



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- A Year in Post – Celebrating Progress and Looking Ahead
- Introducing The Grove Business Directory
- Letter Exchange, OG Ambassadors & Remembering Old Grovians

A Special Connection: Old Grovians Return

Over the past 12 months, it has been a joy to welcome back 85 Old Grovians to The Grove - from entry year 1949, to leavers 1979-88 and 2023-25. Some travelled from abroad, others returned a few years after leaving and some visited for the first time in over seventy years!

Popular tour requests include the old gym (now the McCarthy Theatre), the science block, the location of the old dormitories and the covered shed. The honours boards in the dining hall, steeped in history, spark memories and just standing in the Quad often brings back a flood of emotions.

Each visit celebrates the enduring connection Old Grovians have with the school and the friendships formed here.

When did you last visit The Grove?

Launch of The Grove Business Directory

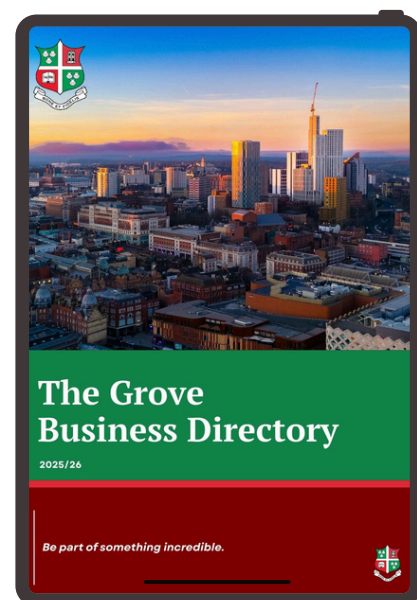
On 18 September, we officially launched The Grove Business Directory. The event brought together local business owners, staff, Governors and Old Grovians for an evening of networking, inspiring speeches and celebration of our Grove community.

Highlights included the official unveiling of the directory, mini mic interviews with founding members and insights from Assist. Head (Sixth Form and Futures) Mr Chris Softley (st14-), on how the Future Years Programme is equipping students with mentoring and real-world experience.

Interested in joining the directory?

Email: foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk or call 0113 250 2477.

[Click here to view the 2025/26 Directory.](#)



A Year in Post – Celebrating Progress and Looking Ahead

Development Officer Eve Corry (st24-) recaps on her first 12 months at Woodhouse Grove.

It's been an exciting and rewarding first year in post, with a busy events calendar and lots of new initiatives launched - from Coffee Mornings, the Grovian Voices podcast and our termly iNSIGHT newsletter to The Grove Business Directory and the Year 7 Letter Exchange. And of course, a true highlight has been welcoming Old Grovians back to school!

Meeting Old Grovians and hearing their stories has been an absolute privilege. From fond memories of their school days to the gratitude they feel for attending Woodhouse Grove, it's been inspiring to hear how the support of dedicated teachers and the friendships they formed have shaped their lives.

Looking forward, the next twelve months will see the launch of something extremely special, and I have no doubt that the Grovian community will feel inspired and support it. 2026 will also mark the school's 100-year celebration of the House system - watch this space for exciting events and opportunities to get involved!

Your support - through donations, projects, or staying connected, helps shape the next generation and ensures the proud legacy of Woodhouse Grove continues.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

Scan to
donate



£12,963

donations received
Nov '24 - Oct '25

85

Old Grovians visited The
Grove Nov '24 - Oct '25

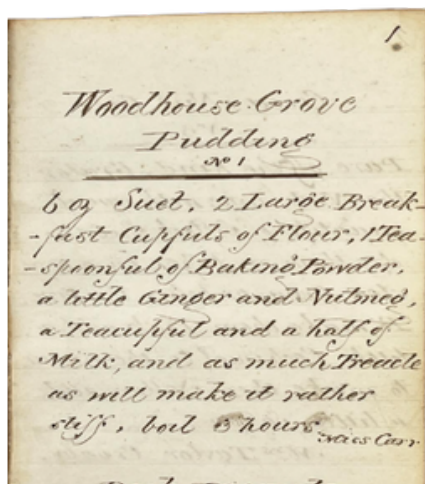
+569%

content interactions on
Facebook 2024/25

To make a regular contribution or single donation visit: woodhousegrove.co.uk/make-a-donation/
Alternatively, please call 0113 250 2477.

Old Grovian – Year 7 Letter Exchange Update

109 Old Grovians were matched with Year 7 pupils for our Letter Exchange project. The replies have been incredibly moving - full of thoughtful advice, encouragement and plenty of funny memories that have made this initiative truly special. Year 7 students will receive their OG letters in early December during Form time and we can't wait to see their reactions. Thank you to all the Old Grovians involved for making this project such a heartfelt success.



Woodhouse Grove Pudding!

A handwritten 19th century Yorkshire recipe book recording the existence of Woodhouse Grove Pudding has been sold by Ilkley-based Christian White Rare Books for £200. Contributors included Miss Carr, Mrs Sykes, Miss Shipley, Mrs Copley and Ida Jenkins. The signature dish was concocted by Miss Carr:

6oz Suet, 2 Large Breakfast Cupfuls of Flour, 1 Teaspoonful of Baking Powder, a little Ginger and Nutmeg, a Teacupful and a half of milk, and as much Treacle as will make it rather stiff, boil 3 hours.

Do let us know if you make it!

Thanks to the OGA Chair Dan Nulty (90-97) for sharing this great find.

OGA Events & Reunion update

Coffee Morning - Thursday 9 October 2025

Our Autumn Term Coffee Morning celebrated connection, memories and lifelong friendships. Highlights included a presentation on Sport at The Grove from Head of PE & Games Mr Nathan Barr (st14-), plus an array of school archive items.

One OG rediscovered his poem in a 1970s issue of The Grovian, a 68-year reunion of three OGs took place and another OG travelled all the way from Frankfurt to attend! Join us at the Spring event on 10/3/26, we'd love to welcome you back!



Remembrance Service - Sunday 9 November 2025

Great to see so many local Old Grovians at the service, along with those who travelled from farther afield - including Canada and Stratford-upon-Avon. Some OGs even found themselves seated in the very same pews they occupied in their school days!

Rev. Rob Drost (st22-) reflected on the school's link to the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior: Rev. David Railton, who proposed the memorial, was inspired by his father, Old Grovian George Scott Railton (1860-64). A reminder of how the values learned at school continue to inspire service and remembrance.



Introducing the Old Grovian Sixth Form Ambassadors 2025/26



We're excited to announce the Old Grovian Sixth Form Ambassadors! L-R: Harry Edwards, Grace Wu, Macey Holmes-Moxon, Chloe Green, Ted Cooper.

This new initiative gives our Year 12 and 13 students the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy for their year group while actively engaging with the wider Grovian community.

The role is a fantastic opportunity for our Sixth Formers to develop leadership, communication and organisational skills while fostering connections across the Grovian community. We can't wait to see the positive impact our Ambassadors will make!

We are also looking for OG Ambassadors from previous years. Please get in touch if you'd like to help, email: foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk

Dates for your diary:

- Carol Service - Sunday 14 December, 4pm in Chapel, followed by festive refreshments in the Dining Hall at The Grove.
- Family Christingle Service - Wednesday 24 December, 5pm in Chapel. Join us for this Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
- Coffee Morning, Spring Term - 10 March 2026, 10am at The Grove - booking essential.
- Business Directory Breakfast Meeting - 26 March 2026, 7:30am - member invite only.
- OGA Golf Day - Sunday 3 May 2026, from 12noon at the Bradford Golf Club *Save the date!*

To book tickets, please visit: www.ticketsource.co.uk/woodhousegroveschool or call 0113 250 2477



Grovian Voices: Shortlisted!

With 3,490+ downloads across 353 cities in 44 countries, the Grovian Voices Podcast has reached listeners worldwide. We're proud to have been shortlisted for the IDPE 2025 Development Awards - a real achievement considering we launched in March '25, despite not winning. Listen now on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music or via our website, [click here to listen](#).



Gift Shop: OG Rugby Jersey

The launch of the OG Rugby Jersey has been a huge success, with over 60 orders placed within the first 72 hours! The jersey was available for pre-order until 24 October, priced at £55 plus p&p, or with free click-and-collect from school. They're sure to attract plenty of attention on the sidelines and in the pub!

Missed out? Pre-orders reopen Spring '26.

BLACK FRIDAY OFFER!
20% off selected items 28 Nov - 1 Dec
[Click here to shop!](#)



Old Grovian Remembrances

As we remember our alumni who have passed, we celebrate the lives they led and the lasting impressions they made. While they are no longer with us, their legacy continues to inspire and connect us all.



Obituary notifications July - Nov '25 :

Robert Wray Ellis (55-62)
Richard Errington (64-75)
Tracy Sellers (85-87)
Martin Studart (64-74)
David Dyke Tovey (49-55)

"Mindful of a home which never
Distance from her kin can sever,
Mindful of our friends for ever"

Χαίρετε



Visiting The Grove today

Old Grovians are always welcome back to the school for a tour. If you would like a tour of the school today, contact our office at foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk or call 0113 250 2477 to schedule one in advance, please provide as much notice as possible.



Vicki Harris
née Hough (85-87)



Sam Kildunne (14-21)



John Smith (50-57)



Caroline Aust
née Priestley (84-91)



Martin Simpson (68-74)

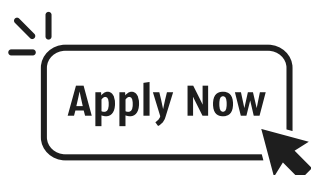


David Stradling (58-65)

Governor Vacancies

We welcome expressions of interest from individuals with expertise in:

- Education
- IT/Cyber Security
- Legal
- Property
- Sustainability



If you are interested in contributing your skills and experience, please send an expression of interest to: Governors@woodhousegrove.co.uk

Are you following us?



To keep up with the latest news, please follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram - search 'Old Grovian Association' on Facebook / 'Old Grovians' on LinkedIn & Instagram.

Support Our Database Clean-Up

Help us keep the OG database current and accurate. If you haven't reviewed your contact details within the last 12 months, please update them using the link below. Your quick action ensures our information stays reliable.

[Click here to update your details](#)

