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### Lessons in Leadership: Old Grovians return

On Friday 20 June, Old Grovians Major General Tim Hodgetts (74–81) and Brigadier Phil Carter\* (83–90) returned to The Grove for an inspiring day of reflection and reconnection.

They began by speaking in assembly to Years 7 & 8 about their school memories and remarkable careers as medics in the British Army, emphasising how the values learned at the Grove have guided them throughout their lives. Sixth Form students later joined them for a powerful session on leadership, resilience and personal growth.

The day also included a nostalgic school tour, lunch in the main hall and a special podcast recording with Major General Tim – a moving conversation exploring leadership, crisis and the healing power of poetry, due for release 22 August.

\*appointed to UK Surgeon General, Aug '25.

### Coffee Morning at The Grove

The Summer Term Coffee Morning was another glorious occasion. Guests enjoyed fresh coffee and cake, warm conversation and a captivating window into life at the school today. Year 12 students Shreya and Liam gave a thoughtful and engaging account of their experiences in the Sixth Form, followed by a lively Q&A session that was warmly received.

As always, our much-loved school archives display made a return, this time featuring a detention book from the 1970s, a collection of vintage school caps and a Grovian magazine from 1991, plus many more items!

Join us for the Autumn Term event on Thursday 9 October, 10am - 12noon.



## Building Momentum: Engaging, Communicating, Growing Together

Development Officer Eve Corry (st24-) shares highlights from her first nine months in post.

As I reach the nine-month mark in my role as Development Officer, I'm delighted to share just how much we've accomplished and how much more we have in store! Since Nov '24, I've launched the online donation page, the online gift shop, Grovian Voices Podcast and enjoyed a host of wonderful events including reunions, the termly coffee morning, the annual golf day, Prize Day weekend including a fantastic Family Fun Day.

Looking ahead, I'm especially excited for what's coming this September. We'll be launching an exciting Letter Exchange project linking the Year 7s with Old Grovians and we'll also see the launch of The Grove Business Directory - and that's just the beginning!

The response to the Letter Exchange invite has been incredible – the enthusiasm and positivity from Old Grovians eager to get involved is a true testament to the strength and spirit of our community.

To register your interest please email [foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk)

And finally, whether through a one-off gift or regular donations, your support plays a vital role in shaping the future of our Grovian community. Every contribution helps us provide opportunities for the next generation - ensuring they thrive, grow and continue the proud legacy of Woodhouse Grove. Thank you for your continued support.

Scan to  
donate



**£10,517**

donations received  
Nov '24 - Jul '25

**100**

Old Grovians signed up  
to the Letter Exchange  
project

**167%**

increase in followers on  
Facebook 2024/25

## Regular Donor Testimonial: Alan Sunderland

The Grove. Where do I start?

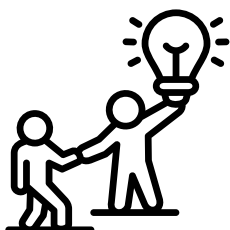
Initially, I hated it – far from home, in a cold climate and having to get used to something that was totally alien to me. However, as the years progressed it became like a second home and my friends, my family. It taught me so much about life, myself and how to get along with others. These attributes helped me after I left and enabled me to forge a successful career in the commercial world; any shortcomings were of my own making! In acknowledgement, I have taken the opportunity to support the WGS Foundation, by way of a regular (gift-aided) donation.

AJM Sunderland FCICM (66-73)

Previously a Group Credit Manager and a HSBC Senior Commercial Banker.



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



## Career Profiles Initiative: Get Involved!

So far, 37 Old Grovians have shared their career journeys and the variety of paths and fascinating insights are truly inspiring! The first set of Career Profiles is now proudly displayed in the new Sixth Form building, offering valuable inspiration to our current students.

Help us grow this inspiring collection - your experience could make a real impact!

It takes just 5 minutes to complete the form, [click here](#).

## OGA Events & Reunion update

### Leeds Reunion - 19 June 2025

On a beautiful summer evening, Old Grovians, current and former staff gathered at Friends of Ham in Leeds city centre. Special thanks to the many who attended, including current OGA Chair Dan Nulty (92-97) and friends from his school year!

It was so great to meet Old Grovians spanning Class of 1966 - 2021, all celebrating the enduring spirit of The Grove. Thank you to those who attended for making this a memorable evening.



### Summer Reunion & Family Fun Day - 29 June 2025

What a fantastic day in the sunshine! Thank you to everyone who joined us for a fun-filled afternoon of live student performances, children's entertainment, sport, BBQ and of course the ever-popular ice cream van.

From bouncy castles and face painting to school tours and e-bike demos, there was something for everyone. The Foundation stall was a hive of activity, raising over £420 through Hook A Duck, raffle ticket and merchandise sales.

Great to see Old Grovians back and The Grove/Brontë House families with us!



## A Historic Homecoming: Daughters of Dr Pritchard Tour The Grove



Woodhouse Grove was pleased to welcome Jenifer Percy and Katherine James, two of the three daughters of former Headmaster Dr Pritchard (st50-72). The visit brought back fond memories for the sisters, who spent their childhood living on site during their father's headship.

During their tour, they explored familiar corridors and shared personal stories from their years at The Grove. One memory stood out in particular: as young girls, they were only allowed to enter The Lounge on very special occasions, such as Christmas - a space that still holds an air of quiet formality.

It was a joy to host Jenifer and Katherine and to hear their reflections on a time that remains an important part of Woodhouse Grove's heritage. Their visit was a poignant reminder of the legacy of leadership and community that continues to shape our school today.

### Dates for your diary:

- Leavers '23, '24, '25 Reunion - Thursday 28 August, 6:30pm at The Grove
- Reunion event: 1975 entry to The Grove - Saturday 6 September, 10am at The Grove \*
- Coffee Morning, Autumn Term - Thursday 9 October, 10am at The Grove
- Reunion event: 1983-88 - Saturday 25 October, 4pm at The Grove \*

To book tickets, please visit: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/woodhousegroveschool](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/woodhousegroveschool) or call 0113 250 2477

- Reunion events: please email [foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk) or call 0113 250 2477 for more information.



### Tune In to Grovian Voices

With 1,668 downloads across 256 cities in 38 countries, the Grovian Voices Podcast has connected listeners worldwide! So far, we've recorded 15 episodes featuring inspiring stories from Old Grovians, students, former and current staff. Get ready - Season 2 launches this September!

Listen now on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music or via our website, [click here to listen](#).



### Gift Shop: Our Best-Sellers

Our top picks right now are the classic Cufflinks, stylish striped Ties and versatile Travel Mugs. But the real question is - will the legendary Bow Ties make their way onto the leaderboard this Winter?

Delivered via post or free click-and-collect from school.

[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 May-July '25 :

Peter Bingham (47-51)  
Ashley Crawford (57-63)  
Alan Cuckston (51-58)  
David Pollard (46-55)  
Andrew Rhodes (82-87)  
Nick Starkey (61-66)  
David Waterhouse (48-57)

“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](mailto:foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk) or call 0113 250 2477 to schedule one in advance.



Nicholas Brearton (69-70)



Keith Loudon (45-50)



Don Bowder (46-52)



Andrew Midgley (80-90)



Narretta Bala (03-12)



### A message from our sponsor:

Established in 1875, Redmayne Bentley is one of the UK's largest independent investment management, financial planning and stockbroking firms.

Our mission is to provide excellent personal investment services that aim to enhance clients' wealth. In 2025, we celebrate our 150th anniversary.

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While iNSIGHT is primarily a digital publication, this issue has also been printed thanks to the generous support of our sponsor. If you're interested in sponsoring the next edition, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact us at: [foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk)

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