



NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2010

Issue 11

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since the last newsletter, it has been a busy and productive year, which included the Guild Centenary celebrations held in July. We were blessed with excellent weather, a wonderful turnout and a most successful opening of the school's official Archives. Professor Joyce Goodman's reflections on the development of female education over the last one hundred years were fascinating. We hope in time to provide a podcast of her speech on our website. You will read more about the Centenary later in the newsletter; we are extraordinarily fortunate to have so many active Guild members and particular thanks must go to the Guild Committee for their unwavering support and organisation.

This year's examination results once again demonstrated the positive attitude and high levels of commitment and enthusiasm of our students. We set new records in 2010 at A Level and GCSE. An impressive 51% of A Level results were A*/A grades; 15% of all grades were A*s and 81% were A* - B. At GCSE 75% of all grades were A*/A; 94% of grades were A* to B; 62% of students achieved at least 8 A*/A grades and 82% at least 5A*/As. As a Mathematics and Computing Specialist School, we are delighted that 96% of all grades awarded in Maths and ICT were at A*-B; with over 80% at A/A*. Amongst these successes students as young as fourteen achieved A*s in subjects such as Chinese, Turkish, Arabic, and Spanish. Year 10 students sitting early entry modules performed extremely well, with equally impressive results. As always my thanks go to the students, their parents and of course the staff, governors and Guild members who have worked hard to support and encourage the girls to fulfil their potential.

The summer is also a busy time for facilities upgrades. We now have a new Reception area; additional meeting space; a refurbished Student Support centre; a freshly painted school exterior; a new flat roof on the Verney building; and more student toilets have been brought up to a modern standard! The girls are most impressed. We have invested in new IT hardware and software on every student and classroom PC. We also have new servers and a modern and effective disaster recovery system. As we continue to invest in IT, so we continue to develop our reporting systems and this year we will be moving to on-line system of reporting, enabling parents and students to access their school reports via an intranet. It is certainly a changing world and the pace of change is quite demanding, but none-the-less exciting.

As always the arts, both performing and visual, make a big impact on our day-to-day life at school. This year we have our very own Artist-in-Residence, Mrs Carol Drofiak, who is working with our students to introduce them to commercial artists with varying backgrounds and has launched two community arts projects - with Stewart Linford and with Lucy Landers. On the Friday before half term, every member of our community participated in the national STOP, DROP & DRAW event. We now have 1500 pieces of creative art work to display around school.

There is much activity in Music and Drama and on the 3, 4 and 5 November we hosted the Wycombe High School production of Oklahoma! Mrs Cornall, Director of Music and Mrs Jonsmyth-Clarke, Subject Leader for Drama, worked extremely hard with our students to put on superb performances. I am delighted to say we were joined by boys from Great Marlow, St Bernard's, the Royal Grammar and John Hampden. Add to this great sporting successes, Focus Days, competitions, enterprise activities and many extra-curricular clubs and you will get a flavour for the vibrant atmosphere and wealth of opportunities that are offered at Wycombe High School. I look forward to continuing to develop our Guild membership and working with you during this academic year. With every best wish for 2011.

Sharon Cromie

Centenary Reunion 10 July 2010

Unusually for a summer reunion, the day was warm and sunny. Possible heat stroke rather than rain was the concern! The celebrations began in the Wainwright Learning Centre with the official opening of the Archive - *The Wycombe High School Centre for the History of Girls' State Education* – its proper title, as in all the Heritage Lottery Funding documentation. Around 66 Guild members and guests attended, including some of those who had helped us with our funding application and Rachel Kneale, WHS archivist 2008-2009, whose work was funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Former WHS student, Professor Joyce Goodman of Winchester University (pictured with Mrs Sharon Cromie, and Becci Andrews, the newly appointed Head of Guild Liaison in the Student Leadership Team), performed the ceremony, giving a fascinating talk. It was Joyce who had made us realise the value of the WHS Archive and inspired us to apply for Heritage Lottery Funding, giving us amazing support in our successful application. What a pity the Bucks Free Press report of the Reunion did not mention the official opening of the Archive!



By midday, more Guild members were starting to arrive until over 350 were assembled in the amphitheatre, with past and present members of staff and student helpers, to be welcomed by Mrs Sharon Cromie, and Becci Andrews. Lunch followed and members met with their contemporaries, to catch up and reminisce while enjoying a cold buffet or barbecue. There was time then to explore the school, guided by student helpers, before meeting for decade receptions, for more catching up.

After cutting the celebration cake and tea, the day concluded with the singing, led by Mrs Muriel Pilkington, of *Forty Years On* – the school song for many years, which had been introduced by the first Headmistress and first President of the Guild, Miss Mary Christie.

There is more about the Reunion, from some of those who attended, in the 2010 issue of the Guild Magazine which – IF you placed a prepaid order - is enclosed with this newsletter. To order future issues by standing order, please use the form enclosed with this Newsletter. For photographs of the event, log on to the Guild pages of the WHS website www.whs.bucks.sch.uk

Help – Archive volunteers needed!

One of the conditions of HLF funding for the Archive - *The Wycombe High School Centre for the History of Girls' State Education* – was that we should make it widely available for research not only for projects in school and by the local community, but also to visitors from further afield, as well as on-line. This would be through the use of volunteers organised through the Guild and a member of the WHS staff, currently Mrs Janice Thomas. Also, new items for the Archive need to be sorted, logged and added to the catalogue before housing appropriately. Training will be provided, so that you can help people to locate the information they seek.

We should be delighted with whatever time you could offer. We have 9 volunteers so far who have had some training, and have made a start on the work needed. More volunteers would be most welcome. For further information about being an Archive volunteer and to arrange a visit to the Archive, please contact Janice Thomas, at WHS – e-mail: JThomas@whs.bucks.sch.uk or Rachel Sutcliffe c/o WHS - e-mail: guild@whs.bucks.sch.uk For a taste of what is in the Archive, log on to the WHS website at www.whs.bucks.sch.uk and click the Archive button.

Change of Address

If you move and change your contact details (including e-mail address) PLEASE remember to inform the Guild Administrator. Having tried to e-mail October and November notices about High Flyer (<http://www.whs.bucks.sch.uk/high-flyer>) to members, we've received over 700 notices of incorrect e-mail addresses. We would be very grateful if you could take the time to send us your correct email address to guild@whs.bucks.sch.uk.

Where are they now?

Many thanks to members who supplied details of some of those listed "missing" last year. However, the Annual Newsletter and mailing sent to those below were returned marked "Gone away, address unknown." Please send details to the Guild Administrator at WHS, if you can help with addresses or information about any of them.

2006 Mailing

2001 Helene ELTING
1987 Joanne GRILLS née
Williamson
1985 Laichine Felicity LIN
1995 Mrs F PATRICK
2000 Joan SCOTT
1994 Josephine TANDY
1962 Margaret WALLEN
1940 Doreen WALSH née Garton

2007 Mailing

2005 Zoë BARBER
1986 Deborah BOWEN
1994 Roxane BROWN
1988 Amanda CLAESENS
1975 Carol DAVISON née Hamilton
1981 Caroline DRYZEK née
Martin
1989 Claire GULLIVER
1989 Mrs E HALE
1988 Tracey HUXLEY née Horne
1981 Joanne KIRVEN née
Thomas
1935 Margaret PULLIN née Harrow

2008 Mailing

2007 Jessica ALEXANDER
1963 Judith BOWTLE née Burr
2006 Jessie BRICKLEY
1948 Joan M BURROUGH née Hoar
1956 Fiona FLETCHER
1964 Patricia G HARRIS née
Westoby
2006 Amie Louise HOWARD
1970 Angela HUNTER née Williams
2006 Sarah-Louise JOHNSON
1996 Mr J. LEWIS
1965 Monica LONG née Ford
1961 Ann MATKIN née Membry
1982 Dawn E MUIR née Gardener
2007 Louise PICKLES
1969 Wendy A. ROOTES née Petch
2006 Naomi C ROWE
1987 Janice STOCKBRIDGE
1932 Joan STUART
1998 Heather A. WALTER
2006 Natasha J. WILLIAMS

2009 Mailing

2001 Annabel BEATTIE
2003 Tarryn COLMAN
2005 Damaris J NICOL
1992 Alison TRETT
1997 Katherine HARTLESS
1981 Elspeth R GOLDIE
1987 Rachel STONEHAM
1987 Janice STOCKBRIDGE
1983 Hilary K WILSON
2006 Hollie GUNN
2007 Hazel INNISS
2007 Danielle SACCO
1989 Claire HAMP
1989 B. WELLS-WEST
1987 Annabel ROUSE
1959 P HOLTEN
1986 Jane COLLYER

From the Vice-President

From last Autumn until July, much time and energy on the part of the Guild Committee and Centenary Working Party members, with Karen Barr, the Guild Administrator, and Dana Morgan, the Development Director, focused on preparations for the Centenary Reunion. I should like to thank all of those involved for their support and hard work, both beforehand and on the day, in making it such an enjoyable occasion - in particular, Karen and Dana; Jan Thomas; Bob Bean, WHS Facilities Manager and his site services team; Student Ambassadors and members of the SLT (Student Leadership Team) including Becci Andrews, newly appointed Head of Guild Liaison in the SLT who joined our President, Sharon Cromie, in welcoming everyone.

As always, I should like to thank Sharon for all her support, and to congratulate her, the students and staff at WHS on their achievements during the past year, both academic and also in the wide range of extra-curricular activities in which they participate, including the splendid production of Oklahoma. I should also like to thank Jill Boyd for her hard work as editor of the Guild Magazine and Ann Weaver, for proof-reading it; the Archive volunteers for their work to date in sorting, logging, cataloguing and housing new items which have been donated.

Finally, Karen Barr, the Specialist School Administrator and first Guild Administrator, has taken on new duties supporting the School Leadership Group. I should like to thank her for her support and help. Dana Morgan has now taken on the role of Guild Liaison supported by one of the Curriculum Assistants, Toozy Nanda, as Guild Administrator. We very much appreciate their work to date.

Thank you to everyone who has been in touch - it was good to see so many of you on 10 July. I was very frustrated at not being able to spend much time with anyone! My very best wishes to all for Christmas and the New Year.

Rachel Sutcliffe

Wycombe High School Guild Annual Reunion on Saturday 5 March 2011

Programme

12.00 pm	Reception in The Forum
12.30 pm	Buffet Lunch in The Forum followed by coffee
2.30 pm	Guest Speaker - Birgit Häuffe (followed by the Guild AGM)
4.30 pm	Tea

Birgit Häuffe was a student at WHS from 1988-1994 and, apart from trying to be in all of the sports teams, she studied Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Spanish to A Level. After A Levels, she lived in Cuba for a year with Project Trust, "quickly grew up, learned about the world, caught the travelling bug, and consolidated my Spanish". She then studied Medicine and BSc Pathology at Glasgow University. After graduating in 2002, she has been working in various branches of medicine, mainly in Scotland. Since 2005, she has been an active member of MSF (Médecins Sans Frontières - www.msf.org.uk) a large non-governmental organisation, whose main role is the provision of medical care in emergencies. She worked in the largest cholera outbreak in Africa (at the time) in Angola, and in a paediatric hospital in Liberia in 2006.

Most recently, upon hearing about the earthquake in Haiti she felt she had to go to help in some way. She left her position as a GP in Edinburgh (with the blessing of her colleagues) and went out "to the field". You can read her "Diary from Haiti" in the 2010 Guild Magazine - a summary of some of the e-mail correspondence that she sent back via group e-mails to friends and colleagues, including former Deputy Head of WHS, Tony Merrick.

The cost for lunch, including wine or soft drinks and coffee, with afternoon tea to conclude, is £14. To book your place, please complete the form on page 5 to the Guild Administrator at WHS, with your cheque for the appropriate amount, payable to Wycombe High School Guild. Deadline is 1 February 2011.

In Memoriam

Roman Pilzek, a valued member of the WHS Site Services team, died peacefully in his sleep at the age of 63 during the night of 4-5 October. Guild members who attended the Centenary Reunion will appreciate the work of the Site Services team, including Roman, in maintaining the WHS facilities to make as pleasant an environment as possible in buildings dating from the mid 1950's. His most recent work was the refurbishment of the decking around the pond. Those who helped with the annual envelope stuffing in recent years will also have appreciated Roman's transportation, with his colleagues, of the Newsletters, Magazines and envelopes to the Conference Room for packing, and then returning them to Reception ready for posting. As well as knowing his good work around the school site, through my membership of the Governors' Facilities Committee, my husband and I enjoyed many dog walks in Penn Wood with him and his lovely dog, Bacchus. Roman and his good works as a member of the Site Services team will be sorely missed.

Rachel Sutcliffe

News of Members in the Guild Magazine

In addition to original contributions, an important part of the content is news from members. This is collected by Group Leaders who contact their contemporaries and edit their responses for publication, while we write individually to Senior Members for their news. I try also to contact our recent Year 13 leavers for their news, through the former Head Girls. **HOWEVER, WE STILL NEED MORE GROUP LEADERS**, so if you are in one of the groups listed below and would like more news in the next edition of your magazine, **please volunteer your services**, so that we have a Group Leader for each year. We supply contact details and printed labels.

Year Groups Needing Leaders to Collect and Edit News

1967, 1968, 1970, 1974, 1981, 1982, 1984, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004. If you wish to volunteer to do so, please contact The Guild Administrator at WHS (contact details on page 2).

Save Paper and Postage!

Receive an e-mail alert to download the Guild Annual Newsletter. From next year, e-mail your request by 1 November 2011 to the Guild Administrator at guild@whs.bucks.sch.uk

ANNUAL REUNION 5 MARCH 2011 BOOKING FORM

Please complete your details in block capitals for name labels, to be collected on arrival, and return the form with your payment (£14 per ticket) to the address below by **1 February 2011**:

Guild Administrator, Wycombe High School, Marlow Road, High Wycombe HP11 1TB

NB: former students - *please give year group or year you left 5th Form/Year 11*

Members of staff - *please give dates at WHS/LVHS*

Name: _____ Née: _____ Year Group/ _____
 _____ Dates at WHS/LVHS _____

Please state any special dietary requirements: _____

Title: _____ Forename: _____ Surname: _____ Née: _____

Date I left WHS/LVHS: _____ Date I left Year 11: _____ Dates at WHS/LVHS: _____
(former students) *(Y11/ 5th Form)* *(present and former staff)*

Address: _____ Telephone No: _____

_____ Mobile No: _____

Post code: _____ Email Address: _____

Has your name and/or address changed since the last Guild mailing? *(Please circle)* Yes / No

I enclose a cheque for made payable to Wycombe High School Guild.

GUILD LINKS WITH THE SCHOOL

Guild members are potentially a tremendous resource for WHS. Listed below are some ideas; if there are other ways in which you think Guild members could become more involved in the life of the School, to the benefit of the girls, please let us have your suggestions. Please use the form below to indicate how you might be willing to assist, giving a brief resumé of your qualifications and experience. If you have already returned a form, there is no need to send another, unless it needs updating. Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1. Would you be willing to *(please tick as appropriate)*

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | provide career support to current students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | offer work experience to current students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | share recent experiences of Higher Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | advise on Gap Years (not only for living abroad) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | link with an individual subject department |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | donate teaching resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | help with the School Fund-raising Campaigns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | participate in regional networking events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | offer a venue for an event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | set up an alumnae group in your area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | contribute a profile to High Flyer |

3. Education: University/Qualification/Course

4. Employment: Job Title/Employer

5. Current Hobbies/Interests:

6. Trace-a-friend: Let us help you find a friend or member of staff. Please tell us their full name and year they left.

2. None of the above, but I would be willing to:



GUILD MAGAZINE ORDER FORM

Please complete the form and return to the address below. Please ignore if you have already completed a standing order form before. Please do not send it to your Bank/Building society.

Guild Administrator, Wycombe High School, Marlow Road, High Wycombe HP11 1TB

Title: _____ Forename: _____ Surname: _____ Née: _____

Address: _____ Telephone No: _____

_____ Mobile No: _____

Post code: _____ Email Address: _____

Are you a former member of staff? *(Please circle)* Yes/ No

Please send me the Guild Magazine when published each year until further notice.

(Please tick appropriate box)

UK £5 including postage and packaging.

Europe £6 including postage and packaging.

Rest of the World £7 including postage and packaging.

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Surname at school *(if different from the one mentioned on the previous page)* _____

To the Manager:
(Bank/Building
Society)

Please transfer the sum of * £5 / £6 / £7 on
1 February 2011 and * £5 / £6 / £7 on 1 February
each year until further notice.
(Please delete the figures not required)

Address: _____

_____ Post code: _____

Please pay to: NatWest
PO Box 17
33 High Street
High Wycombe
Bucks HP11 2AJ

Name on Account: _____
Account Number: _____
Sort code: _____

Sort Code: 60-11-01

Please note: This Standing Order replaces any previous Standing Order on my/our account for the Wycombe High School Guild Magazine.

Account Name: Wycombe High School Guild Date: _____

Account No: 61572381 Signature: _____



Wycombe High School Merchandise



Pashmina with school logo in one corner. Made from 80% cashmere and 20% silk.



Bone China Mugs, Parker Roller Ball Pen, 'The First 100 Years of WHS'.



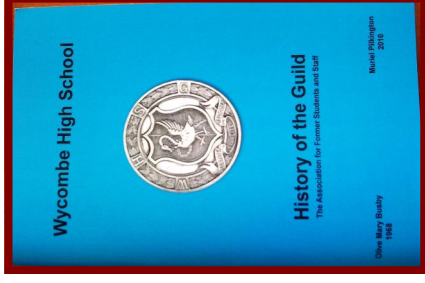
Hoodie with school logo on left breast. Made from 80% cotton and 20% acrylic.



Guild Centenary t-shirt with school logo on front left breast and 'WHS Guild 1910 - 2010' on the back. Made from 100% cotton.



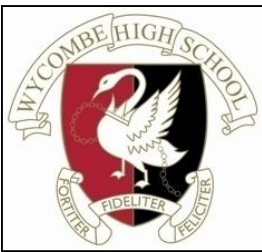
WHS Guild from its foundation in 1910 to its centenary.



Wycombe High School
History of the Guild
The Achievement of Former Students and Staff
Chris Mary Buxby 1998
Muriel Thompson 2010

PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR ORDER FORM OR DOWNLOAD ONE FROM OUR WEBSITE AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO THE FINANCE OFFICE.

GUILD ADMINISTRATOR . WYCOMBE HIGH SCHOOL . MARLOW ROAD . HIGH WYCOMBE . HP11 1TB . 01494 523961
GUILD@WHS.BUCKS.SCH.UK . WWW.WHS.BUCKS.SCH.UK



Wycombe High School Merchandise Order Form

For items listed below this line, please make cheque payable to 'Wycombe High School Development Fund'.

Item	Collect from School	Price for postage and packaging.			Quantity		Cost
		UK	Europe	Rest of World			
Parker Pen	£2.50	£3.00	£3.50	£4.50			
Mugs - School badge (SB) & Swans (SW).	£3.00	£4.00	£5.00	£6.00	SB	SW	
First 100 Years	£5.00	£6.00	£7.00	£9.00			
Pashmina *	£30.00	£31.00	£32.00	£33.00			

For items listed below this line, please make cheque payable to 'Wycombe High School Guild'.

Item	Collect from School	Price for postage and packaging.			Size S/M/L/XL	Qty	Cost
		UK Post	Europe Post	Rest of World Post			
Guild Centenary T-shirt	£10.00	£11.50	£12.50	£13.50			
Hoodie	£20.00	£22.00	£25.00	£28.50			
History of Guild	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50	£5.00	NA		
<i>All prices quoted are in pounds sterling.</i>					Total Amount		

Surname: _____

Forename: _____

Address: _____

Tel No: _____

Work No: _____

Mobile No: _____

Post code: _____

Email: _____

If payment needs to be refunded please tick the relevant box.

Send my cheque / cash to my address noted above.

Contact me to organise collection.

* We must receive a minimum of 50 orders to fulfil supplier requirements. In the event that we do not receive this number of orders, your payment will be returned to you.