



Welcome from the Chairman

As I write, the curtain has come down on the Rugby World Cup. It's been an outstanding tournament drawing together players and fans from around the world through one common thread – a love of rugby. It occurred to me that the community of Old Bromsgrovians – with the common thread of an education in Worcestershire - is an even more diverse group with alumni in 2015 scattered all over the globe. Some return home, having completed their studies at Bromsgrove, with the School now attracting students from over 45 countries. Others have seized the opportunity to travel and pursue their careers on the international stage. In either case it's inspirational to hear how a Bromsgrove education empowers students to go on and really make their mark on the world. Enjoy reading about their exploits and make sure that you tell us about yours too.

HANS ROSTRUP
CHAIRMAN

Reunited: Old Bromsgrovians at the Pre-1960s Reunion enjoy a tour of the School with current pupils

The school

I count myself in nothing else so happy
As in a soul remembering my good friends.

(Richard II)

There's nothing more tiresome to a teenager than a Headmaster trying to tell them what will one day come to pass. The adolescent brain is hardwired for 'now' – the future is an afterthought. Promises that hard work pays off, bad habits become ingrained, digital indiscretions come back to haunt and broken hearts mend - all usually fall upon deaf ears. Accordingly, I try not to patronize our pupils by constantly predicting their future for them.

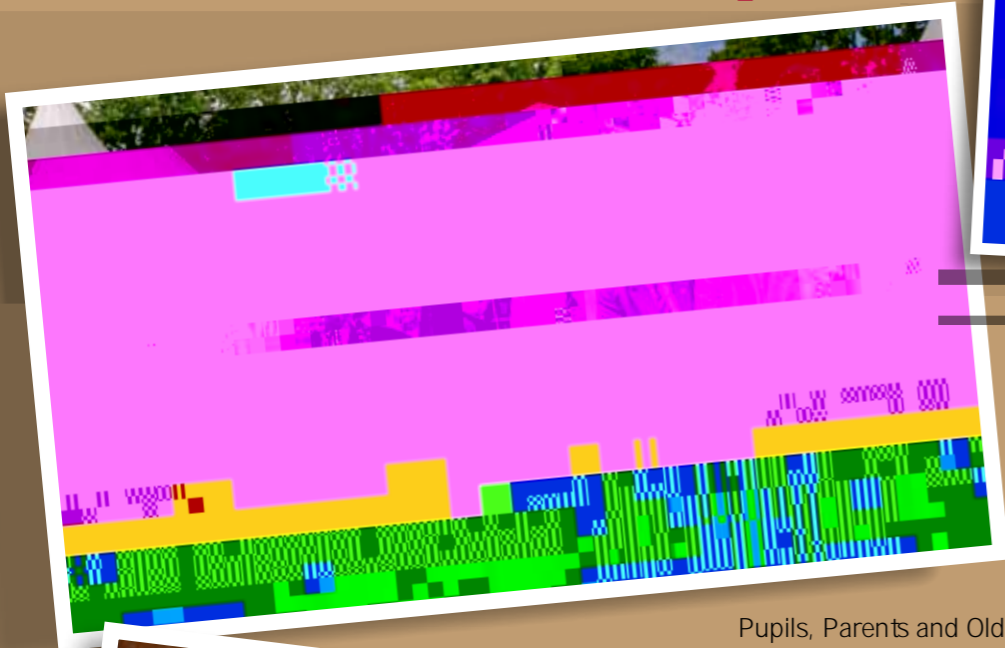
However, on one issue it's hard to bite my tongue. The friendships they form at Bromsgrove will sustain them for a lifetime and I unashamedly remind them of that at any opportunity.

At every reunion that we host, evidence abounds of the lasting influence of School friends. From those who left a mere five years before to those who recall life at Bromsgrove during the War, all are shaped by those fellows with whom they shared a class, a meal, a dorm, a triumph or a defeat. Whatever other relationships we form in life, our earliest and most formative are forged at School. Hence the great strength of our OB community.

PETER CLAGUE
HEADMASTER

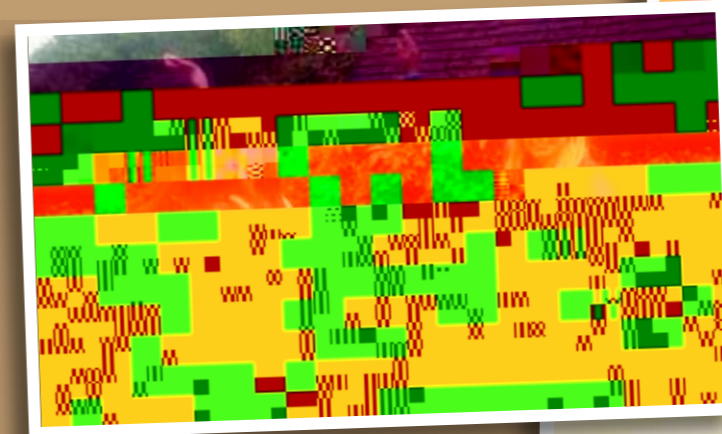
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A LOOK BACK AT THE ACADEMIC YEAR



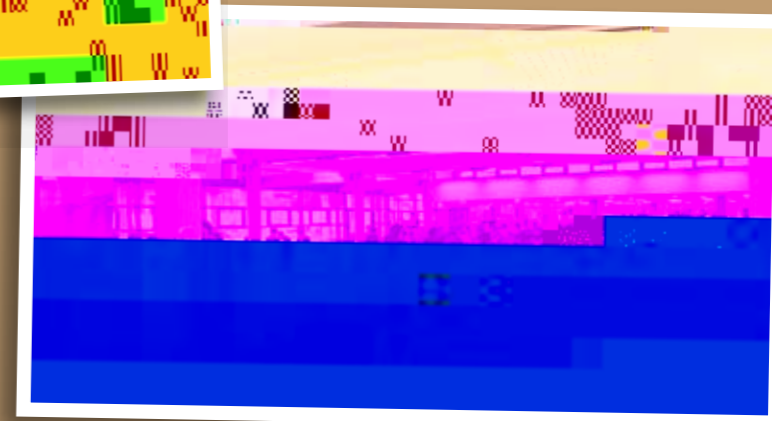
William Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* was the School's major production of the year.

A Level, IB, BTEC and GCSE Pupils celebrated their superb exam results over the Summer. 85% A*, A & B at A level, 39 point average for IB and 85% A* to B at GCSE.



Remembrance Day 2014 was a poignant occasion this year, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of WWI.

CCF cadets planted a memorial garden near the Armoury to remember the thousands of soldiers killed in the Wars.



The dining room, originally opened in 1965 by The Queen Mother, has undergone a complete transformation over the last 12 months. The dining hall officially re-opened to hundreds of excited and hungry pupils and staff in September 2015.

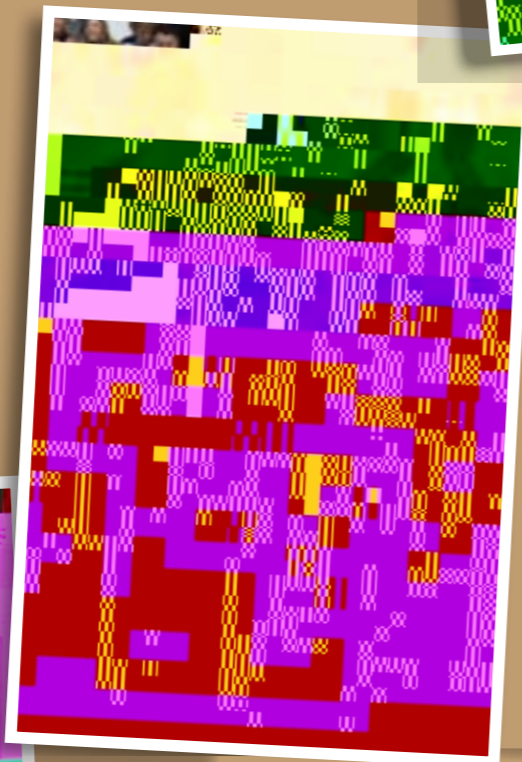
Pupils, Parents and Old Bromsgrovians joined together to celebrate the School's annual Commemoration Day. We were particularly delighted to welcome a group of former pupils from Wendron-Gordon who were celebrating their 20th anniversary.



Hazeldene, the first of the girls' day Houses to undergo refurbishment over the summer of 2015, re-opened and was ready for business at the start of term in September.

Thomas Cookes, the oldest House on campus, is now undergoing its own extensive refurbishment works.

The cast of LEAR Inc. performed a six-day run of the drama production at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August 2015. They were delighted to see a number of Parents, Old Bromsgrovians and Friends of the School in the audience.



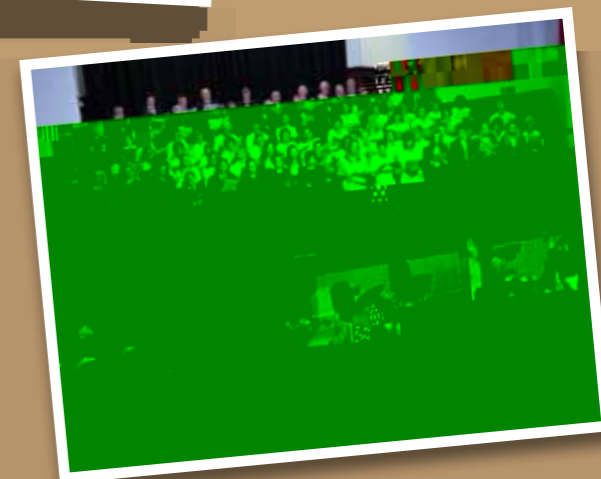
A momentous occasion for the whole school occurred in March 2015 - the 1st XV won the NatWest Schools Cup at Twickenham, playing against Dulwich College in the final.



Fauré's *Requiem* and *Cantique de Jean Racine* as well as Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs* were performed by the Choral Society.



Bromsgrove School continued the partnership with the Bromsgrove International Young Musicians' Competition (BIYMC), holding their four-day music competition in Routh Hall.



Picture This

EXTRA CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014



Abo Yo

FIND OUT WHAT OLD BROMSGROVIANS FROM YOUR ERA ARE DOING NOW

Elmshurst

Philip Langford and **Philip Hobson** (both 1947-1952) visited the School in the Summer term. Interestingly, they were born on the same day, joined School and were in Elmshurst at the same time and later went into the Law profession together. They have remained lifelong friends. During their visit to Bromsgrove, Mr Langford and Mr Hobson enjoyed a tour of the School with a current Elmshurst pupil and also met with the Deputy Headmaster, Philip Bowen. They later attended the History of the School presentation that evening, where they reminisced about their school days.



Brian Scriven (1948-1952) would like to connect with Bromsgrovians who share his ideas and values. Brian left the school in 1950 and says that Bromsgrove gave him a strong, modern and rational education. He particularly remembers the history teacher Mr W.G. Holmes.

In 2010 Brian wrote a book entitled Buckley's Testament; What to believe when you stop believing in God which explores instinctive morality. As a result of writing the book, Brian says that he lost religion but gained a faith - and he is sure that there are other Old Bromsgrovians who share his ideas. If you would like to get in touch, please email Brian at fbscriven@gmail.com



Alex Cook (1997-2001) was presented with a Bromsgrove School tour tie as a memento by the Singapore Select captain, after the School played against the team on a stop over ahead of their tour to Australia in July 2015. Unfortunately Alex was away on business when the School visited, and the tie was given to him after the Singaporean captain discovered that he was an Old Bromsgrovian himself.

Alex qualified to play international rugby for Singapore this year, and he has gained 2 caps (1 try) to date. He remembers his own rugby tour to Australia with Bromsgrove in 2000, and says that 15 years later it's nice to see history repeat itself.

Philip Mennie (1999-2005) visited Bromsgrove during the summer term with his wife and daughter to look around the School.



Haeldene

Charlie Clemmow (1997-2004) visited the School with cameraman Ben Hoffman, talking about their media careers. As well as being a cameraman, Ben is a wildlife documentary maker and Charlie enjoys a successful stage and television career.



Mad Cap Theatre Productions, run by **Emma Hobday** (2006-2008) performed at the Artrix in Bromsgrove at the end of May and also enjoyed a short run of UK theatres with their show, Postcards from the Seaside. The part of Lester Duvall was played by Nick Baldock (the brother of current member of staff Kate Linehan, née Baldock), who himself worked at the School in 2007-2008. Nick used to direct Emma when she was at Bromsgrove so she is now enjoying the reversal of roles!



We recently discovered this feature in Now magazine, with **Ollie Frost** (2006-2008) as their resident expert sports nutritionist. Keep up the good work Ollie!

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Congratulations to **Anna Perrott** (1998-2007) who recently informed us that she was nominated, and later chosen, as one of 'Tomorrows Travel Leaders Today 30 under 30'. Anna works as a Product & Commercial Manager for a cruise company.

Alex McIntosh (1996-2004) kindly offered his expertise and advice to current pupils interested in a career in banking. Alex is currently Relationship Director at Barclays Personal and Corporate Banking.

L

Thomas Cookes

Olivia Safe (1992-1994) performed with the Heritage Orchestra and conductor Jules Buckley for the Late Night at the Proms 2015. Olivia sang music from Vangelis and Orbital.

We also offer Olivia our heartiest congratulations on her engagement to partner Duncan Patrick.



Claire McCahill (1997-2002) took part in the Marathon des Sables in April 2015. Her 'jaunt' as Claire calls it, raised £6500 for Walking with the Wounded.

The race took place in the Moroccan Sahara over 7 days, with Claire running a total of 250km. There were 1400 runners in the group and everyone had to be self-sufficient carrying their own sleeping bag, food and first aid equipment.

During the 5th stage of the marathon, Claire recorded a sub 5 hour marathon, coming in as 9th woman and 171st overall for the stage, despite having to squeeze her blistered and battered feet into her shoes.

This is such an enormous achievement, and we congratulate Claire on her successful completion of the race.

Wales

Greg Simpson (1999-2010) recently graduated with a 2.1 Masters in Chemistry from Newcastle University. On graduation day he proudly wore his OB tie. The silk ties are now available to purchase in the School Shop.



Oliver Thomas (2007-2012) returned to Bromsgrove to talk to pupils about life as a third year Medic. Oliver is currently studying Medicine at Peninsula Medical School.

The talks, organised by the Careers Department, provide invaluable 'insider' information for current students. If OBs or former/current parents would like to help out in other sectors, please get in touch.

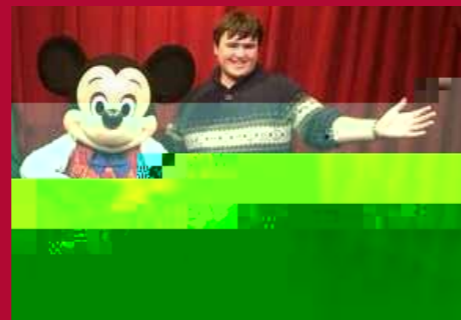


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Wend on Wend on Go don

Josh Gupta (2010-2013) met up with **Ollie Strong** (2011-2013) at ATC Pirbright. Ollie passed out after completing his phase 1 training and he is now at Gibraltar Barracks to continue his phase 2 training in the Royal Engineers.



Philip Rowse (2006-2014) undertook his GAP Year at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. During his time with Disney, Philip attended classes held at the Disney University, where he learnt about Walt's dream and how the company strives for perfection. Now back in the UK, Philip has begun his course at the University of Leeds reading Economics and Geography.

France

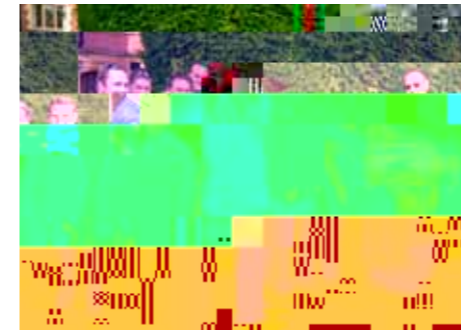
Miss Scannell (Assistant Head) met up with **Mlle Emmanuelle Rochefort** in Ho Chi Minh City. Mlle Rochefort taught French at Bromsgrove School until 2006 and is now responsible for External Relations at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers in Paris.



Wend on Wend on Go don

A group of former pupils from Wendron-Gordon organised a special visit to the School on Commemoration Day (27th June 2015) to celebrate their 20th year of leaving Bromsgrove.

Organised by **Andrew Cowley** (1990-1995), the OBs even managed to visit their old House and find their former study and bedroom!

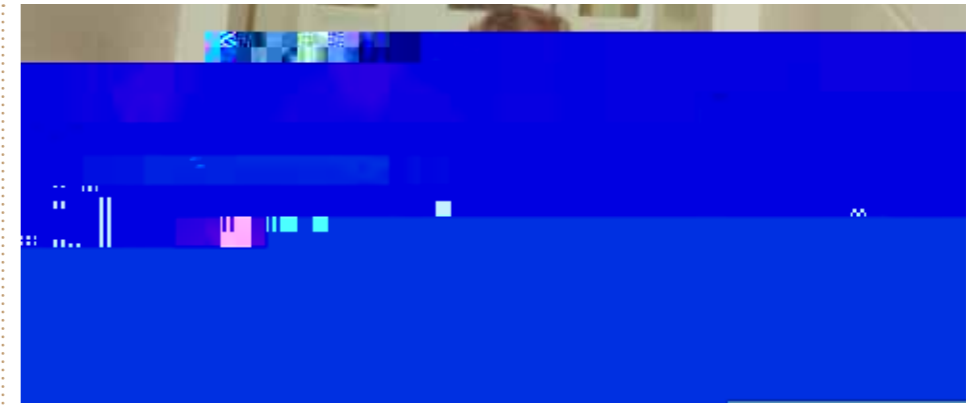


Llanwrtyd Wells

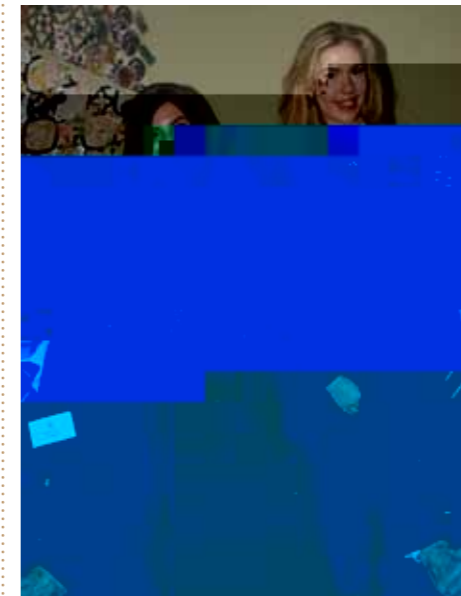
Former pupils of Bromsgrove, who were exiled to **Llanwrtyd Wells** during WWII, returned to School in March 2015 for a special celebratory lunch.

Old Bromsgrovians, some of whom had not seen each other since their school days, reminisced over lunch in the Old Chapel. Photographs and record books were on display where guests were able to spot their own names and faces.

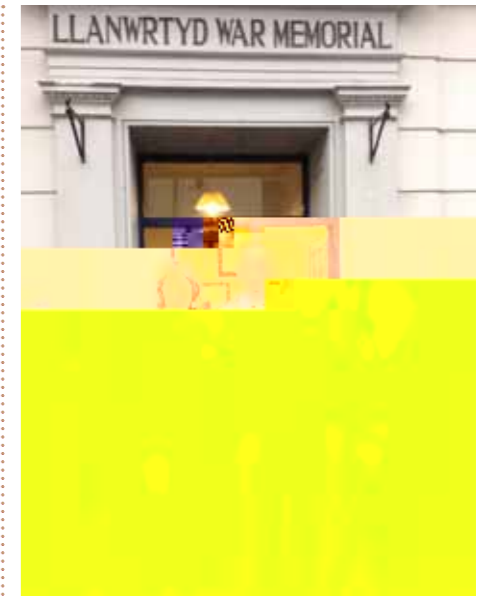
At the end of the day some of our guests kindly recorded their memories of Llanwrtyd Wells and Bromsgrove with the History Department and current pupils. These oral history recordings will form part of the School archive, which will enrich the teaching and learning of the School's history for generations to come.



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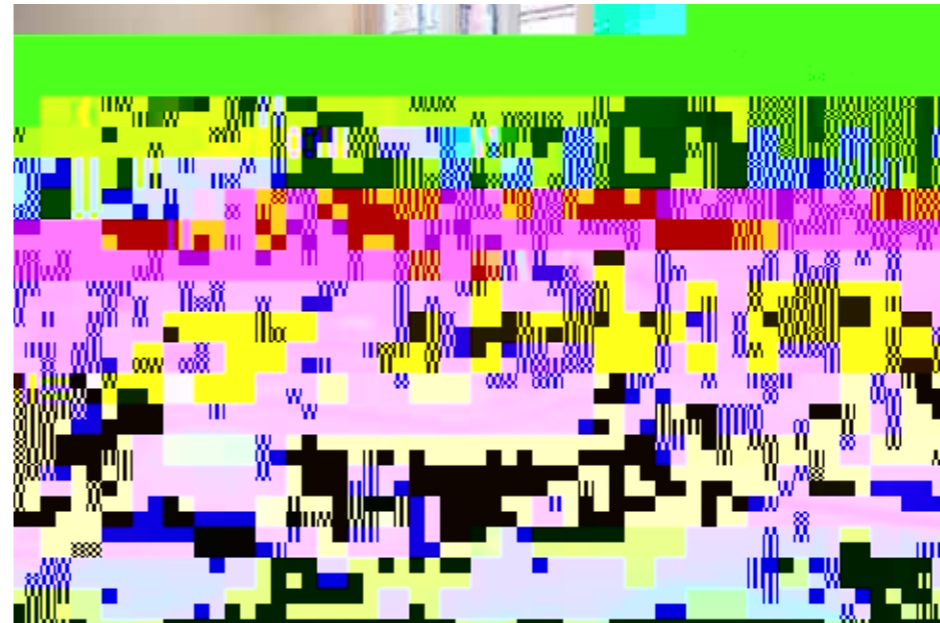


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Andrew Campbell (W 1967-1972) and **Jenny Bossard** (néé Gricks, Ws 1972-1974) along with **Nikki Thorpe** (Archivist) represented the School in Llanwrtyd Wells for the poignant Remembrance Day Service on Sunday, 8th November 2015.

The School is proud of its strong links with Llanwrtyd Wells and we thank Andrew and Jenny for their support in honouring the fallen Old Bromsgrovian soldiers who are commemorated in the Welsh town.



A Lesson fo OBs

School started early for some of our Old Bromsgrovians in September, when they visited Bromsgrove for a meeting.

The OBs taking their 'exam resits' in class were:

Patrick Firminger (Ly 1969-1977)
Robert Biddle (G 1952-1956)
William Caswell (E 1963-1968)
David Cariss (E 1949-1953)
Stephen Rhodes (M 1956-1960)
Hugh Furber (E 1953-1957)
Tim Powell (L 1952-1956)

With thanks to Mark Gunton (Ws 1977-1982) for the photograph and words!



President's Dinner

The Bromsgrovian Club President's Dinner, hosted by Paddy Firminger (Lu 1943-1947) was held at the Bank House Hotel near Worcester in November 2014.

We were delighted to welcome Old Bromsgrovians, their partners and guests to what was a very enjoyable evening, with many people commenting on the excellent venue.

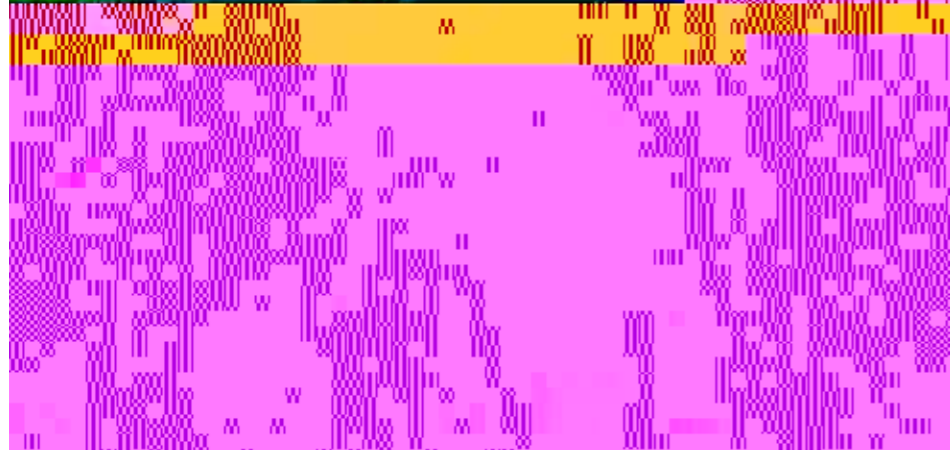
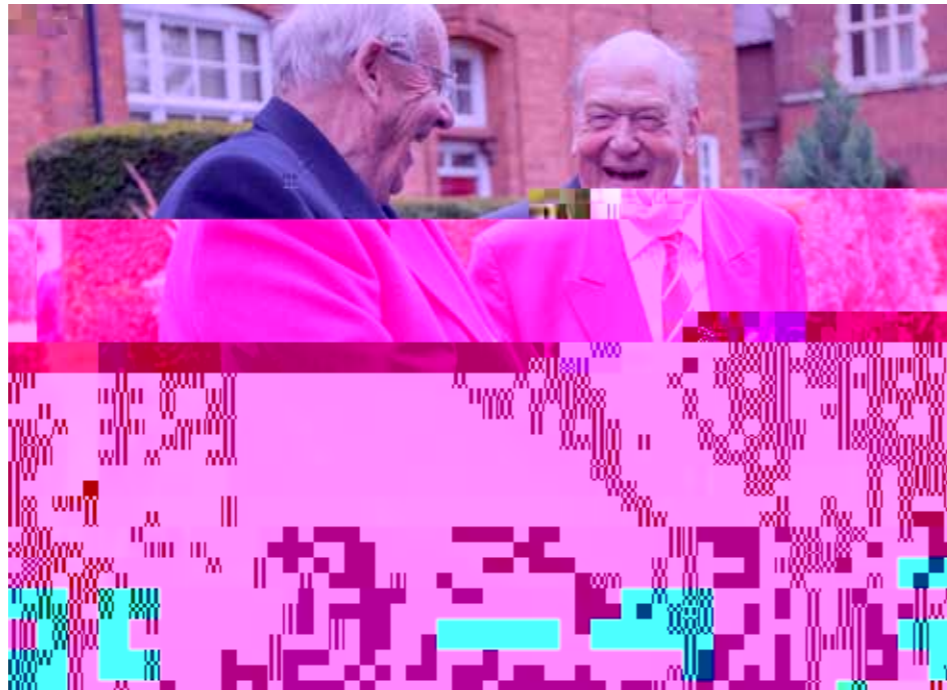
The Headmaster, Peter Clague, was the

Parents Reunion

Over 85 Old Bromsgrovians returned to the School on Saturday, 12th September for a special gathering.

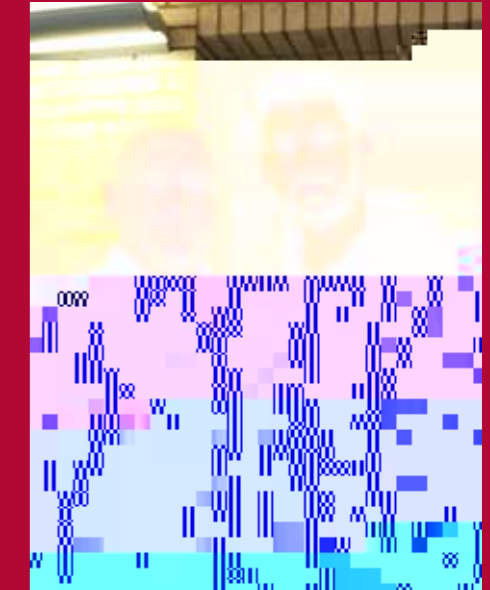
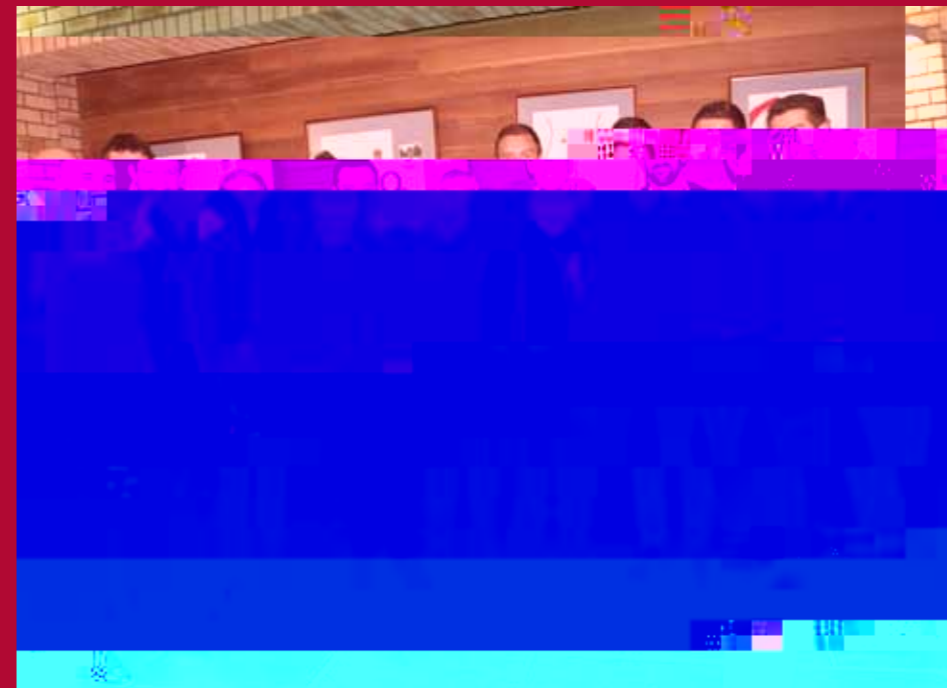
All of the attendees had left the School prior to 1960, and for some it had been 50 years since they had been back to Bromsgrove.

Guests were welcomed with a service in the Memorial Chapel, complete with Chapel Choir. The OBs also went on a tour of the School with current pupils, enjoyed reminiscing with their contemporaries over lunch and were thrilled with a rugby game - watching from the sidelines as Bromsgrove beat Warwick School 54-0.



Leavers Reunion

The first 10-year Reunion was held at Bromsgrove School in September 2015, for Old Bromsgrovians who left the School in 2005. We were pleased to welcome almost 40 leavers for a tour of the School and lunch with the Headmaster and members of staff. Many were stunned and delighted by the developments that had taken place since leaving, and tales were regaled of their time at Bromsgrove over lunch.



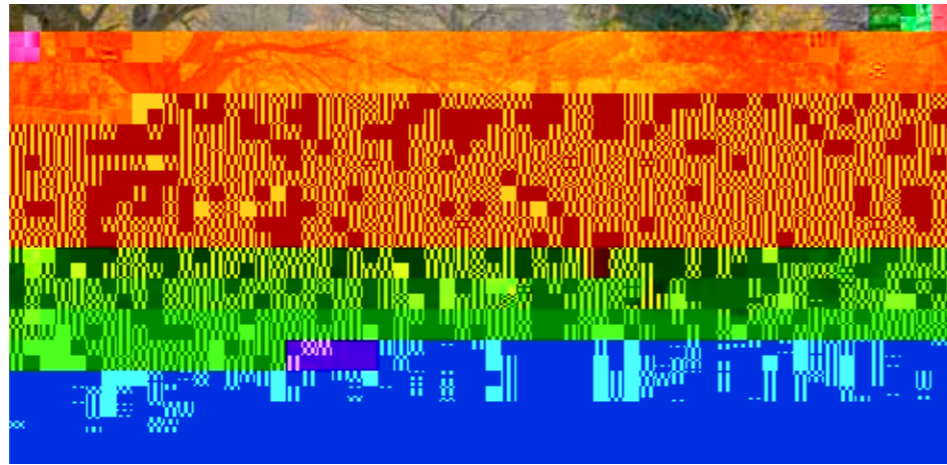
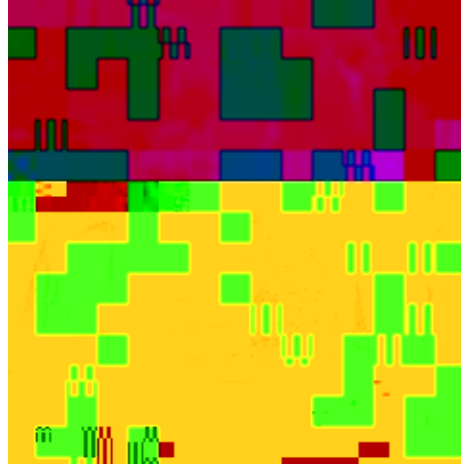
Cookes House Reunion

Old Bromsgrovians returned to School in November 2015 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Cookes House.

Cookes House, led by Mr and Mrs Schilzzi, was only in being for 8 years, when in 1972 the House split into Lyttelton and Walters.

OBs and guests were welcomed with a Chapel Service, where memories came flooding back when the Chamber Choir sang 'Heaven's Declare' - the School Song from the 1960s and 1970s.

During tours of the current Thomas Cookes House, many OBs visited the original 18-bedder on the top floor (which some still believe is haunted) and recounted tales of their school days whilst looking around Cookes Room, their former library. Guests later sat down to lunch in the Hospitality Suite where the reminiscences continued.



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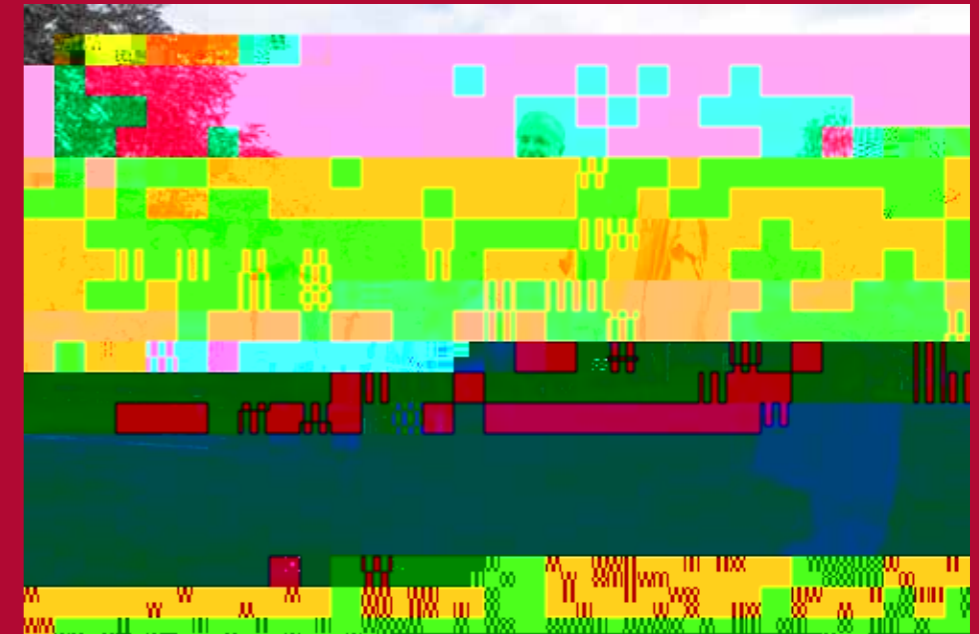
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Mr Bowen Retires

At the end of the Summer term, Mr Bowen retired after more than 34 years at Bromsgrove School (and not including the years before when he taught at the Prep School!)

The Heads of School from 1981 - Present day were in attendance at a special event, held in the Hospitality Suite in May 2015. The main event however took place on Commemoration Day when OBs from across the generations came together and wished Mr Bowen a fond farewell.



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Could you be a Bromsgrove Alumni Ambassador?

The **Alumni Committee** wish to find OBs who are supporters of Bromsgrove and who would be willing to assist with keeping other former pupils connected to the School.

As our Alumni are now spread out all over the world and could be aged anywhere between 18 and 90, it is a huge task to remain relevant to such a diverse group.

The School and the Alumni Committee continue to encourage OBs to attend events (whether here or in their own countries) and with your help, we'd like to see this grow and develop. With our new database recently launched, we

Hong Kong get-together

Whilst Rachel Scannell (Assistant Head) and Peter Ruben (Deputy Head Academic) were in **Hong Kong** for the Top Schools event, they were pleased to welcome Old Bromsgrovians for an informal get-together in Dickins Bar at The Excelsior Hotel.

It was a delight to see **Charles Tsai** (WG 1989-1994) who was one of the very first pupils to attend Bromsgrove from Hong Kong.

Two former students **Edmund To** (WG 99-04) and **Katy Chung** (MW 98-03) have set up a Bromsgrovian Hong Kong Facebook Group in the hope of facilitating further events and contact

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NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE BROMSGROVE ALUMNI OFFICE

A chi is joins the School

We're delighted to welcome **Archivist, Nikki Thorpe** to Bromsgrove. Nikki joins us from the Library of Birmingham where she worked as Collections Curator.

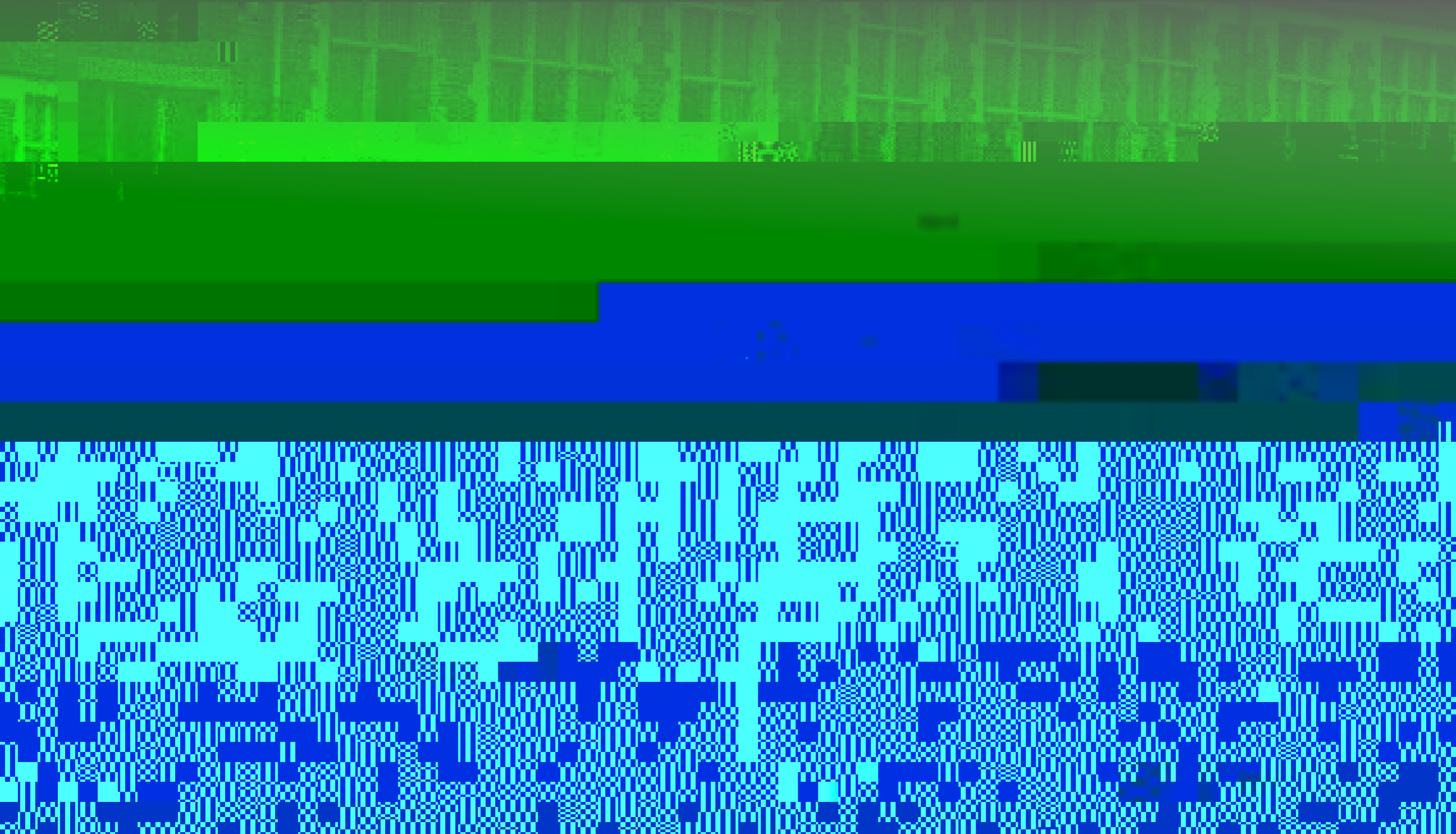
Nikki will be working closely with the Alumni Office on new exhibitions and displays for the Old Chapel, as well as cataloguing the existing archives which have been collected through the centuries.

If you have any stories or memorabilia which you would like to share with the

70 years ago

70 years ago, Bromsgrove welcomed residents from Llanwrtyd Wells - the town the School called home during the Second World War.

In this photograph, the Headmaster D.J. Walters is shown with guests in front of Kytless.



I liked sport but was increasingly

Reverend Arkin
Academic Staff
died 21st October 1964

Rev Arkin taught at Bromsgrove School,
and in Cobham House, from 1959 until
1964. He died on 21st October ten days
short of his 96th birthday.

Obituaries

OLD BROMSGROVIANS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN

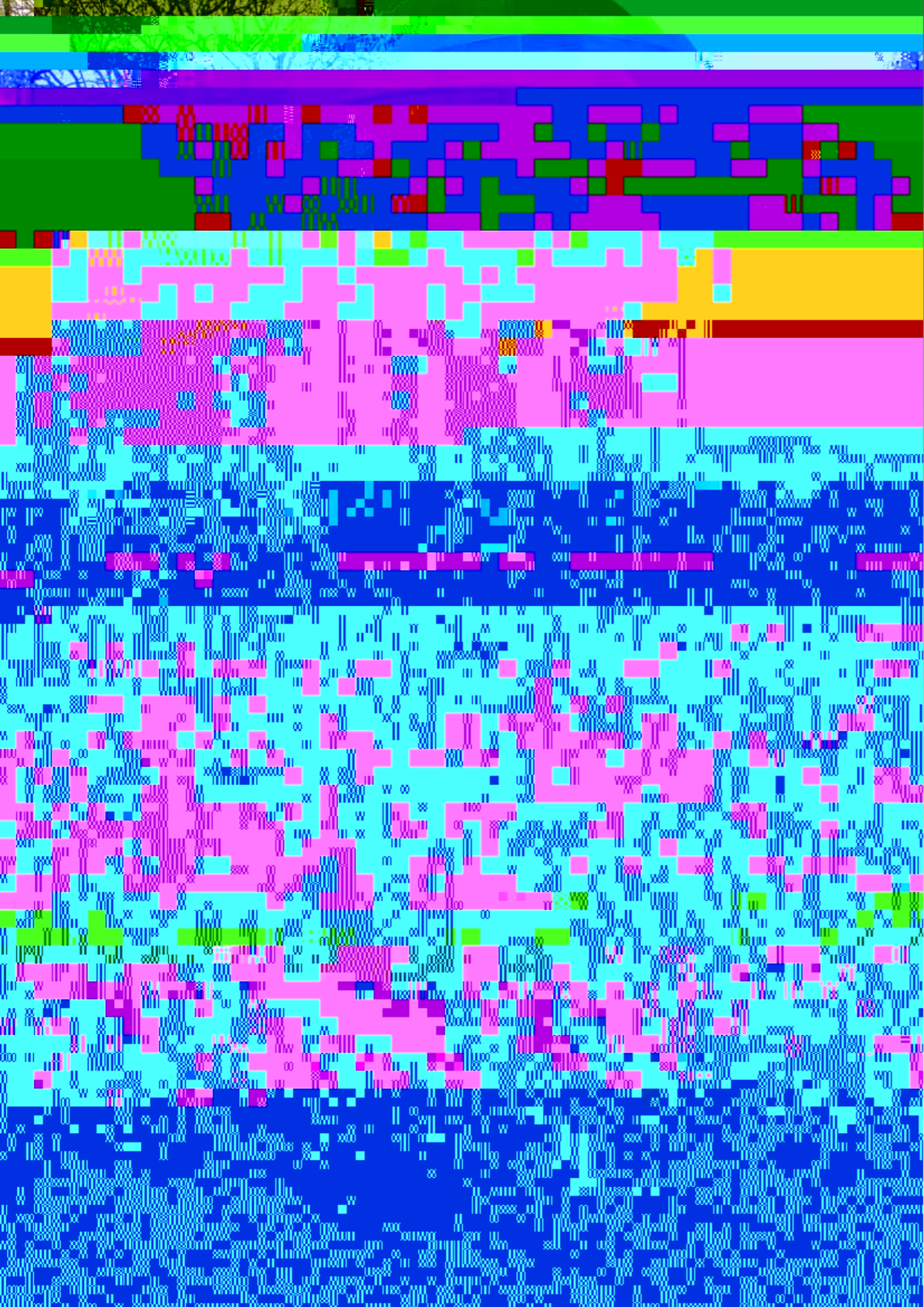
A Roger Peirson We died in October

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Roger Peirson at the age of sixty-nine. With his loving wife of forty-five years, always at his side, he lost his battle with cancer on October 29, 2015.

Roger bravely waged a fierce six week fight against cancer with the support of his family and friends and was immensely appreciative of everyone's kindness. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Cora; his son, Garnet Peirson (Mary-Ann); daughter, Samantha Willis (Chad); grandchildren, Dysten and Carson Willis; sister, Carrie Bromell (Martin) and his nephews. Roger is predeceased by his father and mother, Garnet and Barbara Peirson.

Roger was kind, dedicated, loving, brilliant and accomplished. He attended Bromsgrove School and completed Business Administration at the University of Birmingham before coming to Canada in 1969.

Roger enjoyed a successful career at Sears Canada as a Senior Executive for twenty-nine years. Roger had a rich,



Donor Tree

The Donor Tree, which can be found by the stairs leading up to the Hospitality Suite is our way of formally acknowledging and expressing our appreciation for your support. Donors giving £250 and over can have a bronze, silver or gold leaf engraved.

Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society

The Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society acknowledges and thanks all those who have made a gift in their wills to Bromsgrove. Members are invited to an annual lunch and a new memory board listing those who have made bequests to the School over the years will soon be placed alongside the Donor Tree.

If anyone is interested in making a gift in their will to Bromsgrove, please contact

Dono Roll

THANKING OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT DURING   
GIFTS RECEIVED FROM SEPTEMBER  SEPTEMBER 

Cookes

David Baker (63-67)
John Dunstall (63-68)
Ian Gibson (66-71)

Elmshurst

Julian Adams (83-89)
Mark Chown (81-86)
Hugh Furber (52-57)
Justin Golby (85-89)
David Hallchurch (42-47)
Robert Jolly (60-66)
John Kirkus (50-55)
James Leek (57-62)
Tim Mitchell (46-51)
Antony Neales (48-53)
Richard Noake (59-64,
Foundation Chairman)
Ian Routh (53-58)
John Ruck (50-53)
Simon Skelding (57-62)
Richard Smith (72-77)
Ben Turvill (93-00)
Stuart Wadsworth (58-63)
Alexander Walsh (94-99)
Topper Webb (72-73)
John Withers (51-56)

Gordon

Mark Adams (72-77)
Richard Brook (45-50)
Paul Bryan (58)
Jeremy Davis (46-54)
Robert Dowler (57-62)
Barry Dumughn (50-55)
John Faull (46-51)
Andrew Fryer (60-64)
Clive Gummow (52-57)
Sir Robert Hastie (43-51)
John Illsley (62-67)
Nevil Malin (48-53)
Peter Mountford (54-59)
Andrew Parffrey (68-73)
Bryan Parkes (48-53)

Events

WHAT'S ON AT BROMSGROVE DURING 2020/21