



AYLESBURY HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI June & July 2019

Thank You For Joining Our Community Choir!

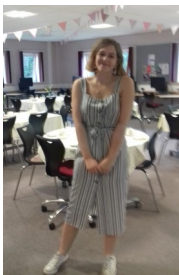


Thank you to all our Alumni who joined the AHS Community Choir for their excellent performance!



Thank you to all our Alumni visitors (including former staff!), who helped us celebrate our 60th Anniversary in style! We were delighted that Jane Wainwright, Jenny Puddefoot and Sue Imbriano were guest speakers, and that David Chaplin shared a message from Miss Lambert.

We are very grateful for all the help we received from Alumni Rebecca Ridgway and Hilary Brien on the day. A special thanks also to Jenny and Becca of the Development & Alumni Relations team, and student and staff volunteers for ensuring Our Alumni Cream Tea and Through The Decades Archive Exhibition ran smoothly.



A special mention also for Year 12 student, Amber, who worked on the design for the Cream Tea room and helped us to 'stage' the room on the day.



60th Birthday Celebration Day Alumni



Friends Reunited!



A Fond Farewell to Headteacher Mr Rosen

As well as celebrating our 60th Anniversary, we are also saying a fond farewell to Headteacher, Mr Rosen, who is retiring this summer. Mr Rosen has been at Aylesbury High School for twenty four years, the first ten years as Deputy Head and the rest as Head.

Since 1995, the school has increased in student size with the change in 1999 from 12+ to 11+, and increased its facilities with the building of the Sports Hall, Sixth Form Centre and History rooms, the new Library, the Science Block refurbishment and the current Tower Block building work; all of which Mr Rosen has overseen. He introduced the annual Year 8 trip to the Outward Bound Centre at Aberdyfi in 1998, which almost four thousand students have now experienced, and this Sunday, he will head off to Belize in Central America on his 14th expedition with Year 10 and 11 students; "I've loved the international outlook of AHS, both in and out of the curriculum, and hope it continues to be a big part of the school. I think trips of any kind help you grow up, they should be fun and they open your eyes to the diversity of the world around us."

Outside of AHS, Mr Rosen runs orienteering competitions around the UK and abroad, and 'controlling' (refereeing) competitions including the British Championships. Of his retirement he said: "I know that I won't miss wearing a tie every day, but I will really miss the committed staff and the many times during the year when the students amaze me, whether in sport, in all their fantastic performances, productions and exhibitions, in the many House events, on trips and, funnily enough, in lessons – just walking round our classrooms reminds me how much hard work the students put into their education every day, and that's what we are here for."



**Our Online Archive is
Now Available at:**

[www.ahs.bucks.sch.uk/
archives](http://www.ahs.bucks.sch.uk/archives)

Alumni Essay Competition Winner Geraldine Matthews: 'Lasting Memories of AHS'



'A kaleidoscope of memories came flooding back with the title 'Lasting Memories of Aylesbury High School'. Arriving at AHS at the end of what is now Y8 was a breath of fresh air after my initial introduction to secondary education in Norfolk and Scotland. The staff and girls proved to be supportive, inclusive and some I still keep in touch with.

The production of The Winter's Tale with the Grammar school and a visit to the RSC to see it live brought the text to life. A Level Geography, with a field trip to Swanage was a great experience; I was part of the mini-bus brigade with singing being a part of the curriculum! French lessons with the new language laboratory booths became the norm; you always knew when the teacher was listening in! History became very interesting when Mr. Crowe arrived. He used the American system to deduct marks for missing facts rather judge the essay on what was included which meant that our scores improved dramatically. This didn't last long! I recall he came to school on a tandem and enjoyed comparing our pronunciation of words with his. Art was fun with batik printing a challenge but productive. Science included lots of experiments with a laboratory demonstration going with a real bang one day. It made us use our eye protection more carefully.

School uniform changed from full skirted dresses which meant you walked holding it down in windy weather, to the shift dress with the fabric choice influenced by students. Suddenly you felt grown up and involved. I was desperate to become a member of the 6th form so that I could wear a twin set but that stopped as we got older and our own clothes were allowed – such a disappointment – then. Berets! The older girls would backcomb their hair so high just to hide the beret at the back of the head.

Being House Captain for Ridley meant producing a play for the inter-house competition – 'Quality Street'. The homemade card signed by the cast was a lovely surprise and I still have it today. Regular assemblies had to be led which occasionally worked well and thankfully the students were kind.

Sport in the form of the hockey team, field sports and running around the field to warm up especially in the winter, when we still wore the pleated skirts, are still fresh memories. In order to make sure the pleats were in place, the skirt was carefully put into an old stocking. Tennis in the summer extended into the autumn term. Trampoline, volley ball, trying lacrosse and a vain attempt at rugby all were on offer. Swimming in the outdoor pool in town was definitely not my scene so I was really pleased when we transferred to the pool in the grammar school.

Using the annexe across the road was an opportunity to feel more responsible and we adapted well. Yes, many and varied memories and ones to be chatted about at the 60th Celebrations. '


Aylesbury High School
Walton Road
Aylesbury
HP21 7SX

01296 388222

www.ahs.bucks.sch.uk

 @AylesburyHigh
@high_alumni

 aylesburyhighschoolalumni

 'Aylesbury High School
Former Students and
Staff'. Please 'connect'
first with Alison Pexton.

Or Visit Our Alumni Page

[www.ahs.bucks.sch.uk/
about-the-school/alumni/](http://www.ahs.bucks.sch.uk/about-the-school/alumni/)