



Blundell's

DIARY

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE BLUNDELL'S COMMUNITY

ISSUE NO: 18



Celebrating

The Creative Arts



Latin Prayer

Pater noster, qui es in caelis......so begins the version of the Lord's Prayer, known as the Latin Prayer, that is recited by a Monitor every Monday morning. The origins of this tradition probably go back more than 400 years to the foundation of the School by Peter Blundell, whose beneficence is extolled in the second part of the Prayer. Where and when the Prayer was delivered while the School was by the Lowman is unknown, but on the present site it was originally declaimed in Big School (now the Library) at midday on Saturday.

Until recently, Latin Prayer was given in the Chapel but growing pupil numbers saw it relocated to the current site of Big School for Years 9 to 13, with the recent innovation of Years 7 and 8 watching it on a big screen in Ondaatje. Latin Prayer forms the final part of an assembly, almost always chaired by the Head, in which she reports on the events of the previous week and looks forward to activities in the upcoming week, as well as announcing merit awards. It was fitting that, in 2004 when a permanent memorial was sought to celebrate the School's 400th Anniversary, a four ton stone, embodying both permanence and continuity, was inscribed by pupils with the text of the Latin Prayer and positioned on the Quad outside the Chapel.

Mr Mike Sampson, School Archivist



Blundell's is a key West Country independent school which supports and guides young people to achieve their very best in whatever sphere they choose. Founded in 1604, this day and boarding school for boys and girls aged 11 to 18 is a vital community with a rich history and a great appreciation of the need to move with the times.

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Head's Introduction

It is all too easy in this era of examination focused outcomes to forget about the purpose of a good education. In a School like Blundell's, with the time and the facilities we have at our disposal, we can focus on the core areas of the curriculum, as well as those that lie a little further outside the examination hall and well beyond the latest league table. Taking part in and experiencing creativity in its widest sense is both an opportunity and an essential element for broadening our minds.

Although the theme of this issue of the Diary is celebrating the creative arts, it does not just focus on the obvious conduits, though these in themselves are both inspirational and innovative. Led by the energetic heads of the creative departments - Dr Oliver Leaman (Director of Music), Mrs Tammy Winsley (Director of Drama), Mr James Rochfort (Artistic Director) and Mrs Gil Armstrong Williams (Head of Art) - this academic year so far has seen a myriad of concerts, art displays and our most ambitious production yet, the story of Street Child. However, as you will see, creativity is also celebrated in all its other forms too. It lies at the heart of making a successful business, as our Young Enterprise team have shown, while our charity fundraisers have once again been imaginative in the many ways in which they have encouraged us to give generously to a wealth of good causes.

Indeed, our School aims and values encourage us to be resourceful at every turn. We build character and social responsibility by practising independence and we are always striving for excellence in a thoroughly adventurous way.

We value all the support that we have from you, our many friends. If you are a pupil, I hope that you will read this issue, put together with the help of so many within our community, and decide to involve yourself in a new activity that you have never tried before. As you can see, there is really nothing to hold you back. If your school days are a little further behind you, creativity at Blundell's is within your reach and we would like nothing more than to see you come to experience it for yourself.

Nicola Huggett
Head

Blundell's News



WORTH WRITING ABOUT

Tilda Huntingford and Luca Kemp (both Year 9) were area finalists in the Royal Mail Young Letter Writer Competition. The challenge was to write a letter applying for their dream job; Luca wrote about becoming a survival expert and Tilda applied for a fundraiser and awareness officer role for a charity in Zambia. The Royal Mail received nearly 100,000 entries, so for their letters to have been chosen is a great achievement and they have each won £40 in vouchers and £40 for the School. Luca and Tilda were two of only four in their age group in the South West region to have been chosen as area finalists.



Silvia, Eleanor, Natalie and Ben

The Oxbridge Four

Congratulations to the four pupils who were successful in their applications to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Ben Ames has an offer to read Earth Sciences at Exeter College, Oxford and Silvia Mills (Post A level applicant) to read Philosophy and Linguistics at St Hugh's College, Oxford, while Natalie Cotton and Eleanor Ansell have both had

offers from Cambridge - Natalie to read Natural Sciences at Newnham and Eleanor to read Psychological and Behavioural Sciences at Homerton College. Nine pupils were interviewed for places this year and Blundell's has now had twelve successful applications to Oxbridge in the last three years.

OB Rugby

Do you miss your Rugby days at Blundell's? We are trying to get a team together to play one-off fixtures two or three times a year, both in Devon and London, with the inaugural match taking place at the end of the spring term in 2017 on Big Field. We are also hoping to enter a number of Rugby 7s tournaments. If you are interested, please do get in touch with Scott Ward-Reece at scottw@stirlingackroyd.com or Amber Oliver in the Development Office (a.oliver@blundells.org) to find out more. In time we hope to have a couple of exhibition matches in an Old Blundellian strip.



Prestigious venue FOR MUSICIANS

St George's Bristol is one of the country's leading concert halls, with a superb acoustic and unique atmosphere which attracts the world's best artists. Now this prestigious hall is to be the venue for a concert of chamber music by Blundell's Orchestra, Chamber Choir and various small ensembles and soloists, with special guest musicians from The Downs School, Bristol. The concert will include works by Mozart, Puccini, Shostakovich, Piazzolla and Dvorák. Tickets for the concert on 23rd March at 7pm are now on sale at £8, £7 for concessions and £5 for students, available from the Main Office or from the venue itself (www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk). It promises to be a remarkable evening of music making by talented musicians which we hope many of the Blundell's Community will wish to attend.



National Kayak Champions

National Champions

Blundell's canoeists and equestrians have had a fantastic year to date. Dougal Glashier and Francis Huntingford are National School Champions in both Kayak Sprint and Kayak Marathon, while the team of Lola Watt, Will Smith, Eleanor Ansell and Polly Muirhead are the Jumping with Style (Arena Eventing) National Champions, having won the open class at the NSEA Championship; the third year that a team from Blundell's has won this event, which is unheard of in this competition.

To find out more about their achievements and those of their fellow sporting Blundellians, please see the Sport pages.



The Jumping with Style National Champions



CRICKET 100

The School's cricketing achievements have been recognised by The Cricketer magazine, which has included Blundell's in the list of top 100 schools in the country for the sport. The 'best of' list, entitled The Playing Fields of England: An A-Z Guide to the Summer Game's Top 100 Schools 2016, was drawn up following a long process which saw more than 250 schools enter submissions for inclusion. All were matched against an exhaustive set of coordinates, with the schools chosen all having outstanding cricket programmes. As part of the designation, The Cricketer also videoed interviews with Mr Rob Turner, Master in Charge of Cricket and cricketers Dan Pyle and Millie Attwell, which can be viewed on the Cricket page of the website.



CHEMISTS GO FAR

The team of Yuli Lyu, Francis Huntingford and Toby Whitehead represented the School at the Royal Society of Chemistry's Schools' Analyst Competition for the West region and won, against some tough competition. They now go on to represent the West of England at the national finals, to be held at the University of Keele in June, when they'll be competing against 18 other schools from around the country for a Challenge Shield - and are hoping to do as well, if not better, than last year's Blundell's team who were second in the national competition. At the final, they are required to undertake various practical tasks based on problems relevant to industrial or social needs. The tasks are judged on skill, understanding and accuracy and are intended to promote team work and safety in the laboratory

40 YEARS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

To celebrate 40 years of Photography being taught at Blundell's, Mr Steve Goodwin is hoping to put on an exhibition of work from as many participants as possible who have been involved in the medium either at the School or after leaving. The plan is to mount an exhibition in the first two weeks of June this year in Ondaatje Hall. Mr Goodwin will print, mount and exhibit the work and hold a Private View for all the participants. Please contact him via email on sjg@blundells.org in the first instance so that he can decide if it is a viable proposition.



Will, Kieran and Redmond after their victory with Dr Laurie Burbridge, the President of the Exeter Branch of the ESU

Speaking of Success

Blundell's recently entered two teams for the Exeter and District Branch final of the English Speaking Union (ESU) Public Speaking competition after being put straight through the heats to the branch final. The team of Kieran Smith as Speaker (who spoke on the topic 'Human Rights are nothing more than a human wish list'), Redmond Sanders as Chair and Will McIntyre as Questioner were victorious and now go on to the regional final to be held in Bristol. The other team comprised of Anna Sides as Speaker who gave a confident oration on Nietzsche's quote 'In every real man or woman a child is hidden that wants to play', Samantha Unsworth-White as Questioner and Flic Charlesworth who was awarded the prize of Best Chair at the competition.

CELEBRATING

The Creative Arts

The Creative Arts are an essential part of the rounded education on which Blundell's prides itself. Even more importantly than the social and economic benefits that an arts education bestows is the fact that it expands the mind and soul. These pages demonstrate just some of the ways in which involvement in Music, Drama and Art enriches the Blundell's Community.



BLUNDELL'S AT THE SHOWS

This was a superb evening of music which featured the Orchestra, Big Band, Choir, Soul Band, Junior Orchestra, Junior Choir and many soloists presenting a wide variety of tunes from past and current stage musicals.

The Orchestra opened the show with two of the symphonic dances from Bernstein's *West Side Story*, before songs from the School's established soloists as well as newcomers, including Alice Cadenhead and Louisa Everett and a really unusual opportunity to hear Sophie Volkl sing, accompanying herself on the harp. There was a *Les Misérables* theme to the end of the first half; earlier in the day the choir and soloists had taken part in a workshop session with the former Musical Director of the West End show itself, Colin Pettet, who has recently begun to teach Music at Blundell's. At the evening concert, George Stubbs made a huge impact alongside the other senior choral singers in the performance of *One Day More* from the show.

The second half saw music from the *Rocky Horror Show* (with Henry Mules memorably performing the song *Sweet Transvestite*), a remix of the theme from *Hairspray* by the Soul Band, the School

House Orchestra playing a complicated piece of music from *Amadeus* and much more. The evening culminated in a finale of *Summertime* from *Porgy and Bess*, sung beautifully by soloist Rosalie Sanders. The evening was a wonderful showcase for the wide talents and variety of music making at Blundell's and a thoroughly entertaining evening was had by all.

A collection taken during the evening raised £350 for Macmillan Cancer Support.



Carols in the Cathedral



Dominic Blackmore prepares for his solo with encouragement from Mr Gordon playing the organ



The King of Instruments

The organ took centre stage at a recent concert in the Chapel when six organists delighted the substantial audience with a wide ranging programme. Significant performances came from Judit Lam (Year 13) with her performance of Frank Bridge's *Adagio in E* and Chris Hamilton (Year 13), who rounded off the evening thrillingly with one of Bach's Vivaldi concerto transcriptions. It was also wonderful to hear performances by two students who only took up the organ at the start of the academic year. Both Louisa Everett (Year 12) and Cosima Mundy (Year 7) gave sensitive interpretations of pieces by Percy Buck on their debut at this annual event.

NOT TO BE MISSED

Blundell's concert of chamber music on Wednesday 23rd March at 7pm at St George's Bristol, one of the country's leading concert halls. See more details on the news pages.

For the first time in many years, the School's Christmas Carol Service was held in Exeter Cathedral. This was a wonderful occasion, bringing together all the Senior School from Year 7 to Year 13, families and friends of Blundell's in a congregation of more than 1000 to celebrate and worship. It was a memorable experience to be part of the service in such an iconic building and to hear the singing of the choir, who were joined by parents and Old Blundellians. There was some astonishing organ music too; Chris Hamilton (Year 13) played a piece as the congregation assembled and Mr Paul Gordon played before, during and after the service, prompting spontaneous applause from the gathering as they dispersed. From the first words of *Once in Royal David's City* sung unaccompanied by Dominic Blackmore (Year 8) from the organ loft to the last bars of *Widor's Toccata* ringing out through the cathedral, this was a celebration that will long be remembered by all who were there.



THE REMARKABLE STORY OF A HARPSICHORD

During the summer term of 2014, I met and gave a tour to the family of Stephen Thornley, a Petergate boy who joined the School for the sixth form in 1987. After gaining a first class degree in natural sciences at Cambridge, Stephen tragically passed away at the age of 25 in an accident during a climbing expedition in New Zealand, but his legacy was left with the School in the form of a harpsichord, built by Stephen himself.

Although not primarily a musician, Stephen was a very accomplished craftsman and always had a project on the go. He built a harp while at the School and, shortly after leaving, started work on his harpsichord. His parents, Keith and Beatrix, tell me that it lay unfinished on his bed in the family home in South Molton, ready for completion on his return from New Zealand which he sadly never did.

The harpsichord was then finished by Andrew Barlow and Jeremy Pilbeam in the School DT Department - the lid was fitted and Stephen's name engraved on the front. Having then been given to the School in Stephen's memory, the 'Thornley Harpsichord' was inaugurated in a concert on the 27th September 1997, by Andrew Barlow, Reginald Thompson and Julian White in the Music Department and it hasn't been performed on properly since.



Throughout my time at the School, I had known that the harpsichord was there, sitting under the stage of Big School, but I had no idea of the story behind it, until I met Stephen's family. I was quite inspired by Stephen; someone who shared many of my interests, both musically and with his carpentry, as I learnt from reading several CVs he wrote that were sent to me by his father. I was quite embarrassed that the instrument was in such poor condition when I showed it to his family - 15 years in a damp room had taken their toll considerably.

With that in mind, I set about restoring the instrument, with a view to performing on it once more and telling some of Stephen's story at the same time. Over the next two summers, I replaced a lot of the key actions and mechanisms of the instrument, completely re-strung, and completely re-finished the outer casing, to restore the instrument in appearance and sound.

I finished the job this summer and was able to invite Keith and Beatrix to the Scholars' concert in September, where I performed a *Prelude and Fugue* by Bach. The aim with this performance was to highlight the instrument much more than the music and I was extremely happy to be



Mr and Mrs Thornley, Chris Hamilton and the harpsichord

able to tell people about an instrument with such a back-story. With the instrument sounding (I hope) as it did when it was first built, I aim to use it more in my last two terms at the School. I really hope it will continue to be used once I have left - it would be such a shame to let it sit, hidden, for any longer and I am really glad to have been able to bring back to life something that is an impressive accomplishment by a very impressive former Blundellian.

By Chris Hamilton (Year 13)

A Visit to Gloucester

The Chamber Choir travelled to Gloucester earlier in the term to sing Evensong at the magnificent cathedral as a visiting choir. Music performed included Duruflé's warm setting of *Ubi Caritas et Amor* and the mighty canticles *Collegium Regale* written by Herbert Howells for King's College, Cambridge. The Chamber Choir sang this difficult music with great spirit and commitment and did well to fill the cavernous space of Gloucester Cathedral.

In the cloisters at Gloucester Cathedral before Evensong





GORTON HOUSE

House Music

Blundell's has a long tradition of House Music, where each House chooses and rehearses a wide range of music and then performs in their own inimitable style before an appreciative audience and a panel of judges. This year's 'Directors of Music' for each House reveal all.

Directing this year's House Music Competition for Gorton House has been a wonderful experience. There were, of course, many trials and tribulations. Organising rehearsals around everyone's busy schedules and even choosing the pieces was a challenge.

I was very fortunate to have such an amazing team to work with, Imi Sanders-Dutton co-directing and musical help from Beth Baker and Louisa Everett; the whole of the GH Lower 6th pulled together to help decide on pieces, round up everyone for rehearsals and create a beautiful programme.

This picture, of our House song, is one of my favourites of the competition; everyone is smiling and playing the air guitar. I must say, choosing a House song that's going to appeal to nearly 90 teenage girls is no mean feat! In the end, we went for a classic, ABBA, chosen by the whole of the Lower 6th. Although the entire process was very tiring and challenging, the sense of fulfilment when your whole House is up on stage, singing their hearts out with great big smiles on their faces makes it all worthwhile.

Rosalie Sanders

(GH won the overall House Music this year and also won the House song for the second year running)



FRANCIS HOUSE

FH this year produced a great array of music ranging from Rubbish Drummer, reminiscent of the likes of Stomp or the Blue Man Group, to the acoustic Time of Your Life by Green Day. Our version of The Scientist by Coldplay also appeared to be a crowd favourite. Finally, the House song of Pompeii by Bastille was certainly the loudest House song, with every lad giving his all. Overall, an extremely promising third place; the highest FH has achieved in many years and which will hopefully set the tone for years to come.

Adam Soul

OLD HOUSE

After two weeks of rehearsal, OH's musicians felt adequately prepared to reveal their work. With the likes of the ever reliable Addie Chai, OH had never before felt such a strong possibility of contributing to House Music. Although we may not have seemed like the most talented bunch, Aran Dagwell unveiled his vocal gift, while Jack Armstrong Williams demonstrated his talent on the other side of the musical spectrum. Meanwhile Paco Chow provided a naughty flute part, and let us not forget Julius Rachlitz, a violin mastermind who was told what to do by someone equipped with no more than drumming ability and, crucially, grade 4 piano. Lastly, but certainly not least, comes the work of the OH lads themselves. With an eager display of positive (negative) feedback, they scrapped the idea of Ring



of Fire, and Valerie was chosen as the House shout. And what a decision it was. Tobias Francis delivered the necessary nasal vocals we so desire when listening to music and so OH aimed to improve upon the high standard set by our House shout last year.

Freddie Carew



PETERGATE

Having finally reached the actual performance after over a month of preparation, including music which took more than two weeks to arrive and the surprised 'Have you started practising already?' from FH, the pressure was on Petergate to retain our House Music title from the spring. From the first drum note of Hawaii Five-O, we knew we were in with a shout, as we somehow pulled the piece off much better than we had ever achieved in practice. This was followed by a rendition of Bring Him Home from Les Misérables, which managed to bring some of the audience to tears, although this could have just been from the pure emotion of 'Mr Falsetto' Jonathan Lane's last 'glory note'. Our final piece, a brass arrangement of It Don't Mean a Thing, thankfully went well considering the huge amount of work (and stress) that had gone into practising it. Last but not least, our House song, Viva la Vida, described as the 'best house song from Petergate in a few years', was excellent in our eyes, but unfortunately, the judge didn't see it in this way! Despite our best efforts, we came second (by one point!) and had to settle for the 'best piece' award for the brass.

Toby Whitehead



NORTH CLOSE

This year, NC decided to break its fine tradition of minimal preparation and began practising six weeks before the performance itself. A combination of gold bars and determination saw us through some gruelling Big Choir practices, by the end of which our hands were red from clapping and no-one could ever hear Emeli Sandé's Wonder again without shuddering at the memories.

NC's set started with Wonder and, despite some freestyle percussion by a few rogue choir members, we actually made it to the end without dropping a single tambourine. Jessie Zhu made House Music history by accompanying the choir on her accordion and the Head commented that Georgie Frankpitt's solo was worthy of X Factor.

Little Choir sang The Call by Regina Spektor, accompanied by the Year 9 trio of Sophie, Fran and Freya. All the singers were wonderful and Sophie Donne in particular sang a beautiful solo. Then the quartet of Georgie Morris, Anna Folland, Mantha Unsworth-White and I played I Giorni, adapted from Einaudi's original piano piece.

Finally came Katy Perry's Last Friday Night, sung by the entire House. This was NC's best song of the night and the judge commented afterwards how impressed he was that every girl in the House was smiling throughout. Thank you to all the NC girls for putting in so much effort and for being so cheerful and professional on the night.
Hatty Nash



There were many entries for the 2015 Travel Photography Competition showing inspiring skill and creativity in composition and lighting. The student winner was Julia Huntingford (Year 11) for her photo 'Italy'



The SAS group show off part of their mural

DESIGNS ON LOCAL WALLS

The Special Art Status group have used their skills to design and decorate the walls of the Children's Centre, based at Wilcombe Primary School in Tiverton, which offers activities and support for families with children under the age of five. Yvonne Christopher-Walker of the Centre praised the partnership working between Blundell's and the Children's Centre and said the children and families using the Centre have loved the colourful changes made.



Above: Work by Year 7 who have been exploring colour and pattern in Art
Left: A collection of drawings by Year 10 GCSE Art students
Right: Bird paintings by Year 8



Artist workshop

Local artist Luna North ran a workshop for Years 10-12 students in the Special Art Status group to create exciting multi-layered lino cut prints based on natural forms. She commented on how much she enjoyed working with the students and how talented and individual their styles were.



Photography by Kiera White (Year 10)



The Scholars – Maddie, Toby and Imogen

The Scholars

THREE CREATIVE ART SCHOLARS DISCUSS WHAT BEING A SCHOLAR IN THEIR SPECIALISM MEANS TO THEM.

DRAMA - IMOGEN SANDERS-DUTTON

I think that there is a responsibility in class as a Drama Scholar and you feel a sense of leadership. If the teacher asks for a volunteer or for the class to give some feedback on a group exercise, then I will always try and put my hand up or encourage a slightly quieter pupil in the class to get involved. It's also important to set an example to younger pupils in the School and sometimes younger girls in the House might come to me for advice on an audition piece or are just curious about the subject and want to know more about it when it comes to making GCSE decisions.

Although I have only been a Scholar for the last term, there have definitely been some highlights from just being an active member of the Drama Department over the last few years. I've had the opportunity to get involved in many productions and play some great characters that I've been able to sink my teeth into, but I think the biggest highlight for me was being cast in Lorna Doone last year for the 25th anniversary of Ondaatje Hall. It was amazing to be part of something so special and I think it is something that I, and every other cast member, will remember for years to come.

ART - MADDIE WRIGHT

Being an Art Scholar is great as you are being recognised for your hard work and rewarded; you know that someone thinks that you are good at what you love. It also opens up opportunities to try new areas of Art that I probably would not have

been able to try. I get to spend loads of time in Art workshops with other people who share my love for Art; these are people I would never have met and talked to if I hadn't been given the scholarship. I am so grateful that I am able to say that I am an Art Scholar.

MUSIC - TOBY WHITEHEAD

The expectation for a Music Scholar is that they will make a full, meaningful contribution to the Music Department whilst they are at Blundell's. This could be through representing the School at an outside event, such as a competition, or helping with the organisation of some of the various musical events at school. Also, especially in the more senior years, Music Scholars are expected to take a leading role in the various groups, such as big band or orchestra. This may include being a soloist within that group and playing the more difficult music for these pieces.

One of the main highlights of being a Music Scholar is the opportunity to play in the Scholars' concert. It is a unique opportunity to perform a solo in a prestigious concert and to play to the top of your ability, whilst also being able to listen to the advanced music that other Scholars display. As well as this, being able to take a leading role in other concerts throughout the year, such as the annual choral concert, is very enjoyable.



The School play Street Child

The cast of Street Child received standing ovations and rave reviews following their performance of the play over three nights. More than 60 pupils from Years 7-8 and 11-13 acted in the play, which told the true story of how Dr Barnardo was inspired to open his children's homes after being shown the plight of children sleeping rough in the East End by a young boy, Jim Jarvis. Directed by Mr James Rochfort, Street Child was one of the most ambitious projects ever to be performed in the theatre and was inspiring and moving.

Central to the play, of course, was the character of Jim Jarvis, played by Will Bucknell (Year 8) who was onstage for most of the performance and handled the part in a thoughtful and sensitive way. There were many excellent vignettes throughout from both young and older pupils and one of the joys of Street Child was to see them interacting together. Indeed, this was part of the reason why Mr Rochfort had chosen the play as an opportunity for younger pupils, especially those in School House, to experience acting alongside the senior pupils. For the Year 13s, Street Child was their last major performance in Ondaatje and, in mentoring the younger pupils in Street Child, they have left a real legacy for the next generation of stage performers at School. Invidious though it is to mention any of their performances, who can forget Sophie Bateman as the brisk but warm-hearted Rosie, Tom Hancocks as the frankly

terrifying Grimy Nick, Kiera McMaster as Lame Betsy and Rory Clark as Dr Barnardo, who also spent much of the play onstage, either keeping a watchful eye on Jim or giving succour to the ragged children?

Unlike the original stage adaption of the novel by Berlie Doherty, the Blundell's version featured some wonderful original music, composed by Mrs Emma Weaver. The gritty lyrics and atmospheric music for all the seven songs added much to the mood of the play (see the article about the Music overleaf) and the lullaby brought many of the audience close to tears. Behind the scenes, the musicians and backstage crew ably supported those on the stage while the effects achieved by the wardrobe, make-up and technicians were impressive, ranging from the colourful circus to the uncompromising street scenes.

Adding to the whole Street Child experience was the fantastic Foyer Project -




a Victorian Street created in the theatre foyer, with authentic artefacts, traditional lighting and displays of work by SH pupils, who had been researching all aspects of London life and Dr Barnardo himself. During the interval, there were traditional refreshments on offer ranging from roast chestnuts to pies - the Catering Department went to great lengths to complement the occasion - and even a few street children roaming around, selling lavender and generally being urchin-like.

As a final endorsement of just how good Street Child was, a representative from Dr Barnardo's attended the first night and wrote afterwards that in this, the charity's 150th year, she couldn't think of anything else that was happening or was being planned that told the story better (and incidentally £460 was raised for the charity from collections taken at the three performances).



The Foyer Project – work by SH pupils on Victorian London and Dr Barnardo





*Marion, a helper in the workhouse
(Rosalie Sanders) sings the lullaby to
Jim (Will Bucknell)*

Street Child: *Behind the Music*

When I heard about the Street Child project at the end of the summer term, I was keen to be involved. I had already assisted in some way with the music for Lorna Doone and A Midsummer Night's Dream. Both inputs, although small, had taken me into new territory in terms of composing and putting together music which suited both productions. Street Child is, of course, a whole new ball game. Music written for a play which must convey something of the story is a bit different to a score which underpins the action. There are seven original pieces of music written for Street Child and each one tells a different part of the story. Several themes run through the songs however and these are essential to the story of Street Child.

The Story and the Songs

The story is a challenging one to encounter and is made more so by the poverty stricken backdrop of Victorian London. There is a clear divide and those at the bottom of the

social ladder find that life is challenging in ways that many of us, thankfully, can only imagine.

I was keen to not shy away from the desperation of those in the play and some of the songs may seem very bleak as a result, but as the play progresses and the story unfolds, there are small glimmers of hope along the way.

The lullaby sung to Jim in the workhouse is one such example: 'Until the sun bursts through the sky/And all the world is bathed in light/Close your eyes you're safe for now/Tomorrow is another day'. Here in the backdrop of a loveless place, the recently orphaned Jim is sung to sleep by someone not unlike himself, who has to believe that there is hope. Hope is the strongest theme in Street Child and is hopefully evident in the music I have written to accompany it.

Street Child Rehearsals


Rehearsals have been overall

very positive and enjoyable, albeit a big commitment for everyone involved! The pupils have been quick to learn the songs and been happy to sing with confidence. It has been wonderful to be part of this process and see the development from sitting in a circle in the Drama classroom, through to performing in the theatre and acting the pieces. Indeed, it is a great privilege to hear songs you have written being sung by others; it feels like they are being brought to life, which is awesome.

Performance time

As we got closer to the actual performance, I was once again amazed to see in action the myriad of talent shown by Blundell's pupils in this production. Some of those involved are born all-round performers, others great actors, but maybe not singers and vice versa. Ultimately though, everyone is giving their best and I think some of them have even surprised themselves - agreeing to solos or even agreeing just to sing a chorus when they might have doubted that they could. When one considers the number of pupils involved in this project, so excellently directed and managed by James Rochfort, it is an incredible undertaking, which makes it even more pleasing to see the way in which our pupils are prepared to push themselves out of their comfort zone and do new things.

Mrs Emma Weaver



*The Circus Song brings a burst
of colour to the play*

LAMDA

It has been a hugely successful year for students studying for London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art examinations. More than 80 students from Years 7-13 take part and with more joining on a regular basis, LAMDA continues to flourish. This year has seen a record number of students achieving a Distinction (with the remainder achieving Merits) and 100% pass rate maintained. Exams during the summer and autumn terms in 2015 were taken across a range of specialisms including The Speaking of Verse and Prose, Acting, Devising, Reading for Performance, Speaking in Public, and Mime.

A special mention must go to those who achieved Distinctions in their gold, silver or bronze medal grades: Andrew Frampton, Cameron Falinski, Lizzie Morris, Henry Mules, Kiera McMaster, Sophie Bateman, Imogen Sanders-Dutton, Edward O'Brien, Tom Hancocks, Bertie Frankpitt, William McIntyre and Edward Barlow.

Also to those who achieved outstanding Distinction results in the lower grades - Serena Mundy and Jodie White who gained 92% in their Grade 3 Devising, Dominic Blackmore with 94% for his Grade 1 Speaking of Verse and Prose, Sebastian Albery with 91% and Victor Mills with 92%, both for their Grade 4 Solo Acting, Matilda Huntingford with 90% for her Grade 2 Acting, Frances Hunt who gained 92% in her Grade 3 Speaking of Verse and Prose, Daniel Stagg with 89% and Mark Schoellhammer with 88% for their Grade 2 exams in The Speaking of Verse and Prose and Millie Parr who achieved 87% in her Grade 5 Solo Acting Examination.

We are extremely proud of all our students for their continued hard work and dedication throughout the year. The talent we have at Blundell's is extraordinary and it is an exciting time for the Drama Department to see our students grow from strength to strength.

Mrs Rachel Milne

Business and Economics



Maddie and Amelia with their YE goods in Princesshay

TRADE SHOW SUCCESS

The Young Enterprise team was one of six teams showcasing their entrepreneurial skills at the Young Enterprise Trade Show in Exeter's Princesshay shopping centre at the start of the Christmas holidays. Despite the extremely blustery conditions, the team comprising of Maddie Wright, Ben Wright and Amelia Low, who were selling festive decorations, did exceptionally well financially and won the accolade of Most Successful Business at the show.

The centre manager praised Maddie's exceptional product with its excellent promotion and clear pricing.



The Young Enterprise team with their pens

THE LAST WORD IN PENS

Ötzi the ice man was buried within a glacier deep in the heart of the Alps and was discovered with a copper axe. He was arguably the first man to enrich the uses of copper ore. We have taken this heritage to inspire us to design a luxury range of pens.

Ötzi pens take a standard cross style refill and are personally crafted with deluxe components to be the only pen you'll ever need. No protective finish is applied so the pen will age over time if you choose to leave the natural surface patina; alternatively, through polishing, a sleek elegant style is acquired. The Blundell's Young Enterprise group make these pens on a Thursday afternoon, by hand and use locally sourced products. We hope this pen looks good, feels good and with its perfect balance will complement any desk, workshop or studio.

We plan to re-invest all our profits with an aim of creating more products with the Ötzi brand ethos which can be passed on to the next generation. We hope that any scrapes,



blemishes and knocks become part of the product's history and allure - every scratch tells a story.

Pens cost £8 (and £15 for a fountain pen, the latest in the range) and are available to see, try or buy from the School office or contact Young Enterprise on youngenterprise@blundells.org

The Young Enterprise team



The Institute of Economic Affairs

Last term, Blundell's hosted the Institute of Economic Affairs Economic Regional Conference. Six schools visited in total from as far as Millfield to listen to the three speakers over the course of the day.

The first speech was an insight into Globalisation and the impacts of China's rapid growth on the rest of the world. The speaker, Diego Zuluaga, put forth many interesting points and made compelling arguments about the advantages of Globalisation and global free trade. When mentioning China's growth and the effect on industry in the developed world, he was not however so biased to ignore the disadvantages.

The second to speak was Dr Steve Davies. He highlighted the many aspects of the European Union and whether it is truly a benefit to the UK. As an audience, we were involved in the discussion and were asked to apply our existing economic knowledge to this topic. He challenged some of our views with new information, broadening our knowledge.

The final speaker of the day was Dr Kristian Niemietz, his view on 'Market failure and state failure in Healthcare' was both interesting and thought provoking. His presentation focused heavily on audience participation, making the students tackle the situations he created, such as inefficiencies in Healthcare. This was an effective strategy as the students felt involved and gave us a chance to apply our economic knowledge to a topic outside of the classroom.

The conference was incredibly interesting and it was fantastic to see how many schools took part as Big School was nearly full. On behalf of the Economics students, I would like to thank the IEA for choosing Blundell's as the location for their conference and for the insight it gave us into the world of Economics which has benefitted us greatly. **Harry Handyside (Year 13)**



The School House Diploma

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

THE SCHOOL HOUSE DIPLOMA WAS LAUNCHED WHEN THE HEAD PRESENTED IT TO THE NEW YEAR 7s (NOW YEAR 8) AND THEIR PARENTS ON THEIR FIRST DAY AT BLUNDELL'S SENIOR SCHOOL. IT WAS MET BY ALL WITH MUCH EXCITEMENT AND A WAVE OF OPTIMISM. A YEAR AND A HALF INTO THE DIPLOMA, HOW IS IT MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO THE PUPILS IN THE SCHOOL?

Before we answer this, let's remind you what the SH Diploma is. It specifically concentrates on skills and character values that we believe students at this age should be aiming towards. It is divided into two sections - The Learners Toolkit and Character Skills. There is no pass or fail, it is about helping each pupil understand their personal strengths and interests, giving them a way forward in learning, supporting them in the process and helping them to recognise when

they get there. It is about pupils recognising their best work; their best moments; understanding what generosity, optimism, self-regulation and resilience means and how they show it in their everyday lives

The diploma is delivered through lessons, tutor periods, chapel, lectures, house notice boards and, most importantly, through themselves. It is unique to each and every individual. The overarching principle is that it doesn't have to be measureable; it just has to

mean something to the student. That was certainly the case with the summer project, one of the undeniable successes of the SH Diploma.

At the end of summer term, we asked the Year 7s to create a project during the holidays which they would then present when they came back in the autumn term as Year 8. This project could be about anything they liked. It could be them learning a new skill, writing a poem, building something and delivered using any media - paper, photograph or video. The result was fantastic; on the presentation evening in October, there was a group of 54 Year 8 pupils standing proudly and talking passionately about their project (some of which can be seen on these pages).

So has the diploma made a real difference? I asked some of the present Year 8s what their thoughts were on this. One pupil said "Best part is that you don't know that you are even doing it" while another said "The best part are the tutor reviews, we reflect about how we have progressed, it is making me think about my actions more". Asking a similar question to an SH tutor, their response was "It helped me to really get to know the individual, helped me to understand them and helped to support them better."

From a Head of School House point of view, the pupils are as lively and loud as





KINDNESS

After the October half-term, our next scheduled topic of the SH Diploma was 'Kindness' and I already had plans of how to link this to the further topic of 'Generosity' later in the term. What I hadn't fully take into consideration was just how impressively thoughtful my own tutees were and, as they say, 'all the best plans' quickly went out of the window. It started fairly innocuously when one of my tutees made a comment which led to a full conversation about the world that these young people, full of determination and promise, ambition and heart, were growing up in. What saddened me most was that they felt that their world was not a good place; not kind but dangerous, selfish and unkind. I wanted to change this perception!

As a tutor group, we often talk about news stories and this aided our discussion, giving us ideas for how we wished to take our own 'project' on kindness forward. I discovered that Friday 13th November was World Kindness Day and this then formed the basis for our display on the SH Noticeboard for the end of the autumn term.

We talked about the things we wanted to show and each tutee was allocated an appropriate task - some individual, some in pairs. A few weeks of determined application, imagination and good team work led to us finally displaying our work on Monday 9th November - just in time for World Kindness Day and Children in Need (both on the same day).

Ben and Molly produced work on the history of Children in Need and what the money raised is used for - this was especially important as the pupils of SH were holding a Bake Sale on the day. Sam and Isaac investigated another local charity. Tom Y and Alex searched for 'good news stories' and I think this was, sadly, the hardest task; they also found details of 'random acts of kindness'. Molly also emailed a number of staff to ask what acts of kindness had meant something to them and was pleased to receive several replies; this also compounded the view that the positive actions of others, however small, does really make a difference to our lives. Emma, Verity and Zoe designed their own posters highlighting the various meanings of kindness. Tom B and Kaitlyn produced a display on Operation Christmas Child to highlight why pupils should get involved in this charity.

Once our display was complete - and it looked very impressive indeed - we received many positive reports and were pleased to hear that the Heads of School had mentioned it in a Chapel service.

In reality we used many of the topics of the SH Diploma such as organisation, presentation and teamwork. We were able to bring in optimism as we realised that, although murders, death and destruction make the news headlines day after day, there are many good, kind, caring people in the world and lots of positive activities and projects. Indeed, when we talk about news stories now, we try to talk about the good news ones, as well as the headlines.

Finally, we rounded off our Kindness topic by putting together six shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child - as, of course, did many other pupils from Blundell's.

Miss Helen Youngs

Top: The SH pupils and their display on Kindness
Left: Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child

ever. They smile as much as they always have done, their energy remains boundless, but there are certainly more moments now that I sense a kinder, more generous group dynamic. I also sense that they have a better understanding that, within Blundell's, they are truly valued as an individual.

Mr Damian Marshman





Children in Need

Baking and buying (and eating) cakes in aid of BBC's annual Children in Need appeal has become something of a tradition for School House – and this year was no exception. Once again, there were lots of happy faces as the pupils surveyed and selected the cakes on offer, raising more than £350 for the charity and enjoying some sweet treats at the same time.



Charitable Endeavours

It's been a busy time for the Sixth Form Charity Committee and the Houses in terms of fundraising. Long standing events such as the Wine Tasting Evening went with a splash, raising more than £500 for 'Hope for Justice', a charity that fights to stop Human Trafficking.

The Big Sleep took place in which the Years 9 through to 12 slept rough for the night and raised an impressive £260 for local homeless charity CHAT. They were visited by Mrs Huggett and Mr Wielenga to

boost morale and they were also lucky enough to have a visit from CHAT to learn more about the context of their efforts and the importance of what they were doing.

Incredibly, the School – through individual, House and Sixth Form Charity Committee endeavour has so far this academic year raised more than £5000 for various local and international charities so students should feel proud of their work in organising these events and helping those less fortunate than themselves.

I'd like to say a big thank you to staff and students involved in organising the events throughout the year. Without this Blundellian community spirit, they just wouldn't happen!

We also thank, as always, you, the parents and supporters of Blundell's for your generosity in giving.

These are just some of the events that Blundell's has put on so far this year.

Miss Lucy Elzik



THE CHURCHES HOUSING ACTION TEAM, TIVERTON

Ruth Konieczna (Year 11) has been working with the Sixth Form Charity Committee and local charity CHAT in a clothes collecting initiative to help vulnerable, homeless and economically deprived people in the area. Ruth and the Charity Committee look forward to joining CHAT for the Big Sleep this year as well!

The Soroptimists

The Sixth Form Charity Committee have been working closely with the Soroptimists, the international charity dedicated to helping women and girls across the world lead more enriched lives. All Houses are in the throes of a competition, in which they are collecting different household items, whether this be ring pulls, textiles or old books. These items are associated with projects across the South West that are helping people around the world.

YEAR 9 SOCIAL

The Year 9 Social took place in November. Ondaatje Hall was transformed into a disco with crazy lighting and the students' type of music; the event was full of fun with dance offs between the students. The committee organisers raised an impressive £240 for the Charity LEPRO and hope to continue to raise money for LEPRO to help the many people still suffering from leprosy today.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

In true Christmas spirit, each tutor group in the school filled a shoebox with items for a child in need. We managed to collect a whopping 60 shoeboxes which made their way to Belarus to give poor children some joy at Christmas time.

RNLI

The Old House boys have raised £1700 so far for the RNLI which will pay for a defibrillator to be housed in a case outside the lifeboat station at Exmouth and which will be accessible for anyone using the seafront.



CANDY CANES

The girls in Year 12 of Gorton House sold a record number of 1,400 candy canes, raising £740 for the Crisis At Christmas charity. Pupils and staff buy the canes to wish their friends and colleagues a Happy Christmas and write a label with a message. The GH girls then turned parts of the GH private side into a production line as, in a great team effort, they tied labels onto the canes, to be given out the next day.

Comedy Night

Our third Comedy night went with a bang this January. We were lucky enough to be entertained by the likes of top comedians Dom Holland, Steve Best - harnessing a mind-boggling array of gadgets and gags to keep his audience in stitches - and Mark Maier, a well-known comedian on the radio and television circuit. The evening raised an impressive £1000 which will go towards the Laos fund; the aim this year is to buy communities in Laos an elephant to help transport books and educational tools to children in remote settings - we have raised a good £3000 of the £18,000 total so far.



It's a Crime Scene!

The Science Department and Big School once again turned into a Crime Scene Investigation site when Year 7s from Hazlegrove, St Peter's Prep, Mount Kelly Prep, Exeter Cathedral School and the Downs School came to Blundell's to discover the perpetrator of a 'murder'. Working with 6th form scientists, they followed a series of practical clues to find the evidence. Great fun was had by all - not least at lunch where baked brains (cauliflower cheese), slow cooked human flesh (pulled pork with crackling) and other delights were on the menu. The Science Department excelled themselves in the organisation of the CSI day and attention to detail, receiving many plaudits from the participating pupils; here are just two:

'I would like to thank you for the amazing forensics day you held...we had such fun carrying out all the experiments and the equipment was fabulous'

'We all learnt new exciting ways to discover different clues to find who the murderer was...we would like to thank all the kind sixth formers for helping us get the answers'

A VIEW ON THE UN

Geographers in Year 9 were chosen to take part in an exhibition created to mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. Blundell's was one of seven schools across Devon to have their work shown in Exeter Cathedral in October as part of the video montage 'How Young People in Devon See the United Nations'. The video, which was shown continuously on monitors in the cathedral, depicted how the participating pupils perceived the multidisciplinary work of the UN in areas such as women's rights, the environment, refugees and education. The exhibition was organised by the Exeter and District Branch of the United Nations Association (UNA).



Red roses

North Close girls raised more than £390 for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust, their charity of the year, by selling and delivering red roses, just in time for Valentine's Day. Pupils buy the roses for their friends, write a message on a label which the NC girls tie onto the roses and then deliver them to the lucky recipient, guaranteeing the anonymity of the sender if he/she so wishes.

Trips and Tours



Top: Paddles up in front of Gibraltar

Below: At Tarifa

Canoeing in Spain

During the Christmas holidays, seven students and three staff travelled to the southernmost tip of Spain to Tarifa, for a warm weather canoe training camp.

The aim of the trip was to prepare for the 2016 race season and to give Blundell's students the opportunity of training in a world class surf ski school. Our coach for the week was Boyan Zlatarev, one of the leading European SurfSki instructors, who has worked closely with Oscar Chalupsky (twelve times World SurfSki champion) to design the training and the Epic Skis we would be using.

The week began with a test run the following morning, in what turned out to be rather challenging conditions of heavy winds and a large swell. However, we were allocated development Skis according to our capabilities, and took turns paddling the two man (V8 Double) SurfSki with Boyan, who could assess the standard of our paddling as we became accustomed to our new environment – a picturesque 10km bay with a beautiful sandy beach along the whole length. The bay is a prime destination for kite surfers, horse riders, runners and paddlers alike, overseen by low Spanish hills



covered in wind turbines (a Geographer's delight), and from the south by the hills of Tangiers, 13km away across the Straits of Gibraltar.

A typical day comprised of two paddling sessions totalling between 20 and 30kms a day with additional theory sessions on land, which built on our experiences of the previous day and introduced new techniques and drills. The drills helped increase our skill level considerably, which in turn helped us feel more confident in the Skis and prepared for the variety of different situations which can occur out at sea. Re-mount drills were particularly well practised! We were also taught how to get maximum efficiency out of the paddle, and in turn learnt the most efficient stroke we could use. Many of our skills from flat-water paddling were useful to us, but certain aspects of our stroke had to be adjusted to suit the different conditions out at sea.

On our fifth training day, we headed east with our kayaks on the trailer and launched on a beach opposite Gibraltar. As we paddled out the conditions were very gentle and allowed us to focus on technique once again, as well as enjoy the views of The Rock.

The trip was run along the lines of a Club Training Camp and as such it was unlike most school trips - we were given the responsibility of living in self-catered accommodation and had to plan, budget, buy and prepare our own food and do our own cleaning and washing, as well as being ready in the right place at the right time with the right kit to train. Overall, it was a fabulous opportunity that taught us how to be safe on the sea and how to surf the waves.

Mrs Annabel Taylor-Ross



A visit to Germany

On the last day of the autumn term, a group of seventeen pupils from Years 9 to 11 accompanied by Ms Scott, Mr Lecharpentier and Miss Hall headed to the Christmas markets of Berlin. The trip offered the pupils the opportunity to practise the German they have been learning at school whilst also enjoying the famous weihnachtsmarkte and exploring the city's varied sights and museums. For many pupils it was their first visit to Germany and, armed with a phrasebook and a list of '10 things to look out for in Berlin', they were encouraged by how much they were able to say and understand and how much they learnt about the history and culture of one of Europe's most vibrant capitals. The benefits of a language-focussed trip are numerous and it was wonderful to see the pupils become more confident and spontaneous in their speaking as the trip progressed.

The first record of a December market in Germany is from the 14th century when people stocked up on supplies of wood and food ahead of the long winter months. This tradition later spread to other parts of Germany, Austria and Eastern France. Today there are more than 60 markets in Berlin alone selling Christmas tree decorations, winter clothing, snow globes, bratwurst, glühwein, crepes and currywurst to name just a few! Our visit to Potsdammer Platz was a high point due to the outdoor ice rink where Mr Lecharpentier demonstrated some impressive figure skating.

As well as the Christmas markets, we were lucky enough to explore some of Berlin's famous sights, starting with a trip to the Brandenburg Gate.



We climbed to the top of the Reichstag dome and saw the city landscape by night, visited Checkpoint Charlie, the Berlin Wall Museum and the GDR Museum. Many pupils named the GDR Museum as a highlight of the trip due to an informative tour from a former resident of East Berlin and the quirky, interactive activities on offer: pupils were able to walk into a Stasi interrogation room and prison cell, put on headphones and watch East German television, sit in a Trabant and even vote in a rigged election!

Everyone was impressed with Berlin's public transport (especially the trams) and discovered a new found passion for the beloved Ampelmännchen – the pedestrian crossing signs in East Berlin which are one of the few features of East Germany to survive today and have become a souvenir item for tourists.

Miss Claire Hall



CCF REPORT



TAKING TO THE AIR

The visit of a Lynx helicopter to Blundell's caused great excitement, especially for some members of the CCF. This is Abigail Bundy's report on the event.

A few members of the CCF were lucky enough to fly in the Lynx helicopter that landed on Big Field, piloted by Old Blundellian Royal Navy pilot Commander Phil Richardson. It was an anxious wait whilst we stood to board, as only four people were allowed on at one time. As soon as the helicopter took off, all the fear left and the mesmerizing journey began. The flight was very inspiring, as it enabled us to see life from a different perspective, but also because we were lucky enough to have the chance to talk to the pilots about their experiences. This very fortunate opportunity has opened our eyes to the importance of studying in order to achieve in school, as well as in life generally.

The CCF has had a very busy school year so far. It started with a presentation to Age UK from Head of Corps Cormac Oliver and Corporal Bonnie Price who raised money through a variety of fundraising events to support this charity. Many of last year's cadets received their Bronze awards, whilst the new Year 10 cadets completed their first overnight expedition as part of their Duke of Edinburgh bronze award; they have also completed a variety of military training with the majority passing their shooting courses, including five marksman scores from the first two platoons.

The Year 11 cadets all completed their Junior Non Commissioned Officers course which included an overnight expedition on Woodbury where their individual skills and leadership qualities were assessed. All worked very hard to receive a pass which they duly did, resulting in being promoted to Corporal on completion. The majority are now completing their Cadet Forces Instructional Techniques Course (CFIT) which will see them promoted to Sergeant when successful. Several members also managed to fly in a Lynx helicopter, which has inspired many to pursue a career in aviation (see report left).

A highlight of the term was the CCF Dinner which Colonel K Oliver, the Commandant of the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines, attended as guest of honour, together with WO1 McMaster and 2Lt Henry McCready who was a member of the CCF only last year and is now undergoing Young Officer Training in the Royal Marines.

Mr Barry Dawe MBE, School Staff Instructor





Hannah (foreground) and Georgie in one of the new look bedrooms in NC

Welcome to Hotel NC

North Close is the latest House to be refurbished following on from Gorton House the previous year. An enthusiastic Hannah Carthew (Year 12) was one of the NC girls delighted with the changes at the start of this school year as she reports here:

Over the summer NC was completely transformed. The whole House was turned upside down and everyone was shocked at the new 'Hotel NC' that they came back to after the summer holidays. The House has become more homely with new carpets, curtains, sofas and lamps. This makes NC like a home away from home. The whole House has been painted and the design has been thought through very well by Mrs Candler and Mrs Crease. All the girls in NC love the new refurb and are very grateful to everyone who made it happen.

Below: Westlake also benefitted from a building programme with a new extension that included a study centre, which is proving very popular with U6 students



Food, Glorious Food

It's not just the refurbished boarding houses that resemble hotels - Blundell's Catering Department produce the sort of food you would expect to see in a top restaurant and not only for special occasions such as the Monitors' Dinner and themed evenings. On a typical day, pupils can build their own salad, sample

local roast pheasant (in season), try cheese with quince paste or indulge in a delicious dessert. There are always plenty of healthy options and hearty dishes on the menu, which pupils contribute to through the diet committee. You can view the daily menus on the Dining Hall pages of the website.





The start line at the Kayak Championships

Canoeing

The Blundell's Canoe Club go from strength to strength and had a very successful time at the National Schools Kayak Championships. The Canoe Club took six boats to the championships which were held on the River Thames at Wokingham and comprised of a Sprint Regatta over distances of 200m and 500m and a 15km Marathon race. The teams included our first ever girls' team of Jenny Mettam, Julia Huntingford, Bethan Wesley, Tabby Pring, Eve Neusinger and George Pitts.

There was some great racing from all the boats; Laurenz Hoek and Joe White fought a highly competitive marathon race to take 4th place overall and Francis and Dougal saw off tough competition from Bryanston and Cranleigh to win the Sprint and the Marathon. In the past twelve months, the pair have been the fastest school crew in the Waterside series, the fastest school crew in the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Marathon, and are now National School Champions in both Kayak Sprint and Kayak Marathon.



Jack Aldridge with the rest of the England Polo Team at the international tournament in India, where they reached the semi-finals

On the polo field

LATE LAST YEAR JACK ALDRIDGE WON HIS ENGLAND POLO CAP WHEN HE PLAYED IN AN INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT IN INDIA. HE TOOK UP POLO TWO YEARS AGO AND HERE HE TELLS HOW HE BECAME INVOLVED IN THE SPORT.

I started playing because I wanted to ride in the summer but didn't want to take the normal pony club route, so I thought I would give it a go, as it looked great fun. Unfortunately the season is short and runs from May to September, although there are a few places where you can play winter arena polo. I enjoy it because it is a very physical game that is hard to play, it involves a lot of tactics, skill and team work as well as

being able to ride your horse at great speed and get it to do what you want.

I have taken part in a junior HPA (Hurlingham Polo Association) team and in various teams at different levels at Taunton Polo Club. I have played at many of the top clubs in England with the HPA Tournament (Cowdray, King Power and Black Bears).

In the international tournament in India we came third, playing some tough opposition such as Australia, USA, Thailand and India. In the whole tournament we only lost one game and narrowly missed out in getting into the final on goal difference. I was the second highest goal scorer in the team in India. In March I am hoping to play in an international tournament in Pakistan for England.

Jack Aldridge (Year 11)



George Pitts and Eve Neusinger



RUGBY

Above and right: The semi-final match of the Trophy away at Epsom College
Photographs: Leo Wilkinson Photography

As Captain of the 1st XV, Ben Oliphant-Thompson has steered the team to a very successful season. He leads from the front, tirelessly carrying the ball into the opposition and making huge yards. He is a fearsome tackler, has some of the best passing and handling skills in the team and is adept at the off load as well as being able to pass the ball nearly the width of the field. The 1st XV won the majority of the matches they played, including against Bryanston (23-8), King's Taunton (61-5), Plymouth College (22-10) and Taunton School (43-12) and, most notably, progressed in the RFU U18 Schools Champions Trophy, as Ben recounts in his report.

This season has been both extremely challenging yet rewarding. We knew we were in for a tough season when we were drawn against Canford School in the first round of the Champions Trophy. This being said, however, the team was extremely motivated and we came away with a close win (19-11) only to face Monmouth School in the next round. Again this was a fierce contest but the boys really came together, playing some great rugby to come away with a convincing win (31-7). We were then set to play the renowned side, Barnard Castle. Few people would have expected us to get this far in the competition as to get to the quarter finals of the Champions Trophy had never been achieved by a Blundell's side before and perhaps to get to the semi-finals was a step too far. It came as no great surprise that

we set out to prove people wrong and that's exactly what we did with a score of 26-7, becoming the first Blundell's side to ever reach the semi-finals of this competition.

We then had the opportunity to take on a very strong Epsom side away. We arrived itching to get straight into the action; after an extremely physical 35 minutes we were 14-0 down. We came together at half time and re-organised ourselves, going back out to play certainly the best rugby I've ever experienced in my time at the School. The team put up an incredible fight and had unbelievable determination to never give up. As a result we came back from a 14-0 deficit to be 14-14, then an ongoing sequence of tries followed, one from them, one from us and so on.

It was the final play of the game and we were on their try line with the score line



reading 27-23; an incredibly tense passage of play followed, ending unfortunately with us being denied a try to end the game. Although we lost that day and all the boys were gutted, we put in a real performance to be proud of and for me this epitomises our season, we may not have won all of our games but the few that we did lose were extremely closely fought and could have gone either way. If we did lose, you can guarantee that we put in 100% but unfortunately that's the way of the game; sometimes it doesn't go your way.

It has been a fantastic season and one that has built lasting memories, particularly the emphatic enthusiasm of both Mr Saunders and Mr Gabbitass with the catchphrase 'enjoy it guys' becoming a favourite of all the players and something that will stay with us for a long time to come.

Ben Oliphant-Thompson (Year 13)



Top: The quarter final match of the Champions Trophy against Barnard Castle

Middle: The 1st XV team who took on Epsom in the semi-finals
Photograph: Leo Wilkinson

Above left: The 1st XV win against King's Taunton (61-5) saw them run in a total of 11 tries and propelled the team into the Top Ten of the Daily Mail Trophy

There have been some great successes for the Rugby teams this season with the U15As progressing well in the NatWest Cup and some notable matches by all teams - please see the Rugby page on the website for more details.

RUGBY LAMBS

Charlie Wilder, Ben Oliphant-Thompson and Arthur Friend have been selected to play for the prestigious U18 Independent Schools LAMBS national squad and now have the chance to demonstrate their abilities in a number of tough fixtures. Only one other school has more than two representatives in the national squad. The Lambs exists to create openings for boys to showcase their rugby skills at a representative level and the freedom to express talent, unfettered by league results and structured 'coaching', leads to an exciting style of play.



*Lola at the NSEA Championships
Hoof Print Images Photography*

Riding

With teams from all over the UK and more than 1900 entries, the NSEA Championships once again proved to be a highly competitive event and an incredibly exciting week for the 13 Blundellians competing.

In the Show Jumping, we held our own despite this not being a discipline that we are known for, with the 90cm team finishing on three fantastic clears and the 100cm team finishing on a total of four faults. Sadly both teams just missed out on the placings due to their times.

Moving on to the Jumping with Style class (a competition in which Blundell's has frequently campaigned over the years) we were all busy, as this year we had qualified at every height. In the 70cm, Finn Muirhead, Josh Brown and Alice Smith produced beautiful clears and the 80cm team of Polly, Finn, Alice and Rachel Brown finished just outside the top placings. The two 90cm teams also showed strong determination and huge promise for the future, with great clears from Georgia and Ed Barlow. Special mention has to go to Finn for being the highest placed Blundellian in the 70cm, 80cm and 90cm classes. However, most excitingly, both 100cm teams finished in the top ten, with the team of Ed, India, Georgia Wood and Ellie Ansell on Algy finishing ninth and then myself, Ellie on Grace, Will Smith and Polly winning the competition! This was the third consecutive year that Blundell's have won this class, with an excitingly different team each time. Two of us were then lucky enough to qualify for the new JWS Special 1.10m class, where Ellie and I were thrilled to both be placed at 8th and 2nd respectively.

As if this was not enough excitement, the success of Blundell's across all competitions in the South West was further recognised at a presentation where we won the Regional Points League, presented to our nominated Team Captain Will Smith. Huge thanks to our team trainer Tim Cheffings for his support and encouragement in all we do.

The week was definitely one to remember and enjoyed by all, with the Blundellian team atmosphere being something that, I know, those of us in our last year at school will miss greatly.

Lola Watt (Year 13)

The Blundell's team at the NSEA Championships





Above: Captain Alice Smith throwing an aerial with Vice-Captain and goalkeeper Emma Jackman

HOCKEY

Remarkably, Alice Smith has been playing Hockey in the 1st team since Year 9 and is Captain this season for the 1sts and overall for girls' Hockey. She leads by example and sets the standards incredibly high. Alice is one of those players that can play anywhere; and her ability to read the game is excellent and with her powerful hit she is a real weapon at penalty corners. Alice is invaluable both on and off the pitch and has helped coach many of the younger players. This is her round-up of the girls' Hockey season this year.

The 1st team began their season by winning the Sherborne tournament, a tournament in which they've previously struggled to reach the final. This was the start of a great season. Whether it's been during the weekly fitness sessions or during matches, the whole team has worked together to come out on top. The pinnacle of the season, agreed by all the girls, would be the 2-1 win against Canford where the entire team performed outstandingly. The team ended their season with a 3-1 victory over Bristol Grammar School in a very enjoyable but intense match. Vice-Captain and Goalkeeper Emma Jackman has had a brilliant final season with very impressive

stats. This final season for Emma and me has mirrored our efforts on and off the pitch to bring the team together and lead by example. As senior team members, Zoë Hitchens, Tabi Unsworth-White and Eleanor Ansell have also finished their hockey at Blundell's on a high. They have all contributed massively to the success of the season.

The 2nd team has had a brilliant season lead by Captains Amber Titchener and Ellie McPherson. A highlight for the girls was coming back from 1-0 down to win 3-1 against Exeter School. The girls have improved hugely as a team and this has been proven by the amount of girls scoring goals throughout the season.

Captained by Millie Eaton-Jones and Vice-Captained by Georgia Pitts, this year's U16 team have been hugely successful. They are Devon County Champions (scoring 21 goals and conceding none in the group matches), reaching the final of the West Regional tournament, which the girls narrowly lost after a tiring day of hockey. They go on to play in the national final at Lee Valley Stadium in London after their opponents in the play-off pulled out. Good luck!

Captained by Georgie Scott, the 3rds team has had a brilliant season. Goalkeeper Flic Charlesworth has been superb with only one goal scored against her. All the players have showed grit and determination, which has led to some excellent results. The 4th team were captained by Natasha Nicholson and have excelled, beating King's College Taunton by a massive 12-0 with Molly Horsey scoring five of the goals and being player of the match.

It has been an unbeaten season for the U15 team led by Tabitha Vause. The highlight was their away win at Clifton College where they played counter-attacking hockey and beat a strong side 3-0.



Top left: The 1st team in their match against Clifton College
Top right: The 2nd team playing against Clifton College
Above: The Devon U16 Champions
Left: The Devon U14 Champions

The entire team has improved tremendously over the season by playing in a range of different positions.

The U14s are also Devon Champions, again winning all their matches without conceding a goal. The U14s have drawn with strong Millfield and Clifton sides this season: Betty Stone and Becky Hamilton were the top goal scorers and the team was led by Captain Grace Labdon.

The U13s have enjoyed a successful season and played some delightful hockey.

There have been various highlights but the 2-0 win against Millfield in the tournament at the beginning of term was probably their best performance. A last minute 11-a-side 3-2 win against West Buckland was also a highly entertaining game.

The U12As have also had a very successful season with only a couple of losses. Mid-term, they topped the Schools Sport Performance league with seven wins out of eight games!

Alice Smith (Year 13)

Fives

The Fives squad had a very successful two day fixture at the West of England Schools tournament at Sherborne earlier in the term, when the boys played some terrific matches. Tobias Francis won the Plate in the senior boys' singles, with Ben Clarke reaching the semi-finals and Addie Chai and James Maclaurin doing incredibly well to reach the finals of the Colts doubles, beating the St Paul's 1st pair. They came second to Winchester College in a tense final game.

The Fives team also had an exciting match against Sherborne. The match followed the usual format of singles and doubles and Blundell's won overall 188-120 points. Addie Chai, James Maclaurin, Christian Cabburn, Ed Pawson and George Gibbs won all their singles matches convincingly and Ed Pawson and Dominic Vause also won their doubles match comprehensively 11-0.



NEW TENNIS COACH

Aaron Flamson is a level 4 LTA qualified tennis coach and has joined Blundell's from St Mary's School Ascot where he was previously the Head of Tennis. He will be developing the tennis programme in the Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior School through individual and group lessons throughout the year and helping out with the summer term Tennis programme.

Welcome

Writing this for The Diary gives me the chance to thank you all for your most generous support of Blundell's School, not only financially supporting our various calls for support for projects and sponsorship, but also in your most valuable offers of time and expertise for our current and former pupils seeking careers guidance and advice and, of course, your continuing attendance at our events. Without your support much of what we offer would not be possible, so please be assured how grateful and appreciative we are of your involvement in so many different areas. Special mention must go to both the Peter Blundell Society and the Devon Cadet Association Trust; both have enabled so many of our smaller projects to happen at Blundell's. A full list of our sponsors this year is detailed later.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the sudden passing of Old Blundellian and Governor James Bullock; he will have been known to a great many of you having been one of our greatest supporters and the host of so many of our Blundell's Community events in the last six years. He was hugely involved with the Development Office and the OB Club and is greatly missed. Details of the Memorial Fund for James are detailed in these pages.

We have been delighted to meet a number of Old Blundellians who have recently visited the School to rekindle a few memories. There have also been a few reunions held in the Beale Centre as former pupils remember old times and revisit their old houses. You would be most welcome to have a tour of the School and maybe join me for lunch if you are visiting the area, or please do let us know if you would like our assistance in contacting former colleagues to host a reunion either back at Blundell's or in another location of your choice.

The breadth of experience and success of Old Blundellians reaches so many areas and, with this in mind, I am keen to put together profiles of OBs from a wide range of professions across the academic arena, the sporting world, the cultural avenues of Arts, Music and Drama, and any other areas in which we can inspire our current and future pupils of what can be achieved with the foundation of a Blundell's education. Please do get in touch if you think you would be happy to showcase your achievements.

We were very sorry we were unable to make the numbers work to order the Blundell's edition of the board game Monopoly; the stock order requirements precluded us from making this viable on this occasion. If it is something that you are interested in, please do register your interest with the Development Office in case we decide to revisit it in the future.

Jessica's arrival as Development PA has already made a huge difference in the organisation and delivery of our initiatives. We are currently undertaking a period of updating the various contact details we hold for you; please be assured all the information we have is confidential to the Blundell's Development Office and the OB Club and we do not release any information to any third party. I know a number of our former pupils still have their parents as the current contact address and that means that some of you receive duplicate copies of our promotional materials; do let us know if we haven't contacted you recently to ensure your details are up to date.

The Blundell's Business Directory is currently being updated so if you would like your service or products to be highlighted to our community, please do download the registration form on the Development Office website (www.blundells.org/devoffice/site/business_directory.htm) and we will be delighted to include you in our next update.

We are concentrating our fundraising efforts at the Sports Dinner and throughout this term in securing funding towards a video scoreboard for Big Field, which will enable us to showcase snapshots of sports activity at Blundell's alongside the Rugby and Cricket scores. Please do support this initiative if you can.

Once again, thank you for all your support in so many areas. If you would like any additional information about any of our initiatives, activities, events or partnership opportunities, please do contact me. In the meantime, I hope to see many of you over the forthcoming months.



Amber Oliver

THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



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Development PA
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Current Activities



Old Blundellian Sports Weekend

18TH AND 19TH MARCH 2016

Following last year's successful weekend, we invite Old Blundellians to gather at School for matches as detailed below. There are adjustments to timings this year following suggestions from OBs. Please let us know if there are any other appropriate sports you would like to see added to the list. Players and their families are welcome to complimentary refreshments in the Beale Centre at the times indicated.

If you would like to take part in any of the fixtures, please contact Janet Wooff at admin@obclub.co.uk

PROGRAMME DETAILS

Friday 18th March

6.30pm Boys' Hockey v School
7.30pm Complimentary refreshments in the Beale Centre

Saturday 19th March

2.00pm Football v School
2.30pm Squash v School
2.30pm Fives v School
3.45pm Netball v School
4.45pm Girls' Hockey v School
3.30pm onwards Complimentary refreshments in the Beale Centre

SOCIAL MEDIA

Blundell's now has three social media links, please do sign up and follow our Twitter account (@BlundellsSchool) and Facebook (Blundell's School Community) to hear about our latest events and activities and to register your interest in our events and Linked In (www.linkedin.com/company/blundells-school) so we can expand our network throughout the Blundell's community supporting our Business and Careers mentoring initiatives.

Devon County Show Drinks Reception

Please join us for a Casual Drinks Reception at the Blundell's stand (Avenue A opposite the Food and Drink Pavilion) at the County Show and meet the Head and other members of the Blundell's staff between 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm on Thursday 19th May.

Sidney Sussex Dinner - In Memory of James Bullock

We held our first Sidney Sussex Dinner five years ago with the kind support of James Bullock. We intended to host this event again in the autumn and, following the very sad and sudden demise of James, we have decided to hold it in his memory. His friend and fellow Old Blundellian Dominic Roughton (M 82-87) will be our Guest Speaker; please do join with friends to attend this event on Friday 23rd September in Cambridge and book your place with the Development Office.



THE RUSSELL VETERANS' RACE

Sign up now for The Russell Veterans' Race on Saturday 5th March! The age categories are under 40, 40-50 and over 50 for both men and women. There are new trophies this year for fastest OB, parent and staff members. Join us immediately following the event for afternoon tea and prize giving in the Beale Centre. If you would like to run, please contact the Development Office.



OB RUGBY

We have had a very generous offer to support the revitalisation of an OB Rugby team so if you are interested in participating, please do let Amber Oliver know or contact Scott Ward-Reece (scottw@stirlingackroyd.com) and hopefully we can get a few initial fixtures off the ground.

BATTLEFIELD TOUR III

Our third Battlefield Tour will take place between the 9th and 13th May, visiting key places and battle sites in the Waterloo and Ypres Salient areas and include a visit to the Blundell's plaque in St George's Memorial Chapel. It will be led by Lt Col Tim Courtenay (OH 54-59) and Col Richard Preston. There are a few remaining places for late bookings; please contact the Development Office for more details.



CRICKET

Looking forward to the summer, please note in your diaries that there will be a lunch for OBs and parents in the Beale Centre on the 4th May to coincide with the School v MCC game on Big Field. Also, if you wish to attend any of the 50 days of cricket at the Ted Crowe Box at Taunton, please contact David Dibb at tedcroweroom@gmail.com



JAMES BULLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The family and friends of James have formed a Scholarship Fund in his memory. The aim of the Fund is to make an annual leaving award to a Blundell's Upper Sixth pupil who is already a holder of a Peter Blundell Foundation Bursary, to assist them with the financial support required to attend university. The award will be selected by the Head in combination with the Fund's four trustees in the spring of each year to be awarded at Speech Day. If you would like to know more about this Fund, please contact Amber Oliver in the first instance.

1604 SOCIETY LUNCH

Continuing with our Gift in Your Will campaign, we are delighted to welcome members of the 1604 Society to the annual lunch on the 3rd May. Invitations will follow shortly to those supporters who have let us know they wish to support Blundell's with a bequest.



Girls' Sport is the theme for this year's OB Day

Old Blundellian Day

SATURDAY 18TH JUNE

The theme for this year's OB Day is Girls' Sport at Blundell's. The arrival of the first girl in 1975 and then full coeducation in 1992 brought about a flourishing and fast growing range of sport for girls at Blundell's. Staff with specific skills combined with talented girls to produce outstanding achievements individually and by teams at school, county and national levels. We hope to bring together teams, individuals and coaches to reminisce, reinforce and celebrate some fantastic successes.

We are delighted to welcome Nicky Klinkenberg as our President for the Day. Nicky arrived at Blundell's from Millfield 18 years ago to teach Mathematics and coach girls' sport. After gaining more than 20 Welsh Hockey caps, Nicky was happy to teach and coach full time and soon was appointed Houseparent of North Close before moving with husband Peter to Westlake on his appointment as Houseparent. We hope that those who remember Nicky and Peter in North Close will also come back for the day.

There will be an exhibition of memorabilia concerned with girls' sport and we will be inviting some of those involved in coaching girls to join OBs for the day. Further details will be published on the OB and School websites.

Tickets for the day are available from Janet Wooff at the OB Club for £30 per head to include pre-lunch drinks, lunch with two bottles of wine per table and tea. OBs under the age of 30 can come at the reduced rate of £24 per head. Tickets will only be sold to OBs until 1st May; thereafter the wider Blundell's Community may purchase tickets, if available.

The provisional programme is:

- 10.00am AGM of the OB Club, Beale Centre
- 10.00am Girls' Sport Memorabilia Exhibition open
- 11.00am Chapel Service
- 12 noon Drinks with staff, Beale Centre
- 1.00pm Buffet lunch, marquee on Big Field
- 2.00pm Blundell's 1st XI v Exeter School, Big Field and other fixtures
- 4.00pm OB Tennis v School followed by refreshments in the Beale Centre
- 4.30pm Afternoon tea, Beale Centre

There will be a concert in Chapel on Friday 17th June by the distinguished pianist Andreas Boyde which is free of charge; contact the Main Office for details. OBs are welcome to attend the masterclass he is giving to pupils on Saturday afternoon.



LONDON CASUAL DRINKS RECEPTION

We are proposing to hold our London Casual drinks reception in late June. Many of you are working in London but we still only have your parents' addresses as your contact details, which means there is a delay before you hear from us. Please do let us have your up to date contact details so that we can send you an invitation as soon as the venue and date are confirmed.

Friends of Blundell's Social committee

We have held a number of events since our formation in September last year. The second Fireworks Drinks Reception took place during the School Firework displays with many parents dropping in for an informal evening in the comfortable surroundings of the Beale Centre. The regular beginning and end of term coffee mornings appear to be popular and we are delighted that new faces appear at each event. Please contact the Year group representatives listed below for further information about any of the social events or if you wish to become involved with the committee. New members are always welcome.

Parents' Social Committee representatives

- Year 7** Alison Mundy alison@mundyveneer.com
Year 8 Helen Johnson-Ferguson
jfsquared@tiscali.co.uk
Year 9 Melanie Whitehead
whitehead37@btinternet.com
Year 10 Fiona Kitson family.kitson@btinternet.com
Year 11 TBC
Year 12 Vicky Fraser vicky.fraser@hotmail.co.uk
Year 13 Tanya Ames tanyarose@claranet.com

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

We are very grateful to all our sponsors who have recently supported events at Blundell's

Mercedes Benz	Mayflower Kitchens	A C Mole Financial Services
Silclear	The Jolly Vintner	Darts Farm
Knight Frank	Downe Farm	Trolley Bags UK Ltd
Lumea	NJT Plumbing	Mundy Veneer
Western Counties Equine	Star XC	Devon Cadet Association Trust
Watt to Wear	Time Flies	Peter Blundell Society
Seddons	Recoco	Devon Fleet Components
Westward Joinery	Radiance MediSpa	James Goff
Jotty's Emporium	Travis Perkins	Old Blundellian Cricket Club
Hpower Group	Fursdon Estate	Star Castle Hotel, Jersey
Thorne Farm Racing	National Westchem	Exe Valley Osteopathy
Jayphotos	Andrew Nadolski	



Team Ocean Valour Tom Rainey (left) and Lawrence Walters training in the Hudson River, New York, before their record breaking row across the North Atlantic © Ocean Valour

Sports Dinner

WITH ATLANTIC ROWER TOM RAINEY (OH 02-07)

Saturday 23rd April

Last year, Tom and team-mate Lawrence Walters rowed unsupported across the North Atlantic in 93 days and for more than 4,300 miles to raise money for the Brain Tumour Charity. As Team Ocean Valour, they broke four Guinness world records in the process: the greatest distance rowed in 24 hours by an ocean row boat (112.5 nautical miles), the first team of two to row from the USA to mainland UK, the youngest rower (Lawrence) and the youngest crew to row the Atlantic (west to east). Come and listen to this inspiring young man at the Sports Dinner on Saturday 23rd April, when we will also be celebrating the success of some exceptional sport at Blundell's this year. Tickets from the Development Office.

KENYA

We are delighted to be returning to the Ndume 7s tournament at Pembroke House School on Saturday 25th June; do come along and see us on the Blundell's stand.



Prep School Anniversary

It is ten years ago this summer that St Aubyn's School became Blundell's Preparatory School. If you were a pupil at Blundell's Prep School since its inception, you should already have been contacted about saving the date to celebrate the anniversary on Monday 20th June between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm. If we haven't been in touch with you and you would like to come, please contact the Development Office.



Recent Events

Martyn Grose, Richard Sharp, Nicola Huggett, David Fursdon, Judge Paul Waterworth, Col. Kevin Oliver

OB Dinner

Old Blundellians were privileged to hold their OB Dinner in November at the very special venue of the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines at Lympstone, by kind permission of the Commandant, Colonel Kevin Oliver. Before the four course dinner, Mess beatings were given by the Corps of Drums and the salute was taken by Martyn Grose and Judge Paul Waterworth, President and Chairman respectively of the Old Blundellian Club. Speeches were later given by Judge Waterworth, the Head Nicola Huggett, and Col. Oliver.

Other distinguished guests included former pupil Richard Sharp, the famous rugby union player who captained England in the 1960s, and David Fursdon, Lord Lieutenant for Devon and former Master, Governor and Chair of Governors at Blundell's. The current Heads of School, Christopher Hamilton and Emma Jackman, and Cormac Oliver, Head of Blundell's CCF Corps, were also among the special guests. The venue was particularly appropriate as many of the guests had served, or are currently serving, in the forces.



Lt. Col. Tim Courtenay, Col. Kevin Oliver, Brigadier Robert Tailour



Head of School Christopher Hamilton, Head of Corps Cormac Oliver, the Head Nicola Huggett, Head of School Emma Jackman, pupil Edmund Leung (who took the photographs)

President and Chairman of the Old Blundellian Club

The offices of President and Chairman of the Old Blundellian Club will both fall vacant in June 2016 on the retirement of the current holders. Martyn Grose will have been President for 12 years and Paul Waterworth will have been Chairman for eight years.

The President is the senior officer and represents the Club on official occasions. He is also a member of the committee. The Chairman is the chief executive officer. He chairs the committee and is its main spokesman. The Chairman liaises closely with the Club secretary and administrative officer and also with the Governors, the Development Director and the Head. Both officers, but most particularly the Chairman, need to be available at short notice.

The election of the successors to the current office holders will take place at the Annual General Meeting of the Club on OB Day on 18th June 2016. Further details will be available in March on the Old Blundellian section of the Blundell's website.

90s GAUDY

It was with great pleasure that we welcomed back former Head Master Jonathan Leigh to be our guest speaker at the 90s Gaudy, although we extended it beyond the 90s to take in Jonathan's reign until 2004. OBs and staff enjoyed a Drinks Reception, the opportunity to have School and House tours to see the new developments, followed by lunch and a reminiscent and insightful speech by Jonathan Leigh.



Some of the sixth form were lucky enough to meet Ben Collins following his talk on Safer Driving

The Gorton Lecture

We were delighted to welcome Ben Collins (FH 88-93) back to Blundell's in October when he spoke to the sixth form about Safer Driving before a presentation to the wider Blundell's Community. More than 400 guests attended his Gorton Lecture and were delighted by his stories from his time as The Stig and stuntman for many films, including James Bond and Batman, followed by a book signing of his latest book 'How to Drive'. It was a fun-filled evening with many of our guests thrilled to meet this driving demon.



Members of the Peter Blundell Society visited the School to view some of the projects they have generously supported, including the astro turf scoreboard



The glittering TES Independent School Awards

Independent School Awards

We were delighted to be shortlisted for the Times Education Supplement Independent School Awards in the fundraising initiative category for the Memorial Garden project. The awards night was held at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London and hosted by Michael Portillo.

Sir Francis Popham Society Dinner

The second Sir Francis Popham Society Dinner was held in December, a lovely occasion with many former Governors and other long term supporters of Blundell's gathering together with current Governors. We were treated to speeches from the current Heads of School Christopher Hamilton and Emma Jackman and Head of Corps Cormac Oliver about the School's latest achievements in the classroom and cultural activities, on the sports fields and wider outdoor pursuits.



Top: Former Governor Sarah Maunders, Chair of Governors Cedric Clapp and former Governor and Master Robert Julier



Above: Head of School Chris Hamilton, former Governor and Master Nick Swarbrick and Jill Hall, wife of current Governor Nigel Hall

Overseas Receptions



Above: Current parent Elaine Campbell with the Head on the Blundell's stand in Bermuda

The Head and Amber Oliver met up with both Old Blundellians and current parents at a casual reception in Dubai recently, as well as former Prep School staff member Louisa May who now works for a school in Dubai. They also met OBs and current parents on another overseas trip to Bermuda where they also attended a schools' exhibition.

Right: Louisa May, current parent Richard Provis and Old Blundellian Chris Bayly and his wife Caroline at the Dubai reception



News of Old Blundellians

OBs IN THE CREATIVE ARTS

From the landscape painter (and garden designer) Coplestone Warre Bamfylde, who attended Blundell's until 1731, to Natalie Dew, currently starring in the West End musical *Bend it Like Beckham*, and Tristan Evans, drummer with the pop rock band *The Vamps*, Blundell's has had its fair share of talented creative pupils. They have gone onto careers as musicians, composers, actors and artists or in behind the scenes roles such as management and stage design. We catch up with two of them here and find out how a group of OBs reunited for the joy of singing together in Venice.



OB Choir to Venice

BY ANDREW BARLOW (FORMER DIRECTOR OF MUSIC)

In December, the OB choir - a party of 19 - met in Gatwick South terminal ready for a flight to Venice. Two more were to join us later, after either working or taking an exam. While some had only recently left School, others had left some years ago but had kept in touch.

The rehearsal on Friday afternoon took place in St George's Anglican Church for an hour and here we concentrated on material for St Mark's the next morning as well as pieces for the Nine Lessons and Carols at St George's the following evening. The choir was remarkably well balanced and quickly came together - even Tavener's Song for Athene, which had not been sung for several years.

At the San Marco service in St Mark's Basilica the next day, there was a

reasonable congregation and hundreds visiting. Four pieces were sung a capella as we were in the body of the Basilica. At the end, one Italian shouted 'Bravo' - and it had been an excellent musical contribution in this extraordinary acoustic and wonderful building.

Everyone dispersed for lunch and, having explored shops, canals, and restaurants, we met up ready to rehearse for another hour for the Nine Lessons and Carols Service and a concert on Sunday afternoon. Our practice was fortunately very efficient, enticed several to come into the church to listen and we generally just enjoyed being together and singing, with Alex Everett playing the organ accompaniments which was brilliant.

The Carol Service went well followed by some random singing in squares on the way

back - even the police listened - and a great collective meal near our wonderful hotel. A lot of fun followed by all disappearing in various directions to try various bars - what a difference from a School trip.

Sunday morning was another sunny, pleasant and cold day as we went back to St George's - a very good service, followed by wine and mince pies, and then after lunch we met at San Zaccharia to take the vaporetto to the Armenian island of San Lazzaro, met by Chris Wayman. Following the concert we were presented with a medallion which commemorated the Armenian genocide in 1915. There had been a special exhibition during the year for which the monastery had won a prize in the Art Biennale.

This was followed by prosecco and



Andrew Barlow receives the medallion at St George's



panetone cake in the monastery refectory before we headed back to the vaperetto. It was very foggy and as the boat emerged from the gloom the choir was singing, ranging from Away in a Manger to Goodnight Sweetheart! A great evening, which continued with our being entertained by the Sette Mari Rowing Club (who had organised the concert) in their amazing clubhouse.

Monday was another cold day and sadly, our last, and we left for the airport mid-morning in two water taxis. Arriving back at Gatwick it was agreed that we should do this again and we dispersed (a few to meet again at Blundell's on Christmas Eve) to various parts of the UK, happy in a very musically and socially worthwhile event which had exceeded expectations in all aspects. Our thanks to everyone involved in organising the trip and all who welcomed us in Venice.

For the full report of the OB Choir trip to Venice, please see the OB website.



Orlando as Dulcamara in L'elisir d'amore

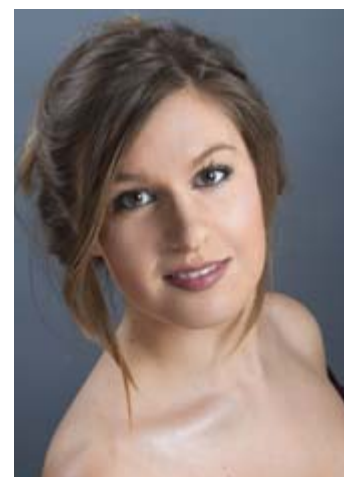
ORLANDO SCHENK (NC 85-90)

Opera singer and artistic director

After studying History and Music at Durham University, Orlando went on to study voice at the renowned Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London and subsequently studied with David Pollard, Robert Dean and Ryland Davies.

As an opera singer he has worked with, among others, Peter Brook, Claudio Abbado, Daniel Harding, Thomas Allen and John Tomlinson, in Aix-en-Provence, Tokyo, New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, London, Milan, Stockholm, Lyon, Edinburgh and Glasgow. He has a varied repertoire, ranging from Mozart roles such as Figaro, Papageno, Leporello and Don Giovanni, to dramatic roles including Mephistopheles (Faust), Nick Shadow (A Rake's Progress) and Baron Scarpia (Tosca), and more modern characters such as Alban Berg's Wozzeck. He created the role of White Knight in David Gale and Frank Millward's theatrical extravaganza Dining with Alice, performed at the Norfolk and Norwich Festival in 2011, and directed and sang in a new reduced adaptation of Donizetti's L'elisir d'amore at Theater Duisburg with the Duisburger Philharmoniker in Germany in 2014.

He founded and is artistic director of Theater Rhein Ruhr, a theatre company based in Düsseldorf, Germany, with which he has directed numerous musicals and plays, including a highly acclaimed regional touring production of Shakespeare's Hamlet. Orlando currently lives on the Alsace - German border with his wife and two daughters.



ANNABEL (BELLA) BARLOW (GH 96-06)

Actress, singer and composer

Bella studied Music for a BA (Hons) at the University of Southampton and then received an MA (distinction) at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

Over the last year, her writing duo Barlow & Smith were shortlisted for the Kevin Spacey Foundation Artist of Choice Award, commissioned to write for the Olivier award-winning actress Janie Dee at The Globe Theatre, discussed on Graham Norton's BBC Radio 2 show, were guests for Kerry Ellis at The Pheasantry, wrote for One Night In Chelsea (site-specific) and recorded their debut album Christmas In The City with producer Ian Shaw - which is now available on iTunes!

This year holds two more commissions, as well as RE:act - The Pianist of Willesden Lane - at St James Theatre in February. Bella has worked as a Musical Director and composer for YMT for the last three years and is in discussion with Wayne Sleep to develop a new dance piece. She continues to perform in London and professional credits include Dream Queen (The Globe Theatre), Sunday in the Arts (Arts Theatre), West End to the West Country (Sterts Theatre), Side by Side by Sondheim (Edinburgh Fringe) and Into the Woods (Stoke Rep).

For more information see www.barlowandsmith.com and www.bellabarlow.com

Celebrations and Reunions



Edward and James Mann with the Head

Top Recruit Award for Mann twins

Twins James and Edward Mann (P 08-13) have both been awarded the King's Badge after completing training at The Commando Training Centre Royal Marines in Lympstone Devon. The King's Badge is awarded to the best Royal Marines recruit to finish training as part of the King's Squad, which is the senior recruit troop in training. It is not awarded to every King's Squad and is only presented if a recruit measures up to the very exacting standards required.

Marine James Mann, who passed out for duty with 199 Troop in September, was the

first twin to be awarded the Kings Badge; Edward passed out in December with 204 Troop and the Blundell's Head Nicola Huggett attended the ceremony when she was able to congratulate the twins.

The two King's Badge men will now serve alongside each other at 40 Commando Royal Marines based in Taunton, Somerset and will help provide ships protection teams to the Royal Navy. Additionally, they will be supporting the UK's at readiness Commando Unit, ready to deploy globally to help protect UK interests.



Nick Roberts-Huntley playing for the Dark Blues

OB on winning side in Varsity Match

Old Blundellian Nick Roberts-Huntley (OH 03-08) played a pivotal role in Oxford University's record breaking sixth successive victory over Cambridge at Twickenham Stadium in the 134th Varsity Match in December. In front of a crowd of 25,013, Nick joined forces with one of his biggest rivals from his school days, Old Shirburnian Ian Williams, to steer his side to a 12-6 triumph.

Nick is a qualified doctor from Cardiff University and is currently studying for an MSc in Evidence Based Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation at Green Templeton College. A second row at school, Nick played for Devon U16, U17 and U18 and then for the South West U18 teams. He played for Cardiff University in a record five Welsh Varsity matches against Swansea University and also for the Cardiff Blues U20.

Of the Varsity match at Twickenham he said "I've been playing against Ian ever since I was 12 in matches between Blundell's and Sherborne and then in the Welsh Varsity matches. This time we were able to team up together. It was a great team performance and it is a wonderful feeling having won at Twickenham."

Nick is the 17th OB to play in the Varsity Match, which dates back to 1872, and the 10th to wear the Dark Blue of Oxford.

London Lunch

The Magpies' annual lunch was held in London and attended by five honoured guests and fifteen Magpies. Amongst the guests was the Head, Mrs Nicola Huggett, who spoke about various recent achievements at the School, and the Head of Blundell's CCF, Mr Barry Dawe, who gave encouraging news about the interest in

marksmanship being shown by cadets of all ages within the School. The lunch was a most enjoyable event with both formal and informal discussion of many things, and all seemed pleased to have had the opportunity to meet old friends and once again to solve the world's problems without apparent difficulty.



Yasmin going to receive Apprentice of the Year Award at the award ceremony

Apprentice of the Year

BY YASMIN BENNELICK (NC 07-09)

I can confidently say that the three years I spent at Blundell's were not only the hardest years of my life to date but the best as well. They made me determined to work hard and keep progressing within my chosen career path of construction. This was never on my agenda; however, I took the opportunity to work for a housing association, the Guinness Partnership. Once I started getting a lot of job satisfaction I soon realised that this job is something that I really want to do on a day-to-day basis. I am always learning new things and I must keep myself up to date with all of the new regulations that are constantly changing.

I am currently a Trainee Planned Delivery Surveyor and recently won Apprentice of the Year at The Guinness Partnership's first Employee Star Awards across the whole of Guinness nationwide. The company has 3000 staff and more than 200 nominations were received across the nine categories in the awards. I was chosen as the winner following a rigorous judging process which involved two judging panels including the Executive Team.

The citation for the awards included the following: 'Under the guidance of her line manager, but using her own attitude and aptitude, Yasmin was heavily involved in the procurement, planning, contract and onsite management (including health and safety management of the contractors) of recent works across a number of care homes ... her contribution to the first scheme in this project was a major factor in the works being carried out to a high standard, to programme and to minimum disruption to some very vulnerable Care and Support customers. Yasmin is leading on a number of other projects and has shown growing confidence with procurement, contract management and general surveying skills that we are looking for in a Planned Delivery Surveyor of the future'.

I want to promote construction amongst women and I am sure this award will encourage others to get involved.

GH reunions



Left to right: Emma Barwell, Emma Scott (Diplock), Caroline Nice (Jones), Ellie Freeman (Swarbrick), Nicola Thomas (Trump), Debbie Mahafy (Warren), Penny Amos (Thomas), Claire Saunders (Taylor), Sarah Teasdale (Jane), Sarah Williams at the Beale Centre

Two groups of Gorton House Old Blundellians recently held reunions, one in School and the other in London, to catch up with all their news after 30 years.



Meanwhile, 13 of the GH class of 85-87 met up in London
Front row: Alison Ackerman, Clare Hamer, Kate Hunt, Sarah Ensor, Charlotte Burrows
Middle row: Ali Goss, Sam Carter, Emma Dench, Kate MacIver, Lucy Watson, Anne Maunder
Back Row: Yvonne Soo

OB Weddings



The Old Blundellian sons of four members of staff were recently married.

Ben Spalding (OH 98-05), son of Alistair and Penny Deighton-Gibson, married Bethan Shillabeer in Tavistock with a reception at Holne Park, Ashburton, with a trio of OBs - David Mitchell, Howard Williamson and Joe Payne - there to witness the event. The happy couple are now living in Caversham near Reading.

Meanwhile, Peter and Jenny Gordon's son Barry, (W 97-04), married Jess Sleeter in an idyllic setting in Bermuda. Amongst the OBs present were James Mitchell, John Gillespie and the Gordon's daughters Angela and Julie.

Congratulations to both couples and we wish them much happiness for the future.



Above: Mr and Mrs Spalding
Left: Mr and Mrs Gordon

Prestigious Award

Dr Chris Twigge-Molecey (P 60-65) recently received the Airey Award, the most prestigious award in Canadian metallurgy, at the Metallurgy and Materials Society Awards banquet held in Toronto. The award is given for outstanding individual contribution based on at least 15 years of input, including research and development, technology or industrial leadership. Dr Twigge-Molecey was being recognised for his diverse body of work for 43 years at Hatch, the Canadian firm that delivers a comprehensive array of technical and strategic services to the Mining, Metallurgical, Energy and Infrastructure sectors. His roles at Hatch include positions as the Managing Director responsible for China, Latin America, and technologies, and now as Senior Advisor.

Hare and Hounds Alumni Race

On the day, three intrepid gladiators started, and finished, so the attrition rate was pretty high. The rain held off and the race started promptly. Five miles of woodland, little hills, dips, hidden tree roots, muddy paths at the wrong angles and some welcome clear and wide paths, all of which were well marked and marshalled by the Thames pioneers. We even had two St John's Ambulance people from their cycle brigade on hand to follow us round, if possible. Some hope. I don't think they even tried cycling along the football pitches at the start (although I did see them treating someone who looked as though a hidden tree root had had something to do with his outstretched leg).

Tom Cumberlege led us home in grand style (33 minutes? it makes me breathless) followed at a decent interval by Mark Norton (42 minutes) and then me (44 minutes). There were I believe a total of 217 starters and Tom was near the front end of the race. The leaders were fast. Full colours go to Mark for running at all after coming straight from Heathrow and a flight from Detroit.

Do join us for this year's race on Saturday 17th December. If you do come, remember your vests. One pioneer called out 'Well done Blundell's!' as I passed (a generous comment but good to hear our name over Wimbledon Common).

Giles Stimson (NC 60-65)



Four generations of the Yeatman family came to Blundell's to see the commemorative bench they have had placed on Big Field - an ideal spot to watch Cricket and Rugby matches!

BECOMING

“Greener for Life”

Initially the brainchild of OB Winston Reed (T 85-88), Greener for Life was envisaged as the future of sustainable food production for farmers in the UK and around the world. Winston realised that to deliver true 'closed loop' agriculture, farmers had to pay more than lip service to the subject and develop meaningful production systems that make the best of the materials to hand and harness whatever nature has made available to us.

Greener for Life Energy Ltd (GfLE) is stage one of his crusade and, together with Stuart Cole (parent of current pupils), they have made rapid progress into the renewable energy marketplace. Biogas is the most efficient way of producing renewable hydrocarbons and farmers are superbly placed to exploit this form of green energy by using animal manures co-digested with crops and sometimes waste products as feedstock for AD (Anaerobic Digestion) plants.

This system provides the building block that delivers a more sustainable way of producing food as well as delivering meaningful amounts of renewable green gas. The gas is produced at a constant and predictable rate unlike most other mainstream renewable energy forms. The digestate produced at the end of the process can be recycled in a number of ways, although the main use for the liquid fraction is as an organic fertilizer that directly replaces artificial fertilizers which require vast amounts of fossil fuels to produce.

GfLE is already one of the largest (if not the largest) developer and operator of biogas

plants in the UK. They have a number of plants that produce electricity through CHPs (Combined Heat and Power unit) that provides energy for the host farm which takes that farm 'off grid' but also generally exports enough electricity for around 2000 homes for each plant. More recently GfLE have developed and built a number of BtG (Biomethane to Grid) plants. These plants produce biogas in the same way as CHP plants but use a sophisticated gas upgrade plant that cleans and purifies the biogas into biomethane.

The biomethane produced is constantly monitored and tested to ensure its purity before it is injected into the mains gas grid. As these plants tend to be larger and, because biomethane is a more efficient way of delivering renewable energy to homes, they can provide enough energy for up to 10,000 homes per plant.

Future plans include developing local fuel stations that fill vehicles with renewable gas instead of fossil fuels. It is hoped that the first of these will be in the Mid Devon area.

Part of the GfLE ethos is to work with local communities and promote education programmes to raise awareness of sustainable food and energy production. With such close connections there is no better school to work with than Blundell's. Over the next few months and years it is hoped that a series of talks, demonstrations and visits will be arranged that can help pupils learn and see for themselves the exciting possibilities that GfLE are uncovering.

Right: *The Motet Club of 1960 with the legendary Music Master 'Jazz' Hall.*

Below right: *Colin Miesch*

Then and now

By Colin Miesch (SH 1956-60)

It is evident from the glossy Blundell's Diary that much has changed since my time: a junior school, female students, the abolition of the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Forms (Upper and Lower) and the adoption of the American system of Year 9, 10 etc., a Junior Common room serving beer, school trips across the globe, a generous sponsor of new buildings and a long list of new sports activities, including soccer!

Much of the above were non-existent or banned in my time, certainly girls and beer, both of which were sackable offences, as was attending film projections in the Tivvy Pally. Travel abroad was exclusively to continental Europe and limited to infrequent sorties by the Motet Club and by the students of German on an exchange system with a boarding school in Neubeuern in Bavaria. Otherwise, we occasionally found ourselves on Exmoor or near Minehead on CCF Field Days, or competing in Bisley for the Ashburton Shield, whilst the RAF section was grounded after the school glider nosedived and crashed, ending its days as firewood for the FH boiler. *Sic transit gloria mundi!*

The entire format of education has been subject to radical change. In the 1950s, we had a limited choice of subjects: Latin and Greek, French and German, English and Science - my impression is that students are offered a much wider choice today which no doubt prepares them more extensively for adulthood.

School leavers of my time stepped out into an unknown world armed with their A levels and a 45 minute lecture by the H.M. on the 'facts of life' - a necessary piece of information for those who had yet to experience meeting young members of the opposite sex. We had received no preparation for employment or any training in how to present ourselves for a formal interview. We were cast out into the world as innocent tadpoles into a pond, with no prior knowledge or experience of the challenges and dangers which awaited us. Our only protection was an OB tie and the fact that we

had survived four years of a tough boarding school life. My impression of today's students is that they leave school with a far more experienced and mature outlook on life.

All of the above is offered as an explanation of why I am fairly sure that a return to the Blundell's of today would be a complete cultural shock for me. When I see photos of the school tower and of the SH block, I experience a warm feeling of nostalgia: I can feel my coarse school jacket, see the piles of weekly laundry, feel the concave mattress of my bed, smell the dust of the boot room and walk down the corridor to my last study, smell the odours from the Dining Hall, hear music from the choir, the orchestra and the Subscription Concerts and taste the mud on the rugby pitch but when I open up the Blundell's bulletin, I am lost in a world which surpasses my frail understanding.

Whilst some things have not changed, notably 'Founded 1604' and 'Pro Patria Populoque', I realise that Blundell's has moved on a significant distance from the



1950s. I am delighted to see that the school's students compete in all sorts of tournaments and competitions and that students achieve distinguished results, testimony that the level of education given and received remains of an impressive height, but your world is so far removed from mine that I am convinced that it is to my advantage to admire yours unreservedly from afar.

I hope that when the time comes for you to leave Blundell's, you will take with you those moral values which will stand you in such good stead throughout your professional career as well as your personal life. Be proud of being an OB!

We will remember them

We continue the list of Blundellians who gave their lives on active service during the First World War with those who died during the first half of 1916:

Arnold, Geoffrey Francis (JH and P 1902-18), aged 24
Delves-Broughton, Alfred William (NC 1895-98), aged 36
Giveen, Butler Mildmay (DB 1897-1902), aged 27
Greatwood, Walter (DB 1891-97), aged 35
Gregory, Stephen Barnes (DB 1905-09), aged 25
Hickley, Henry Dennis (JH and P 1901-09), aged 24
Hort, Courtinay Randall (P 1907-09), aged 28
Lloyd, Hugh Clifford Chetwode (W 1907-10), aged 20
Siddalls, William Frederick (DB 1896-1900), aged 33
Todd, Richard James Killingworth (DB 1901-08), aged 26
Wevell, Harry (W 1910-14), aged 20
Williams, Guy Grenfell (SH 1910-14), aged 20
Woodgate, Nigel Gresley Reginald (SH 1904-08), aged 25
Yates, Richard (P 1909-10), aged 22

Blundell's Community

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2016

- 5th The Russell** including Veterans' Race and Post-Race Reception. [Contact: Development Office](#)
- 9th Winter Lunch** Nicola Huggett, the Head.
Topic: 'A Survival Guide for Grandparents' Beale Centre, 12.30pm. [Contact: OB Club](#)
- 18th-19th OB Sport Weekend** Fives, Hockey, Football, Netball & Squash. Details TBC. [Contact: OB Club](#)
- 23rd Chamber Music Concert** St George's, Bristol
[Contact: Main Office](#)
- 24th FOBs Parents' Social Committee Afternoon Tea**
BBeale Centre, 3.00pm - 4.00pm.
[Contact: Development Office](#)

APRIL 2016

- 19th FOBs Parents' Social Committee Coffee Morning**
Beale Centre, 8.15am - 9.30am.
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 23rd Blundell's Community Black Tie Sports Dinner**
Big School, 7.15pm.
Guest Speaker: Tom Rainey (OH 02-07), Ocean Valour.
[Contact: Development Office](#)

MAY 2016

- 3rd 1604 Society Lunch** Devon Venue, 12 noon (by invitation). [Contact: Development Office](#)
- 4th OB & Parent Summer Cricket Lunch**
12.30pm for 1.00pm. [Contact: OB Club](#)
- 9th-13th Battlefield Tour 3** Ypres and Waterloo
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 19th Devon County Show Casual Drinks Reception**
Blundell's Stand, 12 noon - 2.00pm.
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 25th Athenaeum Reception** (by invitation).
[Contact: Development Office](#)

JUNE 2016

- 6th FOBs Parents' Social Committee Coffee Morning**
Beale Centre, 8.15am - 9.30am.
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 17th Piano Recital** by the international pianist Andreas Boyde, Chapel, 7.00pm.
[Contact: Main Office \(no tickets required\)](#)
- 17th Year 11 Celebration Dinner Dance**
Big School, 7.30pm - 11.00pm. [Contact: Main Office](#)
- 18th OB Day** Theme Girls' Sport. [Contact: OB Club](#)
- 20th Blundell's Prep School 10 Year Anniversary**
Prep School, 6.00 pm - 8.00pm (by invitation).
[Contact: Development Office or Blundell's Prep School](#)
- 24th Blundell's Prep School OB Parents' Lunch**
Beale Centre, 11.45am.
[Contact: OB Club](#)
- 25th Blundell's at Ndume 7s Tournament**
Pembroke House School, Gilgil, Kenya.
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 28th Sir Francis Popham Society Reception** – CTCRM, Lymptone, 6.00pm - 8.00pm (by invitation).
[Contact: Development Office](#)

- Late June Casual London Drinks Reception** TBC.
[Contact: Development Office](#)

JULY 2016

- 1st Speech Day**
- 1st OB Current Parents' Lunch** Beale Centre, 11.45am.
[Contact: OB Club](#)
- 22nd Blundell's Charity Golf Day** Dainton Park Golf & Country Club. [Contact: Development Office](#)

SEPT 2016

- 1st FOBs Parents' Social Committee Coffee Morning**
Beale Centre, 8.15am - 9.30am.
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 3rd Gaudy Reunion for Foundationers/Exhibitioners and Scholars** Big School, 12 noon (by invitation).
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 8th Year 9 & Year 11 Parents' Reception** Ted Crowe Room, Somerset County Cricket Ground, 11.00am onwards (by invitation). [Contact: Development Office](#)
- 10th Parents' Fair** – Big School, timings tbc.
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 23rd Sidney Sussex Dinner in memory of James Bullock**
Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 7.00pm.
Guest Speaker: Dominic Roughton (M 82-87).
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 25th Reichwald Tournament** – Beale Centre.
[Contact: OB Club](#)

OCT 2016

- 1st Professions Reception: Drink, Food & Hospitality**
Big School, 12 noon.
Guest Speaker: Guy Bentley (FH 72-76).
[Contact: Development Office](#)
- 12th Winter Lunch** Richard Shore (P 1954-59). Topic: TBC - Beale Centre, 12.30pm. [Contact: OB Club](#)

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Please visit the website for more information
www.blundells.org and click on Development Office or OB Club