



# Blundell's



# DIARY

JULY 2021



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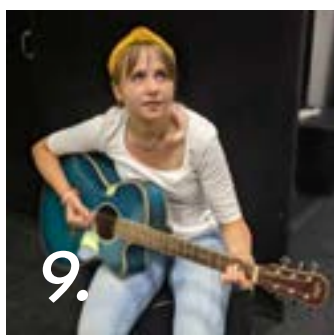
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# Introduction to the Summer 2021 Edition of The Diary

As we come to the end of another tumultuous year it is fair to say that we will look back with relief that this year is done! That is not to say that there were not many outstanding things that happened, or that we did not learn a great deal from it, but it has been complicated and frustrating. Pupils have been acutely aware of the things that they have been unable to do, and right until the last day, we were dealing with Covid-related complexities in trying to do something meaningful with our Year 13 Leavers who, for a second year running, have not been able to say farewell on their own terms.

It is, however, essential that we keep all of this in perspective. Hard as things have been and much as we want to beat our chests in righteous indignation, the reality is that we have come through this, so far, with everything and everyone intact. We are very fortunate to enjoy the myriad of opportunities still available to us. We are so grateful for the immense work done by teachers and support staff alike to make Blundell's as good a place as any to endure a global pandemic! We are so blessed to be able to savour our space; our gardens and grounds, which are so immaculate and restorative. We are privileged to be part of a community that cares and nurtures the individual, and where the whole is greater than the sum of our parts.

Over this past term there have been some particular highlights that are worth mentioning before you delve into the pages of another excellent edition of The Diary. Firstly, it is the emergence of the beautiful grounds and gardens. I cannot imagine that the school has ever looked better. What I particularly appreciate is the ecological and aesthetic thought that has gone into every little detail. The groundsmen do their work with such obvious care and pride, and the gardens are lovingly presented, not just for our pleasure, but also to support the biological diversity of insect and animal life on campus. Such care and professionalism from just one department is indicative of the culture of the teams at Blundell's. Everyone is striving to do something special. The catering team have also been fantastic in these last few weeks of term with endless functions that had to be changed and revised at the last minute. The work that went into the Leavers Event was especially spectacular.

The last fortnight of term was largely away from the classroom to do some of the things we have missed out on in recent months. Some highlights include The Islands projects for Year 8 and 9, The Apprentice for Years 10 to 12, the multi-activity days, the concert in the quad and the Year 13 drama performances, the three-day cricket test match (and the unbeaten 1st XI cricket season), and the annual, last-night-of-term, house BBQ's.

We really are blessed. And we look forward to starting afresh in September. Bring it on!

**Mr Bart Wielenga**  
Head





# Academic



## British Physics Olympiad

Just before half term a number of 62 students from Years 9, 10 and four keen Year 8s participated in the online Junior Physics Challenge run by the British Physics Olympiad (BPhO). It consisted of two 30 minute papers testing their Physics knowledge in a variety of ways. The challenge which is aimed at Year 10 pupils includes questions using a process of elimination, some are general knowledge and not classroom physics, and some are from the school curriculum. In total there were 6,171 entries from approximately 122 schools and students were awarded certificates if they achieved Bronze or higher.

I am delighted to announce the results of our participants this year - 5 Golds, 13 Silvers and 35 Bronzes. Special mention to our Gold award winners performing in the top 14% - Freya, Angel, Pierre-Louis, Pierre and Chester from Year 10.

Well done to everyone who entered, amazing effort from all especially the Year 9s who have only just started their GCSE course and special mention to Edward and Francesco from Year 8 who both achieved a Silver.

Mrs Webster



## EPQ Exhibition

This year's EPQ Exhibition took place on Fri 23rd April. In what is becoming an annual event, 23 students took part in the exhibition which saw a change in venue from Ondaatje Foyer to Big School. Over the course of the afternoon the EPQ candidates were able to present their research to approximately 150 Staff and students (unfortunately due to Covid restrictions we were unable to invite Parents this year).

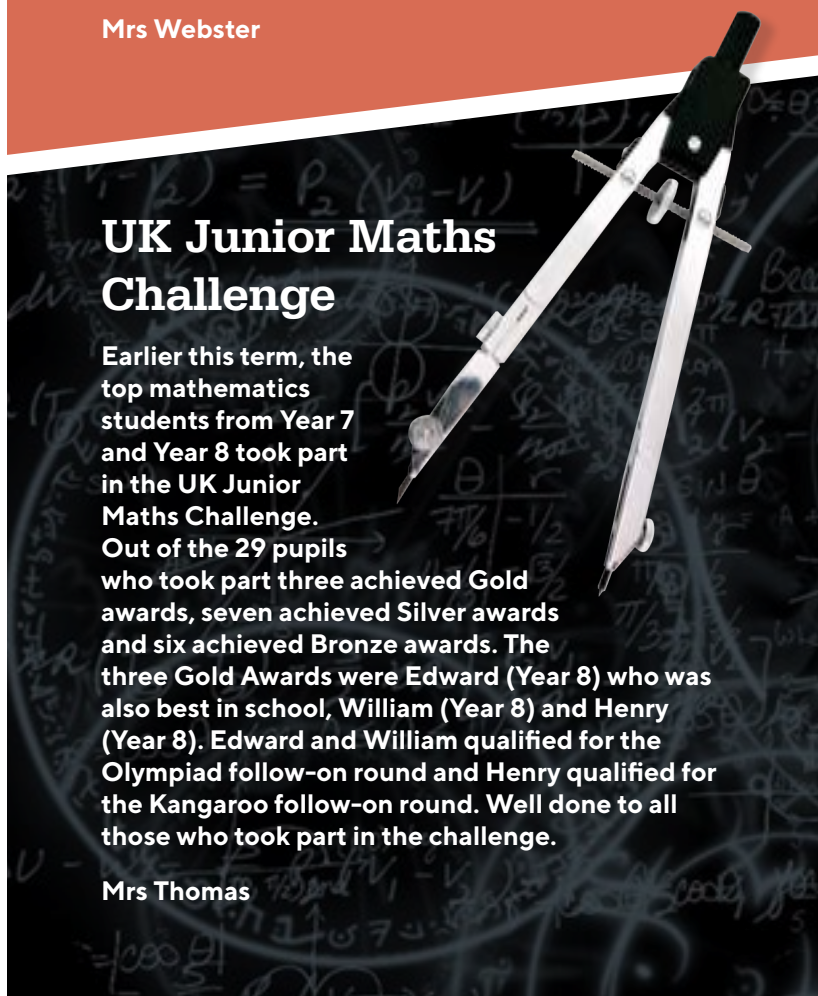
The EPQ candidates were quizzed about their chosen topics. Projects this year included 'The evolution of military vehicle armour', 'A cot mattress topper made from alpaca yarns', and 'Why was the Roman army so successful?'. It was a successful event, enjoyed by both EPQ candidates and visitors.

Mrs Webster

## UK Junior Maths Challenge

Earlier this term, the top mathematics students from Year 7 and Year 8 took part in the UK Junior Maths Challenge. Out of the 29 pupils who took part three achieved Gold awards, seven achieved Silver awards and six achieved Bronze awards. The three Gold Awards were Edward (Year 8) who was also best in school, William (Year 8) and Henry (Year 8). Edward and William qualified for the Olympiad follow-on round and Henry qualified for the Kangaroo follow-on round. Well done to all those who took part in the challenge.

Mrs Thomas







In Years 7 and 8, our School House pupils take part in our "Roots and Wings" academic enrichment programme on Wednesday afternoons. It is our aspiration to give our pupils the Roots to keep them grounded and to give them a secure foundation, with the Wings to give them the courage and the optimism to realise their full selves.

Without the constraint of timetabled lessons, the pupils are able to experience a wide range of activities covering everything from STEM challenges to gardening. Here are a few examples of what the School House pupils have been up to this term.

## Elevate Education

We were delighted, at long last, to be able to invite an external speaker to visit our pupils. Adam from Elevate Education delivered study skills and time management sessions to our Year 7 and 8 pupils. The skills of learning covered were presented in a really engaging way and the pupils were left with valuable skills to consider and, we hope, implement into their learning to improve their learning habits and academic attainment.



## Hope Not Hate

The pupils in Year 7 and 8 received lectures from the internationally acclaimed charity Hope Not Hate on the subject of harmful language. The pupils were challenged to consider their own and others use of language through various scenarios with some really thought-provoking workshoping. Led by Owen Jones, the education and outreach lead for the charity, the day really made us all think and question our own place in the pyramid of discrimination.



## Murder Mystery

The Year 7 were invited to a Cocktail Party where they had to solve a Murder Mystery. The Year 12 actors rivetted the audience with their performance! Our young investigators were sent by the suspects into various missions, collecting or finding out information. They really took their role seriously and grilled the suspects relentlessly. Each team guessed a different murderer. To almost everyone's surprise, the big reveal was unexpected!



## Team Building Competition

The team building competition practiced and developed a variety of team and personal skills, with each activity developing the students' powers of expression, communication, listening, supporting and reflecting skills. The year group were totally engaged in the excitement of the competition and the opportunity to be given a task, develop a plan and execute it successfully was very rewarding. They learnt a great deal about themselves and others, whilst having fun. Mr Dawe, the Head of Outdoor Pursuits, commented that it was a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic and engaging group of students.







## Junior Debating Competition

A huge well done to the following Year 9 and 10 pupils who braved the stage for the Junior Debating competition on 12th May in Ondaatje Theatre. Representing the houses, we had a healthy combination of seasoned speakers and a few who were testing the water for the first time.

As always, our enthusiast and eloquent speakers explored a variety of topics and astutely argued on the position they were allocated. It was a well-attended and hugely entertaining evening where our pupils debated the relevance of our monarchy; the efficacy of detentions and whether or not the long-standing tradition of The Russell race should be banned. You will be pleased to know that the latter has been given the seal of approval for another year.

It was a closely fought competition this year, with the overall winners being Old House, closely followed by Gorton House and Francis House in joint second place. A special mention goes to Rafael who took on the challenging role of chairing a debate. The winning speakers were Freya, Toby and Jack in their respective roles. Chester, Scarlet and Angus received commendations for their speeches.

There is no doubt that there is an appetite for discussion and debate across these years and we look forward to taking our articulate speakers further as we hope to enter more local and national competitions next year.

Mrs Thomas



## ICAEW BASE National Final

Congratulations to Kitty and Ollie (Year 13) who competed in the ICAEW BASE National Final. The qualifying competition involved over 5000 students aged 16-18 across the UK working in teams. The competitions gave them an understanding of what it is like to be an ICAEW Chartered Accountant whilst developing their key employability skills. The final competition gave the teams, 7 challenge questions given by 7 different company representatives. Kitty and Ollie answered all the question correctly and were only beaten on time. This was a tremendous achievement!

Mrs Bright



## Cinco De Mayo

Year 7 celebrated the famous Mexican festival of Cinco de Mayo in Spanish class. We watched a video explaining the victory of the Mexicans over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862 and other interesting facts about the festival. We then had a quiz. On the day of Cinco de Mayo, people all over the world celebrate with parades, Mariachi bands and fiestas with traditional Mexican food. To the enjoyment of everyone, we made a piñata following Spanish instructions, enjoyed lemonade and had our pictures taken in a decorated photo booth. We will learn the Hat dance very soon (el baile del Sombrero); the fun continues in Modern Languages...







## Islands Project

For three days towards the end of term, Miss Partington and the Islands team organised another very successful 'Islands Project' for Years 8 and 9. The project involved the students organising themselves to set up a new civilisation after being cast away from their home. They had to resolve the consequences of their decisions and think about how it relates to real life situations. The whole of Year 8 should be proud of the way they have conducted themselves during the project and the mature way in which they have approached it.

**Miss Partington**



## UCAS Week

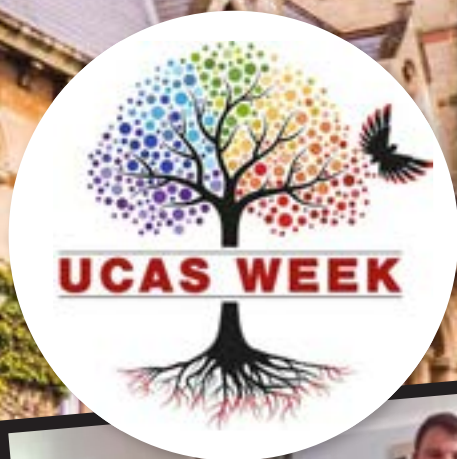
In June the Year 12s participated in UCAS Week. The calendar of events was brimming with items, and Year 12 pupils were certainly encouraged to make the most of this, being given space and time to create their future. Forty-seven different discussions took place on reading subjects such as English Literature, Biochemistry, Philosophy, or Anthropology at university, as well as on following specialist pathways such as Oxbridge, Veterinary, Medicine, Child Nursing, Engineering, Law, studying in American universities and careers in the military. Pupils gleaned tips on choosing universities, selecting courses, including those with a placement year, and writing a Personal Statement.

For those students who are also pursuing apprenticeships, this was an opportunity to carry out further research, prepare for applications and write a CV. Twenty-nine OBs and six of our Year 13s kindly helped to convey advice and their experiences. UCAS Week has helped our Year 12s to consider their exciting future that bit more and enabled them to produce the first draft of their Personal Statement.

Not only were pupils supported by their tutors, but the Sixth Form Team, the Careers department, both the Oxbridge and Medics & Vets teams, and other specialist and experienced staff members.

It was a most successful event, that was enjoyable, beneficial, and productive for all parties as evidenced by the following quotes: "It was a well put together week which I found very useful". "Thank you very much to everyone that helped made it possible".

**Mrs Bucknell**





# Creative Arts

## Speech & Drama

This term the Speech & Drama students took exams in a range of specialisms from Acting, Devising & Shakespeare to Public Speaking and Verse & Prose. They all did incredibly well, with the majority achieving Distinctions and the remainder, Merits. A special mention must go to the Medal Grades:

### GRADE 8

- **Erica, William, Myles, Olivia, Scarlett & Ben** Acting with Distinction
- **Kaira** - Shakespeare with Distinction

### GRADE 7

- **Boris & Dominic** - Duo Acting with Distinction
- **Alex** - Public Speaking with Distinction
- **Cerys** - Acting with Merit
- **Eve** - Speech & Drama with Distinction
- **Eloise** - Devised Drama with Distinction
- **George & Gabriel** - Duo Devised Drama with Distinction

### GRADE 6

- **Eva & Fleur** - Duo Acting with Distinction
- **Sophia** - Acting with Distinction
- **Ted** - Acting with Distinction

A special commendation must be made to Myles and Olivia who achieved 96% and 94% respectively for their Grade 8 Acting, Kaira who achieved 94% for her Grade 8 Shakespeare and Ted who achieved 96% for his Grade 6 Acting. Some of the highest result we've seen in these categories. Congratulations to all the other pupils who took part in exams this term.

## A Midsummer Night's Dream

This term, Year 8 have been exploring A Midsummer Night's Dream in Drama and working on various scenes from the play. The whole year group came together in Blundell's Garden to perform their very own version of the Shakespearean comedy. It was the perfect setting for this iconic tale with Puck emerging from the undergrowth, Titania sleeping in the shade of a tree and the mechanicals performing around the pond. Each student rose to the challenge of an open air performance and we were blessed with the British Weather as the rain just managed to hold off until it was over. Sadly, due to Covid restrictions, parents weren't able to join us but it was lovely to see them perform in front of their peers and the support they had for each other was incredible. It has been a very sad time for SH Drama as the Year 8s missed out on performing in the Ondaatje theatre so it was wonderful to see so many of them embrace the opportunity to showcase their skills and what an exciting time we will have next year with this talented bunch.



## Year 13 Drama Performances



This term the Year 13 Drama students performed excerpts from their A level examination pieces. Having missed out on their senior school play last November the pupils were desperate to tread the boards of the Ondaatje stage for one final time. For the first time in 18 months the Ondaatje Hall Theatre was able to re-open its doors to a select audience of staff, pupils and parents. It was an emotional evening and the Drama students certainly provided everyone with a memorable evening. The first performance saw Liv, Myles and Scarlett perform

their examination selections from J B Priestley's 'Dangerous Corner', with guest appearances from Ben, Lucy and Misha. Isi, who specialised in the design element of the course, designed and created a beautiful 1930s dress for Liv's character of Freda. The evening ended with a performance of 'Dancing at Lughnasa' by Brian Friel where Will, Honor, Molly, Lucy, Ben & Liv transported us to the Irish town of Ballybeg. The theatre was filled with both tears and laughter; a fitting end to their drama career at Blundell's.





**Freya Slack (GH 2009-16)** - joined us to answer questions from interested Year 12 students as they decide upon universities and courses in UCAS week.



In May our art students had to observe an object in detail for 3 minutes and then blindfold themselves and draw it for 3 minutes. This helped them to observe with greater accuracy before starting a drawing.

**Mrs Armstrong-Williams**



# Art

YEAR 5 & YEAR 12

**Gold Arts Award** - Prep School Workshop. Our Gold Arts Award students, Alice, Tilly, Carrie, Bella, and Alex planned and resourced a practical drawing and clay Grottesque and Gargoyle workshop for the Year 5 Prep School students this week (Thursday 10th June) The Year 5s started by drawing large expressive faces with Gargoyle style features ably assisted by the Year 12 workshop leaders. They then got to work their fingers into blocks of clay and form Gargoyle heads. Lots of fun was had and the results really impressed our Gold Award leaders.

Tilly noted how much the students enjoyed the clay above all else and Alex was relieved and pleased that the workshop went so well. "All the Year 5s were really nice and easy to work with! Very sweet and produced some great pieces too".



Blundell's Art School will be opening their doors one evening per week to Art Students so that they can continue their work outside the lessons. From September we will be able to welcome our boarders and Art Scholars for additional time, before and during Prep, and access to their practical work and media, which will make a real difference to outcomes.



# Music

## London Chamber Orchestra Centenary

In May, the London Chamber Orchestra celebrated their centenary with a birthday concert in St John Smith's Square, London. Our Year 9 Music Scholars were due to be at the concert playing with the orchestra, but sadly the pandemic halted those plans. Instead, Jemima & Maria helped to compose the music for part of the concert. Working with other pupils from schools in London and Shaftesbury and composer Cheryl Frances-Hoad they helped shape the melody for the piece which was then performed by the Orchestra and various choirs. Our Scholars also finished their work as mentors working with pupils with learning needs in schools in Berkshire and London, albeit all on Teams. They were wonderful ambassadors, sharing their music and helping disadvantaged children discover a passion for a musical instrument.

## House Music

This year House Music was a condensed affair, with five houses competing in the small group pieces only. Sadly, the ongoing restrictions put an end to the House songs, but there were still over 40 students rehearsing throughout the Music Department in the morning and then coming together for a fantastic afternoon to battle out the Inter-House Music competition. A range of styles and music were played and with less than two hours to prepare the results were really impressive. Francis House gave a wonderfully edgy performance of the Arctic Monkeys, North Close were ambitious in their close harmony singing, Corton House were smiling away with their beautifully harmonised Abba, Old House have us a real eclectic mix of instruments in a very tricky and well-handled arrangement of Elton John's Rocket Man, and Petergate got Big School swinging in a very entertaining rendition of Bob Marley. After a very difficult deliberation, Petergate were declared the overall winners.

## Summer Music Concert

The Summer Music Concert took place in the Music Quad at the end of June. After many hours of rehearsals and incredible support from IT and theatre technicians to bring this event to fruition, the weather held and a lovely evening of ensemble and solo music was enjoyed by all the pupils as well as an invited audience, although, once again limited by Covid, we were only able to have a limited number of invited parents. The event was live streamed to those that were unable to join us, making it a memorable evening to celebrate Music at Blundell's at its very best. All our ensembles that have worked so hard over the year were able to perform and we had everything from the beautiful Schindler's List performed by Laura Smith and the String Orchestra in her final year, to the Big Band and socially distanced Orchestra and Chamber Choir, to musical theatre from the Girls' Close Harmony group and sea shanties from the Boys' Close Harmony Group, as well as solos and duets from some of our finest singers and songwriters. It was a taster of the concerts we have missed this year and we hope that next academic year we will be able to return to more excellence in live music making for audiences.

## Year 9 Concert

May saw our Year 9s enjoying their first performing opportunity in over a year. 22 students performed a variety of solo pieces and ensembles with all the instrument categories being represented across the night. Although we were unable to invite parents and friends to the concert, the students thoroughly enjoyed playing to each other and relished their moment on Big School stage with the professional accompanists and it was clear to see that there will be some wonderful concerts featuring this talented year group in years to come at Blundell's.

## Year 10 Concert

The Year 10s had their opportunity to perform outside in Blundell's Garden as part of the Garden Open Day and despite the threat of heavy clouds, the weather held and 30 guests were treated to a lovely concert in a fabulous setting. There were solo artists, duets and ensembles showcasing a range of music genres and styles from jazz to classical to pop and rock. The students really enjoyed being able to play to an audience, even a small one, and rose to the occasion to showcase their musical abilities and the hard work that they have all put in to keep their music progressing in these difficult times.





# Multi Activity Days

The Multi Activity Days for Years 10-13 really gave Blundellians the opportunity to finish the year on a high. "The Apprentice", overseen by Mr Frappart in DT saw year groups designing, baking, packaging and selling edible treats around the school, competing to make the most profit (with plastic currency of course!) Many cookies and brownies were consumed over the three days with enthusiastic selling from the groups involved.

When not on the Apprentice there was a wide range of exciting and different activities laid on by staff, overseen by Mrs Armstrong Williams and Mr Olive. Painting, Jewellery Making, Crolf and Wellbeing, plus Laser Tag, Beach cleans, Ultimate Frisbee, Scavenger Hunts, Dry Slope Skiing, Drone Photography, Model making, Water Polo, Cycling, Climbing and Uni Cooking Skills to name but a few. The site was full of energy, smiling faces and the weather was, on the whole, kind to us. A great way to end the term and have fun trying something new.

**Mrs Armstrong Williams**





# Sports



## Cricket

Despite the horrendous weather in the first half of the term, the 1st XI have had an excellent season, winning 9 out of 9 matches (at the time of writing), and qualifying for the semi final of the Tier 2 National T20 Cup competition.

There have been stand out performances by Sammy (Year 12) who hit a century in the first game of the season, captain Joe (Year 13) who is currently averaging 79 with the bat and Tom (Year 12) who has bowled superbly all year. The U14's and U13's are both in their respective Devon Cup Finals.

On top of this participation is at an all time high, as we have been able to fill five senior teams!



## Hockey

On the day exams came to a close in early June for Upper Sixth Form, 19 students from Westlake travelled to Exeter School to play a most enjoyable and rather competitive game of mixed hockey. It was a large squad and players rotated on and off regularly. Exeter took an early lead and it looked like they might go on to dominate proceedings. However, Blundell's gradually got into the game and scored goals towards the end to take the game 3-1. It was an entertaining afternoon and lovely for both boys and girls to combine and get some hockey in during what has been a hugely disrupted year. Enormous thanks go to Exeter School for arranging the game, providing both umpires and for playing in a wonderful spirit throughout.

**Mr Bucknell**



## NSEA Show Jumping Competition

The Equestrian Team had a very successful time at the NSEA Show Jumping Competition at Bicton. The 70 cm, 90 cm and 1 metre teams all qualified for the National Show Jumping Finals which will take place in October. The 1 metre team

also qualified for the Elite Competition in August at Hickstead along with Mattie (Year 12) who qualified in the 1.10 m individual event. We are immensely proud of all of our riders for representing the school so brilliantly.

**Mrs Charlesworth**





# Sports Day





# Devon AAAs Championships

On Saturday 12th June, 9 athletes went to the Devon AAAs Championships, which incorporated the Devon Schools. Unfortunately, Captain of Athletics, Kitty (Year 13), missed out, following surgery. It was very, very hot in the arena, but all performed admirably.

David (Year 12) ran the Senior Men's 3000m in the midday sun. He finished as the 2nd U20 man in 10m50. Charlie Tempest was 6th in the U20 200m in 24.10s and 4th in the Long Jump - 5.68m. Isobel (Year 10) was 2nd in the U17 Triple Jump and ran 13.75s to make the final of the U17 100m. Taylor (Year 9) was 4th in the final of the U15 100m (13.81s) but claimed 2nd in the U15 Long Jump with her final jump.

Cus (Year 11) jumped 5.68m to finish 3rd in the U17 LJ, then finished 2nd in the U17 High Jump. Noah (Year 11) won his U17 200m heat but was just pushed into 2nd place but ran a fast 23.92s. Will (Year 11) won the U17 Shot. Bella (Year 10) won the U17 80m Hurdles, was 2nd in the U17 1500m Steeplechase and threw a new PB (10.36m) to win the U17 Shot.

Meg (Year 12) was competing in the toughest of competitions. In the Hurdles, she was one of 4 athletes who are all inside the top 18 in the country. Meg was 2nd in the High Jump and threw a new PB of 11.01m to win the Shot. Dan (Year 12) was 2nd in the U20m Long Jump but won the U20 200m (22.33s) and won the U20 100m in an incredible 10.89s. Breaking 11s is a phenomenal achievement, and we haven't had a Blundellian do that in my time here.

Miss Gill

## Swimming Gala

A day full of sunshine, happy smiles, teamwork, great swimming, competition, and sportsmanship. So lovely to have everyone on poolside in a 'near normal' environment and a fantastic way to finish off the Summer Term. Congratulations to Amory (SH Gala) and Petergate and CH Teams who won both the Junior (Years 9 and 10) and Senior (Years 11 - 13) events.

Miss Youngs





# Field Day

Summer Field Day offered an opportunity for our students to forget studies for a day and enjoy each other's company during a variety of outdoor activities. Year 7 had planned to explore medieval sites on Dartmoor, but the weather forced a last-minute change to a day of team building activities at Dewerstone Rock in Shaugh Prior, Year 8 had an educational activity at the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth, discovering the diversity of Marine life.

Whilst Years 9, 10 and 11 went to a variety of outdoor providers, completing different challenges such as high rope courses, bushcraft, archery and team building. Year 12 completed several different team-building challenges from the Army and Navy, challenging their quick thinking and teamwork over a series of different challenges, a group of golfers spent the day golfing, and a few Monitors spent the morning surfing at North Devon. The day offered the students a much-needed break from their studies and enabled them to have some fun whilst learning new skills.

**Mr Dawe**





# Outdoor Pursuits

## Paddleboarding and Kayaking

On Sunday the 23rd May, as the clouds rolled in and the weather looked increasingly ominous, a group of 21 intrepid boarders climbed aboard the school minibuses and headed for the lake at Bicton College. They had originally been bound for the beach at Budleigh Salterton, but the weather forecast had put paid to that. Luckily, the company running the activities had a backup plan of the college which worked perfectly and meant the trip could go ahead, despite the murky climate. As we arrived the drizzle began, but no one was deterred. Everyone was fitted up for a wetsuit before taking on the challenge of successful squeezing themselves into it! From there, we headed down to the lake where the fun began. The kids took it in turn to try out the kayaks and the paddleboards, including a huge paddleboard that a whole crowd of them climbed aboard and attempted mastering control of. They built paddle board rafts, undertook kayak races and played what can only be described as the equivalent to water netball. All this while the rain drove into their faces until they were all thoroughly soaked – even those who hadn't fallen in the lake as part of their water sport shenanigans! The rain persisted in earnest, and despite everyone's enduring commitment, we eventually retired to the warmth of the buses where we were fortified by brie and bacon baguettes and a nap on the way home.



Mrs Jones

## Level 2 Award in Effective Team Member Skills

Over the Easter break, there was a lot of activity. A number of pupils achieved their Level 2 Award in Effective Team Member Skills from the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM). The course has enabled them to build the knowledge to understand team dynamics and improve their work performance. Congratulations on an impressive achievement.

Mr Dawe



## Segway Safari at Haldon Forest

SH full boarders Thomas, Jean, Bruno and Nico had a great first trip out after lockdown with Miss Woolford. Described by the boys as their most fun trip yet (though we haven't been able to do many!)

Miss Woolford



## UK Surfski Race, Epic Bay

In May the first UK Surfski Race, Epic Bay, took place post-Covid, organised by the school coach Jim Taylor-Ross, in Exmouth. Jim manages the GB Ocean Racing Team and this was the first GB Assessment race of the summer, looking towards the World Championships in France in August. Toby (Year 13) came 2nd in U18, Jon White (parent at the Prep School) won the Para event, and Old Blundellians Francis Huntingford (2012 – 2017 FH) took 3rd place overall, Dougal Glaisher (2012 – 2017 FH) 13th overall, and Bethan Wesley (2012 – 2017 NC) raced in the U23 women's race. Blundell's is the only school in the UK where the kayak squad regularly get to paddle surfskis, in a sport that is growing nationally.

Mrs Taylor-Ross





## Surfing

Mr Hayward and Miss Partington took the boarders on a fantastic surf trip to Westward Ho! in blue skies and sunshine, they all had great fun, and many were up and standing in their first session!

Mr Hayward



## SCUBA Diving

16 pupils have been training in the Blundell's Swimming pool this term, and have visited Vobster quay on two Sunday trips this term to showcase their skills and qualify as a "PADI Open Water" diver. Both days have been brilliant, and the students are looking forward to their first dives in slightly warmer waters when international boarders open up again.

Mr Lodge

## Duke of Edinburgh & Ten Tors

Duke of Edinburgh Award teams have been very busy this term completing their section and expedition, with 34 students completing their Bronze Award covering 30 kilometres and an overnight camp, the Silver groups covering in excess of 75 kilometres and 4 nights camping and our Gold over 120 kilometres and 5 nights camping during the period. All students should be commended for the dedication and extremely proud of their achievements.

Also our Ten Tors completed their virtual Ten Tors, with our Year 10s completing 25 kilometres and our Year 12 30 kilometres in a day over Dartmoor. This was again a tremendous achievement particularly as limited training had taken place.

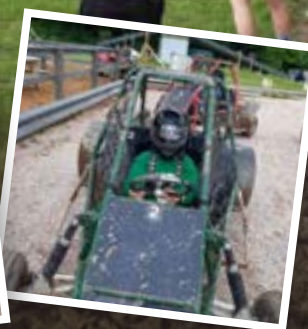
Mr Dawe



## Dartmouth Relay Triathlon

Well done to our Year 10 FH boys who completed the Dartmouth Triathlon. They entered as relay teams meaning they either took part in the open water Swim 750m, Cycle 20Km or Run 5Km. To date they have raised an incredible **£1,080** for three charities close to the hearts of members within the group.

Mr Frappart



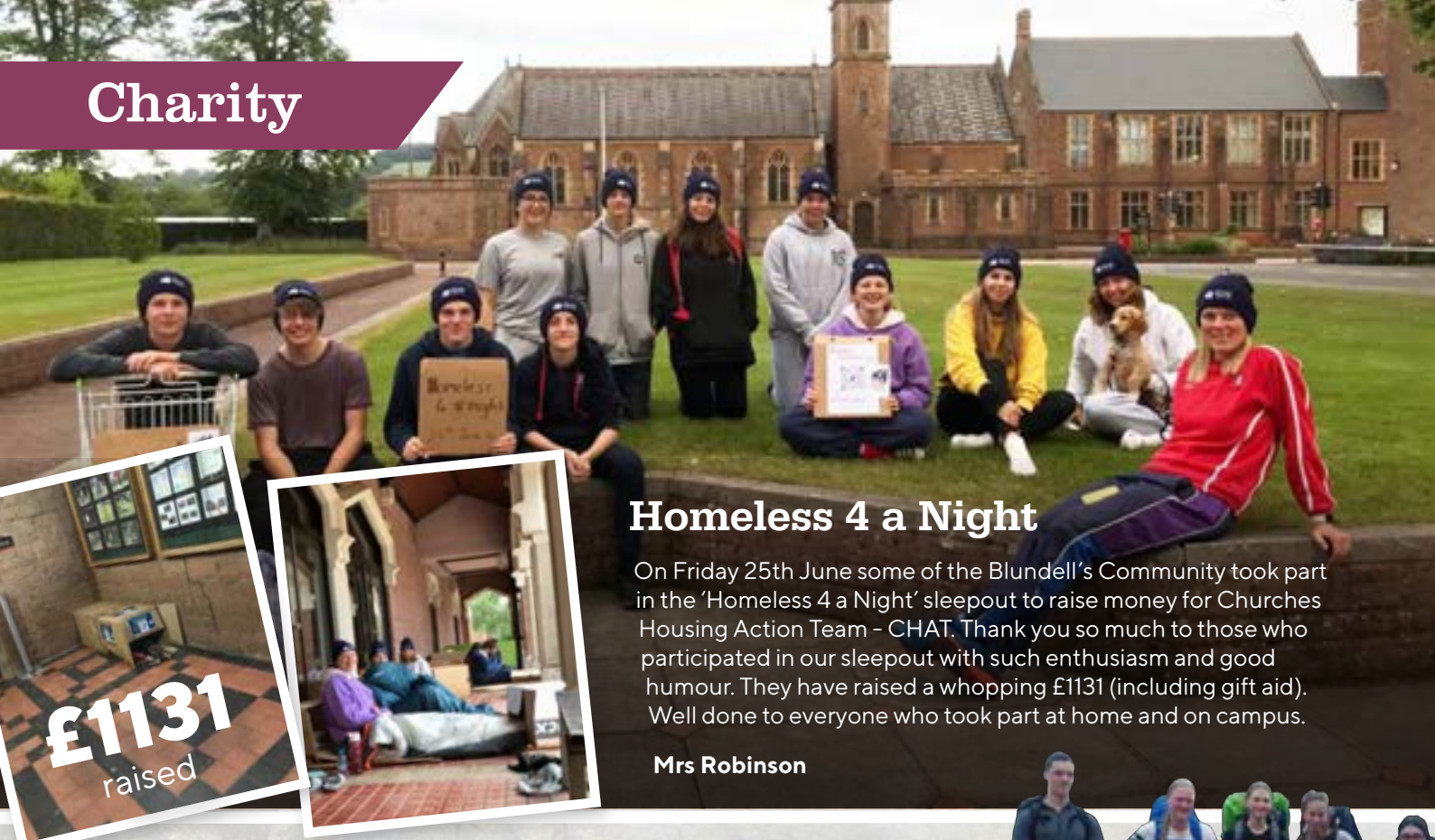
## Wildwood at Escot Park

The boarders enjoyed their Sunday trip to Wildwood at Escot Park. They rotated round 3 activities: karting, laser clay pigeon shooting and an assault course. Everyone got stuck in, with most even going through the ponds which made up the assault course! There was strong competition to get the fastest lap time on the go-karts and be the best shot on the clays.

Dr Radcliffe



# Charity



## Homeless 4 a Night

On Friday 25th June some of the Blundell's Community took part in the 'Homeless 4 a Night' sleepout to raise money for Churches Housing Action Team - CHAT. Thank you so much to those who participated in our sleepout with such enthusiasm and good humour. They have raised a whopping £1131 (including gift aid). Well done to everyone who took part at home and on campus.

**Mrs Robinson**



## DofE Volunteering

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement of students completing their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Students from Blundell's School dedicated 1,495 hours to volunteering between April 2020 and March 2021, with a social value of £6,802.25. This is an amazing figure particularly as it includes two periods of lockdown. Well done to all those currently completing their awards, you are making a difference.



## Charity Sweet Sale

Before half-term GH

Year 9 pupils from Mrs Armstong Williams' tutor group planned and pulled off a Charity Sweet Sale of industrial proportions. The girls sorted, packed, labelled and sold every single sweet and chocolate bar at break on 25th May making a huge £142.97 for house charities. The girls were impressively organised getting posters up around site and setting up a Covid Safe production line to sort and package over 140 bags of assorted treats in Tutor period.



## Pine Lodge Hospiscare Garden

After a year away it has been great to be able to return to the gardens at Pine Lodge. It has been a bit of a challenge getting the veg patch back on track but we will hopefully be ready for the judges visit for Britain in Bloom. As part of multi activity week a group of pupils painted and refurbished the Summer House.

**Mr Olive**



## Ragbag Collection

With the re-location of the second hand shop to the main school shop, many outdated clothing items remained that were not suitable for re-sale. In an effort to dispose of these items in a way which brought benefit to others, the charity committee signed up for a Ragbag collection and got busy unpicking name labels and processing items ready for recycling. The wider school community were also invited to bring in any clothing items for recycling and 171 bags were gathered in total. With a final weigh in of 535kg, we managed to raise £214.40 from this Ragbag collection. The charity committee also turned their hand to another version of recycling. Threadbare blazers have been fashioned into squeaky toys for our pets. Here is a picture of one happy customer, the Robinson's family pet, Riley.

**Mrs Wielenga**





# Garden Café

## Year 13 Cocktail Evening

We have been able to open the Garden Café on a number of occasions this term for pupils and staff at school and in the future, we are hoping for this to be a community venue at various times throughout the year.

The first event was a Cocktail Evening for the Year 13 girls, some of whom have been growing the cut flowers in the beds built for this purpose earlier in the year.

We were lucky with the weather and had a great couple of hours enjoying a drink and delicious BBQ and most importantly time to sit together and chat after the disruption of previous months.

**Mr Olive & Mr Baily**



## Garden Café Open Day

The day started with a group of very excited Year 1s from the Pre-Prep who whizzed round the garden completing a hedgehog activity and then buzzed around learning about bumble bees. Both activities were led by Year 9 pupils who had planned the activities as part of their Character Education lessons this term. The fun finished off with a lolly before they headed back up the road.

The Café was open to all after break and then a BBQ was put on over lunch to which former members of staff were invited to enjoy the garden and food with a glass of Pimm's.

After lunch it was excellent to be able to welcome the new Mayor of Tiverton and 10 Town Councillors for a Cream Tea and informal chat. We are hugely grateful for their support, and it gave us an opportunity to meet again after the previous Zoom meetings we have had to attend recently.

The Blundell's Association visited next with a tour of the school grounds with Head Gardener, Mr Harry Flower before a couple of Year 8 Gardeners showed them what we have been up to in the Blundell's Garden this term.

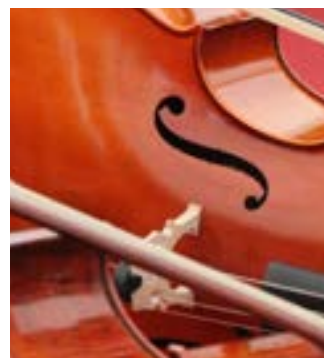
Another delicious evening BBQ was laid on by our amazing catering team and enjoyed by Year 10 musicians and parents before a brilliant Year 10 Concert in the Blundell House Garden just through the hedge! It was another great day, and we look forward to when we can open it up to become more of the whole community event that we would like.

**Mr Olive**





# Speech Day 2021





# Leavers Ball 2021





# Blundell's Community

## Annual Fund Update

Thank you so much to our generous Community, who through their donation, has help to fund the following projects.

### Willow Huts at the Prep School

Three large Willow Huts made their way down to the Prep School to be used for weekly Wild Wonders and Outdoor Learning lessons. They have been a great addition to the purposely designed and fast-growing Outdoor Learning space. They will be available year-round for children to use to find shade when working outdoors, space for quiet reflection, a spot for watching wildlife, to escape with a story or to provide a structure that can quickly be transformed into a spaceship, ice-cream parlour, dinosaur cave or wherever the children's imaginations take them!



### A Piano for the FOBS Café

A recent leaver one said; 'You're rarely as busy as you are at Blundell's – it's a crash-course in fitting everything in!' Pupils need downtime, but they also need quality downtime. Our pupil café is a phone-free zone and a great place to relax and regroup with a hot drink. The new piano has been the perfect accompaniment to this area, and it's been great to hear such beautiful music streamed from the café since its arrival.



### Communal seating for the Blundell's Garden

Being outdoors and enjoying time away from the hectic schedules of life has certainly been a theme to embrace this year. The Blundell's Garden has been in constant use since we returned to school post lockdown and has been an oasis for many. It's therefore been a delight to welcome our new communal seating with

complimenting red umbrella for pupils and staff to enjoy. We hope to continue to use the Garden and there will be many opportunities next year for Parents and Old Blundellians to visit.



### Hardship Bursary Fund

We are very proud to report, that no pupil has had to depart Blundell's due to Covid related financial constraints. With restrictions easing, the Hardship Fund will also be coming to end so we can focus on the Peter Blundell Foundation Awards.



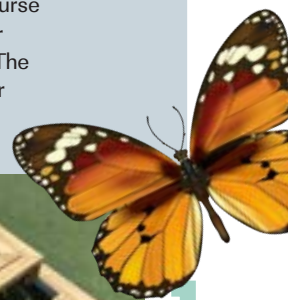
### Laser Tag Kit

Pupils have certainly enjoyed testing out the new Laser Tag Kit! Barry Dawe, Head of Outdoor Pursuits and CCF quickly put the kit into action on a CCF training day. The Laser Tag will be available both as a CCF activity and during school activity weeks – but also as a weekend activity for boarders. It's great to get the pupils outside for a bit of fun and the Laser Tag is certainly an incentive!



### Communal Seating Area in School House, A Pupil-Led Project

A very impressive 16-seater octagonal outdoor table will be ready for use by the end of term. This table will be used for outdoor teaching or for more recreational activities such as lunch or break time. What made this project extra special was that Year 7 & 8 pupils help build it! The supplies were kindly purchased via the Annual Fund, but the pupils had all the fun putting it together.





# OB Community Events

## 1604 Legacy Virtual Event



We are very fortunate to have such a supportive 1604 Society here at Blundell's. Our 1604 Society is made up of members of our Community who have pledged a gift to Blundell's in their Will. Once a year we invite our members to come together either at Blundell's or in London to hear from the Head about the progress of the School and our upcoming initiatives.

This year, we came together virtually with a cream tea and an update from Bart. Locally inspired cream teas were sent to members of the 1604 Society along with our new 1604 Society Pins as a token of our appreciation.



If you are thinking of leaving a gift in your Will to Blundell's or have already done so, please do contact Ben Boswell (FH 2000-02), Director of Development on 07970 985430.

## New Reunion Events Programme

Following on from feedback from our recent Survey, we will be adding more reunion events to the calendar each year. This forthcoming year, we plan to host the following events with the hope to do this each year if take up is good. If it's your reunion this year, and you could help with some planning, please get in touch.

- **13 November 2021**  
**50 Year Alumni Reunion**  
(Class of 1971)
- **5 March 2022**  
**10 Year Alumni Reunion**  
(**& Russell Run**)  
(Class of 2011)
- **Spring 2021**  
**30 Year Alumni Reunion**  
(Class of 1991)



Class of 1990 reunion

## Virtual Alumni Russell Run

Although we were unable to host our traditional Russell Run this year, we did encourage Alumni to run the Russell distance (5.6 miles) at home. Thanks to Robert Backus (OH 1986-91), Richard Swarbrick (M 1977-82) and Andy Pryce (Current Parent) for sending in these photos.





## Save the Dates...

### Take a Seat Event for Donors

Thank you to the 90 donors who supported our 'Take a Seat' initiative over the last few years. We are delighted to announce that we have been able to purchase new black chairs for Big School. To thank our donors, we are hosting a musical concert (Carnival of the Animals with James Mayhew).

Donors will be invited to a Drinks & Canapés Reception followed by a chance to sit in their seats with a Musical concert. If you donated towards the Take a Seat initiative, please save the date for Friday 15th October. Details to follow, via the Development Office ([devoffice@blundells.org](mailto:devoffice@blundells.org))

### Q&A with Bart Wielenga

Get to know a bit more about Bart and his thoughts and views on a range of topics. Our Community had the opportunity to ask him a question and you can hear his answers by watching this video.

[vimeo.com/542617540/9b6c73e94a](https://vimeo.com/542617540/9b6c73e94a)



### Exe-Men by Robert Kitson

How, exactly, did an unfashionable rugby club from Devon emerge from the lower leagues to become the double champions of England and Europe? Find out more about the remarkable story of the Exeter Chiefs with Author, Robert Kitson.

[www.blundells.org/devoffice/site/eventEXEMEN.htm](http://www.blundells.org/devoffice/site/eventEXEMEN.htm)



### The British & Irish Lions

Rob Cole (OH 1970-75) & Chris Thomas (OH 1970-75) talk about 'The British & Irish Lions the Official History.' The book and parts of the Q&A cover all things Rugby Lions and how Blundellians have been involved over the years in this sporting event that is steeped in history and tradition. [www.blundells.org/devoffice/site/eventLIONS.htm](http://www.blundells.org/devoffice/site/eventLIONS.htm)



### Fence Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Give your business a boost and support Blundell's School by becoming a Sponsor.

We have a very limited number of Fence Sponsorship Opportunities available. Fence sponsorship is available at £150 or Ring sponsorship at £300.

The Blundell's One-Day Event (26th September) is an equestrian event open to all schools across the Southwest.



We traditionally see a large number of Southwest based spectators. Blundell's has over 8K members in our Community and it's an excellent opportunity for both local and national businesses. Please click here to read more about becoming a sponsor. [www.blundells.org/devoffice/archive/\\_pdf/one-day\\_event\\_sponsors\\_brochure\\_2021.pdf](http://www.blundells.org/devoffice/archive/_pdf/one-day_event_sponsors_brochure_2021.pdf)





## Save the Dates...



### Blundell's Community Rugby Trophy Tournament and Family Day *Sunday 19th September 2021*

The OB Club and The Friends of Blundell's Prep are hosting the second Blundell's Community Touch Rugby Tournament and Family Day, on Sunday 19th September (12pm-5pm). This will take place outside the Beale Centre on Big Field. The whole Blundell's Community are welcome to play or spectate, with BBQ, drinks and cakes available at the event. To enter a team - all ages and skills welcome - or for further information - contact Janet Wooff OB Club Secretary or Tom Cowle: [thomasomcowle@gmail.com](mailto:thomasomcowle@gmail.com) or **07815 122950**.



### Summer Tea Parties

The popular tea parties hosted by Janet last year are back this Summer! These small gatherings provide the opportunity for local members of the Blundell's Community to meet, usually in a local café or Janet's garden and always with a cup of tea and cake! Please email or phone Janet ([obclub@obclub.co.uk](mailto:obclub@obclub.co.uk) or **01884 232010**) if you would like to attend one of these Tea Parties this summer.



### Reichwald Trophy Fives Tournament

*Sunday 26th September*

The annual Reichwald Fives Trophy Tournament is taking place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and all players are welcome.

Please do come along and support Fives at Blundell's and do not worry if you haven't been near a court for years as the handicapping system makes it an enjoyable tournament for everyone! It has always been a very friendly event and a way of encouraging the game throughout the age range at the school.

Please email Janet ([obclub@obclub.co.uk](mailto:obclub@obclub.co.uk)) for more information.

### Winter Lunches

The Old Blundellian Club are delighted to offer a full list of speakers for the coming season's Winter Lunches. It is hoped, restrictions permitting, that members of the Blundell's Community will be able to all meet once again in the Beale Centre and enjoy these convivial gatherings where good food and conversation are had. All who have a Blundell's connection are welcome to attend and there is always a good mix of OBs, Former Staff, Parents and Others. Please visit the OB Club website for more information.





# Announcements



## Christopher "Chris" J.S. Emby (SH 1974-79)

Chris Emby, a loyal friend, old-school romantic, Certified Public Accountant, and hedge fund auditor extraordinaire passed away at his home in San Francisco on 14 April **2021**. For the previous four and a half months, he had stoically fought an intense battle against a rare and aggressive neuroendocrine carcinoma. He had recently celebrated his 61st birthday "COVID-style", by wearing a double-layered face mask outside on his porch alongside his devoted wife and close friends.

Chris was born in **1960** in Vancouver, Canada and was the son of an English father. At the age of two, Christopher moved with his parents to San Francisco and up until his death he lived in his family home, 20 of these years with his wife Julia Emby (née Blagden). From the age of 9 to 19, he attended British boarding schools. He started at St. Michael's School and moved to Blundell's School after.

At Blundell's he was called, "CJ" and was known for his knack for maths as well as his natural and prized athletic abilities in swimming, cricket, 3rd XV rugby, fives, shot put, and the brutal Russell cross-country race. He also served in the School's Army Section of the Combined Cadet Force.

At age 17, he returned home for a semester to treat and conquer a serious health condition; he learned from all those challenging experiences that each moment of his life was a gift that should not be wasted.

Throughout his formative years – with one foot in the UK and the other in the US – Chris honed his unique sense of humour that would support him for the rest of his life. Upon his return to Blundell's, he was the mastermind of a spectacular prank now revealed: in **1979**, the Headmaster, had forbidden practical jokes (something to do with cars on the cricket pitch). Undeterred, "CJ" and Roger Brady (SH 1975-79) took advantage one night of a recent delivery of turf meant for the school's cricket pitch. Brilliantly conspiring with creative precision and glee, the crew 'borrowed' the turf, and prepared a perfectly lined, Wimbledon regulation tennis court – complete with net and rackets – in front the school's chapel. The next morning, the Headmaster clapped at this clever, non-destructive design; the school masters were left mystified, and the schoolboys became instant legends. Emby graduated with "A" Levels from Blundell's in **1979** and immediately became a member of the esteemed, Old Blundellian alumni network and Director of 'Friends of Blundell's in America.' He never forgot a fellow OB and in **2019**, he visited Roger Brady in Texas just before Roger passed from cancer. During that surprise visit, "CJ" wore his 3rd XV socks and raised everyone's spirits in his own inimitable fashion; he was a true friend to the end.

Chris' strong association with Blundell's was symbolised when he was cremated with his beloved Blundell's Full Colours Jacket with its red and white shield crest coat of arms and embroidered school motto: Pro Patria Populoque.

In **1983** Chris graduated magna cum laude and second in his class at University of San Francisco (USF) with a B.S. in Business Administration and a concentration in accounting. In his career, his clients declared him as being one of the best hedge fund auditors as well as one of the most trusted and reliable guys in the profession. May Christopher J.S. Emby rest in eternal peace as he so justly deserves. He was indeed a brave soul.

September 2, **1960** to April 14, **2021**

## Remembering Chris Price (W 1940-44)

We are very fortunate to have a full range of Wisden Almanacks, by the kind generosity of Chris M Price. Chris passed away May 11 2021, but it was clear from his eulogy, he loved his sport and his old schools! While at Blundell's, Chris was awarded triple colours: 1st XV, 1st XI, & Athletics, won the Russell and was a School Monitor. Chris trained to be an auctioneer and land agent and opened his own offices in Barnstaple, Bideford and South Molton.

He was a governor of St. Petroc's school for 18 years and of West Buckland school for 10 years. For a while he was Chairman of the Old Petrocian Club and also Chairman of the Old Blundellian Club, of which he was later elected President.

Thank you, Chris, for your many years of generosity to the School, we will miss you dearly.

You can read Chris' full Eulogy on the OB Website under [Announcements](#).

## Old Blundellian Death Notifications

(30.11.20) Mogford, Stephen John (SH 1961-65)

(14.04.21) Chris Emby (SH 1974-79)

(30.4.21) John Hewitt (NC 1942-47)

(11.05.21) Christopher Price (W 1940-44)

(21.05.21) Eric William Sounds Dare (W 1942-45)

(07.06.21) Roy Webber (NC 1940-42)

(2021) John Stephen Moncrieff Simpson (known as Crispin) (NC 1944-49)





# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## Lucy Walliker (NC 2012-17)



Towards the end of my last year at Blundell's, I was accepted into the 'Sporting Elite USA' programme to study and train abroad. At the time, I was doing rehab for my knee following surgery after tearing my meniscus. Based on my progress and a personal best high jump of 1.70m, I was offered a scholarship to run track and field at Queens University

of Charlotte, North Carolina, where I am currently studying Exercise Sports Science, with a minor in French and Sports Management.

I moved to Charlotte in August 2018, where I became a student-athlete, focusing on track and my degree. I was signed as a High Jumper, and I trained with my team and coaches, 6 days a week, in addition to 3-4 hours of physical therapy with our athletic trainers per week. I sustained two injuries during my first semester at Queens and I am still currently dealing with an injury, one I deal with through pain management as the injury will likely continue so long as I am playing competitive sports.

During my second year at Queens, I began training for the Pentathlon (Indoors) and the Heptathlon (Outdoors). My season was progressing well, I was seeing a huge amount of improvement in my performance across all the events: Long Jump and High Jump are my strongest in the multi-events. I was on my way to qualifying for the NCAA National Championships in the High Jump before Covid-19 resulted in Queens shutting down for the summer, and all athletics being cancelled. I moved back home to Devon, and I trained throughout lockdown. I was able to return to NC, hoping to begin my 3rd year. Queens remained online until the end of 2020, so I was living in Charlotte and working, but training was still on my own since the NCAA continued to keep athletics shut.



In 2021, the Athletics season began. My back injury had improved with the time away from the competitive season. My team won our conference championship by over 100 points, and this was where I recorded my qualification mark in the High jump with a jump of 1.73m for the NCAA National Championships. The NCAA Championship will be the first major collegiate championship in Track and Field since Covid-19. This will be my first time at the National Championships, and I am so excited to have the opportunity to compete on a bigger stage with some of the best athletes in the country.

I now have one more year to complete my degree and finish up my collegiate athlete career, although Covid has enabled me to gain one extra season of competition. I have been offered to stay on for the 5th year, to complete either a master's degree or a double major, and continue competing for Queens in Track and Field, which is a decision I will make in the next few months.

## Simon Green (W 1970-75)

Living in Berkhamsted in Hertfordshire, with wife Michelle and two grown up children, and one granddaughter. European Manager of a global French company involved with agriculture. About to move to semi-retirement. Playing a fair bit of tennis and trying to keep old age at bay with running and cycling. Keen supporter of Saracens, even if in shame.

## Dr Kennneth Jones (P 1938-40)

Retired but still fairly active after 62 years of Paediatric practice and Professor of Paediatrics in Chile.





## Tobias Francis (OH 2010-17)

The Royal Scottish Academy has awarded Tobias Francis, an RSA John Kinross Scholarship for 2021. The award enables Tobias to visit Florence for a period of approximately 6 to 12 weeks.

With a significant value, the Award allows him to explore his Artistic development in Florence and on completion, he will show all the work he created in Florence, and the Committee will select example(s) of his work for the RSA Permanent Collection; 'A Recognised Collection of National Significance to Scotland'.

This is a prestigious Award and as Tobias completes his degree this summer, he is excited to fully engage with this opportunity when international travel allows. You can see more of Tobias' work at [tobiasfrancis.com](https://tobiasfrancis.com)



## Conor Purcell (P 2003-10) & Ollie Pritchard-Barrett (P 2007-14)

It was great to welcome back Conor and Ollie to the school, this time as contractors for a filming project at the Prep School. Conor and Ollie now run OLCO studios, specialists in video campaigns.

Conor gained a degree in Creative Media Practice from Bath. Having grown up on Exmoor, Conor has always been inspired by amazing landscapes and compelling stories, he now directs and produces shoots across the globe.

Ollie went on to study engineering at Loughborough University before making his mark on the film industry. He is also an experienced drone pilot and holds a CAA permission for commercial operations.

[olcostudios.com](https://olcostudios.com)





## Dick Davies (P 1944-47)

After National Service in the RAF, where they taught me to fly, I got a job with the then British European Airways as a very junior co-pilot. 11 years later, after flying various types, I was promoted to Captain on Viscounts. Subsequently I flew in command of Comets, BAC 111's and finally L1011 Tristars. The merger of BEA and BOAC in 1974 enabled me to fly both long and short haul routes on the Tristar.



In 1981, I took early retirement and moved with my wife -a Texan- into our holiday home on the edge of a beautiful lake in Texas. The intention was to enjoy a quiet life fishing, swimming and water skiing on the lake. However, the urge to get back in the air soon overtook me and I set about getting my American professional pilot qualifications. This didn't take very long and in due course I got a job flying famous entertainment celebrities around the US and Canada.

I was privileged to fly many famous stars - household names - mostly American but some Brits. The economic recession in 1988 brought this job to a close. At the time, professional pilot licenses were valid only to age 60 and I was 58. I probably should have quit flying then - it might have saved my marriage - but I didn't and in 1990 we were divorced.

Nothing much happened for a few years but then, after a lot of research and study, I designed the house I am now living in. Then, in 1996 I met a widow. We soon became 'an item' and lived together for the next 21 years, until she died of Alzheimers dementia in November 2017.

I have one daughter who lives in rural Somerset and another who lives in Texas. I have a granddaughter who is a veterinary surgeon in Wellington, Somerset and a grandson who lives and works in Singapore. Because of COVID, but also the distance, we haven't been together for well over a year. However, we skype regularly. I suppose that, at 91, I am lucky to still be enjoying fairly good health and on the whole am happy with the life I have had.

## Chris Arundell (NC 1954-57)

I was born in the Philippine Islands in 1939 and in December 1941 my parents, younger brother and I were imprisoned by Japanese Forces that had invaded the country (an American possession, at the time). The lightly equipped American Forces surrendered after a brief battle with General MacArthur escaping to fight another day.

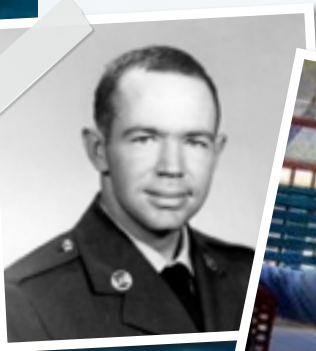
In the Spring of 1945, MacArthur and the American Forces returned ('I shall return') and with a surprise attack led by the 1st Cavalry, we (4,300 prisoner internees) were liberated but remained in the prison camp until the devastating Battle of Manila between the two armies concluded some three/four weeks later with great numbers of military and civilian casualties. We were very fortunate to survive and, finally make our way to England before returning to the Philippines to rebuild businesses, companies and the country.

In 1950, with little to no formal schooling, my parents decided that my younger brother and I (10 and 8, at the time) should return to England for our education, where we were enrolled in a boys prep school (boarders) just outside the town of Buckingham. At this time, my father was assigned to India (Calcutta) resulting in long distance letter-writing to our parents and 'baby' sister for the next seven years with a brief 'one' summer family holiday visit. My father's cousin, William R. D. Arundell (an OB) introduced Blundell's to my father/me and I, somehow, got accepted by the School and enrolled in North Close in the spring term of 1954. Unfortunately, I was not scholastically inclined, particularly when it came to 'exams!' School 'life' did provide me a 'grounding' that I was able to take with me as I embarked on a career in 'shipping, commercial maritime insurance and risk management' in England and the United States.



I emigrated to the U.S. in 1960 (assignment with an English based company) working for 20 years in San Francisco followed by 35 years in Seattle (different company but related line of work).

Following retirement, my wife and I moved to southern Arizona where we're enjoying an active and, so far, reasonably healthy lifestyle! I continue to enjoy reading of the 'comings and goings' at Blundell's and wish the School and students well in all of their endeavors!





# Forthcoming Community Events

 Social Event

 Sports

 Coffee Mornings

 Music

## July 2021

**24th**  
SAT



**Mid-Devon Show**

**26th**  
MON



**OBCC v Sou'Westers Cricket Match**  
Noon, Big Field. Contact: OB Club

## September 2021

**9th**  
THU



**Parent Coffee Morning**  
8.30am to 9am. School Garden. Contact: Blundell's Association.

**19th**  
SUN



**Blundell's Community Rugby Trophy Tournament and Family Day**  
Big Field. Enter a Team Contact: Tom Cowle (W 1991-96) @ thomasomcowle@gmail.com

**26th**  
SUN



**Reichwald Trophy Fives Tournament 2021**  
Fives Courts and Beale Centre. Contact: OB Club. - [https://www.blundells.org/obclub/obclub/sport\\_fives.htm](https://www.blundells.org/obclub/obclub/sport_fives.htm)

**26th**  
SUN



**One-Day Equestrian Event, Pontispool nr Taunton**  
Contact: Development Office.

**29th**  
WED



**Parents Fives Masterclass with Alex Steel**  
Fives Courts. Contact: Blundell's Association.

## October 2021

**4th**  
MON



**Historical Tour of Building with Archivist Mike Sampson**  
Meet at Beale Centre. 9am to 9.45am. Followed by refreshments. Contact: Blundell's Association.

**13th**  
WED



**Winter Lunch - Charlie Olive (TH 1985-90, Current staff, Director of Community Partnerships), Topic: 'Community Partnerships.'** Contact: OB Club.

**15th**  
FRI

**Take a Seat - Reception for Donors.**  
Drinks in Ondaatje Hall at 6pm, Concert in Big School from 7.00pm. Contact: Development Office.



### OCTOBER 2021

#### Old Blundellian Club AGM

The OB Club AGM with election of officers will take place in October 2021, date to be confirmed and posted on the OB Club website. Please email Janet (obclub@obclub.co.uk) for more information.

#### Old Blundellian Club:

obclub@obclub.co.uk or Tel. 01884 232010

#### Development Office:

devoffice@blundells.org or Tel. 01884 232324

#### Blundell's Association

(for Current & Past Parents): kjw@blundells.org



## November 2021

**1st**  
MON



### Parent Coffee Morning

8.30am to 9am. School Garden. Contact: Blundell's Association.

**8th**  
MON



### Historical Tour of Building with Archivist Mike Sampson

Meet at the Beale Centre. 3pm to 3.45pm. Followed by refreshments. Contact: Blundell's Association

**10th**  
WED



### Winter Lunch - Debbie Hosking (Former staff 1999-2018 & GH House Mistress),

Topic: 'Anecdotes of Covid.' Contact: OB Club.

**13th**  
SAT



### 50 Year Alumni Reunion

Big School/Beale at 12pm. Contact: Development Office.

**19th**  
FRI



### Sir Francis Popham Society Reception

Contact: Development Office.

## December 2021

**1st**  
WED



### Winter Lunch - Jeremy Salter (Former Staff 1969-2001, Chairman of Tiverton Civic Society),

Topic: 'Neil Ghosh and the Jewel in the Crown.' Contact: OB Club.

**10th**  
FRI



### Nick Butter; Marathon Man "Do More Tour"

Big School. 12pm. Contact: Blundell's Association.



BLUNDELL'S COMMUNITY

# TOUCH RUGBY COMP

SUN SEPT 19TH

**BBQ - Family Fun Bar - Cake Stand**

Teams of 10 welcome  
Contact Tom Cowle - 078151 22950

**12 - 5 PM / Big Field**

Raising funds for:  
LittleHero.org.uk &  
Friends of Blundell's Prep



**Blundell's**  
FOUNDED 1664

# ONE-DAY EVENT

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ONE-DAY EQUESTRIAN EVENT HOSTED BY BLUNDELL'S SCHOOL

**26 SEPTEMBER 2021**  
PONTISPOOL EQUESTRIAN CENTRE NR TAUNTON

*Give your business a boost  
and support Blundell's School  
by becoming a Sponsor*





# Blundell's

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FOUNDED 1604

Blundell's Road  
Tiverton  
EX16 4DN  
United Kingdom

