



Cheadle Hulme School

The Old

WACONIAN

Edition **45** / *What's
your spark?
2017*



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Head Lucy Pearson explores the importance of inspiration

16 / It's Time to Meet the Board

Your Old Waconian representatives

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Explore our new and exclusive network

Letters to the Editor

Class reunion and OWA Dinner

“It was great to see the School looking so good – and so much better than when we left it in 1967! We all enjoyed the tour and were impressed with how many rooms in the old building have been reclaimed as modern classrooms. The exhibitions were impressive too – especially the artwork. The dinner was delicious and I really enjoyed reconnecting with old friends. Sitting together in the dining room, we all felt as if we had come home!”

*Hervey Wilcox,
Class of 1967*



Via Facebook:

“Well we ‘67 reunion peeps had a brilliant time on Saturday night! And it was particularly special to have our own little private party, in what for us will be forever ‘the Boys’ Playroom’, before the main event. Thank you so much to all concerned for all your hard work. A really super evening.”

*Angie Wilson,
Class of 1967*

Donating to the CHS Archive

“It was such a special occasion for us both! It was lovely to meet you and Kay, and share in our memories of my John. He had so many tales to tell of his school days.”

*Jean Makin MBE, wife
of the late John Makin,
Class of 1937*



Tour of the School

“It was lovely to see the ‘old place’. I must say it seems like a really buzzing place - great to see the Athletics happening over by the other gate - near the new Pav. I’d forgotten we called ourselves ‘Chints’ - the mags reminded me. Cheers!”

*Tim Barron-Hamilton
(née Hamilton), Class of 1979
(travelled from Australia)*

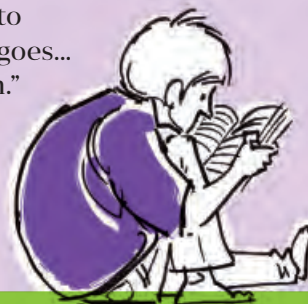
OldWaconiansConnect.com

“Finally on board! Looking forward to connecting with other OWs in the US and elsewhere.”

*Helen Lynch,
Class of 1977*

“Looking forward to seeing where this goes... hello from Belgium.”

*Michael Perring,
Class of 1998*



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Welcome.

From the Head...

Welcome to the 2017 edition of *The Old Waconian*.

As I look back on another year of Old Waconian events, reunions, visits and messages I want to thank you all for your contributions to the CHS community. Our vision for alumni relations is to connect Old Waconians not only with each other but with current, and even prospective, Waconians. Making this a reality is only possible with your enthusiasm and support, so thank you.

A highlight for me this year has been the transformation of Holden Hall. After having the pleasure of reading so many of your memories about this fantastic building, I am looking forward to our current students making some of their own. On behalf of the students and staff at CHS I would like to thank those Old Waconians who have given generously to this project and I hope you enjoy reading more about it on page 26.

As a School we are committed to developing a strong OW network which benefits today's Waconians and builds a well-connected alumni community. We also want to offer a range of services and experiences that appeal to the full spectrum of former students. For these reasons, a proposal was made, and carried, at the Old Waconians' Association AGM in June to replace the current OWA Committee with an Alumni Board who will offer advice and feedback on the School's alumni relations programme. I would like to express my personal thanks to the members - past and present - of the former Committee who have done such valuable work in ensuring the Old Waconian Association connected with its membership. In this issue we will introduce the members of the Board who will be chaired by Emma Hardy, Class of 1986.



As many of you know this will be my last year as Head of Cheadle Hulme School; I have decided that the time is right for me to seek a new challenge and explore opportunities outside of school leadership. I have relished all that CHS has given to me over the last seven years and Old Waconians have very much been a part of that experience. I am proud of the work that has been done to reconnect so many more OWS with their former School, building a strong alumni network for the good of today's Waconians and the School's future.

I hope you enjoy the read, and I hope to see as many of you as possible at the Old Waes Summer Fete in June.

Lucy Pearson
Head

From the Editor...

What's your spark? What inspires you and drives you forward? In this issue we ask Old Waconians and CHS staff about the spark that motivated them to pursue their ambitions.

We also continue to explore our theme of connectivity. Whether you prefer to keep in touch online, by writing a card, talking on the phone or meeting face-to-face, we want you to get the most from your Old Waconian experience. This edition introduces OldWaconiansConnect.com, our exciting new online platform and our newest way of putting you in touch with like-minded OWS, and facilitating networking, mentoring and career progression. Elsewhere, you can also reminisce with



recently retired English teacher, Nigel Westbrook, and find out what OWs from the 90s are up to now.

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the communications preferences form online or contacted us by email. Data protection laws and fundraising

regulations are changing in May 2018 and we will no longer be able to contact you unless we have your explicit permission to do so. Please contact Charlotte, your Alumni Relations Manager, to let her know if your contact details have changed and confirm that you are happy to receive Old Waconian communications via email, mail and/or phone.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who has made the events of the past year such a success. Check out page 14 to get a flavour of what is in store over the next year. I'm looking forward to it!

Fran Kennedy
Director of Development and External Relations



Meet your Alumni Relations Manager

Since starting at CHS in May this year I've been overwhelmed by the passion Old Waconians have for their School. It's been wonderful to read life updates and share in your successes, and I've already had the pleasure of meeting many of you at events.

If you would like to reconnect with CHS, track down old friends, come for a tour of the School, or arrange a Class reunion please do get in touch and I'll be happy to help.

Charlotte Still
Alumni Relations and Events Manager
Email: charlottesstill@chschool.co.uk
Phone: 0161 488 3341



School News



'Exceptional' Inspection

CHS was rated 'excellent' following its inspection by the ISI in April, with Reception pupils praised for their 'exceptional achievement'.

The ISI Inspectors observed: "From the youngest child in Reception to the Sixth Form, pupils display excellent attitudes to learning and try their best at all times, encouraged by a supportive leadership team and staff."

Echoing the School's original founding, and its visionary desire to educate boys and girls together, Inspectors also commented: "Through a fully co-educational experience, gender does not limit [pupils'] thinking or participation in the school curriculum and extensive co-curricular programme."



Bright Futures Follow Exam Success

It was another year of impressive results for CHS students, with 10% of GCSE students achieving nine A* grades or higher, and an impressive 99% pass rate at A Level.

Topping the A Level results table is Alex Benton with four A*s. Matthew Brint received three A*s and an A, while Charlotte Brady, Alex Greig, Alice Mee, Lottie Needham and Patrick Robbins received three A*s apiece. Once again, CHS students have accepted places at some of the country's top universities, including Oxford, Cambridge, Durham and Exeter, as well as taking placements in Engineering and Computer Science.

The Cricketer names CHS in its top 100 schools

CHS has been listed in The Cricketer magazine's top 100 cricketing schools in the UK. The publication, *The Playing Fields of England*, showcases schools with the most outstanding cricket programmes. As a member of the English Cricket Board the accolade is particularly close to Lucy Pearson's heart: "Our School is committed to developing its cricket for boys and

girls so that everyone can play the game in its various forms. Cricket offers so much in terms of technical skill and tactical awareness; but just as importantly, it develops personal and team leadership skills, resilience and flexibility. I am really proud of the School's progress in strengthening its cricket and am ambitious for us to continue to improve."



School News

Summer Sporting Success

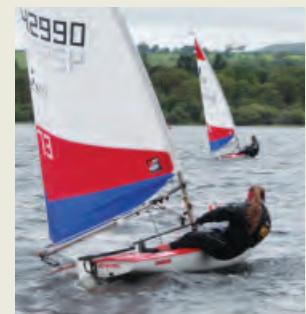
It's been a summer of success for four active CHS students.

Upper Sixth student Bel Wardle (top left) won England Golf's English Girls' Open Amateur Championship.

Hannah McColgan (top right), also in the Upper Sixth, took on Poland when her team made it to the finals of Tennis Europe's Summer Cup competition.

Year 9 water skier Lucy Roberts (bottom left) continues to go from strength to strength after taking 7th place overall in the European Water Skiing Youth Championships.

Isabel Wallwork (bottom right) finished second girl and seventh overall in the Topper World Championships, second girl and 11th overall in the National Championships in Wales and was also overall winner of the Topper Inland Series. She also finished 8th in the Scottish National Championships and the British Nationals in Scotland.



Head's Lecture

In October we welcomed former Manchester United Captain and Sky Sports pundit, Gary Neville, to deliver the 2017 Head's Lecture. Gary spoke to a full crowd about his transition from player to property developer, his thoughts on what makes an exceptional leader and the need to be resilient in business, sport and at school!



Check out Football Focus on page 28 for some Old Waconian football news.

New Life Skills Award for CHS Students

The School has established a new annual prize focusing on personal development, the Bianco-Gibson Award, thanks to Old Waconians Anthony Bianco (Class of 1958) and his late friend Alistair Gibson (Class of 1959).

The prize will be awarded to students in Year II or the Lower Sixth who would benefit from an outdoor learning programme.

Anthony said: "Alastair and I went on many educational and sporting trips which taught us about the importance of teamwork as well as discovering the joy of the outdoors. I am delighted to be able to offer this award which complements the excellent academic and sporting skills CHS continues to develop in its young people."



School News

Giving Back

Old Waconians and external speakers are always an inspiration to current students when they visit the School to share their life experiences. Likewise, our current Waconians are an inspiration to us with their dedication to charitable giving and willingness to help others.

Karim Khalil Gives a Lesson in Law

Students from Year 7 to Sixth Form were given a fascinating insight into life as a barrister when President of the Old Waconians' Association, Karim Khalil QC, Class of 1980, visited School to offer advice about a career in Law.

Karim spoke candidly about what it's like to work for both prosecution and defence, the psychological impact of a career in Law, the Wellness programme available to barristers, and his views on the death penalty. The students then asked a series of insightful questions about Karim's chosen career path.



Big Business At CHS Entrepreneur Event

Young entrepreneurs with an interest in business were given top advice from a panel of professionals at CHS's Business and Entrepreneurialism Event.

Students and parents heard from Duncan McCombe (founder of Network Young), Simon Cuerden (a Partner at Deloitte LLP), Sheona Southern (Managing Director of Marketing Manchester) and Carrie Green (Founder of the Female Entrepreneur Association and author of the book *She Means Business*).

Old Waconians Michael Heaven Jr, (Class of 2009, Account Director and co-founder of Social Chain, New York) and Daniel Sylvester (Class of 2003, founder of multi-arts venue organisation Oval Space and London Craft Beer Festival) also told their own stories of life after CHS.

A Lesson In Resilience from Pacific Rower Natalia

Talking to the students about her time at sea, rowing as part of the Coxless Crew, Natalia Cohen spoke of the importance of team-work and resilience when battling the elements. Hearing how her life's mantra is to "enjoy the journey", the students heard how the crew members experienced severe sleep-deprivation and gruelling night-time rowing shifts in order to become the first all-female team and first ever fours boat to row unsupported across the Pacific Ocean - over 9,000 miles from San Francisco, USA to Cairns, Australia - in a 29ft ocean rowing boat.



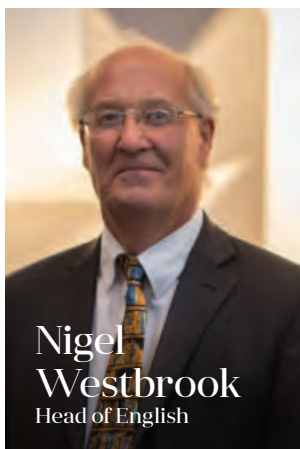
Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow

Altruistic student Jack Everton has taken on a hair-raising challenge to raise money for The Christie, where his brother Charlie Everton (Class of 2006) is undergoing treatment. Jack, who has been growing his hair especially for the Manchester hospital, had his hair cut in front of his Year 11 classmates by a special guest hairdresser. He was aiming to raise £500 but has smashed his target and raised over £6,000 so far.



Over 125 Years of Outstanding Service: Our newest Old Waconians

At our Annual Celebration at Bridgewater Hall in September we welcomed three new Old Waconians to our community who had collectively served the School for more than 100 years. Hear their memories of their time at CHS in this short film shown on the night: tinyurl.com/RetiredStaff2017. Joining them later this year and pushing the collective years of service above the 125 year mark is registrar, Viv Gray.



Nigel Westbrook
Head of English

Joined CHS in
1978

“Nigel Westbrook was a brand new teacher when he became our form tutor and we gave him a baptism of fire. He was a brilliant teacher and thrived. He was a master of making you search deeper for the meaning of texts. His boots will be hard ones to fill.”

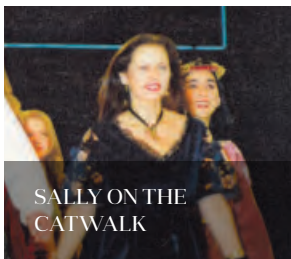
Frances Amrani (née Walmsley)
Class of 1983 (on behalf of 3K (Year 9) 1978)

READ MORE
on page **23**



Sally Petrie
Assistant Deputy Head

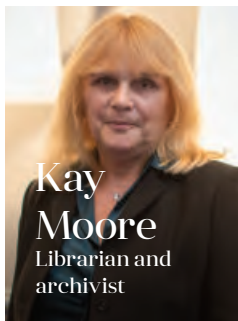
Joined CHS in
1989



SALLY ON THE CATWALK

“Mrs Petrie was a fantastic English teacher who was dedicated, fair, friendly and funny. We were in a top set so I think she enjoyed teaching us and inspiring us to be the best we could be, including encouraging us to write our own original stories and poems. I do remember getting in trouble once but we were playing hangman in class so probably deserved it! I wish her the very best and hope she knows what a wonderful and lifelong impact she has had.”

Shahina Kabir, Class of 2006



Kay Moore
Librarian and archivist

Joined CHS in **1980**



MR BOARD'S LOGBOOK

Which item from the archive means the most to you?

“It would have to be Mr Board’s logbook. Mr Board was the headmaster from 1884-1906 and just like every headmaster in the Victorian era he had to keep a log of what was happening at the School. It’s a fascinating and detailed record of the day-to-day running of the School, from a boiler breaking down to sacking the cook! A story that sticks with me is when Mr Board went to all of the dormitories at 3am after the Relief of Mafeking and had all of the students give three cheers to the British Army!”

Joined CHS in
1992



Viv Gray
Registrar

Another Old Waconian will be joining us later in 2018. We wish Viv all the best in her retirement when it comes, but will be glad to keep her on for a few more months to help with admissions to the School.

Old Waconian News

Old Waconians Take Centre Stage in Manchester Theatre Awards

Daniel Rigby (Class of 2001) took home the coveted Best Actor in a Leading Role award for his portrayal of Alan Turing in *Breaking the Code* at the Royal Exchange. *The Telegraph* praised Daniel's performance, saying: "Rigby finds a gorgeous softness in this prickly genius."



Beth Holmes (Class of 2010) is one half of two-person show 'Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons', which was nominated for Best Studio Production, while Holly Willock (Class of 2016) was nominated for Best Newcomer after making her professional debut as Portia in Julian Fellowes' production of *Wind of the Willows* at the Lowry Theatre.

James Scoops Up New Business

Former boarder James Gibson (Class of 1988), has swapped bytes for bites after leaving a career in IT to run an ice cream business. James spent more than 20 years working in IT for international banks but changed tack in 2014 when the opportunity arose to establish a fun and exciting American ice cream company in Hong Kong. He took a sabbatical from the world of finance and opened hippie ice-cream brand Emack & Bolio's first store in Hong Kong. Now CEO of Emack and Bolio's HK, James has opened a further two stores in the city.

James' top tip for budding entrepreneurs: Write a Business Plan and think critically about all the important aspects of your idea.



Sir Ian McKellen Returns to CHS

Sir Ian McKellen got an insight into the altruistic history of his CHS ancestors during an episode of BBC One's *'Who Do You Think You Are?'* which aired in January this year.



Spending time in the School library, Sir Ian not only discovered his grandfather, WH McKellen, attended CHS but also that the School was founded by his great, great grandfather, Robert Lowes, one of the key committee members who raised and donated £4,000 in 1868 to help build the School's main building.

Sir Ian said: "What I'd always hoped was true about the McKellens was an attitude to life. Doing good and helping other people. And this bright, radical clerk stood up and changed the world. I am proud."

Joe Dances His Way to Success

One of our youngest Old Wacs, former Year 6 pupil Joe Birtles Clarke, had only been dancing for 17 months when he secured a place at London's prestigious Royal Ballet School. Joe says he discovered his natural talent and love of dancing after performing during one of CHS's summer workshops as Geppetto in *Pinocchio*.



"Musical theatre at CHS with Mrs Fowler is probably what started it all off for me. After that I started dance lessons and it went from there," he said.

Joe's first performance as a Year 8 will be in *The Nutcracker* at London's Royal Opera House this Christmas.

Golden Years at CHS

Congratulations to Pam and Alan Thorniley (Class of 1963) on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. "Pam and I first noticed each other when Pam was in the 3rd form and I was in the 4th. We didn't begin dating until we were in the Sixth Form and we were married the year after university. CHS has a strong affection for both of us."

Pam and Alan returned to the School earlier this year.



Wild Times for an Old Wac

After graduating with a degree in Wildlife Conservation with Zoo Biology, Katherine Blakey (Class of 2011) went to Malawi with the Lilongwe Wildlife Trust to help rehabilitate orphaned and injured monkeys. Her subsequent MSc in Endangered Species Recovery and Conservation took her to South Africa to study a troop of kitchen-raiding vervet monkeys.

Katherine is now spending 12 months at Chester Zoo on an internship with the primate team. She said: "Thank you to the fantastic teachers at CHS who believed I could get through my A Level Biology. I never thought I would!"



Old Waconian Awards 2017

Every year, we recognise two Old Waconians who have made outstanding contributions in their chosen field.

Distinguished Old Waconian Award

Terry Allsop Class of 1959

During his 52-year career, Terry has been instrumental in researching, evaluating and advising on education in some of the world's poorest countries. As Senior Education Advisor for the Department for International Development Terry was responsible for education programmes in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, and later became Director of the International Research Foundation for Open Learning. Terry has since consulted on projects worldwide, and championed girls' education and HIV/AIDS awareness.



"I don't go deliberately looking for extreme places to work, but often countries that are experiencing, or have experienced, conflict need support to restore, improve or develop their education systems. I can't imagine doing anything else."

Young Alumni Award

Bronte Law Class of 2013

At 18, Bronte moved over 5,000 miles away to Los Angeles to pursue her dream of becoming a professional golfer. She recently graduated with a Sociology degree from UCLA and has moved up the ranks of amateur women's golf, receiving her professional 'tour card' in 2016. She has now moved to the US permanently and is playing full time on tour.



"I spent so much of my life at CHS, from age 4 to 18, so it had an important role in not only making me the player that I am but the adult I needed to be to move to the States. I had great teachers and all of my memories of School are really positive so it's really nice to be recognised for my achievements and to be linked with the School in this way."

Amazing Coincidence!

Roger Rist (Class of 1971) and Jayne Rivington (Class of 1970), didn't know each other at School but fate brought them together when his daughter, Catriona, and her son, Alex, fell in love while travelling in Central America. The reunited Old Wacs are pictured on Portobello beach, Edinburgh, following Catriona and Alex's wedding in August.



Old Waconians' Educational Fund

The Old Waconians' Educational Fund was set up in 1937 and exists to help former students further their education.

Unlike today, when the majority of leavers go on to University and other academic institutions, in the 1930s most would take up manual, clerical and other non-academic posts. The Fund would provide money to help pay for tools and other accessories they would need to fulfil their ambitions. Today, grants can support a range of activities including postgraduate degrees, vocational skills training, equipment for university courses, compulsory medical electives, tuition for gifted or talented candidates, internships and character building experiences.

Three Old Waconians received support from the fund in 2016.

Jessica Gray Class of 2012

The Fund supported Jessica to complete her seven-week medical elective at Nepean, a hospital on the outskirts of western Sydney, in a small town called Penrith. From assessing patients in the Emergency Department to attending specialist respiratory clinics, the experience was varied and eye opening, Jessica said:

"I had the time of my life in Australia, not only as a student in the hospital and witnessing state-of-the-art paediatric medicine, but also having the opportunity to see the other side of the world. I would like to say a huge thank you once again to the Old Waconians for helping me achieve what was my dream elective!"



Hannah Petho Class of 2010

In another part of the world, the Fund helped Hannah to complete her medical elective across two different countries: Cebu University Doctor's Hospital in the Philippines and in the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, Tanzania.

You can read more about all of these recipients in the Old Waconians' Educational Fund section of the CHS website:
www.theadleholmeschool.co.uk/your-chs/old-waconians-educational-fund

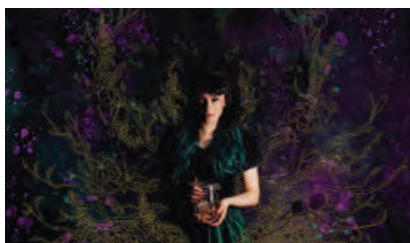
How to apply to the Fund:

Write a letter to the Old Waconians' Education Fund Committee, giving a brief profile of yourself, including qualifications to date, and detailing what you would like to use the funds for. This must include an explanation of how the course/qualification/activity furthers your educational training and qualification. Include an overview of the efforts you have already made to finance your proposed project.

Send your application to the Secretary of the Old Waconian Education Fund Committee, Mrs Carol Leather, by email (carolandtony2@uwclub.net).

Molly Evans Class of 2010

The fund has supported Molly's musical career by allowing her to explore new techniques and develop her style. Earlier this year Molly updated us on her progress:



"It's been an exciting year. Following a busy summer of festivals, I recorded a brand new project of original songs based on the traditional folklore work of Cheshire writer Alan Garner OBE. The project is called *Deep Time and Narrow Space* and was released in April this year."

Since graduating from CHS, Molly has also completed a degree in Mathematics at the University of Oxford and now looks after Digital Analytics for an internet service provider in Yorkshire. You can listen to Molly's songs online at: www.mollymakesnoise.bandcamp.com



Old Waconian Events

Lincoln's Inn

April 2017

Karim Khali, QC, hosts an historic evening in the beautiful Lincoln's Inn

More than 120 Old Waconians gathered for our exclusive reception at the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn on Thursday 27th April. Hosted by President of the Old Wacs' Association, Karim Khalil QC (Class of 1980), the event attracted OWs not only from across the UK, but from Belgium, Canada, Norway and the USA.

While enjoying drinks and canapés, OWs had the opportunity to learn about the history of the Old Hall and Lincoln's Inn from a private tour guide, before hearing speeches from Karim and the Head, Lucy Pearson.



The evening also saw some year group reunions with OWs from the Classes of 1977, 1980 and 1987 taking the opportunity to reminisce.



Class of '77



Class of '80



Class of '87

Old Waconians' Association AGM & Dinner

June 2017

On Saturday 10th June, 85 OWs returned to School for the OWA's Dinner. As well as hearing from OWA President, Karim Khalil QC, and the Head, Lucy Pearson, we were able to celebrate the birthday of Sheila Lewer (Class of 1957).

Before the dinner, OWs from two year groups, the Class of 1957 and Class of 1967, enjoyed reunion drinks receptions and tours of the School, while the Class of 1988 gathered in force for the dinner itself.



Class of 2016 Reunion

December 2016
1 year out

The class of 2016 came together for a wintery first reunion since leaving CHS. The festive decorations added a good amount of cheer to this happy occasion.



Class of 1996 Reunion

January 2017
Celebrating 20 years since graduation

We were delighted to welcome 48 Old Waconians from the Class of 1996 back to the School for a reunion marking 20 years since they left CHS. There was reminiscing in the library and the January sun even allowed some drinks outside!



Calling anniversary year groups!

Is 2018 a big anniversary for your year group? OWs from the Classes of 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1998 and 2008 are especially warmly invited to join us at reunions in 2018 to celebrate your anniversaries. Please get in touch and we can plan an event especially for your year group: 0161 488 3341 / er@chs.school.co.uk.

Dates for your diary



Class of 2017



Half marathon



Boarders reunion

18th Dec 2017

Class of 2017 reunion, CHS

28th Apr 2018

Class of 2007 reunion, CHS

Happy 10th anniversary!
It's time to celebrate with a get together back at School.

19th May 2018

Class of 2000 reunion, CHS

How time flies! After nearly 18 years it's time to head back to CHS again...

23rd Jun 2018

Old Waconians' Summer Fete, CHS

TeamCHS will represent the CHS community in the Corporate Challenge with students, parents, staff and Old Waconians running together. To register interest in joining TeamCHS please get in touch.

18th Mar 2018

Wilmslow Half Marathon

Get in touch to see how you can support TeamCHS, running as part of the Corporate Challenge.

Start training

22nd May 2018

Boarders' Reunion, Cheadle

Following the success of our 2016 Boarders' Reunion we are delighted to invite Boarders and their friends to join us for evening drinks and a buffet in a local pub.

17th Nov 2018

The Old Waconians' School Dinner, CHS

Come back to School for a dinner with a difference. Enjoy a hearty, no-frills School dinner, meet with old friends in the Dining Hall and try not to get in trouble with the Head. More details to follow.



What's Your Spark?

Lucy Pearson, Head

Cheadle Hulme School has every reason to stand proudly for its history, ethos and vision. In recent years, we have worked hard to clarify the type of school we are in modern times: what we stand for, what we expect of our students and what we want for our future.

We have always been a school that does more than educate solely in the classroom, a school for boys and girls, a school that has chosen to be liberal rather than staid, that is modest, unassuming and earnest; a school that has valued people.

The School's Ten Year Strategic Plan came into being in 2011, putting down in black and white our ambition to provide a challenging, dynamic and relevant education for every student, founded upon academic challenge, personal and social development, physical health, emotional well-being, opportunities for leadership and a commitment to service. We set our destination. My constant message to Waconians is that we must each strive to get the most out of ourselves and our opportunities whenever we can: we should never stop learning.

I have talked to students about my favourite poem 'Ithaka' by C P Cavafy, who takes his theme from Tennyson's poem 'Ulysses', where the hero talks of 'always roaming with a hungry heart' and being a part of all that he has met: his spark is the desire for adventure. A great education will feed a hungry heart because it will offer opportunities to challenge and develop ourselves. In Cavafy's poem, the poet reminds us of some of the challenges Ulysses had to overcome - the Laestrygonians, the Cyclops, angry Poseidon - and that these hardships taught him much and shaped him.

With 1418 young Waconian adventurers finding their way through the challenges, tribulations and joys of growing up, 'school' is bound to have

its moments. Importantly, we have our Waconian Values of integrity, endeavour, resilience, compassion and contribution and whilst we do not claim perfection we expect each individual student to aim to be a good person, a good worker and a good citizen. Not perfect, but good. And every day I see those Values being exercised by the students - in Year 8 as much as I do in Year 10 or the Upper Sixth: it is part of the privilege of leading this wonderful school.

Being Head of CHS is a privilege and it has proven itself to be an extraordinary journey.

Every Waconian has a responsibility - to themselves, their families, to their school - to be their best. I am a great believer in people - in what an individual can achieve. I don't mean every individual has to be the very best at something, or undertake extraordinary feats but we all have something special about and within us. Our job is to find our spark and nurture it. I see it in the artwork, hear it in the sharpness of intellectual debate, witness it on the stage, hear it in the solo performances, see it in acts of selfless friendship; it is there in the resilience and positivity engendered through DoE; in the showcasing of athletic skill and the exercise of clear leadership.

School is an adventure. There is a destination point which you will get to, as Cavafy says in 'Ithaka' - 'Arriving there is what you are destined for'...

but he hopes the journey is a long one, full of adventure and experience. And for as much as there will be the Laestrygonians, the Cyclops, or angry Poseidon (the challenging times, the moments when you need help and support), so too there will be many beautiful summer mornings, extraordinary harbours 'seen for the first time'. School is the journey and if students take the opportunities that it offers, they will experience moments that they will never forget and light many fires. If they travel only to get to the end, they are going to miss out, and limit themselves. I tell our Waconians to travel with their eyes wide open, not with their headphones on locked into a device - there's time enough for that. When a Waconian gets to the end of school, it is not that moment that will make them who they are: it will not be that moment that makes them think 'now I can begin': it will be all that they have learnt and done over the years that will enable them to be what and who they choose to be as they head into the adult world.

Being Head of CHS is a privilege and it has proven itself to be an extraordinary journey. In Tennyson's 'Ulysses', the aged king looks to the harbour and realises that his hungry heart still rages, despite his age: 'Tis not too late to seek a newer world' he says. This is my last year as Head of CHS, as I too seek a newer world; quite what that newer world is, I have yet to discover. We are all going to be choosing a new adventure this year.

Introducing: Your Alumni Board

The new Alumni Board aims to advance, support and promote the School's alumni relations programme. The Board will provide operational advice and guidance related to key areas within the programme and will represent the School's Old Waconian community both by age-range and with respect to diverse interests and expertise.

President of the OWA
Karim Khalil
Class of 1980

Karim graduated from the University of Cambridge in Law and took Silk in 2003. He sits as a part-time Judge at the Old Bailey and is a Bencher at Lincoln's Inn. In 2015 he was awarded Financial Regulation Lawyer of the Year by *Corporate Livewire Magazine*.



What's your spark?

"Do the best I can and spread the fun, fear and joy of trying!"



Chair of the Alumni Board/1980s representative
Emma Hardy
Class of 1986

After leaving CHS Emma soon became a Theatrical Agent at ICM, the UK's largest agency, working with high profile celebrities. After working at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre she moved in to TV joining Princess Productions over 20 years ago. She is a current parent whose daughter is following in her footsteps as Head Girl for 2017/18.

What's your spark?
"My spark is family."

1950s representative
Terry Allsop
Class of 1959

Winner of this year's Distinguished Old Waconian Award, Terry has been a champion for education in some of the world's poorest countries. A keen cricketer and lacrosse player, Terry believes his own happy school days played a part in his initial decision to train as a teacher, and values his continued connection with the School.

What's your spark?
"Endless curiosity and learning to interact with people in many different settings."



1960s representative
David Shipley
Class of 1961

David, a Founder, on leaving CHS in 1962 went to Cambridge (Trinity Hall) and studied Natural Sciences. He is a Chartered Accountant and was a Partner at PWC until he retired in 2001. He is a former parent with children in the Classes of 1992, 1995 and 1999. As a current Governor he is a Member of Finance and Nominations Committees, and Chair and Trustee of the 150th Anniversary Bursary Trust Fund.

What's your spark?
"Loyalty to family, friends, colleagues and values, enjoyment of travel, exercise, team working and challenges, and putting something back into society."

1970s and 2010
members representative

Cathy Beavis

Class of 1972

Cathy Beavis (née Simpson) was a member of CHS staff from 1978 until 1987, as a teacher in both the Junior and Senior Schools and as the Boarding House Mistress. She has given 24 years' service on the OWA Committee (1988-2005, and 2010-2017) serving as Secretary, Vice Chairman and Chairman during this time. She is a member of the Old Waconians' Educational Fund Committee and a Trustee of this Charity.



What's your spark?

"Looking after the interests of the original 2010 members of the OWA."



1990s representative
Belinda Walmsley
(née Martin)
Class of 1994

A proud beneficiary of a full bursary at CHS, Belinda studied Law at Durham University before moving into marketing and communications. Belinda has built an award-winning career in the workforce management sector including running the corporate sponsorship programme for the Williams Martini Racing Formula 1 team. Belinda is still involved with the School, raising awareness of how much impact the bursary scheme can have through talks to pupils and parents. Notably these are timed for the days that chocolate sponge and sauce are served in the dining hall!

What's your spark?

"It comes from spotting hidden talent, providing that important first or next step career opportunity and building someone's career."

Old Waconian aged
30 or under

Akshay Shah

Class of 2012

Akshay studied History at King's College London. After graduation, and a stint of bar work and travelling, he moved back to London and embarked upon a number of internships in a variety of industries. Eventually his focus was narrowed down to his main passion, film and TV. One of his highlights has been working alongside Andy Serkis and the team at the Imaginarium Studios on various motion-capture productions including *War For The Planet of the Apes*, *Ritual*, and *Breathe*.

What's your spark?

"To be fulfilled and happy. To really engage with people and to be pushed forward professionally, creatively, and personally."



What's your spark?

"My daily motivation is my faith in Jesus Christ."

International representative
Helen Lynch
Class of 1977

Helen graduated from the University of St Andrews, having read Psychology and French. After a year's postgraduate studies she worked in Paris, London and New York for Brown Brothers Harriman and Co, a privately owned US bank. Helen moved to NYC in 1992 and whilst focusing on being a wife and mother, she committed to spending her time on volunteer work, primarily for and through her church and its pre-school. She is also involved with several organisations related to nature conservation and environmental issues, about which she is passionate.

Joining our Old Waconian representatives will be CHS staff including the Head, the Director of External Relations, a member of teaching staff and a current student. If you have any further questions about the Board please contact the Secretary charlottestill@chschool.co.uk.

OldWaconiansConnect

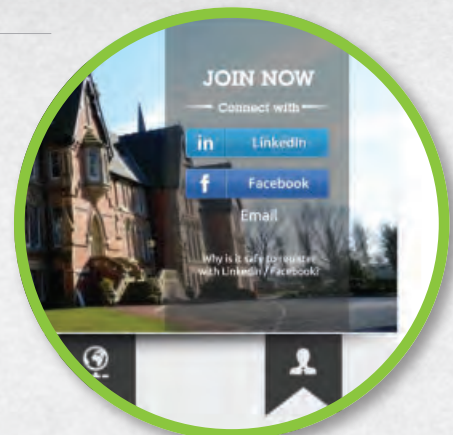
Over the past few months we have been working with software provider Graduway to build your new and exclusive online networking platform – *oldwaconiansconnect.com*



What is it?

OldWaconiansConnect combines the features of LinkedIn and Facebook to provide you with an exclusive professional and social networking platform.

It enables all alumni, irrespective of seniority or graduating year, to be available to one another online. It is the perfect tool for connecting with OWs in a secure environment as each OW will be verified before joining the platform.

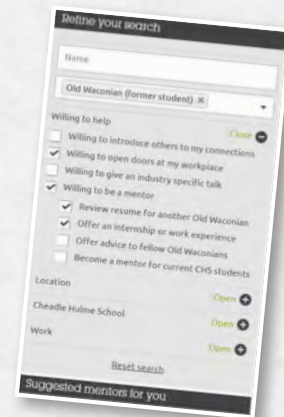


Why join?



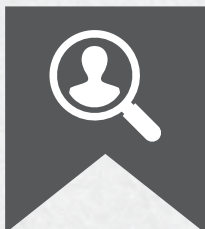
Find a mentor, or become one

When you register you can choose to offer your time as a mentor - from reviewing someone's resume to opening the doors of your business this is the perfect way to give back. Alternatively, if you're just starting out or are in need of some support through a career change, search for an Old Waconian who is willing to mentor you.



Reconnect

Use the search function to find fellow alumni based on their class year, location, job title etc. and get back in touch. You never know what the outcome may be - you could end up organising a reunion, or even being offered a job!



Post a job, or find one

Are you looking for your next recruit? Post a job on our online jobs board and know that it will be seen exclusively by Old Waconians.

Are you looking for your next career move? Use the jobs board to search for your next position and even apply through the platform.



Reminisce

There are so many ways to share your memories of CHS through this platform - post a discussion topic on the updates page, share photos in the albums, join a relevant group, or find an event to attend.

How do I register?

Registration is quick and easy. Simply visit www.oldwaconiansconnect.com and register using your LinkedIn account, Facebook account, or email address. We will verify that you attended CHS and then you're ready to network.



Old Wacs in Tech

The technology industry is fast-moving, challenging and rewarding. It also attracts a wide range of people, from computer scientists and engineers to accountants, marketing professionals and lawyers. Many Old Wacs developed their love of technology while at School, and have gone on to successful and exciting careers.

We spoke to three very different tech specialists about their careers and what advice they would give young Old Wacs looking to join the tech industry.



Greg Swimer (Class of 1989)
Chief Technology Officer, Manchester City Group

Manchester City fan Greg studied Engineering, Economics and Management at Oxford University, before starting his career with Mars & Co as a Management Consultant. He moved to Unilever, working in the IT department for three years where his interest in technology grew. He left Unilever to begin a tech start-up company, then returned to Unilever where he rose to Chief Technology Officer. Roles as a Trustee of Weizmann UK and CTO for WPP Hogarth Worldwide followed before Greg was offered his dream job with City Football Group.

“After being a supporter for 40 years, I couldn’t turn it down. It was an incredible opportunity. I’m based in London but travel to Manchester about twice a week - I often try to make one of the days a Saturday!

The thing that I love about working in technology is that there are always new problems to solve, new challenges to overcome. Technology is vital to all companies these days, you just have to find out how to best use the tech for that company’s needs and ambitions. It’s the same for any industry you’re in.

The challenge isn’t finding out what’s happening in tech, that’s everywhere, the challenging part is picking which bits are relevant and working out how to use it. That’s where having years of experience in the world of IT helps you make better judgements and helps you work out where to prioritise.

My time at CHS definitely sparked my interest in technology. I remember flying out of the Junior School with my backpack still on to try and get to Computer Club. There was only one computer room with Amstrad computers and we had to race over to get on the computers first.

The tech industry is so enormous now, it’s difficult to give specific advice on starting out, so I’ll offer some advice about starting a career in general:

1. Follow something you’re interested in and that stimulates you.
2. Developing a profession takes time, try a range of things early on in your career and get yourself in the best place to learn. Being in a mature organisation helps as there are lots of opportunities to learn about all parts of an organisation.
3. Get as much variety and experience as you can in the first ten years of your career.”

Greg’s spark is: Maths – the problem-solving element and the knowledge that you can be confident there is an answer and that achievement is possible.



Leisha Morrison (Class of 2001)
Senior Data Analytics
Recruiter, Precision
Sourcing, and Founder
of Women in Data

As a self-confessed 'technologically-challenged' person, Leisha is living proof that the technology industry is not just for mathematicians, engineers and computer scientists. Or, indeed, men. Leisha's extensive experience as a tech recruitment consultant highlighted a shortage of women in her industry and led her to establish Women in Data, a platform for women to network and support each other and also to encourage more girls into STEM subjects. Currently working in Sydney, Australia, Leisha headhunts Data Analysts, finding jobs for great candidates and finding candidates for great jobs.

"I find switching from Apple to Samsung products frustratingly difficult, so I didn't ever consider a career in technology. After graduating in English Literature, I started as a marketing graduate at a small finance company. I stayed there for seven years and

ended up as a Business Development Officer, responsible for securing new business and retaining existing clients. I fell into the tech industry when I joined Precision Sourcing and, at first, it was really scary. I remember at interview I was told that my lack of knowledge in tech wouldn't matter, but I couldn't fully understand that until I saw it for myself.

What I've learned is that there's a place for everyone in the technology industry. It doesn't just rely on technically proficient people, it's a real team effort and needs marketing, sales, support, IT, client services and many more departments to run an effective technology market.

The stats for women in data centric roles across Australia are around 24%. Less than half of those are in leadership roles and women are largely under-represented in data and technology in general. There is still a lot of bias in the tech industry and I felt I had a responsibility to help change this so I set up Women in Data. I believe women who are in leadership roles in technology and data have a duty to all the other women who are climbing the ranks to share their story and help those women to achieve.



My advice for young Old Waconians looking to break into the tech industry would be to get as much experience as you can, as early as you can. Also, reach out to more established people in the market for advice. Contact tech companies and ask if they have a mentorship programme (a lot do), join networking groups or attend tech focused events."

Leisha's spark is: Working towards my dream of working with horses.



Andy Mulvenna (Class of 1997)
Co-founder, Brightpearl

A love of adventurous sports coupled with a keen interest in new technologies led Andy to co-develop one of the first e-commerce software packages, taking him from skateboard designer to tech entrepreneur with a successful global business. He now works as a venture capitalist, seeking out and investing in promising young digital companies to support the next generation of entrepreneurs and to try and anticipate the next big trend in tech.

"I decided to study Artificial Intelligence at university as it was an emerging

area and it satisfied my love of scientific enquiry. I didn't really think about a career in tech - in fact, I had originally wanted to be a professional mountaineer. However, after leaving university, I found myself in a basement making long skateboards with one of my friends, which developed into Lush, the UK's first longboard brand, which is still going strong today.

As the company became more successful, we realised we needed a system to manage the administration side of the business - handling orders, invoicing, maintaining stock, etc - to enable us to grow. We were frustrated by the existing software which didn't suit the needs of a small business - so we built our own. This was at the beginning of the boom in e-commerce, so we decided to focus on developing the software and, eventually, launched Brightpearl, offering web-based software to help small businesses work faster and smarter.

After being on the receiving end of investment from a venture capitalist, and knowing how much that support helped my business, I'm now a full-time investor in tech companies.

My advice to people looking to a career in tech is:

1. Break your tech habits. Have fun trying new things, don't get stuck in your ways.
2. Have a go at 'angel investing' and put some money into early stage tech companies. It doesn't have to be a lot of money - you can be part of a syndicate. Suddenly, you're an investor in ten companies, which will ignite your curiosity about tech and you'll start to learn more.
3. Help a tech company with non-tech skills. They are full of engineers so are usually desperate for other skills and a different perspective.
4. Learn to write code - the world needs more software developers.

Andy's spark is: Be passionate about what you do. The happiest and most successful people I know don't just love what they do, they're obsessed with solving an important problem.

Three Decades of Dedication

Carol Leather

Class of 1964

Carol Leather (née Scott) has been part of the furniture at CHS for the past 30 years. Secretary of the Old Waconians' Association from 1991 to 2015, and a committee member until 2017, Carol is a familiar face around School and it is down to her commitment that so many Old Waconians have maintained their links with Cheadle Hulme School over the years.

We asked Carol about her own connection to the School and what inspires her to continue volunteering for CHS.

What was your School experience like?

I remember it being very formal - all the teachers wore gowns. We lined up for dinner, boys at one end of the lower corridor, girls at the other, and marched up the stairs to the dining hall. We had Grace before and after the meal. After dinner we all filed out of the front door and down the steps - that was the only time we were allowed in that area. When I welcome people to Old Wacs' Dinners in the Entrance Hall, it's funny how many people feel excited to be coming in through the main doors!

Have you always lived in the area?

I have lived in Bramhall/Cheadle Hulme all my life. I married Tony Leather from the farm on Ladybridge Road and we are still there today. Many people will remember my late brother-in-law, David Leather, delivering milk by horse and cart. In the 1950s and 60s, students used to do cross country running across our fields - and they still do today as part of the Charity Hike.

How did you first get involved with the Old Waconians' Association?

I remember it so well! I was walking across the road in the village and passed Miss Joyce Kight, the retired teacher and Head of the Girls' Boarding House and, later, President of the OWA. She said: "We need you on the Old Wac's committee - come to Fete Day and I will nominate you." And as

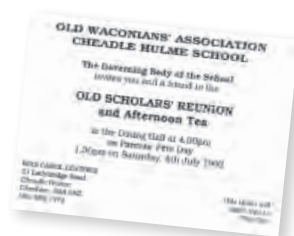
anyone who remembers Miss Kight knows, if Miss Kight told you to do something, you did it! So, I joined in 1989 and it was the start of 30 very happy years as a member of the committee.

What was the OWA like then?

The biggest difference was that it was paid membership so you didn't automatically become a member when you left School. The committee was very friendly and inclusive. In those days the meetings were held in people's homes and included a light supper and a chat afterwards.

What did the role of Secretary involve?

My main job was keeping in touch with all our members and managing the administration of the Association. There were 1,250 members, which is not a lot compared with today when all former pupils are Old Waconians, but when you are photocopying hundreds of letters and typing each envelope by hand, it certainly feels like it! We did two mailings per year: the first was in April when we sent out the OW magazine and the first Dinner notice; the second was in August and was a reminder to book for the Dinner. The Dinner was, and still is, an incredibly popular event and an important part of the OWA calendar.



What is your role at the School today?

For the past 14 years, I have been assisting Kay Moore, who has just retired as School Librarian and Archivist, creating and working on the archives. It's a fascinating job. One of the most interesting collections is the photographs, letters and medals donated by the family of Graham Hughes, who died during WWII, which is very moving. We also have a purse belonging to a Victorian student, Ellis Guest, which was discovered under the floorboards during renovations of the boarding house. I am also Secretary of the Old Waconians' Educational Fund.

What has kept you at CHS for the last 30 years?

I love the history and heritage of the School and I'm honoured to play a part in keeping that alive. I also get great pleasure from helping Old Waconians keep in touch with CHS. I regularly visit several of our elderly members, which continues the pastoral role I had as OWA Secretary. Earlier this year, I was presented with a beautiful glass bowl in recognition of my service to the Old Waconians' Association, for which I am most grateful.

What does the future hold for you?

I look forward to maintaining links with our elderly Old Wacs and helping the School, the Alumni team and the new Alumni Board in whatever way I can.

Carol's spark is:

Commitment and reliability.



39 Years On...

Teaching English at CHS since 1978

By Nigel Westbrook

It may seem perverse to begin with a French phrase to articulate how my experience of teaching English at School feels now I have finally ended my career at CHS, but *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose* more or less sums it up.

Despite all the educational reforms and the development of different teaching styles, resources and theories over those years, the job still requires you to foster a passion for and appreciation of reading, a curiosity about language and a desire to become more adept at using it; in other words, to help students understand the vital role that language and literature still play in making sense of the world around us.

When I started back in 1978, the pattern of lessons, from Year 7 onwards, largely revolved around the study of several literary works, usually a play and a novel every term, which tended to include a fair proportion of "classics" such as Dickens and Shaw, interspersed with creative writing and grammar lessons. The School back then prepared everyone to take English Language at the end of Year 10, with Literature taught separately in a single year in Year 11. These were still the days of O Levels, with everything resting on performance in the end of year exam.

In the mid-80s we moved to GCSEs, taught in a two-year combined course in Years 10 and 11, with the inclusion of written and oral coursework that gave opportunities for students to learn from their drafts and work towards achieving higher standards. Here the development of computer technology undoubtedly helped with the drafting and redrafting process. My role became increasingly one of guide and advisor to help each student improve their performance.

The choice of texts to study became a little more enterprising, with novels such as *Lord of the Flies* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*, though the years in which I taught *Macbeth* did seem to stretch out for an eternity...

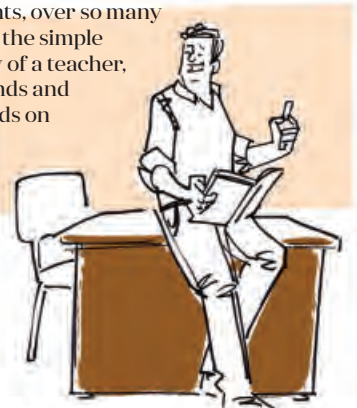
Political arguments abounded as to whether English GCSE was any "easier" than O Level; there is little doubt, though, that this politicisation of the whole examining process, coupled with the innate subjectivity in assessment of my subject, has caused us many concerns over the years. The School eventually decided to move to the international equivalent qualification, with IGCSEs allowing us greater freedom of choice, for instance by permitting the continued teaching of American classics like *Of Mice and Men* which state schools were notoriously instructed to drop from their curriculum because of political interference.

As for A Levels, they pattered along largely unchanged through the 80s and 90s, until in 2000 came the change to AS and A2, enabling students to re-sit any modules in which they had under-performed and giving due prominence to coursework (40%). Now the system has just reverted to the old A Level format: *plus ça change* indeed.

Cultural changes over these years have been apparent in the liberalisation of text selection: in my first few years, for example, I was required to teach Shakespeare plays like *Romeo and Juliet* from

an old bowdlerised edition which earlier generations deemed suitable for the delicate constitution of school pupils. In one of my first O Level lessons I issued my own extra pages including all the censored lines (useful for demonstrating how much sexual joking or innuendo the play contains!). In recent years, by contrast, set texts may include challenging material and language which until a few years ago would have guaranteed an 18 certificate.

Now we have many more IT resources, with Google Classroom and giant touch-screen interactive TVs at the front of the room opening up more opportunities to engage and stretch students' interest and skills. All these developments must be seen as exciting enablers of effective learning; I trust, though, that the recently reported rise in sales of traditional books should remind us that at the core of this wonderful subject, that has given such pleasure to me, and I hope my students, over so many years, lies the simple chemistry of a teacher, young minds and some words on a page.



WHAT'S THE 411 ON THE 90S KIDS?

When I was invited to join the Alumni Board as the representative for the 1990s I was thrilled, but it also got me thinking. I have a pretty good idea what most of my old year is up to (thanks to Facebook and a brilliant reunion) but what's everyone else been up to since the era of *Coco Savannah's*, *Our Price*, *Athena Posters*, *Baywatch* and *The Blair Witch Project*?

GUEST EDITOR
BELINDA WALMSLEY



GEORGINA BOWMAN

Class of:
1990

Job title:
Deputy Editor, BBC Newsround

Current location:
Salford, MediaCityUK

Life update: I've had a busy career in broadcast journalism, starting off in the North West at Radio City, Rock FM and Piccadilly Key 103. From there, I spent more than 12 years at Radio One *Newsbeat* as a news and entertainment reporter and then doing my dream job as presenter. I'm currently Deputy Editor of the BBC's *Newsround* programme based at MediaCity in Salford.

Advice for Young Old Wacs: Keep on trying! Don't give up. Be prepared to do lots of work experience before bagging the dream job. It's a tough area to get into, but it's also incredibly fun and very rewarding. Good luck!

Favourite memory of CHS: Feeling very grown up, hanging out in the Common Room.



WILL KNIGHT

Class of:
1993

Job title:
Designer & Illustrator

Current location: Kent, UK

Life update: I illustrate ideas, insights and strategy for global brands, creative agencies and money. I create characters and storyboards for animation, film, television, theatrical events and joy.

Advice for Young Old Wacs: Allow yourself plenty of time, but work as fast as you can. Disable your phone's web browser and only check your email twice a day.

Favourite memory of CHS: Long summer days in long grass in the far fields. Building dens in cubs copse. Escaping the boarding house at night (shh). Pirates in the gym. Plastic-cup football and skateboards in the girl's playground. Milk chocolate bars from the barn. Freezing team swim. The longest days in the infirmary. Bells to wake, eat, sleep by. 50p pocket money and american cream soda from the Tuck shop. A wooden drawer with clean socks and freshly pressed pants. Not getting caught. Getting caught...



STEVE HAMER

Class of:
1992

Job title:
Dealer Account Manager

Current location: Caerphilly. I work from home and in the field.

Life update: I look after the business relationship between independent forecourt owners and Shell UK. I could be ensuring compliance with Shell standards, negotiating new supply deals or advising on shop and forecourt developments. I am also involved in delivering new payment and loyalty solutions to the forecourt. Out of work, I ride motorbikes, run, cycle and love getting away with my wife in our campervan. No kids, but have three demanding cats.

Advice for Young Old Wacs: Be yourself, be honest and trustworthy. Listen to your peers and customers, but don't be afraid to deliver bad news.

Favourite memory of CHS: So many good times, from the trip to Sankt Goarshausen through to early morning sessions in the old weights room in the barn... but Mr. Thompson will always stand out for getting me selected to represent Stockport Schools at the sprint hurdles.



NICOLE BUTTERWORTH

Class of:
1990

Job title:
Sailing Office/National Race Officer,
Royal Bermuda Yacht Club

Current location:
Bermuda

Life update:
In short, I get to talk about sailing every day. I manage the regatta and racing programme at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club and help develop the curriculum for the Sailing Academy (RYA Training Centre). Massive bucket list tick this year: I helped organise and run the America's Cup Super Yacht and J Class regattas, as well as being part of the America's Cup race management team.

Advice for Young Old Wacs:
I'm very lucky that I get to work in an area that is a lifelong passion for me. I do know how rare that is. Don't lose focus of things you are passionate about if you are questioning what you should do in life. I recommend the RYA Race Management pathway for gaining experience and qualifications.

Favourite memory of CHS:
Boarding House antics. It was my home away from home. The ladies I boarded with are still some of my closest, most cherished friends. Followed closely by the Geology field trip to Isle of Aran, Easter '88 - never steamed so many sticky-toffee puddings in my life! My life quote is from fellow boarder Cathy Shrank: "It tastes better when you slurp it" (drinking tea in the Dining Room one Sunday night) - stays with me to this day.



ALICE ROBSON

Class of:
1998

Job title:
Senior Teaching Fellow in
Biochemistry, University of Bristol

Current location:
Bristol, UK

Life update:
I work at the University of Bristol, where I teach on all levels of our biochemistry and medical degree programmes. I'm particularly interested in developing students as researchers, and I'm involved in designing and running a new research training course as part of our MSci in Biochemistry programme. Outside of work I play violin in several orchestras and a string quartet.

Advice for Young Old Wacs:
There are lots of opportunities for budding young scientists to get involved in research. Attend local science festivals and outreach events: start reading *New Scientist* or other science magazines; or get involved in a citizen science project like the SETI@home [<https://setiathome.berkeley.edu/>] or the Big Butterfly Count [<http://www.bigbutterflycount.org/>] and make a real difference to our understanding of the world around us, from your own home!

Favourite memory of CHS: Having a great time on the A Level Biology field trip to Aberystwyth, where we spent a week counting cockles and sorting seaweed, and generally having fun on the beach!

What do you remember from CHS in the 1990s?

- The Language Lab opening and being the most state of the art thing you'd ever seen?
- Watching *Neighbours* or *Home and Away* as you waited for your parents to pick you up from the Infirmary?
- Parking for the first time in the Sixth Form Car Park. Result!
- Staying for Boarder's tea one last time before it closed and feeling sad it wasn't there anymore?
- Being brave enough to ask the Librarian for a copy of Judy Blume's *Forever* from the restricted access section?
- Playing Lacrosse and knowing it would really, really hurt if you made a mistake
- Smiling when you think about the Old Barn?
- Realising that when you look back it was always sunny?

Share your memories via Twitter @CheadleHulmeSch #inthe90s

Thank You for Your Support



Inside Look:

Holden Hall

Over the summer, work was completed on the redevelopment of Holden Hall into a dynamic, flexible teaching and performance space.

Following on from the refurbishment of the entrance halls the previous year this project has combined original features with modern materials and technology to produce a stunning new venue.



Anticlockwise from top left:

Before:
Holden Hall before the redevelopment

During:
The scaffolding is erected for work to begin

After:
The refurbishment of Holden Hall is complete, combining original features with modern materials





Leave your mark - name a seat

Holden Hall presents a unique opportunity to leave your mark in the original School building and at the same time show your support by naming a seat for £500.

For further details about having a plaque fixed to one of the new seats in Holden Hall, complete with your message or a name of your choice, please contact petravandenhouten@chschool.co.uk.

Thank you

The fundraising appeal for the Holden Hall redevelopment was supported by members of the whole School community. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those Old Waconians who supported the appeal financially, and also shared their memories of the building that has been central to CHS history.

£207,901.73
total raised in cash and pledges for Holden Hall from 126 donations



Youngest donor

The appeal also saw our youngest donor giving back to the School,

"I train and play tennis for more than 15 hours a week and because CHS has supported me (it helped me win Championships, be selected for the U9 and U10 Cheshire County Squads and be chosen to train with the LTA Regional Camps) I have donated the payment I received from the LTA Youth Trust to the Holden Hall Fund."

Eva, Year 5, youngest donor



Looking after our donors

We are enormously grateful to all of our donors who, through their generosity, enable the School to not only provide an education to those who wouldn't be able to attend CHS otherwise but help support other projects and causes such as the refurbishment of Holden Hall and prizes, awards and co-curricular activities. With the support of our donors we are able to provide the foundations on which our students can build a successful future, supporting young people at every stage of their education.

In looking after our donors we follow best practice in line with fundraising at schools and are cautious about allocating School funds.

All our donors will be recognised in our Annual Donor report unless they wish to remain anonymous. Members of the 1855 Society and those donors who support the School by giving £20 per month or more will be invited to join us for an annual donor reception.

In 2016/17 gifts ranged from:

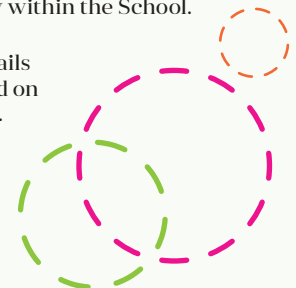


Leadership Giving Circles

Supporters who donate a yearly amount of £1,000 or higher will be invited to join the Head's Circle and those who have donated £10,000 will be asked to join the Chair's Circle and will be invited to an annual dinner with the Chair of Governors and the Head.

We recognise our major donors, who through their philanthropic giving of £50,000 or more make an exemplary difference, through a naming opportunity within the School.

Further details can be found on our website.



Focus On

Michael Heaven Jr

Class of 2009



Dropping out of university is many parents' worst nightmare but it could open up international doors as former Bursary student Michael Heaven Jr explains from the USA.

After a year and a half at the University of Birmingham studying Politics and Economics Michael looked around the lecture theatre and saw hundreds of other students, all doing the same course and destined for the same job. How could he differentiate himself? By dropping out and looking for work experience...

Did you have a clear idea of what you wanted to do?

Before university I had a vision of going to Washington and working in American politics. I wanted to make an impact and to influence people but I realised that University wasn't the only way to do it. I started looking at social media which at the time was very new, Facebook was only about four or five years old, and I thought there was an opportunity to build a career within this new medium. I'd read a lot about MTV, how it got on to the air, and always felt social media would seep into the public awareness in a similar way and I wanted to be a part of it.

What work experience did you find?

The only place willing to take on a drop-out was a nightclub so I headed up their student marketing for a year and a half and honed my marketing skills. I was right - Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat became huge channels for us to reach people. From there I started working with more traditional employers including a luxury fashion house where I had the opportunity to start Social Chain - a social media and marketing agency. I was asked to be part of the founding team to help drive sales, connect with clients and explain the value of social media for businesses. It was something I understood and was part of my vision so I left my job and joined the team.

What drove your choices?

At the time I was reading *Outliers* by Malcom Gladwell and he shared this way of thinking which I adopted - 'what is going to be popular and successful 10 years down the line is going to be a margin of society now'. We can see how influential social media is now, but when I first looked at it, it was just a toy; it wasn't a career. Reading that book made me think about the bigger picture and have a future-orientated mind-set.

What's your typical day?

I've been there three years and there's no typical day. The most important thing is communicating with clients, having creative sessions with the team, creating ideas and consistently trying to improve everything we do.

What's your biggest highlight?

Validation - when we first started Social Chain was just an idea. To see it grow to this position where we've got an office in America, Berlin, and

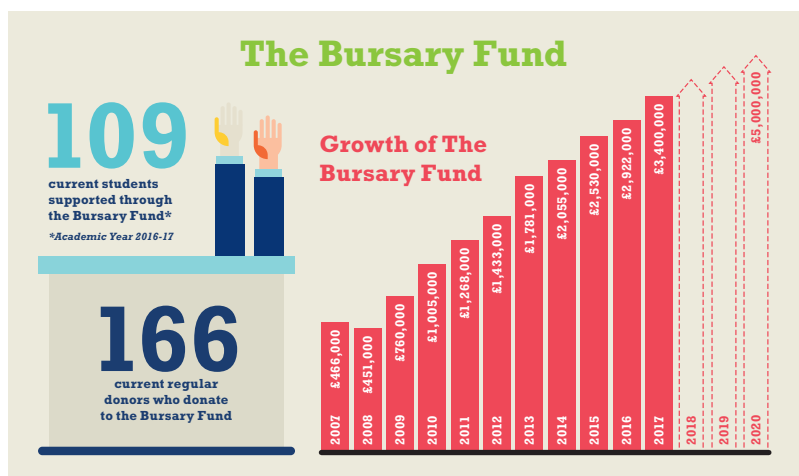
the UK, is a huge validation of the original idea. It's easier to talk to mum about my life choices now!

How did your Bursary at CHS help your career?

At the time I don't think I was really aware I was a bursary student, I just felt like a regular pupil. However, the way that I think and communicate are largely influenced by the way mum raised me, and being a pupil at CHS. Having a bursary assisted place has been a key factor in getting where I am today. I'm very grateful for that opportunity.

The Bursary Fund

Each year we aim to offer more young people the opportunity to experience a CHS education through our Bursary Programme. Find out how you can help transform the lives of young people by emailing er@chs.school.co.uk



Football Focus

Many children dream of playing football for a living, but for most, making the school team is as close as they get to turning that dream into reality. However, for the lucky - and talented - few, a love of the beautiful game and a determination to succeed can lead to a career in the competitive world of professional football.

We speak to two Old Waconians who are just starting out about their experiences and ask our most famous footballing alumnus, Sunderland FC striker Duncan Watmore (Class of 2012), about his career to date and get his top tips for life in the sporting spotlight.



Michael Elstone, Class of 2017
Fulham FC

"I started playing football at the age of ten for my local team, Cheadle and Gatley, and continued to play with them throughout Senior School as well as playing for Cheadle Hulme School. Thanks to Mr Allen, at the age of 16 I went to play for semi professional side Bangor City FC and, after about eight months, I was offered a trial with Fulham FC. I was fortunate enough to be accepted and signed for them at the end of the season. I felt both excited and apprehensive as it meant moving to London at the age of 17.

"The highlight of my football career so far has been playing for Fulham against Everton at Goodison Park, where I was lucky enough to score and we won the game 3-0.

Michael's advice to aspiring footballers: "You have to really want it, be prepared to make sacrifices and also to work as hard as you possibly can every day."



Jack Kiersey, Class of 2017
Everton FC

"Playing professional football has always been my dream. I played for my local team, Bramhall North, from the age of six and, at ten years old, I was spotted by an Everton scout and invited to play in a trial match with the Academy boys. I was given a six-week trial and then offered a contract with the Academy for two years. It was a dream come true and proof that all of my hard work had paid off.

"I've played in each of the Everton boys' teams from Under 11s through to Under 16s. When I joined the Under 18s, I was awarded a scholarship and finally started to earn a wage. My biggest achievement to date has been playing in the Under 19s Dallas Cup in the US. My next goal is to get into the Under 23s squad.

Jack's advice to aspiring footballers: "You need to put in a lot of hard work. It can be tough both physically and mentally so resilience is essential."

How to achieve your goals

Duncan Watmore signed for Premier League club Sunderland AFC in 2013, aged 19, after cutting his footballing teeth with Conference North side Altrincham FC. However, his sporting career began much earlier when he was awarded a place at the prestigious Manchester

United Academy aged just 6. After leaving the Academy when he was 12, Duncan decided to concentrate on his education, playing football for fun at CHS where he was captain of the First Team in the Sixth Form as well as a keen rugby player, cricketer and athlete.

He is now only the second premier league player to obtain a first class degree, after spending three years studying Economics and Business at Newcastle University while still playing for Sunderland.

As someone who has experienced the highs and lows of professional football, Duncan is keen to share his top tips with others aspiring to follow in his football-booted footsteps.

1. Enjoy your football. The more you enjoy what you're doing the harder you will work and the more opportunities you will get.
2. Work hard and be prepared to make sacrifices.
3. Football is full of distractions so try to stay focused. Also, stay as grounded as you can - make sure you have friends and things to do outside of football.
4. Remember that you're never off duty. You represent the club both on and off the pitch so you need to behave responsibly at all times.
5. Be determined and always strive to be a better player.

What was your spark? Watching Paul Scholes and Ryan Giggs play created my love for the game and inspired me.



In Memoriam

Alan Kelk (1955-91)

Alan Kelk was a much-loved teacher at CHS (1955-91) and during his time as Head of English he inspired generations of students. He was “a stalwart director and producer of school plays and performances on the Holden Hall stage” (Bill Parker, Class of 1969) while his wife Betty was the Head’s secretary.

After Alan sadly passed away in June 2017 many of you shared your memories of him and these were much appreciated by his family. He was especially noted for his encouragement, challenging teaching, and approachability. The words of John Gibbon, Class of 1964, sum up what many of you wrote, “He was serious but never heavy, he was light but never flippant. He treated us as grown-ups, even though we weren’t. He introduced us to a world beyond our pleasant suburb.”

OWA President Karim Khalil QC also shared his memories, “He was a much respected and liked member of staff with a naturally urbane demeanour. Never outwardly flustered and amusingly resigned to the irrepressible silliness of his charges (me included!).”



Alan directing *The Doll's House* in 1962



The 1855 Society



The 1855 Society recognises those supporters who will leave a gift to CHS in their will and we would like to express our thanks to all individuals who have agreed to do so.

We are most grateful for the legacies we have received this year:

Brenda Beales, Class of 1944

Barbara Owen, Class of 1946

Sheila Franklin, Class of 1949

Alastair Gibson, Class of 1959

Vaughan Wilcock, Former Staff

Fondly Remembered

CHS is sad to report the deaths of the following Old Waconians:

Geoffrey Aldous
Class of 1942

Sheila Collins
Class of 1951

Jean Cooke (née Marsden)
Class of 1950

Helen Cooper (née Thomas)
Class of 1974

Keaton Emery
Class of 2012

Sheila Franklin (née Chappel)
Class of 1949

Brian Gaskell, Former Staff
Served 1954-59

Peter Gilliver
Class of 1947

Ron Greaves
Class of 1943

Peter Holt
Class of 1983

Alan Kelk, Former Staff
Served 1955-91

Mike Lee
Class of 1943

Brenda MacLeod (née Bancroft)
Class of 1950

Jean Mallon (née Keel)
Class of 1946

Nicholas Manolitsis
Class of 2010

Donald McWalter
Class of 1955

Anne Nixon (née Palmer)
Class of 1953

Bryden Noble (née Viggers)
Class of 1956

Helen Senior (née Bull),
Former Staff
Served 1955-58

Brian Snipe
Class of 1950

Graham Swepson
Class of 1947

David Taylor
Class of 1957

Elizabeth Treacy (née Boon)
Class of 1951

Margaret Wilson
Class of 1951

Roy Wilson
Class of 1939

John Winterbottom
Class of 1946

Marion Winterbottom
Class of 1943

CHS Shop

Welcome to the Gift Shop!

We have worked with some exciting illustrators and designers to produce a collection of official CHS merchandise - the perfect souvenir or gift.

Exclusive prints of the School by Urban Colours

Jamie B Edwards, the artist behind Urban Colours, graduated from a fine art degree at Loughborough University's School of Art and Design in 2008 and currently lives in Manchester. Best known for his landscape and football stadium pieces, we were excited to invite him in over the summer to recreate CHS in his distinctive style. As well as prints for your wall, selected designs will also feature on a set of coasters - an ideal gift.



Christmas Cards

We have a limited number of Christmas cards available. These are size A6 and can be purchased in packs of 5 or 10.



Silk tie

Designed by Alex Wilcox (Class of 1982), Founder and Creative Director of Lord Willy's (New York) this silk tie will be coming soon to the CHS shop.



Silk scarf

A beautiful 100% silk scarf in black and cream - complete with the iconic CHS crest and keys motif.



For more information about prices and how to purchase these items please email er@chschool.co.uk or call 0161 488 3341.

OLD WACONIAN

noun (ould wa-kau-ni-an)

The term 'Old Waconian' stems from the original name given to the School in 1855:

THE WAREHOUSEMEN AND CLERKS' ORPHAN SCHOOLS

Every former student and member of staff becomes an Old Waconian when they leave Cheadle Hulme School.



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