

# Ackworth TODAY

AUTUMN 2018 | VOL. 04 | ISSUE 04



Save  
the date:  
Christmas  
Wreath Class  
11 Dec 2018



**SCHOOL TRIPS**  
Highlights of trips  
to Paris, London  
and more!

**STAFF NEWS**  
Guy Emmett &  
Karen Clarke are  
saying 'Farewell'



**BUSINESS STUDENTS**  
Developing  
enterprising ideas!





# REMEMBERING

## Head

Anton Maree



**T**his year we mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. On Remembrance Sunday 11th November 2018, Ackworth along with many other communities, families and institutions around the world, reflected on the lives that were changed irrevocably, as well as the generation that was lost. Ackworth School held its own Commemoration Service on 12th November which gave us the chance to remember, but also to pray and work for peace, looking forward to a world without war, and with hope.

In 1913, celebrations were being planned to commemorate 100 years of peace between Great Britain and the United States. The beginning of the war in 1914 ended any dream of an isolated, guarded existence as the school, like everywhere else, wrestled with the prospect of war. The Age of Innocence was well and truly over.

The numbers involved in the First World War are staggering; some 65 million men from all over the world were mobilised across Europe during World War One. Nearly a third of them – some 21 million – were wounded. Another 8.5 million were killed and some 7.7 million were

taken prisoner of war – many women served too – 34 from Ackworth School – and then there were those for whom taking another person's life was impossible to contemplate. At the time they took the brave decision to object as a matter of conscience. Nineteen Old Scholars were placed in prison for refusing to comply with the Military Service Act, several after serving with the Friends' Ambulance Unit, and many were kept imprisoned until 1919. All of them had family and friends whose lives were changed forever by the events of 1914 – 1918.

Ackworth School's comprehensive involvement in the war is matched by other Quaker schools: 694 Old Scholars served with the armed forces, the Friends' Ambulance Unit (FAU), the Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee (WVRC), the Women's Land Army, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) or the Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD).

The effect of the war was to scatter Ackworth's Old Scholars all over the globe. Old Scholars served on the Western Front and in Africa, Egypt, Italy, Turkey, Russia, at sea and in the air.

One teacher and 75 Old Scholars fell in the First World War. The first person to be killed in action was Lewis Jackson who died on 13th March 1915. Sadly, two sets of brothers were killed – Wilfred and Edgar Morton and James and William Ineson, who died within six months of one another. Three friends from Sunderland died within six days of one another on the Western Front on 24th, 26th and 30th May 1915 – Arnold Green, Arnold Corder and Wilfred Morton. Three died on 1st July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme – James Eaton, aged 24; Phillip Snow, aged 22 and James Swift, aged 31. By the end of the war 60 Old Scholars had fallen on the Western Front.

Two members of the Friends' Ambulance Unit, Walter Messer and Frederick Taylor were killed whilst helping wounded soldiers and the oldest person to die was Albert Nickalls, who was 51.

During the war school numbers fell markedly and fees rose to compensate for the increase in the price of food and fuel. By 1917 the shortages led to action on the part

of the pupils with the planting of the potato field which eventually provided six tons of food for the school. Service was voluntary and only allowed during leisure time.

There were severe food restrictions during the war. EB Collinson reported to General Meeting in 1918 that, "The restrictions in diet had not resulted in any grave hardship; though many of the scholars had lost weight during the various holidays, they had nearly all increased it during the term." At the same time, Hugh Richardson pointed out that, "the greatly increased cost of everything had necessitated an increase in the fees, which seems to have been cheerfully submitted to by the parents".

Travel restrictions and food shortages meant that Easter Gathering had to be postponed in 1917 and again in 1918. General Meeting had to bring their own food in 1918 and took their 'private lunch packets' to various parts of the school grounds, according to Collinson.

The Annual Report of 1918 informs of an Ackworth Dinner held in France on Easter Monday 1918, at which twenty Old Scholars, serving with the FAU, met to celebrate an Ackworth Reunion. Seventeen other Old Scholars were prevented by their duties from attending the celebration, but they joined in the message of greeting. The menu was forwarded to the School and contained courses which did not appear, but which they desired, such as corned beef, Cowboy's Hat, Monday Spinach, Treacle Pudding, and Apple Pie.

Brian Sparkes wrote in 1918 about the external changes beyond the school gates, brought about as a result of the war, citing the gradual withdrawal of familiar foods from the counters of Simpson's, the shop across the road from the school. Sparkes recalled that iced buns went first, then the short bread glass (bottle) disappeared; most chocolates soon afterwards, and the curious little packets of Terry's steam-made lozenges with their aromatic flavours of ginger, cinnamon, clove and musk. He added that liquorice, however, remained plentiful.

Austerity affected the school in other ways. The strength to fight infection and the common cold was depleted and the school report for 1919 stated that nearly 300 pupils succumbed to influenza; evidently none died.

**Unfortunately, the First World War was not the war to end all wars. There are many wars taking place in our world today; we should think about those who are affected and at Ackworth School we mark Remembrance with a commitment to end war and to invest in bringing about peace.**



Sport in front of the school – 1914

# STAFF NEWS

## New Staff

Jane Burren – Shed Court Teacher  
 Catherine Bradley – Coram Teacher (Job share year 4)  
 Sarah Liddle – Coram Teacher (Year 1)  
 Emma Rose – Coram Teacher (Year 6)  
 Tom Root – International Recruiter  
 Nykie Brown – Specialist Learning Mentor  
 Joe McAndrew – Administration Assistant (Finance)  
 Maria Isabel Sanchez – Spanish Conversation Assistant  
 Ann Nicklin – Coram Teacher (Year 5)  
 Caroline Chan – Coram Teaching Assistant  
 Kate Reynolds – Shed Court Teacher  
 Zara Costello – Specialist Learning Mentor Shed Court  
 Lauren Philips – Finance

## Role Changes

Alexandra Collingwood – Head of Sixth Form  
 Daniel Jones – Assistant Head of Sixth Form  
 Ali Boucher – Head of Drama  
 Head of Learning and Teaching  
 Neil Fitzgerald – Head of English  
 Pip Langfield – Head of Careers  
 Ros Noble – Head of PSHE  
 Daniel Roots – Assistant House Staff  
 Alice Robson – Assistant House Staff



Emma Rose – Coram Teacher (Year 6)



Jane Burren – Shed Court Teacher



Nykie Brown – Specialist Learning Mentor Shed Court



Kate Reynolds – Shed Court Teacher



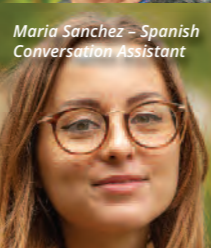
Zara Costello – Specialist Learning Mentor Shed Court



Caroline Chan – Coram Teaching Assistant



Sarah Liddle – Coram Teacher (Year 1)



Maria Sanchez – Spanish Conversation Assistant



Ann Nicklin – Coram Teacher (Year 5)

# Nursery

# NURSERY NEWS



## Round Up

Nursery has definitely benefitted in numbers from the 15-hour entitlement scheme. We now have 21 on roll and have already shown around a further six new families since the start of September. The Nursery children now come over for a hot tea in Coram House where they also have the chance to interact with the older children. This has also helped to bring parents over to Coram House, who have previously not had the opportunity.

The Nursery is (in line with the Junior School) developing opportunities for outdoor learning. It has enhanced its timetable for utilising specialist teachers from Coram House to deliver sessions in PE, Forest School and French. This has had a positive impact on numbers on the day when these sessions take place. Nursery Staff now have their own specialisms in SEN, Outdoor Learning and Marketing which gives them the independence to develop their own skills whilst enhancing the Nursery, making it stand out from other Nurseries in the area and more attractive to parents.



## New Born

Congratulations to English Teacher, Stevie-Ann Harrison! Oscar Harrison Barstow was born in the early hours of Tuesday morning on September 18th, weighing 8lbs 9oz.




**Ackworth School**  
 in conjunction with  
**Passion Flowers Wedding and Event Florists**  
 RHS Chelsea Florist of the Year 2010  
 Presents a  
**Christmas Wreath Making Class**

**Tuesday 11 December 2018**  
 At Centre Library, Ackworth School  
 7pm until 9pm  
 Prosecco Bar will be open  
 £65 per person  
 All top quality foliage will be supplied

*Hang the wreath on the door just in time for Christmas*

For further information, please contact Jane Easter on 01977 611401

## Grandparents' Day



To celebrate and recognise the invaluable contribution grandparents make to family life, we held a Grandparents' Day on 4th October. Children were asked to bring these very special grown-ups to spend the morning with them at Nursery, taking part in all the fun games and activities. Everyone had a lovely time and the morning ended with a well deserved cup of tea and slice of cake!



# CORAM HOUSE



**Coram House has seen some recent upgrades. The area outside the reception classroom has been extended and much of the continuous provision has been moved to this area. More lessons are now taking place outside, including maths, where number snakes have been created on the ground, along with muddy maths games. At the same time the area is being expanded with chalkboard letters, number boards and new bikes, which have been donated by the PSA.**

Inside, reception has a new digital TV board, on which educational games are played and writing phonics can be practised. A new digital program 'Tapestry' is also being used in the classroom. This program has been designed to assess and track students' attainment against the Early Learning Goals and means that all teachers can input their assessment straight onto the Cloud. The program is being used to monitor the children throughout the year whilst also using the hard copy Learning Journeys to report to parents.

The extended day is popular with parents. Coram House currently offers 20 after school clubs for prep children and additional clubs for pre-prep children, with many staying for tea.



## Race Champ



"In the Summer holidays I took part in my first fell race. It was at the Ambleside Sports Festival, which is one of the most prestigious events in the fell running calendar. I was very nervous before the run which took us straight up and then back down the fell side. It was very steep and my legs felt on fire on the climb. The descent was so steep you just had to run as fast as you could! I was thrilled (and so were Mum and Dad) to find I finished first girl. Since Ambleside I have entered the Great Westmoreland Fell Race, where I also came first. I train every Monday with Ackworth Junior Road Runners and I race most weekends at the Junior Parkruns. I currently hold both the Nostell and Pontefract Junior Parkrun Under 10 Girls' record."

Isla Ball



## Golden Verity

Verity was awarded the very first golden special mention in assembly this term due to her fantastic efforts and achievement. Not only had Verity succeeded academically in a number of areas, but she has had success across the board.



Verity has competed in a year 7 cross country event, coming 16th overall, she has competed in a swimming gala and won, along with her year 4 team. Alongside her school achievements, Verity and her family have been supported by the fantastic charity Candlelighters while brother, Elliot has been unwell. As she was so impressed with this charity, Verity decided to organise and run her own event in Coram House to raise money for them. Verity went to school council and pitched her idea of the Great Coram Bake Off, which with the help of Mrs Slater and Mrs Hollingsworth, she organised, ran and judged on Wednesday 3rd October. There were over 50 entries from the children and the event was a huge success, raising over £200 for Candlelighters. Here at Coram House we are hugely impressed and proud of Verity for her resilience, positivity and dedication.

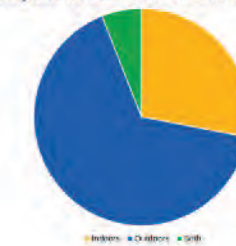
Polly Hollingsworth



## Outdoor Learning Week

At Coram House we heavily value the impact outdoor activities have on our children's learning. We now have five highly qualified Forest School leaders who lead sessions in 'all weathers' and every class has regular lessons outdoors in our beautiful grounds. I wanted to know what the children thought about having lessons outside, so we, as a staff, devised a simple questionnaire for the children to complete. We were staggered by the findings. In response to the survey, we decided to hold an 'Outdoor Learning Week' at Coram. We focussed on teaching the core subjects, English, Maths and Science in our school grounds. The week was a huge success, and even the sun shone!

Do you prefer to have lessons indoors or outdoors?



Katie Staton, Head of Teaching and Learning, Coram House

## Green Blue Peter Badges

When we went litter-picking near Ackworth Water Tower in May, we collected six bags of litter and several pieces of car! The reason we did the litter-pick was so that we



could help the village look tidy for the Tour de Yorkshire. Afterwards we each wrote a letter to Blue Peter asking if we could have green Blue Peter badges for helping the environment. We sent pictures of us doing the litter pick with our letters. As you can see, we got our badges! We are very angry about all the litter that has appeared since May. Another litter-pick is needed!

David Swales, Katherine and John Bootyman

# Meet the New First Years



"From Coram House to Senior School - wow, what a big change! My first proper day in Senior School was so good. We got our lockers and I was excited to decorate mine. Since I have been in Senior School it has been so much fun. It is so good because you are not always in the same rooms. The lessons are fun and I learn something new every day. Ackworth School is amazing but what I love about it the most is that it's not just a school: Ackworth is like your family. I feel so lucky to be part of such a lovely school."

**Izzy Harrison, 1st form (year 7)**

"When I went to my taster day I had a good feeling about coming to Ackworth. Pupils and students were so welcoming to the school."

As I entered Centre Library and found out my class I was so happy that people were kind and we were introduced to each other. I had the biggest smile on my face. Even better, my form teachers were the coolest. In my old school we had one teacher for everything, but here we have a teacher for every subject, so we have new teachers every day which is epic!

Now I have got to know my new class more, I love it. They are the best! All my friends involve me in what they are doing and everyone gets along. The teachers are so kind and they always help me when I need help.

They always know when I am upset and they always ask me if I'm okay. I LOVE SENIOR SCHOOL!"

**Sohni Kaur Varaich, 1st form (year 7)**

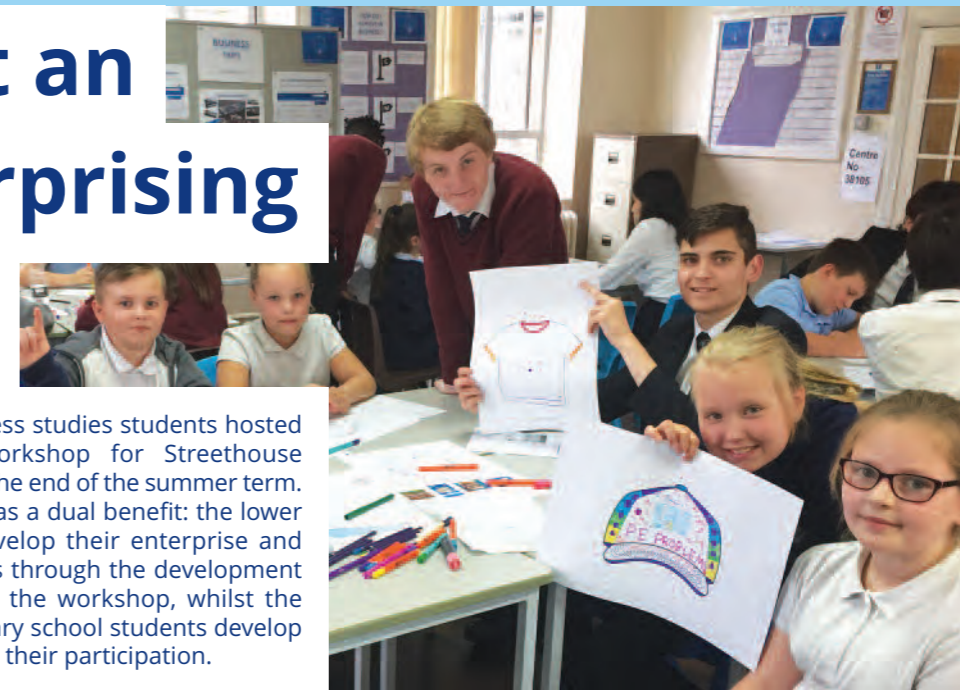
"March 4th 2018 was the date of my taster day. As soon as I entered the school grounds I knew this was where I wanted to be. The caring and lovely energy of the children and staff were just a few of the reasons I chose this school. Originally I'm from London, so I was super nervous due to the 180-mile journey from home, but Ackworth School made it feel like I'd been here my whole life."

**Adam Santosa, 1st form (year 7)**

"Since I have been in Senior School I have loved every minute of it. It has been a big change from Coram to Senior School. I love break times because you can do your own thing and you're free to play on the grass too. Breakfast in the morning is great because whatever it is it fills you up for the day. The days seem to go fast. We have all bonded with new people and created much stronger friendships. I had been in Coram from year 4 and am now in year 7, Wow! Since I walked into Ackworth I have known it to be a friendly welcoming place. I have always loved Ackworth and I always will."

**Sofia Newnham, 1st form (year 7)**

## What an enterprising idea!



Lower sixth business studies students hosted an enterprise workshop for Streethouse Primary School at the end of the summer term. The programme has a dual benefit: the lower sixth students develop their enterprise and employability skills through the development and facilitation of the workshop, whilst the year 5 and 6 primary school students develop their skills through their participation.

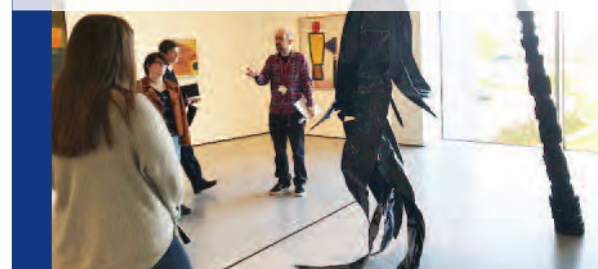
The workshop was based on the development of a new mobile phone application. Students had to use their initiative to create new ideas for a mobile phone application, understand their target audience, develop a logo and promotional materials and then piece together a presentation to peers to deliver at the end of the session.

For all the students involved in the project, their personal development during the project has been clearly visible. You could see the year 5 and 6 students growing in confidence and developing their presentation skills as a direct result of the workshop and the lower sixth students developing their leadership, problem-solving, organisation and resilience!

We were invited back to Streethouse Primary School to meet with the students there. They provided a tour of their school to the sixth formers who had facilitated the workshop and shared their experiences of what they had learnt at the enterprise workshop.



## The Hepworth



On Friday 21st September we went to The Hepworth Gallery in Wakefield, which is named after the famous sculptor who was born in Wakefield, Barbara Hepworth. We were given a tour by an artist, who immersed us in the art, making the experience entirely interactive and interesting. We chose paintings we liked and were given only a minute to etch them onto the pages of our sketchbook, shown different surrealism techniques and then asked to create our own piece with help from our classmates. One technique was called Exquisite Corpse, where the page was folded in half, a picture drawn by two different people on each side, neither knowing what the other had drawn. Once you unfold the paper, the two foreign drawings become familiar side by side, merging into one surreal piece. Many of us in the A Level art class prefer studying faces and bodies in our work, but we all agreed how exciting it was to look so closely at different art forms and researching sculptures we may never have seen.

**Martha Hathaway - L6th (year 12)**

Cakes on **MONDAY** were amazing. The whole school rushed to be first in the queue to buy one of these extraordinary things and I'm sure many teachers were hassled to let the lesson finish early for people to sprint down the corridor to buy cake. Cakes were then sold again at lunch which was very exciting for everyone because that has not happened before. By the end of Monday I'd be surprised if we hadn't all gained ten stones! Monday night finished with Movie Night. We enjoyed watching *Toy Story 2*, which we were reminded by Jason in Morning Meeting was a 'classic'.



# CHARITY WEEK

**WEDNESDAY** was the day we were all waiting for: Sixth Form Entertainment. As always it was hilarious. The highlight in my eyes was the carpool karaoke with Mr Eames and Mr Roberts and also I loved the teacher awards. I died with laughter with Harry's Dr Aziz impression talking of chloride ions giving electrons. There were many more parts to the show that I thought were great, including punishments from across the world. In other ways, however, we were not looking forward to Wednesday: frugal lunch! But being filled up on hotdogs at break-time helped us along the way. Also, at lunch there was the charity auction that had many items being sold including Mr Hickenbottom's piñata cake and a giant wolf soft toy which sold for around £135!!



**THURSDAY** the whole school went out on a Founders' Day walk. Our year went to Salts Mill in Saltaire. We were dropped off in one town and walked along the Liverpool and Leeds Canal to Saltaire. When we reached Saltaire we found ourselves eating cake in the café (much deserved if you ask me). Thursday finished with bangers and mash and of course the Founders' Day disco. After coming out of the disco I could barely hear a thing.

Finally, on **FRIDAY**, we had Own Clothes Day, one of my favourites. Friday also involved doughnuts, with three coloured icings. I think many people had to try them all (like me). Luckily though, I had triple games in the afternoon.



Charity Week this year was a huge success. The money that we have raised is going to two different charities, one local and one international. The local charity is Candlelighters, who support families facing children's cancer in Yorkshire and the international charity is Tree Aid who help people in the drylands of Africa lift themselves out of poverty and protect their environment. Tree Aid helps them grow and protect trees for themselves and future generations. After discovering the two charities it really makes it worth eating three doughnuts or throwing water at teachers or wearing your own clothes. I can't wait to see what Charity Week brings next year.

**Ben Cawood, 5th form (year 11)**

**TUESDAY** was the stocks and for the first time I can remember we had both teachers and students being drenched with water and jelly! It was very funny to see them shivering whilst we stood at the side and watched them, laughing. After school on Tuesday was staff vs sixth form dodgeball and then boys vs girls which was very funny.



# Peace Lecture

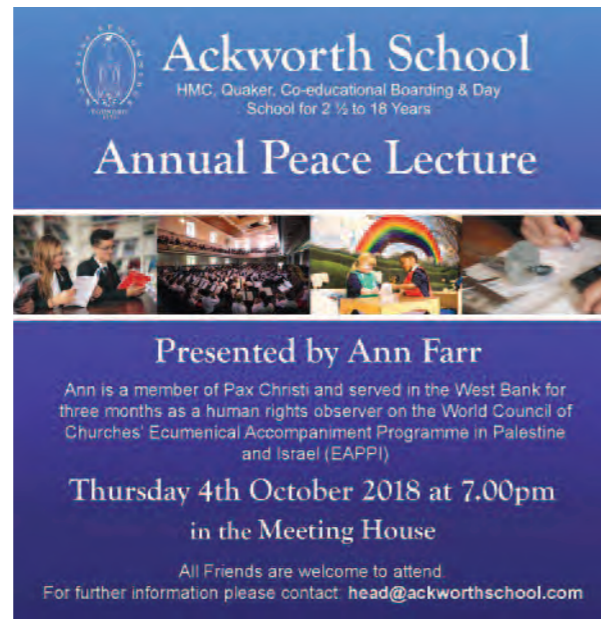
On Thursday 4th October, Ann Farr, worker for Quaker Peace and Social Witness, executive member of the British section of Pax Christi and a part of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Israel and Palestine, gave a talk about the ongoing hostility in the west bank.

She herself has made several visits to the region, observing a small village surrounded by Israeli settlers.

I found the lecture not only informative, but particularly shocking, as Ann told us tragic anecdotes about those affected. She spoke about Palestinians who have had their homes destroyed, and in many cases, more than once.

In a heart-breaking moment, Ann recounted a time when she and the other humanitarians were walking Palestinian children to school, when the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) threw tear gas into the group. You would expect people who have suffered such trauma and mistreatment to be too exhausted and harrowed to offer any sort of hospitality, but Ann told us this is not the case. All the people she has travelled to and spoken to – some now living in caves due to the demolition of their homes – can still find a bucket or a box for the guests to sit on, always offering them something to eat or drink.

When asked how she contains her emotions during these situations, Ann confessed the difficulty of



refraining from crying, but how she knows becoming upset would not benefit those targeted. As Jason Lok, Head Boy, said, "I think Ann's talk reminded us all of the existence of constant conflict in the world, but also how lucky we are."

Martha Hathaway L6th (year 12)



On Saturday 6th October 2018, Francis Hickenbottom, our fungal expert, hosted an introduction into the weird and wonderful world of mushrooms and toadstools at Ackworth School. The morning started with an introductory talk, before we ventured out into the school grounds to see what we could find. We concluded in Centre Library to review our foraging. Thank you to the members of the local community for supporting the event.

# Sublime Science



Ackworth School invited Sublime Science and Pi Tops into school for two days of experiments, slime, and computer coding. We invited Year 5 and 6 students from four local primary schools to another great BECSLink community afternoon. With an emphasis on experimentation, collaboration and play, Pi Tops helps bring coding, STEAM and physical computing to life via its unique modular hardware and maker-centric projects and kits. It is used by over 2000 schools globally. Sublime Science provided a series of experiments to showcase how awesome science can be. They took part in creating rockets and making smoke rings.



Our wonderful Sixth Form Study Centre, which will be renamed as the Westwood Building, became ready for use after half term. It is already providing quiet areas for studying as well as collaborative learning and teaching. With modern lighting and advanced technology, it is a welcome addition to our educational provision.



## Chinese Reality

A Chinese reality programme aiming to educate adult audiences about good parenting and how to be a 'nice parent' was filmed at Ackworth School at the beginning of the term.

After a tour of the School, four celebrity couples were asked to give a speech about all they had learnt throughout their experience on the four-part show which had involved them looking after their own children and following advice from an authority on child raising, who schooled them on how to be good parents.

Some of the celebrities were genuine A-listers in China, and included an Olympic gymnast, a doctor, a classical musician and Zhong Xinyitong the lead singer in a group called *Twins*.

Filmed in the Fothergill Theatre and Centre Library, the celebrity guests took turns to make speeches before joining the Head for a five course meal, which included a discussion on the difference between British education and the Chinese system as well as the advantages of Ackworth School. The programme is a positive insight into the importance of education and good parenting and will give the school some positive exposure, with an estimated 500 million views of the show in China.



## German Teacher Exchange

"As an avid traveller I have always been keen on trying new things, challenging myself and seeing the world. I feel that especially as a teacher, travelling helps me understand different points of views by experiencing the diversity the world has to offer.

When I learnt about the programme "Host a teacher from Germany" (supported by the German Ministry of Education) I knew immediately that I wanted to take part. The programme aims to match German teachers who are interested in experiencing school life in the UK with British schools that would be willing to host a teacher, to enable professional and cultural exchange.

Through a good friend (and former Ackworth scholar) I was put in touch with Jeffrey Swales to discuss my options. After several emails, application forms and some waiting, I finally received my official confirmation.

Coming from a rather large, government-run comprehensive school (1000 pupils and 100 teachers), being at Ackworth does seem like a whole new world. Ten to 15 pupils per course/class means a much calmer and more focused learning environment than teaching up to 30 pupils. I was also pleasantly surprised by the presence of computers and projectors in every classroom as well as the effective incorporation of the equipment into the lessons.

Another tremendous advantage over my school at home is the fact that teachers have their own rooms. The thematically decorated walls and the helpful equipment that is being stored by the teachers surely supports the pupils in their learning.

As a German and a language teacher I am impressed with the great work of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages. Being able to support Andrew Hilton in the German lessons and helping pupils with one-on-one conversation training has brought me a lot of joy. Additionally it has given me (even more) appreciation and respect for all those who attempt to master my overly complicated mother tongue.

Being officially assigned to the History Department I have been able to observe a large number of different History lessons. I especially liked the visual support through fitting images/presentations and the clear question based structure of the lessons. Even though 40 minutes seems short (at my school we work with 60 minute lessons) I always felt that the pupils left with having acquired new knowledge. I even had the chance to teach a lesson myself, which was a lot of fun and strengthened my wish to further pursue bilingual teaching.

All in all I must say that I thoroughly enjoyed my stay at Ackworth School. I feel that it has given me interesting insight into a very different school culture which has broadened my horizon. Likewise I hope that I could shed a little light onto German culture and inspire pupils to keep on learning foreign languages.

Last but not least I would like to thank the wonderful staff and administration of Ackworth School for welcoming me and providing me with this unique experience."

**Annika Borrmann**



## European Day of Languages

**From 17th century to the Roaring Twenties, The European Day of Languages takes place every year on 26th September in order to raise awareness of the wide number of languages still spoken in Europe, 225 at the last count, and to promote language learning.**

Taking the school's motto (*non sibi sed omnibus*) as the inspiration for this year's quiz, pupils could follow a trail around the school in order to find the school's motto in ten European languages. Prizes were awarded to pupils who could correctly identify which language was which.

With the number of pupils taking languages at school falling across the country, having a language qualification could be an advantage when applying for future jobs. Hopefully, the European Day of Languages will help to keep languages in the spotlight and to encourage our pupils to continue to take the opportunity to learn French, German and Spanish at school, and maybe to branch out to learn one of the many other languages in future.

**Andrew Hilton, Head of German**



## Guy Emmett on Life at Ackworth & Beyond



**A**s our Deputy Head Pastoral, Guy Emmett is leaving the school to move elsewhere very soon, we thought it would be a good idea to do a parting interview to give an insight into where and why he is leaving, his time at Ackworth and himself as a person.

**How long have you been at Ackworth?**

I've been at Ackworth for five happy years.

**Where are you going to and what will be your position?**

I'm moving to Scarborough College (not the sixth form College) to become the Headmaster.

**Have you always aspired to be head teacher?**

No, not from the start. I went into teaching with a love of

history and just wanted to work closely with children. As my career has progressed, in the last seven or eight years, I have developed an ambition to become a Head of a Co-ed 3 - 18 boarding/day school.

**Is the fact that you want to be a head the only reason you're leaving?**

Having the chance to lead a school is definitely the main reason for the move, but there are actually many other smaller reasons as well. My wife and I want to have our own home, so that we really feel we can settle and Scarborough College is a lovely school. It is similar to Ackworth and we are sure our daughters will be very happy there. As we're beginning a new phase in our lives, with a new baby due soon, it seemed like the right time to make the changes too.



**If you could do any job, other than Head or Deputy Head Pastoral, what would it be?**

I've actually thought about this many times! In the Sixth Form, as a pupil, I either wanted to be a journalist or to move into education, but I had dreams about becoming a cricketer as well. Now I'd be a solicitor specialising in child protection matters I think. However, I love the job I have and believe I have made the right choice!

**What will be your best memory of Ackworth?**

There are so many! Even from this year's Charity Week... though my best memory won't be having jelly thrown at me in the stocks! I think the school's production of *The Sound of Music* will be my best memory. I went to the first night and wanted to come very evening. What I loved about it was how many staff and students came to watch and support our great cast.

**What would be your favourite school meal?**

Now that is a tricky one. Sadly I have a sweet tooth so definitely the chocolate puddings, or a fruit pot if my wife is reading this! And I also enjoy the fajitas.

**This one is difficult I know. If you were to look back, which morning reading would stand out to you and who was it read by?**

There are so many, and readings are one aspect of school life that I'll miss greatly. I think Richard Vergette's readings about equality are the ones that stand out to me. And I greatly admire the passion and charisma from Mr Bailey and Mr Boucher's readings.

**We sometimes hear songs played in meeting that mean something to the reader. If you were to share a song with us what would it be?**

My song tastes have changed since becoming a father, so whereas before it might have been our wedding song, right now it's 'This is Me' because it makes my daughter smile and dance. The words are great too. I prefer it to 'Baby Shark'!

**How well does Quakerism sit with you and do you think you'll be taking it to wherever you go next?**

I think anyone who's worked in a Quaker school will take it with them wherever they go. It's definitely changed me as a person. To experience periods of silence as a whole school and to work in an environment that has such a strong Quaker ethos will always influence me positively.

**How important do you think the role of Deputy Head Pastoral is to pupils?**

The only way I can explain it is that if I look back, I know exactly who the pastoral people were in my school life and that's why I enjoyed school both as a pupil and a

teacher. My mum was also a pastoral head and I know the impact she had on the lives of pupils she worked with.

**When it comes to Founders' Day, where would you enjoy taking a class, or where has been your favourite place to go?**

This year's Founders' Day that I went on to Filey was a particular favourite, but any Founders' Day is a splendid way to spend the day, whether you're by the sea or at somewhere like Fountains Abbey, especially with groups like we have, which are so impeccably behaved and fun to be around.

**What has been your proudest moment whilst working here?**

Every day there are proud moments, too many to mention anything specifically. I am proud of the school when I see pupils being kind without even realising they're being kind. There are selfish proud moments too: I like how children from ages 3 to 18 know me, and I'm proud of the School when I see a child leave, ready for the outside world.

**I know every teacher is inspirational, but what teacher would you say has inspired you the most?**

Although I'm inspired continuously by the people I work with now, it's actually my Mum! She worked for 40 years in schools, and when she retired they asked her to come back! She never really left and was always there for her pupils, so above all, my Mum.

**Though I know there is no favouritism, is there a particular student you will always remember?**

Although you never want to pick out a pupil, it's got to be Ayham Alhalabi. He inspires people, makes you want to be a better person and even brought Mr Maree to tears, so definitely Ayham.

**If you could give every child a skill or piece of advice that you've learnt or received over the years what would it be?**

Before coming to Ackworth, it would have been very simple: work hard, play hard. But actually the school has changed me, so I'd give everyone the advice to live life adventurously. It teaches you to take risks and not be afraid if you fail.

**Lastly and the most important question, are you going to come back and visit?**

Certainly! It's the school I've learnt the most from, so as long as I'm invited, I'll come back.

Amelie Harper, L6th (Year 12)



# Community Outreach

## National Recycling Week

During this half term, the 1st Ackworth Boys' Brigade have had recycling as their project theme to coincide with National Recycling Week in the UK which took place from 24th-30th September 2018.

The Boys' Brigade approached us to work with them on this project, due to the school's involvement in the Spring Clean 2018. We were delighted to be able to purchase for them the litter pickers that they needed to undertake their project, which could not be loaned due to health and safety reasons. The boys successfully achieved their aim to learn about the environmental benefits of recycling through their participation in the project.

## Friends of Fitzwilliam Station

Jackie Tagg and Sue Armitage attended a meeting of the Friends of Fitzwilliam Station to represent Ackworth School as one of the interested parties in the Fitzwilliam Station art competition. Northern railways have authorised for Fitzwilliam Station bridge to have the 16 wheels, designed by the local community. Sue Armitage and Jackie Tagg volunteered to participate in the competition and will be responsible for the design of two of the wheels at the station. The timings of the competition are to be confirmed by the friends of Fitzwilliam station, once funding has been obtained for the project.

## What's planned for later in the year?

We have also been busy scheduling the community activities for the rest of the Autumn term. A summary of these activities is detailed in the table to the right and the school community and local community are all invited to attend.

If you would like any further information on any of these events, please contact Pip Langfield, Community Outreach Co-ordinator at [pip.langfield@ackworthschool.com](mailto:pip.langfield@ackworthschool.com).



Thank you to all of our bakers, and kind donations for making the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon such a huge success!



EVENT	DATE / TIME
<b>Ackworth Parish Council: Senior Citizens Christmas Tea</b>	Tuesday 11th December 2018 from 3.30pm-7pm Please contact Ackworth Parish Council on 01977 611583 for more details on this event.
<b>Christmas Wreath Making Class: In conjunction with Passion Flowers wedding and events florist - RHS Chelsea Florist of the Year 2010</b>	Tuesday 11th December 2018 from 7pm-9pm. Prosecco bar will be open. £65 per person. Please contact Jane Easter on <a href="mailto:jane.easter@ackworthschool.com">jane.easter@ackworthschool.com</a> or 01977 611401 to book for this event.
<b>Santa's Grotto at Ackworth School</b>	15th & 16th December 2018 - more details to follow!
<b>Bags to School: Raising funds collecting unwanted clothes</b>	Friday 11th January 2019 by 9am If you would like to contribute, please drop your bags outside Coram House in the main school carpark before 9am on Friday 11th January 2019.
<b>Winter Ball at the Wentbridge Hotel</b>	Saturday 26th January 2019 from 7pm to 1am. Tickets £55. Please contact Emma Quinlan for more information <a href="mailto:emmajquinlan@hotmail.co.uk">emmajquinlan@hotmail.co.uk</a> or telephone 07979 522103.
<b>Young Leaders Award: Archbishop of York Youth Trust Award</b>	w/c 14th January 2019 YLA to be delivered to year 6 students in Coram House.

# Quaker Pilgrimage

We spent a weekend at a Quaker pilgrimage. Following George Fox's steps, we went up Pendle Hill. Even though strong wind and rain made the climb quite challenging, it was a truly remarkable experience. We visited the Quaker Tapestry and some of the first Meeting

Houses, which gave us an insight on the difficulties of early Quaker worship. We also became good friends with the students from the two other Quaker schools. Overall it was a fun trip.

Sona Yavrumyan - U6th (year 13)



# Mother Courage

Last half term, the drama department took a trip to see *Mother Courage*. It was performed in a warehouse in the outskirts of Leeds, which was something completely different from normal. The play focused around the life of a mother with three children during a very long war. It dealt with the troubles the war brings, such as children being separated from a mother, violence, and most importantly for her, no trade. The play is one large journey for her with her cart. However, rather than just watching her move around a stage of some sort with her cart, we followed her, moving all around the basement of the warehouse. This made it a promenade piece, and made it feel as though we were part of the journey too. The warehouse itself made it seem more realistic as a place of war as it was very dilapidated inside, dark and not clean.

the trouble that caused for the family. Overall, I loved the whole idea of having the play in a warehouse which I thought was very exciting but most importantly created a great atmosphere for the play.

Ben Cawood, 5th form (year 11)

I thought that all the actors within the play gave very strong performances. There was also a lot of sign language going on and the play dealt with the problem of one of the characters being deaf and



# Crucible Theatre

On Thursday 11th October the drama department took a trip to the Crucible Theatre to see *Where we Began*. The play is a vision of the future where citizens are ordered to return to their place of birth. Five actors from across the world shared their stories about deportation in a non-naturalistic form.

The action merges into real life when the main character, Tafadzwa Muchenje, English, but raised in Zimbabwe, with no connection with his country of birth and not knowing a word of the native language, shares a heart-breaking story about his real life and deportation and the separation from his family. We see that this vision of the future isn't too unrealistic from the modern day.

Ruby Wileman, 4th form (year 10)

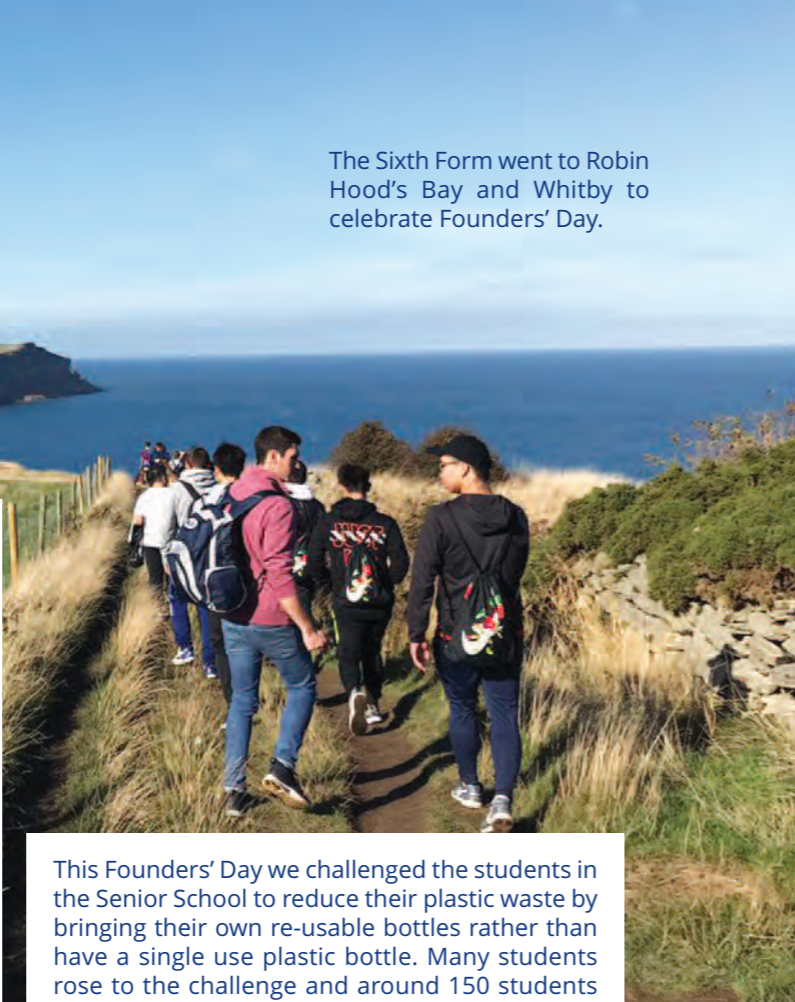
# Founders' Day

The Sixth Form went to Robin Hood's Bay and Whitby to celebrate Founders' Day.

For my final Founders' Day at Ackworth School the whole Sixth Form walked from Robin Hood's Bay to Whitby. Aside from falling over and then taking the wrong path, it really was a lovely day.

My first ever Founders' Day was in 2009, and I remember thinking how strange it was that the whole school went on a walk to celebrate the founding of the school. However, this year I thought about all the amazing memories I have from all the different Founders' Day walks, such as walking through muddy fields, laughing with my friends, witnessing a cyclist fall into a canal (we did help him out, I promise!) and spending the evening dancing and laughing with friends.

One thing from Ackworth School I will certainly remember is Founders' Day and October 18th will always bring back the memories that I made with all my friends on this day.



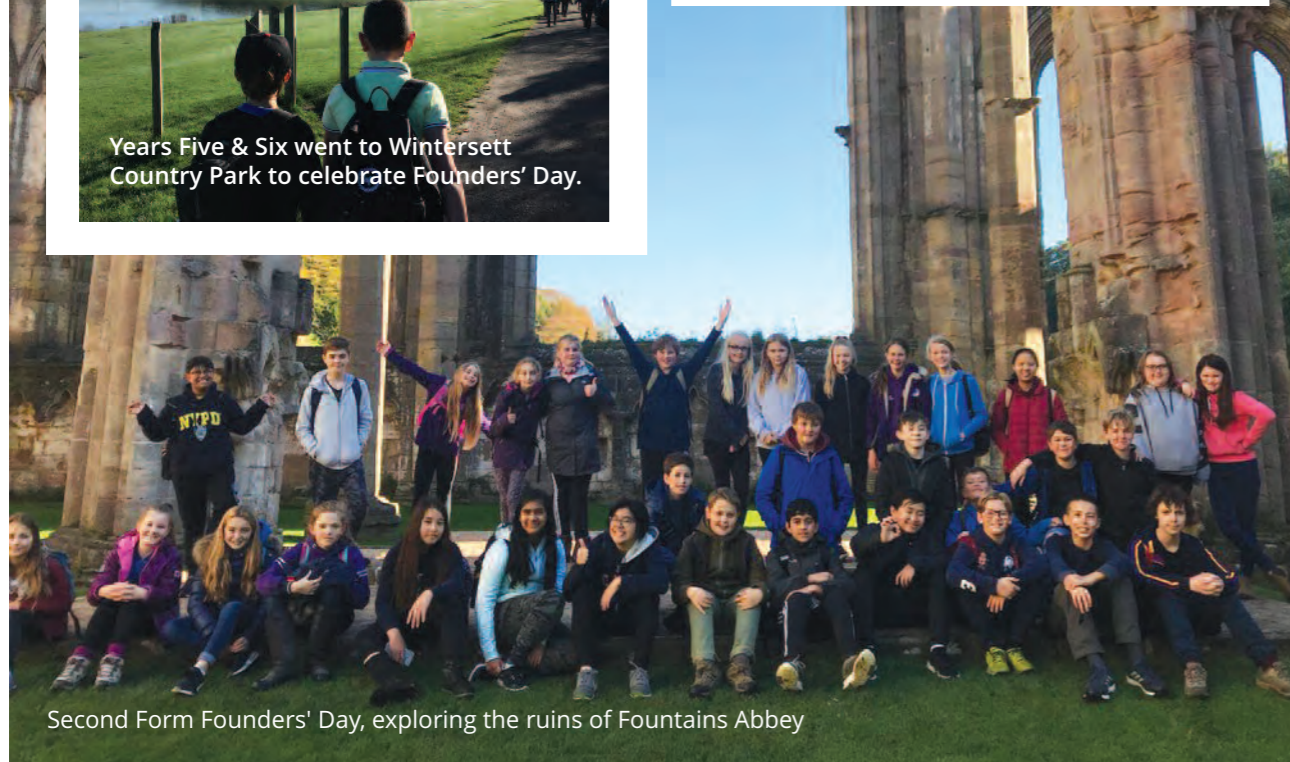
This Founders' Day we challenged the students in the Senior School to reduce their plastic waste by bringing their own re-usable bottles rather than have a single use plastic bottle. Many students rose to the challenge and around 150 students brought their own water bottles. The first year were fantastic and ALL of them had their own water bottle! Using our own bottles meant that less waste was generated by Founders' Day walks.



**Hannah Wilson, Upper 6th (year 13)**



Years Five & Six went to Winterset Country Park to celebrate Founders' Day.



Second Form Founders' Day, exploring the ruins of Fountains Abbey



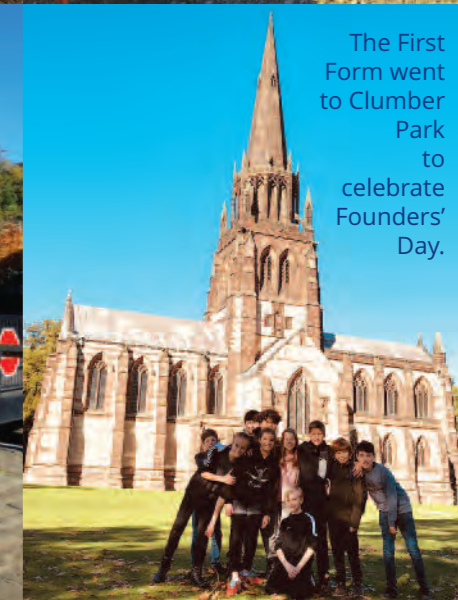
The Third Form went to Filey to celebrate Founders' Day.



Nursery went to Hemsworth Water Park to celebrate Founders' Day.



The Fifth Form went to Salts Mill to celebrate Founders' Day.



The First Form went to Clumber Park to celebrate Founders' Day.



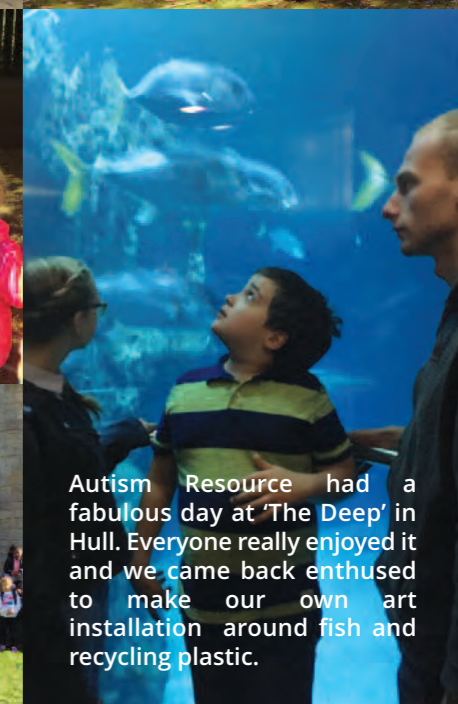
The Fourth Form went to Bolton Abbey to celebrate Founders' Day.



Reception & Years One and Two went to Temple Newsome



Years Three & Four Coram at Fountains Abbey to celebrate Founders' Day.



Autism Resource had a fabulous day at 'The Deep' in Hull. Everyone really enjoyed it and we came back enthused to make our own art installation around fish and recycling plastic.

## Art in Paris

During half term, we travelled from Wakefield to Paris on the Eurostar with Miss Rose and Mr Bootyman. We were a group of A level artists, but also some who simply enjoy and appreciate art.

We had the opportunity to explore a wide variety of exhibitions in some of the world's most renowned art galleries, such as Musée du Louvre, Musée d'Orsay, Musée d'Art Moderne and the Centre Pompidou. The Musée d'Orsay was a particular favourite of the group as the room was so incredibly ornate and featured famous artists such as Picasso and Van Gogh. With such a selection of diverse styles – from classic to cubism – the trip managed to cater for everyone.

Walking the streets of Paris was breath-taking and we had a lot of free time to do things such as buy macarons from the acclaimed Patisserie Ladurée, as well as visit the famous Galeries Lafayette. Everyone experienced a real taste of Parisian culture as we used the Metro every day, ate traditional cuisine and visited prominent monuments in the city, such as the Tour Eiffel and Montparnasse, where we got panoramic views of the city.

We will all remember this trip forever and we want to thank Miss Rose and Mr Bootyman who led the trip and made the experience the best it could be.

**Martha Hathaway and Amelia Beckwith, L6th (year 12)**



## International Centre Trip to London

“I liked Oxford Street the best. We can find everything we want in the different shops. I also like the atmosphere in London, the statue people in Covent Garden, going to Chinatown and eating hotpot. I love London.”

Earlier this term I went to London. It is a wonderful city, though the weather did not make us happy! We had umbrellas though, so it was still a nice trip. We visited some London sights and they were all great. Tower Bridge was amazing and it was a beautiful and very popular bridge. Also we had the opportunity to go on the London Eye. It is a very famous ferris wheel in England. When we went up we were able to see all of London. I loved London!

**Evelina Kalinina, 5th Form (year 11)**

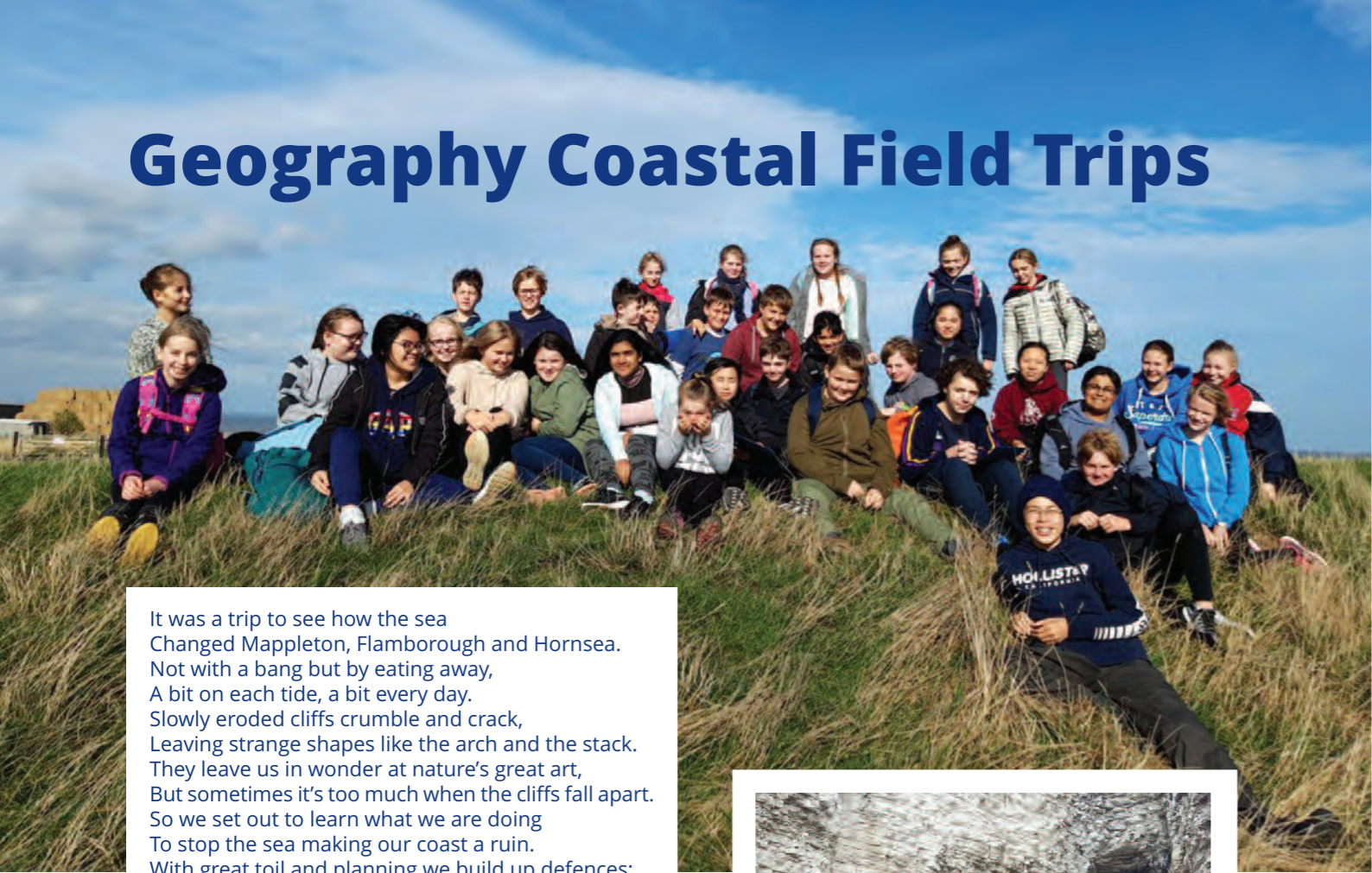
## Leeds University Visit

Recently we went to the University of Leeds with our classmates and teachers. The hosts greeted us and had prepared many interesting presentations that helped us a lot. Two students from the university took us to visit the campus. They were very friendly and enthusiastic. We learnt a lot about university life and understood how they learn, which is difficult. We saw the beautiful library where they have three million books and then visited the fitness centre (where the Chinese Olympic team trained!), a lecture theatre, a room in the halls of residence and the Students' Union. There are lots of coffee shops at the entrance that you can enjoy and we had lunch in the canteen. The food was delicious and not expensive. This was a happy day and we all liked the University of Leeds.

**By students in the International Centre**

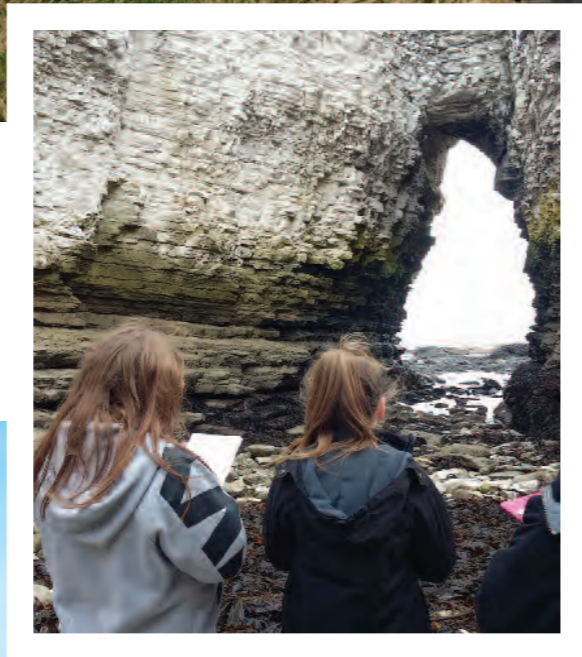


# Geography Coastal Field Trips



It was a trip to see how the sea  
 Changed Mappleton, Flamborough and Hornsea.  
 Not with a bang but by eating away,  
 A bit on each tide, a bit every day.  
 Slowly eroded cliffs crumble and crack,  
 Leaving strange shapes like the arch and the stack.  
 They leave us in wonder at nature's great art,  
 But sometimes it's too much when the cliffs fall apart.  
 So we set out to learn what we are doing  
 To stop the sea making our coast a ruin.  
 With great toil and planning we build up defences;  
 Great piles of rock and hardy wood fences.  
 We call these walls groynes and they save the day,  
 Stopping the sea washing loved homes away.

**Morgan Hunt, 2nd form (Year 8)**



## Meet Staff

# Karen Clarke says Farewell

**Who knew that Karen Clarke, one of the first faces many students meet when they arrive at the school, either Coram or the Senior School, has got her very own CD?**

For 18 years, Karen has worked at Ackworth. She became a familiar face in Coram, working there for 14 years, from August 2000 to January 2014 as the Head's Secretary. From March 1st though, Karen is saying 'farewell' to Ackworth School and retiring so that she can spend more family time with husband Ted, and dog, Bertie.

Arriving from Pontefract General Infirmary, as a Histology Secretary in the Pathology Department, Karen became the first Secretary in the Junior School, coinciding her starting work there with the opening of the new pre prep department. Karen's arrival at Coram however, was not exactly planned. "I wasn't looking for jobs at first," she said. "Someone left a copy of the Pontefract and Castleford Express in my car and I just happened to see the job advertised."

Karen tells how she remembered Ackworth School from a trip she had made from her own school, Knottingley High School, when she was 14. She had attended a choir competition at the school and had always remembered it, so when she saw the job, she thought what a nice place it might be at which to work.

"I think it was fate. I always think that things are meant to be, and I am so glad that I saw the job and applied here," she says.

In Coram, Karen's official title was Secretary to the Head, but in reality, she says, she worked for all the staff and did whatever needed to be done.

"We all worked as part of a team, and I loved working in this little team. I met parents and pupils, I dealt with correspondence, arranged meetings and many, many other things," she says.

"My favourite memories of working in Coram were the productions. We all helped out in some way and they were really enjoyable. The other thing I really liked was being the first point of contact for pupils and parents."

Since January 2014, Karen has been one of the two faces of reception in Senior School, leaving Coram when the post was changed to full time and without the school holidays. While she was sad to leave, Karen says that being able to see children that she knew from the beginning of their time in Coram,

right through to when they leave Senior School has been one of her biggest joys.

Karen, who is probably as well known for her range of brightly coloured tights, as being one of the welcoming faces in reception, gets into school just before 7.45am every morning to pick up emails and phone messages regarding absences. As the morning progresses she deals with the registers, logs who is in school and who is not, inputting details onto the databases. She chases up any absences from pupils who have not been in touch with school and throughout the day has to locate any child missing lessons. She records pupils' attendance at after school clubs, confirms the tea lists and prep lists and deals with day pupils' check out. At the same time as all this there are external coaches to book for trips and fixtures, covering reception, answering phones, dealing with visitors. The list goes on...

One little known fact about Karen Clarke however, is her ability to make up songs and sing new words to any given track.

"I used to sing the lunch menu to the finance office staff, and I used to sing from a set theme or genre each week, so it might be show tunes, 80s music, boy bands or even just songs with colours. Sometimes I'd even work on them over the weekend. The staff in the finance office knew the theme or genre each week and had to guess the song. Without my knowing it the ladies recorded me and made a CD - Now That's What I Call Lunch.

"It's the friendship, support and fun from my friends here and all the people I have worked with over the last 18 years that I will miss so much and also my interaction with the children and parents. I've been very happy here for the last 18 years. It's been the best place I've ever worked and I have so many memories that I'll take from here," she says.

Now Karen is preparing to move on and to spend more time up in the Lake District walking her dog and spending more time with her husband and children. "It will be sad. The camaraderie here has been wonderful. I'll really miss Julie in reception. We've had a lot of laughs together and a lot of support from a lot of people which helps you get through the tough times.

"I'm not a Quaker, but working in a Quaker School rubs off on you, with the ethos, and even just sitting in the Meeting House. It can be very comforting. Ackworth is a very caring place and has a lovely atmosphere. I'll miss it enormously."





## Yorkshire Sculpture Park

We visited The Yorkshire Sculpture Park. We saw many trees. Some were made of wood but some were made of metal. The sky was much bigger than in Hong Kong! Some trees had hands sticking out of them and we even saw a tree inside a tree! The exhibition in the chapel was full of string and paper. We think it was about church music coming out of the piano. It looked like a cobweb but also like a soft fog.



We walked to the lake and saw so much sheep poo, we might have nightmares about it! Sadly, we saw no sheep but we did see a white cow which was not a sculpture. We also saw some shaggy ink caps which were real toadstools but we didn't touch them just in case!

**Enoch (HK) - 3rd form (year 9) & Vova (UKRAINE) - 2nd form (year 8)**



## Scarborough



## Manchester



## Tree Trekkers

To Aerial Extreme we go,  
With our spirits filled with hope,  
Where we swung to and fro  
When grabbing on the ropes.

We were hoisted into trees,  
So we ducked and dived and weaved.  
And we could all look up and see  
An endless space of leaves.

After many obstacles to cross  
We finally came to a zip wire  
And launched ourselves right off  
The horizon, reaching higher.

**By Robyn Wickham, 5th form (year 11)**

## Duke of Edinburgh

Conditions were good for the second day of the DoE Bronze Expedition. After a cold night's camping at Slingsby, the groups trekked around part of the Howardian Hills and finished their walks at Hovingham.



# Sports Round Up

Following on from the success of last summer, the boys' tennis teams (Year 7/8 team and Year 9/10 team) participated in the county finals. It was a great day for all the boys involved and made even more special by the fact the Year 9/10 team won all their games, progressing through to the Regional Finals where the boys were narrowly beaten in the final. Well done to Max, Henry, Roman, Oliver and Ben (Year 9/10 team).

There have been a few highlights on the football front this half term. The U13s recorded an excellent 1-0 win over Bootham. For the first time in over four years we managed to field four teams on a Saturday morning, where we played at home against Oldham Hulme; this included an U13, U15 and two U18 teams. Both senior teams won their fixtures; two fantastic wins!

Hockey has started well. The boys have played a number of games and are making significant progress.

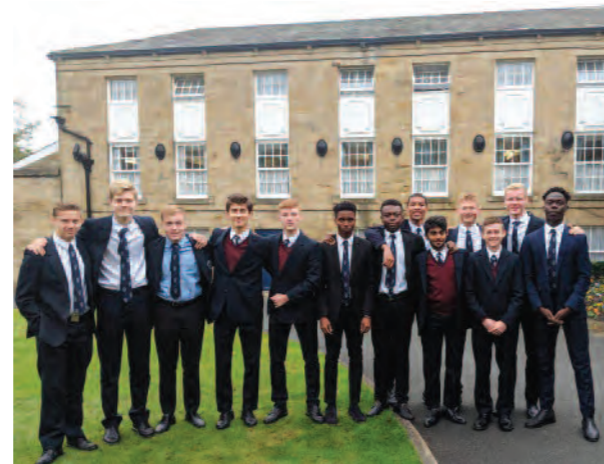
This year we have entered two teams into the National Schools Squash competition and also for the first time we have entered four teams into the National Schools Badminton competition.

It has been wonderful to see so many girls committed each week to the various clubs on offer here at school. We have certainly had a busy term with hockey fixtures, cross country fixtures and the start of our girls' football club.

On Wednesday evenings at 4pm the girls' football club has made a fantastic start. All the girls who attend are ready to learn new skills and have an eagerness to improve their tactical knowledge. The experience of the players varies and it is great to see so many happy faces playing football each week. We are getting fixtures in place so the girls can play in their first football matches and gain more experience.

Hockey is going from strength to strength. We have two hockey training nights per week and they are attended well. We have had many fixtures this term with some girls playing in all age groups. The fixtures have taken place at weekends and midweek and the commitment of the girls has been wonderful to see. It has also been fantastic to see so many parents watching and supporting the teams on a regular basis. We finished as runners up in the U14 Wakefield District Hockey Tournament - the girls played some of their best hockey this year and narrowly missed out on the title by one point. We have more district tournaments coming up and many girls making the transition to club hockey and county level which has been wonderful to see.

We held the first of the Wakefield District Cross Country events at school on 1st October, hosting 12 schools from the area. We had lots of success with runners from all age categories. We also took 16 runners to the



## Cross Country



This cross country was an exciting experience! All different years joined each other to make new friends and to share the memorable moments. Although it was nerve-racking, it was worth it. Despite it being a hard course we all completed it with smiles on our faces and we were all supported by our friends and teachers, clapping us on and cheering. We're glad we went as now we know more people and we are more confident with running.

**Molly and Ruby Mackenzie**

English Schools Cross Country event held at Woodhouse Grove. The weather was typical of that of cross country - very wet and windy. All pupils did extremely well in the conditions and gained valuable experience of a cross country team event.

Netball Club has been running throughout the term and the girls are very committed in getting ready to play the first fixtures of the school year.

## Hockey

When I started in September - my first year at Ackworth School - I started sports straight away, including hockey. I have tried not to miss a single match. On Friday 12th October, Mrs Donnelly asked me if I wanted to play in a hockey fixture. I was up for it! On Saturday at 7:30am, we set off from Ackworth School and arrived in Nottingham. Half-way through warm-up, I was called up to play.

Even though we lost, we played better in the second half.

I was the goalie and I saved about 20 shots! The most impressive goal was when the ball ricocheted inside the left post. Sadly, I didn't get that one! I was delighted to be 'man of the match'.

**Remi Clugston, 1st form (year 7)**

## Football love for Lucas

Lucas found his love for football at a young age. His dad was a coach of a local team, and at five years old Lucas was carrying the bags, helping set up, marking the pitches and even warming the players up! He clearly loved the environment and the game so it wasn't long before he was playing himself.

At five years old he was scouted by Manchester City. He had training with them three times a week, but the distance became a problem so he withdrew and opted to play locally with his friends. Whilst doing so he was also scouted by Manchester United at six years old and Blackburn Rovers and Leeds United at seven.

He was happy playing with his friends locally, but eventually joined Leeds United when he was eight, training with them on Fridays so he could still play with his friends on a Sunday and train with them through the week.

His local team were superb, full of talented young players and one day his manager arranged for them to play a game against Doncaster Rovers Academy, at Doncaster. Lucas was eight and a half years old at the time and at that age they played a 5-a-side format.

They won the game 5-1. Lucas scored two goals and his team played really well, so well in fact, that at the end of the game Doncaster signed all five players into the Academy. Lucas left Leeds United and signed a three-year contract with Doncaster, along with his five friends from the Sunday league team. The signing was a big event at Doncaster; the players were on SKY TV and were mascots for the game against Derby County. After the signing, they walked out with the players live on SKY and were introduced to the crowd at half time.

Since then Lucas has progressed through the Junior Development stages of the academy programme, training three times every week for two hours per session and playing games home and away each Sunday.

Lucas has shown great commitment and has made sacrifices over the years. He continues to work hard and



his hard work and commitment were again rewarded with a new two-year contract extension in May this year, at which point he transitioned into the Youth Development stage which is another step up and an extra three hour night at the Stadium where they have classroom learning and a gym session.

Lucas loves the whole experience, and during his time with the club he has played away at some fantastic places such as Chelsea, Tottenham, Manchester City and Leicester, during the season Leicester won the premier league.

## Success on the Slopes



"I first started skiing when I was three years old. I would go on family holidays to Meribel in France.

About three years ago my Dad started to go skiing at Snozone, Castleford, every week on a Tuesday. During the holidays I would go with him and over time I got better and better. I joined Snozone's Ski Academy and passed the gold level. I then tried for the GBX (Great British Ski/Snowboard Cross) selections. I got in and trained with them for a year and I went to Saas-Fee and Les Deux Alps. I then joined Lions Ski Race Club at Castleford and go on early Sunday mornings training for slalom. After that I go to Snozone race training.

After a while I was invited to go and train with Lions Race Team on Monday nights. Last year I went to

Pila in Italy and participated in the Artemis British Inter School Competition in Slalom and Giant Slalom where I came 11th out of 46 racers. There I was coached by Impulse Racing. As a result of that competition I have now started to train with Impulse Racing in Landgraaf and Pila. I asked the school if they wanted to enter a team for the National Schools Indoor Open Championships at Castleford. We managed to get two teams of three and won 1st and 2nd for our teams."

**Hannah Morgan, 4th form (year 10)**



## Sam Todd in Youth Olympic Games Argentina



"It was a privilege to go to Buenos Aires in Argentina for a week to showcase squash and represent Great Britain in the Youth Olympic Games. It was an honour to be the only male chosen from my country to go and participate in this event. I was able to talk to new people about squash and get them interested. I was also able to go and watch other sports and chat to people from all over the world who had come to take part in the Youth Olympics. Overall I enjoyed my time in Argentina. It was a great experience for me and I would love to do it again."

**Sam Todd, 5th Form (year 11)**

## Air Cadets

I've been in cadets just over a year and so far, I have flown a plane, spent the weekend at an RAF base, flown a glider and shot an air rifle and the new L144.

I joined cadets because I saw how much fun my brother was having and couldn't resist trying it for myself. Since joining cadets I have wanted to have a career in the RAF as an engineer.

Cadets has made me so much more



confident and I would encourage anyone in second year or above to consider joining. You can earn badges for doing things such as shooting, flying and radio. You also get to do Duke of Edinburgh when you're old enough.

You get to spend time at camps which are based at different RAF bases around the country and in other countries. I recently went for the weekend at RAF Linton-on-Ouse. Over the weekend I shot the L144 and the Air rifle. We also had a lesson on putting on the face paint in order to camouflage.

**Faith Butterfield, 2nd form (year 8)**





## WW1 Scholars

# Ernest Edwin Bradshaw

Ackworth Scholar 1907 - 1911 • Born 1893 • Died 1917

**B**orn 1893 at Stockton Heath, Cheshire, EE Bradshaw served as a 2nd Lieutenant with 'D' Battery 148th Brigade Royal Field Artillery in France.

Bradshaw joined the Inns of Court Officer Training Corps (No. 2395) on 17 December 1914 and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant on 26 April 1915. He was sent to France and Flanders on 30 November 1915 with 151st Howitzer Brigade, RAF but was invalided home shortly afterwards. He returned to France in January 1917 and was twice wounded in June 1917.

Ernest Bradshaw was killed as a result of enemy action at Wytschaete on 30 September 1917. At 10pm some camouflage on the gun pits caught fire from an enemy shell or bomb and three of the officers, including 2nd Lt Bradshaw, tried to put out the fire. Some ammunition was nearby and the officers were cutting away the burning camouflage materials. A large explosion killed all three officers and a sergeant. Bradshaw is buried in Kemmel Chateau Military Cemetery in Belgium.



# Frank Priestman Lees

Ackworth Scholar 1902 - 1905 • Born 1890 • Died 1916



**F**rank Priestman Lees was born in Workington, Cumberland in 1890. He was a scholar at Ackworth from 1902 to 1905 and reportedly did very well.

At the outbreak of the Great War, Lees was a supervisor at West's Gas Improvement Company Ltd in Manchester. He immediately joined the 16th Royal Northumberland Fusiliers (1st Commercials) at Newcastle. In April 1915, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant with the 4th Battalion and was sent to France in July 1915.

Whilst on duty in the trenches near Kemmel, Belgium, aged just 26, Frank Lees was killed by shrapnel from an exploding shell on 17 June 1916. He is buried behind the trenches at La Laterie Military Cemetery. He had been on home leave just a fortnight before.



# Walter Messer

Ackworth Scholar 1908 - 1911 • Born 1895 • Died 1915

**W**alter Messer was born 1895 in Lemington, near Newcastle. After leaving school Messer went to Edinburgh University.

Following the outbreak of war, he volunteered for the Friends' Ambulance Unit, along with his brother Andrew. His job was to drive ambulances as near to the front line as permitted by the military authorities and to collect the wounded before taking them to the nearest dressing station or field hospital.

Walter Messer was killed by an aeroplane bomb on 28 November 1915, aged 20. He had just started his ambulance and was walking round to the driver's seat when the bomb exploded, killing him instantly. He is buried in Malo-les-Bains communal cemetery near Dunkirk.



# George Smailes

Ackworth Scholar 1907 - 1910 • Born 1894 • Died 1916

**G**eorge Smailes was born in Whitby in 1894. He was a scholar at Ackworth School from 1907 - 1910.

Smailes served in the Prince of Wales' Own, West Yorkshire Regiment as a 2nd Lieutenant. Smailes was sent to France on 20 March 1916 with his regiment. He died in France on 22 October 1916 aged 22 and he is commemorated on the Memorial to the missing, Thiepval.



# 'We Will Remember Them'

On Monday 12th November Ackworth School held a remembrance gathering in order to commemorate the lives of those who joined the world wars and in particular the Old Scholars of Ackworth School.



"I felt that the 100-year anniversary really moved many people, especially the reading of the names of those who died. These names were read out and there were no sounds but the echoing of the names as they bounced around the room.

**Max Cooper, third form (year 9)**

"Five hundred people sitting in an open Meeting House in complete silence. One by one 76 people stood up reading out the old scholars' names who died in the war. The experience was nerve-racking but touched people's hearts. The experience was breath-taking and one I'll never forget."

**Darcey Ducker, third form (year 9)**

"I found our remembrance service quite moving and emotional. I felt like part of a community as I could see the thoughtful faces and how it affected each person differently in the Meeting House.

When so many people stood up to symbolise the old scholars who died in the war it really emphasised how much it affected our school. As I stood up to represent Ernest Stephenson I really felt like I was in his position – putting myself forward. As I sang in the choir I thought about the lyrics 'Abide with Me' and how they are so moving."

**Emily Sanderson, third form (year 9)**

"The soldiers who lost their today gave us our tomorrow."

**Lucy Roche, third form (year 9)**

"The loud silence was broken by voices: voices which read out names of voices which were broken by war. Light came in through the windows which were once blackened out. It was incredibly moving to be part of this meeting to honour those killed in those four years one hundred years ago."

**Grace Dibb, third form (year 9)**

## Life in Sharm

**O**mar was right. His friend's new dive shop in Old Market is a little gem. Reasonably priced, good quality stuff and even more reasonably priced if you mention that you are a friend of Omar. I expect that he is going to find that he has lots of new friends now! When I arrived at the shop for the first time, I thought that I had picked a bad time.

Keemo and his staff were having their evening meal. But this is Egypt. If you are eating and someone else comes along, even if they are total strangers, you invite them to join you. Soon I was seated with them, eating chicken and rice by scooping up the food (not very successfully in my case) in bits of flat, unleavened bread. They made it look so easy. The meal will always stick in my mind, not just because it was so tasty and unexpected, but because of events which took place a few days later.

Where I live in Sharm-El-Sheikh, I have the Coptic Church on one side of me, and the Mosque on the other side; but there is only one community. To a Londoner, the pace of life here can seem rather slow. Indeed an Egyptian minute can sometimes last an hour or more, but the climate here is not conducive to rushing around. A sense of humour is essential. If the street seller's banter is getting you down, you can politely say "No thank you". You can completely ignore them or you can join in the fun.

A few days after my meal at the dive shop, I found myself guiding on a boat called Wasser. All was going well until the time to collect the lunch/drinks money arrived. Despite being asked in advance to bring along some Egyptian money, the Italians often bring euros, the Russians always have dollars and yes, we also get English money. It can get very messy. On this particular day, the crew told me that they had spotted the eight year-old English boy, helping himself to a small cup of Pepsi Cola. They demanded that I collect thirty Egyptian pounds (the cost of the drinks package for the day) from his parents. I know that their wages are low and so every penny counts and strictly speaking they were within their rights. So with great reluctance, I asked the boy's parents for the money. They didn't make a fuss, but they only had English money. The crew did make a fuss - they wanted to argue with me about the exchange rate. At that point I told the crew that they had blown it. I wasn't going to waste any more time. The matter was closed, but even as I got off the boat at the jetty, they were still droning on about it. To his credit, the skipper did not call my boss. If he had done so I would have been in trouble, as it states in the staff manual that at the first sign of any dispute you should contact your manager, and he/she will deal with it. When you are sitting in your air-conditioned office, writing a rulebook, this makes perfect sense. When you are a dive guide, you still have

the third dive to do, and you are running out of time and you know that if you miss your allocated jetty time, the harbour police can really spoil your day. Sometimes you have to take the initiative.

Which boat do you think they put me on for the following day? You guessed it: Wasser! Unfortunately, this gave me an idea. The food on dive boats is usually very good. I wouldn't dream of taking a packed lunch on board under normal circumstances, but I wanted to make a point to the crew, mainly that I was fed up with them. We got through the morning with no problems, and I had already made it clear to my colleagues that today, someone else could collect the lunch/drinks money. After the second dive, the boat moored up and the guests went into the cabin to get their lunch. At this point I made my way up to the sun deck to eat my packed lunch. Most of the guests stayed below, but after a few minutes I was surprised to see the chef coming up the stairs. I was even more surprised when he sat down right next to me. Then it dawned on me: I was eating; he was not. I felt obliged to offer him some of my food, an offer he enthusiastically took up. I have never seen anyone appear to enjoy a bog standard cheese sandwich quite so much! I had to admire him. What a smart move! We both had wry smiles on our faces. He had taught me a lesson. NEVER BEAR A GRUDGE!

**David Robinson  
(Old Scholar)**



# Obituary

After a long illness Angela Dale died on 17th May 2018. Angela was born in Nottinghamshire to James and Nora Dale and had many fond memories of growing up on their farm as the eldest sister to Rosemary, Carol, and Heather. She attended Ackworth School between 1949 and 1955. It was here she met Keith Daniel whom she subsequently married. After training at the Ilkley College of Housecraft she went on to teach domestic science. Angela and Keith have two daughters, Karen and Clare.



Angela was talented in so many ways and yet she was always self-effacing about this; her paintings were amazing; her embroideries beautiful; her sewing perfect and her cooking delicious. Many have commented on her dry and quick-witted sense of humour and her elegance, grace and resilience. They shone through, even during the difficult times. Angela ensured she made the most of life, in particular embracing as much as she could over the last few years. Angela was a much loved mum, sister, grandmother, aunt, friend and friend who contributed so much to so many. She will never be forgotten.

Janet Blann

## PSA Flower Arranging



## 100th Birthday

Recently I attended the 100th birthday party of Old Scholar Leslie Steed. Leslie was at school with my father. They later both served in the Friends' Ambulance Unit together during the war and ended up in the same Quaker Sheltered Housing in Bourneville Birmingham, with another of their School mates! Still mischievous boys together! Leslie is the only one of them left and still in excellent health!

Janet Blann



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# Old Scholars Founders' Day



Ackworth Old Scholars along the Hampshire & Dorset coast met up to celebrate Founders' Day. We met up at noon in the New Milton Quaker Meeting House. Pictured are: Geoff Walters,

Margaret Matthews, Karen Housden, Robert Vincent, Angela Dale, Michael and Thomas Hargreave, Judith Vincent, Belinda Walters and Alan Wiltshire.



Twenty five Ackworth Old Scholars and friends celebrated Founders' Day in the usual way with a Bangers and Mash lunch at Norfolk Cottage, Staintondale on 20th October 2018. We were delighted to welcome The Head of Ackworth and his wife, Anton and Alison Maree, on their first visit to Norfolk. After lunch we enjoyed hearing from Anton about *Ackworth Today* and the many things currently going on in school including areas of refurbishment, updating the rather old pianos and the recent ISI visit as well as the ways Old Scholars can keep in touch using the School's new system, Graduway. Fortunately, the weather was nice enough to have a photograph of everyone present taken in the garden.

Annabel McRobert

## East Coast Guild

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# Fiona Wood



Old Scholar, Prof. Dr Fiona Wood, visited the school to talk about her experiences from her school days to being one of the world's most innovative and respected surgeons and researchers. **Full report in the Spring Term edition of Ackworth Today.**

## Hogwarts Halloween



## Spring Term at a Glance

### School Events

#### January

- 7 Term Begins
- 7 5th & U6th Mock Exam Week
- 17 U6 Parent-Staff Meeting 6:30-8pm
- 25 5th Form Parent-Staff Meeting 4:15-5:45
- 26 PSA Winter Ball
- 30 6th Form Open Evening 7pm

#### February

- 5 GCSE Options Evening 7pm
- 18-22 Half Term

#### March

- 6 L6 Parent-Staff Meeting 6:30-8pm
- 11 3rd Form Parent-Staff Meeting 6:30-8pm
- 28 4th Form Parent-Staff Meeting 6:30-8pm

#### April

- 4 Easter Concert 7pm
- 5 Term Ends

## Coram House

#### January

- 12 Y7 entrance tests

#### March

- 15 Interim reports published
- 15-16 Y3 / 4 Residential Trip to Carlton Lodge
- 21 Optional parents' evening

#### April

- 5-7 Y5 / 6 Residential Trip to London



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