



1662  
Investing in opportunity



Bradford  
Grammar  
School



# The 1662 Campaign Annual Giving Report 2021/22

Make your mark | Help them make theirs





Last year was an excellent one for BGS. As with everything we do, we approached life with commitment to the Hoc Age spirit and our community flourished. It gives me great pleasure therefore to share just a few of our many accomplishments.

We have celebrated achievement in many areas of BGS life. Our sporting successes, including our becoming world cross country running champions, drew public attention. BGS music, I am reliably informed by some respected Old Bradfordians, has never been so varied or so accomplished. The Nine Lessons and Carols service at Bradford Cathedral was a personal highlight for me and our musical, 'My Fair Lady', was a triumph!

We have also been recognised by the Independent Schools Council and in the House of Lords as a willing supporter of public benefit partnerships; honoured by the Times Educational Supplement for our well-being initiatives; and named Independent School of the Year 2021 by the Independent School Parent magazine for our work to foster social mobility. The Daily Telegraph again listed us as one of the best value independent schools in the UK, a nice badge to wear in this nook of no-nonsense Yorkshire. Our outstanding academic results were once again noted by The Sunday Times even before the recent, high scoring summer results were published.

BGS was deemed to be "excellent" in all areas by the Independent Schools Inspectorate, the best judgement they can deliver. This speaks volumes about intellectual endeavour and character at BGS. We say we aspire to excellence. We say we are at ease with excellence. To me that means we do our best, nothing less. But we don't let it go to our heads. Excellence is not an elitist quality. Instead, we roll our sleeves up and get on with it, no nonsense and guided by our Hoc Age maxim. Excellence, but with a bit humility and common sense stirred in; and we will never get complacent going forwards; our sights remain fixed on even higher ground.



BGS has always been a transformational force for good and this year was no different. Our students and staff spent time volunteering in West Yorkshire and Bradford, raising money for cancer research, collecting for local food banks, working with children in after school clubs and reading programmes, spending time with the elderly in our community and helping to keep our local environment clean and tidy. It is a great privilege to bear witness to such kindness and generosity, and to join our young people in these activities, something I personally enjoy.

Philanthropy is an essential part of the school's character. BGS spans the generations and globe, with Old Bradfordians living far and wide. I am happy to report that with our characteristic determination and sense of fun, BGS staff, students, parents, and alumni came together to celebrate our School with a Giving Day in support of the 1662 Fund for Assisted Places. Our inaugural Giving Day was a great success, garnering over £75,000 in philanthropic support from donors as far away as New Zealand and the USA.

Our benefactors and supporters provide an inspiring example to us all, including our students, fostering in them a disposition to give something back and make a positive difference in the world. The 1662 Fund has enriched our School family and created vibrant opportunities for learning and personal growth for the recipients of the Assisted Places. The Assisted Places students are flourishing, and we are proud of their achievements.

These accomplished students have gone on to study at some of our top

universities including the University of Cambridge, the University of Manchester, Durham University and King's College London.

Our ambitious 1662 Campaign for Assisted Places has attracted 362 donors, and the total amount raised is £1.6 million since its inception. With the appointment of Robin Sharp, the new Director of Development, we are lifting our aspirations. Not only will we continue to seek investment in the 1662 Fund, but we will also further strengthen our ties to the OB community, our students, parents, and friends with new opportunities for networking and engagement. We are launching an annual Keeling Society gathering and a young alumni family event in the coming year.

We remain deeply grateful for the philanthropic investment that we have received from the wider BGS community; it is my sincerest hope that this support will continue to advance.

**Thank you,**

**Dr Simon Hinchliffe**  
Headmaster





# BGS INAUGURAL GIVING DAY!

On the 12th and 13th of May 2022, we saw the launch of BGS's first ever Giving Day. It was a fabulous opportunity to demonstrate the Hoc Age spirit and for our whole school community to come together and celebrate all things BGS!



Students, Old Bradfordians across the world, parents, friends and staff joined us online and on social media to raise over £75,000 to support Assisted Places. Your generous philanthropic support came in from as far and wide as Canada, the USA, and New Zealand!

Your support helped to provide a student in our region a life-changing BGS education. Thank you for making your mark and helping a student to make theirs!



Many thanks to all of our Giving Day Ambassadors for helping to make this effort a tremendous success!



On our inaugural giving day, over a **36 hour window**, BGS raised:

**£75,266** FROM 146 DONORS

99 Donors  
GAVE FOR THE FIRST TIME TO BGS

87 OLD BRADFORDIANS

44 PARENTS OF BGS STUDENTS

10 MEMBERS OF STAFF AT BGS

05 FRIENDS OF BGS

A GENEROUS FUND OF:

**£25,000** AN OLD BRADFORDIAN MATCHED DONATIONS THROUGH VARIOUS CHALLENGES ON THE GIVING DAY

## The Challenges

|                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>NEW DONOR CHALLENGE</b><br>Will 30 people make their first ever donation to BGS on giving day?<br>✔ Unlocked £2,500 | <b>WORLD COUNTRY CHALLENGE</b><br>Will 5 different countries support our giving day?<br>✔ Unlocked £1,500                           | <b>PARENT CHALLENGE</b><br>Will 30 former & current BGS parents support our giving day?<br>✔ Unlocked £2,000                 |
| <b>UK REGION CHALLENGE</b><br>Will 10 different UK regions support our giving day?<br>✔ Unlocked £1,500                | <b>PREVIOUS DONOR CHALLENGE</b><br>Will 30 people who have previously supported BGS make a gift on giving day?<br>✔ Unlocked £1,500 | <b>ROWING CHALLENGE</b><br>Will students succeed in rowing 20km in 40 minutes during their lunch break?<br>✔ Unlocked £1,000 |









**Despite the challenging economic environment in which it operates, BGS has continued to maintain a strong and resilient financial position.**

A healthy generation of cash in 2021/22 allowed a further investment of £1.8m into the portfolio managed by Quilter Cheviot and a total investment income return of 3.8% was yielded which greatly aids the School's ability to support the Assisted Places programme.

The global political landscape has led to losses on the capital value of the investment portfolio of 7.7% but the Governors are confident that the investment portfolio will achieve its long-term aim of capital growth.

The strong financial position of the School and its clear financial strategy provide those who wish to contribute to the 1662 Fund assurance that BGS, as well as being an outstanding educational establishment, is also an organisation that is and will continue to be secure, robust and commercially sound.

**Homera Najib,  
Bursar & Clerk to the Governors**



## ‘With a little help from my North American friends...’

Old Bradfordians in North America showed true Hoc Age spirit when they came together to raise funds for a full assisted place.

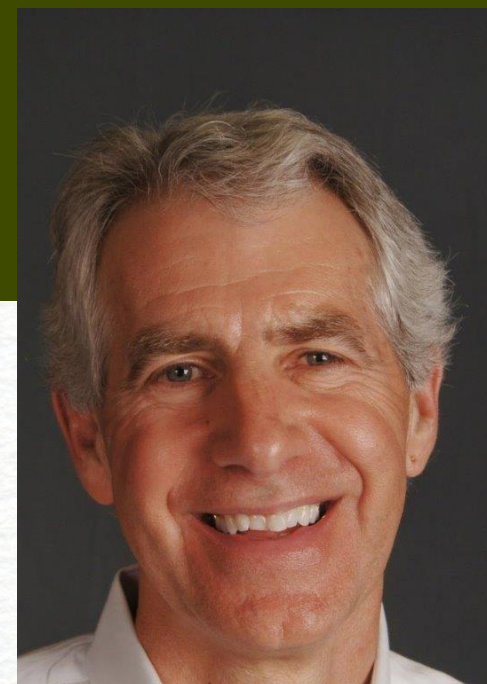
California-based Steve Nicholls talks about the power of fellowship among BGS alumni.



It was a beautiful evening on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018, when a group of British ex-pats, all with one thing in common, joined together at The Embassy Suites, a hotel in downtown Orlando. It is a side of the city not normally experienced by tourists who are more used to the popular theme parks.

David and Eleanor Huggins had driven from Annapolis, Len Audaer and Rachel Lamorte had flown in from New York, while Philip and Jackie Brown arrived fresh from Dallas. Brian Cousins represented Toronto and the group was delighted to welcome Barry Bower from Delray Beach, Florida, who joined the group for the first time. Finally, the friends welcomed BGS Headmaster, Dr Simon Hinchliffe and his family.

It was a joy for old friends to catch up throughout the following three days, bound together by a shared experience of their school days. The fellowship between North American friends of BGS remains strong.



Mr Steve Nicholls,  
Old Bradfordian residing in the U.S.A

Conversations that began in Orlando led to the various BGS friends in North America coming together again, this time to raise a fully funded place for a new pupil entering Year 7. It began when BGS alumnus Steve Nicholls (1969) and Sam Craig (1994) were discussing OB fundraising. They came up with the idea of a match-funded challenge and Steve pledged £50,000 to the appeal to get started.

Steve recalls: "I'd turned my business into an employee-owned firm over the past several years, was pulling back from the day-to-day activities and I thought let's do something for BGS. We set the potential gift up as a match-funded, fairly anonymous thing and it went from there. I wanted to talk less about things and just raise some money. There's a great Yorkshire expression – 'When all is said and done, there's a lot more said than done' and I think that's a very BGS thing too."

The Americans have a long history of strong alumni networks, something Steve says the British are catching up on. The American reunion in 2018, however, showed there was a shared appetite to make a difference as well as for old friends to keep in contact.

Says Steve: "I think the Covid pandemic showed that, even if you're spread out across the world, there are ways of keeping in touch. We're all interested in what we've been up to since school, what careers we've had etc".

Steve attended BGS in the late sixties when his father Gerald 'Nicky' Nicholls (nicknamed 'Noddy' by the children) was the Senior Foreign Languages Master. Steve endured his fair share of ribaldry, being the son of a master at school, and, perhaps unsurprisingly, "wasn't very well behaved".





"They used to call me Nodlet," he laughs. "I loved sports but not so much the academic side of things. I enjoyed being outside, anything to get out of studying. Then, when I was about 14, I realised I could avoid the world of work for longer if I went to college."

"When you're at the school, you don't realise what you're getting until much later. There's a grounding which comes from going to BGS. The other thing I liked about BGS was that, even though I was crazy about sport, they didn't mind anyone having a heavy sport workload. They never said it was too much, they encouraged it, so another of the things Bradford taught me was teamwork."



Steve went on to study Russian and French at Durham University, followed by a Post Graduate Certificate of Education. But he didn't stay in teaching. Instead, after a stint travelling the world and serving as an African tour guide ("my hippy years"), he went to visit a friend in America and there he stayed. He set up in business as a carpenter, eventually launching Mueller Nicholls, a construction company which, "in an ethical, morally good move," he sold last year to his 100 employees.

"Selling the company to the employees was a 'BGSy' thing to do in a way," he says. "It's difficult to define what BGS stands for but the whole concept of fair play was pretty big when I was there. You've got to treat people properly. It's not an elitist thing, it's about honouring hard work and labour, and that's a Yorkshire thing as well."

His philanthropic side has been evidenced for many years with his civic and charitable work. When it came to giving back to BGS, he says it was part of an ongoing debt.

Steve is now looking forward to the next reunion of the North American Friends of Bradford Grammar School. Having come together to raise enough money for a child to start a fully funded place at BGS from September 2022, there will be plenty to talk about among the friends. Including, perhaps, reminiscing over old nicknames.

"There was never any chance of getting above yourself at BGS," laughs Steve.







## “It’s been an amazing experience for Courtney and for me as a mum”

Assisted Place student Courtney Ellis-Stoneman realised her dream of attending Cambridge University after securing an assisted place at Bradford Grammar School.

Courtney could recite the poem The Owl and the Pussy Cat at age three and could read before she started school. Recognising her talent, her mum, Tracey, enquired at BGS about her daughter attending the school on an assisted place and the family were delighted on results day when they discovered Courtney’s hard work had paid off.

The teenager received two A\*s in English Literature and History, and an A grade in Politics to pursue her dream of attending Cambridge to study English Literature.

Said Courtney: “I’m so happy I got the grades I needed to take up my place at Cambridge.

“I definitely think I’ve been pushed academically – and also in terms of extra curriculums, doing things like debating and public speaking. It’s afforded me so many opportunities.”

Mum, Tracey, said: “I realised when Courtney was only young that she was about four or five years further ahead than any of her classmates. When she joined BGS, everyone was lovely. They get behind young people and they nurture and care for them. It’s been an amazing experience for Courtney and for me as a mum.”

Courtney Ellis-Stoneman,  
BGS Graduate, 2022

Tracey Ellis-Stoneman,  
Mother of Courtney







**“No matter what is happening,  
keep striving for what’s important.”**

Assisted Place student Funmi Ogunde worked hard at BGS and was rewarded with the top grades she needed to head off to Oxford University to study French.

Funmi said she had focused on her dream of securing a place at the prestigious university to get through the last few years since her mum, Cheyvonne, died from a heart attack aged 47.

The teenager drew on the support of her friends and BGS teachers while studying for her A Levels in chemistry, French and Spanish, for which she received an A\* and two As respectively.

Funmi, who had enjoyed playing netball and learning the piano and violin at BGS, said: “I lived independently since starting the Sixth Form and I just kept my head down and focused on what was important, which was getting the grades I needed to go to Oxford.

“I would say to anyone in challenging circumstances to set yourself a goal. No matter what is happening in your life, keep striving for what’s important for you. It makes it a lot easier and gives you the motivation to keep going.

“I pushed myself to get into Oxford. It’s been hard and I did have some really bad weeks, but with the help of the school and through school counselling sessions, it was a lot easier.”

**Funmi Ogunde,  
BGS Graduate, 2021**



# Donor Roll

Listed below are the names of those who have very kindly supported the 1662 Fund between the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022. 52 donors have chosen to remain anonymous. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that this list is accurate, we apologise for any errors or omissions.

## 1940s

Anonymous

## 1950s

Anonymous  
Philip Baxter  
John Bird  
Michael Crosland  
Gordon Dixon  
Geoff Greenhough  
Rob Hendrie  
Michael Ludgate  
Alan Marshall  
Graham Reid  
Christopher Storr  
Ben Sykes  
David Watson  
Leslie Wilson

## 1960s

Anonymous  
Peter Ackroyd  
David Akerman  
Roy Aspinall

Duncan Baker  
David Barraclough  
Robin Bell  
Richard Bellman  
John Birkett  
Geoff Blackburn  
Keith Bottomley  
Tom Broadbent  
Stephen Brunton  
Peter Chamberlain  
John Claughton  
Peter Forbes  
Jim Gilpin  
Peter Grebenik  
Peter Guy  
Richard Hall  
Robert Hamilton  
Roger Harrison  
Ian Holland  
David Illingworth  
Roger Patten  
Duncan Preston  
Michael Prior  
Peter Rooley  
Paul Spetch  
Derek Swift  
John Sykes

David Sykes  
John Tempest  
Andrew Toothill  
John Waterhouse  
Grahame Wear  
David Whitaker  
Jonathan White  
Trevor Wright  
Michael Yorke

## 1970s

Anonymous  
Chris Baldwin  
Philip Barker  
Rob Charlton  
Andy Child  
Mark Evans  
Tim Finney  
Richard Goodall  
Jerry Gregson  
Michael Groth  
Mark Hardaker  
David Hicken  
John Holmes  
Philip Howard

Ian Hudson  
Kevan Keegan  
Tony Kelley  
David Kennedy  
Rookie Kholwadia  
Robert Leechman  
Ian Lofthouse  
Kevin Marriott  
Paul Marsden  
Clive Minihan  
John Moorhouse  
Nick Peet  
Alan Rhodes  
Simon Sammons  
John Smith  
Tim Soutar  
John Verity  
Robin Walsh  
Ian Wilkinson

## 1980s

Anonymous  
John Child  
Martin Cowgill  
Robin Dixon

Adam Fenton  
Paul Greaney  
Richard Green  
Alex Harrison  
Jim Hart  
Peter Higgins  
Hugh Hillyard-Parker  
Ian Kennedy  
Richard Lewis  
Arthur Lovitt  
Marcus MacKenzie  
Catherine Moore  
Dominic Pinnock  
Steve Ravenscroft  
Bruce Robinson  
John Robinson  
Barrie Scott  
Simon Shaw  
David Taylor  
Simon Wood  
Andrew Wood

## 1990s

Anonymous  
Hannah Allan  
Dave Archer  
Sukhjeet Atwal  
Craig Bass  
John Bolton  
Adam Brosnan  
Damian Collinge  
Hugh Cutler  
Dominic Czajka  
Michael d'Arcy  
Giles Dobson  
Bobby Driver  
Gretchen Eaton

Justin Giorgetti  
Gully Hassan  
Tim Jowett  
Aamer Khan  
Ty Khan  
Montu Modi  
Asif Qasim  
Dominic Rose  
Anita Singh  
Craig Skelton  
Alasdair Turnbull  
Adam Watson  
Joe Wheelwright

## 2000s

Anonymous  
Abrar Ahmed  
Adnan Bhatti  
Matt Bottomley  
Oliver Butterworth  
Sacha Chen-Chowdhury  
Josh Dangerfield  
James Degnan  
Katie Essex  
Helen Haigh  
Naomi Pickwoad  
Stuart Smith  
Alistair Stead  
Antonio Weiss  
David Wevill  
Nick Yazdani

## 2010s

Anonymous  
Gaurav Bhardwaj  
Henry Briggs

Matthew Cogan  
Jill Gaunt  
George Hudman  
Waseem Ilyas  
Hamza Khan  
Melissa Knapton  
James Thornton  
Rhythm Vats

## 2020s

Dylan Aujla  
Bhavani Bhardwaj  
Santos Orensa de Gaffory

## Staff - Past and Present

Anonymous  
Jed Boardman & Sharon Boardman  
Jane Chapman & Malcolm Chapman  
Lindsey Davis  
Simon Hinchliffe & Heidi Hinchliffe  
Luke Jones  
Barry Lancaster & Pamela Lancaster  
Donna Reynolds  
Robin Sharp & Roy Raphael  
Sheila Shoesmith  
David Stokes  
John Widdowson

\*Now Deceased



# Parents - Past and Present

Anonymous  
Amanda Ashby  
Susan Burns  
Edel Christie  
Paul Cogan  
Michelle Davies  
Karen Ellison  
Godwin Eton  
Janet Hale  
Sarah Hartley & Simon Hartley  
Peter Hudman  
Janet Hughes & Geoff Hughes  
Rachael Jones  
Tracie Llewellyn  
Kate McCormack  
Tracie Milner  
Jo Pattinson  
Adam Rhodes  
Mark Sanderson  
Nigel Shaw  
Sam Thompson  
Emma Williams  
Alix Wood  
Robina Younus

# Friends

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Anonymous             | Colin Mellors   |
| Caroline Brown-Leavor | John Ridings    |
| Michele Heyworth      | Diana Sneezum   |
| Justyn Jagger         | Elaine Van Heel |

# BGS Major Benefactors

David Allanson (1974)  
John Bigham (1988)  
Roger Bowers (1961)  
John Brewer (1976)  
Marian Creek  
Chris Eskdale (1986) & Julia Eskdale  
Roger Evans (1963)  
Robert Hirst (1965)  
Andrew Jones (1982)  
Mark Learmonth (1981)  
Andy Meehan (1973) & Sue Meehan  
Lynne Morrison  
William Morrison  
James Parker (1977)  
Geoffrey Proctor (1962) & Jane Proctor  
Mark Richer (1981)  
Old Bradfordians Association (OBA) Committee  
Old Bradfordians Club (London) Ltd

# Alumni Associations

Old Bradfordians Association (OBA) Committee  
Old Bradfordians Club (London) Ltd

\*Now Deceased

# Keeling Society Members

|                      |                       |                         |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Anonymous            | Michael Cuthbertson   | Michael Levene (1965)   |
| John Asquith (1975)  | Robin Dixon (1980)    | David Morrell (1952)    |
| Mark Burke           | Mark Donougher (1984) | Eric Morrell (1960)     |
| Tom Broadbent (1963) | Ted Edmondson (1956)  | Christopher Rowe (1983) |
| Marian Creek         | John Jagger (1955)    | Michael Whitaker (1956) |



The Keeling Society

# Legacy Gifts

Qasim Foundation in memory of Dr Fiaeza Qasim\*  
Bernard B Hill\*  
John Burnell (1952) in memory of the late Eileen Adams

# North American Friends of BGS

|                        |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Rohan Bayer-Fox (1965) | Dave Huggins (1956) & Eleanor Huggins |
| Sam Craig (1994)       | Steve Nicholls (1969)                 |
| Paul Dobson (1968)     | Russell Taylor (1972)                 |
| Mike Gatenby (1997)    | Nick Turner (1976)                    |
| Nigel Cameron          |                                       |



North American Friends of  
Bradford Grammar School

# Trusts & Foundations

|                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| The Keith Howard Foundation | Sovereign Health Care |
| The Shears Foundation       |                       |

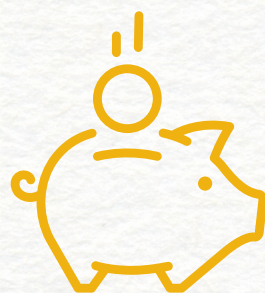
\*Now Deceased



BGS 1662 Campaign for Assisted Places in 2021-22

£1.6<sup>M</sup>

THE TOTAL  
RAISED FOR THE  
1662 FUND FOR  
ASSISTED PLACES



MONIES RAISED 2021/22:

£520,935.95

278

DONORS TO THE 1662  
FUND DURING 21/22



366

THE NUMBER OF TOTAL  
DONORS TO THE 1662 FUND



The  
Keeling  
Society

15

KEELING SOCIETY  
MEMBERS TO DATE







1662  
Investing in opportunity



Bradford  
Grammar  
School

Thank you  
for your support

[bradfordgrammar.com/support-bgs](http://bradfordgrammar.com/support-bgs)



#### Campaign Ambassadors:

Roger Bowers (1961), Chris (1986) & Julia Eskdale, Roger Evans (1963),  
Dr Amir Khan (1999), Andrew Meehan (1973), Mark Richer (1981),  
Lyn Shears OBE (Chair, Shears Foundation), Sir David Wootton (1969)

#### Development & Old Bradfordians' Office

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[development@bradfordgrammar.com](mailto:development@bradfordgrammar.com)



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