



THE BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

The Key



The Newsletter for Alumni, Parents and Friends: Produced by Bury Grammar Schools Development Office

Making a Difference

On January 17th 1906 girls joined Bury Grammar School Boys in the new Bridge Road premises to become The Bury Grammar Schools. On June 26th the Foundation Stone of the Roger Kay Hall was laid and in celebrating the centenary of these events we have acknowledged all that has been achieved in our Schools and paid tribute to those remarkable and generous local benefactors who made their vision for our future a reality.

In celebrating our past we are also paving the way for our future by launching our Appeal to raise £2.5 million for two visionary building projects aimed to benefit our pupils now and in the future. At the same time we seek to raise funds to ensure that our education is made available to as many bright young people as

possible, regardless of family income.

We thank all of you who have already responded to our Appeal and ask all our former students, friends and supporters to help us; even the smallest amounts will make a difference in helping us secure the future of our Schools.

Read more about our Appeal in the centre pages...

The Harold Riley Prize for Art

In November 2004 we were privileged to welcome Salford Artist, Harold Riley, accompanied by his wife, Ashraf, who officially opened the new Art Extension in the Boys' School. At the event Harold generously offered to donate an art prize to the school for the next ten years.

We are delighted that Harold Riley has pledged his further support for our Schools by agreeing to become an Appeal Patron; we are grateful for his endorsement of our Appeal.

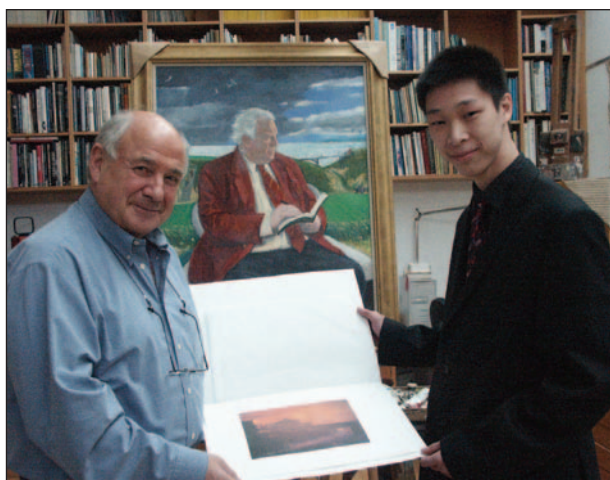
The first recipient of the Harold Riley Art Prize was Ben Ho, a former pupil now studying Animation at Bournemouth College of Art.

Tim Burns, Head of Art in the Boys' School, writes:

On Friday 17th February, 2006, a small group of us from School, Peter Skinner, Francine Healey, Sarah Golightly, Aaron Cowl and myself visited Harold Riley's Archive Studio in Salford, along with Ben who was to receive his Prize personally from Harold.

Harold and Ashraf made us feel very welcome and gave us a fascinating guided tour of the Archive and Studio; Harold even drew a small picture of a dog which he signed and gave to Aaron our photographer. He also presented each of our party with a signed copy of A Day Spent with L.S. Lowry, which he had written and illustrated.

Harold then presented Ben with his prize, a beautiful limited edition print of "The Manchester to Liverpool Railway", the original having been painted by



Harold when he was twelve in 1946!

Ben was overjoyed to receive such a prize and was overwhelmed and thrilled by the occasion. He remarked that the afternoon spent with Harold Riley had been both 'inspiring and motivating'. We were all delighted to share in his 'moment of glory'.

A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon!

Steven Harvey, Headmaster of the Boys' School, writes:



My summer reading included a biography of the Inklings – the group of Oxford dons who used to meet regularly during the middle years of last century. The group consisted of C S Lewis, JRR Tolkien, Charles Williams and others. The book records a comment which someone made about Charles Williams: 'He found the gold in all of us and made it shine'. That seems to me to be a fine description of the task of those who teach.

During my first Assembly I spoke to the boys about some voluntary work which I used to do in a prison. The prison concerned houses young male offenders. As I met with the prisoners, the poverty of the educational experience of many of them was depressingly apparent. I found myself wondering about how much of an influence that educational poverty had been in their drift into crime.

I chose a career in education because I believe that the education of the young is one of the most important tasks faced by any society. Education, to use the words of our school motto, is the key which opens the sacred gates. These gates must be opened if human lives are to be capable of becoming all that we were created to be. I believe, too, that those of us who teach have been given a great privilege and a great responsibility. The privilege is the opportunity to have an influence for good on developing minds and hearts and lives. The responsibility is to help discover the gold which exists in every person and make it shine.

What is the particular role of a Head in this great task? I believe that a Head's key role is to ensure that there is a culture in which teaching and learning can flourish. He can't do this on his own. He needs staff who share his vision; he needs supportive governors; and he needs parents who believe in what he is doing.

My vision for BGS is of a first-class grammar school – a school where excellent teaching is supported by the best possible facilities and where the academic results are the best the boys are capable of achieving. Yeats wrote that 'education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire'. The fire is not only the fire in the intellect but the fire in the body and in the heart as well. So, second, my vision for BGS is of a school which is committed to the education of the whole person, mind, body and spirit – a school which offers rich extra-curricular opportunities, embracing such diverse activities as sport, music, drama, debating and outdoor pursuits. And third, my vision for BGS is of a school which provides the boys with an outstanding launch for their adult lives. This requires a well-resourced, disciplined and supportive learning environment in which the boys are challenged to aim high in all that they do; and it requires, too, opportunities for leadership and service.

We are currently working on the production of a new prospectus. We have found ourselves returning again and again to three key words: 'caring', 'challenging' and 'creating'. These three words express what I believe BGS is about. We are about *caring* – because we have faith in the ability and potential of those we teach and want to nurture them. We are about *challenging* – because we want the boys to achieve the best of which they are capable in both their academic work and their extra-curricular activities. And we are about *creating* – because we believe that we are partners, with the boys and their parents, in the noble task of helping to create young lives which value both wisdom and virtue. Caring, challenging and creating – because we want each boy to be as well prepared as he can be for an adulthood in which he will enjoy a fulfilling and rewarding career, seek to make a contribution to the betterment of the society of which he is part, and make creative use of his leisure time.

In November we will be inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate. Such inspections take place every six years. It has been said that the purpose of an inspection is to help a good school to become better. I believe that BGS is a fine school with the potential to become even better. I hope the inspectors will help us in our constant task of reviewing and improving – so that we are as well placed as we can be to find the gold in each and every boy in our care and make it shine.

Farewell

Keith Richards

Headmaster BGS 1990-2006



Staff and pupils bade a fond farewell to Headmaster, Keith Richards at the end of the Spring Term. On his final day, Mr Richards was presented with a cheque on behalf of the 780 pupils. He plans to use the money to buy a bicycle and a limited edition GWR (Great Western Railways) clock which

will be a treasured souvenir for the self-confessed railway enthusiast.

Educated at Bristol Grammar School and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, Keith began his teaching career in the classics department at Manchester Grammar School, where he was also master-in-charge of cricket. Following four years as head of classics at the King's School, Chester, he was appointed to a similar post at Repton School, where he remained until his move to Bury in 1990.

During his tenure, he has led the school vigorously and imaginatively. He has overseen the move of the Junior School into the refurbished magistrates court, the construction of a state-of-the-art learning resource centre and, most recently, the stunning new art facility.

Mr Richards, who has two daughters, maintains a great interest in sport and music, being an accomplished pianist and cellist, in addition to having captained the cricket XI at school.

He says: "I'm going to make a clean break and give my successor room to get his feet under the table and to make his mark on the school. Two or three years down the line, I should like to visit, but I will be keeping in touch by phone."

After serving nearly 16 years at the school, he and wife Juliet will be spending their retirement in Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

He goes with our deepest thanks and heartfelt best wishes.

John Bishop retires

John joined the Physics department in 1973 after graduating from Bristol University and working for a spell as a research scientist with Marconi.

Outside of the classroom John made a huge contribution to the school. He was a C.C.F. Officer for 20 years ending up as second-in-command to Major Rylance.

Again for over 20 years he acted as Stage Manager for many impressive school productions. In particular I remember *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in 1988. This production would not have disgraced a West End theatre.

The Careers Department developed greatly under John's leadership. In addition to advising boys about course choices John took over university and Oxbridge entrance arrangements.

As a physics teacher John was first rate. His knowledge of, and interest in, the subject was second to none and he successfully imparted this to his pupils.

On a more personal note John and I have shared many very enjoyable walks – I hope that this will not cease with his retirement.

Stewart Brady

Bobby Georghiou, Headmistress of the Girls' School, writes:

I always thought that Janus had a very tough task having to look forward and back at the same time but that is exactly what we have been doing this year and it has been an exciting experience for us all. Looking back shows us all that was achieved a century ago when our two schools were brought together to be The Bury Grammar Schools in a completely new building funded from the Hulme Trust and the generosity of local benefactors; looking forward gives us the same challenge they faced: funding an ambitious building programme for the benefit of the girls and boys in our care.



fitting tribute to those people who a century ago had the vision to build a magnificent school hall and see what the young people of The Bury Grammar Schools could do with it. Their trust in the future of our children was entirely justified.

One needs very little time in our Kindergarten or among sixth form students of both schools to know that they deserve the best. Very few schools have an orchestra of 6 and 7 year olds. We do – and anyone who attends their concerts can tell you just how good they are. It is good to think that two years from now they will be entertaining us in the octagonal hall which is the centre piece of their new building, now at last underway on land adjacent to the sports hall.

Entertainment has been a theme in this special year. For the girls the highlight was 17th January which they will remember not just as the centenary of the day we entered this building for the first time but also as the day in 2006 when their teachers all dressed up and dazzled them with a performance in the Roger Kay Hall revealing talents hitherto unsuspected. Our orchestra, choirs and ensembles have also been on top form called upon again and again to perform before distinguished audiences which have included civic dignitaries, the Freemasons of the Eastern Division of Lancashire and the descendants of the great names of our past: Henry Webb, Henry Whitehead and James Kenyon. In a programme as accomplished as it must have been exhausting, the concert which saw the combined talents of both schools performing Carl Jenkins' *The Armed Man* as well as the lively repertoire of the Concert and Dance Bands and various ensembles was a

As for our sixth formers, once again the girls have achieved outstanding A level results placing us in the top 100 independent schools in the country (*Telegraph*, August 26th) and taking them on to some fiercely fought university courses. Laura Spencer clinched her place to study physics at Oxford with 6 grade A passes. With 5 A grades apiece, Katie Schofield and Charlotte Scott will study Law at Cambridge, where Katie also has a choral scholarship, and Agnetha Jones will study mathematics. Saira Ali gained her place at Cambridge to read medicine with 4 grade As and Zoe Zammit and Katie Hodge will go to Oxford to read Classics and Ancient History. In all, 27 girls gained at least 3 A grades. The overall pass rate was 100% with 83% of all grades at A and B.

At GCSE 23 girls gained 10 A/A* grades. Susan Taylor achieved 10 A* grades and besides gaining 100% in GCSE mathematics had already achieved an AS level module the previous week also with full marks. Abigail Irozuru and Elizabeth Ullathorne, both with straight A grades, combined study with serious practice for athletics and tennis. Both girls have been competing at national level.

Not surprisingly our students are our finest ambassadors and this summer the joint Concert and Dance Bands played in Edinburgh, our Festival Choir visited Budapest, the Classics department travelled to Rome and Pompeii while a group of our sixth formers went to



Lourdes to help the pilgrims. Wherever they went, the girls were praised for their manners, their kindness and natural ability.

With building now underway in school I hope that we can together raise the money to create our joint sixth form centre and I would ask all readers of *The Key* now to support us in any way you can. I am in no doubt that BGS students now and in the future will amply repay our faith in them.

Behind all our success is an excellent teaching staff. This summer has marked the retirement of some long serving teachers: Mr Bevis (part time Physics), Mrs Buckley (Head of Physics), Mrs Hunwick (Librarian), Mr Lewis (part time History, Government and Politics), Mrs Lord (Biology), Mrs Oversby (Year 4), Mrs Owen (Mathematics), Mrs Stafford (Head of Chemistry), Mrs Williams (Year 2) are all retiring. Between them they have given 160 years of service to the School! We shall miss them all and wish them a happy retirement.

As our pupils all return for another year I am in no doubt that we shall all enjoy to the full all that it, and they, will bring.

Forthcoming Events

2006

Joint recital, *Fauré Requiem*, Bury Parish Church – Thursday 9 November

Parents' Association Craft Fair, Roger Kay Hall – Saturday 18 November

Parents' Association Hair and Fashion Extravaganza, Roger Kay Hall – Wednesday 22 November

Joint production, *A Christmas Carol* – Thursday 7 December to Saturday 9 December

Joint Christmas Concert, Bury Parish Church – Wednesday and Thursday 13 and 14 December

2007

Joint production, *My Fair Lady* – Thursday 22 March to Saturday 24 March

Founders' Day – Friday 4 May

Please telephone or email Louise Alford for information about any of the above events.

Tel: 0161 7641733 Email: Louise@bgsdev.demon.co.uk.

Diana award for fundraiser Sarah's nine-year effort

A generous student has been given a prestigious award for raising thousands of pounds for charity.



Sarah Ross (16) has worked tirelessly in support of Manchester's Christie Hospital since her grandmother died of cancer in 1997.

Inspired by the fundraising of her brother Adrian in the Manchester to Blackpool bicycle ride, Sarah decided to do whatever she could to raise money.

She has spent the last nine years taking part in sponsored events, working as a volunteer, collecting money in buckets, and selling charity merchandise.

Sarah has also done similar work for a number of other charities, including the BBC's Children in Need appeal. She has now been given the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Award for Young People in recognition of all her hard work. Sarah said "I was really surprised to have been nominated for the award, and even more surprised to win, but I am pleased. I do a lot of charity work because I like to help people."

Sarah received a certificate and lapel pin for her success, and has been invited to visit Althorp House, the former home of Princess Diana.

Bury Grammar School wins the South East Lancashire Golf Championship



Pictured with the trophy, L-R: Oliver Harrison (16), Chris Howarth (18) and Jay McGarvey (16)

Pupils at BGS celebrated winning the South East Lancashire Golf Championship for the second year in succession. The competition, which attracted over 70 entries from schools across the region, was held at the Bolton Old Links Club at the end of April.

The winning team consisted of Oliver Harrison, who achieved a gross score of 73, Jay McGarvey, who achieved a gross score of 75, and Chris Howarth, who achieved a gross score of 77. Oliver also won the Under-18 individual competition and was selected to represent Lancashire at the Northern Schools Championship in Newcastle at the end of May. Jay McGarvey finished as runner-up in the individual competition.

Bury Grammar School House Cross Country for Oxfam

The Boys have raised a staggering £2144 for OXFAM's 'Unwrapped' appeal by taking part in a sponsored cross country event. The whole-school race saw boys run a two mile course, competing for their individual house, Hulme, Derby, Kay or Howlett.



The House Cross Country event is an annual competition at Bury Grammar School but this year it was decided that the run provided an excellent opportunity for the boys to raise money for OXFAM's 'Unwrapped' appeal by gaining sponsorship from their family and friends. Several pupils individually raised over £30, including the boys pictured (left to right: Alex Trafford, Edward Clarke, Matthew Trafford, Thomas Townson, Andrew Lord and Daniel Ward).

The money raised will be used to build a classroom and to provide 25 desks and chairs in a developing country. The funds will also buy 100 school lunches and purchase educational materials for lessons. This will create a clean, safe learning environment for school children less fortunate than those in this country.

Bury Grammar Students' Success in History Essay Competition



Pictured are (L-R): Richard Stanton (16), Scott Mody (16) and Christopher Stanton (16)

Richard Stanton, Christopher Stanton and Scott Mody are delighted to have received honours from Cambridge University academics.

CLIO, the Cambridge University History Society, staged their first essay writing competition for GCSE students this year. Seven of Bury Grammar School's GCSE students entered the nationwide competition. The boys were required to submit original essays from a list of titles supplied by the society. These were marked by a panel of Cambridge academics.

Scott Mody was awarded a Highly Commended while brothers Christopher and Richard Stanton were delighted to be awarded the joint second prize. Christopher's essay title was 'Should we be ashamed of Britain's Imperial Past?' while Richard discussed 'How Important was Print Technology to the Spread of the Reformation?'

Centenary Celebrations



In April 1900 the Governors of the then Bury Grammar School undertook the administration of Bury High School for Girls.

Following a long and hard fought campaign the girls were eventually allowed to leave their cramped, old fashioned premises to join the Boys on Bridge Road.

On January 17th 1906 the girls entered their new school and together we became The Bury Grammar Schools.

This year we celebrate the Centenary of the joining of our two schools. We have held a number of events commemorating our past as well as launching our Appeal to affirm our commitment to the future.

The first event of the year took place on

Saturday 14th January when we invited Head Girls back into school to celebrate the unveiling of two new Honours Boards in the Roger Kay Hall. The first board lists almost every Head Girl we have had in office since 1906 and the second board will record our future with the names of

the next 100 Head Girls.

On 17th January 2006, exactly 100 years since the girls took their place within our school, the Mayor of Bury, Governors, Patrons and invited guests attended a special assembly within the Roger Kay Hall. Past and present pupils spoke of their school, the generations of families who have attended and of friends and benefactors who have helped secure our place in the community.

On March 15th a leaflet describing the Governors' vision for the future of our Schools was mailed. Every member of the

BGS community was invited into school to attend a presentation entitled *The Way Forward*. Positive feedback was received both during and following the presentation of our plans and our Appeal was launched at the end of May to help move our schools into the 21st Century.

June saw the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone of the Roger Kay Hall and on Sunday 25th a special service was held in the Bury Parish Church for the descendants of the three men that helped bring our schools together – Henry Whitehead, Henry Webb and James Kenyon MP. The service was followed by a tour of the Church House which was the home of Bury Grammar School from 1784 until its move to Bridge Road in 1903.



A re-enactment of the original foundation stone laying ceremony was held on Monday 26th June. The Schools' Orchestra performed Handel's *Scipio* during the procession of 37 East Lancashire Freemasons led by Appeal Patron, Mr Paul Rink. Pupils narrated this historical ceremony not only commemorating the original events but also laying the foundation stone for the new Pre-School and Kindergarten.

The Way Forward – Centenary Appeal

It has been a busy year for the Development Office team of Francine Healey, Michelle Bradshaw and Louise Alford, with much of it spent preparing to launch The Bury Grammar Schools' Centenary Appeal.

Our Appeal Brochure has now been mailed which details the Governors' vision for the future developments of our School. We have ambitious building plans and an ongoing commitment to increase bursary provision.

We are delighted to report that building work is now underway on the new Pre-school and Kindergarten. Diana Robinson and her staff look forward to teaching in their new building designed to provide the most stimulating environment for our youngest children. They will have full technology for interactive learning and space to learn by experimenting, playing and working harmoniously with each other.

When the new Kindergarten is complete we shall address the needs of our Sixth Form students. The Bury Grammar Schools' Sixth Form Centre for the students of both Schools will feature a new lecture theatre and drama studio, seminar rooms and study areas with full IT provision along with a central sixth form entrance and refectory which will provide a modern social environment for their sole use.

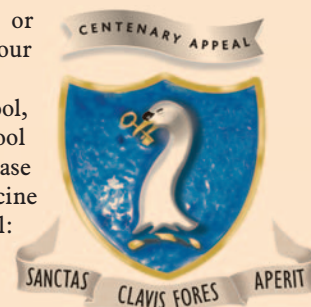
The third aspect of our Appeal is our commitment to increase bursary funding for bright pupils whose parents are unable to afford our fees. We are determined to provide the widest possible access to our Schools and we are grateful for the support of our Corporate Sponsors and the many individuals whose generosity helps pupils in our Schools today.

We have been fortunate in securing the help of a number of influential and successful people willing to invest their time working on our behalf as Appeal Patrons. They all endorse the type of education we offer and above all value our students in the workforce. We are grateful for their support.

We are delighted to announce that we now have close to £1million in donations and pledges and we give our thanks to everyone who has made a contribution.

We still have a long way to go if we are to be successful in raising our target of £2.5 million. Each and every gift, however large or small, will make a difference to our Appeal and we ask for your help.

If you would like to visit School, receive information about School funds or enquire about events, please do not hesitate to contact Francine Healey, Development Officer, Tel: 0161 764 1733 or Email: francine@bgsdev.demon.co.uk





Robert Hough is arguably one of the most successful businessmen in the North West; his business portfolio is vast and his contribution and service to our region is outstanding. As Deputy Chairman of the hugely successful Peel Holdings his management skills and legal expertise have come to the fore as the company has enjoyed massive expansion and unparalleled success. Robert Hough has always held independent Schools in high regard and we were thrilled when he agreed to become a Patron of our Centenary Appeal giving us his full support and the benefit of sound advice ...



Robert Hough, in interview with Alexander Robinson and Lauren Murphy

Robert Hough was born in Urmston in 1945, educated at William Hulme Grammar School and Bristol University, graduating with a first class honours degree in law. He believes that attending an independent school made a huge difference to his life, saying, "The environment, the quest for academic excellence, the standards and ambitions amongst your peer pupils, are all great drivers to do well. I certainly know that I wouldn't have achieved what I may have achieved without having attended William Hulme School, an independent school."

When asked why he became a Patron of the Bury Grammar Schools Centenary Appeal, Robert Hough replied, "I have always been an admirer of the great independent schools in Greater Manchester of which the Bury Grammar Schools are a very distinguished component. I was therefore delighted to assist them for that reason. Particularly to help the schools achieve their ambitions for development and maintaining academic excellence in this area, both of which are extremely laudable aspirations."

When Robert Hough left William Hulme he went to study law at Bristol. We asked what had persuaded him to make this choice. "Well, I wasn't very good at science! And as I thought I could write and reason fairly well, I felt that law would be an interesting career and one which suited my own abilities. Law wasn't studied at A-level and it was totally unknown to me as a subject. It therefore was a risk but it was a wise choice."

Mr Hough's business portfolio is varied, with interests ranging from Liverpool Airport, The Trafford Centre, Manchester Ship Canal to Century 105 FM. We were intrigued to know why he chooses to participate in a particular business.

"With a corporate legal background I was involved with complicated companies with complex and difficult financial arrangements. Upon entering Peel, I was involved in a huge variety of tasks. This had a very similar diversity to what I was doing as a corporate solicitor. My non-executive roles are varied and they move from construction to I.T. training. There is a big range and as a non-executive director you must exercise independent judgement to challenge management and devise strategy. These sorts of skills can relate to any type of business providing you have a good grasp of the basic business stuff generally. The openings on a non-executive basis have been where people have approached me and said 'would you like to do this or that?' and I've responded when I felt I could understand the companies quickly and add value to them.

Robert Hough has made a substantial contribution to the regeneration of the North West Region. He was Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Manchester Commonwealth Games and is now Chairman of the New East Manchester Limited, an urban regeneration company responsible for the physical, social and economic regeneration of that disadvantaged area. We asked him finally what his hopes were for the future. He replied, "To continue to enjoy my commercial career and also my contributions to the fabric of life in Greater Manchester, as well as finding more time for relaxation, particularly travel, holidays and golf."

The wa

WE SHOULD LIKE TO RECALL THE FOLLOWING PATRONS

- NICK AND PAM BROWN
- ALISTAIR BURT MP
- DEREK CALROW
- NEVILLE CORMACK OBE
- MARK ELDER CBE
- MARY FIRTH OBE DL
- ROBERT HOUGH DL
- JANET LAWLEY
- SIR FERGUS AND LADY JOYCE MONTGOMERY
- SIR PETER OGDEN

Sir Cyril Smith was born in Rochdale on



28th June 1928. A lifelong member of the Liberal Party, he became MP for Rochdale in 1972. In 1988, he was knighted Sir Cyril Smith and was appointed as Deputy Lieutenant of Greater Manchester in 1991; in the same year he announced his retirement as MP for Rochdale.

Respected for his tireless work in the constituency and for his support of good causes – he is very much a peoples' champion – Sir Cyril is actively seeking support for our Appeal and we know we are indeed fortunate to receive his help.

Sir Cyril Smith, in interview with Natasha Muszanskyj

Sir Cyril Smith, former Mayor and Liberal MP for Rochdale, is a staunch supporter of 'The Way Forward', becoming an important and influential Patron of the campaign. His presence has been paramount in enabling BGS to attract other Patrons, and he has even gone so far as to approach personal friends showing the strength of his support. Sir David Trippier, Sir Fergus and Lady Joyce Montgomery and Sir John Zochonis are but a small number of the supporters he has encouraged. "As far as the list of Patrons are concerned they are people firstly, that I knew, and secondly, that I was confident would mean something to people. Overall they are a good cross section and I'm very pleased with them." In fact Sir Peter Ogden attributes his involvement in the venture entirely to Sir Cyril saying simply 'He threatened me.'

Way forward

RECORD OUR GRATITUDE TO PATRONS OF OUR APPEAL

HAROLD RILEY DL
PAUL RINK OBE
DR GILL SAMUELS CBE
GEOFFREY SHINDLER
NICOLA SHINDLER
SIR CYRIL SMITH MBE DL
COLIN SNAPE
SIR DAVID TRIPPIER DL
VICTORIA WOOD OBE
THE YEARSLEY GROUP
SIR JOHN ZOCHONIS DL

Both products of Rochdale Grammar School, they appreciate what the Bury Grammar Schools stand for and are trying to achieve; Sir Cyril was one of only two Liberal MPs who voted against the abolition of the assisted places scheme. "I thought it was scandalous to abolish that scheme because what they were doing in fact was reducing people's level of education instead of giving them the opportunity to improve it." His passion for education, sitting as Chairman of the Education Committee for eight years, and willingness to take up a cause and fight, has made him a valuable asset to the campaign. He readily agreed to become a Patron when approached by his close friend and fellow Patron, Derek Calrow, as he had 'a great deal of sympathy' with the cause. When asked on his involvement in the project, Sir Cyril explained that he had been 'happy and impressed' with what he saw at the schools, especially with regards to the dedication BGS has to increasing the number of Bursaries available.

Furthermore he was attracted by the students. On the question of what the venture and BGS has to offer students, he succinctly replied that 'In some ways it's what the students have to offer the school.' He indicated the desire and self motivation of the student: 'You see students are going to BGS because they want to, and that means that they have the right attitude to education'.

Characteristically, never one to shy away from his critics who are surprised at his involvement in a private school due to his political leanings, he explains "I have never been prepared to judge the quality and usefulness of a school on the basis of how it's governed or how it's organised. So I have frankly never had a great deal of interest in whether it's a public school or state school. What interests me is what it's doing for the children that are there and that it is giving them a good education and a solid education and that is all that matters to me."

Sir Peter Ogden is Founder and Chairman of The Ogden Trust, alumnus of Harvard Business School, co-founder of Computacenter plc and a major shareholder in Computacenter, Computasoft, Dealogic and Motorsport Vision. In February 2005 he was knighted for services to education. We are honoured that he has chosen to endorse our Centenary Appeal as a Patron and we are deeply grateful for his continued support of our Schools.



Sir Peter Ogden, in interview with Alexander Robinson and Agnetha Jones

Sir Peter Ogden, founder of the Ogden Trust, was knighted last year for services to education. He is often described as a philanthropist and when questioned about this and his charitable work he modestly shrugs it off and responds that the ideology was almost bred into him.

Sir Peter was born in Rochdale; he gained a place at Rochdale Grammar School and from there went to Durham University to study Physics. This ultimately led to his PhD and then, under the influence of his Californian friend Bill Menard, he moved to Harvard to study for his MBA. He attributes this as the single most important factor behind his success in Business. It was during his time at Harvard that he developed the philosophy to 'Give Back', particularly to those institutions which have supported you.

It is because of this "Give Back" ideal that Sir Peter has chosen to support The Bury Grammar Schools in their "Centenary Appeal". When questioned further about his motivation, he confessed to succumbing to the most basic of human instincts, fear. "Sir Cyril Smith threatened me" he admitted in conversation. However he elaborated further, explaining that his cousin attended BGS; he considers it to be a good school and well worthy of support. When he received news of the Appeal he decided to give it his full endorsement, adding that he liked the Building Projects and the Bursary Appeal.

Sir Peter Ogden founded the Ogden Trust in 1999. Initially the Trust was established to finance bright individuals and give them the opportunity of attending a good school. Bury Grammar School was selected to be one of the participating schools and since 2001 the Trust has funded 8 pupils for the duration of their school career. This is a national venture involving many schools and is run in partnership with corporate sponsors. Over time the priorities of the Trust have changed slightly and it is now more targeted toward sciences, although it still works on the same principles.

As well as providing bursaries the Ogden Trust also runs a nationwide Business Competition each year. The Bury Grammar Schools have reached the National Finals in the last two years. The Ogden Trust also seeks to encourage students to continue their studies at university, especially in Maths and Physics. The Ogden Centre for Fundamental Physics at Durham University has received major support from Sir Peter.

In the 2005 Sunday Times Rich List Sir Peter Ogden is ranked as the 17th most charitable person in the UK and in the top 5 for donations to Education having given all of the £22.5 million pounds raised from the sale of shares in the flotation of his company, Computacenter to set up the Ogden Trust. Since then he has made many donations to schools and universities from his own personal wealth, including many donations to Bury Grammar School. His only ideology, he says, is to give back all that was given to him.

"Entrepreneurs need to think responsibly about the distribution of their wealth. There is not much point in dying wealthy and leaving the problem to another generation. I chose education because it is so fundamental to the development of an individual"

He is often described as a philanthropist. One can't help but feel this statement is wholly underwhelming. Perhaps "He is a true example of philanthropy, a person motivated solely by a genuine desire to improve the whole of mankind's future" would be closer to the truth.

Bury Grammar School's 90th Anniversary Pilgrimage to the Battlefields of The Somme

The History and Politics Department has been organising visit to the battlefields of the two world wars annually in October since 1994 and this year a special tour was arranged in the summer term to attend the official commemorations of the 90th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

1st July 1916, the first day of the Somme, was the costliest in British military history. On that day alone, 57,000 British and Newfoundland soldiers were killed or wounded, nearly half of all those who took part in the attack. The terrible total of 19,000 dead was greater than all the British service people killed in action since the Second World War and represented more British dead than the Crimean, Boer and Korean Wars put together.

The scale of the battle and its attendant suffering daunts the mind and the imagination. Estimates of total losses vary due to different recording methods but

British Empire forces suffered around 420,000 casualties, 125,000 of them dead including 19 former pupils of Bury Grammar School, 3 of them on the first day.

On 1st July 2006, members of our Combined Cadet Force acted as part of the honour guard for the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall at the official commemoration at the Thiepval memorial and assisted with the seating of dignitaries attending the service. Harry Shuell, Tom Filer and Shantanu Kafle read poems during the ceremony. Thiepval is the largest British war memorial in the world, commemorating 72,000 British soldiers killed in the Battle of the Somme who have no known grave. At the end of the official ceremony pupils laid a school wreath accompanied by a card recording the names and photographs of the 11 BGS boys commemorated on the memorial, including 1915 School Captain John Maddox.

"It is certainly very moving, it makes you think 'I could have been the right age' and those people so fresh from school, so young and so much life to live". Tom Filer, (18) CCF Colour Sergeant.

"In the school hall there is a big list honouring all those people who died. The fact that they were our ages, and were going through horrors that you can't imagine is particularly moving." Shantanu Kafle, (16)

For the last three years Harry Shuell (14) has been researching his great-great uncle, Private Thomas Seville, who was killed leading a bombing party in the ruins of La Boisselle. Harry was featured in a special report on the ITV evening news visiting the Thiepval Memorial where his relative is commemorated. During an interview at the commemorations Harry said:

Bury Grammar School Boys' Present Gallipoli Presentation

Friday 17th March 2006

TOM FILER and PHILIP DOUTHWAITE, (BGS 2006), were generously awarded Memorial Bursaries by the Gallipoli Association in 2005. They visited the Gallipoli battlefields during their Easter holidays. As well as studying the campaign in general theory, they were able to pursue their interest in the four Bury Grammar School Old Boys who died at Gallipoli, three of whom served with the Lancashire Fusiliers.

Together with parents, friends and staff they were joined by Major Jenner, President of the Gallipoli Association who was extremely impressed with their presentation, and Geoffrey Moorhouse, author of Hell's Foundations, who turned to the boys and asked, "What else stood out in your memories about visiting the graves?", to which Tom Filer replied, "The eerie quietness and the stark contrast between beauty and nature and the terrible loss of life".

"It feels quite eerie to know that he probably would have walked through here, might have sat there and would have died nearby."

The boys on the tour have once again shown they are a credit to our school. They had quite a lot of media attention during their visit and were interviewed not only for the BBC, ITV and Channel 5 News but for a number of national newspapers including 'The Times' and a full page article published by the Ministry of Defence. As representatives of our schools we are justly proud of these young people.

Full details from Mark Hone, Head of History and Politics have been posted on our website together with the Ministry of Defence's interview with Harry Shuell www.bgsdev.co.uk. ('The Times' article including an interview with Mark Hone and some of the boys can be found at <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,13509-2251222,00.html>)



BGS pupil's success in the UK Maths Challenge



Chris Bryant, 15, a pupil at Bury Grammar School has achieved considerable success in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Maths Challenges – the largest Mathematics Challenge in the country. The Challenges are designed to test mathematical reasoning and mental agility and are aimed at the top mathematicians in each school. The Challenges attract over half a million entries each year from over 4000 schools and colleges.

Chris's mathematical skill is undoubted. He sat his GCSE Maths at the end of Year 10 and went on to study A Level Maths during Year 11. His talent was once again confirmed when he sat the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge and achieved the highest marks in his year. Chris went on to sit the Senior Maths Challenge which is aimed at A-Level mathematicians and, once again, he achieved the highest marks in the school.

As a result of this outstanding performance, the UKMT invited Chris to take part in a follow-up competition, the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad. Chris was thrilled to be placed in the country's top 25% in this highly selective challenge. In recognition of his mathematical skill, Chris was invited to attend the National Mathematics Summer School at Queen's College, Birmingham, in July.

Maths teacher, Tony Young, said "we are delighted to have such a capable and enthusiastic mathematician at Bury Grammar School. It was obvious from his first year in the school that his abilities were quite special."

Year 9 Cross Curricular

All of Year 9 at the Girls' School took part in a cross curricular project on the 6th and 7th of July. The theme this year was the Football World Cup.

They were divided up into groups of 10 and allocated a teacher, a footballing country and a room to do a football related project in.

Because the theme was the world cup the girls needed some football skills – so we obtained the services of Bury FC to help us. The students were shown a few skills and had some football coaching. They then played a number of practice games to ready themselves for the football competition.

Over the two days 5 girls and their goalkeeping teacher from each group played a series of six-a-side matches against the other teams. There were 2 leagues and the top two teams from each played to get through to the final. Also over these two days the 5 girls in each group who didn't play on the 6-a-side team performed football skills in competition against other students:

- keeping the ball up in the air the longest.
- penalty shoot outs.
- bending free kicks around a wall.
- dribbling the football through cones.
- shooting the ball through a tyre.

The World Cup final took place on the school playing fields and unbelievably England were the World Cup winners beating Costa Rica 2-0. There was then a display on the Friday afternoon in the Hall when we saw all the groups' work and the various medals and the World Cup trophy were presented.

My thanks to all the Year 9 students for their enthusiastic response to the project and also to their teachers, who gave me great support, as well as being fantastic goalkeepers!



Mr. D. Jones Year 9 Cross Curricular Co-ordinator

Healthy Living Day

As part of the senior girls' bid for a Healthy Living Award, the Nurse, Mrs. McKitterick, and Mrs. Trethewey, Head of Year 7, organised a cross-curricular Healthy Living Day with Year 7, on Friday 7th July.

The day kicked off at 8.45am with a mass Wake & Shake session in the playground, led by Mrs. Trethewey, to the dulcet tones of an Offspring song. As the Year 7s were led into the Playground by their teachers, they were joined by Years 9, 10 and the 6th form, who all participated with gusto!

During the morning the girls were put into 6 groups, and took part in at least three different activities:

- ▲ Aromatherapy – led by Mrs. Phillips
- ▲ Pilates – led by Mrs. Dowling
- ▲ Website investigation – led by Mrs. Lane
- ▲ Nutrition – led by Mrs. Cross, an external speaker
- ▲ Healthy Cooking – led by Mrs. Harrington
- ▲ A nature walk to Burrs – led by Mrs. Petela

In the afternoon, the girls pooled their knowledge and designed Healthy Living posters together in the gym. These were judged by Mrs. Crofts (Parent) and Mrs. Baumber (Governor) both of whom had participated in the day as part of the Healthy Living Award Committee.

The winning posters, by Rosie Colvin, Laura Shatliff, Samantha Plant, Sophie Walmsley, Lucy Butterworth and Ellis

Waring were presented with prizes kindly donated by the Body Shop. Rosie Colvin also won a prize for the best nature walk answer.

Throughout the afternoon, a representative from Sainsbury's assisted in the Gym, giving the girls extra information and pictures for their posters.

C. Trethewey



Old Masters Revisited and Old Boys Reunited*

In 2006, Geoffrey Wandesforde Smith and his wife, Gretel, were guests at Founders' Day. Smith was School Vice Captain in 1961 and is now Emeritus Professor of Political Science in the University of California. Smith writes as follows:

It is widely accepted, as Ian Fallows affirms in his history, that Bury Grammar School went through trying times in the 1950s. The man who picked up the pieces and put the Boys' School back together again, literally with a new building project, was John Hansford. He had a great deal of help from people whose names many readers of The Key will remember as fondly as I do.



There was Cecil Heap, for example, who chaired the Governors, and Arthur Ince, who was Second Master and one of the wisest and longest-serving teachers ever to serve at BGS.

Hansford's assistant masters included Shaw, Hindley, Ibbotson, Meier, and Voss. Derek Hodgkiss, John Carter, J.E.D. Ferley, Arthur Price, and later Geoff Bennett, Ted Morley, and John Bisson represented a younger, post-War generation. Together with other remarkable men – Asquith in English, Carruthers in Chemistry, Watson and Hyde in Mathematics, Perham in Art, and Spencer and Kershaw in the Lower School – the staff were a tremendous resource for a new headmaster.

By their own account, Hansford and his staff worked well together and had a clear notion of what they wanted to accomplish for and with the student body. University entrance for the VIth Form, with a goodly proportion of places at Oxford and Cambridge each year, became the norm.

These recollections about old masters and good times were shared and reinforced when we had the chance recently to visit with some of the principals involved.

In Guildford, we lunched the week before Founders' Day with John Carter and his wife Sheila. They were on the staff at BGS when they married; Carter as head of Geography in the Boys' School and Miss Clyne as Head of Art in the Girls' School. In mid-April 2006, just before we visited the Carters, Guildford Cathedral was the site for the distribution by H.M. The Queen of the Royal Maundy Money. John Carter was one of the recipients.

The day before Founders' Day, we met at the Spread Eagle in Sawley with Derek and Pauline Hodgkiss. Hodgkiss arrived at BGS in 1953 to teach History. And, very much in the tradition of Shaw, Hindley, and Ince, he stayed until 1988, serving as Second Master for a number of years before he retired. Now Hodgkiss has a new lease of life as a cellist, playing with the Manchester Beethoven Orchestra and other musical ensembles in the region.

On the Saturday after Founders' Day, we travelled to Alston Hall near Preston to meet Geoffrey Lee, Geoffrey Shindler, and Roger Mitchell. I had not seen any of them for almost forty-five years. Lee was School Captain in 1961-62 and then went up to Brasenose College, Oxford. He has spent most of his working life with Shell Oil in various parts of the world and is now semi-retired.

When I left School in 1961, Geoffrey Shindler succeeded me as Vice Captain. He went up to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, took a first in Law, and subsequently became one of the most distinguished practitioners of trust and estate law in Britain. He is still passionate about his cricket.

Mitchell, the fourth member of our group, went to Brasenose with Lee and read History. He taught in a public school and then became the Deputy Head of the King George Vth Sixth Form College in Southport. He is now an adult education specialist in the history and significance of English country houses, including Alston Hall.

Finally, we travelled to Kirkby Lonsdale, where John Hansford now lives with his wife Dorothy. We talked and reminisced for two hours, had a splendid chunky beef pie lunch at a quiet local restaurant, took in Ruskin's view ("possibly the best view in the world"), and then toured the parish church. Hansford, still a very loyal supporter of BGS, exhibits all the resolve, kindness and gentility that marked his tenure at School.

* This article is adapted from a longer version, with some additional pictures, published in the News section of the Alumni portion of the Bury Grammar Schools web site.

See <http://www.bgsdev.co.uk/home/>

Literary award for a Lancashire lass

By Bury Times Reporter



Old Girl Anna Jacobs (nee Anne Sheridan 1959) has won a top Australian literary award for a novel set in the heart of Lancashire.

The Pride of Lancashire has lifted the prestigious Australian Romantic Book of the Year accolade following a vote by readers. Despite living on the other side of the world, the vast majority of her books are set in Lancashire, a place to which she still feels a very strong connection.

She told the Bury Times: "I owe a lot to Bury – and to Bury Grammar School. I was Anne Sheridan then, a scrawny child with glasses who lived far too much in her imagination and got into trouble for daydreaming.

"I went to school in Bury from the age of 11 to 18, travelling every day from Rochdale. There was quite a community on the school buses and we used to have some fun. Not so much fun one snowy day when the buses stopped running half-way to Rochdale and we all had to walk three miles home in the snow and darkness."

Anne recalled: "I also remember walking to Bury Parish Church every year on Founders' Day in a long crocodile. We felt so silly with our white gloves and pudding basin hats, and of course, we were trying to make each other laugh, because we were supposed to be suitably solemn.

"I was a Kay Scholar, with all my fees paid. My parents couldn't have afforded to send me to that school. I'm so grateful for that scholarship because I wouldn't have had such an education elsewhere."

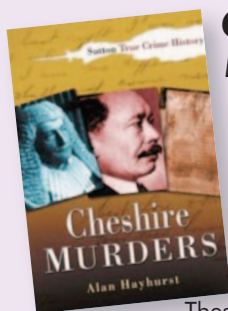
She continued: "I went to university in Leeds and never lived in Lancashire after I left school. I got married and we lived in various parts of England, then in 1973 we emigrated to Australia with our two children.

"We're still happily married, too. We love it here, but we also love going back to England and since most of my books are set in Lancashire, I am very well aware of how much I owe to my home county."

Anna began to write seriously after her daughters left home and, to date, she has had 36 novels published. She went on: "Other people of my age are retired or winding their lives down. I'm cranking mine up. Two of my books are listed in the top books borrowed in the UK. I am number 33 in most popular library authors in the UK, ahead of Dick Francis."

www.annajacobs.com

BGS Authors



Cheshire Murders by Alan Hayhurst

Old Boy Alan Hayhurst (1954) retired in 1993 and has since had two of his books published, *Lancashire Murders* in 2004 and most recently *Cheshire Murders*, thirteen stories of murder and mayhem from what at first might be thought a relatively quiet county.

These books are a must read for true crime enthusiasts everywhere.

Nellie's Book by Chris Foote-Wood

Old Boy Chris Foote-Wood (1959) worked as a civil engineer before becoming a publisher and freelance journalist with his own agency, North Press. Chris recently gave up his 30-year old business to write and perform full time and although Chris has published a number his own books of local interest, *Nellie's Book* is his first 'national' publication which tells the true story of his mother's early life.



Peter Worsley, Assistant Editor at This England Magazine

Old Boy and former School Captain Peter Worsley (1963) a retired Deputy Headmaster is now Assistant Editor at This England magazine. During 2005 Peter published a splendid article about BGS in their

winter issue (www.thisengland.co.uk). He has also published two books: *London Lights*, a history of West End musicals and *Tales of the Red Triangle*, a social and pictorial history of Cheltenham YMCA 1855-2005. Peter is the author of two other books about the history of British dance bands, he is a geography graduate and former student of Johnny Carter but says if he had his time again he would probably do history – take note Derek Hodgkiss!

Sweet Mandarin by Helen Tse

Old Girl Helen Tse (1996) left BGS to study law at Cambridge University before moving into finance in London and then Hong Kong. In 2004 she opened the award-winning restaurant *Sweet Mandarin* with her two sisters. Helen is the first British-born Chinese author and her first book will be available on 1st February 2007 (to tie in with Chinese New Year). *Sweet Mandarin* tells a courageous true story of three generations of Chinese women and their journey from East to West. For more information you can visit her website www.sweetmandarin.com.



Please forward your news to louise@bgsdev.demon.co.uk



Mrs Susan Slater (nee Peacock) contacted the school recently because she was trying to find information for her family tree. We had lost touch with Susan who was Head Girl in 1955 and we were delighted when she contacted us.

Susan was surprised to hear that we had only a few months before held a special event to unveil the Head Girls' honours boards and we invited Susan into school to visit our archive and also view the boards that commemorate our Head Girls of the last 100 years.

1955 Susan Peacock

The two boards are positioned on either side of the main entrance to the Roger Kay Hall; the left representing the past 100 years and the right, which is currently blank, represents our future and the many Bury Grammar School Girls that have yet to walk through those doors.

Before visiting the archive Mrs Betty Kenyon, Old Girl and Girls' School Archivist accompanied Mrs Slater on a tour of the school and Susan, who was somewhat sheepish when entering the girls' library, pulled out two books that have been missing from our shelves for 50 years! Luckily for Susan the librarian was on holiday and she managed to drop them off without reprisal.

"I found more than I could possibly have hoped for in the archive, she really has a treasure trove there and has clearly done lots of good work."

Students of Geography and Geology from BGS

I want to hear from you if you went on to do either Geography or Geology at university, or better still have gone on to a career in either. I am hoping to compile a database of former students, courses and careers for Geography and Geology. Please contact me at school, I will be delighted to hear from you.

Mark Bradley

mbradley@burygrammarschoolboys.co.uk, 0161 797 2700

Captains of Bury Grammar School

We are planning an event for the Captains and Vice Captains of our School but unfortunately we have lost touch with the many boys highlighted below. We would appreciate any information of their whereabouts and we look forward to organising this special event for the past leaders of our community.

1930	K Sandiford A Walker R J E Taylor A Hardman C E Law R Heap Dennis Walton	A Cullens A B Sykes P J Diggle P J Kershaw	P W Jones R S Warburton S M Ryan
1940	J R Hamilton J A C Brown E N Reynolds H T Forrester J Kay C B Cowan J R Grundy H Fessler R A Forrester P H Hilton G Bennett	1960 C Davenport G R Lee P R Worsley G R Lord R Jay P G Newton G R Spencer R Applebee A P Hulse A J Trafford	1980 P J Seymour D A Crompton D Bailey N M S Pulleyn A M Lomax P J G Crossley N A Marcus M S Dunford J A Bradley P B Hately
1950	B Walton M P Openshaw C King A T Sutcliffe C D Rogers B Holland	1970 J D Sandiford S G Batey D Grundy B Smith A J H Burt H W Brown S Taylor P M Oates S Nuttall	1990 I Riggs J St. J Shipley P G Nathan D J Reynolds L Wygas S J Peet G G Lightfoot G K Senarath-Yapa M P Hargreaves A Malhotra A Walthall

Please contact Louise with any information
louise@bgsdev.demon.co.uk or telephone 0161 7641733.



Old Boys' & Old Girls' Associations

Why Not Join Today!

The Old Girls' and Boys' Associations are actively seeking new members across all year groups. Not only do they have representation in the North but they also have a thriving London membership.

Both Associations are committed to their members and arrange fantastic events and reunions throughout the year.

As members you receive an annual newsletter, invitations to all events plus access to the schools' facilities. There is also an active Sport and Social Section, including Football, Basketball, Table Tennis and Bridge teams, together with a Swimming section and a keen Golf Club.

For more information on becoming a member please contact Michelle at the Development Office on 0161 764 1733 or michelle@bgsdev.demon.co.uk.

To mark the centenary of the girls joining the boys in 1906 the Old Girls' Association have produced a bumper edition of *The Record* (an annual publication that is free to all OGA members). We have a few spare copies available here at the Development Office priced at £5.00 each and to get hold of your copy please write to Michelle Bradshaw at The Bury Grammar Schools Development Office, Farraday House, Bridge Road, Bury BL9 0HG enclosing your cheque made payable to Bury Grammar Schools' Development Account, together with your name and delivery address.

Looking for... We are currently looking for a number of BGS Old Boys and Girls and we hope you will be able to help:

KAREN OSBOURNE (nee Davren 1986) is looking for **LISA MEEHAM, DOROTO PITIO & HAZEL GREECH**

MARGARET CARR (nee Webster 1949) is looking for **LORNA DAVIES**

STEPHEN PILMOOR (1991) is looking for **PAUL TAFT**

J. EDWARD ROBERTS (1944) is looking for **PETER ALEXANDER ROBERTS**

DAVID GANNON (1970) is looking for **BOWER, CROMBIE, CONRAD & ASHWORTH**

ELAINE BLACK (nee Goldstone 1972) is looking for **ALEXANDRA STEVENS & LOUISE LATCHFORD**

JOHN CHALLINOR (1960) is looking for **ALAN HOLT**

IVY STEVENS (nee Stinchcombe 1965) is looking for **GILLIAN MCDIARMID**

AVICE FLETCHER (1997) is looking for **HEATHER MCGRATH**

DAVID KIRKMAN (1956) is looking for **RICHARD AND PETER FLETCHER**

STEVEN HENDERSON (1971) is looking for **STEVE BARLOW**

Are you still in touch with any of the above Old Boys and Girls?

We would be grateful for any information you can give and ask that you also take a few moments to view the 'lost alumni' page on our website; if you do have any details about the Old Boys and Girls listed please contact Louise at the Development Office on 0161 7641733 or email louise@bgsdev.demon.co.uk Conversely we are in touch with thousand of Old Boys and Girls and would be more than happy to help you locate your old classmates; please do not hesitate to contact us.

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