



**Spring
2004**

Friends of BRGS

**A newsletter produced by BRGS
for former students, the business
sector and the community**

**Bacup & Rawtenstall
Grammar School**

**ISSUE
4**

Spring Term has been as busy as ever with a whole host of activities for you to read about in this edition of the 'Friends of BRGS' newsletter.

Our sports teams have been particularly successful over the past months winning the Lancashire Under 16 Basketball Championships; triumphing in Orienteering Championships and reaching the National Schools' Netball Finals. Rachel Henry in Year 11 has been selected to play for the England Under-17 netball team and a former pupil, Kristan Bromley won the skeleton bob World Cup becoming Britain's first ever male winter sports' World Champion. Our congratulations go to Rachel and Kristan on their remarkable achievements!

We hope you enjoy reading the latest newsletter and thank you to everyone who has written with suggestions for this Spring edition. Please feel free to contact me with any news you would like to be included in future editions.

With best wishes,

Emma

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

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| Percy Horsfield of Booth | 2 |
| Paperclip Physics | 2 |
| BRGS adds value | 2 |
| Making the Grade | 3 |
| School praised by Chief Inspector | 4 |
| A Musical Amnesty | 4 |
| Stars on the Rise | 4 |
| Who? What? Where? | 5 |
| Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Winners | 6 |
| Concert at St Nicholas' Church | 6 |
| Football Focus Special Day | 6 |
| Under 19 Football Team | 6 |
| BRGS wins the Treble. | 6 |
| Sports Reports | 6-7 |
| Kristan Bromley wins | 6 |
| Playing for England | 7 |
| BRGS Netball Team | 7 |
| Young Volunteer of 2003 | 7 |
| Under 16 Basketball Champions | 7 |
| What are they doing now? | 8 |
| Message Board | 8 |

YOUNG CHEF 2004

All Year 10 BRGS food technology students entered the Young Chef 2004 Competition with Lewis Haigh and Peter Illingworth excelling and reaching the finals in the school's first year of entering. Jill Hughes, food technology teacher, said "It is a great achievement to reach the last 10 out of a starting figure of 1,000 entrants."

The annual competition is run by the East Lancashire Education Business Partnership (ELEBP) with professional chefs and cookery experts judging the heats. Head of Communications at the ELEBP, Sue Guest, said that "The aim of the competition is to address the shortage of students leaving school with the view to becoming chefs or food technology teachers." The competition is sponsored by the Navy, RAF and the Army and there was a great collection of prizes to win as well as an excellent reputation within the whole of the North West.

The challenge was to cook a three course meal for a chosen local celebrity for under £10 a head. The lucky celebrity who was chosen by Lewis and Peter to sample the meal was Jane Horrocks who was an obvious choice as Lewis' godmother!

Although they did not win the competition, Lewis and Peter were runners-up in a number of categories. Jill Hughes said that they "were the real characters of the entire contest: everyone loved them for their sense of humour and genuine spark." Our congratulations go to Lewis and Peter on their achievement.



Lewis Haigh and Peter Illingworth with celebrity Jane Horrocks

abbey

Thank you to Abbey National for
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Percy Horsfield of Booth

The annual history trip of year 9 students to the World War I battlefields at Ypres in Belgium was particularly poignant this year. The students visited Tyne Cot cemetery, the largest British military cemetery in the world where over 12,000 British and Commonwealth troops are buried, many unidentified because of their appalling injuries.

Two BRGS students, Katie Robertshaw and Jonathan Haworth, laid a wreath at the name of an old boy of BRGS, Percy Horsfield, who died aged just 23 years old. Having been sent out to a listening post during the Battle of Passchendaele, a high explosive shell hit the trench and Percy, along with the trench's other occupants, was buried.

BRGS students, Jenny Amatt and Sophie Royle read the poem, 'Percy Horsfield of Booth' which, for generations, has been read each year at BRGS' Remembrance Service.

Percy Horsfield of Booth

Whistling, where the Whitewell wanders
Through the dark, enfolding Pennine hills,
Making his reluctant way to school,
He dreamed all the high-flown dreams
Of boyhood bound by home hearth
And shaped by class-room adventures:
Of Tom Brown at Montezuma;
The lure of far beckoning mountains,
Unconquered yet, and challenging;
Eastern cities and sand-blown forts;
To soar amid the fleecy clouds
And plumb the ocean-depths unknown.
Yet young dreams are airy things,
And, marching by the Somme, he dreamed
Of the old, chuckling Whitewell
Gurgling past the humming mills,
Past his own cottage where Mother
Smooths the soothing linen sheets,
Bakes sad-cake, and brews huge pots of tea.
Thus, trudging through the cloying mud
Of anguished Flanders, forward to meet
The heroes of last year's history books,
The men of Agincourt and Crécy,
Who had left, like him, their noble hearts
In some beloved nook of England,
And ached, like him, in vain, for home.
Now, at one with ten million yesterdays,
He is remembered who was never known;
Whilst we, fodder for tomorrow's guns,
Anonymities in yet unwritten history books,
Listen, heads bowed, to the solemn voice:
'Percy Horsfield, of Booth.'

Kevin Grehan, Head of Year 9 who organised the trip, commented: "The students are currently working on Trench Warfare at school and hopefully this trip has added a unique richness to this topic for them. They really listened to the guides and asked thoughtful and reflective questions throughout. I'm sure this is a trip that they will remember for a long time to come."



Students visited the Tyne Cot Cemetery



Percy Horsfield of Booth

... BRGS adds value ...

BRGS students should be congratulated on the 2003 Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) results in which 100 per cent of pupils achieved a level 5 or higher in science (level 5 is the base level standard); 99 per cent in maths and 99 per cent in English.

In addition, the school received excellent results in the value-added tables which illustrate the progress pupils have made between the ages of 11 and 14. Martyn Morris, Headmaster, said "It is a credit to the pupils and the staff that we have done so well. I think the good scores have a lot to do with our positive work ethic – it is not unusual to work hard and do well."

PAPERCLIP PHYSICS

Organised by the Institute of Physics, Paperclip Physics is a competition in which students have to demonstrate to a non-scientist, an application or fundamental principle of physics using only items found in a typical home.

This was the first time that BRGS had entered the competition with a team from Year 11 and from Year 12 taking part. The two teams made excellent presentations to a panel comprising a professional physicist, a physics teacher and a non-physicist. The most important objective was to convince the non-physicist with a clear explanation.

Year 11 decided to explain all about eclipses, mainly because they wanted to eat large amounts of Jaffa Cakes which they used to depict the Moon!

The Year 12 team chose to explain Newton's Laws of Motion through a number of demonstrations with props ranging from balloons and party poppers to an amusing duck and a full place setting with a table cloth! The team comprised Katherine Grant, Sam Lynskey, Ben Smith and Martin Bracewell.

After a close competition with some innovative explanations, the judges announced the top three teams to go forward to the regional final with the BRGS Year 11 team winning a place in this final.



The winning Year 11 team: John Holland, Akif Hussein, Elliot Hurst, David Bewicke and Andrew Hoyle

Making the Grade

Former Head Boy of BRGS, Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary, Paul Stephenson, was the guest of honour at the school's sixth form speech day. Martyn Morris, Headmaster, reported to parents on the success of the A level students with the best ever grades the school has ever achieved. There was a record pass rate of 98 per cent recorded including 366 results at grades A and B, representing 47 per cent of the exam results.

The school's lower school speech day was held in February with Ted Robbins as the guest speaker. Ted has made recent appearances in Holby City and Merseybeat as well as starring as Den Perry in Peter Kay's Phoenix Nights. Ted's two children, Jack and Molly, are students at BRGS. Ted entertained guests with a hilarious speech, illustrating why he is generally recognised as one of the top TV warm-up studio hosts in the country.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR OF STUDENTS AWARDED PRIZES IS AS FOLLOWS:

THE UPPER SIXTH WINNERS OF EH HOLDEN PRIZES WERE:

Claire Aspinall, Amy Baker, Emma Boswell, Bethany Clayton, Eric Greenwood, Amy Gregory, Elizaveta Grimshaw, Gregory Martin, Clare McTernan, Hannah O'Sullivan, Jason Pawluk, Christopher Smith, Claire Taylor, Shelley Tootell and Sarah White.

SUBJECT PRIZES AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL:

Junior Music Shield: Lauren Thomson;

Simon Birch Memorial Prize for Music: Luke Bramwell, John Wood;

George Allen Memorial Trophy for Music: Philip Haworth;

Music Cup: James Ingham;

Dr P Lord and OM Holt Memorial Prize for Music: Oliver Regan;

Music Department Higher Education Award: Joanne Atherton, Abigail Bowker, Sam Cullen;

Music Department Composing Award: Nicola Pilkington;

Upper Sixth English Prize (Mr RG Phillips): Bethany Clayton;

Upper Sixth Drama and Theatre Studies Prize (Mr RG Phillips): Elizabeth Cooper; Freda Ebdon

Memorial Prize for English: Rachael Lever; Dorothy Moore

Mathematics Prize: Christopher Smith;

Year 11 Mathematics Prize: Zosia Rodak, Benjamin Smith;

Year 10 Mathematics Prize (Mrs BJ White): John Holland; Michael Churnside

Mathematics Prize for Endeavour: Benjamin Carradice.

F Harding Geography Prize: Martin Bracewell, Christopher Green, Jennifer Morton, Benjamin Smith, Sarah White;

Madison Filter Ltd Prize for Economics: Catherine Coyne, Laura Gledhill;

National Westminster Bank Prize for Economics: Jason Pawluk, Christopher Smith;

Howard Jackson Trophy for Business Studies: Michael Brennan;

Kingfisher Partnership Prize for Business Studies: Hannah O'Sullivan;

William Copley French Prize: Elizaveta Grimshaw;

DA Parkinson and DT Ward Abenteuerlicher Simplicissimus

Preis für Germanistik: Catherine Miller;

EA Whittaker Memorial Prize for German: Jennifer Morton;



Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary, Paul Stephenson, and the Mayor of Rossendale, Eileen Kershaw are pictured with Martyn Morris, Headmaster, David Heap, Chairman of Governors and some of the successful students. Photo supplied by Rossendale Free Press.

JE Macleroy Modern Languages Prize: Rachel Sagar;

Dorothy Chadwick Sixth Form History Prize: Clare McTernan, Jason Pawluk;

Year 11 History Prize (Margaret Moore): Marie Buckel;

Rev Rowland Rawlinson Prize for Religious Studies: Jennifer Morton;

The GTI Information Technology Award: James Riley;

Patricia Rawlinson Memorial Prize for Food Technology: Matthew Livesey, Jennifer Morton.

RL Hutchinson Memorial Prize for Technology (A-Level): Robert Kenyon;

RL Hutchinson Memorial Prize for Technology (GCSE): Paul Ashley, Rachel Curran, Krystal Rawstron, Elizabeth Silkstone;

Philip Lane Clark Award for Achievement in Science: Christopher Smith;

EH Holden Memorial Prize for Science: Claire Aspinall;

Geoffrey Wood Prize for Medicine: Raihun Talukdar;

Zoe Shadlock Junior Science Prize: Luke Bramwell;

Rev Jack Cawthorne Art Prize: Elizabeth Silkstone;

Mary Tomlinson Memorial Cup for Junior Art: Luke Bramwell;

Senior Art Prize (Mrs J Ormerod): Charlotte Lord;

Ashley Tyson Cup for Sports' Personality: Lindsay Parkinson, Paul Sutcliffe;

John Metcalfe Prize for Sport (outstanding achievement): Rachel Henry;

Junior PE Prizes: Jonathan Marcroft, Hayley Whitham;

Psychology Prize: Clare McTernan;

Felldancer Classic Cup for Orienteering: Aden Woodall;

Felldancer Quaich Trophy: Rebecca Howard;

Harry Gibson Cup: Heather Butterworth.

Prize for Service to the School and Community (David Johnson): Claire Taylor;

Carol Brown Memorial Prize for Service to the Community: Matthew Langston, Michael Saggerson;

Mary Dodds Prize (Head Boy): Keir Mawdsley;

Mary Dodds Prize (Head Girl): Bethany Clayton;

Mayor of Rossendale's Progress Prize: Bethany Pajak, Christopher Jones;

Hugh Owen Memorial Prize (Girls): Eleanor Silkstone;

Hugh Owen Memorial Prize (Boys): Benjamin Hinson;

Fred Wild Prize: Lloyd Goldsworthy;

AD Neville Prize for Effort: Luke Pollard;

Derek Copley Prize for Altruism: Abigail Bowker.

SCHOOL PRAISED by Chief Inspector

BRGS was identified among 77 particularly successful schools in The Annual Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools 2002/3 by David Bell, Chief Inspector. David Bell wrote to Martyn Morris, Headmaster, and said: "These schools were identified as having received an outstanding inspection report and have performed well in national tests and examinations, given their circumstances." David Bell asked that his warmest congratulations be passed on to staff, governors and, of course, pupils.

Hazel Harding, Leader of Lancashire County Council, also added her praise stating that "Commendations such as this do represent a recognition of the consistent effort that all the people who work at your school put in day after day. Our children and their parents have a lot to thank you for."

Martyn Morris, Headmaster, told the Rossendale Free Press: "It is nice to know we are achieving well as an individual school but also fantastic to get four schools (two primary, two secondary) within our area receiving praise. Everyone in Rossendale should be proud of the education we provide."

A Musical Amnesty

Do you have any musical instruments belonging to BRGS?

One former pupil recently returned a trumpet 30 years after playing it in the school orchestra. Needless to say, it was slightly out of condition! However, if you do happen to have an instrument belonging to BRGS then please do return it to school so that other pupils can benefit from musical activities.

Similarly, if you started playing a musical instrument with an enthusiasm that has subsequently waned and your flute or double bass is sitting unwanted in your attic then please consider donating it to Rossendale Family Forum through BRGS. Rossendale Family Forum is hoping to operate a loan scheme for underprivileged children to try various musical instruments. They will be able to do minor repairs and clean or tune up instruments so their condition is not a major concern. For further information on this scheme then please contact Alyson Cadd on 01706 260978 or email Rossfamilyforum@aol.com

★ Stars on the Rise ★

Daniel Wilkie performing 'If Tomorrow Never Comes'



After 300 auditions and 50 performances in the school heats and numerous practices, the final of 'Stars on the Rise' competition, similar to the TV 'Stars in their Eyes' programme, was held at King George's Hall, Blackburn. Ten students representing five Rossendale secondary schools performed in the grand final which was organised by teacher David Heywood, Head of Music at All Saints RC High School.



Tom Hyatt with his dancing troupe singing the Frank Sinatra classic 'Mack the Knife'

BRGS' first singer was Daniel Wilkie who gave a brilliant rendition of Ronan Keating's 'If Tomorrow Never Comes' which was greeted with screams from his fans in the audience.

Other memorable acts included the All Saints' group singing 'You Can't Hurry Love' by The Supremes and covers of songs by Beverley Craven and Leanne Rimes. Finalists from Valley secondary schools included Kalie McFadden and Joel Brown from Alder Grange, Sarah Whittle and Amy O'Sullivan of All Saints, Lauren Trickett and Claire Flynn of Haslingden High, and Rochelle Hicks-Spencer and Jodi Hills of Whitworth High School. Sarah Whittle, Lindsay Dunn, Lorna Watson and Hannah Roupee sang together as the Supremes.

However, in spite of some excellent performances the undoubted star of the evening and overall winner was Tom Hyatt singing Frank Sinatra's 'Mack the Knife'. It was a sleek and professional performance with fantastic choreography performed by a trio of dancers: Emily Grimshaw, Charlotte Annice and Clarissa Taylor.

The unenviable job of selecting a winner was left to a panel of judges comprising Janet Anderson MP, Dave Jackson, musician, and Paul Stanley, deputy headteacher at Broadway County Primary School.

The winning prize included vocal coaching and the opportunity to record a three track demo CD at a studio in Whitworth. David Heywood said: "The judges really had a difficult job picking the winner, but Tom was superb and looks to have a future as a singer if that's what he wants."

Our congratulations go to Tom and all the students who took part and all showed themselves to be 'Stars on the Rise.'



Tom Hyatt strikes a winning pose.
Photo supplied by the Rossendale Free Press

Who? What? Where?

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO WROTE AND IDENTIFIED FELLOW FORMER STUDENTS WHO FEATURED IN THE LAST 'FRIENDS OF BRGS' NEWSLETTER. HERE ARE A FEW MORE PHOTOS WHERE WE ARE TRYING TO PUT NAMES TO FACES. IF YOU RECOGNISE ANYONE ON THESE PHOTOS THEN PLEASE DO LET US KNOW.



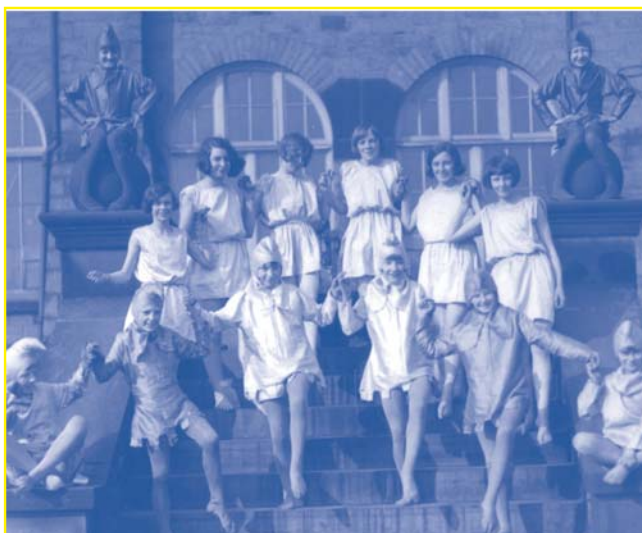
Newchurch Grammar School pupils in 1911 before the move to 'Bacup and Rawtenstall Secondary and Technical School' in 1913.



Which BRGS performers starred in this play?



Sports Team in the 1940s



Do you know at which school production this photo was taken?



Hockey Under 14 Team in 1954-55?

DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AWARD WINNERS



The first group of Year 11 pupils to complete the Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze Level programme were presented with their certificates and distinctive lapel badges at a ceremony in the main hall.

Some of the recipients are pictured from left to right: James Woods, Kim Buckland, Adam Noble, Hannah Robson, Tom Heaton, Adam Ashley, Janet Melling, Oliver Taylor, Sarah Shepherd and Christopher Evans.

Those also receiving awards but not pictured are Duncan and Stefan Harris, Rachel Longstaff, Joe Weston, Tanya Ashworth, Andrew Hoyle, Rachel Brierley and Elizabeth Hyatt.

FOOTBALL FOCUS SPECIAL DAY

BRGS student reporters on the school newspaper, 'BRGS Express', arranged a whole host of football focused activities under the guidance of Margaret Stanley, history teacher. Each 'BRGS Express' was printed with a number to take part in a raffle in which students could win prizes donated by football teams including Liverpool, Blackburn Rovers, Bury and Rochdale. The star prize in the raffle was a Manchester United shirt signed by Phil Neville with other prizes including a Rossendale Rugby Ball and Gola Sports Wear.

The host of activities included players from Bury Football Club being interviewed by BRGS student reporters and the Chief Executive of Burnley Football Club, Dave Edmundson, visiting school as part of the Football Focus Special Day. In addition, students could pay 50p to wear their team football scarf with pride to school which raised over £350.

UNDER 19 FOOTBALL TEAM

Good luck to our Under 19 football team as they play in the County Final at Blackpool Football Club on Monday 19th April!

Concert at St. Nicholas' Church, Newchurch

BRGS students performed at St. Nicholas' Church, Newchurch as part of their concert season. There was a diverse programme of music with the Senior Choir performing an arrangement of 'The Rivers of Babylon' and a medley of songs from 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' to the String Group playing Brahms.

Solo performances were given by a number of AS and A2 level students in preparation for examined performances the following week. Vocal solos were given by Charlotte Fairclough who sang a 'Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man' and Ailsa Mainwaring who sang selection of arias from 'The Marriage of Figaro'. There was a number of difficult but high quality instrumental performances on the piano, trumpet, flute and clarinet, making a memorable evening of musical entertainment.



A-level music students at St. Nicholas' Church, Newchurch

Kristan Bromley wins skeleton bob World Cup

Former BRGS pupil, Kristan Bromley has become Britain's first male winter sports world champion by winning the skeleton bob World Cup title at Altenberg, Germany and was also crowned European Champion. Kristan finished 1 minute 57.66 seconds ahead of Canada's Duff Gibson and America's Chris Soule.

After winning the world title Kristan said: "I'm extremely pleased, absolutely over the moon. It's really quite surreal. It's an amazing feeling to win the title overall." The performance director of the British Bob Skeleton Association, Simon Timson, said: "Kristan is the Michael Schumacher of the skeleton world. His performance has been absolutely phenomenal. It is a story about never giving up, of great attention to detail, and of being better prepared than any other athlete taking part."

Kristan and his brother, Richard, who designed his sleds under the research programme at Leeds University, used to try out new sled designs in the schoolyard at Waterfoot County Primary School. Kristan became interested in the sport whilst working for British Aerospace 10 years ago when he was commissioned by the British Bob Skeleton Association to design and revolutionise the sleds they used and at the same time got keen about the sport in the process.

Kristan's achievement is particularly remarkable because there are no bobsleigh tracks in Britain so he has to train on a specially constructed short start track at the University of Bath. Kristan works as a research officer at the university's department of engineering and applied science in between training for competitions. Kristan's sights will now be firmly set on the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin.

LANCASHIRE TRIUMPHS IN THE JUNIOR INTER-COUNTY ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIP AND BRGS WINS THE TREBLE!

Five BRGS orienteers were selected to represent Lancashire and join a 30 strong team made up of the best orienteers in the county for the annual Lancashire v. Cumbria Junior Inter-County Championships.

Ben Heaton (Year 7), Liam Taylor (Year 8), Danny Hoyle and Emily Lester (Year 9) and Ben Smith (Year 12) represented Lancashire at the competition which took place at Haigh Hall Country Park.

The competition had never been won by Lancashire before and there has been a long history of rivalry between the two teams. The gap in points between the two sides has steadily grown smaller over the years and this year, in spite of coming up against a strong Cumbrian side, Lancashire's determination won the day with a final score of 94 points to 82!

The school's orienteers go from strength to strength celebrating their treble by winning all the major Lancashire orienteering competitions: the Lancashire League; the Lancashire Schools' Championships and the Lancashire Individual Championships (Secondary Schools' Trophy and Sixth Forms' Trophy). Congratulations to all involved!

SPORTS REPORTS

BRGS NETBALL TEAM IN NATIONAL FINALS

Our talented under 16 Netball Team reached the National Finals for the third year in a row! In the last two years they finished fifth and third respectively and were hoping that they could make it third time lucky. Unfortunately on the day they did not realise their dream as they came up against strong opposition.

Sue Smith, Head of P.E. said "Everyone had high expectations and they are a bit down but they should take pride in the fact that they are still in the top 10 teams in the country in their age group." Considering over 1,200 teams enter the competition with more than 50,000 players taking part, the team should be extremely proud of their effort and success.

The team comprises Vicky Thornton (Captain), Emily Grimshaw, Rachel Henry, Claire Jackson, Scarlett Martindale, Lucy Noone, Olivia Sloss, Hannah Southwell, Anna Stephenson and Nadia Wood.



BRGS Under 16 Netball Team

PLAYING FOR ENGLAND

Rachel Henry was selected to be the vice-captain of the England Under-17 netball team in an international series organised by the Federation of European Netball Associations, playing against teams from Scotland, Wales, the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Gibraltar. Rachel was a member of the BRGS side who competed in the English Schools' National Netball Championships.

For Rachel to be selected to play for England is a fantastic achievement and honour which is heightened by the fact that she is still only 15 years old. Sue Smith, Head of P.E. at BRGS, said: "This is a major achievement for Rachel, who did not even start to play netball until she came to BRGS. Since then her interest and talent have continued to develop. She is totally committed to her netball and trains regularly at school, with her club, Oldham, and her county, Lancashire."

Sue Smith believes that "Rachel deserves all the success she is getting as she is a talented sportsperson." We wish Rachel well as she strives towards her ultimate aim: to play for the full senior England team.

YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF 2003

One of the successful basketball team, Alex Blow, was voted Young Volunteer of the Year in 2003 as a member of the Millennium Volunteers (MV), a government funded initiative for young people. Anyone between the age of 16 and 24 can become a Millennium Volunteer and the scheme is aimed at encouraging young people to get involved in local issues and acquire skills to then make a positive impact on their local community.

Alex volunteered to help at Rossendale Basketball Club and he was able to benefit by going on coaching courses funded by the MV scheme to become a qualified basketball coach and referee. He has used these skills to coach Rossendale's Under-11 and Under-13 teams and has taken complete training sessions on his own.

Rob Kennedy, Rossendale Sports' Development Officer said: "Alex is a perfect example of how a young person can gain experience in working with younger people and put something into sport whilst benefiting themselves."

Lancashire Schools' Under 16 Basketball Champions!

By Martin Pigott, P.E. Teacher

Having played in the two previous finals and losing them both, this was to be the third attempt by the Bacup team to become the Lancashire Champions.

The only other times that the two schools involved in this year's final have met before was in last year's Lancashire Cup. Both schools won their respective home games, so there was not much clue as to who would start as the favourites at the neutral venue in Haslingden.

When the game began, Bacup were the much stronger team. The starting five of Kenny Eaton, Duncan Harris, Jacob Bullen, Alex Blow and Phil Howe all scored points as they raced away to score a total of 25 points by the end of the first quarter. In the break between quarters, comments were made that this could be a bit of a one-sided final with Bacup reaching a hundred points of more.

At the other end of the court, Mansfield struggled to get into any sort of rhythm because the Bacup defence was strong, giving them almost no opportunities to score. Mansfield finished the first quarter with only four baskets. Bacup deservedly led by 17 points, 25 points to 8. Game over after only a few minutes? Not quite.

The second quarter saw a reversal of fortunes for both teams. Mansfield warmed up to the task and suddenly clicked into gear scoring 5 quick baskets without reply. Suddenly it was a close game. Bacup, as a team, struggled to score, but Kenny Eaton with a 3 pointer and Alex Blow with one basket and a couple of free throws just about kept Bacup in front. Passing errors led to turnovers of possession meaning that the limited scoring opportunities were wasted. At half time Bacup still led, but by the much reduced margin of only 6 points.

In the third quarter Mansfield continued to score, but Bacup had regained their composure and started to put up a much better show, passing the ball a lot better. Kenny Eaton and Alex Blow both scored 3 baskets each as the teams now matched each other basket for basket; the Bacup lead remained 6 points. With a minute to go at the end of the period, Jacob Bullen scored 3 quick baskets to extend the lead to 12 points.

The final period of the game saw a repeat of the second quarter. Mansfield were not going to give in easily and they stepped up the pace offensively, scoring three quick baskets. The lead was back down to 6. Defensively, they put more pressure on which led to some more wayward Bacup passing, again limiting the offensive threat as the ball was given away time and time again. However, with a couple of baskets from Phil Howe, one from Kenny Eaton and a free throw from Shane Dixon, Bacup held the gap at 6 points. With time running out, Kenny Eaton's 3 point shot right on the buzzer gave Bacup a 9 point win with the final score of Bacup 60, Mansfield 51.

The full team is Chris Greenwood, Aiden Smyth, Stefan Harris, Brendan Darcy, Matthew Goggins, Shane Dixon, Alex Blow, Kenny Eaton, Duncan Harris, Jacob Bullen and Phil Howe.



Lancashire Under 16 Basketball Champions celebrating their win!

WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

Jane Biran (known whilst at BRGS as Margravel Jane Dillon) was a former pupil from 1948-1955. Jane writes that whilst at school the Head was William Copley and the Senior Mistress was Phyllis Greenwood. "Freda and Charles Ebdon, Jean Macleroy, Evelyn Firth (later Mrs. Ralph Collins) and the two Miss Moores were among the staff, all of whom I recall with fondness and respect and one or two of whom had a profound influence on my life."

Jane left BRGS with a state scholarship to study English Literature at Liverpool University where she met her first husband who later became a Labour MP. After Liverpool she went to LSE to take a diploma in Personnel Management and Industrial Psychology which led her to posts at the British Institute of Management and Glaxo Group. In 1980 she became the Director of the Public Relations' Office for Israel and, through this work, met her second husband who was at the Israeli Embassy in London. He is now the head of the Foreign Ministry in Israel and they have lived in Jerusalem for over ten years.

On arriving in Jerusalem, Jane was appointed UK Director at the Jerusalem Foundation which aims to "raise funds for all manner of projects in the city aimed at improving the quality of life for all its inhabitants, Arabs and Jews, religious and secular, young and old." Jane states that this work brings her regularly to the UK enabling her to keep in touch with family and friends including her best friend from BRGS, Marian Hunt (née Rhodes). She has two sons, Daniel, a social worker in Sheffield, and Josh, who works for an international aid organisation, and a daughter, Natasha, who is based in the Silicon Valley. Jane's brother, Paul, also attended BRGS and is now semi-retired from the Royal Navy and based in Kent.

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

Thank you in advance for your support.



Bacup & Rawtenstall
Grammar School

Glen Road, Waterfoot,
Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 7BJ

Telephone: 01706 234500

E-mail: emma.gauntlett@brgs.org.uk

Web site: <http://www.brgs.org.uk>

Message Board

Jane Monk (née Rowland) would like to find the whereabouts of Michael Ward who left BRGS in 1962 and was a talented music and history student.

Anne Greenhalgh (née Bacon) would be interested to learn what has happened to "Larry" Parks who was her form teacher at BRGS during the 1950s. Anne believes that Mr. Parks left BRGS to become a MP.

Our congratulations go to Christian Waller (1986-93) and Jane Hadfield on their marriage. Christian is an information technology manager and his best man at the wedding was another former BRGS pupil, Tom Clegg.

Kelly Livesey (1993-2000) has graduated from Sheffield Hallam University with a 2:1 honours degree in media students. We wish her well as she pursues her aim to become a journalist.

James Bulger (left 1999), one of the Pentatonic Brass quintet from the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, performed to a packed audience at St. Nicholas Church, Newchurch. James was a former pupil at All Saints RC High School and then BRGS before attending Chetham's School of Music. He is now in his third year at the RNCM and all at BRGS wish him well in his musical career.

We were saddened to learn of the following deaths: Bert Howarth, a pupil at BRGS in the 1930s who died on the 30th December 2003; Basil Lunt, history teacher at BRGS during the 1960s died in the summer of 2003; and Neville Pilling, a former pupil in the 1940s, died on the 6th January 2004 at his home on the Isle of Man.

abbey

Abbey National have kindly sponsored this newsletter