



Ackworth TODAY

SPRING 2019 | VOL. 05 | ISSUE 05

Save
the date:
Ackworth
Summer Ball
Saturday
6 July 2019

Ackworth is now an All-Steinway School



CROSS COUNTRY

Highlights of the school run with all age groups taking part

SWIMMING WIN

Raygen Parkin - best swimmer for her age in the district





MAKING SENSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Head

Anton Maree

In this issue Anton Maree discusses education technology and how Ackworth School will enhance learning through its use without replacing the teacher.

Education technology is advancing at a frightening rate. Change is constant and keeping up with change is very expensive. Schools have to prepare pupils for an evolving world and technology will play an increasing part in that world. Ackworth School wishes to capitalise upon the learning potential available to pupils and teachers through digital technology.

Getting the balance right is critical. The teacher is still the most important precipitator of learning. Digital Learning helps to enhance learning and must not replace the teacher, but can keep teaching relevant and exciting. This is the guideline we will adhere to as we increase our use of educational technology at our school.

In October 2018 I was fortunate to be able to visit five schools in China. The state has funded the best Digital Learning technology available with touch screens in every classroom and science laboratories equipped with the latest spectrometers and analytical equipment. It was eye-opening to see this and to find out that it was the norm as China prepared its citizens for a modern world.

I was most impressed with a touch screen at Nanjing Foreign Language School that allowed teachers to use chalk on the screen without damaging it, as well as the use of holograms in several classrooms.

The Geography classroom had electronic maps built into the walls and roof and a rotating globe in the centre of the classroom. I also liked the conference facilities with built in video technology that zooms in on whoever is speaking.

In China most pupils carry tablets to school instead of textbooks and expect to use them during lessons. The use of this technology is constant and has, to most intents and purposes, replaced pen and paper, although written exercises are still required because examinations depend upon this capability.

Development across areas like communications, travel and computing during the twentieth century and early twenty first century have made us used to change but we would all agree that technology that requires updating within three years because of the rate at which software advances, was never something we were prepared for.

Throughout this time what hasn't changed is still relevant today and will be in the future: communication, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and initiative, as well as mental elasticity and complex problem solving.

These elements must remain our focus, together with our values which help pupils to understand their place in a complicated world.

A three-year-old PC or laptop is probably too slow to cope with the latest demands made of it. So what does a school do to keep pace with it all? Most schools either purchase the equipment they need or contract the equipment for three or four years. We will do whatever is the most cost effective.

We will proceed carefully making sure that pupils make efficient and appropriate use of all ICT equipment and will also take into consideration the need for equality in terms of access to digital facilities and the health and safety issues related to digital learning.

We already have pupils using tablets; some even already have their textbooks on their tablets. It costs 50 per cent of a printed version. They use their tablets to do their work in class and for prep and then email their completed work to teachers. This is becoming more and more prevalent and is happening organically.

A school that is helping us to achieve our objectives has told us that they saved one million photocopies last year. This is worth thinking about! We want to be a sustainable school and educational technology can help us to achieve this. They have TVs in every classroom with Apple TV fitted to them and teachers and pupils have iPads. Apps make easy access to incredible information.

We have the opportunity to learn from the examples of schools that have developed their Digital Learning technology, made mistakes and found the answer. What will be important for us as we evolve is measuring and evaluating pupil progression.

We are in touch with these schools, visiting them, meeting with providers to discuss procurement and talking to our pupils and teachers to make sure that we do the right thing for Ackworth School.

End of Term Round Up



End of term Christmas dinner and tea for Ackworth's Senior Citizens hosted by kitchen staff and students of the school

Senior Citizens' Dinner and Tea



Bake Off

Woolman was the winner in this year's Inter House Bake Off with the team consisting of Ben Cawood, 5th form, (year 11) and Filip Popovic, L6th (year 12)

"It was a great experience taking part in the Great Ackworth Bake Off once again. This year's challenge was one I very much enjoyed: it was to bake a celebration cake that was no more than 30cm. Rising to the challenge we designed a lemon, lime and orange checkerboard cake. To construct the cake, we made six cakes, two of each flavour that were coloured in three colours (green, yellow and orange) to match the flavours. We then cut them out to make a checkerboard. To mix British and Serbian cultures, we designed the outside of the cake in traditional Serbian caramel wafers and it created a very interesting effect. The whole day was a very enjoyable experience and I am looking forward to next year and to find out what the next challenge will be."

Ben Cawood, 5th form (year 11)



Halloween

Girls' School House Halloween party



Fothergill Quiz



Boys' School House Christmas party



Festive wreath making



Christmas Parties & Wreaths

Nursery Christmas Party

Prof. Dr Fiona Wood Visit

Highest Scholar 1975 & Australian of the Year 2005

One of my favourite things about Ackworth is the wide range of opportunities offered to us on a daily basis. An example of this is a fascinating talk I had the privilege to attend, delivered by Dr Fiona Wood.

Dr Fiona Wood is a British-born plastic surgeon working in Perth, Western Australia. She is the director of the Royal Perth Hospital Burns Unit at the Western Australia Burns Service. She helps with reconstruction after people have experienced severe burns.

Fiona explained to us that being severely burnt is not only incredibly painful, but also incredibly traumatic mentally. Understandably people who have these

afflictions can be left with massive scars and permanent alterations to their body, which can critically affect their confidence. By performing plastic surgery on these people, Fiona can restore their confidence and give them a new lease of life – this in itself is incredibly uplifting.

What makes Fiona an even more remarkable person is the fact that she has managed to overcome many hurdles and obstacles. She was a tremendous inspiration to all the young people she spoke to.

Evelyn Salter, 3rd form (year 9)



B@B

A recent business@breakfast featured the Director of Ackworth School's Football Academy, Jamie Fullarton, speaking on 'Opportunities'. Business@breakfast is held every half term and enables local businesses and Ackworth School parents to network, enjoy breakfast and listen to informative and entertaining speakers. If you would like to know more about business@breakfast please contact michael.atkins@ackworthschool.com

Nursery

Nursery News



Chinese New Year

We have been celebrating Chinese New Year and have had a lovely visit from Miss Hodge. She helped us celebrate Chinese New Year by making a Chinese-inspired fruit salad with us.



We have been delighted to welcome four new friends since the beginning of the spring term and are currently awaiting the imminent arrival of several more.

Nursery have been learning all about the 'Jungle' this term. As well as this, Mr Crocodile has needed some teeth! The nursery children have been busy adding teeth and counting how many.

For Valentine's Day, we have been making cards using different types of materials to glue and stick on. We have also been exploring pattern using shapes this half term.



Coram House News

Raygen wins at Swimming

Raygen Parkin is a student in Year 6 at Coram House who has a keen extra-curricular interest in swimming, has become best for her age in the district and has qualified for a speeding ticket in the pool!

How did you develop an interest in swimming?

I started swimming at a young age with my mum and found out that I really liked it so I joined a club at St Wilfrid's.

How did your swimming skills develop after you joined your swimming club?

Well, I completed the swimming club at St Wilfrid's, then I went on to join Marlins at Minsthorpe School for a year. I trained twice a week mainly, but sometimes more.

Were you nervous for your first ever competition?

I was really nervous to begin with. I started in Group C at Marlins but quickly moved into Group A. After the first competitions, we started competing with different clubs such as Doncaster and Scarborough.

How did you qualify to move groups so quickly?

I was the best for my age so that's why I was able to move groups so soon. I then started competing with people four years older than me.

What are your preferred swimming styles?

I usually swim breast stroke and front crawl.

What is your most recent achievement?

I recently competed in a swimming gala and I won a Speeding Ticket for a 50m breast stroke. I have another competition coming up which is the 100m.

Do you like it when your parents come and support you in your competitions?

Yes, I like it when they come; it can sometimes be pressuring but I love the encouragement.

What would you like to be after you've left school?

I would like to be an Olympic swimmer in the future.



Young Leaders Award Launch

This year's Young Leaders Award (YLA) was launched at Coram House on Wednesday 23rd January 2019. The Young Leaders Award is a unique active citizenship programme which empowers young people to make a difference in their local community whilst growing in key leadership skills at the same time.

The year six pupils are taking part in this Award with the aim of becoming the change they want to see in the local community. This is achieved through a number of interactive lessons, practical challenges and community projects; our children will be involved in serving our local community and making a difference.

Following on from the launch there will be opportunities for parents, family members and the local community to be involved in a community action project that will take place later in the year.

Once successfully completed, the children will receive their Young Leaders Award certificate at the awards ceremony later in the year. We can't wait to find out more about the community project!



Playtimes



The School Officers have had an idea to improve our playtimes. The PSA awarded the School Officers some money so that we could buy some new equipment. We asked the Prep children about the sorts of equipment and games they would like and then worked together as School Officers to research what we could order. We picked the most requested and popular items, as well as the safest, for example new balls, nets, skipping ropes, and posts. We then presented our work in assembly to the whole school – we hope everyone will be excited with the new equipment, and that we all look after it.

Ruby Canton-Heilos and Ottilia Broadbent,
Year 6

STEM Club

What we enjoy about STEM Club

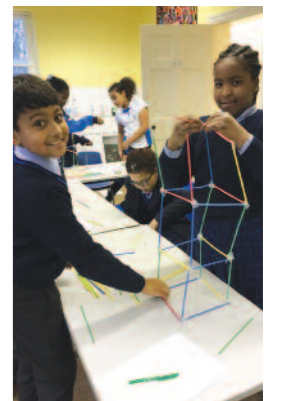
We enjoy all the fun experiments that we do in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Club because we are able to have fun whilst learning new types of things. We also really enjoy the competitions that we have, like whose helicopter was the quickest and whose was the slowest?

What we learn in STEM Club

We learn a lot of different subjects in STEM Club like architecture, because one of the challenges we did was to build the tallest skyscraper we could create out of paper art straws and sticky tape. We also tested the best design for our balloon rockets and looked at how to reduce friction using washing up liquid.

The best things in STEM Club

We really enjoy STEM Club because we can spend more time with our friends and develop our skills in teamwork. We have lots of fun making cool things and testing our ideas. At the end of the session we have a little competition to test our designs. Our favourite activity so far has been the tallest tower challenge and which helicopter design can fly for the longest?



Persia Robinson-Johnson and Zachary Quinlan,
Year 4

Lego Club

Lego Club took on the challenge of building Mio this half term. Delivered by Mr Maree and coming all the way from China, the robot dog was given to Lego Club in assembly and the children couldn't wait to take on this project. Each week the children have taken it in turns to build the next step of Mio, completing it with the optional additions too. This has been a very popular and enjoyable project for Lego Club, so much so that they have asked Mr Maree for more!

Chinese New Year

On Wednesday 6 February, students from the Senior School's 6th Form and International Centre prepared a presentation and activities to teach the Reception children about how they celebrate Chinese New Year in their home countries. In the session the children created paper lanterns, dragon puppets, pig masks and learnt how to write greetings in Chinese. The Reception children loved learning with the older students and couldn't believe their luck when they received a red envelope with money in it at the end of the lesson.



Baking Club

Baking Club has taken off this half term and the children have made some delicious creations. From banoffee pie to chocolate truffles, Baking Club has involved lots of new skills and challenges for its members which they have taken on gladly. A firm favourite this half term was making pizzas, for which we used a mini pizza oven to bake them to perfection. We look forward to seeing what tasty treats next half term will bring!



Presentations



Lots of informative and creative presentations by Year 6 on medical advancements since 1900

Cross Country



Well done to our amazing year 4 and 5 cross country teams who were in action at the Grammar School at Leeds Cross Country event. Our year 5s finished 4th out of the 7 teams taking part, and our year 4 team was crowned champions - an amazing performance, given half of the team was from year 3. Individually both David Swales (3rd in Year 4 boys' race) and Isla Ball (2nd in Year 4 girls' race) ran superbly to win medals in their races.

"The course was really tough with a long steep hill, some slippery forest sections and a killer uphill finish. We were really proud to win our individual medals and crowned overall year 4 team champions. We are looking forward to going back for the team event in March."

David Swales and Isla Ball, Year 4

Swimming

Coram once again welcomed Sandal Castle to our pool for what turned out to be a fantastic display of competitive swimming from both teams. 'We swam really well and so did the other team. I took part in the individual front crawl, breast stroke relay, medley relay and freestyle relay. Our U9s and U11s groups won their races, and Sandal Castle won the U10s group. The overall scores were Coram 167 - Sandal Castle 125.'

Verity Metcalfe, Year 4

Biathlon

Well done to Ashton Coulson, who has qualified for the 2019 British Schools Modern Biathlon Championships in London.



London & Parliament Trip



We left on the trip to Parliament on the snowiest day forecast for months. We took in the Natural History Museum before our tour of Parliament. It was certainly a day for making future memories as well as connecting with the past. I was

overwhelmed to see statues of characters from my A Level History course, particularly John Hampton. It was a day of enlightenment and joy.

Jason Lok, U6th (year 13)

Maths Challenge

On 7 February it was the turn of the 3rd, 4th and 5th form students to sit their Maths Challenge. As many as 48 students were brave enough to do so and 20 of them were awarded certificates for scoring in the top 40 per cent of all entrants nationally. This year's was a particularly tricky paper, but Oliver Foster scored highly, qualifying for the extension challenge in March. Both he and Eleanor Morris were awarded Gold Certificates, whilst Silver awards went to Josh Dawson, Izaak Brindle, Rachel Swales, Femi Welch, Jason Jiang, Rhys Wickham, Alex Watson and Alvin Yeung. Bronze recipients were Jasmine Walker, Ruby Chan, Matthew Holliday, Alice Hemeury, Harry Dean, Harry Pearce, Ruby Wileman, Harriet Greenwood, Krystof Klodner and Faris Kourshid.

Congratulations to everyone who participated, and we look forward to seeing how the 1st and 2nd form mathematicians get on with the Junior challenge immediately after the Easter holidays.

Susan Swales

History

The 1st Form were fabulous this afternoon re-enacting events after the Battle of Hastings.



English: Poetry Day



In January, the English Department took 5th form students studying English Literature to Leeds Town Hall for the GCSE Poetry Live! Revision Day. Many other schools were in attendance, and the event lasted from 10.30am to 3pm.

The experience was very helpful, as for our English Literature GCSE we are required to learn about a selection of poems by different authors, in order to answer a theme-based question and compare one poem in our exam with one from memory.

The authors read their poems aloud, and explained the circumstances in which they wrote the poem, to help us with context in our exam.

Also at the event, was a senior examiner from AQA (the Exam Board) who made clear what content we needed in our answers, where we would gain credit, and how to work efficiently in the exam without wasting time on questions with low reward. The Revision Day was very insightful, and gave us invaluable knowledge for our exams.

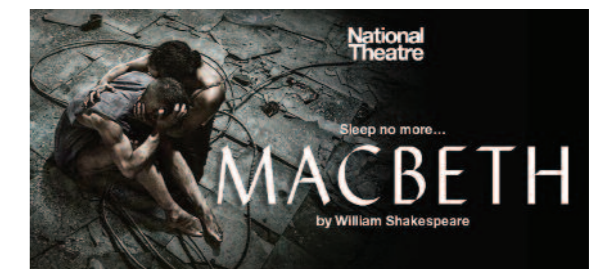
Oliver Foster, 5th form (year 11)

Macbeth

On Wednesday 6 February, there was a *Macbeth* production that our year went to watch, enjoy and learn much from for our GCSEs.

The set caught my eyes straight away before the performance began, as it had a diagonal rocky platform in the centre, which moved during the performance to help create each individual scene. Lighting also did this, differentiating the dusky day from the artificial light inside a house, and a light fell on Macbeth during his soliloquies to show the internal monologue of struggles happening inside the character.

The play was an interesting adaptation of *Macbeth*, taking place in a futuristic apocalyptic world, the costumes of the characters clearly representing that it was not taking place in the Shakespearian era. Because of this, there were many scenes portrayed in a different way from



how they may have first been imagined, such as the rave party for King Duncan. There were other differences that set it apart, like the Thane of Ross who was played by a strong and brave woman instead of by a man.

Overall, it was an adaptation that made us comprehend the text differently, which will help us later on for showing multiple interpretations in our exams. It was an unusual, but unique way of showing the story of *Macbeth*.

Robyn Wickham, 5th form (year 11)

Life Drawing

Earlier this term, the 6th form art students went to the Hepworth Gallery in Wakefield, to participate in a life drawing class. This involved sketching a life model - to begin with, clothed around the gallery - then nude in a section of the gallery away from the public. We were all expecting a female model, so you can imagine our surprise when our model was a male! We learned some important skills on perspective, and measuring proportions with a pencil, and though a little embarrassing at first, the whole experience was extremely useful and has given us tools which we will be able to carry forward and make use of in our A level work.

Lauren Nixon L6th (year 12)



Shed Court Autism Unit

Some excellent edited photographs produced in Shed Court. Well done, Jack!

Christmas Card Success

I designed my own Autism themed Christmas cards for the Shed Court stall at the Christmas Fair. I am so happy to say that they sold out within the hour. Parents and staff, including Mr Maree, helped me raise £150.40 for NAS. Thank you for your support.

Ross, Autism Unit



Geography

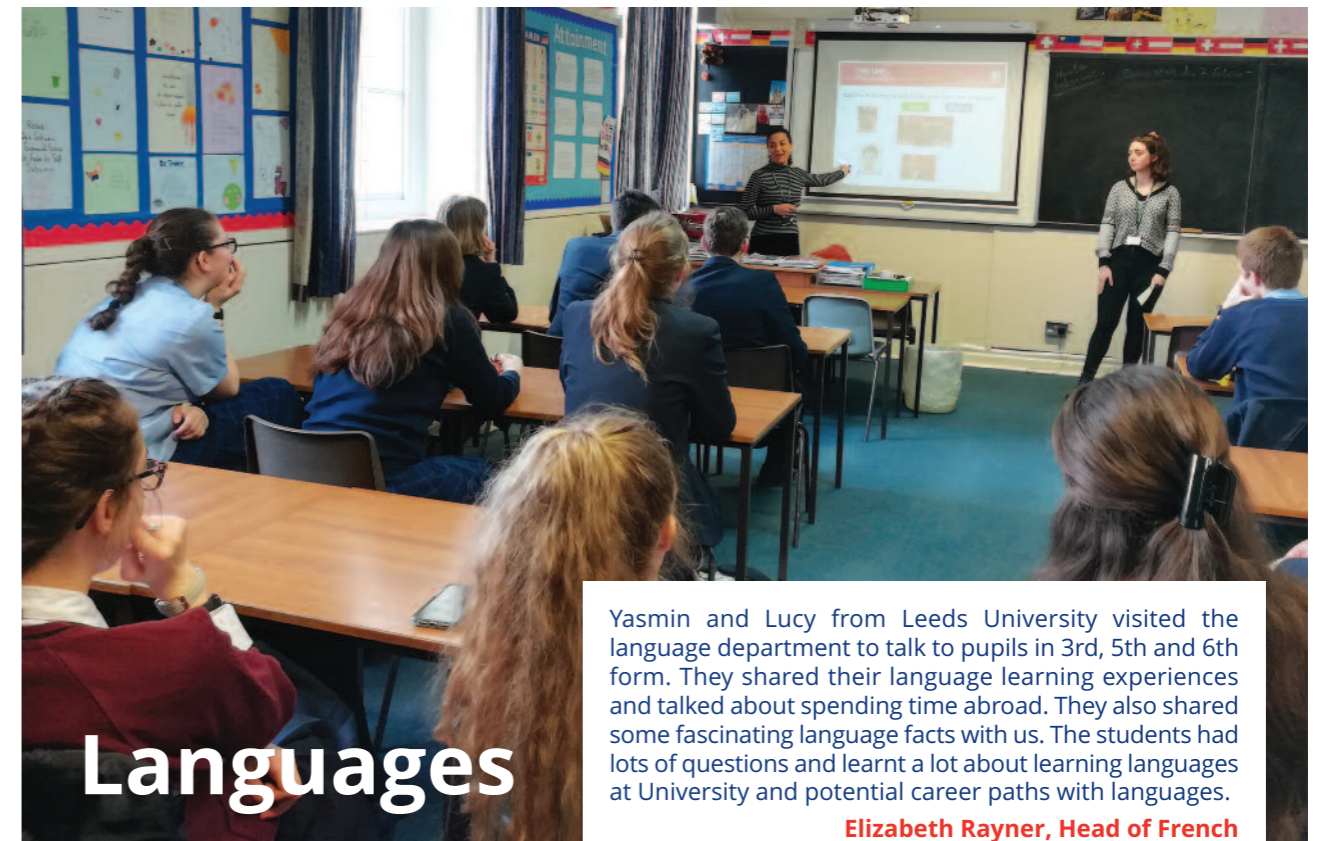
L6th exploring Hull, looking at rebranding around the city and the impact of the City of Culture.



Art Techniques



1st form Art - learning about Impressionism and plein air painting!



Languages

Yasmin and Lucy from Leeds University visited the language department to talk to pupils in 3rd, 5th and 6th form. They shared their language learning experiences and talked about spending time abroad. They also shared some fascinating language facts with us. The students had lots of questions and learnt a lot about learning languages at University and potential career paths with languages.

Elizabeth Rayner, Head of French

Music



Ackworth School is now an All-Steinway School

This January saw Ackworth School become an All-Steinway School. A concert was held at the school with all ten pianos being delivered into the Meeting House with the whole school present. Our Director of Music, Daniel Marks, composed a piece for 10 pianos together and the concert also featured performances from students, former staff and an old scholar.



The Day of the Steinways

To the Meeting House I went on Wednesday morning
To find a musical experience to have a go exploring,
Where the pianos were unboxed and were unravelled,
After seeing the van outside in which they had travelled.

The pianos were arranged and dusted down,
And we all stood there with the pianos all around,
And what was a better way to start off the day
Than to hear Mr Marks Chopining away.

Our year enjoyed playing our different songs,
And played pieces to hum and sing along.
The first years were soon to arrive here
Practising 'Pachelbel's Canon' for us all to hear.

By this time, we could now go to have break,
But I stayed there with the pianos – it was great!
So I started playing 'Everything I do',
And Mr Marks came in and joined in too.

The 10 piano-piece was then rehearsed,
And then the solo pieces were all heard.
We were all ready for the concert now,
Trained in how to do a presentable bow.

The concert was very soon to fall on us
As we heard the murmuring audience buzz,
And rounds of applause were received highly
As we were recorded to stream lively.

And as the Music Centre was silent with no sound,
There was still some more excitement to go around.
The pianos were moved and we set the keyboards up,
And finally the day had rounded up.

Robyn Wickham, 5th form (year 11)

THE BEATLES

Music Trip

January saw the Music Department visit the Beatles Story Museum in Liverpool. GCSE Music students found this to be an enriching experience and really developed their knowledge of the Beatles.

Jazz Club

Jazz Club had a lovely evening at St Aidan's jazz evening.



Xinyuan Wang piano recital

In February, we hosted Xinyuan Wang for a piano recital and masterclass. Xinyuan recently appeared as a finalist in the 19th Leeds International Piano Competition and won both the 3rd Prize and the medici.tv Audience Award. Warmly received throughout the competition, Xinyuan was a very popular competitor with audiences, exhibiting his friendly personality, passion and virtuosity. He returned to Yorkshire for the first time to perform a programme of works which were close to his heart in a piano recital and masterclass. His recital was inspirational and his masterclass was observed with interest by students, staff and over 50 local primary school students.

"This concert inspired me in many ways. The pianist showed me what I could achieve if I work hard. I greatly enjoyed watching and listening to him using his extensive skills to play the music pieces. I was moved by his emotions. The masterclass was really helpful. I learned how to attack my mistakes and overall improve my performance. It was such a unique experience getting comments from a great pianist."

Yanie Chomsin, 4th form (year 10)

"I was inspired by Xinyuan's recital and it was a wonderful opportunity to meet Dame Fanny Waterman who attended."

Tom Wilks, U6th (year 13)



Whistle Down the Wind

The school production this year was 'Whistle Down The Wind'. We performed the National Youth Music Theatre's version of the musical which is gripping and dramatic with a beautiful and challenging music score.

The auditions were held in September 2018, and I was fortunate enough to be playing the role of Cathy. Then followed many rehearsals to get this show on its feet! There was a great cast and dedicated director and team, with a special mention to the orchestra, who all helped make the show a great success.

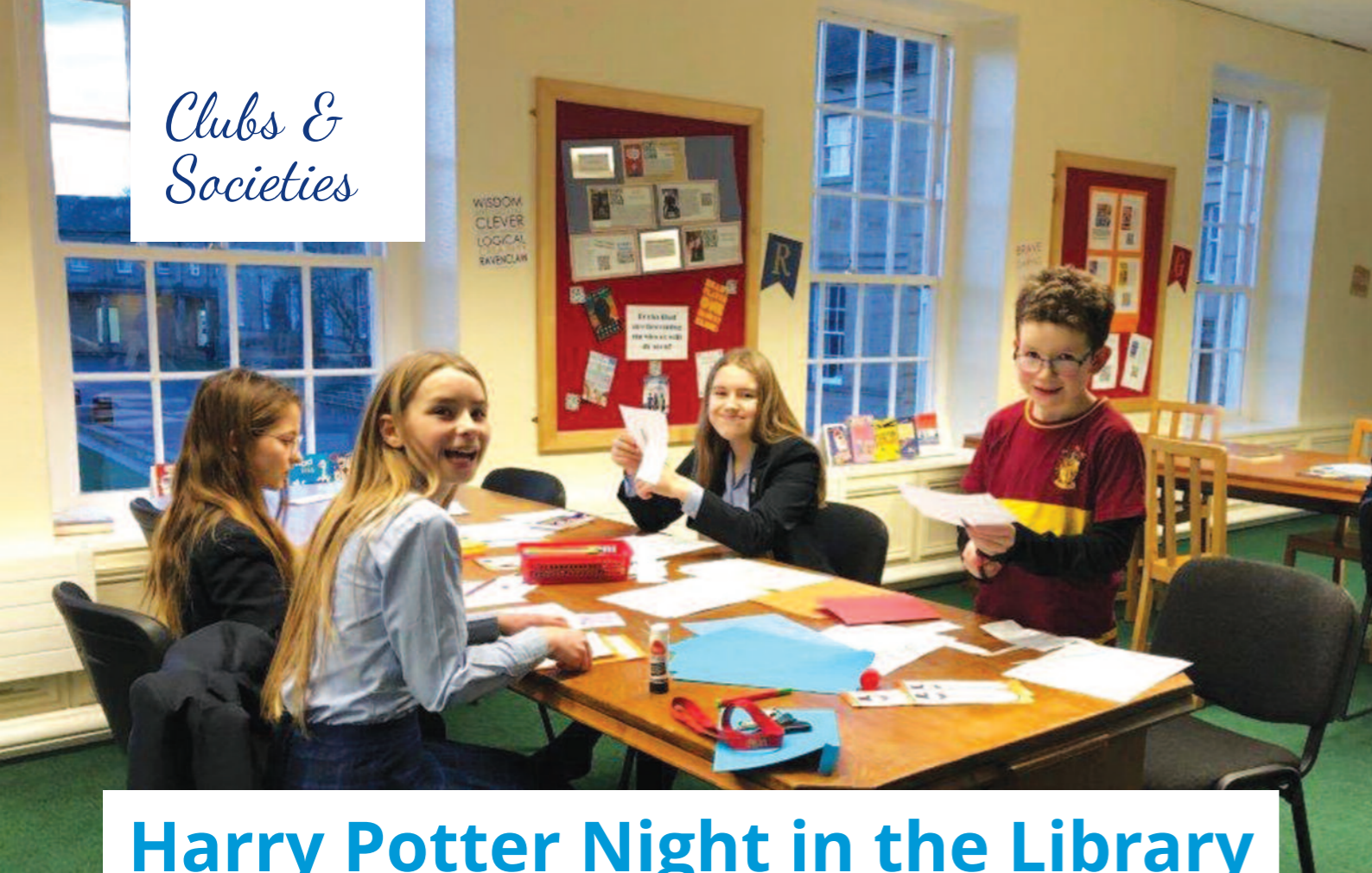
I recently auditioned for the National Youth Music Theatre and have been recalled for three shows in London. When I was at the audition I mentioned the play to them and they were very impressed that a school could put on such a demanding show.

I appreciate the opportunities that the School has given me and I hope to have a future career in the performing arts.

Lucy Assassa, 5th form (year 11)



"We performed the National Youth Music Theatre's version of the musical which is gripping and dramatic with a beautiful and challenging music score."



Harry Potter Night in the Library

A lot of fun was had at the Harry Potter Book Night in the Library. We made dragon eggs!



Book Fair

It was the time of year when we celebrated all things bookish! We had Harry Potter Book Night, World Book Day and then our annual Scholastic Book Fair.

The range of books at the fair was the best we've ever had. There was something to suit everyone whether you liked fiction or non-fiction, gaming or Harry Potter. As usual, we had stationery, posters and 'pointy fingers' - whatever took your fancy.

This year's fair was very well attended with pupils from all year groups. Some bought armfuls of books, while others bought a pencil, but all left with a smile on their face.

Don't worry if you didn't have chance to come along to the fair this year; you'll find many of the best titles have found their way on to the Library shelves.



Mindfulness

As well as focusing on academic achievements and the benefits of participating in a wide range of extra-curricular activities at Ackworth School, we also encourage students to explore and understand their own wellbeing and mental health. Mindfulness is a practice which assists students to better understand how their minds behave and to build resilience when faced with different challenges in life. It also teaches them how to approach life thoughtfully for the benefit of both themselves and those around them. All of these characteristics sit beautifully with our Quaker ethos. This year a number of Sixth Formers have been studying a Mindfulness course developed by the Mindfulness in Schools Project (MiSP).

Students are offered the opportunity to learn Mindfulness techniques in the 6th form and also at a weekly club after school. Staff are also invited to participate in Mindfulness sessions once a month.

Katy Devine

"Mindfulness has been of huge benefit to us especially as we are approaching the most stressful period that we'll face in education with upcoming A Level exams"



MiSP
Mindfulness in Schools Project

and university applications. Mindfulness has become a huge part of how we approach stressful situations and it has had a big impact on our ability to differentiate between useful stress and what's just overthinking."

Eleanor White, Hannah Wilson, U6th (year 13)

Careers Carousel



Choosing a career path can be difficult if you're unsure about what to do when you leave school. It's best to research all options to make sure you are making the right choices.

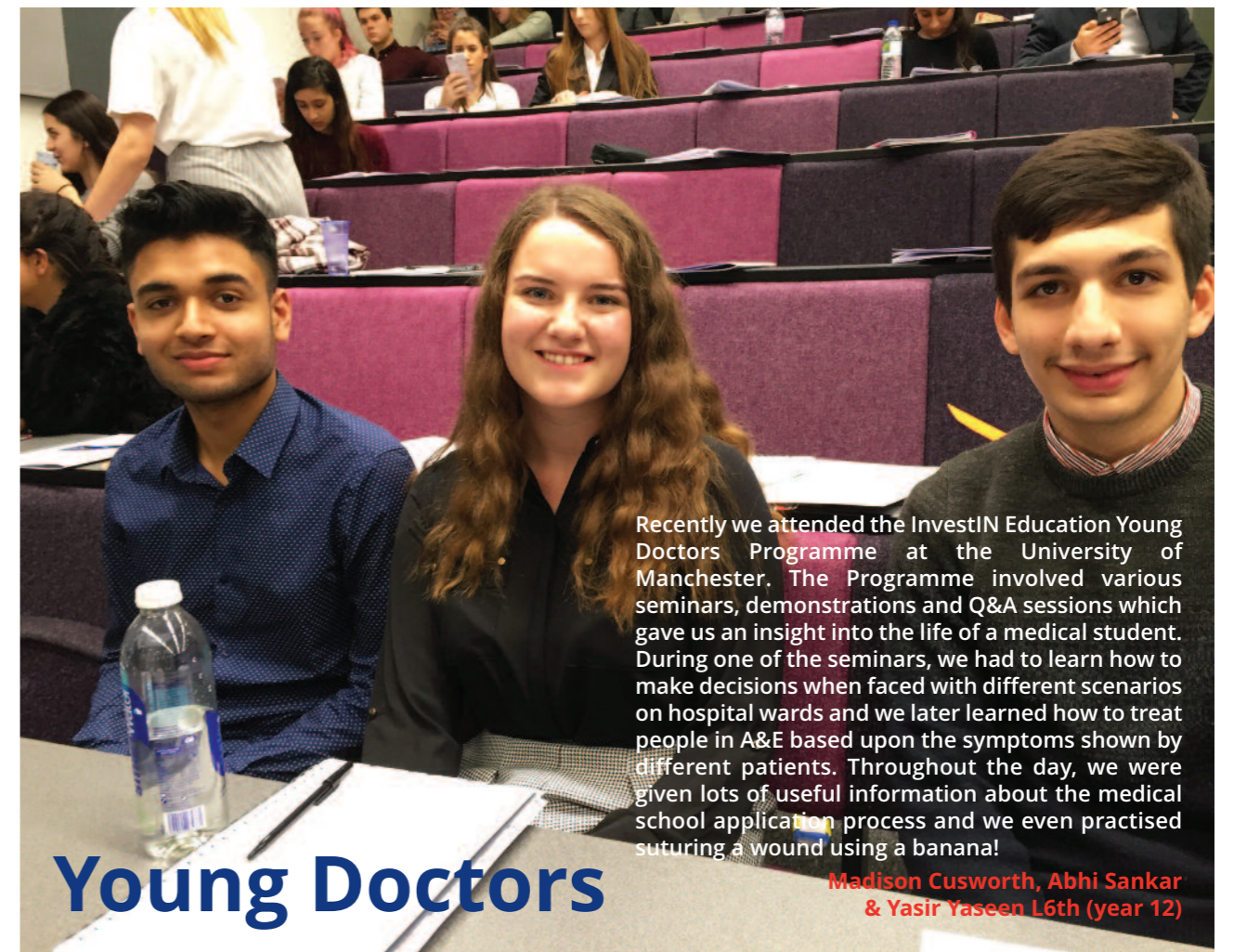
To help our pupils to explore different occupations, our Careers Carousel, which functions like career's own speed dating, gives students an interesting way to investigate different careers and the routes into these different careers in a fun-filled 40 minutes!

There was energy and excitement in the Music Centre, as each year group spent a period off timetable carouselling through a wide range of careers from agriculture, banking, journalism, football, catering, law, publishing, construction, human resources and many more.



In the evening, the professionals from the Carousel exhibited in Centre Library from 6-7.30pm to provide students with a further opportunity to seek advice and ask questions. A number of students were fortunate enough to be presented with work experience opportunities, workshop opportunities and business visits as a direct result of attending the event.

Overall the feedback from the event has been very positive from both students and exhibitors and we look forward to using their feedback to improve the event for the next academic year.



Young Doctors

Recently we attended the InvestIN Education Young Doctors Programme at the University of Manchester. The Programme involved various seminars, demonstrations and Q&A sessions which gave us an insight into the life of a medical student. During one of the seminars, we had to learn how to make decisions when faced with different scenarios on hospital wards and we later learned how to treat people in A&E based upon the symptoms shown by different patients. Throughout the day, we were given lots of useful information about the medical school application process and we even practised suturing a wound using a banana!

Madison Cusworth, Abhi Sankar & Yasir Yaseen L6th (year 12)

Future Medics



Kaplan Test Prep recently delivered a webinar on Medical School Admissions covering UCAT, Work Experience and BMAT for our Lower Sixth pupils. The session took place at the beginning of term and contained an overview of the UCAT, ways to achieve work experience, and how it can be presented effectively in a medical school application, followed by a BMAT session. There was total concentration from our future medics throughout the webinar. Medicine is one of the most competitive courses in the UK, so they now need to put in to practice what they learned in time for their 15th October 2019 application.

Inter House Cross Country



Charles Broadbent-Rockcliffe,
1st form (year 7)



Ruby Mackenzie, 1st form
(year 7)



Hannah Newnham, 4th form
(year 10)



Inter House Cross Country Results

- First - Woolman
- Second - Gurney
- Third - Penn
- Fourth - Fothergill



Individual Winners

- Junior Boys - Charles Broadbent-Rockcliffe, 1st form (year 7)
- Junior Girls - Ruby Mackenzie, 1st form (year 7)
- Intermediate Boys - Max Cooper, 3rd form (year 9)
- Intermediate Girls - Hannah Newnham, 4th form (year 10)
- Senior Boys - Josh Dawson, 5th form (year 11)
- Senior Girls - Millie Hinchcliffe, 5th form (year 11)



Max Cooper, 3rd form (year 9)



Josh Dawson, 5th form (year 11)



Millie Hinchcliffe, 5th form
(year 11)

Sports Round Up

Sport continues to thrive and grow at Ackworth School. We have appointed a new pentathlon coach who will join in the Summer. Pentathlon offers even more opportunities to our students because of the nature of the sport. It focuses on fencing (one-touch épée), freestyle swimming (200m), equestrian show jumping (15 jumps, which will be offered in conjunction with a Pony Club) and a final combined event of pistol shooting and cross country running (3200m).

September 2018 saw the launch of the Ackworth Football Academy, led by Jamie Fullarton. The team has had a brilliant start to its 2018/19 season, winning five out of six of its games and drawing one. The Academy is currently unbeaten in its debut season and is eager for promotion.



The School entered into the National Schools' Badminton competition this year and participated in the South Yorkshire Schools' Badminton tournament for the first time this term. Sixteen students from 1st to 5th form competed in a very high standard competition and experienced the skills of many national and international young players. We hope to develop more Badminton matches in the future as our students learn more about the game.



Also well done to the girls' basketball team for another victory! They beat Kings by a single point in a close fought, physical battle. Ruby was the top scorer with 11 points.



Well done to the basketball 1st team, who had their best performance to date in a 46-24 win over Bootham. They remain undefeated this season!

Basketball has continued to flourish at school with success for many of the teams this year. The junior team has won all its games with many new players including Henry Batte (Coram) who is our exciting star player. He has dominated many games and deserves credit for playing in all age groups up to U16 level, despite being 10 years old. It is also great to see a growing number of girls taking part and enjoying a new sport. The Senior team has enjoyed success with wins against Bootham, Woodhouse Grove and Scarborough College this year. They are our best team and their skills and effort on show are impressive to watch. Numbers at training are consistently high as they simply love to play.

An awful run of bad weather unfortunately meant a number of football matches had to be postponed. However, the teams managed to participate in fixtures against Rishworth, Birkdale, Ampleforth and Hipperholme. All teams (U13s, 15s and 18s) continue to progress and develop.

We have played a number of hockey fixtures. The 1st form hockey players however in particular have shown excellent commitment and dedication. There are a number of exceptionally talented individuals - too many to mention them all. The team continues to impress with every performance and we look forward to seeing some excellent results as this team develops and grows.



Congratulations to Grace who has been chosen to represent the county as part of the West Yorkshire U15 Squad in Hockey.

Squash

Sam Todd has won the Under 23 British Junior Open at the age of 15!

Well done to Asia who came 3rd in the Czech U17s European Open in Prague losing just one match.



Laser Run

Laser run is a sport developed to encourage young people into pentathlon events. It involves running and shooting targets with a laser gun. On the third Thursday of the month a coach comes to school to give tasters and coach pupils. I have attended the sessions which are open to pupils in both Coram and Senior School. I have enjoyed supporting the younger pupils and improving my own skills. Laser run is a fun sport which I would recommend to others to attend.

Blake Mawson-Burren 4F

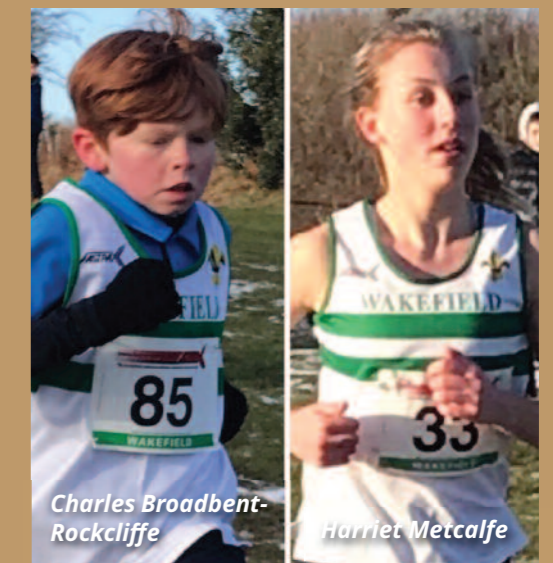
Yorkshire Cross Country

Saturday 2nd February was a great day for cross-country running - cold, wet underfoot and a hilly, demanding course! The race was held at Leeds Grammar School and seven runners from Ackworth qualified to run for the Wakefield teams who were competing against Leeds, Kirklees, Calderdale and Bradford. We had a significant number of athletes for one of Wakefield's smaller schools.

All competitors did extremely well, but special mentions go to Charles Broadbent-Rockcliffe, Harriet Metcalfe, Millie Hinchcliffe and me, who all received our Wakefield Colours.

By finishing in 11th place in the Intermediate Boys' race, I was selected as part of the West Yorkshire team for the National Championships to be held later on. I am looking forward to my next race!

Josh Dawson, 5th form (year 11)



Charles Broadbent-Rockcliffe

Harriet Metcalfe

Second Chance Clothing to raise funds

In January the PSA organised a collection of unwanted clothing, which parents, students and the local community contributed towards, raising in total over £200.

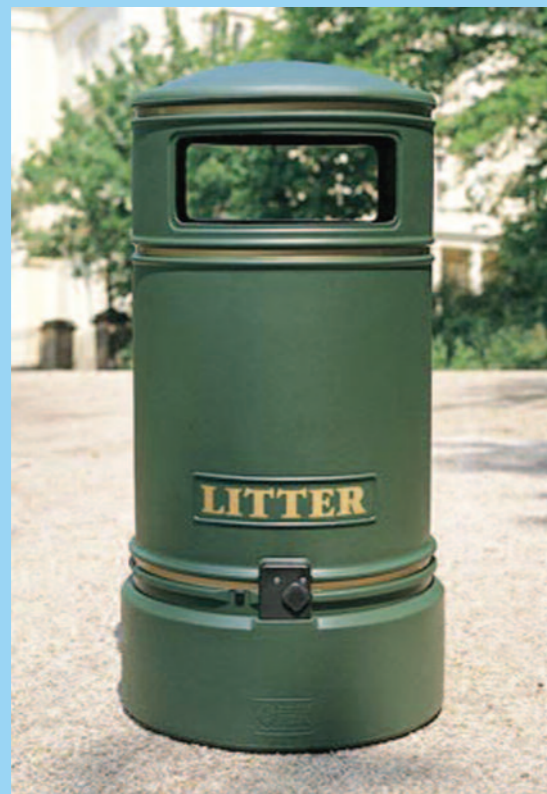
Second Chance Clothing helps local people to raise funds for their clubs and charities. So far they have helped Team Moo Brotherton, Ferrybridge Junior Football, Mickey's Boxing in Selby, and Care in Doncaster for the homeless.



On Tuesday 15 January 2019, we hosted our Post 18 Options Evening. The event was bustling with over 120 students and parents from Ackworth School and our local secondary schools, to discuss their post 18 options with representatives from a wide range of universities and apprenticeship providers. Talks were hosted throughout the evening, covering a range of topics, in the Fothergill Theatre: University life: A Student's Perspective; Choosing a Course at University; Apprenticeships; International Students; Student Finance; Work Placements During Your Degree. Thank you to those who provided feedback on the event, which will be used in the planning of our 2020 event. Overall the event was an overwhelming success with 80 per cent of attendees rating the event as very useful, 8/9 out of 10!

Post 18 Options Evening

Ackworth Spring Clean



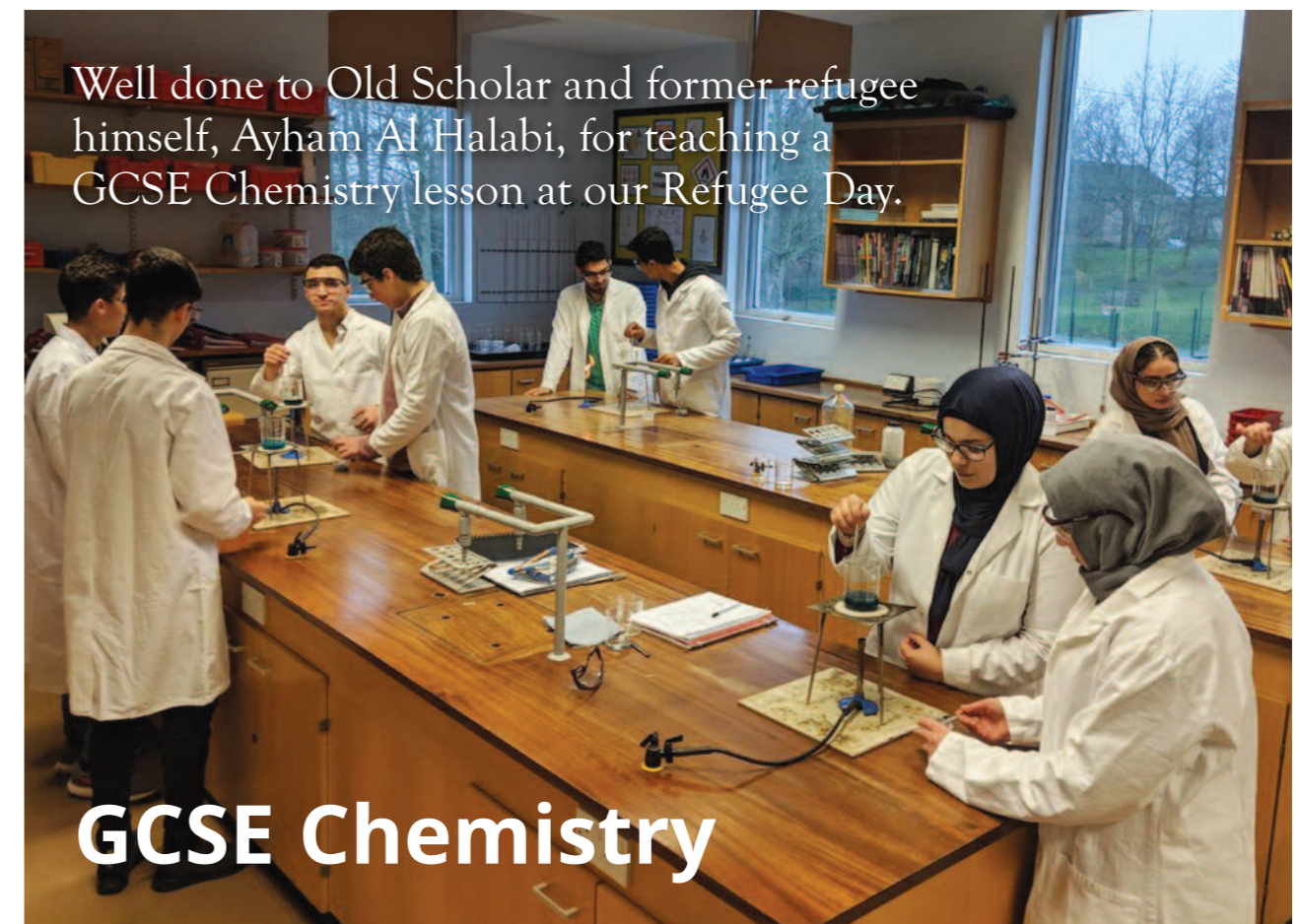
At the beginning of February we met with the Community Outreach team from Renewi, our local waste management providers and Adam Fletcher from the Community Group which plans the Spring Clean activities in Ackworth. The purpose of the meeting was to plan the School's involvement in the Spring Clean 2019 activities.

Following the bin survey carried out by our students in 2018, we are finalising the location and installation of the additional bins. We now need to raise the funds for these additional bins, through local businesses, community groups and Ackworth Parish Council. Rachel Forrester and Abigail Taubman (5th form) have agreed to write a letter to the local Ackworth Businesses and the Parish Council requesting their support and funding for the new litter bins.

In addition to installing litter bins within the village, we are hoping to raise funds for the litter picking facilities installed within the bins in a number of areas, to help local residents to continue to litter pick outside of the organised cleans.

We are hoping to recycle the litter that is picked at the Spring Clean 2019 events by using our local recycling point at the Co-operative in Ackworth.

Well done to Old Scholar and former refugee himself, Ayham Al Halabi, for teaching a GCSE Chemistry lesson at our Refugee Day.



GCSE Chemistry

Kingswood Residential Trip



Kingswood 2019. WHAT AN EXPERIENCE! Kingswood was without a shadow of a doubt already one of my highlights of 2019, not only because it was a weekend away with my best friends, but because of the opportunities and life-long memories it provided. Over the weekend we were challenged with our greatest fears, but in every activity we would join together as a team and conquer the challenges.

Adam Santosa

At first I was sceptical it would be another long weekend full of pointless activities. However, it was completely the opposite! There were activities that bonded us and made us try something new. The most difficult task was abseiling. On the way up, looking through the holes in the stairs I began to feel nervous but I was motivated by myself and my friends. I think that is what Kingswood is all about: conquering your fears and moving out of your comfort zone.

Benji Roberts



My favourite parts were the nightline and laser tag as I found them really good fun and they gave me more courage and belief in myself. Kingswood has built up my trust with classmates, and as I've only been a part of Ackworth since the beginning of January, over the three days I felt as though I'd been a part of this class for much longer. Overall, Kingswood has made me overcome fears, tackle obstacles and improve my teamwork and leadership skills. I'm glad I have been fortunate enough to have this experience.

Anja De Bruin

The adventure started on Friday when we headed down to Kingswood. Everyone was jumping around with excitement. When we arrived mid-afternoon, the wind was blowing and there were lots of grey clouds, however we were all desperate to start our first activity. Kingswood was about getting out of your comfort zone and challenging yourself. We learnt many skills during each different activity, like teamwork, communication, trust and things we will use for the rest of our lives. My favourite part was the campfire on Saturday night. Everyone was cracking jokes, singing songs and having fun with friends. It was great. Kingswood has been a great experience to try new things and to never give up.

Claudia Cross



Armistice 100 Prize for Schools Poetry Competition

Four students from Ackworth School were shortlisted in the Armistice 100 Prize for Schools Poetry Competition organised by the University of Lincoln: Noah Clegg (1st form, year 7), Charlotte Glasby (4th form, year 10), Harriet Metcalfe (4th form, year 10) and Cerys Watkins (4th form, year 10).

Their poems, as were all competition entries, were read by the Poet Laureate Dame Carol Ann Duffy and her fellow judges, including poet Imtiaz Dharker. The judges were extremely impressed with the quality of the poems received. The very best were included in a collection published with a foreword by Carol Ann Duffy. As shortlisted poets, Noah, Charlotte, Harriet and Cerys are all published in this collection.

The four students were invited, along with their families, to attend an awards ceremony which took place at the University of Lincoln. At this event Carol Ann Duffy launched the book containing the winning and shortlisted poems.

Congratulations to Noah, Charlotte, Harriet and Cerys.

"On the 15th November I was invited to an awards ceremony for the Armistice 100 Poetry Competition, held at the University of Lincoln, due to a shortlisted poem I had written in Year Six. The poems were judged by famous poet Imtiaz Dharker and the Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy. It was a fantastic experience, and even though I didn't win anything, I got a certificate at the end, and a book with my poem in it! A special thanks to Mr Boucher, because without him, this wouldn't have been possible."

Noah Clegg, 1st form (year 7)



Four Years - A Hero's Return by Noah Clegg

We thought we'd be greeted with
A hero's welcome.
But there were no homes for heroes.
Four years on the dole.

No work for a hero with a limp.
For a man who wakes in the night,
Bedsheets soaked in sweat.
Four years of nightmares.

No luck for a hero.
Who is stuck in a wheelchair,
Shivering, listening to the deafening silence.
Four years of isolation.

Heartbreak for a hero.
A man who watched the battlefield in agony
As Death claimed another victim.
Four years of sorrow.

But there's still hope for a hero,
A man who has a future
Brighter than the past.
Four years - they're gone now?

I am Alive, A Survivor, A Hero by Harriet Metcalfe

I am alive, a survivor, a hero.
I don't feel like it, and would rather be dead.
I have two arms, but one leg.
I have a voice, but memories that say what
words can't.

I am alive, a survivor, a hero.
I get congratulated, but those congratulations
shouldn't be for me.
I have a medal, but what is a medal worth?
I have a suit that holds just as many horrible
memories.

I am alive, a survivor, a hero.
I have heard silence, but even that was
deafening.
I have touched a gun, but that turned me into
a murderer.
I have seen rivers of blood running freely.

I am alive, a survivor, a hero.
I lasted six terrifying months, and seen the
end.
I have watched lives been taken by others,
and themselves.
I have fought for my country, and my country
has fought for me.

Song of War by Charlotte Glasby

Numbed sound of music
Cheers and claps
Minds morphed
Lives untouched
Saw only the plain façade
Deep clunk of a bullet
Feet stomping
Song of war

The train whistled
I scanned the crowd for that one face
My heart began to pound heavily
Ankles weak with anxiety
Cheers turned to howls
Footsteps turned to craters
Beads of sweat trickled down my face
Where was she?

The familiar smell
Inspecting the pristine house
Hands clench the metal handle
Heavy soles imprinted the plush carpet
(Feet stomping)
Shoulders ram against the soft wood
Now watching from afar
(Shells obliterating, men howling)
A trembling mass of assassination
(Deep clunk of a bullet)
Whispers of smoke
The gun crashing
As it left my hand and collided with the floor
My wife, limp and swollen in my hands
As daylight slashed through her forehead

Pen trembling
The ink bled as a drop hit the paper
"Don't sign there, do it at the bottom!"
The harsh breath of the warden on my neck
Once respected to the highest standard
Now sleeping amongst the outcasts
(Feet stomping)
My heart began to pound
The clunk of the prison doors
The air was sucked from within me
Choking in the deepness of thought
(The shell obliterating, men howling)
What good peace brought us
Nails dug into my scalp
To drown out the song of war

All Rounder of the Year



Will was voted Yorkshire U11 A-team all rounder of the year - a fine achievement for a very talented leg spinner and hard hitting batsman.

"I have been playing cricket since I was six years old. I love cricket because of the feeling when you go up to bowl and bat and when you are playing with your friends."

Last season I was lucky enough to play for Yorkshire Under 11s A-Team. I was chosen to be joint captain of the team. Our season went really well winning eight out of ten games and regaining the Cup against Lancashire. We won both Lancashire games with one of them with a single run in the last few overs.

At the presentation evening I won the award of 'All Rounder of the Year' which I was really proud about. I hope to get into the side next year to play with a great bunch of lads again."

William Cross, 1st form (year 7)

Zac Meakin

Well done to Zac Meakin who came 3rd in Go Kart Racing's Club Championship at TVKC PF International 4th in the British Championship in Mini X30 category.



Matron Michelle Walker clocks up 35 years at Ackworth

Congratulations Michelle on working at Ackworth School for a whopping 35 years! This is a milestone of service at our school. You must be really pleased!

Where did your Ackworth School journey begin and how has it progressed over the time that you have been employed here?

In 1984 I came to Ackworth School for a job interview that I was recommended for by a family member. At the time, Ackworth School only employed people that lived in Ackworth itself, so as I lived in the village, I thought that I would have a chance! The job that I initially applied for was within the Catering Department and the Catering Manager at the time was a man called Burt Simonight. I was the youngest person to have ever joined the school in the catering department at that time.

After a long stint of working in the catering department, I left because Heather Jones suggested that I apply for the Matron of Boys' School House. Although I loved my job in catering, I thought that I was ready for a change so I was delighted to hear that I got offered the role. I am now in my fifth year as Matron of Boys' School House.

You have obviously seen a lot of changes since you were first employed at Ackworth School. Have there been any significant changes that you have noticed since you first started?

It was so busy at the time that I joined Ackworth School. We had a lot of overseas boarders, so many that we had four dining halls full of children, so you can only imagine how busy it was for the catering staff at the time. The food itself was served to the tables, and everything was made from fresh. This included the bread, butter and cheese. The bacon and sausages were minced up into the best pies that Ackworth has ever seen! The Old Scholars of Ackworth School still mention those pies and bread to this day!

What the favourite part of your current role at school?

My favourite part of my current role is helping and supporting the boys (and sometimes girls too). There is a large number of boarders, plus the short stay visitors, so I am never short of anything to do! The best thing about the role is that every day is different from the next. Girls' School House Matron and I help one another each day and we have a fantastic working relationship. The one thing that I have noticed is that the boys seem to have a lot of laundry because they are forever changing their clothes!



What is the funniest thing that has ever happened to you in the boarding houses?

My funniest memory of working in Boys' School House happened quite recently. It was July 2018 and I tried to hide all of the boys in the kitchen from Mr Bailey. You wouldn't imagine how difficult that was, trying to keep all of the boys in one place at one time! The reason we did this was because we wanted to surprise him with a laptop they had all bought him to say thank you. Mr Bailey kept jumping up and down on his chair shouting 'what is going on here?' It was a very funny moment.

All of our boy boarders see you as a mother figure. What is it that they ask you for the most?

At the end of a school day, I always make the boys my famous cheese toasties as a treat because they have worked so hard during the day. They always comment that it reminds them of being at home.

The students are obviously so fond of you in Boys' School House. What have the students done for you over the time you've worked here to show their appreciation of you?

The Boys' School House students have always treated me as their second mother. They have shown their appreciation so often over the years by buying me flowers, chocolates and Mother's Day cards. One boy just last year gave me a delicious chocolate cake which he had made from scratch! It's a wonderful feeling knowing that the boys appreciate me at school. It reaffirms that I am doing my job as Matron. So here's to the next ten years of the boys keeping me on my toes!

Andreea

Being an HMC student, I came to England full of hopes and motivation to follow my dreams. Being here for two terms so far, I can say it has been an amazing experience.

Apart from studying the subjects that I enjoy, life in the boarding house is a special experience, that I have learnt to enjoy. Although it is hard to be away from my parents, the staff have been really supportive from the first day I arrived here, helping me with every problem that I have had. It was easy to make friends, as people and teachers were friendly and generous. As a boarder, I have plenty of opportunities to travel. For example, every weekend school organises trips to different places, so in a short amount of time I had already visited Lincoln, York, Manchester, Leeds and Durham. Even if it seems hard sometimes to live in a boarding school, as you are constantly in the school, the trips give you the opportunity to see different places, discover new cities, enjoy your time with your friends and explore more of England and its beautiful culture. I am really grateful for studying at Ackworth School, as I have met so

many beautiful people that have become part of my family and part of this incredible journey.

Andreea Capatina, L6th (year 12)



Filip



I first joined Ackworth School when I entered the sixth form in September last year through an organisation called HMC, which the school is a part of. Being in a school abroad has really been an interesting experience.

The school offers a wide range of extra-

curricular activities, from cooking and crochet to running and archery. A variety of sports is offered as well, including football, basketball, grass hockey or table tennis. I do archery, gardening, cooking, Duke of Edinburgh, and I am in the Fothergill Society, which is a kind of academic society of the school, all of which I enjoy greatly.

The teachers teach passionately, and I joyfully go to their lessons. All of the subjects are taught well and the school offers a wide range of them and full freedom of choice, which I really enjoy.

The building itself is magnificent, huge and like a labyrinth. I still sometimes have to stop and think where I am going if I don't want to get lost! The rooms in the boarding houses are nice and the staff are very friendly and caring, especially our matron Michelle Walker. I have enjoyed boarding in Ackworth, especially because I was in a room with three amazing guys before being moved into a single room.

Ackworth is a place where everyone can find something that they would enjoy doing, and I will definitely miss it when the time comes for me to leave.

Filip Popović, L6th (year 12)

Polina

During the weekend, we have a lot of different activities and trips. Saturdays in the morning anyone who wants can go to Park Run at Nostell Priory and afterwards everyone can go to the sports hall, fitness centre or do art. Also we have trips to galleries, museums and shopping trips of course. On Sundays we can do whatever we want until 6pm. We have our dinner at 6pm and then we have Meeting and reading sometimes.

Polina Novak, 5th form (year 11)



Boarding



Dutch Pupils

"I really enjoyed my visit here. I have learned so much. It was a great opportunity to improve my English and also to see how it goes here. It is so different from our Dutch school but I wouldn't want to miss out on this amazing experience." Tessa

"This week has been super fun. I've learned a lot and everyone was so nice. We were helped so well. It was great to see the differences between our schools. Thank you so much for everything. It has been an experience I will remember." Bushra

"I thought it was fun to stay here for five days, although I wish I could have stayed longer. To eat at school was quite different from what I'm used to, but I think the whole experience was great." Frizo

"The stay was really great! I enjoyed it so much and I made new great friends! My room mates were very funny and we laughed all the time. This was an experience I will never forget and I liked it so much." Thomas



The Piece Hall

We found the Piece Hall on a damp and chilly Saturday afternoon. The extraordinary building, constructed in 1779, (a familiar date!) stands in the typical West Yorkshire town of Halifax. The winter light created a dramatic backdrop with the dark hills and tall steeple and chimneys. The Piece Hall was originally created as a site for the trading of cloth which was one of the main industries of the region. Today it offers visitors a range of quirky and independent retail units. The trip to Halifax Piece Hall was a very enjoyable experience for us. We got a chance to explore local shops, a small gallery and also we had amazing hot chocolate! It was a great day out for us.

Neda and Andreea, L6th (year 12)

Durham Castle



Boarders' outing to Durham. Students explored the city and had a visit to the castle!

Staff News

Heather Jones

After twenty seven and half years at Ackworth in the role of Domestic Administrator, Heather has decided that the time has come for her to put her feet up and retire. I have told Heather that she is far too young to be retiring, but she feels that the time is right to spend more time with Chris and get to know more of the people in her new home town of Wetherby.

During her 27 years, Heather has worked with three Bursars, five Heads and seven Clerks to School Committee. I am sure that all will remember Heather as a highly organised person who has always worked hard to deliver whatever is needed for the School to run effectively. The people who book external lettings at the School return year after year because of the customer care they receive from Heather and her team, and I know that they, like us, will miss Heather very much.

We are fortunate that Heather has agreed to deliver one more Easter Gathering for us, but it is her intention to leave us at the end of April 2019 and Heather will not therefore be with us at the start of the summer term.

We will now begin the job of finding someone to fill Heather's shoes, which I am sure will be no easy task. In the meantime as Heather has not had a summer holiday for 27 years she is going to try to work out what the rest of us do in those summer months.

Heather has made a valuable contribution to School life and she will be greatly missed. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Heather well for her retirement.

Susan Allen



Staff Changes

After four and half years at the school, Kate Dawson has decided to move on from the Marketing Department, as has Jane Easter. We thank Kate and Jane for all they have done for School and wish them well for the future.

Both Kuljit Dyal and Kate Wrennall converted from temporary to permanent with us in Learning Support and Shed Court respectively.

Finally, we also welcome back Dave Wilson in the maintenance team who had major heart surgery and Sarah Bentham, Secretary to Deputy Head (Academic), Secretary to Head of Sixth Form and Exams Secretary, who has been recovering after a road traffic accident. It is good to see them both back.

Births



Guy Emmett with Amelia



Beth Jordan and Heidi

Congratulations to Beth and Alan Jordan on the birth of Heidi Sophia on Friday 16 November, weighing 6lbs 4oz and congratulations to Guy and Helen Emmett on the birth of Amelia Charlotte who was born on Tuesday 18 December weighing 8lbs 15oz.

Glenthorne Weekend

President Aidan Mortimer and 42 old scholars, met at Glenthorne, having mostly travelled in glorious sunshine. On Friday evening after dinner we enjoyed an excellent quiz delivered by Stephen Kelsall.

Saturday morning dawned with torrential rain, but this did not deter 13 hardy walkers from their traditional walk, albeit at low level this year. It was one of the wettest walks for many years following an eight mile route from Glenthorne down the western side of Grasmere Lake, climbing a little to Loughrigg Tarn and then on to Rydal. The return to Grasmere followed what is known as the Coffin Route, passing below Nab Scar. Hot showers were welcomed on their return followed by tea and cake!

The less hardy of us enjoyed drier activities such as visits to Allen Bank, the National Trust property behind Glenthorne, to enjoy tea and coffee beside



a roaring fire, watching the antics of red squirrels playing in the garden, a short walk round the grounds of Allen Bank and into Grasmere, shopping in Keswick or the more sensible shopping trip to Rheged, a glass roofed Lakeland Heritage Centre and gallery built in a former quarry.

Saturday evening brought games led by Nici Fletcher Causer and fierce competition as we battled to throw a number six on a dice, then don hats, scarves and gloves before attempting to serve ourselves a piece of chocolate using a knife and fork before the next person threw a six!

Another excellent weekend, a bit of rain failing to dampen our spirits, we look forward to next time - Friday 1-Sunday 3 November 2019. If you are interested in joining us next year, please contact Mike McRobert via aosa@ackworthschool.com.

Janet Blann



Australia to Ackworth



I took my 57 year-old self back to my old school, Ackworth, recently. This was not an insignificant feat given that home is Melbourne, Australia. Half way around the world and with my husband of 32 years in tow, we went back in time to a different era, a different life, a different world.

I was fascinated with how much had remained the same. Whilst a lot has naturally changed, so much of the school still seemed familiar. I recalled the weathered flagstones in Centre Passage and large radiators along the walls. I remembered how, in the '70s, we used to cling to them for warmth.

I remembered the smell of "Dead Man's Leg" coming from the school kitchen at the end of the hall (two pastry roll ups served on a large baking tray, one for each table and filled with strawberry jam, usually eaten with custard, if you were lucky).

I can scarcely believe it's been 40 years since I left Ackworth; I completed A Levels in the School's Bicentennial year in 1979. I look back at that time with fond memories but it wasn't all plain sailing. As a

boarder travelling back and forth between Hong Kong and school, I experienced terrible homesickness, repeated separation anxiety from family, peer group pressure, academic challenges and all the usual teenage angst during my time at Ackworth.

I realise, like many others, that as you get older, school years seem to become more formative in shaping you. A dedicated teacher can also play a pivotal role and I particularly remember my Art and English teachers. The Quaker ethos has also stood me in good stead through life's twists and turns, and I often draw strength and resilience from it.

My five years of boarding at Ackworth taught me many things and set me on the path to a happy and fulfilling life. I hope to return to Ackworth again within the next 40 years and wish the school every ongoing success in shaping future generations who walk the flagstones of Centre Passage.

**Helen Bain (nee Mace)
1974 - 1979, Form 3 to Upper 6**

Obituary

Elisabeth Olga Beeson (1937-41)

Elisabeth, also known as Olga, Beeson was born in Canea, Crete. Her father thought it would be easier for Olga to achieve her ambition of becoming a doctor if she had English qualifications. So he selected a school in England for Olga and brother Bill to finish off their studies and perfect their English.

After a 4-day journey by ship they arrived in Marseilles. They boarded the Blue Train to Calais, followed by a very rough ferry crossing, over the English Channel to Dover, then another train journey half way across Britain to York. They finally arrived exhausted and went straight to bed. The following morning, they opened the curtains for their first daylight sighting of England in thick fog!

Not only had Olga experienced her first horror of British weather, imagine a further shock when Olga and Bill arrived at Ackworth, a Quaker School: no robes, crosses, icons or statues and no genuflections or incense – in fact there was nothing to indicate that a Quaker Meeting House was a Christian place of worship.

It took Olga a while to understand and appreciate the quietness and stillness of the Sunday silent Quaker meetings. The next culture shock was breakfast, when a large bowl of steaming porridge was placed in front of her. Used to the sweet aroma of herbs, with views of blue seas, Olga was overwhelmed by the smell of coal and by the greyness of everything.

During her last year at Ackworth, Olga was made vice head-girl, gaining top marks in her final exams as well as passing the highest level in pianoforte. She went to the Royal Academy of Music in London and after receiving her music degree she felt she should join the WRNS. So she marched into the Admiralty demanding to speak with the Admiral and stating her reasons for wanting to join.

One of her duties was to be a projectionist for any naval training films that were being shown. And she was taught how to treat the fragile and volatile film that was made of nitrocellulose. One day a young sub-lieutenant wanted to show a reconnaissance film he had just shot and in her haste to get the film rolling she forgot to grease it. In an instant it went up in flames. A tall, slim naval officer burst in, yelling at her for being so stupid, as a result of which, she burst into tears. Realising what he had done, he then tried



to comfort her and this was the beginning of a courtship between Olga and Paul. Because of her Greek family connections, Olga was now being trained to be dropped into Crete to spy on the enemy and by this time Olga had been made an officer.

During our childhood, she did not talk much about this time, and only told us that she often worked in Churchill's bunker, and later, as a trial, she had been sent to Ireland. She had to, as she put it, get friendly and chat with certain people and find out what they were up to, then to report back to the Admiralty, the Government and to the Prime Minister.

Paul and Olga married in February 1944 – in York at St Michael le Belfry. The next day they travelled to London where they were to have a second wedding ceremony, at the Greek Orthodox Church in Bayswater.

After the war Paul and Olga moved first to a large Victorian flat in Ealing, and then to Ainsdale Road where the family lived for some 23 years. Later they moved to Gerrards Cross.

Once her daughters had grown up and some left home, Olga took a job, her first since being married, at one of the airport hotels, working in the gift shop. Soon she was promoted as its manager and later at another hotel, with a larger gift shop. She always got a thrill when celebrities came into her shop. She even became friends with several football stars of the day, Kevin Keegan being one of her regular customers.

Olga also became a model and whatever she did, she always did it with great enthusiasm. She managed to pack so much into her 96 and a half years.

Olga was a loving wife to Paul, looking after him at home during his illness. She was a wonderful mother supporting us in all that we wanted to do, and a caring grandmother. She really was loved by all who met her.

Carrie Beeson

Obituary

George Bunney (1938-44)

George Bunney was born in 1927 to Helen and John Bunney of Sydenham, South London. In 1932 the Bunney Family moved to Marston Croft in Amersham starting their long association with the town and Amersham Friends Meeting.

George followed his brother John (Jack) to Ackworth for the Summer term of 1938 and left in 1944. His sister Elizabeth joined him in 1941, whilst youngest sister Helen came in 1945. George was captain of a very successful cricket team in his final year and was president of AOSA for 1986-7. The family were strong supporters of the Easter Gathering for many years.

On leaving school George was articled to Bernard Wright, a past president of AOSA, of Robert H. Marsh & Co, another Ackworth and Quaker connection. He qualified as a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1950 and in 1951 became a partner of Wood Drew & Co, alongside his father, and with which firm and its successors, he spent his whole working life. George specialised in auditing the accounts of utility companies and charity associations.

George registered as a conscientious objector and his National Service was spent working with Friends Relief Service in London. His period of articles was interrupted for three years, which he spent in catering due to his young age and finally on into the information and finance departments at Friends House.

George married Margaret Scaife at Clifford Street Meeting House, York, on 5 March 1955. Even though they were both Ackworth Old Scholars they met when they were delegates from London Yearly Meeting at a Young Friends Conference in America.

They lived in Chesham Bois and Amersham until 2017 raising six children.

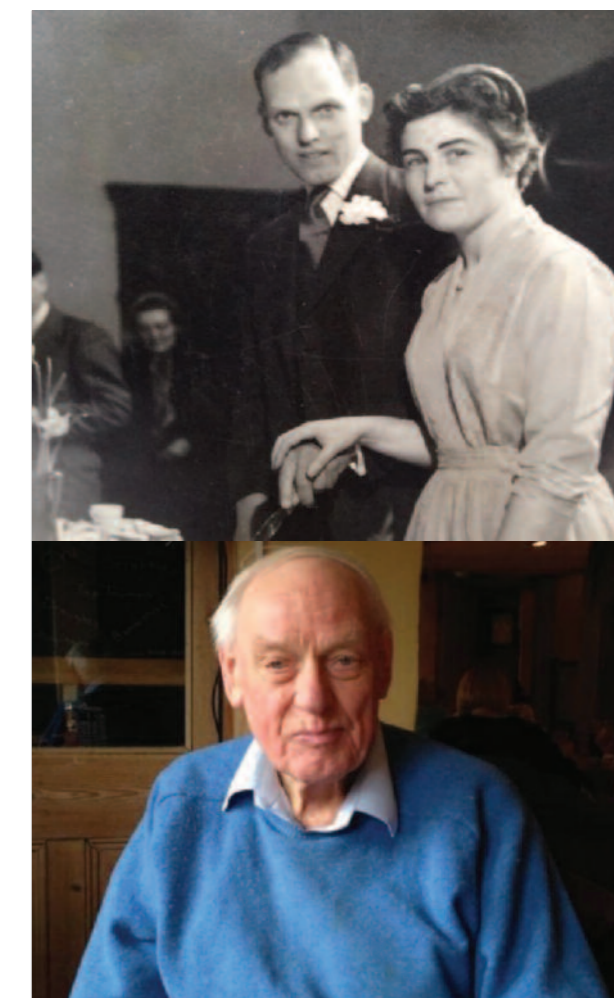
George and Margaret were very proud of their family. Their generosity of care, warmth, advice and resources have given an excellent start in life to 21 descendants over three generations as well as excellent hospitality to their wider family and friends.

Alongside his family George had three main interests in his life: cricket, trains and the Society of Friends. He also took an active interest in the fortunes of Aston Villa and Chesham United. He joined Amersham Hill Cricket Club, and for over 40 years he played regularly for various 'elevens' before becoming an umpire. His greatest moment came in July 1969 when he scored 133 runs against Friern Barnet – over 100 of those were scored in boundaries. He served the club in many capacities,

notably as treasurer (29 years), and latterly as chairman and president. He still played for the President's XI into his seventies.

As a lifelong member of the Society of Friends he served in many capacities at both local and national level: as clerk, treasurer, Registering Officer for Marriages for Jordans Monthly Meeting, and for the wider Society as Yearly Meeting Treasurer, and a Trustee to the Friend. He also served on the committees of Sibford School as Treasurer, Ackworth School and Friends School Brummana (Lebanon).

Helen and John Bunney believed in good manners, sticking to your word and serving your fellow man – morals that George, like his brother, followed right to the end of his life.



Obituary

Constance Gilbey (1955-62)

Teacher of French 1955 to 1962, and Housemistress of Girls' School House from 1959 to 1962, Constance Gilbey, who has died at 89, was a long standing teacher and senior manager in education, a West Yorkshire magistrate for 40 years and active in church and voluntary groups.

Born in Wakefield, her father, George Gilbey, was a well-known local figure. She studied at Wakefield Girls' High School and at Durham University where she graduated first in French and then as a teacher. She taught at Mundella Grammar School and Ackworth School before being appointed senior mistress at Ripon Grammar School. From Ripon she was appointed in 1968 as senior

resident tutor at Sheffield City College. After her retirement in 1983 she moved back to Wakefield.

She was appointed to the bench in 1959 and was made an MBE for her services to the judiciary in 2000. In her retirement, she was an active member of the United Reformed Church at Zion, and later Flanshaw Chapels, and was committed to the Bible Society. She was a long term supporter of the Langley House Trust, for many years a trustee of the Brotherton Charity Trust, and a member of the Civic and Wakefield Operatic Societies. Her brother, John Gilbey, predeceased her and she is survived by her five nephews and nieces, their children and grandchildren.



From left to right (top row): Elizabeth Tiplady, George Holmes, John Creed, John Castleton, Marion Oates, (middle row): Susan Tyson, David Mellors, Mabel Croll, Brian Charlesworth, (middle bottom) Bryan Hinkins.

Old Scholars Form 3B 1952

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Obituaries

John Hatter (1948-53)

John Frederick Hatter - Scholar 1948 - 1953. John Frederick Hatter was born on 6 November 1936 in Arnold, Nottingham to parents Harold and Gwendoline Hatter.

Upon Harold's retirement in 1966, the family moved to Foxton in Leicestershire, where John lived until his sudden death in February 2019 aged 82. After leaving school John joined the RAF for National Service and was stationed at RAF Rudlow Manor in Wiltshire. He then joined Raleigh Bicycles in Nottingham and later moved on to the Nene and Ouse Water Board, which later became Anglian Water, where he worked until his retirement. John was an active member of the Midland Guild of Ackworth Old Scholars.



Anne Fletcher (1949-60)

Anne Fletcher - Teacher 1949 - 1960. Anne died peacefully but unexpectedly on 10 January, aged 92. During her time at Ackworth, Anne taught and inspired many pupils in Maths.

This was her first teaching job. She also joined pupils on regular camping trips to Alderney with the Natural History Society - an interest she continued throughout her life. After leaving Ackworth she joined the Society of Friends and was an active member of both her Local Meeting at Sutton Coldfield and Central England Area Meeting.

Felicite Tomlinson

As we go to print, we are very sad to learn of the sudden death of 18 year old Old Scholar Felicite Tomlinson, who attended Ackworth School as a boarder from January 2013 to September 2014. Our condolences to all her family and friends.

Summer Term at a Glance

School Events

April

29 Term Begins

May

7 Open Morning
11 Leave Weekend &
General Meeting
10.30am-3.45pm
27-31 Half Term

June

15 Leave Weekend
19 Inter House Athletics
2-4pm

July

3 Party on the Green 6-8pm
6 Open Day - Term Ends 3pm
Summer Ball 7.30pm-1am

Coram House

May

24-26 Y5/6 Residential to
Plas Menai

June

17 Coram Sports Afternoon
20 Back up Sports Afternoon
24 Pre-Prep summer trip (tbc)
27 Y6 Production
28 End of Year Reports

July

2 Y1-Y6 Transition Day and
Parents' Meeting
5 Y6 Leavers' Assembly
10.45am



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