

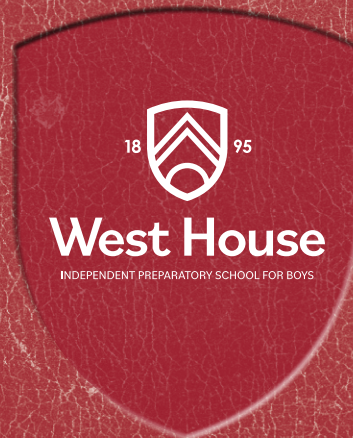


WHOBA

Magazine



Annual Review
2022





Old Boys'

Magazine



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www.westhouseprep.com



West House
INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS



Old Boys'

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After the struggles of the last couple of years it was a pleasure to see old boys back enjoying the events of 2022. Details of which, are covered in the following pages. We also include details of upcoming events which we hope many of you will be able to participate in. The strength of the WHOBA is entirely reliant on your support and engagement.

I would like to encourage as many members as possible to give us your views at the AGM that this year is set for Wednesday 22nd March at 7.30. The association and committee have over the recent years benefitted from the ideas of those that have taken part in the Zoom event. While I appreciate that a Zoom meeting is not as sociable as meeting face to face, it does open the AGM to all those across the country and outside the Edgbaston bubble.

The move to the digital magazine is driven by several factors that include a desire to be a little greener, limit the ever-increasing cost of postage and most importantly to collaborate more closely with the school's new website.

The school has invested extensively in the website and WHOBA has a new section within the website, but it is reliant on you keeping us supplied with up-to-date news. We will be using social media and the website to keep everyone updated about forthcoming events, and hopefully keep better connected with each other.

I would encourage everyone to follow the school on social media and to periodically check the website for the latest news. If you have any news that you would like to share with the other old boys, please drop a line to whoba@westhouseprep.com

*Yours Jeremy Thornton
WHOBA Chairman.*



West House
INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS

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The West House Old Boys Association hosted an enjoyable summer luncheon on Wednesday 15th June. Old boys, many who had not been back to the school for over 30 years, travelled from all corners of the UK to meet-up, tour the school and enjoy a fantastic lunch in the “big” school dining hall.

Happy memories came flooding back particularly from the old boarders who were taken over to Westbourne to visit their old dormitories. A particular highlight for old boys is always the opportunity to spot themselves in the school photographs displayed in the big school and this group of Old Boys, who all attended the school pre-1970, were no exception.

Following a superb lunch, which we can happily report was a notch above normal school lunches, guests were treated to a musical recital by a few current Year 6 boys, one of whom is already diploma standard on the piano.



Speaking about the event, WHOBA chairman, Jeremy Thornton commented:

"Yesterday's event also confirmed what we already felt that the draw of the school and the opportunity to see it again is a large attraction to old boys and we hope to host similar occasions in the near future."

"Many thanks for arranging such an enjoyable event. It was really great to revisit the school after such a long time and revive some very happy memories of the wonderful experiences I had there. I remember the school as a very special place and that was the impression I had again during my visit."

David Harris



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Basketball Match

A number of hardy West House Old Boys returned to the school on a sunny January 2nd 2022 and took advantage of the new all-weather pitches to play in the annual WHOBA basketball match.

Supervised by Mr Denham (of course), the match was extremely energetic and it was noted by spectators that the old boys involved were looking younger each year.

It was also observed that West House Old Boy and current Chairman of the Board of Governors, James Gittins, arrived looking the part before making no effort at all to play.

We welcome all Old Boys along to these events, regardless of when they left the school, and they often provide surprising networking opportunities for secondary school aged boys looking for work experience placements.



Football Match

This year's annual football match took place, as usual, at Richmond Hill Road. It was delightful to see the average age of our "old boys" had significantly fallen and numbers were boosted by our current cohort of talented Year 6 footballers.



Cricket Match

The annual cricket match for WHOBA took place on Sunday 3 July at 1pm



Old Boys'

Magazine



Dates for your diary

Basketball

Friday 30th December at 11am (entry via Star Hill)
Just turn up!

Football

Sunday 26th March (Richmond Hill) at 2:00pm
Just turn up!

Cricket

Sunday 9th July (Richmond Hill) at 1:30 pm
Just turn up!

Old Boys of any age and current Year 6 boys are all welcome to attend either in a playing or spectating capacity.

Old Boys Lunch

Thursday 15th June 2023, 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

The Headmaster, Alistair Lyttle (1984) will be opening the school to WHOBA members who left the school between 1975 and 1985. There will be a buffet lunch and the chance to meet other Old Boys, revisit the school and see the magnificent buildings such as Duce Hall and the Centenary Building that have been added to the site since you left. In addition, you will be able to view an art exhibition of the pupils' work and be treated to a short recital of music from a couple of pupils. Most importantly, I hope it will help reconnect members to the school.

While further details will be circulated in due course, it would be helpful if expressions of initial interest could be emailed to Rebecca Jones-Owen whoba@westhouseprep.com

AGM

Wednesday 22nd March 2023, 7:30 pm

The association and committee have over the recent years benefitted from the ideas of those that have taken part in the Zoom event. While we appreciate that a Zoom meeting is not as sociable as meeting face to face, it does open the AGM to all those across the country and outside the Edgbaston bubble.





Old Boys'

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I attended W.H.S. when I lived in Birmingham as a child. My father was a biochemist and took a sabbatical leave to Birmingham to do some research collaboration. England was always a favourite place for my parents to visit and live as we've had 3 separate times living in England: Cambridge 1964, Birmingham 1971, Cambridge 1985. My oldest brother Tom attended boarding school in Solihull for 4 years finishing his A levels there. My youngest brother Mark attended The Atlantic College in Wales on their 1985 sabbatical.

I was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in 1961, and except for a couple of summer jobs and extensive traveling, have continued to make this my home. I have pursued the field of Social Work by going to college in 1981 to obtain my diploma. In 1990 I completed my Bachelors degree and my Masters Degree in Social Work:

Leadership and International Specializations, in 2013. I've had a fulfilling career having worked in a range of social work areas including front-line, counselling, policy, research, program development, management, etc. I presently have a private practice counselling practice with a focus on mental health and addictions; and teach social work at the college diploma and university degree level.

My wife and I met at university in 1986 and married in 1992. Together, we have two grown daughters, ages 26 & 28. My wife and youngest daughter are both teachers, my daughter in a French Immersion School. My eldest daughter works for the International Gaming Company called 'Zynga', as the Senior Manager of Community Investment, Diversity and Inclusion. Her and her husband Adrian just had their first child, my first grandchild, a boy!

Twenty-five years ago, my wife and I founded a charity in Ethiopia, which takes us back there on a regular basis. The registered charity, Sustainable East African Education and Development Society (S.E.E.D.S.) was started to support orphaned and vulnerable children to access and sustain an education. Through our in-country office, we presently fund and support 260 children at 4 partner schools working collaboratively with local government officials, community elders, schools, families, and other stakeholders. I have enjoyed great family life at "the lake" our family cottage of 45 year, traveling, skiing, and many other activities in the 'great outdoors' we are blessed with here in Canada.



West House
INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Scott Smillie
(1972)



Old Boys'

Magazine



In January 2020 Doug took a 7-month work sabbatical and he and his wife and children went off to Southeast Asia. The timing was "not ideal" and when borders closed around the world, they were left stranded in Indonesia (Lombok and Bali.

This did at least mean that they all had beaches and snorkelling to themselves. They finally escaped in September 2020 and Doug and his family have now emigrated to Perth, Western Australia.

Doug continues to practise as an insurance litigator and kindly says "if you are ever passing by Perth, please look him up. Apparently, he lives in Harborne Street that sounds too good to be true!!!!

*Douglas (Doug) Heard
(1983)*

I was at West House until 2011 and am writing to update you on some significant personal news, which I thought might be of interest to the West House community.

After leaving West House, I completed my GCSEs at Priory School and my A Levels at Solihull School. I then went on to study Business & Management at Durham University. Today, I found out I have been awarded First Class Honours in my degree. This moment feels like the peak of my educational journey, which started at West House in circa 2003/4 (I cannot remember the exact dates). I remember my time at West House with great fondness and believe this latest success would not have been possible without the fantastic springboard I was given.

I will be starting at Amazon.com on 5 September as a Retail Vendor Manager, in charge of finding new products for the Amazon retail platform. Hopefully, I will be able to share some more interesting stories in the future!



*Zack Balla
(2011)*



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Arora was born on 10 October 1971 in Birmingham, England. His mother was a Hindu and his father a Sikh. He was educated at King Edward VI Five Ways School, a state grammar school in Birmingham. He studied law and politics at the University of Birmingham, graduating with a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree in 1993.

Arora's early career was in employment law. From 1996 to 2000, he worked with Thompsons Solicitors in Birmingham. After completing his training contract, he was admitted as a solicitor in 1998. He co-authored *The Rule of Lawyers*, which was published in 1998.

Arora then moved into working in public relations in the Church of England. From 2000 to 2004, he was the Diocesan Communications Officer of the Diocese of Birmingham and press officer for the Bishop of Birmingham.

From 2004 to 2007, he trained for ordained ministry at Cranmer Hall, Durham. During this time, he also studied theology at the University of Durham, and he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in 2006.

In parallel with his studies and curacies, he was Director of Communications for the Archbishop of York from 2006 to 2009.

Arora was ordained in the Church of England as a deacon in 2007 and as a priest in 2008. He served his curacy at St Mark's Church, Harrogate in the then Diocese of Ripon and Leeds (now in the Ripon Episcopal Area of the Diocese of Leeds) between 2007 and 2010. From 2010 to 2012, he was a Team Leader of Wolverhampton Pioneer Ministries, a fresh expression of church aimed at young adults and run jointly by the Anglican and Methodist churches.

He was Director of Communications for the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England from September 2012 to 7 April 2017, based at Church House in Westminster, London. From 2013 to 2017, he also held the position of public preacher in the Diocese of St Albans.

On 12 December 2016, Arora was announced as the next vicar of St Nicholas' Church, Durham in the Diocese of Durham. On 24 June 2017, he was instituted and inducted as vicar. From 2020 to 2021, he was co-chair of the Church of England's Anti-Racism Taskforce, and appeared in the 2021 Panorama episode 'Is the Church Racist?'. In April 2021, he was made an honorary canon of Durham Cathedral.

On 27 May 2022, it was announced that Arora was to become suffragan Bishop of Kirkstall in the Diocese of Leeds. He was consecrated as a bishop by Stephen Cottrell during a service at York Minster on 15 July 2022.

Canon Arun Arora Vicar of
St. Nicholas Church Durham and
Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral
(1982)



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Old Boys'

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Born in Birmingham, Vinen lived in the Bournville Estate. His father, Joe Vinen, was a professor of physics. After West House School, Richard attended KES. From 1982 to 1989, he attended Trinity College, Cambridge, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1985, and then completing his doctoral studies there; his PhD was awarded in 1989 for his thesis "The politics of French Business 1936-1945", supervised by Christopher Andrew.

Vinen was a Fellow at Trinity from 1988 to 1992, and was a part-time lecturer at Queen Mary University of London from 1988 to 1991. He eventually moved to London where he and his wife lived in a succession of louche locations early in his career. He has written that "the Serious Crime Squad once installed a camera in our bedroom so that they could keep an eye on one of our neighbours." After lecturing at Queen Mary, he joined King's College London in 1991 as a lecturer; he was promoted to a readership in 2001, and was appointed Professor of History in 2007.

Vinen's book *National Service: Conscription in Britain, 1945-1963* (2014) received generally positive reviews. On 13 May 2015, he was presented with a Wolfson History Prize and Templer Medal for it. He also won the Walter Laqueur Prize in 2012 (recognising the best article in *Journal of Contemporary History* of the previous year) for "The Poisoned Madeleine: The Autobiographical Turn in Historical Writing". In 2018, Vinen delivered the Institute of Historical Research's Creighton Lecture on the topic "When was Thatcherism?". In 2020, he was one of three historians invited to give the Historical Research Lecture; it was entitled "Writing histories of 2020".

Earlier this year he published "Second City, Birmingham and the Forging of Modern Britain." It has been very well received and Richard can often be heard on Radio 4 talking about his home city.



West House
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Richard Vinen
(1975-1976)

Old Boys'

Magazine



I left West House in 1967

After leaving King Edward's, I did a London University Law degree and started my articles with a medium sized London firm, qualifying in 1979.

I moved to a larger city practice, Lovell, White & King, in 1982, becoming a partner in 1986. I spent the rest of my career at the firm, spanning 32 years. (The firm became Lovell White Durrant, Lovells and Hogan Lovells as it expanded, domestically and internationally).

After becoming a partner, I specialised in Corporate Finance, subsequently moving into Debt Capital Markets and Structured Finance, as that market developed in the early 90's, advising principally banks and the finance arms of multinational corporations.

Alongside my practice, I had several management roles in the firm and was elected to the Partnership Board from 1995 to 1998. At the end of 2004, I was elected as the firm's Global Managing Partner and re-elected for a second term in 2008.

In that role, I led the firm's transatlantic merger to become Hogan Lovells, the largest US merger in the legal services market at the time. The merger took effect in 2010 and I became Global Co-CEO, with the former Chair of the US firm.

I retired from the firm in June 2014, after nearly 10 years leading the firm. At that time, the firm had 46 offices in 24 countries, 850 partners and approximately 5000 staff.

Since then, I've had a career break and undertaken several roles, namely

Business Mentor at Mentore Consulting, which provides business mentoring to senior executives, particularly women, to enhance their careers and

help them transition to more senior management roles (January 2015 to present).

Member of Mosaic's London and South East Regional Leadership Group, having previously been a member of the International Advisory Panel, prior to the Charity's transfer to the Prince's Trust (January 2015 to March 2021).

Board adviser to British Parasnowsport (January 2017 to October 2021).

Non-Executive Board Member of Eversheds Sutherland International, another global law firm (May 2017 to April 2022)

Member of the Board of Governors and Chair of the Finance and Estates Committee of Manor House School, an independent girls school (May 2017 to present).

A lot of the time, though, I enjoy spending time with my family, including my four, now adult, children and pursuing a number of personal interests centred around sport and music.



West House
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David Harris
(1967)



Old Boys'

Magazine



Has retired to Skerries, 17 miles North of Dublin and 70 miles due west of Blackpool. He enjoys the view of the Irish Sea and the 400 yards walk to the beach. John is the brother of cardiologist Hugh McIntyre (1972) who practices at Conqueror Hospital in Hastings.

John writes that his happiest memory at West House is of the July fete. He still has his school cap, which he wore scrambling up and down the bank. One time, he was sent to stand under the clock outside Mr. Douglas's office, by the prefect Hugh McIntyre (his brother!) John apologised for his "atrocious" handwriting and blames it on the fact that he missed handwriting class in Senior 6. He recalls the other boy with bad handwriting was David Cadbury (RIP) but David made up for his handwriting by bringing in lovely chocolates!

*John McIntyre
(1974)*

1940-2021: The school is extremely grateful that Anthony Peter Howell left a sum of money to be donated to the Michael Pratt Fund.

Michael, an old boy of the school established a fund in his memory with two specific aims.

Primarily, he wanted pupils not currently at the school to benefit from the education provided, and particularly those whose families would otherwise not be in a position to pay full fees. He also wanted those senior boys who demonstrate particular gifts and talents to be recognised and rewarded.

The fund is supported by West House Old Boys' Association, the Pratt family and the school. It is used to support boys through the awarding of Michael Pratt Scholarships and Michael Pratt Awards.

Anthony Howell spent his working life in private practice as a Consultant Engineer. We believe he lived on a farm in Bletchley, where his wife, Carolyn bred Charollais sheep.



*A.P Howell
(1951)*



West House
INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS

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Over the past 12 months we have been delving deep into the West House archives and have been able to use some of the amazing photographs and accounts of school life for various displays around the school.

We have included one of the displays in the following pages. If you are reading this online you may have to zoom in to get the full detail. If you are interested in seeing the display "in situ", please consider joining us for the reunion this summer or contact whoba@westhouseprep.com to arrange a school visit.

Tricia Moore who was art teacher at West House until 2021 put together the following for a display in Duce Hall. We thought you might enjoy seeing them.



CONTRACT
FOR A BUILDING TO BE ERRECTED BY
BOULTON & PAUL, LIMITED
NORWICH

D. T. CAREY, FIELD ESQ. PROPOSED PAVILION.

CRICKET, 1922.

RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1921-22.

BOXING COMPETITION, 1922.

During the Second World War West House boys were taught at Middlesex Park Middlesex Park is a Grade I listed building, with six bells playing supporting 100 bells.

It was built in the mid 18th century by Sir Thomas Robinson 4th Baronet for the 1st Duke of Devonshire.



West House School Over Fifty Years Ago by Dr. L. M. J. Kramer

When we read about these people we are sure to be quite... The main building stood on the corner opposite to James's Church...



FIRST DAY AT WEST HOUSE SCHOOL, 1895

THE MASTERS OF WEST HOUSE SCHOOL 1918



REV. J. JACKSON, MR. A. STONE, MR. M. LEVISON, MR. B. IRVING, MR. P. SIMON, MR. R. ARMITAGE, MR. P. C. HAYFIELD, MR. J. WOOD, MR. H. MORRIS



West House School... 1918



1918



1918



WEST HOUSE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS 1900... Oakham 1st, W.E. Charlton, Oakham, E.A. Smith, Oundle, J.L. Milligan, King Edward's, R. Whitwell, King Edward's, A.T. Vardy, 1901, King Edward's, J.S. Hoyland



NOT KNOWN, MR. B. STONE, REV. R. J. JACKSON, NOT KNOWN, MR. B. IRVING, NOT KNOWN, MR. D. C. HAYFIELD, MR. P. C. HAYFIELD, MR. P. C. HAYFIELD, MR. P. C. HAYFIELD, MR. P. C. HAYFIELD, MR. P. C. HAYFIELD

VOL. I. FEBRUARY, 1908. EDITORIAL... THE EDITOR... We have heard it suggested that the Magazine should be named 'The Magazine of Virtue'...



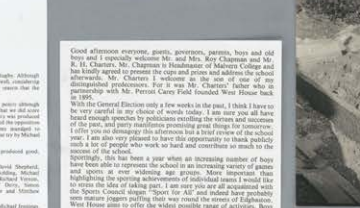
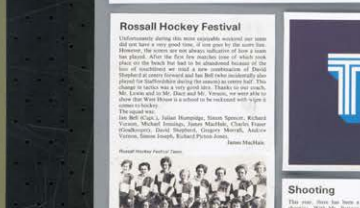
The Year of 1920-1921... The Local Government of the University... O'Meara



Prof. Maudeley's remarks at the Opening of the new Gymnasium

The opening of the new Gymnasium at West House School is a most important event in the history of the school. It is a building which will be a great asset to the school and will be a great asset to the community. It is a building which will be a great asset to the school and will be a great asset to the community. It is a building which will be a great asset to the school and will be a great asset to the community.

1970's



West House Magazine

The magazine is a publication for the school community. It features articles, photographs, and news items. It is a valuable resource for students and staff alike.

Shooting Cup 1976

The shooting cup was a major event for the school. It was held in the school grounds and was a great success. The students participated with enthusiasm and showed excellent skills.

Soccer 1970

The soccer team had a successful year. They won several matches and finished in a high position. The players showed great teamwork and determination.

Rugby 1980 1st XV

The rugby team had a very successful year. They won the 1st XV and were a great credit to the school. The players were hardworking and dedicated.

Rosall Hockey Festival

The Rosall Hockey Festival was a highlight of the year. The school team performed well and showed their skills on the field. It was a great opportunity for the players to compete at a high level.

Another school year passes and the 1982 school magazine takes its place alongside its many worthy predecessors...

The magazine is a reflection of the school's achievements and the students' talents. It is a record of the year's events and a source of pride for the school community.

Dear Mr. Douglas

The school has been a great place for me. I have learned so much and have made many friends. I am grateful for the support and guidance of the staff.

In the place will come Mr. and Mrs. Dore...

The school is pleased to announce the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Dore. They will be joining the staff and will be contributing to the school's success.

The School War Memorial

The school has a war memorial to honor the brave men and women who served in the armed forces. It is a reminder of their sacrifice and the school's commitment to their families.

Our Special Day

The school had a special day for the students. It was a day of fun and games, and the students enjoyed it very much. It was a great opportunity for them to relax and have fun.

Good afternoon everyone, parents, governors, parents, boys and girls...

The school is pleased to have everyone here. It is a great day for the school and the community. We are proud of the achievements of the students and staff.

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Sporting Diplomat (Leslie Minford)

The sporting diplomat is a student who represents the school in various sports. They are responsible for organizing and promoting sports events.

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Senior School House Athletics



Swimming Sports



Tennis



Nicholas Plotnik



Nicholas Plotnik



Nicholas Plotnik

Headmaster's Speech
1st July 1995

Dear children, I am pleased to see you all here today... I think to me a good question you need to be asked at the start of your year...



Headmaster's Speech



Tat XI Soccer



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



1988 W.S. photo



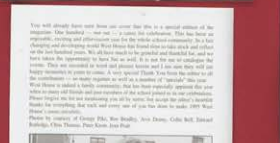
Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



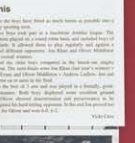
Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



Tennis



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Tennis



Tennis



Senior School House Athletics



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Senior School House Athletics



Senior School House Athletics

What makes a good apartment... I think to me a good question you need to be asked at the start of your year...

Welcome to the new millennium... 2000's

Millennium Party... I was there watching it all... I was there watching the 50th birthday...

Exotic Sporting Events... Many children have been invited to participate in a range of exotic sports...

WHOSA'S Home-Grown Headmaster... (re)defining the Millies garden at Westhouses

West House School U11 Cricket... West House School U11 Cricket

West House School U10 Athletics Team... Flashback to 1984

West House Shows England The Way... Sporting Celebrities Visit West House

Test Star Visits West House... Warwickshire U11

Cross Country and Athletics... The Cross Country and Athletics teams have been invited to participate...

The Open Air Swimming Pool - The End of an Era... The swimming pool was built in 1962 and has served the school well...

West House School Swimming Team... West House School Swimming Team

Athletics... The athletics team has been invited to participate in a range of events...

IAPS Swimming Championships... IAPS Swimming Championships

West House School Swimming Team... West House School Swimming Team

Old Boys'

Magazine



This is taken from the
1977, West House Magazine



This is the short piece at the beginning when a theme is set. I would like to consider continuity and change. You will have seen already a small change, an illustration on our cover. Similarly West House has seen changes this year. A new Headmaster, Athletics going metric, more school examinations, a school minibus and new school blazers. Some of these changes may be of no significance to all, some may be unwelcome changes to some people; together they form a random list to illustrate the theme change.

No school or organisation can afford to stand still, self-criticism and self-improvement are ever important. The keynote is to achieve changes without deviating from important and underlying principles on which the School stands.

Classrooms have been painted, the kitchens re-decorated and re-equipped and a new stage built but the foundations remain secure and intact.



West House
INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Old Boys'

Magazine



Income and Expenditure Account

For the year ended 31 December 2021

2020 £		2021 £	2020 £
	Income		
	Annual subscriptions		1,527
105	Bankers Orders	92	1,592
<u>105</u>		92	32,000
	Interest Received		13,600
<u>105</u>	Total Income	92	<u>47,718</u>
	Miscellaneous		<u>0</u>
			<u>48,718</u>
10	Donations		
230	Profit on sale of ties and badges	136	46,730
<u>345</u>	Profit on events	136	2,805
	Expenditure		
	Donation to school		49,535
	Administration - postage & stationery		-1,162
	Loss on events	0	345
<u>345</u>	Excess of income over expenditure	<u>228</u>	<u>48,718</u>

Balance Sheet

31 December 2021

	2021 £
Current Assets	
Stock of current Ties (£5.50 each)	1,293
Debtors	2,775
Loan - WHS	32,000
Cash on Current Account	15,284
Cash on Deposit Account	
	<u>52,352</u>
Current Liabilities	
Creditors	
	<u>0</u>
	<u>51,352</u>
Represented by:	
Life subscriptions fund at 1 January 2021	49,535
Life subscriptions received in year (2021: 37 @ £65 each)	2,405
	<u>51,940</u>
Accumulated funds as at 1 January 2021	-817
Excess of income over expenditure for year	228
	<u>51,352</u>





Old Boys'

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