



## BRGS Re-Enact the English Civil War

Year 8 students experienced 17th century living when the Sealed Knot, an English Civil War re-enactment society, visited school.

Studies were brought to life by members from The Earl

of Derby's, The Earl of Manchester's and Sir Gilbert Hoghton's regiments who were on hand to teach aspects of military life.



The day was organised by history teacher, Margaret Stanley, and students were treated to displays of 17th century muskets and other weaponry. They were also put through actual drill routines and were put into a "hedgehog" formation with pikes.

Students were immersed in 17th century living and were encouraged to taste dishes and dress in authentic clothes provided by the Living History group.

Margaret Stanley commented: "The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and thought it was a fantastic experience. They learnt so much more seeing real history in action."

**Reunion Reminder – Saturday 11th October 2008**

**TO BOOK FOR THE SCHOOL REUNION PLEASE SEE PAGES 8-9.**

## Welcome

With a fortnight left before the students' long summer holidays, BRGS continues to be a hive of activity. This term has seen the annual exam season and leavers' events as well as new initiatives linked to our Maths and Computing Specialist Status such as a maths residential trip to Anglesey and a Dragons' Den style competition for our younger students.

Most importantly, this edition brings you final information about the school reunion in October. Many former students and teachers have already been in touch to state that they are hoping to attend. Please do complete the form on page 9 and join us for what promises to be a fantastic day.

With best wishes,

*Emma*

Emma Gauntlett  
Development Director  
01706 234500 (general office)  
01706 234502 (direct)  
ecg@brgs.org.uk

Head of Mathematics, Paul Reeves, stated: "We wanted to take the opportunity to develop the skills of our pupils outside the confines of timed lessons and classrooms. The residential fits perfectly with the aims of the new Key Stage 3 curriculum being introduced in September 2008, where it speaks about applying mathematics in a wide range of contexts – including managing resources, assessing risk, problem-solving and decision-making."

The residential is one of a number of regular activities the mathematics department has launched to mark BRGS being awarded specialist Maths and Computing College status.

## Maths in action on the Menai Straits!

Twelve BRGS teachers heaved a collective sigh of relief as they were rescued from a sinking dinghy in the Menai Straits recently. However, the rescue was not made by the coastguard but by 120 year 8 pupils who had paddled out on twelve self-made rafts!

The rescue was the culmination of a series of problem-solving activities the pupils completed as part of a three day maths-based residential in Anglesey. They had solved problems, both indoors and outdoors, and had earned points that they used in an auction to buy the raw equipment to build their rafts. Working as teams they designed, built and launched their rafts to make the rescues.

The residential was planned to allow the pupils to develop their wider mathematical abilities in a range of contexts outside the classroom. There were also puzzles that required the application of logic, obstacles to overcome by thoughtful strategies and problems that pupils had to solve using quick thinking.



# Mathematical success!

*A group of mathematicians from Year 7 became Lancashire's Maths Challenge winners after beating off tough opposition from Lancaster Royal Grammar School and Carr Hill High School and Sixth Form Centre whose teams came second and third respectively.*

Sponsored by Lancashire County Council's Economic Development Department, Lancashire County Developments Limited (LCDL), the final was the culmination of nine district heats and was held at the Woodlands Conference Centre, Chorley.

Dr Neil Bradshaw, maths teacher at BRGS said: "The pupils are ecstatic to have won this. This was a fantastic night for them and certainly rewards all the hard work that they have put into it. They have consistently displayed excellent problem solving and group work skills in lessons and thoroughly deserve their win. BRGS is very proud of their achievement."

County Councillor Niki Penney, Chairman of LCDL, presented the winning team with a trophy, £500 for the mathematics department and certificates and £15 vouchers for each member of the winning team. Congratulations to the BRGS team which consisted of: Anna Ainsworth, Eilidh Brailey, Asanish Kalyanasundaram and Luke Quigley.

## Characters from 'Richard III' brought to life



As part of their English lessons, pupils in Year 9 study Shakespeare's history play, 'Richard III'. To conclude their work on this play, form 9R produced a modern day role play in which some of the characters were brought back to life to appear on Jeremy Kyle's chat show to discuss their problems.

The class excelled themselves by preparing comical scripts with creative dialogue exchanges and well-rehearsed action scenes, along with elaborate costumes and props for the performance. Overall, the class thoroughly enjoyed the experience which showcased their potential, dedication and understanding of the play.

# Dare you face the Dragons' Den?

*Entrepreneurial students from Years 7-9 with a flair for creative and exciting ideas were asked to present their business propositions to a team of challenging 'dragons' in the guise of Russell Jackson, Head of Business Studies and Economics, Kevin Grehan, Head of Year 9, Darren Vass, Head of ICT, Pamela Sawle, Maths Teacher, Jessica Dougherty, Head of English and Emma Gauntlett, Development Director.*

The competition was arranged by Gill Spokes, Assistant Head, to launch the new Maths and Computing Specialist Status to Key Stage 3 students with the aim of encouraging students to focus on developing their enterprise skills and appreciating the practicalities of running a real-life business.

Presentations by the students took place over a number of lunchtimes and Russell Jackson said: "The standard of the presentations was exceptional with students preparing thoroughly, showing strong team-work skills and demonstrating sound business acumen."

Workshops were arranged to help students to develop, amongst other things, their accounting and web-design skills in support of the school's specialism. Head of ICT, Darren Vass, has been lending support through a series of web development workshops for the Dragons' Den winners. Darren said: "I wanted to organise a series of workshops to ensure that the businesses were equipped with professional websites which allow full interactivity including dynamic web features such as online ordering and message/forum posting. I am enjoying working with such budding entrepreneurs and wish them every success."

Following intensive workshops, students were presented with small capital sums to build up their businesses with all profits going to their chosen charities and form or year group activities.

## THE SUCCESSFUL TEAMS WERE:

**Rachel Service, Eilidh Brailey, Heather Cudworth and Bronagh Wyatt-Thorburn from 7G**

proposed a website for students to buy recycled stationery products e.g. pencils made from plastic cups and pencil cases made from rubber tyres.

**Matthew Hoyle, Paul Burdekin and Milton Ashworth from 7N**

The Digital Tutor team hope to establish a website to sell revision guides and downloadable practice test papers.

**Jordan Houlker, Andrew Gilligan, Richard Bailey, Asanish Kalyanasundaram and Hamza Shakeel from 7G**

Suggested a lunchtime tutor club with support provided by the team in various subjects at a cost of 50p for 30 minutes of student tutoring.

**Esther Clare, Danni Rivett and Sacha Magee from 7B**

Their business idea was to create an online site called [Whatsyaproblem.com](http://Whatsyaproblem.com) providing advice.

**Abigail Ford and Emily Quick from 7S**

They aim to sell IT headphones which have been decorated and personalised to Year 7 students.

**Rebecca Dawson, Rebecca Allcock, Eve White, Micah Young and Simon Furminger from 8N**

This team hopes to sell second hand school uniform to reduce family expenditure on uniforms.

**Matilda Eckersley, Pavithra Natarajan and Vanessa Damien from 7G**

This team named Tutti Frutti has already successfully run a soft drinks stall in the hall over lunchtimes.

**Jacob Cappelli from 8G** bravely faced the Dragons by himself with his proposition to set up a student magazine to focus on what is going on in and out of school and will include plenty of book, game and film reviews.

**Myra Faza, Cora Freeman, Sophie Halliday, Evie McDermott and Saairah Khan from 8R**

Myra explained that their "team is called McSes" to rhyme with success and also to incorporate all the initials of our first names." The team want to improve student well-being and health by producing their own home-made nutritious smoothies. McSes are grateful to 'Steve's Fruit and Veg Shop' in Waterfoot for supplying the fresh fruit and they have already had a successful start to their trading. The team could not cope with demand over morning break so they will be selling their smoothies over the longer lunchtime. Myra said: "We were a little nervous when we faced the Dragons but we enjoyed the experience. We work well as a team and we are looking forward to continuing to expand our business."

Teams will need to face the dragons backing their businesses every half-term to report on their progress. We wish them well!



Darren Vass, Head of ICT, with the smoothie-making team, McSes



# Cowboys win Sports Day

It was Staff Sports Day with a difference this year with teams of staff dressed as cowboys, pirates and fairies. Organised by Year 10 students in order to raise money for charity and as part of their GCSE Citizenship course, staff took part in the traditional three-legged race, sack race, egg and spoon and the wheelbarrow race. The challenge in the relay race was to use buckets of water instead of batons with the winners losing the least water. In the end the team of cowboys emerged victorious!



# BRGS Staff Abseil down Peel Tower

A quintet of intrepid BRGS staff abseiled 124 feet down the outside of Holcombe Tower (Peel Tower) at the end of June to raise funds for the Longsleddale Outdoor Pursuits Centre in the Lake District.

The school has a long-standing relationship with the Centre in Longsleddale having taken groups of pupils there since 1982. The Centre gives students a chance to take part in adventurous activities at low costs and depends entirely on voluntary contributions to keep it running.



*Jane Chapman abseiling down Peel Tower*



*Students enjoying the snow at Longsleddale.*

It needs to raise £20,000 to re-roof the main building and to install a new kitchen.

The daredevil members of staff who took part in the abseil were: David Archer, Jane Chapman, Andrew Ellis, Pam Sawle and Derek Eames.

BRGS students have recently returned from a weekend in Longsleddale and Years 8, 11 and 12 also spent a weekend in March when they took walks on snow capped fells and in the evenings they played team games.

# Leavers' Days

Year 11 finished school in May with their annual shirt signing session and Year 13 were resplendent in diverse fancy dress costumes. We wish both year groups good luck for the future and would like to encourage all former students to keep in touch.



*Shirt-signing for  
Year 11*



*Fancy dress  
for Year 13*







*Year 13 Leavers' Ball*



# Reunion Reminder

*As many of you will know, Saturday 11th October 2008 will be a major event in the school's calendar as we welcome back former students of all ages to BRGS for our whole school reunion. The reunion takes place only once every 5 years so please do not miss out and do encourage your friends to join us.*

Judging from the response to date we are hoping for a large turnout, with nearly 1,000 alumni travelling from across the world to our last reunion in 2003. A number of current and former members of staff will also be making special journeys to catch up with their former students' news. Not only will you be able to see some of the more recent physical changes to BRGS including a new Sports Hall and a vibrant sixth form centre, you will also be able to relive memories in some of the more traditional areas of the school around the main hall which has barely changed since 1913!

If you would like a quick reminder of your classmates so that you can encourage them to come along to the reunion then please do refer to the school website at [www.brgs.org.uk/alumni/class\\_lists.asp](http://www.brgs.org.uk/alumni/class_lists.asp). If you are unsure if anyone will be there whom you will recognise then please do still come along – you will be surprised whom you might meet up with again and you are guaranteed a warm welcome from current staff and students who will be around to greet you. Do also feel free to bring a guest with you.

So if you have never set foot in school since leaving 30, 20 or even just a couple of years ago, the reunion presents the perfect opportunity to change that!

If you have not already been in touch to advise us that you are hoping to come to the reunion, please do get in touch by completing an on-line form which can be accessed if you go to [http://www.brgs.org.uk/alumni/alumni\\_index.asp](http://www.brgs.org.uk/alumni/alumni_index.asp) and then click on the link to the reunion page. Alternatively, you can complete the same form on the page opposite. It is not essential for you to complete this form to be able to attend but it helps us a great deal in predicting the number of attendees and arranging logistics for the weekend.

## **Special notice to all former BRGS orienteers or Duke of Edinburgh participants...**

Tom Gray would like to arrange a mini-reunion for you on the 11th October with a room set aside at school for you to meet up with each other. There will be photos from previous expeditions and events. Please contact Tom at [tmg@brgs.org.uk](mailto:tmg@brgs.org.uk) if you hope to attend.

The programme for Saturday 11th October is as follows:

- 12 p.m. School opens
- 1.30 p.m. Official welcome by Marc Morris, Headmaster. Former Headmasters Philip L Clark and Martyn R Morris will also be attending. There will be a display of school memorabilia available throughout the day.
- 1.45 – 3.00 p.m. Afternoon teas available: an ideal opportunity to arrange to meet and chat to fellow former classmates over a cup of tea.
- 4.00 – 5.30 p.m. Buffet available. For a place at the buffet, please pre-order by either completing and posting the form opposite or ordering and paying on-line at <http://www.brgs.org.uk/alumni/events/2008reunion/index.asp>
- 6.00 – 7.00 p.m. Evening concert with music from current and former students.
- 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. Canapés and drinks evening reception in the sixth form centre. Perhaps you can only spare a couple of hours in the evening? If so, do join us for an informal time to mingle and relax with friends. For younger former students who are considering extending their partying after 9.00 p.m., this could be a great meeting point before heading out for the evening!

During the day there will be plenty of time to socialise and to catch up with friends.

The traditional thanksgiving service will be hosted by former student Reverend Daniel Burton and will take place at 11.30 a.m. at BRGS on Sunday 13th October. All are welcome.

For further information about the reunion please contact Emma Gauntlett at [ecg@brgs.org.uk](mailto:ecg@brgs.org.uk).

We look forward to welcoming you back to BRGS!



## BRGS Reunion Saturday 11th October 2008

Title .....First Name .....

Surname .....

Maiden Name (where applicable) .....

Year Started at BRGS .....Year Left BRGS .....

Address .....

.....

Telephone Number .....

Email address .....

What have you done post-BRGS? .....  
(optional information)

- I/We hope to attend the BRGS reunion
- I/We wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ ticket/s for the buffet at £10 each. If you are ordering ticket/s for the buffet then please enclose a stamped addressed envelope so we can send your ticket/s to you.

**All requests for tickets for the buffet need to be received by Friday 26th September.**

- Please tick if you have any special dietary requirements
- Please tick if you need disabled access to the school building
- I / We would like further information about hotel and guesthouse accommodation in Rossendale
- I/We would be happy for our name to be mentioned to other former students in my/our year group/s to encourage them to attend the reunion.

To enable us to cater effectively please do let us know if you think you may:

- have afternoon tea (sandwiches, cakes and tea)
- join the drinks and canapés evening reception

*Please return this form to Emma Gauntlett, Development Director, BRGS,  
Glen Road, Waterfoot, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 7BJ. Thank you.*

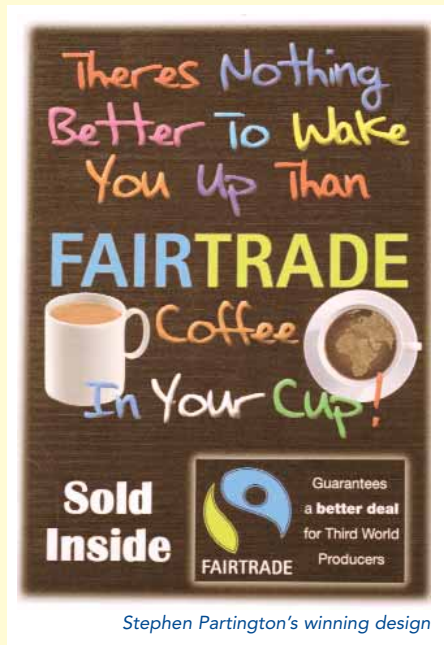
# PrintIT! Poster Wins

Year 10 student Stephen Partington beat a strong field of entries from the 600 schools and 38,000 students who participated in the PrintIT! competition aimed at students studying GCSE Graphic Products and Product Design. Stephen took the title in the 'Best Poster' category with the brief to design a poster to advertise a Fairtrade product.

PrintIT! is a major initiative to encourage young people to embark on careers in the UK printing industry and is a joint venture between the printing industry, Specialist Schools and Academies Trust and leading charity The Fairtrade Foundation.

Between October and December 2007, students had the opportunity to plan a print-based campaign on behalf of Fairtrade and in the process, gain an understanding of the range of careers available in the sector.

The PrintIT! Awards ceremony were held at the end of April 2008 and Stephen Partington and technology teacher, Tom Gray, attended the event at the prestigious Stationers Hall, the home of the Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers. George Alagiah OBE, Patron of the Fairtrade Foundation, presented the awards in eight main categories which included: best understanding of environmental concerns; best use of materials; best understanding of printing techniques; and best use of brand across the range.



*Stephen Partington's winning design*



As well as winning the accolade of having designed the Best Poster, Stephen was also awarded a top of the range digital camera for himself and printing equipment for the school. Stephen's certificate endorsed his achievement and it states that he could show it to any prospective employer in the Printing or Graphic Arts Sector to show his suitability for employment in the sector.

The high profile award ceremony even merited a congratulatory letter from the Prime Minister who wrote: "It was a great achievement to get so many young people involved in an initiative like this. It is an excellent example of how work-related learning can help prepare young people for their future working lives and on their journey to a successful adulthood."

Our congratulations go to Stephen on his fantastic achievement.



## Alumni Finance and Legal Networking Group

Over 30 former students attended our first networking event tailored to a specific business sector on Thursday 12th June. The event was kindly hosted by Alan Torevell at the offices of Dewhurst Torevell in central Manchester. There was a broad age range of guests which included recent leavers studying law or accountancy at university and alumni with established and distinguished careers. Also selected to attend were five Year 12 students who are hoping to pursue careers in law or finance.



## Year 8 student encourages Rossendalians to Shop Locally

Year 8 student Tom Hattan's design was selected from more than 100 entries to be used on reusable shopping bags across Rossendale. The aim of the competition was to find a new logo to front the Rossendale Shop Local campaign which was launched by Conservative parliamentary hopeful Jake Berry and Christine Smith who runs the Rossendale Branch of [www.aboutmyarea.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyarea.co.uk).

Jake said "it was hard to pick just one design, but we thought that Tom's design which incorporates landmarks from Rossendale, was a fun way of getting over the message that we must support local shops and businesses." Each design had to be simple, containing a maximum of three colours and including the words 'Shop Local' as well as incorporating a symbol to represent the borough.

As the competition winner, Tom was awarded an iPod music player and another Year 8 student, Ellis Wootton, won the runner-up prize.

A thousand cotton bags will be made featuring Tom's design which will be sold for £1 each on a not-for-profit basis through Valley stores.



Tom Hattan's shopping bag design

## High priority to internet safety

Craig Scott, ICT and Network Support Technician, and Steven Haycocks, Assistant Head, co-hosted an evening for parents to learn the basics about how to protect their children from the dangers of the internet.

According to Ofcom, 49 percent of all 8-17 year olds now have an online profile and 59 per cent use social networking sites such as Facebook and Myspace to make friends.

The evening session focused on how parents can encourage students to limit the amount of personal information they divulge on the internet and also how they can limit the sites which children access.

Steven Haycocks said: "In a world where technology changes so quickly, it is hardly surprising that very often children know more about computers and the internet than their parents. With such large numbers of students making daily use of social networking sites we felt that parents would appreciate a greater level of understanding about the sorts of activities that children can get involved in and the dangers they are exposed to when using the internet."

## Public Consultation for Performing Arts Centre Plans

Having explored all available land on the BRGS site, the Education Department at Lancashire County Council are proposing plans to meet BRGS curriculum need through three schemes:

- Building a theatre by the school's Clark Building which will replace the temporary classrooms currently sited on this footprint. This will provide students with a suitable performance space for school productions and music concerts.
- A building incorporating six classrooms at the top of Mount Avenue next to the Sports Hall. This will provide general teaching rooms and will replace all remaining temporary buildings on the site.
- With the proposed relocation of Waterfoot Primary School to land set aside by the authority for educational use at the top of the BRGS site opposite the top field, it is proposed that the vacated primary school building is used by BRGS for the provision of music and art teaching.
- These schemes are to meet existing student numbers which have been capped by the governing body.

Lancashire County Council will present the plans for the new building to accommodate the amalgamated Waterfoot and Cloughfold Primary Schools as well as the plans for BRGS to the general public in July.



# Duke of Edinburgh Achievements

During April and May we were pleased to award the following students with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards: Lewis Brady, Li Sou, Simone Kelly, Vicky Snaith, Lyndsay Thornton, Emma Owens, Samantha Swain, Sarah Young, Lauren Cook, Claire Smallwood. Elliot Doyle-Nicholls and Madeleine Royle.

Our congratulations also go to Silver award holders: Sam McGrail, Jessica Regan, Jennifer Pilling and Daniel Cain.



*Sam McGrail, Jessica Regan, Jennifer Pilling and Daniel Cain receiving their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award certificates from Marc Morris*

## Transforming Trickett's

David Archer, Head of Science, and also a member of the community group Waterfoot Forward, has submitted an application for a Community Design grant to produce proposals to transform Trickett's Memorial Park in Waterfoot into what he describes as "a beautiful green space for the whole community of Waterfoot to enjoy." BRGS students and Waterfoot residents have given up their time over recent weekends to spruce up the park and the local community is hoping that the park will receive a grant and a much-needed makeover.

## Chess Progress

On the May Day weekend four BRGS chess players went to Blackpool to play in the North-West Megafinal of the British Land Chess Competition.

Two of the students, Matthew Hoyle and Jacob Capelli were novices and we were delighted when Jacob won two of his six games and Matthew won three. If he had won just one more game he would have progressed to the Gigafinal.



However, Tim Goddard and Ben Atueyi both succeeded in reaching the Gigafinal, the Northern National Final, which will take place at Manchester University in July. Tim gained his place with five wins out of six, whereas Ben won all six games and was the championship winner for his age group. We wish them luck for the competition.

*Ben Atueyi celebrating his achievement*

*Lancashire U19 football champions*

## Lancashire U19 Football Champions

*BRGS retained the Lancashire Schools' Under 19 Shield for the second time in three years and the third time in five years.*

The team beat Hutton 1-0 in a tightly fought match with the winning goal struck from a corner in the final minute of extra time by Oliver Coldman. BRGS played well but were continually battling against a well-organised defence.

Coaches Alastair Whyte (Head of Religious Studies) and Brendan Baird (PE teacher) were both "delighted and relieved" after the tense match. Brendan said: "For the first time this season we did not have a dodgy 15 minutes of poor concentration. The back were in command throughout and Andrew McDowell's energy was outstanding in midfield."

The team consisted of: Jack McGregor, Jonathan Marcroft, Chris Hannam, Josh Maxwell, Joe Sutcliffe, Tom Walsh, Jonathan Greenwood, Elliot Connolly (Captain), Andrew McDowell, Ollie Purslow, Ollie Coldman. Substitutes were: Joe Sipocz, Lewis Moriarty, Drew Moreland, Phil Archer, Christian Slinger and John Kelly.

## Lancashire U13 Basketball Champions

**On the 17th June, BRGS played Southlands in the county basketball final. This was to be the fourth meeting between the two schools in a Lancashire Final and the team from Chorley had won the previous three. History was against us.**

With 12 of his 22 points in the first quarter, Conor Porter helped the team make a good start and take a slender 3 point lead at the first break. Danny Mousley also scored freely with assists from Ben Geraghty and the energetic Josh Donohoe, but it was the defensive skills of Tom Jackson, limiting their tallest player to just three baskets, that kept BRGS in front.

In the second quarter the excellent rebounding from Mollie Campbell and Ben Chicken gained the possession of the ball which allowed for some excellent passing out of defence from Tom Hattan and David Burns. On the end of these passes was Josh Nurney who scored lots of fast break points but unfortunately as the quarter went on, the passing deteriorated giving Southlands some interceptions and easy baskets. By half-time it was 26-20 in favour of BRGS.

In the third quarter with an increased defensive effort, an improvement in the accuracy of the passing and the introduction of Sam Grcar and Ben Atuyi, BRGS outscored Southlands to lead by 45 points to 30.

A 15 point lead as they went into the fourth quarter was surely going to be enough of a cushion? Southlands upped their game but left themselves open and BRGS developed an unassailable lead taking them to a final score of 57 – 40.

Our congratulations go to the team on their excellent performance which makes them worthy winners of the title Lancashire Champions. Congratulations also to Conor Porter on being awarded MVP (Most Valuable Player.)

# Obituary

*We were sorry to learn of the following:*

Former student, the Venerable Archdeacon Dr Dennis Popple died in Vancouver on the 28th April aged 77. After BRGS, Dr Popple joined the Merchant Navy and progressed from officer cadet to a master mariner in 1958. In the following year he began training for the Anglican ministry and was appointed by the Missions to Seaman to be

the chaplain at the Port of New Westminster, British Columbia. From 1970 to 1986 he was appointed to several parishes in British Columbia and the next 10 years was spent as diocesan administrative archdeacon serving with the archbishop and bishop of Vancouver. He retired in 1996 but continued to work for the diocese as a priest in charge of six parishes.

He leaves his wife Anne, née Isherwood, daughter Helen and relatives in British Columbia and England.

## Who? What? Where?

Our thanks go to Roy Hodgson (1947-1951), Peter and Joan Chattle née Trickett, Liz Matthews née Pickup (1948-1956), Barbara Gibson née Dennis (1950-1955) and Audrey O'Brien née Norman (1950-1955) who identified the following former students starring in a school operetta from left to right: Hazel Ager, Audrey Heyworth, Anne Howarth née Singleton, Anne Prior, Mavis Green and Freda Norman.



Audrey O'Brien kindly provided us with a copy of the photo which features all of the girls in the operetta. This features from left to right: Anne Isherwood, Betty Greenhalgh, Anne Prior, Mavis Green, Audrey Hepworth, Hazel Ager, Jean Robinson, Della Dillon, Adrienne Crowther, Anne Howarth, Dorothy Harrison and Freda Norman.

Opposite is another photo for which we would welcome some help in identifying former students:



## Dates for your diary

### 8th September

Joanne Harris, best-selling novelist of many well-known novels for adults including *Chocolat*, will visit BRGS to talk about her latest novel *Runemarks*, her first young adult novel. There will be a Q and A session followed by a book signing. For a free ticket and further details, please contact Emma Gauntlett at BRGS on 01706 234500.

### 27th September

Entrance exam

### 11th -12th October

School Reunion

### 17th & 24th October

Grandparents' Days for Year 7 students

### 6th November

Year 11 Speech Night

### 26th – 29th Nov

School Production

### 17th December

Christmas concert – all are welcome

### 18th December

Year 13 Speech Night

## Message Board

- In the last edition we reported on 20 year old former student, Harry Manley's ambition to reach Tallinn in Estonia with the princely sum of £20 to spend on his travels. Harry studies town and regional planning at Sheffield University and raised more than £200 for Sheffield Volunteering, SOS Children's Villages, STOP, People and Planet, and Sue Ryder Care as a result of his achievement.
- Another former student, Andrew Booth, 19 years old, a financial accounting student at Nottingham University, also thumbed a lift for charity by hitchhiking to Morocco to raise funds for Link Community Development (LCD) which aims to provide good quality education for children in Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, South Africa and Uganda. It took Andrew and two adventurous friends twelve days to reach their final destination of Marrakesh before heading back to the UK. Andrew is still collecting his funds for the charity and he aims to raise £300.
- Building on her fame as a supermodel, former student Agyness Deyn, is now turning her talents to singing, collaborating with band Five O'Clock Heroes, to record a single called Who. She also stars in the song's video.
- Our congratulations go to former student, Sir Paul Stephenson QPM, Deputy Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, who was knighted in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.
- Former student, Professor Douglas Mitchell (left in 1968), director of a major regional centre for Motor Neurone Disease (MND) based in Preston, has been involved in cutting edge research into the disease. His research team were recently involved in a major breakthrough in the discovery of a new gene in MND. Over 5,000 people are affected by MND. Dr Brian Dickie, director of research at the MND Association said: "This new information will be a springboard to greater understanding of the processes that cause motor neurones to die. It is through such understanding that we will develop the treatment strategies to defeat this devastating disease."

If you would like to find out more about how you could invest in the future of pupils at BRGS and enable us to continue to provide high quality education, please contact Emma Gauntlett, Development Director, on 01706 234500 or on [ecg@brgs.org.uk](mailto:ecg@brgs.org.uk)

**Thank you in advance for your support.**

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**Bacup & Rawtenstall**  
Grammar School

**Glen Road, Waterfoot, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 7BJ**  
**Telephone: 01706 234500**  
**E-mail: [ecg@brgs.org.uk](mailto:ecg@brgs.org.uk)**  
**Web site: <http://www.brgs.org.uk>**