



Blundell's

QUATERCENTENARY

1604-2004





BLUNDELL'S TIMELINE

NATIONAL AND WORLD EVENTS

MONARCHS

HEADMASTERS

BLUNDELL'S EVENTS TO 2004

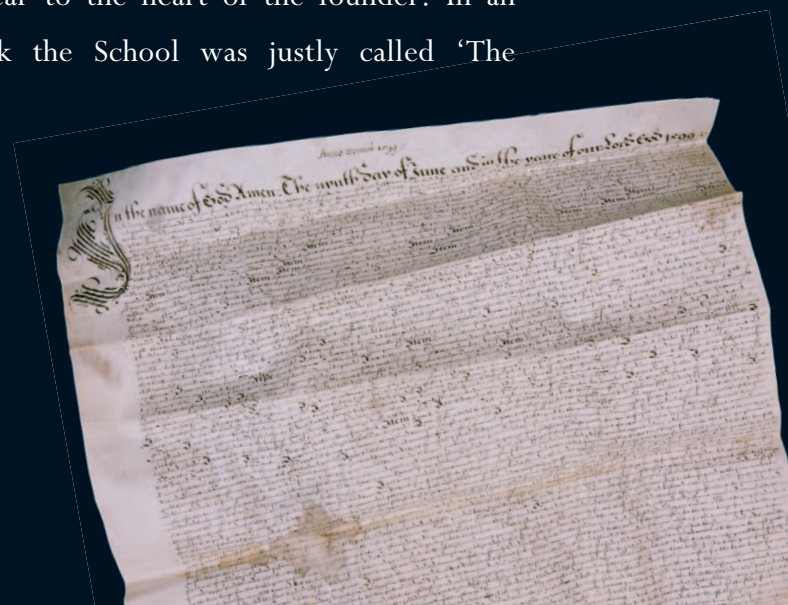
1603	Death of Elizabeth I.		1600			1601	Death of Peter Blundell. Popham appoints Cholmley as first Headmaster.	
1605	Guy Fawkes condemned by Chief Justice Popham.	James I	1603-1625	1610	1604-1647	Revd Samuel Butler	1604	Opening of Old Blundell's at Lowman Green. Appointment of Samuel Butler as Master at £50pa.
1620	Mayflower sails from Plymouth.	Charles I	1625-1649	1620			1610	First Sidney Sussex scholar nominated.
1629	Sir John Eliot persuades Parliament to pass the 'Petition of Right' and is sent to the Tower.			1630			1615	First Blundell's Balliol Scholar.
1642	Civil War begins, Tiverton declares for Parliament.	Protectorate	1649-1660	1640	1648-1651	Revd Henry Osborne	1626	Exeter Assizes held in the Schoolroom
1644	Royalists capture Tiverton.	Charles II	1660-1685	1650	1651-1669	Revd Henry Batten	1645	School used as Fairfax's HQ in siege of Tiverton Castle.
1645	General Fairfax captures Tiverton Castle for Parliament.			1660	1669-1684	Revd George Hume	1660	May 29th, Charles II lands at Dover. Celebrated as a holiday until 1884.
1649	Charles I executed.	James II William III, Mary	1685-1688 1688-1702	1670	1684-1698	Revd John Sanders	1705	Bampfylde Moore Carew, King of the Gypsies, joins the School.
1660	Restoration of Charles II.			1680	1698-1730	Revd William Rayner	1725	First known OB Day.
1669	Charles II and Nell Gwynn.	Anne	1702-1714	1710			1730	Feffees forbid Cockfighting on Shrove Tuesday.
1704	Battle of Blenheim.	George I	1714-1727	1720			1780s	Two OBs head of Oxford Colleges, Davy of Balliol and Everleigh of Oriol.
1721	Walpole becomes Prime Minister.	George II	1727-1760	1730	1730-1733	Revd Samuel Smith	1787	School rebels against Usher, Thomas Wood.
1731	Captain Jenkins' ear cut off by the Spaniards.			1730	1733-1734	Revd John Jones	1804	Bicentenary. Feoffees present Benjamin Inledon's Book to George III.
1745	Bonnie Prince Charlie's rebellion.			1740	1734-1740	Revd Samuel Wesley	1809	Jack Russell enters Blundell's.
1757	Clive conquers Bengal.			1750	1740-1757	Revd William Daddo	1815	Numbers rise to 200.
1773	'Boston Tea Party'.	George III	1760-1820	1760	1757-1775	Revd Philip Atherton	1820	Master Richards organises first Speech Day.
1774	Joseph Priestley's discovery of oxygen.			1770			1823	Maths teaching begins.
1776	American Declaration of Independence.			1780	1775-1797	Revd Philip Keats	1828	School Rooms heated for first time.
1783	First flights in hot air balloons.			1780			1838	Frederick Temple's last year, Blackmore's first year. Legal dispute with Town begins.
1787	American Constitution drawn up.			1790	1797-1823	Revd Dr William Richards	1844	Income from school lands rises to £900. 10 Oxbridge Exhibitions set up.
1802	Peace of Amiens. End of first phase of War with Revolutionary France.			1810			1846	Chancery decision banning boarders. Numbers fall to 31.
1805	Battle of Trafalgar.	George IV	1820-1830	1820	1823-1834	Revd Dr Aldersey Dicken	1861	First issues of the Blundellian.
1815	Battle of Waterloo.	William IV	1830-1837	1830	1834-1847	Revd Henry Sanders	1865	Licensed boarding houses allowed. Duckworth's opened. Sir John Heathcoat Amory a Governor.
1832	Reform Bill.	Victoria	1837-1901	1840	1847-1874	Revd John Hughes	1874	A.L. Francis appointed.
1837	Accession of Queen Victoria.			1850			1877	Russell begins.
1854	Crimean War. Napoleon III Emperor of France.			1860	1874-1917	A.L. Francis	1879	Sale of Prawle lands to raise funds.
1868	Gladstone becomes Prime Minister.			1870			1882	Move of School to Horsdon.SH and OH open.
1870	Franco-Prussian War.			1880			1883	North Close opens. Chapel consecrated.
1878	Congress of Berlin.			1890			1887	Westlake and Petergate founded.
1899	Boer War.			1900			1900	Arrival of Nobel Prize winner, A.V. Hill and T. Knox Shaw. Visit of Archbishop Temple.
1903	First flight by the Wright Brothers.	Edward VII	1901-1910	1910			1904	Tercentenary.
1906	San Francisco earthquake.	George V	1910-1936	1920	1917-1930	Revd A.E. Wynne	1911	Cole's Chemistry Lab opened.
1914	First World War begins.			1930	1930-1933	Revd A.R.Wallace	1926	FH opened. Chapel extension.
1918	Votes for women over 30.	George VI	1936-1952	1940	1934-1943	Revd N.V. Gorton	1954	Gym built.
1926	General Strike. Votes for women over 21.			1950	1943-1947	Revd R.L. Roberts	1956	History Block and Physics Labs.
1945	Hiroshima destroyed by atomic bomb	Elizabeth II	1952-	1960	1947-1959	J.S. Carter	1967	Dining Hall and New Big School opened.
1966	England win Football World Cup.			1960	1959-1971	Revd J.M. Stanton	1975	Arrival of first girl. Founding of GH 1977.
1969	First man on the Moon.			1970			1980	NC fire.
1973	UK joins the EEC.			1980	1971-1981	A.C.S. Gimson	1984	Sports Hall opened.
1979	Margaret Thatcher becomes Prime Minister.			1980	1981-1992	A.J.D. Rees	1989	Ondaatje Hall.
1989	Demolition of Berlin Wall.			1990	1992-2004	J. Leigh	1993	Girls admitted at 13. NC becomes a Girls' House.
2004	England win Rugby World Cup.			2000			1997	SH becomes an 11-13 House.
				2010			2000	St Aubyn's opens 'On Campus'.
							2002	Modern Language Block. Beale Centre.
							2004	Quatercentenary. New Westlake.

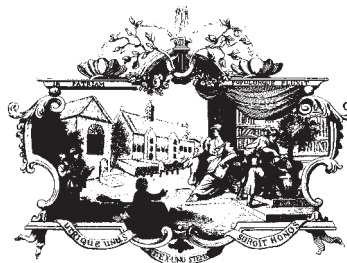


“...thou I am not myself a scholar, I will be the means of making more scholars than anyone else in England.”

Attributed to Peter Blundell

Peter Blundell, one of the wealthiest merchants of Elizabethan England, died in 1601, just before the great Queen, leaving money and lands to found a School in his home town to maintain sound learning and true religion. No expense was to be spared in its construction. Generous lands were provided in Tiverton and South Devon for its maintenance and Blundell's executors established links between the School and Balliol College, Oxford and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, which survive to this day. Blundell's was to be a School much larger and grander than any other in the West Country. Indeed, in the 1670s £600 was given to Balliol to found more scholarships, yet the running surplus in the Feoffees' (Trustees) accounts was still over £500. From the beginning, under its first Headmasters the School flourished, producing clergy and gentry who took the lead in the Civil War and the Glorious Rebellion in preserving the Protestant Religion and the liberties of the subjects, objects so dear to the heart of the founder. In an early Eighteenth Century travel book the School was justly called 'The Greatest Glory of the Town'.





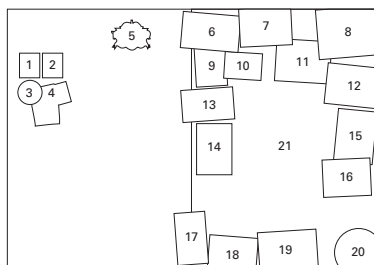
Supporting these 400 years of service of the School to the nation has been the dedicated contribution of Masters and Feoffees. One must remember in gratitude men such as Samuel Butler, the First Master, who laboured for 43 years, during which the Pilgrim Fathers sailed for Massachusetts, and who retired as the Civil War ended. Master Rayner's 32 years coincided with Marlborough's victories and Walpole's Prime Ministership; William Richards's reign included Trafalgar and Waterloo. Also there was A.L. Francis, whose 43 year Headmastership started as the Franco-Prussian War ended, finishing as the battle of Passchendaele began. With them we remember that company of men and, latterly, women who have given their working lives to the service of this School.



To start, oversee and continue his great work Peter Blundell appointed local merchants and gentry as the first Feoffees. According to his will they were to be hereditary and, as a father or uncle died, a son or nephew was appointed to the body. In modern times there have been reorganizations consonant with the march of time, but there have been Heathcoat Amorys on the Governing Body continuously for 150 years and the first Fursdon to be a Feoffee was elected 250 years ago.



The flow of scholars and clergy continued through the centuries. Numerous Hanoverian bishops, including George III's tutor, culminated with Frederick Temple, the Archbishop of Canterbury who crowned Edward VII. The men of letters have ranged from Bampfylde Moore Carew who produced a 'best selling' account of his career as 'King of the Gypsies' in the 1750s, through Richard Blackmore, who penned 'Lorna Doone' a century later. John Squire (1901-2) knighted for his services to literature, and John Hollands (1946-1951) who wrote a novel of the Korean War which sold over a million copies in the 1950s. Through the mists of time we glimpse, among a host of scientists, William Buckland (1797-98) the great geologist and A V Hill (1900-5) the winner of a Nobel Prize for Biology. A Blundell's Balliol Scholar, Thomas Davey, was Master of Balliol at a time when another Blundellian was Provost of Oriel, and a Sidney Scholar, Knox Shaw (1900-1905) became Master of Sidney Sussex. The present Master of Selwyn, Professor R.J. Bowring (Westlake 1960-1964), is also an Old Blundellian.



1 Sir John Popham. 2 Frederick Temple (1834-39), Bishop of Exeter and Archbishop of Canterbury. 3 R.D. Blackmore (OB 1837-43), author of Lorna Doone. 4 Bampfylde Moore Carew 'King of the Gypsies'. 5 An invitation to the Old Boy's Feast of 1727. 6 Lord Kitchener inspecting the Blundell's lines, Farnborough Camp 1910. 7 An early 'football' team. 8 Cricket on the green, Old Blundell's. 9 The Memorial Cross, a replica of the Cross of Eyam, dedicated 2 November 1920. 10 The War Memorial 1939-45. 11 Duckworth's House in Bampton Street. 12 The Reverend Jack Russell (OB 1809-14), the famous 'Hunting Parson'. 13 Blundell's own Home Guard. 14 The list of original Feoffees. 15 Sander's Prospectus, which advertised... 'every boy has a separate bed'. 16 A drawing by a school boy of the fold away beds. 17 Old Boys Day 1725. 18 An early 1840's engraving, showing the end of the Master's schoolroom. 19 The Common Room in 1886-87. The 'heroic crew' oversaw the move to the new School site. 20 The Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine awarded to Professor A.V. Hill (OB 1900-1905). 21 The School Rooms at the end of the 18th century.

Blundellians have been present at the great events of our history. There was a Blundellian, J H Hill (1792-6) at Waterloo, another, W Morris (1846-7) was at the Charge of the Light Brigade. Both were wounded. Blundellians were foremost in all parts of the Victorian Empire, and gave their lives in the Boer War and the two World Wars. Every year sees numerous obituaries added to the School Archives of men who have served their country well in the affairs of the 20th Century.

At the gateway of all their lives was their time at Peter Blundell's School. For the first 278 years this was in the 'Old School' by the Lowman, where the syllabus was Latin and Greek and boys had to be tough to survive. Birches swished, older boys tyrannized over younger, boarders told dayboys their place. Outside lessons life was unsupervised. They hunted, they held cockfighting matches, they fished, they played a sort of football and, after 1800, cricket (with 4 ball overs). It seems that they loved it and cherished their school days by forming an Old Blundellian organization at least as early as 1725. This has continued with two short gaps until today. Blundellians as different as Parson Jack Russell and Archbishop Temple remembered those rough old days with affection.





...T.C. CAMP, FARNBOROUGH. Land Mitchener's Inspection - Brindley 1919



BLUNDELL'S SCHOOL, TIVERTON, DEVON.

The Rev. HENRY SANDERS, M. A. HEAD MASTER.
Late Student of Christ Church, Oxford.

The Rev. J. B. HUGHES, M. A. UNDER MASTER.
Being of Magdalen College, Oxford.

The Rev. W. CURTIS, B. A. MATHEMATICAL MASTER.
St. John's College, Cambridge.

TERMS OF THE REV. HENRY SANDERS
Board and Washing, and Tuition, including the Classics, } 50 Ounces
French Language, History, Geography, &c. } 1 do.
Assistant, (white under his coat), } 1 do.
Bathroom, } 3 do.
NO EXTRA CHARGES.

EACH BOY HAS A SEPARATE BED.
Mathematics, Writing and Arithmetic, Drawing, Drawing, and Music,
without Excesses, on the Terms of the respective Masters.
A Quarter's Notice is required previously to a Boy's removal, or a Quarter's Board.

THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS,
AND ATTACHED TO THIS SCHOOL.
The Scholarships at Balliol College, Oxford, aided by an annual allowance of £10 each.
Five at Trinity College, Cambridge, aided by an annual allowance of £10 each.



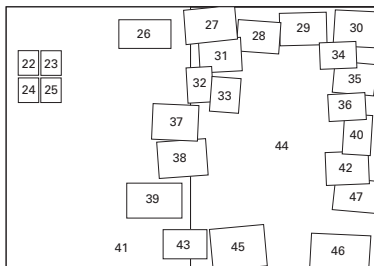
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Sept. 1, 1755.
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Meeting
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SCHOOL,
Mr. RATNE, R.
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W. A. D. D.
Address: BAKER, for
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Shelton of Devon.
Page 10.





In May 1882 the whole school moved up the road to its new home at Horsdon. Within ten years A L Francis had trebled numbers to 250, and School House, Old House, North Close, Petergate and Westlake had been built, so that as Victoria's reign came to an end, Blundell's had again taken its place among the country's great schools, with high scholastic achievement and distinguished performance in those games, which the Victorians had developed to replace the rude sports of earlier centuries. In 1904 the Tercentenary was celebrated with due sense of pride. Not only had the boarding houses been built with funds put up by the first boarding housemasters, but also Francis and his colleagues had paid for the additional buildings necessary for the growing numbers and the Chapel had been built entirely through voluntary subscription as a statement of faith in the future.

During the last Century there has been continued great growth and change. Under 'Fusty' Wynn (1917-30) numbers first topped 300 and Francis House was built. Under Neville Gorton (1934-43) Blundell's became a dynamo of educational novelty and, latterly, there has been an explosion of activity. The continued support of the Heathcoat Amory family, with a long tradition of service on the Governing Body, has been a key feature of the last century. Additionally, Old Blundellians via the Peter Blundell Society, and the singular munificence of Sir Christopher Ondaatje (1947-51) have supported many developments over the last fifty years. Girls were admitted in 1975, with full co-education starting in 1992, and they are now well over a third of over 550 Senior School pupils. St Aubyn's Preparatory School has become an integral part of Blundell's with almost 400 younger pupils. Soon there will be 1000 Blundellians! As ever throughout its long history the School has occasion to be grateful to the support of those who have added to Peter Blundell's initial generosity. 'Great trees from goodly acorns grow'!



22 A.L. Francis 'the Chief'. **23** Neville Gorton (1934-43) Bishop of Coventry. **24** Derick Heathcoat-Amory, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Governor of Canada. **25** Christopher Ondaatje (OB Petergate 1947-51). **26** A view of the new buildings taken about 1900. **27** The Chapel as a building site. **28** An early OH group. **29** The Junior House 1912, outside the present GH. **30** The unbeaten XI of 1889. Won 7 drawn 3. **31** Chapel interior, the ornate pew ends were removed by Gorton. **32** The 'Gill' altar and original cross. **33** The 'Gill' altar reinstated. **34** The XI of 1945. The Captain, R.J. Morris, scored over 500 runs and took 43 wickets. Seated front left is E.R. Crowe (pupil FH 1943-46, Master 1953-89). **35** Francis Herring with the School Orchestra of 1911. **36** The Queen Mother opened the new buildings in 1967. **37** The Tercentenary Invitation. **38** OB day 1912. **39** The Tercentenary turnout of Old Boys. **40** The first girl at Blundell's, September 1975, Arabella Ashworth with Headmaster Clive Gimson (1971-1981). **41** An artist's impression of the new School. **42** The winners of the 1981 Rosslyn Park sevens. **43** View of the War Memorial and Chapel 1923. **44** Chapel and Clock Tower early 20th Century. **45** Big School about 1910. The present library. **46** The girls of NC, 2003. **47** St Aubyn's arrives at Blundell's.

As we set forth to march on Old Blundellian Day from Old Blundell's to St Peter's to celebrate our 400 Years of History and begin our journey towards half a millennium of continuous existence in 2104, we carry with us echoes and memories of which we are proud and of which we can never be deprived.





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