



# Bancroftian Newsletter Spring 2018



## ON THE BBC - Lauren Jacobs (OB 1991-2004)

Lauren recently directed a film “The Alternativity” which was shown in December 2017 on BBC 2. It was filmed in Bethlehem and the documentary followed the making of a nativity play commissioned by Britain’s favourite artist, Banksy, for Oscar winning film maker Danny Boyle, who directed the play in the car park of Banksy’s Walled Off hotel. The film was very well received in the press for its sensitivity and humanity to the context of the region. Lauren says she was profoundly moved by spending two months living in the region. The Alternativity is the latest project for Lauren which shows her passion in factual programming and observational documentaries. Lauren has made a number of documentaries for BBC, Channel 4 and other international broadcasters, finding stories and characters in the most unlikely of places. I am sure that we can look forward to more exciting works in the future.



**Sophie Daniel (OB 1996-2003)** recently had brain surgery and her recovery is taking longer than anticipated. She is re-learning to walk and function as her fantastic pre-op self. Sophie is hoping to continue studying and living in Australia during her recovery but needs financial help. If anyone feels they can assist in a small way, please read more using the link. <https://www.gofundme.com/sophie-daniel-fund2018>

## HIGHLY COMMENDED

### Victoria Richards (OB 1992-99)

Victoria has won a 'highly commended' placing for poetry in this year's Bridport Prize! For "Unthinkably I leave you"

Victoria Richards is a freelance journalist and writer. She has worked for BBC News, The Times and The Independent, has appeared on Newsnight, BBC World and ITV News and regularly writes for Independent Voices.



She won the inaugural Oh Zoe! Rising Talent Award 2017 was long listed in the Bath Short Story Award 2017 and The Guardian Short Story Contest 2016, and published in the National Flash Fiction Day Anthology 2017. She lives in East London where she is working variously on a novel, a short story collection, poetry, flash fiction and a series of books for children.

Her work was selected from more than 4,000 entries to be highly commended in a global competition. She was one of ten entrants to be highly commended. More than 4,250 poems were judged by Lemn Sissay, who praised the form and style of Ms Richards's poem. He said: "The free verse madness of 'Unthinkably I Leave You' set off at a pace and didn't stop."

## School House Colours awarded

Congratulations to Paul Fitzpatrick, Clare Grimsell, Stuart Grimsell, Martha Grimsell and Josie Grimsell on being awarded their School House colours. What is remarkable is that Paul left the School in 1979, Clare in 1988 and Stuart was never a pupil. Even more remarkable is that Clare was Head of East House. They all kindly performed as a quintet at the recent School House Family Evening....which only goes to show that whether you're a pupil (Martha U4S, Josie Removes School House), an OB, or a parent everyone can contribute to the great Bancroft's community...and will be rewarded for their efforts!



## SNOW DAY @ Bancroft's



## **Bancroft's School students need your help!**

Bancroft's School are currently looking for opportunities to take the A level Business students to visit businesses so that they can see the theory they are learning put into practice. A factory visit would be helpful in enabling them to understand operations more clearly, but the syllabus covers all business sectors and sizes. If anyone owns, or works, for a local business that the students might be able to visit, I would be very grateful if they could get in touch with me.

We would also be interested in hearing from anyone who would like to come and talk to the Economics and/or Business A level students about their company, industry or the wider economic environment. If you think you can help with either of the above please contact Kate Dean, Head of Business

[Kate.dean@bancrofts.org](mailto:Kate.dean@bancrofts.org)



### **Gayle Noah (OB 1985-92)**

Visited Bancroft's in February 2018 to talk to the MFL department and joined the pupils and staff for lunch.

She gave an interesting talk on Being a child of Europe

- Her experience of studying languages at university and 2 years abroad
- Her experience working at 2 French companies
- Cultural understanding & tolerance through language learning

**BANCROFT'S SCHOOL**  
High Road, Woodford Green, London IG8 ORF  
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**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
£10 each or £36 for 4, doors open at 6:00pm

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018 (includes meal)**  
£16 each or £60 for 4, meal served from 5:30pm

To purchase your ticket, collect a form from the school office  
or email [taal@students.bancrofts.org](mailto:taal@students.bancrofts.org)  
There will be limited tickets available for purchase at the door.



### **TAAL 2018**

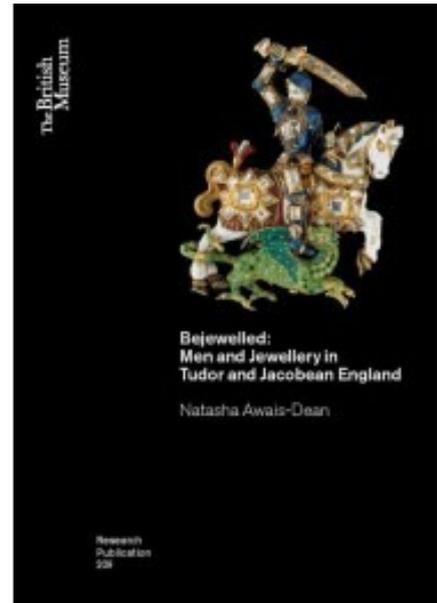
This is a multi culture festival run by current pupils at the school, OBs are more than welcome to join the festivities, see flyer for booking details

Email [taal@students.bancrofts.org](mailto:taal@students.bancrofts.org)

## Natasha Faccini (OB 1990-2001)

Bejewelled: Men and Jewellery in Tudor and Jacobean England [Paperback] Natasha Awais-Dean (Author)

Jewellery is often viewed as a feminine preoccupation, but in Tudor and Jacobean England men wore just as much (if not more) jewellery as their female counterparts. Jewels themselves were valued not merely for their intrinsic monetary worth, but also for their ability to reflect status and lineage, as well as sustain social bonds and networks of reciprocity. *Bejewelled* offers an in-depth discussion of the contexts in which jewellery in Tudor and Jacobean England was circulated from a male perspective, considering the jewels as valid items of material culture worthy of study and attention, rather than as mere trifles of adornment.

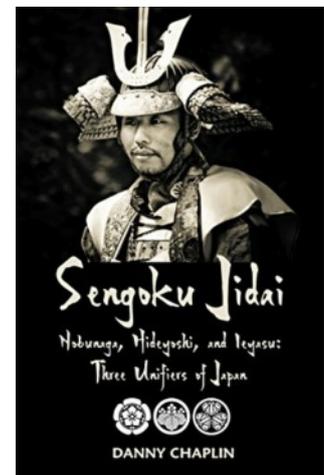


Amongst other subjects, the book analyses the social and historical contexts in which jewellery was acquired, owned and circulated, interrogating the meanings that these jewels had for their male owners. The publication will highlight artefacts from the British Museum's collection, such as the magnificent Lyte Jewel from the Waddesdon Bequest and the sealing devices of Sir Thomas Smith and Sir Walter Raleigh, as well as lesser-known objects such as the rings of the serjeants-at-law and a group of bronze plaquettes. By including material that has been discovered in archaeological contexts, along with evidence from inventories and wills as well as portraits showing these jewels being worn, this publication seeks to reposition jewellery, presenting it not merely as a concern of the elite but as something that was owned, worn and valued by a range of men across English society.

## Danny Chaplin (OB1981-3) New Book - Sengoku Jidai

I'd just like to share with fellow OBs my latest (fourth) book published on Amazon. I'm currently working on my fifth book, a new history of the Borgia.

Danny's previous books cover Japan's Sengoku jidai ('Warring States Period') a time of crisis and upheaval, a chaotic epoch when the relatively low-born rural military class of 'bushi' (samurai warriors) succeeded in overthrowing their social superiors in the court throughout much of the country. Into this tumultuous age of constant warfare came three remarkable individuals:



Oda Nobunaga (1534-1582), Toyotomi Hideyoshi (1537-1598), and Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543-1616). Each would play a unique role in the re-unification of the disparate, fragmented collection of warring provinces which constituted Japan in the sixteenth and early seventeenth-centuries. This new narrative history of the sengoku era draws together the epic strands of their three stories for the first time. It offers a coherent survey of the Azuchi-Momoyama Period (1568-1600) under both Nobunaga and Hideyoshi, followed by the founding years of the Tokugawa shogunate (1600-1616).

## BANCROFT'S SCHOOL - GO KARTING 2018

The Bancroft's Karting Team have safely secured their slot in the London and South East Regional Finals of this year's British Schools' Karting Championships.

On 7 February, we took 4 teams, each of 3 drivers, to Teamsport Acton for the Regional Qualifiers. Twenty four pupils had originally tried out for the team, and this was narrowed down to the final twelve through trials at Brentwood. The top two teams from the Qualifiers would proceed to the Regional Finals. The Bancroft's boys planned each race carefully to optimise results and great teamwork ensured they produced them. Dominant performances came from Max Wieteska and Richard Buckley for the A team, while close wheel-to-wheel racing from the B team's Neel Tanna and Adam Ugradar secured both the A and B teams place in the Regionals. Bancroft's claimed victory in every one of the six individual races, with the Bancroft's D team placing 3<sup>rd</sup> and the C team 4<sup>th</sup>.



The enthusiasm of current Upper Sixth Former and team captain Amir Sampat led to the School introducing a Karting Team three years ago. In their second year of competing they reached the National Finals, where they finished a respectable 15<sup>th</sup>. They are hopeful of repeating this achievement by reaching the Nationals again this year, but believe they are capable of doing better. Both Amir and teacher, James Foley, maintain that Bancroft's have their strongest team ever this year. Amir said, "At the practice session, the top nine Bancroft's racers all finished within ½ a second of each other – a clear demonstration of our strength. I am thrilled to have qualified for the Regional Finals of the British Schools' Karting Championship. It has been great to see the progress of the team's young, enthusiastic racers through the years. We hope to repeat last year's success at the Regional Final in April and book our place in this year's National Final."

The School has recently bought race suits, gloves and helmets for the A and B teams so they really look the part; however, they are looking for additional sponsorship to purchase further kit and to help fund training. If any Old Bancroftians are interested in offering sponsorship, they should please contact: [james.foley@bancrofts.org](mailto:james.foley@bancrofts.org)

## Freddie Thomas-Bowman, (OB 2006-13)

Fred is a third-year student currently spending a semester at the University of Bergen. Fred was interviewed by Bergensavisen on Sunday while heading out skiing on the hill-tops. Sunday was 'Kom-deg-ut-dag', when a range of outdoor activities were arranged on Mount Floyen (including free transport on Floibanen, the funicular railway), to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Den Norske Turistforening (the Norwegian Trekking Association).



## Hugh Oxlade (OB 2006-13) on University Challenge 2018

In a hard fought Merton Oxford vs Fitzwilliam Cambridge match Hugh's team unfortunately lost by 270 to 115 but still have the chance to progress if they can secure 2 more wins. Nothing like a little Jeremy Paxman to get the grey cells working and putting that Bancroft's Education into action.



## In Memory of Old Bancroftians

### William Jacobs (OB 1934-40)

It is with great sadness I have to inform you of the 'passing' of my dear Uncle Bill (William Jacobs) on the 7th October 2017 in Fremantle (Nr Perth , Australia) . He passed away at his daughter's house after a short period of ill health. He was 94 years of age and had been a boarder at Bancroft's from ( I think) 1933/4 - 1940 . At Bancroft's he was a boarder, School House monitor, played 1st XV rugby and gained a scholarship to Dartmouth Naval College. After graduating as a naval officer he briefly served in WW2 after which he emigrated to Australia where he married Thora nee Bateman and gained entry to Perth University to study dentistry. He graduated and worked as a Dentist in his own practice until retirement. With his wife Thora, he had 4 children, Gillian, Jacqueline, William and Helen. He never lost his love of the sea and sailing was his lifelong passion. He built several wooden yachts over the years only finishing his last boat (a 38 ft - 6 berth wooden ocean yacht) in 2016, after 15 years of effort! In his latter years he made a few trips back to the U.K. and always cherished his formative years at Bancroft's which he always spoke of with affection. A most remarkable man who will be sorely missed by his family and his many friends - by Michael Goodacre (OB1957-64)

### **Andrew Selby (OB 1968-73)**

We have learned that Andrew Selby died on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017 after a long struggle with throat cancer. On a sad note his family have been trying to locate his lost partner se following link [www.cambridge-news.co.uk/news/cambridge-news/andrew-selby-angela-cancer-cambridge-13619488](http://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/news/cambridge-news/andrew-selby-angela-cancer-cambridge-13619488) His sister Carolyn Coleman, from Norfolk, told the *News* that the family wanted to make contact with Andrew's former partner remembered only as 'Angela', she was in a relationship with Andrew for around 12 years up until 2004 and worked as a nurse at Addenbrooke's.

### **Alan John Cridland (OB 1935-42)**

Alan passed away peacefully at home on 2nd October 2017 with his family at his bed-side. He was a pupil at Bancroft's from 1935 until 1942. He last attended an OBs' day 2 years ago when he was part of a very small but elite group of " 80 years on ". He spoke very fondly of his days at Bancroft's and will be greatly missed by all. He was the ultimate "Gentleman and Gentle Man" by his son Ian Cridland.

### **Tony Duncan (Head Master of the Prep School 1990-Dec 1999)**

Tony passed away after a long fight against cancer. His funeral was held in Australia and a Memorial Service for him was held in Ely Cathedral on 27th November. Our thoughts are with the many OBs who knew him and our thoughts are with Carol his wife and Mark (OB1990-98) his son.

### **Adam Waller (OB 1957-63)**

For those of you that knew Adam, we have been informed by his brother Howard of his peaceful passing on recently. He had been ill for some time. He sadly lost his wife, Ann in 2014 and his older brother Stuart in 2013. He leaves a son and daughter. He was a keen sportsman, playing Rugby for the Old Boys 1st XV. He was a member of the OBGS for many years.

### **Patrick Hartrey (OB 1975-82)**

We have been informed that Patrick very sadly passed away last year, in January 2017. Although he and I were good friends at school we lost touch after going to universities at opposite ends of the country, and it was only from an acquaintance of mine who'd done some work for the firm where Patrick was company secretary that I heard the news late last year. By John Joshua (OB 1975-82)

### **David Leo Hanson (OB 1939-1946)**

David died peacefully at home on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November, surrounded by his family. Beloved husband to Margaret and adored father of Pete and Judy.

David, his brother John and son Pete all attended Bancroft's, albeit at different times: Despite being at Bancroft's during the war, David had many fond memories of his time there. After school, David pursued a life-long career with Midland Bank (now HSBC, working in both the UK and USA, before retiring in 1985, finally allowing time for travel and a move to Dorset. By Pete Hanson (OB 1969-1976)

### **Brian Needham (OB 1949-51)**

We recently learnt through Terry Needham that his brother Brian died in October 2016. From John Tripp (OB 1950-57)

### **Afshin Zarkeshan (OB 1977-84)**

It is with great sadness to share that my brother Afshin Zarkeshan passed away a couple years ago. He went on to serve as a physician in a small town in Kansas for 25 years. Mandy Strutt (nee Zarkeshan (OB 1981-87)

## Air Vice-Marshal Ted Hawkins (OB 1930-37)

AIR VICE-MARSHAL TED HAWKINS, who has died aged 97, was twice awarded the DFC for maritime patrol and anti-submarine operations during the Second World War. After a winter of flying Catalina flying-boats on Atlantic patrols and anti-U-boat sorties with No 240 Squadron, Hawkins was tasked to carry out a top-secret reconnaissance to obtain information about the sea ice between Jan Mayen Island and Spitsbergen Island in the high Arctic. He was also to report on the state of ice conditions in the fjords of West Spitsbergen and to determine if enemy forces were on the island. (A full obituary can be read <http://www.bancroftian.co.uk/cgi-bin/obacms3.pl?id=6133&im=Y>)

## Frank Madley Williamson (OB 1935-40)

Frank died in Sydney Australia on 14th January 2016, aged 91. He was the eldest of three Bancroftians and always endeavoured to revisit the School each time he came to the UK. He spent the whole of his working life in the shipping industry employed by the P and O Group, for in excess of 40 years, both ashore and afloat. He went to sea in 1942 and was immediately involved in the second convoy to relieve Malta, which reached the Island unscathed. The remainder of his war service was uneventful although very interesting and uncertain. He received his first command in 1955 and after a further three appointments was transferred to Sydney in 1961, as Shore Superintendent, in which position he stayed, in various guises, until retirement in 1982. He leaves a second wife, son and three grandchildren in Australia and three siblings in the UK. By Anthony Williamson (OB 1950-54)

## John Oliver Smith (OB 1943-50)

Jo passed away in October 2017 and he was also a former OBA President (1972 and known as Jo by his friends because of his initials – he was actually John. He will be sadly missed and was a life long supporter of the OBA. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.



*All are welcome after the service at  
The Kings Head, High Road, North Weald, CM16 6BU*



*Donations if desired to benefit R.N.L.I. or Thames Valley Air Ambulance.  
These can be left at the service or sent c/o Heritage & Sons at the address below.*

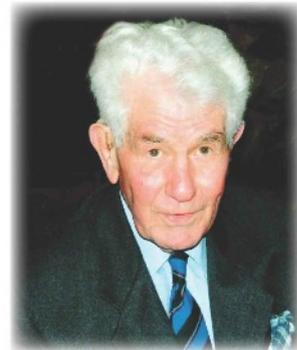


Heritage & Sons Funeral Directors  
1 Vicarage Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, Bucks. MK2 2EZ

A CELEBRATION FOR THE LIFE OF

*John Oliver Smith*

20th February 1932 ~ 4th November 2017



GreenAcres Fpping Forest  
North Weald Bassett, Epping CM16 6AD  
Monday 27th November 2017  
1.00pm

*Service to be conducted by Canon Rodney Matthews*



## OBA News

The Old Bancroftians' Association continues in its aims to maintain links between members, the School and the Bancroft's Foundation. Since the last newsletter in October 2017 we have run a series of very successful events.

### OBA Annual Dinner

On 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017 the School welcomed back over 100 Old Bancroftians to the 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner held in the Dining Hall. During pre dinner drinks, we were entertained by some very talented young musicians in U6; Tom Dean and Ved Patwardhan. This was followed by an excellent three course meal provided by the Bancroft's catering team. Post dinner speeches were both entertaining and informative from the OBA President, Nick Bowman and the Head, Simon Marshall.



### Northern Dinner

The annual Northern Dinner was held at the Llyndir Hall & Spa Hotel, Rossett, Chester on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Well attended as always by OBs and their guests, the dinner was an excellent opportunity to catch up with old friends and new over a lovely three course meal and receive an update of the School by our Head Simon Marshall.

### London City Drinks

On 5<sup>th</sup> December the OBA hosted an informal drinks evening at the Walrus and Carpenter Pub in Monument Street, EC3. This was well attended and was the perfect opportunity to catch up with old friends and network with other Old Bancroftians, OBA committee members and the Head. A good time was had by all and similar events will take place throughout the country in 2018.



### Business Breakfasts

Following on from the last Business Breakfast held at the 'Gherkin Building' in London last year, our next Business Breakfast will be held at The Reform Club in London on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018. We have 3 guest panel speakers lined up from the BBC, BBC Worldwide and Google, a great networking opportunity and an architectural hidden gem in the heart of London, an event not to be missed! Tickets are £15 and this event is open to all OBs and their guests. Please contact [susan.day@bancrofts.org](mailto:susan.day@bancrofts.org) at the OBA office if you have not yet booked your tickets.

### Other OBA News

Congratulations to OBs Sophie Higgins (1998-2005) and Jordan Rowland (1994-2005) who got married in 2017.

Also to:

OBs Angus Abbot (1993-2004) and Laura Abbot (1998-2005) whose son Arthur was born on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017.



## Website and Facebook New Year Firework picture competition.

(From left to right top to bottom)

- Sydney Australia
  - Dubai UAE
- Berlin Germany
  - Hong Kong
- Jakarta Indonesia
  - London UK
  - New York USA
  - Singapore

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- OBA AGM 2018 Drapers' Hall 06 Mar 2018
- Bancroft's Business Breakfast The Reform Club 07 Mar 2018 £15.00
- 5 and 10 Year Reunion Bancroft's School 04 May 2018 for leavers of 2007 and 2012
- OBA General Committee Meeting Drapers' Hall 18 Jun 2018
- Old Bancroftians' Day 2018 Bancroft's School 01 Jul 2018
- OBA Northern Dinner Llyndir Hall, Rossett 06 Oct 2018 (£ TBA)
- OBA Annual Dinner Bancroft's School 19 Oct 2018 (£ TBA)



**DON'T FORGET !!**

Your news is of interest to the OBA membership and we hope you have enjoyed this Spring 2018 E-Newsletter.

If you have any news items, perhaps a recent promotion, new job or career, or you would like to report on an OBA event or anything else that you feel would be of interest to the OB community for publication on the website or for inclusion in the e-newsletter or for the printed newsletter,

then please do not hesitate to send it to me Steve Dodd [srdodd@ntlworld.com](mailto:srdodd@ntlworld.com) (OBA e-news and web editor) or to Susan Day [susan.day@bancrofts.org](mailto:susan.day@bancrofts.org) at our School office.