



The Boarding School Book of Remembrance

Newsletter Issue 1 (April 2024)

Introduction

Welcome to the first newsletter of The Boarding School Book of Remembrance Project. This issue aims to inform, remind and update stakeholders about the project.

About The Boarding School Book of Remembrance

The Boarding School Book of Remembrance (BOBOR) has been launched to mark the 60th anniversary of The Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) in 2025 and the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. The project was made public in November 2023 and it's hoped BOBOR will be enduring and permanent.

The BSA

UK-based BSA is the world's largest boarding schools' network with more than 640 members in 40 countries. It is part of BSA Group, which comprises five membership associations and a legal company. BSA Group has more than 1,600 customers.

BSA and BOBOR

BSA owns and manages BOBOR and is a partner in its delivery. Although BOBOR was created by and is overseen by BSA, it is very much intended as an inclusive archive. BSA Group CEO Robin Fletcher is also BOBOR Director and can be contacted via robin.fletcher@bsagroup.org.uk

BOBOR and how it works

BOBOR is a digital archive for boarding schools to record the names of pupils, staff, governors or volunteers who died or made a significant contribution in conflict. Participating schools will have their own tab (page) to populate as they wish. This could simply be a photograph of a roll of honour or maybe a full digital archive with individual stories and details of where fallen pupils are buried. There is no minimum or maximum and it's hoped schools will also upload related stories, such as details from remembrance services or similar.

Archive host

SDS Group in the UK, which specialises in digital archiving for schools and other organisations, is building and hosting BOBOR. SDS Group's clients include the House of Lords, Bank of England, British Museum, British Library, Chatham House and John Lewis Partnership.

Cost of joining BOBOR and eligibility

BOBOR is free for all boarding schools whether BSA members or not.

Names for inclusion

Although remembrance tends to cover those who died, BOBOR is deliberately inclusive. So we would like to include as many names as possible and will leave it to schools to decide. This could include:

- People who served and were injured.
- People who served and were not injured.
- People who died later from conflict injuries.
- Day students who were pupils at a boarding school.
- Former boarders students at a school that is now day.
- People from different schools which have merged.
- People whose names appear on rolls at different junior and senior schools.

Boarding alumni who held leadership positions during conflict but did not serve

A good example of this is Winston Churchill, a former boarder who served as the political head of the Royal Navy in World War I, Prime Minister in World War II and then died in 1965. Clearly it is right his contribution is included on BOBOR and we will do this in a separate section on notable boarders.

BOBOR Honorary Patrons

We're delighted several current or retired service personnel, or similarly distinguished senior people connected with boarding schools, have agreed to be Honorary Patrons of BOBOR. Current Honorary Patrons are from the UK and USA, but we hope this will broaden to other countries in time.

- Air Chief Marshall **Sir Simon Bryant**, KCB, CBE (rtd) former Commander-in-Chief, Air Command, Royal Air Force, UK (Stamford School).
- **Lord Hutton**, military historian and former UK Secretary of State for Defence.
- Vice Admiral **Sir Clive Johnstone** KBE CB, President, Royal British Legion, UK.
- Admiral **Sir Benjamin Key**, KCB, CBE, First Sea Lord, Royal Navy, UK (Bromsgrove School).
- **Lord Lexden**, OBE historian and former General Secretary of the Independent Schools Council, UK (Framlingham School).
- Major General **Walt Lord** (rtd), former Military Executive Director to the US Reserve Forces Policy Board (Valley Forge Military College).
- Lt Col **Mark Pugh-Cook** (rtd), former Chief Intelligence Officer, Headquarters, Basra and former British Liaison Officer to the French Armed Forces (Rugby School).
- Surgeon Rear Admiral **Fleur Marshall**, Head of the Royal Navy Medical Service, UK (Repton College).
- General **Sir Tim Radford**, KCB (rtd), former Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (Rugby School).

Military Advisors

Again we are delighted to have some distinguished experts able to offer advice on military matters. Currently, they are:

- **Tim Butcher**, former Defence Correspondent Daily Telegraph and military historian.
- **Neil Cufley**, former UK army officer, military historian and Director of Operations/Finance, Royal Russell School, UK
- **Dr Gregory Fremont-Barnes**, military historian and Senior Lecturer in the Department of War Studies at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, UK
- **Sir Anthony Seldon**, educator and military historian.
- **Sarah Wearne**, military historian and archivist.

Supporting Partners

Alongside our archive partner SDS, the following organisations have agreed to be BOBOR Supporting Partners. We are very grateful for their support.

- **ABSA** (Australian Boarding Schools' Association).
- **HMC** (The Heads' Conference).
- **IAPS** (Independent Association of Preparatory School).
- **ISBA** (Independent Schools Bursars' Association).
- **ISC** (Independent Schools Council).
- **NZBSA** (New Zealand Boarding Schools Association).
- **RBL** (The Royal British Legion).
- **SOH** (Society of Heads).

Participating schools

Australia

- Queensland: Ipswich Grammar School, The Southport School, Toowoomba Grammar School.
- Victoria: Assumption College, Scotch College, Melbourne.

England*

Abingdon, Aldenham, Ashville College, Aysgarth, Bede's, Berkhamsted, Bilton Grange, Blundell's, Bradfield College, Brentwood, Bryanston, Charterhouse, Cheltenham College, Colchester Royal Grammar, Culford, Dean Close, Downe House, Dragon, Durham Cathedral, Eagle House, Eastbourne College, Epsom College, Eton College, Felsted, , Giggleswick, Hurstpierpoint, Kent College Pembury, Kingham Hill, King's Canterbury, King's Rochester, Lincoln Christ Hospital, Lancaster Royal Grammar, Luckley House, LVS Ascot, Marlborough College, Monkton, Mount Kelly College, Oakham, Oratory, Pangbourne, Queenswood, Royal Alexandra and Albert, Radley College, Repton, Royal Russell, Rugby, Sedbergh, Shrewsbury, St Catherine's Bramley, St Edward's Oxford, St George's Windsor, St John's Beaumont, St Peter's York, St Swithun's, Stonyhurst College, Stonyhurst Prep, Stowe, , Summerfields, Sutton Valence, The Leys, The Royal High Bath, Taunton, Tonbridge, Uppingham, Warminster, Wellington College, Wells Cathedral, Windlesham House, Winchester College, Wycombe Abbey.

*College titles shown, all others school titles omitted for brevity.

New Zealand

- Whanganui Collegiate School, North Island.

Northern Ireland

- Rockport School, Belfast.

Republic of Ireland

- The King's Hospital School, Dublin.

Scotland

- Fettes College
- Glenalmond School
- Gordonstoun School
- Strathallan

Wales

- Christ College Brecon.

Next steps

SDS Group is currently building BOBOR and hopes to have a first batch of school information on the site by May 2024. It is hoped the full site will be complete, as far as possible, by autumn 2025. As well as individual school tabs, the site will also contain features, articles and resources so it can be used by schools as an educational resource.

Contact details

For any queries or suggestions about BOBOR contact Project Director Robin Fletcher via robin.fletcher@bsagroup.org.uk or 07770 738220

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