



Blundell's

DIARY

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE BLUNDELL'S COMMUNITY

Issue No: 20



Stronger Together



The Duckworth Relays

The Duckworth Relay Races were first held on 28th March 1928, with the prize of a Challenge Cup presented by Capt. R.F.H. Duckworth and his sister, Mrs Hotblack, in memory of their father Robert Fagan Duckworth, an Old Blundellian. 'Bob' Duckworth, the son of a Blundell's Master, attended the School from 1866 to 1876, and in each of his last two years he won the Masters Cup for the best overall performance at the Annual Sports Meeting. The Relays were an inter-house competition, comprising four races – one of four legs of 110yds, one of 4 x 440yds, another of 4 x 1 mile, and a one mile medley race (with 2 legs of 220yds, and one each of 440 and 880yds). Originally there were two categories, the Open and the Under 16s, but later an Under 15s was added.

Traditionally, the Duckworths were held towards the end of the spring term, so the event was often accompanied by cold rain, wind, sleet and, on occasion, snow. The decision was taken in 1982 to move the event to the week before half-term in the summer – no more snow, but rain could never be avoided completely!

Since the establishment of School House in 1996, the competition has been restricted to the pupils from that house who compete under their various 'fields' – Amory, Mayfield, Gornhay and Beale. Yet, despite all the changes, one tenet still holds true:

'The Duckworth is not won only by outstanding athletes but also by the moderate performers who give that little extra when occasion demands it.'

Mr M 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

Whilst Hillary Clinton apparently went through 85 political slogan ideas before she decided upon 'Stronger Together', we found it very easy to come up with this as our theme for the latest Diary. There is no doubt that the most important part of our School ethos is our combined team effort and this runs through every activity, every House, every sports team, and every academic class. We work together because it is more effective and in the end, just a lot more fun.

Andy Southgate and I resolved this academic year to build a far more combined approach into our Strategic Development plan for Blundell's Senior and Prep Schools. You will read within this issue of the many ways in which the staff and pupils have enjoyed this new level of interaction and team-building. The Accelerated Reader programme, launched in both schools, has generated a tangible buzz about reading as we saw our first 'millionaire' readers celebrated earlier in the term. There have been many cross-curricular activities in subject areas like Maths and Classics where Senior and Prep pupils have appreciated learning from each other. Sports coaching, Music and Drama are all working as a team across the School and we have now celebrated the first group of pupils entering the Senior School through the new and improved entry/scholarship process which has shown academic standards are higher than ever.

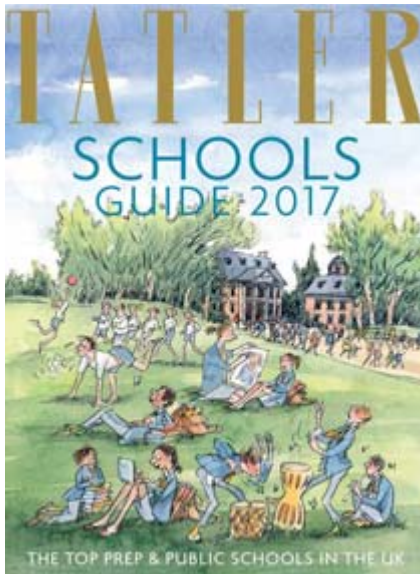
Whilst those of us now at Blundell's have enjoyed working more seamlessly as a whole School, we have also benefitted so much from our enhanced links with Old Blundellians and local groups and charities too. Joining the long established Blundell's Community is most definitely a passport to greater things, as those who so kindly return here to talk to our current pupils have shown us. What they tell us they have learned above all is the need to have determination to pursue your goal and to understand that you need to build a solid team around you to achieve it. Leadership begins with knowing how to bring out the best in others. As a rather more successful US Presidential candidate, Harry S. Truman, once said "It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit".

In these very uncertain days of political upheaval and change, what better way can we prepare our children for the future leaders they will become than by teaching them that they must work together with others for the common good. We can all learn from each other, irrespective of our age or experience, and that feeling of community is what has made this another very exciting year in our great School. I hope you enjoy all that you read here, compiled with such creativity for the last time by Sally Twiss with whom it has been a true pleasure to work.

Nicola Huggett.

Nicola Huggett
Head

Blundell's News



TATLER AND TOP CRICKET

We are delighted to report that Blundell's is once again featured in the prestigious Tatler Schools Guide and has been chosen as one of The Cricketer magazine's top 100 schools. Blundell's is the only Senior School in Devon to be included in the Tatler guide to the top Prep and Public Schools in the UK, which are selected on merit after much research. Similarly, inclusion in The Playing Fields of England: An A-Z Guide to the Summer Game's Top 100 Schools 2017 follows an exhaustive process and is a celebration of the best of school sport, the grounds, the facilities, the coaching, the fixture lists and the general commitment to cricket.



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Facebook
(Blundell's School Community)



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(@BlundellsSchool)

and the website www.blundells.org



CHIEFLY RUGBY

Rugby playing pupils were lucky enough to have a masterclass from Jack Yeandle, the Exeter Chiefs Hooker. Members of teams from the U14s up to the 1st XV learned about scrummage techniques from the expert. The event was one of a series of masterclasses sponsored by Mercedes-Benz South West bringing sports professionals to Blundell's to work with pupils. Cricket and equestrian will be the subjects of future masterclasses.



The team in training for their expedition to Borneo

Intrepid Blundellians are set to depart on a three week expedition to the island of Borneo this summer to explore its jungles and mountains with World Challenge. Twenty one students accompanied by four members of staff have spent the last 18 months preparing for the adventure; planning their itinerary and undertaking team building exercises, including a weekend of training in the Forest of Dean. This term, they have also been attempting, between them, to walk the equivalent distance from the school clock tower to the island's highest peak, Mount Kinabalu, a total of 11,500km. For the goal to be achieved, the challengers each need to log approximately 6km per day (about 9,000 steps). Departing immediately after Speech Day, the expedition team is looking forward to experiencing some of the rich biodiversity of the island. They will also be undertaking a number of jungle and mountain treks including one up Mount Kinabalu. At 13,400ft, this climb will certainly be a challenge, one that the team is relishing. They look forward to recounting their experiences in the autumn term.

THE OXBRIDGE SIX

Six pupils have been offered places for this autumn at Oxford and Cambridge universities. Both Bertie Frankpitt and Toby Whitehead have offers for St Edmund Hall, Oxford – Bertie to read Earth Sciences and Toby for Biochemistry and he also has a choral scholarship. Harriet (Hatty) Nash has had an offer to read Modern and Medieval Languages at Cambridge, where she will be following her brother Edward to Gonville and Caius College. Three post A level students have secured places: Euan Friend to University College, Oxford to read Earth Sciences and Cameron Seymour also to Oxford to study History and Economics at Somerville College. Christopher Hamilton, last year's Head Boy, will be going to Downing College, Cambridge, to read Engineering; he has also been awarded an organ scholarship.

Other Year 13 students at Blundell's have received offers from all of their five university choices and offers are coming in for a wide range of subjects including Aeronautical Engineering, Architecture, Geophysics, Law, Broadcast Journalism and Radiotherapy and Oncology.

Off to Oxbridge: Bertie, Toby and Hatty



Making Music

Exciting times for the Music Department – Blundell's Chamber Choir is one of only six senior choirs from schools around the country to be selected for the Barnardos National Choir Competition, taking place at the Royal Festival Hall in March. There's also the Spring Concert coming up when Blundell's musicians will be playing alongside the London Chamber Orchestra, under the baton of Principal Conductor Christopher Warren-Green and a showcase concert at Cadogan Hall, London, in May at which the Chamber Choir will also be singing. There is more information about the LCO project on the Music pages.

TO THE FINALS – AGAIN



The U16 girls' hockey team have once again qualified for the National Schools Finals after winning both the Area and County Rounds and finishing second in the Regional Finals. This is the fourth year running that an U16 team has qualified for the nationals, which will be held at Lee Valley Hockey Centre, venue for the Olympics 2012. The U13 and U14A teams are also Devon Champions, the latter for the fifth year in a row. You can read more about Blundell's hockey achievements on the sports pages.

CAREERS AND PSHE SUPPORT

We are keen to harness the vast range and depth of experience within our parent and Old Blundellian talent pool. Areas you may be able to assist in include:

- Lunchtime lectures to sixth form
- Careers or PSHE lectures to Years 7-11
- Work Experience Placements within your business
- Career Mentoring in your area of industry
- Input or Feedback into the PSHE programme
- Mock Interviews

If you would like to find out more, with no obligations, do please contact Miss Sue Norman (san@blundells.org) or Mrs Annabel Taylor-Ross (amtr@blundells.org). There are examples of how parents and Old Blundellians have mentored pupils in this issue of The Diary and don't forget that all members of the Blundell's Community are welcome to advertise in the Business Directory. Please contact the Development Office for more information.



There have, of course, always been very strong links between the Prep School and Senior School pupils, with both enjoying the benefits of working together, whether that is older students helping out at the Prep School to acquire employment experience, or the young pupils being involved in drama or music productions at the Senior School. Now though, as outlined by the Head in her introduction, there is a new level of interaction and team-building going on between the two schools, some of which are highlighted on these pages. We've also included, on these pages and elsewhere in the Diary, some wonderful examples of Old Blundellians and parents generously sharing their expertise and giving advice to pupils.

Stronger Together

Closer Alignment

At the staff inset in September teachers from the Prep School and Senior School gathered in Big School to explore ways in which the two parts of Blundell's could become more closely aligned. The term 'closely aligned' is significant: the two schools are distinctive but we are very much together under one Blundell's banner. Whilst Blundell's, as a Senior School, has been around for more than 400 years, the Prep School has only resided at its present premises much more recently and only adopted the Blundell's name ten years ago. So whilst a close alignment might appear obvious the links between the two schools do not have such a long history and as such there is quite a bit of work to do to be truly aligned – both in a practical sense and also a philosophical one.

At the heart of the matter is that we want the experience of a Blundell's education from 3 – 18 to be a coherent and well thought through process, for pupils and for their parents. We are lucky that there are a number of very natural stages in the 15 years of a pupil's life at the School and pupils progress from Kindergarten to the Pre-Prep, then the Prep, then at the School House at the Senior School, then the Senior Houses and finally Sixth Form and Westlake. The intention is that each stage opens up new vistas for the pupil whilst conscientiously and deliberately preparing them for the next one – and ultimately for a life beyond the gates of the School.

At the inset we quickly realised that for this to happen we, as members of the Senior School, needed to know far more about what happens at the Prep School, and vice versa. As a Senior

School, we needed to know Prep School staff better and the challenges they face and to understand what it is they are passionate about and what their priorities are. Similarly, the Prep School staff needed to be more familiar with what it is that they are preparing pupils for and to be confident that what was expected of pupils at the Senior School matched the aspirations of the Prep School too. It is fair to say that the sharing of this critical information has not always been at the forefront of either School's thinking. But it is now.

'At the heart of the matter is that we want the experience of a Blundell's education from 3 – 18 to be a coherent and well thought through process, for pupils and for their parents.'

Already since that September inset there is a greater sense of collegiality and a greater empathy. There are more opportunities for pupils and staff to work together across both schools. It is early days yet and invariably there will be challenges to iron out but the process of recognising and understanding each other's roles in the single task of preparing children for a post-Blundell's life is now well under way. We have little difficulty in committing to a shared vision around our Roots and Wings ideals: of developing character and a strong sense of social responsibility along with independence, adventure and excellence. A holistic and coherent Blundell's education.

Mr B Wielenga



Learning about Saturnalia

Latin and Classics Club

For the past year, Mrs Milne and the Sixth Form Latin and Classics students have been going to the Prep School once a week to teach Latin. The Prep School pupils have now mastered translating basic Latin sentences, introducing themselves in Latin and have even learnt the Ancient Greek alphabet. As well as ancient languages, they've also been introduced to Classics through learning about the world of mythical beasts, gods and goddesses. They've written and performed their own Greek tragedies and comedies, wearing masks they made themselves. The Saturnalia festival at the end of the autumn term was also a favourite amongst the students. Through a variety of quizzes, challenges and stories they have had a broad introduction to the ancient world.

It's been really lovely for us to meet the Prep School children and teach them something which they enjoy. We hope they carry on with their enthusiasm for the classical world after leaving Blundell's Prep.

Hatty Nash and Grace Casely (Year 13)



Learning hockey skills from Senior School players and Mr Jones, Head of Girls' Hockey at Blundell's, has been very popular at the Prep School



Year 6 joined the Art Department at the Senior School for an Art workshop exploring Seaside themes. More than 128 acrylic decorated fish, mono prints and photograms were produced by the 43 pupils. It was a busy, industrious and thoroughly enjoyable day, with Alice Smith and Candice Motel from Year 10 as very helpful deputy Art teachers.



MATHS WORKSHOP

In February, sixteen Year 9 students took the short but potentially nerve-racking journey from the Senior School to the Prep School to teach Mathematics to the Year 6 students.

As part of the Prep School's 'Number Day', their task was to teach Pythagoras' theorem in an hour and a half – a topic that can take even the most experienced teachers at least double that time. After an initial introduction to the whole of Year 6, during which James Elderfield gave an outline of who Pythagoras was, Prep School and Year 9 students separated into small teaching groups. The amount of preparation that the Year 9 students had done for the day was clearly evident and is a huge credit

to them. Dan Morris, Head of Prep School Maths, said "The Year 9 students were knowledgeable, helpful – and extremely patient – throughout and it was truly lovely to watch". When, after an hour and a half the Year 6 children were told they needed to stop, sighs of genuine frustration resulting from a strong desire to carry on could be heard by all the staff present; sadly, not a sound often heard in a Mathematics classroom! All the Year 6 students enjoyed the experience of being taught by the Year 9s and, I am sure, the Year 9 students will never forget how to find the length of a hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle!

Mr S Mault



Kindness and tolerance

This year the team of monitors decided that we would choose the theme of inclusion for our week of kindness and tolerance.

We wanted to do something different to signify the School being as one, so we came up with the idea that every pupil in the School could make a handprint in paint on a board. The final piece, which some would call art, ended up with nearly 600 handprints overlapping in the School colours of black, red and grey. It was a rather messy and difficult job to get the end result but with help from the Maintenance and DT Departments we managed to successfully complete the piece. We are all hoping that the boards will go up in the newly re-designed dining hall in September and that this tradition of hands in paint will carry on. Maybe in years to come we will all come back to the School as OBs and will hopefully be able to find our handprint on the board.

During our week of inclusion, we also held an assembly at the Prep School. A team of four monitors spoke to the younger pupils in the hope that the message of inclusion would be

passed to the Prep School pupils as well as the Senior School pupils. A group of monitors led an interactive role play assembly when three Prep School pupils re-created a situation in which a boy was being excluded from playing football with his friends. The performance was a great success and the pupils really enjoyed having the 'big people' come to lead the assembly.

To end a busy kindness and tolerance week, Head Girl Imi Saunders-Dutton took on the role of Dr Leaman and, with Louisa Everett taking the role of Mr Hutchinson-Bazely to accompany us on the piano and with the help of a backing choir made up of pupils from younger years and the monitors, she ably lead the School in singing *Lean on me* by Bill Withers. Everyone enjoyed the chance to have a sing-along and it seemed very apt that the whole school was singing together at the end of inclusion week.

Hannah Carthew (Year 13)



Senior School students joined the London Chamber Orchestra to introduce Prep School pupils to the instruments of the orchestra, as part of the ongoing project with the LCO (for more details of this, please see the Music pages).



The South African cricketer Alfonso Thomas, who has represented his county, played English county cricket for Warwickshire and Somerset as well as for the Indian Premier League and Australian domestic cricket, has spent the last few months coaching at Blundell's. These elite cricketers at the Prep School have certainly enjoyed learning skills from him and Mr Lewis, Head of Cricket at Blundell's



Max Mayor, Ed Swarbrick, Anna Maunder, Mattie Kolowska and Izzy Leyshon enjoying their books in the library

Reading Revolution

Cookery classes using the well-equipped Food Technology room at the Prep School has always been a popular activity amongst Senior School pupils – especially the boys. Carrying on the theme, Blundell's Head Chef Craig Sampson has been running workshops for fathers of Prep School pupils.

SHIPWRECKED

Years 5 and 6 joined Years 7 and 8 to watch a play called *Shipwrecked en France* by the theatre company Onatti. It was performed by just two actors and was about a boy who had lost his family at the beach. On his way to look for them he met a variety of characters and learned a lot of French. Some of the children in the audience went up on stage to help him out, it was *tres amusant!*

Sophia Rochfort and Constance Paterson (Year 6)



Did you know that there is a quiet revolution going on at Blundell's?

In response to the endless lament that young people don't read any more, Years 7 and 8 have been bucking the trend. Using our newly implemented Accelerated Reader (AR) programme (which is also being rolled out in the Prep School), the superstars in School House managed to read over 30 million words in the autumn term alone! The library has never been busier and the buzz about books is growing at Blundell's.

The AR programme enables pupils to develop a love of reading by being guided to pick books at their level and read at their own pace. When they finish a book pupils take a computer or appbased quiz. The results give the pupil, as well as the teachers, immediate feedback on the progress being made and the areas that need to be worked on to improve.

The National Literacy Trust state that children who read at least 20 minutes a day, and have a good level of understanding of what they read, make the greatest academic progress. This is why we are keen to set aside time to read each day and give over one lesson per week in English to individual reading: pupils who read well manage the whole curriculum with greater success. We are also asking parents to play their part too. AR Home Connect enables parents (and other relatives) to see the progress their child is making and provide encouragement and support to develop great reading habits.

Among the School's top readers in the autumn term were Shea Clarke, Max Mayor, Kaira Hinchliffe, Jess Payne, Lottie Southgate, Freya Marr and Chris Churcher, who each read well over one million words and earned a place in our prestigious Millionaires' Club. But congratulations must go to all our School House students who contributed to the grand figure, announced by Mrs. Huggett around steaming mugs of congratulatory hot chocolate and scrumptious millionaires' shortbread!

Reading doesn't have to be boring. Our incentives and challenges are inspiring our pupils to develop a culture of reading at our School – so watch this space!

Miss R Isdell-Carpenter and Mrs Kate Corbin



ARTIST RUPERT BROOKS (M92-94) SPENT THE MORNING SHOWING HIS WORK AND GIVING ADVICE ON FINE ART TO TOBIAS FRANCIS, LILLY CALDWELL AND JESSICA GARDNER (HOLDING A SELF-PORTRAIT BY RUPERT) AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SIXTH FORM.

STRONGER TOGETHER

Sharing their knowledge



ABOVE: *Graham Grose and Tim Hassell of the Thurlestone Hotel*
RIGHT: *Michael Hawes of MeiLoc Landscape Architects*

Many employers generously gave their time to attend the first Blundell's Careers Fair, to give guidance and advice to Years 9 to 13. Amongst those attending were Old Blundellians Tim Hassell (FH 83-88) and Graham Grose (SH 64-68) from the Thurlestone Hotel and Michael Hawes (OH 90-94) of MeiLoc Landscape Architects who said after the event 'It was encouraging and exciting that so many pupils, parents and teachers have shown an interest in Landscape Architecture'.





Blundell's pupils raise thousands of pounds every year for local, national and international charities. Some events are organised by the Charity Committee, others by houses, groups and individuals and all are supported by the generous Blundell's Community. Pupils also get involved in a range of projects in the local area, including tree planting, litter picking and – a great favourite – at a care home in Tiverton. This is a round-up of some of the events that have taken place so far this year.



Community Endeavours

The Charity Committee

This academic year began with an eclectic mix of events organised by the Charity Committee, in aid of a range of organisations. From wine tasting and pupil social events, to sporting Christmas jumpers and creating shoebox gifts for impoverished children across the globe, the whole school has participated in helping to make a lasting difference to communities both worldwide and closer to home.

During the autumn term, more than £960 was raised for the Alzheimer's Society through an enjoyable and enlightening evening of wine tasting in conjunction with the Jolly Vintner wine merchants. This money will go towards local and national services that offer care and support for families affected by dementia, through initiatives such as Singing for the Brain sessions and Dementia Cafes. Last term also saw around 50 shoeboxes generously packed and donated by pupils, as part of Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal founded by Samaritan's Purse. These gifts formed part of the nearly 900,000 shoeboxes delivered to 17 countries in Africa, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East; this small yet meaningful deed helped to bring hope and joy to children who would otherwise have nothing at Christmas.

The seasonal period also provided the opportunity for a cheerful Christmas Jumper Day, where pupils swapped their school jumpers for humorous and fetching festive garments. The event raised £926 for CHAT (Churches Housing Action Team) based in Tiverton, which supports people facing homelessness and assists those who are already homeless find secure accommodation. The final fundraising event of the autumn term was the Year 9 Social, which raised over £82 for CHICKS – Country Holidays for Inner City Kids – which provides vital free respite breaks to more than 13,500 disadvantaged children annually.

The spring term is proving to be as ambitious and successful as the last, with the return of the popular music event 'Unplugged' in aid of the Laos Project. We also raised funds for the educational charity Books2Africa on our February home clothes day.

The Charity Committee would like to thank the whole of the Blundell's Community for their continuing generosity and support for our fund-raising events and these worthwhile charities.

Ella Moore (Year 12)



COMMUNITY ENDEAVOURS



Music at Margaret Allen

The relationship between Blundell's and Margaret Allen Care Home in Tiverton continues to flourish with seven students visiting on a weekly basis.

Just before the Christmas holidays, a group of School House students ably organised by Lottie Southgate entertained the residents with a Christmas programme of carols and music. A good old sing song was had by all with the students providing a number of encores! Craft activities followed with box decorating and some romantic decorations created for a coffee morning on Valentine's Day.

The residents always comment that this hour of the week is their favourite and that time passes by in a flash. They are always extremely grateful for the work that we do, supported by the 'Kissing it Better' charity and rep Lou Mason.



THE EVER POPULAR SCHOOL HOUSE CAKE SALE RAISED £300 FOR CHILDREN IN NEED. THAT'S A LOT OF CAKES MADE, SOLD AND EATEN



The School's One Day Event held earlier in the term raised £500 and some of our riders presented a cheque to Richard Lappas of the Devon Air Ambulance Trust. The charity was the chosen recipient because of its ability to reach patients in remote areas.



ANTIQUES ROADSHOW CALL MY BLUFF EVENING

Blundell's Prep kindly hosted the charity evening run by Bearnès, Hampton and Littlewood in support of the Head's charity, Community Learning International (CLI). Chris Hampton, Brian Goodison-Blanks and Nic Saintey brought along a range of valuable and obscure artefacts to challenge the budding dealers among the audience as to their value. It was an excellent evening of fun and entertainment generated by the good humour of our auctioneers and a very vocal audience.

Talented artist Judit Lam (GH 10-16) donated a painting of two elephants for auction. The evening raised £500 and thanks



TOP: Judit Lam's painting of elephants is auctioned off to the highest bidder
ABOVE: The evening's auctioneers

go to all those who supported the event. A special thanks must be made to Bearnès, Hampton and Littlewood Auctioneers who freely gave up their time.

Although we are unable to take a group to Laos this year, money is still being raised and sent to CLI. Last year £8000 was given to provide the children of the Luang Prabang district with educational opportunities.



Josh and his sister Georgia at the ceremony

Fundraising recognised at national ceremony

Josh Withey (Year 7) was nominated for the Outstanding Young Person Award after raising £1193.81 for Devon Air Ambulance Trust (DAAT). He also donated toys and clothes to the DAAT shop (and raised money for other charities too) as part of his Blundell's Adventure, Leadership and Service Award (BALSA) while he was in Year 6 at the Prep School. He held a rugby tournament and cake sales, a Lads v Dads football match, took part in a triathlon and collected donations at a local supermarket.

The award was part of the Association of Air Ambulance Awards of Excellence and the award ceremony celebrated awe-inspiring events of heroism and bravery. It was hosted by BBC News presenter Sophie Long and *Helicopter Heroes* presenter Rav Wilding who read out a summary of all the fundraising events Josh had organised. He was presented with a prize by the judges in recognition of his efforts and a card praising him for all he had achieved



Clara Greenfield (Year 12) held a cake sale and raised £70 for the UK Sepsis Trust



Flic Charlesworth and Julia Huntingford play *A Wonderful World* at the GH Chapel Service

CANDY CANES AND MORE FOR CHARITY

The girls of Gorton House have raised £1920 so far this academic year in a number of ways. Their sale of candy canes before Christmas brought in an amazing £900 and another £100 was made by selling glowsticks; £550 was donated to Neuroblastoma UK, which funds research into this aggressive childhood cancer, and £450 to Crisis, the national charity for homeless people. At their Chapel Service this term, £360 was donated through the retiring collection which was split between four charities MIND, Kool Kids Club, Blue Cross Centre and Neuroblastoma UK.

VALENTINE'S COOKIES

Year 12 girls of North Close once again organised a Valentine's fundraiser, but this year they were selling red roses with a difference. Instead of real flowers (difficult to source and in competition with shops), the girls attached red sugar roses to delicious cookies, generously supplied by Teoni's Cookies, and packaged them up in cellophane tied with pink ribbon. Messages to the lucky recipients were then attached and the cookies – 720 of them – were distributed during the lunch break, raising £560 for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust.



Year 12s prepare the Valentine's cookies



PICTURES OF SUCCESS

The sale of photographs featured in an exhibition of work by Old Blundellians who have had successful careers as photographers or in related fields raised £630 for Cancer Research UK. The exhibition was organised by former teacher of photography Mr Steve Goodwin and marked his forty years of teaching the subject at Blundell's. Mr Goodwin returned to the School to hand over a cheque to Annabel Coakley, the charity's Local Fundraising Manager for South Devon, watched by Mrs Armstrong Williams, Director of Art, and pupils.



In and Out of the Classroom



Chartered Accountants Competition

Six sixth form pupils attended the Institute of Chartered Accountants regional BASE competition where their business skills were tested. They were put under tight time constraints and had to analyse a business scenario and pitch a recommendation to an audience of 120 pupils and local businesses. They faced challenging questions from a panel of directors from Deloitte, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Ernst Young and KPMG. The team of Will Vickery, Nathan Green, Rosalie Sanders, Minsung Jean, Justin Hung and Hugh Hamilton-Green did impressively well and were runners up in the competition, which aims to enable students develop employability skills and find out what it is like to be a Chartered Accountant.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Year 9 had the opportunity to hear the testimony of a Holocaust survivor to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day on Friday 27th January. Organised by the Holocaust Education Trust, the pupils heard how Mala Tribich survived the ghetto in Poland and her experiences in Bergen-Belsen. The live webcast allowed Blundell's pupils to be part of a national event which helped supplement the History Department's current unit of study on civil rights, including a specific focus on the Holocaust.

Speaking Out

The public speaking team of Erica Park (questioner), Orlagh Noone (chair) and Anna Sides (speaker) are through to the English Speaking Union's South West finals, after winning the Exeter District Competition. The competitors from the four other schools were all in Year 11, so the Blundell's team of Year 9, 10 and 11 students were initially somewhat daunted, particularly as Erica had to come in at the last moment as a replacement and Orlagh had a streaming cold and had just been off school for three days. However, despite these setbacks, the two still managed to open the proceedings with a sparkle and a good dash of

humour and Erica grappled well with the somewhat tricky task of finding probing and original questions on the subject of footballers' salaries.

Anna was the final speaker of the night, and delivered her revised speech on language as violence with conviction, knowledge and a resounding call to action, and she handled challenging questions with her usual grace, humour and searing intellect. Unsurprisingly, therefore, she won best speaker of the competition.

The South West finals will be held at Blundell's in March against teams from Bath, Taunton, Cornwall and Bristol.



The team with the ESU judge Roger Tilbury

Earth Sciences and the joy of rocks

It is not a passion that many freely admit to, but the quiet admiration for the wonderful geology that is all around us is slowly starting to surface, particularly amongst the sixth form as they start to consider life at university and beyond. Durham University may be the destination for some (and the Department of Earth Sciences has produced some very fine alumni over the years) but the latest group of successful Oxbridge applicants will see a couple of Blundellians seeking to purchase a geological hammer and protective hard hat over the coming months. There is a sense that there may be more in the future who will embark on courses that will take undergraduates to some of the truly spectacular (and remote) environments within the British Isles. Most Earth Sciences courses also include trips overseas. Indeed, excursions into the Troodos Mountains in Cyprus to study the rare ophiolite rocks, pillow lavas and the Mohorovicic Discontinuity still brings back many happy memories.

Blessed as we are in the south-west with some truly spectacular landscapes, it is perhaps only natural that a love of rocks develops. Many have no doubt quietly tucked away a special pebble or two after a visit to the coast. Perhaps a subtle touch of the magnificent granite that underpins much of Devon and which outcrops to form the beautiful tors of Dartmoor is the sign of this embryonic passion, or maybe it is just pausing for a moment to fully appreciate the landscape in which we live that ignites the flame. Personally, being brought up not far from the Jurassic coastline was a joy. Genuine excitement remains as a visit to Lulworth Cove, Stair Hole and Durdle Door looms.

For Geography students at Blundell's, a treat is in store for those in SH when they visit the beautiful limestone scenery at Cheddar Gorge, full of stalagmites, stalactites and flowstones. The hike around the gorge itself is the perfect way to fully absorb the wonders created by this sedimentary rock. The Blue Lias at Lyme

Regis is on the move and is studied as part of the new CIE course in the sixth form, while all three past trips to Italy in recent years have included visits to the dormant Mount Vesuvius and clearly simmering Solfatara, full of bubbling pools of mud and smoking fumaroles. But just a walk locally may unearth hidden joys and if you look carefully, evidence of past volcanic activity in the Exeter area is visible as well.

But what about future careers? Well, the oil industry and mining sectors offer opportunities that may take a geologist all over the world. The nature and structure of the rock beneath our feet is a major factor for construction, engineering and water companies, while environmental consultancy may be the job for some. Hazard management is vital, particularly in tectonically unstable parts of the earth and there are many other opportunities, but even if you end up following a different path after a degree studying Earth Sciences, that deep rooted passion for rocks will always remain.

Mr G Bucknell

Standing Up for the Classics

Blundell's Classics Department were lucky enough to welcome the classicist and stand-up comedian, Natalie Haynes, to speak to the School last term. Natalie has penned her own novels, she writes regularly for the Guardian and the Independent, she's appeared on TV and she's even hosted her own radio shows, including the acclaimed Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics on Radio 4. As a renowned comedian, journalist, author and Classicist she is living proof that studying classics does indeed lead to employability.

I first came across Natalie when I read her book, *The Ancient Guide to Modern Life*. She articulated perfectly the reasons why I love the Classical world and on top of this she did it in an effortless and hilarious way. I watched one of her Classics comedy gigs on YouTube and decided this would be the perfect thing to have at Blundell's to promote the study of Classics, which is so often dismissed as irrelevant or boring.

I went about trying to contact Natalie in October 2015. It took roughly a month of talking to various agencies and publishers before I managed to get hold of her email address and contact her directly. After that, it wasn't until January that a date was found which both Natalie and Blundell's could meet. It therefore felt very surreal meeting Natalie, over a year after I'd first tried to contact her.

The afternoon itself was split into three parts. Firstly, all the Blundell's Classics, Ancient Greek and Latin students heard Natalie speak about the importance of classical study. She spoke about her own varied and impressive career and emphasised how her knowledge of the ancient world has underpinned every part of this. After this, the Classics Department and sixth form Latin and Classics students joined Natalie and her mum for dinner. This was a great opportunity to speak to Natalie properly and for some of the students to ask her about a career in comedy.

In the evening, Natalie gave a Classics comedy gig to an audience of students, parents, teachers, locals and pupils of other schools. She spoke on topics as wide-ranging as law, politics, money, women and culture. Natalie is an incredibly funny



Hatty Nash with Natalie Haynes

woman; her act consisted of a series of stories from Ancient Greece and Rome, made accessible and humorous for the audience by her animated and sharp delivery. Her knowledge of the ancient world is extraordinary and this, combined with her genius comedy, made for an unusual yet highly entertaining act. The audience thoroughly enjoyed Natalie's gig and it was a privilege to have her come and speak to us.

Hatty Nash (Year 13)



New staff

FIVE TEACHERS WHO ARE NEW TO BLUNDELL'S WERE PUT TO THE TEST ON WHAT THEY DID BEFORE THEY CAME TO THE SCHOOL, THEIR FIRST IMPRESSION AND THEIR EXPERIENCES HERE SO FAR.

CHARLES LIST DEPUTY HEAD ACADEMIC

I left the UK in 1999 to live in New Zealand. After a total of 13 years in Auckland, Alexandra in Central Otago and latterly Christchurch in a range of teaching positions, I was appointed four years ago to Head of Science in Pembroke School in Adelaide, South Australia. In this time I have coached 1st XV rugby, football, softball, touch rugby, aussie rules and volleyball.

I have spent some time over the last few weeks visiting classrooms and talking to pupils and I have been delighted with the quality of the teaching and learning I have seen at Blundell's. It clearly is a very special place and I look forward to contributing to its future.

All the staff and students have been very welcoming and I have been trying hard to resist the urge to say "G'day", but I have had the odd slip up every now and again.

MAY HO TEACHES: MATHEMATICS

My teaching career started 14 years ago after graduating from Exeter University and I have fallen in love with Devon. I have taught in both the state and private schools and I have owned and run a tutoring business where I learnt a great deal from the experience. I enjoy the challenges of exploring new paths for my career and I am a strong believer of destiny.

My first impression of Blundell's is that staff are very caring and down to earth. They devote themselves to support each individual regardless of their nationalities and background. Their passion and enthusiasm are the main reason why our young Blundellians are always striving to achieve more.

It has so far been a very enjoyable experience teaching at Blundell's. The culture of the school is very positive among both pupils and staff; I feel that I belong to a team, which have the benefits of our students at heart, and we are working towards the same goal.

KIM INSULL TEACHES: PHOTOGRAPHY

I have taught in a variety of schools and spent seven years working as Head of Photography at the Grammar School in Guernsey. Prior to my arrival at Blundell's I also set up an educational animal encounter business (www.reallywildlearning.co.uk) providing exciting up close animal based learning workshops to schools and organisations across Devon. I feel very fortunate to be able to continue with this whilst enjoying working at Blundell's. My first impression of Blundell's has been extremely positive. Everybody has been so welcoming and the sense of community within the school is a real strength. I am

enjoying the energy and willingness to contribute by students and feel privileged to help them achieve.

I think my Blundell's experience is going well, as students are now beginning to know who I am and what I teach! The Photography Department is buzzing with life and full of creative energy. I am a very positive person who loves photography and hopes others will share my enthusiasm.

JAYNE SPENCER TEACHES: DRAMA

For the last four years, I worked at the British School Al Khubairat in Abu Dhabi. BSAK was one of the first schools in the Gulf Region to provide a British curriculum, opening its doors in 1968. Whilst this cannot compete with Blundell's prestigious history, in terms of the Middle East that is a very long time! I had always wanted to live and work abroad and greatly enjoyed the experience.

After living in a very modern city in the desert for four years my first thought of Blundell's was how quintessentially English it looked! Despite being a little jet-lagged on the day of my interview, I remember how warm and friendly both the teachers and pupils were; I immediately felt very welcome.

Blundell's has been a fantastic experience so far and has played an essential role in making me feel at home in Devon; despite the fact that often the pupils are highly bemused by my strong Lancashire accent! The Drama Department are fantastic and I feel very lucky to be part of team Blundell's.

JONATHAN RATCLIFFE HEAD OF BIOLOGY

Before entering teaching, I was engaged in research at the University of Nottingham, studying ultra-thin film coatings that could be applied to medical prostheses. The aim was to produce implants which promoted physiological processes in surrounding tissues, rather than remaining passive. The research enabled me to travel and work with teams all over Europe, China and Australia. A career change saw me move to teaching biology at schools in Derbyshire before moving to Blundell's.

From the start, the friendly atmosphere amongst pupils and staff at Blundell's was apparent. No matter how busy they are, people take the time to talk and ask how your day is going.

So far, things seem to be going very well. I enjoy all my classes and am looking forward to the warmer weather so we are able to exploit our beautiful campus and carry out more practical biology outdoors. I am also enjoying helping pupils prepare for the Devizes Westminster canoe race and I'm very impressed by their determination to complete this challenge.



DISCOVERING SPACE

In November a group of Year 12 pupils headed up to the National Space Centre in Leicester for a science careers fair focusing on space technologies and applied science. Here is a report of the day from Bonnie Price:

The space workshop involved various talks from people working in different sectors of the space industry, such as Rolls-Royce, which develops and manufactures power systems for spacecraft; PhD students who were studying and dating moon rocks and meteorites, and various scientists from the surrounding region.

What I found really interesting was a talk by Dr Andrew Levan, an astronomy professor at the University of Warwick, about supernovas. Supernovas occur when a star at least 200x more massive than the sun collapses in on itself and subsequently explodes at the end of its life cycle. It's predicted that five supernovas occur every second across our universe, according to NASA. However, with our latest technology we can only see approximately one supernova every century in our observable universe. This reveals just how much we have yet to discover in our universe and we have only just touched the tip of the iceberg when it comes to space science.

To finish our day, we received a lecture about the discovery of gravitational waves and their detection from Dr Chris North. These waves were predicted by Albert Einstein a century ago and are produced when a massive body accelerates creating ripples in the fabric of space-time. Dr North focused on a project used to detect these waves called LIGO, which uses the most advanced laser technology to detect minute changes in space-time leading to the detection of gravitational waves; this will hopefully lead to more innovation and exploration of this subject area.

It was a very insightful and inspiring trip, which has helped many of us rethink and consider our possible university and career options.

Bonnie Price (Year 12)



EXAMINING ECONOMICS

Four Economists - Thomas Kennaugh, Hannah Carthew, Rosie Hones and Archie Fraser - competed in the Bank of England Target 2.0 Competition. Using research on financial markets, commodity prices, aggregate demand and the labour markets, the team decided to keep the current interest rates and quantitative easing, as proposed by the Monetary Policy Committee. They presented their research and justified their decision to a panel of judges. This was a particularly difficult task with the uncertainty of Brexit and with Trump's recent win in the presidential election in the USA. The team presented their case well and were only just 'pipped at the post' to come in as runners up.



HIGH HONOUR FOR HARRY

Congratulations to Harry Olive (Year 12) who was selected as the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet (one of five out of 2000 possible candidates) earlier this year and has already been engaged in ceremonial duties. Sergeant Olive has been an exceptional Cadet over the past two years and has completed the Army Proficiency Certificate, in both the basic and advance cadet syllabus, and a number of other qualifications. Having attended all Blundell's training events, he has quickly become one of Blundell's most experienced platoon sergeants.

In the Real World

As part of their work on 'La Société Multiculturelle', the Year 13 A Level French group sent letters to the Mayor of Avranches, a small town in Normandy which has welcomed increasing numbers of immigrants in recent years.

After first approaching the mayor through the MFL twitter account, we sent him letters outlining our ideas to help better integrate immigrants into the Avranches community. Suggestions ranged from organised sports groups to social evenings, language classes and a regular council meeting to discuss immigrant issues - all explained in French. The mayor, David Nicolas, was grateful for our correspondence and sent back a very gracious response. Overall, it was interesting to see how our studies in class could be relevant to a real world situation and potentially even make a difference. **Hatty Nash (Year 13)**



The Phoenix Society

While Einstein felt that it was ‘...a miracle that curiosity survives formal education’, it is a quality that we value hugely at Blundell’s. It is the trigger that lights a passion that may last a Blundellian for a lifetime. It is the why that stimulates an interest in what we teach. Most importantly however, it makes for an interesting and informed individual. It is deeply embedded in the Roots and Wings that underpin the school and it is not difficult to see why that is the case. Unlike Ronald Reagan who famously felt that ‘the State of California has no business in subsidizing intellectual curiosity’, we in the County of Devon feel it to be rather more important.

That is why we have launched the Phoenix Society, a society for the intellectually curious. Its aim is to widen the experience of those Blundellians who choose to join as well

as to stimulate independent thinking and academic initiative.

We want our members to move from breadth to depth, from led to leader and from dependence to intellectual independence. While these are noble and worthy aims, the difficulty lies in assisting this in happening in a manner that will interest teenagers!

It seems to me that the intellectual needs of pupils differ as they develop, and I have therefore divided the club into three discrete sections which operate in very different ways. The idea is to develop pupils’ independent thinking as they grow up.

It seems to me that people learn best by seeing and doing and that is the principle on which the activities are based. We have therefore gone for the approach of having

events which incorporate two elements. The first is learning about something, and the second is doing something with what has been learned, or reinforcing it by seeing it outside the school environment.

Years 7 and 8 are offered a number of cross-curricular activities. Their first event at the end of last term was based on Donald Trump’s first 100 days. What should his priorities be? What policies does he need to enact? What laws should be put in motion? Mrs Huggett gave an introduction to American politics, and then a number of the U6th Politics students worked with small syndicates of Year 7 and 8 in order to prepare a briefing for the President-elect. This was then presented to The Donald (aka Christian Cabburn in a Trump mask...) who then ‘hired’ the winning team, apprentice-style. It was really good to see the pupils engage so actively and thoughtfully with the material, arguing their way through to a conclusion. It was good for the Sixth Form Politics students too as they reinforced their own learning in a leadership role. They are now seeing the issues that they were debating working their way through Washington DC.

Years 7-10

Exploring
Broadening
Exposure to ideas
Dependence
Led activities



Years 11-13

Focus on an area of interest
Develop an idea
Independence
Leadership
Independent activities



The first Phoenix Society expedition was a trip to London in order to see the Houses of Parliament. We were guests of the Education Service who split us up to look at the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

The sixth formers first headed to the House of Commons to hear a debate on abortion whilst we went to the House of Lords to hear David Blunkett speaking about the government’s education reforms. It was fascinating to see the debates taking place. We then took part in a mock election between our group. We split into three and decided who to elect as our representative

Outside the Palace of Westminster

and then who to vote for. What we learned is that depending on the way we decided to interpret the votes, we could get different results for who was voted in and therefore different decisions made for our country. We learned a lot about the single transferrable vote, PR and the first past the post systems and their effects on the outcome of our vote.

We then crossed Parliament Square to the Supreme Court where we had a talk about who had the burden of guilt in a shooting case. Could the person who didn’t actually fire the shot be held responsible for someone caught in the crossfire between two gang members? Alexandra Lin and I got heavily involved, yet both sides had valid points to make. The reason why the decision is so important is because if something similar arises again in the Court of Law, we would have to go by what the Supreme Court had decreed, making each decision permanent.

The trip was clearly a success as I can’t wait to visit again, and was able to have a few very good debates with my peers as a result of the day.

Thomas Yeadon (Year 9)

This term we have had a fascinating session on the Science of Music with Dr Leaman in which society members learned about music from a very different point of view, learning how the three sciences combine to produce the art form. As I came in at the end (I had been teaching while he was with the group) they were busy sampling the voices of different individuals to isolate the notes within each person's speech, a property which gives each voice its unique identity.

Meanwhile, Years 9 and 10 have been offered a series of lecture/visit combinations. They learn about something and then we go and see it for real. Last term saw an illuminating talk from Mr Johnson on the British political system making imaginative and messy use of a glass of orange squash to illustrate the transfer of power, and this was followed up by a visit to the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court in London. We had an opportunity to speak to our local MP as well as trying out different voting systems to see their effect on democracy. Watching the pupils debate a legal issue with an official of the Supreme Court was a particular highlight.

Later in the term we learned about nuclear power from Mr Lodge before a visit to Hinkley Point nuclear power station. We were all overwhelmed by the sheer scale of the



operation as we stood several storeys up, looking down on the shield over the reactor core. The term ended with a cross-curricular morning with History and English in which pupils produced a poem inspired by the First World War. This term's activities include a Philosophy conference and an afternoon working with consumer law with a local judge.

Years 11-13 demand a much more individual approach. As Blundellians move towards university application and entrance, it is good for them to develop their own academic interests. The society exists to support that wherever possible. This will be done through using the resources of the School, its contacts, trips and expertise in order to encourage and foster those who

have an interest that they want to pursue. We will also be looking to them to lead the younger pupils, contributing to their activities and developing their own understanding in the process.

The society has caused much interest and discussion and I am proud of that. Everything that we can do to look beyond our own little rut is all to the good. I have learned much from the events that we have put on and I have no doubt that the members of the society will have done so too. I'm pleased by that as 'Intellectual curiosity should commence at birth and cease only at death'. I can't remember whether it was Einstein or Reagan who said that...

Mr A Berrow

THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Just before the end of the autumn term, Year 9 members of the Phoenix Society participated in a cross-curricular event organised by the English and History Departments. The morning was spent in the Beale Centre and the group focused on poetry of the First World War. After a review of trench warfare and the conditions soldiers faced on the Western Front (topics which have been taught in History lessons throughout the term), pupils were introduced to different poetic techniques before given the opportunity to write their own poems.

The response was extremely impressive and all present produced a poem about the Great War. The top poems, as judged by the Head of English, Miss Isdell-Carpenter, and the Head of History, Mr Hawkins, will be entered in a national competition, *Never Such Innocence*. However, the judges decided that there were two outstanding entries, both of which were rewarded with prizes in the final school assembly on the last day of the term: *Pointless War* by Harry Perring and *Eternal Grief* by Joseph Du'Gay. Mr M Hawkins



Visiting Hinkley

In November, a group of us went to Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station, a place we had read about in the news because of the controversy surrounding Hinkley Point C. We started at the visitor centre, about a mile from the station itself, where we learnt about how it is managed and the necessity of its existence. We discussed the state of our national grid which currently is only just able to supply the power that we need and the fact that Hinkley C is due to have twice the capacity of both of its predecessors combined. We then drove to the power station where the security was unsurprisingly high.

At Hinkley point

We were given passes and moved into the station. After a safety talk we walked into the turbine hall where the immense noise was only just muffled by our ear plugs. The turbines had the diameter of two tall adults and the length of over 20 buses. Surrounding the walls were various metal cabinets with technical markings on them.

After this, we moved onto the viewing station where we saw several people monitoring the performance of the station and the control rods in the nuclear reactor. With the thousands of buttons on every surface of the room, I was glad I wasn't in their place. Then, via the lift, we went to the penultimate floor where we saw the top of the uranium core. There were multiple hexagons under which the uranium rods were doing their work. After this we learnt about the safety of the plant. Everyone who works there has a miniature Geiger counter to ensure nobody receives lethal doses of radiation.

Overall it was a very interesting day that solidified the knowledge that we had gained from a talk by Mr Lodge the week before.

Misha Pemberthy (Year 9)

RIGHT: Trying out the chopstick challenge

BELOW: Mastering the Chinese art of paper folding



The Year of the Rooster

The international students at Blundell's started an International Committee at the beginning of the academic year. There have been social events every half term where our international students have a chance to make friends and share cultures. The committee decided to celebrate Chinese New Year with everyone and they worked tirelessly throughout a week of events which included selling pretty Chinese bookmarks and demonstrating the Chinese art of paper cutting, pressed leaf print and bamboo carvings. To add to the fun, they also sold lucky dips in the traditional red pockets containing some lovely Chinese candies.

Many of the Chinese students were very keen to share their knowledge of the Chinese culture by running workshops on

New Year decorations, paper cutting and Fai Chun writing which is a form of Chinese calligraphy. The celebrations finished with a delicious Chinese lunch prepared by our amazing catering team which was enjoyed by all the Senior School. The highlight of the meal was that everyone had to use chopsticks and it was wonderful to see how Blundellians persevered with a pair of wooden sticks! Some students felt that they had mastered the skill and took on the timed chopsticks challenge afterwards.

These events have brought students from different countries together and most importantly, they have the opportunity to learn about a different country in a fun and enjoyable way. The International Committee is looking forward to organising future events and sharing their unique cultures and traditions with everyone.

Miss M Ho



ABOVE: Sampling Chinese teas





The Chinese lunch prepared by the catering team as part of The Year of the Rooster celebrations (see left) included aromatic duck pancakes, chicken chow mein, Sichuan prawns, shiitake mushroom foo yung, fortune cookies, custard bao buns, an exotic fruit platter and much more.

Culinary masterpieces

Meal times at Blundell's are more popular than ever as unusual and exciting dishes are provided in tandem with the more tried and tested recipes. Recent favourites have included cod on a bed of courgetti (very foodie) with a sauce of lobster bisque, but the favourite dish amongst pupils is Hunter's chicken (wrapped in bacon and served with barbecue sauce and cheese).

The aim of the Catering Department is to produce restaurant quality food on a larger scale, so that pupils can experience different food tastes and textures. For his inspiration, Head Chef Craig Sampson visits Michelin star restaurants and samples the street food at Borough Market in London during the holidays; his challenge then is to replicate aspects of those meals back at Blundell's.

A particular passion of both Craig and Geoff Edwards, the Catering Manager, is supporting local independent suppliers and 99% of ingredients are sourced locally: this

is important in ensuring low food miles and fresher supplies and is valuable for the local economy too. A new initiative is for an artisan coffee maker, who roasts the beans himself, to come to School for weekend sports matches to provide hot drinks for the spectators.

Themed meals have now extended to breakfast with the most recent being an

LEFT: The exotic food platter

ABOVE: The pancakes for the aromatic duck keep warm in a bamboo basket

American breakfast, when, amongst other offerings, banana milkshakes and 1500 pancakes were made to order (accompanied by rock and roll music!). Plans are in hand to widen the range of themed meals; you can find out more on the daily menus shown on the Dining Hall pages of the website.

BELOW: Pancakes were served at the American breakfast with smoky bacon and maple syrup



Masterchef Classes

Perhaps inspired by the imaginative and nutritious food coming out of the kitchens and the fact that Head Chef Craig Sampson is a former Masterchef finalist, learning to cook is an increasingly popular activity at Blundell's. Pupils decide what they are going to focus on at the start of term with Mr Sampson and lessons have included basic knife skills, how to cook fish and make pizzas, the art of creating and cooking churros and much more. Eating what you have made at the end of the lesson is just an added bonus...



THE CREATIVE Arts

MUSIC

It's been an exciting and very busy time for Blundell's musicians as, apart from their usual packed programme of recitals and concerts, they have been working with the London Chamber Orchestra (LCO). Key instrumentalists from the orchestra have been running a series of workshops at the School, which have included sessions with the youngest pupils trying out orchestral instruments, chamber music masterclasses, improvisation and composition. The Blundell's pupils have been joined by musicians from Uffculme School and Exeter Cathedral School for some of the workshops.

The culmination of the music making will be the Spring Concert in March when the professional orchestra will perform alongside pupils under the baton of Principal Conductor Christopher Warren-Green and a showcase concert at Cadogan Hall, London, in May.

Two pupils who have been lucky enough to take part in the workshops recount their experiences so far.



ABOVE: *The improvisation and composition workshop*

On our first visit from the London Chamber Orchestra, the day began with flash mobs singing and playing in Latin Prayer, and during break time at Uffculme School. During lunch, the orchestra played at the Prep School and demonstrated their instruments to all the pupils. It was amazing to see how enthusiastic both the professionals and the children were. Following on from this, in the afternoon around 20 musicians in the Senior School were involved in chamber music masterclasses from the LCO musicians. We were joined by some musicians from Uffculme as well. Six groups rehearsed for almost three hours throughout the afternoon, with music ranging from Mozart to jazz, before gathering at the end of the day to perform informally to an audience in the Chapel. The quality of playing was very high, despite most of us only having seen the music a few days or even hours before.

In the spring term, 12 music scholars took part in the first of three masterclasses working towards concerts at Blundell's in March and in the Cadogan Hall in London in May. The morning was focused around a newly composed piece inspired by *Simple Gifts*, written by the composer

LEFT: *The improvisation and composition workshop*



ABOVE: Musicians from Blundell's, Blundell's Prep School, Uffculme School and Exeter Cathedral School rehearse for the Spring Concert with the London Chamber Orchestra



ABOVE: LCO musicians introduce instruments to the Prep School

Paul Eldin. Following an energetic warm up, we began by coming up with the words for the opening of the piece, which will now be taught in many other schools taking part in the LCO project, and performed at both concerts. We were then taught about 'Polish notation', a modern, improvisational form of musical notation used in the piece, before ending the morning with a joint composition effort for the fourth movement of the piece, with a theme on space and NASA. It was an exciting opportunity to have a musical input on a brand new piece, and we are looking forward to seeing what else we can contribute. **Toby Whitehead (Year 13)**

A lot of people would think of the London Chamber Orchestra as a select few very purist and fantastic musicians playing only classical music. So when I turned up to our first workshop, I was expecting to perhaps play through a symphony of some kind, and learn the ins and outs of classical music. I was wrong. The main part of this particular workshop was to not simply read music off a page and play just as it says on the score, but to interpret it yourself, and leave your own mark on the music. This was completely new to us all, and certainly a surprise when we were asked to play all together as an orchestra with no music in front of us! So we did as we were asked, let our

imaginations fly, and it was amazing how all the different notes and rhythms fitted together.

Our next task was to make a piece of music ourselves from one source of interpretation: the sound of space (yes, there apparently is sound in space from vibrations). We were split up into three groups, and we were to return 15 minutes later with a short piece of music. There was a sudden change of instruments; I changed from my trumpet to the didgeridoo, and to name another, Jack put down his saxophone and substituted it with a ukulele which he had never played before. Before we knew it, we had collaborated all of our short pieces of music from each different group and together we played the final version of our space inspired piece, and for only fifteen minutes preparation it sounded very good!

The workshop was certainly a real eye-opener, and it taught me a lot about how the music is for the musician playing, and not just for the listener. Before the day I had never really realised that music could be expressed in other ways apart from notes written on a score. I am definitely looking forward to the next workshop and I wonder what it has in store for us!

Redmond Sanders (Year 12)



LEFT: One of the LCO workshop leaders listens as the musicians perform

THE CREATIVE ARTS



LEFT: Alex Curtis and Jose Fernandez Sanchez (both Year 9) working on their Pop Art tonal paintings based on cakes!



ABOVE: These fantastic beasts were made by Year 7s with willow artist Joolz of Wicked Willow on Field Day at Knightshayes Court and then transported to the lawn near Ondaatje Hall

YEAR 10 ART

The Exeter College annual Exhibition of Year 10 Art featured entries from several Blundell's pupils which stood out strongly in a field of work from five schools.

The judges commented on how diverse the Blundell's art was and of such a very high quality. They praised all entries and selected the prints by Jess Whitehead and Mattie Hudson for special mention. They were also impressed with the photography entries and the use of traditional painting techniques with the Still Life entries from Kata Lee, Tilda

Huntingford and Carrie Zhang standing out. They awarded Macy Sidders an overall prize and 'goodie bag' for her three dimensional image of Poppy Davenport.

This was an impressive showing for our Year 10 Art GCSE students and the organisers requested that we sign up straight away to take part again next year.

BELOW: The winning three dimensional image by Macy Sidders



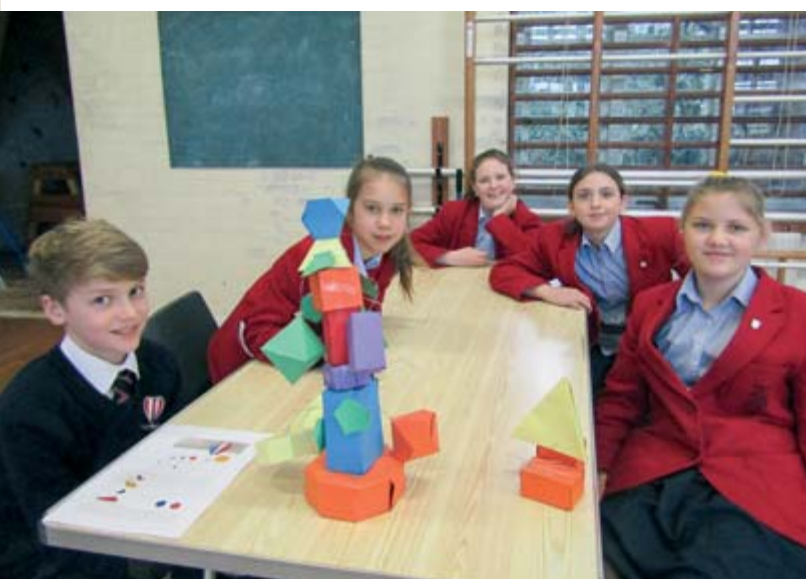
ABOVE: Still Life entries by (top to bottom) Carrie Zhang, Tilda Huntingford and Kata Lee



ABOVE: Alice Channon and Kate Winzer (both Year 12) working on response abstract painting techniques to music



TOBIAS FRANCIS (YEAR 13) PUTS THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO ONE OF HIS A LEVEL COURSEWORK ARTIST STUDIES BASED ON PORTRAITURE, FOLLOWING AN INSPIRING VISIT BY RENOWNED PORTRAIT ARTIST AND OB RUPERT BROOKS



ABOVE: In a cross-curricular event organised by the Maths and Art Departments, students were introduced to some 3D shapes which they then cut and assembled into free standing/hanging sculptures influenced by Alexander Calder

RIGHT: Jess Payne and Estelle Tucker work on a Year 8 group sculpture in class based on natural forms with the helping hands of Tom Swain and Henry Crease



DRAMA

The musical *Into the Woods* was the ambitious choice for the senior play and the students rose to the challenge brilliantly. Written by the American composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim, *Into the Woods* interweaves the plots of several fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm, including Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk and Rapunzel. It explores the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests, mixing pathos, comedy and horror with fast-paced action. It was recently made into a film starring Meryl Streep, Emily Blunt, James Corden, Anna Kendrick and Johnny Depp amongst others.

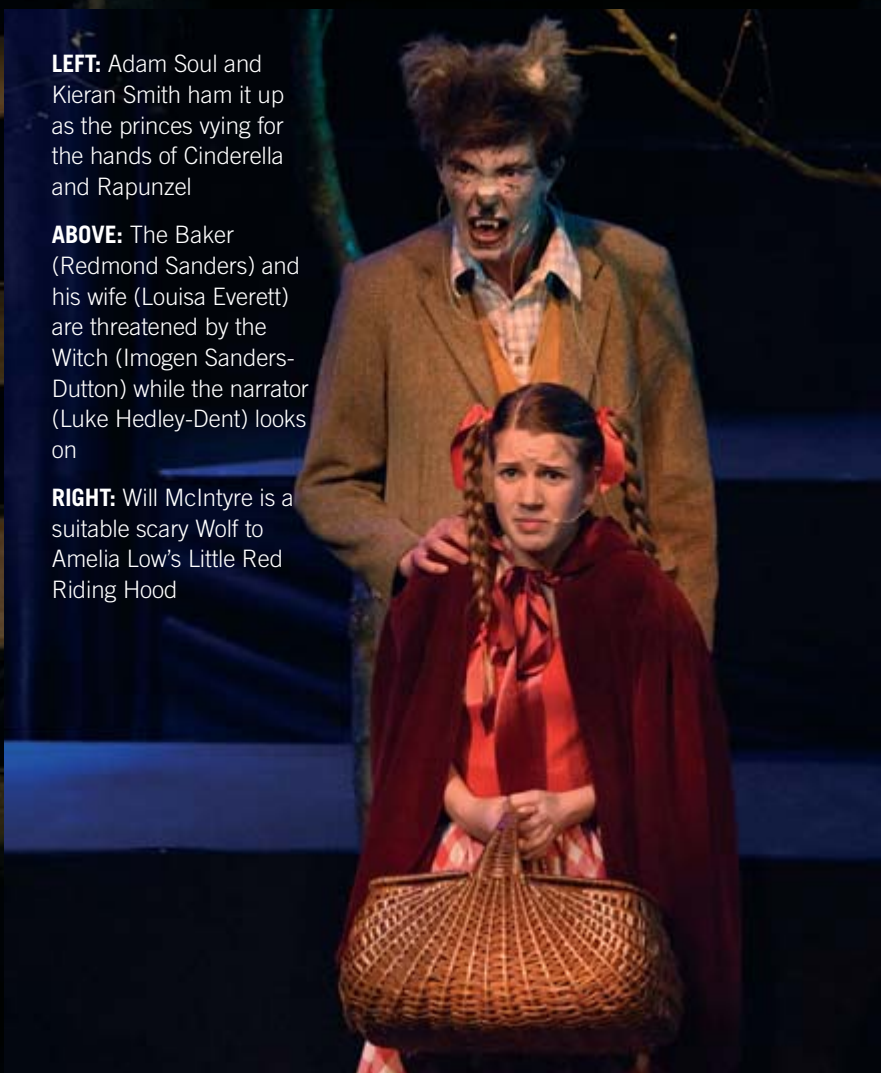
The three evening performances at Blundell's received standing ovations from the audience, with several commenting that the singing was as professional as that in the film. The School's artistic director James Rochfort said 'I knew we had a particularly talented bunch of singers so it made sense to choose a musical this year for the senior production. Taking risks and challenging the students is the most important thing and anything by Sondheim is certainly a challenge, but the mix of genres and fantastic music made 'Into the Woods' an irresistible choice.'

Blundell's students also played their part behind the scenes; the orchestra in action almost constantly, while others worked as stage managers, wardrobe assistants and Alex Thomas (Year 12) designed the lighting.

LEFT: Adam Soul and Kieran Smith ham it up as the princes vying for the hands of Cinderella and Rapunzel

ABOVE: The Baker (Redmond Sanders) and his wife (Louisa Everett) are threatened by the Witch (Imogen Sanders-Dutton) while the narrator (Luke Hedley-Dent) looks on

RIGHT: Will McIntyre is a suitable scary Wolf to Amelia Low's Little Red Riding Hood





ABOVE: Cinderella (Rosalie Sanders) with the her stepmother and step sisters (Jessica Gardner, Phillie May-Somerville and Frankie Thornton-Wood)

BELOW: The Witch (Imogen Sanders-Dutton) and her 'daughter' Rapunzel (Bethan Wesley)



ABOVE: The cast with a glimpse of the orchestra hard at work off-stage



LEFT: Jack (of beanstalk fame, played by Sparkle Menzies) with Milky White the cow (Clara Greenfield, Megan Grant, Felicity Charlesworth)



RUGBY

AFTER LAST YEAR'S IMPRESSIVE SEASON, THE BOYS PLACED HIGH EXPECTATIONS ON THEMSELVES TO TRY AND EMULATE THE PREVIOUS YEAR. A SUCCESSFUL PRE-SEASON WAS TOPPED OFF WITH AN IMPRESSIVE VICTORY AT THE SOUTHAMPTON PRE-SEASON TOURNAMENT WHERE WE BEAT A NUMBER OF NOTABLE SCHOOLS INCLUDING CANFORD AND DEAN'S CLOSE.

Following an unbeaten streak of 10 games against teams such as King's Taunton (53-10), Bryanston (29-22) and Colston's (69-0), Blundell's faced a Canford side who were wanting to avenge their pre-season defeat at Southampton. The match was played in monsoon conditions and unfortunately we narrowly lost out by 3 points in a match which could have gone either way. The team entered the Champions Cup for the second year running and, having beaten Bristol Grammar School in a thrilling match, were drawn against Epsom College in the quarter finals (the school that defeated us in the semi-final last year). We were unlucky not to get further in this competition but reaching the quarter final is still an impressive feat.

The final game was played in good spirit in the gathering darkness, rain and knee-deep mud. However, the boys played to the end in a closely fought defeat. On the whole, it was an excellent season, especially taking into account the number of injuries we received. Therefore, the ability of players to step out of their comfort zones and be called up at short notice should be highly commended. Full colours for rugby were awarded to Hugh Hamilton-Green, Will Klinkenberg, Jack Lockwood, Jono Slee and Archie Stoneman.

The whole squad would like to thank Mr Gabbitass, Mr Yapp and Mr Saunders for their coaching and enthusiasm. Special mention goes to Mr Saunders who, after running the rugby for several years, is handing over the reins to Mr Johnson. We wish Mr Saunders the best of luck coaching a younger team in the School.

The 'extra 1sts' coached by Mr Menheneott had some excellent performances, beating Colston's and Truro by more than 30 points. In the junior teams, the results have been strong with significant



LEFT AND TOP: The 1st XV in action against Epsom College in the quarter finals of the Champions Cup
Photographs courtesy of Angus Savage, Fifteen Rugby

ABOVE: The U12A rugby team have had an incredible season Photograph courtesy of M & Y Lacey Photography

wins for the U16As against the likes of Clifton and Bryanston. The under 12As had an incredible season with the highest win percentage in the School as well as recording the largest winning points difference by beating Plymouth College 80-10. With results such as this and the young talent benefitting from fantastic coaching, rugby looks promising in the coming seasons. **Archie Stoneman (Year 13) Captain of Rugby**

BELOW: The 1st XV rugby team
Photograph courtesy of M & Y Lacey Photography



HOCKEY

THE GIRLS' HOCKEY RESULTS HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL FOR ALL AGE GROUPS THIS SEASON.

The U12As have had a record-breaking season, winning all 17 of their matches and scoring over 100 goals while conceding just 11, with Ylva Von Blanquet as top goal scorer. The U12Bs are also unbeaten this season, having played 11 matches, won 9 and drawn 2.

The U13As have also had a great season and are Devon County Champions; they will be at the national championships later this year. The U14As are also County Champions (for the fifth year in a row) and have won 70% of their matches and reached the quarter finals of the West Finals.

The U15As have won the majority of their matches with ease, including against King's Bruton, Clifton College and West Buckland. Stand out performances were from Betty Stone and Savannah Regan. The U15Bs have also had some great wins, with the highlight of the season winning 4-0 against Clifton College.

On top of Saturday block fixtures, the U16s have qualified for the National Schools Finals for the fourth year running after winning both the Area and County Rounds and finishing second in the Regional Finals. We wish them the best of luck with training and at the tournament in March.



ABOVE AND RIGHT: The 1st XI in their match against King's Bruton, which was a draw 1-1. Photographs courtesy of King's Bruton

The 1st XI has had another positive set of results, losing just one game. Memorable matches were against Bristol Grammar School and Taunton with the scores of 3-1 and 4-0 respectively. Full colours for hockey were awarded to Annabel Sexton, Tash Finchett and Maddy and Josie Dart; our top scorer Millie Attwell was selected for the U16 England Squad. With nine Year 13s leaving the team, the results from lower down the school are very encouraging for Blundell's hockey in the future.

Mr H Jones



The U13s played a terrific match against Clifton Prep, winning 7-0



The 1st XI had a positive set of results, losing just one game



The U12A hockey team, who won all their matches this season

Photograph courtesy of M & Y Lacey Photography



Polly Muirhead on her way to a superb round at Bickton

RIDING

Blundell's riders rose to the challenge at the National Schools Equestrian Association qualifiers for Hickstead, producing some excellent results. At Pontispool, where the course of water complexes, banks and ditches in the arena all had a significant influence on the competition outcome, Blundell's youngest team put on a brave performance in the 80cm, while the more experienced team took 4th place, with Lara Clarkson achieving 2nd and Flic Charlesworth 5th individually. In the 90cm, the Blundell's team achieved a very creditable 5th place, while in the highest class, Georgia Wood produced a lovely round, just missing qualification and Bird Wood produced a near perfect score to gain equal 1st place and will represent Blundell's at the UK Arena Finals at Hickstead.

At the qualifier held at Bickton, Blundell's fielded teams in every class, with many great clear rounds in the lower levels, just missing the optimum time. Polly Muirhead dominated the biggest class of the day with a superb round to win, and with her impressive score, plus great supporting performances from Bird Wood, Archie Hare and Hannah Kidner, the team also took the top spot and have also qualified to compete at Hickstead in May. The team of Rachel Brown, Scarlett Vaux, Archie Hare and Georgia Wood have also qualified for the 90cm class at Hickstead.



THE FASTEST GROWING SPORT AT BLUNDELL'S?

Some of the cross-country runners after the Christmas run

As has been the case now for a few years at Blundell's, cross-country is becoming more and more popular. Blessed with a huge variety of running terrain surrounding the School, the groups this year have challenged themselves in all weather and temperatures to improve their running and all-round fitness. In the autumn term there were 38 runners, doing four sessions per week and averaging 20 miles per week. In the spring term, we have had 65 runners sign up (yes, SIGN UP!) for cross-country. With it being Russell season, one can understand why a few practice runs would be welcome; however, there seems to be a growing passion for running here at Blundell's, which is certainly no bad thing. As is always the case with Blundellians, all give 100% to their training and rarely is there a moan about conditions or distance.

The Christmas run was popular this year, although nobody still knows why Mr Clayton turned up in a fox suit. And so to the spring term – The Russell Term. The fields are getting muddier and the temperature has dropped, but this has had zero effect on enthusiasm. The Russell this year will be competed for over four races, with points being awarded for participation and placing. We have also had a few County representatives this term with Dougal Glaisher, Karl Still and Francis Huntingford being selected to run for East Devon Schools. On a tough course Dougal was successful in being selected to race for Devon Schools at Truro in February.

Mr G Baily



CYCLING

Buoyed by the enthusiasm shown by the School for the passing of the tour of Britain cycle race through the new 'shared space', Mr Clayton and Mr Dyer organised a cycling venture on Dartmoor for a few Blundellians. Luke Bartlett, Francis Huntingford and Dougal Glaisher mounted up on a balmy autumn afternoon and set off to tackle the most iconic climb in the South West – Hay Tor. The feat was all the more impressive given that Francis, despite being a renowned endurance athlete, had never cycled with clip-in pedals before!

The group completed a 40km circuit around the moor, including some pretty serious gradient riding. There was time to take in the view from the top of Hay Tor whilst Mr Dyer demonstrated 'long ride energy conservation' on the ascent. Despite one minor tumble (due to a particular pun being so hilarious it caused one of the group to lose balance) the ride was a success and a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was had by all. It is hoped in future that more rides of this type will be on offer as the ever increasing number of school cyclists are keen to make the most of our beautiful setting here in Devon. Mr J Clayton

BLUNDELL'S CANOE RACING SQUAD

THE RACING SQUAD IS GOING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH WITH INCREASING NUMBERS OF PADDLERS TRAINING FOUR TIMES A WEEK, ACHIEVING EXCELLENT RESULTS BOTH REGIONALLY AND NATIONALLY. OUR GREATEST CONSTRAINT NOW IS HAVING ENOUGH BOATS TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM!

In the National Schools Kayak Championships, which took place on the River Thames near Reading, both the novice championships were won by Blundell's crews, with Julia Huntingford and Samantha Unsworth-White taking the girls' trophy and Sam Taylor and Gus Gresswell the boys' trophy, with the runners-up also a Blundell's crew of Will Hones and Alastair Johnson-Ferguson. These three crews together with Alice Channon and Sophie Donne won the novice team event overall.

In the senior competition, Francis Huntingford and Dougal Glaisher were just beaten into second place, in both sprints and marathon, by a crew from Langley School (who are part of GB junior Olympic talent ID squad). The mixed team runners-up were Joe White and Bethan Wesley, the senior girls runners-up were Tabi Pring and Jess Gardner and Blundell's came third overall in the team event.

Students have also taken part in various ocean ski events, securing top position in the GB U18 series. Six crews are in training in K2s and three in K1s for the Devizes to Westminster Canoe marathon and Dougal and Francis (who won the Junior Doubles at the DW last year) were awarded Full Colours for Canoeing. **Mrs A Taylor-Ross**



Winners of the novice national championships Sam Taylor and Gus Gresswell, who said of the training 'The fitness sessions trump that of any rugby fitness I had ever endured, with six mile runs being the norm...canoeing has made us fitter than we have ever been before'



Julia Huntingford and Samantha Unsworth-White who won the girls' novice trophy

BASKETBALL



The Blundell's Bulls basketball team
Photograph courtesy of M & Y Lacey Photography

The Blundell's Bulls had an exciting basketball season, winning two tournaments for the first time ever against local rivals, Wellington and Taunton School, and some great games against established teams like Millfield! Mr Lodge was particularly impressed with the sheer enthusiasm of the team this year – the entire squad simply loved basketball, and that showed in every match.



PADDLERS IN TARIFA

Relaxing after a hard day's paddling in Tarifa

During the Christmas holidays, a group of paddlers spent a week of surf-skiing at the most southerly point in Europe – Tarifa. Despite the monsoonal start to the trip, most of our time was spent paddling in the glorious Spanish sun between two oceans, two continents and three countries under the expert instruction of the legendary Boyan.

We started the week with individual video feedback on our technique, and then by putting Boyan's tips for efficient forward stroke in to practice. We were then taught the basics of surfing, and practised by catching baby waves in Gibraltar Bay, the more sheltered, Mediterranean side of Tarifa during the stormy first few days. When the sun finally shone, we donned our wetsuits, and headed out into the ocean.

By the end of the week, we were all catching the ocean swell, picking up confidence and speed as we surfed over reefs and along the stunning Spanish coastline. The independence we had on the trip taught us skills for life like budgeting and cooking and being resourceful to avoid starvation (particularly when we realised, too late, that Spanish shops all shut on Sundays).

The six Blundellians who went thoroughly enjoyed the laid back lifestyle of a surfski dude. We had to be dragged off the sand dunes and out of the sun to Malaga airport, to be home just in time for Christmas.

Jess Gardner and Bethan Wesley (Year 13)





DURING THE AUTUMN HALF TERM, 22 YOUNG FOOTBALL TALENTS AND PRODIGIES EMBARKED ON A FOUR DAY LONG FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT TOUR TO BARCELONA.

The tour included training early every morning with the team coaches from the renowned Spanish club Reial Espanyol on their all-weather state of the art 4G pitches; a playing surface that completely bemused us after years of playing on uneven soggy grass pitches back home. After we had finally acclimatised ourselves to the conditions underfoot, we finally got to the development part of the tour and were able to learn from some genuine ex-Spanish footballers and real coaches. Something new that they taught us was the classic Spanish warm-up game of El Rondo, which is not only used by professionals but is also a game played in the park by children.

Not only did this tour consist of training every morning, but also consisted of a lot of watching of football; something we all enjoyed as it allowed us to see how real football is played. On our first full day, after training we leapt upon the opportunity to tour the Camp Nou (Barcelona's famous home ground) – a breath-taking stadium, rightfully challenging for one of the best in the world. Although we missed the opportunity to watch Barcelona in their full glory, we were given the luxury of watching a more local game a day later, Reial Espanyol against FC Eiber. As a hardcore football fan myself I must say this

was one of the best games I have ever watched; it was a six goal thriller.

On our first and second night of the tour we played two Spanish club football teams at their home grounds. Whilst we were waiting for our kick-off, we decided to watch the Spaniards train before we were allowed on the pitch. Needless to say, the training 10 year olds possessed more skill than the entirety of our first team. After the first squad got slaughtered in a champions league-esc match with cameras, floodlights, entry applause and perhaps the most shocking of them all, an audience, the second squad proceeded to then face the same fate, losing by only 6 goals to nil. We came back harder and more determined on day two and managed to scrape a 4-1 loss. Despite still losing, that one goal made it feel much more like a victory. Speaking of victory, it is rumoured that the firsts won their second fixture 1-0! Although this is considerably hard to believe considering that both teams

we had faced over the two days were in the same league as Barcelona B.

These were the main planned events of the tour but this was to no extent all that the tour had to offer. During our final day we played football against each other on a beach just outside our hotel – purely a game to execute skill and play without any pressure after days of vigorous training. It was at this point we got to see everyone's true passion for the sport itself.

To conclude a great trip, we celebrated by going out to a bowling alley on the final night. I can confidently say that I speak on behalf of the whole squad when saying that we thoroughly enjoyed the trip and the opportunities that were presented to us; the tour was definitely an amazing way to aid our development in football. Huge praise must go to Mr Balsdon for organising the whole trip, and also extending out to Mr Hawkins for travelling with such a rowdy group of 'football hooligans'. **Max Payne (Year 12)**

TOP: Training under Spanish skies

BELOW: The football squad





William Scripps and Jessie Zhu with their medals and trophy

GOING GREAT GUNS

Blundell's shooting has developed over the past few years, having been inspired by the Blundell's Magpies Rifle Club, set up by Old Blundellians, mainly to support and encourage pupils' shooting activity at school.

The pupils are encouraged to start as early as Years 7 and 8 and then progress through the years. For those new to shooting, the School has a junior marksmanship programme primarily using air rifles, normally during a Tuesday activity period. As they become more proficient, they can move onto small bore shooting. Those who are skilled in the art of marksmanship form the nucleus of the shooting team. To shoot full bore, the pupils are required to be cadets in the School's Combined Cadet Force (compulsory in Year 10) and shoot the SA80 rifle.

Recently we have competed in a number of competitions including Devon Leagues, Exeter League, West Kent Rifle League and Bisley. We have had a number of successes and most recently Jessie Zhu (Year 13) won the individual competition in the Prince William of Wales Cup for her division and the pairs with William Scripps (Year 12), to add to their haul of medals and trophies over the last year. Jessie has been particularly successful winning the majority of competitions she enters, a remarkable achievement as she only started shooting a year ago.

The marksmanship programme encourages up to 30 students a week to take part in shooting, mainly as a fun activity, but there are also other benefits. These include developing personal qualities such as dedication and discipline and helping pupils to become more self-confident.



The Williams Cup is an opportunity for Year 9s to bond with their tutor groups near the start of the new academic year away from the School environment. This the Gorton House girls' report of the experience.

The GH girls travelled with the Year 9s from the other houses to participate in the Williams Cup at Wimbleball Reservoir during September. The first task was to put the tents up which proved easier for some than others!

The next activity was to do a presentation as a tutor group which Mrs Huggett was going to judge. Miss Grant's tutor group recreated the Royal Marines advert, with Zoe Dare taking the lead and Mrs Weaver's tutor group invented a game, with Molly Clayton as lead. There were so many varied presentations from all the tutor groups, including a stag built out of twigs, set alight by Petergate,

drumming from Old House, a dance routine from North Close and even a shelter with separate rooms built by Francis House.

The weather took a turn for the worse on Sunday; it was very cold and wet, but it did not stop the enthusiastic GH girls who took part in all the activities with enthusiasm. There was axe throwing and archery, as well as catapult building. Many of the other activities took place on the lake, such as sailing, stand-up paddle boarding, rafting, kayaking and windsurfing. Some of the activities had tasks which earned points that went towards the Williams Cup. For example, we had

to try to get as many girls as possible standing upon a paddleboard. Another task was to see how long it took to get everybody back in the inflatable dinghy out in the middle of the lake. It was incredibly muddy on the edge of the lake and several of us lost our shoes or slipped over, which was very amusing!

We really had to work as a team and communicate with each other, especially in the catapult building. We managed to score maximum points for both accuracy and distance and everybody played a part in this, whether it was tying the knots, holding the logs, launching the ball or catching the ball.

We were sad to return to school on the Monday evening. It was a tiring two days, but we had a lot of fun and got to know our tutor group much better. A big thank you must go to Mr Olive and all the staff who helped to make the two days such fun. The following day, we found out that we had won the Williams Cup for 2016!

GH Year 9





PSHE: what, how, who?

When House Parents, parents, and teachers are asked to make a list of their main concerns about raising young people today, their concerns are online safety, bullying, mental and physical health, the prevalence of pornography, too much digital viewing, not enough sleep, fears regarding alcohol and drugs, and sexualisation at a younger age. These concerns are echoed in the UK press on a national scale.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economics education) can't pretend to adequately cover all of the above issues to allay fears, but this year we are overhauling the PSHE programme to ensure our young people are given the information, skills and confidence to make the right decisions for themselves. In many of our lessons, feedback reflects a thirst for knowledge but also the common sense and strength of character of our students to have the courage to do what they believe to be right.

At Blundell's, PSHE has long been part of the weekly curriculum, classified as an academic subject in the timetable allocating students in Years 7-11 one 40 minute PSHE lesson a week, in addition to their tutor periods, taught by one of nine PSHE teachers in the School. In the sixth form, students attend lectures held each half term.

Given the range of subjects and sensitive as well as practical issues covered, PSHE cannot be taught in isolation and we are constantly updating lessons to reflect lessons in other subjects. The most obvious example would be sex education where PSHE can investigate the more emotional elements of relationships, in conjunction with Biology lessons which address the physical elements. With Year 9 recently studying the Holocaust, PSHE lessons will consolidate History lessons by looking in more detail at

human rights organisations, racism and anti-Semitism around the world today.

PSHE ties in closely with the School's Roots and Wings, helping students to become aware of their own strengths of character, and identifying areas which can be developed, such as self-esteem or confidence. We also align with experiences outside of the classroom, on the pitch, stage, moors or river, to back up the theory with practical learning. For example, the Year 9 Field Day this term was with Empathy Action, an organisation aiming to bring to life the problems faced every day by people living in slums, and how international aid is just a small part of the wider solutions – tying in with Geography and PSHE as well as the work of the Charity Committee. The longer term aim is that students become more aware of things they themselves can do, through knowledge and action, by having empathy with those less fortunate than ourselves.

The sixth form have had the opportunity to feed into their lecture programme. The many sessions they have enjoyed have included a talk from Sibusio Vilane, the first African to climb Everest (his story from barefoot goat herder to explorer was almost secondary to his message that you can achieve whatever you want) and a Q&A session with the Islamic Society of Exeter University, exploring what it is like to be a young Muslim in the UK today. The sixth form have been instrumental in using their experiences to teach the younger year groups – for example, in Kindness and Tolerance week.

Future choices play a big part in the PSHE programme, looking at motivations for working, what counts as personal success, and changing types of careers and options



TOP: Year 11 practising interview skills at the employability event

ABOVE: Sibusio Vilane with sixth form students

for 'Life After Blundell's'. Using online tools such as Kudos, Morrisby and Unifrog, students are encouraged to investigate careers they have never heard of and the types of skills and experiences that will make them most attractive to future employers. We introduce them to presenting themselves in interviews, and teach them letter etiquette for CVs and cover letters, email and even answering wedding invitations. Setting up their own work experience is a big part of their practical application of these new skills – many Year 11s found their placements during the Careers Fair using new-found skills from an employability event held earlier in the day.

Going forward we welcome parents and OBs' input into the programme, for careers, lesson ideas, outside speaker programmes or to discuss concerns raised in lessons which may trigger conversations at home, or from reports in the media. These issues are big issues but if handled openly and constructively I have every confidence our students are in a good place to have the moral courage to make the right decisions for themselves. **Mrs A Taylor-Ross**



LEFT: The Chapel was consecrated in 1883



ABOVE: Ondaatje Hall, built in 1989, provides a central focus for the creative arts, as a venue for plays, musicals, concerts and lectures and exhibition space for photography, sculpture, painting and drawing

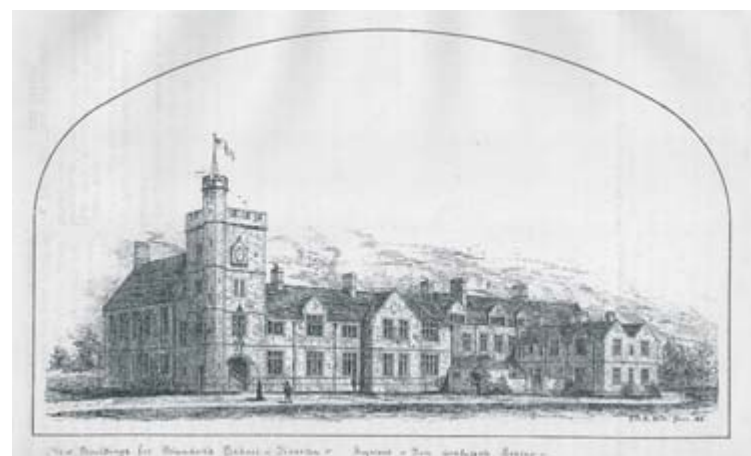
BELOW: The architect's drawings for the new Blundell's School, built 135 years ago

CELEBRATING 135 YEARS

Blundell's was founded in 1604 and was originally located in Tiverton by the River Lowman (which frequently flooded the School grounds much to the delight of pupils who were then given a holiday). Then 135 years ago, in May 1882, the whole School moved up the road to its new and current home at Horsdon, and in the same year two boarding houses (School House and Old House) were built (see page 44 for more on this) .

Within ten years, pupil numbers had trebled to 250 and more boarding houses were built so that, as Victoria's reign came to an end, Blundell's had again taken its place among the country's great schools, with high scholastic achievement

and distinguished performance in games. Since those days there has been continued growth and change, with new developments such as Ondaatje Hall (thanks to the munificence of Sir Christopher Ondaatje), the Popham Centre, the Music School, Westlake as a house for Year 13 and much more. Girls were admitted in 1975, with full co-education starting in 1992, and the number of pupils recently reached 600 for the first time in the School's history. As we celebrate 135 years of the School at its present site, we have occasion to be grateful for the support of those who have added to Peter Blundell's initial generosity: 'Great trees from goodly acorns grow'!



ABOVE: Pupil numbers have grown steadily reaching an all-time high of 600 in the Senior School recently

RIGHT: The original Westlake was built in 1886 but in 2002 the decision was taken to sell the site; it is now Popham Close. The name was retained for an upper sixth house which was first occupied in 2004 with new extensions added, most recently the study centre built last year. The modern Westlake provides a pre-university stepping stone towards independent living for boys and girls



Welcome

I can't quite believe that we are half way through the current academic year; after the long autumn term, the spring term seems to be going in a flash. As everyone gears up for exams, there are some very hard working pupils around the campus juggling academic work and the mountain of extra-curricular activities on offer. It was wonderful to hear of our Oxbridge success, with three OBs from 2016 and three current pupils receiving offers, at Cambridge and Oxford colleges. Many congratulations from the Development Office and OB Club.

As always, this is my opportunity to thank you for all your support of the wide-ranging initiatives and events organised by the Development Office. Many of the activities that take place beyond the school day would not happen without the assistance and support of so many members of our Blundell's Community. We are very grateful for everything you do for the benefit of current and future pupils, from funding projects, passing on knowledge and making gifts in wills – all make such a difference.

You will find enclosed with this edition of the Diary our 'Take a Seat' fundraising project for the next phase of our redevelopment of Big School. This initiative is open to everyone and celebrates the 50th anniversary of Big School. Please do get involved by purchasing a seat and have a plaque inscribed for you, your family or in recognition of A N Other as part of this exciting next chapter.

There are details of past, present and future events in these pages; do please come along and support the events which are taking place for the first time. These include our Blundell's Community Black Tie Dinner which has an excellent speaker and promises to be an entertaining event. We are also introducing decade reunions so look forward to having leavers of 2007, 1992 and 1967 with us during the year; more details on the following pages. It has long been our wish to have a regular bi-monthly casual drinks reception in London, so if you would like to join us, please do let us know and encourage your fellow OBs to join us.

One particular aspect for which I ask for your support is to assist with the forthcoming fundraising and data protection regulations coming into force in 2018. Legislation is about to get much tighter. By May 2018, we will need to obtain 'explicit consent' to contact you via a variety of media; this will

include the various association connections of the Blundell's Community such as the Old Blundellian Club and OB Sporting Societies. Promoting a book by an OB in this magazine may count as 'marketing' and mentioning future plans at Blundell's may be deemed as 'fundraising'.

By completing the enclosed update form you are giving express consent to Blundell's School to hold your data for the following purposes: to send you promotional communications, for example, notices about events and reunions, and occasionally to send you details of our future plans and how you might be able to support them financially, without expectation or pressure. You may opt out of specific communications or channels of communication (mail, email or telephone/text) by writing to the Development Office, or by emailing devoffice@blundells.org or by calling 01884 243262.

We would be grateful, therefore, if you would kindly read and complete the form and return it using the FREEPOST address at the bottom of the form. Information obtained by Blundell's is held in accordance with the Data Protection Act, treated confidentially and with sensitivity. We do not sell or swap addresses with any other organisation. Addresses, email addresses and telephone details are released only with express permission of the individuals concerned. Blundell's will hold your data, and will use this to send you information (e.g. event invitations) and occasional details of our development campaigns, in compliance with the highest standards of data protection and in line with fundraising best practice.

As a member of the Blundell's Community, you have a unique perspective on life at and beyond the School. We value your opinions, observations and suggestions on how we can further develop the engagement between the School and the community by providing the right opportunities for you to benefit from continuing your relationship with Blundell's.

As always, I would be delighted for OBs to join me for lunch in the Dining Hall; just give me a call so that I can make the necessary arrangements. Thank you again for your hugely valued support.



Amber Oliver

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SOCIAL MEDIA



Catch up with the latest news and event details on Blundell's Twitter account (@BlundellsSchool) and Facebook (Blundell's School Community).

Current Activities and Events

Regular Annual Giving Fund

Please do support our annual giving fund which will be mailed in March and includes a wide range of projects such as the restoration of the Steinway piano, provision of tablets throughout the Science Department, purchase of cameras for all year groups across the Art Department, an Honours Board for the Drama Department, refurbishment of the assault course to encourage greater use beyond the CCF. All houses have individual projects for which they are also actively wishing to secure funding to enable the improvement of life in the boarding houses, over and above the provision made from the annual budget spend. The focus at the Pre-Prep and Prep School will be to purchase musical equipment to foster an interest in a variety of instruments. With the success of the Canoe Club there is an ever increasing need to purchase canoes to support the squad along with a host of other individual sport projects.

All support makes a difference either as a regular monthly, termly, annual donor or one-off gift. The fund is set up to enable projects around the campus and within the houses to come to fruition which wouldn't get funded under the usual annual surplus. They support enhancement for all our pupils and also underpin bursaries and travel tours wherever possible.

Thank you to all those who have supported Blundell's through sponsorship and advertising including:

Teoni's Cookies	Silclear Ltd
Cosway Soft Furnishings	Knight Frank
Firewatch Ltd	Aardvark EM Ltd
Heathcoat Fabrics Ltd	Lumea
Ashwood Shepherd Huts	Woofenden Construction Ltd
South West Dairy Services Ltd	Hartnoll Hotel
Quantock Conservatories	Hunting Mad
National Westchem	Westward Joinery Ltd
Kingston Building Contractors Ltd	Jayphotos
NJT Plumbing and Heating Ltd	Jolly Vintner
Mercedes-Benz South West	Star XC
Western Counties Equine Hospital Ltd	Downe Farm Event Centre
Cave Veterinary Specialists	



THE RUSSELL VETERANS' RACE

Saturday 11th March

We do hope many of you will join us this year for The Russell. Old Blundellians, current and former parents and other Blundell's supporters are all invited to participate in the Veterans' race commencing at 3pm. The check in and start line will be at the back of the Prep School with categories for under 25, 25-40, 40-50 and over 50 for both men and women. There are trophies for the fastest OB, parent and staff member. Join us immediately following the race for afternoon tea and the prize giving in the Beale Centre. If you would like to run, please email devoffice@blundells.org to register and sign the disclaimer form.

Black Tie Dinner **Saturday 22nd April**



Thomas Plant, Guest Speaker
at the Black Tie Dinner

This is a Black Tie Dinner for Old Blundellians, current and former parents and Year 13 pupils. Our guest speaker will be Old Blundellian and BBC's Bargain Hunt expert Thomas Plant BA Hons ASFAV. Thomas is also a Director of Special Auction Services specialising in jewellery, watches, silver, antiques and fine art.

After leaving school and undertaking a degree in Fine Art Valuation, he began working at Phillips in Bath where he worked his way up through several departments including wine, pictures, silver, books and jewellery.

It was when the BBC approached Phillips asking to film an auction for Bargain Hunt that Thomas got his TV break.

In 2005, he and business partner Neil Shuttleworth took over Special Auction Services and

have since grown it into a thriving auction house which holds over 50 sales a year.

Hear more from Thomas about what inspired his love of auctions and find out more about his TV career – you may also recognise him from Flog it and The Antiques Roadtrip.

Tickets are available now from the Development Office, make up a table of ten or individuals welcome. Ticket price £40 includes an arrival drinks reception, a delicious four course meal and cash bar. At the conclusion of the evening there will be an auction with the fundraising activity supporting the Regular Giving Fund projects identified for 2017. Auction prizes include weekends away at The Mullion Cove Hotel and the Thurstlestone Hotel and an exclusive dinner for ten prepared by our own Masterchef Craig Sampson, alongside several more unique lots.



Meeting prospective parents at the Dubai Boarding Schools Fair recently

Forthcoming Overseas Receptions

Please do let the Development Office know if you are able to join us at any of the following receptions planned for the spring and summer; you will receive an invitation if we have your current address, but please do let us know if you think your contact details may be out of date.

Hong Kong – By kind permission of Toby Bland (SH 84-89) at The Hong Kong Club, drinks and canapé reception between 6pm and 8pm on Monday 3rd April. Please come along and meet the Head, Nicola Huggett, and Development Director, Amber Oliver, and mingle with former pupils, current and former parents.

Thailand – InterContinental Hotel, with the kind assistance of Kaew Abhawadee (current parent) on Wednesday 5th April between 6pm and 8pm. Please come along and meet the Head and Amber Oliver and mingle with former pupils, current and former parents.

New York – InterContinental Hotel, Times Square Gardens on Friday 28th April between 6.30pm and 8.30pm. Meet the Head and Amber Oliver as well as fellow Old Blundellians.

Bermuda – Fairmont Hotel, casual drinks reception on Thursday 21st September in the Marcus Bar between 6pm and 8pm to meet members of the Blundell's community together with Jo Jeffrey, Director of Marketing and Communications for Blundell's and Amber Oliver, Development Director.

We will also be holding a reception in **Kenya** on Monday 23rd October (venue tbc) and in **Germany** in the autumn term (date and venue tbc). Please register your interest now.

Cricket at the Ted Crowe Room, Somerset County Cricket Ground



We are very fortunate to have the Ted Crowe Room at Somerset County Cricket Ground, donated to the Old Blundellian Cricket Club by Sir Christopher Ondaatje, for use by the Blundell's Community and supporters. We will be hosting the following four events during the forthcoming cricket season, when many of our current pupils attending these events will be hoping to meet Dom Bess (FH 10-15), former Captain of Cricket at the School and now an inspirational player for Somerset County Cricket Club (profiled later in these pages). If you would like to know more about attending the box or about membership, please do contact us at devoffice@blundells.org

Sunday 9th April – the third day of the Somerset v Oxford MCCU. Reception for parents of current Year 13 and Year 13 pupils who need a couple hours out of exam revision.

Sunday 21st May – the third day of Somerset v Warwickshire, when parents from the Prep and Senior Schools are invited to lunch and a day of cricket at the box: places strictly limited, please book early.

Monday 22nd May – the Master in Charge of Cricket, Liam Lewis, is escorting our Year 7 pupils to enjoy an afternoon of the fourth day of Somerset v Warwickshire.

Thursday 14th September – the third day of Somerset v Lancashire, for parents and recent Year 13 leavers (summer 2017) before they commence their university courses, gap years etc. Again, early booking advised.

We are also able to secure other days of play dependent on demand, please contact us as above.



Drinks at the In and Out Club 2015

LONDON CASUAL DRINKS

Thursday 11 May

We are very grateful to the Sullings family who have kindly agreed to host the very popular London casual drinks reception to celebrate the life of OB James Goff (M 75-79) at The Former In & Out Club courtyard. James first hosted this wonderful event at the Light Bar in 2010 and annually ever since at a variety of his London venues, including Hyde Park Lodge last summer. As you can read in an extract of his obituary, written by OB Reverend David Stanton (W 74-79), Canon at Westminster Abbey, James is going to be missed by so many people, not least the Blundell's Community (the full obituary can be read on the OB website). Please join us between 6pm – 8pm to make a toast to this most generous man.

DEVON COUNTY SHOW DRINKS RECEPTION

Thursday 18th May

We are delighted to be hosting our annual drinks reception at the Devon County Show at our usual spot opposite the Food and Drink marquee. Please come and join the Head, Nicola Huggett, between 12 noon and 2pm and meet our Head Chef Craig Sampson, (a former Masterchef finalist) and discuss his catering vision for Blundell's and his passion for local food provenance. He will be delighted to share some of his experiences with you whilst you can enjoy a selection of his delicious canapés.





Painting of the Queen Mother opening Big School

REUNIONS

We would like to gather together those who are celebrating various anniversaries since leaving Blundell's with the following reunions:

Tuesday 12th September – a casual reception in Tiverton during the early evening for those who left in summer 2016, hopefully catching most of you before you go back to university or on with your other plans.

Tuesday 26th September – a ten year reunion for leavers of 2007, a casual drinks reception in London (venue to be confirmed in Victoria) 5.30pm onwards; first round courtesy of Blundell's Development Office.

Saturday 4th November – for those celebrating 25 years since they left in 1992, please join us at Blundell's Beale Centre for a celebratory lunch at 12 noon onwards, £10.00 per head with cash bar.

Saturday 2nd December – leavers of 1967, please join us for a celebratory 50 year dinner in Big School, where we will be hosting a Black Tie Dinner to celebrate 50 years since it was opened by the Queen Mother. Tickets £35 to include a three course dinner with arrival drinks reception and cash bar. 1967 leavers will be given priority booking.

Contact the Development Office for further information and to ensure you receive an invitation email devoffice@blundells.org or speak to Amber Oliver if you have any queries.



OLD BLUNDELLIAN DAY

Saturday 17th June

For this first OB Day of Richard Swarbrick's tenure as Chairman, there is no particular theme. We are hoping to attract large numbers of OBs from across the spectrum and are looking forward to seeing more OBs organise tables of friends or of those with similar interests. We have a regular Magpies' table, a Governors' table and a Battlefield Tour table. It would be nice to see a retired staff table, a cricket table, House tables (especially as OH and SH are celebrating their 135th anniversaries this year), a Music table etc. If you need contact details of contemporaries, please contact Janet or Paddy.

We are delighted to welcome David Fursdon as President for the Day. David arrived at Blundell's in 1979 to teach Geography and run the cricket. He taught until 1984 and immediately became a Governor, taking the Chair from 2000 to 2011, a period during which radical changes took place at Blundell's creating the School that is so successful today. David was a Tutor in Westlake and his wife, Catriona, was a GH Tutor from 1980 to 1992. Their three sons also attended Blundell's.

Having stepped down as Chairman of the CLA, David took up further office as the Lord Lieutenant of Devonshire which he fits in with management of Fursdon House and consultancy. We are grateful to him for making time to join us on OB Day and hope that cricketers from his era, Westlake pupils, Gorton House pupils and all those who were

The North Close table at OB Day 2016

involved with him during his time as a Governor will come and support him on OB Day.

Alistair Deighton-Gibson arrived to teach Biology in 1981 and has recently retired. Many of you will remember him from the swimming pool, rugby pitch or as Housemaster of Milestones. Now you will have the opportunity to hear him preach in Chapel! We hope Milestonians, swimmers and others taught by Alistair will get tables together.

There will be an exhibition of memorabilia from David's time at Blundell's, 1979 to 2011, taking visitors through some of the changes at Blundell's during David and Alistair's time.

Tickets for the day are available from Janet Wooff at the OB Club for £20 per head for those in full time education or over 65, £25 per head for applicants prior to 1st May and £30 for all those applying after that date. The price includes pre-lunch drinks, lunch with two bottles of wine per table and tea. Tickets will be sold only to OBs until 1st May; thereafter the wider Blundell's community may purchase tickets, if available.

Old Blundellian Day

Provisional programme

10am AGM of the OB Club, Beale Centre

10am 1979-2011 memorabilia exhibition open, Abram Room, Beale Centre

11am Chapel Service

10.30am onwards shooting range open for Magpies v School

12 noon Drinks with the staff

12.45pm Magpie presentation, Beale Centre

2pm Cricket on Big Field, Tennis and other School sports fixtures

4pm OB Tennis v School

4.30pm Afternoon Tea, Beale Centre

1604 Society Lunch

Thursday 14th September

Save the date for our 1604 Society lunch in the Masters Dining Room at Blundell's, hosted by the Head, Nicola Huggett, at 12.30pm until 2.30pm. If you have very generously made provision for the School with a gift in your will, and are happy for us to know that you have done so, please contact Amber Oliver so that she can ensure that you are sent an invitation to this annual 'thank you' luncheon.

If you would like to discuss how a legacy, no matter what size, can support Blundell's, and enable future generations to enjoy the wonderful education Blundell's can provide, please contact Amber on 01884 232324 for a confidential conversation.

James Goff



James Goff was a larger than life figure in the Shoreditch property world. In a career that spanned several decades, principally in Shoreditch but reaching as far as Ibiza, he captured the hearts of many with his seemingly effortless charm and wit. He was a generous man who lived life to the full; at times larger than life and

often loud and full of exuberance, yet fundamentally sensitive, intuitive and kind. James has many wonderful children of whom he was extremely proud, and he loved them, and all those who were very close to him. At heart he was a country boy, often describing his perfect day in terms of a rural idyll: relaxing in a quiet Devon orchard, not distracted by urban clamour, with not a care in the world.

Born in Devon, James attended Bramdean Prep School in Exeter and then went on to Blundell's School (1974-1979) where he officially excelled at Rugger and Judo and rather surprisingly exhibited a flair for studying Divinity A level with David Hamer and Charles Noon. From there he went on to Bristol Polytechnic to read Surveying and entered very enthusiastically into the extra curricular activities of undergraduate life.

However the bright lights of the London property world quickly lured him away from the West Country. He founded Stirling Ackroyd in 1985, specialising in both commercial and residential markets, becoming an undeniable pioneer of the Shoreditch property game. His company has since spread it's wings across the breadth of London, and now with over 100 employees, includes iconic Shoreditch venues such as The Light Bar and Paper Dress.

Soon after arriving in Shoreditch in the early 1980s his father came to visit him. Having provided his son with a fine boarding school education at Blundell's, Goff senior did very little to disguise his disapproval of his son's chosen location. In no uncertain words he exclaimed "What on earth are you doing here? What has happened? What have I done wrong to find you in this dump?" James stood his ground, and just as well he did, for his vision in spotting Shoreditch as an up and coming area was little short of spectacular. As James said himself, "The low values and the building attracted me there in the first place. I thought hang on, this is right next to the city, one day this is going to happen. It probably took longer than I thought, but you know, there it is...it's got its own identity, it is a place, a real place."

Ever since leaving school, James has been a very proud Old Blundellian and for many years generously sponsored gatherings of OBs at his various wine bars and restaurants here in London. He is much missed and his memory will live on for years to come.

David Stanton (Westlake 1974-79).

Recent Events



Overseas Receptions

Julian Sykes, Nicola Huggett and Doug Frith at the Bermuda reception

It was with great pleasure that we met with some of our overseas Old Blundellians and current and former parents at several of our Overseas Receptions whilst attending School Fairs in both Dubai and Bermuda in the autumn term. A special thank you to parent Elaine Campbell who helped organise our event in Bermuda; it was wonderful to meet up with two former OBs there who hadn't realised that some colleagues of theirs were sending their children to Blundell's. Julian Sykes (NC 74-78) commented how much he

enjoyed meeting other Bermudians who have or have had children attend Blundell's, and took great delight in telling them about the School in the 1970s; hopefully we can persuade him and Doug Frith (OH 71-76) to revisit Blundell's sometime in the near future. Again, it was lovely to see some of our current parents and former pupils at the casual drinks reception at the YNOT Bar at the Dubai InterContinental Hotel in October; thank you to all those who managed to attend the receptions.



Julian Sykes with his fellow members of North Close in 1978

FOOD, DRINK AND HOSPITALITY RECEPTION

We welcomed Guy Bentley (FH 72-76) to the Food, Drink and Hospitality reception when he gave members of the Blundell's Community and current pupils, interested in working within the industry, a wonderfully informative and interesting talk. He spoke about the work of Blue, the Glion Institute of Higher Education, which is the world-leading hospitality business school with campuses in Switzerland and London. Pupils were very interested in exploring the opportunities that Guy introduced to them and which will prove to be an enduring support for Blundell's pupils wishing to secure training and work in this profession in the future.

Hare & Hounds, Wimbledon Common

A huge thank you to our esteemed Hare and Hounds team organiser **Giles Stimson (NC 60-65)**; we are very grateful for all his efforts to co-ordinate the Blundell's team at the race in December and are delighted to print his post event report here.

On the day, fog drove back half our team. Without Will Holland (P 86-91), I had a quick team talk with myself and decided that the tactic was not to be daunted. There were, as I later learned, a mere 203 other runners, many of whom were warming up at the start by doing exercises that I now only dream of.

About 200 set off at a goodly pace which I hoped they could not possibly keep up. As I only passed a few of them, I guess they did. In fact, the winner was just outside the course record of doing the five miles of firm to muddy ground in just over 25 minutes. You understand, of course, that I learned this at the end too. You may get more interesting information from this link <https://opentrack.info/c/alumni/alumni/finish>

The headline is more, with regret, a bottom line.

But that does not take into account anything other than the Open Race where your team drove itself to an individual position of 18d. There could be a stewards' inquiry into this as in fact no. 182 stopped just before the finishing line to have a chat with a mate, not realising that he had not yet crossed the line. I sailed across the finishing line ahead of him. He objected, strongly, on the grounds that he had stopped.

The Supreme Court may not have accepted this as a good ground of objection but in the spirit of chivalry and hopelessness we offered him the position anyway. Now I see that he was from Sherborne.

Looking more deeply into these fascinating statistics of unknown names and endless numbers, we see that your team came off the bottom line in V60 category by all of two places, i.e. 14/16. And individually I came 15/27. We have to dig ever deeper for crumbs of comfort. Next year of course will be completely different. You will not be flying out of, or into, Heathrow at the same time as the race, going to Cornwall, injured or fog bound. And I will be in the V70 category which will give a whole new perspective on racing in SW19. Sadly, for me, so also will the organiser of the race (yet another runner from Winchester) and doubtless several others as well. If it is on the equivalent day and time next year, the race will be at 2.30pm on Saturday 16th December.

So keep up the good training everyone! I was very sorry not to see you and look forward to us all coming off the bottom line next year. Interestingly, Sherborne seem to have had the most runners with 22. Now if that isn't a challenge! They were not particularly remarkable either. Unlike Winchester who had three in the first 20 including the winner and who did win the Open Team prize. As with the mob matches at Thames, it is generally the strength in numbers which counts.

PARENTS' SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Thank you to our committee for all their help since the start of this academic year. There have been a number of Year Group/House specific events and the committee is very grateful for your support for these. We had a great turnout again for the Fireworks Reception at the Senior School Fireworks and had the good fortune of a clear night to see the spectacular display whilst enjoying the warmth of the Beale Centre.

A welcome to Nancy Millington and Justine Withey who have agreed to become the Year 7 parent representatives on the committee and a huge thank you to Lara Wielenga, who has handed over the reins after all her work on compiling the contact list. We are delighted to have two other new members who will help generally with our events. If you have any suggestions of events and activities that you would like the committee to consider, please do let any of the representatives know.

We are currently looking for two or three people to get involved with running the second hand uniform shop. Just a few hours a term are required and I must take this opportunity to thank Nicky Hamilton who has done such an amazing job looking after the shop for many years.



Blundell's Careers and Mentors

A huge thank you to members of the Blundell's Community who supported Blundell's first Careers Fair in November. A wide range of professions and businesses were represented by current and former parents and Old Blundellians and it was great to see so many current pupils gleaning advice from the wider community. Please do consider joining us as a Mentor if you haven't already done so and are able to offer careers advice, job shadowing or practice interview techniques: anything that helps support our pupils in an increasingly challenging work place environment. Your support and guidance is invaluable when they are thinking about different career paths.



THE REICHWALD TROPHY

The Reichwald Cup winners Christian Cabburn and John Savery

The annual OB Reichwald Doubles Tournament was a thoroughly enjoyable and competitive afternoon of Fives played in good weather, apart from the odd shower. We followed the normal format of pairing up ten OBs with a current pupil on a strong to weaker basis and a draw was made to ensure that the pairings were evenly balanced. We had less pupils than usual as there was a clash between the tournament and the Mills Cup and CCF, thus making unavailable the Year 9 and 10 invited players. Nevertheless, the matches were very tightly contested and the afternoon saw many long and exciting rallies at the pool stage. The tempo increased at the knock out stage.

The results were as follows:

The Reichwald Cup was won by Christian Cabburn and John Savery (15-14) - by a hair's breadth against Barney Ames and Wayne Enstone

1st plate by Lucas Amery and Will Akerman

2nd plate by James Maclaurin and Alexandra Steel

3rd plate by Ed Swarbrick and Dan Hill

4th Plate was won by Tobias Francis and Tom Massey

Chris Hedley-Dent



Winter Lunches

Old Blundellians and partners have enjoyed Winter Lunches from October to March at the Beale Centre since it opened. On the second Wednesday in each month, OBs assemble for drinks at 12.30pm, followed by a three course lunch at 1pm, then enjoy a 20 minute or so presentation by a guest speaker on a wide range of topics. This all takes place with Mike Daniels as Master of Ceremonies and at the modest cost of £14 a head, lunch is a bargain!

There is a 'hard core' of 20ish regular attenders together with supporters of the

Robert Wilson (front left) with guests who attended the Winter Lunch to hear him speak about the family tea business

speaker, giving an attendance of about 30. OBs frequently bring partners and the lunches are relaxed, friendly and fun.

The latest Winter Lunch speaker was Robert (Bob) Wilson (NC 53-57) who gave a fascinating talk about the family tea business in Ceylon, bringing samples of tea with him.

Please contact Janet if you would like to be added to the circulation list.



Samples of tea produced by Robert Wilson's Ceylon Tea company

BLUNDELL'S 1986 BOOK LAUNCH

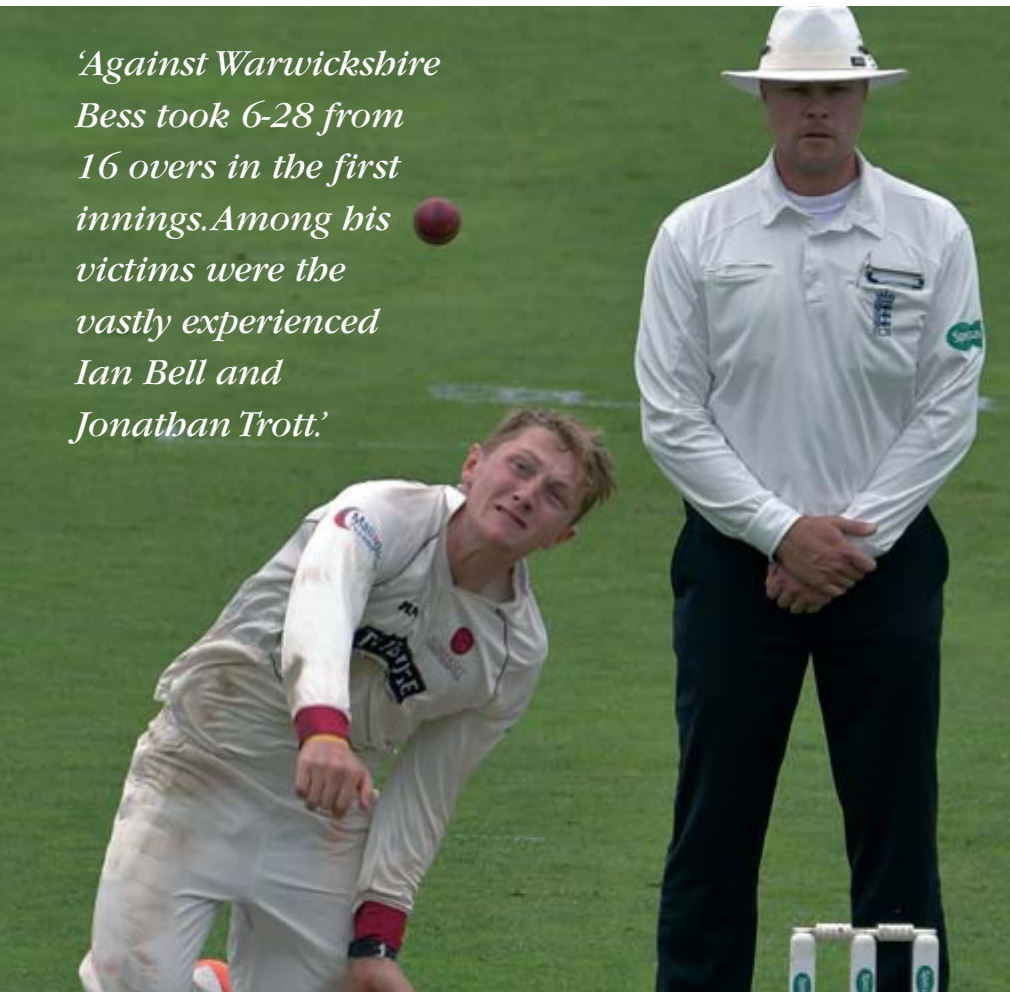
Andrew Nadolski launched his book *Boarding School - Blundell's 1986* in November in the Beale Centre. The book is a photographic snapshot of life as it was 30 years ago for pupils in the boarding houses at Blundell's. Guests enjoyed drinks, canapés, brief speeches from Andrew and Alistair Deighton-Gibson and the opportunity to look through the book. Memories were appropriately tickled and events, blurred by the passage of time, recalled.

Copies of the book are available from Andrew's website, via www.nadolski.com



News of Old Blundellians

'Against Warwickshire Bess took 6-28 from 16 overs in the first innings. Among his victims were the vastly experienced Ian Bell and Jonathan Trott.'



Above: Dom Bess with the Head, when he popped in to the Blundell's box at Somerset County Cricket ground during a reception for current parents during lunch break at the Somerset v Warwickshire game (where he took a six wickets for 28 runs at his debut).

Left: Dom Bess in action for Somerset County Cricket Club. Photo courtesy SCCC

Gloucestershire (and Francis House) was mighty effective with bat and ball and is still a much-respected umpire. Meanwhile my allegiances were with Somerset (and Francis House) and my first game for the county was not quite so successful as Bess's – I was caught behind for a duck against Andy Roberts. Meanwhile Hugh Morris of Glamorgan breaks the mould – he was not from Francis House and he could not bowl off-breaks. But he could bat.

Hopes are high for Bess and for Somerset as another season approaches. Taunton, like Sandy Park on the outskirts of Exeter, is now a wonderful sporting venue, which will be hosting its first England international (a T20 match against South Africa in June) for 34 years. Blundellians are fortunate – thanks to the generosity of Christopher Ondaatje – to have access to a marvellous vantage point to watch the sporting drama there. For pupils, old and young, parents and friends of the school the much-envied box at the top of the Ondaatje Stand still remains; there is no better place to watch Dom Bess and the others seek another elusive trophy. Check it out. **Vic Marks**

Blundell's Cricketers

Blundell's has produced several professional cricketers over the years, most of them off-spinning all-rounders, but none of them has made such a spectacular start to his career as Dom Bess (FH 10-15).

In 2016 Bess made his first-class debut against Pakistan in July and it was, understandably, a bit of an ordeal. Then with Somerset opting for turning pitches at Taunton late in the season he was tossed into the team for two critical Championship matches in September. This time the ordeal was for batsmen facing his off-breaks.

Against Warwickshire Bess took 6-28 from 16 overs in the first innings. Among his victims were the vastly experienced Ian Bell and Jonathan Trott. Amazingly, Bess seemed as relaxed as if he was playing for

his previous teams – Blundell's School, Sidmouth or Exeter CC. He was not cowed at all by the England batsmen at the other end – I presume he recognized who they were. There were two more wickets in the second innings as Somerset won a thrilling low scoring encounter.

In the last match of the season when Somerset so nearly stole the Championship after victory against Nottinghamshire, Bess took 5-43 and hit 41 runs after a startling middle-order collapse. In two dramatic games Bess's cricketing career had been transformed.

His predecessors took a more measured path into the first class game. Roger Davies of Glamorgan (and Francis House) played in the Championship winning side of 1969. Jeremy Lloyds of Somerset and

Vic Marks (FH 68-73)

Vic began playing for Somerset in 1975, was captain of the Oxford University team in 1976-77 and made his England one-day debut in 1980. Although he made only six Test appearances, he appeared 34 times as a member of the England one-day squad. After retiring as a professional cricketer Vic turned to journalism and broadcasting and is a regular figure on *Test Match Special* and writes for *The Observer*.



Far left: Jack Maunder (FH 08-15)
Photograph - A Davidson
Left: Lloyd Maunder
Below: Andy Maunder (M 79-84)

Sophie (GH 90-92), a captain of hockey, and Charles (M 83-88). Charles, now a solicitor, won the Donald Owen Junior Reading Prize in 1985 and was prominent in cross country, tennis and athletics. He is the father of Anna, who entered School House in 2015, and is already making her mark in netball, rounders and tennis, and William, now in his final year at the Prep School. George married again in 1980, and became step-father to David (M 85-90) and Kathryn Lee (GH 86-88). David shone in hurdling and athletics, and Kathryn in tennis, and for a time she held the School long jump record.

Percival's eldest son, John (M 49-53), is a director of the Devon County Agricultural Society, and is married to Sarah, a former director of the Society, who was also a Governor of Blundell's from 2005 to 2009. They have three children, the eldest being Caroline, herself a director of LM Property Holdings, and the other daughter is Julia, married to Colin Edge. Julia once taught at Blundell's Prep and is now Matron at Petergate. Her two children attended Blundell's: James (OH 05-12) played for the 1st XV and the 1st XI hockey teams, and his sister, Jess (NC 07-14), excelled at art as well as tennis and hockey.

John's son, Andy (M 79-84), soon showed great sporting promise at Blundell's, captaining many teams, but excelling at cross country, winning the Intermediate Russell, and rugby. His rugby interest continued after School, captaining Exeter for a greater part of the 1990s. In 1992 he married Felicity Smith (GH 82-85), who was head of house in her final year, and whose brother, John Hartley Smith (SH 73-77), had also been head of his house. Andy and Felicity have firmly maintained the Maunder-Blundell's connection. Their eldest child, Milly (GH 06-13), was a Sports Exhibitioner, representing the School at tennis and hockey. The career of Jack (FH 08-15), Andy's son, is currently being closely followed by many. While at School he played cricket for Devon and rugby for England Under-16s. He is now playing for the Exeter Chiefs, and, having already played in the Under-18s and Under-20s national sides, will surely soon be a contender for a full England cap. Close on Jack's heels is his brother Sam (FH 11-present), who took the Player of the Year award in his first cricket season, and has played in the various age categories of the Devon cricket side, and of the Blundell's XVs.

Mr M Sampson

Meet the Maunders

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the admission of the first member of the well-known Maunder family to Blundell's School. Their meat-processing and dairy business began at Witheridge in 1879 by Frederick James Maunder on a small scale. Two of his sons, Hugh and Lloyd, went to London in 1890 to learn more of the butchery trade, and opened a shop there. Hugh remained, but Lloyd returned and in 1898 his father handed over the management of the Devon business to him. The first shop named Lloyd Maunder opened in Bampton Street, Tiverton, in 1913 - the same year that the company's processing moved to Willand.

Lloyd and his wife had three sons, Sylvanus, Percival and Ivan. Percival was the first of the family to enter Blundell's. He came as a 15-year old Day Boy in 1917, and his three year stay at Blundell's was crowned by a Form Prize on Speech Day in his final year. Almost 30 years later the next member of the family arrived; David Maunder Gibson (M 48-51), a grandson of Lloyd's older brother, Hugh.

Sylvanus Maunder had a son Roger, who went to St. Aubyn's before he came to Blundell's (SH 58-61). After Exeter College, Roger attended the South Bank University, and in 1967 married Alison Foster. They had twin girls and a son. Kirsty and Lisa (GH 85-87) both showed considerable artistic talent while at Blundell's and appeared in drama productions and concerts. Lisa married a Blundellian, Tim Harms (NC 82-88), the son of Gordon Harms, himself an OB (M 43-45). Roger and Alison's son, James (TH 85-90), became a member of the editorial board of

the Blundellian. He later studied at Reading University, and is now a Chartered Surveyor.

Lloyd's youngest son Ivan's two children came to the School. Peter (M 78-82) is currently a Director for LM Property Holdings - a company controlled by the family. Peter's young sister, Anne, arrived from St. Audries, while here (GH 85-87) she too was on the editorial board of the School magazine, and later attended Bath College of Higher Education.

Percival, Lloyd's other son, had three boys, each of whom came to Blundell's. The youngest, David (M 54-58), won Workshop and Woodwind prizes in 1957, and in his final year shot for the School at Bisley. His son, Richard (P 78-83), was a member of the Fives team, and also excelled at tennis (and juggling!); his children Pippa, Rosie and Mo all attended the Prep School. Percival's middle son, George (M 53-57), shone at cross-country and shooting. He has married twice, and by his first wife had



OB singers to Prague

A group of Old Blundellian singers visited Prague for a long weekend just before Christmas. They were invited to sing for the morning service, and lead the Carol Service for the Anglican Chaplaincy at St Clement's Church, as well as for a short concert in the ancient church of St Martin in the Wall. Arriving from Bristol, Gatwick and Edinburgh airports, we were all pleased to meet each other at breakfast where old friendships were renewed and older OBs were able to meet younger ones. After a rehearsal in one of the spacious bedrooms at the Charles Hotel, we ventured into Prague Old Town for our first performance in the wonderful acoustic of St Martin's after which we were invited back for a future year. We dispersed at lunchtime to investigate the Christmas Market, chocolate museum and astronomical clock before meeting up to rehearse at St Clement's where we met the chaplain, Ricky Yates, who made us very welcome. An hour's rehearsal set us up for the next morning (and most of the evening). More free time allowed us to take in more of the amazing Christmas Market as night descended and the huge Christmas tree appeared even more spectacular. Having booked at Va Bene restaurant we met there (again) in the evening and the restaurant had set up a

long table for all 17 of us in the extraordinary medieval vaults - a very convivial evening. It was very atmospheric going back to the hotel over the now quiet Charles Bridge with the view of St Vitus and Prague Castle always in sight.

Sunday saw us to St Clement's, where we had a short wait for the Czech Protestant community to leave the shared church. Our performances of Wood's *O Thou the Central Orb*, AHB's *Jazz Mass* and music by Saint Saens (*Ave verum*) and Stainer (*God so loved the world*) in the communion was all very well received. By this time we had been joined by Jana Rohova and her husband from Jihlava - Jana was the English teacher who set up our long relationship with the Gymnazium in Jihlava and it was a great pleasure to be able to take them out to lunch. The carol service had some favourite carols - Poston, Rutter, Darke. Later, we met up with Vera, another English teacher from Jihlava - wonderful to see them all once more and a great privilege for us that they should come all the way to meet up.

Monday morning sadly saw us depart in various directions having had a brilliant musical and sociable time.

Andrew Barlow

A fuller account of this trip can be seen on the OB website



Top left: The magical view of Charles Bridge at night

Top right: The OB Choir on Charles Bridge

Left: A convivial evening out

Looking Back



Dr Shore in umpiring mode

On leaving Blundell's I spent the next ten years doing just enough to get by, and not really stretching myself. I achieved a second class degree in chemistry at the University of Oxford and a subsequent D Phil on the academic side. I played cricket too much; four games for the University but no Blue (practical finals intervened). I returned to play rugby for a city side. Vacation employment included being a bus conductor and working for an off licence. Eight years in the TA occupied some weekends, and provided a useful source of income.

In 1967 I felt that chemistry was not where I wanted to spend the rest of my life, and joined the Regular Army in the infantry and was commissioned. After two years I transferred to the RAOC, was trained as a computer programmer, and found my slot in life. I also went to UMIST for nine months to study for a Management Diploma. This set me up for a two year stint in Berlin, 1977-1979, which was by far my best posting. In 1982 I moved into computer project management, including five years in Rheindahlen, with occasional visits back to Berlin, both before and after the Wall came down. On my return, I went to the MoD, dealing with computer and information security. On retirement from the Army in 1993 I worked in DERA at Malvern, finally ceasing work in 2001.

From 1971 to 1980 I played cricket for the Army, Combined Services and, of course, the successful OB side of the seventies, as well as for Bicester CC. I played cricket for BAOR, and for a while was Chairman of BAOR Selectors. On retirement I then qualified as a cricket umpire and coach. I coached until 2011, including at primary schools under 'Chance to Shine', and umpired until 2015, latterly with Hampshire Seniors. I played rugby until I was just 40, refereed for over 15 years, before becoming a referee adviser. I also became Training Officer for Dorset & Wilts Rugby Referees for seven years, and still advise/coach referees both within the counties and the Army. I have remained a bachelor, hence the amount of sporting activity.

Dr Richard Shore (P54-59)



The greatest motoring adventure

This summer, four Old Blundellians who left school last year are taking part in the Mongol Rally, across the mountains, desert and steppe of Europe and Asia. The rally has three fundamental rules – the car must be small and old, the teams are totally unsupported and they need to raise at least £1000 for charity. It is designed to be an adventure for the participants and the organisers are careful to point out that racing on highways is illegal and that no recognition is given to the first finisher.

The four OBs are Oliver Hall-Tomkin (OH 09-16), Ed Barlow (P 11-16), Cormac Oliver (P 09-16) and Will Smith (P 12-16) – Oliver and Cormac have been together at Blundell's since nursery. Here they write about their plans for a journey that is called the greatest motoring adventure on the planet.

Myself, Cormac, Ollie and Ed are challenging ourselves to an amazing journey of 8,000 miles across Europe and Asia against all the elements, with no backup and no set route all for charity; this event is known as the Mongol rally. We will do the trip in two ancient and broken Suzuki Jimnys aiming to achieve this goal in six weeks. **Will Smith**

We stumbled across this one evening on YouTube watching some other intrepid adventurers having a go and we decided it would be a great way for us to finish our gap years, learn something and do something for a worthwhile charity at the same time. The trip is self-funded; however any donations to the team as well as the charity would be very much appreciated. **Cormac Oliver**

When in threatening despair you would hope that those who could would help; this inspired myself and three of my friends to raise money for two very worthwhile charities. One of them is the Teenage Cancer Trust which offers support to young people who are fighting cancer. The other charity is Cool Earth, which works to conserve the worlds' indigenous communities and rain forests that are relentlessly demolished. We've considered how easy it is to live oblivious to suffering in this world, yet it's just as easy to reach out and make a difference. We hope you do too by supporting these charities through us. **Ed Barlow**

Please see the OB website about how to donate to this charitable endeavour.

Ben Collins (FH 88-93) also known as The Stig from Top Gear sent a message to the OBs on the Mongol Rally: 'Drive it like you stole it, but check the oil first, good luck lads'

SH and OH – 135 years on

School House and Old House both celebrate their 135th anniversaries this year, having been built when Blundell's moved to its current site in 1882. School House was not only a boarding house run by the Headmaster, A.L. Francis, but also his private residence. Initially, there were just 23 boys, but numbers grew rapidly, and in 1890 a new three-storey wing was completed, with classrooms, studies and bedrooms. Notable SH alumni from those early days include Sir John Collings Squire (1901-03) who later became famous as a poet and editor of the *New Statesman* and the *London Mercury*, his son Raglan Squire (1926-30) who became a renowned architect, and designed Blundell's present Big School and the School's Lady Chapel, and Michael Gilbert (1926 – 31) who found success as a lawyer and crime writer. Many pupils, House Masters and refurbishments later, SH became the House for Years 7 and 8, a venture that was and continues to be a resounding success. More about its history can be found on the School House pages of the website.

The Rev. T.U. Cross built Old House in 1822 and opened it as a boarding house for 25 boys. One of the first boarders was Morris Travers, who, later in life was the co-discoverer of the gases, xenon, krypton and neon. Three of the House's most famous boys came during the 1940s: John Hollands (46-51) who was the youngest winner of the Military Cross in the Korean War and a best-selling author; Michael Mates (47-51) who, following a distinguished career in the Queen's Dragoons, entered politics

Below: Old House



The gates of School House

and was M.P. for East Hampshire from 1974 to 2010; and Robin Midgley (48-53), who became a world-renowned television and theatre director. John Hollands recalls that the OH magazine *The Magpie* was introduced during his time at OH: 'At one stage I was co-editor with Michael Mates and Geoffrey Williams, all three of us appointed because we said we wanted to be journalists. It was full of controversy but not without literary merit.'

John's tenure at OH stood him in good stead when it came to the War Office Selection Board during his national service – during his final all-important interview, the Commanding Brigadier told him that he'd be recommending John for a commission as 'anyone who had endured five years at a crumbling wreck like Eton, Winchester or Old House automatically passes. We can send you to any foul, God-forsaken spot on earth and you'll never complain'. John's humorous account *Odd Memories of Old House* can be read on the OB section of the website.



Memories of Life at Blundell's 1940 - 1945

'The first memory of School is the sheer panic I felt going down the pavilion steps to keep wicket for a scratch Blundellian XI with Derek Chapman (1936-1940), Captain of Cricket at first slip. The opposition was Cullompton Cricket Club, the pitch on Big Field, and the date an evening in May/June 1940 and I was a 13 year old, a scholarship candidate down for three days from a small prep school near Bradford upon Avon. I do not remember anything about the game, but I cannot have performed too badly as, well past my usual bedtime, I was invited by OH's Monitors to join their supper of scrambled egg.'

So begin the wonderful reminiscences of Anthony Provis (OH 40-45) about his life at Blundell's, in which he touches on his academic experiences, meal times, living conditions, friendships, how the School was affected by the war and much more. He recalls that, when the School was playing rugby with other public school teams, attendance was compulsory for those not involved in outdoor activities elsewhere: 'These spectators were marshalled on the south side touch line exhorting the Blundell's XV to greater efforts, greeting their tries with loud applause and the opponents' scores in dead vocal silence but a sporting handclap. When playing a Navy side like Dartmouth Naval College, to the normal shouts of 'Come on Blundell's' we added 'and sink them', an impolite gesture but wholly justified.'

Tony also remembers how difficult it was to travel to away matches due to the shortage of petrol. Travelling to Downside was so inconvenient that, in 1943, the cricketers had to spend the night before distributed amongst their boarding houses. The match began at 11, and when the Abbey bell began striking 12, the Downside batsman dropped his bat and removed his gloves and turned to face the Abbey 'Nobody had warned us because no match between the two sides had ever started in the morning. We sheepishly took off our caps and waited.

After 12 strokes, the batsman took up his bat, replaced his cap and turned about asking the umpire at the other end for a fresh guard. Many, many years later I asked somebody from Downside how often this event happened. 'It was the Angelus', came the reply, and 'we only did it when heretics were present.'

During the war 'most senior boys were involved with potato and sugar beet harvesting on neighbouring farms and the local golf course. This was arduous at the best of times – it was never a fine weather activity. Clad in entirely inadequate working clothes, namely rugby kit with bare knees and feet in gum boots, we were packed onto lorries provided by the local branch of the War Agricultural Committee and dropped off at the most windswept and soggy fields in Devon or so it seemed to us.' They were supervised by the School Monitors whose 'contribution to manual labour might be insignificant in comparison with us but

being older than us their hourly rate of pay was greater than ours, the overworked pickers. This was deemed unfair.'

On his last night at Blundell's, Tony was summoned to Blundell House by the Headmaster (Rev R L Roberts). 'I left him after 11pm to return to OH, passing the Clock Tower unaware that two Westlake boys were tampering with the clock mechanism accessible from the Classical Sixth's form room. To the Headmaster's surprise, the clock struck 13 at midnight. At the first Big School Assembly, next term, Roberts asked the culprits to own up. They were two of his star pupils, already major scholarship winners to Oxbridge. Set three hour essays each on 'Bells', they submitted their work on 'Belles' with an extra 'e'. He saw the joke.'

Tony's fascinating and often hilarious memories can be read in full on the OB website.

Tony Provis in the 1st XI of 1943, standing 5th from left



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 1917:

Bazalgette, William Thomas (JH and OH 1906-14), aged 20
 Bellamy, David Humphrey (P 1908-13), aged 22
 Dighton, Leslie Probyn (P 1901-02), aged 28
 Downie-Leslie, Edward Victor (SH 1912-13), aged 19
 Ewen, Guy Cuthbert (DB 1900-08), aged 27
 Foley, Geoffrey Robert (OH 1907-11), aged 23
 Foster, Brian (P 1906), aged 25
 Gameson, George Henry Molyneaux (DB and W 1905-09), aged 25
 Gardner, Eric Mawdsley (P 1909-14), aged 21

Hatherell, Eric James (SH 1902-04), aged 29
 Hughes, Hugh Alec (DB 1903-06), aged 27
 Hussey, Harold Edward (P 1907-11), aged 23
 Pratt, John Selby (DB 1908-14), aged 19
 Sandell, Arthur Leslie (DB and SH 1910-14), aged 19
 Smith, William Hammond (SH 1900-04), aged 31
 Tripp, Arthur William Howard (DB 1872-79), aged 55
 West, Arthur Graeme (SH 1905-10), aged 25

Blundell's Community FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2017

- 8th Winter Lunch** James Halton, Assistant Bursar (Estates & Buildings) on 'Site master planning'. Beale Centre, 12.30pm. **Contact: OB Club**
- 11th The Russell** including Veterans' Race & post-race afternoon tea **Contact: Development Office**
- 15th Spring Concert with the London Chamber Orchestra** Big School, 7pm. Tickets £7.50, U18s free. **Contact: Main Office**
- 17th Lunchtime Concert** Big School Foyer, 1pm-2pm. **Contact: Main Office**
- 17th-18th OB Sport Weekend** Fives, Hockey, Football, Netball & Squash. **Contact: OB Club**
- 23rd Blundell's Unplugged** Big School, 7.30pm. **Contact: Main Office**

APRIL 2017

- 22nd Blundell's Community Black Tie Dinner & Auction** Guest Speaker Thomas Plant (SH 88-93), auctioneer and expert. Big School, 7.15pm-11pm **Contact: Development Office**

MAY 2017

- 3rd OB & Current Parent Summer Cricket Lunch** 12.30pm for 1pm. **Contact: OB Club**
- 11th London Casual Drinks** at The Former In and Out Club courtyard, 94 Piccadilly, 6pm-8pm **Contact: Development Office**
- 18th Devon County Show Drinks Reception** Blundell's Stand at the Devon County Show, 12pm-2pm. **Contact: Development Office**

JUNE 2017

- 8th-10th Blundell's Stand at the Royal Cornwall Show** **Contact: Development Office**
- 17th OB Day** **Contact: OB Club**
- 23rd Prep School OB Parents' Lunch** Beale Centre, 11.45am. **Contact: Prep School**
- 23rd Summer Charity Concert** in aid of Tiverton Museum, 7pm. **Contact: Main Office**

JULY 2017

- 1st Speech Day**
- 1st OB Current Parents' Lunch** Beale Centre, 11.45am. **Contact: OB Club**
- 22nd Blundell's Stand at the Mid Devon Show** Knightshayes, Tiverton. **Contact: Development Office**

SEPTEMBER 2017

- 12th Casual reception** for pupils who left in 2016, Wetherspoons, Tiverton. **Contact: Development Office**
- 26th Ten Year Reunion** casual drinks reception for pupils who left in 2007, London venue tbc. **Contact: Development Office**



THE COLIN BEALE CENTRE

The Beale Centre is available for use, free of charge, to all members of the Old Blundellian Club for social events. Bookings can be made through admin@obclub.co.uk or 01884 232010. Catering and bar facilities can be provided.

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

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