



## HARROGATE COLLEGE UNION

The Alumni Association of Harrogate Ladies' College  
and Highfield Prep School

# THE CHRONICLE

2023

## FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE HCU



**Sylvia F. Brett**  
BA (Dunelm),  
MA (London),  
**Principal of Harrogate  
Ladies' College**

*"Therefore, through these experiences, I came to realise that listening to others and their stories, using my own voice and joining in with others adds value to the moments in time. It adds meaning.*

*So, what do you hear? What do you say?"*

There is a golden thread that runs through every former pupil of Harrogate (Ladies') College which is rooted in our aims and is lived out by every one of you. Your extraordinary dedication to making the very best of the opportunities available to you; your wonderful loyalty to one another and to the school and your deep compassion based on duty and a good dose of common sense!

### Industria Fide Pietate

The quotation at the start is from one of our outgoing Prefects who spoke at Speech Day 2023 with such passion and an inspirational determination to make sure that everyone is striving to build a better world. She, and her sister, spent the last 2 years away from their home and family in Ukraine sharing with the school in Harrogate what it means to work hard, to trust and to be decent honourable people.

This is an exceptional school community and you, our former pupils are the foundations upon which we build so that this and future generations can go into the world listening and speaking out against injustice. Thank you for your support; it is invaluable.

[HCU@hlc.org.uk](mailto:HCU@hlc.org.uk)  
[www.hlc.org.uk/alumni](http://www.hlc.org.uk/alumni)



## FROM THE CHAIR OF THE HCU

**Alice Gray** (née Howard)

I hope this edition of the HCU Chronicle finds you all well.

Firstly, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Alumni Relations Officer, Sarah Mills and thank Kathryn Fisk for all her hard work. Since handing over the day-to-day running of the HCU to the school, we have all benefitted from an increase of news from College and the Alumni, please keep your news coming in!

I would also like to say a thank you to the Committee. The Alumni Representatives continue to play a role in working with the College and helping with decade or regional events so please do get in touch with them if you would like to arrange something.

I wish you all a safe and happy year ahead and very much hope to see you again very soon.

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Thank you to the following former pupils who have taken the time to be interviewed to raise the profile of our wonderful alumni community and inspire our current pupils. We are delighted to hear what our students' fondest memories of school were, and what they have done since leaving HLC.



## TESSA CLARKE (NÉE COOK)

**Tessa was at HLC from 1987 to 1994 and was in Balliol. She is the Co-Founder and CEO of Olio - Share More, Waste Less. Last year she delivered 'The Surprising Climate Benefits of Sharing Your Stuff' TED Talk for TED Conferences.**

Photo Credit:  
Gilberto Tadday/TED



My overall recollection of HLC is one of incredible happiness, peppered with late night dorm chats, sports days, quiet reflection in the chapel services, the mesmerising choir, a wonderfully eclectic set of teachers, and of course all the learning that got me a great set of GCSE results!

I studied Social & Political Sciences at Cambridge University, and then became a strategy consultant at Boston Consulting Group. After that I had a 15+ year corporate career as Managing Director of various digital businesses in the media, retail and financial services sectors.

The Olio journey started when I was moving, and found myself with some good food that we hadn't managed to eat. And so, the idea of Olio, a mobile app where neighbours and local shops and cafes can share surplus food, came about.

I started to research the problem of food waste more broadly with my co-founder Saasha Celestial. Globally one-third of all the food we produce gets thrown away. Alongside this we have 800 million people go to bed hungry every night.

So far over 7 million people have joined Olio, and together they've given away over 100 million portions of food and 9 million household items. This has had an environmental impact equivalent to taking over 430 million car miles off the road, and has saved 16 billion litres of water.

HLC gave me an incredibly well-rounded experience that encompassed both the academic and interpersonal sides of life. And ultimately you need both of those things to succeed!



## LOTTIE MCGUINNESS



Lottie McGuinness was at Highfield and HLC from 2009 to 2018. She was in Nightingale, and was a Member of the Charity Committee. She is a GB Para Powerlifter, and also works part-time for the NHS at a General Practice.

“

My fondest memories of HLC were the Christmas events and celebrating with your houses. Being able to sing carols at candlelight ended the winter term in such a lovely way. Sporting events were also a fun time, from house swimming to lacrosse and cheering for my friends in their events.

I went on to study Sports Science at Leeds Trinity University. I recently graduated from University and plan to take time out before studying nursing.

In 2019 I was spotted at the National Dwarf Games for Para Powerlifting and from there I was put on the National Talented Pathway Programme, which led me to compete at international competitions in just 10 months. A year later I was put on the World Class Programme, which I am still currently on, where I hold a top eighth ranking in the World for my weight category.

The Junior World Championship medal will always hold a special place for me as it was my second international medal but my first major event medal. I remember being on the platform with my teammate, and I had my phone in a pocket on record so I could always have on record the first time the national anthem was played when I made the podium.

My goals are to compete at next year's Paralympic Games in Paris, and to retain a top eighth title in the world for my category.

HLC made me become the woman I am today; the motto 'I Am Me' really empowers young women to be themselves and not let anything change that. I know especially when performing – if I am my true self, I will perform well.

”



## SARAH JOHNSON

Sarah was at HLC from 1996 to 2003 and was in Lancaster boarding house. She started life in Oman before coming to the UK aged 11. She is a Human Rights and Global Development Reporter at The Guardian.

“

House dramas, sport, music and public speaking activities meant there was always something to get involved in and this was a real plus to the school. The people I met were also a real highlight.

I left school to study French and Spanish at Newcastle University. I then trained to teach English as a foreign language and a teacher helped secure me a position in Vietnam. It was an incredible experience, but I didn't love the teaching role, so I tried freelancing. I started writing for the Vietnam equivalent of Time Out magazine where I quickly rose to Deputy Editor. I also wrote travel guides and did some editing for the English language version of one of the national newspapers. After 2 years in Ho Chi Minh City, I headed back to the UK.

I made the decision to study for an MA in Journalism at City University. On completing my postgraduate degree, I secured some shift work at the Daily Mail where I was working 5pm – 2am from Thursday to Monday every week. I had interviewed for a role at The Guardian,

and was approached to take up a one-month role to cover for someone at the paper. That was 9 years ago!

I focused on writing about healthcare managers, then expanded the role, reporting on the NHS more broadly. I started highlighting the stories of people who were in desperate situations and I began covering social affairs. I secured funding to spend a month in Brazil and wrote articles about people working in public services who were tackling social injustice in the country. My favourite piece was about a scheme that trained beauticians to recognise the signs of domestic violence.

When that role at The Guardian came to an end, another job came up reporting on human rights and global development.

As part of my role during the pandemic, I shared the stories and anecdotes of healthcare workers to raise awareness of the conditions they were working in, as well as some of the positive moments. I then got a book deal, so things have gone a bit bonkers!”

”



## 2023 RECENT LEAVERS CELEBRATION

On Friday 6th January 2023, HLC hosted our first Recent Leavers Celebration for those that had left Upper 6 in either 2020, 2021 or 2022 and their parents - and over 50 people attended.

The special drinks reception enabled guests to dress up in cocktail attire and see fellow former pupils and teachers. It was also an opportunity for us to present prizes to those who left College in 2020 when we were unable to hold our normal Speech Day in person due to the pandemic.

## THE OPENING OF SWINTON THEATRE

HLC officially opened its performing arts centre on 13th June 2023 after a major refurbishment project. Staff, pupils, parents and alumni were joined by the Earl and Countess of Swinton for the official opening of the newly named, Swinton Theatre (formerly the Small Hall, and the gymnasium before that).

The name of the newly refurbished performing arts space was chosen by alumni of the school. The name recognises the generosity of the Swinton Estate in providing a temporary home for the school during World War 2 when the school's buildings in Harrogate were requisitioned by the Ministry of Air Production.

The school spent more than 6 years at Swinton Castle between 1939 and 1946 having packed up and moved the entire school, together with 300 pupils, with just 10 days' notice.

Alumni were asked to choose a new name for the theatre after they donated money for the refurbishment project, along with current parents of the school, to which we are incredibly grateful.

As well as full re-decoration, the refurbishment project also included the installation of new sound and lighting technology to enhance the teaching and performances of drama, music and dance that take place in the space.

The school has also recently formed the Harrogate Ladies' College Dance Company to provide additional opportunities for pupils in this field of the performing arts, which takes place in The Swinton Theatre.

**Principal Sylvia Brett said,**

*"The generosity of the Swinton Estate in providing a home for the school during the war is echoed in the generosity of our alumni and current parents in funding the refurbishment of this beautiful space. It was so fitting that the current Earl and Countess of Swinton were able to come to school to officially open the Swinton Theatre named in honour of their predecessors. It's been wonderful to see pupils of all ages enjoying using the space to express themselves through performance".*

## 2024 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Alumni are invited to these events, so please email [HCU@hlc.org.uk](mailto:HCU@hlc.org.uk) should you wish to attend.

**Speech Day:** this has moved earlier in the year, and will take place on Saturday 25th May 2024 at 11am in the College Sports Hall.

**Alumni Reunion:** June 2024 (date TBC). Please pencil in the Festival of Choirs, which will be an event for all year groups, to be held at HLC. Details to be finalised.

**HLC Friends Bonfire Night:** November 2024 (date TBC) early evening.

**College Carol Service:** Friday 13th December 2024 in the afternoon at St Wilfred's Church.

## NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI

We asked our alumni community to give us their updates and received these fabulous and diverse responses, collated in order of when they left HLC:

### SALLY ANDERSON (NÉE SALLY YOUNG) (1948-1949, York)



I took over Parndon Mill in Harlow, Essex in 1968 when it was derelict. The property included a flour mill, outbuildings, a 6-bedroom Georgian house and 3.5 acres of land. The Harlow Development

Corporation which then owned it wanted it to accommodate the Arts. At that time, I was earning my living making ceramics in my Corporation house and needed a studio. So, I said YES and moved in with my husband. We were soon joined by many artists and it became a thriving arts centre providing 30 studios. I continued with my ceramics and also ran a tile business with a colleague making tiles for all purposes including swimming pools. I won 3 design awards and have tiles in the V&A museum. We ended Sally Anderson Ceramics Ltd in 2004. What had been our showroom in the mill became a Gallery, running exhibitions of fine art and crafts. I have been running The Gallery for nearly 20 years but retired in September at 90 years old!

### GILL HARMAN (NÉE THORNTON) (1949-1953, Balliol)

We live in New Zealand and our grandson recently married a fellow doctor from Hampsthwaite, a village near Harrogate, while working in Australia. We were going to the wedding but a few weeks before we decided that the journey to England from New Zealand was too much for us, so we cancelled our flight over. I had put a message in last year's journal saying we were coming, so I am apologising for that. However, the wedding was wonderful and weather fantastic. We have received wonderful photos and it looked amazing. Our great grandson accompanied his parents there and was at his parent's wedding.

### SONIA IRWIN (NÉE WOLFSON) (1948-1957, Lincoln)

Just to say I am still working as a merchandiser for different companies at 82! Retirement is not a word in my dictionary!

### JAKI MOORHOUSE (NÉE WHITEHEAD) (1954-1964, Oakdale & Lancaster)

I continue to enjoy the friendship of many of my contemporaries who I try to see when I am in the UK. I was delighted and surprised to find Simone Charles (Oakdale & Armaclare) at the 'street party' held in my garden here in France on the weekend of the Coronation. We had not seen each other for over 60 years! I am continuing with the English language immersion courses that I started doing last year; they remain enjoyable and challenging, but leave me plenty of time to enjoy visitors and my dogs and garden during the summer.

### VIVIEN WHITTAKER (NÉE HEALEY) (1957-1963, Lincoln West)

This summer I have enjoyed catching up with Joyce Faulkner (Lincoln West). We meet regularly for lunch. I have also spent a few days in London with Joan Berry (Mrs Williamson) who gave me a wonderful time including seeing the King and Queen's Coronation Robes at Buckingham Palace, as well as visiting Kensington Palace and enjoying afternoon tea at Fortnum and Mason. My sister Angela Healey (Mrs Shackleton) and I have enjoyed a few days' holiday in the Cotswolds, and we regularly meet up with my other sister, Rachel Healey (Mrs Harrison) and her husband. We are so fortunate that the 3 of us live near each other.



### RACHEL HARRISON (NÉE HEALEY) (1959-1965, Clarence & Lincoln West)

Rachel was married last November to Robin Harrison, after 20 years of widowhood. It was a small intimate mainly family wedding and attended by several Harrogate College old girls, in St Oswald's Church, Lower Peover, Knutsford. These included Rachel's 2 sisters Angela Shackleton, Vivien Whittaker, her 2 nieces Louise Langan (Shackleton), Sarah Brown (Shackleton), Pauline Thompson (Spencer), Penny Mather (Bamford), Jenny Miller (Martin), Anne Shaw (Martin) and Penny Byrne (Angior). Rachel and Robin live in a simply delightful thatched roof cottage in Lower Peover and welcome meeting any Harrogate Ladies' College old girls in the area.

Photo: Rachel and Robin with her 2 sisters Vivien Whittaker (née Healey) and Angela Shackleton (née Healey), also HLC alumni.

**EILEEN MCKEAG (NÉE MCINTOSH)**  
(1959-1964, Armaclare & Clarence)

My husband and I are moving to England after 50 happy years in Belfast. We are both in good health but we think the time has come when we should be closer to the younger generation. We are in the process of moving to Billingshurst, West Sussex, where we shall be within walking distance of our youngest son and his family.

**CAROL HUDSON (NÉE SIMPSON)**  
(1961-1965, Lancaster)



In 2023 I appeared in 2 plays at Putney Theatre, "Kindertransport" by Diane Samuels and "The Welkin" by Lucy Kirkwood (photographed). I also exhibited my paintings in an Open Garden Event.

**DEBORAH CRAIG**  
(1959-1968,  
Oakdale & Armaclare)

I am going to award myself a 3rd Class diploma in Hotel Management for having juggled a houseful of our 3 grandsons (aged 9, 8 and 4) plus their parents for the whole of August! We are lucky to have a house in the Italian lakes with plenty of room where they could run around.

This morning I heard The Dance of the Hours on the radio. It always takes me

back to an evening in December 1962, my first term at College after 3 years at Oakdale, when we all filed into the gym for an end-of-term entertainment. The star act was a performance by the UVJ, prefects included, of a song which went something like:

"Hello Mater, Hello Pater, Here I am in Harrogater, Life is very entertaining, And we might get some lax if it stops raining"....etc!

**CHRISTINE HANSON  
(NÉE BISSET)**  
(Left in 1971, Balliol)

I have now lived in West Sussex for over 30 years. Earlier this year I spent a fantastic 3 weeks touring New Zealand.

**DIANA BROWN  
(NÉE KENYON)**  
(1967-1974, Oakdale & Armaclare)

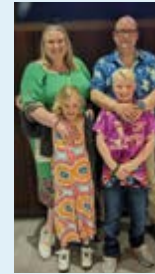
Plans are going well for my daughters' weddings. One is this year and the other next year, so it's all a bit busy. I see Helen Cottier (Constantine), Helen Wilkinson (Blackburn) and Rachel Harrap.

**SARAH SHERINGTON  
(NÉE ARBUCKLE)**  
(1971-1975, Lancaster)



Kate McConnell (née Brearley)(Clarence) and I went with our spouses on an Alaskan land and cruise tour. We were blessed with amazing weather and had a fabulous time.

**TANYA WHITTALL (NÉE DE WEYMARN)** (1988-1995, Balliol)



I continue as a consultant in emergency medicine, paediatric emergency medicine and frailty! I've also now taken on clinical lead for end of life care for Gloucestershire and continue to work for the judiciary hearing cases about certain benefits. It's lovely to have my Mum and Dad living on my road, which the children (Boris, 10 & Sacha 8) love but Ciaran and I love even more (dog and babysitting on tap!). It's been lovely to welcome a new brother (and his family) to the clan and all the brothers, sisters-in-laws and nephews (not a single niece! Sacha is the only girl!) remain well if very busy. Currently taking a much-needed break from the NHS with a once-in-a-lifetime trip to South Africa.

**NINA PATWIN (NÉE ARTHACHINDA)** (1996-2000, York)

I fondly recall my formative years at HLC, where I was empowered to pursue diverse academic interests and excel in sports like lacrosse. Though I left HLC before graduating due to external circumstances, the skills and experiences from HLC equipped me for future success. Now a Director and Head of Global Key Account Management at a major logistics company, I credit HLC for teaching me to communicate across cultures and push through ceilings—lessons that drive my accomplishments today. My story is one of an empowered, adaptable global citizen who carries HLC's spirit wherever I go.

**LAURA WINWOOD** (2000-2006, Lincoln West)



I own my own consultancy and work with businesses and non-profits for UK and international clients covering public affairs, political analysis, communications, fundraising and business development. I recently supported the Oxford Union Society as it celebrated its Bicentenary year, arranging a celebratory dinner for +250 alumni including a former British Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, several sitting cabinet ministers and MPs, and a former Australian Prime Minister. Being self-employed gives me the flexibility to take on work that aligns with my interests but also balances the demands of a young family. We currently live in the UK but as I grew up with the military, I find it hard to not want to move to a new place every year or so... let's see what 2024 brings.

**ELLE ARMITAGE (NÉE KAY-COLES)** (2011-2015, Pankhurst)

I was in the final of Yorkshire's Greatest Talent this June and I was one of the 4 winners out of 12 finalists! The prize was to write and record a song at Steelworks Studios in Sheffield. This song was then debuted when I sang it at 2 of the Wildlife Concerts at Yorkshire Wildlife Park this summer in front of 8,000 people (one being the Olly Murs concert). I've now taken the leap into being a full-time musician. I also recently got married to Ben this July in Great Ouseburn.



**NIKKI MIAO**

(2013-2016,  
Clarence and Tower)

After graduating from HLC, I studied Physics and Philosophy at Oxford and graduated with MPhysPhil in 2021. I then worked as an investment banker at Bank of America in London. I am currently working as an Investment Professional at a Private Equity firm in London.

**CONSTANCE TOWLER**

(2015-2017,  
Clarence and Tower)

After HLC I went to Nottingham Trent University to study Business Management and Accounting and Finance. It is also where I met my now husband (in a queue to a nightclub during Freshers!). I was fortunate to secure an entry level Accounts role at Pendragon in Nottingham. I worked my way up there and I am now an Accounts Payable Supervisor and I manage a team of 10 members. I have also taken a great interest in participating in charity fundraisers. This year we hiked a half marathon around the Peak District and raised over £1,000 for Cancer Research UK.

**GRADUATIONS**

**We congratulate all our alumni who graduated from University this summer. We wish them all the best for the next stage of their journey:-**

**ALISON CHAN**

I graduated from the University of Leeds with a Bachelor of Arts with Honours 2:1 in Fine Art. I am now studying Digital Humanities MA at King's College London for the year of 2023/2024, which is a one-year full time course programme.

**RUXANDRA DEACONU**

I graduated with a 2.1 (Second Class Honours, Upper Division) in my Bachelor degree of Politics and International Relations at University College London. This

October, I started a Masters programme in European Studies at UCL. To develop my knowledge about the diplomatic field, I have completed an internship at the Romanian Embassy in London. I have also worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Romania.

**HARRIET RAE**

I graduated from The University of Manchester with a First Class Honours in BSc Fashion Marketing. I have now started working for John

Lewis & Partners at their HQ in Victoria, London as a Menswear Buyer.

**LEE BRAITHWAITE**

I graduated from LAMDA in July '23 with a BA {Hons} in Professional Acting. In my final term I was offered a role in an A-list feature film directed by award winning Irish director John Crowley. This Autumn, I made my professional stage debut performing at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon. In January I will be performing at the Royal Court Theatre in London.

**KAMILAH USMAN**

I graduated from the University of Portsmouth with a Second Class Upper Division degree classification in Bsc (Hons) Psychology. I have also started up a fashion and design brand called "Fatumée" with the use of fabrics known in Nigeria as Dongasho and Adire which are forms of tie-dye. I also recently co-founded a blog on substack called "Things.Evolve" to talk about interior design, culture and wellness.

**ELLIE GOULD**

I graduated from the University of Kent in July with an Upper 2:1 in Biomedical Science with a Year in Computing. I have now started my 12-month internship with Procter & Gamble as a Product Supply Intern within the Order Management team at their Newcastle office. I am still an avid singer, as I was Head of Chapel Choir at HLC, so have joined Newcastle Choral Society to keep me busy!

**KRISTÍNA GROLMUSOVÁ**

I graduated from The University of Manchester with a First Class Degree in MPhys (Hons) Physics. At the moment I am doing a Masters in research (MRes) in the Statistics and Operation Research at Lancaster University, which will be followed by 3 years of a PhD.

**SARAH PLANCHAK**

I graduated from the University of Sheffield with First Class Honours in an Integrated Masters program in Bioengineering (MEng). Following that, I moved to the US to begin my PhD at Brown University. I joined the Tripathi lab there and have been working on a device for optimising the workflow for getting single cells from a tissue biopsy, e.g. for cancer research. I am still interested in working on tissue engineering and organ regeneration in the future.

**ANNABELLE ROBINSON**

I have recently completed my Masters in Criminology (MA) at UCLan and received a Distinction.

HLC has always been delighted to welcome family members across multiple generations, and in some cases, the number of pupils from one family has been substantial. We have highlighted one of these below, and were delighted to receive an update from Alison Moore (née Barber) to find out what happened to her and her family after leaving HLC, or Swinton Estate if they attended during the war years:-



## THE BARBER FAMILY

Main Photo: Joyce, Rosemary, Gillian, Alison, Val, and then Carol on the right.

Madge Elsie Grant was born in 1897 and attended HLC (then Harrogate College) around 1912. Madge lived in Cleethorpes, which is near Grimsby Docks where the fishing trawlers were under attack during the First World War. Madge's father, William Grant, later received an OBE for his wartime service there, as a Lieutenant Commander in the RNVR (Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve).



Joyce (middle, back row) 1938 and some of her contemporaries who would have gone to Swinton with her.

Schools like HLC bring people together from different places and help form special relationships that wouldn't otherwise happen. Madge Grant is a good example, as she met her future husband as a direct result of her time at Harrogate. One of her school friends, Margaret Victoria Barber, lived in Holmbridge, Yorkshire and when she went to stay with her she met her brother, Harold Barber.

After they were married, they went on to have 7 children - 6 girls and a boy - in order: Joyce, twins Gillian and Valerie, Lindsay, Rosemary, Alison and Carol. Five of the sisters went to HLC or Swinton, and the remaining sister attended Oakdale.

Margaret Joyce Barber (who went by the name of Joyce) was the eldest of the sisters. She was located at HLC and then moved to Swinton Estate during the Second World War.



Joyce left school in 1943 and went on to do a secretarial course. As soon as she completed her exams she enlisted in the WRNS. She wrote

diaries about her life in the WRNS, and stated that during her initial training at HMS Collingwood, near Fareham "she only survived the gruelling first few weeks due to her time away at school". Joyce was stationed at Haslemere in Surrey and then at Naval HQ in Portsmouth, working mainly as a teleprinter operator. She will have been the first person at Naval HQ to receive the news of the official surrender of the German High Command and the end of the war in Europe, as she transcribed the official message sent out by General Eisenhower.

Joyce was then posted to Australia with the WRNS, before returning to Holmbridge where she married her husband, John Lawton Sandford (known as Jack). They had 3 children, the eldest of whom was Julie, who became the first of a third generation of pupils at Harrogate from this line of families when she started at Harrogate College in the 1960s. Suzanne, Sophie and Rebecca (day pupils) subsequently also attended HLC.

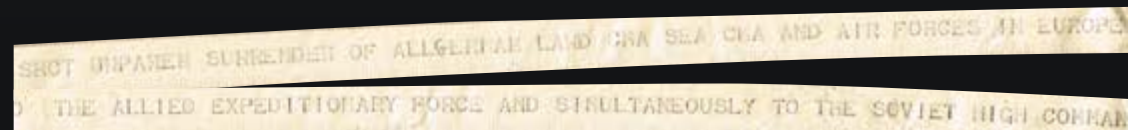
Image: Joyce in WRNS

The other 2 sisters who were relocated to Swinton Estate during the war were twins, Gillian and Valerie Barber, who were 18 months younger than Joyce. When they left Swinton Castle towards the end of the war, they went to Agriculture College and got diplomas in Dairy Management. They ran Hill Farm in Holmfirth and had the first pedigree Red Poll herd in the area. They moved to Kirkby Overblow and helped their brother Lindsay with his farm, finally running a shop in Reighton Gap. They were very good riders and hunted well into their 70s and always had a horse or pony for their nieces and nephews to ride.

The fourth sister, Rosemary, started at Oakdale (late 1940s for a couple of years) but due to health issues was then educated near her home at the Grammar school.

Alison and the youngest sister, Carol Barber, went to HLC and were both in Lancaster House (Alison was at HLC 1950 - 1955). Their parents were keen for them to work in a profession, and after school Alison attended Ilkley College of House Craft and then went into teaching (Home Economics) at Garforth near Leeds. She got married in 1960 and moved around a lot with her husband, but always worked as a teacher.

After school Carol attended Leeds General Infirmary and became a physiotherapist. She is a keen gardener, as they all enjoyed a love of gardening from their mother. She currently resides in Somerset. Out of the 7 siblings, they are all now deceased except Alison and Carol.





# TALES FROM THE ARCHIVES

## Harrogate Ladies' College: Early Alumni, by historian, Dr. Paul Jennings

In this piece, I look at the lives after school of 2 of the girls in particular who attended the College in its early years. In an address to the assembled girls in 1906 Miss Jones, the headmistress, outlined the school's ethos and what it was trying to achieve for them.

She believed passionately in their right to an education just like their brothers, and for some it would form the path to a career, but she made it clear also that although for most it would make them better people it would make them more particularly better wives and mothers. As she put it, 'The homes of England will be all the happier when presided over by a greater number of thoughtful, intelligent and liberally educated women'. Of my 2 examples, one did indeed become just such a woman and one also did pursue a distinguished career.

Faith Bagenal was the daughter of a senior civil servant in Dublin, and was born in that city in 1889. She was at the College from 1904 to 1908. Her father's work had brought him to Harrogate as an Inspector for the Local Government

Board and the family lived in the town on Kent Road and later Clarence Drive, the latter house, number 17, now owned by the College. From school she went on to Newnham College, Cambridge to study Economics. Several women went to Newnham and the school and college may have formed some connection over these years.



The first photograph shows Faith in her matriculation year, fourth from the right. She wrote a piece for the College Magazine from that first 'Freshers' year, telling how she was involved in the movement for Women's Suffrage and debating other important issues of the day, like reform of the House of Lords. Indeed, she returned to the school to read a paper on suffrage to the Old Girls' reunion, but the motion in its favour was defeated by a majority of 4. But there was also time for fun at Newnham, for example at what she called an 'orgie' in the big hall, a dance from 8.30pm till 10pm, ending with the 'feature of the evening' - the Lancers. This was an all-women event, as women at the colleges were fairly strictly chaperoned at this time, but it was likely that at Cambridge she met her future husband, Hubert Henderson, who was also an economics student at Emmanuel College, and the pair married in 1915. They were both part of the Bloomsbury Set, which included Virginia Woolf and her sister Vanessa Bell, who painted Faith's portrait.

The second photograph shows her on a picnic from that time with other members of the set: Hubert is to the left, then Faith, then biographer Lytton Strachey, Lady Ottoline Morrell, hostess and patron of the arts, philosopher Bertrand Russell, with whom Morrell had an affair, and mathematician Henry Norton. Hubert, unlike Faith, pursued a distinguished career as an economist, including along with Maynard Keynes as a key advisor to the government on economic planning during the Second World War, for which he was knighted. Apart from publishing a short memoir of Hubert after his death in 1952, Faith did not herself pursue an academic career but was said to be 'inclined to left-wing politics' and, I am pleased to report, led 'a singularly happy family life'. She died in 1979. Their son, Sir Nicholas Henderson, was a diplomat, latterly the British ambassador to the United States.

Taking the path of a career meant almost invariably teaching at this time. Among other girls who went to Cambridge was Ruth Arden, a wine merchant's daughter from Beverley, whose teaching career included Ashville College, Harrogate to 1919, then an all-boys' school, but chiefly at Bedford High School, at which she taught from then to 1941. Vera Edminson, herself the daughter of a headmaster, went into teaching and from that to lecturing, eventually becoming Vice-Principal of Bath Domestic Science College in 1948. She was involved in voluntary work for the blind but also became a published poet, including in Elizabeth Doudge's Anthology in 1964, described as a Book of Comfort. Service to others in some form was the principal career avenue for these women, including for a few in medicine, like Agnes Westwood, born in Cupar, Fife, who studied at the London School of Medicine for Women after Cambridge, moving to hospital work and eventually to general practice in Bromley.

My second main example is May Curwen. She moved from teaching to a distinguished career in administration.

She was born in 1889, the daughter of a timber merchant from Birkenhead, and moved from the High School there to the College. She too went to Newnham College, in 1911, where she gained a degree in History, although I should point out here that women could not actually be awarded the degree at Cambridge until 1948, after dogged resistance over many years by the dons.

May began her career in teaching at a girls' school in Staffordshire but in 1916 she became the secretary to the Scottish Women's Hospitals. After this, she joined the Young Women's Christian Association as education secretary, and was later the National General Secretary from 1930 to 1949. After retirement she pursued a particular interest in refugees, acting as the British delegate to the UN High Commission on Refugees from 1954 to 1958 and was President of the British Council for Aid to Refugees from 1962 until her death in 1973. A career for most women in those early years also meant not marrying, as was the case with Dame May, as she became, as she is in the photograph.

*I thank Harrogate Ladies' College for allowing me to study the school archives and Kathryn Fisk and Sarah Mills for their help and hospitality on visits to the school. Thanks also to Newnham College for information and the photographs of Bagenal and Curwen. The picnic photograph is courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery.*



## GCSE RESULTS

Our pupils celebrated an outstanding set of GCSE results, which saw stellar grades in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) subjects.

**Over 75% of all grades across Physics, Biology and Chemistry at the school were the top 9-7 grades. Overall 57% of all grades were 9-7, 36% were 8-9 and 16% were grade 9.**

**Over 60% of pupils at the school achieved 5 or more top 9-7 grades.**

There were strong results across all subject areas, including Languages where 100% of French grades were 9-8; Humanities where 79% of Geography grades were 9-7; and Creative Arts where almost 90% of all Textiles grades were 9-8.

A total of 7 Textiles pupils at the school were also individually congratulated by the Exam Board for being among the highest performers in the country.



## A LEVEL RESULTS



**We welcome those that left Upper 6 this year to our alumni community. Congratulations to them for achieving impressive A Level results, which saw a significant increase in top grades over the comparable 2019 results. We wish them well as they settle into the next chapter of their lives.**

Despite Government warnings to expect grades in line with 2019 results, pupils at the school secured 41% A\*-A grades, an increase of more than 17% on 2019 grades. Pupils also achieved twice as many top A\* grades this year compared with results in 2019.

Over 50% of the A\* grades were achieved in Science, Maths, Engineering and Technology (STEM) subjects with impressive results across all subject areas including Modern Foreign Languages where 75% of all French grades were A\*; Humanities where 85% of all Geography grades were grades were A\*-B and Creative Arts where 90% of all grades were A\*-B. Five subjects, including Further Maths, achieved a clean sweep of 100% A\*-B grades.

Overall, 68% of grades were A\*-B and 82% were A\*-C, both figures showing significant increases on 2019 grades.

## UKRAINIAN TWIN SISTERS DEFY WAR TO ACHIEVE TOP A LEVEL RESULTS

You might have seen this incredible story reported in The Times and on the BBC about the significant challenges faced by two of our recent alumni.

**Despite the turmoil of war in their home country Ukraine, twin sisters Diana and Sofiia Shypovych achieved A\*A\*A\* and A\*A\*A respectively in their A levels.**

Not knowing what lay ahead for their country, the sisters joined Harrogate Ladies' College in September 2021 to study for their A levels. Leaving their parents behind in Ukraine, they joined the school as boarding pupils. However, just a few months later Ukraine was invaded and they found themselves unable to return home and studying for their A levels amidst ongoing fears for the safety of their family, their friends and the future of their country.

Sofiia, who alongside her sister, ran campaigns in Harrogate to fundraise for Ukrainians and helped Ukrainian families on the Homes for Ukraine scheme settle into the community, said she was delighted with her results.

*"I am so grateful to the school for supporting me through the last 2 years. It was difficult being away from my family, but school actively promotes inclusion, diversity and being yourself. That really helped me."* Sofiia said.

Diana added: *"University will be our next exciting chapter. Despite everything that has been happening in Ukraine, school has given me and my sister the confidence to mature into independent adults through the opportunities, challenges and freedoms it has offered."*

Both sisters were voted by their fellow pupils and teachers to be Prefects at the school during their time in Sixth Form.

The sisters chose to return to Ukraine after graduating from the school this summer to be reunited with their family and friends. We are delighted to report they have both gained places at Cambridge University to study Psychology and Behavioural Sciences.





AWARDS

**NATIONAL EDUCATION AWARDS**

**Outstanding New Initiative of the Year Award - Finalist**

HLC secured a place in the final of a prestigious national competition thanks to our inspirational programme designed to encourage more girls into Science careers. The school was a finalist in the Independent School of the Year 2023 Awards in the Outstanding New Initiative category.

The school launched WiSE@HLC (Women in Science and Engineering @Harrogate Ladies' College), which is a bespoke programme to encourage pupils to embrace Science opportunities, develop critical thinking in Science and Technology and rewards self-motivation in Science subjects.

Pupils receive WiSE points and rewards for engaging in extra-curricular activities to take their STEM studies further. Sixth-formers are encouraged to become WiSE ambassadors and to work with younger pupils.

The programme also actively engages with former pupils working in STEM related careers and holds special events such as a Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Day which brings in local forensic experts.

As a result, the number of pupils engaged in STEM related activities, trips and lectures has increased and recent leavers have gone onto study a wealth of Science-related subjects such as Astro Physics, Chemical Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering and even as apprenticeship in Formula One Motor Racing.

Highfield Prep school was also Shortlisted for Prep School of the Year, in the Independent Schools Awards.



**BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**HLC Principal, Sylvia Brett a Finalist for Business Leader of the Year**

Principal, Sylvia Brett was recently recognised as a Finalist in the 'Business Leader of the Year' category in the Harrogate Advertiser Business Excellence Awards.

It is under Sylvia's leadership that our school introduced WiSE@HLC - an area where Sylvia believes women are "shockingly under represented".

Wellbeing is also a passion of Sylvia's and she championed the development of a new Wellness Strategy and the opening of a dedicated Wellness Centre prior to Covid, something she believes really helped the organisation to cope with the challenges that the pandemic threw at staff, pupils, and parents. The Wellness Centre opened in 2018 and was one of the first of its kind in the country for wrap-around physical, spiritual and pastoral care.



# SPEECH DAY

The theme of this year's Speech Day, which attracted an audience of over 600 pupils and parents, was Time.

In her address, Principal, Sylvia Brett, who has been leading the school for 10 years reflected on this theme and on the importance of making the most of every moment.

*"However long this moment in time may last, it is vital that we not only make the most of it but also realise how quickly it will pass. In this moment we say farewell to our leavers in the comfort that their joy, friendship and creativity will last forever."*

Sylvia said: *"It is so important to mark moments in time and to grow from them optimistically. Our school is 130 years old and as we celebrate this anniversary it drives us on to equip our pupils for at least another 130 years. We can do this because we have such strong roots in our school community.*

*Our leavers go into the world, marking Speech Day as a moment in time in their lives, ready to change the world for the better. They can do this because of the values which grounded their time here and which I see in them every day."*



The event also included a review of the school year by pupils and speeches from the head prefects as well as a performance by the school's Chapel Choir. Dozens of pupils received prizes for their success during the past year in academia, performing arts, creative arts, sports and overall contribution to school life.



## NOW IS YOUR TIME TO SHINE PUPILS TOLD IN INSPIRATIONAL SPEECH

A lifetime looking for the good in others is a lifetime well spent was the inspirational message delivered by the first female Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire at this year's Speech Day.

Mrs Johanna Ropner, who took over the Lieutenancy in 2018, urged the packed audience of pupils not only to use the hard skills learnt from their school years and often a pre-requisite to a successful career, but also never forgetting to be kind and gracious to others.

Mrs Ropner told the pupils: "The most important thing is to believe in yourselves, and realise your true potential, never turn down an opportunity.

Follow your passion. We all have the potential to be successful but it's not just accomplishments in the professional world that define us - I have learned as Deputy Lord-Lieutenant, Lord Lieutenant and as a

mother that the softer skills are equally as important."

And she described how she suffered a car accident which left her hospitalised and bed-bound for 4 months. "I was shown so much kindness and good grace over those months. It stayed with me. Never make the mistake that being kind is somehow soft. Look for the good in others. There are exciting new chapters for those of you leaving this great bastion of education. You've been given a wonderful springboard here at Harrogate Ladies' College. Grasp every opportunity, now is your time to shine," she said.



## PREFECTS

We are delighted to welcome Mia Edmondson as the second Alumni Prefect. Her role is to educate current pupils to the benefits of them joining our Alumni Association once they have completed their studies at HLC.

Mia will be working closely with the Alumni Relations Officer which will include co-ordinating a Prefects' Takeover Week, where they will provide the content for our alumni social media and e-newsletters across a week in November. This ensures our alumni are kept up-to-date of school news over the Autumn Term, joining up our pupils old and new.

Mia is also undertaking a project on our inscribed chairs, cataloguing them across their various positions across the school, and then investigating as to who these alumni are.

Mia is also spending time in the archives, ensuring we have an up-to-date inventory of items across the history of our school.



## FLOURISH PASTORAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME

'Flourish' is our umbrella term for our pastoral support at school. It is best described as an 'eyes everywhere' approach which has the buy-in of every teacher. Every single contact with every child each week is discussed by the Flourish team, which includes trained care practitioners, heads of years, boarding staff and the school's mental health lead. This detailed approach means the team can anticipate children's needs in a truly proactive way and offer bespoke support - whether that is academic help, counselling sessions, or suggesting a peer buddy with someone of their own age.

We recently launched an innovative Flourish app for pupils so teachers can monitor their wellbeing. It works on a simple scale of working out how their mood is, how they feel about friendships, diet, exercise, their water intake, their sleep patterns, and even their use of electronic devices. The tutors have an oversight of the app and can check on the status of their pupils' feelings on that particular day. It can be used to trigger a conversation with pupils and check if support is needed - that can be in the form of volunteer peer support or specially trained older Wellness Champions.





# BURSARIES

Throughout the history of HLC we have provided financial support to families who might not otherwise be able to fund school fees. Our well-established means-tested bursary programme reflects this, enabling those with a passion for the school and demonstrable potential to enrich the community of Harrogate Ladies' College.

Over the past decade, our bursary programme has supported many pupils in their education. A bursary is often life changing for the young people it supports and their families. For many of these young people however, funding may not be the only barrier to education. Some are from deprived areas or have experienced an unsettled life at home. They may be incredibly talented and academic but their learning is suffering due to a school environment this doesn't work for them. Or they may just need that extra support offered by us that will unlock their potential and help them flourish.

The school currently provides some level of financial assistance to 57 pupils, including 3 Ukrainian pupils who have relocated to the UK as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme (a sponsorship scheme that allows people and organisations in the UK to offer Ukrainians fleeing the war a home). We would like to thank the alumni association (HCU) who have kindly donated £1,000 to enable one of these pupils to continue their passion for music.

We're proud of what we have achieved over the years through our bursary programme, but with many families facing financial challenges due to the cost of living crisis, it means we have seen a large increase in bursary applications. That is why we reached out to you for help with the new 1893 Scholarship.



# 1893 SCHOLARSHIP

The 1893 Sixth Form Scholarship is funded by the alumni community. It provides financial assistance for a local pupil to attend school in the Sixth Form in order to support them on the final part of their educational journey towards university.

Thanks to the incredible support and generosity of our alumni and friends we have awarded our first 1893 Scholarship this year to an incredibly worthy recipient.

The funding you have provided will transform the future of this pupil and her

family. We simply cannot thank you enough for being part of this.

We are continuing to raise money for our bursary programme so that we can continue to transform the lives of children through the power of education. We know that these are challenging times for everyone, but if you would like to give a gift please visit: [www.hlc.org.uk/gift](http://www.hlc.org.uk/gift) or call **01423 537008**.

## DANCE AND FOOTBALL NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

The Lionesses inspired the nation over the summer and we're absolutely delighted to announce that we've introduced football as one of the core sports for Lower School pupils (Years 7, 8 and 9) this year. To help develop the next generation of female players, we're also introducing a brand-new Lioness Scholarship for September 2024, which is open to talented footballers applying for a place to join U3 (Year 7) that month.

We are also delighted to announce that we are also introducing a brand-new Dance Scholarship category for September 2024. This follows the opening of the redeveloped Swinton Theatre performing arts facility and the launch of the HLC Dance Company last year. This year we've also further enhanced our dance provision with the opening of 2 new dance studio rehearsal spaces.



# THANK YOU

HLC would like to thank all of our alumni who have volunteered their time to share their expertise with our current pupils as part of our Be Inspired programme, which is an invaluable part of our careers provision at HLC. Our aim is to educate and inspire, so that all pupils can explore different career paths and become the best possible version of themselves.



The 'Be Inspired - Preparing Today for Tomorrow's Workplace' Careers Fair in October was fantastic. The event was aimed at broadening our pupils' horizons regarding various career and educational opportunities. It's all about providing access to real professionals from diverse sectors who can offer priceless advice and guidance. A huge thank you to all the fantastic organisations that joined us, which included alumna Grace Caton, former Head Girl who attended a stand on teaching as a career option. Grace was famously quoted in her Speech Day address as saying 'Girls here don't fit the mould, we create it'. She went on to study opera and singing at the Royal Northern College of Music.



Thank you to alumna Samy Crawford Monroy who returned to the school this March to inspire the next generation of girls to consider a career in aerospace engineering.



Samy, a final year student at the University of Leicester talked to pupils about the project she is currently working on to design, manufacture and fly an autonomous aircraft as part of her Masters degree in Aerospace Engineering. Samy attended the school as part of the WISE@HLC Science Fair. During the Fair, Year 7 pupils presented their recent Science projects to staff and parents as part of a competition for British Science Week 2023. Samy and her fellow students shared information about their project to build an aircraft which will be entered into the Institute for Mechanical Engineering Unmanned Aircraft System Challenge.

We would also like to thank alumna and former North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Julia Mulligan who attended the Prefect Leadership Training Day in September. She spoke about her pathway to leadership based on her passion to be a voice for those do don't feel they have one, before questions and discussion.

And many thanks to Di O'Meara who has volunteered to assist us in cataloguing our archives, and helped us to find articles and photos for the Earl and Countess of Swinton of Swinton Estate when they visited to open Swinton Theatre.





The deep sympathy of Harrogate Ladies' College is offered to the relatives and friends of the following:

**February 2020 Yvonne Whitehead,**  
La 1950-1957.

**February 2022 Barbara Holden  
(Mrs Brady),** L 1938-1947.

**April 2022 Margaret Davidson,**  
L 1943-1947.

**May 2022 Hazel Prentice  
(Mrs Wight),** Li 1948-1954.

**October 2022 Barbara Dawson  
(Mrs Brown),** A 1941-1948.  
Aged 92 and her husband Dennis Brown,  
June 2022 aged 91. Much loved parents  
of Chris, Tony and Katharine Brown (Mrs  
Fyfe) La 1978-1980, grandparents and great  
grandparents who are sadly missed.

**October 2022 Miss Stella Wade,**  
Assistant Housemistress in Lancaster

**November 2022 (Helen) Rosemary  
Harrison (Mrs Graham),** La 1949-53.  
Passed away peacefully at home at the  
age of 87 years. Beloved wife of Sandy for  
55 years, cherished mother of Helena (Mrs  
Eyton-Jones) La 1981-87 and Alex La 1982-  
83, loving elder sister of Janie Harrison (Mrs  
Crompton) La 1951-57 and Elspeth Harrison  
(Mrs Cox) La 1954-61 and aunt to Janie  
Cox (Mrs Swanston) La 1981-83 and Emma  
Robertson (Mrs Walters) La 1983-90.

Rosemary, also known as Rose and Rosie,  
fondly remembered her schooldays at  
Harrogate Ladies College, was honoured to  
be Head Girl (1952-53) and treasured life-  
long friendships with Liz Constantine (Mrs  
Blaydes) Oakdale & La 1946-52, the late

Margaret Constantine (Mrs Brown) Oakdale  
& La 1946-52, Dorothy Lang (Mrs Kellock)  
La 1947-52 and Pamela Murray (Mrs Mack)  
Oakdale & York 1945-53. Rosemary is  
sorely missed.

**December 2022 Elizabeth Keighley  
(Dr Sykes),** C 1961-1968.

**December 2022 Gertrude Sonia Kellett  
(Mrs Purves),** A 1956-1961. Devoted wife  
to husband Peter, mother extraordinaire  
to daughter Dawn, loving grandmother  
to Poppy the Jack Russell and a talented  
swimmer, musician and Architect, who  
for all of her life, ate fruit with a knife and  
fork having learnt that skill at Harrogate  
Ladies College.

**2022 Charlotte Sanderson,**  
La 1993-1996.

**January 2023 Eleanor Mary Marsh (Mrs  
Cooper),** La 1943-1947.  
Passed away peacefully, surrounded by  
family, at St Columba's Hospice, Edinburgh  
on 16 January 2023 after a short illness.

**January 2023 Ian Whittaker**  
Dearly loved husband of Vivien Healey (Mrs  
Whittaker), Li W 1957-63. Brother-in-law to  
Angela Healey (Mrs Shackleton), Li W 1953-  
1959, and Rachel Healey (Mrs Harrison), C &  
Li W 1959- 1965.

**February 2023 Pamela June Norton,**  
L 1938-1943.

**March 2023 Joan Maureen Sergeant (Mrs  
Ridgwell),** Y 1951-1954.



**April 2023  
Jane Shuttleworth,**  
Ba 1965-1972.

Jane was renowned for her wicked sense of humour in  
her time at the school and was a beloved mother to Selina  
and Jack, and grandmother to Rosie and Ernie.

**April 2023 Janet Syson  
(Mrs Waltham),** Y 1956-1961.

Daughter of the late Kathleen Weldon (Mrs  
Ainscow), niece of the late Dorothy Weldon  
(Mrs Lee) and cousin of Josephine Lee (Mrs  
Hughes) and Alison Lee (Mrs Brayshaw).

**July 2023 Elizabeth Millar  
(Mrs Bonavia),** Ba 1951-1957.

**July 2023 Elisabeth Rowley  
(Mrs Cowlshaw),** Ba 1941-1948.

**July 2023 Daphne Trimble  
(Mrs Woodhouse),** Li 1944-1949.

**August 2023 Elizabeth Sharp  
(Mrs Purdy),** La 1942-1949.

Elizabeth joined Harrogate College in 1942  
at Swinton. 66 years later she returned to  
stay at the hotel, and by an extraordinary  
coincidence was accommodated in her first  
bedroom there! After the school returned to  
Harrogate she was appointed Head Girl.

Following Edinburgh University and  
secretarial college in London she joined  
the Colonial Service, becoming the first  
female Administrative Officer in Northern  
Nigeria. While there she married John Purdy,  
and lead a busy life as a Resident's wife,  
alongside bringing up her family.

Widowed in 1998, she subsequently spent 17  
years with Pat Davies, the widowed husband  
of her best friend from Harrogate, Marjorie  
Wilkinson.

**September 2023 Amanda Godley  
(Mrs White),** Ba 1974-1979.

Manda was committed to her nursing work  
in the hospice field over 14 years, where  
she positively impacted countless lives by  
providing comfort, compassion, and solace  
to patients and their families. Manda was a  
loving wife to Kevin White.

**October 2023 Jean Mary Worrall  
(Mrs Robertson),** Ba 1933-1937.

Jean was born in Sheffield on 30 July 1919  
and died peacefully in her own home on  
23 October 2023 in Calgary, Alberta,  
Canada. She left behind 3 children and  
3 grandchildren.

Upon winning a scholarship in 1933, she  
attended Harrogate College for the next four  
years before studying at the Slade School  
of Fine Arts in London. She married in 1946  
and in 1954 the family emigrated to Canada.  
She was a teacher in Calgary until her  
retirement in 1984 and has been healthy and  
active, living independently in her own home  
with minimal assistance until a rapid decline  
leading to her passing.

**October 2023 Shirley Knowles  
(Mrs Sarkis),** A, early 1950s.

In 2 years at HLC she studied and passed  
the Science subjects she required at 'O'  
levels in the first year and then 'A' levels  
the following year, to enable her to train  
as a doctor and then as an eye surgeon.  
Her work led to considerable and  
successful research, especially in regards  
to macular disease.

# REUNIONS

Should you wish to organise a reunion of your own, HLC would be delighted to assist you in inviting your former class mates.

**Please email us at [HCU@hlc.org.uk](mailto:HCU@hlc.org.uk) to discuss your bespoke requirements.**

**See below 2 recent reunions:**

## 1976-1977 REUNION



Sally Myles (née Pringle) and Sarah Brignall generously hosted a reunion event for those who left the College in 1976-1977. The event was held at Sally's home in Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire in May 2023 and was a fantastic opportunity for classmates to share memories from their time at school and have a good catch up with old friends.

The day started with coffee and chatting, then Sarah had put together a PowerPoint of everyone's photos that they had sent in, and they each stood up and spoke for 2-3 minutes about what they had been doing for the last 48 years! After lunch, many of them went for a walk for about an hour around Clumber Lake, and went back for more wine and tea. Around 14 of them stayed into the evening, drinking and sitting outside and they all had Thai Green Chicken Curry and left-over desserts! They now have a WhatsApp group, and said that all in all it was a day to be remembered!

## 1961 -1966 REUNION

Sally Wade (Swinton, 1961-1966) informed us that the 1966 leavers group, mostly aged 75 this year, met in London at the Farmers Club, 3 Whitehall Court on 15th November for a luncheon and celebration. They have met most decades but decided they wanted to do a 75th this time rather than wait for their 80th birthdays. There were around 22 people who attended in total. Sue commented that "It is amazing to think we have known each other for at least 60 years!".



## ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES

Alumni Representatives are a network of enthusiastic volunteers from across the UK and internationally who provide support and camaraderie for alumni through organising local events, and being a point of contact to those new to the area or visiting and looking for recommendations, local knowledge or just a friendly welcome! Decade Reps encourage and support you in organising year-group reunions.

**Email us at [HCU@hlc.org.uk](mailto:HCU@hlc.org.uk) and we'll connect you with your local representative or let us know if you are interested in becoming one.**

## GET IN TOUCH

**Please email us at [HCU@hlc.org.uk](mailto:HCU@hlc.org.uk) or call Sarah Mills on 01423 537029 for any of the following:**

### COME AND VISIT US

Alumni are always welcome to visit College and we love the opportunity to show you around. Please contact us to arrange a convenient date.

### BE INVOLVED

If you wish to submit an Alumni Profile or be part of our Be Inspired programme, please contact us.

### IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A DONATION

To make a gift, to leave a Legacy or to find out more about donations to Harrogate Ladies College, please email.

### DISCOUNT FOR ALUMNI

As a valued former pupil, you will automatically receive a 10% discount on current school fees for your children and grandchildren. Please email the Admissions team at [admissions@hlc.org.uk](mailto:admissions@hlc.org.uk) for full details.



## HARROGATE COLLEGE UNION

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North Yorkshire  
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[www.hlc.org.uk/alumni](http://www.hlc.org.uk/alumni)

