



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF  
**ANDREW DAVIES**, TOUR  
DE YORKSHIRE CYCLIST



SINGER **ANNALIE**  
ENDS THE YEAR ON  
A HIGH NOTE



**GENEVIEVE** THOUGHT  
CAREERS ADVICE WAS  
A BARREL OF LAUGHS



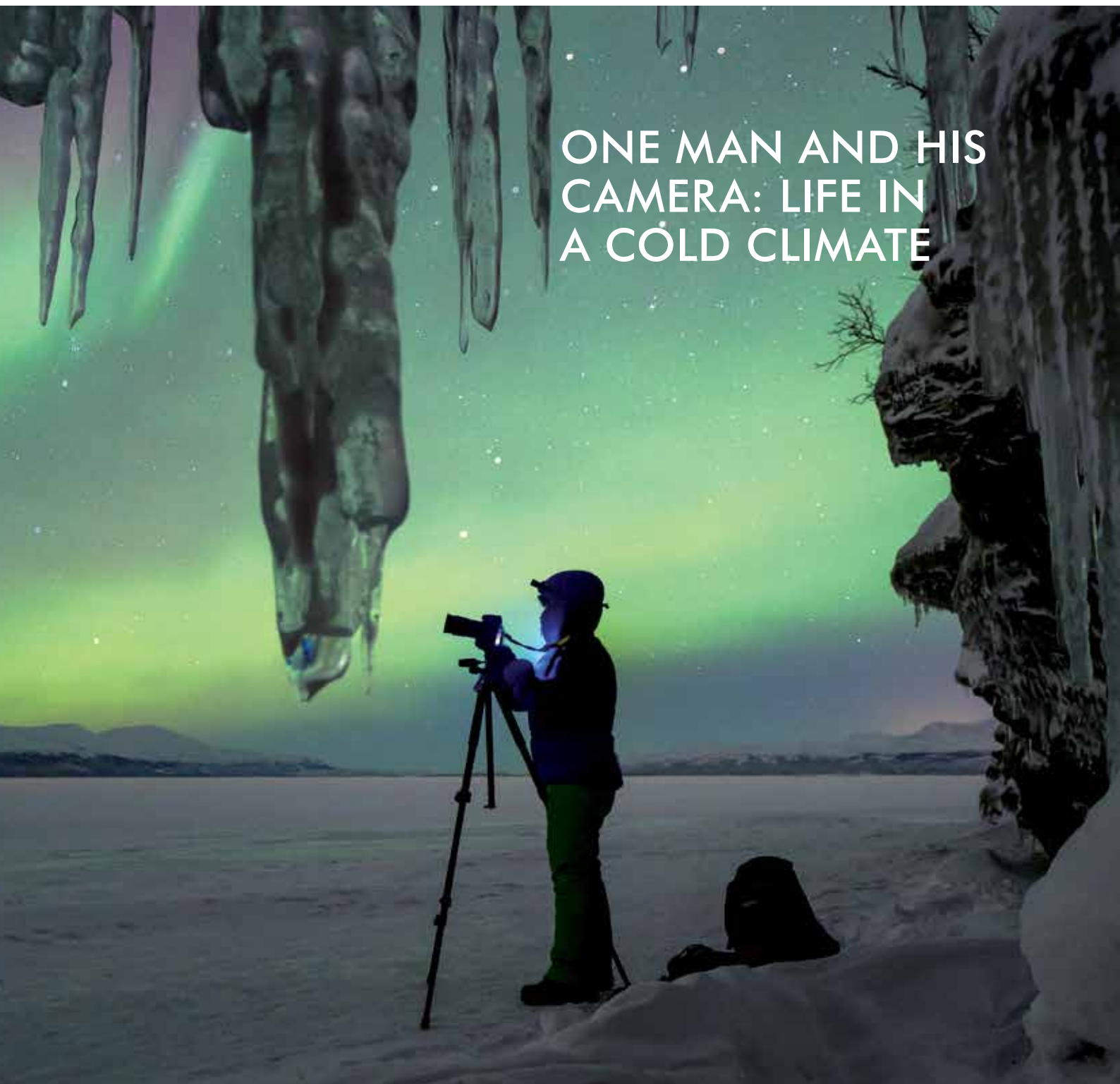
**MARK** MAKES TV  
FOR LEEDS

Issue 03 | Autumn 2015

# Memento

The magazine for LGS, LGHS & GSAL Alumni

“I saw so many  
fantastic displays  
of aurora night  
after night.”



ONE MAN AND HIS  
CAMERA: LIFE IN  
A COLD CLIMATE

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# Mark makes TV for Leeds



Mark O'Brien



Mark O'Brien (OL08) has played a key role in bringing a brand new television station to Leeds.

The journalist and broadcaster was a member of the Made in Leeds consortium who successfully saw off bids from four other companies for an Ofcom licence to create a community-based station.

Now, less than a year since its launch the station has 300,000 viewers a week for its mix of local news, sport and entertainment, covering Leeds and surrounding areas.

The schedule includes two half-hour news bulletins every night and a half-hour what's on magazine show called The Book It List. Other highlights include a rugby league show Rugby AM, a weekly current affairs debate hour, and a weekly Leeds United talk show called All Leeds Aren't We.

Made in Leeds can also lay claim to the UK's first dedicated yoga show, Everyday Yoga with Helena Byles.

As senior producer, one of Mark's roles is to develop the next wave of programming and among the ideas being considered are programmes to showcase local musicians, new film reviews and grassroots boxing, as well as a show where famous faces from the county are flown over Yorkshire in a plane and shown places that mean a lot in their lives.

He said: "Our aim above all is to reflect what Leeds and the wider region are about, to produce locally-made programming that speaks to the community."

Mark studied English Literature at St Catherine's College, Oxford, where he became involved in student journalism. Work as an intern on a magazine in China and a placement at Sky News only served to galvanise his interest. Then in 2011, when he should have been revising for his finals, he started working with a group of people aiming to start a local TV station in Leeds.

This was his introduction to the Made in Leeds team and while working on the bid over the next three years he was also building his own career as a freelance journalist, writing regularly for the Yorkshire Post, The Guardian, Daily Telegraph, The Independent, and various magazines.

It was a long slog, he says, but the hard work paid off. So how does the new station differ from the output from the traditional BBC and ITV channels? For a start, with a 24-hour schedule to focus on the region, Made in Leeds has more time to delve deeper into stories.

Mark said: "We can go to the places and meet the people that they might miss. So much so that we actually sell Made in Leeds content to the BBC which they then often use on Look North or Radio Leeds.

"I like to think above all that we speak the Leeds language, that we are very much by Leeds folk for Leeds folk, in a way that other broadcasters in the region can't quite match."

To see Mark's interviews with the school's new principal Mrs Sue Woodroffe, visit [gsal.org.uk](http://gsal.org.uk).



# One man and his camera: life in a cold climate



Our stunning front cover shot of the aurora borealis was taken 195 kilometres inside the Arctic Circle by Oliver Wright (OL90). Here, we talk to Oliver about how he gave up a career in management for a life in photography.



Inquisitive moose



Oliver Wright

A passion for photography, combined with an adventurous spirit, has developed into a new career for Oliver Wright.

After many years of pursuing photography as a serious hobby, Oliver ‘finally took the plunge’ in February 2014 and set himself up as a professional photographer with a studio in Headingley, Leeds.

Now, just 18 months later he is already making his mark in the world of adventure photography, shooting wildlife and landscapes in some of the remotest parts of the world, including the Arctic Circle.

When he left his job as an internal management consultant at Morrisons head office in Bradford, he concentrated on honing his photography skills across the disciplines, from commercial shoots to family portraits and weddings, as well as running photography workshops.

However for many years Oliver had been fascinated by wildlife photography, combining it with a love of travelling and mountaineering.

He learned his climbing skills at LGS and, following a microbiology degree at Liverpool University, he was picked for the British Climbing Team. He spent the next three years climbing all over the world, including the Alps, Germany, Spain and Thailand, taking work to pay for his trips.

His first ‘proper’ job was with GE (General Electrics) where he stayed for 10 years, starting as an analyst and working his way up to head of operations projects. He also worked for O2 before joining Morrisons, but throughout his career he continued climbing and taking photographs. When an injury kept him away from his beloved mountains for a while he started to take photography more seriously, eventually deciding to turn professional.

Just months after setting up his studio he saw an ad for a photographer to work in the Arctic Circle. The only skills needed were experience of photographing the aurora borealis, running workshops and an ability to work in a cold, inhospitable environment!

“It was my dream job,” said Oliver. “I had already done a number of aurora trips so I knew how tough the conditions could be. I emailed the company immediately and two weeks later I was on my way to Abisko in the Arctic Circle.”

The work was for a UK-based travel company Lights over Lapland who hired Oliver for five months to run nightly and weekly guided photography tours of Abisko National Park which – due to clear skies and virtually no light pollution – is one of the best places in the world to see the northern lights.

He said: “I arrived in November and didn’t see the sun until February 5 when it came over the horizon for about five minutes, but I saw so many fantastic displays of aurora night after night.

“The clients were all keen photographers and, as I was mainly working with them at nights, I had plenty of time to do my own photography during the day. The wildlife was incredible and I saw Arctic hares, which are like giant white rabbits, came face-to-face with a mother moose and her calves and spotted an incredible 60 white-tailed sea eagles in one day on a trip to the Lofoten Islands.

Oliver will return to Abisko in November this year where, as well as the tours he supervised last year, he will also be guiding an eight-day photography expedition, travelling on dog-sleds.

Before he heads off though, he exhibited his photography at the White Cloth Gallery, in Aire Street, Leeds, from July to October.

For more information on Oliver and his work, visit [oliverwrightphotography.com](http://oliverwrightphotography.com)



# Brewer thought careers advice was a barrel of laughs



Brewer Genevieve Upton

When Genevieve Upton (née Salter OG04) took part in psychometric testing at Leeds Girls' High School the results gave everyone a good giggle...her number one career option was brewing.

She didn't take the idea too seriously, but fast forward a decade and Genevieve has just become a master brewer after seven years of study while working at Marston's Brewery. She now works as an innovations brewer for Marston's with her own signature beer on supermarket shelves.

She said: "At the time it seemed totally ludicrous because no one went into brewing. It didn't seem like a real job!"

However during her first year studying applied and human biology at Aston University one of her modules was mycology - the study of fungi - which included practical classes in brewing beer. Her placement year had a biotechnology slant to it too, and by the time she returned for her final year at university she was fascinated by industrial processes and applications within food and drink.

"It helps as well that I love beer and different flavours," she said, "and a combination of all this had me hunting for graduate opportunities with breweries."

She joined the open trainee development programme at Marston's, which takes just four to six graduates every two years and allows them to develop in any area of the business.

During her time at Marston's Genevieve has worked across the supply chain, taking in brewing, fermenting (including responsibility for the last remaining functional Burton Union System in the world) and packaging.

She said: "My current innovation role is well suited to me as I love experimenting with different flavours. With the current craft beer revolution there's lots of scope to play outside the rules. This year I've experimented with smoked malts, salted liquorice, juniper and rosemary - none of which are typically found in British beers."



Marston's Brewery

Top projects have included creating a beer for the company's Revisionist range, which sees her face and signature on bottles of California Common Steam Beer on the shelves of Tesco supermarkets, and she also has a growing collection of signed cask pump ales.

She said: "I was working in bottling when Steam Beer first launched and it's a curious thing to see your face appearing on thousands of bottles down the conveyor line. When it hit the shelf I had friends and family across the country tweeting me photos and clearing the shelves of bottles!"

Genevieve has also designed a beer in collaboration with the Band of Brothers to raise money for the charity Help for Heroes which has been rolled out across Marston's pubs.

She said: "The brief was quite specific for that particular beer - blonde, 4.2%, accessible but distinctive. I spent the day talking beer, raw materials and existing beers with three guys from the H4H Band of Brothers. We were able to identify the characteristics they liked and didn't like and from that I could build a bespoke recipe for the beer."

So with such day-to-day variety, what is her favourite part of the job?

"It's impossible to have a favourite bit," said Genevieve. "Everyone thinks it must be the daily tasting session at 9.30 in the

morning when all the beers packaged in the last 24 hours are tasted. It can be a brilliant aspect of the job, but sometimes beer tasting is the last thing you want to do early in the day.

"There's lots of satisfaction from managing the whole process and being able to say 'I made that' when I'm standing in the supermarket or pub. And then there's the love of problem solving. I had a great time commissioning a new bottling line two years ago. It was another really satisfying period as my team and I got to grips with new technology and equipment. I love the feeling of overcoming a particularly challenging problem."

Genevieve also hosts a number of events like meet the brewers, food and menu matching and the BBC Winter Good Food Show beer tasting sessions.

"It's a delight to bring members of the real world on the beer loving journey with me," she said.

# Singer Annalie ends the year on a high note



Annalie Wilson in the recording studios

Singer, songwriter and actor Annalie Wilson (OG97) is ending the year on a high note with a new single out just ahead of her third album.

The single, entitled Fire, was due for release at the end of September and her album will follow around Christmas.

She began recording it in Gdansk, Poland, and completed the final live session in Krakow over the summer.

She said: "I recorded my third album with a Polish drummer I met through working on the second album. We have toured together a few times, including one notable performance at Seven in Leeds as part of our Northern Lights Tour in April 2014.

"We chose Radio Gdansk to record as it has a beautiful old Steinway grand piano and top quality microphones and sound equipment. We like to record all instruments – voice, piano and drums – together so as to capture the live energy of the music."

This follows a successful 2014 for Annalie who won the national music competition Rock the House with a self-penned love song, and launched her second album Open Heart Circus, which was mastered by Ace from the band Skunk Anansie.

To keep up with all of Annalie's news and to watch her winning performance at Rock the House, visit [www.annaliwilson.com](http://www.annaliwilson.com)

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# Tom sets up symphony orchestra

Classical musician Tom Newall (OL05) has joined forces with two fellow musicians to set up Piccadilly Symphony Orchestra (PSO) in Manchester, offering aspiring players the opportunity to perform in a professional ensemble.

Tom, who is the orchestra's musical director, formed PSO with Tom Rowan-Young as orchestra leader and Rachel Cotton as general manager. They have strong links with the Royal Northern College of Music (TNCM) in Manchester and their aim is to bridge the gap between the player's studies and professional orchestras.

The PSO also has the community at its heart and an integral part of the orchestra

is its outreach programme and relationship with Manchester Communication Academy in the city's Harpurhey district.

Tom said: "PSO is not just another orchestra. One of our main aims is to engage new audiences and take orchestral music out of city centre concert halls."

They aim to play one concert per season at Manchester Communication Academy as well as run workshops, work on a music programme to aid pupil literacy and help in the development of a new primary school music curriculum.

Tom read music at Durham University after leaving LGS and, after a year out, completed a Masters in conducting at

RNCM. He also runs Leeds Youth Choir and Leeds Youth Opera.

For more details of PSO and forthcoming concerts, visit [www.piccadillysymphony.co.uk](http://www.piccadillysymphony.co.uk)



Tom Newall





Maureen Smith

# Maureen looks back on a lifetime of performing

During an afternoon as guest speaker at the OGC London branch meeting, violinist Maureen Smith took time out to talk to Memento about how music has inspired her from an early age

At ten years old, Maureen Smith (OG57) competed against herself in the Pontefract Music Festival...and won.

She performed in both Miss New's Ford House orchestra and her mother's orchestra in the under-12 category. When the winning team was announced however, she was put in an awkward position. As she collected her cup in front of the audience, the adjudicator mischievously asked her which group she preferred to play in.

"Thank goodness I was tactful enough to say I liked them both equally," she said.

The concert violinist was inspired to take up the violin aged five after listening to her mother teach Michael Viner, the future manager of the London Symphony Orchestra.

Her mother was none other than Eta Cohen, the author of the teaching series *The Eta Cohen Violin Method* which she first published in 1940. The series of books, devised after Eta had been unable to find a text book to help her teach music to children, soon became the standard book of lessons for generations of aspiring young musicians around the world.

For Maureen, it was perhaps inevitable that she would love playing the violin. Just six months after taking up the instrument she gave her first performance. As she recalls, it may have taken three men five minutes to lower a music stand far enough

for her to reach but she was, she admitted, immediately bitten by the bug.

"Not only the performing bug, but also the dressing up, the make up and – last but not least – the excitement of running around behind the stage."

As a pupil at Leeds Girls' High School Maureen – unlike many – has fond memories of the green uniform; having not been in uniform before, she found donning the Black Watch tartan every day new and exciting.

At 12, she made her first appearance on television; two years later she performed in front of the Queen Mother as the soloist for the National Youth Orchestra and, at 18, she became a professional violinist after winning the BBC violin competition.

She has since played concertos with all the leading British orchestras under many distinguished conductors. As a music educator Maureen has a wide experience of teaching and was made an Honorary Associate of the Royal Academy of Music in 1995. She was made professor at the Royal College of Music in 1997 before joining the Royal Academy in January 2011 as a teacher.

Despite the success that followed, Maureen never rested on her laurels.

She said: "In music you've never made it, you're only as good as your last

performance. You can be at the top of the ladder one day and then out the next; it's a fickle business. It makes you very vulnerable and insecure."

Maureen regularly offers coaching, chamber music courses and master classes to players in the UK and abroad, but she admits that she might have been a psychotherapist had she not become a musician.

"I'm interested in psychology; dealing with students isn't just teaching them music, it's about understanding them. You have to be a mentor and guide them – it's a huge responsibility."

However playing the violin will always be her calling.

"I loved performing," she said, "it was very natural to me. It was my way of expressing my emotions and not performing was like cutting off a limb" she said.



Royal Academy of Music



# Daniel has designs on furniture market

When Daniel Fairburn (OL01) chose to do a business A-level alongside design technology, he never imagined that they would have such an influence on his future career.

However Daniel is now combining his business acumen with his passion for design as the founder of an online home and garden furniture company, Out and Out Original.

He admits that luck was on his side when he was recruited to work in the marketing department of a Danish furniture manufacturer in Vietnam in 2006, just after he completed a business and marketing degree at Leeds Metropolitan University.

The company, with an annual turnover of 250 million dollars, gave him opportunities he would not have found elsewhere.

He said: "This was before the financial crisis and the business was growing at

a huge rate. They needed to find staff and, as a 21-year-old, I was given a chance to work at a much higher level and to gain experience in a way that I wouldn't be able to nowadays."

When he was asked to work with the development workshop on creating new products, his interest in design and technology was rekindled and, within five years, he was head of product development for the company.

The last project he worked on was to design a range of garden furniture for Ikea, taking a brief and presenting his designs to the grandson of the company's original founder. Shortly after the designs were signed off - but before any order was placed - Daniel left Vietnam to return to the UK.

He said: "A while after I got back I moved into a new flat and was shopping in Ikea for some bits and pieces with my girlfriend when I saw one of the chairs that I had

designed. That was a fantastic moment for me. I'm really proud of that!"

He set up Out and Out Original in 2013, supplying ethically sourced and produced furniture, designing his own pieces as well as working with other designers.

He has fond memories of his time at LGS including, not surprisingly, the workshops in the art department which he describes as better than a lot of professional workshops he has been in, and his opportunity to study business at A-level with teacher Chris Law.

He said: "I was in the first year that was offered business and I jumped at the chance. It's funny how things turn out. I didn't consciously see my choices as leading to a career, but I'm delighted that they have."

# OLs and OGs get together for Class of '90 reunion

OLs and OGs celebrated 25 years since leaving school with a joint party at GSAL.

Some 85 alumni travelled from all over the world to attend the Class of 1990 reunion which was the brainchild of Suzanne Ridings (née Hudson).

She got the idea for the event after looking at her sixth form photo – with the name of each person written carefully on the back – and realised that she had the makings of a guest list for a school get-together.

As luck would have it, OL Jon Wood had also kept his end-of-year photo, which he gave to Suzanne so all she had to do was track everyone down!

She said: “It was real detective work trying to trace everyone, but it was very satisfying. I found a lot of people through LinkedIn and I also set up a dedicated Facebook page.

“When I got in touch with someone I would encourage them to talk to as many people as they knew from our year, and word started to get round.”

The majority of people had settled outside of Leeds, so guests travelled from London, the South East, the north of Scotland and Wales, as well as further afield.

Richard Naylor flew in from Manila for an LGS Back to School day followed by the reunion party, while Vicky Roberts

arrived from New York, Robert Manley and Richard Slater came from Malta, Natalie Brierley from France and Annette Yashpon from Berlin.

Guests were welcomed with a drink and the sight of a giant screen showing photos from their school days, before a buffet supper and dancing to the sounds of the '80s.

Suzanne said: “It was a great night and people really enjoyed meeting up with long lost friends and having the chance to reminisce.”



You haven't changed a bit, guys! (L-R): Suzanne Ridings, Andrew Moody and Sara Greenstone (née Shedlow)





# OLs go back to school for a day

Old boys took a trip down memory lane when they went back to school for a day at Moorland Road.

Around 100 OLs, who had attended Leeds Grammar School from the 1940s to the 2000s, re-lived a typical school day, including assembly, the school song, a ticking off from Peter Jolly for being late, lessons with their old teachers, a prize-giving for the best and worst performers – and green custard for lunch!

The event took place in the former LGS buildings, now Leeds University Business School, and OLs had travelled from far and wide to be there including Andrew Greenwood (OL76) from Sweden and Richard Naylor (OL90), who had flown 6,000 miles from Manila. The oldest 'old boy' at the event was Derek Kitchen (OL44).

The day started with the ringing of the school bell to summon everyone to a

typical assembly taken by Peter Jolly. After the school song *Carmen Leodense*, there was an entertaining demonstration of a gyroscope by Peter and some volunteer OLs, plus a moral message (as was the custom). The assembly ended with Peter's rendition of the Tennyson poem *Lady Godiva* and then it was off to 'lessons'.

Teachers on the day were Tony Wightman, former head of geography, now retired; John Davies, retired Junior School headteacher, now GSAL archivist; Roy Leinster, retired economics and business studies teacher; Steve Field, retired deputy head and Paul Lunn, current deputy head at GSAL.

There was also a chance to tour the old school buildings and attend a talk on the history of the school by John Davies.



*Peter ringing that bell took us all back to our school years! What a joy to see so many pupils and staff and I am sure that we all feel justifiably proud and very fortunate to have been to such a fine school.*

*Nigel West (OL78)*

The event brought back almost too many memories.  
I would not have missed the opportunity to return for anything.

Jonathan Mortimer (OL87)

Sounds and places are incredibly evocative and the hairs on the back of my neck really did stand on end as that bell and Peter Jolly's booming voice rang out. It was a combination that I had not heard for over 35 years yet instantly took me back to the 1970s.

Gareth Roberts (OL78)

The whole day was extremely well done, very polished and above all great fun. Even those men wearing the gowns who used to put the fear of God into us seemed to enjoy it.

Neil Muffitt (OL76)



Peter Jolly



Derek Fry & Matthew Longhurst (OL97)

This was the first time I had attended a school event since I left some 43 years ago and, given that I now live in Sweden, my attendance involved a certain amount of planning. Every aspect of the day - from browsing through old school literature over coffee to listening to what people had done at 'Speech Day' - was fascinating.

Andrew Greenwood (OL72)

A great chance to see some familiar faces, reminisce about old times and find out what everyone is up to now - as well as to give PJ another opportunity to confirm his 'living legend' status which I am sure he enjoyed delivering as much as we did viewing

Grenville Allman (OL90)



Matthew Ridley (OL92)



Peter Jolly & John Nicholson (OL75)



Terry Elsworth



# Fond farewells and a few tears as

# Miss Pickering retires



Anne Pickering has bid an emotional farewell to pupils, staff and parents after 25 years at the helm of Rose Court.

As its head teacher since 1990, Anne's name has become synonymous with the pre-prep's reputation as a warm, happy place where children love learning. And it is testament to her success that so many past pupils hold Rose Court in such affection.

Anne was appointed head after working for a number of years in inner city state schools in the north-east.

She said: "When I took over I found a busy, successful school with a committed and dedicated staff, strong parental involvement and a thriving PFA. My priority was to ensure that these vital qualities remained."

Among the achievements she is most proud of, Anne cites the importance that music now plays in the life of the school; the setting up of the school library; the merger between LGS and LGHS while ensuring that children didn't miss a day's learning; the move from Rose Court's original

home to new premises in Headingley; and receiving an outstanding inspection report in 2011.

She said: "Prospective parents, governors, colleague and former pupils all talk about Rose Court as a special place with a special atmosphere. I was concerned that some of



Just weeks before her retirement, pupils at Rose Court recorded a farewell CD for Miss Pickering.

that would disappear when we left the old building – but it hasn't."

She has also seen changes in the way young children are taught.

"Children are living in a very different world with a lot more colour, noise and stimulation so school has to compete with that," she said.

"Early years learning takes a much broader approach now and children have more opportunities to learn in different ways. It's a more natural way of learning and more interesting for children, however we still have to retain our high academic standards so it's certainly more demanding for the staff. They have to structure learning while the children just have fun and don't realise that they are learning at all!"

Anne paid tribute to the dedication and loyalty that she has received from her staff over the years, as well as the commitment and support of parents.

"I am going to miss all of these people, but especially, the children," she said. 'I am extremely proud of the children who have passed through Rose Court in my care. Not just for what they have gone on to achieve but for the sort of people that they have become. That's a product of the school as well as the home.'





Class of 2012



Class of 1991



Class of 2005



Class of 2001

## Memories of Rose Court

Here are just a few class photos from Anne Pickering's time as head of Rose Court. If you were a pupil at the school in the last 25 years, we would love to hear your favourite Rose Court memory.

Send to [alumni@gsal.org.uk](mailto:alumni@gsal.org.uk)

## WW1 men of note

*In this edition of Memento we continue our look back at the part played in World War One by our alumni.*

Two former pupils, in particular, were noted for their efforts during the Great War.

**William Gustavus Nicholson** had been a pupil from 1857 until 1862 when he left for the Military Academy at Woolwich.

He served with distinction in the Royal Engineers in India, Afghanistan, Egypt and South Africa, rising to the rank of Field Marshal and eventually becoming Chief of the Imperial General Staff. He had retired in 1912 and was given the title Baron Nicholson of Roundhay however he was brought back during the war onto the Committee of Imperial Defence where he served with distinction on the enquiry into the Gallipoli campaign.

He died in 1918 just before the war ended.

### **Geoffrey Anketell Studdert Kennedy**

was probably the most famous army chaplain during the war. He was known on the Western Front as “Woodbine

Willie” because of his habit of dispensing cigarettes to the weary troops. His untiring care proved to be an inspiration to them as he served on the Somme and at Messines Ridge where, in 1917, he was awarded the Military Cross. He later wrote a number of poems about his experiences, and these appeared in the books *Rough Rhymes of a Padre* (1918), and *More Rough Rhymes* (1919).

After the war he became a prominent Christian socialist and pacifist and died on a lecture tour in Liverpool in 1929.

Kennedy and Nicholson Houses in Junior School are named in honour of the two men.

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## GSAL marks WW1 centenary with roll of honour

While compiling a roll of honour to remember former pupils who lost their lives in World War One, GSAL archivist John Davies uncovered two more casualties of the conflict.

The two new names bring the total of Leeds Grammar School’s losses in the Great War to 130.

The painstakingly researched list, which has taken many years to complete, features details about each man, including name, rank, date of death, place of burial and grave reference, if known. Family details, plus highlights of school days, university studies and careers are also included.

John first started putting a definitive list together when he was head of Junior School at LGS, just before its relocation to Alwoodley Gates in the late 1990s.

He said: “There were 126 names on the First World War roll and 109 on the Second World War roll. It took a long time to do the research because you had to write to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission as they initially didn’t have a website.

“My starting point was past copies of the *Leodiensian* magazine and, at that time,



GSAL’s archive team John Davies (left) and Neill Hargreaves

we added two more names to each roll of honour.”

John later became head of Moorlands School before returning to Alwoodley last year following his retirement to work on the school’s archives. He took up his research for the roll of honour again last January, completing it a few months later.

As part of his work John has also researched details of all OLs who served in WW1 and has found details of 777 former

pupils who took part in the conflict.

You can read the full story in John’s book, *A High Ideal* on sale now. The book about the Great War and the part played by Leeds Grammar School, is priced from £20.00. See insert in *Memento* for purchase details. To view the roll of honour, go to [www.gsal.org.uk/alumni/gsal-roll-of-honour/](http://www.gsal.org.uk/alumni/gsal-roll-of-honour/)



## Students learn from the voice of experience



Chris Felton (right) with Andrew Stodolny, GSAL's head of government and politics

During the year GSAL has welcomed alumni from all walks of life who have shared their experience of life after school. The speakers gave an insight into how their education, at school and beyond, had led to careers in sectors as diverse as the security services, journalism, chartered surveying, banking, medicine, sport, law, politics, physics and entrepreneurship.

Sixth form politics students heard from civil servant Chris Felton (OL90) who, despite studying for a degree in medieval studies, now works in a scientific area within the Civil Contingency Secretariat (CCS).

Chris said: "I'm aiming to get across the way the civil service impacts on all our lives. As a civil servant you are right at the

heart of things – you often see your work on the TV when you get home!"

A number of alumni were among the speakers at a dedicated HE and careers day for lower sixth students. Sian Foley (OG04) of Sports Coach UK, achieved her ambition of a career in sport despite not completing her undergraduate degree.

Now studying for a masters, she said: "Although I was academic at school, my experience over the 10 years since leaving wasn't necessarily a traditional route. As long as you know where you want to be it doesn't matter how you get there."

Simon Gray (OL91) founded the Boost energy drinks business, and described its growth over the last 15 years.

He told students: "University and time overseas is a great experience. For a career in business there is no defined route but you have a lot of opportunities."

Other alumni who shared their experiences with students are: James Manning (OL03), Adrian Stones (OL79), David Aspland (OL91), Dr Oliver Ziff (OL07), Eleanor Muffitt (GSAL10), Emily Kerr (OG04), John Nicholson (OL75), Jonathan Straight (OL83), Baroness Pauline Neville-Jones (OG58), Matthew Elliott (OL96) and Sam Gregson (OL02).

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## Retired head graduates with a first

Former LGHS head and dean of GSAL Sue Fishburn certainly hasn't wasted a minute of her retirement.

For just six years after hanging up her gown, she has graduated with a first in History of Art from Leeds University.

Sue studied part-time for the BA and says: "Having always been a scientist, writing

arts-based essays was a real challenge. The course was hard work but really stimulating

"For those who think degrees have been dumbed down can I say that I think I worked harder for my BA in 2015 than for my original BSc. – also a first – in 1969."

She chose the contemporary artist Marlene

Dumas for her dissertation and was delighted to discover that her allocated supervisor at the university was a former LGHS pupil, Valerie Mainz.



# Speakers reminisce at OGC London branch meetings

The thriving London branch of the Old Girls' Club (OGC) hosted two lively talks at its meetings this year. First up was former MP and shadow pensions minister Nigel Waterson (OL67), who spoke at the club's autumn meeting, followed by concert violinist Maureen Smith (OG57) at the spring get-together. Here is a round-up of their talks.

## Pensions expert Nigel and the effects of an ageing society

Former MP and shadow pensions minister Nigel Waterson (OL67) entertained his audience with stories of Leeds in the 1950s and his life in Parliament, before delving into the consequences of an ageing society.

Nigel, who is chairman for NOW: Pensions and The Equity Release Council, recalled that schools were different when he was a pupil. However, he remarked that while board rubbers whizzing past heads and the 11+ have disappeared, some things never change: attempts to keep the boys and girls separate failed even then. Although LGS and LGHS had different finishing times, the boys would simply hang around the bus stops waiting for the 'greenflies' (so called because of the girls' green uniforms) to show up, he said.

After attending Queen's College Oxford, Nigel became a lawyer before being elected as a Conservative MP in 1992. He spent around 20 years in Parliament, acting as principal private secretary (PPS) to the health minister and to Michael Heseltine, the then deputy prime minister, as well as working in the Whip's office.

However, the crux of Nigel's talk was the effects living longer were having on society. He told his audience that when the basic pension was introduced in 1948, a man reaching 65 could be expected to live for another 12 years and a woman for another 15; now the equivalent numbers are 21 and 24 years.

One third of all babies born today will live to be 100, and by 2050 the proportion

of over-65s will have increased from 16 per cent to nearly 25 per cent of the population.

Nigel explained how these increases were likely to have a huge effect on society: in particular there will be a need for more carers, state pension ages will have to rise, and innovation could suffer.

He said: "It is often young people who are risk takers, who start businesses, who win Nobel prizes, who invent things. Older people are more cautious and less willing to take risks."



Nigel Waterson

## Maureen entertains with tales and music



Maureen is pictured (centre) with Joanne Pellow (left) the new president of the Old Girls' Club and Chris Bamforth, the retiring president

Esteemed concert violinist Maureen Smith (OG57) regaled her audience with tales of her time at Leeds Girls' High School and of her career...before giving a violin performance.

Maureen, now a professor of violin at the Royal College of Music, said she took part in every musical activity available while at LGHS. Recounting which groups she took part in, she said she played in at least two of Miss New's orchestras, sang in junior and senior choir and played in chamber groups.

She added: "I don't remember exactly how many, but what I do recall is that I didn't have a single free lunch break."

The violinist's talk focused on the three generations of musicians in her family.

She is the daughter of Eta Cohen, who was author of the teaching series The Eta Cohen Violin Method, and is also the mother of two successful musicians. Her daughter Emma is an opera director, while Sophie is a freelance cellist and teacher.

At the end of her talk - in Lady Solti's house surrounded by late conductor Sir Georg Solti's many Grammy awards - Maureen performed Sicilienne by Maria Theresa Von Paradis, accompanied on piano by one of her students Michael Foil.

See a profile on Maureen Smith on page 9.



## Message from the OGC President

First I want to pay tribute to and bid a fond farewell to the outgoing president, Chris Bamforth. She worked hard on behalf of

the Old Girls especially maintaining the profile of the club following the merger and creation of The Grammar School at Leeds.

Chris accepted the presidency in 2006 and led from the front; keeping in contact with London and Bristol branches and attending their meetings when she could, as well as helping facilitate reunions. Both the Leeds and London branches wished her well for her retirement at their meetings earlier this year. Chris's warmth and approachability will be missed – she is a hard act to follow!

I'm honoured to be invited to be president of the OGC and hope to ensure contact between the school and Old Girls, and help girls at the school as they consider their future career plans.

I'm very much a product of the LGHS 'system', starting in 1969 in Reception at Rose Court. After qualifying as a solicitor I returned to Leeds and somehow onto the committee of the Old Girls' Club!

In Memento there are details of activities the committee and the alumni team organise to help Old Girls keep in touch, network and have an enjoyable time. I invite you to get involved. We have a common bond (whatever our memories) and with hindsight and advancing years, hopefully, an appreciation of those lifelong friendships we gained – as well as a bit of education too!

**Joanne Pellow (OG82)**

President, Old Girls' Club

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## Golden girls get together – fifty years on

Old Girls from the class of 1965 have staged a reunion to mark 50 years since leaving Leeds Girls' High School.

50 years on was held at GSAL on Yorkshire Day when 24 OGs met up for lunch and a catch-up of all the news. As it was the weekend of the Leeds Flower Show at the school, the women were also able to end the afternoon with a visit to that event.

The first class of '65 reunion was held in 2005 when the 40 years on event attracted 50 OGs, many of whom had not met up since leaving school. This year, although fewer attended, they still travelled from far and wide and included Clare Wilson who made the trip from Perth, Australia, on both occasions.

A slide show of photos ran during the afternoon and Paddie Breeze made a speech, referring to a well-loved performance of the Rolling Stones' hit 'This could be the last time' by a group of the girls as part of their leavers'

entertainment, suggesting that this may well be the final reunion.

The consensus among the OGs however was that, not only do they want to meet again, they only want to wait five years instead of ten!



Pictured (L-R) are Emma, Alice and Becky Hutson

## Sister Act: head girls keep it in the family

The Hutson sisters hold a special place in the history of Leeds Girls' High School and GSAL...all three have been head girls of the school.

First up was Emma (OG08) who was the last LGHS head girl before the merger. Three years later it was Alice (GSAL11) who held the post and this year Becky took on the role.

The sisters came together at GSAL this summer to celebrate the end of an era when Becky collected her A-level results before heading off to Nottingham University to study economics.

On leaving LGHS Emma studied geography at Leicester University and now works in real estate for Terra Caribbean in Barbados.

Alice went to Nottingham University to study mathematics and is due to join KPMG in London to train as an accountant.



## Message from the OL President

The year 2014-15 marks the 96th anniversary of the OLA, and once again it has been a busy session for the association, encompassing a variety of events including the Leeds lunch, the London dinner and AGM with guest speaker Adrian Stones (OL79), the Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield, Silcoates (LBWS) lunch and the former LGS staff members' Christmas lunch (held as tradition befits in early June!)

We saw the sad passing of John 'The Skipper' Hedley in November after a year-long battle with cancer. Of all Old Leos, John was one of the most broadly influential, organising and running the OL Settle summer camps for Leeds lads, from shortly after the Second World War until 1998.

During the year we have maintained our social links with our AROPS friends and co-members, including the Old

Savillians, the Old Bradfordians and the Old Silcoatians, as well as making further progress with Leeds City Council and the Leodiensian Sports Club regarding the handover of the Crag Lane clubhouse and sporting facilities prior to their lease termination in 2017. We are also delighted to have been able to provide financial support for John Davies' history of Leeds Grammar School and World War 1, to be published later this autumn.

Lastly, we pass on our thanks and appreciation to Mike Gibbons for his staunch support of the OLA during his five years as principal at GSAL, as well as looking forward to welcoming Sue Woodroffe as the new principal in April next year.

### **Tristram Hope (OL81)**

President, Old Leodiensian Association

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# Natalie brings Strictly sparkle to birthday surprise



Mark Altman and Natalie Lowe take to the dance floor

Mark Altman (OL79) celebrated his birthday by taking a turn round the dance floor in the arms of Strictly star Natalie Lowe.

His moment under the glitterball took place during a Strictly Come Dancing evening at GSAL which featured performances by Natalie and her professional dance partner Ian Waite.

The surprise treat was organised by Mark's wife Selena, a teaching assistant at GSAL Junior School, when she heard that the duo were appearing at the school event.

Ian and Natalie, who are known to millions thanks to their regular appearances on the BBC-TV programme, performed seven of their favourite dances, including a lively quickstep, a fiery tango and a Fred-and-Ginger-style American smooth. In between dances, in response to questions from presenter Jacqui Harper and members of the audience, they gave some fascinating glimpses into a dancer's life and the world of Strictly. There was even a specially recorded video message from Strictly head judge Len Goodman.

But it wasn't just Mark who hit the dance floor with the professionals. There was a chance for the rest of the audience to get to their feet too when they joined in an energetic taster of Natalie and Ian's fitness programme FitSteps.



Natalie and Ian with the evening's presenter Jacqui Harper



## Ashley's app will help students get a foot on the job ladder

A free app that aims to help students to shine at job interviews has been developed by former Leeds Grammar School pupil Ashley Boonin (OL08).

Ashley has joined forces with two university friends to launch gradApp for students trying to get on to highly competitive graduate training schemes in banking, accountancy, marketing, law, consulting and retail.

The app, which is free to download for iPhone, iPad and iPod, is already proving popular with students at the University of Birmingham where it was launched as a test run.

It provides users with questions that they might face in an interview, plus tips to help them structure their answers, saving hours of research time. Its simple interface also allows users to write and store their answers.

Ashley said: "The great thing about gradApp is that users can practise for interviews whenever and wherever they

are: on the commute, in their room, waiting for lectures, even just before their interview."

Ashley, who obtained a first in economics at the University of Birmingham, has qualified as an ACA accountant with Ernst and Young. He and his friends decided to create the app in their spare time as a fun project and, after its launch, they hired a brand manager on campus at Birmingham to raise awareness of the app.

There are also plans to expand the marketing campaign to target five more campuses.

He said: "The reason for the cautious approach is that we have set ourselves a very tight budget. We are entirely self-funded, something that we're very proud of, however we aren't closed to the idea of working with other companies as the app grows in the future."

To download the app for free, search for gradApp in the Apple AppStore or for more information visit [www.gradapp.info](http://www.gradapp.info).

## Adam is in UK economists top 100

Adam Memon (GSAL10) has been named in City AM's top 100 economists in the UK and Ireland.

The 23-year-old Oxford graduate is the head of economic research at the Centre for Policy Studies.

City AM's list of influential financial experts has been drawn from institutions like HSBC and UBS to think tanks and business schools. It features active users of Twitter and other social media who are writing and commenting on economic matters and helping to shape opinion.



Adam Memon

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## OL launches new schools science partnership at GSAL

Sam Gregson (OL02) returned to school to launch a new science education partnership which will see Leeds and Harrogate schools share their resources to benefit students.

The venture was launched at an interactive talk at GSAL by Sam and his colleagues Dr Ben Still and Dr Aidan Randle-Conde, all physicists involved in research at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN.

During the talk, entitled Large Hadron Colliding, the scientists used beach balls, a giant elastic band and a sledgehammer to demonstrate the inner workings of the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator...with plenty of audience participation.

The new Leeds and Harrogate Ogden Schools Science Partnership is supported by The Ogden Trust, a science education

charity with a remit to maximise science learning opportunities for young people, especially in physics.

GSAL is the hub school for the partnership which also includes St Aidan's C of E High School, St John Fisher Catholic

High School and Ashville College, all Harrogate; Prince Henry's Grammar School, Otley; Fulneck School, Pudsey; Batley Girls' High School; and Leeds schools David Young Community Academy, Allerton High, Corpus Christi Catholic College and Horsforth School.



(L-R): Dr Aidan Randle-Conde, Dr Ben Still and OL Sam Gregson

# New GSAL principal returns to her Yorkshire roots



Sue Woodroffe, new GSAL principal

Sue Woodroffe, the new principal of GSAL, will be returning to her home county when she takes up her new post during the next academic year.

Mrs Woodroffe is currently principal of The British School of Brussels (BSB), and is one of a small number of female heads of an HMC school. Currently there are just 36 female heads in 269 HMC schools in UK and Ireland.

She was brought up in Yorkshire and completed her secondary education at York College for Girls before training at Durham University as a teacher of English and history. She has worked in a wide range of schools in the UK, both single sex and co-educational, selective and comprehensive.

After a family move took her to Belgium, Mrs Woodroffe was appointed secondary school deputy head at BSB in 2004. She achieved promotion two years later to head of secondary school (ages 11-18), and after five years in that post was appointed principal in 2011.

David Gravells (OL61), chairman of governors, said: "We are delighted that Sue Woodroffe is going to be our new principal. She will bring vision, passion

and considerable experience to the role having been a successful leader in a number of state and independent schools in the UK and Europe. Sue offers a unique perspective to GSAL as we develop our young people for the future."

Mrs Woodroffe said: "I've long admired The Grammar School at Leeds and I'm very excited at the prospect of becoming its new principal. I'm passionate about helping young people achieve their potential and I'm looking forward to returning to my Yorkshire roots."

She has already discovered a number of connections to her new school, explaining: "My first congratulatory email when the news went live was from a current BSB parent who is an Old Leo, and it transpires that one of my current teachers, and one of my predecessors as principal of BSB, were both head girls at Leeds Girls' High School...small world indeed!"

The appointment of Mrs Woodroffe follows the retirement of Mike Gibbons.

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## Ben uses 'skeleton' horse in unique anatomy lesson



The 'skeleton' horse is put through his paces

Equine hospital vet Ben Jacklin (OL02) gave 160 primary school pupils an anatomy lesson at Newmarket racecourse...with the help of a retired racehorse who had been painted as a skeleton.

The aim of the lesson was to teach children how the thoroughbred's organs enable it "to gallop at speed and over a sustained distance".

The horse, an eight-year-old gelding called Gee Major, retired after winning three races and is kept at the British Racing School in Newmarket where he is used to teach future jockeys and stable staff how to ride.

Ben, a former LGS head boy, now works at Newmarket Equine Hospital. He and his colleague Will Barker described the "remarkable physique of a racehorse" to the children, who visited the racecourse from primary schools in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk.

The event was organised by the British Horseracing Authority as part of its The Horse Comes First campaign, which "raises awareness among children and race goers of the first class care given to racehorses during and after their racing careers".

## OL and OG team up for Tour de Yorkshire

Welcome to Yorkshire chief executive Sir Gary Verity (OL 83) and artist Anita Bowerman (OG78) teamed up for the Tour de Yorkshire, the county's first-ever cycling road race.

Gary was so impressed by the works of art which Anita created to commemorate last year's Grand Départ of the Tour de France that he named her as the official artist for this year's event.

Anita, whose work included a metre-high paper cut map showing the route of the Grand Départ featuring all the landmarks, attractions, countryside and historical details, created a new design for the Tour de Yorkshire. Her latest image of 12 cyclists racing around a bike wheel was designed using just a pencil and compass, before being hand cut from one piece of paper using a tiny scalpel.

Also getting in on the act was Anita's brother Mason Small (OL80), an engineer, who developed the cycle wheel in stainless steel.

Anita, who has been a professional artist for 20 years, said: "I wanted to take the design further than a papercut and it looks stunning in stainless steel, which glints in the sunlight."



Gary and Anita with the commemorative 'wheel'

She added: "I was overjoyed to become the official artist to the Tour de Yorkshire. I'm proud to be a part of Yorkshire history."

Gary said: "Anita's work is wonderfully intricate and unique, and it's a real thrill to see her capture the essence of the Tour de Yorkshire in art form."

The Tour de Yorkshire started on Friday May 1 in Bridlington and finished in Leeds on Sunday May 3, taking in Scarborough, Selby, York and Wakefield along the way.

## Arise Sir Gary...

Gary Verity received a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to tourism and the 2014 Grand Départ in Yorkshire.

He said that he was 'chuffed to bits' and would accept the honour on behalf of the people of Yorkshire who had bought into the dream of bringing the Tour de France to the county.

## Diamond award for commando Charlie

When Charlie Walker (OL08) joined the Royal Marines his wish was to complete the world's longest and toughest military training course to become a commando and wear the coveted green beret.

But, Charlie went one better when he received a diamond at his passing out, an award presented only to the top recruits who demonstrate outstanding leadership skills.

Of the original 54 troops who started the gruelling training at the Royal Marines Commando Training Centre at Lympstone, Devon, last October, Charlie was one of only 12 to complete the course in June and make it into the elite amphibious force.

Before joining the Royal Marines, Charlie took his time to decide if it was the right career for him. On leaving LGS, he went travelling for a year with school friends Charles Hanen and Sam Flowers before completing a degree in sports coaching and development at Hull University. This was followed by a year in France with another OL Jonathan Heron where work in close personal security – and a spot of modelling – only served to confirm his ambition to become a Marine.

Following his commando training Charlie was appointed a section commander. Now with a diamond to his name he has six months accelerated promotion when he joins his unit in Scotland, 43 Commando, which is responsible for worldwide fleet protection.

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## Lucy sweeps to victory in general election



New MP Lucy Frazer

Lucy Frazer (OG90) has been elected MP for South East Cambridgeshire.

And just a few weeks after her victory in the general election, she was elected as one of the new members of the House of Commons education select committee.

Lucy, who previously practised as a barrister and was appointed as Queen's counsel in 2013, said of her new parliamentary role:

"I am delighted to be able to take on a key role in ensuring the Government delivers an excellent education programme. I remain committed to ensuring that our children receive the best funding, quality of teaching and opportunities available, and it is a privilege to be part of the committee which can help to deliver this."



## Golfers tee off for bursary fund



A quiet moment's contemplation during the GSAL Bursary Golf Day

Eighteen teams of parents, staff, pupils, former pupils and friends took part in this year's GSAL Bursary Golf Day at Headingley Golf Club and raised £8000.

The money will go towards the school's bursary fund to help academically talented children from low income families to attend GSAL.

The event was organised by parents Nic Fearnley (OL78) and John Woodward and took place in gloriously sunny June weather.

As well as the team golf competition for the top five prizes, there were awards for the four nearest the pin as well as the chance to beat the club pro, James Hepworth, at the 10th.

The day was rounded off with a meal and awards, followed by an auction for prizes that 'money can't buy' which included a VIP Dynamo experience for 14 people; the chance to have a character on BBC's Casualty named after you; and a trip to CERN in Geneva. Auctioneers for the evening were GSAL head boys Tom Gorman and Ashwin Venkatesh.

The event will take place again in June 2016. Places fill up fast, so to register a team email [louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk](mailto:louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk)



In the swing...

## OGC golf day, walk and dinner



Lynn Aspland (right) receives her trophy from retiring OGC president Chris Bamforth



Walkers are Joanne Pellow, Patsy Meyers, Shelagh Dixon, Jane Aldrick and Paddie Breeze

This year's annual OGC get-together of golf or a walk, followed by dinner, was a huge success...despite a soaking in torrential rain for the golfers.

The golf teams faced horrendous conditions at Wetherby Golf Club however they battled through the driving rain to complete their rounds with Lynn Aspland winning the trophy.

Miraculously the walkers, guided by Paddie Breeze, escaped the downpour as they followed the River Wharfe from the Riverside car park in Wetherby before cutting through tracks to the disused railway line, which is now a pleasant walk and cycleway.

Friends attending just for the evening enjoyed an excellent meal organised by Lynne Pearson.

Next year's event will take place at Otley Golf Club on May 13.

## A day in the life of a Tour de Yorkshire cyclist

*Andrew Davies (OL03) was so swept up by last year's Tour de France Grand Départ that he decided to take up cycling as a hobby. Less than a year later he took part in the amateur race of the inaugural Tour de Yorkshire. Here he writes of his incredible experience as a participant on the toughest stage of the three-day event.*

On the day of the viciously undulating final stage from Wakefield to Roundhay Park (yes, it is only 15 miles from Wakefield to Roundhay, but they took the scenic route), I was one of 6,000 cyclists taking part in the Tour de Yorkshire Sportive. This gave the opportunity for amateurs to cycle the route to be taken later that day by the professionals and to sample what it's like for your Sunday morning ride to be cheered on by hundreds of thousands of flag waving fans.

Not that the prospect seemed so appealing at 7am as I lined up at the start in conditions that Noah would have thought twice about venturing out in. The rain was monsoon-like and visibility was consequently atrocious. Sadly these treacherous conditions did contribute to a nasty (though thankfully not too serious) crash at the bottom of Otley Chevin,

which resulted in the descent quickly being taken out of the route.

The weather continued to make life thoroughly unpleasant until the first feed station at Cullingworth, which resembled a Crimean field hospital as bedraggled cyclists poured in looking for sustenance and shelter (of which there was very little). By the time I reached the slippery cobbles of Haworth's Main Street, the rain had eased and the temperature started to rise, as did the road. The incongruously-named Côte de Goose Eye was the first big challenge of the day, a 25 per cent hill made more difficult by the many cyclists dismounting to walk up, further narrowing an already very slender strip of road. The steep descent again caused a couple of crashes, but thankfully I made it through the mêlée and headed towards the tough closing stages of the route- the climbs of the Cow and Calf in Ilkley, Otley Chevin and Black Hill Road in Arthington.

The crowds were already out in force for the pro race, so the biggest test on the Cow and Calf was threading a safe passage through the mass of humanity at the summit. The sun was out now and the atmosphere was incredible, cheering fans with flags and cow bells seemingly lining every metre of road.

With the three climbs safely negotiated it was a fast and flat run in to the finish, almost passing the gates of GSAL. There were some tired legs towards the end, but I doubt anyone felt weary on the long finishing straight, nor will anyone who took part ever forget the sights and sounds that greeted them as they approached the line.

Crowds 10-deep on either side of the road banging the advertising hoardings and roaring you on to the line, it was enough to make even the most worn out no-hoper put on a sprint that Mark Cavendish would have been proud of.

All that was left to do was collect our medals, wait for the professionals to arrive and reflect on a tough but unforgettable day and a job well done. Sir Gary Verity and Welcome to Yorkshire have created something very special, and when the Tour returns next year there is no doubt it will be even more impressive than this year's debut.



Almost there – Andrew heads for the finishing line as the crowds cheer

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## Gordon wins first GB Euro Games gold



Gordon Benson celebrates gold

Gordon Benson (GSAL12) claimed Great Britain's first European Games gold medal with victory in the men's triathlon in Baku, Azerbaijan. The triathlete's success also guaranteed Britain a place in the event at the Rio 2016 Olympics.

Gordon completed the event in one hour 48 minutes 31 seconds, ahead of

Portugal's Joao Silva (+11 seconds) and Rostyslav Pevtsov (+33secs) of Azerbaijan.

Gordon trains in Leeds alongside London 2012 gold medallist Alistair Brownlee and world title-winning brother Jonny.



## Arthur Brittenden

(1924–2015)

Arthur Brittenden was a towering figure on Fleet Street where he worked closely with two great newspaper barons of the 20th century – Lord Beaverbrook and Rupert Murdoch.

He began his career in journalism on the Yorkshire Post after leaving Leeds Grammar School at the age of 16. After serving in the Reconnaissance Corps during World War II he returned to the Yorkshire Post before joining the News Chronicle. In 1955 he joined the Sunday Express in London and moved rapidly up the ladder as foreign editor and then New York correspondent.

Arthur was northern editor of the Daily Express and the last editor of the Daily Mail when it was a broadsheet. Then for nine years he served as deputy to Larry Lamb, editor of The Sun during the time it overtook the Daily Mirror to become Britain's biggest-selling tabloid.

In 1981, when Kelvin McKenzie succeeded Larry Lamb as The Sun editor, Arthur became corporate relations director for Rupert Murdoch.

From 1972 Arthur spent the rest of his career working for Rupert Murdoch, including as general manager (editorial) and a director of Times Newspapers from 1982 until 1987, and joint vice-chairman of the Press Council, the precursor of the Press Complaints Commission.

Following his retirement in 1987, Arthur became a senior consultant with the PR firm Bell Pottinger.

## Max Harrison

(1922–2015)

Max Harrison was born in Leeds and was a pupil of Leeds Grammar School, before studying medicine at Leeds University.

He worked in Leeds for a few years after graduating then moved to Oxford with his new wife Valerie to begin his postgraduate orthopaedic training. He completed his training in London after some time spent in the USA.

After gaining his surgery degree he became an orthopaedic consultant at Birmingham's General and Orthopaedic Hospitals until he retired in 1985.

In 1986 Max was made a Hunterian professor for his work on Perthes disease, an abnormality of the hip in young children for which he developed a special splint known as the Harrison splint.

After retirement he began another career as a medical legal expert which kept him busy until his 90th birthday.

Max and his wife were married for 65 years and had three children, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

## John Hedley

(1936–2014)

John Hedley attended Leeds Grammar School from 1948–1953.

Following National Service as an engineer in the Merchant Navy, John returned to Boston Spa and a career in the printing industry.

He was a governor and chairman of governors at Boston Spa Comprehensive School for many years, a governor of a group of Leeds Special Schools and chaired an LCC School Admissions and Exclusion Appeals Panel.

As a former Hartlepool Rovers scrum half, John was a welcome addition to many Old Leos rugby teams in the 1960s and '70s. From 1958 he was a regular helper at the Old Leos summer camp and in 1976 he was elected as camp skipper. His charitable works were recognised with an invitation to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

He was a keen walker and organised many excursions over 30 years to every English county. A collection made at his memorial service was donated to the Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association.

## Ian Hutchinson

(1934–2015)

Ian Hutchinson died peacefully at his Derbyshire home after a short illness, aged 80.

He attended Leeds Grammar School from 1944–1953 before graduating in economics from Magdalene College Cambridge in 1958.

After graduating, Ian joined the Prudential Economic Intelligence Unit before moving on to a long and distinguished career with ICI. He proudly fulfilled a lifetime ambition by getting his private pilot's licence in his later years.

Ian is survived by his large and loving family. This includes his twin sister Ann and her family, his wife Hazel, and their daughters Philippa and Stephanie, son Timothy and seven grandchildren.

A well attended service to celebrate his life was held at All Saints' Church, Ripley.

## Christopher Price

(1932–2015)

Christopher Price was a politician, academic and journalist who served as a Labour MP for Birmingham Perry Barr from 1966–70 and for Lewisham from 1974–83.

He was teaching classics when he was elected to Sheffield Council in 1962, serving as deputy chairman of the education committee (1962–66). He stood unsuccessfully in the 1964 general election before winning in Birmingham Perry Barr in 1966. Within weeks of entering the Commons he became PPS to the education secretary, Anthony Crosland where he helped to formulate Crosland's advocacy of the polytechnics. In his second incarnation as an MP Price's crowning achievement was his chairmanship of the Select Committee on education, science and the arts.

After Westminster he successfully led Leeds Polytechnic into becoming Leeds Metropolitan University in 1992.

After attending Leeds Grammar School he went to the Royal Artillery training camp at Oswestry for his National Service, leaving Officer Cadet Training for Queen's College, Oxford, where he became secretary of the university Labour Club, then chairman of the National Association of Labour Student Organisations.

He was passionate about the arts and his involvement after the Commons was all-embracing: director of the London International Festival Theatre (1982–86), member of the Council of the Open University and of the Arts Council of England were but a few of his activities. He also wrote for the New Statesman and Times Education Supplement.

He married Annie Grierson Ross in 1956 and had a daughter and two sons.

## Michael Ryder

(1927–2015)

Michael Lawson Ryder was born in Leeds and attended Leeds Grammar School where his schooling was interrupted by WWII evacuation to Buckden in the Yorkshire Dales.

After National Service, which took him to West Africa, he studied at the University of Leeds (BSc 1951; MSc 1954; and PhD 1956).

He went on to become an internationally renowned sheep and wool expert, starting his academic career at the Wool Industries Research Association in Leeds in 1951. From 1960 to 1962 he was a senior lecturer in livestock husbandry at the University of New England in Armidale, Australia. On returning to the UK he settled in Edinburgh, working for over 20 years as principal scientific officer at the Animal Breeding Research Organisation. He became an honorary lecturer at the University of Edinburgh in 1966.

Michael was the author of over 220 academic papers and several academic books, most notably Wool Growth published in 1968, and the much acclaimed Sheep and Man first published in 1983. This was a pioneering book on the history of the relationship between sheep and man combining evidence from anthropology, archaeology, geography, folklore, linguistics, biology and agriculture, all subjects in which he had an interest.

After retirement he moved to Hampshire, continued his academic interests and travelled extensively.

He is survived by sons Stephen and Jonathan and grandsons Nicholas and Benjamin.

# Alumni events 2015/16

Events are open to all unless otherwise stated but places must be booked in advance.

For further information contact Louise Marshall on 0113 229 1552 or email: [alumni@gsal.org.uk](mailto:alumni@gsal.org.uk)

Saturday 31 October 2015

## Old Girls London Event

**Time: 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm**

**Venue: UCL Institute of Education, London**

Guest Speaker Marilyn Stowe (OG) will share her story of how she became one of the UK's leading lawyers. Refreshments will be served and there will be time for networking with Old Girls of all ages. Partners and friends are also welcome.

**Booking:** Places are free and can be booked through Jackie Chalmers on 01483 579 343 or email [jackie.chalmers@ntlworld.com](mailto:jackie.chalmers@ntlworld.com)

Sunday 8 November 2015

## Remembrance Day Service and Parade

**Time: 10.30 am – 12.30 pm**

**Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds**

The school chaplain Adrian Roberts leads this traditional service which includes performances by the school choir, the presentation of flags and colours and the laying of wreaths by the OGC, the OLA and the current GSAL head boy and girl team.

**Booking:** Please email: [louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk](mailto:louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk) to reserve places for this event.

Friday 20 November 2015

## OLA Annual Leeds Lunch

**Time: 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm**

**Venue: Lamberts Yard, Leeds**

This year's OLA Lunch takes place in Lamberts Yard, Leeds City Centre.

**Booking:** Tickets are priced at £35. Please contact Tristram Hope on 07801 900980 or email: [tristram.hope@thisolutionsltd.co.uk](mailto:tristram.hope@thisolutionsltd.co.uk)

Saturday 28 November 2015

## PFA Christmas Fair and Afternoon Tea

**Time: 1.00 pm – 4.30 pm**

**Venue: Hayley's Hotel in Headingley**

Join the PFA at Rose Court for their Christmas Fair followed by a delicious afternoon tea.

**Booking:** £10 per person. Please telephone Louise Marshall on 0113 229 1552

Friday 26 February 2016

## OLA London Dinner

**Time: 6.00 pm – Midnight**

**Venue: East India Club, London**

The OLA London Dinner 2016 is taking place at the East India Club. All OLs are welcome.

**Booking:** Tickets are priced at £65. Please contact Louise Marshall on 0113 229 1552 or email: [louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk](mailto:louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk)

## FEATURED EVENT

Wednesday 9 March 2016

## London Alumni Drinks and Networking Event

**Time: 6.30 pm – 9.30pm**

**Venue: House of Lords**

Our London cohort of Old Boys and Girls is growing rapidly and we appreciate that many of our alumni want to stay engaged with the school and our alumni activities, but cannot always make the trip back to Leeds to see us. With this in mind we would be delighted if you could join us for our very first London Alumni drinks event at The House of Lords on 9 March 2016.

The informal evening will be an ideal opportunity to catch up with old friends and network with other successful Old Boys and Girls living and working in the London area.

**Booking:** Tickets are priced at £20 for drinks and canapés. To book please contact Louise Marshall on 0113 229 1552 or email: [louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk](mailto:louise.marshall@gsal.org.uk)

Saturday 12 March 2016

## Old Girls London Event

**Time: 2:00pm**

**Venue: Lady Solti's house, North London**

Successful playwright, poet and children's author Pam Zinnemann-Hope (OG63) will be talking about her career and doing a short reading followed by tea and cakes.

**Booking:** Places are free and can be booked through Jackie Chalmers on 01483 579 343 or email: [jackie.chalmers@ntlworld.com](mailto:jackie.chalmers@ntlworld.com)

Sunday 1 May 2016

## Briars-Hill Memorial Cricket Day

**Time: 11:30am**

**Venue: GSAL Cricket Field and Pavilion**

Join us for an informal day of cricket and comradeship in memory of two former masters in charge of school cricket, Ian Briars and Roger Hill. Both Ian and Roger were strong characters in their own unique ways and are fondly remembered. Families and children are most welcome and you can either take part in the match or simply attend as a spectator.

**Booking:** To play in the match or attend as a spectator please contact Louise Marshall on 0113 229 1552 or email: [alumni@gsal.org.uk](mailto:alumni@gsal.org.uk)

Friday 13 May 2016

## OGC Annual Golf Day and Dinner

**Venue: Otley Golf Club**

**Booking:** Please contact Louise Marshall on 0113 229 1552 or email: [alumni@gsal.org.uk](mailto:alumni@gsal.org.uk)



# Support the GSAL Bursary Fund



"I achieved ABB in my A-Levels this summer and this would not have been possible without the quality of teaching I had at GSAL."

**Alex (GSAL15, bursary recipient),**



Attending the Grammar School at Leeds is a life-changing experience; 80% 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 4 new Year 7 pupils will receive financial support - but at least 50 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/alumni](http://www.gsal.org.uk/alumni). 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.**



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