

The Old Burfordians

The **3rd AGM** of the Old Burfordians was held on
Wednesday 7th November 2018

Present: **The Chairman** (Mr S Norridge)
 The Vice Chairman (Mrs J Norridge)
 The Headteacher (Mrs K Haig)
 The Vice Chairman of the Governing Body (Mr R Martin)
 The Alumni Officer (Mrs C Bishop)
 The Treasurer (Miss E Martin)
 Barbara Rudd

Apologies: **The Secretary** Luke Jackson Ross
 Gill Cox
 Maurice Day
 Andrew White
 Morgan Beth Crockford

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Luke Jackson Ross, Gill Cox, Maurice Day, Andrew White and Morgan Beth Crockford.

2. Minutes of the last AGM (and matters arising)

The minutes of the last AGM were approved with one amendment to page 4, Diane Blackburn should read Diane Blackett.

The following action points have been actioned.

The BSA has now changed its name to the Old Burfordians.

It was noted that The Treasurer has purchased a written ledger to record the financial activity and that all monies have been passed to the finance office.

There is a plan to have an 'Old Burfordians' display on the main corridor. This should happen in the near future.

Action: The Old Burfordians display board to be completed.

Action: R Martin to amend the constitution to reflect change of name.

3. Chairman's Report

Please see Appendix 1.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the total income from the recent Reunion was £780, with a total of £119.55 expenditure; this means a total profit for the Reunion of £660.45. We now have £2000 in our 'special activities' account. We would like to express our thanks to all those who made a cake for the reunion.

The Treasurer's report was received and accepted by those present, and is included in Appendix 2 of the minutes.

Mr Norridge expressed his thanks to the Treasurer for administering the accounts.

5. Election of the Committee

Sadly our Secretary Luke Jackson Ross is stepping down due to other commitments. We would like to thank him for his hard work and efforts during his time. Morgan Beth Crockford will be taking over from him.

It was decided that we would delay the election of the committee until the next meeting.

6. Events Update

2018 Reunion – It was agreed that the 2018 Reunion was a huge success. Many members enjoyed visiting the Boarding House before joining us at school. This is something that we would like to repeat at some stage. The homemade cakes were excellent and appreciated by all. Having a shorter time period seemed to work very well. The bar wasn't really utilised as people were drinking tea but we will be able to use the supplies at the quiz night. Mr Norridge thanked Mrs Norridge for all of her hard work producing the photographic display.

450th Anniversary – Mr & Mrs Norridge have joined the British Library as readers. This will give them access to information on the history of the school in preparation for the 450th Anniversary book.

It was decided that a programme of events needs to be put together. At present we are considering an Alumni Dinner in Term 6 and the publication of two books.

Quiz Night – The date is set for Friday 18 January 2019 for the Quiz Night. The tickets will cost £15 each, this will include a curry supplied by the Bilash. There will be a pay bar. Eleanor Martin and The Alumni Officer will be meeting to finalise details. Posters and flyers to be sent out via e mail, parentmail, Facebook and Twitter. Mr Norridge will also display posters around the local villages.

7. Membership

The Alumni Officer confirmed that our membership has grown to 1200.

8. Any Other Business

Merchandise – The committee discussed the possibilities of having a range of merchandise with the school crest on.

Action Point - RM to investigate various items including cut glass, silver cufflinks, retro items such as old badges.

9. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting has been set for Wednesday 9 January 2019.

Appendix 1: Chairman's Report - 7 November 2018

The first thing to note is that the BSA has changed its name to the Old Burfordians. As with the previous year the last 12 months have been a continuing success with the numbers of ex-students and ex-staff now numbering just over 1400. This is a pleasing upward trend in numbers joining.

Members of the Old Burfordian Committee have once again had a presence at a number of school functions during the year – ranging from having a stand at Open Day in September, at Charter Day in November, the MCC cricket match but unfortunately due to bad weather this year not at Miscellany in December. It was felt important to continue to “fly the flag” for the Old Burfordians and ensure even more people were aware of it as well as having the continued opportunity to display some of the archive material we possess – old trophies, Burfordian magazines, photographs, yearbooks etc.

In February I was privileged to be asked by the Burford Historical Society to go and talk about my memories of Burford Grammar School which I attended in the 1960's and this gave an opportunity to talk about the Alumni. In April I gave a talk to the Milton-Under-Wychwood WI which also gave an opportunity to raise the profile of the Alumni.

On 26th March under the auspices of the regular Boarding House Senior Citizens Lunches, a very successful staff reunion meal was held at which 35 ex-staff attended. Not only was this an opportunity for ex-staff to catch up with one another but also for colleagues to remember a very well loved and respected Deputy Head and Head of the Boarding House – Roy Edmeades who had died. A moving speech was given by Derek Glover Head of Burford School in the 1970's and 80's.

The Alumni newsletters and the Christmas card which were once again sent out during the year are a continuing success.

Once again the “big event” this year has of course been the Re-union held on September 22nd 2018. This year the Boarding House was open for visits 2:00 – 3:00. Many ex - students could not believe how much it had changed from when they were either Boarders or Day Pupils. From 3:00 until 6:00 there was afternoon tea held up at Top School where there was a very popular photographic display, a chance to leave a message on the map board, buy some Burford School memorabilia, have a tour of the school and get a drink from the bar if having a tea was not strong enough.

All in all it gave people a chance to catch up with friends they had not seen for a long time. Particularly moving this year was the ex-students who had attended Burford in the 1940's. Having someone point out a photo taken in 1946 that they were on was like “walking with History” – it brought the past to life. I was also thrilled to meet up with a large contingent of friends who I had been at school with at Burford in the 1960's some of whom were Boarders and some were Day students. All in all it was a pleasure to see so many from different decades at the Reunion.

Thanks must be given to the Old Burfordians Committee, those who worked behind the scenes on the day, Sandi Kaaber at the Boarding House, Sharon Woodward and her team for the teas, the Headteacher Kathy Haig and staff - particularly Mr Frankcom who organised the students who played the piano for the afternoon. Without the support of all these people, the reunion would not have happened.

We are now looking forward to the next 12 months when we hope to see the numbers joining the Old Burfordians continuing to grow from strength to strength. For Charter Day this year we are looking

forward to an ex-student Tom Webster, the Strength and Fitness Coach for Lancashire County Cricket giving the speech and presenting the prizes.

We also have to give a big thank-you to our Secretary Luke Jackson – Ross who has decided due to PhD commitments to stand down. I would like to thank him very much for his support and efforts with the Alumni.

Finally I would like to end this report with two appeals. First – in 2021 Burford School will be celebrating 450 years of existence. We as a committee would welcome ideas and help from ex-students and staff as to what events, celebrations etc you would like to see happening to celebrate this momentous event.

The second appeal I have is for help to buy materials to help us keep our Archival material in the condition it needs to be. Recently my wife and I had the privilege of meeting with Dr Alexa Frost the Archivist of Blenheim Palace. She pointed out that our magazine articles, photographs, books, school magazines, old school cups and trophies etc need to be kept in fire and waterproof specialist containers/folders and these of course are not cheap so any voluntary contributions would be gratefully received.

Stuart Norridge (Chairman) s.norridge@burford.oxon.sch.uk

Appendix 2: Treasurer's Report – 7 November 2018

Income		Expenditure		
Ticket Sales	Cash	£300.00	Bar	£72.50
	Cheque	£60.00	Tea and Cakes	£25.65
	Card	£290.00	Ticket Printing	£14.40
	Paypal	£50.00	Printing Costs	£7.00
Merchandise		£60.00		
Bar		£20.00		
TOTAL		£780.00	TOTAL	£119.55

Profit	£660.45
Cash to Andrea	£317.45
Cheques to Andrea	£60.00
Card Payment from WBH	£290.00