



Blundell's

# DIARY

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE BLUNDELL'S COMMUNITY

ISSUE No: 15



Looking Back and Beyond  
Blundellians in the wider world



## *Classic view*

Speech Day can without doubt be considered the main highlight of the School year. Nearly all the constituencies of the School community are involved: the governors, teaching staff, pupils and parents all attend, the gardens and grounds staff have been busy for weeks beautifying the site, and the porters have achieved a logistical miracle organising the seating in the marquee and tidying the whole School – and on the day all is ready and pristine. The assembled audience, nowadays numbering more than 1,000, listen attentively to the speeches and applaud as the guest speaker distributes the vast array of awards and prizes to deserving pupils.

But it has not always been such a grand or enjoyable occasion. Until well into the 20th century, the main purpose of the day was to announce the names of those boys who had won Scholarships to Balliol and Sidney Sussex Colleges. Originally, the speeches of Speech Day were dramatised extracts, delivered by the boys, from plays, not only in English but often in French, German, Latin or Greek. The audiences at these events could be delighted or, more probably, confounded by utterings from the works of Shakespeare, Molière, Goethe or Virgil. These proceedings usually took place in the confined space of Big School (now the Library), but, weather permitting, everyone ventured out of doors, and, on one occasion, *The Frogs* by Aristophanes was staged in the marshes below Old House!

Mr Mike Sampson, School Archivist

**Front cover:** Hannah Carthew and Laurenz Hoek wear the Blundell's poppies; see more information on the Looking Back pages.



Blundell's is a key West Country independent school which supports and guides young people to achieve their very best in whatever sphere they choose. Founded in 1604, this day and boarding school for boys and girls aged 11 to 18 is a vital community with a rich history and a great appreciation of the need to move with the times.

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## HEAD'S INTRODUCTION



There could not be a better time, with the 100th anniversary of the start of World War One, to be looking back and looking beyond the privileges that we enjoy each and every day here at Blundell's. On Speech Day this year, the Head Boy, Giles Taylor and Head Girl, Katherine Sendell made very clear reference to the challenges that faced Blundellians 100 years ago and we have held a number of moving tributes to those courageous members of our School who fought and died in war over this last term. You will be able to read about some of these in the coming pages.

A core part of a good education is being able to look at the world objectively, to see beyond our own lives and to be able to appreciate that the things we feel are challenging, like examination results and career plans, are far less so compared with the situations confronting so many in the war-torn parts of the world today.

It is often said by visitors to our community that Blundellians are amongst the most genuine, open-minded and open-hearted young people they have ever met. I believe this is the product of being inspired by their teachers to look beyond the next chapter or the next exam. The pupils are a very pro-active group, always looking not to what can be done for them, but coming up with ideas about what they can do. That might be furthering the cause of a charity or group that is close to their hearts. Many of the articles within this publication are evidence of this, as is the amazing £17,000 that was raised last year purely through events held during the year. More than 50 different charities have been the beneficiaries of this.

John Bunyan's famous quotation rings very true 'You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.' One of our new projects this year will be our support for one particular charity based in Laos, Community Learning International, run by Old Blundellian Alex Robb-Millar (OH 92-97). This is an exciting initiative, masterminded by Mr Leigh Menheneott. He will organise fund-raising here at School as well as taking a group of pupils each year out of their comfort zone and into a place where they can make a very real practical difference with their hands and with their minds.

We are therefore very pleased to present this edition of The Diary focusing on Blundell's view on the wider world. This provides a wonderfully colourful record of all the recent activities that are part of our very privileged life here at Blundell's. I would particularly like to thank all the pupils, staff and OBs who have contributed to this exciting issue. Whilst we are fortunate indeed not to have to commit ourselves to protecting the country in 2014, we do not underestimate or forget the sacrifices that have been made to put us in this fortunate position. We are committed to making sure we remember all those who came before and those who live far beyond our reach.

**Nicola Huggett**  
Head



## England U18 debut for Jack

Blundell's Captain of Rugby Jack Maunder (Year 12) made his England U18 debut against Scotland earlier this year and then played in all three games in the subsequent FIRA/AER European Championship, when the team beat Portugal, Wales and finally Ireland to win the final. Jack is part of the Exeter Chiefs Academy and trains occasionally with the first team squad in school holidays. He has represented Devon U16, captained the side and played for South West U16 and England U16.

## Exam results

Hard working Blundellians achieved some outstanding A levels, amongst the top in the South West, with 47% of the results gained at A\*/A (a rise of 9% on last year). Almost three quarters (72%) of the year group gained A\*/B, while 87% gained A\*-C grades. Twenty seven of the pupils achieved three A grades or higher. The majority all go on to their universities of choice, including Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Durham and Imperial College, London.

There were also some strong GCSE results too; in a year where nationally the A\* grade was predicted to fall, Blundell's A\* result increased on the previous year, with nearly 20% of all pupils gaining this maximum mark. Similarly, almost half the grades achieved are at A\*/A with 98% of all pupils gaining five or more A\*-C grades.

More details can be seen on the exam results page of the website.



## Cricket pavilion calendar

This photo of Blundell's cricket pavilion was one of the evocative pictures selected for the 2015 School Cricket Pavilions of the United Kingdom calendar. The full colour calendar includes details of all the schools featured and a list of notable dates and costs £9.99 inclusive of postage and packing. It has been published by Judges Sampson Ltd. and is only available from Nigel Deane. Cheques should be made payable to him and sent to him at 58 Sudbury Croft, Sudbury Hill, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QW (email address ndeane58@talktalk.net for any enquiries).

Any profits made from the sale of calendars will go direct to the Cricket Foundation charity for the Chance to Shine campaign which aims to bring cricket back to state schools and has so far succeeded in introducing two million children to the game.

## Parents' Social Committee

We are forming a new Friends of Blundell's Social Committee for parents of pupils in the Senior School. The primary purpose of the committee is to facilitate the building of closer links between parents in individual year groups by running a variety of enjoyable social events throughout the year.

We hope that this will allow parents to meet each other on a regular basis (especially those who are new to the area or to the School), as well as enabling them to take part, if they wish, in a number of different activities – fund-raising or otherwise. Our aim is to ensure that you enjoy being a part of the Blundell's Community as much as your children do.

The committee will meet twice a term to share ideas about suitable events with a view to promoting a regular social calendar. It is hoped that parents will volunteer to represent their child's year group and House for a period of time. If you wish to become involved, or merely find out more, please contact Amber Oliver (a.oliver@blundells.org). Alternatively, if you would like to offer an extra pair of hands for a specific event, but feel that you are unable to join the committee on an ongoing basis, we would also love to hear from you.



## In the workplace

Kiera McMaster and Miles Stimpson (both Year 11) spent a week in the workplace at John Lewis, Exeter. They will go down in history as the first ever work experience students that the store has taken on. Both Miles and Kiera had a fantastic time and their managers were very impressed with what they achieved during the week.





# Equestrian SUCCESSSES

Blundell's had further national equestrian success over the summer with Lola Watt (Year 11) becoming Individual Champion after winning her section of Intermediate Eventing at the Pony Club Championships at Cholmondeley Castle in Cheshire. This competition is hotly contested by qualified teams and individuals from all over the UK. Lola and her horse Denys de la Mer had a convincing win by more than five points, finishing on their dressage score, after a tricky show jumping course and tough cross-country, which saw plenty of incident and few clears. Blundell's was well represented at the Championships, with Bird Wood also competing in the Intermediate and Ellie Ansell, Rupert Batting and Will Smith in the Open. In addition Polly Muirhead (Year 7) won the Burghley Event Pony Competition at the very prestigious 4\* Burghley Horse Trials and Georgina Pitts (Year 9) has won several championships at regional shows with her Shetland ponies, Amber and Cody.

## The School Play



Lorna Doone, written by Old Blundellian R D Blackmore, is being performed as the School play by Years 11 – 13 on 3rd to 5th of December. The beginning of the book, on which the play is based, is set at Blundell's (and in fact Blackmore's signature can still be discerned carved into a wall at Old Blundell's). This historic and much loved epic of romance and conflict has never been performed at the School and will celebrate the 25th anniversary of our wonderful Ondaatje theatre. The Drama department is promising a real spectacle, with the Art and Music departments hoping to provide original work to complement the production.

Above: R D Blackmore  
Below: Old Blundell's



Main picture: Lola Watt in action - John Britter Photography  
Above: Georgina with one of her championship ponies Helawi Golden Amber



## Maths Challenge

Having won the first round of the Devon heat in the UK Year 10 TEAM Maths Challenge, the Blundell's team of J K Song, Toby Whitehead, Hattie Nash and Luke Bartlett competed in the South West Challenge final. The team were up against 23 other schools, answering questions in five rounds. They took second place, just missing out on the top spot by two marks but getting full marks in the round on Matrices.



## The School House Diploma

As part of the Year 7 induction day at the start of this term, the Head launched the new School House Diploma to them and their parents. The Diploma is designed specifically to meet the needs of Year 7 and 8 pupils. It has strong academic rigour but recognises that, especially at this age, pupils need the space to safely progress at their own pace. At the heart of the programme is the Learners' Toolkit, which will help pupils excel at their studies and become outstanding learners. The second important element of the Diploma is the focus on the development of character. In education, almost everything appears to be measured, quantified and ranked but it is important for pupils to realise that not all things of value need to be measured - some are simply worth doing for their own sake or for the sake of others. The Diploma focuses on four particular characteristics: resilience, generosity, self-discipline and optimism.

The Diploma is a new chapter in the life of School House which will make a real difference to the academic ambitions and personal aspirations of pupils for many years to come.



## Hockey squad reach national finals again

Blundell's U13 girls' hockey squad reached the National Finals of the In2Hockey competition for the second consecutive year. The competition began back in November where the county tournament saw the team regain the Devon title, scoring 30 goals in just six games. They then went on to win the West of England title against schools such as Sherborne, Prior Park and Millfield.

They arrived at the national tournament well prepared and ready to take on the opposition. They won their first two games against Felsted Prep (2-1) and Leeds Grammar School (2-0)

but a lapse in concentration saw the team lose to Kingsmead School 3-2 in the third game.

The next game saw a winner takes all situation, with either Blundell's or Danes Hill advancing to the final with a win. Unfortunately, some early chances by Blundell's saw great saves from the Danes Hill keeper and, despite a late fightback from Blundell's, Danes Hill won (and went on to win the final). The Blundell's team then played some excellent hockey to beat Wakefield 4-0 to finish fifth in the country, a great achievement especially as they scored 59 goals and conceded just 11 in the whole competition.



## Commemoration Hymn

At the end of the summer term, OB Jonathon Grose (SH 70-75) filmed the School singing the commemoration hymn in Chapel, assisted by Oliver Pritchard-Barrett (Year 13). Jonathon has recently set up his own wedding video company and was prompted to offer his services to film the Commemoration Hymn when he was unable to find a copy of the music on any website. He has most kindly donated his time and the rights to the production for the School to use; the film can be viewed on the School website.



# The Drapers' Company



## Team building monitors

A successful day of team building was held for the new School monitors at the start of the autumn term. The day consisted of a few simple mental agility tasks followed by a team physical challenge, all of which they took in their stride, and an individual challenge, more commonly known as a bush tucker trial. Finally, from the food they had earned by completing the challenges, they planned, prepared and cooked a three course dinner and created an atmospheric dining experience. Throughout the day, the monitors showed great commitment to each other and their attitude, manner and diligence produced some outstanding results. The monitors are Tom O'Brien, Millie Blackmore (both Heads of School), Austin Robertshaw, Maddie Smith (both Deputy Heads), Rowan Carew, Charlotte Evans, Alex Kitson, Evie McBarnet, Pippa Vos and Ben Willder.

Blundell's was lucky enough to be invited to exhibit at the impressive Drapers' Hall in London to celebrate the Drapers' Company 650th anniversary. The connection between the School and the company dates back to 1599, when the School's founder Peter Blundell left £150 to the chief Livery Companies of the time, including the Drapers' Company. In recognition of this ancient gift, the Drapers' Company contributed to the purchase of Old Blundell's by the School in 1944 and in 1989 introduced an annual bursary to be used to reach 16 year olds at secondary schools in Devon who could benefit from a Blundell's education.

At the two day anniversary event, members of the Drapers' Company, their families and members of other livery companies were able to learn about the work of the exhibitors, which, as well as Blundell's, included Oxbridge universities and army and navy regiments, amongst others. Following the event, the company also gave £1000 to the School which will be used in the Commemoration Garden.

## Food and Craft Fair

The Tiverton Friends Group of the Children's Hospice South West will be holding a Food and Craft Fair at Blundell's on Wednesday 29 October, 10am - 5pm. Last year the fair raised £4000 for the charity and the organisers, who extend their thanks to the School for accommodating the fair, promise several demonstrations and some new stalls this year. For details of other events at Blundell's, please see the back page.



# Looking Beyond

## The Land of a Million Elephants

By Alex Robb-Millar (OH 92-97)

The old school at Phayong, a rented house with one room, with space for just one grade (of three grades) to meet one hour per day at a time

For as long as I can remember I have always been incredibly curious and possessed a natural adventurous streak. My desire was strengthened during my days at Blundell's,

where I attended many of the talks from outside speakers, such as that by Sir Christopher Ondaatje whom I remember stating 'the Far East is where the future is'.

It is not surprising, therefore, that while planning my yearlong round-the-world trip I became intrigued by Laos, which is also known as 'The Land of a Million Elephants', a direct translation of its historic name 'Laan Xang'. Mainly mountainous, and boasting numerous large national parks with endemic and unique fauna, yet being the most heavily bombed country in the history of warfare, it exuded adventure.

During the Vietnam War between 1964 and 1973 the US dropped two million tonnes of bombs on Laos during 580,000 bombing missions. Even today there are still over 80 MILLION unexploded sub munitions littering Laos. Children go out to look for them to sell as scrap metal and hundreds are killed every year. Poverty stands at 27.6% of the 6.5 million population. Laos is the same size as the UK.

I'll never forget crossing the border for the first time in 2003, taking a particularly aged river taxi from Thailand to Huay Xai in Laos, from where I had planned to take the two

day slow boat to the UNESCO world heritage city of Luang Prabang. About half way across the Mekong River a distinct overwhelming feeling of serenity came over me, and any concerns about life instantly disappeared. I fell in love with Laos immediately.

Since then I have returned to Laos more than 15 times and in mid-2012 I took on a role as the development director for a non-governmental organisation called Community Learning International (CLI), which I had known about for several years; indeed CLI has been operating in Laos since 1997, the year I left Blundell's. I decided to work for CLI because my beliefs are strongly the same: that education, formal and non-formal, is the longer-term key to development, including poverty reduction. CLI works to improve the limited formal system in Laos, by building village schools for example, and to supplement it via its Lao Children's Library Boats and Learning Centers.

In rural Laos there are no books whatsoever. Each of our two library boats contain more than 1000 books and serve more than 100 riverside villages along the Mekong River and its tributaries that have little or no road access. Each boat also distributes and circulates more than 100 'book bags' (portable mini libraries of 100 books each), in addition to providing life skills classes and learning activities to the village children.

We operate six Learning Centres (each with their own libraries) in the rural Luang Prabang districts that support the surrounding villages. In schools, if there is a school, learning is often by rote, but at CLI's Learning Centres we provide Lao and English language classes, maths, learning activities, life skills such as good sanitation and traditional crafts, cultural preservation through song and dance, as well as music and art tutoring. We also provide some 'just for fun' games and sports that kids need. Our Learning Centres are a proven and effective way to boost a child's education giving them significant opportunity to escape the poverty cycle.

I have to say I am very passionate about Laos and working for such a good cause and look forward to the day I can stay in Laos full time. I am currently based in the United Kingdom while both fundraising, and also forming links between western schools and our Learning Centres in Laos as part of our schools Cultural Exchange Program. If anyone would like to know more, please do visit our website, or contact me directly. We are also on Facebook, so please to give us a big 'like' and share our page - it does help, and enables us to continue providing educational aid to the disadvantaged children of rural Laos.

Web: [www.communitylearninginternational.org](http://www.communitylearninginternational.org)  
Facebook: [CommunityLearningInternational](https://www.facebook.com/CommunityLearningInternational)  
Email: [alex@communitylearninginternational.org](mailto:alex@communitylearninginternational.org)



# A major School project



Alex Robb-Millar came to Blundell's to speak about the work of Community Learning International and, inspired by his words, the School will be taking part in the CLI's Cultural Exchange Program. The aim is for the whole School to become involved in projects such as the library boats by raising funds through various activities and for Year 11 pupils to travel to Laos every year to help in practical ways; there has already been a great response from current Year 11 pupils who are keen to do this post-GCSEs. The scheme will provide great opportunities for pupils in helping them understand the world beyond their own school community, enabling them to take on responsibility for planning and organising projects and in leadership training, while providing development aid that positively impacts education, water and income generation in Laos. This will be an ongoing partnership between Blundell's and CLI in Laos with current and future generations of pupils taking part. It will be led by Mr Menheneott in his role as Partnership Director.



Book bag



Alex Robb-Millar teaching



## Partnering primary schools

It has always been central to the objectives of the School to work with and support the local community and for the past few years Blundell's has been running a very successful programme of outreach projects with the Culm Valley Small Schools Association (CVSSA). These have included a Classics Day, a Science and Forensic Workshop and most recently Art Day, when 60 pupils from seven schools were invited to participate in an exciting day of creativity in the Art department. With the help of teachers and sixth formers, they explored the theme of a bird's eye view and, after a morning of research and drawing, they decorated and built kites which were flown with flair on the Astro pitch.

Other initiatives with the CVSSA have included Continuing Professional Development opportunities, sharing facilities and helping with the Physical Education programme, where Mr Menheneott has been teaching in the schools once a week. At the same time, he has been working with the Local Education Authority to use this as a pilot to assist PE teaching in primary schools and their access to sporting facilities. Future projects include setting up a reading scheme with local primary schools.



Above: Mr Menheneott assists with coaching hockey in a local primary school

Alex's full account can be read on the Old Blundellian website



# Fundraising

Blundellians raise thousands of pounds for charities each year through a variety of events, ranging from sponsored runs, cake sales, concerts, plays, quizzes, read-a-thons and even a sponsored ban on mobile phones! Thank you to all those who organise these activities and all the families and friends who support them.



Fundraising for charity is always a big part of GH activities and over the past year, the House has raised more than £1700 for charity. Cake sales are always popular; Natalie Cotton (Year 11) raised £72 for Coeliac UK with her sisters Maddy who came in from her primary school to help sell the cakes and Imogen (Year 9 who was absent for the photo).

**NC Year 10 girls were brave enough to give up their phones and IT devices for a 24 hour sponsored ban and collected in excess of £850 for Hospiscare.**



James Perring and Ben Willder (both Year 12) organised a Touch Rugby tournament, raising more than £300 for the Teenage Cancer Trust. The tournament attracted a great turnout from School House to Year 13 and some impressive outfits were worn by players and spectators!



Blundell's School Equestrian team donated £1000 to the Devon Air Ambulance Trust, the charity they support annually through the running of the South West School's One Day Event. The team have also raised £250 for Hospiscare at Pine Lodge in Tiverton, by providing refreshments at a School event in the spring term.

The Charity Committee organised a Crazy Tie Day during the summer term which raised more than £500 for local cancer charity FORCE, while a home clothes day brought in a further £800 for the charity. The Crazy Tie Day was inspired by Mr Pilbeam's taste in colourful ties and pupils and teachers entered into the spirit of the event by sporting all manner of patterned ties. Mr Pilbeam (Pilbo) was able to return to School to see the fantastic ties and fundraising for his favourite charity but sadly passed away after his long battle with cancer the following month.







The North Close Pink Ladies once again chose to support Cancer Research UK through the Race for Life. The ten pupils and Mrs Wheatley took part in the five kilometre run at Weston-Super-Mare and, together with the proceeds from selling sweets around the School, they raised £2000, double their target. They are aiming to run again next year.



**Kiera McMaster in GH also took part in one of the Race for Life events, running with her mother and finishing the race in 37 minutes, raising around £400 for Cancer Research UK. Kiera had promised Mr Pilbeam (who was her tutor when she was in SH) that she would take part in the race; sadly he died before she did so she ran the race in his memory.**

Blundell's has been taking part in the Save the Children Fund's annual tennis tournament for the past ten years and is one of the top fundraising schools for the event. Parents, pupils and staff join in and this year the tournament brought in £2500, largely due to School House using it as a sponsored event.



**A collection taken at the Old House play Dad's Army raised £230 for the charity Help for Heroes**

NC monitors were able to hand over a cheque for £400 to Richard King of the Exeter Leukaemia Fund following the sale of red roses for Valentine's Day



*Clara Greenfield and Mayla Lee spent some of their summer holidays volunteering at Dulverton Library encouraging children to take part in the summer reading challenge*

# Volunteering

Many pupils take part in voluntary work, not least as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme where they are encouraged to look beyond the School and outwards to their local community. This year, the range of out-of-school volunteering undertaken by Blundellians has been impressive; here some of those volunteers recount their experiences.

For my silver volunteering, I went to Bickleigh-on-Exe Primary School. I enjoyed helping out in a variety of ways, such as hearing the children read individually and answering questions they had about their maths work. I was there for a total of seven days, spread out over three months. I then went on to tutor one of the boys from the class I was in, in preparation for the Blundell's entrance exam. We had one hour lessons once a week for about six months where I taught maths, English and non-verbal reasoning. It was gratifying to explain new ideas and then see him make progress. Overall it has been a very rewarding and enjoyable experience.

**Natalie Cotton** (Year 11)

As part of our Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, volunteering section, Louise and I spend our Wednesday afternoons at the British Heart Foundation Charity Shop in Tiverton. We typically start our sessions by tidying the shop floor, after which we spend time serving customers behind the till as well as a lot of restocking and work that goes on behind the scenes. Tagging, sorting and steaming the garments can at times get repetitive and tiring, but this increases our appreciation of people who volunteer regularly or have to do this full time in order to keep enterprises running. Additionally, engaging with customers has proved to be very eye-opening as it helps us to deal with the many different sorts of people which we will encounter in life after leaving our school environment. It teaches us to use initiative, to think quickly, and be time efficient. Ultimately volunteering at the British Heart Foundation is very enjoyable and it is humbling to know that we are benefiting our local community.

**Emilie Cunnington and Louise Isaac** (Year 12)



**Alice Channon** (Year 9, left in picture) spent two weeks volunteering at the Art + Forest Camp at Cheriton Fitzpaine for her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, where she helped run activities for younger children including a drumming workshop, designing jewellery, running an ice-cream parlour, river walks and making up environmental games.



# Looking Back



## An epic production

More than sixty people, including a cast of thirty one actors, were involved in the production of Noel Coward's *Cavalcade* during the summer term. Coward's masterpiece was written in 1931 but is very rarely performed because of the epic scale of the production. It focuses on three decades in the life of the Marryotts, a quintessential British family, and their servants, beginning in 1900 and ending on New Year's Eve 1929. It is set against the major historical events of the period including, of course, the First World War and therefore creates enormous amounts of technical challenges. Nothing daunted, the cast of pupils in Years 9 and 10 and four pupils from the Prep School, musicians and crew relished putting on the play before packed audiences; collections taken during the interval and at the end of the show raised £285 for the Royal British Legion.

Above: The Marryott family, played by Ed O'Brien, Imi Sanders-Dutton, Will McIntyre and Jack Watt

## BLUNDELL'S POPPIES

Blundell's is proud to have its own poppies in the School colours, made exclusively for us by Lily Warne Wool, the company owned by OB Lewis Steer (FH 06-13) in partnership with his mother Paula. The poppies come in two variations and are crocheted by hand in navy, red and white by a team of home workers. They are on sale from the Development Office at £5.95 each, with £1 from every one sold going to the Royal British Legion.

The Steers use the fleece from their Greyfaced Dartmoor sheep to manufacture wool and woollen products and the business has expanded massively since Lewis wrote about Lily Warne Wool for *The Diary* last year when he was Head Boy. The company is now supplying major high street retailer John Lewis with the crocheted poppies in the traditional red and black colours, as well as products to ten independent shops and the National Trust, and is *Country Living Magazine's* rural business mentors for new businesses. Lewis has also spoken to Blundell's pupils about starting up a business and is somehow managing to fit in his business enterprises with studying at the Royal Agricultural University.



## We will remember them

Blundell's has been marking the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War in various ways over the last few months.

This and future issues of the *Diary* will contain a list of Blundellians who gave their lives on active service during the First World War.

Those who died from the outbreak of war up to the end of 1914 were:

BASTARD, William (NC 1905-10), aged 22  
BODY, Grant Trenavin (OH 1892-96), aged 36  
CAREW, Jasper (SH 1908-12), aged 20  
CARSWELL, Robert Nairn (DB 1899-1908), aged 25  
DICKSON (formerly COUPER), Cyril Garlies (W 1904-09), aged 24  
EGREMONT, John (DB 1898-1904), aged 28  
GRIFFITH, Gerald (W 1907-10), aged 21  
HAYDEN, Francis Chatterley (DB 1889-94), aged 31  
HOLMAN, John (JH 1905-07 & P 1909-12), aged 20  
MACKENZIE, Kenneth Lee Warner (NC 1887-88), aged 39  
MAGOR, Arthur Curgenvin (P 1893-97), aged 35  
PILLINER, Rupert Colwill Laybourne (P 1906-10), aged 23  
PRYCE-JENKIN, Richard Douglas (JH & OH 1907-13), aged 20  
ROGERS, Leonard Castel Campbell (OH 1901-04), aged 28  
WARD, Neville Lascelles (OH 1907-11), aged 20  
WILLIAMSON, Alexander John Neeve (Master 1911-12), aged 26



# On the Battlefields



## Joining together

*Chairman of the OB Club Paul Waterworth (NC 58-62) presents the Roll of Honour to the Rev Tim Hunt to be blessed*

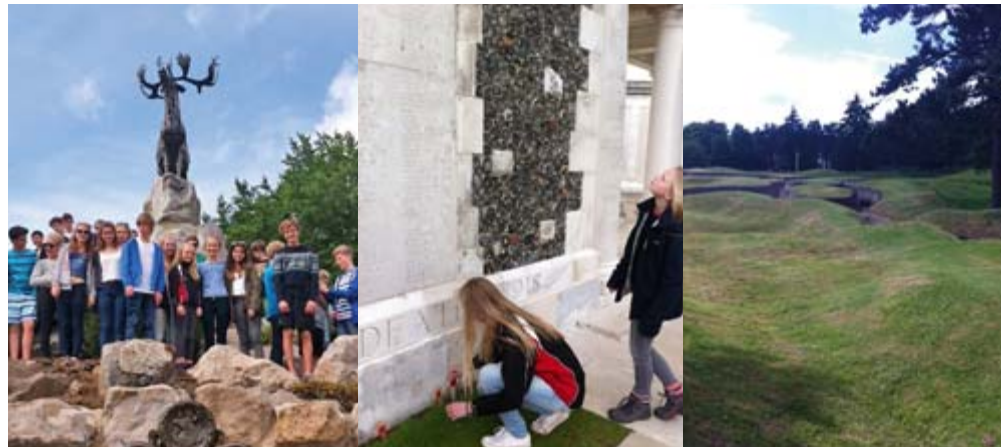
**Current and past pupils came together on Old Blundellian Day to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. The CCF took an active part in the Chapel service, acting as ushers to the OBs and guests and parading the standard into Chapel. At the conclusion of the moving service, a Roll of Honour of those who gave their lives in this and other major conflicts during the past one hundred and fifty years was presented and blessed by the School Chaplain. The Roll of Honour was a gift from Mrs Jacqueline Clough, in memory of her late husband, Tom Clough (OH 42-47 and Master 58-71).**

**Later during the day, two German pupils, Katharina Alpers and Nina Appel (both Year 12), and two English pupils, Imogen Sanders-Dutton and Jonathan Lane (both Year 10), read poems to the assembled OBs. The CCF also helped OBs plant an Oak tree in the School grounds; the tree was grown from an acorn gathered in Delville Wood, the site of a series of engagements in the Battle of the Somme.**

**There is more about OB Day later in The Diary.**

*Below: A memorial Oak tree is planted to commemorate the many Blundellians who fell in the First World War*

*Bottom: The Roll of Honour*



*Left: The group gather beside the monument at Beumont-Hamel Middle: At Tyne Cot, the biggest commonwealth graveyard ever constructed Right: The well preserved battle lines at Vimy Ridge*

During the summer term, a group of Year 9 historians made their way to the battlefields in northern France and Belgium. So began a very moving and emotional visit back to World War One in the centenary year.

Having arrived in France via a short ferry crossing and a rather longer coach journey, we were in Belgium. Our first port of call, before even checking into our hostel for the night, was the Flanders Field museum in Ypres, where some of the most horrific fighting of WW1 took place. This museum expanded our knowledge greatly and we began to see the war from a point of view that no history textbook can teach. Having studied what occurred on the very land we were standing on, we moved onto possibly the epicentre of the trip, the ability to see the Menin Gate memorial service, where the last post has been sounded nearly every day since the armistice was called at 11am on the 11th November 1918. This huge memorial arch was built to commemorate the dead who have no grave; there is no other named dedication to them. Seeing so many names meant that it was impossible to take in the sheer numbers of dead who have no grave. We observed the two minutes of silence with upward of 1000 people all paying respect for these men who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The following morning we were guided, by a Belgian, around the main points of the Ypres Salient, which is a semi-circular ring around Ypres (the town) where the three main battles of Ypres were fought. You could get an idea of the number of dead simply by looking around. You couldn't see for more than a few hundred metres in any direction without observing a graveyard or memorial of some type. We visited these graveyards and also were present at the place where John McCrae wrote the famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'. The highlight of the morning was visiting the biggest commonwealth graveyard ever constructed, called Tyne Cot. This huge commemoration contains more than 11,000 individual graves and 30,000 names of the unknown fallen.

We then left Belgium and made the journey into France to see some of the Somme battlefields. We saw the very well preserved battle lines at Vimy Ridge (Canadian) where you could even venture underground into the tunnels that the attacking Canadian troops dug to give them an advantage over the defending German army. It was amazing to see the front line as the troops that fought and died there saw it, only a few metres apart. By the side of it there was a huge Canadian monument which is possibly the largest of its kind, this yet again contained the names of the fallen.

Having slept over at another hostel, we were able to see a spectacular monument to the Newfoundland regiment, who nearly all perished in the Somme; this consisted of a Moose statue at the section of the front line called Beumont-Hamel. Of the thousand that began the first day of the Somme offensive, only a few more than sixty remained.

This experience was very enriching for all involved, and it certainly will remain with us all for a life time. Credit must go to Mr Hawkins and his team of teachers who ensured that the entire trip went off without any hitches.

By Kieran Smith (Year 9)





# The Value of the Humanities

A few years ago, I had the following conversation with an elderly family member. 'Grandad, I'm doing English at university.'

Thoughtful, disturbed silence.

'But why?' he said, awfully confused. 'You could become a doctor, a lawyer or something else! Why don't you do a degree that will actually be useful?'

Indeed, he has a point. I could have become a doctor or a lawyer, but I decided against it. Why? Simply because, I think I chose the best degree going, one that is so useful, it serves me on a daily basis. Yes, you read it correctly – daily. As many students have said to me in the past, why bother studying something that we already speak? It is a good question and one that I hope to answer in this article.

Often, when discussing the importance of the humanities, people are very quick to say that they should be valued 'for their own sake'. Now, whilst I completely agree with this argument, allow me to try to define the different strands of this 'value' to help us consider why English is such an important subject. I shall also look at both language and literature because, as you will see later, it is very difficult to separate the two completely.

Imagine this scenario: you are working on a farm that deals with sheep and you go one morning to let them out, but when you return in the evening, you find they have all disappeared. You need to send an email to the farmer explaining what has happened. There are two ways of confessing:

1. I have temporarily misplaced your sheep and I will try my hardest to find them

2. The sheep have been temporarily misplaced and I will try my hardest to find them

These are virtually the same sentence, but there is one fundamental difference. The first sentence is written in what is called the active voice – where you or a person does the action (in this case, losing the sheep). The second sentence is written in the passive voice – it is unclear as to who did the action. As a result, because you have used the passive, you technically have not confessed that you personally have lost the sheep and this tricks the farmer (or indeed, any other reader who is not English savvy enough to spot this) to focus on the good action of you going out to find the sheep.

There are many small, yet important points like this in English that really help to get you what you want (or, rather, get you off the hook!). Indeed, good language usage is good persuasion. If you can learn the subtleties of English, then you may just find you can work more situations to your advantage. On the other hand, if you can then learn when people are trying to use these techniques on you, this puts you in an even better position, as you can resist their persuasions. I hope you will agree that enabling yourself to get what you want has a rather large value attached to it.

Yet, what about literature? Unlike language, Dickens, Shakespeare or Austen may not be able to help you find your lost sheep (or avoid blame for 'misplacing' them). If language is the diva pop star who always demands and gets what she wants, literature is its kind sister who sits you down for a cup of tea with a plate of biscuits.

In the same way that you may talk to your friends about an episode of TOWIE, the football or that funny YouTube video where the kitten falls over, literature also has the same power. Any book is a key to the door of great conversation, but crucially, that book does not have to be a thousand pages long. In fact, most people would prefer if it were not. Michael McIntyre's autobiography, a short story from Roald Dahl or a speech from Malorie Blackman are all forms of literature that can be read, discussed and loved just as much as any film or television series.

The most important point for literature though is this: good reading leads to good language usage, which, as we have seen above, leads to good persuasion. The more you take in of language, the better your own will become, meaning you can use it more effectively. So, when you are writing your CV you can impress employers before they even meet you, amaze them with good language skills in the interview and communicate effectively in emails to colleagues when you get the job. The practical nature of language and literature cannot be denied.

A wonderful writer called Sam Leith once said that language is to humans what water is to fish. Indeed, it is all around us, we simply cannot live without it and for this reason, it becomes very easy to take it for granted when, in actual fact, it is of greatest value to us. Facebook and Twitter, laughter and understanding, meaning and being all come from literature and language and in the case of English, we are fortunate enough to speak an international tongue. Surely, as a native speaker, you owe the world to master it to the best of your ability, don't you think?

**Mr Alex Fisher**, Teacher of English





## Work Experience at Cambridge

By Elliott Finch (Year 13)

Last year for my Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), I designed a solar tracking system which utilises the sun's heat to ensure the angle of misalignment between solar panels and the sun's direct beam is minimised, thus increasing efficiency. This project also included research into solar panels and how they work. As a result of my EPQ I was given the opportunity to visit Cambridge University to discuss my ideas and for work experience in the Materials Science Department.

On my initial trip I was shown around the C.A.P.E. facility at Cambridge and got the chance to discuss my project with three PhD students over lunch. I then had a tour of the department by the Cambridge University Eco Racing's Technical Director, whilst he explained about their project. I also met Professor Guthrie, head of the Centre for Sustainable Development at Cambridge. This trip gave me many ideas on how I could take my project further in the future.

I was then invited back to Cambridge to the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy over the Easter holidays for a week's work experience. This was really enlightening for me as I was able to see lots of techniques I had read about in current solar research. These include pulse laser deposition, atmospheric atomic layer deposition, sputtering, evaporating and electro-deposition. Their ability to deposit atomic layers of exactly the correct materials desired and being able to grow the materials on substrates to have exactly the desired properties for the solar cell was fascinating. I was also shown techniques they used for testing their samples they had created such as atomic force microscopy and x-ray diffraction.

I have really enjoyed learning about all of these processes and being given more insight into the field. Perhaps it is an area I would like to delve into at university level. We shall see!



## Writing to France

By George Gibbs (Year 7)

Year 7 have had the privilege of sending messages to our neighbours over the English Channel, in France. We have each been paired up with a pen pal from Collège Léon-Marie Fournet in Jassans near the town of Lyon. They are learning English and we are learning French so our communicating will broaden our horizons for the future. We have also used the letters to see if French education has anything that differs to ours. We believe that we can pick out different qualities from our pen pals that we can relate to as a person. Our year group will find that this is an excellent experience because it uses skills from across the academic curriculum. It will improve our French but it will also play an important role in improving our English, such as letter planning and hand writing.



## Meeting the Princess

Earlier in the year, Tim Dyke came out of retirement to lead last year's winning English Speaking Union's Public Speaking team of Freya de Lisle, Oscar Mustard and Rowan Carew up to the House of Lords in London, where in the gorgeous surroundings of the River Room the team were presented with commemorative certificates by Her Royal Highness Princess Anne, who then talked to them about the competition, of which she is President.

This was followed by a sumptuous tea in the equally fabulous venue of the ESU's headquarters, Dartmouth House, one of the most celebrated venues in London. All the organisers commented on the aplomb and charm of the Blundell's team, who were given an experience none of them will ever forget.



## Business, Accounting and Skills Education Competition

Year 12 Business Studies students, Tom Maynard, Ruth Squires, Isaac Hydleman, Charles Henderson, Amy Horsey and Evgeniya Gordienko competed in the regional BASE competition in Exeter, against more than 20 schools. They worked with a mentor from Michelmores Solicitors and found working with someone with such a high level of experience very useful. The team were given an in-depth case study about a company and they had to undertake a SWOT analysis, consider a tender for a contract and review a consultant's evaluation report on how it was completed. They then gave a four minute presentation to the panel and the other students outlining and justifying their recommendations. It was an excellent experience for the team and covered many skills used at A2 level rather than AS level. The team gave a confident presentation and should be proud of their performance.



# Celebrating STEM

Year 8 pupils took part in a celebration evening recently to show their families what they have achieved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Four teams took part in Go4SET, a scheme run by the Engineering Development Trust linking schools with companies to offer a ten week STEM experience and worked with engineers from Mouchel, the international infrastructure and business services group. For this, the teams wrote a formal report, made a model of their design and gave a presentation as part of the assessment process to the Go4SET (Exeter region) panel of judges. Their projects were then judged at the Big Bang Fair South West. At the latter, the team of Rory Bateman, Marcus Lloyd, Will Spencer, Ed Olsen and Jack Olive won the CREST prize for Creativity in a Project for their 'Create Sport Eco Gym' and a place in the finals of the National Science and Engineering Competition 2014/15. The team of Maddie Wright, Elliot Cole, Max Baker and Archie Morris won the STEM club award for Best Presented Stand and the award for Best Communicator, Engineering and Technology for their 'Business of Recycling' project. The team of Anna Sides, Katie Martin, Cara Read and Charlotte Tait won the Go4SET Most Innovative Project award for their floating eco-classroom. STEM Ambassador Peter Shrubsall presented the teams with their prizes during the evening.

In addition, all pupils in Year 8 took part in CREST projects through their Science lessons on a variety of subjects such as Rainforests and Jungles (Biology), Who Dunit? (Chemistry) and Fun of the Fair (Physics). All the CREST and Go4SET projects were on display during the evening and pupils were very happy to demonstrate and describe their work to those who attended this excellent event.

**Top:** Jake Le Gassick and Tabby Vause with their 'Rainforests and Jungles' CREST project

**Middle left:** 'The Business of Recycling' project

**Middle right:** Louis Delling with his 'Fun of the Fair' CREST project

**Below right:** 'The Create Sport Eco Gym' team who won a place in the finals

**Below:** The Go4SET Most Innovative Project award winners





# Design and Technology



Years 11 and 12 pupils studying Design and Technology came up with some innovative creations for their GCSE Resistant Materials and A level work

Top: Austin Robertshaw (Year 12)  
Above left: Eliza Tidball (Year 11)  
Above right: Jethro Clark (Year 11)



Above: Tom Maynard (Year 12)  
Left: Freya Slack (Year 11)  
Below: Curtis Pitts (Year 12)



## Cross Curricular Day

Year 9 pupils put into practice some of the skills they had learned throughout the year at a cross curricular day recently. During the first workshop, the School gym was turned into a newsroom as pupils worked together to produce the front page of a newspaper, imagining they were reporting on the events of D-Day as they happened in June 1944. Writing in both French and English, pupils reported on the landings on the Normandy beaches, using facsimiles of newspapers written at the time and first hand photo footage of the events. In the second workshop, using their Maths skills and business acumen, pupils took on the role of oil traders. All the pupils worked extremely hard and should be very proud of everything they achieved.



## The Engineering Education Scheme

Ben Willder, Hector Pring, Rita Tao and Run Zhao attended a Celebration and Assessment Day for the Engineering Education Scheme (EES) at Plymouth University where they gave a presentation to a panel of judges from industry and answered questions at their display stand from judges and invited guests. Their project was to calculate the carbon footprint for the two Devon TDK-Lamda sites and they have been supported by Adrian Irwin of the company throughout the project. The judges gave very positive feedback saying 'the report was flawlessly written, very professional, ...the presentation was delivered confidently and it was clear from the question and answer session that the team had worked very successfully together playing to individuals strengths'. Ben Willder was also praised for his leadership of the team.

The team qualify not only for their EES certificates but also for the GOLD Crest award which is highly recognised and respected by UCAS for university entry, particularly in the STEM subjects.



## Signing

This year a new activity was introduced where pupils learnt British Sign Language, an official language used for communication by about 150,000 people in the UK. The activity involved learning and practising signs using an online course before going through eight assessments in order to gain the qualification. Eight pupils attended this, with excellent results and seven of these passed the final course, receiving the end of course certificate.



# Art

As always, the A level and GCSE artwork by pupils was highly imaginative and produced in a variety of media.



Above: Ellie Ansell's Fish



Above: Portrait by Honor Bartlett (Year 12)

Below: Still Life, Judit Lam



Above: Sunset drip by Ivan Leung (Year 11)

Left: Ostrich egg camera, Rex Southwick (Year 12)

Right: Mask by Lizze Morris (Year 11)







**Left:** Josh Huggett  
**Above:** Archie Hare  
**Below:** Victor Mills

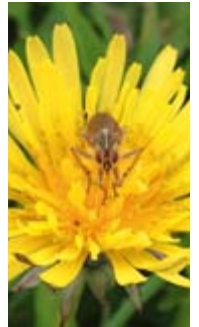
# Lino prints

Influenced by their project studies of Giacometti and figurative sculptures, Year 8 created some charming lino prints in their art lessons.



## Biology Photography Competition

Blundell's first Biology photography competition was held during the summer term, when students and staff were challenged to photograph the best image of the natural world. Nearly one hundred entries were submitted from Year 7s upwards and the panel of judges, including Mr Sims, Mr Olive and Mr Baily, whittled them down to the top ten with three overall winners in the Junior, Senior and Staff categories:



Jack Armstrong-Williams (Year 8) for his fantastic balanced sea urchin shells (*top*):  
Amber Titchner (Year 11) for her close-up of a yellow flower and resting bug (*middle*):  
Mrs Milne for her amazing close-up of a dragonfly (*below*).



## Art and History

The Art department teamed up with the History department to deliver a cross-curricular workshop on heraldry to Year 7. After an illustrated lecture about heraldry, when they learned that the colours and images used in heraldry all have specific meanings, the pupils set about designing, then painting, their own shields. The designs ranged from the elaborate to the austere, but each was very personal to the artist. After completing their shields, the group gathered together to present their work, explaining their designs and reviewing what they had learned





# The Holidays

MANY OF THE UPPER AND LOWER SIXTH USED THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS TO GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE, GO TRAVELLING OR PURSUE A PARTICULAR INTEREST. SOME OF THEM DESCRIBE WHAT THEY'VE BEEN UP TO AND THEIR FUTURE PLANS

## HECTOR PRING

During my summer holidays I spent five weeks in the Himalayas with a group organised by British Exploring. We flew into Leh in the Ladakh region of India; we then drove south over the world's second highest pass and then made base camp at 4800m. From there we went off on three roughly week long expeditions in which we climbed a 6020m peak and took data from the third highest weather station.

**Why I chose this:** I wanted to do something adventurous in my holidays and I have always wanted to go to the Himalayas.

**Future plans:** My future plans are to go university and read Materials Science.



## ALEX KITSON

I responded to an open call from the BBC for sketches from young writers on the subject of Scottish independence and sent off a short skit, which, after a long process, got filmed over

the summer with two others they requested from me and eventually aired on BBC2 Scotland on 9th September.

**Why I chose this:** It sounded like a lot of fun and a really enriching experience (they also paid me).

**Future plans:** I'm planning to read Politics, but if someone offered this as a career I'd drop everything and do it. Immediately.



## FREYA DE LISLE

I attended the JACT Ancient Greek course at Bryanston School, which involved spending two weeks mastering the basics of the language. The workload was extremely

intense, with everyone being expected to hand in three preps per day, though this was very rewarding, and I did find time to perform in their fantastic production of Aristophanes' comedy 'Clouds'.

**Why I chose this:** I wanted to grasp the foundations of Ancient Greek, thus enabling me to translate original texts.

**Future plans:** I hope to study Classics at university, focusing on Greek literature, and the skills I learnt at Bryanston should serve me well in this endeavour.

## OSCAR MUSTARD

I went to Rome for a day in order to immerse myself in the setting of Cicero's Catiline orations and his famous legal triumphs. My current EPQ is focused on Cicero's political oratory and the impact of his legal practice on this art. Thus in Rome I visited the forum and the Palazzo di Giustizia (the Palace of Justice) to get a sense of Cicero's legal milieu.

**Why I chose this:** I chose this because I felt it would bring me closer to the setting in which Cicero's oratory had thrived.

**Future plans:** I intend to read Law at a British University but then pursue a career as a lawyer in the United States.



## LIZZIE MORRIS

I went to Peru with Project Abroad on an archaeology project in the Andean Mountains working on a dig in an agricultural Incan ruin. We spent four to five hours excavating every day and found lots of pottery. I also did community service and went to Machu Picchu and other significant sites. It was absolutely amazing and I would love to do it again.

**Why I chose this:** I have always been fascinated with anthropology and archaeology ties in with that.

**Future plans:** I would like to be an investigative documentary filmmaker.





### SU FENG

I spent around two months on an internship at Xingye Bank in Shanghai, China. I was dealing with people who wanted to take out loans to buy property or wanted to leave money in the bank and needed to know how much interest they would get.

**Why I chose this:** I would like a career in finance of some kind so I thought it would be good to start working in that area as soon as I could.



### ALEXA BUTLER

For five weeks this past summer I went on an expedition to Namibia with the British Exploring Society. While out there I took part in many activities including two major treks around the Doros Crater and to the famous Skeleton Coast. I also completed many science projects and discovered what it is like to live and survive in the Namib Desert.

**Why I chose this:** I chose to do this expedition because I love to travel and it was something new and different for me.

**Future plans:** In the future I plan on taking a gap year and working around the world, then going off to university.

**Above:** Alexa with expedition members (she's on the left, wearing a turquoise wind breaker with arms open wide)



### ABI BUNDY AND HATTIE HICKMAN

We took part in the National Citizen Service [a government initiative promoting social action] on a three week programme. The first two weeks were residential on Exmoor with team building exercises and outdoor activities such as caving, gorge walking and rock climbing; in the second week we were given just under £200 to feed 15 people for five days – it was a great way to learn about the value of money. We also visited and helped at various charitable organisations to decide which we wanted to work with in our third week. We

chose to revamp Sunnymead Community Centre in Tiverton and spent 30 hours painting, weeding the play area, re-posting a fence etc. and also wrote to local organisations asking for donations of goods. On the last day we raised money for the centre through a stall at the Pannier Market.

**Why we chose this:** We heard about it through a lecture at School and it was great to do after our GCSEs with our friends, earn UCAS points, learn new skills, meet new people and have fun.

**Future plans:** We'd like to go back next year as leaders; we both want to go into medicine after A levels.



### ROWAN CAREW

This summer I spent one week at Bristol Crown Court shadowing Judge Horton. I was able to watch an entire criminal case, yet also receive advice on important practices in law such as cross-examination. I then spent two weeks in France; in one week I learned to sail catamarans and in the other I practised my French on a course.

**Why I chose this:** I shadowed Judge Horton to expose myself to a career in law and I went to France primarily to develop my spoken French.

**Future Plans:** I aim to become fluent in French and I might take a post-graduate course in law after studying PPE.



### EMMA NELSON

During the summer I attended the Eton Choral Course which took place at Cheltenham College. For the duration of eight days, we sang from 8:30am until 22:00,

which was thoroughly enjoyable. On the penultimate day, we were able to sing evensong in the chapel of Queen's College, Oxford. On the last day the choir performed another evensong in Cheltenham College's chapel and it was recorded for Radio 3 and broadcast on 27th August. I was lucky enough to take the alto solo line in the Nicholas Maw anthem.

**Why I chose this:** It's a great learning experience to work with different conductors and also to be able to sing with others who are as passionate about singing as I am.

**Future plans:** I'm hoping to study BMus, vocal studies, at a Conservatoire and pursue singing as a career.



### LUKE RICKETTS

In the holidays I took part in a volunteering programme in Ghana for two weeks where I coached football to U12 level children. The adventure was incredible and I enjoyed every minute of it. We coached them for two hours each day and then they played a tournament at the end of the two weeks against nearby teams.

**Why I chose this:** I chose to do this as I wanted to experience a completely different culture than the one I am used to and also to give a helping hand to those in need.



# Tours and Trips

Blundellians have been lucky enough to go on some interesting and exciting trips in the UK and abroad this year.



## Italy 2014



Earlier in the year, a group of 32 sixth form students spent six days in Italy. The previous two trips were open to geographers and historians, but in 2014 those studying classical civilisation were also allowed to join us. To be honest, we just needed to get Mrs Milne on the trip as her knowledge of Rome, Herculaneum and Pompeii was invaluable.

The first couple of days were spent in Rome. The warm, Italian spring sunshine was somewhat uplifting after the storms that had battered England over the winter and students quickly got their shorts on and dressed accordingly. Some even decided to purchase additional summer wear, most of which was cheap and tacky. Frankly, Richard Barr looked ridiculous and was an early entry into Mr Marsden's 'book of folly'. This initiative from Mr Marsden proved very popular and anyone that made a daft comment or did anything that resembled stupidity was duly noted. The book filled up quickly.





The Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel, Coliseum, Roman Forum, Pantheon, Piazza del Popolo and Trevi Fountain were just some of the amazing sites visited in the beautiful city of Rome, before we made the coach trip down to the Bay of Naples. Staying in the small market town of Vico Equense which was just a few miles from Sorrento, we arrived just as the sun was setting over the bay. To the dismay of the Head of Geography, Mount Vesuvius did have to be pointed out to one particular Year 12 student!

Mount Vesuvius and Solfatara were highlights for many. The temptation to fill pockets with lumps of wonderful lava and rocks simply could not be resisted. Even the stench of sulphur becomes appealing over time. Personally, hearing the sound of 'badger' echo out of a volcanic crater is a magical moment. For others, the day on the Isle of Capri or evening in Sorrento will be remembered most fondly. Although the short minibus journey up to Anacapri is scary in parts, the views are stunning. Perfect weather greeted us wherever we went and the group of students were entertaining and good company throughout.

On the last evening, the group congregated in the town centre of Vico Equense and Mr Marsden gave out a few awards based upon his observations during the trip. Mrs Milne's efforts were recognised even though her guided tours around the old Roman settlements broke Italian laws and angered the locals. Paddy Canterbury was a worthy contender for the main prize but the favourite, Richard Barr, duly took the title of best tourist. It was fitting end to a fantastic trip and although he is leaving Blundell's, Mr Marsden is already looking into ways of joining us again in 2016....

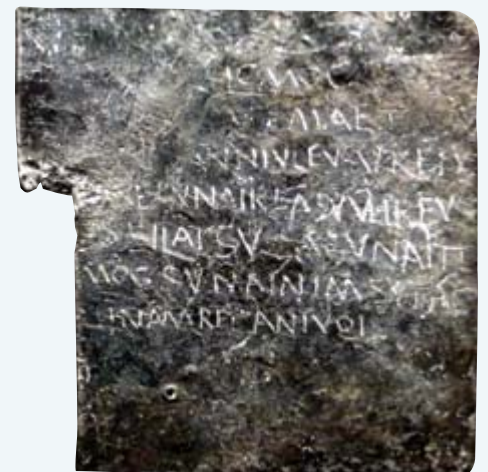
**GA Bucknell**, Head of Geography



## The Roman Baths

The Year 9 Latinists set off on a beautifully sunny July morning to make the journey to the Roman Baths. When we arrived in Bath, we had a little time looking around the city. We saw the beautiful Bath Abbey and the fantastic stone buildings associated with Jane Austen. After an early lunch we immediately grasped our audio guides and went on a tour of the Roman Bath complex. The revamped museum is extremely interesting and packed with archaeological exhibits as well as interactive displays. We were thrilled to see the *Vilbia* curse tablet after studying it earlier in the year and making our own curse tablets. The group couldn't get over how small the original one actually is. There are also 'Romans' who sit around the Great Bath; this year there was Maximus the soldier, with whom some of the group had a photo opportunity, after trying to lift his body armour. After grabbing smoothies for the journey home, we headed back to the minibus to enjoy the lollies. An enjoyable day was had by all (even though there was no bingo on the bus).

**Mrs Becky Milne**  
Head of Classics



Above: *The Vilbia curse tablet*



## Tours and Trips



### Business and Economics Trip

Centrax Ltd is an engineering and manufacturing company which develops, manufactures and supplies gas turbine-driven generator sets, machined components and assemblies for customers worldwide. Students in Year 13 had an invaluable experience when they visited the company to hear Richard Barr MBE, who is joint Managing Director, other directors and key management staff talk about the company's history, how it trades globally, its customer service, human resource management and marketing. The presentations also revealed the complexity of accounts and the tax system when trading internationally and gave the students a unique insight into a multinational company. The students were also shown around the factory to understand how cell production, the Kanban System and quality control works.



### Big Band on tour

A large group of the Big Band travelled to France in June for an enjoyable long weekend. Having settled into the Moulin Conan, near Guerlesquin, the band rehearsed in the afternoon, played various ball games, walked the extensive grounds, and saw the coypus before the first gig at the Grand Cafe de la Terrasse in Morlaix, close to the spectacular railway viaduct. The following morning they played in the bandstand in Morlaix at the town hall where the Saturday market was being held. The final performance was played to a large crowd in Carantec, a glorious seaside resort. Some time on the beach was possible before the band were entertained to some wonderful food at the restaurant (many going for the moules frites).



## Barbados Tour Report

After settling into the beautiful beachside hotel and having the whole sea safety checked by Mr Menheneott, we had an extremely sweaty training session and went out to the local fish market to experience a bit of Bajan lifestyle. After a weekend acclimatizing, including a Baywatch-esque fitness session on the beach led by Mr. Holman we had our first game, a T20 against the Wanderers. A close game but we ended up losing by nine runs. Highlights were a flowing 44 by Tom Youngman and a 50 from our captain superstar Sam Wyatt-Haines.

A 30 over game at the stunning and remote Isolation CC followed, an average-poor batting performance let us down and they showed us how to bat reaching the target of 126 quickly only four wickets down.

In the next game at Pickwick CC, we earned a hard-fought victory by five wickets, with strong batting performances by Luke Ansell and Will Thompson with 50 and 48 respectively. As a break we had a brilliant day out on a Catamaran including jet-ski rides, snorkelling and swimming with turtles, as well as swimming with Mr Turner.

We had another game at Isolation next, a 30 over game was planned. However we had a batting performance to forget, with no highlights. After a classic cricket lunch (our fourth in a row) of chicken, rice and beans we had time for a 20 over game. This was more closely contested but we still lost by 26 runs.

We played our final game against the strongest team so far, Wanderers CC 1st XI and put in one of our best performances of the tour. With their opening bowler scaring our top order nicely we managed to reach 190 with Ansell, Harry Eaton, Wyatt-Haines all chipping in. Dan Pyle needs a special mention for leaving a straight ball, and running Dom Bess out in one innings. A good effort in the field resulted in a close game but we ended up second best.

An awards ceremony followed that night, and a special mention must go to Dan Pyle for winning the 'Richard' of the tour award. Overall, we all had an unbelievably good time and relished the chance to play cricket at a high standard in a beautiful country with very friendly people. A massive thanks to all the staff who enabled the tour to happen, especially tour manager Mr Menheneott.

By **Luke Ansell** (Year 13)







Far left: *Birgit Kite and Tessa Deuchar*

Right: *The original San sign at Milestones, now the Prep School*

Below: *Eating lunch in the San, 1986*



# The Changing San

Although the Sanatorium is usually associated with calm and quiet efficiency, it has seen many upheavals over the last fifteen years. Tessa Deuchar started work as Senior Sister in 1999; her two eldest children had been full boarders whilst she and her husband were living in Saudi Arabia and on their return to England their youngest daughter started here too. Tessa was very grateful to be given the opportunity to run the San and has witnessed those changes and had to manage their impact on the School community.

When Tessa arrived, the San (then called Blundell's School Hospital) was sited at Milestones and has since moved four times. The next location was at the back of Francis House, where it was very small (and difficult to work in when there was 'flu epidemic in the School), then to Newtes House off Tidcombe Lane, followed by Westlake, where a purpose built San was installed. However, Tessa and her team weren't there for long before they were on the move again; boarding expanded in Westlake and so the San was shifted to its current location at Thornton House in 2005, which was once a girls' day House. There are advantages to being here as it is quiet and tucked away, so that pupils can come and go without being seen by other members of the School.

There were originally three nurses working in the San with the local doctor's surgery, but now there are five, including one providing night cover – originally this was covered by staff living

on site at Milestones. In addition, Birgit Kite joined Tessa in the San as the School's first counsellor ten years ago, after having being Head of Learning Support here for several years before that. The role of the nurses has changed too as they take on more responsibility for teaching on personal health issues.

Tessa and Birgit agree that the pastoral side of the School has changed hugely, with the emphasis now on the happy rounded child. But they have also seen an increased amount of strain and pressure on young people caused by social media.

Now there are more changes ahead as both Tessa and Birgit retire. They say that it has been a wonderful privilege to work in the San and to watch pupils blossom as they progress through the School. There is great camaraderie in the San and have also been occasions of great humour: Tessa and Birgit recount how they have seen pupils come hopping in to the San complaining of a sore ankle or leg (usually when the Russell training is going on), then run off with no sign of a limp once they've received an absit excusing them from training that day!

Both will miss the Blundell's community but are looking forward to spending more time with their children and grandchildren. They leave the San in good hands, continuing to respond to changing circumstances but remaining a haven for pupils.



Above: *Some of the implements rescued from Blundell's School Hospital by Tessa and now on display in the San*



# Goodbye to Mr Barlow

By Katharine Sendell (Year 13)





After an incredible 30 years at Blundell's, treating us all to countless concerts and Thursday 'hymn' practice in chapel, the Director of Music, Mr Andrew Barlow retired at the end of last term. Katharine Sendell had the pleasure of chatting to him about his time at Blundell's before he left.

**You've been everything from hockey coach to tour guide of Europe, what was your most enjoyable role?**

Dealing with the choir, because that's the music that means more to me than any other. When conducting and organising the choral concerts, I've always been keen that the stuff we do is challenging - which I think it always has been! Others probably find some of it quite tedious, but I hope those involved don't because it's always spectacular.

Also being able to take the choir to sing in places such as St Mark's in Venice or the two cathedrals in Malta, St Vitus in Prague and Notre Dame. Places you would not get the opportunity to sing in anywhere else.

**If the choir has been your most enjoyable role, then what is your favourite choir piece?**

Evening Hymn, it's simply so dramatic. And because the choir always sing it so well, O Thou The Central Orb, known as 'The Middle Blob' to Blundellians past and present. Of course the carols as well!

**What is it about Blundell's that has kept you here for so long?**

Well we weren't planning on being here for more than five years. I was offered a job at St Edward's in Oxford; however, we decided we didn't want to sell our house in Devon. Then former Head Master Jonathan Leigh asked us to take over GH and develop the co-ed side of the school.

It can be quite rare, but I've also been very fortunate in having some very supportive Heads during my time here. Being able to write music and having an excellent choir perform it, and having the 4th XI hockey team to entertain me in the autumn terms. So it's a great mix of things really.

**Most striking and fond memories**

Well that's incredibly hard. There are so many but to mention just a few: Definitely taking the choir to Berlin 1989 during the collapse of communist system, and the opening of gates along the Berlin wall.

During a concert in Urania, we sang with players from Berlin Philharmonic, a very big event. We had been asked to learn some German songs so that the East German youth choir could sing with us.

The lady in charge, announced this to the audience, then promptly burst into tears because it was such an emotional moment for them all. It was one of the first times East German pupils were doing something with western kids.

Alex Macbean conducting the choir in St Mark's back in 2010. It was brilliant that she was able to do that! In the end you make yourself redundant with music, and that's what it's all about - you shouldn't need me!

**Favourite musical you've done here?**

Well that's a hard one too. There have been 25 of those! The most interesting would be some of the School House ones that we wrote ourselves such as Shipwrecked. Michael Morpurgo let us do his famous novel 'Why the whales came' which quite a few schools have done since, and we are still trying to get published. They were both based on the Isles of Scilly so we took Years 7 and 8 there!

Also a musical called Ratz for which Mr Pilbeam did the most amazing set with a scene of houses with windows popping open here, there and everywhere.

**If you could, compare Blundell's to a composer or piece of music.**

Well it could be anything by Mahler simply because there's so much going on and the complexity of bringing it all together to make it all work can be extremely challenging. Blundell's is pretty similar and the majority of pupils are trying to juggle music, sporty things, drama and academics. For a relatively small school, lots of the same people are involved in all of the same things.

**So what's next?**

Well I'm going to be busy! Lots of travelling and sailing hopefully! I'm sailing in Greece in the first week of next term, off to Hong Kong to examine for five weeks, back to the UK for a few weeks to organise the OB choir trip, and I'm going to Singapore at the end of February for more examining. I'm going to keep in touch, there's lots of younger ones at the School I have vested interests in, such as the Year 9 music scholars etc. I'll be extremely keen to see what they get up to. And as I have said on many occasions, I of course expect to be invited to play for everybody's wedding!



**A few months before he retired, Andrew Barlow and his wife Heather had the privilege of meeting Vladimir Ashkenazy, one of the foremost musical figures in the world, and his wife Dody. Ashkenazy was born in Gorky and studied in Moscow winning the International Tchaikovsky Piano Competition in 1962 and is 'one of the most revered pianists of our times'. He began conducting 20 years ago and had been involved with the Czech Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony, Cleveland, Berlin Philharmonic and the Philharmonia, as well as being the musical director of the European Union Youth Orchestra. The wide-ranging interview and discussion took place before he conducted the Philharmonia Orchestra in Manchester and can be read in full on the OB website.**

**Andrew Barlow:** How do you view the quality of orchestras in different countries?

**Vladimir Ashkenazy:** The British orchestras are very good, but funding is not always enough, while in America I think they're great with a lot of support - but not all (some go bankrupt - in San Diego there are no funds). Those in the Soviet Union were very well funded, but they are happier now in the Russian Federation, and proud. In some countries their orchestras have no idea and what they do is awful [but he wouldn't say where].

When you conduct music based on literary figures work (Byron, Pushkin for example) do you re-read the works? **I have done and I should really so that they can open new vistas.**

Do you welcome ideas from the orchestra, or have an expectation of how things are played? **Every orchestra is different, and players have different ideas - especially solo parts. If there is a change of ideas I can discover something new.**

Having had a wealth of experience as a soloist has this affected your approach when conducting soloists? **There can be a quite new attitude of music which is fresh - it is never boring.**

I understand you have a yacht in the Mediterranean - where are your favourite places to visit?

**The boat is 72 feet long and we like visiting Turkey and Greece and the family joins us. We have a Yamaha grand piano on the yacht so I can practise for two or three hours a day - and when my son (also a pianist) is there it is used much more.**

You mention your Yamaha piano - which make of piano do you prefer?

**The Yamaha is really good for the weather in the Med - but for performances it has to be Steinway.**

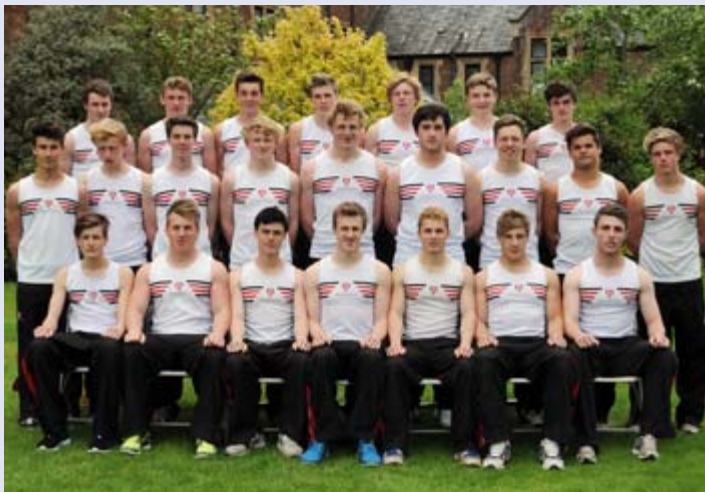


**Right:** Millie Blackmore (Year 12) Victrix Ludorum (Years 11, 12 and 13)

**Below:** The Lutra Shield competitors

**Far right top:** The girls' athletics team

**Far right bottom:** Karl Still (Year 10) on his way to breaking the TJ record



# Athletics



**This summer we have been fortunate in having some excellent weather which has brought out the very best in our athletes. The first meet of the term was at Castle School where we comprehensively beat local rivals King's Taunton, Taunton School and Wellington in all age groups and got a chance to look at some of our emerging talent.**

Our U20 boys' team, consisting of 24 athletes from Years 10-13, journeyed to Yeovil for the much anticipated Lutra Shield competition which pits seven of the top South West independent schools against each other with three competitors from each school in every event. The sight of Arthur Friend, George Dart and Bertie Frankpitt eyeing up the enormous hurdles at the start of the 110m high hurdles event will live long in the memory! However, everyone rose to the occasion with notable PBs recorded by many of our team. We waited anxiously for the overall results and were amazed to hear that we were runners up (to Millfield), losing by only 19 points - the best result Blundell's has ever achieved in this competition.

Our annual journey to Millfield for the 11 school meet was well worth it as their athletics facilities are second to none. Despite exams, we fielded four teams and many people tried disciplines they would not normally do to gain maximum points for the team. Against tough competition our U15 and U16 boys' teams achieved third places which again showed our strength in depth, and Lucy Walliker, Millie Blackmore and Jack Webber won their events.

In the ESAA Track and Field Cup, all four teams were crowned county champions. At the Regional (West) B Finals our younger athletes performed particularly well again, with the Junior Boys finishing 4th, Inter Boys 2nd and Inter Girls 6th. All the teams were a credit but the most notable performances were achieved by Will Klinkenberg, Archie Stoneman, Karl Still, Bertie Frankpitt and Lucy Walliker.

The Junior Girls' team qualified for the Regional A final, held at Millfield. In extremely hot conditions, the girls performed to a very high standard leading to an outstanding 4th place finish. Notable performances from Anna Gabbitass, Serena Mundy and Jodie White should be mentioned as standout.

Six athletes became Devon Schools Champions this year - Jack Webber (100m and 200m), Ben Clarke (Javelin), Ruth Squires (3000m), Millie Blackmore (Long Jump), Lucy Walliker (Triple Jump) and Karl Still (1500m). These athletes, with Anna Gabbitass and Holly Keevil, then represented Devon at the South West Championships where Ben and Karl came 3rd in their events and Lucy jumped brilliantly to achieve a



**Top:** Tash Finchett (Year 10) Victrix Ludorum (Years 9 and 10)

**Above:** Jack Webber (Year 13) Victor Ludorum (Years 11,12 and 13)





National Entry Standard of 1.62m in the Inter Girls High Jump and gain selection for the English Schools Championships.

At Senior Sports Day wet weather for once let us down, meaning there were few school records, but it was an enjoyable afternoon for all who competed, even if OH did just pip FH to the house trophy! However, FH got their own back in the Year 9/10 Sports Day and were overall winners for the boys. Congratulations to Jack Friend (1500m), Jenny Mettam (1500m) and Ben Clarke (Javelin) who broke senior school records and the Petergate relay team, Will Klinkenberg (Shot) Karl Still (1500m), Annabel Sexton (Javelin) and Lucy Walliker (Triple Jump and High Jump) who achieved junior school records. In the girls' competition GH were victorious over NC. Winners of the Victor Ludorum trophies were Jack Webber and Will Klinkenberg, and the Victrix Ludorum trophies were Millie Blackmore and Tash Finchett.

It has been a memorable season and I would like to thank Miss Gill, Mrs Klinkenberg, Mrs Candler, Mr Sims, Mr Baily, Mr Smart, Mr Roffe-Silvester, Mr Byrne and Mr LeChapentier who have coached our athletes. The turnout at training each week has been excellent and the future certainly looks bright for athletics at Blundell's.

**By Jack Webber (Year 13),**  
Athletics Club Captain



## Golfing successes

The team with their runners up trophies

The Blundell's golf team finished runners up in the West of England Independent Schools Golf Championship at Burnham & Berrow Golf Club. The team beat Monmouth and Canford Schools before losing to Radley in the final. Reaching the final was a great achievement in itself, as the three other schools each have at least one golf professional on their staff and a golf course on their school grounds. The team were Nixie Acfield (captain), George Williams, Ben French, Ollie Clarke and Alex Gibson.

Nixie was one of only eight boys in the country (and the first Blundellian) to be selected to take part in The Swifts tour, playing on some of the finest courses on the Eastern Seaboard of the USA, during the Easter holidays. The field for selection for this 22nd British Independent Schools Golf Tour to the USA was very strong and Nixie was selected for his golfing talent, generous contribution to a team and soundness as an ambassador for the School and Country. Nixie and his team played 13 matches during the tour, winning every match bar one, with Nixie beating the Italian national amateur champion on the last day.

## Rugby achievements

There have been some excellent achievements on the rugby field recently, with Will Vickery, Will Klinkenberg, Hugh Hamilton-Green and Archie Stoneman being selected for the Under 15 Devon rugby squad and representing Devon in the Inter-counties 10 a-side competition at Chippenham (only 15 boys were selected for this from the Devon squads). Meanwhile, Will Scott was selected for the Under 17 Exeter Chiefs team that recently played against Bristol and Andrew Hamilton was selected as a non-travelling reserve for the England Clubs and Schools XV against France. Meanwhile, Jack Maunder, as reported in the news pages, has been playing at international level, having represented the England RFU Under 18 team in the European tournament.



**Above:** Will Scott  
**Below:** Will Vickery, Will Klinkenberg, Hugh Hamilton-Green and Archie Stoneman





# BOYS' HOCKEY

## Highlights of 2014 season



**From 1st XI down to U12B, a total of 88 matches were played despite the relentless rain and wind that battered the country for much of the winter and spring. In addition, both U16 and U14 County Finals were held at Blundell's and there was considerable success for most involved in the game.**

At the top of the School, the 1st XI had one their busiest and most successful seasons ever. There were only three defeats from 13 matches, with notable victories over Queen's Taunton, Clayesmore, Wellington and Wells Cathedral. King's Taunton were nearly added to the list but an equaliser in the final seconds brought the opposition level in a brilliant 4-4 encounter.

Under Mr Mead and captain, Jack Friend, the 2nd XI remained undefeated for most of the term. Unfortunately, a couple of umpiring decisions went against them in their penultimate game at King's. Although I did apologise profusely to them at the end of the game, the disappointment and frustration was clearly evident, and it was a quiet journey back down the M5 at the end of the day!!

The 3rd XI won more games than they lost for the first time and with so many opting to play hockey, a 4th XI was assembled for a couple of matches. Although defeat followed, Rami and Rupert de Teissier should remember their goals fondly.

Exeter and South Dartmoor have proven to be tough obstacles to overcome in county competitions for a number of years now, and so for the U16s to be crowned county champions is a worthy accolade. Unfortunately, at the West

Preliminaries that followed, Canford and Elizabeth College (Guernsey) proved just a little too strong and skilful. However, these matches were a good challenge for the boys, particularly those from the U15s as they have rarely experienced defeat over the last couple of years. Indeed, unbeaten in 2013, the U15A almost repeated the feat again in 2014. Spurred on with all this success from their peers, the U15B gathered considerable momentum under the guidance of Mr Turner and went on a lengthy winning streak as well.

Not only has there been much team success, a number of boys have played representative hockey outside of school. Like all sports these days, this requires quite a commitment to attend all the training and selection days. Blundell's School 1st XI captain, Ollie Clarke, played for the U18 Wessex Leopards in the Futures Cup. In addition, Ben Clarke (U17), Charlie Brown (U16) and Jack Klinkenberg (U15) all played for Devon and have been selected for the next level up, Exeter JRPC.

Spring 2014 was clearly an excellent term and with the hockey professional, Harry Jones, arriving in September, the game will hopefully continue to prosper over the coming years.

**GA Bucknell** Master i/c Boys' Hockey



**Ollie Clarke captained the 1st XI boys' hockey team to one of their most successful seasons ever in 2014. Making his debut in Year 10 for the 1st XI at West Buckland, Ollie has been playing in the midfield for a number of seasons. In his final year at Blundell's, Ollie scored 19 goals in 13 matches, with a superb hat-trick in the 4-4 draw with King's Taunton being a highlight.**



# Cricket



The 1st XI team with Captain Sam Wyatt-Haines, who has led the team well and performed excellently with both bat and ball throughout the season

Blundell's cricket has enjoyed a very successful year. The 1st XI tour to Barbados was hugely beneficial for all the players and, with the confidence gained from the trip, the players went into the season full of optimism and self-belief. With victories over Clifton, Taunton and Queen's, cricket at Blundell's was looking very strong. The 1st XI finished off their season with a tour to Truro which provided extremely close games, with a draw in the 50 over match, illustrating how enjoyable the season had been. Recognition should also be made of Dom Bess who represented Somerset CCC 2nd XI against Kent this season, as well as Samuel Wyatt-Haines who played against Glamorgan and Northants.

There were also encouraging signs throughout the school with highlights from the Under 15s who took part in a development tour at Eton, narrowly losing against very tough opposition. The Under 12Bs also indicated the bright future of Blundell's cricket with a ten wicket win over Queen's and an emphatic win over Clifton. The Under 14s had a mixed season, but it is apparent that the players thoroughly enjoyed themselves and learnt a lot about their own abilities and the game of cricket. The 2nd XI, who were led by Richard Barr, were extremely strong this season, with standout players of Harvey Scott and Henry Lindley. Most importantly, the 3rd XI, otherwise known as the Gentleman's XI, were unbeaten and Nick Ladd's 109 against King's illustrated the true spirit of the team.

Overall, it has been an excellent season, and all Blundellian cricketers showed true sportsmanship and eagerness to develop and improve their knowledge of the game.

**Sam Wyatt-Haines (Year 13),**  
Captain of Cricket



The 3rd XI had an unbeaten season, with their final match against Millfield highlighted as 'one of the finest cricket matches I have had the pleasure to oversee' by Mr Hamilton. The team, under the expert captaincy of Giles Taylor, amassed an impressive 204 runs with Alex Kitson top scoring with 60 not out.



## Girls' Cricket

Girls' Cricket has gone from strength to strength this term, winning three out of four fixtures played. It is clear that Blundell's has a number of brilliant female cricketers and this is reflected in the success we have had this season. A number of the players have started to train with the ladies team at Heathcoat Cricket Club which has given them the chance to experience cricket outside of the School setting, as well as receive coaching from very experienced players and professional overseas cricketers. This opportunity has certainly contributed to the development of individual players and has transferred to the achievements of the team. The Blundell's Girls' Cricket team involves players across the years, with the regular team comprising of pupils from Year 8 up to Year 11. Millie Attwell (Year 8), Izzy Fitzroy (Year 9) and Lucy Walliker (Year 10) were the standout players this season, consistently performing well in a number of fixtures. The season began with two fairly comfortable wins against Taunton School and Clifton College. The girls played their toughest fixture against a very strong Millfield U17 team, including several Somerset players. Unfortunately we were only able to field ten players, mainly from Year 8 and Year 9, along with a handful of older girls. Millfield successfully chased Blundell's 15 over total of 103 runs but the girls showed fighting spirit throughout. Lucy Walliker scored an impressive 50\* against a very strong bowling attack. It was pleasing to finish off the season with a win against Uffculme U16s. Despite fielding just nine players the Blundell's girls pulled off an impressive victory, winning by 29 runs. Next season we hope to build upon the successes of 2014, playing more fixtures against some strong teams.

Miss Bethan Rees i/c Girls' Cricket



# Welcome



I hope you have all had a good break over the summer. It has been a busy time for the Development Office preparing for the activities taking place over the next few months. I do hope you will find something in the portfolio which appeals to you and perhaps encourages you to visit Blundell's

or to support one of our varied initiatives. I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those members of the Blundell's Community who have helped us in the last year, enabling us to connect with many Old Blundellians, former and current parents and supporters at events and to fund many additional projects as well as the Peter Blundell Foundation Award Bursary Provision.

Looking back over past events, the spring term included our fantastic Battlefield Tour to the Western Front; a full report appears in this edition of The Diary. It was a particularly moving tour and we will be erecting a Blundell's plaque at St George's Church in Ypres to commemorate the many fallen Blundellians. The participants enjoyed the whole experience so much that we are staging Phase Two next spring with a visit to Normandy.

We were fortunate with the weather for most of our events this summer, with a busy casual drinks reception in London, a delightful day on the river at Henley, the Charity Celebrity Cricket on Big Field and culminating in our 'hot but fun' Charity Golf Day at Oake Manor, Taunton. Sadly, we couldn't say the same of the weather for our National Trust reception at Arlington Court. The Head and I were thrilled to have so many of the Blundell's Community in Hong Kong join us at The Foreign Correspondent's Club for a reception; it was a wonderful opportunity to meet with our supporters on their 'home turf.'

I am very grateful for the continued interest in our 1604 Society, where we continue to welcome new members on a regular basis. If you would like to know more about how you can support Blundell's in this most generous way, we have recently produced a specific publication with further information. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss in a more confidential and personal manner.

The Peter Blundell Foundation Award Bursary Provision has continued to attract support and I am delighted to report that this has enabled several pupils to benefit with 'means tested' bursary assistance for the forthcoming academic year. The Annual Fund again attracted support and ensures we are able to further enhance our 'Home from Home' improvements in the boarding Houses. The forthcoming Annual Fund for 2014/15 is enclosed in this Diary; the main focus for this academic year is to support our 'Academic Ambition' and support projects across the School departments to enable greater academic prowess.

We have a wealth of exciting events coming up this term; if you are interested in attending any of those listed please contact either the Development Office or OB Club as indicated to register your interest.

Emily Roffe-Silvester, whom many of you will have met during the last four years, is off to pastures new later this year when she moves to Australia with her husband Henry to take up a post near Melbourne. She has brought energy and enthusiasm to the Development Office and will be hugely missed, but we are delighted to welcome Old Blundellian Xiomara Pattison (TH 96-03) in her stead.

Thank you again for all your support in so many different ways.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber Oliver". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Amber Oliver**

## THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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# Development Office Initiatives

## Blundell's pupils in the workplace

In today's competitive environment, 'first-hand' experience of the work place is essential for pupils. Would your company be willing to host a small group of our pupils on a business or workplace tour? Real exposure to a business environment is invaluable and if this is something you think you could offer on a regular or 'one off' basis, please do contact Amber on [a.oliver@blundells.org](mailto:a.oliver@blundells.org).

On this theme, following the success of our Property and Agriculture Reception last year, we will be giving our current pupils a chance to hear from professionals in this industry at a career mentoring evening on Tuesday 7th October. It will be a terrific opportunity for mentors to share their experiences in this industry, both the highs and the lows and for pupils to ask questions. If you work in this industry and would like to participate or attend please contact the Development Office.

We are also planning a Finance and Accountancy Reception for the Blundell's Community and interested current pupils to share experiences and listen to our Guest Speaker. Again, please do contact the Development Office if you would like to come to this.

## Corporate Opportunities

As always we are very grateful to our sponsors who have so kindly agreed to support a host of different Blundell's activities and events. A full list will be published in the spring edition of The Diary but we are particularly grateful to Knight Frank, Silclear and Mercedes Benz South West for their sponsorship of the One Day Event recently, as well as Rhino Rugby who supported our U16 Rugby Festival at the end of the holidays.

Future opportunities for sponsorship include the Gala Reception and performance of Lorna Doone, written by OB R.D. Blackmore, taking place on Friday 5th December to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Ondaatje Hall, and the Blundell's Community Black Tie Sports Dinner on Friday 7th March during the Russell weekend. If you would like to know more about current opportunities please do not hesitate to contact Amber Oliver for a full portfolio of activity.

## Business Directory

**The Blundell's Business Directory is an opportunity for OBs, current and former parents, staff and sponsors to advertise their business to the Blundell's Community, which numbers just under 8,000 homes. We hope the Blundell's Community will use this as a starting point when requiring a service or looking for a particular provider. It is a free online initiative; however, we do invite donations if a business wishes to do so or generates a significant income as a result of an introduction via the directory. If you would like to avail yourself of this exclusive opportunity, please contact the Development Office or download the application form from the Development Office website pages. We will be updating this section shortly so if you have a current entry and require any alterations, please let us have as soon as possible.**

### Veterinarian, Livestock, Equestrian, Pets

**Upton Pyne Equestrian Centre**

**Business:** Equestrian Centre  
**Associations:** Stephen Wildman is a parent of a current pupil

Offer: A 5% discount for professional services and treatments relating to a visit will be given to clients that are part of the Blundell's Community. A further 5% discount is offered to payments that are made within 24 hours of a visit - making a total 10% discount is available!

Upton Pyne Equestrian Centre  
 Seaford Farm  
 Upton Pyne  
 Buxton  
 SK13 3YR

Tel: 01292 851753  
 Email: [office@wildmanequine.com](mailto:office@wildmanequine.com)  
 Website: [www.wildmanequine.com](http://www.wildmanequine.com)



**Western Counties Equine Hospital**

**Business:** Equine Hospital  
**Associations:** Corporate Supporters

Western Counties Equine Hospital Ltd  
 Culmstock  
 Coltonham  
 Devon  
 EX19 3JA




## East Midlands Blundell's Reception

Do you live in the East Midlands area? We are hoping to host a reception at The Bromley Library in Nottingham by kind permission of Victor Semmens (NC 50-55) in the spring term. If you are interested in attending, please contact Amber Oliver to register your interest.



## Hare & Hounds Alumni Race

Calling all runners for our 5th Annual Hare & Hounds Alumni Race at Wimbledon Common, London on Saturday 13th December. This is a chance for you to compete for Blundell's against many other local schools. If you would like to enter the race please register your interest with the Development Office.



## Balliol Dinner, Oxford

We are planning a dinner at Balliol College on Friday 1st May 2015 for all those who attended Oxford Colleges or who live or work in the Oxfordshire area. Please save the date and contact the Development Office for more information.



# Old Blundellian Careers and Achievements



*Old Blundellian Robert Lennox in a line-out during the Army v Navy Rugby Match*

## Army v Navy Rugby Game

Robert Lennox (OH 99-06) has accomplished his childhood dream of playing at Twickenham for the Army in the annual Army v Navy Rugby game. Rob beat hundreds of other hopeful players to get a spot playing in the back row for the Army. When the game started, the Navy came out strong and took an early lead after the Army lost a player to the sin bin. After a scrappy first half the Army was 12-7 down; however, coming out in the second half the Army broke through the Navy's defence and Rob was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time and scored his second Inter Services try! It was a tipping point for the game from which the Navy never recovered. The Army won 30-19.



*Scoring a try against the Navy Rugby Team which helped tip the game in the Army's favour*



## OBs Handover in Helmand

Two former Heads of Corps handing over/taking over as part of the Brigade Reconnaissance Force in Operation Herrick at Camp Bastion, Helmand Province, Afghanistan: Lance Sergeant Trevor Henderson (FH 03-06) Coldstream Guards of 7 Brigade leaving Helmand after an eight month tour and Lieutenant Rory Findlay (P 06-08) 1st the Queen's Dragoon Guards of 20 Brigade, starting the final tour of the British deployment to Afghanistan.



*The Atlantic Quad Team*

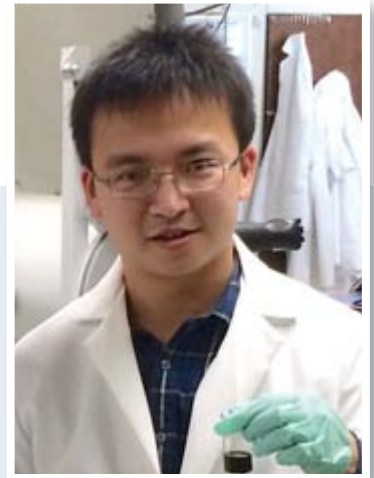
## Atlantic Quad

Simon Hartwright (FH 85-91) was given the opportunity to row 3,000 nautical miles recently and, at a week's notice, joined Matthew Collier, Tom Alden and his nephew Eoin Hartwright (who at 16, is the youngest person to row the Atlantic). Their team was called Atlantic Quad and even though their boat started 19 days after the rest of the fleet they caught up and overtook two boats within days of setting off. Simon had the experience of a lifetime, despite living off purified sea water and dehydrated food and rowing relentlessly in a two hours on, two hours off routine. The Atlantic Quad completed their challenge and arrived in Antigua after 43 days, 21 hours and 3 minutes! Their trip helped raise funds for Helen & Douglas House, a hospice in Oxford supporting children and young adults with life shortening illnesses.





Left: Jenny Boylett with one of her charges: this photo was used on the front cover of the *Norland prospectus*.  
Picture Credit: Norland



## Science breakthrough

# Life as a Norland College Student

By Jenny Boylett (GH 07-13)

I have always wanted to work with children and when it came to thinking about the future and how I was going to achieve a career in this area, my parents suggested Norland College which they knew of by reputation.

So in the autumn term of Year 11, I attended the College Open Day. It was a very valuable experience, confirming that I really did want a career in childcare and that Norland was the place I wanted to study. I was fortunate to meet the Vice Principal at the Open Day and, after making contact with her at a later date, I was able to secure my week's work experience in their nursery after taking GCSEs.

Norland College is world renowned for providing the most comprehensive training for their nannies. The students study a three year degree BA (Hons) degree in Early Years Development and Learning. The degree modules include Professional Development, The Invention of Childhood, Approaches to Development and Learning and Communication and Language amongst others. I have found this work very challenging and my advice to anyone thinking of applying is to remember the course requires assignments of a degree standard!

Alongside the degree we also study for the prestigious Norland Diploma. This is what distinguishes us from any other early years professional and is therefore highly sought after. The Norland Diploma consists of four elements and these sessions are both practical and theory based.

The highlights of my first year at the college, like starting anywhere new, has been meeting all my new friends and enjoying the beautiful city of Bath. I have particularly enjoyed my placements having gained experience with children of different ages and abilities and in a variety of settings.

Norland prepares you for a number of different career opportunities, from working as a Norland Nanny in a family setting to running a nursery or even setting up your own business. With minimal additional qualifications you could become a maternity nurse or even a teacher!

When I qualify, I would like to use my skills to travel the world, firstly as a nanny at a ski resort and then potentially further my training as a maternity nurse or even set up my own nursery. It is difficult to guess that far ahead but I know that as a Norland Nanny the world is my oyster! The course opens many doors and only nannies who train at Norland College are eligible to use the elite Norland Agency where there are always a variety of amazing jobs available to you.

To prepare for Norland, it's a good idea to get as much experience working with children as possible, even just at a basic level such as babysitting. A good work experience placement can also be useful, it really helped me on my way. Oh and of course you have to get your A levels!

**Evan Wang (P 04-06) is working at the forefront of nano technology as a graduate student at Stanford University, California. He is one of the lead researchers to have come up with a breakthrough process using carbon nanotubes (CNTs) which paves the way for a new generation of flexible electronic devices, such as e-readers that can be folded to fit into a pocket. Evan credits his interest in CNTs to his time at Blundell's, when Mrs Batting discussed nanotubes with him and said they were the future. Electronic devices use circuits made of silicon chips which, although rigid, allow the devices to function even when the power fluctuates. Although CNT circuits have the physical strength to take the wear and tear of bending and the electrical conductivity to perform any electronic task, they don't have the reliability and power efficiency of silicon chips - until now. The Stanford team have developed flexible CNT circuits that have high immunity to electrical noise and low power consumption by 'doping' the carbon filaments with an additive to improve their electronic performance. Evan, who went on to read Materials Science at Oxford from school, is one of the two lead authors of a paper reporting the findings in the official journal of the United States National Academy of Sciences.**



# Old Blundellian Careers and Achievements



Above: *The South West Academy* book cover. Below: 'Rozie' one of Rupert's portraits

Portrait painter and OB, Rupert Brooks (M 92-94), has recently had the honour of having his self-portrait 'Two minutes to Midnight' selected for the front cover of a new book about South West artists. Rupert joined Blundell's at 16 having been awarded an Art Scholarship by the School in 1992. He studied Art, Art History and Geography through sixth form and then went on to pursue his passion at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, studying Art and Art History. He returned home to Devon after graduating in 1997 to start his career as a painter.



Rupert's interest is in painting the human form, capturing the likeness and character of a person. Rupert says 'I have always loved painting people, partly because I find it challenging and engaging to do successfully, but also because of the mood, emotion and story that can be conveyed. I hope not only to interest the viewer with the technicality of the painting but also to elicit an emotional response.'

Rupert paints from his studio in the village of Black Dog, Mid Devon, which he shares with his artist father and sister. He has had works exhibited regularly at the Mall Galleries in London, and more locally at various galleries in the South West. He has also won awards for his portrait work and was invited to join the prestigious South West Academy (SWAc), a society devoted to promoting fine and applied art. Members of the organisation have written and published the book 'Art, People, Place', the front cover of which features Rupert's painting. He says 'It is an honour to have my painting chosen from such an esteemed and well-known group of artists within the academy. It was a huge surprise when they rang me to tell me, but I am obviously very pleased.'

To view more examples of both Rupert's portrait commissions and his own personal compositions, visit his website [www.rupertwbrooks.co.uk](http://www.rupertwbrooks.co.uk)



Sam Mildren treating a rugby injury on the pitch

## Osteopathy

By Sam Mildren (OH 01-06)

After completing my A levels I attended Oxford Brookes University where I studied Osteopathy. Four years later and with over a thousand hours of clinical experience, I qualified with a Masters in Osteopathy.

Having worked in clinics in Windsor and Luton, gaining valuable practical and business experience, my partner Lauren and I decided to set up a clinic in the South West. In April 2013, after much research into the demographics of the area, we opened Exe Valley Osteopathy on Castle Street in Tiverton. Our practice has been growing steadily over the first 18 months and we have treated hundreds of patients, from a week old to 98 years old.

Although back, neck and shoulder pain are the most prevalent problems we treat, the variety of injuries we see ensures there is never a dull moment. Lauren and I treat slightly differently and have different areas of speciality, which enables us to help a wider range of patients.

I also look after the sports injuries of Tiverton Rugby Club, Wellington Rugby Club and Heathcoat Cricket Club and was very fortunate to be part of the two Tiverton based teams in their promotions last season. Dealing with these sports injuries adds another level of enjoyment and variety to what I do.

Blundell's has played a significant part in my choice of career; I played many sports, which channelled my competitive nature and enhanced my natural interest in this area. I developed a good work ethic, confidence in my abilities and respect for others. I feel fortunate that I am able to work in a profession that I love which enables me to meet many interesting people and make a difference to their physical and mental well-being.

Exe Valley Osteopathy  
[www.exevalleyosteopathy.co.uk](http://www.exevalleyosteopathy.co.uk)  
[info@evoclinics.co.uk](mailto:info@evoclinics.co.uk)

## OB on TV

Contemporaries of Mark Annett (M 68-72) may have seen him and the car he drove while at school in a television series on estate agents aired earlier in the year. Mark was one of 11 agents featured in the BBC2 series *Under Offer: Estate Agents on the Job* and the footage included him driving his vintage 1934 Morris 8 Tourer which he has had since he was a schoolboy. As an independent chartered surveyor and estate agent working in the Cotswolds, Mark was pleased to have been selected for the series, which also showed him viewing property and at an auction.



# Recent Events



## OB Sports Weekend and Blundell's Community Black Tie Sports Dinner

The OB Sports Weekend commenced with a Fives Competition against the School which resulted in a narrow win for the School (result: 144 - 141). Both an OB girls' and boys' Hockey game also took place that evening (result: girls 2-0 and boys 2-2). The following day, the first OB Netball match was played and, despite a terrific effort, the School triumphed (result: 40-8). A very strong OB Football team assembled and beat the School (result: 1-5). We aim to hold another OB Sports weekend next year and would appreciate any suggestions as to changes or additions.

The formal Black Tie Sports Dinner was very well supported by current and past parents, Old Blundellians and other guests to celebrate the sporting achievements of our young pupils. Our Guest Speaker was Rob Kitson, Rugby Correspondent for the Guardian and a current parent. The dinner raised £3,000 for Sporting Bursaries and projects at Blundell's.



Main picture: *The OB girls' Hockey team.*

Top right: *Whatever the weather, Blundellians play on. Above right: Pupils from the Hockey Team enjoy the Sports Dinner.*

Right: *Old Blundellians gather from far and wide to enjoy the Sports Dinner and OB Sports Weekend*

## Annual Veteran's Russell Race



*Our Veteran Russell Runners gather before the start*

This year's 134th Russell Run saw more than 40 veterans competing. We were delighted with the great turnout and with the glorious sun beating down on us, it was a very pleasant day. This year the Russell Run was organised by Graham Baily, Biology Master. Each runner was fitted with an official runner's bib and the winners from the race are given below. After the race runners and their families were treated to a well-deserved afternoon tea.

### Veterans Russell Winners 2014

Under 40	<b>Simon Tang (OH 05-12)</b>
40-50	<b>Charles Maunder (M 83-88)</b>
Over 50	<b>Martin Price (Current parent)</b>
Ladies Winner	<b>Katharine Rackham (GH 90-92)</b>

*Martin Price and Simon Tang with their trophies*





# The Battlefield Tour



## The Alan Fradgley World War One Pilgrimage – A Reflection

By Brigadier John Dean (SH 60-65)

After nearly 50 years of being a ‘non-participating OB’, it seemed time to rectify the situation and what better way of doing so than by visiting the World War One Battlefields. Being an old soldier with considerable interest in military history of course added to the attraction.

The comprehensive programme arrived, full marks to Amber Oliver and her team, and the list of participants brought back both memories and a degree of anticipation, wondering whether one would recognise old chums and how life had treated them over the decades.

Aably led and briefed by Lieutenant Colonel Tim Courtenay (OH 54-59), this intrepid band of brothers arrived at our hotel in Cambrai to begin our adventure, the objective of which was to learn something of the course of the War as well as remembering those OBs who had given their life for their Country.

So what were my abiding memories of the trip in addition to the camaraderie we all enjoyed? The slaughter on an industrial scale reflected in the countless cemeteries and memorials to the missing is a given. However, the question ‘why’ was constantly asked. Were the Generals so divorced from the reality of trench warfare? Was it their inability through lack of mental agility to adapt tactics to meet the demands of the modern battlefield? What shone through was the absolute discipline of the British Tommy in spite of the privations he endured. These were either sons of the Industrial Revolution or men of the soil, who were honed to hardship – how different we are today.

Our host at the hotel, Philippe Gorczynski, showed boundless enthusiasm and determination, spending fifteen years searching for and excavating a Mark 4 Tank from the Battle of Cambrai – the first battle that saw the mass deployment of this weapon in November 1917. Of course, being an old soldier with considerable interest in military history added to the attraction.

Finally, the dedication and commitment of all those wonderful people who continue today to tend the cemeteries as if they were their own gardens is most humbling. As indeed is the constant stream of both young and old who continue to visit them. It is all so well summed up in these words:

*They shall grow not old,  
As we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them or the years condemn,  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We shall remember them.*

Thank you Blundell’s for reconnecting me to my past.

**Main picture:** *The Blundell’s Group in front of a Mark 4 Tank ‘Deborah’.*  
**Middle right:** *Tim Rutter (W 54-59) feeling what it was like to be a soldier in the trenches*  
**Right:** *David (W 49-54), Ben (W 51-56) and Nigel Chilcott (W 56-59) find a family grave*

Peter Price (W 58-63) who also took part in the Battlefield Tour has detailed many of the Old Blundellians whose graves we visited; please refer to the OB website for his article in full.





**Left:** Nick Cooper (P 63-67) finds a connection on one of the memorials  
**Right:** Laying a wreath at Menin Gate

'I was prepared for a deep and strong emotional response myself, but was taken aback by the depth of feeling the sights and history evoked. This was due to the personal connection felt to the graves of the young OBs...'

## Battlefield Tour Experience

By Tim Rutter (W 54-59) FRCS

The principle reason to join this tour was obviously reverence for those who suffered and died on the Battlefields in 1914/18. My grandfather was a participant and luckily was one of the few who came home safely.

While at Blundell's, Major Parker took Tim Courtenay (OH 54-59), Peter Lowe (W 55-59) and me on CCF training in Snowdonia. I fear he was more gratified with their response than mine! Then about three years ago, Clive Richardson (SH 54-59), John Hayes (W 55-59) and I were on a short trip to the West Country together. We decided to search out Tim and surprise him, which we did after a 50 year absence. Over coffee in the kitchen, he explained he was running these tours in his retirement and we promised each other we would do one together. When Blundell's organised this tour we all had to go!

I was prepared for a deep and strong emotional response myself, but was taken aback by the depth of feeling the sights and history evoked. This was due to the personal connection felt to the graves of the young OBs there and the expert and informed background Tim gave us all. He amazed me with his insight and humanity.

Many of the participants were from my time at Blundell's and the amazing part was, apart from physical appearance, how little we had changed. The vibrations of friendship and rivalry were a source of equal gratification and despair! The School produced a certain kind of admirable and worthy individual but some of us did not really fit in and we still don't. Nevertheless, it was a privilege to share such an amazing experience with a group of such wonderful people and made me feel ashamed I had not been more proud of this wonderful School.

Last but not least, the Development Office representation was superb in providing all the support and initiative anyone could hope for. Thanks to all who made it happen.







# Old Blundellian Day 2014

**Right:** Current and past governors attend OB Day.

**Top:** Guest Speaker Jeremy Black speaks on the theme of OB Day, *The Great War*.

**Above:** Three brothers joined us for OB Day: Colin (OH 49-55), Mark (OH 45-49) and Rev David (OH 45-46) Wood-Robinson

**Left:** Tim Courtenay presents the winner's trophy to the School's CCF Captain Henry Barlow.

**Right:** The OB Magpie Shooting Team with members from the CCF Team

Next year's OB Day theme will be 'Music'. The Committee would be grateful for any contribution in terms of ideas, performance and format from OBs with musical interests, talents or aspirations. It is hoped that retiring Director of Music, Andrew Barlow, can be persuaded to encourage attendance from musical OBs over the thirty years of his tenure.

OB Day this year commemorated the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War and attracted 135 Old Blundellians and partners to lunch and Chapel. This a record attendance for OB Day in recent years, with the exception of the quarter centenary in 2004.

The weekend began with a supper in the Beale Centre on Friday evening prior to which guests had enjoyed drinks at Blundell House thanks to the kind invitation of the Head, Nicola Huggett.

The Day itself was masterminded by the Chairman of the OB Club, Judge Paul Waterworth, and included many unusual and appropriate features. Following the AGM of the OB Club, members proceeded to Chapel with CCF cadets acting as ushers. The CCF standard was paraded into Chapel and at the conclusion of the service a Roll of Honour of OB fallen was presented to the School Chaplain to be kept as a permanent record in the Chapel. This beautifully bound Roll was a gift from Jacqueline Clough, widow of Tom Clough (OH 42-47, staff 58-71). The Last Post was played followed by Reveille and the CCF standard were paraded out followed by the congregation.

With such large numbers it was fortunate that the weather was good and OBs, distinguished guests and staff enjoyed pre-lunch drinks in the Beale Centre serenaded by the Exeter Railways Band playing music from the Great War era.

At the same time, the OB shooting team, the Magpies, also took on the challenge of competing against the newly resurrected School team. Both teams put on an excellent performance but the School team narrowly defeated the Magpie team.

Once in the marquee, luncheon guests heard four pieces of Great War prose read by two English Blundell's pupils and two German Blundell's pupils. After lunch, an eloquent address was delivered by the Professor of History at Exeter University, Jeremy Black, an expert on the Great War period. Many OBs visited the exhibition of Blundell's memorabilia from the Great War period set up by the School Archivist and quite a few OBs carried on into the evening with a chilli supper in the Beale Centre.

Following on with the theme of the day, a memorial Oak tree was planted to commemorate those who gave their lives in the Great War. The ceremony was led by Veterans Tim Courtenay (OH 54-59) and John Hollands (OH 46-51). The tree was grown from acorns gathered from Delville Wood in the Somme Region of the Western Front of France.





# National Trust Arlington Court Reception



Enjoying a tour of Arlington Court House  
Right: Derek Clements (M 46-51) takes a closer look at one of the carriages located in the Museum  
Bottom: Our guests admire the intricate ceiling

We hosted a Garden Tour at the historic Arlington Court during May. Unfortunately, the weather did not work in our favour and we were greeted with heavy rains and wind. However, we were fortunate to secure an exclusive tour of the house and our tour guide brought it 'alive' with an in-depth history of the estate.

After seeing the house, we decided to skip the garden tour and head straight to the Carriage Museum located in the stables, which has a vehicle for every occasion from cradle to grave. Currently on loan from the House of Parliament was the Speaker's State Coach, a glorious, gilded carriage with more than 300 years of history. After the tours, we were treated to a well-deserved lunch!



Adam Smith (current parent) and Jonny Hollands (OH 81-83) at our Reception in Hong Kong

## Hong Kong Reception

Nicola Huggett and Amber Oliver travelled to Hong Kong in April to host a reception for the Blundell's Community at The Foreign Correspondents' Club, by kind permission of Jonny Hollands (OH 81-83). It was a great opportunity to meet with Old Blundellians and current and past parents, many of whom we do not see on a regular basis. Nicola welcomed more than 70 guests and gave them an update on some of Blundell's current achievements. It was a lovely reception and they hope to make another trip back out to Hong Kong in due course.

## 1604 Society Lunch

We are very grateful to James Bullock (P 81-86) who agreed to host our Annual 1604 Society Lunch which took place at the Oxford & Cambridge Club this year. It was a great opportunity to thank those that have pledged support with a 'Gift in their Will' to Blundell's School.

If you have questions about making a legacy gift, or would like any additional information, please do get in touch with Amber Oliver on 01884 232324 or [a.oliver@blundells.org](mailto:a.oliver@blundells.org)

# London Drinks



Our 5th Annual Casual London Drinks Reception took place at the Old Blue Last Pub in May. The reception was hosted by James Goff (M 75-79) and Peter Sullings (past parent). We were treated to a lovely drinks and canapé reception. It was great to see Old Blundellians and parents from the London area and we were pleased so many were able to take time out of their busy schedules to join us for this event. A big thank you to both James and Peter for making this reception possible. We are looking forward to hosting next year's reception at the Hyde Park Corner Lodge.

Left: Elle Frankpitt (GH 02-09) and Sam Lockwood (OH 01-08) reminiscing about their memories at Blundell's over a drink  
Right: James Goff (M 75-79) and Peter Sullings (past parent), our London Drinks hosts with Amber Oliver







*Chairman of Governors, Cedric Clapp (P 60-66), Clive Richardson (SH 54-59), Peter Lowe (W 54-59), Frank Akerman (P 53-58) and Judith Collins*

Our 5th Annual Charity Golf Day at Oake Manor Golf Course was a great success with teams comprised of Old Blundellians, past and current parents, staff, sponsors and supporters competing for the Championship title along with individual prizes.

We were again very luckily with the weather and while the teams enjoyed a quick bite to eat, we also hosted a mini-putting competition which was won by Peter Lowe (W 54-59). All the teams completed the course in time for a drinks reception in the courtyard, before a well-deserved carvery dinner.

After pudding, the teams supported the charity raffle in aid of the Devon Air Ambulance and The Peter Blundell Foundation Award Bursary provision. A variety of prizes were awarded on behalf of our sponsors Firewatch, Westford Mechanical, WestChem and Jolly Vintner.



*Enjoying a post-match drink before our awards ceremony and dinner*

#### Winners:

**Best Team:** Nigel Guliford, Dave Collard, Norman Green, Gareth Markham (Sponsors) – 97 Points

**Best Individual Gentlemen:** Malcolm Scott – 46 Points

**Best Individual Lady:** Mary White – 31 Points

**Best Old Blundellian:** Andrew Jeffery (W 61-66) – 36 Points

**Best Parent:** Mike Finch – 37 Points

**Best Staff:** Peter Klinkenberg – 35 Points



## Celebrity Charity Cricket Match

Blundell's was delighted to host an inaugural Celebrity Cricket Match in aid of the Royal National Children's Foundation. The RNCF helps to fund boarding school education for vulnerable children and young people throughout the UK.

The RNCF team included Henry Olonga, former Zimbabwean test cricketer who made his international debut in 1995, becoming the youngest player to represent Zimbabwe and Steffan Jones, formally representing Derbyshire, Somerset, Northamptonshire, Kent and Dorset Cricket Clubs. Blundell's team included Rob Turner (Captain), former cricketer at Somerset CCC (1991 - 2005), Nick Folland, former cricketer with Devon CCC and Somerset CCC and former Headmaster of Blundell's Prep School, Andy Caddick, former England and Somerset CCC cricketer, together with a selection of staff, pupils and OBs.

Game Summary: Blundell's 199 for the loss of three wickets from 30 overs. Dominic Bess 58, Joe Smith 102 not out. Charity XI 143 all out, Steffan Jones scoring 75. Andy Caddick took three wickets for five runs and Jack Menheneott took three wickets for 12 runs. Andy Sims took the wicket of Henry Olonga, taking a brilliant caught and bowled. Blundell's won by 56 runs.



*Top: Captain Rob Turner for Blundell's and RNCF Director Rawles Beckles for the Celebrities pre-game coin toss.*

*Above: Former Zimbabwean Cricket Player, Henry Olonga, treats the crowd to an opera singing performance.*

*Bottom: The Steel Band played throughout the performance*







Mike Goss (OH 52-57) and our host Patrick Penny (W 78-83)

## Henley Royal Regatta Reception

Blundell's was delighted to host its second reception at Henley Royal Regatta with the most generous support of Patrick Penny (W 78-83) and his wife Rachel. A pleasant early morning coffee in the Steward's Enclosure commenced proceedings before we enjoyed a wander along the tow path to view the racing. Before a late lunch, the group relaxed with a glass of Pimms in the sunshine. Many of us cheered on Andrew Turner (P 02-07) who rowed for the 'Nonesuch Boat Club' in The Thames Challenge Cup and who completed the race in 7.03 minutes.



Blundellians enjoy the sun at Henley Royal Regatta

## OB Sportsman's lunch at the Ted Crowe Box

Grant Dee Shapland (P 76-81) organised another of his get-togethers for contemporaries during a four day game at the Somerset County Ground. Grant and Christian Brook (W 78-83) have taken responsibility for hosting some of the County days at the Ted Crowe Box for which the OB Cricket Club and the OB Club are most grateful.

As usual Grant got everything right and twenty or so OBs joined elder statesman Chad Murrin (FH 69-73) and ancient statesman Paddy Armstrong (1967 - present) for lunch, reminiscences and a drink or two.



## Old Blundellian Parent Speech Day Lunch

The inaugural OB Parent Speech Day lunch was held for 40 guests in the Beale Centre on Friday 4th July. The OB Committee felt OBs opting to send their children to Blundell's deserved thanks and drinks plus a buffet three course lunch was provided prior to speeches. The take up was excellent and a full to capacity Beale Centre provided an ideal venue. Guests departed, replete, to hear Professor Richard Bowring's (W 60-64) wise words in the marquee.



Top: The guests assemble for the inaugural lunch  
Above: Shelagh and Professor Myles Wickstead (P 64-69)



Prep Headmaster Andy Southgate and his wife Sarah chat to visitors at our Devon County Show reception

## The Devon County and Royal Cornwall Shows

Blundell's hosted a reception at these two County Shows, when many members of our Community were able to pop in for a glass of wine and some delicious canapés and, of course, for a chance to say hello to Nicola Huggett amongst other members of staff. The School also had a stand at the Mid Devon Show again this year with the Prep School, while the Pre-Prep once again organised the crèche for the show.



# Blundell's Community

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER 2014

- 5th** **The Reichwald Trophy, Fives Tournament**, Blundell's School. **Contact: OB Club**
- 7th** **Property and Agriculture Career Mentoring for pupils**, FOBs Room from 6.15pm-8.00pm. **Contact: Development Office**
- 8th** **Winter Lunch**, Speaker John Stuart (SH 49-54) on 'The Clapper Bridges of Dartmoor'. **Contact: OB Club**
- 15th** **Big Band and Soul Band Charity Concert** featuring Simon Allen, Ondaatje Hall, 7.30pm. **Contact: Main Office**
- 29th** **Food and Craft Fair** organised by the Tiverton Friends Group of the Children's Hospice South West. Big School and Dining Hall, 10am – 5pm

### NOVEMBER 2014

- 5th** **Firework Display** Ten Acre field, 7.15pm
- 6th** **Blundell's London Dinner** The Eyre Brothers Restaurant. £45 per head. **Contact: Development Office**
- 12th** **Winter Lunch** Speaker Brian Lett, author and parent TBC **Contact: OB Club**
- 20th** **Blundell's at The Movies Concert** Ondaatje Hall, 7.30pm. **Contact: Main Office**
- 27th** **Charity Wine Tasting** in aid of Myasthenia Gravis. Ondaatje Hall, 7.00pm. **Contact: Main Office**
- 28th** **Blundell's Got Talent** in aid of the Laos Project, Big School, 7.30pm. **Contact: Main Office**
- 30th** **Advent Carol Service** followed by refreshments in the Dining Hall, 7.00pm

### DECEMBER 2014

- 3rd-** **School Play 'Lorna Doone'** by OB R D Blackmore. Ondaatje Hall 7.30pm. **Contact: Main Office**
- 5th** **Winter Lunch** Speaker Richard Lanyon (FH 71-76) on 'Mountaineering, its philosophy and personal account of exploits in the Alps'. **Contact: OB Club**
- 13th** **Hare & Hounds Alumni Race Wimbledon Common, London.** **Contact: Development Office**

### MARCH 2015

- 8th** **The Russell** including Veterans Race at 3.15pm. Blundell's School. **Contact: OB Club**
- 20th-21st** **OB Sports Weekend**
- 21st** **Blundell's Sports Black Tie Dinner** Guest speaker Henry Olonga, Big School. **Contact: Development Office**

### MAY 2015

- 1st** **Oxford Balliol Dinner**, for those who attended Oxford Colleges or live or work in the Oxfordshire area. **Contact: Development Office**
- 4th-8th** **Battlefield Tour** of D Day landing sites and Normandy. **Contact: Development Office**

### JUNE 2015

- tbc** **Old Blundellian Day**, featuring OB Music. **Contact: OB Club**

#### Accountancy and Finance Reception

Please check the website for the latest information and register your interest to attend

**Sponsorship opportunities are available for a range of Blundell's activities and events. Please contact the Development Office**

### THE COLIN BEALE CENTRE



The Beale Centre is available for use, free of charge, to all members of the Old Blundellian Club for social events. Bookings can be made through [admin@obclub.co.uk](mailto:admin@obclub.co.uk) or 01884 232010. Catering and bar facilities can be provided.

### CONTACT DETAILS

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Please visit our website for more information [www.blundells.org](http://www.blundells.org) and click on Development Office or OB Club