

THE OLD HENDONIAN ◆ 2018 ◆



ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-SEVEN

From your new Editor ...



Alan Freedman (1968 – 1975)

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It is quite a privilege to be taking over from Trevor as your editor. I know you will want to join me in paying him enormous tribute for all the time and effort he dedicated to producing so many fine editions of this magazine over the years, together with Annette and David. Sadly, Trevor feels he is no longer able to carry on for health reasons, but it means a great deal to me that I can count on his continued assistance and wise guidance going forward. I am delighted that Annette and David will also be contributing and helping me out.

Although I've enjoyed reading previous editions of the magazine, I'm afraid I haven't been very good at making contributions of any kind. Well ... better late than never, so for now, here is a little something about myself, which perhaps I will enlarge on in future editions.

Hendon County was still a grammar school when I first joined. My year was the first to be combined with the comprehensive intake in 1971. I went on to University College London, graduated with a law degree, and proceeded to qualify as a solicitor. For many years, I practised in Hendon: my clients included quite a few of my old classmates, and even a former teacher! I then moved on to handling insurance disputes for the Financial Ombudsman Service and its predecessor scheme, the Insurance Ombudsman Bureau, until I retired last year.

In all this time, I never really lost contact with the school in general, and with Trevor in particular. Until he retired in 1997, he very kindly allowed me to return every December and play double bass in the school's carol concert. Even after Trevor retired, we still kept in touch. I also kept in regular contact with Gertrude Stranz, your first editor: she had been my old chemistry teacher and form mistress. The last time I saw her was in the nursing home where she spent her final years, only a few weeks before she passed away in 2012. I have helped organise regular reunions with my old classmates down the years, and update them by email from time to time, with any news of interest.

I still live in Hendon, very close to the school, and with time on my hands after retirement, it made sense to offer my services ... not just as your new editor, but also to help out as a chess coach. I could not have wished for a warmer welcome from the Headteacher, Rhona Povey, and am particularly grateful for all her wonderful support and encouragement. I have also taken over the management of the archives from Trevor: this is something which logically goes hand-in-hand with compiling the magazine, as there is plenty of interesting material in the archives which might be included.

What follows is largely Trevor's work, plus the regular contributions from Annette and David, for which I warmly thank them both. I have just needed to build on it by adding some final pieces to the jigsaw, like this special editorial, an updated letter from the Headteacher, some additions (unfortunately) to the obituary, an article by my cherished friend and old classmate Dr Philip Corbin, and one by present Year 9 student Benyamin, which I hope you will enjoy reading. Once again, I must pay great tribute to Trevor for going as far as he could towards completing a finished version, despite his state of health at the time – to say nothing of his special contribution to this editorial which immediately follows.

I am ever mindful that this is your magazine. So I am keen to hear what you like about it, or not, as the case may be. Are there things you'd like to see more or less of, or even left out altogether? Are there any new features you'd like to see included? Do you think the magazine is too long or too short? Would you like to see the format changed, and if so, how? I can't promise to cater for every preference, but knowing what you think would be a useful starting-point.

In conclusion, I feel truly proud and privileged to be of renewed service to the school which gave me such a wonderful education, and so many special memories along the way. I look forward to serving as your editor, hopefully for many years to come, and to hearing from as many of you as possible along the way. You'll find my contact details on the back cover.

With sincere best wishes to you all,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Freedman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath the name.



Dear Old Hendonians and Friends

◆ V I V E ◆ V A L E ◆

It is with considerable sadness that, due to health problems, I have had to relinquish my post as your editor. I would like to take this opportunity to record my sincere gratitude to Annette Bruce (*former Deputy Headteacher*), David Eadon (*former teacher of English and Drama*), Kemuel Solomon (*former student*) and Kevin Murphy (*responsible for a professionally printed magazine*) for all their professional help and fantastic work in making your magazine so worthwhile.

I am delighted that Old Hendonian Alan Freedman is taking over from me. He has always kept his interest in the school's past as well as the school today, and I wish him every possible success in the future.

It certainly was a compliment when, fifteen years ago, I was asked to take over the work from Gertie Stranz. Ever since then I found myself in an extremely unusual situation - a job in education that was completely stress-free, apart from the times when my computer played up!

It is a total number of fifty-six years that I have been associated with Hendon School, firstly starting off my teaching career at Barnfield Secondary School in Burnt Oak which was a tough beginning for a fledgling teacher who had been given almost no training - just the slight experience, with no useful guidance, of spending one afternoon a week for two terms in a primary school. After a short while of my working at Barnfield, the school closed down and joined Brent Modern School in West Hendon to become St David's County Secondary School. When, in 1971, the government of the time brought in comprehensive education, St David's School merged with Hendon County Grammar School to finally become the Hendon School of today. This was not an easy time for the school, governors, staff, parents, and students, but the Music Departments of both schools proved to everyone that their 'music' could help all those involved to work together for a better and brighter future. A history of Hendon School, and the site on which it was built going back to the sixteenth century, may be found on the internet.

I rather fondly recall that at the time of the change to comprehensive education I was very briefly interviewed for the post of Director of Music by the then Headteacher Mr Ted Ward. After a short conversation Mr Ward said to me: "You've got the job". Sitting on the chair beside me was the faithful old school cat, and I have often wondered since then if it was the

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cat that was given the job or myself. But, more seriously, I had an extremely full working life both inside and outside the school and, in all those years, I never actually experienced a proper interview!

It was my predecessor, the late inspirational Charles Western, who introduced me to working as children's vocal coach to English National Opera at England's largest theatre, the London Coliseum. This gave a lifetime opportunity to our pupils to perform on this world-famous stage alongside some of the world's most celebrated artists.

There were times when members of the Royal Family would be in the audience and, in 1973 when the UK joined the European Union, it was celebrated by a variety show at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane where in the audience were the UK's Prime Minister Edward Heath and Heads of State of European countries. The show, shown later on television, featured acts from Europe along with some of the school's pupils who were also members of Barnet Schools' Choir which was especially formed by Barnet Schools' Music Association of which at the time I had been chairman. At the very end of the show, the choir sang the Anthem of Europe as they gradually rose on a special hydraulic stage behind the rest of the performers. Part of this grand finale was fortunately edited out before being shown on television; this was when the stage on which the choir was standing developed a fault and, instead of rising gracefully behind the rest of the cast, it kept stopping on its way up. It was a very embarrassing moment!

Then there was our involvement, again with Barnet Schools' Choir, when they were involved in recording the soundtrack of the 1986 film *The Mission* with music by Enrico Morricone and starring Robert De Niro and Jeremy Irons. The film won both BAFTA and Golden Globe *Best Score Awards* and was also nominated for an *Academy Award* and a *Cannes Film Festival Award*.

For some of these events we have the late Maxwell Pryce MBE, Music Advisor to the Borough of Barnet, to thank. A wonderfully inspirational man who created the three Music Centres in Barnet and who gave so many never-to-be-forgotten musical opportunities for the young people of Barnet.

Of course, it would be unforgiveable not to mention the innumerable outstanding concerts, along with so many collaborations with the school's drama department, which took place in the School Hall. Away from the school the children were involved in musical performances in London's Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Wigmore Hall, the old Wembley Arena and theatres in various parts of the country, as well as in the BBC's radio and television studios and ITV's studios. Fantastic experiences!

There were only a few horrible moments for me, such as the time when a girl told her mother on the way home from school that I kept a whip and bra in my desk. In those days, teachers' desks stood much higher than today, with a lift-up lid which stored lots of useful everyday articles. What made this worse was that the headteacher of the time believed the girl's story.

Looking back now, I find the vast majority of my memories bring back a huge amount of happiness, and I feel extremely proud of the wonderful students, teachers and ancillary staff

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with whom I have worked, whether they had been involved in the music-making of Hendon School or not. I have been very fortunate in that a number of them have kept in touch over all these years, as have some of the former students who were at Hendon County before my time, and who have corresponded with me while I have been editor of your magazine. It is now that I can take the opportunity to thank you all for not only making my life so meaningful, but for rewarding me with everlasting cheer.

I sincerely wish every one of you much success, and may your lives be blessed with good health and happiness. Should you wish to contact me I would be delighted to hear from you. My contact details are: Flat 1, 10 Cyprus Road, Finchley Church End, London, N3 3RY and my email address is: trevoreasterfield@live.co.uk.

◆ V I V E ◆ V A L E ◆

Dr Trevor J Easterfield, FTCL, FISM
March 2018



Dear Old Hendonians and Friends

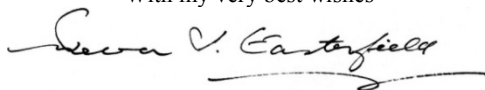
Welcome to another edition of The Old Hendonian.

A big thank you to all of you who have made a donation to the *Friends of Hendon School* for which we are most grateful. A further meaningful thank you to those of you who have written in with news or comments regarding this magazine – this is always much appreciated and always welcomed.

Hendon School continues to make much success in a large variety of ways. The Minister of State for Schools, Nick Gibb MP, has congratulated the staff and pupils on their excellence, and in a letter to Headteacher Rhona Povey, he has stated that the school is one of the top hundred non-selective state-funded schools in England.

As usual, my very special thanks go to both Annette Bruce and David Eadon whose continued voluntary work goes such a long way in making this magazine so worthwhile.

With my very best wishes



Trevor J Easterfield (Editor)

Can You Help?

We have lost contact with the following Old Hendonians, and would be very grateful if any reader is able to help the Editor by tracing their whereabouts:

Eric Chacksfield **Y Googue** **A Grant** **Jackie Hodgson** **Brenda Johns** **Shelley Kosky**
Ron Lord **Nir Margalit** **Quentin Parry** **P Prete** **E G Reece** **Jean Scott** **R Wood**

BETTY HUNTLEY-WRIGHT

a star



Born Betty Jessie Wright in 1911 into a theatrical family, she was one of three children of the popular comic actor Huntley Wright and his actress wife Mary Fraser.

Originally educated at South Hampstead High School, she moved with her parents to Brent Street, when she joined Hendon County School in 1924 at the age of thirteen. She left two years later to go for a year to a finishing school in Paris, before joining the Regent Repertory Company at the Regent Theatre in King's Cross. This was her first appearance on stage. Four years later, this pretty, keen grey-eyed girl of eighteen, with brown shingled hair and a well-toned voice, looked much older than her years. In 1929, she was spotted by the famous C B Cochran, who chose her to play in Noel Coward's operetta *Bitter Sweet* at London's His Majesty's Theatre. Later, her first big chance came when the leading lady fell ill, and Betty was chosen to take over the role, which she did with great success.



In the early 1930s, she performed in comedies and operettas in London and on tour. By the mid-1930s, she had extended her range by playing an English and French season in Paris, as well as building up a repertoire of playing principal boy in pantomimes. From 1939 to 1942, she was a member of the BBC Repertory Company before returning to the stage, during which time she toured with the Carl Rosa Opera Company. Her post-war engagements continued to feature annual pantomimes and comedies in London and on tour, and in 1957 she took over the role of Madame Dubonnet in the long-running musical *The Boy Friend*.

Her film career began in 1933 with *Naughty Cinderella* and *Little Miss Nobody*. At the end of the war, she made further films including *Carry on Loving* (part of the 'Carry On' series), and many television appearances including *Steptoe and Son*, *Softly Softly*, *Fawlty Towers*, and *All Gas and Gaiters*.

She married twice and was twice divorced. Together with her daughter, she developed her interest in antique thimbles and made it into a business forming, in 1981, a collectors' club: The Thimble Society of London. They also ran a small antiques business in London, trading at various times in the West End, Portobello Road and Chelsea.



Betty Huntley-Wright died of heart disease in Camden, London, in 1993 aged eighty-one. Yet, despite her hard work and her success, she remained unaffected, always willing and eager to help a friend and entirely unspoiled by the early successes in her chosen career.

[Part of the above biography was taken from *The Old Hendonian*, March 1930. – T.J.E.]

DAVID HORCHOVER REMEMBERS



1946 – 1952

When the school was a grammar school, there was an annual athletics competition with other Middlesex-based grammar schools, which were the preliminaries to the finals held at such places as Chiswick Stadium and Parliament Hill, where there were excellent running tracks. The group of schools in our region used the facilities at Alperton.

I was entered in the intermediate age group, just being within the cut-off age of sixteen years. My event was the half mile or 880 yards – two laps of the track. I had no idea how quickly I should set off, but thought that if I was in the lead, at least I could keep up the pace, which I thought would be very quick. So, I led through the first lap, and then just kept going and crossed the line first – and set a new record for this event for my age group: 2 minutes, 15 seconds which was not broken for many, many years.

Mr Eustace, our PT master, said to me later: "Did you not hear me yelling to you to slow down round the first bend? You were going far too fast for the first lap!" It seems that I ran the first lap in 61 seconds and had a big enough lead to carry me to first place, although I was apparently being caught up by the second placed runner. My second lap time though was 74 seconds!

The following day, Miss Davies was taking our class for our French lesson and she asked me to tell the class, in French, why I had not attended the athletics the day before at Alperton. The whole class erupted with laughter, as they all knew that I had had a successful afternoon on the track. Miss Davies, it seemed, either had not heard of my success, and had unfortunately picked the wrong chap to answer her question, or she did know and was being a tad cheeky in asking me to answer. We all felt that she was ignorant of the event. However, she had the good grace later to tell me that she was very pleased with my track record, and that she had been totally ignorant of the facts.



I then went on to the Chiswick Track to run in the Middlesex County Schools' finals 880 yards. I completed my heat and qualified for the final to be run in the afternoon. Having done so, I was then violently sick and had only water to drink for the rest of the day. I then ran in the final when a lace came undone on one of my spikes and flapped about putting me off a bit, but I finished a creditable 4th, and Mr Eustace wrote about it for the 1949 summer edition of the school magazine.

Just a month or so later, in that August, I went down with meningitis in France, which left me so weak I used to fall over let alone run. But, in the following year, I ran in the school sports-day 880 yards just to see how I would get on. I managed to complete the two laps – and finished last but one, beating class-mate Roy Batt! It gave me the encouragement I needed to keep up sports activity.

The next year I was in rather better shape, having been told by the sports specialist doctor in Harley Street to get out and run and get fit. So I ran in the 880 yards at Parliament Hill, and came in well up the field, just being pipped for third place.

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I also ran at the now long-gone White City Stadium (the home of British athletics) in the sprints and relay squad where we finished second, just missing out on representing London Schools in the All-England Schools' Championships that year.

The great Jamaican runner Arthur Wint was at the White City – he was in the RAF – and we had the pleasure of chatting to him. Many years later, I was a mentor to the Prince's Trust and one of my new businesses to advise was run by a Wint – a relation of the great Arthur. Strangely, they were not aware of his exploits on the track.



We had many remarkable sports people in those days, and I can recall, when a junior, I was one of the quartet who won the Junior 4 x 100 yard relay in record time – and have a medal to prove that we had the best team in Middlesex for that age group.

Great Days!!



EMILE GRIMSHAW



Emile Grimshaw Jnr was a pupil at Hendon County from 1915 until 1917 when he moved after the 4th Form to Christ's College in Finchley. He was born into a well-known musical family whose name is still revered by the top guitarists of today and who lived in Woodville Road, Golders Green.

Emile was born in Burnley, Lancashire in 1903. His father Emile Snr, a banjo player who played in his own quartet and also in the highly popular Savoy Band, made many recordings, and was famous for his own compositions and tuition books. In 1930, he formed a company with his son Emile Jnr to manufacture banjos and guitars, banjos being an extremely popular instrument in those days.



After his death in 1943, the business was continued by his son Emile Jnr, and the guitar production was increased. Emile Jnr was a very competent guitarist and a professional musician at a very early age, playing in the Jack Hylton band by the age of twenty-one. During the Fifties, the company made many archtop, acoustic and electric guitars. These instruments were excellent substitutes for American guitars, which were not imported into the UK due to post-war austerity measures. During the Sixties, in line with the boom of guitar groups, they achieved great success with the manufacture of solid bodied electric models, some of which were based on the famous Fender/Gibson designs.

During the Sixties and Seventies, individual and custom built models were produced to customers' orders, and former Grimshaw players had replica guitars made, leading to some very interesting and valuable musical instruments. Grimshaw also experimented with some success in producing organ-style electronic guitars. The business continued until Emile Grimshaw Jnr died in 1987, leaving behind a legacy that will be sure to continue for many, many years into the future.



NEWS FROM OLD HENDONIANS



Pictured here (left to right) are **Chris Kaufman**, **Ken Sheringham**, **Dick Coldwell** and **Grant Kriteaman** – friends from the glorious Sixties now enjoying their own glorious sixties here on tour in Oxford. The impression made on them by their outstanding teachers has proved indelible and are often spoken about, as are their contemporaries.



Reg Beckley (1942–1948) has again excelled himself – this time in his portrayal of Doctor Pinch in Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* in a production for Bournemouth Little Theatre.

Roger Bruck (1950–1957) writes: In my seventh and final year at Hendon County, I was persuaded to enter a race on Sports Day to gain a house point for Orange. Wearing a pair of hastily borrowed spikes, I found myself on the starting line of an uneven grass track at the end of the school field. A surprise victory was followed a month later by a win in the Middlesex Grammar Schools' Championships. My life was about to change. By the time I graduated from Birmingham University, I was well and truly hooked. Like Forrester Gump, I just kept running and running.

For thirteen successive years, I was Shaftesbury Harriers' sprint champion. Turning forty years old, I entered the zone of Masters Athletics. This led to representation for Great Britain in six European and World Masters' Championships. Then, in my sixties, history repeated itself. The team captain required a 'volunteer' for the high and long jump. Being the only athlete present, I stepped forward and a new career began.

And today, aged seventy-six, I am British Masters high and long jump champion in the 75–80 age category. The icing on the cake was seeing my name ranked number one in the world – even if only for a week.

Looking back, I have regrets. If only I had competed more than once during those seven years at Hendon County, who knows what might have been.



Enza de Francisci (1992–1999) followed her studies at Hendon School by completing her BA, MA and PhD at University College London where she currently lectures in Italian and Translation Studies. In addition, Enza has been awarded a Fellowship at the Victoria and Albert Museum in order to

convene the first *Shakespeare and Italy* course at the museum in commemoration of this year's 400 years since the death of Shakespeare.

Alongside academia, she edits the theatre reviews in the peer-reviewed journal *Pirandello Studies*, and has worked as a linguist consultant at the National Theatre, where she helped to translate Pirandello's Sicilian dialect play *Loilà* in a new version by Tanya Ronder and directed by Sir Richard Eyre. Enza's most recent publication includes her co-edited volume *Shakespeare and Italy: Transnational Exchange between Shakespeare and Italy: From the Early Modern Period to the Present* (forthcoming with Routledge Studies in Shakespeare series).

Nisha Kotecha (1996–2003) is one of 50 people making a difference to Britain that The Independent has chosen for The Happy List 2017.

Since leaving school, she has founded Good News Shared, a charitable news site and creator of The Moments Journal, a guided positivity journal. She has been on an entrepreneurial ERASMUS Programme, working for a company in Berlin, a member of the Institute of Directors' 'IoD 99' programme, mentioned in Forbes and volunteered for many charitable organisations - including as National Publicity Officer for Rotaract in Great Britain and Ireland and the President of Rotaract for her local area (including Hendon).

Being on The Happy List is a particular honour: previous people featured have included J.K. Rowling, Tim Berners-Lee, Brian Cox and Archbishop John Sentamu.

Jed Falby (1946–1952) came up from Devon to the Summer Fair in 2015 and enjoyed talking to his old classmates. He has memories of the filming of 'The Browning Version' and of HMS Pinafore on stage, free milk in the tuck shop, and the Headmaster E W Maynard Potts prowling the corridors in his bat-like cape. Jed has had a hectic, world-wide life in the film business.

Christopher Gunning (1955–1962), award-winning composer of concert works and music for films and television, has had a new CD released on the Discovery label. This is a departure for Christopher, as most of his



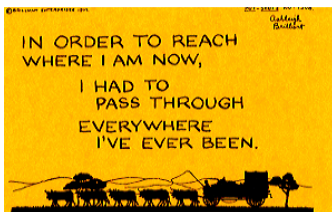
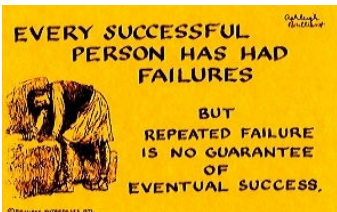
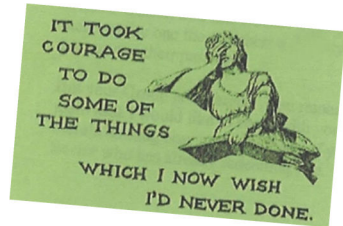
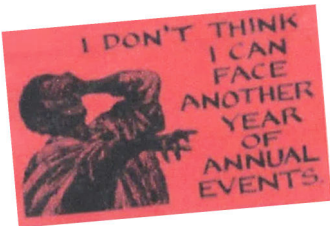
CDs have been orchestral, whereas this CD contains his Sonata for Pianoforte and his Piano Trio.

In *The Sound of ITV: The Nation's Favourite Theme Tunes*, Christopher's music for the very popular series *Poirot* came seventh out of twenty.

David Lacey, in answer to your editor's query in the last magazine regarding the popular singer Alvin Stardust, recalls his visit to the school in the mid-1970s. This visit came about because representatives from the school had been scheduled to take part in a BBC radio discussion programme featuring Alvin Stardust a few weeks previously, but unfortunately he had been unable to attend the recording. To make up for it, he made this visit to the school. He did not sing, but appeared on the stage in the main hall, and provided everyone with a signed picture.



◆ The Ashleigh Brilliant Corner ◆





Born in beautiful Barbados, “the gem of the Caribbean”, the most easterly of the islands in the West Indies, I attended its top Secondary School Harrison College for one year (1967-1968) before migrating to the UK with my parents and brother (David), where my Dad was posted as Barbados’s Deputy High Commissioner at the Barbados Embassy in London.

While there, David and I attended Hendon School, at the time Hendon County Grammar School, where I was Victor Ludorum in my final year (1975), by which time it had “gone Comprehensive” and changed its name to Hendon School. Three years older than myself,

David went on to study medicine at Cambridge University and is now a Professor of Neurology; meanwhile I pursued graduate studies at Southampton University (1975-78) and later (1981-1984) postgraduate studies (MSc & PhD) at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, in Electrical Power Engineering.

Fast forward to this year. Following a fabulous 20-day Christmas/New Year holiday in Israel, my wife (Rosaline) and I were travelling back to Barbados via London. There we stayed with Alan Freedman, your new editor, and my best friend from our days at Hendon School. We had a most wonderful time. For starters, we got to spend time in fellowship and meals with some old schoolmates, namely Charles Weinstein, Adrian Wayne, David Ellis, and Sue Rothstein. What a joy it was to see them again! In passing, I must single out David Ellis – one of the brightest, and almost certainly the neatest, student ever to pass through the gates of Hendon School! His notebooks from school days, which he graciously let me see again, were, and indeed are, a work of art, which should perhaps be photocopied and included in the school archives! On the 10th January 2018, I was invited to give a speech at an assembly of first-formers (I was struck by the fact that the pupils nowadays get to sit in assembly – in my day, you had to stand the entire time!) Following that speech, I had the privilege of giving a copy of my memoirs chess book “Calypso Chess” to the School Library. (As Hendon School’s chess champion for a number of years, I played top board for the school in Interschool matches, and on my return to Barbados I won various national and regional tournaments.)



L to R: Alan, David, Rosaline, Philip



The following day, the School’s Headteacher, Ms Rhona Povey, graciously allowed my wife and I to have lunch with her - a delightful surprise planned by Alan which he sprung on us! – and this was followed by a simultaneous chess display I gave after school hours, taking on 22 students and two teachers, winning all the games. I was touched by the keenness of a certain young lady (Tameris) in particular, who put up a great fight and was almost the last to “hold out”. Another highlight was sitting with Alan in the back of an A Level mathematics calculus class excellently taught by Mr Joe Jennings - it was just like the old days (i.e. lots of fun)! The “icing on the cake” was touring the school! It has become more multiracial and multicultural, but its pleasant atmosphere and academic excellence has remained. In closing, I can state that my “good ole days” at Hendon School were amongst the happiest of my life, and I wish its staff and students sustained success. Just as a tendon connects a muscle to a bone, so I will always be connected to the school. I will always have a “Hendon Tendon”.

Dr. Philip Corbin (1968-1975)



PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

Headteacher Rhona Povey congratulated students and staff on their excellent exam results. At GCSE, more than 20% of all grades achieved by year 11 were A* or A. There were changes to the English and Maths exams – but despite these, student grades rose.

At A level, there was an increase of 6% (from 39% to 45%) in the number of students who achieved A* to B. The pass rate was 98%, and three students scored A* A A. Many students have secured places at prestigious universities, and are studying a wide range of courses.

DRAMA

Five students studying drama and working within the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) guidelines have achieved three distinctions and two merits. The exams are the equivalent of GCSEs and A levels. At higher levels, they contribute to UCAS points.

MENTAL HEALTH

Students have for some time been engaged in trying to improve well-being and mental health. Last year the team, led by Assistant Headteacher Miss Doona, won an award for their SOS – Stamp Out Stigma Conference.

Last September, it was reported that the students had won a “Highly Commended” in the Speaker’s School Council Awards. Hundreds of entries are submitted from all over the UK – so this is a very special recognition of the students’ commitment.

The team have also ensured that Hendon was the first secondary school in Barnet to achieve the Healthy Schools Gold Award.

Another interesting feature of this growing team of some 30 dedicated students is that they have sought to connect with the wider community, not only through the conference, but using a special app – Speak Out! This involved working with students from Middlesex University. The app offers support and advice, as well as directing young people to safe self-help or Barnet support services. It is thought to be the first such app on mental health created and designed by young people after listening to what young people wanted.



Wayne Hemingway (far right) awards Hendon School at The Team London Awards (Photo: Eleanor Bentall)

This is not just a project for Hendon School, as other schools are now seeking advice from the Hendon Team in order to set up their own projects. The scheme was suggested in December 2015. Since then, the team of 30 have contributed 1400 hours of voluntary service (by November 2017), as well as winning a Team London award. They have also won a Circle of Life award by the Citizenship Foundation

and Disney, one of the first 20 schools in the UK to complete the Circle.

In December 2017, a team of seven students from years 7, 9 and 12 were invited to pitch for the Unilever Small Grants Award. They won £1,100 for the school. The judges commented on the passion and confidence of the students, and endorsed the idea of using the grant to raise awareness about knife crime and community integration under the slogan: "London Needs You Alive."

As a result of all this work up to April 2017, students attended a Barnet Council meeting in May, and asked that "Mental Health First Aid Training" should be funded "for all secondary schools in Barnet." This was subsequently agreed, and Barnet Council will fund the programme. This is an incredibly impressive record of achievement!

CHARITY WORK

2017 has been a busy year in other directions, too. Year 9s organised a cake sale to support water aid. And a Year 11 student from HARP (Hendon Autism Resourced Provision) built a reverse Advent Calendar, which, when full, was taken to a local food bank.

"Nose picking in the library" caught my eye in Hendon News. Fortunately, it turned out to be the official Red Noses only – and the impressive sum of £80 was raised by a "Spot the Pea" competition in return for pocket money donations to Comic Relief.

Egg Magazine showcases students' work in photography, poetry, book reviews and interviews.

The third issue, in June 2017, was sold for the benefit of the Grenfell Tower community.

Hendon likes to acknowledge students who have gained the most rewards points over the academic year. A range of students from years 8 to 11 were invited in October to join Ms Povey for breakfast.

SCIENCE CLUB

Science Club continues to be popular. Several Year 7 students were very excited about being able to measure the heartbeat of tiny organisms called daphnia.

ENRICHMENT DAY

Enrichment Day is an annual opportunity to learn things not normally taught in the classroom. Year 9 students had the opportunity, both in March 2017 and

March 2018, to take part in a simulation game which involved being stockmarket traders for a day. It was also an opportunity to see how stock exchanges were run before computers were used to record the transactions. Students had to adopt the roles of Financial Manager, Investment Analyst, Media Analyst and Floor Trader. Useful skills were learned such as teamwork, risk management, and the factors which may cause markets to rise or fall. On both occasions, prizes were given to the top three teams, the form with the highest portfolio value at the end of the day of trading – and even prizes for the best business dress, male and female!

As part of the process of giving students a taste of a wide variety of careers, a representative from the Chartered Insurance Institute gave talks on the 2017 day about the different careers available in finance, either through apprenticeships or university. The students took part in a game in which they took on the role of a risk analyst. The evaluations were very positive, and many students were keen to know more about careers in finance.

DANCE

In January 2018, about 150 dancers from 20 schools took part in an all London "Break Dance Battle." As the title suggests, this was a very energetic day, with both experienced dancers and those trying it for the first time. Hendon School's Odin Juniors also took part. They competed in the final against Friern Barnet School, and Odin Juniors won the battle for the fourth year in succession.

FOOTBALL

One Year 9 student has signed a one year contract with MK Dons Academy under 14 Football Team, and will play as a midfielder for them.

VISITS OUT

CERN - Visits out of school have included CERN, Switzerland, a regular feature for the past six years, and which successive generations of students find

fascinating and informative. As Mr Joseph of the Science Department commented, it was not only physicists and black holes. This time, the December 2017 trip included a visit to the Red Cross Museum, where the efforts of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent in wars from the time of the struggle for Italian unity to more recent conflicts were explained. Old Geneva was also explored, and the historians of the party explained the course of the Protestant Reformation as it happened in Geneva. Students were excited by the work at CERN and the Hadron Collider, as well as the physicist guide who spoke about installing a particle detector on the International Space Station.

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Berlin - Another instructive and enjoyable study tour, which left the students wanting to return, was the combined Sixth Form German and History trip to Berlin.

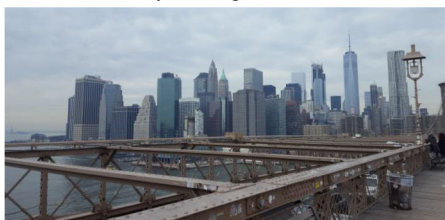
Starting in the Deutsche Historisches Museum, they would have learned much about earlier history, and about the unification of Germany as well as the more recent past. This writer was struck by the honesty of the curators, many years ago, in facing up to unpleasant truths about such a terrible time in Germany's 20th century history. Students also visited the Checkpoint Charlie Museum. (When this was in operation as a checkpoint, you had to buy a certain amount of East German currency – and if you could find little to spend it on, you had to give it back on return!)



The Topography of Terror Museum, together with the DDR Museum, showed the students how utterly ruthless two different kinds of regime can be. Students also visited the Holocaust Memorial Museum, which they found a very humbling experience. The visit to the Nazi bunker made it possible to imagine the last days of a brutal regime.

USA - During the February 2017 Half Term, a number of Year 11 students visited the United States. The first stop was Washington DC, where they visited all the well-known sights, including the Air and Space Museum and the Old Clock Tower.

In New York, the students had an extremely busy schedule, naturally wanting to fit in as much as



possible. Elsa Ibrahim, of Form 11.5, wrote: "In the South, there was Brooklyn Bridge and Wall Street, seeing the Statue of Liberty as we sailed to Staten Island, and Ground Zero, which is the skyscraper that shadows where the Twin Towers formerly stood. In the North, it was Manhattan, where we walked around Central Park that was covered in snow... the breathtaking view of the city lights from the top of the Rockefeller Centre and the Empire State Building was

a highlight of the trip...".

Apart from the formal sightseeing, it is clear that the students appreciated the meals in American diners and the experience of using the New York Subway.

Japan - Hendon School has a twinning arrangement with Konan High School (Hamamatsu), so exchanges to and from Japan have become a regular feature of the school year, and it never fails to impress the students. They find their counterparts and host families very warm and welcoming, and have the opportunity to try out martial arts, traditional Japanese costume, calligraphy, cookery, music and sports.

Before meeting the host families, the students spent a few days in Tokyo, where they experienced a typhoon. Judging by the photographs, the weather in October was quite warm and sunny.

Students felt that their Japanese had improved, that they had made new friends, and hoped to return to Japan one day.

Art - Other visits included going to Tate Britain and the National Portrait Gallery by Years 7, 8 and 9. This was a reward for showing exceptional commitment and ability in art lessons. The programme covered elements of art history, as well as a workshop session to discuss changes over time in portraiture. For most students, the visit to an art gallery was a new experience leaving much to think about.

Photography - Photography has become a very popular subject, in which students show considerable talent and imagination. Their excursions included the Photographers' Gallery (Ramillies Street, Soho). This was founded in 1971, and was the first public gallery in the UK to be devoted exclusively to photography. The Year 10 GCSE class saw works by various photographers, including a series of photographs taken in Los Angeles showing the lives of an African-American community over some 30 years. The students finished with a walking tour of Chinatown, and many new photographs for their coursework projects.

In November 2017, the Year 11 GCSE photography group went to the Cubitt Gallery (Angel, Islington). This gallery is managed by artists, and includes exhibition space as well as studios. The focus of the day was to take part in artist Helen Cammock's show, "Shouting in Whispers." Students needed to rehearse for two hours before the final audience performance in the afternoon. The students were complimented by the artist and other performers for their high level of engagement.

Finally, A-level student Theresa Kit was chosen to exhibit her work in the Autograph Gallery's Album student showcase. Her themes include family, belonging, community and memory.

Buckingham Palace - Two activities last year culminated in a session at Buckingham Palace. The first involved an #iwill ambassador from Hendon School – Avishka, year 12 – one of 150 #iwill ambassadors in the UK. The #iwill Fund was announced in November 2016, and brings Government >>

and Lottery money worth £40 million to encourage young people to volunteer, to campaign, to raise funds, to acquire new skills, and to create opportunities for social action. This is done through young people's uniformed organisations like the Sea Cadets, the Girls' Brigade, the Woodcraft Folk, and many others. Awards are presented in three categories: Dedication, Impact or Teamwork. Further details, including last year's winners, may be found on the internet.



The picture above shows Avishka (back row, far right) with the other ambassadors who judged the awards. Here is part of her account of her day at the Palace: "The award ceremony was amazing to watch, and it was breathtaking to hear how much young people are doing to improve their surroundings ... my favourite part was watching HRH Prince Charles" (patron and founder of the Youth United Foundation) "walking in with movie theme songs playing in the ballroom of Buckingham Palace."

The Commonwealth Baton Relay was one of many events marking Commonwealth Day, held on the second Monday in March 2017. Hendon was one of four schools in the UK who were chosen to provide flag-bearers for the event, which starts at Buckingham Palace. There were several hours of rehearsals. Hai Rong, a Year 11 participant, wrote: "We were holding flags with people from different schools, as the background of the speech."

Jaden, also from Year 11, wrote: "I got to bear the flag for Uganda ... The Queen was close and it made the experience all the more



special, as I never thought I would have the opportunity to see the Queen and feature on TV and newspaper websites."

Belsize Square Synagogue - Many educational visits now play an important part in the life of the school, not least being the much appreciated ones to the Belsize Square Synagogue. The purpose of the visit

was to enhance the students' understanding of the Holocaust and of Judaism, both of which subjects are discussed in History and Religious Education lessons. For many students, it was their first time in a synagogue. They were all very moved at the personal stories recounted by speakers who told of their experiences as child refugees.

Holocaust Memorial Day - In addition to this, the Head of History and Politics, Ms J Begum, was invited to represent Hendon School at the Holocaust Memorial Day services held at Middlesex University in 2017 and 2018. She was accompanied by a number of students. The Mayor of Barnet, David Longstaff, spoke about why it was important to remember the Holocaust, and the duty, both moral and social, that all of us share to challenge hatred, racism and discrimination. For all concerned, it was a deeply moving experience.



MODEL UNITED NATIONS (MUN)

Two delegates from Hendon School took part in a Model United Nations exercise, having had several months of preparation beforehand. The conference was opened by Baroness Shields, who was the UK Minister for Internet Safety and Security. The topics under discussion were drones and artificial intelligence, and Baroness Shields gave the delegates a very informative talk, with many issues to think about. The delegates then went to their committees, which, in the case of Hendon, was UNICEF. One student (Luke) represented Afghanistan, and the other (Dyandra) represented Vietnam. Dyandra, writing about this, said: "What followed was an intense day of debate, discussion and negotiation." By lunchtime, the group were "... far away from a majority agreed resolution" about drones. The block in which the Hendon delegates took part also had people representing the USA, Libya, UK, and the Netherlands. Dyandra commented that "although we represented countries that might not always work together, we were able to find a resolution ... we ended working as a team ... Our working paper was chosen for the final resolution" document. Moreover, Luke won an award for being the best delegate from the UNICEF team. "MUN is a fun way to make new friends and to discuss international problems."

In conclusion ...

From this snapshot of activities and events between February 2017 and March 2018, it can be seen that Hendon remains a very busy school, with a fine record of involving students in many ways outside the curriculum as well as within. None of this can happen without a very dedicated Headteacher and staff. ■

DAVID EADON MEETS...



Jill Hickman



Jill Hickman retired from Hendon School in the summer of 2014 after thirty-eight years of dedicated service to the school and its students. Not only was she a passionate teacher of Physical Education but also Director of Upper School and an Advanced Skills Teacher. Her wonderful personality and most valuable and much appreciated contributions to life at Hendon are greatly missed by all who knew her as a teacher and as a friend.



What made you decide to take up a career in teaching?

I have always been passionate about Physical Education and as a young person it seemed likely that the teaching profession would keep me involved within this area. My sister was a teacher and I found that Brighton College of Education, where I was a student, was the only college at the time which offered a PE Bachelor of Education Degree with Honours.



With daughter Jo

Was there a person who had a major influence on your career?

I attended Blackwell Secondary School in Hatch End, Middlesex and the PE teacher there was a big influence. She encouraged me to follow that particular path and gave me terrific support in the process.

Why was Hendon School so special to you as a member of staff?

Everything important that happened in my life happened while I was at Hendon School. It seemed as though my whole life was built around the school. Even my husband would say that he had married Hendon School. There was always an ethos to learn at Hendon and the staff there made work so enjoyable. The kids were awesome and the reason I stayed so long – 38 years.

What were your particular specialisms in PE teaching?

I was a keen netball player and played for Harrow against the New Zealand national side. Athletics was another specialism and my main events were sprints, hurdles and long jump. I must also mention that I played tennis and was involved in a number of outdoor pursuit activities.



As an Advanced Skills teacher at Hendon and one of the first in the Borough of Barnet, this took me to work in other Barnet schools and enabled me to attend courses in Advanced Skills teaching and learning.

Secondly, I spent a year as Director of Upper School – this was a new post which was created at Hendon School. I gained immense satisfaction from watching students grow and develop into fine young adults.

If an older teenager asked you for advice on becoming a PE teacher, what would you say?

You must be passionate about PE but equally you have to immerse yourself in young people. Essentially you have to balance your work life with your life outside school while remembering teaching is always with you. The holidays are a great bonus!

Can you recall a particularly amusing incident from your time at Hendon?

There were many! At an after-school Athletics Club on the field, I turned to speak to a thrower, whilst continuing to walk across the field without looking where I was going. I tripped over a dustbin and crashed to the ground splitting my trousers! I have never known such hilarity from everyone who saw it.

Secondly, I had the good fortune to teach two year 10 HARP (Hendon Autism Resourced Provision) students for two years. One of the students would often refer to me as 'Granny Hickman'. Even an OFSTED observation would not deter him when he boldly shouted out (as he frequently did) 'Granny Hickman's got grey hair'. It did raise a smile.



With daughter Jo at the Olympic Stadium

How would you like to see PE teaching progress in schools in the future?

Schools need to offer a positive PE experience to as many students as possible and promote the idea that physical activity is a lifelong experience associated with health and well-being. Links with leisure and sports centres and local clubs should also continually be developed. I would like to see all parents supporting and encouraging their children in physical activity on the back of the research that 'active schools' produce some of the best exam results linking academic and mental health with the physical.

If I could ask you to sum up your time at Hendon in one sentence – what would you say?

It was a fabulous experience continuously developing an understanding of teaching and learning alongside wonderful students and staff.

Is retirement a fulfilling experience for you?

At the moment I am having a 'gap year'. I am walking, cycling, swimming and looking after my horse! I am involved in Pony Club activities and am drinking wine (not at the same time, of course!) and I have also recently taken up archery. I am enjoying looking from the outside in – at the moment.

Thank you very much Jill for giving up your time for our Old Hendonian readers!



Jill with Peewee

HENDON IN THE NEWS



Reviving his role as the Reverend Timothy Farthing in this year's film *Dad's Army* is **Frank Williams** (c1949) who David Eadon had the pleasure of interviewing for the centenary edition of this magazine. Frank had been in the extremely popular television series from 1969

until 1977 which has recently been enjoyed again by viewers of BBC2. It was during his schooldays at Hendon that Frank became inspired by his teachers to continue his considerable talents into the professional theatre. He has many television and film credits to his name.

Astonished pupils of Parkfield Primary School were amazed when they were told that dinosaur eggs had been discovered in their playground. They had arrived at school that day to find a police car outside with its lights flashing and teachers milling around the crime scene cordon with a puzzled look on their faces. In the middle of the playground were three rock-like objects, and rumours started to fly around as to what they might be. The real dinosaur eggs were part of a project about dinosaurs in which the children spent the week in dino-activities.

Parkfield School had been St David's County Secondary School, which merged with Hendon County Grammar School during the comprehensive reorganisation of the early nineteen-seventies.



A veteran of *Sunday Night at the London Palladium* and the film and stage show *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* is **Ray C Davis** (Barnfield School 1955 – 1958) who was seen last year on the new television channel 'Talking Pictures TV'. He was in the 1964 film *Every Day's a Holiday* with John

Leyton, Freddie and the Dreamers, Liz Frazer and Ron Moody.

Ray added the 'C' to his name so as not to be confused with Ray Davies, the lead singer and song writer of the popular music group *The Kinks*.

He has toured the world with his cabaret act and in musical revues with Barbara Windsor amongst others. He first appeared on the West End stage in Lionel Bart's

Blitz in 1962 and was a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company. He is a notable singer, dancer, actor and choreographer who trained at RADA and has appeared in many West End productions including *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *The Good Companions* with Sir John Mills and Dame Judi Dench, *Man of La Mancha*, *Kings and Clowns*, *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, *The Matchgirls* and *Bar Mitzvah Boy* in which **Leonic Cosman**, a former English teacher at Hendon, also had a leading role.

His many other theatre appearances include *West Side Story*, *Spread a Little Happiness*, *Oh! What a Lovely War*, *The Boy Friend*, *Kiss Me Kate* and amongst films in which he is featured are *Three Hats for Liza* and *A Wonderful Life* with Sir Cliff Richard. Ray has also been involved in the making of several cast recordings. His television appearances include *Harry Secombe Shows*, *Cleo Laine* and *Noel Coward Specials*, *The Good Old Days* and *That Was the Week That Was* as well as the children's television programmes *Rainbow*, *Play School* and *Play Away*.

At the very beginning of his career, Ray was noted for his sparkling and exuberant performances which have continued to delight audiences throughout his illustrious career.

[*Barnfield School in Burnt Oak was a secondary modern school which moved to West Hendon under the name of St David's School and which in turn merged with Hendon County Grammar School to become today's Hendon School. – T.J.E.*]

The London Borough of Barnet's largest development scheme is being planned. Over the next twenty-five years, the Brent Cross and Cricklewood area will be transformed to create up to 27,000 jobs and 75,000 new homes with community facilities. Amongst the plans are a new railway station, and the rebuilding of certain schools. Brent Cross will be transformed into a world-class shopping venue, providing day and night time



entertainment and leisure facilities, including a cinema.

In the first phase of the development, and using several million

pounds from the developers, Clitterhouse Playing Fields and Claremont Open Space, to be renamed Claremont Park, will be revamped. Clitterhouse will get new sports pitches and play areas including a skate park, community gardens, wildlife areas, and a stunning new central pavilion. Claremont will become an outstanding community park, featuring children's play facilities, picnic areas, and new entrance 'plazas' in Brent Terrace and Claremont Road.

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An extra twenty-two acres - equivalent to fifteen football pitches - has been promised by the developer for the second phase of these new plans.



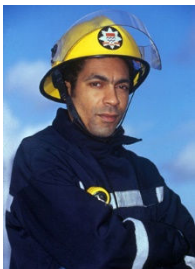
Over the decades, the school has been noted for its many sporting achievements. In the first World Deaf Tennis Championships last year, thirteen year-old student **Esah Hayat** was crowned boys' singles world champion, winning

seven games in a row, for which he was awarded the gold medal.



Winner of the prestigious Asian Professional Design and Creative Award 2015 was **Ketan Hirani** (1978–1983) the Managing Director of PictureFrame TV. These amazing televisions made by Ketan's company are an excellent way to blend a television into the interior design scheme of the home - either by hiding it

away behind a mirror, or next to a favourite piece of art. Each television is a bespoke work of art, installed with a professional and friendly service. In the Smart Home Building Awards the company won the Best Flatscreen of 2015, a superb achievement as they were up against the likes of Samsung, LG and Panasonic.



Film, radio, television and theatre actor **Ben Onwukwe** has, at times, been a supply teacher at Hendon School. He is perhaps best known for appearing as a firefighter in ITV's *London's Burning*. His other television appearances have included roles in *Casualty*, *Holby City*, *The Bill*, *Inspector Morse* and *Coronation Street*.

He was most recently to be seen in the BBC's popular daytime soap *Doctors*.

Playing at London's Vaudeville Theatre in 2016 was **Harry Melling** (2000–2003) in the controversial play *Hand to God*. The Evening Standard's review stated: 'Melling, who's turning into one of the most interesting actors of his generation, is wonderful to watch.'



Choral conductor and musical director of the Blackheath Centre for Singing is **Joel Thomas** (1986–1991) who, after leaving Hendon School, studied at the Royal Northern Centre of Music, during which time he was voted Director of the Year in the Manchester Music Awards. After graduating, he continued his studies in Cologne, Germany.



As noted earlier under "Hendon School Today," Hendon School students hoping to tackle the stigma surrounding mental health have won the chance to host a mental health conference, and were given the 'Team London/BrightFutures' Unilever Award. The twelve- to eighteen-year-olds had to pitch their ideas to a team of judges at City Hall who were extremely impressed. The students won £1,000 to help organise and run a student conference in mental health.

Women scoured the shelves in Marks and Spencer, men wanted to catch a glimpse of the electronics, and kids just wanted to play on the wooden horses.





That was the scene forty-two years ago, on 2nd March 1976, when Brent Cross Shopping Centre opened its doors. The first American-style shopping centre in Europe, it is now to be redeveloped as part of the wider Brent Cross Cricklewood scheme. TV and radio presenter Vanessa Feltz helped mark the 40th anniversary celebrations when she unveiled a collection of wooden animals which are replicas of the original installations when the centre opened. With all the countless changes seen over the years, the fountain which dominated the central area has long since gone.

Reprising her role in ITV's *Indian Summers* earlier in the year was popular actress **Amber Rose Revah**. Her other recent television credits include *Emerald City*, *Midsomer Murders* and *London Life*.

2 July 2015 – A suspicious package at the junction of Nora Gardens and Albert Road in Hendon caused a bomb scare. Buildings on Bell Lane, Albert Road and Hillview Gardens were evacuated for a while.



A student of former teacher of Art and Technology **Paul Regan** is **Tim Benson** who has been elected as Vice President of the Royal Institute of Oil Painters. Tim left Hendon to study at Glasgow School of Art and Byam Shaw School of Art from 1998



until 2001. He regularly exhibits in solo and group exhibitions around the UK, and displays fine art paintings that stand on their own as collectable works of art. As a result, he has established a large following and collector base. In addition to fine art pieces, he accepts more formal portrait and figurative commissions in oil or charcoal.

Award-winning composer **Christopher Gunning** (1955–1962) was heard in May 2016, discussing his life and work with Libby Purves on BBC Radio 4's *Midweek*. ■

LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

✧ RHONA POVEY ✧



Dear Old Hendonians and Friends

It is with great pride that I write to you in the 2018 Old Hendonian.

You will have already seen from the opening editorial

that Trevor has handed the demanding role of editor of this publication on to another Old Hendonian, Alan Freedman. Trevor continues to be a real inspiration for me, and I would like to thank him for everything that he has done to support both the School

- and in particular the Old Hendonian - over many years. He is an amazing man, and I am so glad that he is still such a treasured friend of the School, both now and hopefully for many years to come.

Despite pressures within the education landscape, outcomes - both academically and in the wider context - remain consistently high at Hendon School, the result of a dedicated teaching staff body and amazing students. We work hard to support our vision of 'Believe, Achieve, Lead, Belong' which underpins everything that we do.

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Believe

We support each student to feel safe, have confidence and to be ready for everyday life. We help each student to be the person that they want to be.

Achieve

We support each student to realise their full potential in all aspects of life - academic, creative, physical and social. We help our students to always do their best.



Lead

We work together to lead improvement. We recognise the skills and strengths of leadership. Everyone has a part to play in the future of our Hendon School community.

Belong

We connect with others to build effective and harmonious relationships within school and our wider community. At every stage we aim to develop shared values.

The family of Hendon School is a large and growing group, and we recognise the importance of all members of our community in continuing to provide an outstanding experience for our young people.

We believe that it is an essential function of schools to ensure the integrity and compassion of the citizens and leaders of tomorrow. Students drive school and community changes and, rightly, take this responsibility very seriously. They are empowered to make decisions about the issues that are important to them, and consider how they can tackle them.

We have created a focused additional curriculum, called SMART Futures, that centres on community responsibility, and lessons are often the catalyst for ambitious projects. Our current year 9 students, for example, have been heavily involved in the Team London WE (World Education) Day, an annual event which celebrates social action projects by young people to make differences to local and global communities. Their wide ranging endeavours have included support for local foodbanks, raising money for education around domestic violence, linking with education groups in Kenya, and providing water pumps in Haiti. Later this year, we will be holding our third student-led mental health conference in the UK at Middlesex University. Over 500 students and speakers will be involved. As part of previous conferences, students have negotiated a Barnet Youth Mental Health Charter, endorsed by the Chief Executive of Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust. The conference will encourage students from schools all over the country to join them to share good practice and ideas.



The phenomenal commitment of the students to community development is repeatedly commended by those outside of school. Having shown business and entrepreneurial talents, Hendon School was recognised earlier in the year as a Centre of Excellence for Financial and Enterprise Education, becoming the first in the country to achieve this honour. Key Stage 3 students, A'mari and Millie, are two of only 20 students nationally who have been presented with the British Citizen Youth Award, developed to recognise outstanding young individuals for their selfless acts of kindness and their positive impact on society. As a school, we are working with the Citizenship Foundation on the pilot of a new social action award, with Public Health England and Barnet, to develop a whole-school strategy to improve wellbeing - and we are also proud to have our first Member of Youth Parliament.

It is sometimes difficult to stand back enough to appreciate the overwhelming impact of our students' combined actions. Their awareness of social and moral issues is significant, and their commitment to making a better world frequently inspirational. We celebrate their individual and project team successes regularly. It is essential that we

value the incredible achievements of students, and the powerful force that they have as shapers of the communities that we live in. Our young people are the future – and in their safe hands, it already looks a



more promising place to be!

May I thank you all for your continued association with and support of Hendon School.

With all my best wishes

Rhona Povey
Headteacher, Hendon School

FROM THE SCHOOL ARCHIVIST

Grateful thanks are due to: Alan Goodwin for his father's school magazines from 1933 to 1939; Valerie Ingram (née Horace) for photos of Form 1B 1950; Peggy Marsh (née Margaret Vail) for school magazine September 1951; Joanne Connell (née Joan Foskett) for a collection of photographs from the 1940s, one of which you will find on page 26; and all those who have made such valuable and worthwhile contributions to this magazine.

These valuable donations to the school's archives are greatly appreciated.

Trevor Easterfield and Alan Freedman

Please send all future communications to:
Alan Freedman, Honorary Archivist to Hendon School

c/o Hendon School, Golders Rise, Hendon, London NW4 2HP
Email: freedmana@hendonschool.co.uk

It is with heartfelt regret that we report the following deaths. Our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy go to all families and friends, together with grateful thanks to all who have provided information. If you would like to add anything for inclusion in a future issue, please contact your new editor.

Mr David Dee, former teacher of Physical Education.

Miss Doris Kay (staff 1961–1988) of Kingsbury, London, died suddenly at home in the early hours of 15 September 2016 from cardiac valvular heart disease, at the age of eighty-two. After her cremation, her ashes were interred in her parents' grave in Tottington, Greater Manchester.

Doris served the school in many ways from 1961 until her retirement in 1988. When Mr Jack Driver was appointed Deputy Headteacher, she succeeded him, first as Head of the French Department, and later as Head of the Languages Department. She did a lot of quiet, often unnoticed, work at school functions, such as organising tickets and refreshments. She also organised many educational trips to France, both day and residential, and was a regular member of the staff team on educational cruises.



Doris Kay will be fondly remembered by many of her students.

Mrs Patricia Laycock (staff 1976–2016) passed away in March 2016. A dedicated and caring practitioner, she devoted a large part of her professional life to Hendon School. She joined the school as a teacher of mathematics before moving to the Special Educational Needs department in 2001. Her students were incredibly important to her, and throughout her career she had a positive impact on so many children, improving life chances for many. She was always kind and supportive towards the whole school community. She will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts are with her family, friends, students and colleagues.

[Reproduced from Headteacher Rhona Povey's tribute in the Hendon News. – T.J.E.]

Rabbi Lionel Blue (1943–1948) of Finchley, London, passed away on 19 December 2016 at the age of 86.

The following is taken from obituaries published on the websites of the Guardian and the BBC.

Rabbi Lionel Blue's combination of wit, humility and compassion appealed to and entertained those of all beliefs and of none.

For nearly 30 years, he was a regular on BBC Radio 4's *Thought for the Day*, always ending his homily with a humorous story, often gleaned from experiences in his own Jewish community.

The grandson of Russian Jewish immigrants (the family name was originally Bluestein), he was an only child, the son of a tailor and a legal secretary. As a child, he

claimed to have played his part with his parents and the rest of the East End community in seeing off British Black Shirts marching in Stepney – he helped to pass round the tea!

A lonely, bookish child, he was evacuated during the blitz, but eventually returned to his parents who had moved to Hendon in 1943. Study at Hendon County was followed by a place at Balliol College, Oxford, to read history.

He abandoned an early interest in theology for communism after hearing horrific stories from fellow Jews who had fled Hitler's persecution.

While at university, the realisation that he was homosexual drove him to a nervous breakdown, during which he tried to take his own life. He became attached to the idea of becoming an Anglican monk, but rediscovered his own faith at a service in 1950.

After much agonising, he decided to become a rabbi, prompting his mother to remark that she had spent all her time trying to get him out of the ghetto and now he was jumping back in!

He became the European director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and, for many years, lectured at a rabbinical college in London.

Often distrusted by the Jewish establishment, Lionel Blue always described himself as a very reformed Rabbi. He had, in his own words, "jumped over the wall of my ghetto".

He liked meeting Christians, Muslims and people of other religions. Indeed, he went regularly into retreat at a Roman Catholic monastery, and he wrote for a Roman Catholic newspaper. This ecumenical approach enabled him to cross the barriers between those of different faiths.

He began openly discussing his sexuality with friends in the late 1960s and came out in 1980, the first rabbi to do so. He had several long-term relationships and, in his later years, therapy helped him to overcome the remains of his guilt.



Making sense of life, both his own and those of listeners, was a constant theme. He mixed his opinions on politics, usually the Middle East conflict, with homely advice on

succeeding in exams, the loneliness of the new year, making up after rows and airport fatigue. It was this essential humanity that touched the hearts of listeners. In his early seventies he suffered a series of small heart attacks, epileptic seizures and had surgery for cancer. >>

But he dealt with his physical problems in typical style, taking a one-man show to the Edinburgh fringe and making light of them on Thought for the Day.

Rita Keyes, née Bernstein, adds:

“Contemporaries and I were saddened to hear of the death of Rabbi Lionel Blue. I don't suppose there are memories of him that go back much further than ours, the sixth-formers of 1947-9.

Lionel had actually left school the previous year and started work, I think, in a solicitor's office. But somehow he had decided to resume his studies, and joined us in time to take the Higher School Certificate, which was essential for university entrance. Those of us hoping to take an arts degree in those days had to pass Latin in this exam.

The atmosphere in the sixth form, however, was essentially informal, some of our lessons taking place in the library, and a pleasant atmosphere prevailed. We were a friendly little group, kept up our friendships outside school, and a group would often go to Lionel's home to be greeted by his delightful mother Hetty, who would make sure we had plenty to eat.

The great surprise was Lionel got into Balliol College Oxford, initially to read history. Few of our school went to Oxford (though four of us got into LSE.) After that, of course, he had to do National Service, which took two years out of our young men's lives. Lionel went to Catterick, and when I got engaged in 1951 sent me a congratulatory telegram, signed Lionel Catterick. After that we lost touch, until he took over as Rabbi of Middlesex New Synagogue, which my husband and I attended.

The rest, I suppose, is history...

To conclude, this was his own contribution to the school's 75th anniversary publication:

“I was a grubby, unattractive child whose only claim to fame was scoring against my own side and not being able to get over the horse! I never became a prefect, but I am still grateful to the teachers for putting up with me.”

Esme Josephine Evenhuis (1943) passed away peacefully, with her family around her, in a nursing home in East Twickenham on 11th June 2014.

She always spoke of her time at Hendon County during the war years with great affection. This was a time of great tension for all, as there was much movement of pupils, especially those who came from Europe, to escape the Nazi regime. Her education was greatly disrupted by the war, and she was evacuated to a family in Bedford during the Blitz. Having spent many years living in Africa, she was very pleased to reconnect with her old school after returning to the UK in the mid-1970s, and was happy to receive the news provided by The Old Hendonian.

Alastair Dennis Goodwin (1935–1940) died in January 2016, at the age of ninety-three.

He left school to study Modern Languages at Queen's College, Oxford, from 1940 until 1942, before joining

the army. After the war, he became a solicitor, and retired in 1982. He had very happy memories of his time at Hendon County School.

George Kovari (1982 – 1987) (known in showbusiness as The Great Kovari Junior), popular magician, escapologist and member of The Magic Circle, tragically took his own life on 8th February 2017 at the age of forty-five. He was suffering from depression.

Apart from being involved in the musical life of Hendon School, George amazed us with his amazing escapology act which he performed at the school's International Evening, with the entertainment provided by the pupils and food made by the parents. Trevor Easterfield recalls: “I was privileged to be the compère at these events and remember George asking me to ensure that there would be nobody behind him during his act apart from myself. I felt greatly honoured by his confidence in knowing that he could trust me to keep any of his magical secrets to myself.”

George was happiest doing what he loved – performing magic to people of all ages. He used to get such a thrill making adults and children gasp with his party or close-up tricks, and he loved spending time with his family and friends.

He began his career at the age of ten, performing escapology in his father's (The Great Kovari) illusion show for over twenty years, appearing in almost every



theatre in the UK. He also appeared in shows across Europe and the USA. George was a very selfless person who never had a bad word for anyone. Amongst other kind deeds, he donated his stem cells to a leukaemia patient who has now recovered.

His family and friends hold a special place in their hearts for George. His wife Nassia writes: “For anyone that knew him, either through the world of magic, school friends or family, George was simply the kindest, selfless and funny man who would do anything for anyone whether he knew them or not. The magic world has lost one of its true gentlemen.”

The Magic Circle have him on their Roll Of Honour.

[Do watch George Kovari and his father on YouTube. – T.J.E.]

Reginald Lacey (1939–1940) passed away in February 2016.

He left Hendon County due to being evacuated to family in Newcastle, and was subsequently conscripted into the Royal Army Service Corps attached to the Parachute Regiment. Reginald gained his wings and red beret, and served in Palestine during the early WWII troubles there. He spent most of his subsequent career with the National Westminster Bank, retiring as Branch Manager. He remained local to the area, living in Edgware since the early 1970s. He is survived by his children Victoria, Nigel and Christopher and their families. »

Malcolm Hart (1968–1975) passed away on 15 September 2017, at the age of 60. His funeral was packed with well-wishers – including your new editor, a former classmate.

Malcolm’s wife, Ros, has written the following tribute to him.

“Malcolm Hart – devoted husband to Ros, and father to Ben (21) and Lia (17).

Malcolm was just 60 when he passed away. Everyone was shocked. How could this vibrant, loving, crazy, mischievous, moral, kind, unique man be gone. He died of complications due to acute myloid leukaemia, having been diagnosed in January 2017.

Malcolm was someone who once met, was never forgotten. He had a cheeky smile, and liked nothing better than to play pranks, wind people up and have fun. He was sociable, and so likeable. His funeral bore testament to that, with over 500 people attending.

His school days were not always enjoyable. He was overweight, and sometimes bullied. He fought back by becoming fit and lean, and would not take nonsense from anyone. He had two very different sides to him – a sentimental, soft, kind, loving side, and a revengeful, cutting side which only came out



when he felt he or his family had been wronged in some way. He would do anything for anyone – literally, and once he was your friend, he was loyal and staunch. When he left school, he did accountancy for several years but always hated it, and when his dad’s partner passed away, Malcolm went into the minicab business with his dad, building up ‘Beeline’ in Edgware so that it became a household name. In later years, he let the business go, and just drove his own clients – many of whom stuck with him for over 30 years. He always said it wasn’t like work, it was like driving his friends around and getting paid for it.

He loved football – both playing and watching his beloved Spurs. He indoctrinated his son, Ben, and his greatest pleasure was going to matches with Ben, discussing every move afterwards, and also playing football with him. He would beam from ear to ear with pride. It is fitting that he is buried at the Western Cemetery in Cheshunt, just a stone’s throw from the Spurs training ground.

He loved nothing more than to spend time with his family, and every spare minute he had between work commitments was spent planning special, fun days out, lovely surprises, and amazing holidays. He was a family man through and through, and was proud every day of his beautiful children. He and Ros were blissfully happily married for 24 years – their 25th wedding anniversary was to be in March – sadly he did not live long enough to celebrate it.

His heartbroken family have started a charitable foundation in his name, and will raise money for projects at Hammersmith Hospital where he was treated. They will ensure his good name and wonderful character lives on.”

[There will be a separate ceremony this September to consecrate Malcolm’s tombstone – please ask your new editor for details if you’d like to attend, or alternatively support Malcolm’s charity – A.F.]

J R Streatfield of Tring, Hertfordshire passed away on 20th September 2014 and his wife **J M Streatfield** passed away on 27th March 2016.

Ray Valentine (1946-1953) of Victoria, Australia has passed away from a heart attack.

Chris Tsangarides (1968-1974), Grammy-winning record producer, sound engineer, musician and songwriter, well-known in the genres of hard rock, heavy metal, and pop music, passed away on 7 January 2018, at the age of 61. He was suffering from pneumonia and heart failure.

Chris got his start in 1974 with a gig at Morgan Studios in London, which led to a job as a sound engineer on the 1976 Judas Priest album *Sad Wings of Destiny*.

He went on to produce albums including Gary Moore’s *Back On The Streets*, Thin Lizzy’s *Thunder And Lightning*, Priest’s *Painkiller* and Black Sabbath’s *The Eternal Idol*.

He was also behind the desk for Bruce Dickinson’s debut solo album *Tattooed Millionaire*.

He collaborated with dozens of other artists, including Anvil, Exodus, Girlschool, Helloween, Ian Gillan, Steeleye Span, Strawbs, Killing Joke, Yngwie Malmsteen, Magnum, The Sisters of Mercy, New Model Army and Depeche Mode.

Paying tribute to Chris on Twitter, Black Sabbath’s Tony Iommi said: “I’m so saddened to hear of the passing of the producer Chris Tsangarides – he has been



a part of my life since the 70s when he worked as tape operator on the Sabbath album *Sabotage* and he’s worked with me on lots of other albums and stuff. He’ll be sadly missed. RIP my friend.”

Judas Priest added: “We are saddened to hear of the passing of our friend Chris Tsangarides – his

contributions to our metal and so many others will forever remain...”

»

Thin Lizzy member Jack Moore also paid homage: “Terribly sad news ... Chris was like family to us, the kindest, most caring person you could ever want to meet. It also goes without saying he was one of the most talented producers in rock and metal.”

Maths teacher **Debra Levey** passed away in September 2017. The following tribute is taken from the 18 December 2017 edition of *Hendon News*:

“Debbie taught at Hendon for 17 years. During this time, she was a teacher and Head of Maths. She later became lead mentor working to ensure all students were supported in their learning. She worked with the highest achieving students to secure places at top universities and companies. She dedicated lots of her free time to supporting the students and colleagues, and was often found at school on a Saturday morning. The students were so used to her turning up, on one occasion she came in even when she had other commitments and had said she wouldn’t be here. Their response was ‘but she’s always here!’



Debbie was an amazing pillar of support to all at the school. There was always a steady stream of staff and students waiting for words of wisdom, an encouraging remark or to take her up on the offer to be a shoulder to cry on. She was a loving mum of 2 children Simon and Kate, loving daughter to Phyllis. Despite all the hard times she faced, she still came to school with a smile on her face and a positive attitude. Debbie’s loss was felt by all, with many lovely messages received from former staff and students expressing just how much they owed Debbie in their own lives. These messages are testament to just how much she gave to Hendon and we will be forever in her debt.” ■

BBC SCHOOL REPORT LEADER by current student Benjamin



Hi, My name is Benjamin Davari Shalamzari. I am 13 years old and a Year 9 Student at Hendon School. I am taking control of BBC SCHOOL REPORT LEADER this year at Hendon School. This year my target is a project to do with the history of the school. My target title is HISTORY OF THE HENDON SCHOOL as I am preparing to put all of the details that I am catching into one big news article.

As I have got some old school papers from Mr. Freedman, I am speaking to the Headteacher to check if there is a room in the school that is out of use so we can use it as a museum of the Hendon School because we have plenty of Old Hendonian equipment in the archives to put together to build up the Hendon School museum. It will be nice in future to share the news with you guys that we are opening it.

Thank you and hopefully, I will be back to let you have this great news.



Form 3L, 1945-46

Donated by Joan Foskett (1943-48), now known as Joanne Connell

HENDON SCHOOL



*Photo:
Frank Cooper*

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THE OLD HENDONIAN

== INCORPORATING ==

**HENDON, HENDON COUNTY GRAMMAR, ST DAVID'S COUNTY SECONDARY,
BRENT MODERN AND BARNFIELD SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

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letters: care of the School

Material for inclusion in the next edition should reach Alan Freedman by 31 December, 2018



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