



Mr G. Brian Greenwood

The Old Grovian community was deeply saddened to receive news of the death of Brian on 7 July 2021 at the age of 94.

Anyone who knows anything about Woodhouse Grove will know that the School was very much Brian's 'kingdom'. The School's motto, ***Bone et Fidelis*** – Good and Faithful – is taken from the New Testament's Parable of the Talents and reminds us that we all have gifts and that we need to work hard to improve and develop these gifts because one day we will have to give account for what we have done with the opportunities, talents and abilities we have been given. Brian certainly used his extensive talents freely and unstintingly to promote the School and enjoyed a continuous association with Woodhouse Grove for more than 85 years.

He was the youngest pupil ever to join the School upon the opening of Brontë House in 1934 and left the Grove in 1945 having been its longest serving pupil – 11 years and one term. From 1945, Brian was an active member of the Old Grovian Association and served two terms of office as its Chairman. Throughout the 1970's and 1980's, he was the School's lacrosse coach and referee having formed the Old Grovian Lacrosse Club in the 1950s with his former school friends.

In 1959, Mr. Greenwood was invited to join the School's Board of Governors before becoming Vice-Chairman in 1964. In 1969, Mr. Greenwood succeeded Sir George Martin to become Chairman of Governors, a position he held until 2009. He holds the distinction of being the longest serving Chairman of Governors to have held office in any Public School. Upon his retirement from the Board, Mr. Greenwood became the School's very first Honorary President, a role he held for the rest of his remarkable life.

Brian has left Woodhouse Grove with a rich legacy that will long outlive the decades he spent building it up. No one can deny the fact that he was a 'good and faithful' servant who will be sorely missed by all members, past and present, of the School community. On a personal note, it was a great pleasure and a privilege to have known Brian for over 35 years – as a pupil and, more recently, as Headmaster of the School he loved so much and support so fervently.

Xaipete!

James Lockwood MA
Headmaster