



FROM SCHOOL TRIP TO
SCHOOL TEACHER:
JOE TAKES MALAWI TO
HIS HEART



SHEAFIELD TO
PERBERDY: A **LEGACY**
OF HELPING OTHERS



SUE DELIGHTS IN
YORKSHIRE WELCOME
AT GSAL



FILMMAKER **CHARLES**
RELEASES SHORT
ANIMATION, **TERGO**

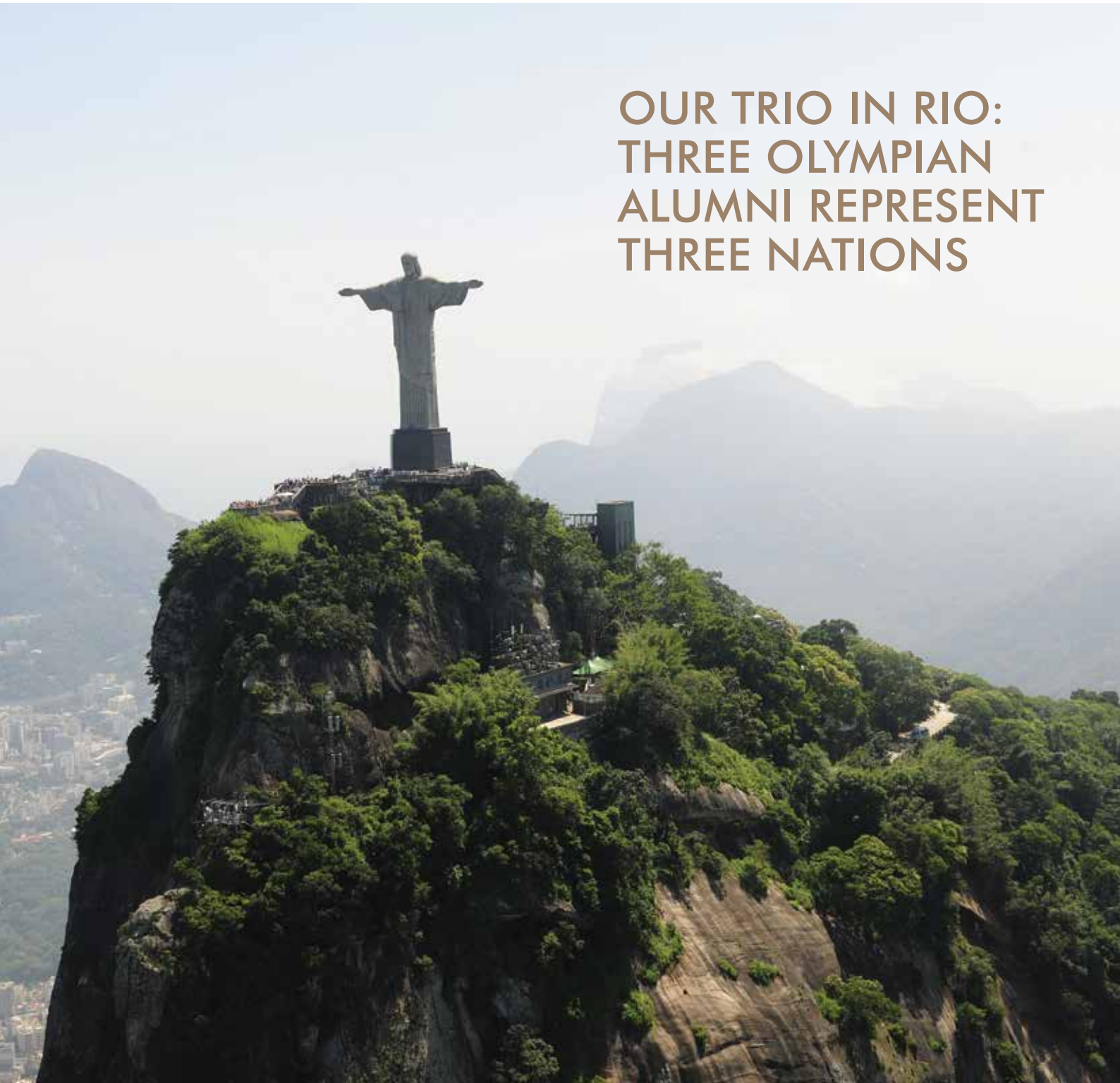
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Memento

The magazine for LGS, LGHS & GSAL Alumni

“Road to Rio
became a reality
for Yona, Robin
and Gordon”

OUR TRIO IN RIO:
THREE OLYMPIAN
ALUMNI REPRESENT
THREE NATIONS



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OLYMPIAN ALUMNI MAKE IT A TRIO IN RIO

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MINHAZ TAKES THE VOICE OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE HEART OF THE UNITED NATIONS

PAGE 23

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Sue delights in Yorkshire welcome at GSAL.

Sue Woodroofe's love for her job, commitment to the education of young people and joy at being back in Yorkshire are evident as soon as she starts to speak.

Her desire to see children reach their full potential has been the driving force in 28 years of teaching, and now, after an entire career spent elsewhere, she has 'come home' to take up the reins at GSAL.

Sue joined GSAL as principal at Easter after 12 years at The British School of Brussels (BSB), the last five of which were as principal, and was delighted at her warm Yorkshire welcome from students, parents and staff.

She said: "It's been wonderful. I've been made to feel so welcome here by the community at GSAL."

Sue was born in Newcastle but moved to York as a 10-year-old and was educated at York College for Girls before undertaking a degree in English language and literature at the University of Liverpool, followed by a PGCE at the University of Durham.

Her first two teaching posts took her back to the north east before she moved to the south east. She then moved to Brussels where, in 2004 she was appointed deputy head of secondary school at the BSB. Two years later she became head of secondary school there and in 2011 she took up the job as principal of the whole school, with 1350 children, aged 3-18, from 70 different nationalities.

Her career has been varied, taking in the independent and state sectors, single sex boys and girls and co-educational,

selective grammar and comprehensive schools, plus an international school.

She said: "The wonderful thing is that I've experienced a little bit of everything. The key learning point as a teacher and school leader in all of that is that children are children. It doesn't matter where they come from, even what their background or ability is, all children are delightful to work with and all deserve your very best care and attention and to feel supported and inspired.

"Children are naturally very optimistic and positive people, and when you see them develop that sense of hope, aspiration and self-esteem, quite simply it makes teaching the best job in the world!"

See the full feature on page 6/7.

Olympian alumni make it a trio in Rio



Gordon training in the pool. (Photo courtesy of Adam Robinson Photography)

The road to Rio became a reality for three alumni who competed at the 2016 Olympic Games for three different nations... Great Britain, Jamaica and Australia.

Gordon Benson (GSAL12) was one third of the Team GB men's triathlon squad alongside Alistair and Jonathan Brownlee.

His role in the squad was to act as a 'pilot' to support Alistair and Jonathan in their bid to win gold and silver.

That meant swimming in front of the Brownlees to offer them protection from all the elbows and kicks, as well as giving them a tidal dynamic advantage by enabling them to swim in his slipstream. Again during the cycling part of the event, his job was to cycle ahead to allow them to follow in his slipstream.

And despite crashing out at the bike stage, Gordon accomplished his mission and celebrated as his two team-mates fulfilled their ambition, with Alistair winning gold and Jonathan taking silver.

The three men train together at the Leeds

Triathlon Centre, which produced five of the six triathletes selected for Rio. Gordon is a European triathlon champion, having taken gold at last year's European Games in Baku, and 2016 is turning out to be another landmark year for him. As well as being selected for the Olympics, he also graduated from the University of Leeds with a degree in nutrition.



Robin Middleton (OL03) represented Australia in the mixed doubles with his partner Leanne Choo. Despite being beaten in the preliminaries, Rob described the Olympics as ‘an incredible experience.’

He said: “I’ve loved being part of the team, it’s just been incredible, everyone has been so welcoming and it’s just everything I ever hoped for.”

Rob moved permanently to Australia in 2012, having initially headed down under to travel for a few months. During his travels he was invited to train with the Australian national squad and went on to represent Australia at the Commonwealth Games. Rob and Leanne have won several international titles.

Robin and Leanne.



Yona Knight-Wisdom (GSAL13) made history in Rio as the first-ever male to represent Jamaica in the diving competition at the Olympics.

The World silver medalist put on a strong show in the men’s 3m springboard, finishing 11th in the preliminary rounds with a score of 416.55 to go through to the semi-finals where a score of 381.40 saw him finish in 14th place – just two places short of a place in the finals.

Although representing Jamaica, Yona still calls Leeds home and he trains alongside the Team GB divers at Leeds Diving Club. He enjoyed a double celebration this year – graduating from Leeds Beckett University with a 2:1 in sport and exercise science as well as earning selection for the Olympics.

Yona with his silver medal from the 2016 World Diving Championships.



As principal, Sue Woodroffe brings energy and enthusiasm to the role with a vision to make GSAL the leading independent school in the north of England.

She said: “I am incredibly proud of GSAL and its achievements. The fact that we are in the top five per cent of schools in the UK for our A-level performance, whilst also holding a number of national sporting titles, are just two examples of the talents of our students.”

For Sue there has never been a better time to be principal. Reflecting on the government’s education green paper, which includes initiatives like the expansion of grammar schools, faith

schools being able to admit all pupils based on religion and the latest iterations regarding independent schools and charitable status, she said: “Education is currently being hotly debated. It is such an important topic that affects everyone and I welcome the debate.

“The UK independent education sector is the envy of the world, and as someone who has worked in a variety of schools, I recognise that each faces particular challenges. It is important for the future success of the country that we respect each other’s strengths and contributions and work together in an open and collaborative way.”

Sue is hopeful that the government will take into account the ways that independent schools demonstrate ‘public benefit.’ GSAL works in partnership with many primary and secondary schools, ranging from offering hundreds of children and families the use of its sports facilities every week to funding over 170 children through means-tested bursaries.

She said: “Being a charity is an important part of our ethos as it governs how we run the school, the decisions we make and the relationships we have with our pupils, parents, staff, alumni and the wider community.”



Sue Woodroofe with Rose Court pupils

Three alumni communities – but a united passion

Since taking over as GSAL principal, Sue Woodroofe has attended a number of alumni events, where she has met and chatted to ‘old boys and girls’. Here in a Q&A session, she shares her views on alumni and talks of the important role that they continue to play and the positive impact they have on the life of the school.

of intelligent and lively people.

They are passionate about their school life and have gone on to achieve some very impressive things with strong bonds of friendship that continue to this day.

How important is it for you to keep a relationship alive between alumni and the school?

It's critical for me for three reasons. Firstly, the history and heritage of the two schools that make up GSAL is vitally important to the standing of the current school. Our success is rooted in the achievements and reputation of our predecessors at LGS and LGHS. Secondly, because we are a merged school it's really important that the strong affinity that alumni feel towards LGS and LGHS is not lost but that they see that the values and ethos they were imbued with are very much at the heart of the school today. Whilst our alumni community is drawn from three schools, we are building a common bond and pride in GSAL. Thirdly, I think that growing the bursary provision and reaching out to more children across the city of Leeds who could benefit from a GSAL education, but can't afford it, is very important in the coming years. Alumni are vital in helping us build the reputation of the school and in lending their support to GSAL.

What message do you have for LGS and LGHS alumni who have no experience of GSAL?

We wouldn't be where we are today without LGS and LGHS. These great schools paved the way for the current school, but education cannot and should not stand still. As professionals we should always be exploring how children learn, grow and develop. By using the diamond model (children in Years 7-11 are taught in single gender classes but mix freely at other times) we are keeping the longstanding tradition of the former schools whilst looking ahead at the best of modern practice. I would like to take this opportunity to extend an open invitation to alumni to come and see the school in action. It would be my privilege to show you round this wonderful place and introduce you to our amazing students.

What are your fondest memories of your schooldays?

I loved school so much that I decided I never wanted to leave – so I became a teacher! I was in awe of my teachers – their belief in us and the encouragement they gave us as pupils. Bonds of friendship and respect amongst staff and students were palpable and as a young person that's such an inspiring environment. I always felt that I wanted to create that for my own pupils in the future.

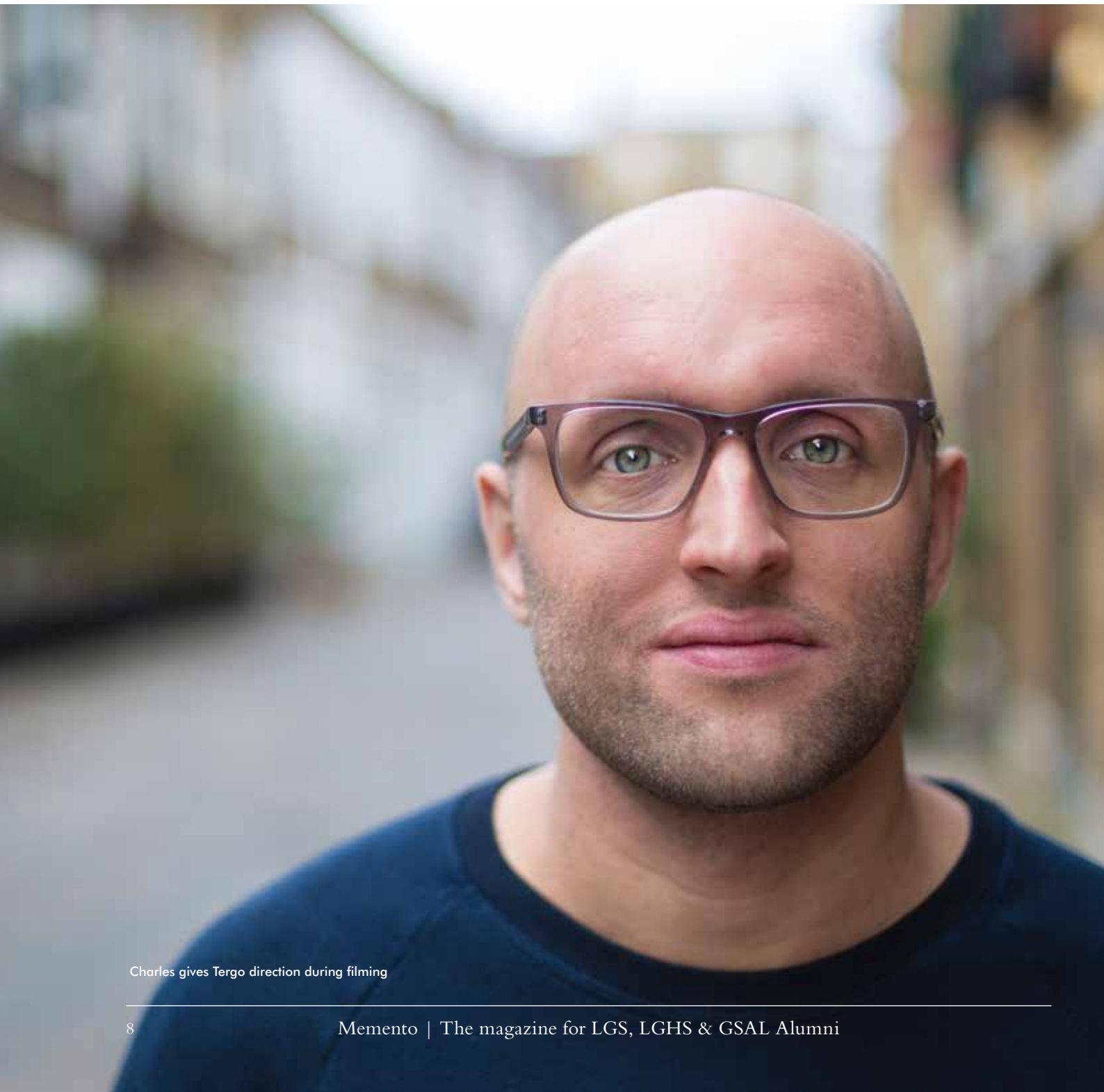
Memories of school can be sharply divided – some people look back fondly while others don't. What makes a school 'the best days of our lives'?

Uniquely schools can create a climate of confidence. My school gave me the feeling that I could do and be anything that I wanted. The only limits would be those that I placed on myself. That confidence from an early age forms a deep-seated 'can-do' attitude that never leaves you.

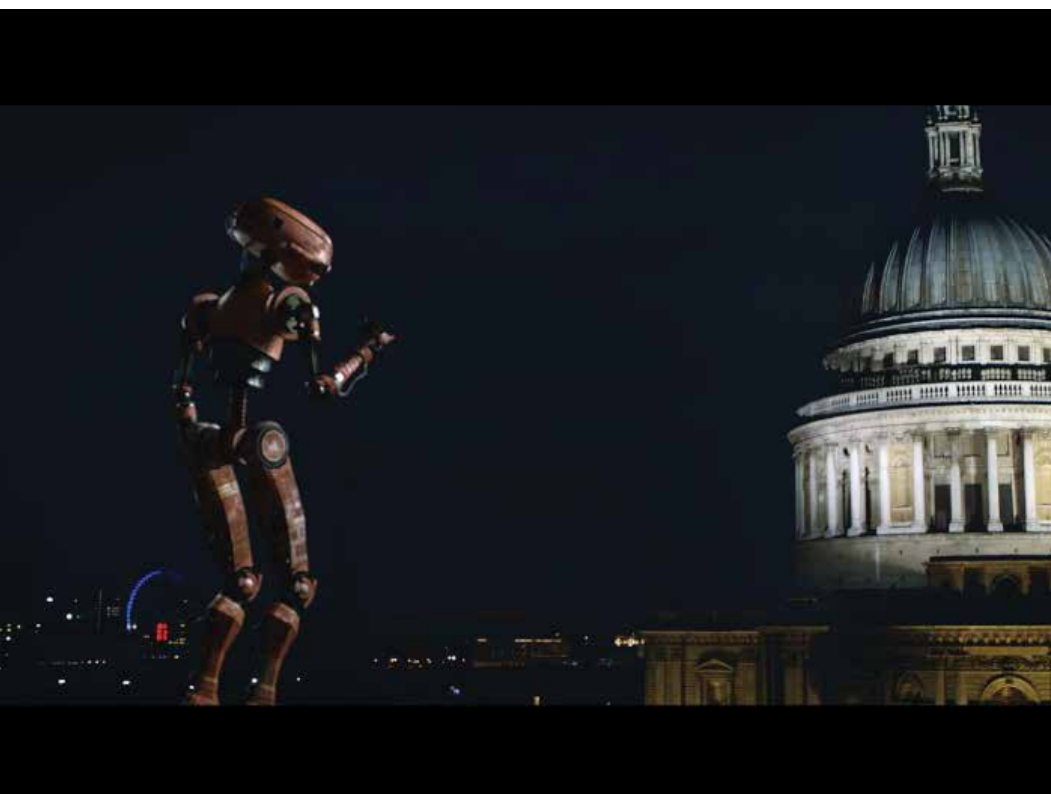
You've already met some of our alumni. First impressions?

They are a very talented group

Filmmaker Charles releases short animation, Tergo



Charles gives Tergo direction during filming



Tergo

The tender tale of a cleaning robot lost in the grind of inner city London has been released as a short animation by filmmaker Charles Willcocks (OL00).

Tergo, an existential fable set in the near future, took two years to complete with Charles dedicating every spare minute to the project while working full time as a 3D animator for Candyspace in London.

He brought together a team of seven fellow graduates from the National Centre for Computer Animation (NCCA) in Bournemouth – where he completed an MA in 3D animation in 2011 – who worked across time zones and thousands of miles to create and animate the film.

Everyone who worked on the film gave their time for free, fitting it in around full time jobs, and Charles describes Tergo as a labour of love.

He said: “It’s my passion, my obsession. There is no better feeling than creating something from an idea and watching it slowly evolve into being. A truly international team has made it possible:

a Brazilian, an Irishman, a Singaporean, an Indian, a Catalanian, a Turk, a Welshman, and numerous Englishmen have shared their skills, talents, thoughts and creativity to make this possible.”

While working on Tergo, Charles also co-founded a film collective, Pallas Pictures, with an old friend from school, scriptwriter Ryan Lewis (OL00). The pair are now working on a new film, Harvest, a horror film based on an allotment in Yorkshire, with more projects lined up for the future.

Charles said: “Ryan and I set up Pallas as a creative collective of the artists that I have worked with in and outside the film and advertising industry in London. In our day jobs we all work on a wide range of campaigns as part of larger studios. I wanted to make films where we had complete control within an atmosphere not constrained by another client’s or director’s vision.”

The careers of Charles and Ryan may have taken them into the arts (they were in the same A-level art class) but their friendship is firmly rooted in their love of sport at

school, both playing rugby together until Ryan swapped to football in the sixth form.

They kept in touch after school while Charles, the son of GSAL PE teacher Colin Willcocks, studied fine art at Leeds Metropolitan University and Ryan studied environmental geoscience at Edinburgh University, followed by a Masters in sustainable development with Forum for the Future.

Ryan now works as a communications and marketing manager in London for solar company Joju, writing scripts in his spare time. He said:

“I have always loved telling a story. My middle school rugby reports were pretty legendary! I absolutely adore film and a few years back I did an evening class in screenwriting at Central St Martins in London and I was hooked. I loved the structure and form of writing a film.

“Like everyone I think I have at least one good novel in me but, thanks to Charles, over the last couple of years I have been drafting scripts. We just need to find the time to make them around our full time jobs.”

Sport still plays a big part in their friendship and both are part of a close group of LGS alumni in London who play in a Leeds seven-a-side football team set up by Charles to take on Rest of the World teams. While not entirely Old Leos, the vast majority of the team are from LGS.

Back at Pallas Pictures their ambition is to finish the short of Harvest within the year, working with a larger 3D team to build a photo-real CG creature which they can use for the pitch to turn it into their first feature-length film.

Charles said: “We hope Tergo goes a long way to demonstrating the talent we have as filmmakers and what we have managed to achieve on zero budget and with a small team. Once we have the short of Harvest we will look for funding for the feature version, maybe through Kickstarter or other crowdfunding options or through the more traditional filmmaking route of finding a generous backer.”

Holding back the years as class of 2005 reunite

OLs and OGs got together at the Arc in Headingley, Leeds, for a night of reminiscing and catching up to celebrate 10 years since leaving school.

The venue was decorated with old year group photos as well as a selection of Facebook photos of their school days. Also on display were copies of school magazine covers which had been designed

by Caroline Hill, who now works for the Alexander McQueen fashion house, alongside mini blackboards and chalk for people to leave messages.

Organiser Kathryn Papworth-Smith said: "It was really just a chance to have a drink together but a highlight of the night was a quiz for the girls put together by Laura Earnshaw and one for the boys

by former head boy, Tom Davies. These were a selection of funny, multiple-choice questions about who had done what on school trips! "

Many people travelled from London for the get-together which was also attended by teachers Barry Brindley, Dr Faisal Motashar, Judith Kerr and Neill Hargreaves.



A group of OGs and what they are up to nowadays. They are back (L-R): Caroline Hill, print designer at Alexander McQueen; Becky Moore, lawyer; Laura Earnshaw, music teacher at a primary school in London; Emily Sawyer, teacher; Sarah Fawcner-Corbett, senior manager at Deloitte in Leeds; Sally Belfield, policy and strategy at HM Treasury; Natalie Gill, senior account manager at a marketing agency; Antonia Lipinski, senior account executive at On Broadcast Communications; and Sarah Manning, doctor. Front (L-R): Lucy Hodgson, lawyer; Sophie Hinton, training to be an optometrist; Charlotte Reynolds, doctor; and Charlotte Wilby, business development manager at Ridding Park, Harrogate.



Laura Earnshaw and Kathryn Papworth-Smith.

From school trip to school teacher: Joe takes Malawi to his heart

A school trip to Malawi has proved to be a life-changing experience for Joe Dawson (GSAL10) and his family.

The effect of that initial visit in 2009 was so profound that Joe, his two younger brothers and his parents have spent the last seven years fundraising and volunteering to help improve the lives of children in the Open Arms Orphanage.

Now Joe, who has a classics degree and MPhil in ancient history from Oxford University, has returned to the country to teach Latin and Greek at Kamuzu Academy for the next two years.

He said: "I feel I can really make a difference to the pupils at the school. There are at least four kids from Open Arms Orphanage who are being sponsored to go there, so it's not just the kids of the super rich of the country, though admittedly, they are the vast majority."

All the students study Latin and Greek to GCSE level and Joe is teaching eight classes a week, ranging from Y7 to Y10. As a keen sportsman he is also hoping to do some sports coaching.

He admits that it would never have occurred to him to go to Malawi if it hadn't been for the school's strong links with the country.

"That was an eye-opening experience, and quite a culture shock for the first few days, but you settle in", he said. "The school trip was basically structured around visiting a variety of projects throughout the country

and then deciding where to allocate funding. I really like that it was left in the hands of the students on the trip, who voted where funding should go."

While there the students visited a school for albino children, which was also a school for the blind, plus outreach projects which were feeding the needy and providing primary school education.

They also painted classrooms in the north of the country and visited the orphanages in the south, in the capital Blantyre, and also Mangochi in the east.

Joe said: "The most upsetting for me was painting a paediatric ward in the vastly overcrowded Kasungu district hospital. The level of healthcare available was dire, and the suffering of the children on the ward was particularly upsetting. I like to think that we brightened the room a little, but can't imagine that we made much of a dint in their plight."

Since then Joe's parents Lesley and Allan have raised funds for Open Arms through their Children's Corner Childcare business and his brothers Mattie (GSAL12) and Charlie (GSAL15) have volunteered.

Charlie spent this summer volunteering at an orphanage and a school where he was visited by Lesley and Joe bringing donations of cash, toys and other items for the Mango Tree Nursery.



Joe at Kamuzu Academy.



Joe on a visit this summer



Members of the Dawson family (back L-R) Charlie and Joe, (front) mum Lesley deliver donations to the Mango Tree Nursery.

Meanwood Marsh ecological study stands the test of time

In the summer of 1947, a sixth form student at Leeds Grammar School carried out an ecological survey of a small marsh in Meanwood Park. Nigel Hepper would go on to become a botanist at The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

Now, almost 70 years later, retired GSAL teacher Mark Smith has re-surveyed and re-mapped the area using the latest GIS technology.

Nigel had been encouraged by his biology master Frank Hoggett, to carry out the survey of the marsh off Smithy Mills Lane, in what is now Meanwood Park. He made a special display of the maps, which he drew and coloured by hand, along with photos and plant samples for the parents' open day that term.

On leaving school Nigel went on to gain a BSc in botany from King's College Newcastle (then part of Durham University) before taking up his job at Kew in 1950 and specialising in African flora.

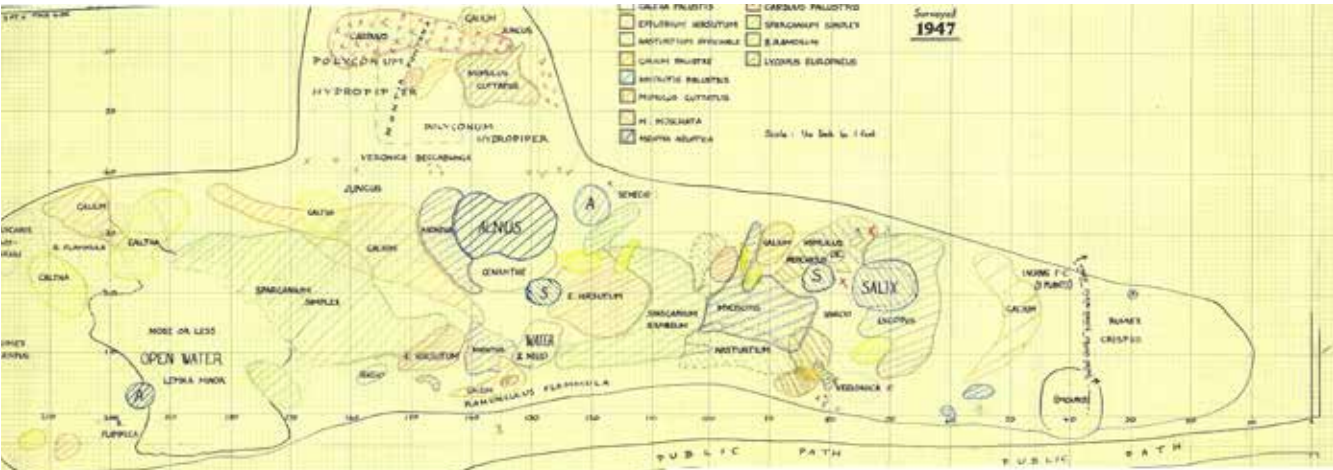
He spent his entire career at Kew, eventually as a principle scientific officer and assistant keeper of the herbarium, before retiring in 1990.

Nigel died in 2013 (see obituary Memento No 1) but some years earlier he had visited GSAL and met with Mark Smith, then head of biology, and provided the department with a copy of his survey.

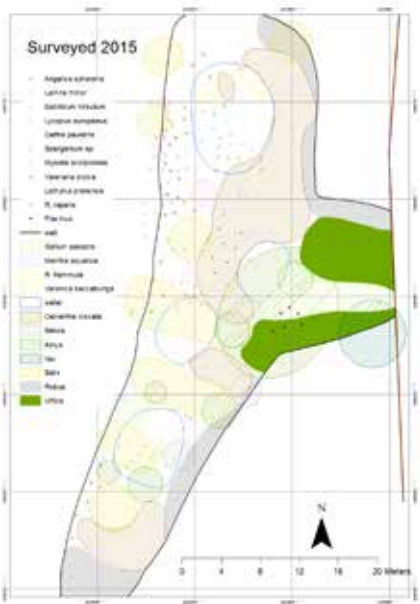
When Mark re-surveyed the area using the GIS technology used by pupils in



Mark Smith re-surveyes Meanwood Marsh.



Nigel's original map and Mark's GIS version.



today's lessons at GSAL, he found the marsh intact alongside Meanwood Beck. Instead of the open meadow seen in Nigel Hepper's black and white photographs however, the area is now dominated by large willow and alder trees that he had mapped as saplings.

The 1947 map was produced to a scale of 1/10 inch to 1 foot, surveyed from a base line using string, pegs and a tape measure. The 2015 map was produced as an overlay on a geo-referenced aerial image with the scale matched as closely as possible to the original.

Mark said: "The accuracy of Nigel Hepper's original map was surprisingly good given the means he had to make it and, together with some impressive plant identification skills, indicates scientific attention to detail even

at that early stage in his career.

"What is perhaps more remarkable is the opportunity it afforded to resurvey exactly the same site after such a long interval.

"Although a well-used urban footpath now runs beside the marsh and the traffic noise from the ring road can be heard above the birdsong, the marsh and much of its plant community has survived as a small island of biodiversity for the best part of 70 years and a record of ecological change has been possible due to the early enthusiasm of a Leeds Grammar School pupil.

"The use of GIS in geography lessons gave us so much more scope and also opened up many opportunities for students. A number of alumni are now working in the field of GIS, having been introduced to it at school."



Nigel Hepper's photography of Meanwood Marsh from 1947.

Sheafield to Peberdy: a legacy of helping others



Joanne Gill (far right) with members of GSAL's media society.

The school has a rich tradition in helping children to enjoy the benefits of a first class education through its bursary provision.

This is a legacy which dates back to William Sheafield whose generosity led to the creation of Leeds Grammar School in 1552 and continues to this day. This year OL William Peberdy became the latest benefactor with a bequest which will enable more bright children from low income households to join the school.

That first legacy of £4. 13s. 4d from William Sheafield provided a school master to carry on his work instructing 'Younge Schollars Youthes and Children'. Some years later another legacy from **John Harrison** provided a school house.

Throughout the years Leeds Grammar School received a number of gifts. Many were deeply personal to the donor,

from the pulpit provided by the parents of Wilfred and Thomas Lumb (see story page 18) in memory of their sons who were killed in World War 1, to the donation of Joseph Hill's entire library.

Benefactors played a similarly important role in the history of Leeds Girls' High School where substantial gifts included donations from John Walker for the school's first organ, Charles Tetley, who established a scholarship programme and an anonymous donation which funded the beautiful Mouseman library.

The Grammar School at Leeds has also received its share of gifts, most recently the legacy of William Peberdy (OL36) 'in gratitude for the Exhibition awarded to me in 1931.'

Principal Sue Woodrooffe said: "Everyone at school was moved by the



Benefactor John Harrison provided the first school house

generosity of Mr Peberdy's gift which will give more children the opportunity to attend GSAL."

However despite this support at least 70 talented children a year are unable to join the school due to lack of funds.

But the school is committed to changing this situation and fundraising is one of Mrs Woodroffe's main priorities.

The number of alumni who support GSAL's bursary programme is vital, however former pupils also provide support in different ways. Many give their time freely to offer careers advice and work experience opportunities

to students and, whilst the school benefits from their generosity, alumni enjoy being involved too.

Joanne Gill (OG83), director of GLR PR, visited the school to talk to the media society.

She said: "Teenagers are slightly more daunting than chief execs as an audience,

but I had no reason for concern.

The students arrived and we had a lively discussion around the different sources of news, how pictures bring a story to life and the news that companies don't want you to read.

"I felt privileged to spend time with an engaged group of people who had a real interest in a subject I'm passionate about."

Who was William Peberdy?

The school's latest benefactor, William George Peberdy (known as Bill), had a lifelong love for Leeds Grammar School and the opportunities its education had offered him in life.

Bill attended LGS from 1931-36 as a bursary student, going on to study at the University of Leeds and qualifying as a pharmacist. He spent much of his married life in Bramhope before retiring with his wife Marion to Scarborough.

He was known for his exceptional intelligence and enquiring mind, and following his retirement, was asked to produce a paper on the sterilisation of medical equipment. He completed it within a few months, then had a book published on the subject. A year later Bill invented a new type of autoclave which he patented and which was manufactured and sold globally.

As well as his strong work ethic, Bill also found time for leisure and was well known in Leeds as a keen private pilot and flying instructor.

His wife predeceased him. Bill died in Scarborough, aged 95, on December 21, 2015.



Success in many forms

In addition to being academically gifted, many bursary pupils are also extremely talented in other areas and fully embrace the opportunities available.

As a result a number represent the school, city, region and the country in a range of pursuits. Here's a quick look at where some of our bursary pupils have succeeded in recent years:

- Commonwealth Games
- European and World Swimming Championships
- World Karate Championships
- Team GB Coxing trials
- National Creative Design and Product Design competition
- Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench competition



Life after GSAL

Bursary students achieve tremendous academic success and a number are currently studying at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. These include **Shahzaib Ahmed** who achieved 4 A*s at A-level this year and is studying medicine at St John's College, Cambridge.

Sponsor a child

To fund a child's place costs just £650* a month or £325* a month for a 50 per cent bursary. *including gift aid if you are a 40% tax payer.

Did you know?

Each year the school receives over 80 applications for bursaries but is only able to fund 10 places.

To offer support to the school, email alumni@gsal or you can make a gift online: <http://www.gsal.org.uk/make-a-gift/>



Rob Cowen

Author shortlisted for the Wainwright Prize talks of the teachers who inspired him

Award-winning author Rob Cowen (OL95), shortlisted for a prestigious UK nature and travel writing prize for his book *Common Ground*, has paid tribute to the LGS teachers who inspired and influenced him.

The journalist and writer wrote *Common Ground* after returning to Yorkshire from London. It was nominated for this year's Wainwright Prize which rewards work which best reflects British writing and culture and is a celebration of the outdoors.

The shortlisting judges described Rob's book as immersive, evocative and powerful and said that it was a 'unique evocation of how, over the course of one year, Rob Cowen discovered a common – though extraordinary – square mile of wood, meadow, hedge and river on the edge of his northern town.'

Rob, in turn, credits a number of LGS teachers for their belief in him and their ability to inspire and influence the way he thought and the work he does now as a writer.

And one teacher in particular stands out as instrumental in leading Rob towards a career in the arts, English teacher Christopher Wallbank.

Rob's list reads like a who's who of well-loved LGS characters and will no doubt

resonate with many readers. Here, he looks back at some of the most memorable teachers from his time at LGS.

First up is Peter Jolly, who Rob remembers as someone who resolutely defended him.

"He had belief in me doing something good (I'm not sure why) and that was hugely inspiring as it made me feel like I should earn that loyalty.

"Then there was the brilliant Joanne Harris for confiding in me once that, as well as teaching French, she wrote and was a writer and was published; it made it seem perfectly possible to do something that otherwise felt like it was the realm of a chosen few."

As expected Derek Fry also features highly, with Rob recalling him as "always being a constant source of joy; he was and is like a lesson in contentment. He knew and loved the school, the work and always had time for everyone, even if he didn't teach them. And his few passing words as he whipped past you down the corridor were like little Zen masterpieces."

Art teacher Mike Parkinson was another inspiration who, according to Rob, showed just enough feeling through his intentionally moody demeanour to hook a class full of boys into the transformative power of art.

He said: "He also gave us enough leash to run with ideas and a 'free' space to withdraw from the rest of the school and create, and that was important too."

And he describes his former English teacher and sixth form master Christopher Wallbank as unquestionably the most profoundly inspiring and influential teacher.

He said: "It's different at the school now, but at the time, the arts was definitely second fiddle to sports, but Chris repeatedly undermined that attitude, holding morning raffles for second hand poetry books. If you could recite some poetry to him, you might be in with a chance of getting a colours tie from his lost property box.

"And he loved talking about music. He was never patronising or dismissive, but interested in new movements or rebellious sounds. Those things had a huge influence on me, and I'm sure other people in his form who subsequently moved into the arts or creative industries.

"He not only single-handedly fired my love for Thomas Hardy and Shakespeare, but opened up my mind up to how words, sentences and stories work, how they can fold you inside out or make your heart explode, how they can root you to a moment or take you somewhere else entirely. I owe him more than I can write here."

Launch of A High Ideal commemorates school at a time of war

GSAL hosted the launch of John Davies' new book *A High Ideal: Leeds Grammar School and the Great War*.

The book looks at how one northern school was affected by World War One and traces the story from the beginning of the School Officer Training Corps through to the preparations for and outbreak of war to the formation of the Old Leodiensian Association.

A separate section in the book outlines the contribution of Leeds Girls' High School to the war effort.

The launch took place in the school library and was attended by alumni, past and present staff, governors, friends and family

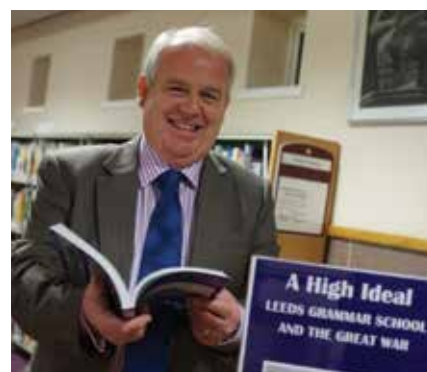
who heard John talk about his book and the lives of some of the OLs featured.

GSAL history teacher Sam Yates also talked about the importance of remembrance and described how current students are studying the lives of the Old Leos who served in WW1 to bring their learning to life in lessons and during the battlefields trip to northern France.

John taught history at LGS from 1976 until 1992 before becoming headmaster at Junior School. In 2006 he moved to Moorlands School as headmaster and returned to GSAL in 2013, following his retirement, as honorary school archivist.

The book, which was published in

December, is 235 pages and enhanced by more than 100 photographs. It is available from GSAL at a price of £20 for paperback and £30 for a hardback. Copies can be ordered by email alumni@gsal.org.uk or call 0113 229 1552.



John Davies at the GSAL launch of his book.

Lives remembered: Thomas and Wilfred Lumb

As part of our commemoration of the part played by alumni in World War One, we look at one family who lost two of their four sons in the conflict.

Much has been written about the sacrifice made by a generation of young men and women during World War One. And for many families like the Lumbs, who had four sons at Leeds Grammar School, this meant coping with more than one loss.

All four sons served during WW1 and Thomas and Wilfred were killed in action.

Thomas was killed by a shell near Ypres

on May 25, 1915, as he and several others were returning from the trenches, while Wilfred died on July 3, 1916, of injuries sustained at the Somme.

Thomas had joined the school in 1903 aged 10 and left in 1910. During his school days he was a member of the cricket, rugby and lacrosse teams and a corporal in the OTC (Officer Training Corps). He represented Yorkshire at rugby.

On leaving school he worked for a year on a farm at Micklefield and then took a year's course in agriculture at Leeds University. When he left school he joined the Yorkshire Hussars, always refusing the many requests to take a commission and preferring to stay in the ranks with his friends.

After his death, a memorial service was held in the school chapel on June 9. Thomas has no known grave and is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres.

Wilfred was at LGS from 1900 to 1907

before going to work in the City and Midland Bank.

On the outbreak of war he volunteered and joined the Leeds City Battalion (15th West Yorkshire Regiment or Leeds Pals). He was posted to "A" Company "1" Platoon, Section "1", where he became a platoon bomber. Whilst still in training, at Colsterdale, Wilfred learned that his younger brother had been killed in action.

On July 1, 1916, Wilfred was in no man's land, having been seriously wounded in the stomach, calling to his comrades. Eventually Sgt, 15/400, Harold Green heard his cries and led some of his section out to find him. He died of his wounds two days later on July 3, 1916, and is buried in Bertrancourt Military Cemetery on the Somme.

The two brothers were commemorated by a brass plaque on the pulpit of the Leeds Grammar School chapel, which was given by their parents. This is now in place in the main reception of GSAL.

This year's OGC London branch meetings played host to two very different speakers – Marilyn Stowe, who entertained with tales from her life in law and Pam Zinnemann-Hope, whose parents' love story touched her audience. Here is a round-up of their talks.

Pam's poignant tale of love moves audiences



Pam is pictured (right) with Lady Solti.

Poet and playwright Pam Zinnemann-Hope (OG63) held her audience spellbound at the spring meeting of the OGC London branch when she spoke movingly of her childhood as the daughter of refugees.

During the afternoon she read a selection of poems from her published collection *On Cigarette Papers* which traced the poignant love story of her parents and their escape from Nazi Germany in the 1930s.

Pam wrote the poems after coming across a stash of cigarette papers in the attic with Russian recipes pencilled on them.

The discovery followed her mother's death in 1990. Intrigued, she began to delve into her German-born parents' past – from their nine months as political

prisoners in 1930s Ukraine (where her mother noted down the recipes from fellow cellmates) to their escape to Leeds.

While the stories were based on her parents' history, she also infused them with images from her own past. Audience members chuckled as she read from the opening poem in the book 'where the carved mice lie in wait on each oak chair', referring to the Robert Thompson furniture that once filled the library at Headingley.

The meeting, which was held at the London home of fellow OG Lady Solti, also played host to a mini-reunion by the class of 1977.

Desire to help took Marilyn into family law

Marilyn Stowe (OG72) explained how her time at Leeds Girls' High School in the 1960s prepared her for life as a respected family lawyer.

She was inspired to enter the industry, she told her audience, through a love of caring for others, something which was noticed early in her school career.

She said: "I recently came across a school report saying 'Marilyn enjoys social work'. I really did. I did a lot of social work while I was at school and continued with that ethos. I enjoyed meeting and talking to people, but most of all – which might

sound odd for a lawyer – I genuinely liked helping people."

The lawyer also recalled another report from Leeds Girls' High School which noted that she had 'quite a good grasp of her academic subjects but lacks determination'.

"I just thought at the time – well life can prove people wrong!" she said.

This tenacity has taken her far. Marilyn now has nine offices across the UK, four of which are in Yorkshire, and is also the author of three books on divorce.

Marilyn's talk also looked at how marriage and relationships have changed since she began practising law in 1980, as well as where she thinks change still needs to be made.

She explained: "During my career, society has changed more dramatically than it ever has in the past. We are much more diverse and tolerant now, but I'm far from

convinced the law has changed at the same pace as society. It's behind the times, and we need to do something about this."

Marilyn was speaking at the autumn meeting of the OGC London branch, held at the Institute of Education.



Marilyn is pictured (left) with Jackie Chalmers, chair of the OGC London branch, and Helen Clapham, director of external relations at GSAL.



Message from the OGC President

Another busy and successful year.

The new alumni pages on the school website enable everyone to update contact details and view the range of alumni and other school events which all Old Girls are welcome to attend.

One of these was the Service of

Remembrance held in school at which I was proud to lay a wreath on behalf of the Old Girls' Club. Another was the Mark Bailey Memorial lecture given by Marilyn Stowe (nee Morris) (OG72) earlier this year.

The London branch, which continues to thrive with two yearly events ably organised by Jackie Chalmers and her committee, contributes towards a bus pass fund to assist a bursary pupil with her travelling expenses to and from school. Initially using some limited historic funds, the Old Girls' committee decided to follow their example and contribute to the travel expenses of a talented bursary pupil in the first year of senior school. We thought a small raffle at the dinner following the Old Girls' annual golf or walking day in May might be a good starting point for raising funds to enable us to carry on helping in future years. Sincere thanks to Lynn Aspland and Victoria Littlewood for continuing to

organise this enjoyable event (and Paddie Breeze for the walk) and, on hearing about our fundraising plans, for contacting so many of their OG school friends. The response was overwhelming with over £800 donated or raised by the raffle. The accompanying notes from Old Girls were really uplifting and I hope I managed to respond to everyone personally. The amount donated means we can help with the pupil's travel costs over the next couple of years and we aim to raise further funds to continue this.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who donated as well as my fellow committee members and the London branch, Louise Marshall and other school members of staff, for all their help and support.

Joanne Pellow (OG82)

President, The Old Girls Club

Laura finds personal & professional happiness under one roof

A chance meeting set Laura Barrand Haigh (OG2000) and Jon Graham on the path to true love...and a successful business partnership.

For the couple discovered that behind their mutual attraction there also lay similar career paths in property investment and management.

Now Laura and Jon have joined forces to head up a Leeds-based lettings and estate agency with a difference.

Dwell Leeds, based on Kirkstall Road, has just introduced a new sourcing service which is aimed at property investors looking to grow their portfolios. The new service sits alongside the core business which offers residential properties for sale or to let.

Laura said: "This means that we can assist with every stage of property investments, from sourcing, to refurbishing, letting, managing and selling. It makes us the go-to agency for landlords, investors, tenants, buyers and sellers alike."

After leaving LGHS Laura studied

marketing and management at the University of Newcastle. After a couple of years working in the property industry in Newcastle, she returned to Leeds to continue her career.

This included working for Stonebridge Homes, the developer currently creating the residential development Victoria Gardens on the former LGHS site.

She said: "I have visited the site on several occasions and am impressed with the development and excited to see it through the changes."

When she met Jon in 2012 he had recently founded Dwell Leeds, after working in lettings and management for a number of years. Laura joined the business at the beginning of 2016 to head up the property management team.

She attributes a lot of the success of their rapidly-expanding business to their complementary professional skills and joint vision.

She said: "Jon and I are partners in work and in life. We are discerning ourselves;

we know what we would expect and ensure we provide the same."

Amongst their current clients are some familiar faces from Leeds Girls' High School and Laura is still in touch with a number of girls from school.

She said: "It's so great to see how everyone has developed since school and it's amazing how strong the 'old girls' network still is – in both our personal life and in business."

For more about Laura's role at Dwell Leeds visit www.Dwell-Leeds.com





Message from the OLA President

The 2015–2016 session has been a comparatively quiet one. Apart from maintaining social links with our AROPS co-members, including the Old Savillians,

the Old Bradfordians and the Old Silcoatians, our events schedule included the OLA Leeds Lunch at Lambert's Yard on November 20 2015 and the OLA London Dinner at the East India Club on February 26 2016 with guest speaker Nick Caplin (OL98). The former LGS Staff and Honorary OLS' Christmas lunch was celebrated this year on June 16 (sic) at The Priest's House, Barden Tower.

It was an honour and a privilege for the OLA to provide the financial support for John Davies' book *A High Ideal*, which comprehensively records the World War 1 contribution and sacrifice made by the staff and boys of Leeds Grammar School, and which was formally launched on December 9 2015 at a ceremony held in the Lawson Library at GSAL.

April 2016 saw the formation of a new company, The Leodiensian Sports Club Ltd, to allow the assignment of the Crag Lane sports ground lease, thereby enabling the continued use of the Crag Lane Club House and facilities as an independent community asset.

We are sad to note the death of former LGS head of German and honorary OL John Gimson after a short illness in September 2015, and of Brian Best (OL43), who was formerly head boy of LGS and latterly Governor and Chair of the LGHS Trustees, in October 2015.

Prof Tristram Hope (OL81)
President, The Old Leodiensian Association

Old Leodiensian encourages pupils to 'make a difference'

'Be the producer and director of your own movie' – this was the central message of political campaigner Matthew Elliott (OL96) when he came back to school as guest of honour at Speech Day.

Speaking in Leeds Town Hall to an audience of GSAL parents, staff and pupils, Matthew said that he believed people should define success according to its impact on society rather than in material terms.

Matthew has certainly made an impact since leaving school – he was a key Brexit lobbyist and is chief executive of Business for Britain which campaigns for changes to membership of the EU, having previously co-founded the Tax Payers' Alliance and Big Brother Watch.

Since the EU referendum Matthew has set up Brexit Central, a website which is designed to track every moment of leaving the EU through news, comment and analysis.

His main message to pupils was: "In life



(L-R) Andrew Wheeler, Matthew Elliott & Andrew Stodolny.

people should be agents of change; when you come to assess your life think about what difference you've made."

Prior to the evening's prizegiving, Matthew spent the day at GSAL where he met some of his former teachers and toured the school with the head boys and girls.

At LGS Matthew studied A-levels in politics, economics and history before graduating from the London School of

Economics with a first class degree in government. His main extra-curricular interest was music – he sang in the school choir and played the organ daily in chapel – so was delighted to meet up with Andrew Wheeler, director of music from 1989 at LGS and head of faculty at GSAL today.

Matthew also had the chance to get together with Andrew Stodolny, who taught him politics in the sixth form.

James hits all the right notes to win choral scholarship

James Micklethwaite (GSAL15) has won a prestigious choral scholarship at King's College, Cambridge.

As part of the scholarship the talented young tenor, who began studying philosophy at Churchill College, Cambridge in September, will sing with the King's choir for two hours a day.

In his role as a choral scholar he will sing Evensong every day apart from Monday, with two services on a Sunday. He will also sing in concerts at King's Chapel, and at other venues like the Royal Albert Hall.

As well as overseas tours, plus performances for the Easter and Christmas television and radio broadcasts, James will

also sing with the King's Men, an acapella close harmony group comprised of the choral scholars. Singing lessons with a teacher from the Royal College of Music, or a similar musical establishment, are included as part of the scholarship.

James, who was a member of the GSAL head boy and girl team in 2015, took a year out to be a choral scholar at Norwich Cathedral.

He said: "The year out was invaluable preparation for next year. Prior to this, I'd never sung in a church or cathedral choir, and so I had to get used to a completely different style. Singing psalms and plainsong proved a particular challenge at the start of the

year, as did the sheer volume of music. Now that I'm familiar with a lot of the repertoire, however, I hope that next year will be more manageable!"

Throughout his time at school James won a number of musical accolades. He achieved Grade 8 in singing at the age of 11 and sang with the National Youth Choir of Great Britain and the Yorkshire Philharmonic Choir. He was awarded the highest grade in a diploma from the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) at just 15, in an exam aimed at university students and last year he passed the second stage of the diploma and was awarded the Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music.



Mark with his award

Mark is TV's 'one to watch'

Mark O'Brien (OL08) has been named the 'one to watch' in this year's Royal Television Society (RTS) Yorkshire Awards.

The producer and presenter is one of the founders of Made in Leeds, an independent television channel offering a mix of local news, sport and entertainment in the city and surrounding areas. Made in Leeds was also a winner on the night, receiving

the news report award for its coverage of Christmas flooding on the River Aire.

Two other OLs were nominated for awards at the RTS Yorkshire event. Mark Kielesz-Levine (OL02) was nominated for his reporting on the Made in Leeds programme, On the Aire, and Roger Keech (OL72) as director of the factual programme Onstage at the York Theatre Royal for the BBC.

OGC golf, walk & dinner

The OGs annual day of golf or walking, topped off by a celebration dinner, was a great success...and even the weather was kind this year.

The dry, slightly cool conditions were ideal for a day's play at Otley Golf Club and, while the golfers were battling it out on the greens, the non-golfers enjoyed a brisk walk which started and finished at Menston Park.

Dinner at the golf club was followed by



The walkers are (L-R): Shelagh Dixon, Jackie Passman, Joanne Pellow, Linda Bentley, Lynne Boyle and Barbara McNutt. (not in photo Paddie Breeze)

a presentation of prizes to the winning golfers by Joanne Pellow, president of the OGC. Sue Jacklin was this year's winner of the OGC golf trophy with Lynne Pearson as runner-up.

The 10th anniversary golf day, walk and dinner will be held at Scarcroft Golf Club on Friday 5 May, 2017.

OLs to celebrate 40 years since first rugby tour

Were you a member of the rugby tour to Portugal in 1976?

If so, you are invited to join other members of the team to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the school's first-ever overseas sporting tour.

OLs Jeremy Harrison and Neil Muffitt are keen to organise an event to coincide with a festival of rugby being planned by GSAL and Woodhouse Grove School on Friday

November 11, at West Park Bramhope Rugby Club.

They hope to combine a 40th anniversary meal with the school event which will feature a match between GSAL and Woodhouse Grove 1st XV teams, kicking off at 19:30.

Jeremy said: "We have met up as a team to celebrate both 25 and 35 years since the tour, so it would be great to bring as many

people as possible together to mark this 40th milestone.

"The year's gathering will be a poignant one as, sadly, two of our team mates, Robin Levitt and Greg Burns, died recently. It would be a fitting way to pay tribute to them and remember old times."

For more information on the event, contact alumni@gsal.org.uk

Minhaz takes the voice of young people to the heart of the UN



Minhaz is pictured addressing the UK Youth Parliament in the House of Commons earlier this year. (Photo: UK Parliament/Jessica Taylor)

While many of his peers were socialising at Freshers' Week, Minhaz Abedin (GSAL16) was mingling with world

leaders in New York at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

Minhaz, who completed his A-levels at GSAL this summer, accompanied International Development Secretary Priti Patel to the annual UNGA in New York to ensure the voices of British youth were heard. The UNGA makes decisions on the world's biggest issues such as global poverty, women's economic empowerment and international security.

In a gruelling selection process, including an interview at the Department for International Development in London, just two delegates were chosen from a field of 200 applicants.

Minhaz said: "This is the second year youth delegates have attended UNGA. Britain led the way in 2015, sending a powerful signal of the UK's commitment to putting young people at the heart of development. That is how we'll make change, by allowing passionate young people to be the driving force."

No stranger to the big stage, Minhaz has served two terms as a member of the UK Youth Parliament and spoke from the despatch box at the annual debate in the House of Commons.

He is now in his first year at Lancaster University, studying politics and international relations.

School marks Lord Dyson's retirement with dinner

The school is to hold a dinner in London to mark the retirement of Lord Dyson (OL61), one of its most eminent alumni.

The special evening at The Athenaeum Club in Pall Mall, on November 17, is being held in recognition of Lord Dyson's considerable achievements and will mark his retirement as Master of the Rolls.

Guests will include David Gravells, chairman of the governors of The Grammar School at Leeds and Sue Woodroffe, the school's principal. They will be joined by a number of distinguished guests, including

friends and colleagues of Lord Dyson. For more details contact alumni@gsal.org.uk

Lord Dyson was appointed Master of the Rolls in 2012, a position which dates back to 1286.

As the most senior civil judge, and the second most senior judge in England and Wales after the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Dyson served as the presiding officer of the civil division of the Court of Appeal where he would traditionally consider the most complex cases. He was also head of civil justice.

During his career Lord Dyson has had significant influence on the development of many branches of civil law, and public law in particular. In a tribute to Lord Dyson in The Times newspaper, David Pannick QC described his judicial style as polite, fair, focused, unassuming, and

therefore, persuasive.

After LGS, John Dyson studied classics at Wadham College, Oxford University and was called to the Bar at Middle Temple in 1968. He took silk in 1982, was appointed to the High Court in 1993, becoming a Justice of the Supreme Court in 2010.

Lord Dyson was knighted in 1993.



Lord Dyson

GSAL students get a glimpse into Silicon Valley with 'Oracle guy'

Martin Morris (OL83) had a fairly stressful introduction to working at Google – on his first day he was faced with a power cut and some awkward questions from the co-founder of Larry Page.

That was in 2002 and, fortunately for Martin, the power outage caused no lasting damage and he went on to spend a successful four years working at Google.

During a visit to the computing society at GSAL, Martin dispensed some valuable advice to students who aspire to a career in IT. With his wide-ranging experience, he had good advice for students during



Martin is pictured with U6 students (L-R) Sam Berson, Michael Shaw and Jake Stringer.

a Q&A session, from the skills to focus on in building a career in IT, to the pros and cons of working for a small company or a major organisation. He also gave

an insight into the culture and working conditions at Google, likening them to the film *The Internship*.

OLs down under enjoy annual Aussie dinner



Pictured at the dinner are (L-R): Geoff Ingall, Nigel Shearer, Cyril Short, Philip Stavely, Neil Smithies, Scott Inman, Richard Charnock, John Levine and Jeremy Stowe-Lindner.

Geoff Ingall (OL59) has organised another 'ripper' dinner for OLs living down under.

The annual Melbourne dinner has become such a success that Geoff now wants to organise a Sydney dinner in 2016.

At this year's Melbourne event Phil Stavely, Scott Inman and Nigel Shearer made the trip from Adelaide, Sydney and Hobart.

Geoff said: "To those unable to attend, bad luck, you missed a treat. I must say that these lads certainly haven't lost their sense of fun!"

Tennis ace sets his sights on professional career

Luke Johnson (GSAL10) has returned from university in America with his sights set firmly on a tennis career.

The up and coming young player plans to take his chances on the British pro tennis circuit after completing a four-year BSc degree at Clemson University, South Carolina.

Luke, who attended Clemson as a student athlete, obtained his degree while training 20 hours a week in a strong, competitive college tennis programme.

Now, after a summer spent training and coaching in New York, Luke is back in Leeds to launch his professional career.

Luke will divide his time between his home in Leeds (mum Cath Johnson is

head of netball at GSAL) and at the Bath Tennis Academy where he will work with Dave Sammel, who has coached most of the top 100 men's players in the UK.

During his first year back he will play in both the ITF Futures tournaments and on the British tour to work his way up the rankings.

Luke began playing tennis at the age of three, but throughout his childhood he excelled at many other sports and was in the Manchester United and Leeds United mini football academies, as well as representing Yorkshire at cricket.

However at 15 he decided to concentrate on tennis and, while completing his GCSE and A-levels, he represented England at U18 level. He reached the semi-finals

of the national U18 singles and the finals of the doubles while still under 17. He was also the British Colleges national champion.



Tennis ace Luke in action in the US.

Alumnae net second win over GSAL...



Some of the past v present players are pictured: (back) L-R: current team players Rosie Harris and Lucy Stead (Capt); past team (back) L-R: Adi Winters, Harriet Wafer, Rachel Foster, Hattie Grant, Lucy Harris, Aneesah Kabba Kamara and Lauren Fraser; (front) L-R: current players, Lauren Gaunt, Claudia Aston, Emily Blaxill, Megan Black, Ellie Sowerby, Louise Marsden, Hannah Gorman, Imogen Bates and Duresha De Zoyza.

Former GSAL netballers proved they have still got what it takes when they beat the school's senior team in a past v present match.

This is the second time they have been victorious, despite GSAL's senior team in 2015-16 being double national champions and including two England players.

However the 'old girls' are no slouches either when it comes to netballing accolades and awards.

All of them have played for GSAL in national competitions. School success as national champions started when Harriet Wafer, Hattie Grant, Rachel Foster, Lucy Harris, Aneesah Kabba Kamara and Lauren Fraser won the U15 and U16

national competitions in 2011/12 and their success continues.

Four of the girls have, or are currently, playing in the national Superleague, which is televised by Sky Sports on Monday evenings.

Another member of the alumnae team, Rochelle Powell, was the first GSAL Superleague player and she also played for both Yorkshire Jets and Loughborough Lightning.

Rochelle coaches the GSAL U12 team, and also played in the first team to qualify for national finals the year after merger.

Lucy Harris, sister of Rosie is in the present GSAL team, plays for Yorkshire Jets, while Lauren Fraser plays for Celtic Dragons and Hattie Grant has played her second season with Team Northumbria.

Cath Johnson, GSAL's head of netball, said: "With such stars in the past team we all feel honoured that they keep space in their calendars for such a fun game. The girls even wore their old GSAL kit!"

Charles Brian Best (1925–2015)

Brian was born in Leeds and educated at Leeds Grammar School.

Brian was a governor of Leeds Girls' High School from 1976–1999 and was appointed as a trustee in 1972, becoming chairman in 2002. He served until 2009 when the school was due to merge with Leeds Grammar School to become The Grammar School at Leeds.

During his years at LGS he was head boy, achieving academic success as well as representing school in cricket and rugby. At the outset of war he was evacuated to Hartlington Hall, near Burnsall, where he developed his love of walking. While at the University of Leeds, reading mechanical engineering, his love of walking extended to the Lake District where he and his friends would go youth hostelling, taking in a number of peaks over several days.

In 1950, at the age of 25, he took over running the family engineering business – Charles Best & Son – following the sudden, early death of his father. He continued to run the company with his brother Paul and later, his son Jonathan, until well beyond retirement age.

A keen sportsman, he followed Yorkshire County Cricket Club and Leeds Rhinos in particular and was captain of Headingley Methodist Cricket Club for 21 years.

Brian joined Leeds Rotary Club in 1972 and became president in 1984, being actively involved in the community service aspect of Rotary. He also enjoyed classical music and attended many orchestral concerts during his life. One notable family musical occasion was when he joined an augmented chorus in a joint Leeds Grammar School and Leeds Girls' High School performance of the Messiah which also included all three of his children.

Brian was married to Margaret for 58 years and is survived by his brother Paul (OL48), sister Greta (OG50), son Jonathan (OL74) and daughters Angela (OG69) and Elaine (OG70), as well as his six grandchildren and three great grandsons.

Joan Smales, née Roylance (1924–2015)

Joan died peacefully after a couple of weeks of illness in October 2015 at the age of 91 after a long life well lived.

She started at LGHS aged four in 1928 and left in 1943 when she joined the WRENS as an air mechanic. Her school days were very important to her and to the end of her life she enjoyed talking about the fun she had at school (including doing fire watching duty during the war) and the friends she made there. Her generation was one where the friends made at school lasted a lifetime and she was very proud of the fact that she and another girl who started together were still close friends 87 years later. Although she was not evacuated to Bolton Abbey, she used to go in the holidays and help on the land with the other girls and was thrilled to attend reunions there in the 1980s and 90s.

Life in the WRENS was very different to LGHS but she enjoyed most of it just as much; she always said it was her equivalent of university. For the latter part of the war she was based on the Isle of Man which was used for training pilots.

After demob she returned to Leeds and became a physiotherapist before marrying and having a daughter Dawn who she was proud to send to LGHS at the age of four as she had done.

For many years she was on the Old Girls committee, a role which she thoroughly enjoyed as not only were many of her friends involved, it gave her the chance to give something back to the school and the community of friends she had made there.

In later life, her proudest role was that of granny to Jessica, Matthew and Christopher and she was a big part of their lives as they grew up.

Vikki Askew, née Howard (1957–2016)

Vikki Askew, who was educated at Leeds Girls' High School and subsequently became head of history at Leeds Grammar School, was a passionate historian and an inspiring teacher. She gained a first from the University of Edinburgh in the days when only three were awarded and was appointed head of history in four schools: St Edward's, Oxford; Guildford High School; Christ's Hospital (where she helped run a new girls' boarding house and met her husband Tim Askew); and Leeds Grammar School.

Vikki was head of history at Leeds Grammar School from 2004–2006, during which time she also ran Jewish assemblies. Prior to that, she had been deputy head at James Allen's Girls School in Dulwich, London, returning there after LGS to take up the post of head of sixth form.

She was a proud Yorkshire woman who was always aware of her own place in Jewish history. Her Sephardi mother taught her to speak Ladino and her father was a first generation immigrant who fled the Nazi advance into Romania and fought for Britain in the Second World War. He later went on to set up a textile business in Yorkshire, changing his name from Horowitz to Howard. Vikki had extensive knowledge of Jewish history. She lectured at the Spiro Institute – merged into the London Jewish Cultural Centre – and also co-wrote that organisation's website coverage of the Holocaust. For Vikki, Holocaust education also meant oral history and she thought it vital that Holocaust survivors should have a conversation with classes in all her many schools. To that end she worked closely with the Holocaust Education Trust over four decades. The new Pre-U exam board also looked to her expertise to write their specification.

Among the many tributes paid to Vikki came this personal one from her school friend Miriam Teeman (OG76) who wrote: "I was Vikki's friend in Ford House; we giggled in Jewish prayers and met up again when she led Jewish prayers at GSAL and taught my son Leo; he adored her and she supported him long after she left. We were friends as girls, as mothers, as teachers and as Jewish women trying to make sense of the world. "She was a tour de force, an intellectual, a born

and gifted teacher and a lovely, just lovely lady."

Vikki died suddenly and unexpectedly at the age of 59 and is survived by her husband Tim and two sons Edward and Daniel.

Joyce Wright (1928–2015)

Joyce Wright, who was head of Rose Court from 1985 until 1990, will be remembered for being an excellent teacher who was warm, kind, loving, caring, charismatic and fun.

She loved being with young children and loved to teach them, gaining great joy from watching their development and finding out where their talents and abilities lay.

Joyce was hugely popular with children, parents and staff, always looking after colleagues too, inspiring and guiding them in their chosen career.

She was born in Macclesfield and, after Macclesfield High School, went on to teacher training college in Saffron Walden, Essex. From there she travelled across America before taking up a teaching post in The Hague. She returned to teach in a school in Manchester before marrying and having two sons, Dan and Paul.

After some time spent in the south, she returned north and settled in Scarcroft, Leeds, going back to teaching, initially part-time and then full-time, to Leeds Girls' High School and Rose Court where she was appointed head in 1985.

She enjoyed an active retirement in Leeds but in recent years, as her health began to fail, she moved to Waltham in Lincolnshire to be near her son Dan and his family.

At her funeral, her eulogy ended with the words: "Children were her life, her passion, whether her own or those she taught. Regardless of their status or wealth they were treated with an affection and warmth that would be her legacy. She leaves a huge gap within her family. Her wit, her wisdom and her character will remain with us always."

Joyce was widowed. She leaves two sons, Dan, a district judge, and Paul, an artist, as well as four grandchildren.

Thomas Hulme (1992–2016)

Tributes have been paid to Thomas Hulme (GSAL09), who has died tragically in London.

Friends left messages of love and support on Facebook after his sister praised Tom as a 'beautiful big brother' following his death in August.

Tom, who studied business marketing management at the University of Newcastle, was working as a recruitment consultant in London.

He is remembered at GSAL as a lively pupil with a sense of fun. He was also a keen sportsman and talented rugby player, playing on the wing for the school team and Otley Rugby Club.

His funeral was held at Lawnswood Crematorium on September 30. Tom is survived by his parents Caroline and Gary Hulme and his younger sister Lucy.

Alumni Events 2016/17

Events are open to all unless otherwise stated but places must be booked in advance. For further information contact the Alumni Team on tel: 0113 229 1552 or email: alumni@gsal.org.uk

OLA LEEDS LUNCH

This year's OLA Lunch takes place at Banyan, Leeds City Centre. Booking: Please contact Paul Miller on email: paul@blackorange.co.uk

DATE: FRIDAY 25 NOV 2016

TIME: 13:00 – 16:00

VENUE: BANYAN, LEEDS

OLA LONDON DINNER

The OLA London Dinner 2017 is taking place at the Travellers Club. All OLs are welcome. Booking: Tickets can be booked online at www.gsal.org.uk/alumni

DATE: FRIDAY 10 MARCH 2017

TIME: 18:00 – 00:00

VENUE: TRAVELLERS CLUB, LONDON

OGC LONDON BRANCH EVENT

Booking: Places are free and can be booked through Jackie Chalmers on tel: 01483 579 343 or email: jackie.chalmers@ntlworld.com

DATE: SATURDAY 18 MARCH 2017

TIME: 14:00

VENUE: NORTH LONDON

LONDON DRINKS & NETWORK EVENING

An informal evening of drinks, canapes and networking. For more details email: alumni@gsal.org.uk/alumni

DATE: THURSDAY 27 APRIL 2017

TIME: 18:30 ONWARDS

VENUE: OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE CLUB, LONDON

OGC GOLF AND DINNER

The 10th annual Old Girls' Club Reunion Golf and dinner event takes place on Friday 5 May 2017 at Scarcroft Golf Club. A walk will be arranged by Paddie Breeze for non-golfers and the evening dinner is open to all Old Girls. Booking: Please e-mail: alumni@gsal.org.uk

DATE: FRIDAY 5 MAY 2017

TIME: 14:00 GOLF

19:00 DINNER

VENUE: SCARCROFT GOLF CLUB

ANNUAL MARK BAILEY LECTURE

Dr Sam Cohen (OL05) will talk about his ground breaking research work into Alzheimer's disease and stress that Alzheimer's is not normal ageing – it is a disease that we can understand, and therefore it is possible to prevent or treat it. Booking: Tickets are free and can be booked online at www.gsal.org.uk/alumni

DATE: WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH 2017

TIME: 19:00 – 21:00

VENUE: THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL AT LEEDS

Support the GSAL Bursary Fund



"Every day I remember just how lucky I am and I cannot express my gratitude enough to the generous donors who make it possible for me to attend GSAL".

Megan
(Year 11 bursary student)



Attending The Grammar School at Leeds is a life-changing experience; 83% of our pupils gained A* to B in their A-levels this year, enabling the majority to secure places at the UK's leading universities.

Attending the school has enabled our alumni to achieve success in a wide range of careers across the world.

We are able to support a number of pupils each year through the GSAL Bursary Fund - typically 1 in 6 new Year 7 pupils will receive financial support - but at least 170 talented pupils are unable to take up their offer of a place because they cannot afford the fees and we have insufficient bursary funding.

With your help we can make sure fewer children miss out.

Please support the GSAL Bursary Fund by completing the enclosed form or by donating online at www.gsal.org.uk/make-a-gift. If you would like further information contact the external relations team, The Grammar School at Leeds, Alwoodley Gates, Leeds, LS17 8GS or telephone 0113 229 1552.



THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
AT LEEDS