

OB DAY JUNE 2017

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PETER BLUNDELL SOCIETY

It is now many years since the Peter Blundell Society fulfilled the role of main fundraising body for the School but it continues to receive a modest level of subscriptions and donations. This enables the Society to make small but effective financial contributions to the life of the School, favouring support for items of expenditure that, were it not for this help, would be delayed or might never take place.

Since OB Day 2016 the following donations have been made or approved:

£2,000 to the English Department for tablet computers

£130 contribution to erecting a plaque beside the 'Peter Blundell Stones'

£500 for enhancement of the Foreign Languages Block foyer

£250 towards camping cookers for outdoor pursuits

£150 for basic start up kit for the Fencing Club

£1,000 for house projects for Petergate, Old House, Francis House, North Close and Gorton House.

In addition to this general support for the School the Peter Blundell Society administers the ER Crowe Memorial Fund. Set up in memory of Ted Crowe this fund has over the years paid a total of £158,672 towards the fees of ER Crowe scholars. £8,400 has been paid to the School in the last year and the fund is still very much active.

Finally the Society has continued its involvement in the funding of the improvements to The Beale Centre. In total the Society has raised £51,274 towards this project, £16,274 from individual members and £35,000 from The Ted Crowe Will Trust (see below).

E R CROWE WILL TRUST

In his Will Ted Crowe left his residual estate in trust for the benefit of Old Blundellians as represented by The Old Blundellian Club and the facilities of The Beale Centre and Ted Crowe Room at Taunton.

The original Trustees were Richard White, Frank Akerman, Mike Daniels and Jonny Ison and these were joined in early 2016 by Christian Brook (W. 1978-1983)

The Trustees are able to make grants of both income and capital. Since the Trust was set up in 2011 donations have been made to provide The Beale Centre with its projector screen and induction loop system, a contribution was made to the School's 'Diamond Gaudy' in 2012 and regular donations have been made to support the annual Reichwald Fives competition.

During 2015 and 2016 the Trust contributed a total of £35,000 towards the improvements at The Beale Centre, a project very much within the objects set out by Ted Crowe.

This last project involved the disbursement of capital as well as income and the Trustees are now intending for the time being to restrict grants to distributions of income in order to rebuild capital value. Applications for grants can be made to the Trustees.

Current investments (which are managed by stockbrokers in London) stand at a value at March 2017 of £154,000 (March 2016: £124,000) and generate income of £4,500 to £4,750 per annum.

J H Ison
PBS Treasurer