

Memento

The magazine for LGS, LGHS and GSAL alumni

issue 07 autumn 2019

Haaris and Shaan

Brothers' inventive approach to property investment

Tracey Jennings

Shares her love of ocean spaces and animals in the wild

Barry Cryer

Keepsake marks emotional return to school

Laura Ashe

Helps Danny Dyer trace his Right Royal Family

And now for something completely different...

Four alumni on changing careers

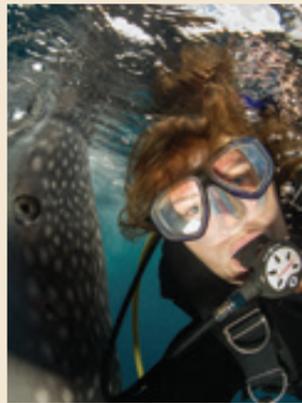


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Welcome to Memento

It's been another terrific summer for the school! Yet again, excellent results in public examinations, some of the best ever, with a third of A-level and IGCSE students gaining a clean sweep of A and A* grades – a terrific achievement. In light of this, I would like to take this opportunity to say a very special thank you to everyone who contributes towards our bursary programme, guaranteeing us a diverse pupil body and creating opportunities for children from across Leeds. Of the many bursary student successes this year, one stands out. Operating in her second language after arriving in the country a few years ago, Julia achieved 5 A* grades at A-level (including the prestigious EPQ) and is heading off to Cambridge to read medicine. This is a real testament to

her own diligence and drive, and the support of the school in supporting academically able children through the centuries, regardless of ability to pay.

However, we talk to the pupils all the time about the importance of the wider skills necessary to succeed in life, skills that go beyond any set of examination grades, helpful though they undoubtedly are. In preparing our students for the future, we are also preparing them for jobs that do not yet exist, and a requirement to show flexibility in the workplace as they navigate their careers. Therefore, it's wonderful to read in this edition about former pupils who have changed or diversified their professional lives; what great role modelling for the children of today.

So to everyone out there, I echo the call; you may not appreciate how much you could influence the lives of the young people at school now, even beyond donations. There are all sorts of ways to leave a legacy, personal as well as financial, and we value the relationship with every one of our 'old' boys and girls. Thank you for the support you give to the school and please know that a warm welcome always awaits you if you are interested in meeting our students today – I can promise you would be inspired by them, and would be of greater help to them than you might realise!

PS: read more about Julia's incredible achievements in the enclosed leaflet.

Sue Woodrofe, Principal

UOWN proves a hit with property investing millennials

Brothers Shaan (right) and Haaris Ahmed's inventive approach to property investment is bringing the dream of home ownership within the grasp of more people... particularly millennials.

With their business, UOWN, the entrepreneurial duo is leading the way in property crowdfunding where the under-thirties, who struggle to get a foot on the traditional property ladder, are becoming the largest group of investors.

Property crowdfunding is appealing to young, tech-savvy people attracted by the ease with which they can make their investment in an environment which they understand, with half of UOWNers (54 per cent) aged between 18 and 30.

UOWN is described by Shaan and Haaris as a 'disruptive new crowdfunding platform which helps everyday people save by investing money together in properties which they own collectively.'

The brothers have coined the term 'proven performer' to describe their innovative business model which provides access to previously off-market rental properties. The properties have yielded strong returns for a minimum of 10 years and they believe that UOWN is the first crowdfunder to give investors access to these 'proven performers' as well as to properties wholly-owned by the crowdfunder. This allows the company to pay out rent to investors before the property has been purchased by the crowd.

UOWN enables investors to buy a share in a house from as little as £20, earning them a proportion of the rental income and the capital appreciation of the property. For many people, it is an excellent investment opportunity: for others, it is a first step to property development or ownership.

The platform, which launched in February 2017 with an initial user who had £50 to invest, has grown into a thriving business with 3,000 UOWNers and half a million pounds of investments, delivering a 12 per cent return over 12 months to September 2018.

Shaan (GSAL09), who studied environmental policy and economics at the London School of Economics, and Haaris (GSAL11), who studied economics and management at Oxford, were brought up in the family property business, Parklane Properties.

After university they both worked in London - Shaan with Abraaj, a private equity company and Haaris at Rocket Internet, a German start up factory. They were inspired to set up UOWN to make property investment affordable to more people, returning to Leeds to establish their business as a sister company within the Parklane Group.

Shaan said: "We saw a lot of barriers to entry between everyday investors and opportunities in the property market - one of them being the very high cost of entry.

"We break up property investments into shares valued at £1, so this means that a property investment valued at £100,000 is sold in 100,000 individual shares, which immediately makes the investment affordable to anyone. Hundreds or thousands of people can have a share in the financial gain."

Haaris said: "I think most people are really frustrated with the way banks behave. The web means that we can take on big financial institutions. We can democratise things and beat the big players at their own game."

The brothers' innovative business was recognised by school alumni when they were presented with the Rising Stars award at the inaugural Leeds Luminaries awards dinner. The awards were introduced by GSAL to mark the achievements of alumni from LGS, LGHS and GSAL (see centre spread for full report).



Shaan (left) and Haaris receive their Rising Stars award from Barry Cryer



The brothers with their family

Tracey shares her love of ocean spaces and animals in the wild

Her underwater images offer a stunning glimpse into an unknown world, but Tracey Jennings (OG90) hopes that they will also help to protect endangered species.

Tracey spends her working life in the oil and gas industry and her spare time as a wildlife photographer. She cares deeply about the environment and believes that her images have a job to do.

She said: "I may work within the oil and gas industry but I strongly believe that I can effect change better from within than from outside. I want to share images of the underwater world as I believe that people have a tendency to protect what they know and love."

Tracey's passion for diving and photography is winning her accolades too. Her proudest moment came last year when she became the first woman to win the Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year 2018. And, her work is being published worldwide: including high profile use of an image by National Geographic in Times Square, New York, to advertise a new exhibition and another used to illustrate an article about ocean acidification in Nature magazine.

As well as underwater photography, Tracey's catalogue of work also includes breath taking images of animals on the African plains, in South East Asia and Finland.

You can view more of Tracey's images on www.instagram.com/scubabunnie and www.traceydjennings.com

On leaving LGHS, Tracey completed an honours degree in civil engineering at Edinburgh University, followed by a masters in petroleum engineering at Heriot-Watt and a postgraduate diploma in development management from the Open University. She joined the oil and gas industry after her masters, working primarily offshore in the North Sea. She then joined BP and worked overseas in Venezuela, Algeria, and Singapore, finally moving to management consulting and then risk. She is currently based in Malaysia where she works as an advisor for the country's National Oil Company.

Tracey has been diving as a hobby for more than 20 years and, when she took up photography five years ago, she was able to combine two of her greatest passions.

She said: "When I had my own consultancy I used to dive six to eight weeks a year, but at the moment it's about two to four weeks. I do intend to partially retire at 50, and will then have more time to devote to photography."

"It is difficult to make a living from photography, but the plan is to exchange free diving and trips for free images, which is much easier now with the rise of social media."



Tracey Jennings swimming with a whaleshark

And now for something completely different...

Career changing is not as rare as it used to be and gone are the days when employees (and employers) expected a job to last for life. Nowadays, more and more people choose to change direction after one successful career and look for fresh challenges in another.

Some are hoping for a better work-life balance, while others may be tapping into the gig economy or choosing the opportunity - and variety - of working in multiple roles.

Here, we look at four alumni who decided to do something completely different and the reasons why.

Helen swaps business wear for pyjamas

Helen Brimacombe, née Garrett (OG99), had her family in mind when she gave up a demanding job in marketing to run her own business.



Helen Brimacombe

After almost 15 years working in marketing agencies in London and Yorkshire, Helen wanted to spend more time with her two young children. Her sister-in-law Claire, who worked in advertising and events, had also become a mum and both agreed that they could use their experience of working with big brands to create their own business and improve their work-life balance.

In early 2018 they set up Lister & Bruce (their mothers' maiden names) to produce quality products for children, launching their first

collection, MyJamas, a range of organic pyjamas, later in the year.

"The business is a real family affair," said Helen, "with all the children being the guinea pigs for our collection and also featuring among the models on our website."

"We are passionate about ethical manufacturing so all our pyjamas are made from 100 per cent organic cotton with no nasty chemicals - and that goes for the dyes too."

The pyjamas also help children learn to dress themselves. Instead of a potentially scratchy label at the neck to indicate the back, MyJamas feature a large image on the front plus clever right/left matching ankle and wrist cuffs.

The business is doing well online and the range is also stocked in a number of independent stores. It has been shortlisted for best children's sleepwear brand in the 2019 Junior Design Awards and a range of matching baby sleepsuits will be launched at the end of this year.

Helen said: "The dream is to be the organic children's wear brand of choice for parents - we want to be available on every high street in the UK and hopefully exporting across the world."

www.listerandbruce.com

Kirsty goes from HR to coaching

The decision to move from working in HR to running an executive and professional coaching consultancy seemed like a natural transition to Kirsty Wells (OG85)...but not before she returned to education.



Kirsty Wells

Kirsty's decision to study for the Professional Certificate in Coaching at Henley Business School after 19 years in HR, coincided with her children leaving home for university.

"That was a definite catalyst," she said. "I realised that I would like to do something different and challenging, yet still relevant to my former career."

As well as the coaching qualification, she studied psychology and neuro-linguistic programming, and began offering pro-bono coaching to people in her network.

"I enjoyed it so much that the obvious next step was to set up my own business!" she said.

In her HR career she developed a coaching oriented management style, focusing on performance, giving constructive feedback and team development so, in some ways, transitioning into coaching felt natural.

She set up JK Executive Coaching just over a year ago, using a variety of approaches including cognitive

behavioural coaching, motivational interviewing, positive psychology and mindfulness.

The importance of wellbeing to the success of a business is also a key element so embracing the great outdoors is often included in the mix.

She said: "We now know that there are significant positive links between physical activity, stress management, mental health and wellbeing. For this reason, I incorporate active group coaching and coaching whilst walking in nature in my professional practice."

"Even in the largest cities, parks, riversides and roof gardens can make perfect venues for outdoor coaching."

She attributes her love of being outside to her Yorkshire upbringing and her ability to work in teams to her education at LGHS.

"I was involved with various sports teams at school, and I am sure that helped me develop a range of skills including co-operation, communication, confidence and resilience."

www.jkexecutivecoaching.com

Jenny combines lifestyle business with policing the streets of Birmingham



Jenny Sleath

When the time felt right for a change of career for Jenny Sleath (OG01), she made the bold decision to run the new one alongside the old one.

On the face of it the two jobs could not be more different as she combines life as a police officer in Birmingham city centre with running Lifebox Food Co, a business which supplies monthly food boxes full of healthy and nutritious snacks, drinks and ingredients to a growing number of subscribers.

But, for Jenny, they complement each other perfectly.

She said: "Both aim to help people but in very different ways. My police role is customer facing and very full on whereas Lifebox is interest-based and much more relaxed!"

Jenny joined the police force in 2006 following a degree in physiotherapy at Birmingham University.

"I didn't want to pursue a career in physiotherapy however, it had to be something that was going to be different everyday. With the police you literally never know what each day will bring and I need that to keep motivated and interested," she said.

The idea for Lifebox came while she was having a career break from the police to travel. She had always loved food and, after becoming interested in fitness, discovered how crucial nutrition was to her energy levels, training and progression.

She set the business up in 2014 during forced sick leave following a back operation. From the early days of packing boxes in her garage, Jenny now has investors, a team of staff and a collaboration with Amazon - and she's just had her first baby.

She said: "With Amazon now on board, I would love to see Lifebox grow further with an increase in our numbers of subscribers and expansion into the corporate wellness market. It would be great to see mini Lifeboxes on flights and trains."

www.lifeboxfood.com

Chris gives up IT business for life as a barrister

Chris Royle (OL92) had no thought of a second career when he decided to study a law conversion course in the evenings.



Chris Royle

However, his studies soon went from being an interesting diversion to a fascination with the law and Chris found himself giving up his IT business for life as a barrister.

IT had always been his passion and, following a degree in computer science from Cambridge University, he returned to Leeds and set up an IT business.

He said: "I literally hopped in the car the day after my last finals paper, drove home and by 1pm that same afternoon was sitting in what became my office for the next few years."

That was in 1996 and he sold the business in 2006 by which time he was immersed in his law studies.

And he has no regrets despite the pressure of the early days when he was juggling a business with his studies and the demands of a young family.

Chris is now based in Enterprise Chambers in Leeds, part of a national set that has its headquarters in Lincoln's Inn, London, with premises in Bristol and Newcastle too.

His work takes him all over the country, although he is frequently in court in London, practising mainly in chancery litigation, which covers real property, wills and probate and trusts, together with an unusual practice in the law of enforcement.

So, what advice would Chris offer to anyone thinking of changing careers?

He said: "If you've found something you're passionate about that gets you up each morning, that is worth a great deal. But the later in life you do it, potentially the more risky it is, so always have a plan B. Mine was teaching!"

Geographers take unforgettable trip back to Stromboli

OLs from the class of '69 have returned to Stromboli to mark the 50th anniversary of their geography field trip to the volcanic island.

The original trip is still regarded as one of the most ambitious ever conducted by a school as 24 A-level geography students visited the volcano, which has erupted continuously for over 2,000 years, making it one of the most active and dangerous on earth.

The return to Stromboli, part of the Aeolian Islands, north of Sicily, was the idea of John Bibby, who rounded up 11 of the original 24 to make the trek, via hydrofoil, to the island. This time they were accompanied by wives, children and even, a great-grandchild.

Once there, they made the arduous climb to the crater, with one of the

group, Andrew Morgan, describing 'awe-inspiring showers of molten rock and ash, together with the ominous bass-note rumblings, like a huge Underground train, emanating from the crater.'

Fifty years later they found much had changed. Nowadays guides are essential to climb the crater and 'decent fitness' is required along with appropriate clothing.

Andrew recalled the original visit: "Ascents were made wearing a flimsy T-shirt, trainers and carrying a bottle of water. Now hard-hats and dust-masks are supplied - back in the day, it was just the Yorkshire spirit of taking it all on."

However, the sight of the Sciara del Fuoco (stream of fire) down which lava and rocks tumble to the sea, still appeared as primeval and unnerving as ever, he said.

Days later, after the group had left Stromboli, the volcano exploded with the biggest eruption since 1930, firing out lava-bombs and sending a mushroom-cloud of ash five kilometres into the sky.

The driving force behind the original adventure was Marshall Grainge, geography master at LGS, who enlisted the help of fellow geographer, Ken Standring, and languages teacher, John Edwards.



Stromboli from the sea



The 2019 reunion group

The expedition led to the publication of a landmark book on social aspects of the island, as well as patterns of lava emerging from several vents in the crater.



Teachers on the 1969 trip are (L-R): Ken Standring, Marshall Grainge and John Edwards

Over the next few years, some students returned and updated aspects of the original work, confirming it as an exceptional publication, regularly consulted by university lecturers.

Making a sentimental return to the island was Andy Grainge, Marshall's son, who made the journey from his home in Melbourne, Australia, with his wife, Irena. Other members of the Grainge clan also there were Andy's son, Michael, living in southern Spain, and his young son, plus Andy's daughter, Sophie, currently working in London, and his sister, Alison.

Other veterans from the 1969 field-trip were Bob McNaughton (with his wife Rachel, a former pupil at Leeds Girls' High School), Tim Charge, Mike Bradbury (who produced some drawings for the original book and is now an architect in Cornwall), Malcolm Padgett, David Pickard, Adrian Turner and Graham Hustwitt (who came with his wife, Judy, an LGHS class-mate of Rachel). John Pickard and his wife, Ann, travelled from their home in Norway to join the group.

The reunion dinner was an emotional experience for Andy Grainge, reading out a letter full of memories from Ken Standring, who lives in Lancashire, and made more poignant following Marshall's death 30 years ago.

Stromboli's eruption a few days later with its greatest force in 90 years seemed apt, said Andrew Morgan, or perhaps it was just a roar from Marshall Grainge, signalling his approval of the reunion to record the landmark trip.



Stromboli Cloggers FC 1969

Laura helps Danny Dyer trace his Right Royal Family

Professor Laura Ashe (OG96) has appeared on the BBC1 series Danny Dyer's Right Royal Family to help the actor trace his noble roots.

Laura, who is a professor of English literature at Oxford University, used her expertise in medieval history, literature and culture, to bring the past to life for Danny, who is a descendant of Edward III.

She appeared in the first episode of the two-parter, meeting the Eastenders actor at Dover Castle to build a picture of life inside a royal court.

Laura, an experienced broadcaster, who is a regular on BBC Radio 4's In Our Time and has also appeared on Cunk on Britain and a Time Team special on the Battle of Hastings, is all for this new approach to sharing history.

She said: "I think it's easy for people to have a vague sense that there are some things they 'wouldn't be interested in', and programmes like this break through that with a different angle - the humour, or the celebrity - in a way that then allows people to let their guard down a bit. It also matters that someone absolutely not associated with, say, medieval history, like Danny Dyer, should be on telly saying 'this stuff is amazing'; it instantly makes people think again."

Laura also thinks it is snobbery when such programmes are criticised as being 'dumbed down' versions of history. They are, she says, as thoroughly researched and carefully presented as any straight documentary.

"I love teaching, and it feels a natural extension of that, to make history make sense in ordinary terms," she said. "Often a question is very hard to answer, because what interests most of us is the kind of personal detail that historical records - at least for my period - aren't very good at giving us, such as what was he like, did he love his wife, what did he believe?"

"When I'm asked questions like that I have to think very hard, very

quickly of ways we might get there, by the anecdotes and stories we do have from the chroniclers, or the stray comments in sources I'm normally using for other purposes. It brings it to life, and reminds me why I'm doing it."

Another reason is to challenge perceptions of what a professor should be like.

"I'm not really what even my colleagues expect from a professor," she said, "so I'm very aware of being part of a long-term change, away from the old-fashioned image of the middle-aged white man in tweed. But I just trust I'm there for what I know."

On leaving LGHS, Laura studied English at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and was a Kennedy Scholar at Harvard University for a year after graduating. She returned to Cambridge to do a Master's degree and doctorate, which was followed by a junior research fellowship in Cambridge and an appointment as a lecturer in English at Queen Mary, University of London.

She moved to Oxford in 2008 where she was promoted to full professor at Worcester College in 2018.

Despite a heavy workload of teaching and research, Laura is a regular contributor to specialist publications and has published a number of books on the history, literature and culture of England in the high and later Middle Ages, as well as broadcasting commitments.

"TV is utterly exhausting - a three-minute segment translates to about eight hours of filming, standing around, doing things multiple times and waiting while things are set up," she said. "But it is also exciting, and it feels important to reach a greater audience beyond my own students and fellow academics. And it makes my mum proud!"



It matters that someone not associated with, say, medieval history, like Danny Dyer, should be on telly saying 'this stuff is amazing'



GSAL in line for top award after campaign raises funds for 11 new bursaries

GSAL is in the running for a prestigious accolade in recognition of a campaign run during its 10th birthday celebrations in 2018.

The school has been shortlisted for an Independent Schools of the Year 2019 award in the Marketing Award for Effective Brand Communication category.

The birthday campaign's objectives were twofold - widening access to GSAL by creating 10 'birthday bursaries', and increasing stakeholder engagement through a series of events, PR initiatives and awards for notable alumni, all supported by birthday branding.

It exceeded all expectations, with over £900K being raised which will provide 11 new means-tested bursaries.

Sue Woodroffe, Principal, said: "These new bursaries are a birthday present that will keep on giving, opening up the life chances of young people from some of the most deprived areas of Leeds.

"We are immensely grateful to our alumni, parents and staff for their generosity."

Making your mark on the future

Each year, GSAL students leave a lasting mark on the school as they head out into the big world of university and careers. But, for many, that would not have been possible without the generosity of alumni and friends of the school.

Gifts and legacies have played a

crucial role in the development of The Grammar School at Leeds, ensuring an exceptional education is open to talented pupils who don't have the financial means to access it.

There are many different ways to leave a legacy to the school, including making provision in a will or

nominating the school as a beneficiary of a pension fund or life insurance policy. Alternatively, charitable gifts can be made during your lifetime.

Call Fiona Ross, head of development on 0113 228 5115, for a confidential discussion or email alumni@gsal.org.uk

Ishak's story

Ishak Rouf (GSAL19) joined The Grammar School at Leeds in Year 7 on a partial bursary. His potential had been spotted by his headteacher at Manor Wood Primary School, in Moortown, Deborah Kenny, a governor at GSAL

Ishak's parents were keen for him to attend but, ultimately, the decision was down to him.

He said: "I did some research and realised what the school could do for me academically and how well it could support me, so it seemed like a good choice for me.

"At first I found the change from my primary school to GSAL quite challenging



but I soon started to make friends and the House system helped a lot."

Another aspect of GSAL which helped Ishak to settle in was the huge

choice of co-curricular clubs and sports on offer. He joined the debating society, describing it as 'a great way to help build confidence and presentation skills'. He also took the opportunity to play rugby and cricket - sports which weren't

available at his primary school.

Ishak has now completed his A-levels and started a degree in medicine at Hull York Medical School in October.

As a final gesture before leaving the school, he set himself another huge personal challenge - a 212 mile bike ride from London to Leeds to raise money for the school's Malawi project, raising almost £1,000.

Looking back on his time at GSAL, he said: "I couldn't have achieved any of this without the bursary. GSAL helped me to grow as a person - both academically and personally - in an environment where I felt comfortable and at home".

Keepsake marks emotional return to school for Barry

Barry Cryer, the school's funniest old boy, was delighted to receive a memento of his days at Leeds Grammar School at the Leeds Luminaries 2018 awards.

The writer and performer was presented with a framed set of

his report cards, school tie and a review of one of his school performances.

Before presenting the awards to the seven winners, Barry had amused guests with an after dinner speech in which he reminisced about his

school days and early career.

He said: "This has been a wonderful evening. I have so many fond memories of my time at Leeds Grammar School and being here tonight has been really quite emotional."

And the winners are...

Congratulations to the winners of the inaugural Leeds Luminaries Awards 2018.

Alumni from the last seven decades were honoured at a gala dinner and presentation hosted by comedy legend Barry Cryer (OL53).

The writer and performer was guest of honour at the awards dinner which was held in recognition of the achievements of former pupils from its founder schools, Leeds Grammar School and Leeds Girls' High School, as well as more recent leavers from The Grammar School at Leeds.

The Leeds Luminaries awards were launched to mark the 10th anniversary of the merger of LGS and LGHS to create the coeducational GSAL in 2008.

The achievements of alumni from all three schools were celebrated alongside those of a former teacher. The winners were:

STEM and medicine: Zoë Hudson (OG84), leading sports physiotherapist and polar explorer

Business and enterprise: Graeme Lee (OL83), founder

and CEO of Springfield Healthcare Group and pioneer of the 'care village' concept

Charity and community: Barry Brindley (former teacher at Leeds Girls' High School and GSAL), founder and head of the Zikomo Trust which has raised over £426,000 to help impoverished communities in Malawi

Sport: Lucy Harris (GSAL14), netball player for England and Superleague club Wasps Netball

Arts and humanities: Lady Solti (OG55), musical patron, who founded the Solti Foundation with her daughters

Rising stars: Shaan and Haaris Ahmed (GSAL09/11), entrepreneurial brothers who founded innovative fintech property company, UOWN

Lifetime achievement: Baroness Pauline Neville-Jones (OG58), cyber security expert who has held many distinguished roles in politics, defence and media



Barry with his school keepsake



Lucy Harris



Zoe Hudson



Lady Solti



Shaan (left) and Haaris Ahmed

Call for nominations

Nominations are invited from members of the alumni community for the Leeds Luminaries Alumni Awards 2020.

The awards recognise and honour alumni whose achievements in their chosen field, professionally or personally, inspire others to succeed and demonstrate the school's core values of excellence, inspiration and citizenship. If this strikes a chord and a certain alumni springs to mind, please let us know.

To find out more about the awards go to www.gsal.org.uk/alumni. Nominations can be submitted online, or contact the alumni relations office alumni@gsal.org.uk or 0113 228 5115 for a nomination form to be sent to you by post.



The 'happy trio' in Cornwall for their last reunion. They are (L-R): Mike, Bob and David

Schoolboy friendships stand the test of time

School means different things to different people but one word which crops up regularly is friendship.

Lifelong friendships are often cited by alumni when asked to describe what they took from their schooldays at LGS, LGHS and GSAL. And epitomising that cherished legacy of friendship are David Schofield (OL66), Bob Bradbury (OL65) and Mike Stephenson (OL65), who met at school in 1960 and have been firm friends ever since.

Referring to the group as the 'happy trio', David said: "None of us was a high achiever but we all regard ourselves as well grounded and happy. We believe that LGS gave us all an excellent start in life, teaching us manners, politeness, right from wrong, and how to behave.

"Someone once said that knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit: wisdom is knowing not to put it in the fruit dish! I believe that Leeds Grammar School taught us wisdom in abundance."

The trio met on their first day at senior school when they were put into in

2B with Wilf Batty as form master. All admit that it was a shared love of sport, swimming in particular, that first brought them together. David was awarded full school colours for swimming, while Bob received them for excelling at both gymnastics and swimming. Mike, who claims to have been the least sporty of the three, represented the school in swimming and also played rugby and cricket.

Their friendship endured throughout school and continued while they established their careers, got married and had families.

David worked for the National Coal Board, as a trainee mining surveyor, before joining Leeds City Council as a trainee public health inspector. Finally he became a police officer, serving a full term of 30 years, starting on foot patrol in Chapeltown before going on to serve in road traffic, the firearms instant response team, and latterly the community involvement unit at Killingbeck police station.

Mike spent some time in the Merchant Navy as a cadet engineer, then as an engineer with the Central Electrical Generating Board. He became a sales engineer for a couple of years before starting his own engineering business at Thorp Arch Trading Estate, near Wetherby, eventually selling the company when he was 65.

After school Bob moved to Torquay with his family where he did a three-

year National Diploma in hotel management. After running the family hotel and a cafe in Dartmouth, he had a career change, becoming a swimming professional for the next 28 years. During this time he became a Fellow of the Swimming Teachers Association, ASA teacher and coach and grade 1 examiner for the Royal Lifesaving Society. With another career change, he became a golf professional at the Palace Hotel in Torquay until his retirement.

Despite the distance and different career paths, the three kept in touch, attending each others' weddings - Bob and David were each other's best man - telephoning, writing and meeting up on a regular basis.

So what has made their bond such a lasting one?

Bob said: "Our friendship has endured because of shared experiences such as swimming, fishing, mountaineering and water-skiing, to name a few. Also our wives tell us that when we are together, we revert to being the young LGS boys we once were!"

Mike added: "Bob and Dave have been good friends through all the years. Long may it continue."

And the last word on the friendship goes to David: "We achieved a bond of true friendship which has stood the test of time, and we have all found happiness in our lives."

OG News

OGC round-up: from memories of a Headingley childhood to a life in politics

The London branch of the Old Girls' Club continues to thrive with this year's autumn and spring meetings playing host to two speakers from LGHS.

First up was actress and author Jane Bowers (OG73), who recalled her childhood home in Headingley in a talk entitled Sandstone in my blood.

Ashwood, where she spent the 1960s, was once the home of poet Alfred Austin, who grew up there in the 1830s and 40s, and Jane began her talk by reciting one of his poems. The house was situated across the road from LGHS but hidden from view behind a wall with hedges, shrubs and trees which preserved its secrets.

Jane's description of the influence of her childhood home was a powerful one and she concluded that she had become a writer and author because she felt that 'maybe something steeped into me from the house'.

At the second meeting, Judith Blake, née Parsons (OG71) credited LGHS with propelling her to be the first ever female leader of Leeds City Council.



Judith is pictured (right) with Lady Solti, who hosted the event at her home

Judith, who has served as a Labour councillor in Leeds for 21 years and been awarded a CBE in recognition of her services to local government, said that her time at the school drew her to politics.

She told her audience: "I don't think we realise what an influence the school had on us. The kids that I grew up with in my community, on the edge of Harehills, didn't go to the high school and didn't have the same opportunities. That stayed with me forever and that's what got me interested in politics."

Admitting that she was a rebel in her school days, Judith said she doubts her teachers would ever have earmarked her as a future leader.

"I remember being told off by Mrs Millburn who said: 'You really need to pull yourself together. Don't you know we're grooming the future leaders of Leeds in this school?' Well, it obviously registered," she said, laughing.

Judith also talked about the importance of empowering girls to embrace science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) subjects.

She said: "When I was growing up it was just accepted, going to an all girls school, that studying science was part of what everyone was able to do. I think we all have a huge responsibility to make sure that we get more young women going into those subject areas."

Nora wins the OG annual golf competition

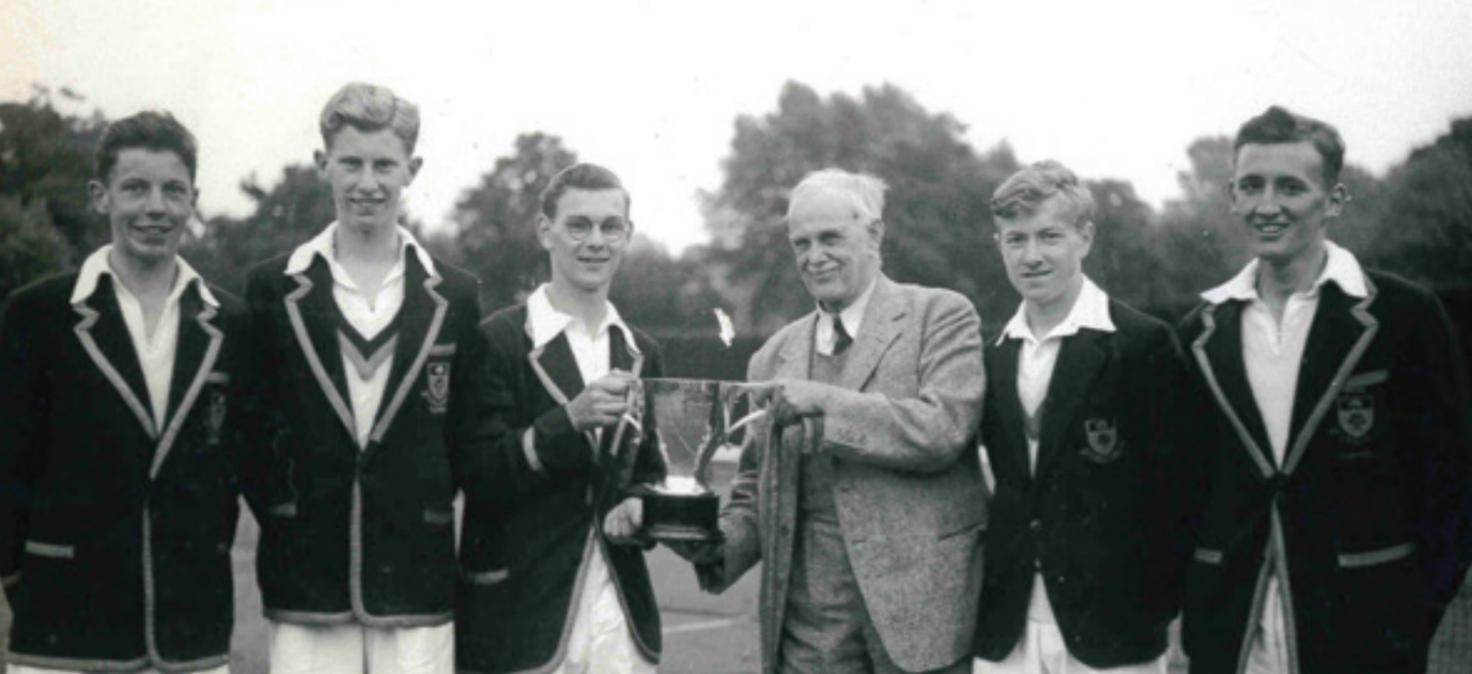
Nora Perry, née Pickard (OG64), was this year's winner of the OG golf competition at Wetherby Golf Club.



She won with 34 points, while Sally Cottle, née Hainsworth (OG76), was second and Sue Jacklin, née Gray (OG70), won nearest the pin.

Paddie Breeze, née Hogan (OG64), arranged a walk for non-golfers during the day. In the evening more OGs, including Joanne Pellow (OG82), president of Old Girls' committee, joined the walkers and golfers for dinner.

Alumnae, former staff of LGHS and GSAL, or parents of the school and their guests, are welcome to play and attend the annual event. To register interest for next year, contact alumni@gsal.org.uk



The photo shows Michael Hann (second left) with the LGS tennis team on winning the Youll Cup in 1953, a knockout competition open to all independent schools

Wimbledon serves up a treat for alumni

Alumni and guests had a sneak preview behind the scenes of the revamped All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) ahead of this year's championships.

Guests at the sell-out event enjoyed a private tour of the club, which this year unveiled a new £70m retractable roof on No 1 court – identical to the one that has covered Centre Court since 2009 and put paid to so many rain delays.

As well as seeing the immaculate grounds and iconic courts, guests enjoyed a drinks reception in the club's museum and dinner in the Rolex Suite.

The event was co-hosted by GSAL Principal Sue Woodroffe alongside former tennis player Michael Hann (OL56) and Ian Ritchie (OL72), the club's former chief executive.

Michael was the Wimbledon junior singles champion in 1955, while still a pupil at LGS, and later presented a young Roger Federer with the same accolade in 1999. He has had a lifelong association with the club and has been the honorary secretary of its croquet section for a number of years.

Ian had a successful career in media before moving into sport and becoming chief executive of

the AELTC. He later moved to the Rugby Football Union (RFU) as chief executive and is the current chairman of Premiership Rugby.

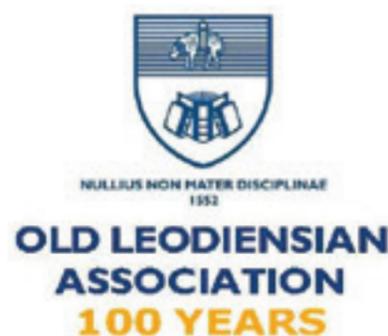
The school's links with Wimbledon continue to be upheld with two alumni playing at the championships this year. Luke Johnson (GSAL10) made his Grand Slam main draw debut after receiving a wildcard for the men's doubles. Naiktha Bains (OG06), who moved to Australia as an eight-year-old, has returned to represent GB and also made her first appearance at the tournament, playing in the women's doubles.

Lunch celebration marks 100 years of OLA

A lunch for senior OLs was held at Weetwood Hall to commemorate the OLA centenary.



From left to right: Neill Hargreaves (former LGS staff and school archivist), Kathleen Grainge (widow of LGS geography teacher Marshall Grainge), Tristram Hope (OL81), Matthew Ridley (OL92), Ivor Shaw (OL51), Kathleen Bell, David Bell (OL49), Richard Rutter (OL65), John Sleightholme (OL61), Kathleen Davis (OG49), Jo Shaw, Julian Creasey (OL69), Geoffrey Wilson (OL40).



Reunions

Golden girls celebrate 50 years since LGHS

OGs from the class of '69 gathered at GSAL to celebrate 50 years since leaving school.

The reunion was held in the aptly named 1876 room (dedicated to the year LGHS was founded), where 27 alumnae celebrated over lunch.

Organisers Viva Baillie (née Bolster) and Ann Starkey (née Anderson) spent eight months planning the event and tracking everyone down.

Some of the group had kept in touch over the last 50 years and reunions were held after 20 and 40 years. However, many of the women had not seen each other for half a century, creating happy and emotional moments when they met again as well as unexpected cries of 'You look just like your mother!'

Alumni travelled from all over the UK, including three from the south coast. Furthest travelled was Helen Huntley (née Brown), who came all the way from Mexico.



OGs from 1969 Barbara Melrose (née Southworth) and Sylvia Levi (pictured right) find their names on the honours boards

25 years on...

Memories of schooldays at Leeds Girls' High School came flooding back for alumnae of 1993 when they held a reunion in the 1876 room at GSAL, which features displays of photographs, old school magazines, year books and the school uniform.

The idea for the 25th anniversary celebration came from Rebecca Bell (née Cruickshanks), who flew in from New York to attend. She was joined by more than 30 former pupils who enjoyed catching up with all the news of their former classmates.

Four of the girls' teachers also took the opportunity to meet up. They were Barry Brindley, who was head of business studies and economics at LGHS; Pam Hutley, head of drama; Christine Jagger, head of science; and Judith Kerr, head of English.



Enjoying the silver celebration are alumnae from 1993 and some of their teachers

Planning a school reunion in 2020?

Will 2020 be a special celebration for you and your former year group?

If so, we can help you track down your school friends and plan the perfect reunion.

We are particularly looking for alumni of LGS and LGHS who left in 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 so please get in touch with **Anna White** at alumni@gsal.org.uk and let's see if we can make it happen.

100th birthday celebrations for Sefton

Walter Sefton Suffern (OL36) celebrated his 100th birthday... with no fewer than five parties.

The retired doctor, who until four years ago was still driving a car and a golf ball, was guest of honour at celebrations with his family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as his many friends and neighbours.

Sefton (as he was always known) was born in Belfast on 26 January 1919 and attended Belfast Royal Academy until the age of 11. When his family moved to Headingley in 1930, he joined Leeds Grammar School where he became a house prefect and was a keen and able sportsman.

He left school at 17 to begin his medical degree at Leeds University (1936-1942). After graduating, he spent six months as a house physician at St James' Hospital in Leeds doing general medicine and

paediatrics before joining the Royal Army Medical Corps.

By this time Sefton had met Alison Palmer (OG38), a former head girl of LGHS and a medical student. They married on December 30 1942 and, a few days later, he set off for Algiers on an Atlantic convoy. Sefton spent the rest of the war in North Africa and Italy, treating Allied casualties and using some of the first batches of the newly available penicillin.

After being demobbed in August 1946, he began work as a medical registrar at Leeds General Infirmary (LGI), gaining his MD in 1947, and his MRCP the following year.

While at LGI, Sefton received scholarships to study cardiology in Stockholm and in Pennsylvania.

In 1955, he became consultant physician to the Bingley, Keighley, Skipton and Settle Group of

Hospitals, moving to the Harrogate, Ripon and Knaresborough Group of Hospitals in 1959, where he worked until his retirement in 1984. After that he did medical tribunal work and continued his private practice for several years.

Sefton and Alison had 74 happy years of marriage until she died in 2017. During retirement he enjoyed fly fishing, golf and playing bridge. He and Alison travelled extensively and their home was always full of guests and visitors.

The couple lived in Harrogate for many years and, after Alison's death, Sefton moved into a residential home in the town.

At the time of going to press we were informed that Sefton had passed away peacefully at Hampden House Care Home. He leaves two daughters Hilary and Diana, a son Richard, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Sefton is pictured celebrating his 100th birthday with birthday cards from the Queen and Amber Rudd, the Secretary for Work and Pensions

A golden year for GSAL DofE

Five alumni joined a record number of 27 GSAL pupils who achieved the much-coveted Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award this year.

Eric Rodriguez Boidi (GSAL18), Daniel Saveliev (GSAL18), Lucy Poskitt (GSAL16), Nick McLean (GSAL15) and Aditya Tamba (GSAL17) were invited to a gold award ceremony at Buckingham Palace along with current pupils, where the Earl of Wessex presented the certificates.

CBE for OL Robert Heslett

Congratulations to Robert Heslett (OL62) who has been made a CBE in the 2019 New Year's Honours list, for services to self-represented litigants.

Robert was president of the Law Society from 2009-10 and is a former partner at DAC Beachcroft. He receives the CBE for services to access to justice and litigants in person. He is a former chair of the Personal Support Unit, a charity that helps unrepresented parties through court proceedings.



Steve Boothroyd with his highly commended award

Steve honoured for his services to school sport

Steve Boothroyd (OL73) has been highly commended at this year's prestigious Leeds Sports Awards in the special contribution category.

The retired head teacher was shortlisted for the Service to PE and School Sport Award in recognition of his dedication to school sport. He received his commendation at the awards event at Leeds Direct Arena.

Steve has devoted his life to coaching sports, particularly rugby league, but also cricket, football, athletics and hockey. His coaching career began in rugby union, when, as a sixth former at Leeds Grammar School, he coached the Nevile House middle school team to an unexpected victory over Sheffield in the house final.

Gordon takes gold and silver

Triathlete Gordon Benson (GSAL12) led a British one-two to secure the gold medal in the men's race at the European Sprint Distance Triathlon Championships in Kazan, Russia.

Gordon edged out fellow Brit Sam Dickinson in a sprint finish at the end of the race, which included a 750m swim, a 19.2 km bike and a 5km run. Benson crossed the line in 52min 03sec, just a second ahead of Sam.

He followed this with an impressive performance at the ITU world Triathlon Mixed Relay Series in Tokyo, winning a silver medal as part of the mixed relay triathlon team.

GSAL likes to think we helped in some small way - we had the privilege of welcoming the team to train in the pool at school while their usual pool was undergoing maintenance this summer!

Throughout his teaching career he coached teams in his own schools as well as Leeds and Yorkshire representative sides at U13. During this time he coached future Super League stars like Danny McGuire, Jamie Jones-Buchanan, Chev Walker and Andy Lynch.

Since his retirement as head teacher of Adel Primary School in 2014, Steve's main involvement in the sport is as secretary of Leeds & Hunslet Schools' RL and as English Schools' representative on the Rugby Football League Council - although he can occasionally still be seen refereeing at primary school level!

Diver Yona wins historic silver for Jamaica

Diver Yona Knight-Wisdom (GSAL13) has won a historic silver medal for Jamaica in the men's 1m springboard competition at the Pan American Games.

His win was Jamaica's first ever medal at the Games, which were held in Peru in August. Yona, whose achievement coincided on the day Jamaica celebrates Emancipation Day, marked the moment by tweeting: "A great day for it."

This is just the latest in a series of wins for Yona since he started representing Jamaica. He became the first Jamaican to participate in diving at the Olympic Games in 2016 and has also won double gold in the 3m springboard and 3m synchro at the Scottish Nationals.

Yona, who was born and brought up in Leeds, has a Jamaican father.

Debbie's contribution to London life is marked with Freedom of the City

Debbie Woskrow (OG92) was among more than 100 women who received the Freedom of the City of London to commemorate the centenary of female suffrage.

She received the honour at a ceremony in Guildhall this year after the Court of Common Council, the City of London Corporation's top decision-making body, agreed to bestow the Freedom on 106 women to mark the Representation of the People Act 1918.

The women were drawn from all walks of life - but all with a connection to the City. Debbie has lived and worked in London for many years. In 2011 she set up Love Home Swap, an international home-swapping website, and in 2018 she opened the first female-only private members club in the UK, the Allbright, based in Bloomsbury.



Debbie Woskrow, who has received the Freedom of the City of London

Honour for James Marshall

James Marshall (OL98) has been awarded a CBE by ex-Prime Minister Theresa May in her resignation honours list.

James is the former director of the Prime Minister's No. 10 policy unit and receives the award for political and public service.

Mark upholds royal tradition with new appointment

At just 28, Mark Scott (OL08) has become the youngest herald at the College of Arms, part of the Royal Household.

He was appointed Bluemantle Pursuivant of Arms by the Queen, becoming the 77th known holder of the title since its creation in 1414. As one of 13 officers of arms who make up the College of Arms, Mark spends much of his working day in the City of London on the creation of new coats of arms, genealogical and historical research and official work for the British and Commonwealth governments.

However, for ceremonial duties he swaps his suit for breeches, stockings, buckled shoes and the colourful tabard of the Royal Arms which is handed down from one generation of herald to the next.

Mark, who studied philosophy,

politics and economics at Mansfield College, Oxford, has been interested in heraldry and genealogy since his school days. So, when he saw that the College of Arms was looking for research assistants, he applied and got the job.

He said: "I thought it would be agreeable to do something that interested me as my day job. For two years I worked as an assistant to one of the heralds, and I then spent some time working for most of the other ones, so they could all get an impression of my work."

That led to his current appointment. Mark's final interview was with the Duke of Norfolk, who nominated him to the Queen for appointment.

"After various warrants and patents of appointment were all signed and sealed," he said, "my appointment occurred in June, just in time for the

Order of the Garter ceremony when the Kings of Spain and the Netherlands, the Marquess of Salisbury and Lady Mary Peters were installed as Companions of the Order."

The heralds marshal this event, as well as the State Opening of Parliament, and as the junior officer of arms Mark led the procession.

As for the ceremonial dress which is worn for these special occasions, Mark believes it still has a purpose.

"We need the colourful attire to make up for our everyday greyness," he said. "Everybody thinks of us as these magnificent creatures in tabards but that only happens about twice a year.

"When that is all over the breeches and stockings go back in the drawer and we return to our grey suits and our offices in the City."



Mark Scott

Travel entrepreneur sets his sights on Far East

A travel app launched by Jack MacHugh (GSAL12), which helps travellers plan European Interrail trips, has been expanded to take in the Far East.

Jack, who developed the app with his business partner Jack Cowell while they were both still students at Bath University, is aiming to make travel easier to Japan to coincide with major sporting events like the Rugby World Cup this year and the Olympic Games in Tokyo next year.

Japan Rail Planner is the latest addition to the Interrail Planner platform, a free app which maps out routes, keeps track of pass requirements and books accommodation for users. The idea for the initial business came as Jack and his co-founder were planning an Interrail trip around Europe with some friends and found the process extremely stressful.

They decided to create a website which would make the experience easier and, having launched a basic version in 2016, the two



Jack MacHugh

entrepreneurs have been updating it ever since. The business now has three different platforms - Interrail Planner, which provides Interrail passes for Europeans travelling across the continent; Eurail Planner

which provides Eurail passes for non-Europeans; and Japan Rail Planner, providing Japan rail passes in partnership with J Rail Pass.

Based back in Leeds since graduating in 2016, with a degree in international management and German, Jack's plans for the future include extending coverage to travel in China and South Korea as they become more popular with western travellers.

He said: "There are a lot of exciting avenues we could explore and go down in terms of the travel planning space. In the medium term, we want to consolidate our position as experts and the go-to websites for rail planning. This means exclusively focusing on multi-journey trips that involve the use of rail networks, so we will begin to look at other countries or areas that offer rail passes and go from there."

Jack also runs 50 Pound Social, a social media agency, and plans to expand that over the next few years, employing people in the process.

Calling all overseas alumni...

The first in a series of international alumni receptions has been held in the USA, with three more events planned before the end of October.

US-based alumni met up with GSAL students in Washington DC and New York during their politics study tour, which was led by head of politics Andrew Stodolny earlier this year.

During the two events, alumni and students found plenty to talk about. Alumni shared their experiences of living and working overseas and enjoyed reminiscing about their former teachers and school days,

while students received practical advice and gained an insight into how careers can develop along exciting and unexpected paths by taking opportunities to switch professions or locations.

The receptions were held at the Ludlow Hotel in the Lower East Side of Manhattan and at the Washington Plaza Hotel.

More receptions are planned for Washington, New York and Singapore throughout October.

The two USA events will coincide

with this year's A-level politics trip led by Andrew Stodolny. They are on Tuesday 22 October in NYC and Friday 25 October in Washington.

The Singapore alumni event will take place on the evening of Wednesday 23 October during the STEM trip led by John Bagshaw, head of design technology at GSAL.

Anyone interested in attending any of these events, contact alumni@gsal.org.uk



Pictured at the New York reception are: (L-R): Ramone Param (OL03), John Conrad Slater (OL91), John Bates (OL67), Andrew Stodolny, head of politics at GSAL, James Appell (OL03), James Gordon (OL97), Alan Lyons (OL89), Rebecca Bell (OG93) and Tim Jarvis (OL83)



GSAL students and teacher Andrew Stodolny are pictured at the Washington DC reception. They are (L-R): David Bush, Sam Slater, James Coulson, Joel Rivlin (OL97) Andrew Stodolny, Dan Coultas (OL94), Matthew Winter, Ben Whittaker and Lauren McGaun

Events 2019-2020

For more details on all our events and reunions please visit www.gsal.org.uk/events or contact alumni@gsal.org.uk

OLA Centenary Dinner

Date: Friday 18 October
Venue: The Lost and Found Leeds Club
Time: 7pm
Tickets: £45

A black-tie event to commemorate the OLA Centenary with speaker, Professor Mark Bailey.

International Alumni Receptions 2019

New York: Tuesday 22 October
Singapore: Wednesday 23 October
Washington DC: Friday 25 October
Alumni are welcome to join our visiting staff and students at a drinks reception.

OG Club London branch event

Date: Saturday 9 November 2019
Venue: York Room, Lancaster Hall Hotel, Craven Terrace, London W2 3EL
Time: 1pm - 1.30pm

Guest speaker is cyber security consultant, Dr Robert Nowill (OL73).

Please contact Jackie Chalmers to book jackie.chalmers@ntlworld.com

LGS Back to School Day

Date: Saturday 9 November 2019
Venue: LUBS, Moorland Road
Time: 9am - 4pm

Take a trip down memory lane at the former LGS site in Moorland Road, enjoy a day of lessons, an assembly, a tour and a traditional school lunch.

LGS reunions - OL79 and OL99

Date: Saturday 9 November 2019
Two groups of OLs are planning to attend the Back to School day and then hold reunions in Leeds later that evening. Antony Drake (OL79) and Rob Manson (OL99) are organising the reunions.

Remembrance Service

Date: Sunday 10 November 2019
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Time: 10.30am - 12 noon

Yvette Cooper MP - The Power of Women's Voices

Date: Thursday 21 November 2019
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Time: 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Tickets: £14/£10 concessions from www.ilkeleyliteraturefestival.org.uk

Yvette Cooper MP tells the story of 30 inspirational speeches given by women, from Boudica to Margaret Thatcher and from Malala Yousafzai to gun-control activist Emma Gonzalez.

LGS reunion - OL71

Date: Saturday 8 February 2020
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Time: 12pm to 4pm

OLs from the 1971 cohort are welcome to attend this alumni reunion organised by Roger Stead.

OLA London Dinner

Date: Friday 6 March 2020
Venue: The Savile Club
Time: 6.30pm

Save the date for the annual OLA London Dinner.

LGS 30th reunion - OL90

Date: Saturday 21 March 2020
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Time: 7pm

Organised with the help of Nick Allen (OL90).

OG Annual Golf Day and Walk

Date: Friday 1 May 2020
Venue: Wetherby Golf Club

All old girls of LGHS and GSAL and guests welcome. Organised by Sue Jacklin (OG70).

Farewell to Rose Court

Date: Friday 15 May 2020
Come and see a typical afternoon at Rose Court, our nursery and pre-prep school.

Date: Saturday 16 May 2020

All alumni welcome to join our celebrations of over 100 years of Ford House and more recently Rose Court.

Please email alumni@gsal.org.uk to register your interest.

LGHS 40th reunion

Date: Saturday 12 September 2020
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Organised with the help of Louise Doran (OG80).

LGS 50th reunion lunch

Date: Saturday 19 September 2020
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Organised with the help of Nigel Gravells (OL70).

LGS 60th reunion lunch

Date: Saturday 14 November 2020
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Organised with the help of David Walton (OL60).

LGS 20th reunion dinner

Date: Autumn 2020 - date tbc
Venue: The Grammar School at Leeds
Organised with the help of Richard Turney (OL00).

Fond farewells

Danny Brady (OL75) 1957-2018

Danny "DOPPER" Brady died at home on 21 October 2018 aged 61.

After an education at Leeds Grammar School, he returned as a teacher of French and German from 1981 to 1990.

Danny was sociable and affable, able to talk to anyone and particularly keen to do so if that broke a language barrier. A natural linguist with an astonishingly keen ear, he boasted 12 languages and added a smattering of Urdu learned from his neighbour in a hospital bed. Danny suffered for many years with bipolar disorder but he retained many fond memories of the school. He set up the first representative school football team with John Barclay, a then controversial breach from the tradition of Rugby Union only. An accomplished hell fire musician himself, he conceived Bands Night. With just cause, the management were anxious but the students totally approving.

He successfully arranged many foreign visits, exchanges and tours. To his students, he was a hero because with him education and recreation were always one and the same.

He is remembered with affection and a smile.



Danny is pictured (back left) with the school's first football team

David Norton Laurence (OL47) 1929 - 2018

David was born in Leeds and attended LGS before going to Leeds University and Leeds General Infirmary to train as a doctor.

His early years as a doctor in National Service were in Chester. He then spent several years as a GP in Lincoln before moving to Tynemouth. From 1965-1967 he was a GP in Wellington, New Zealand before returning to live and work in Yarm, Cleveland. He was a lifelong supporter of Leeds United.

David was married for 40 years to his wife Mavis who died in 1994. He is survived by his three children, Duncan, Janet and Clive, seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Professor David Sugden 1945-2019

Professor David Sugden, who served as a governor of LGS and GSAL for 21 years and was a former chair of governors, died on 13 March 2019.

He was a former Professor of Special Needs in Education in the School of Education at Leeds University, and former Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

David's son and daughter, Chris and Rachel, attended LGS and LGHS. In 1997 David was appointed as a governor at LGS. He served from

then until 2018 and was chair from 2006 to 2008, overseeing the merger of LGS and LGHS to create the co-educational GSAL. During his time at the school, he was heavily involved in the business and management committee.

He was born and educated in South Yorkshire and, after three years at Loughborough University, became a sports master at Dunsmore School for Boys in Rugby (now Ashlawn School) where, as a keen sportsman, he played rugby for Rugby. In 1970, he moved to the USA to study at the University of California (UCLA), where he graduated with a BSc, an MSc and - after an interlude teaching at St Mary's College of Education in Twickenham - a PhD. His academic interests were on children with learning difficulties, in particular, on children with difficulties in motor skills. During his time in California, he worked in a variety of schools and clinics, and alongside therapists from the Martin Luther King Hospital, with children with learning or movement difficulties, visual disorders, and behavioural issues. He also worked with children on different points of the autism spectrum. Throughout this time, David continued to play competitive rugby, and also established and coached the first women's Rugby Union team in California, at UCLA.

In 1977, David was appointed lecturer in physical education at the University of Leeds. He moved to the School of Education in 1981, and was promoted to senior lecturer in 1985, to a readership in Motor Development and Impairment in 1991, and to a developmental chair in Special Needs in Education in 1992.

David retired from the university in 2010.

Dominic King (OL92) 1974-2019

Dominic King died at home on 12 April 2019 aged 45.

Born in Indonesia, he always said that his first language was Bahasa.

In 1979 the family moved to Nyeri in rural Kenya and Dominic and his brother Benedict became boarders at the Dragon School, Oxford.

In 1985 the family moved to Leeds and Dominic joined LGS in 1987, followed by Jesus College, Oxford, in 1992 to read history.

In 1996 he won a place at Lomonosov University, Moscow, to study Russian Church history. Achieving a first in his Master's, but in disagreement with the Marxist-Leninist professors over his unorthodox PhD, in 2001 he returned home to pursue his philosophical and religious ideas. He started painting water colours of Leeds, becoming a familiar figure in Headingley.

His ecumenical approach brought experience of many denominations before he converted to Catholicism.

Between 2006 and 2018 he was diagnosed with ME, MS and eventually motor neurone disease. Despite impaired co-ordination he continued to paint, specialising in computer designed cartoons to convey philosophical and religious ideas humorously. He attended St Anne's Cathedral in his electric wheel chair and enjoyed his family and friends, communicating in writing on a reporter's note pad. He read Dostoyevsky in Russian and

the New Testament in Greek until the day he died.

At his requiem mass, the eulogies of loving friends recalled his wry, self deprecating and mischievous wit, his humility, his vast stock of obscure knowledge, his wilfully oblique opinions and the fearlessness which led to the freedom of his thinking, his poetry and his art.

Of his speaking Russian with an English accent, but impressively sophisticated syntax and vocabulary, his friend's Russian landlady described it as 'like talking to Tolstoy.'

His legacy includes a waistcoat impeccably sewn of cigarette butts in herring-bone array and presented as of great philosophical significance, perfumes smuggled as mnemonics into history exams, "Chessophony," an algorithm for converting a chess match into a string quartet, and a collection of more than fifty of his water colours.

Gareth Dunn (GSAL09) 1991-2018

After a brave and courageous fight with secondary cancer, Gareth Dunn passed away on 29 October 2018, aged just 27.

After graduating from university with a degree in history, followed by a Masters in European politics, his ambition was to join the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) as a diplomatic officer - but not before first serving a stint in the Army, for which he was accepted for officer training at the Sandhurst Military Academy.

Almost immediately after being accepted, he was diagnosed with Sarcoma in his foot, a rare and aggressive form of cancer. His right leg was amputated from the knee within weeks of the diagnosis, cutting his Army career short before it started.

He was then only 23, but Gareth was determined not to let this inhibit him. He applied to join the UK Paralympics Team, and was accepted to train in five disciplines in preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. However, in January 2017 he contracted secondary cancer of the lungs and his dream of becoming a Paralympian was cut short too. Shortly after that, the FCO offered him a position as a trainee diplomat, an opportunity he was sadly unable to accept.

Gareth then embarked on a cancer awareness programme to raise £100k for Cancer Research UK, a hugely ambitious target which he reached in just 14 months. (See Memento 2018 for full story).

Gareth was an extremely bright, intelligent and highly motivated individual, always polite and courteous and had such a loving and positive attitude to life, even in the face of adversity, which he lived with for so long.

Despite his deteriorating health and condition, he managed to participate in, and complete, the London Marathon in 2018 - a truly astonishing achievement.

His loss will be felt deeply by everyone who knew him.

George Elwen (OL46)

1929-2018

George Elwen was born in Egypt at a time when his family were stationed overseas and his father was a serving officer in the RAF. The family returned to England when George was three, and eventually moved to Leeds in 1943. George attended Leeds Grammar School from 1943 to 1946, where he obtained his school certificate.

According to Dr Terry Thomas, the headmaster at that time, George was a boy "of good ability and excellent character".

George wanted to stay on at school to achieve his higher certificate and go to university, however family finances precluded this, so he took a variety of clerical jobs and studied in his own time to become a chartered secretary.

He joined the bursar's office at the University of Leeds in 1964, where he stayed for 30 years until his retirement. Outside work, he took a keen interest in the Air Training Corps and was Squadron Leader of the Air Cadets in Knaresborough for many years.

He was married to Muriel for 62 years and had four sons and a daughter. Two of his sons, Bernard and David, attended Leeds Grammar School.

James Albert (Jim) Horrox (OL39) 1923-2018

Jim Horrox died, aged 95, on 28 December 2018 after a short spell of ill health.

He was the eldest of four brothers and was named Albert, just as the eldest of each generation had been since A Horrox & Sons, Estate Agents, had been founded in the 19th century.

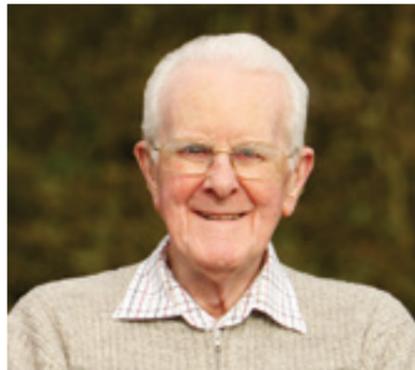
Jim joined LGS in 1932. All his brothers, father, uncle and brother-in-law were also alumni.

Instead of joining the family firm, Jim gained professional qualifications that launched a career in advertising and marketing, first at the Yorkshire Post and later at department store Brown, Muff's of Bradford, where he became a director.

For many years, from the early 1950s, he actively promoted the marketing profession, serving as secretary of the Leeds Publicity Club and chairman of the Leeds branch of the Institute of Marketing. The Institute recognised his 'outstanding service' with its President's Award in 1989 and later its Gold Medal.

After Brown, Muff's was bought by House of Fraser, Jim left to set up his own printing business in Bradford, where he remained until retirement.

He married Margaret Cooper in 1948; his son was at LGS, his daughter (like her mother) at LGHS. In retirement Jim and Margaret moved to Nidderdale and in September 2018 they celebrated 70 years of marriage.



James Albert (Jim) Horrox

James 'Jimmy' Dodman (OL91) 1972-2018

James Dodman was a consultant in anaesthesia and intensive care medicine at Pinderfields General Hospital, Wakefield, from 2007 until his death from oesophageal cancer on 26 December 2018, aged just 46.

After attending LGS, Jimmy studied medicine at Newcastle University, qualifying in 1996. He returned to Yorkshire in 1997 as a trainee anaesthetist at hospitals in Scarborough, York, and Harrogate. He then spent time at Birmingham Children's Hospital before joining the registrar rotation in West Yorkshire in 2001. Jimmy rotated through the hospitals of Yorkshire, including Pinderfields Hospital, where he was later appointed as a consultant anaesthetist. He passed his final FRCA in 2002. After completing his registrar training, Jimmy spent 16 months at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St Louis, Missouri, USA, working as an attending anaesthesiologist.

Following his appointment as a consultant, Jimmy also developed a career as an educator, rising through appointments as college tutor and training programme director for the Yorkshire School of Anaesthesia. He also became an adviser on the General Medical Council's fitness to practice panel.

Jimmy leaves his wife Joanne and three children, Mabel, Alice and Edward, who are pupils at GSAL, his parents, Barbara and Ed, and two brothers, Andrew and Daniel.



James 'Jimmy' Dodman

Michael Harland (OL50) 1931-2019

Noel Michael Harland retired as a GP in 1996 after many years in practice at Featherstone, near Pontefract, Yorkshire.

He trained at Leeds Medical School before spending two years in the army as a medical officer with a Scottish regiment during National Service. He returned to Yorkshire where he met his wife Patricia whilst working at Leeds General Infirmary as a junior doctor.

In retirement he lived in York, where he died after a long illness, on 2 January 2019. He is survived by his wife, children and grandchildren.

Margaret Mary Dodgson (née Chessex) (OG58) 1941-2018

Margaret was the only child of Ernest and Marjorie Chessex and lived in Adel, Leeds. She attended Leeds Girls' High School from 1950 to 1958 where she achieved eight O levels, however it was sport where she excelled, captaining the netball team and also representing the school at tennis.

On leaving LGHS, Margaret attended Yorkshire Ladies Secretarial College, later becoming secretary to Jim Crowther, chairman of Charlton and Crowther Architects in Leeds until 1962 when she married Joseph Dodgson.

Margaret and Jo settled in Cookridge before moving to Hampsthwaite, near Harrogate, for ten years, then returning to Bramhope in 2001. They had three sons, Paul, Robert and Nicholas.

Margaret returned to her career in 1985, part-time at first, as a fines enforcement officer in Leeds Magistrates Court where she quickly gained a reputation for taking a no-nonsense attitude and being dreaded by the defendants.

After leaving the Town Hall, Margaret became PA to the head of the school of maths at the University of Leeds where she was also the administration manager for the whole school until her retirement in 2001.

Margaret and Jo were keen travellers, which they often combined with their love of sailing and yachting. They also enjoyed many safaris on the African continent and spent time in Australia and the Far East, North America, Alaska, Russia and throughout Europe.

Margaret leaves her husband Jo, her three sons and four granddaughters. She was a wonderful mum and doting grandma to her granddaughters, Olivia, Thea, Eva and Clara and is greatly missed by them all.

Patricia Ann Cox CB (OG49) 1931-2018

Patricia Ann Cox (Pat to her friends) was a devoted and punctilious civil servant. Her whole career was spent in the Scottish departments, apart from a three-year secondment to the Treasury.

She came from a distinguished academic family, both her father and her brother being Fellows of the Royal Society of London. She was educated at Leeds Girls' High School and Newnham College Cambridge, from which she graduated in 1953. In the same year she entered the Department of Health for Scotland as an assistant principal, becoming a principal in the Scottish Home and Health Department (SHHD) in 1959.

The rest of her career, apart from three years in HM Treasury and nine as an Under Secretary in the Scottish Education Department, was in SHHD. At its conclusion she was appointed a Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath (CB). She contributed much to the improvement of legislation of mental health in Scotland and was instrumental in tackling the Aids crisis in the country in the 1980s, along with Dr McDonald, the chief medical officer.

In her private life she was devoted to the arts and was a lover of opera, a fine needlewoman and a painter.

As a consequence of developing Parkinson's disease she became actively involved in the Parkinson's Society of Edinburgh.

Peter Sparling MBE (OL51) 1933-2019

Both Leeds Grammar School and The Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL) owe Peter Sparling enormous gratitude for his heartfelt commitment to the life of the schools over many years.

As chair of the governors for 18 years, his vision and inspiration played a huge part in the successful merger of the boys' school with Leeds Girls' High School to form GSAL in 2008. Peter was born in Leeds on Christmas Eve, 1933. Following his education at Leeds Grammar School he went on to qualify as a solicitor, later becoming a senior partner at Blacks.

His was a life of traditional public service with the best of motivation. He moved into local politics in the 1960s, and served as a councillor for Moortown ward from 1968-1987, when he was appointed an Honorary Alderman.

He was a well-regarded Conservative politician, taking over as party leader of Leeds City Council when the then leader Irwin Bellow joined Margaret Thatcher's government in 1979. He served as council leader until Labour won back control in May 1980. He held many offices within the Conservative party, including chair and later president of the Elmet and Rothwell constituency party.

In 1980 he was appointed as a governor of LGS, becoming chair from 1988 until 2005. He was vice-chair of GSAL from 2005 until 2015, retiring from the school in 2016. During that time he was a member of a number of committees - business and management, external relations, corporate governance, GSAL enterprises and the foundation.

He was also one of the founding board members of what became Opera North and chaired its Friends organisation for 20 years.

He was a non-executive director of the Leeds Dental Health Authority from 1992 to 1997, and a director for several years of the West Yorkshire Playhouse board. In recent years he was an active governor of Bardsey Primary School.

In his leisure time he was a keen football supporter and for many years was a season ticket holder at Leeds United.

Peter was appointed MBE in 2014 for his contribution to the arts, education and the community. His wife, Bettie, daughter Helen, and son James, survive him.



Peter Sparling

Sheldon Bonner 1962-2019

Sheldon Bonner, former head groundsman of LGS and GSAL, and subsequently of St Peter's School York, died peacefully in Wheatfields Hospice on 20 March 2019 attended by his wife Vikki and family.

Sheldon acquired his perfectionism as an early protégé of legendary Headingley groundsman Keith Boyce for whom he had a lifelong admiration and upon whose advice and standards he forever drew. Sheldon's pride in a good job found him often taxed by the mutually exclusive demands of school needs for track, field, pitch and court. At St Peter's, where he quickly won hearts in the latter part of his career, the school won national acclaim for the standards of its estate and, for Sheldon personally, tributes from his professional association Pitchcare. Sheldon was proud to share mutual respect with his counterparts at Lords, Wimbledon and Twickenham.

His powerful singing voice made him first a hero of the working men's clubs and of school productions. He was the front man in his band playing frequent charity gigs. Famously in the 2007 edition of X Factor, he achieved promotion to boot camp and was rewarded with appreciative and appreciated criticism from Simon Cowell.

Sheldon was diagnosed with a brain tumour for which he had surgery twice whilst conscious, advising his surgeon of sensation. Throughout his illness, his courage and determination to work and live life to the full were wondrous; and in pursuit of his bucket list, he succeeded in paragliding from the summit of Mount Babadag, swimming with dolphins in Cozumel, and diving through the Mallorcan caves. These experiences were surpassed only by marriage to his beloved Vikki in July 2018.

Stephen Maude (OL36) 1919-2018

Stephen Maude attended Leeds Grammar School from 1927 to 1936; loving and excelling in art, music and sport, especially cricket. He played in the 1st XI and went on to play in and captain the Old Leo's XI, taking over 1,000 wickets as a wily leg-spin bowler.

Stephen was a choral exhibitioner (with not so fond memories of the stiff Eton collar he had to wear for the two Sunday chapel services) and an accomplished viola player in the school orchestra which his father, Edward Maude, trained and conducted. He particularly enjoyed playing string quartets and was also a member of Leeds Music Club.

During World War Two, Stephen was a cipher operator and served in Iceland, Normandy, Belgium, the Netherlands and the Middle East, taking part in the 1944 Normandy landings for which the French Government awarded him the Legion d'Honneur.

Returning to civilian life, he set up his own package design art studio in Albion Place in Leeds, designing for many local firms such as Morrisons supermarket and Rakusens.

He moved to Wetherby in 1972, with his wife Jean, where he became a full time landscape artist, specialising in winter scenes, and painted over 750 pictures of the Dales and North Yorkshire. These were sold through local galleries and often reproduced as calendars and Christmas cards. He was also president of the local Art Loan scheme.

William (Willy) Brown (OL63) 1945-2019

Willy Brown was an expert in industrial relations, holding chairs in the subject at both the University of Warwick and the University of Cambridge.

He was a founding member of the Low Pay Commission (LPC) which introduced the national minimum wage in 1999. He played a central role in the LPC, designing and implementing the policy and acting as a mediator.

He was also an academic administrator who took up senior positions in scholarly associations, governmental bodies and at Cambridge, including being Master of Darwin College.

His mediation skills were also often used by the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, on whose council he served.

Although much of his research was informed by fieldwork case studies, he was the driving force in launching large-scale, representative employment relations surveys in the UK, which led to the government's flagship Workplace Employment Relations Study and to similar surveys in Australia and Canada.

Willy was born in Oxford, before moving to Leeds. After attending Leeds Grammar School on a scholarship, he went to Wadham College, Oxford, where he studied philosophy, politics and economics. He was on the staff of Warwick University between 1968 and 1985, and was Montague Burton professor of industrial relations at Cambridge University from 1985 until his retirement in 2012.

Willy is survived by his second wife, Jackie Scott, a professor, whom he married in 2017, four stepdaughters, six grandchildren; and his older brother Henry.



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