



Westcliff High School for Boys

**Centenary
Commemorative Programme**

*Patrons: Lord Gold
Lord Petre*



Foreword

“

*Above a certain gate we're told
Are written words in letters bold
"Abandon hope all ye who enter here".
Across this 'Gateway' we would write,
In letters plain and shining bright,
"All ye who enter shall enjoy good cheer".*

*Be sure to keep the 'Gateway' clean,
Drive from its precincts all things mean.
"With faith and fortitude" all wrongs redress
Defend the weak, be strong to share
The burdens others have to bear,
And so fulfil the law which means success.*

Fide et Fortitudine

”

*Extract from the first edition of our School magazine,
The Gateway (Summer Term 1920)*



Our Centenary, from the Headmaster

Welcome to the new term, and the beginning of a very special year in the history of Westcliff High School for Boys.

It is 100 years since the School (known then as The Commercial School) opened its doors to pupils. The intention, as noted in the School journal, *The Gateway* (No. 1 Summer Term 1920), was to create a school in which “staff and pupils (would) find happiness and success, and that together they (would) find much delight in both work and play”. The article went on to note that the founders hoped all associated with the School would look back on their experience as one “when every morning brought a noble chance”.



At this time, it is natural for us to take stock and reflect on our journey from 1920 to 2020. Reading the introduction to *The Gateway*, it is reassuring to know that, across the last 100 years, we have not lost sight of who we are and what purpose we serve. Providing an outstanding education for our pupils, unlocking their potential and nurturing in them a true sense of themselves and their self-worth remains central to life at WHSB. This mattered in 1920 and it matters just as much now. The political, economic and environmental challenges faced by society are enormous, and it is the young people we are educating today who will have to grapple with those challenges. Therefore, equipping them with the necessary character, skills and creativity by way of preparation is vital.

Westcliff High School for Boys is a School rich in tradition and with a fine academic, cultural and sporting record. However, it is also a School which attracts deep affection from its current and former pupils, its staff and members of its wider community. The School has prospered across the last 100 years, thanks to the skill and support of the staff and the generosity of our wider community. At WHSB, we understand that each generation attending the School owes much to the work and determination of previous generations of Old Westcliffians, many of whom have gone on to enjoy impressive achievements in a wide range of professions, both nationally and internationally.

The School remains focused on the education of able pupils from within the local area and beyond, and demand for places is higher than ever. We have a proud tradition of serving our local community. Therefore, it is most pleasing to note that as we enter our Centenary Year, for the first time in many years, the School has filled all of its local places. This is due, in part, to the success of our Westcliff Centre for Gifted Children (WCGC) ‘Go for Grammar’ programme and the hard work of the pupils and staff as superb ambassadors for their School. Working together, we have maintained a community in which pupils feel valued and respected for who they are. A community in which we provide opportunities to better oneself and, ultimately, to be of service to others. A community in which we value endeavour, creativity, resilience and determination in the face of challenge. We do not fear failures, but accept and learn from them. We understand that, without the vision and determination of local people, WHSB would not be here to serve the pupils of today. Selective education remains a rare bird and we are fortunate to be located in an area of the country that offers a Grammar School education to pupils from diverse backgrounds.

Throughout 2020, there will be many opportunities to reflect on the past, and those who have gone before us and made our wonderful School what it is today. We also remember those Old Westcliffians who paid the ultimate price, during World War II and other conflicts, to secure the freedom through which our pupils today are able to access opportunities, a rounded education, a safe environment in which to go to School and relative peace within our society. To them we owe so much.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Governing Board, the Staff and members of our wider School community who work tirelessly to deliver high quality education and extra-curricular opportunities for our pupils. My thanks also go to the Old Westcliffian Association and the Parents’ Association who continue to add so much value to the life of our School. I would also like to thank my Senior Team, and in particular Mrs Mumford (Second Deputy) and Mr Partridge (Director of Resources and Support Services) for their support in co-ordinating the programme of Centenary events and associated materials. Our programme for the Year includes many of our usual Westcliff Diary events, organised around a Centenary theme to add celebration to those occasions, as well as some additional events to mark our School’s history. We hope you will join us for many of these events and activities and that you will enjoy celebrating with us throughout the year.



Mr J Gershinson
Chair of Governing Board of Westcliff High School for Boys



It is a huge privilege to be Chair of Governors in our Centenary Year.

Whilst my personal association with the School has been for just 45 years, I know that many of you will have family ties which are far older, and as deep as four generations.

We were founded by the then Local Authority and remain a School with its heart in the local community. A large number of the town's leaders have been educated here as, indeed, have very many others who have made significant contributions in their chosen fields, be it Science, the Arts, Politics, Commerce, Public Service and many other areas of professional life, both nationally and internationally.

As we reflect on our history, we also continue to remember the contribution of those we educated who made the ultimate sacrifice in fighting for our country and freedom in, not only the Second World War, but subsequently, and of those we are most proud. We continue to see some of our students joining the Armed Forces.

As we look forward to the next chapter in the School's history, I am mindful that if it were not for the devotion of many hundreds of very talented and inspirational teachers and support staff who have worked here during the last century, we would have achieved nothing. We owe them, five former Headmasters and our present Headmaster, who now leads our School, an incredible debt of gratitude.

I am sure that should the founding Chair of Governors, Alderman William Miles, be here today he would be incredibly proud of his legacy and he would see much in our ethos and culture which is familiar. I hope that his legacy will remain fresh as we enter our second century as one of the leading state schools in the country.

Honorary Alderman Mr D Norman
MBE M.A. Oxon
President of the Old Westcliffian Association



The Old Westcliffian Association (OWA) sends congratulations to the School on achieving its Centenary.

The Association celebrates its own Centenary in six years' time having been founded in 1926. It has been in continuous existence ever since, enabling many thousands of Westcliffians to maintain contact with school

friends and contemporaries long before the invention of the internet.

The OWA annual magazine is a popular source of information and anecdotes regarding fellow Old Westcliffians, the School and former staff. In recent years, the use of technology has allowed us to keep distribution costs down. This has enabled more financial support to be given to the School by the Association. We have been proud to assist the School's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) in recent years. In addition, Old Westcliffians help the School by mentoring current WHSB students. Old Westcliffians are also regularly to be seen supporting School events.

WHSB has seen many major changes in the past century. When the School was first established, only a small minority would have left the town to go on to University. Now that has been reversed and the overwhelming majority leave Southend on completing their studies at WHSB and do not return to their home town. In spite of this diaspora, the Association's Annual Dinner held in September regularly attracts around 100 Old Westcliffians, our Guest of Honour normally being a Westcliffian who has achieved eminence in their chosen field. In the recent past, this has included at least three Members of Parliament. Quite an achievement for a state school!

The OWA has been proud to be associated with the School for almost a century. We look forward to continuing and developing that relationship in the years to come.



Programme of Events

Spring Term

Wednesday 22 January	Spring Chamber Recital with Centenary Fanfare	7.30pm – 9.30pm
Saturday 1 February	Centenary Ball at The Cliffs Pavilion	6.15pm – 12.00am
Wednesday 5 February	Centenary Lecture: Mr Andrew Baker	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 27 February	Centenary Lecture: Prof Peter Mandler	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 12 March	Spring Sinfonia Concert with Centenary Composition	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Wednesday 18 - Friday 20 March	Centenary Rock Narnia: <i>The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe</i>	7.00pm – 9.30pm
Thursday 26 March	Book Launch: Westcliff High School for Boys - A Centenary History	7.30pm – 9.00pm

Summer Term

Saturday 25 April	Centenary Military Band Workshop and Concert	To be announced
Thursday 30 April	Summer Chamber Recital featuring Pupils' Centenary Compositions	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Friday 5 June	1920s House Golf	4.30pm – 8.00pm
Saturday 20 June	Centenary Garden Party with WHSG and the Big Band	12.00pm – 4.00pm
Friday 26 June	Centenary Passing Out Parade and Mess Dinner	4.00pm – 10.00pm
Thursday 2 July	Summer Sinfonia Concert with Centenary Composition	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Tuesday 7 July	Sports Day	9.15am – 3.35pm
Thursday 9 July	Year 8 House Festival of Drama	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Tuesday 14 July	Centenary Art and Design Exhibition	7.00pm – 9.00pm
Wednesday 15 to Thursday 16 July	Centenary Alumni Production of <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	7.30pm – 9.30pm
Monday 10 - Saturday 15 August	Westcliff High School for Boys at the Festival Fringe	12.05pm – 1.00pm

Autumn Term

Friday 4 September	Old Westcliffian Association Annual Reunion Dinner	6.15pm – 10.30pm
Wednesday 16 September	Politics in the 1920s: A Multiparty Future?	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 1 October	Autumn Chamber Recital featuring Pupils' Centenary Compositions	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Monday 5 to Friday 9 October	Centenary Literary Festival & Senior Drama Production	All Week
Wednesday 14 October	Centenary Lecture: Mr Andrew Baker	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Wednesday 4 November	Speech Day	7.45pm – 9.30pm
Thursday 19 November	Autumn Sinfonia Concert: WHSB Orchestra and Alumni	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Wednesday 25 to Friday 27 November	Westcliff Centenary Production	7.30pm – 9.30pm
Friday 4 December	Centenary Christmas with the Big Band	7.30pm – 10.00pm
Monday 14 December	Carol Service and Centenary Thanksgiving	7.30pm – 9.30pm

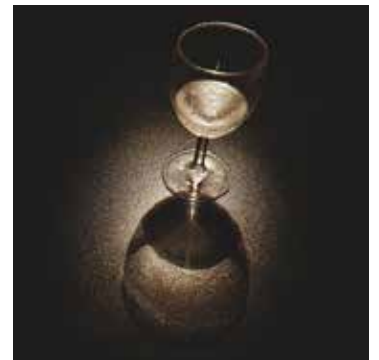
Spring Chamber Recital with Centenary Fanfare **Wednesday 22 January 2020, 7.30pm - 9.30pm**

The first Centenary event of the year will feature the School's finest soloists and small ensembles performing challenging repertoire from across a range of musical styles. The Brass Ensemble will open proceedings with a *Centenary Fanfare* written for the School by Mr McGee, and will be followed by our students, including Grade 8 pianist Edoardo Chidichimo, Year 12 percussionist Roxanne Watts and the Westcliff Choral Scholars. The String Ensemble will also give a performance, fittingly featuring over a hundred strings!



Centenary Ball at The Cliffs Pavilion **Saturday 1 February 2020, 6.15pm - 12.00am (midnight)**

This special black-tie occasion, including dinner and entertainment marks the official launch of our Centenary celebrations. The evening will commence with a Drinks Reception at 6.15pm, followed by Dinner at 7.00pm. Pupils will provide live entertainment throughout the evening and we shall be offering a Raffle of luxury prizes. Dinner and entertainment will be followed by a disco and an opportunity for some dancing and a little nostalgia! Carriages at 12.00 midnight. Any surplus funds from this celebration will go towards the School's Centenary Appeal, established to raise funds for pupils' sporting and recreational facilities. We look forward to a wonderful evening of friendship and celebration.



Centenary Lecture: Mr Andrew Baker **Wednesday 5 February 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

Britain's post-war revolution; can you believe it? This is to be the first of two lectures given by Mr Andrew Baker, former Headmaster of the School. How, in 75 years since the end of the Second World War, has British Society been transformed? This presentation will embrace attitudes and values, the death of deference, the advent of choice and the consumer, the growth of a more permissive and inclusive culture, and changing attitudes towards and the impact of immigration. Is the Britain of 2020 the same place it was in 1945, or has a new and very different world been born? Mr Baker taught History and Politics for over 40 years and is the author of a number of books in the fields of History and Politics, and Education more generally.



Centenary Lecture: Professor Peter Mandler **Thursday 27 February 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

Professor Peter Mandler (Gonville & Caius, Cambridge) is Professor of Modern Cultural History at The University of Cambridge, former President of the Royal Historical Society, and the foremost authority on the history of mass education in Britain in the 20th century. Professor Mandler will give an evening lecture on how popular demand for education, rather than politics and policy-making, has driven the course of educational reform in Britain since the Second World War; for example, comprehensive reorganisation, growth of participation in post-compulsory education. He will also work with selected History students on aspects of historiography relating to social and cultural history.



Spring Sinfonia Concert with Centenary Composition

Thursday 12 March 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

This year's orchestral programme features original music composed especially for the Centenary Year. The first Centenary Sinfonia Concert begins with a celebratory overture composed by Mr Derrick (Director of Music), inspired by British composers of the 20th century. The piece sees a stately academic march evolve into an exciting blend of lively melodies written to evoke nostalgia and which look to the future. Strauss' famous *Blue Danube* waltz will follow, written in the 1860s but made famous in the 1960s by Stanley Kubrick's seminal movie, *2001: A Space Odyssey*. The concert's second half will feature Saint-Saens' playful *Carnival of the Animals* and Lumbye's thrilling *Champagne Galop*.



Centenary Rock Narnia: *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*

Wednesday 18 - Friday 20 March 2020, 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Westcliff celebrates 100 years in March with a show that dips into a variety of the decades that make up our history. This show will be shaped in our trademark innovative formula of a 'mash up' of Music and Theatre, bouncing from scene to score across the evening. The great C S Lewis fable, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, is matched together with the classic rock of the 1960s and 1970s to produce a visual and aural extravaganza. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* tells the story of Narnia, a world apart from our own but with a comparable range of heroes and villains, where four children can make a real difference. Match this up with the music of David Bowie, Queen and Led Zeppelin and you get a taste of our Rock Narnia.



Book Launch: Westcliff High School for Boys - A Centenary History

Thursday 26 March 2020, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Our book launch will include a presentation by Dr Alan White, former Deputy Headmaster at WHSB and author of the School's Centenary History Book. Dr White served at the School from 1975 until he retired in 2013. The School will be open from 6.15pm to allow visitors an opportunity to tour the main building to view approximately 40 vignettes from the School's history, and refreshments will be available. Dr White's presentation will commence at 7.30pm and will last for approximately 45 minutes, after which he has kindly agreed to take questions and sign copies of the book. The School will remain open for one hour at the end of the evening for further viewing of the vignettes. This promises to be a wonderful evening.



Centenary Military Band Workshop and Concert

Saturday 25 April 2020, To be announced

We are delighted that the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF), the Soldier's Charity, has agreed to join us to celebrate our Centenary, and thank them for their support in planning their annual concert around our celebrations in 2020. We look forward to welcoming the ABF's Military Band to WHSB for this special event. Members of the Military Band will work with our Westcliff Concert Band during a series of workshops throughout the day to prepare for a joint concert featuring both bands in the evening. This promises to be a rousing and fitting celebration which will include music drawn from the the 20th century, including music from film and television.



Summer Chamber Recital featuring Pupils' Centenary Compositions

Thursday 30 April 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

While this is the Summer Chamber Recital, it may still be a little brisk outside on an April evening. Warm yourself with some excellent music, featuring the usual number of talented soloists and small ensembles, including the Westcliff Saxophone Quartet, the Centenary String Quartet, and the Treble Choir. There will also be a debut performance of an original composition, composed for modern chamber ensemble especially for the Centenary Year by George Odina and Ethan Okai, Year 8.



1920s House Golf

Friday 5 June 2020, 4.30pm - 8.00pm

This year we will be taking the House Golf competition to Belfairs Golf Course. Founded in 1926, the same year that WHSB moved to its current location, the parkland of Belfairs will offer the perfect backdrop to our Centenary-themed competition. Golfers will be pleased to know that we have no plans to reintroduce hickory shafts but we would like to nod our cap to the dapper golfers of the past. Plus fours, patterned knee socks and baker boy flat caps were the men's fashion choices of the 1920s era, whilst women had embraced comfort and practicality donning jerseys, as fashioned by Coco Chanel. It will be fun to see as many players as possible getting into the swing of things!



Centenary Garden Party with WHSG and the Big Band

Saturday 20 June 2020, 12.00pm - 4.00pm

On Saturday 20 June 2020 we will open our gates and welcome everyone to a Garden Party to celebrate 100 years of Westcliff High School for Boys and Westcliff High School for Girls. Bring your own picnic baskets, seats and blankets and enjoy the atmosphere of a very special birthday party in the grounds of WHSB. In addition to an afternoon of nostalgia, there will be entertainment featuring a display of classic and vintage vehicles, a CCF Parade, Big Band music and performances and dance demonstrations from pupils at both schools. Refreshments will be on sale. There will be a variety of local stalls as well as fantastic fundraising activities run by the pupils. Wristbands will be on sale for a range of inflatables.



Centenary Passing Out Parade and Mess Dinner

Friday 26 June 2020, 4.00pm - 10.00pm

The School's Combined Cadet Force will be marking our Centenary Year with a special Passing Out Parade. Our Inspecting Officer will be Brigadier Simon Stockley who is returning having acted as the Inspecting Officer for the Contingent's Biennial Review in 2017. The Parade will be an extended parade in which we will first perform a demonstration for the assembled audience. In the evening, the Contingent will hold its annual formal Mess Dinner and we look forward to inviting parents, family and friends of the Contingent to join us at the event as we celebrate the 100 Year Anniversary of the School, the establishment of the CCF in 2012, and its five year anniversary having achieved independent status in 2015.



Summer Sinfonia Concert with Centenary Composition

Thursday 2 July 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Following the theme of music composed for our Centenary, the Sinfonia will perform an original piece by Mr McGee. Based on a typical 'theme and variation' structure in the vein of Elgar and Rachmaninov, this piece explores the School's history, each theme describing a key period of time from its inception to today. The dramatic power of Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony* will provide a fittingly triumphant end to the concert. As Beethoven's contemporary E.T.A. Hoffmann put it: "Radiant beams shoot through this region's deep night, and we become aware of gigantic shadows. The soul of each thoughtful listener is assuredly stirred. He will be powerless to step out of that wondrous spirit realm where grief and joy embrace him in the form of sound."



Centenary Sports Day

Tuesday 7 July 2020

Sports Day at Westcliff High School for Boys has historically been an opportunity for our talented athletes to display their abilities to the School. It also showcases the Westcliffian spirit as our pupils compete for the glory of their House. It is the merging of these that makes Sports Day such a special occasion in the School Calendar. For the Centenary Sports Day, we have introduced some more traditional pursuits such as tug of war and races over imperial distances, and our high jump competition will take place with the rules that were present before the Fosbury Flop became the preferred technique. We are delighted that we can use these events to celebrate the merging of both the modern day and the historic Sports Day.



Year 8 House Festival of Drama

Thursday 9 July 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

It has been quite a journey for Westcliff High School for Boys over the past 100 years and we celebrate this in this year's Year 8 Drama Festival with a retelling of the greatest journey saga of all, Homer's *Odyssey*. Each year, four student directors from our Year 12 take on the challenge of directing their first play. The cast, crew and production team for each of the four plays comes from the Year 8s of each House, with plenty of points available for the inter-House competition. The resulting evening celebrates wide participation in Drama at the School, with over 100 pupils involved in some way in shaping the final performances. We can offer you an evening of dramatic story telling that should appeal to all ages in the family.



Centenary Art and Design Exhibition

Tuesday 14 July 2020, 7.00pm - 9.00pm

The Art and Design & Technology Departments invite you to attend an exhibition of work from students across the School. The Art work at WHSB encourages the students to showcase technical skills but also visualise the inside on the outside; to communicate to the one or to the many. The work on display demonstrates a curiosity in the world in which we exist. In some cases, it will challenge us to engage, reflect and perhaps evaluate what we consider to be important. In Design & Technology, the work will demonstrate prototypes from contexts in disciplines such as engineering, architecture and product design. The focus is on technical aptitude and important criteria in successful design.







Pupils and staff of Westcliff High School for Boys photographed (Tuesday 15 October 2019)

Centenary Alumni Production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* Wednesday 15 to Thursday 16 July 2020, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

All the stars of Westcliff will be out this summer to perform Oscar Wilde's masterpiece, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, in the School Hall. For this performance, leading actors from the School's existing student community will be joined by alumni Ross McIntyre and James Quigley, who are currently studying at The University of Cambridge. The two teachers who lead on the School's Drama, Mr Jeffreys and Mr Sampson, will also take part in this production, rather appropriately playing the parts of the butlers. With all proceeds going to support the School's forthcoming trip to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, this is a production not to be missed, and never to be forgotten.



Westcliff High School for Boys at the Festival Fringe Monday 10 - Saturday 15 August 2020, 12.05pm - 1.00pm

In this Centenary Year, our celebrations continue throughout August as we take Westcliff Boys' Drama back to Edinburgh to perform again at the internationally-famous Festival Fringe, the world's largest Performing Arts Festival. Our play takes the traditional 17th century French tale of *Cyrano de Bergerac* and sets it in the First World War, the economically ruinous effects of which were so critical to the formation of our own Commercial School. Our last visit to the Fringe in 2018 was greeted with three 4* reviews, with *Broadway Baby* describing our performance as "a delightful gem of a production". We hope you will join us to continue the celebration of our anniversary year at the ultimate party venue, Festival Edinburgh.



Old Westcliffian Association Annual Reunion Dinner Friday 4 September 2020, 6.15pm - 10.30pm

The Old Westcliffian Association is delighted to announce that its 2020 Annual Reunion Dinner will take place on Friday 4 September in the School Hall. In recent years, over 100 Old Boys and Old Girls have come together for an enjoyable evening of fine food and reminiscing. Our guest speaker for 2020 is Alison Griffin who has been the Chief Executive and Town Clerk for Southend-on-Sea Borough Council since 2017. The Dinner is open to former pupils of the School, along with current and former members of staff and the School's Governors, and we are looking forward to a large number of people coming together to celebrate this significant milestone in the life of the School.



Politics in the 1920s: A Multiparty Future? Wednesday 16 September 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Mr Stevens (Teacher of Politics) will be giving an evening talk on the politics of the 1920s, which proved to be a transformative period. The introduction of universal male suffrage and votes for women over the age of 30 dramatically expanded the electorate. The impact of the Great War threw up challenges to the established party system previously dominated by Conservative and Liberal Parties and the "rise of Labour" seemed to usher in a new age of multiparty politics. Coalition and minority government and emergent new parties appeared to suggest a different approach to politics. Yet arguably the ground for the post-Second World War two-party dominance of Conservative and Labour Parties was also being laid during the decade.



Autumn Chamber Recital featuring Pupils' Centenary Compositions

Thursday 1 October 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

The final Chamber Recital of the Centenary Year will feature the usual array of talented soloists and ensembles such as the Saxophone Quartet, String Ensemble and Brass Ensemble. There will be a number of original compositions written to recognise the Centenary Year, such as Alexander Marshak's (Year 12) romantic waltz in the style of Chopin. It has a doleful, reflective character, due in large part to its minor key and lyrical melody, but Alexander takes advantage of Rondo form to explore a range of other moods and compositional techniques.



Centenary Literary Festival & Senior Drama Production

Monday 5 to Friday 9 October 2020

This Autumn, Westcliff High School for Boys welcomes in our inaugural Centenary Literary Festival, to celebrate 100 years of the School and to ensure that our School also has a rich literary future. This week-long Festival will run from Monday 5 to Friday 9 October in our School Library. It will contain a programme of events, talks and performances for all Year Groups, which will be publicised more widely in the Autumn edition of The Westcliff Diary. We will also be presenting our Autumn Senior Production throughout the week, which will run from Wednesday 7 to Friday 9 October at 7.30pm.



Centenary Lecture: Mr Andrew Baker

Wednesday 14 October 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Nelson Mandela: the triumph of warmth, humanity and generosity over ruthless oppression. This will be the second of two Centenary lectures to be given by Mr Andrew Baker, former Headmaster of WHSB. Nelson Mandela's life was devoted to the struggle to establish parity of respect and treatment for South Africa's Black population when the country's apartheid system heaped indignities upon them. Mandela cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all might live together in harmony. For 27 years he was imprisoned, but he emerged to lead South Africa towards the vision for which he had fought. Mr Baker taught History and Politics for over 40 years and is a published author.



Annual Speech Day

Wednesday 4 November 2020, 7.45pm - 9.30pm

We are delighted to welcome Alderman David Norman MBE, Old Westcliffian (1955 to 1960) and former Southend Mayor, as our Guest of Honour at Speech Day 2020. Alderman Norman was first elected to the Council in 1965 and was awarded his MBE in 2014 for services to Adult Education. He has been associated for more than 20 years with The University of Oxford's Ruskin College, being Chair of its Governing Body for ten years. In addition to his degree from The University of Oxford, he was awarded an honorary Open University degree in 2011. He serves as a Governor at WHSB and is President of the Old Westcliffian Association. Speech Day provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our pupils during the past year.



Autumn Sinfonia Concert: WHSB Orchestra and Alumni **19 November 2020, 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

In a final orchestral celebration of the Centenary, this concert will see a gathering of alumni from across the years for an orchestral spectacular. Uplifting and festive music such as the *Overture* from Rossini's *William Tell*, Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance* marches, and Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture* will be performed by an expanded orchestra of musicians from the current student body and alumni. This musical event has been in the making for a century, and is not to be missed!



Westcliff Centenary Production **Wednesday 25 to Friday 27 November 2020, 7.30pm - 9.30pm**

The Westcliff Centenary Production celebrates 100 years of drama at the School. Delving back into the School's dramatic history, we will be performing again the very best parts of the many productions our pupils have staged since 1920. From the *Knight of the Burning Pestle* (first performed 1926) to performances of *Shakespeare* and *The Winslow Boy* delivered in the 1950s, and right up to the present day productions, the Westcliff stage has seen a variety of great pieces of drama staged and enjoyed by Westcliff pupils, parents and teachers. Join us as we relive those moments in an evening specially constructed to enjoy the important place that Drama has had, and continues to have, in the life of WHSB.



Centenary Christmas with the Big Band **Friday 4 December 2020, 7.30pm - 10.00pm**

Like the previous Sinfonia concert, this event sees the Big Band back, and even bigger than before! Numerous musical alumni will be revisiting the WHSB stage for an evening of jazzy, funky numbers, along with the expected collection of Christmas Crackers to get everyone in the festive mood. Those in the audience will enjoy music by Nina Simone, the Blues Brothers, Bruno Mars and many more, performed by an ensemble of talented pupils and alumni. A spectacular end to a year of musical celebration!



Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols and Thanksgiving **Monday 14 December 2020, 7.30pm - 9.30pm**

The School's Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols is always one of the highlights of the year and is a long and established part of WHSB tradition. For many in our community, this occasion marks the beginning of the Christmas period. We warmly invite you to join us for our traditional Festival of Lessons and Carols which will feature some of the Christmas season's well-known Carols. This year, the Service also provides us with an opportunity to offer our thanks as our Centenary Year draws to a close and we reflect on the many opportunities afforded by such an important year in the School's history. This promises to be a warm and joyful evening. Following the Service, those in attendance are invited to join us for mince pies and coffee.





School Captains

Benjamin Johanson

Head Boy

It is a great honour to have been chosen to serve as Head Boy for the Centenary Year of Westcliff High School for Boys (WHSB), and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mr Skelly and the staff at the School for appointing me to this role. WHSB is not just a building. Neither is it merely a place for lessons. It is a place, which also enables its pupils to develop important life skills.

The School's 100 years of history has shaped its ethos and the Westcliff community to become what it is today. Aside from its academic success, it is a School of tremendous sporting success, of terrific musical accomplishment, and fantastic drama performances, and its impressive Combined Cadet Force, which boasts both an Army and a Navy section. Equally, our community can take pride in countless other successes, both academic and extra-curricular.

There is great sentiment relating to participation in the wider life of School, be that in organizing student-led clubs and competitions, taking part in School events, supporting our community or engaging in independent learning beyond the classroom. The staff at the School support their pupils in all their endeavours and this helps to make Westcliff a truly effective community; it is much more than just a School. Likewise, the pupils provide great support to their School, participating in and supporting its activities and events. Equally, our Alumni feel great affection for WHSB and many maintain a connection with the School no matter how long it has been since they left.

During this special year, I urge pupils to reflect upon the importance of the WHSB community in helping to shape their future and to consider how they can contribute to their School, taking full advantage of the opportunities afforded to them, of which there will be plenty.



Daniel Barton

Deputy Head Boy

It is an honour to have been selected as Deputy Head Boy for the School's Centenary Year. Ben, as Head Boy, and Daniel and myself as Deputy Head Boys, are working hard to ensure that we can stand shoulder to shoulder with those that have held these roles before us. During seven years at WHSB, I have seen vast changes within the School, including the expansion towards six Forms of entry, the transformation in the Physical Education Department and the construction of the new Sixth Form Building. I have also seen tremendous extra-curricular developments, such as the development of the Combined Cadet Force to include a Navy Section. And all of this development has taken place within just 7% of period of the history we now celebrate! On the foundation of the School's success, we can anticipate an equally promising future for the School; one in which the School community can continue to nurture aspiration. WHSB truly is a community; a community that I am honoured to be serving alongside Ben and Daniel. Students from diverse backgrounds come together with teachers alike to create an atmosphere in which the very best is always the goal. I urge younger pupils in the School, as well as those who join in the future, to work together to continue to grow the WHSB community, and to build on and maintain our excellent reputation within the local area. Hopefully, when the School reaches its next important anniversary, the pupils and staff will look back and remain proud of how we have contributed positively. Let us celebrate our Centenary Year and reflect on how far we have come over the years, being proud to be Westcliffians.





School Captains

Daniel Pereira *Deputy Head Boy*

Walking through the same green gates day in and day out, it can be easy to forget why we come to School. But looking back over 100 years of WHSB, I have been reminded what a privilege it is to attend this School, the wealth of opportunity offered to us and the intellect of the teachers at our side. When I first joined the School in 2013, I never expected to be where I am now. Through debate, drama, academia and extra-curricular activities, WHSB has shaped who I am today. Now consider the thousands of students who have similarly been nurtured by the School during the past century, walking through the same green gates and wearing the same uniform; its impact and reach is immeasurable. At a time when the profession of education is so often characterised by its most difficult aspects, the teachers of WHSB are due the highest gratitude for their work in guiding the future generations, equipping students with the invaluable ability to think for themselves and to pursue their passions. Listening to Old Westcliffians, I am always reminded of the immense influence this School has on its students, as the scaffolding supporting the education of the next generation. So, during this Centenary, let us celebrate the School's significant role in educating the young people who pass through its gates every day.



“

*Colours Red and Blue and Gold;
Our School is new, but we've enrolled
Many a boy and girl who may
Make good in this old world someday.
Each has a chance to make a hit;
Real grit we need to do our bit.
Comrades we can successful be
If there is "Strength in Unity".
Always together we must stick
Losing or winning, through thin and thick,
Sports or lessons, it's all the same,
Chance has no hand in winning fame.
Here's to our School, our teachers too,
Of you we're proud. Good luck to you!
Oh help us all to earn the name,
Like Britons' sons, we'll play the game.*

”

*Our School by Baron Langley, Form III
Extract from the first edition of our School magazine,
The Gateway (Summer Term 1920)*



Our Principal Centenary Sponsor

We are delighted that Paul Robinson Solicitors, who have a long association with the School, have kindly agreed to be our Principal Sponsor for the School's Centenary year.

Paul Robinson Solicitors LLP

Paul Robinson Solicitors are proud Centenary Sponsors of Westcliff High School for Boys.

Paul Robinson Solicitors is a dynamic, fast-growing and award-winning law firm dedicated to providing an outstanding level of service to all clients across the country.

Established in 1983, Paul Robinson Solicitors has been growing confidently for more than 35 years offering and providing a comprehensive range of legal services to a wide range of clients, both personal and commercial. As one of the largest independent law firms in the South East, Paul Robinson Solicitors now consists of 14 Partners and over 130 staff across the offices in Southend, Billericay, Benfleet and Stratford.

We believe that as a responsible legal practice it is our duty to give back to the wider community and have made it our mission to help improve the community in which we find ourselves.

Fiona Colwell, a Partner and Head of Civil Litigation at this firm, is currently the Vice-Chair of Governors at WHSB, having been on the Governing Board since 2012. Fiona's role with the School furthers the association that various individuals of our firm have had with the School over many years, including Paul Robinson himself, who is an Old Westcliffian and who was also a former Governor. As a local firm, we are delighted to maintain a strong connection with a School that is a pivotal part of the local community. We have also provided legal advice to the School over many years.

We hope the School enjoys its celebrations and we look forward to the programme of events throughout its centenary year.

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Centenary Sponsors

We offer our sincere thanks to other sponsors and friends who have made the production of our Centenary programmes and materials possible.



Rickard Luckin has a strong association with WHSB having been appointed as the School's accountants for many years, working closely with our team of education sector specialists. We are delighted to offer our support to the School during its special year, celebrating 100 years since it opened its doors to local pupils. We wish the staff, current and former pupils and their families an enjoyable and successful year.

<https://www.rickardluckin.co.uk/education>
01268 548127



We are delighted to offer our support to Westcliff High School for Boys and send our best wishes to the staff, pupils and the wider School community during their year of Centenary celebrations.

Cadman is a commercial building firm and we were pleased to have the opportunity to work with the School on the internal refurbishment of the School's Science Block.

<https://www.cadmangroup.co.uk/>
01206 562474

Ian Francis, Old Westcliffian and Centenary Sponsor

I felt honoured to have been asked to contribute to the School's Centenary celebrations. My connections go right back to the School's formation as both my Mother, as Eleanor Lloyd, and my Aunt, Kathleen Francis, attended the School at its inception when it was co-educational.

I joined the School at the end of the War, transferring from the Grammar School in Windsor where I had been evacuated. My only academic achievement was the School Certificate History Prize, however I had the opportunity to become a lawyer, but needed to pass an examination in Latin. I received private tuition and support from the School's Latin Master, Harry Harden, and achieved the pass needed and subsequently qualified as a Solicitor. I practised in Leigh-on-Sea, and later became President of The Local Law Society, of which I was a keen member for many years. Subsequently, I was approached to join the School's Governing Body, which was then jointly held with the Girls' School, and eventually became its Chairman. As a keen rugby player, I joined the Old Westcliffian RFC and held its Captaincy in the years 1959-1961.

I have always followed the fortunes of the School and am delighted at its current success and reputation, and am certain under the present administration it will continue to succeed and improve.

I offer my best wishes to all members of the WHSB Community as we celebrate our Centenary Year.



Harvey Boydell-Young
Arun Dhanju Yunus Anikent
Victor Doragocher Peter Erikson
Daniel Ajiyi
Oluwatoloba Ayodele
Zarrar Ahmed Billy Darlington
Samuel Bakre Taiwo
Leslie Anaglaw Patrick Elesimite
Amirthan Balamuhunthan
Oluwatoloba Ayodele
Aston Fessley Albert Anderson
Amir Grant Finley Ammer
Sarthak Dai Liam Atterstley
Alex Crisp Omer Amin
Vincent H Daniel Atkinson
William Jarner Shivam Dodia
Keval Amin Brady Chivers
Luis Ayerbe Perez-Pinar
David Ariyo
Gabriel Anthony
Ariz Anis Davin Chandra
Demu Atunwa Kristian Ekeand
Obaloluwa Ayegebe
Temiola Awolusi Mas Gittus
Yash Awasthi Thomas Cox
Shah Asghar Pablo Cox
Julian Aubrey
Toby Dowling May Baker
Maddy Ball
Mohammed Bhuiyan
Luke Bardua Eric Frost
Leonard Cheung Hamid Adebowale Nathan Davey
Tobechi Chesa Akaash Jonathan Anil Dhinakar
Jack Carver
Benjamin Dixon Jessica Akwenuke
Reese Bowman
Jia Zi Chen Oluwatomi Adedeji
Devan Chaudhan William Brown
Jim Adekola Josh Cassar
Tojim Chakma Edem Ahiadu
Nabil Ahmed Connie Cox
Ben Crisp
Jonathan Anon
Praveen Balaji Balakumar
Oscar Calvert
Harveer Bawa
Alfie Golding Stephen Babbe
Abelman Balamuhunthan
Daniel Eze Tola Arimashoun
Hassan Ahmed Jack Gowing
Jason Thomas Answi-Dixon
Thomas Gerte Dilon Bhanuora
Freddie Dawson
James Clark Adedayo Adedele
Victor Adams
Ayodamope Akinyemi
Thomas Chow Adanna Azhebe
Daniel Akanno
Olatide Delano
Sakdeh Brien
Kaiser Daramola
Joseph Blind
Robert Brocklebank
Benjamin Brown
Connie Cachia
Jarad Bull-Mannan
Carter Brankley Goss
Anthony Bryant
Brendan Burgess
Seth Busch
Ethan Burkett
Joshua Britto
Sonny Coullage
Abhay Callar
Anthony Cao Hai
Noah Challis
Nathan Davey
John Pringle
Karlus Emye
Jeffrey Acquah
William Brown
Josh Cassar
Edem Ahiadu
Connie Cox
Gurjani Chaudhar
Ahmad Alhoms
Tariq Durrbin
Peyar Haqil
Balakumar

Kushal Banerjee
Bethel Adisoma
Theo Broome-Durrant
Alex Antosiewicz
Faizaan Awan
Joshua Arawolo
Bradley Asiedu
Kashif Farooq Charles Clarke
Theon Beckford
Haroon Amir
Aligboitiose Benson-Ikonje
Kofi Awuah Tyler Fleming
James Edwards Luke Burridge
Varun Anvappan
Danyal Amir
Precious Babalunde
Yusuf Babalunde
Nadhara Balage Don
Muadh Abulhasan
Felix Dodi
Aayan Azad Freddie Cox
Theodore Back
Rafael Estrella
Arjunan Balamuhunthan
Joseph Baverstock
Jason Chin Ethan Balls
Thomas Davis
Claran Banks
Joe Balth
Aaryush Batra
Ethan Chatterlian
Somjore Dad
Joyce Belonio
Claran Banks
Aaryush Batra
Ethan Chatterlian
Somjore Dad
Joyce Belonio
Claran Banks
Aaryush Batra
Ethan Chatterlian
Somjore Dad
Joyce Belonio

Donell Amosko
Luke Akerelle
Oliver Coe Ali Akhtar
Thomas Hill Omesiri Akpotor
Josh Clarke
Joseph Cove Segi Ajayi
Benjamin Chow
Eban Alabi
Thomas Balconber
Naim Sam Michael Akhigbe
Milo Chaffis
Louis Connor Kevin Alex
Blial Al-Dajaly Rian Cleary
Hanshan Aravindhari
Shibha Alam
Oluwatoloba Ayodele
Jack Burden
Edibi Akpala
Fawaz Aljwokenu
Sophie Belcher
Selorm Ahiadi
Ayush Chamoli Leon Abu
George Cove Hassan Ahmad
Isahak Akinlabi
Lauren Amehi George Cooke
Natalie Coyle Faraz Ali
Jack Alexander
Gopardo Chidochoro
Alex Grant Niall Ali
Raden Cohen Seth Chadwick
Abel Chandu Daniel Aloba
Greg O'Shea
Daman Dube
Nitin Anantharaju
Aydin Ali
David Burrows
Adam Carafra
Ahmed Faris
Cameron Blackboro
Shabaa Alam
Ugonna Amehi
Daniel Crooks

Pupils, Staff and G



Milo Gardner James Baldwin
 Dylan Dixon-Trudi Ashton
 Jonathan Jones Jun San Chakma
 James Jones
 Gerald Ayitiah
 Thomas Craig Sadam Chaudry
 David Evans Lewis Baker
 Thomas Baldwin Eric Gault
 Amaran Bensing
 Toby Dawson Max Baker
 Gurmehar Chugh
 Zakariya Awan
 Paul Fagnano Jaiwan Chohan
 Christian Barne
 Abdul Wasey Bhatti
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 William Bator Joseph Eke
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 Elysis Brooke-Durrant
 Joe Dunbar Tommy Ballam
 Matthew Benjafield
 Priyan Balasegaram
 Alex Day Sachin Barhey
 Adrian Balogun Andrew Gray
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 William Barnett
 Hector Bailey
 Samuel Birdall
 Julie House Daniel Barton
 Max Cole Slaidie Bowden
 Rahan Ghosh
 Toni Bakogin
 Archie Becks
 Ahmad Awan Ali Choudhry
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 Yusuf Aslam Joseph Olatunji
 Alexander Bush
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 Ridwan Morol Pranoy Quam
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 Aniket Roberts James Mark Samuel Miller Lukis Revaon
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 Kelechi Oguledo Maximilian Mather Parag Shah Divya Patel
 Lucian Neville Anant Sahay Jodie Osmailige
 Ihenosa Ominu-Evboita James Rogers Cho Man
 Prayman Rajgopal Tanuka Mawela Oliver Northfield
 Benedict Maruzzi Benjamin Pappas Kester Morgan Downing
 Thomas Nankivell Daniel Rudbeck
 Joseph Ryan Freddy Noble
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 Quddus Okunola Jake Swain
 Oye Olabowale
 Aadan Rehman
 Mayowa Okunuga
 Jack Tere Hazzifa Othman
 Tegan Rees Rhys Newitt
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 Venkata Marupuri Frank Palmer
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 Abina Nurse
 Ethan Okai Zachary Smith
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Will Midwinter Nicholas Ostaszewski Aidan Riglin
 Callum Pettit Patrick Maynard
 Tanatwa Mangema Sebastian Prakar
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 Ethan Megraw Charles Robert Louis Patchett Zachary Manley
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 Tharal Nanayakkara
 Matthew Northfield
 Raees Naik
 Luke Read Donald Nauman
 Imad Quasim Dalbir Nanwal
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 Oliver Rider Samuel Nash
 Samuel Phillip Felix Russell
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 Alexander Marshak
 Samron Main
 Sadeen Rahman
 Alex McDonach Ayesh Patel
 Emmanuel Ogunwole Rohan Mansi David Ogunbiyi
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 Lewis Matthews Luke Pennington
 Oluwatamilore Mustafa
 Aashithan Peridanthan
 Jacob Prior
 Alexander Norris
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 Eesen Nullatambay
 Akshar Patel
 Faith Oshoja
 Harrison Mills
 Labib Miah Jamie Rogers
 Nathanael Newey
 Raeez Rameez Ethan Moola
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 Vidya Sahoo Louis Molloy
 Lewis Nash
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 Radman Rock
 Damiola Olanrewaju
 Shay McGlone
 Daniel Prouzina
 Oliver Mckenzie
 Dhanu Patel
 Christopher Park
 Folagbade Oweyisi
 Habib Miah
 Aashithan Peridanthan

Governors in 2020

“

The School – to be known as the Commercial Secondary School – opened on the morning of Tuesday 27 April 1920. Its career will be watched with interest, for it is the first school of its type, not only in the Borough of Southend, but in the country. As a recognised Secondary School, it will provide a general education of the usual Secondary School type, and its pupils will be entered for the London Matriculation Examination. But, and in this we claim to lead, the general course will be followed by a special advanced course, not in Arts or in Science, but in Commerce.

The School badge and motto are those of the House of Essex. The following description is taken from Debrett:-

<i>Motto</i>	<i>Fide et Fortitudine By Fidelity and Fortitude</i>
<i>Arms</i>	<i>Gules: a lion rampant between three cross crosslets fitchéé, or</i>
<i>Crest</i>	<i>A demi-lion rampant, supporting a cross crosslet fitchéé, or</i>
<i>Supporters</i>	<i>Two lions or, ducally crowned Gules</i>

If this should mystify, rather than edify, our Readers, they will no doubt wisely decide that it is just a roundabout way of describing our lions and inspiring motto.

”

The first edition of our School magazine, The Gateway (Summer Term 1920)

