS FOR THEIR ONGOING ENCOURAGEMENT AND PRACTICAL SUPPORT OF THE SCHOOL'S AMBITIONS. NO ONE SHOULD UNDERESTIMATE THEIR POTENTIAL WORTH TO OUR SCHOOL AND ITS YOUNG PEOPLE.

Our biennial art exhibition at Salts Mill, which was part of the Saltaire Arts Festival, was a triumph and our young artists walk confidently in the footsteps of OBs like Rothenstein, Eurich and Hockney. Founders' Day was experienced back at the cathedral and our instrumental and choral music was outstanding. I am told by people with far longer associations with our School than mine that BGS music has never sounded so good. I am happy to agree, and certainly the performances at the Chamber and Christmas Concerts were superb, as have been our numerous informal recitals. The Nine Lessons and Carols service, once again at our spiritual home of Bradford Cathedral, remains a highlight of the BGS calendar.

These are just snippets of normal life 'BGS style', a routine that the Independent Schools Inspectorate dropped in to scrutinise in October. The inspection team reviewed all regulatory standards and determined the impact of a BGS education on the academic and personal development outcomes of our pupils. I am pleased to say they undertook their work objectively, with welcome attention to detail and in a fair manner. BGS 'passed' all compliance checks: unfussy judgements but grounded upon a colossal team effort by colleagues. Crucially, we were also deemed to be 'excellent' in terms of academic and personal development outcomes.

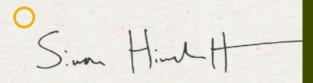


This is as good as it gets. I think we can be rightfully proud of our School and in particular our children who have come out on top once again despite the slings and arrows of recent years.

As ever my gratitude is extended to Governors, colleagues, pupils and their parents, and of course our Old Bradfordians and friends for their ongoing encouragement and practical support of the School's ambitions. No one should underestimate their potential worth to our School and its young people.

This year we have lost some much loved and highly respected Old Bradfordians. But their example lives on. We now contemplate the future, renew our commitment to each other and our School, and set our heights even higher

Hoc Age!





Brian Parker Editor and former Chemistry teacher (1976-2005)

Notes from the Editor

Welcome to the 2021 edition of 'The Old Bradfordian'.

Many thanks to all the members of the Old Bradfordians' Office who have continued to work at School throughout the pandemic. Life is starting to head back to normality but there is still a long way to go.

Thank you to John Bennett (1973) for collating the obituaries and also to the OBs who have contacted me directly since the last magazine was published. The 2020 edition was our largest ever with 58 pages of news, articles and pictures. The magazine goes from strength to strength and this year it's bigger still!

I received an email from Simon Richardson (1983) containing fond memories of David Pennington. 'Dave' taught Physical Education in the main school when I joined in January 1976. In 1978 (or perhaps 1979), he moved to teach in Clock House and stayed there until his retirement in 1991. Simon writes: 'I spent 35 years in the RAF and often referred to Mr Pennington when exhorting my staff officers to greater levels of clarity and quality in their written work.'

Other OBs who have contacted me include: John Collinson (1963), deputy head boy in JPP Newell's time; Jonathan Lumb (1993) whom I taught in 1989 when he was a member of 4C and who now lives and works in Tokyo; Stephen Craven (1961) who studied medicine at Brasenose College, Oxford before travelling to all five continents over the next 53 years and who contacted me from South Africa after receiving a copy of the magazine; and finally, last but not least, Andy Kordowicz (1998), who studied Chemistry in my Sixth Form class before Medicine at Cambridge and is now a vascular surgeon in York – and still an avid Bradford City supporter. What diverse OBs we have.

Keep safe, keep well.

parkerbbandm@gmail.com



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Summer Concert

23 June 2022

Speech Day

24 June 2022

Founders' Day

20 September 2022

Clock House Prize Giving

1 July 2022

Open Day

1 October 2022

OBA AGM and Annual Dinner

15 October 2022





A year in Development

So much has happened during the last year and we want to thank everyone who has been on the journey with us.

Whether in lockdown or face to face, the BGS family has never felt more connected. Virtual events including an 'In Conversation' with High Court Judge Sir Stephen Morris (1976) and a second virtual Speech Day with GP, TV doctor and best-selling author Dr Amir Khan (1999) as keynote speaker ensured there was no lack of engaging content for us to be inspired by and enjoy. As restrictions eased, we've also been delighted to host socially distanced visits and school tours once more. Recent events connected Old Bradfordians with students directly: in Autumn, we welcomed back award-winning novelist Ross Raisin (1998) for a creative writing workshop with students in the Clarkson Library. The arts continued to be championed at BGS thanks to the OB Club London Ltd's sponsorship of the fantastic biennial art exhibition at Salt's Mill, which showcased current students' work alongside that of a certain David Hockney ...

Old Bradfordians have also shown tremendous generosity towards what is perhaps the most significant development of the past 12 months: the launch of the 1662 Campaign for Assisted Places. The Campaign has already raised more than £1.1 million towards doubling the number of Assisted Places we can offer to bright children in our region. The generosity of Old Bradfordians and friends is changing lives here at BGS – thank you to everyone who is supporting the 1662 Fund.

In October, we were proud to receive national recognition for the impact and ambitions of the 1662 Campaign from 'Independent Parent' magazine, in the form of the 2021 Independent School of the Year Award for Contribution to Social Mobility. It is always lovely to be recognised, but most importantly, this accolade demonstrates that BGS remains a vital force for good in Bradford. Local outreach partnerships are growing and help to raise aspirations and awareness of Assisted Places amongst school children of all backgrounds.



WHETHER IN LOCKDOWN OR FACE TO FACE, THE BGS FAMILY HAS NEVER FELT MORE CONNECTED.



From space exploration to tennis championships, a commitment to serving the local community remains a cornerstone of BGS activities.

BGS has never been an adjunct to our city, philosophically or otherwise. Given the endurance of such core school values, enshrined in our 1662 Royal Charter, it was wonderfully symbolic to discover that said Charter is indeed the original! Granted by King Charles II just a few years after the Restoration, the Charter hangs proudly in the DH Room and its antiquity has long been the subject of friendly debate amongst Old Bradfordians and colleagues. During the summer of 2021, we welcomed a professional conservator to School, who verified its age once and for all! Work is now underway to improve its conservation and we are very grateful to the London Club and President Mark Lawrence (1975) for supporting the project.

It is fascinating to explore and celebrate BGS history. Whether fishing out old school reports, archiving old team and form photographs, or learning about the characters (quirks?) of old school teachers featured in photographs lining the corridor to the Dining Room during visits from Old Bradfordians, there is never a dull day in the Development Office! With the arrival of new Library Manager and Archivist Lindsey Shackleton from Bradford Girls' Grammar School (which shares its own historic links to BGS), we are working hard to improve and grow the archive with the help of Old Bradfordians, colleagues, and students. Please do continue to share BGS paraphernalia and memories with us!

Below: (L-R) Lindsey Davis, Donna Reynolds, Luke Jones and Jessica Alred



Today's students have enjoyed getting more involved in the work of the Development Office – from volunteering at regular Old Bradfordian dropins, to manning the phones for a telethon fundraising for Assisted Places and supporting school Open Days, they relish the chance to learn from Old Bradfordians about BGS history. Students also appreciate the wider careers support offered by Old Bradfordians: lunchtime talks, mentoring, internships, and help with Oxbridge and Medicine interview preparations all add significant value to their time at BGS.

The Development team is inspired daily by BGS heritage. We have lost some dear and well-regarded Old Bradfordians during the last year, and their example reminds us what a privilege it is to work alongside OBs, teachers, former staff, and benefactors, to pass BGS traditions on to the next generation. We couldn't do any of this without the friendship and vision of Old Bradfordians. Thank you.

Lindsey Davis Director of Development & External Relations





Here we celebrate some of your good news stories. Further stories can be found on the School website and our exclusive OB networking platform, Beyond Bradford.

To share your stories, please email oldbradfordians@bradfordgrammar.com Whether it be a birth, wedding, award win or other achievement, we want to hear them all!

Congratulations to

Dr Jim Greenwood (1950) who was awarded the prestigious international Tribology Gold Medal award in November 2021 – he is the eighth person in the UK to receive the award.

Jim left BGS in 1950 to read mathematics at Clare College, Cambridge. He then joined a friction and wear group as a research student, and in 1957 received a PhD. Jim has been a Tribologist, ever since.



In November 2021,
Dr Sohail Ahmed (2002)
was nominated by his
staff and patients for
the national General
Practitioner (GP) of the
Year Award. Sohail took
over a struggling Halifax
surgery two years ago
and he and his team have
since turned it into a now
thriving practice.

The General Practice
Awards are the most
prestigious awards for
primary care professionals
and celebrate the work
they have done. Sohail
who is also Vice Chair
of the community
organisation Bradford
4 Better explained that
it was a privilege to be
recognised, especially
during such a tough year.



Local artist Richard O'Neill (1989) has recently won a prestigious industry award for the second year running. Born in Bradford and now based near Richmond in North Yorkshire, Richard has been voted Digital Artist of the Year 2021/2022 by the Yorkshire Prestige Awards.

The judging panel based their decisions upon areas such as service excellence, quality, innovative practices, value, ethical or sustainable methods of working, as well as consistency in performance. The winners selected were those who could best demonstrate their strengths in these areas.

Richard said: 'I was delighted to have won this award once, but twice is just amazing! Thank you to everyone that has helped make this happen." Richard is a digital artist specialising in contemporary travel art, inspired by the beautiful scenery of his home county of Yorkshire and beyond. His award-winning designs have featured internationally in books and magazines, large-scale art installations, promotional videos and advertising campaigns. This year marks a decade of Richard's work and in January 2022 a selection of his art will be featured on Bradford's Big Screen in Centenary Square as of the 'Past & Present' series.

www.richardoneillart.co.uk





Do you hold any information on one of our notable Old Bradfordians, Sir Edward Herbert Keeling (1899)?

Sir Edward was the son of former Headmaster William Hulton Keeling and is the subject of a book which author Peter Welch is currently writing.

Peter is keen to hear from anyone who can share details on Sir Edward's time at Bradford Grammar School. If you are able to help, please email oldbradfordians@bradfordgrammar.com



Congratulations to Helena Below (2012) who walked the legendary Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada this summer, covering 2,650 miles and overcoming many challenges along the way. Well done also to Helena's dad, Paul Below (1976) who joined her for six weeks in Northern California, then walked the 125 mile Haute Route from Chamonix to Zermatt.





On 4 September 2021, OBA Committee President lan Holland (1966) and his wife Angela Naylor celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Ian and Angela were married at St Michael and All Angels' Church in Ashton-Under-Lyne in 1971, with the reception at Ashton Masonic Hall.

lan's brother Stuart Holland (1969) was Best Man and the late Peter Clark (1966) was Groomsman. Ian and Angela now live in Scarborough and have three children and five grandchildren.



Having enjoyed rowing whilst at BGS, and having reached the final of the U16 Championships in the National Rowing Championships in 2016, we were delighted to learn that Ben Wood (2018) was announced as a Cambridge University squad member for the annual Lightweight Boat Race.

Ben, who is studying engineering at Emmanuel College has been rowing for almost ten years, and the Bradford Grammar School Boat Club is the place where it all began.

Unfortunately, due to illness, Ben was unable to take part on race day, but he is now back in training and working hard for next year's race. Ben was also recently announced as Vice President of the Lightweights for this coming year.

The 2021 Lightweight Men's Boat Race was held on Sunday 23 May 2021. Oxford won by 1.5L in a time of 14:19.



Congratulations to **Rik Smith (2002)** and his team at Design Emporium on winning the award for best Residential Swimming Pool at The International Design & Architecture Awards 2021.

The Yorkshire-based practice beat off strong competition from some of the most well-known UK and international designers with their creation of a stunning pool house within an eight-acre estate in the Yorkshire Dales. The evolution and growth of Design Emporium is the culmination of sixteen years of work. In recent years Rik has been accepted as a member of The British Institute of Interior Design (BIID) – the UK's only Professional Institute for Interior Designers. The company has also become a Chartered Architectural Practice with the RIBA.

Renowned within the industry, this year's awards had more than 900 entries across all categories, with 65,000 votes cast by industry professionals and the public alike.

Rik and members of his team received their award at the glitzy ceremony at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London on 19 September 2021.



Ruby Hendry (2017) returned to BGS in September 2021, this time as a member of staff!

From leaving the Sixth Form at BGS, Ruby went on to study Vocal Studies and Opera at the Royal Northern College of Music, graduating with first class honours. She has a wealth of performing experience, having performed the soprano solo in Vivaldi's Gloria for the European Union Chamber Orchestra and as a guest artist for BBC Radio Leeds on their 2017 and 2020 Christmas broadcasts. She has also performed in masterclasses for world-class singers such as Sir Thomas Allen, Susan Bullock and Linda Richardson. In January 2020, Ruby won the Durrant French Song Prize at the David Clover Festival of Singing in Sheffield and was also announced as a winner of the 2020 Pendle Young Musicians Bursary, awarded to outstanding young musicians from the north of England.

Ruby is now hoping to gain valuable experience as BGS's Graduate Music Assistant, with plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance in the near future. We are delighted to have Ruby back in School, helping to educate and inspire our student musicians.



Madeleine Oliver (2017) is

currently studying Medicine at the University of Nottingham, and found time to complete the London Marathon on the 4 October 2021 in an impressive 4 hours 44 minutes, raising £2,060 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Well done Madeleine, this is an amazing achievement!



Congratulations to Paul Jennings (1973) who recently published the third edition of his book 'The Local: A History of the English Pub' (The History Press, 2021) as well as a new book: 'Working-Class Lives in Edwardian Harrogate' (Palatine Books by Carnegie, 2021).

Paul's earlier work includes 'The Public House in Bradford, 1770-1970' (Keele University Press, 1995) and 'A History of Drink and the English, 1500-2000' (Routledge, 2016).



Well done to entrepreneur
Omar Bahadur (2014) for
continuing to develop
and grow his business,
Faraday Drinks and for being
recognised for three awards
in 2021: Bradford Means
Business New Business
of the Year Finalist, YAYA
Young Entrepreneur of The
Year Finalist and IoD Young
Director of The Year Finalist.



Congratulations to Old Bradfordian and current Teacher of Art, Henry Thornton (2002) and his wife Zoe who welcomed their first child Arthur on 14 May 2021.



October 2021 was an exciting time for Shree Bhattacharjee (2022), as she published her first poetry book, 'The Moon and Other Poems'. Said Shree: 'Poetry has always given me a safe space to process my thoughts and emotions, being there during highs and lows. I wrote this book during late December evenings when the moon's soft light would peek out between my blinds, which is why I wrote so many poems about her!' Shree's collection of poetry is written with deep emotions of love, reminiscence, serenity and happiness, and she expressively writes about old bookstores, studio apartments, and everything that intrigues her – especially the Moon.

Shree, who is hoping to make a career in medicine, has been writing poems from a very young age and Olympia Publishers has agreed to publish them through a series.

The Moon and Other Poems' is available in paperback. Find out more at https://bit.ly/TheMoonandOtherPoems



Congratulations to Old Bradfordian and former Deputy Headmaster Louis d'Arcy (1995), who welcomed his second daughter, Claragh on 7 May 2020. Louis is also the proud father of Anna, who was born in 2018.



Congratulations to Tegan Johnson (2017) who this year had a double cause for celebration! In June 2021, Tegan, who is a Solicitor Apprentice at Kennedys Law LLP, was named BPP Apprentice of the Year -Level 5+. These annual awards acknowledge the apprentices and employers who have gone the extra mile during an Apprenticeship. Although the pandemic made this year extremely difficult, the judges heard many inspiring stories about incredible work from apprentices and how this positively impacted their workplace.

A few months later in October, Tegan published the book, 'The Debate Guide: A Complete Guide to British Parliamentary Debating'. Tegan, a debater with over a decade of experience in speaking and coaching spent two years writing the book. She started to compile her notes and experience into comprehensive resources, aiming to help novice and advanced debaters alike, and improve access to debating for those who do not have access to an experienced coach or institution to help guide them. The book is available now in both paperback and digital formats.

Find out more at https://bit.ly/ TheDebateGuide



Whilst studying Physics at the University of Bath, Sam Linfield (2017) developed a growing awareness of the climate crisis. He continued to research the issue after graduating, and after three years' working with his family's medical business, this interest blossomed into an exciting new enterprise: ECOZE Ltd.

Sam founded ECOZE in May 2021, with the aim of providing a one-stop shop which offers comprehensive advice to businesses wishing to work towards a more sustainable future.

To learn more about ECOZE, visit **www.ecoze.co.uk**



Steve Bagshaw (1981)

was awarded a CBE in the Queen's 2021 New Year's Honours List for services to UK Manufacturing and the Biotechnology Sector.

Said Steve, 'It is meaningful that this recognition comes at a time when our UK and Global biotechnology and manufacturing teams are working not only to develop and make the vaccines; but also the medicines, food, biochemicals, fuels and materials that will help us create a sustainable and healthy future for our planet!' Steve is currently working for the Vaccines Task Force, as an industry advisor.

















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'I like to get out there and inspire people'

February 2021

An Old Bradfordian is using his platform as a television presenter and writer to change perceptions around Tourette's syndrome.

Aidy Smith (2009) is the co-host and producer of the hit Amazon Prime television show, 'The Three Drinkers', and writes a wine and spirits column for 'The Independent'.

The television personality and journalist was diagnosed with Tourette's when he was aged seven. The disorder causes people to make involuntary sounds and movements and Aidy's first symptoms included a twitch on the side of his neck and making whooping sounds, which led to him being made fun of.

While at the Junior School, Aidy enlisted the support of then headmaster, Stephen Davidson, to give an assembly about Tourette's, which proved a turning point for the youngster's school journey.

Said Aidy: 'When I was at school I went through the worst symptoms of Tourette's syndrome and kids will be kids. But when Mr Davidson told everyone through assembly what it was like to have Tourette's, it did change how people viewed me.'



I TRY TO SHARE WHAT HAS MADE ME HAPPY, AND THINGS THAT I CARE ABOUT. I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT IF YOU'RE A NICE PERSON AND YOU TREAT PEOPLE WELL THEN IT WILL COME BACK ROUND.

yy

It was through BGS, on a school trip to Philadelphia, that Aidy fell in love with America. He later went back to the US and ended up calling San Francisco home for nearly half a decade. During this time, he began volunteering at an urban winery in Silicon Valley, which led to him falling in love with wines and spirits and eventually running a media company called Drink Me.

As his career grew, he became The Independent's wine and spirits columnist and started working with the leading drinks app, Vivino, as their Global Brand Ambassador. With good friends, Helena Nicklin and Colin Hampden-White, the trio came up with the concept for a travel series surrounding drinks that put entertainment before mundane tasting notes. 'The Three Drinkers' was born.

The series airs on Amazon Prime and is viewed in over 170 countries and territories around the globe in 39 languages. Meanwhile, their award-winning podcast series 'Bring a Bottle' is in its third series across major platforms such as Spotify, Apple Podcasts and Google podcasts.

And, since asking his former headteacher to give an assembly about Tourette's, Aidy has continued with his mission to educate and inspire others about the disorder, using his increased public profile to do so. His Instagram account features issues which are close to him, whether it's about good mental health, his experiences of being one of the few openly gay personalities in the drinks industry or having Tourette's, a disability that is so heavily misunderstood. Future ambitions include making a documentary on the disorder which would feature on terrestrial TV.

Today, however, to watch Aidy on screen, you wouldn't know he has Tourette's, although when not on camera the tics are still there when he is stressed or anxious. They will never disappear, but he's learnt to live with them.

In between growing his production company and on-screen career as a proud Yorkshireman and the UK's only television presenter with Tourette's, it's never a dull moment.

I like to get out there and inspire people,' he said. I try to share my tips on Instagram that have helped me cope with having Tourette's during my life, share what has made me happy, and things that I care about. I've always believed that if you're a nice person and you treat people well then it will come back round.'

Read the full story: https://bit.ly/aidysmith

Follow Aidy on Instagram: www.instagram.com/sypped

Visit Aidy's website: www.aidysmith.com





Above: Duncan Rawson (1974), lan Shackleton (1975), John Holmes (1974), Jonathan Brown (1974), Kevan Keegan (1974), and Jeremy Chantry (1974) return to School to celebrate their year group success

Below: The classes of 1973, 1974 and 1975 – as they were







Lifelong connection, lifelong impact: Year Group Assisted Places

Life at BGS wouldn't have been the same without the friends you made here, or the teachers who encouraged your interests. Lifelong friendships have been made in form groups, on playing fields and in the classrooms. BGS teachers have sparked new lines of inquiry, cultivated curiosity, and in some cases, become lasting friends too.

Every single person has a part to play in contributing to the BGS experience. During the last year, Old Bradfordians demonstrated this in spades, with an amazing four year group campaigns launched in support of Assisted Places.

The Classes of 1973 & 1974, 1975 & 1976, 1981 & 1982, and 1989 & 1990 showed remarkable generosity to BGS, demonstrating just what is possible thanks to a shared goal and teamwork – and of course, no small amount of Hoc Age spirit!

Together, these year groups have raised more than £210,000 in support of Assisted Places. This support has helped BGS to admit children who would otherwise be unable to take up their place at BGS: aspiring linguists, young county cricketers, and preternaturally brilliant mathematicians amongst them. We are very grateful to all who got involved in these campaigns, for your generosity and enthusiasm!

Each year group shared the same conviction that BGS set them on the path to great things and a fulfilling life. As each campaign gained momentum, new friendships were made and connections between Old Bradfordians and School revived. The Development team have also enjoyed seeing some truly incredible haircuts in old year group photos! Rather wonderfully, as lockdown has eased, we've been glad to welcome some year groups back to BGS, and been able to thank them in person for their support – it has been absolutely lovely to meet in person.

All gifts made to year group campaigns – big or small, single or regular commitments – have, together, made an enormous difference.

So, when you next catch up and reminisce with your old pals, perhaps you would consider making a gift together? It could be in the name of your year group or form, in memory of a beloved teacher, or perhaps as a thank you for one of the friends you made along the way.

To find out more about making a year group gift, please get in touch with Lindsey Davis, Director of Development & External Relations: ldavis@bradfordgrammar.com

Together, your gift will make a huge difference to the next generation of BGS talent.

The origins of the Charter cabinet

May 2021

We were delighted to welcome John Beaty (1954) and his wife of 57 years back to BGS earlier this year. It was the first time John had returned since leaving BGS, so there were lots of changes for him to see.

John joined BGS at the Manor Row site and moved across to the new Frizinghall site in 1949. He remembers his time at BGS very fondly, being part of the model railway club and being top of the class in woodwork. His main reason for visiting however, was to see the cabinet in the Douglas Hamilton Room that holds the Royal Charter.

John proudly declared that he helped make the cabinet with the carpentry skills he had learnt during his woodwork classes and his name is in gold leaf writing inside the door of the cabinet. It was lovely to meet John and learn about the origins of the cabinet that holds such a significant document in BGS's history.

The classical 'Ant and Dec'

It took a pandemic to bring former Head Boy Rob Durkin (2004) and his friend Adam Lacey together to form the classical crossover duo 'Forever Tenors'. The talented pair of professionally trained singers could never have imagined that their shared passion for classical music would see them emerge from lockdown with their debut album, 'Surrender', and a nationwide tour on the horizon.

The duo's fresh approach to classical music was so well received, they spent the summer performing alongside celebrity singers, including Russell Watson and Wynne Evans at a series of summer prom concerts at venues including Harewood House and Castle Howard.

Rob, who was previously a Chief Technology Officer, and Adam, are steadily building a reputation as one of the most exciting new classical crossover duos to emerge from the UK. They bring a unique approach to the classical world by fusing a range of musical styles from pop, rock and classical, which they combine with their breath-taking vocals and their own musical arrangements – complete with Yorkshire charm. Together they are likened as the 'Ant and Dec' of the classical world!

Find out more:

www.forevertenors.com







Far left: John Beaty (1954) Left: Rob Durkin (2004) Right: Ian Holroyd (1931)



'Dear England Remember My Brother'

Sue Carson, the niece of Ian Holroyd (1931) contacted School to share her family's memories of Ian and a wonderful moving poem that was written by his sister.

June 2021 marked 80 years since the death of Old Bradfordian lan Holroyd, who died at the young age of 25, when his Wellington bomber plane crashed during a WWII training flight. lan attended Bradford Grammar School on a scholarship from 1926-1931 and was a keen sportsman, playing rugby, tennis, and cricket. When he left School, his father welcomed him into the Holroyd stockbroker firm, in the hope of one day passing the firm onto his son.

Nine months before the war was declared in 1939, Ian enlisted in the Royal Air Force. Ian's first, and longest, posting was in Compton Bassett, Wiltshire, where he learnt signalling and Morse code. He was posted to various other locations throughout his training, but his final posting was to Bassingbourn, Hertfordshire in mid-April 1941.

lan had trained and passed exams for wireless operator and air gunner and was an acting Sergeant at the time of his death. In 1950, Bradford Grammar School dedicated a memorial to its old boys who were killed in WWII and lan's name is engraved there along with 145 other names. Ian's death was a huge loss to his family, and his sister Marguerite Holroyd expressed this through her poem 'Dear England Remember My Brother'. The poem was published in Godfrey Winn's book 'Scrapbook of the War'.

Dear England remember my brother, He was not very old, You gave him his wings, and he gave you A heart of true gold.

He used to play cricket, brother (But you're sure to guess that). Through a short busy hour of Life's morning He carried his bat.

He played with the big oval leather As cleanly as ever man could; He smiled if you asked him a favour, As a gentleman should.

He would take second best and be thankful, Or run with the last and be glad; As trusting a soul as God fashioned, Gave all that he had.

He would play on your golden sea-beaches,
Before they were iron-shod so;
He used to run after the donkeys
A short while ago.

He camped by our clear Yorkshire rivers, And steeple-chased over her moors; He belonged to a great northern county, And now he is yours.

Dear God, will You lift him up gently? He was shy about You. He brings You his dearly won colours Of red, white and blue.

By Alice Marguerite Holroyd

As part of the 'Gone but not forgotten' project, please get in touch with the Development Office if you have any memories or stories you would like to share about Old Bradfordians in WWII.

It would be wonderful to share these with future generations, so their memory is kept alive for years to come. Please email oldbradfordians@bradfordgrammar.com



Make your mark Help them make theirs

Remembering BGS in your will is one of the most personal and significant ways you can help to safeguard the future of talented young people in Bradford, and that of BGS itself.

All legacy gifts, regardless of size, help us to pass on the transformative gift of a BGS education.

To learn more about making a bequest to your old school, please contact Lindsey Davis, Director of Development & External Relations.

ldavis@bradfordgrammar.com 01274 553710

Weaving wool's future

As MD of the historic Abraham Moon & Sons, established in 1837, Old Bradfordian John Walsh (1978) plies a trade which is woven through Bradford's heritage.

Historic though the wool industry may be, however, Moon is far from stuck in the past.

From its Guiseley mill, Moon's woven woollen fabrics are sent across the world, to designers and companies who rely on its handle and quality, the attention to detail, and patterns that speak both of heritage and the contemporary, their depth and tone bringing a distinctive beauty to apparel and furnishings alike.

Employing around 200 people, the mill's work continued throughout the pandemic, moving with the times as it always has done. One of the few vertical wool mills left in the UK, every part of the fabric making process, from dyeing and blending, to carding, spinning, weaving and finishing, takes place at the site. This, alongside an enduring appetite for innovation, has ensured its survival. Innovation has extended to the relationships built with new customers, with collections shared in meetings held via Zoom and Teams during the pandemic.

Today, Moon sells to over 40 countries across the world, with customers including high-end high street brands and Savile Row tailors. The firm also supplies haute couture and many top international designers. About half the cloth it makes is for its own collections and brands, and half is bespoke for customers, such as a recent cobrand with Ralph Lauren. A collaboration with the National Trust and the Moon furnishings collection, Bronte Moon, have also seen the company's brand expand into people's homes. Wool is a natural detoxifier, in contrast to synthetic household fabrics which emit toxins, and is naturally fire retardant – the argument in its favour has been clear to many rethinking their home and living space during lockdown.

Moon remains a distinctly Yorkshire firm, despite its global reach, with three stores in Yorkshire (in York, Settle, and Guiseley). John is proud of his firm's emphasis on traditional values and sustainability and wants to pass these values on to the next generation. The company invests in talent with in-house training and apprenticeships, working with the Future Fashion Factory programme led by the University of Leeds in partnership with the University of Huddersfield and Royal College of Art. John says: 'It's great to have all the experience and expertise, but we need young brains to build our future for us.'



John is working with BGS as part of a new Diploma in Wool, backed by the Campaign for Wool and generously sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Woolmen and Clothworkers. Sixth Formers have the chance to access experts like John and his team as part of a year-long research project looking at the environmental benefits of wool and the important role it can play in a more sustainable future for the fashion industry.





IT'S GREAT TO
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Top: John Walsh (1978) – image courtesy of Simon Vine Photography

Bottom: COO of the Campaign for Wool Peter Ackroyd with Wool Diploma BGS student Edie, Amanda Owen of Yorkshire Shepherdess fame, and Old Bradfordian and Woolman The Rt Revd Peter Huillah (1967)

55

JOURNEY. I STILL HAVE SO MUCH MORE TO ACHIEVE.



From Frizinghall to Fintech

Old Bradfordian Kal Das (1974), a Partner at white-shoe law firm Seward & Kissel, is known as one of New York City's biggest rainmakers. Upon leaving BGS, he went on to receive a Barristerat-Law degree from The Lincoln's Inn in 1979 and an LLM from New York University School of Law in 1989.

When Kal became leader of his practice group in his mid-30s, he had spent only a decade in the States, his mentor had just left the firm, and his only other resource was a first-year associate. Since then, Kal's group, the Global Bank and Institutional Finance and Restructuring Practice, has grown to one of the largest of its type in the world: his client list includes Citibank, Deutsche Bank, Bank of New York Mellon, UMB, US Bank, Sumitomo Mitsui, and M&T Bank, among many others.

As the impact of the pandemic continues to ripple through the economy, Kal's experience navigating disruptive events including the accounting scandals of the 2000s and the Asian financial crisis, has proven invaluable to his clients. He has also developed an interest in fintech investing, with a good deal of success. Not content with giving legal advice to clients in this area, Kal became a significant investor in the space himself – all on his own terms and with a quintessential 'Hoc Age' spirit. Having advised former executives from Deutsche Bank and JPMorgan on starting their own fintechoriented investment firm, Pivot Investment Partners, Kal became more directly involved, making more than 25 deals and investments in unicorn companies including AvidXchange Inc., iCapital Network Inc., and Bold Penguin. He has also created his own proprietary fund of funds.

Alongside these activities, Kal is studying at Harvard Business School, where he is enrolled in the Owner/ President Management Programme, a three-year commitment which he has taken on alongside more than 150 CEOs from across the world.



Right: Kalyan Das (1974)

Sharing the same passion to give back and support communities which defines so much of what we do here at BGS. Kal is a keen philanthropist who supports a range of educational institutions in the States. He also works with Community Investment Management, a San Francisco-based impact investor which invests in companies that are bringing innovative financial technology products and services to underserved communities.

Kal was recently elected to Law360's prestigious 2021 Banking and FinTech Editorial Advisory Boards and is listed on the Legal 500. Never one to rest on his laurels, he recently told the 'Global Banking and Finance Review' that 'Life is a journey. I still have so much more to achieve [...] I am only getting started! Stay tuned!'

As the world opens up postpandemic, Kal is looking forward to visiting clients again, as much of his work involves cross-border matters. As he still maintains an office in London, we hope that it will not be too long before our paths cross here in the UK! As Kal says, stay tuned!

A truly outstanding venue for any event ...

Bradford Grammar School has a wide range of facilities and rooms available for hire for all types of activity and event

We cater for small or large events, both formal and informal – whatever the occasion, BGS has the perfect solution for you!

- Impressive School buildings, lawns and grounds
- A grand main hall (described by many as 'Hogwarts'!)
- A range of traditional and more modern classrooms
- Various sports facilities (including a competition standard swimming pool and all-weather sports barn)
- Theatre

- Free parking for up to 120 cars (outside of term time)
- Situated just a mile from Bradford city centre – convenient for access to and from major motorways
- Our accomplished chefs can offer a broad range of exceptional menus, catering for a variety of dietary requirements

For more information or to place a booking, please contact Ashley Moss, H&S Officer & Lettings Coordinator on 01274 553729 or amoss@bradfordgrammar.com







Above: Stills from 'Strike Action' (1962)
Above right: Movie Maker's assessment of Rise and Fall's entry to the 1969 Ten
Rest Competition

Film making at BGS from 1960-1968

By Paul Dobson (1968)

Between 1960 and 1968, the Film Society focused on making, rather than showing films and to the best of my knowledge, these are the four films made during that period.

A Day in the Life (1960)

The first amateur film I ever saw at BGS was called 'A Day in The Life' which was exactly that – a day in the life of a BGS schoolboy. It was filmed in 8mm and was silent. It was shown on a tiny screen at the front of the Price Hall and had a music track. I don't know who made it.

Strike Action (1962)

In 1962, the Society produced 'Strike Action'. The film was made by the four Davids: David Brown, David Rycroft, David Illingworth and David Barker. The fifth member of the group was Michael Pitt, who handled technical issues, like lighting. David Barker was the director, David Brown wrote and played the music and Davids Rycroft and Illingworth wrote and acted in the film. They are the two 'negotiators' walking toward the camera in the opening shots. My only involvement was in the crowd scenes. I was in the crowd marching out of the School gates and my feet were among those you see running down the stairs when the strike begins.

The film was shot on 16mm film and they used an old WWII camera. The camera ran slow, which speeded up the action quite nicely, although I'm sure it was unintentional. The film won Movie Maker Magazine's Ten Best Amateur films of 1962, the amateur version of an Oscar at the time. As a result, it was widely shown in the UK and abroad.

View 'Strike Action':

https://bit.ly/bgs-strike-action



Tell Tale (1964)

After the very successful 'Strike Action', the Davids wanted to make a more dramatic film. 'Tell Tale' is the story of a boy who 'tells' on a friend for breaking a window and is sent to Coventry by the rest of his class. He then struggles to find a way to regain their friendship. A small dog plays a crucial role! I worked on several sequences, mostly working with Michael Pitt with lighting. The film was technically superior to 'Strike Action' and the Society had bought a much better camera. David Barker added several special effects in postproduction. The film premiered in 1964 and was well received but didn't have the popular appeal of 'Strike Action'. Sadly, it also seems to have been lost.

Whomsoever You See (1965)

In 1965, the Society was approached by the Wyke Amateur Lifesaving and Swimming Club to make a lifesaving training film. It opened with a staged drowning in the River Wharfe – I was the 'dead' body – and ended with a successful rescue and revival.

Richard Hazlehurst took on the job of making the film and I was his assistant. We spent many hours at the side of the School pool filming various rescue maneuvers with a large light suspended over the pool. If it had fallen in while we were filming, we would have fried our actors but I'm glad to say, everyone survived.

Richard wrote a lengthy article about the making of this film for 'The Old Bradfordian' in 2020 so I won't cover the same ground again but it's worth reading as an adjunct to this article (see page 21). This film is also missing, but we know seventeen copies were made and sold, so we are hoping it may yet be found.

View the aforementioned article: https://bit.ly/OB-mag-2020



Rise and Fall (1968)

By 1968 the Film Society team had changed again and consisted of myself, Ken German, Angus Soutar and Peter Laugalis. We were determined to try to make another film as good as 'Strike Action'. We were all involved in the writing, Ken did some acting and Peter was our sound engineer and cameraman.

The story was supposed to be a spoof on the history of the School, with sequences set in the Stone Age, in the Middle Ages, at an ancient sports event and finally in the future, when the School was blown up by

mistake. We also stole part of 'Strike Action' to pad out the film. Although the film was silent, the School had bought us a new projector which had the ability to record sound on a magnetic strip which ran down the side of the film.

Unfortunately, we had made the film at silent speed (16fps) to save money and when we recorded the music onto the film, it sounded terrible. We were very disappointed, and the film wasn't very good. We premiered it in October 1968, but it was never shown again. Once again, the film has vanished, which is probably just as well.



With the exception of 'Strike Action' all these films have been 'lost'. If anyone reading this has any idea where we might find copies of any of these films – including 'Strike Action' – I would be delighted to hear from them. Please contact oldbradfordians@bradfordgrammar.com











Speech Day 2021

Speech Day is a historic and annual fixture in the School calendar, providing a chance to celebrate pupil achievements and reflect on the academic year. For the second year in a row, Speech Day went virtual due to COVID-19 restrictions, but nothing was going to stop us from observing this important milestone.

Thanks to our guest speaker, Old Bradfordian, medic and TV personality Dr Amir Khan (1999) who 'joined' us for the occasion.

A popular TV doctor on the Channel 5 show 'GPs Behind Closed Doors' and a regular on 'BBC Breakfast' and ITV's 'This Morning', Amir recently published the Sunday Times bestseller 'The Doctor Will See You Now,' which charts the highs and lows of his 15 years as a doctor. A partner in one of the UK's busiest surgeries, Amir is also a GP trainer and Honorary Senior Lecturer at both Bradford and Leeds universities.

We were thrilled to welcome Amir back to BGS and are grateful to him for sharing his inspirational insights and perspectives on his time here.

The event was streamed to pupils, staff, parents, governors and VIPs on Friday 25 June. You can find Amir's speech transcript opposite ...



BGS WILL GIVE YOU THE TOOLS TO FIND YOUR OWN CONFIDENCE AND VOICE IN A CROWD ...



the generous programme run by the School, my fees were heavily subsidised. For some reason, at the time I was a bit embarrassed about being there as someone from a poorer background and I would never tell anyone I was on assisted place, it kind of felt inferior. But now, I couldn't be prouder – it is important that children from all backgrounds get opportunities like the ones afforded to me when I joined BGS.

My form teacher was a chap called Mr Page, he was brilliant and really made me feel welcome and included. I was always a very 'middle of the road' kind of kid - never the most popular, or the cleverest or the funniest. Just very average. But the thing about BGS is that its teachers have a way of identifying your strengths, even before you do yourself. They tease them out of you and help you realise your potential, but more than that, they help you realise your worth and that's really important. I imagine there are a lot of you watching this feeling very average - not knowing what your strength is, what you are supposed to achieve, perhaps even feeling like you don't belong. That's exactly how I felt, and I want to tell you that you may not see it now, but one day in the future maybe when you are an adult, you will. BGS will give you the tools to find your

own confidence and voice in a crowd – trust me, you might think I am talking a load of codswallop but these tools are subtle, they will slowly infuse into you and when you need them, they will be there.

Some of you may know, I am doctor – so I must have gone to medical school - well I did, at Liverpool University - I would highly recommend it, I had a blast! I wish I could say I was one of those people who always wanted to do medicine, who had one of those fabulous stories where they were very sick or someone close to them was very sick and they saw a doctor perform miracles on them and it was in that very moment they decided medicine was for them, but sadly that wasn't me. My only experience of a doctor was going for my vaccines as a child, and that was mainly the nurse. But I did know I wanted to help people and I did quite like Biology – I was rubbish at Chemistry but I needed it to get into medicine and so with the help of the fabulous Chemistry Department here, I managed to get the grades - I have never used my Chemistry A Level again! But it goes to show, even if you don't like a subject, you can grit your teeth and stay focused and get through it with the end goal in mind.



'Hi everyone, my name is Dr Amir Khan. I am a GP right here in Bradford and I also do a bit of writing and television work on the side. Right, I know you won't believe this from my dazzling youthful looks, but I was at Bradford Grammar School between 1991 and 1999. That is a long time ago, right? Now I am being invited to 90s themed parties, that makes me feel old - but the good news is I don't have to go to the fancy dress shop for a costume. I can just raid my own wardrobe!

I joined a class known as 1N, it was for people who hadn't gone to Clock House and were new to the School. I came in on an assisted place – for those who don't know what that is, it meant my family couldn't afford to pay the full school fees, so thanks to



I am now a GP here in Bradford – I love it. It is where I grew up, this is the community I know the best. It is a hard job, there is no doubt. I am often working weekends and late into the evenings, especially now as we are putting on extra clinics to keep up with the huge vaccination programme - in fact, once I have finished this, I am heading over to do a shift at our vaccination hub. The pandemic has been tough on us as it has on all of you. You will have mixed feelings about how it has affected your work, I get that. In some shape or form, our lives will never be the same again. The world has changed forever, and it is okay to be angry and upset about it, what is important is that you talk about your feelings with someone, anyone. There is no shame in talking about feeling stressed or upset – the pandemic hit our care homes really bad and there were weeks when I was going into them and coming out very upset. Luckily I had my NHS colleagues to lean on and talk to and they were having similar experiences - you'll be surprised even the most resilient amongst you will have days where you feel anxious or upset – that's just being human. Talk to someone. But we will get through this, things will improve, and we will get some of our freedoms back at a time when it is safe for all. The pandemic has shown us what community spirit is all about, what we can do for one another – if that's making food parcels up, thanking key workers (like your wonderful teachers and wider staff at BGS) or simply staying at home when needed to stop the spread of the virus, we have all played our part and I want to thank each and every one of you. Sincerely and from the bottom of my heart, it really does make a difference.

The skills I used at BGS have come in really useful throughout my career:

Hard work and determination: I mean, I needed those just to get through A Level Chemistry!

Teamwork: I was on the hockey team and debating society in BGS and they really do hone in on team working skills.

Be kind: I know everyone says that these days, but it is important. Think about what you're going to say or write before you do it and ask yourself will someone get hurt if I do this, how would I feel if someone did that to me? BGS helped me see the wider implications of being kind. We had something called voluntary action group where we would spend afternoons with children with learning disabilities, and seeing what challenges they faced each day really did make me a kinder person. I am now in a position where I can help other people, both as my work as a GP but also by raising awareness of important subjects because I have a bit of a profile



now, so I lend my voice to issues that affect socially deprived communities and minority groups, but also to climate change and the urgent need to safeguard our declining levels of biodiversity.

Lastly, what I will say is make the most out of every opportunity life throws your way. I never thought I would be a writer or on the telly but here I am. And that is because I seized each opportunity presented to me – yeah, I have to work harder to balance everything and there are times when I have been scared or nervous about doing certain things. I have had to miss social events and people have told me I am working too hard, but it is worth it. It is worth all the extra work, so go for it don't let fear, doubt or other people get in your way.

I have probably gone on for too long, but I hope there was something here that may inspire a handful of you at least. I wish you all the very best in the future. Thanks so much for listening.'



BGS chemistry teacher's YouTube videos prove a hit

March 2021

A BGS chemistry teacher became an unlikely YouTube star during the pandemic due to the growing popularity of his live online science experiments.

Dr Matt Tate and fellow chemistry teacher Rob Moody created the practical videos to give students something to take part in during lockdown. Shortly after launching the 'BGS Chemistry Videos' YouTube channel in March 2021, the 18 videos secured more than 11,500 views collectively and proved a hit with budding chemists across the world. (At the time of writing this article in December 2021, the videos had received an additional 8,000 views.)

Said Matt, who is also an Old Bradfordian (2009): 'Lockdown brought an end to our practical sessions, so we devised some experiments for the students to try at home. I don't like the sound of my own voice particularly, but I put them together for the sake of the students!

The kids really liked them and it's helpful for us because we could tailor them specifically for their academic level, so we had ones for Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) right the way up to A Level.'

Experiments ranged from determining the products of combustion, to understanding reactivity through the displacement reactions of metals.

Added Matt: 'It certainly kept the classes entertained and we enjoyed doing them and taking on new challenges.'

View 'BGS Chemistry Videos': https://bit.ly/BGS-Chemistry





High Court judge quizzed by pupils at his former school

September 2021

'How do you choose a juror?' and 'how are judges appointed?' were just two of the questions a High Court judge faced when he was quizzed by pupils at his former school.

Sir Stephen Morris (1976) spent the day at BGS, where Junior School pupils in Years 5 and 6 were fascinated to hear about his career and how the law works, including why judges wear wigs and the role that jurors play.

Bradford-born Sir Stephen sits in the Queen's Bench Division hearing serious criminal cases on circuit, and civil and public law cases in the Royal Courts of Justice in London. The Old Bradfordian read law at Cambridge and was appointed a Justice of the High Court in 2016.

Richard Ribeiro, headmaster at the Junior School, said: 'Sir Stephen was incredibly engaging and was a huge hit with our Year 5 and 6 pupils who had their lists of questions ready for him. They thoroughly enjoyed his talk and we're really grateful that he spent so much time with us, inspiring the next generation of legal minds.'

Sir Stephen later gave a talk to older pupils at the Senior School about careers in the law followed by a live In Conversation event, one of the School's regular filmed interviews with Old Bradfordians.



Telethon triumph!

In July 2021, the 1662 Campaign launched, and we shared news of the 1662 Fund for Assisted Places with Old Bradfordians and friends across the world. Our goal? To double the number of Assisted Places from 10 to 20 per cent of our student body, so that talented young people on our doorstep can benefit from life-changing funding and a BGS education.

Our amazing Student Caller team took to the phones as part of the launch, aiming to speak to as many Old Bradfordians as possible. Sixth Formers and recent leavers enjoyed 407 inspirational conversations with Old Bradfordians during the two-week telethon, which was given additional momentum by a matched fund generously established by Mark Learmonth (1981) and the Class of 1981 & 1982.

'I've got to admit, I felt like a superhero at times. Securing donations from generous OBs of all ages was immensely rewarding ... I would do it again just to walk back in history and learn about the experiences of Old Bradfordians.'

Aliya, Year 12 Student Caller

Together, donors to the telethon raised an amazing £138,595, including the matched fund. This support created two new Assisted Places for entry in 2021, changing the lives of two bright students from lower income households.

Our Student Callers really enjoyed the experience, learning about their school's history from Old Bradfordians and developing valuable communication skills which will stay with them for the rest of their lives. In some cases, chatting to Old Bradfordians helped to inform their own university and career decisions.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to chat and pledge support. Your collective generosity demonstrates the timeless BGS community spirit. You have shown how lots of people, each giving what they can, together make a huge difference.

'Knowing that you're actually making a difference with the money raised is invaluable. Students like myself will have their lives improved drastically.'

Ans, Year 13 Student Caller and Assisted Place recipient



Award-winning novelist holds creative writing workshop at BGS

October 2021

An acclaimed author returned to his former school to deliver a creative writing workshop.

Ross Raisin (1998), the author of 'God's Own Country', 'Waterline' and 'A Natural', spent the afternoon with BGS Senior School pupils. Later, he took part in one of the school's In Conversation events, which was also open to students at Beckfoot Upper Heaton School, in Bradford.

Said Ross: 'In all the ways that the school has changed over the past couple of decades – the ultra-modern new facilities, the more youthful face of the teaching staff, the beautiful library – it is the increasingly progressive policies of inclusion, of students from less well-off backgrounds and of the local community, that was the most pleasing thing for me to come back to. I left energised by my afternoon with the students.'

Ross has won or been shortlisted for more than ten awards, including winning the 'Sunday Times' Young Writer of the Year Award in 2009 and being named in literary magazine and publisher Granta's once-a-decade Best of Young British Novelists list. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2018.

Ross teaches creative writing at Leeds University and as part of the 'Guardian' Masterclass programme. His next novel, 'A Hunger', will be published in summer 2022.

Headmaster Simon Hinchliffe said: 'We're very thankful to all our talented former students who come back to see us. We love hearing how they've fared in their careers and what advice they have for our students today. We're always grateful to those, such as Ross, who give back to the school. The students loved his visit.'

Right: Sir Henry Price https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_ Henry_Price,_1st_Baronet

Who was Sir Henry Price?

October 2021

In one of his autumn term whole-school assemblies, Deputy Headmaster, Mr Boardman shared the history of the very space in which students were gathered – or more precisely, the story of the man for whom our beautiful hall takes its name – the Price Hall.

Mr Boardman explained:
'Sir Henry Price trained as a tailor and aged 19, became manager of the Grand Clothing Hall in Keighley. He married seamstress Ann Elizabeth Craggs in 1899, and together they set up a market stall selling gentlemen's accessories.

The couple also set up shop in their front room in Silsden and their first premises, a small shop in Keighley, opened in 1906.

From these beginnings and thanks to their incredible hard work, 'Price's Tailors' was born, which later went on to become the world's second largest



tailoring chain, with more than 500 shops and 12,000 employees.

Sir Henry, who read extensively on foreign affairs, travelled widely and was passionate about people of different cultures getting to know one another better.

Always the generous benefactor, Sir Henry never forgot his northern roots, donating to Temple Newsam House and founding an old people's home in Scarborough. He also donated £20,000 to the new Bradford Grammar School (our current site in Frizinghall). Sir Henry was also a major contributor to the University of Leeds, where a Hall of Residence is named in his honour.'



ALWAYS THE GENEROUS BENEFACTOR, SIR HENRY NEVER FORGOT HIS NORTHERN ROOTS ...



Beyond BGS and Clock House Careers

The Beyond BGS careers programme continued to be a success thanks to contributions from Old Bradfordians representing various sectors including law, architecture, geology and marketing.

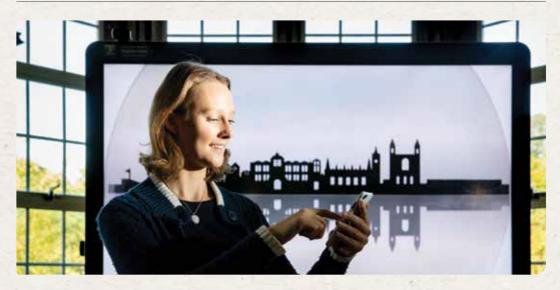
From September 2021, we were able to hold these events in person once again, and we were delighted to be able to welcome Old Bradfordians, such as High Court Judge Sir Stephen Morris (1976) back to School to talk to pupils face-to-face once more.

With all the positive feedback received on this event series, in January 2021 we launched 'Clock House Careers', inviting Old Bradfordians from different career paths to give interesting and engaging talks to Year 5 and 6 pupils. These talks have introduced pupils to some of the many different career choices Old Bradfordians have pursued. To date, more than 60 Beyond BGS and Clock House Careers talks have been delivered by Old Bradfordians of all eras.

If you'd like to be involved in a future session, please contact oldbradfordians@bradfordgrammar.com

Biba Barrett (2005) • Charles Howarth (1985)
Charlotte Restorick (2005) • Chris Dinwoodie (1978)
lan Kennedy (1980) • Isaac Qureshi (2011)
Liz Heard (2014) • Marcus Mackenzie (1983)
Mark Learmonth (1981) • Natalia Dannenberg-Spreier (1999)
Rachel Varley (2014) • Richard Punt (1984)
Robin Dixon (1980) • Sean McQuaid (1980)
Sir Stephen Morris (1975) • Stuart Smith (2004)
Umar Hussain (2010)





Above: Olivia Dovernor (2016), founder of The Student Bubble

Above left: Year 12 student Louise Nelson attended a week-long internship with The Student Bubble

Invaluable Internships

Whether virtual or on site, Old Bradfordians from a range of backgrounds provide inspirational insights and advice to BGS students: from arctic explorers and the energy sector, to the Paralympics!

Careers insights and work experience offer real 'added value' to BGS students and help them to make informed decisions about their future. With in-person work experience opportunities no longer viable during the pandemic, we overcame this absence thanks to the vision of Old Bradfordian and School Governor Dr Asif Qasim (1990), whose idea to take internships virtual quickly gained a life of its own!

We launched our virtual internship programme offering some incredible opportunities with Asif's company, MedShr, a global network and technology platform that enables doctors to share knowledge to improve healthcare and save lives. This kind of experience was especially valuable for aspiring medics.

This was quickly followed by internships with The Student Bubble, a student-targeted property portal for letting agents in and around UK university towns and cities set up by Old Bradfordian Olivia Dovernor (2016), and with Little Black Door, a fashion tech start-up.

Students communicated with employers through a range of resources, including Zoom, Microsoft Teams, email, webinars, and Slack. This valuable work experience will add tremendous value to their university applications and CVs, helping them to develop lifelong skills and exposure to locations far beyond Yorkshire.

Year 12 student Louise Nelson attended a week-long internship with The Student Bubble, which has its origins in founder Olivia's time as an undergraduate at St Andrews University. The Student Bubble aims to help university students find affordable and quality accommodation and navigate the often-problematic private student lettings market. It was recently awarded a place on a funded accelerator named Geovation Scotland, formulated by the Ordinance Survey, the Registers of Scotland and HM Land Registry.

https://geovation.uk/scotland



Louise said of her experience:

I'm aiming to study a degree in International Business with French, so my internship was helpful as it expanded my knowledge of the working world of business. My eyes were opened to what it was truly like to make the first steps in establishing a business. I developed essential skills in formulating different marketing strategies and was able to play a part in researching and developing the business, playing a role in the team which gave me first-hand experience of what it is like to become an entrepreneur – something I aspire to in the future.

My knowledge was truly expanded but I was also reminded of the importance of networking with different people, learning from their experiences and picking up on their advice has been an additional takeaway from the whole experience.'

Stay connected through Beyond Bradford

 your exclusive networking app

bnoyealBradford

Beyond Bradford allows you to expand networks, offer and benefit from careers support, and stay in touch with School. Our exciting new app also allows you to:

- Search a private network to reconnect with old friends and teachers
- Join an exclusive business directory to promote your company
- Share old photos
- Access our 'Willing to help' setting and use your experience to help early career OBs to get ahead
- Post job opportunities
- Create a new group and invite members to it
- Share memories or organise a new group or event through a real time news feed

This is your platform, and exclusive to OBs. Sign up is quick and easy https://beyondbradford.com
App available on Android and Apple devices





THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!



OB Boz Robinson (1954), otherwise known as Air Vice-Marshal Robinson, recently got in touch to reflect on how leaving BGS with 'some French, some Spanish and some German after basic Latin with Douzey' saw him through an amazing international career with the RAF.

Boz says: 'So often have I thanked my luck for a BGS education. My RAF career took me to Holland, Belgium, Germany, France, Cyprus, Pakistan, Singapore, Malaya, Borneo, Canada, the USSR, and Hong Kong. I later lived in Taiwan, China, and South Africa, and am currently based in Thailand.

Throughout, languages gave me a grounding to make the most of these experiences. In NATO HQ in Belgium, I had a French speaking secretary; in the USSR, as a senior diplomat in the British Embassy, I found that French was still frequently the language of diplomacy. Recently, not for the first time, I was taken for a Frenchman because over the years I have used French to my advantage on many occasions – I can speak it fluently with (I am told) a Marseillaise accent! It helps to watch TV5Monde every day too.

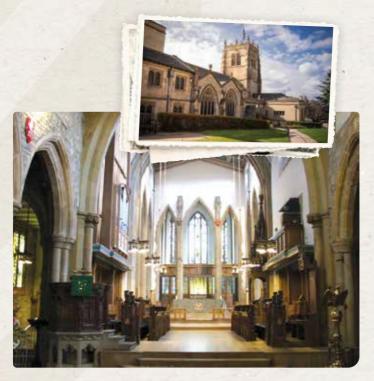
I should admit that having to learn Russian at the age of 47 was no joke and I could never claim to be as good as I would have wished. But I did get another O level! So, I conclude that I was extremely fortunate to have learned Latin, French, German and Spanish when I was young at BGS, little realising how much pleasure and success that such learning would bring me in my life.

By the way, flying supersonic fighters and teaching others how to fly them is also lots of fun and very fulfilling!'

Above from left: Boz Robinson in the summer of 1949; AOA RAF Strike Command January 1989

Below: Bradford Cathedral

Ian Stoney (1964)
I am fortunate enough to have been too young to



have attended the Manor Row school from where the procession to the Cathedral took place – that practice ended with the move to Frizinghall.

Indeed, my memories of attending in my schooldays are clouded by those of indigestion from having to bolt down Sunday lunch to catch the bus into town for the service. Also, since the school had lessons on Saturday mornings, one was at school for 13 days on the trot! We live in more civilised times now.



RECOLLECTIONS OF FOUNDERS' DAY

In 2021, we marked 80 years of Founders' Day. Founders' Day is an historic occasion on which the School community gives thanks to all those whose support and leadership has stewarded our great School through centuries of change.

Undaunted by the constraints of lockdown, we made sure that the tradition was upheld even during the pandemic (albeit socially distanced) in 2020. This prompted some lovely feedback from Old Bradfordians, which we are delighted to share in celebration of this year's special anniversary.

Neil Reid (1950)

I recall how we boys on Founders' Day used to walk in a crocodile three abreast, from the old school at Manor Row, to the Cathedral – in those days wearing our grey pants and chocolate brown blazers and caps, with the masters and the sole Mistress Mrs Baker, in their gowns.

The last time being in 1948, prior to the move to the new school in January 1949. As one who sang in the choir under the direction of Percy Dickinson, your video brought back the memory of singing the descant 'Let all the world in every corner sing' and of almost one thousand male voices soaring up in the Cathedral. A wonderful sound, the memory bringing shivers to the spine.



John Birkett (1961)

I remember Founders' Day 1961 very clearly when as Head Boy, I gave my first ever short speech to the assembled gathering. I was terrified but managed it and after that experience I grew to love the power and magic of words!



Peter Shears (1955)

In my day we used to walk in a parade from the old school to the Cathedral prior to the service, led by the Headmaster, Mr Graham, and all the masters in their gowns.



Richard Stead (1953)

What a wonderful and uplifting surprise to see this year's Founders' Day on video [a reference to the socially distant 2020 Founders' Day shared with Old Bradfordians]. It took me back to the late 1940s and early 1950s when I was at the school and attended these ceremonies.



Geoff Proctor (1962)

Thanks to all who made this service possible in these strange times on video.

As an Old Bradfordian it was very moving and reassuring to hear that the crucial social value of living your life for others, is still a core teaching at BGS.



Robert Hamilton (1969)

My Founders' Day memories take me back to 1968-69 when it fell to me as Head of School to read the recitation of the feoffees and benefactors to the congregation.

In those days the service was on a Sunday afternoon, so we didn't have the pleasure of walking from School to the Cathedral as became the tradition in later times.



Jonathan Hinkles (1993)

'Founders' Day' – two words that struck fear into those in the BGS choir.

Falling so early in the school year, it left precious little time to rehearse whatever pieces had been chosen for the occasion or to remember the harmonies of 'All my hope on God is founded'. You were on parade; taking the place of the choristers at Bradford Cathedral in their choir stalls and unlike the other big 'set pieces' later in the school choir's year, you felt hopelessly un-ready for it all. It was a masterclass for working life, in having to put on a good show in a short space of time! Yet under the baton of Barry Lancaster for my seven-year stint, we always seemed to pull it off. The high point was after it was over - knowing we'd done it!





AS AN OLD BRADFORDIAN IT WAS VERY MOVING AND REASSURING TO HEAR THAT THE CRUCIAL SOCIAL VALUE OF LIVING YOUR LIFE FOR OTHERS, IS STILL A CORE TEACHING AT BGS.



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Bradford Beacon Mark Richer (1981)

Old Bradfordian Mark Richer is one of BGS's largest independent donors and has supported dozens of pupils via the Norfolk Scholarship he launched in memory of a dear friend. He talks about the gratitude he has for his BGS scholarship – even if it meant he was 'no longer the smartest kid in the room'.

Old Bradfordian Mark Richer is used to growing companies from humble beginnings. The Cambridge graduate is on his fourth start-up having spent more than 30 years bringing innovative network, voice and video communication systems to market.

But while he's built a career as a highly successful tech entrepreneur, Mark has also been determined to invest in future generations by supporting the education of dozens of other 'start-ups' – 55 BGS pupils – making him one of the school's largest independent donors.

The desire to give back comes from understanding the benefits of a transformative education having taken one of the last scholarships provided under Bradford Metropolitan Council's direct grant scheme. He also understands there is even more of a need to raise funds for students from less advantageous backgrounds today, given there is no longer a direct grant scheme.

He recalls: 'Back then, the exam was for all 12-year-olds and the top 30 got offered a place at BGS. It was an amazing scheme. If you want to pinpoint one moment of my life when my life pivoted, I would say that passing that exam was it. I've been very grateful for that opportunity and where it's led to, where I'm now on my fourth start-up.'





Mark grew up with his brother and sister in Cottingley in a loving family with supportive parents. But while he may have been the smartest pupil at his state school, when he joined BGS in Year 7, he soon found differently. Fortunately, his intellectual contemporaries at his new school incentivised him to do better.

'Spending time hanging around with these very clever people, I knew I had to pull my finger out to keep up with them all. There was only about one time in my entire school career when I bested my peers, when I came top in a maths exam the Christmas before A Levels, and it was so precious to me. The others must have had an off day,' he says, laughing.

'It meant that when I went to Cambridge, I wasn't under any illusion that I was the smartest person in the place. It spurred me on to be better than I would have been and gave me a realistic view of who I was. No one was particularly held up high at BGS and people didn't lord it over others, whether it was about money or intelligence. Those are the things I would pick out when you ask what BGS gave me.'

By the time he was in the Lower Sixth, Mark had developed a love for computers. Part of his A Level computing course was held at Bradford University's School of Management where the then teenager found himself whiling away the hours on the school's account on Bradford University's mainframe, which he'd gained access to when someone gave him the username and password.

'It was fantastic. When school ended at 4.15pm I'd slope off up the hill to write programs for a while before coming down the hill to catch the bus at 6pm,' he says.

'But then I was sitting in maths class one day when the deputy head Mr Slow came in and put this weighty print out in front of me and said 'Richer, this is a print out of all of the programs that have been run on the school's university account in the last year. Do you think you could mark all of the ones which are yours?'

'I marked up about six of the 300 programs and he said: 'Are these yours?' I said: 'No sir, those are the ones that aren't mine.' Unbeknown to me, I'd run up a £400-£500 bill over the last three months. Fortunately, Mr Slow was very nice about it. I think from that moment I was destined for a career in computing.'

His hours spent at the management school paid off when Mark later got a job teaching adults how to program when he was only 17. He then left BGS in 1981 to study natural sciences at Cambridge University and later gained his masters in theoretical physics and chemistry. Mark also supports academic activities at Cambridge where he is Fellow Commoner of St Catharine's College.

Mark began his career as the founder and director of Madge Networks, a public traded company with a market value of close to \$1 billion at the time he left. He founded Calista, a company specialising in voice over IP products, which was acquired by the American multi-national Cisco Systems in 1999, and later established Codian, a new generation of video conferencing infrastructure solutions in 2002 which was acquired by Tandberg in 2007. Today, he is the CEO and co-founder of StarLeaf,



a global video conferencing and collaboration software company with 200 staff.

Mark was already keen to invest in future talent at his former school when he was approached by former BGS headmaster Stephen Davidson about making a donation. He knew instantly who he wanted to name the new fund after – his best friend Nigel Norfolk, who died suddenly in December 1981, just as he'd secured his place at Cambridge with Mark.

'He was the first of us to get his place at Cambridge and very kindly he kept it quiet so all the rest of us wouldn't get depressed,' he recalls. 'He was a very smart, funny, lively, energetic and interesting person. He was very friendly and open. His death was just out of the blue. It was a terrible thing. It was obvious to attach Nigel's name to the fund, so we consulted his family and they very kindly agreed to it.'

Like every donor, Mark receives an annual report every year on the children he's supported through school. They include Jake, a musician who's now studying at the Leeds Conservatoire and Leanne, who ended up gaining an MSc in environment and development at Leeds University and is now an environmental consultant, travelling the country to manage large pollution projects.

THE BEST MONEY I'VE MADE IS ALL I'VE GIVEN AWAY

Could you be our next Bradford

Bradford
Beacon?

We want to share stories of Old Bradfordians like Mark Richer, whose achievements in their chosen field inspire others to succeed. This is your chance to celebrate OBs who embody the BGS values of excellence, service, and that quintessentially northern characteristic, 'grit'.

To make a nomination, please email Lindsey Davis, Development Director at ldavis@bradfordgrammar.com

Leanne describes the moment she gained the scholarship as a 'dream come true.'

'My life path was undoubtedly aided by receiving a scholarship from Mark and I will be forever grateful for his generosity and support throughout my formative years at BGS,' she says.

For Mark, giving back to the school is about simply 'doing the right thing.'

'Anyone in my position would do it,' he says.
'I want the scholarship to go to those who are most deserving and I place my trust in the headmaster at the time to make a good judgement about who should receive the bursaries. It's got to be a team effort in that way. I can provide the money, but the intelligent selection is best done by others.

'It's fantastic seeing their progress. I would encourage others to consider helping like this. I think they would see it's a very rewarding process. The best money I've made, is all I've given away.'

Above: Mark Richer with recipients on a 2002/3 visit to BGS; Leanne Brumby and Jake Keating











Robert Hirst

From Yorkshire roots to the Moomin maestro of Japan.

Robert Hirst (1965), a former BGS scholarship student, has brought the iconic characters, The Moomins, to life in a specially created theme park in Japan. Robert, 73, attended BGS in the 1960s, serving as Head Boy before achieving a double First at Cambridge and beginning a career as a highly successful investment banker.

Huddersfield-born Robert, who is married with two daughters, lived all over the world with his work for Citibank, AIG and The World Bank. He now lives in Japan, where he started his business career and has spent most of the last 35 years.

Robert was all set for retirement in 2012 until a Finnish investment banking contact approached him and asked him to meet with the Finnish Ambassador, to discuss a Moomin theme park idea. The white, hippo-like Moomin creatures were created by Finnish author and illustrator, Tove Jansson, and had long been loved in Japan.



Said Robert: 'From that initial meeting came the seeds of Moominvalley Park. We had to work from scratch, finding a suitable place to build the park, design and create all the attractions and raise the finance to fund it. I think the most enjoyable part was being involved in the creative design of the park which has allowed my artistic side to shine.'

The theme park was eventually built in Saitama Prefecture, near Tokyo, and opened to the public in March 2019. Robert is now chairman of Moomin Monogatari Ltd, the operator of the theme park. He spends his time between working at the park or in Tokyo and sits on the board of several ventures and funds.

He added: 'It's hard work running a theme park but incredibly rewarding. The joy comes from seeing people's faces, both young and old, as they come to the park and see these amazing creatures come to life in fantasy land.'

'We've obviously had a difficult time due to COVID, with a threemonth closure last year. However as the park is outdoors and there In his spare time, the former Bingley Harrier and Cambridge Blue is a keen long-distance runner, having previously won the Washington Marathon.
Robert also enjoys gardening at his farmhouse in Matsumoto, a classic Japanese 'castle town' known as the gateway to Japan's Northern Alps. The farmhouse was saved from demolition and lovingly restored by Robert; his preservation efforts and the fusion of traditional Japanese and English gardens he has cultivated, have generated much interest and seen him becoming something of a local celebrity.

Despite his global career, Robert remains connected to his Yorkshire roots, regularly visiting his sister and finding time to attend reunions at his old school BGS. While the COVID-19 pandemic has prevented a more recent return, his affection for BGS remains



undimmed. Its inspired him to sponsor an assisted place for a child from a lower-income household who would otherwise be unable to attend BGS this September. It forms part of the school's wider fundraising efforts to increase support for assisted places, with the launch of a new 1662 Fund for Assisted Places this summer, having raised more than £1 million to date.

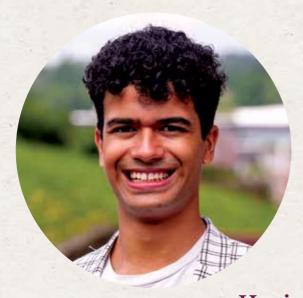
Robert himself received a prestigious and highly competitive Bradford City Scholarship to attend the Senior School. He says of his time at BGS: 'My parents were of modest means and I felt that my scholarship had eased considerably their financial burden of my being in a fee-paying school. My father worked for most of his life for Bradford City Council (then known as Bradford Corporation), so in a way my scholarship was giving him

something back for all his hard work. He was devoted to BGS and became very active in the newly formed Parents' Association, cheering me on at all the cross-country races.

Thanks to my scholarship, BGS put me on the road to achieving great things. I am very, very grateful. I am proud to support the 1662 Fund for Assisted Places, so that tomorrow's talent can take advantage of all the opportunities which BGS affords'.







Haris Sultan Haris left BGS in 2020 and had to take a gap year due to the pandemic. He decided however, to carry on his passion for children and young people's health.

Within West Yorkshire, Haris was appointed as Youth Representative on Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) Governing Body making him the youngest person in the country to ever be appointed to the board of a CCG. He was more recently appointed to the People's Board for the West Yorkshire Healthcare Partnership looking at workforce and leadership development across the region. He also sits on the Board of Trustees of Leeds Hospitals Charity which is the official charity of Leeds Teaching NHS Foundation Trust.

Nationally, Haris is Founder and Chair of the National Network of Youth Forums working with over 60 NHS Trusts across England. He led a report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of a Child focusing on children and young people's health within England. He also led a national project looking at health inequalities and education which resulted in the National NHS Director for Inequalities opening up a workstream to continue the work. Haris was given the opportunity to work with Public Health England and the Department of Health and Social Care on the COVID-19 response and vaccines. He is now working with the NHS Confederation and NHS England on children and young people's health within the United Kingdom. He is currently a first-year medical student at the University of Liverpool.

ARETHEY NOW?

We caught up with recent leaver Haris Sultan (2020) to find out what he has been up to since becoming an Old Bradfordian ...

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Mike Simpson leaves BGS after 34 years of teaching ...

Mike Simpson originally joined BGS as a pupil in 1970. He left in 1978 and went on to study at Oxford University. After five years in banking, Mike then studied for a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PCGE) and joined the BGS teaching staff in 1986. He taught a range of subjects over the years, starting with Economics. He then diversified into History and finally built the Politics Department, where he was the head of the department at the time of his retirement.

Mike is one of the last of a generation of BGS teachers and everyone at the School wishes him a long and happy retirement. Here is just a small selection of the messages we received from Old Bradfordians who shared their memories and well-wishes ...





Natasha Moorey (2013)

I went from someone who was unsure about politics to absolutely loving it and it soon became my favourite subject, all thanks to you, Mr Simpson. You brought the subject to life, taught us well and we also had the best time in lessons with many laughs.



You still have me quoting the following: 'You can lead a horse to water, but you have to have lead in your pencil.'

Fran Berry (2017)

Thank you for being such a fantastic form tutor and politics teacher! Your lessons and writing tips stayed with me throughout university.

All the best for the future.

Laurence Keir-Thomas (2004)

I have such fond memories of A-Level Politics with Mssrs Simpson and McCartney (Yorkshire's answer to Lennon and McCartney). It is thanks to Mr Simpson that I have a lifelong passion for all things political (both US and UK). His amazing knowledge, humour and enthusiasm made him the best teacher I ever had the pleasure of being taught by.

Jack Small (2012)

Wishing you all the best with whatever's next – probably a lot of cycling I imagine. It was a pleasure being taught by you and many laughs were had with you as my form teacher.



Above: Jack Smal (2012) and Mike Simpson in a Politics lesson

Paul Greaney QC (1988)

I was a pupil between 1980 and 1988 so was there when Mr. Simpson arrived. He was a brilliant teacher, inspirational, kind and great fun. I remember him with considerable fondness and wish him well in his retirement.

Ian Walker (1995)

Mr Simpson is an absolute legend! I was never taught by him in my spell as a student, however, all my friends who were taught by him spoke highly of his lessons and of him as an individual.

When I returned to teach at BGS in 2010, Simmo was still plying his trade. I enjoyed the odd five a-side session with him, and his helpful guidance to navigate the politics of an organisation he understands well. He had the trust of the students he taught, was always able to provide comment on school matters that was illuminating and brought considerable expertise from his experience as an examiner.

As Head of Careers, I relied on Simmo for support and advice, based both on his experience as a previous Head of Careers and through his then Oxbridge role. A remarkable servant of the School, he was a great colleague, but more importantly inspired hundreds of Old Bradfordians and set them up well for life beyond BGS.

I hope he enjoys a well-earned retirement, continues cycling and makes it along to the odd Old Bradfordians event to share a drink and reminisce of his years of service.

Amrit Sharma (2021)

You've been a class teacher who is both funny and relatable. I sincerely hope you enjoy your retirement.

Edward Walker (1998)

I left BGS in 1998 to study PPE at Oxford and Mr Simpson played a central role during my Sixth Form studies, nurturing my embryonic interest in politics through his passionate teaching replete with 'Brucie bonuses' and of course the trip to New York and Washington DC, which was my first experience of North America. I also remember fondly his sometimes tenuous attempts to link US politics to contemporary youth culture - 'Which amendment does Nirvana's song 'Come as you are' reference?' I hope Mike enjoys whatever he goes on to do in the next chapter of his life, it will be well-earned.

Phoebe Barber (2017)

Mr Simpson taught me while I was at BGS Sixth Form a few years ago, and I always really connected with his teaching style and attitude. He was genuinely such an inspirational teacher, and really engaged me in a subject I had no idea about previously; I achieved my highest A Level marks in his papers. Please pass on my very best to him and whatever he goes on to next!

Thomas Clough (2006)

I felt compelled to email in and say thank you, congratulations and a happy retirement to Mr Simpson – known always as Simmo. His energy and passion for politics made his A Level course an absolute blast! Thank you for everything!

Below: Mike Simpson with members of his form, 13MPS in 2017: (left to right, from top) Mike, Shantanu Sampath, Harry Crabtree, Harry Sherwood, Celia Cox, Abigail Spencer, Sarah Varley, Catriona Clegg, and Fran Berry



Matthew Wainwright (1997)

I have very strong and fond memories of Mr Simpson or 'Simmo' as I remember him. He brought the subject of politics alive to me, so much so that I went on to study this at Liverpool University.

I'll never forget the trip he took us on to Washington and how he brought US Politics alive to the whole class – he had us meeting congressman and trips to the supreme court – such amazing times. A final abiding memory was the 'lame duck' presidency walk he used to do. What a super teacher and I wish him all the best of luck and happiness in his future plans. He did have a few terrible jokes though, 'Have you paid that bill?'

Daniel Czajka (2003)

You helped inspire a lifelong passion for politics and current affairs which ended up with a BA, MA and now continuously boring friends, staff and passing acquaintances on the subject (as well as some rants on Twitter) ... although the prospect of seeing a large white board with every tiny bit of space being taken up by some part of a spider diagram still does give me slight PTSD flashbacks!

Genuinely, thank you for everything, you really have been a great and inspirational teacher, one that really did treat us like adults, a great source of support when it was needed and a heck of a lot of great laughs for good measure. I'm guessing this is early retirement, hope all is well and that it's very long and enjoyable as you massively deserve it. Once again, thank you so much for everything, take care, stay safe and best wishes.



David Whitfield (1990)

Mike Simpson taught me economics at the end of the '80s. He was hugely liked and respected by all my classmates; I met up with a few recently and his name was brought up (with fond memories). I will always be able to recall his analogy for how to remember the formula for price elasticity. He also pointed out that the 1st XV used to train more than England, which might have been slightly overdoing things! Please pass on my very best wishes.

Simon Rust (1992)

Mr Simpson was possibly my first 'favourite' teacher way back in the late 80s when I was a second year and he joined the School as our History teacher. I was subsequently delighted to find him my form master for the following school year (3M). He brought laughter and fun to every lesson without fail and really brought the subject to life. Wishing Mr Simpson the very best for a fun and laughter-filled retirement.



MR SIMPSON WAS MY POLITICS TEACHER AND I CAN SAY, HANDS DOWN, ONE OF THE BEST TEACHERS I HAVE EVER ENCOUNTERED



Sumantra Prasad (1997)

I studied Politics A Level between 1995 and 1997 and was in your form for both years. I just wanted to say a huge thank you for everything you did for me. While I enjoyed various subjects at different times at BGS, A Level Politics was the first subject I really loved and I went on to study it for my degree and have also managed to make a career out of it. A lot of the skills we were taught around how to cut through large amounts of information and present issues clearly, I use to this day.

At the time I was also terribly disorganised and struggled with staying on top of everything (still do actually!) but you were always willing to listen and go the extra mile to help – I don't think I would have made it through my A Levels without that. Wishing you all the best for a life post BGS.

Eleanor MacPherson (2000)

Lioined BGS Sixth Form in 1998 and completed my A Levels in 2000. Mr Simpson was my politics teacher and I can say, hands down, one of the best teachers I have ever encountered. I was profoundly dyslexic as a child and always struggled academically. Mr Simpson supported my learning compassionately. He managed to make learning fun and engaging, never ever speaking down or belittling his students. I went on to get a first-class honours degree from Newcastle in Politics and I believe it was his excellent grounding and ability to inspire that propelled me through this. I now live and work in Malawi and hold a PhD in public health. I will always be grateful for his wonderful teaching and inspiring start. I hope he has the wonderful retirement he truly deserves.

Harvey Logan (2019)

Thank you first and foremost for a wonderful two years of politics lessons (even the ones after a big Friday lunch that I may have fallen asleep in), it was fantastic having you as a teacher. Some of the memories from that class will surely last a lifetime - though the ones springing to mind right now involve less politics than they do singing P!nk. Thanks also for continually encouraging me, especially with my Cambridge application. It really did mean the world to me at the time that you believed I could do it. Plus, we both know I wouldn't be here now without the insightful knowledge of neoliberalism gained in your classroom. Though BGS won't be the same without you, I hope that you enjoy whatever comes next (I assume plenty of cycling?), and I sincerely hope our paths cross again in the future.

Fred Reed-Purvis (2021)

Mr Simpson has been one of the most enthusiastic teachers I've ever had. He is truly passionate about the subject he teaches. He is such an effective teacher as he mixes the hard nitty-gritty parts of politics with his fun and outgoing personality. I will miss the banter we had about his beloved Leeds United, as well as the Queensbury tunnel pressure group. Thanks for everything you've done for us sir, especially during lockdown as I know it was difficult for you as you were unable to go on your daily bike rides to the Yorkshire Dales.

James Pearson (1992)

Not only were you always fun and competitive to play against at football, a supportive and inspiring form teacher, but you also exposed and harnessed my lifelong love of politics, encouraging and helping me to get into Mansfield College, Oxford to follow in your footsteps. BGS and Mansfield continue to both open doors for me in my life, and for that I will always be very grateful, notably to you as not only my favourite teacher but a true guide that sent me confidently and optimistically on my way in the fabulous adventures of life after school...Enjoy your new freedom.

Joanna Bailey (1989)

I shall always remember, with a lot of gratitude, his helping me to track down my Mini Metro after a school dinner in the centre of Bradford as I had forgotten where I had parked it! I wish Mr Simpson a very happy retirement, and if he is ever in the Midlands, he would be very welcome to give me a call and come and visit the farm.

James Rayner (2008)

Mr Simpson was my favourite teacher during my time at BGS. I was fortunate that he was both a subject and my form teacher in Sixth Form. It is clear how passionate he is about the subjects he taught. He made many a lesson enjoyable by bringing the content to life. Thanks for everything and I wish you all the best in the future.

Lois Taylor (2010)

Thank you for being an amazing teacher! Your lessons were always really engaging. It's been over ten years since my last class at BGS, but I've never forgotten to 'jettison my party ideologies'. After a very interesting few years in UK and US politics (to say the least!) I'm grateful to have kept the knowledge you imparted. I still really enjoy reading about politics which is a lifelong gift! Thank you so much. I hope you enjoy your retirement.



The 1662 Campaign launched in July 2021, with the aim of doubling the number of BGS students we can offer Assisted Places to, from 10 to 20 per cent of our school population.

Taking inspiration from our Royal Charter, granted to school by King Charles II in 1662, the call to arms is simple. If you are bright and hardworking, and apply to BGS, background or circumstance should not be a block to entry. Our School's founding principles are woven through this historic mission: from the inclusive and meritocratic values championed by legendary Victorian headmaster WH Keeling, a 'friend of the scholarship boy', to the social transformations of the Direct Grant era. In recent years, these ideals were given fresh purpose by the ideals of the Hoc Age Campaign.

The creation of the 1662 Fund is another defining milestone in BGS history and Old Bradfordians have responded to the launch of the 1662 Campaign with typical generosity.

More than £1.1 million has been raised to date, from almost 200







donors. From down the road in Shipley, to the other side of the world in New South Wales, our community has rallied, recognising that a gift to BGS is about more than just your old school. It is about advancing social mobility in Bradford, by widening access to a BGS education. The youngest city in the UK, Bradford is also one of the most deprived. BGS has a vital role to play in our region and the support of Old Bradfordians is essential to this.

Eight brand new Assisted Places have been created during the last two years alone, established from donations of all kinds. Whether regular direct debits, single donations, gifts of stocks and shares, or transformational sponsorship level funding, Old Bradfordians have shown that together, they can make a difference.

All this, during a pandemic. What a testament to Hoc Age spirit!

The same Hoc Age spirit was evident in our student caller team during our summer telethon. 13 student callers took to the phones to share news of the Campaign with Old Bradfordians, raising more than £138,000 in support of two fully funded Assisted Places! Calling from their homes, as we began to emerge from lockdown, they did themselves and BGS proud.

The telethon was given a welcome boost by Old Bradfordian Mark Learmonth (1981), whose leadership of a year group matched fund doubled the first £30,000 raised. It was lovely to introduce Mark to our student callers during one of their Zoom briefings and his passion for creating educational opportunities left an indelible impression.

We have more exciting plans to boost Assisted Places provision and look forward to working with Old Bradfordians to advance the prospects of talented young people in Bradford, for many more years to come.

If you wish to learn more about the 1662 Campaign, please contact Lindsey Davis, Director of Development & External Relations Idavis@ bradfordgrammar.com and 01274 553712.



It is a wonderful gift to be able to give a young person the opportunity for a great education and provide foundations for a lifetime of success.

My late husband Gavin Craig was an Old Bradfordian and attended Bradford Grammar School from 1954-64. He fondly remembered his time in the scouts and on the rugby field and made lifelong friendships at the School. Gavin studied Medicine at Queens University Belfast and after working his early years in hospital medicine, he returned to Yorkshire in 1975 to join his father in General Practice. He became a much-loved GP.

He was always supportive of the school and was President of the Old Bradfordians' Committee twice.

His funeral was held at Bradford Cathedral. Westcliffe Medical Centre closed for the afternoon of his funeral to allow all the staff to attend. Donations in his memory were directed to the bursary fund at the School at his prior request. The contributions paid for one year of education at BGS.

As a family, we have enjoyed following the journey of the student who benefitted, and the opportunities it has provided. Our bursary student excelled in their studies and went on to study medicine which was a lovely surprise to us. It has been humbling hearing about their achievements. It was heart-warming to learn that the same individual has since completed an undergraduate placement at Westcliffe Surgery with the same staff members that attended and contributed to that very same bursary back in 2015.

Our bursary student said to me: 'I couldn't have got where I am without the support I received at BGS. My family and I are so grateful for everything.'

I encourage you all to support the bursary fund, however small.

Anita Craig, Emeritus Governor and former BGS parent





NEW FOR OLD A SHORT HISTORY OF SURGICAL REPLACEMENT OF BODY PARTS

Part of the BGS Open Science Lecture Series

June 2021

We would like to thank Professor Andrew Carr (1977) for his virtual talk in the Open Science Lecture series.



Andrew shared insights into life as a surgeon and discussed his research into the invention of new surgical implants and placebo surgery controls in clinical trials.

Please get in touch at oldbradfordians@ bradfordgrammar.com if you or someone you know would like to be involved in a future science lecture. Participants do not have to be Old Bradfordians.

If you missed out or would like to re-watch the talk, it is available here: https://bit.ly/bgs-osl-acarr



Calling all scientists...

... would you like to deliver one of our future Open Science Lectures? Open to the public, these termly FREE events aim to inspire children of all ages and fascinate children and grownups alike with the wonderful and weird world of science.

Events can either be delivered in person in the magnificent Price Hall or online via Microsoft Teams.

To take part in a future lecture or for more information, please contact Donna Reynolds, Old Bradfordian & Events Coordinator at oldbradfordians @bradfordgrammar.com or call on 01274 553709.







OLD BRADFORDIAN MONTHLY MEET UPS

Old Bradfordian meet up sessions on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm are hosted by Sixth Form volunteers and are a great opportunity to visit School and reminisce about your time at BGS whilst chatting to our students about current school life.

These monthly events are open to Old Bradfordians of all ages and each time we have a different theme. Here are a few photos from December's Christmas theme, where music, nibbles, and mince pies got everyone into the festive spirit!

To find out about future OB events, subscribe to our termly enewsletter. Please email oldbradfordians@ bradfordgrammar.com **Below:** Aidy Smith (2009), Sir Stephen Morris (1976), and Ross Raisin (1998)







We would like to thank our inspirational Old Bradfordians for taking part in this year's event series: Award-winning TV presenter and wine and spirits journalist, Aidy Smith (2009), High Court Judge, Sir Stephen Morris (1976), and award-winning author and Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Ross Raisin (1998).

Please get in touch at oldbradfordians@ bradfordgrammar.com if you'd like to be involved in a future event.

If you missed out, or would simply like to re-watch these talks, they are available via our YouTube channel: http://bit.ly/YouTube-BGS



Our 'In Conversation' event series continues to be a success!



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A A COND YEAR CONNECTION

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THE MEETING SERVED AS A CHANCE TO RECONNECT WITH FELLOW OBS AND LEARN ABOUT THE SCHOOL'S LATEST ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS



For a second year running, an in-person reunion fell victim to the ongoing global Covid-19 pandemic. The dedication of the North American alumni leadership team, including Len Audaer (2004), Brian Cousins (1969), Sam Craig (1994), Dave Huggins (1956), and Russell Taylor (1972), proved once again indefatigable and ensured that OBs in North America could still gather, via a Zoom-based reunion held on 13 October 2020.

Almost 20 OBs attended from across the USA and Canada – some having left BGS in 1952 and others as recently as the 2000s. The North American alumni leadership team were all in attendance, and the group was joined by guest of honour, Headmaster Dr Simon Hinchliffe, and Lindsey Davis, Director of Development & External Relations. Sam Craig (1994) served as master of ceremonies.

The meeting served as a chance to reconnect with fellow OBs and learn about the School's latest activities and achievements. Sam began by providing an update on known North American OBs, with the combination of the group's historical database and the more recent Beyond Bradford North American Membership group indicating close to 400 members. Sam thanked the Headmaster for

giving up his evening and invited him to address the group. Simon began by updating the group on the School's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and sharing the latest A Level and GCSE results with those assembled. The year's results included an impressive 9 Oxbridge candidates and 24 medics.

The occasion also saw the launch of an exciting new initiative: a North American Friends of BGS Challenge Fund, which aims to inspire donations in support of a brand-new Assisted Place. OBs were invited to unlock up to £50,000, generously pledged by a member of the North American OB community, by raising the same again before the end of the calendar year. The launch of this initiative follows the announcement of the new 1662 Fund for Assisted Places

at BGS and marks a new period of proactive fundraising at School. There was great enthusiasm to support access to BGS for bright students from the group and a clear call to action was issued by the Headmaster, for OBs to give what they could to support the Challenge Fund. For US residents, Sam also mentioned it is possible to tax efficiently donate to the School through its affiliation with the US-based British Schools and Universities Foundation.

The need for funding is set in the context of significant social disadvantage in Bradford, which was noted by those who had been able to visit the city prior to the pandemic. The Headmaster outlined the various outreach and partnership efforts undertaken by the school to raise aspirations and support the local community, providing a tangible public benefit to a diverse group of young people and families.

Sam thanked all those in attendance and confirmed plans to host an in-person OB reunion in Seattle in October 2022, travel permitting. The meeting concluded with a collective Hoc Age and well wishes to all.





We record with sadness the deaths of the following Old Bradfordians and offer our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.



Obituaries

With thanks to John Bennett (1973), Obituaries Editor





Alexander Browne (2001)

22 January 1983 -12 October 2021

Alexander started at

Clock House, which replaced Thornville for younger pupils and then went on to Durham University to read Spanish. He developed a keen love of sport and although he did not make the School First XI, he made up for it by being the cricket scorer, which involved a tour of western Canada. In his final year he was rowing captain, a sport he didn't continue at Durham, instead captaining the college football B team and helping run the college bar. He was also a keen supporter of Bradford City. He began his career with Deloitte, working in tax and during this time fulfilled another passion, that of travel to places such as Machu Picchu and Jordan, as well as football trips. In 2013 he set himself up as a tax adviser, first in Spain, then returning in 2015 to

be employed once again,

Smith, followed by Dixon

this time in London,

initially with Kingston

Wilson. He became a member of Middlesex County Cricket Club and excelled at yet another passion - pub quizzes.

Peter Hedley Curnow (1949)

16 June 1931 -May 2020

Peter lived in Baildon, entering BGS aged 11 and being placed in form 3C which contemporaries considered was where the brightest of the Eleven Plus or Governors Scholarship entrants were placed. At the end of the year he was top of the class and recommended by the School to take a place in IV Classical. He continued in this stream but by 1948 it had become clear to him that he could not see this as being relevant to anything he might want to do in later life. On leaving school he spent the next years preparing for a career as a lawyer, taking up articles with a firm of solicitors and studying part time at the University of Leeds to obtain a

law degree. This was followed by two years of military service, mostly in Malaya. This satiated any desire for foreign travel, and he spent the rest of his life in the UK. After working as an assistant solicitor in Keighley, where he met his wife Eileen, he discovered he was more interested in the theory of law and his next move was to the office of the Land Registry, Lytham St Annes. Following this, he became assistant land registrar at the newly opened registry for North East England in Durham. He had for many years been a very able bridge player and in retirement ran classes in the village. His father, sister and son had been mathematics graduates and he also embarked in retirement on a mathematics degree with the Open University.



Dr Ian 'Ben' Fallows

(School Master 1946 - 1950)

1924 - 2021

Born in Bury, Lancashire, Ben was interviewed for Bury Grammar School at the age of ten. He was awarded a Kay Scholarship, went on to become Vice Captain and won an open scholarship to Emmanuel College, Cambridge in 1942 to study Classics. Most undergraduates were called up, but he was medically exempt. He left Cambridge in 1946 having completed a PGCE and soon took up a teaching place at Bradford Grammar School. In 1950 he moved on to join the staff at Nottingham High School. Teaching History and Classics in the school sixth form, he stayed there from 1950 to 1964 when he was appointed Headteacher of Batley Grammar School. He spent not only the rest of his career here but also the remainder of his life. He wrote, amongst other things, a history of Bury Grammar School where he had received his education.

Paul Firth (1970)

2 June 1951 -9 April 2021

After a successful school life, culminating in being Head Prefect, Paul went to Oxford to read Classics, changing to Politics and Philosophy as well as playing football for Queens' College and representing the Junior Common Room as Food Member. His career began in the Magistrates' Court Service in Bingley, then Leeds, Manchester, Rotherham and Liverpool. His legacy to the football world is his 2005 book 'Four Minutes To Hell: The Story of the Bradford City Fire', sales of which raised funds for the newly set up Burns Research Unit. A stage production 'The 56' followed (there were 56 deaths) which was adapted for radio and a TV film 'One Day In May'.

Dr David Gateshill Hardy (1939)

4 July 1922 -20 September 2021

David's father Gateshill Hardy was a teacher at the school from 1920 to 1955. Following BGS (which was still in the old building), David studied at Leeds Medical School for six years before holding surgical positions at Leeds General Infirmary, Leeds Public Dispensary and then in the Royal Medical Corps in North Africa for two and a half years. On leaving the army he went into general practice in Wakefield, Bradford and finally Goole where he stayed for the rest of his working life and retirement. He died aged 99 on 20 September 2021 and is survived by his wife Dorothy, three children, niece, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Richard Geoffrey Leach (1947)

22 May 1930 -December 2020

Geoffrey transferred from Batley Grammar School following his father's move from Lloyds Bank in Batley to Keighley and was placed in Form 5A. An only child, he was quiet and assertive but with a good and observant sense of humour. Although he entered the school as a scientist and mathematician, he was still able in his first year to win the Junior Downey French prize. He won a scholarship to Lincoln College Oxford to read Chemistry, taking over rooms occupied by an undergraduate later to be known as the novelist John Le Carré. Prior to Oxford he had achieved Grade 8 level as a pianist and managed to attend lectures organised by the music faculty there.

Following graduation, he served eighteen months National Service in the RAF as a radar mechanic. Following demobilisation he obtained a technical training with ICI in Teesside where he met his wife Jane. Over the next twenty-seven years he had a succession of jobs as a manager of industrial chemistry in Darrington, Sutton Coldfield, Market Harborough and Kings Lynn. He spent the last years of his working life in Basingstoke working for the Ministry of Defence on the recycling of plutonium at Aldermaston Weapons Establishment. He claimed these to be the happiest years of his working life and whilst he was working there began freelance work for a firm of German scientific publishers. Following retirement, he returned to the north east, buying a house near Darlington where he was able to continue his translation and copy-editing work.



Rudolph 'Rudi' Leavor (1943)

31 May 1926 -27 July 2021

There can be few obituaries written whilst at the same time the subject is being mentioned on Radio 4's

'Thought For The Day' or had the Gestapo invade his Berlin home to take his parents away for questioning. Both apply to Rudi. His most well-known achievements are probably interfaith work, for which, amongst other awards, he got the BEM. Bradford Council for Mosques expressed its sympathy to his family on his death and with the permission of the Bishop of Leeds, **Bradford Cathedral** held a special memorial service. It was the neighbouring Muslim community which helped save his synagogue from closure and the first Muslim, Jani Rashid, joined the Synagogue Council. In addition to these remarkable achievements, Rudi was an accomplished singer. Beginning with choral singing at Bradford Synagogue (becoming director of music), he went on to become a member of Leeds Philharmonic Choir for fifty years. He also sang the Hebrew Mourning Prayer every year at Holocaust Memorial Day events in Bradford, Calderdale and Kirklees. As a child in Berlin his family tree had to be presented so he transferred to a Berlin Jewish School. Fortunately, his father managed to get visa papers and they arrived in England as refugees. Manchester and London were oversubscribed with dentists and so the clerk, seemingly at random, suggested

Bradford. Following **Bradford Grammar** School, where he received extra coaching in the sciences, Rudi followed his father's profession, studying dentistry at Leeds University. National Service saw him working as a dentist in London and Austria. He returned to his father's practice in Shipley before setting up on his own in Heckmondwike, becoming honorary secretary to the Yorkshire dental committee and serving on the General Dental Practice Committee.



Charles Courtenay Lloyd (School Master 1964 - 1983)

1919 - 2021

Charles Lloyd taught languages at Bradford Grammar School from 1964 to 1983, specifically Russian. Consequently, many whose language study was restricted to their younger years might not have known him. However even those taught by him might be surprised by the facts now revealed in this obituary. He was above all a quiet self-effacing gentleman. He died peacefully surrounded by his family at the age of 102 in Madrid, where he had lived the previous 16 years.

The son of clergymen, Revd John Collins Lloyd and Dorothy Gertrude Scull, an accomplished pianist he was a WWII Royal Naval Officer who contributed to the Liberation of Norway. He was part of the mission to supervise the surrender of the German forces in Norway and restore law and order. After this he spent a year attached to the British Admiralty in Oslo and learned to speak Norwegian as a native. He was awarded the King Harken VII 'Liberty Medal' for 'outstanding services in connection with the liberation of Norway'. From Oslo he was recruited as an Intelligence Officer for the Allied Control Commission in Germany. There he helped the country back on its feet but also caught Nazis on the run. Following graduation from Selwyn College Cambridge in German and Scandinavian languages, and doing a post-graduate course in Russian, he was recruited as a teacher of Russian to spies at the rather secret Joint Services School of Languages during the Cold War in Cambridge. He married a Russian princess, Her Serene Highness Elena Von Lieven. His greatest pleasures in life were reading, learning languages, geography and modern history and he always kept up with world affairs. He was also obsessed with the weather reports

and listening to 'foreign stations' on his short-wave radios.



John Anthony Lowe (1966)

5 July 1949 -12 April 2020

John lived in Shipley, travelling to school with his brother David from the original Saltaire station to the original Frizinghall station when he didn't use the trolleybus. John was very quiet and selfeffacing with a sharp and witty sense of humour. He valued his time at BGS and started a teacher training course, but it wasn't for him. He then went into banking, later becoming a Job Centre manager, before going to a charity dealing with cancer. He found this last job the most rewarding and survived cancer himself. He and his wife Eileen were just beginning to enjoy retirement when he died in an accident not far from their Matlock home when out walking.



Derek Mozley (1950)

19 October 1931 -13 October 2021

National Service followed school starting at RAF Wilmslow at the age of 18. As recognition of his academic background. Derek was promoted to Sergeant with a teaching and educational role. He won a scholarship to Trinity College Cambridge to read Classics. He then worked for many years as a Stockbroker dealing in commodities at Bradford Wool Exchange. After a career change, Derek became a Sub-Editor at Emerald Publishing, Bingley, a job he enjoyed so much that he retired at the age of 80.



Will Norman (BGS Teacher of Art)

7 October 1979 -24 February 2021

Will taught art at BGS since 2013 and briefly took a sabbatical from teaching to complete a master's degree focusing on his loves of painting and photography. Colleagues speak of Will's skill as a teacher

and practicing artist, his great humanity and personal warmth. Sarah Horsfield, Head of Art said: 'Will had a presence that would calm everyone and open up a room for interesting, knowledgeable conversation. Will brought something special to every aspect of his teaching, and his softly spoken nature encouraged all that he met to be comfortable, confident and to flourish. I will always hold dear his unfailing loyalty and quietly cheeky, affectionate nature. It is true to say when things got tough, Will would brighten things up with his wit and ability to put everything into perspective. Often we would find cartoons drawn on meeting notes and the whole Art Department would have to concentrate hard not to laugh out loud'. Ross McOwen, Teacher of Music and Head of Year 12 remembers Will as 'a superb, inspirational teacher of art and Sixth Form tutor who was genuinely interested in the wellbeing and development of his tutees. Eternally modest, he was a gifted and original artist in his own right. Painting extensively, often in his studio at home. he exhibited his work internationally. Will loved his wife and two children, his friends, and he possessed a natural ability to put others instantly at ease. He would always see

the best in people, recognise the good they do, and he would be the first to celebrate and take genuine enjoyment from the happiness and success of others, students and colleagues alike. Indeed, Will was the kindest and most gentle man you could ever meet. He would always ask first for news about one's family and recent pursuits; it really mattered to him. A trip to the pub with Will, his wicked sense of humour in-tow, was always a delight and an experience to be treasured. The BGS family will miss Will dearly; he was a wonderful gift to us all.' Will spent nine years teaching at BGS, kindling a passion for art in others, running the much-loved Photography Club, guiding skiers down European slopes and taking groups on art trips and excursions. His students, friends and colleagues, benefitted from his wisdom, generosity of spirit and compassion. Will, a truly gifted and kind teacher who inspired many young BGS artists, sadly died on Wednesday 24 February following a battle with illness.

Lawrence James Nutton (1964)

13 October 1946 -May 2021

The son of a wool broker and pillar of St

Peters Church Saltaire, Lawrence was one of the best swimmers in the school. He studied PPE at Durham University between 1965 to 1968 then travelled extensively in Europe before going to India and living in Goa for extended periods. He settled in Amsterdam for his remaining years. Lawrence was one of the leaders of a community of artists and musicians with an alternative lifestyle but was also heavily involved with the church of Ruigoord. His CV includes choirboy, Sunday school teacher, youth group leader, sitar and tabla player, astrologer, barman and great friend and counsellor to many. He regularly visited Yorkshire to renew relationships with Yorkshire pals from way back and Tetley's bitter. Lawrence will also be sorely missed by his Dutch friends.

David Michael Howard Park (1955)

9 August 1937 -1 May 2021

After time in the RAF, followed by Air Traffic Control in Glasgow, David studied Production Engineering at Strathclyde University, subsequently working for British Steel, later Rediffusion, in Teesside before moving to Northampton and then London with the J Lyons group. There

he became involved in computer systems which led to his taking up a computer lecturer's post, held until retirement, in the now University of West London. From there, David was seconded to universities in Prague, China and Kenya, all of which provided many opportunities for his hobby of photography. David was an enthusiastic member of the Old Bradfordian Club (London) Ltd acting for years as Membership Secretary. His other interests were sailing and cycling, a hobby that began in the Yorkshire Dales and his wish was to have his ashes spread at Drebley the site of the School's camp. He leaves a wife and two sons.

Capt Richard Derrick Parkin (1948)

11 February 1932 -20 December 2020

Following school, Richard 'Dick' entered the School of Navigation, Warsash, Southampton aged 17. He joined the Merchant Navy as an Officer Cadet, serving also with the Royal Navy, Royal Naval Reserve and Orient Line on the Atlantic and Pacific trade routes. In 1962 he joined the Royal Air Force (Marine Branch), retiring with the rank of Wing Commander and an MBE. He spent the following eighteen years as a ship's pilot and harbourmaster in places as varied as Gambia and Mozambique. After retirement from this, he went to live in Idridgehay, Derbyshire where he became the sole carer for his wife, who predeceased him by several months. He was active in council, church and village life and also a member of The Old Bradfordians Association.

Paul Trevor Smith ('Trevor') (1970)

15 July 1951 -27 August 2021

Trevor enjoyed his time at school, especially rugby and athletics and supported BGS tirelessly throughout his life, being involved with the Rugby Parents' Association while his sons were at BGS. as a property trustee and a Governor. In 2014, he started a remembrance project to commemorate the lives of former pupils and teachers who gave their lives during World War I. Concurrently, Trevor was involved in starting a school Masonic lodge. After leaving School he became a Chartered Surveyor working at Eddisons Property Services in Leeds. He left in his fifties to set up his own property management business. Trevor was an enthusiastic gardener, woodworker, beekeeper, brewer and winemaker. He was also a trustee of a local charity.

Ron Wilman (1966)

24 March 1947 -1 October 2021

Born during the severe winter of 1947, Ron's brother and father had to dig a way through the snow for the midwife. At school his passion was for art, and he was one of the first boys to take Art subjects for A Level. Like his brother, Ron's only interest in sport was to find ways of avoiding it. He went on to Leeds University to get a First in Fine Art, and remain as a part-time teacher for a decade, living in a large apartment in Headingley. At the same time, he travelled by train to teach at Leicester College of Art for two days a week. After being offered a full-time post there he moved permanently to Leicester, snapping up a unique corner terrace house - a show house in 1912 and now a Grade 2 listed building. He lived there until a week before his death. Prior to this he dedicated himself to making easier the disposal of a house full of artistic and design items collected over 50 years.



Jan Woloniecki (1977)

30 January 1959 -14 March 2021

Jan was an only child, born in Bradford to Polish parents who had met in a resettlement camp at the end of the war. His father, who had come from a small family farm and fought at the battle of Monte Cassino. got a heavy labouring job in a foundry. His mother, a trainee teacher, had been in Poland throughout the war (marrying in 1942 but her young resistance husband was shot) worked in a mill. He attended St Paul's Catholic Primary School and Saturday morning Polish supplementary school, entering Thornville in 1967. Jan started Physics at University College London but at the end of his first year 'realised it wasn't going to provide the answers to life, the universe and everything' so changed to law, followed by Queen's College Cambridge to study for a Master's degree in Public International law. After working at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law on international boundary disputes, Jan obtained a post as an information officer with the law firm Clifford Turner. He moved to Bermuda in 1990, attracted by

the lack of income tax and because it had a fused profession so he could work as both a Barrister and a Solicitor. His wife Christiane who had graduated in Medicine initially joined him, working in the hospital for two years but had to return to the UK to complete GP training. Jan reestablished himself here and regularly appeared in the top 50 lists in Litigation and international insolvency, often speaking at international conferences.

We also remember the following Old Bradfordians who have sadly passed away this year:

Peter Barker (1955)

Nick Beestin (1992)

Eric Bentham (1946)

Dennis Callaway (1942)

Ella Dawson (2013)

Keith Dixon (1965)

Beatrice Evans-Thirlwell (2013)

Roger Fieldhouse (1955)

David Firth (1951)

Barry Ford (1955)

Robert Foulds (1957)

Lloyd Harrison (1953)

John Hicks (1951)

John Holdsworth (1950)

Robert Huddleston (1962)

Terence Irwin (1953)

Neil Jagger (1983) Robert Kipling (1940)

Robert Mattock (1961)

Julian Mawson (1987)

Iain Murray (1991)

David Rayner (1954)

Graham Robinson (1959)

Robert Rowe (1957)

David Pritchard (1960)

Andrew Simonett (1967)

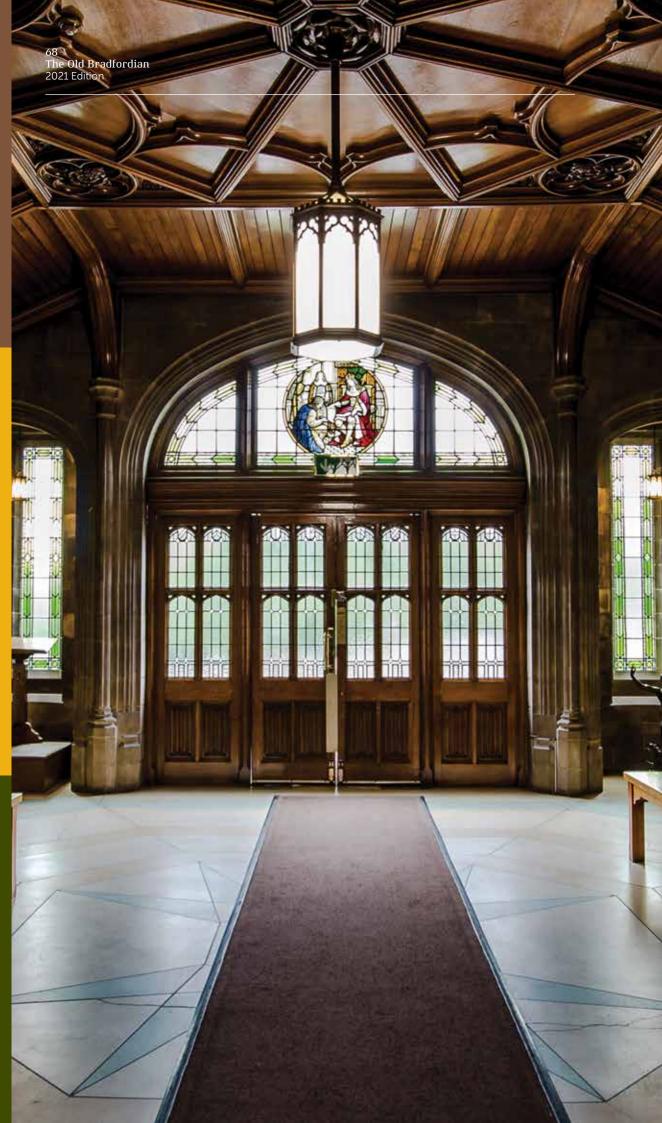
John Slater (1950)

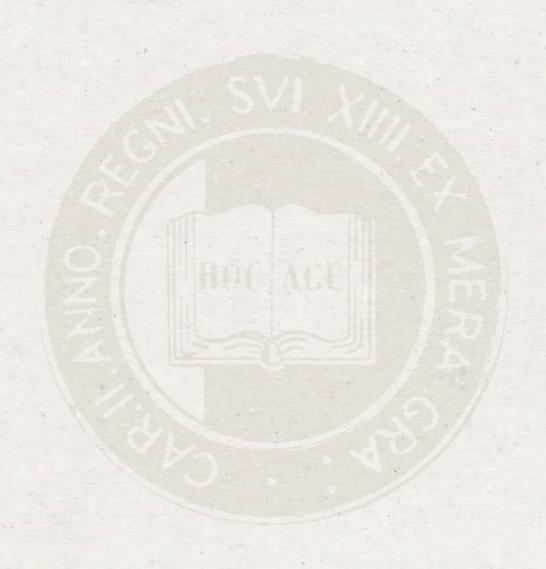
Martin Smith (1973)

Bruce Steel (1958)

Ben Wolfenden (2001)









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