



Blundell's



SUMMER 2023



The Diary

Summer 2023

“Adversity introduces a man to himself.”

ALBERT EINSTEIN

The Summer Term has been, as it often is, a wonderful time to be at school. For an almost entirely uninterrupted 6-week period we had glorious sunshine. The cricket pitches were baked hard, the tennis courts were jam-packed, the pool was popular, and exams went ahead as they should. Given how things have been these last few years, that last comment is not one we take for granted anymore.

We cannot, however, escape the reality that this term has been difficult. Excruciatingly difficult. The incident in Petergate rocked the school, and it is now part of our reality, part of our history. Most significantly, the boys who were injured are both recovering well, and for that we give thanks. That, again, is not something to be taken for granted.

Genuine adversity is seldom something anyone willingly or enthusiastically invites upon themselves, and whilst we might hypothesise about how we would react in the face of such adversity, we don't know until it happens. It has happened, and we do know. The School – and by that I mean the Blundell's community – reacted with compassion, consideration and courage. We have learnt more about our character than we wish was necessary, but that knowledge is nonetheless a great comfort. We will continue to learn and grow through this. It will still take time.

Of course, whilst the incident

cast a shadow over the term, one thing pupils taught us was that we can hold the tension of joy and sadness simultaneously. Sport this term has been terrific with some wonderful team and individual achievements. In Tennis, the girls' 1st team were crowned champions of the newly founded Two County Cup. Pippa S became the youngest member of the Southern Vipers women's cricket franchise and Harry S piled on the runs for the 1st XI. Captain Jack W made a memorable century in the last match of the season as he led the 1st XI to victory over Sherborne. In Athletics Arsenii M leapt 1.80m in the junior high jump to break a long-held record, and Jodie and Gemma D, along with Rose H, enjoyed astonishing success in the pool.

Elsewhere the Year 9 & 10 play, The Powder Monkeys, showcased the significant talent that exists in the junior end of the school, and music continues to thrive with the Leavers open Mic hosted in Exeter being a highlight.

We are a community. That is the resolute message that has emerged from this term. Regardless of the circumstances, through the good times and the bad, we stand together. We don't know what lies around the next corner, but we can know, with the confidence of experience, that we will go around that corner together.

BART WIELENGA

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International Community

Blundell's has a thriving international pupils' community who add diversity and vibrance to our school life. The International Pupils' Committee is set up to enrich Blundell's life by introducing and engaging in cultural events that are traditionally celebrated in the home countries of our diverse international pupil community. Examples were the celebration of Lunar New Year, an Africa week, solely led by our African pupils, and a foreign snacks festival where the school community sampled exotic foods from around the world. International Blundellians enrich the school life of our fantastic community and are an integral part of Blundell's.

Years 7 & 8

All students who took part in the maths challenge should feel very proud of their success.

MATHS

“We overall attained 13 Bronze, 14 Silver, and 4 Gold medals. A very high proportion of Silvers, nearly double that of the national average.”

Junior Maths Challenge

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS

to George, Calvin, Matthew, and Daisy for attaining Gold medals in the Junior Maths Challenge and qualifying for the next round, the Junior Kangaroo!



Congratulations

to Ed for being invited to the 61st National Mathematics Summer School for his excellent performance in the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge.

Ed has done exceptionally well given this highly selective process, where Ed secured one of the 5 places available to him.

Olympiads

In the Spring Term, Anastasiia, Ed and Betty tackled the Cayley, Hamelton and Maclaurin Olympiads.

These are 2-hour papers comprising of 6 challenging maths problems.

A big congratulations to Ed, who attained a Gold Distinction, placing him in the top 20 of all students who took part. We are also delighted for Anastasiia, who attained a high Silver Distinction, placing her in the top 30.

We are so proud of all the pupils and look forward to celebrating their continued success.



Phoenix Society Trip... to the National History Museum

HOPE the large
blue whale fossil



Getting on a coach outside Big School at 6:45am, 30 weary Year 9 & 10s departed for The National History Museum. After a quick nap and navigating the London Underground, pupils explored the mammals, invertebrates, and dinosaur fossils on display. Special highlights being the large blue whale fossil (called HOPE) soaring above us and Titanosaur - one of the largest dinosaurs to walk the earth. Moving next down to the Science Museum, we explored the engines and inventions, including Sir Tim Peake's space capsule, the internal make up of a jet engine, and the original DNA model. All safely back to Blundell's with the inspiration to be the scientific HOPE of future generations.



CHALKE VALLEY HISTORY FESTIVAL

Many of our Year 10 and Year 12 historians, along with Ms Flavell, Mr Moore, Mr Hayward and Mr Holman, embarked on an educational journey as they ventured to the renowned Chalke Valley Festival. As ever, this event promised a unique opportunity for intellectual exploration which did not disappoint. Acclaimed historians gave a series of talks, specifically tailored to students, igniting intellectual curiosity and inspiring a deeper appreciation for the complexities of history. The festival provided a captivating backdrop for learning, as students had the chance to participate in hands-on activities and engage with living historians and exhibits.



TRIP TO THE Battlefields

The Battlefields trip was a big success!

First on the itinerary was visiting the sunset ceremony, where a vigil was held as done everyday for over 100 years. The first day included visiting many of the cemeteries where a couple of pupils were able to pay their respects to relatives. The pupils had the opportunity to visit Passchendaele 1917 museum, where the dugout and trench experience were both very popular and

brought the conditions to life somewhat. The following day was spent looking at the battlefields of the Somme from 1916. Starting with the intact trenches at Beaumont Hamel and the Newfoundland memorial, which is always very moving. The visit here came accompanied by a challenge to find the Old Blundellians on the memorial, of which there are 6!

“

A sobering and timely reminder of the sacrifice paid by men and boys in huge numbers a hundred years ago, some not much older than the group themselves.

Biology and Psychology

Earlier this term we welcomed Dr Guy Sutton of Medical Biology Interactive to speak with Year 12 Biology and Psychology students on a range of topics in neuroscience. Exploring cutting edge brain research and considering areas such as neuroplasticity, psychiatry and the link between mind, brain, and crime.

Year 12

“

It was really interesting; I definitely learnt a lot and it made me more interested in the brain itself and understanding the consciousness that we have or considering the implications of brains being grown in labs

Rubi in Year 12

In the afternoon, the pupils witnessed a sheep brain dissection performed by Dr Sutton, who provided plenty of opportunity for questions and explained the different parts of the brain, drawing parallels to our own.

Overall, it was a fascinating day of high-level interaction, engagement and the pupils really enjoyed the opportunity to go beyond the syllabus.

Alex in Year 12 said: "I feel like there was definitely something everyone could be interested in because he covered such a broad range of topics. He's enthusiastic as well so it wasn't like it was ever a lull to watch!"

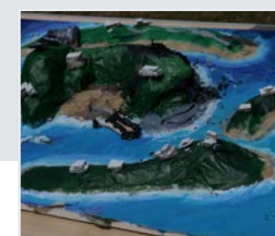


Year 8

Islands Project

Groups were stranded on three different islands and they set up their nations and started to build their societies.

The islands of Maka Paka, Friceland and Paradisos were developed. The first island auction led to some questionable and successful investments for their islands. They worked collaboratively to react to the consequences of their actions. Scientists tackled and fed back solutions to influence their government's decisions. Culture built up their island's character and media successfully reported on both their island's progress but the success and disasters of the other nations. The cartographers created and adapted their models to reflect the changes to their islands. Each island received a business proposal from the Ravenholm's special guest (Mr List) and there was great enthusiasm with the Islands Got Talent show later on. Pupils were able to see how their actions related to real world scenarios and were able to reflect on what they had learnt. The Islands staff would like to thank this wonderful year group who made this project extremely successful.



JUNIOR PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

This year there were almost 12000 entries, a Gold medal puts a student in the top 15% of entries.

Earlier in the term, 6 students attempted the Junior Physics Olympiad, aimed primarily at students in Year 10. This competition encourages students to engage in an assortment of physics problems and ideas without the pressure of it being a real test or something they need to prepare for. The aim is to engage them by showing them that the physics they learn can be applied to examples outside school, to situations that they might come across in the news, to sorting out information and choosing reasonable answers, whilst participating in a national physics competition, is generally a little beyond their own expectations.

Congratulations to all!

These are our results:

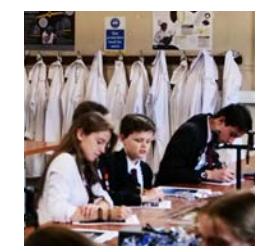
Harry	Yr 10	Gold
Toby	Yr 10	Gold
Edward	Yr 10	Gold
Nicholas	Yr 10	Silver
Anastasiia	Yr 9	Silver

Biochemistry

We welcomed Millfield, Plymouth College, Tiverton High School and Wells Cathedral School to compete in our annual Biochemistry Competition.

36 pupils, in teams of 4, had to work out the correct concentrations of potassium iodide, sulphuric acid, hydrogen peroxide and distilled water for their solution to turn from clear to dark blue in exactly 1:40.91. This matching the 800 m record set by David Rudisha in 2012.

Congratulations to Tiverton High School who gained the closest time, with the two Blundell's teams coming 2nd and 3rd. Blundell's Team 1 gained the highest score on the written paper, and our Sixth Form helpers deemed Plymouth College deserved the prize for the team who had worked together the best.





Yoto Carnegie Award

On Wednesday 21st June, students from our school, Tiverton High and Wellington School gathered together at Blundell's to discuss and explore the Yoto Carnegie Award shortlist.

The Carnegie Award is a prize given for the best children and young peoples' published books each year. Students enjoyed a thoroughly engaging talk from author Amy Sparkes, where they learnt about archetypes. Students then enthusiastically worked together in groups to do a variety of book-themed tasks such as pompom



making (inspired by the knitting-themed Needle) and mask designing as inspired by Medusa. Students engaged in lively debate about the Carnegie book shortlist and chose their winner.

Overall, an amazing time was had by all, and we hope to see everyone again next year.



Now in its third year, Shakespeare in the Garden is growing from strength to strength.

The current Year 7s put on a formidable showcase of scriptwriting, staging, and alfresco performing. From Macbeth in seven minutes to a dower talking wall, they honestly had the audience roaring with laughter. We can't wait to see when this year group next take to the stage.



Shakespeare

in the garden

Roots and Wings

Years 7 & 8

In Roots and Wings this term, Year 7 & 8 enjoyed the annual Careers Carousel, hearing from 4 organisations about the work they do in Charity, Horticulture, Surveying & Planning and Healthcare. Thank you to all of our presenters for helping students develop their awareness and get excited about the many professions open to them.



UCAS

Year 12

Our Year 12 took part in UCAS week, a 2-day programme of events and time off timetable, to reflect, research and work on applications for their post Blundell's destinations. Tutors, teachers, the Careers Department, Sixth Form Team, and advisors for the specialist pathways, were all on hand to provide support and input with essential guidance. Each day, we started with a talk from a university; on Monday, we heard from University of Bath about how to prepare for and enhance a competitive university application, and on Tuesday, Raphael Dennett from the Centre of Entrepreneurship, University of Exeter spoke about creativity, innovation skills and entrepreneurship and why an entrepreneurial mindset matters to make the most of the opportunities that lie ahead. Once again, we were hugely appreciative of the tremendous support from our OB community who from their far-flung destinations from Australia to



Scotland, delivered 32 pathway talks, spanning subjects and careers from agroecology to finance, to sport and exercise science, to working in politics and even on superyachts. Our OB's shared the routes they took beyond Blundell's, their experiences of further study, the careers that have ensued and their honest insights and experiences. The end of day 1 was a chance to relax with a BBQ, which OB's also came to, giving the opportunity for more informal conversations to take place. Feedback from our year 12 has illustrated how this time and the conversations they have been able to have, has been of tremendous value in supporting their progressive research and understanding, and ultimately decision making.

Employability Day

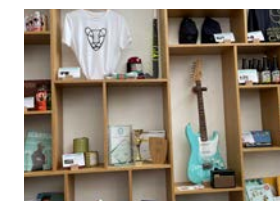
Year 11

Our year 11 Employability Day prize winners headed to SETSquared, at the University of Exeter Innovation Centre, to learn more about the support given to graduates starting up new business ventures, from first ideas to gaining investment for transforming ideas into products and services.

The students chatted with George Seymour, an Engineering graduate and avid climber, who founded 'Fast Climb' - a timer device to make speed climbing more affordable and accessible for climbing centres to offer their customers.

They also learnt about the new initiatives taking place across the University, to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation across the disciplines, visiting the Playful Labs and new Engineering Maker Spaces.

It was a great insight into how business ideas can become a reality, and the support available to help students develop entrepreneurial skills, to bring creative, problem-solving approaches to the workplace.



A formidable showcase of scriptwriting, staging, and alfresco performing



Tidcombe Activity Day

Tidcombe Primary started our Primary School Partnerships programme in 2020 so it was great to have their Year 6 visit us for a morning in the Art Department. A level Art pupils supported them in completing two workshops, a collage still life workshop and a light trail photography workshop. After lunch and a visit to Gorton House the Sports Leaders ran an

athletics and tennis session for them. Our activity day with Wilcombe Primary School was an action-packed and high-energy event. After a picnic in the sunshine, they played football, hula hooped and took part in egg and spoon races, sac and three-legged races.



Community Action Teams

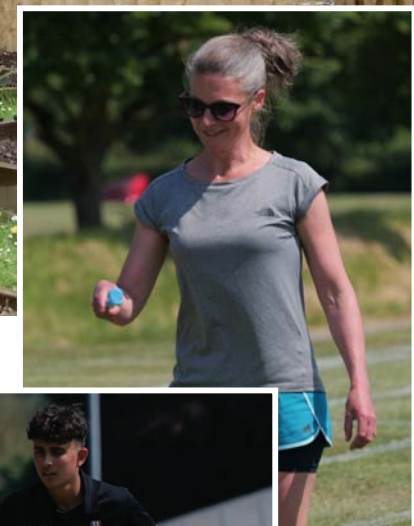
Many of the CAT Leaders are Year 11 pupils and so this term they have had to turn their focus to their GCSE's. As a result, and with this summer term being so short and so busy we have concentrated on developing initiatives ready for the next academic year. A Community Action Team launch assembly is planned for early in September in which the aim of CAT's is explained to the whole school and the recruitment of new CAT members begins.

Margaret Allen care home visit the Garden

On Thursday afternoons two of the activities available to pupils are 'Community Volunteering' and 'Care Home visits'. The community group have been focusing on developing the Blundell's Garden as a venue for community groups to visits and the Care Home group visit Margaret Allen Care Home each week to meet, chat to and entertain the residents. Both groups worked together and hosted a group of residents in the garden for a lovely sunny afternoon of board games, chat and a cream tea. It was great to be able to use the recently finished area of decking in the garden and the residents (all in wheelchairs) enjoyed being lifted on to it. (we'll be building the ramp in the autumn!). It was a brilliant way to spend just over an hour with them in the garden and we will be hosting them again in the future.



Schools Community Partnership



Blundell's Pre-Prep started this term's school events with a visit from the Reception and Nursery classes. Splitting into four groups they rotated round four activities which included a bug hunt, the story of 'The Super Worm', sowing sunflower seeds in homemade paper pots with an ice lolly to finish off their visit. Finding centipedes, woodlice and a toad caused much excitement, and they enjoyed sowing sunflowers to take back with them to join the calendula they sowed on their spring term visit. All the activities were supported by Year 7 pupils who enjoyed reading the story to them before handing out the lollies.

Tiverton High School BBQ

Our partnership with Tiverton High School has seen another positive year with the enthusiasm between THS Ambassadors and the Blundell's Community Action Teams remaining strong. In May we hosted a BBQ to celebrate our work together and to plan the next steps. The aim for next year is to work towards a joint drama/performing arts event in the Spring Term 2024. We look forward to welcoming them back in September.



Community Sports Day

Year 13 Westlake Girls Cocktail Evening

This is now the third year of what has become an annual event. This is a lovely and relaxed evening for the girls to gather for a chat before their A Levels begin. The Catering Team put on a fantastic BBQ with delicious gin-based cocktails followed by strawberries and cream. It concluded with the girls planting an apple tree 'Elstar' to add to the orchard.

Garden Open Day

As part of the Garden Open Day event, Year 10 Musicians ended the day with an open-air concert and a BBQ, courtesy of our wonderful catering department.



Parents, friends and pupils were entertained with a huge variety of instrumental genres and voice styles.



Open Mic Night

Earlier this term many of our best pop and rock musicians had the wonderful experience of performing in Exeter Phoenix as part of the Music Leavers' 'Open Mic Night' at Exeter Phoenix, Exeter's city centre multi-arts venue. Thank you to Lochy for arranging the evening.



Pentatonix Live in Concert

Year 12 Close Harmony Trip

A group of lucky Year 12s from our Close Harmony choir got to travel to London to see Pentatonix, the world's leading acapella group. Famous for their online arrangements of classic hits and Christmas favourites, they certainly didn't disappoint, and the students had a fantastic time witnessing a true spectacle. The concert was sold out long ago, but Mr Johnson managed to get some tickets with some excellent planning and, along with Miss Atkins, delivered a superb trip for our musicians.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ginevra who has been announced as one of the five winners of the hugely prestigious Two Moors Festival Young Musicians Competition. The very best musicians from across the South of England took part with five of the country's most highly respected professional composers' adjudication the competition so this is a huge achievement. As part of Ginevra's prize, she will take part in a professional masterclass in August at the winners' concert as part of the Two Moors Festival in October, as well as receiving £300, which Ginevra has said will be spent on a trip to see a production at the Royal Opera House in London.



Well Done

Well done to Lochy who has been awarded Full Colours in Music.



Many thanks to Mrs Johnson for providing these wonderful photos.

Year
8

A Midsummer Nights Dream



The Year 8 Drama students have been very busy this term, rehearsing their adaptation of William Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Nights Dream' culminating in a delightful evening in the Head's Garden.

Their final performance was highly entertaining and left the audience in hysterics, proving once more what an immensely talented year group they are!



Congratulations

LOCHY (Year 13) has been accepted on the National Youth Theatre summer course. He was one of 30 applicants to gain a place out of over 6000 applicants and will attend a two week residential course in Northampton which will result in a final showcase.

SOPHIA (also in Year 13) has achieved her Level 4 Acting Diploma and can now use the designated ANEA after her name.



THE Powder Monkeys

The cast and crew of The Powder Monkeys, performed to packed Ondaatje Hall this term.

“It was just as good, if not better than the original which was first performed by the NYMT in 1984

Jeremy James Taylor OBE



The story of this musical is set at the end of the 1700's and follows the fate of a young village lad who is press-ganged to fight on Nelson's warship with tragic consequences.

Thirty-three students from Year 9 and 10 were involved on stage supported by five students from Year 9-12 backstage and they all impressed

their audiences with a brilliant production. On the last night, we had a special guest in the audience, Jeremy James Taylor OBE, founder of the National

Youth Music Theatre and playwright of The Powder Monkeys. He stayed behind afterwards to congratulate the cast and crew on bringing his work to the

stage so skilfully, even going as far as saying it was just as good, if not better than the original – high praise indeed!



CELEBRATION EVENING

Blundell's Celebration Evening was the opportunity for our talented GCSE and A Level students to impressively showcase their final pieces. The Exhibition drew in a large and enthusiastic audience where a diverse range of artworks, spanning various mediums and styles were presented. From intricately detailed sculptures to vibrant paintings and thought-provoking installations, the exhibition highlighted the exceptional skills and unique perspectives of our students.

Blundell's Celebration Evening served as a testament to the dedication and artistic growth of our students, leaving a lasting impression on all who had the pleasure of attending.



Rupert Johnston



POTTERY ENRICHMENT

Our Senior Art Scholars 'The Da Vinci Scholars Society', were joined by Ceramicist Rupert Johnston for a slab forming pottery session.

Interested staff joined the session alongside the scholars, and all produced box form cases with textural details ready to fire and glaze!



ART COMPETITION

Ella entered the 'Show Racism the Red Card School Competition' with her excellent and powerful painting. Ella was nominated as one of the prize winners and invited to attend a ceremony in Liverpool's Anfield Stadium where she placed second. This is a huge achievement.



2ND
PRIZE



“
Well done
Ella!”



The second Blundell's Festival was a huge success with stilt walkers, bubble makers, Henna Artists, live music, street foods and Slacklining to name but a few of the attractions taking place. Our Prep families joined the senior school families after their Speech Day celebrations and enormous quantities of ice cream and churros were consumed. It was lovely to see so many of our community come together and relax in the warm sunshine, taking the time to connect, have some fun and share some really positive experiences. Mrs Armstrong Williams said "We couldn't have wished for better weather and seeing everyone enjoying themselves with their families and friends, was heartwarming and exactly what was needed."



School House Sports Day



Senior Sports Day

Senior School Sport Day showcased a great afternoon of athletics at the Blundell's athletics track. This is for all Year 9 to Year 13 students to compete not only for their houses but also the individual Victor and Vitrix Ludorum titles. There were some amazing performances with six school records being broken:

Bella (GH) – 016 Shot Put 11.87m (previous record 11.43m 2022)
Bella (GH) – 016 200m 28.0s (previous record 28.4s 2008 and 2013)
Lizzie (NC/W) – 016 400m 66.1s (previous record 66.4s 2005)
Petergate – 016 4x100m relay 44.8s (previous record 45.5s 2021)
Gorton House – 016 4x100m relay 54.7s (previous record 54.9s 2004)
Arsenii (P) – U16 High Jump 1.80m (previous record 1.74m 2013)

Sports Day Results:

School House Winning House: **Gornhay**
 School House Victor Ludorum: **Austin**
 School House Victrix Ludorum: **Daisy**
 Senior School Winning Boys House: **Francis House**
 Senior School Winning Girls House: **Gorton House**
 Over 16 Victor Ludorum: **Noah**
 Over 16 Victrix Ludorum: **Bella**
 U16 Victor Ludorum: **Arsenii**
 U16 Victrix Ludorum: **Myrtle**



Photography by Nick Lecharpentier

Full Colours

Well done to Benjamin, Jack & Lawrence who have all been awarded Full Colours in Cricket.

Experiencing my first season at Blundell's has been a fast and furious. The first three weeks of the season was more akin to a water polo season given the amount of rain we had. However, this was followed by glorious sunshine to see cricket played at all times of the day from Big Field to Amory.



The highlights of the Girls' cricket season began with the hosting of the MCC cricket festival that saw all teams compete in the spirit of cricket. The 1st team were curtailed somewhat due to weather and opposition but when they did play were impressive in their performances. The Girls' cricket has grown from strength to strength and under the guidance of Mr Holman, Mr Hunter and Mrs Thomas saw the Under 15 team come third in the Rachael Heyhoe-Flint South-West indoor regional having secured the Devon County Indoor Cup and in the penultimate week of term, be crowned the U15 Outdoor County Champions. In addition, to this they also defended the Broderick Trophy hosted by Queen's, Taunton.

The progressive growth of the girls' game can be seen both in the Prep School and School House popularity. School House girls' took three teams to Millfield coming away with all three victories giving them enormous confidence their cricket is on the right track.

The boys' cricket was great fun but frustrating in the results. All teams had their moments but too often failed at the final hurdle. Highlights of the season areas follows.

The U12s reached the semi-final of the county cup, losing in an epic duel with

Plymouth College. Scores at the end of the match were 43 runs a piece which resulted in a super over loss. The tense atmosphere echoed that of the World Cup final in 2019, or it seemed that way.

The U13s had a good season that saw them reach the county cup final. A valiant effort pursued but they fell short of the 153 target.

The U14s faced some extremely tough opposition but acquitted themselves well at all times to compete, showing the correct attitude. Success is measured on how you approach things and they definitely did that.

The U15s have had an excellent season which saw them progress to the U15 County Cup final. The hard-fought match resulted in a 4 run loss. However, Mr Kingdon and Mr Arton-Powell have been delighted how the team competed and chuffed for the players who have been given a small exposure to first team cricket.

Senior cricket has been so tight with lots of games going to the wire for all three teams. The 1st team led by Jack Whittaker, had game after game go to the final knockings before the result could be defined. No other game highlights this better than the last game for the dynamic duo of Mr Shrimpton and Mr Hamilton who are retiring from the sporting fields. Sherborne needed 5 runs to win off the last ball and unfortunately this was struck sweetly by the opposition and went for six runs. A one run loss. Can you imagine the discussion this caused on the journey home and beyond the boundary.

Cricket on my part is all about experience, not about the focus on end results but whether we are engaging the pupils. Moving forward that experience will be advanced with more fixtures, more opportunities to train but most of all creating more smiles across the fields. There is no other game that has so many ups and downs that can make us laugh and cry, most likely within seconds of each other. Congratulations to all the coaches, players, catering staff, ground staff and of course the parents for making such a wonderful introduction to Blundell's cricket.

D.W.Headley
 Director of Cricket



Congratulations to Pippa who has been selected for the Blundell's 1st XI team! Pippa has starred amongst others in our 15A team and has become the first female at Blundell's to achieve such a feat and she is only in Year 10! Pippa who is on the pathway for Vipers has impressed with several scores over the summer term.
 Dean Headley, Director of Cricket said, 'Pippa is an outstanding talent and if she continues this path of improvement and carries on working hard as she does, will have every chance to make the grade from school to professional cricket. At Blundell's we give the right exposure to players ensuring their continued development' regardless of gender.'



Cricket



Primary Netball Festival

This was our second time hosting the Primary School Netball festival, the event is run by our Year 10 sports leaders as the final event in their qualification. We hosted 6 local primary school including Wilcombe, Heathcoats, Bolham, Castle, Tidcombe and Uffculme. Each school brought two teams of Year 5 and 6 girls and boys to be a part of the coaching workshops and fun tournament. We had an A and B team round robin competition led, coached and umpired by our sports leaders, the winners of the A team competition were Bolham Primary School and the winners of the B team competition was Heathcoats Primary School. This event also has further club links and is run in conjunction with Tiverton Titans Netball Club to help get more young people into netball. It was an enjoyable event for all and we had some great competition throughout the day. We look forward to hosting this again in the future.



A big well done to our Year 10 Sports Leaders who ran the Primary School Netball Festival. The day was a great success where where our leaders could help pupils from the local primary schools develop their netball skills!

Athletics

A short summer term, but nonetheless an excellent one for athletics. A good mix of fun and competitive opportunities at a range of different levels, in addition to training sessions and community engagement afternoons were enjoyed. We were generally blessed with good weather this season which enabled pupils – whether total novices or more experienced – to develop their skills. We attended the Castle Athletics Track a number of times competing against other local schools. Our Junior and Inter Boys teams both qualified for the Regional Final of the Track and Field Cup competition at Exeter Arena this year offering a fantastic opportunity for the younger students to compete in some top-class athletics. Many individual successes have also been achieved with a number of students now being Devon Champions in their disciplines with many going on to represent the county at the Southwest Schools Championships. Our year culminated with both the School House and, later in the week, the Senior School Sports Days. These events show the broad depth of talent across the year groups and the friendly, yet fierce, house allegiances that exist.



A big well done to Natalia and Gemma for competing in the National Fives Championships at Marlborough School. They reached the final of the doubles competition and Gemma reached the final of the singles, which she won. This means she is the 2023 U16 National Fives Champion.

Full Colours

Well done to Harry who was awarded Full Colours in Football, and Zeb who has been awarded Full Colours in Hockey.



Swimming

This season's swimming could be summed up by the word 'lots': lots of training, of galas, of sunshine and (hopefully) of fun! We hosted two home galas: Queen's College, Taunton when we were victorious and we also welcomed back Wellington after a gap of seven years, though we were sadly 'pipped' at the post! We also travelled to Sherborne, Taunton School, King's College, Taunton and Exeter School for some exciting and competitive races. We were especially excited to be able to offer an U13 team for several of the galas and to give our younger swimmers some experience of competitive swimming; they did really well!

On the penultimate day of the term, we hosted the SH, Junior and Senior Galas. It was a glorious day, full of fun and some excellent swimming. It was good to see so many pupils taking part for their various houses.

Overall winners were:

SH Gala: Mayfield
Junior Boys: Petergate
Junior Girls: GH
Senior Boys: OH
Senior Girls: GH
Overall Boys: Petergate
Overall Girls: GH



Congratulations to Gemma (Year 12) who has been awarded a scholarship to Indiana State University for Swimming.



Tennis



Senior House Water Polo

The water polo match between NC and GH was a thrilling and highly competitive affair with both teams giving it their all. Despite NC's best efforts, it was GH that came out on top as winners. The Senior House Water Polo competition for the boys saw some intense action as pupils clashed in the pool. It was OH who emerged as the winning team, playing well throughout the tournament and securing two impressive victories, with Petergate coming second.

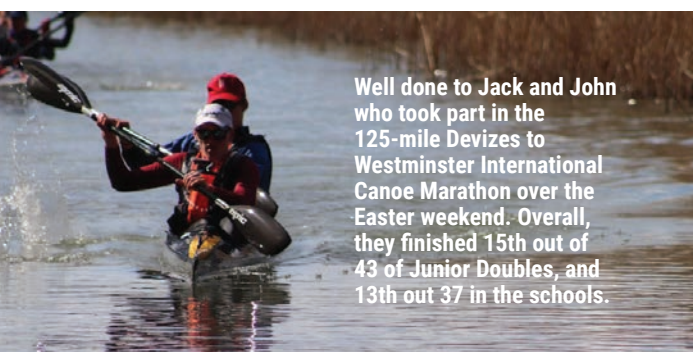
Our Senior & Inter Tennis teams played their final Two Counties League Cup matches against Taunton School. We came together as schools who had tragedy within our communities. Together, we are stronger and everyone playing together with the staff must be congratulated for finishing off the season.

Full Colours

Congratulations to Teddy who is the first pupil to receive Full Colours in Shooting.



This year's Ten Tors saw yet again Blundell's Teams successfully complete the challenge. Three 35-mile teams and one 45-mile team set off at 7.00 am on Saturday morning to the sounds of the 105 Guns in the mist, with not the greatest of visibility. This year we saw two pupils taken off the Moor due to injury or medical reasons, this normally would dampen the morale of the team, but in true Blundell's spirit it only made the teams more determined. The 45-mile team reached their predicted campsite and displayed true grit. After a delay earlier in the day, it meant they were behind time and that they weren't going to make their planned campsite. They decided to camp short and make up their addition 13 the next day, which they did. The 35's also had several issues to overcome, but they all made good time and completed by mid-afternoon the following day. It was remarkable to see the cohesion and sheer determination of the teams, pupils pushing themselves and each other through a variety of pain barriers in order not to let the team down, when it would have been easier to stop. Ten Tors is probably one of the hardest physical and mental challenges our pupils will face, and it was extremely humbling to see the teams overcome the challenge this weekend.



Well done to Jack and John who took part in the 125-mile Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Marathon over the Easter weekend. Overall, they finished 15th out of 43 of Junior Doubles, and 13th out of 37 in the schools.



20 pupils took on an extraordinary Gold DofE challenge this weekend. Camping in Llanthony Priory before heading to Sugar Loaf Mountain and then on to the Brecon Beacons. They started with a steep climb out of Llanthony to Bal Bach, then an even steeper climb up to the summit of Sugar Loaf, not only the terrain but soaring heat and at one point we thought a storm was brewing but thankfully, passed by. All pupils did remarkably well and should feel proud of their achievement.



Congratulations to our pupils who received their Gold DofE Award at Buckingham Palace. We couldn't be prouder!

Yr9

Although the Year 9 In-Weekend was exhausting, it was a great success! The weekend started with a BBQ organised by the wonderful kitchen staff, followed by some competitive games on Big Field. It was then time for some fun in the pool to cool down. The Sunday started bright and early with the Year 9s travelling up to North Devon Wake Park. Much fun was had by all then it was back to Blundell's for supper and a sleep, as everyone was shattered! Huge thanks to Mr Cook, Mr Hunter, Mr Elliot, Mrs Webster and Mrs Lacki for their help with the trip.



Field Day saw several activities taking place, Year 7 had a delightful day at Castle Drogo, completing a number of different activities including croquet and lunch on the lawn with Miss Thomas and her team, along with a Castle visit and orienteering. Year 8 had in school day with Adelong Adventure preparing them for the Year 8 Journey which was taking place for the remainder of the week, a series of activities including packing kit, erecting group shelters and fire starting. Year 9 completed their DofE Expedition either in Porlock on Exmoor or Tiverton Canal, both expeditions were equally challenging though the weather on Exmoor tested the pupils resolve which we are glad to say they all survived. Year 10 all took part in the Biennial Inspection, completing a variety of activities for our Inspecting Officer Captain Armstrong Royal Navy, a Blundellian who has been an inspiration to so many pupils as they go through school. We were extremely lucky to have such a senior Naval Officer visit, specially making time in her very busy programme to come back to the school. With Year 11 and 13 on study leave or work experience and Year 12 completing their UCAS applications another diverse Field Day came to an end.



Year 8 enjoyed an action-packed time on Dartmoor this week, including scrambling, gorge walking, rock climbing, abseiling, navigation, camping, water rapids, and abseiling. The Year 8 Journey is designed to be fun, adventurous and provide lasting memories of School House whilst developing the pupils' confidence to take on a new challenge.

From the 9th - 11th June Year 7 enjoyed their PGL trip to Beam House. Making memories and having lots of fun.





Community Garden Open day

It has been another busy term in the garden, but the weather has been unbelievably inconsistent, changing from baking hot and dry to cold and wet. As a result, the veg beds are certainly not looking at their best but as the weather has settled as term progressed, I hope we will still get some decent crops in the autumn.

Summer Term Garden Open Day

After months of unsettled weather, we were lucky to have one of the hottest, sunniest days of the year so far for this term's Garden Open Day. The morning focused on a school's programme. Wilcombe Primary School brought in a group from Year 4 and Heathcoat Primary a group from Year 3 for a bee friendly workshop.

The Garden Café was open all day and with the sun shining those running it were working flat out. With a delicious mix of smoothies, milkshakes, ice creams, pasties and sweet waffles the café did extremely well. The profit that is made goes towards the Community Partnerships programme and allows us to offer free snacks to visiting primary school children and hire buses for their transport for example. In the afternoon there was a cream tea and tour of the garden to thank those who have supported Blundell's in a variety of ways over the last year.

The day finished with a brilliant Year 10 Music Concert in the evening that saw the musicians performing on the decking in front of the cabin and the audience sitting in the garden enjoying a BBQ and cocktail.



£992 raised for CHAT

THE BIG Sleep



The big charity event for this term was the Big Sleep Out, raising awareness and funds for CHAT, a local charity working to prevent homelessness. Our night on the benches and grass around the cricket pavilion was well supported with 14 pupils ranging from Year 7 to 12 taking part. Everyone managed to make themselves some sort of shelter and a quiz helped to draw attention to some of the issues surrounding homelessness. £992 was raised for CHAT from generous sponsorship of friends, family and well-wishers.

The other focus for the term was a review of the charities we support and thinking forward to next year. Pupils on the committee made presentations about different charities and everyone was encouraged to consider these worthy options and the broader question about our philosophy for giving. There was agreement that as a school we enjoy partnering with charities where we can have some active involvement or there is a feeling of co-operation and learning from those who we are seeking to support.

3 Peaks The team have raised over £5000!

A huge congratulations to our team for completing the 3 Peaks challenge.

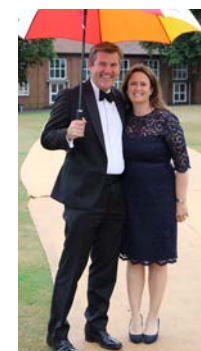
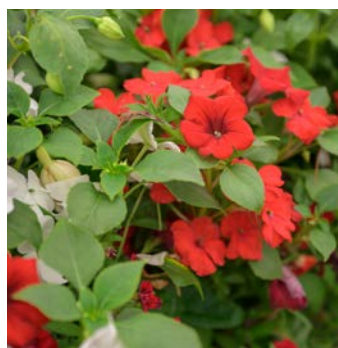
Although some brutal weather at times, the group were amazing and completed 24 miles and 1608m of ascent in 11 hours and 20 minutes.

We are all very proud! The team have raised over £5000! Thank you to all those who generously donated money to support the boys affected by the recent events.



PRO PATRIA

POPULOQUE



Letter from the Director of Development

We have been overwhelmed but not surprised by the support to the School from our community in light of recent events. All of us here at Blundell's would like to take the opportunity to thank each and every member of our community for your strength, kindness, and for your enduring support. We are enormously grateful to you and consider ourselves to be very fortunate to be part of the Blundell's community.

This year we have been very lucky to meet so many of you personally through the various events we have held this academic year. The Head and I had the pleasure of meeting with some of our overseas community members when we visited Hong Kong, Bangkok and Sydney, this was a great opportunity to learn more about what our overseas community have been up to.

We have also hosted a variety of events in the UK ranging from our first Charity



Gala and Auction in support of four charities, the 1604 Society Lunch in Blundell House for all those that have pledged to remember Blundell's in their Will, a VIP afternoon tea party in Blundell's Garden to thank all our donors and volunteers, along with various reunions and social receptions. We also welcomed Old Blundellians back to the school for tours around campus and held individual meetings.

For those who we have not met with, I hope that our monthly e-newsletter and termly Blundell's Diary keeps you informed of events and news of Blundell's. If you need help arranging a reunion, would like

to come to Blundell's for a tour or have an idea for an event, please do get in touch.

The collective Blundell's community really is a force for good and through the donations we have received, it has enabled us to change many young lives by offering bursary provision, giving the opportunity of a Blundell's education to talented children who would otherwise not have the means to access a Blundell's education. This support has also allowed the School to complete several projects that will enhance the pupil's educational environment. On behalf of all those who will benefit from this generosity and who's lives will be improved because of your kindness, thank you.

I also want to mention that Emily Roffe-Silvester, who many of you will know since she joined Blundell's Development Office over the last 12 years will be leaving her current role and taking on a new career as a teacher, thankfully for Blundell's, still at the school. I am sure all of you who have met and got to know Emily will appreciate the fantastic work she has done over her time in the Development Office, and I would like to publicly thank her for all the exceptional work she has done. I am sure you will join me in wishing Emily the very best in her new career and know that her energy, warmth, and charisma will make her a fantastic addition in her new role.

"It was really nice to welcome back our 2021 Leavers for a casual evening of drinks and nibbles"



Our Overseas Community

Finally, after all the covid restrictions in the last few years we were able to go out and visit some of our Overseas Community. These trips are important to us to keep these relationships strong and to help connect our community together in those countries. The Head, Bart Wielenga and The Director of Development, Ben Boswell visited Hong Kong, Sydney, and Bangkok over 10 days where they welcomed over 100 guests from different associations and year groups.



London Drinks

Even Train Cancellation and Delays didn't stop the fun!

After train cancellations and delays we still made it to our London Drinks reception with over 70 Old Blundellians and Parents at 'Upstairs at the Department Store'. Kindly hosted by OB Roger Squire (W 1956-61) on behalf of his brother, Michael Squire (W 1959-63) who sadly passed away a few weeks beforehand. It was a fantastic opportunity for our community from different generations and associations to get together. A definite bonus for several past students was catching up with their former Houseparents, Mr Berrow and Mrs Klinkenberg.

Raising a glass in memory of our host, Michael Squire (W 1959-63) who sadly passed away a few weeks before the event.

Thank you to our Donors & Volunteers

We hosted our Annual VIP Garden Party again in beautiful sunshine, enjoying a cream tea and a glass of fizz in the lovely school gardens and new cabin. This was our chance to say thank you to all those in our community who have kindly supported Blundell's. We couldn't do this without you.



Annual Fund Projects Completed!

We are so incredibly grateful to our wonderful community for donating to our Annual Fund so our pupils could benefit from these fantastic projects! We are delighted to be welcoming the following projects:



Camera Lens & Cameras for the Art Department

New camera equipment means more pupils can get behind the lens both during lessons and activities. Specialist equipment help pupils to keep pace with the changing landscape of Art in the real world, as well as equipping our students with the traditional skills to find success beyond Blundell's.



Green Power Car Project for Design & Technology

Building a brand-new Green Power car is a dream come true for all of our 'budding automotive hot heads' at school. It meant that pupils could get their hands dirty (literally) with this exciting STEM project. Building this brand-new car means pupils will be able to compete competitively at the Green Power Formula 24 Championship for the next 5 to 10 years!



African Drumming set for the Music department

There has been non-stop drumming in the Music department since it welcomed it's new and unique African Drumming set. What's been great about the set is the ease that pupils have been able to get involved and give it a try. This resource will be shared across both the Prep & Senior School.

Prep School Outdoor Canopy

We are delighted to announce plans for the permanent outdoor sail that will be constructed at the Prep School's Wild Wonders area. The sail will help ensure the wildly popular Forest School programme at the Prep will run - rain or shine! We are tremendously grateful to BluBox Developments for gifting us their construction expertise to make this dream a reality! The project really is in the best hands possible, and we can't thank BluBox enough for getting behind the project! It is our intention to have the sail ready for the pupils to enjoy during the Autumn term.



Water Polo Goals for House Competitions & Sport

House Water Polo matches this year were so much better thanks to proper goals! Each House entered a team and congratulations to Gorton House and Old House who won the Senior competition and North Close and Francis House who won the Juniors competition. These goals will have many years of use and we look forward to putting on annual matches in the Summer term next year.

OB Golf - Brent Knoll Bowl 2023

Our team for our first competitive event of the season was Peter Crews (M 1970-75), Jack Dart (FH 2008-13), Ed Haycock (NC 1987-92), Phil Hine (W 1971-75), Dougal Lyon (FH 1997-04) and Simon Waddington (M 1971-75). As usual the draw was done on Friday night and as it went on it looked like it was going to be inevitable that we were going to be drawn against Sherborne - our opponents in the Halford Hewitt and, sure enough, we were.

Saturday morning arrived together with the forecast 40/50 mph winds. It made golf tough as the direction was across the course.

Jack and Simon won their match but Peter/Phil and Ed/Dougal lost theirs, so it was onto the plate where we faced the

Warwickshire Bears. The strong winds had gone and by late pm it was almost still so playing conditions were now good. This was a very close match. Jack and Simon won again and with Peter and Phil losing theirs it was down to Ed and Dougal. They were one down, playing 16 and had a 8ft putt for a birdie and the hole but unfortunately didn't hole it. It was a similar story on 17, we didn't hole a 6ft birdie putt but the opponents holed from 5ft for a half. Two good drives on 18 were followed by two good shots to the fringe of the green. Dougal putted up dead but the opponents now three putted so it was down the 19th. We missed the green right, the opponents hit a marvellous shot into 8ft, unfortunately we weren't able to get up and down so the Warwickshire Bears went through and went on to win the plate. On the Sunday we played in the consolation event. Alex Knott playing instead of Jack. Our scores were reasonable.



THE BLUNDELL'S CRICKET BOX OPEN DAY AT SOMERSET CC

Members of the Blundell's community took the opportunity to attend the complimentary Open Day at the **Ted Crowe Room**, on the 4th May. The day began with a tour of the SCC grounds, prior to the commencement of the Somerset v Northampton match. A ploughman's lunch followed, then an excellent Q&A with the new Director of Cricket at Blundell's, **Dean Headley**, with the day culminating in afternoon tea.

Membership of the Ted Crowe Room is open to everyone within the Blundell's community, please visit the [OB Club website](#) for more information.

OB CLUB COFFEE MORNINGS AND AFTERNOON TEAS

These informal events are becoming much appreciated opportunities for local members of the Blundell's community to come together, chat, meet old and new faces and often reminisce in a delightful setting. If you live in an area where there are several members of the Blundell's community and you too would also like to host a similar event, or perhaps evening drinks, facilitated and funded by the OB Club or be informed of such events, please [contact Janet](#) or for more information and to book onto the next coffee morning, please [click here](#)

OB WINTER LUNCH AUTUMN PROGRAMME

The OB winter lunches will be in full swing again in the Autumn, with the usual full programme of interesting speakers and wonderful food, enticing all members of the Blundell's community. If you have not been before we would love to see you, just [let Janet know](#) and she will add you to her contact list. The first lunch is on **Wednesday 11th October** with the new Blundell's Director of Cricket **Dean Headley** speaking, alongside, if his schedule permits, former Exeter Chiefs player, Jack Maunder (FH 2008-15). To find out more and to book tickets for these events, please visit the [OB Club website events page](#)



REICHWALD FIVES TROPHY TOURNAMENT

This annual Tournament is taking place on **Sunday 24th September 2023**. Do come along and support

fives at Blundell's as a spectator or player and to find out more or to book your place, [click here](#).

BLUNDELL'S COMMUNITY TOUCH RUGBY TOURNAMENT AND FAMILY DAY –

17th September 2023. Outside the Beale Centre on Blundell's Big Field, this family day has entertainment for all including a BBQ, cake stall, drinks and kids games.

The rugby: Teams of up to 10 are invited to register to compete for the overall winner's trophy, and the plate trophy. All ages and abilities welcome, with a focus on fun, rather than fitness! A set of playing rules, based on the standard RFU touch rugby competition rules, will be issued to all teams prior to the tournament. [See more info](#)



PARENTS DRINKS RECEPTIONS – JUNE 2023

Year 13 parent Justine Withers arranged a drinks party in the Beale Centre, for parents of pupils moving on to another chapter in their lives. Whilst Rob Saltmarsh wished to celebrate the success of the senior boys' rugby season, by inviting parents, pupils and staff to their Beale Centre drinks party. The opportunity for getting together and have time to chat cemented the relationships many have developed over the years and the Blundell's bond will no doubt remain inextricably tied. If other parents or indeed former parents would like to arrange similar events in the wonderful venue of the Beale Centre, please [contact Janet](#) who would be happy to help facilitate this.



OB CLUB CURRENT OB PARENT AND OB GRANDPARENT SPEECH DAY LUNCH

The OB Club once again hosted current parents and grandparents, who are Old Blundellians, to lunch in the Beale Centre on Speech Day. This is in recognition of the contribution and support they have given Blundell's over the years and continue to do, by sending their children and grandchildren to the school. As usual this informal and always enjoyed event was well attended.

In his welcome speech, Richard Swarbrick OB Club Chairman took the opportunity to introduce his successor Katharine Sendell (GH 2007-2014), who will be the Acting Chair until her position is ratified at the rescheduled AGM in September. Richard has successfully held this position for 7 years and plans to remain an active local member of the OB Club Committee, thereby supporting Katharine in her new role.

OB DAY 2023/24

The OB Club took the difficult decision to postpone OB Day, which was scheduled for last month and their thoughts remain with all the pupils and staff affected by the incident that necessitated this decision.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to reschedule this date and therefore OB Day has been cancelled for this year.

We are however, delighted to announce that the date for **OB Day 2024** has been confirmed as **Saturday 22nd June**, please save this date in your diary.

Partnerships & Supporters

We are delighted to be partnered with the following businesses. If you would like to partner with Blundell's, please do get in touch with the [Development Office](#). Tel. 01884 232324. We are particularly interested in items for a raffle and auction for September (i.e. holiday homes, experiences and gifts). And also Fence Sponsors for our One Day Equestrian event (£150).

BLUNDELL'S PARTNER



As your partners in property, we operate in locations where our clients need us to be, with 384 offices around the world, including the Exeter office in the South West of England. Knight Frank is proud sponsor of Blundell's for the second year running in 2022.

BLUNDELL'S CHAMPION



Effortless convenience for the caterer, with 4500+ products for all your catering needs with highly competitive pricing.



NJT Plumbing and Heating. For all your Plumbing and Heating needs. Working mostly in Devon and the surrounding Counties.



Schools Into Europe provides schools with all they need to provide the best educational tours into Europe.

TOZERS

At Tozers we are different, we care. Whether you are facing family issues, looking to buy a property, planning for the future, or striving for growth in your business, Tozers will take the time to get to know you and put you at the centre of everything we do.

Save the Date: Free Workshop by Tozers: Inheritance Tax, Wills & Executors 18 October from 7pm to 8pm.

BLUNDELL'S SUPPORTERS



Property Vision. Fearless property experts since 1983.



Providing schools with the tracking they need to give pupils the best possible wellbeing while at school.



Award winning farmshop and lifestyle living near Topsham.



Roofing since 1971 and scaffolding since 1984. Working mostly in Devon and the surrounding Counties.

Deaths

20.03.23	Roger Frank Lucas	(SH 1950-53)
20.03.23	Robert (Bobby) William Hampden Nind	(P 1944-49)
24.03.23	Michael Thomas Stanley Lewis	(NC 1946-50)
11.04.23	Peter Lanfear (Former Staff)	(1982-97)
10.04.23	Robert Lewis Gilmore Lee	(M 1957-63)
15.04.23	Simon Brooksbank	(P 1957-60)
04.05.23	Michael James Squire	(W 1959-63)
15.06.23	David Park (Former staff)	(1957-94)

David Park, former Physics master



'He came in 1957 to teach Physics and soon became the House Tutor in Francis Clayton's Milestones. He married Jennifer Parker, daughter of Graeme and Mary who were then in Westlake, and they moved into North Close

in 1965 where he was Housemaster until 1973. On Ted Chanter's retirement, DJP became Head of Physics. Initially in the RAF section of the CCF, he transferred to the Army section, founded the Keun Section, and became the Office Commanding Blundell's CCF on GWP's retirement. He was a great outdoors man, his Easter camps in Scotland being one of the highlights of his and the boys' years. As well as being a thoroughly efficient, dependable administrator he was also President of the Blundell's Masters' Club Room and there was no function essential to the life of the school that he would not undertake if asked to do so.'

Peter Lanfear (Languages 1982-97)



Peter and his family came to Blundell's in the Autumn of 1982. He taught French, and in 1985 he succeeded R B Richards as Housemaster of School House from 1985 to 1997. Also, an RN officer in the CCF, and an all-round

administrator. He retired in 1997 and took up residence in Brittany.

Michael James Squire (W 1959-63)

He was the kind host and owner of 'Upstairs at the Department Store' where we held our London Drinks. Michael attended both Blundell's and St John's College, Cambridge and was the grandson of poet Sir John Squire, founder of the Architecture Club. Under Michael's direction, is company Squire & Partners has become one of the UK's most respected architecture practices, winning a significant number of design awards, and establishing a reputation for beautiful, crafted buildings in sensitive urban locations including: Chelsea Barracks, One Tower Bridge, Book House, Southbank Pace and Clarges Estate. Michael was a leading figure in British architecture, creating some of London's most important buildings, serving as Jury Chair for the RIBA Awards and as a member of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea's Architecture Appraisal Panel. Outside of architecture, Michael was first and foremost a family man who loved nothing more than being surrounded by his wife and children.

Congratulations

Ele Frankpitt (GH 2002-2009) & Tom Prideaux Wedding 10.06.23

A marquee in a cornfield was the magical setting for Ele and Tom's wedding and the ceremony was held in the local church of Uplowman, where the first recording of a Frankpitt wedding, is 1765, when John married Ann Cook!

The Frankpitt Family were out in force and the following pictured are all OBs: *Michael, Jeremy, Marcus, Graham (Ele's father), Janet Wooff (OB Club Secretary), Holly, James, Alex, Thomas, Henry, George, Bertie, Georgie, Ed and as well as Alison and Tracy as former staff. Other OBs are: Mark and Sebastian Wooff, Livvie See, Tash Finchett and Tim Jones.*



Tommy Eyston (NC 2016-2018)

We were delighted to welcome back OB Tommy Eyston (NC 2016-2018), who now works as a jump jockey for trainer Neil Mulholland, to speak with the students about 'Careers in Racing'. Tommy shared how her she was able to turn her love of horse riding into her career, having studied A levels at Blundells, followed by a degree in Chemistry at University of Bristol. Whilst at school she would ride out for the local trainer David Pipe, fitting this around her studies and throughout university she worked for various other trainers before turning professional for Neil Mulholland in the Summer of 2022. Tommy shared with the students the wide range of careers within the industry, whether you enjoy the thrill of riding racehorses or perhaps the media and marketing side of the sport. We look forward to following news of Tommy's future events and races.



OLD BLUNDELLIANS

Tim Wrey

(W 1950-55)

tells us more about his time since leaving Blundell's ...



Following National Service, I attended Cambridge University to study economics and law, at the end of which a friend and I rode all the way to the Middle East two-up on a 7-year-old motor scooter. It was a wonderful adventure, but an escapist prelude to 8 years in advertising.

Forward to 1969, and I switched to the client side with BOC Ltd. Meanwhile I had married, and my wife and I were blessed with two children. Three years later, 1972, we planned to take a year's sabbatical with the children, driving by Land-Rover across the Sahara, through the Congo region and East African game parks, and then on to South Africa.

Having toured South Africa, we then took a ship across the Indian Ocean to Bombay. In India we first headed south to Pondicherry, near which we had been told there was an international township in the making called Auroville, which sounded interesting.

Some 5 miles north of Pondicherry we turned off the main road onto a dirt track leading into the countryside, where we were told Auroville was located, but we couldn't find it. Finally, we saw what looked like a building site and decided to ask for directions. As we drove up to the site, suddenly there was an awful screeching sound from the engine, and I had to stop.

“
It was a wonderful adventure, but an escapist prelude to 8 years in advertising.”



What happened next was extraordinary. I went over to the building site, and literally the first man I spoke to was a mechanic from USA. I explained that we had broken down nearby, and went on...

"We're looking for Auroville." "This is Auroville," he replied.
"No," I went on, "I mean the city of Auroville."

"You're in the city," he said. "Although it's not yet built, you're at the very heart of the city area."

17,000 miles, and we had broken down and been brought to a halt 70 yards from the absolute centre of Auroville. Not only had we broken down, but next I found we had a leaking petrol tank, and my daughter announced she felt sick. We had been well and truly brought to a complete halt by circumstances beyond our understanding.

We spent 7 weeks in Auroville, then resumed our travels – through India to Nepal, then Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia back to England, altogether some 25,000 miles through 27 countries. Four years later I returned to Auroville, where I have been living ever since.

What is Auroville? The township is dedicated to an experiment in Human Unity. It's planned for 50,000 people from around the world, though we are as yet only 3,300 from 60 nations. There are no religions, no property ownership, no management hierarchy, free education, free healthcare, free sports and entertainment.

I love it here, but now aged 86 I wonder sometimes if I will ever return permanently to the UK.



For more information or to watch the trailer click [here](#).



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3



Richard Peirce

(NC 1962-65)

Investigative documentary, *Lions, Bones & Bullets* launches on world lion day on 10 august 2023 the documentary uncovers an elaborate, international wildlife fraud with an annual turnover of nearly 100 million u.S. Dollars.

1 A SHOCKING DISCOVERY

Richard makes a shocking discovery that wildlife ranchers in South Africa are farming lions in their thousands to export their bones to Asia for traditional medicine.

2 A HEART-WARMING TALE

The heart-warming tale of two lion cubs given a new life, along with positive approaches to wild lion conservation resolves the film with positivity.

3 WILDLIFE FRAUD

Richard battles to uncover the elaborate wildlife fraud of processing lion bones into food products which could contain the 'world's deadliest infectious disease.'

Dougal's Glaisher (FH 2012-17)

This summer I'm kayaking around Britain raising money for Action 4 Diabetes. The ambition: 2000 miles as fast as I can. I am coming to terms with my diabetes and want to show that it needn't get in the way of a full and active life. I may have a disability, but with the right mindset, I can overcome anything.

I was diagnosed with T1D in 2019. Although it can be frustrating to manage at times, I have free access on the NHS to the best insulin and clever tech like insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors. Meanwhile in Laos, the first child to be diagnosed with T1D was in 2016, meaning every child before then died a slow and absolutely awful death. A4D is changing this by supplying insulin and education to nearly 1000 children across 9 countries in SE Asia.

I know this adventure will be really tough, but I'm choosing to do it and that's such a privilege. Meanwhile, there are children all over the world with no access to insulin – that's real suffering. I'm fundraising for Action 4 Diabetes. Knowing that I'm helping them will keep me paddling.

Round Britain Kayak Challenge



You can read more about Dougal's journey, track his progress and donate [here](#).



24 TH Mon	OBCC v Sou'Westers Contact: OB Club
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August

1 ST - 3 RD	OBCC 2nd OB Surrey Cricket Tour. Contact: OB Club	4 TH Thu	11-12.30 OB Club Blundell's Community Coffee Morning Lost Kitchen. Book Here
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September

7 TH Thur	8:00-8:30 Blundell's Association Coffee Morning FOB's Cafe	16 TH Sat	Hare and Hounds Alumni Race London. Contact: Development Office
17 TH Sun	12-17:00 Blundell's Community Rugby Trophy Tournament and Family Day Big Field. See more info	18 TH Mon	18:00-20:00 Art Workshop for parents Blundell's Art School
23 RD Sat	08:45-12:30 Senior School Open Day Big School	24 TH Sun	ALL DAY One Day Equestrian Event Pontispool, Taunton
24 TH Sun	Reichwald Fives Trophy Tournament. Contact: OB Club Book your place here	24 TH Sun	11:00 School Service 'Salvete Scholastici' Chapel
29 TH Fri	19:00 Friend Brothers Atlantic Challenge Lecture Ondaatje Hall. Contact: Development Office	30 TH Sat	18.30-0:00 Charity Gala Dinner and Auction Contact: Development Office

October

2 ND Mon	18:00-20:00 Art Workshop for parents Blundell's Art School	3 RD Tue	18:30-20:30 School House Parents' Dinner Party
9 TH Mon	18:30-20:30 Blundell's Association Parents' Social Squash/ Racketball Evening Squash Courts	9 TH Mon	13+ Sport Scholarships
10 TH Tue	19:00 School House Candlelight Concert Big School	11 TH Wed	Winter Lunch – Dean Headley – Blundell's Director of Cricket. Topic: "The Changing Face of Cricket" and Speaker Jack Maunder (FH 2008-15) TBC. Contact OB Club. Book your ticket here
13 TH Fri	17:30 Introduction to the Sixth Form Evening	14 TH Sat	Class of 1993, 30 Year Reunion Contact: Development Office.
16 TH Mon	18:00-20:00 Art Workshop for parents Blundell's Art School	17 TH Tue	18:30-20:30 School House Parents' Dinner Party
18 TH Wed	19:00 Inheritance Tax, Wills and Executors - a parents' workshop by Tozers Solicitors Beale Centre		

November

7 TH Tue	19:00 Blundell's Association Parents' Drink and Quiz Beale Centre	7 TH Tue	19:15 Senior School Fireworks Display and Bonfire Ten Acre Field
8 TH Wed	Winter Lunch – Speaker Richard Dyett (M 1966-72). Topic: "A look into the world of Air Traffic Control". Contact: OB Club. Book your ticket here	9 TH Thu	16+ Music Scholarships
12 TH Sun	10:30 Remembrance Day School Service for Year 11, 12 and 13 Chapel	13 TH Mon	16+ Sport Scholarships
14 TH Tue	16+ Academic, Art, Drama and STEM Scholarships	14 TH Tue	18:30-20:30 School House Parents' Dinner Party Beale Centre
16 TH Thu	19:00 Wine Tasting with the Jolly Vintner in aid of Blundell's Charities Big School	18 TH Sat	08:45-11:45 Senior School Guest Morning Beale Centre
20 TH Mon	18:30-20:30 Blundell's Association Parents' Social Squash/ Racketball Evening Squash Courts	28 TH - 1 ST	19:30 Senior School Play: 'Dracula' by Liz Lohead Ondaatje Hall

December

6 TH Wed	Winter Lunch – Speaker Ian Seaton (OH 1964-69) Topic: The City of London Corporation and the London Livery companies". Contact: OB Club Book your ticket here	11 TH Mon	09:00 Blundell's Association: Christmas Wreath Making Workshop for Parents'. Beale Centre
12 TH Tue	09:00 Blundell's Association: Christmas Wreath Making Workshop for Parents'. Beale Centre	12 TH Tue	14:30 Carol Concert Exeter Cathedral

SAVE THE DATE

BLUNDELL'S COMMUNITY

TOUCH RUGBY COMP

SUN SEPT 17TH

BBQ - Family Fun
Bar - Cakes - Drinks

12 - 5pm. Big Field

6-a-side
Teams of 10 max
Contact Tom Cowle
078151 22950

SAVE THE DATE

18:30 - 00:00

30TH September

Annual Charity Gala Dinner and Auction

A fantastic evening to celebrate the Rugby World Cup with dinner and an auction for charity for the Blundell's Community. There will be tables of 10, so start organising your table today!

Tickets will be on sale soon and expected to sell out quickly.



Blundell's

FOUNDED 1604

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