

MOSA NEWSLETTER

Fidelis In Parvo



Season's Greetings from The Mount

It feels very odd to be writing my last introduction for the MOSA newsletter. It only seems like a short time ago that I first met with Christine Johnson and she gave me a MOSA brooch as a gift. Working with the then MOSA Committee was a big part of my role as Principal and I would like to thank all Mount Old Scholars for always making me feel so welcome.

My time at The Mount has been extremely rewarding. I am a passionate supporter of an all-girls education and its many advantages and I believe that this coupled with The Mount's Quaker ethos, produces confident, compassionate and socially aware young women. I have seen this not only in the girls at The Mount but through the number of Old Scholars I have met over the years.

As Principal, I have been custodian of The Mount, its traditions, its vision and its ethos. As many of you will know it is a tradition for the Principal/Head Teacher to have a portrait painted, to be displayed in the Esther Tuke Room. My portrait is being painted by a local York artist, Lucy McElroy. It will truly be an honour to be portrayed in the company of the custodians who came before me. (More details on the history of the Heads' portraits will follow in the next newsletter.)

It has been fascinating to be part of a School with such a rich history (and to now be part of that History). I seem to discover something new about The Mount every day! I have genuinely enjoyed all of my conversations with Old Scholars, reading all of the letters I have received and browsing the many donations to the archives. The history of The Mount is so important and it must continue to be documented. Sarah Moore is doing a great job digitising the archives and I know this will continue after I leave.

It is a very exciting time for the MOSA community. As you will read there are some upcoming changes to staffing at The Mount and the introduction of a Customer Relationship Management system. The team here are dedicated to driving forward communications and engagement for all Mount alumnae and a new CRM system will help with that.

I am extremely privileged to have been the Principal at such a wonderful School for the last six years, and I am now equally proud to be an official member of MOSA and will wear my brooch, that Christine gave me six years ago, with pride!

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and New Year and best wishes for the future.

Adrienne Richmond
Principal of The Mount School York



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Artwork above by
Eleanor, College I

Leeds Rhinos Netball Coach Mount Girls

“The Leeds Rhinos coaching is amazing! It’s great to be playing netball again.” - Melanie (Year 6)

In September, girls at The Mount School York were exhausted yet thrilled after welcoming Leeds Rhinos’ Netball coaches to the School for the first of their ongoing training and coaching sessions.

The Mount School has partnered with the Vitality Super-league Netball franchise and Leeds Rhinos Netball, the Performance Pathway provider for Yorkshire U15 and U21. This partnership sees Leeds Rhinos holding weekly coaching sessions with Mount girls from both the Junior School and Senior School.

“It is the first time that we have had the pleasure of coming to The Mount. We have discovered fabulous facilities, amazing assistance from staff and extremely enthusiastic girls,” said Leeds Rhinos’ Assistant Coach and former England international player, Maggie Birkinshaw. *“The girls’ development and improvement has been visible in each session. They are very hard-working and committed to learning more.”*

“The quality of coaching is excellent,” said Alice (Year 10) who is a Sports Scholar at The Mount. *“The Leeds Rhinos coaches very quickly spotted ways to help us all to improve, the sessions are really centred on developing our ball skills.”*

Gareth Cook, Head of Community and Engagement at Leeds Rhinos Foundation, said, *“We are absolutely delighted to be working with The Mount School York this academic year, providing high quality netball, and hoping to inspire a new generation of Rhinos Netball fans and players. As part of our partnership, Rhinos Elite players will be making appearances as well as exploring opportunities to attend Rhinos Netball home fixtures next season. The Mount will be a flagship school for Rhinos Netball and we look forward to a long and successful partnership.”*

“At The Mount we are fortunate to have world-class sports facilities, and having Leeds Rhinos Netball choose to partner with us recognises this,” said Adrienne Richmond, Principal of The Mount School.

“Netball is a sport much-loved by Mount girls. We want our girls to enjoy participating in sports, because that will have a positive impact on how they embrace sport and physical activities for the rest of their lives,” comments Jackie Greenwood, Acting Head of PE. *“This partnership with Leeds Rhinos Netball is the icing on a most excellent cake.”*



THE MOUNT NAMED FINALIST FOR CAREERS AWARD

This term, we were thrilled to be selected as a finalist in the Independent School Parent Independent School of the Year Awards in their Student Careers Programme category.

This award recognises how schools help students with on-going advice and support on choosing a career. Judges also consider how schools assist pupils with finding suitable work experience, including internships, and preparing for future employment.

"I am not here to tell the girls what to do," says Wendy Thompson, Careers and UCAS Leader. "I help them plot their thinking, recognise opportunities, build resilience and provide a service to get them onto their career path. Even after they leave College, the girls know there is a resource here for them."



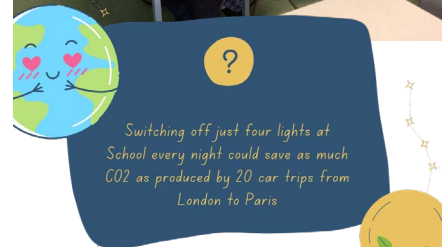
ECO CLUB RAISES ECO AWARENESS

Sustainability is one of the Quaker testimonies and a key issue for the younger generation. The Senior School Eco Club are keen supporters of making us all aware of sustainability and our environment. This term they met with the Director of Business Operations, Nick Higgins, to propose ideas for making the School more eco-friendly. Ideas included improving electricity efficiency, increasing biodiversity in the School grounds, and enhancing the School's use of recycling bins.

"We talked with Mr Higgins about getting more waste-paper bins around the School. This will help us improve our recycling. It's interesting to be working with different people from different parts of the School. It was very encouraging to have our ideas heard." - Peggy (Year 7)

Over 2 weeks in November, members of Eco Club monitored when lights had been left on in classrooms, as part of the national 'Switch off Fortnight' campaign. Three readings were taken over the fortnight which overall saw daily consumption decrease.

The Eco Club also supported the 'Reuse Santa Appeal', charitable campaign. They collected used toys, games, books and puzzles for young people who might otherwise not receive a gift. Not only will this help to make Christmas easier for many families, but it also supports the environment by encouraging a 'Reduce, Re-use, Recycle' mindset.



CHILD OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER



Congratulations to Milly (Year 8) who was named joint winner of the Child of the Year award in the York Press Community Pride Awards 2021. In October, Milly enjoyed a glittering Awards dinner. Milly said, *"I am really excited and so pleased about this, because everything I have done has helped a good cause."*

11 year old Milly's win recognises her marathon cycling effort during the Spring lockdown to raise funds and awareness for York's homeless community. *"Over Christmas I noticed the number of homeless people on the streets in town and thought how hard that must be,"* comments Milly. She asked for sponsorship to raise money for Safe and Sound Homes (SASH) York. SASH said, *"Every penny raised by super fundraisers like Milly really does make a huge difference to local young people."* Well done, Milly!



Junior School celebrates 30th Birthday

Tuesday 23 November marked 30 years since the official opening ceremony of The Mount Junior School (known then as Tregelles).

In 1991, pupils buried a time capsule to mark the day. A ten pence piece, a Polly Pocket and School Prospectus were just some of the items included – you will have to wait another 20 years to find out the rest though, as it is due to be dug up in 2041!

On the anniversary, current Junior School girls and Miss Wilson, who was part of the opening ceremony, visited the site of the time capsule. The girls were delighted to listen to Miss Wilson recall the day and were intrigued to guess what items had been buried. When asked what they would put in a time capsule today items suggested included popcorn, popular music and an iPad.

The Mount Junior School girls will continue to celebrate the milestone birthday and look back at the history of the Junior School over the next two terms.

Nisha, a former pupil who spotted herself in one of the photos posted on the MOSA Facebook Group commented, *“This is so wonderful to see! I was at the burial of the time capsule 30 years ago (I’m on the front row) and remember my years at Tregelles very fondly.”*

We would love to hear your memories of the Junior School – perhaps you placed an item in the time capsule! Please email mosa@mountschool.york.co.uk.



The Official Opening & Time Capsule Burial - 23 November 1991





FAREWELL TO ADRIENNE RICHMOND

After six years as Principal of The Mount, Adrienne Richmond retires from teaching at Christmas 2021, after 34 years.

During her six years at The Mount, Adrienne has made an immense contribution to the development of the School, helping to define and position the value of girls-only education. Adrienne has been integral to ensuring that the School is rigorous in its approach to educational quality and safeguarding issues. In November 2018, the School was rated excellent, the highest-grade attainable, following an Independent Schools Inspection.

Adrienne has steered the School with exceptional agility through the unforeseen challenges posed by Covid-19. This included enormous upheaval caused by the cancellation of public examinations. The School's excellent A-Level and GCSE exam results over the past 2 years are a tribute and testament to all the hard work of Adrienne and her team in managing that process and supporting students.

Throughout the pandemic Adrienne has continued to drive forward the School's strategic plan. This has enabled the School to invest in our facilities for both the School and the wider York community.

Adrienne has also made a big impact on the MOSA community steering the handover of the community's management from the MOSA Committee to the School and helping to launch The Mount Foundation.

All of this has been made possible by Adrienne Richmond's steady leadership and expert knowledge.

Whilst we are understandably sad to see her leave, everyone at The Mount School wishes Adrienne Richmond all the best for the next stage of her life, returning to her family and home in Newcastle.



MOSA NEWS

STAFF CHANGES

Many of you will have met Sarah Moore at our virtual events, or corresponded with her regarding the archives or your MOSA queries. Sarah has been doing a fantastic job of managing communications and the archives for MOSA since taking up the post in January 2021. She has helped to produce more frequent newsletters, digitise the archives and share her findings. Sarah will be going on maternity leave in December. I am sure you will join us in congratulating Sarah and wishing her well. We look forward to welcoming her back when the time comes.

Vanessa Charters will be taking on the role of Community Outreach Manager from January 2022. This will include all Alumnae communications and she will be the first point of contact for MOSA queries. You may already have met Vanessa as she has worked at The Mount as Marketing Director for over 10 years. As the Marketing role has evolved to a full time all year-round marketing position Vanessa will now take on the new role and she is looking forward to further progressing the MOSA communications.

POTENTIALITY

Since The Mount took over management of MOSA we have been looking into ways to set up a database to make collection of MOSA data easier and more secure. We are also keen to improve communications between MOSA and The Mount, but also between MOSA members. We have appointed Potentiality as our CRM provider and begun the process to get this set up. The site is currently in the design phase. Vanessa will be driving this forward in her new role and we look forward to it launching in 2022.

Archives Corner

Sarah Moore, Librarian and Archivist

THE BORTHWICK INSTITUTE

We are delighted to let you know that The Mount School archive catalogue is now available on The Borthwick's online catalogue Borthcat:

<https://borthcat.york.ac.uk/index.php/mou>

This includes the majority of the archive, except for the most recent new accessions. We are really excited to finally have it online. It will eventually also be on Archives Hub and Archives Portal Europe which will hopefully draw even more attention to it.



ELLEN CONSTANCE NIGHTINGALE

John Griffiths Pedley, Professor Emeritus from The University of Michigan, is putting together a biography of Ellen Constance Nightingale, Head of The Mount School from 1940-1948. Vanessa Charters was kind enough to show John and his wife around The Mount a few years ago, and subsequently arrange for him to get scans of the portrait of Ellen displayed in one of the School's rooms.

The whole signature of the painter was difficult to read but a close up revealed it is Richard Naish (1912-1988) who according to artblogs.co.uk studied at York School of Art.

CRAFT WORK 1967-1972 - POTTERY VEGETABLE DISHES

Ruth Stanier contacted me in response to the recent MOSA newsletter which featured your reflections on creative arts at The Mount. Ruth recounts that she had opportunities for crafts on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. Ruth kindly shared photographs of crafts she made for her family in weaving and spinning, woodwork and pottery classes.

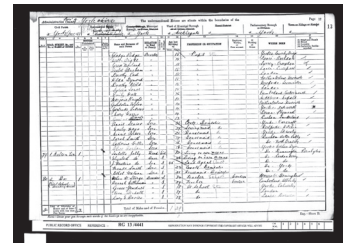
Ruth remembers: *"When pottery is fired in the kiln, it shrinks a little. The amount it shrinks depends on many factors, so making a lid to fit a base is a bit tricky; they*



might fit perfectly when made, but then shrink by different amounts in the kiln. That happened with my vegetable dish made with white clay. I made a replacement lid, which fitted perfectly, but I kept the original lid as a spare. One day many years ago, when my sister and I were still living with our parents, I heard my sister crying in the kitchen. I went downstairs to see what had happened. She had dropped and broken the lid of the vegetable dish, and was crying because it was home-made and she would not be able to get a replacement lid. I went into the larder and from the top shelf I reached the original ill-fitting lid. My sister was incredulous - and delighted - that there was a spare lid!"

ISABEL ABRAHAM

Jo Donnelly, a Women's History Blogger specialising in the Merseyside Suffrage Movement, is currently volunteering under the supervision of Kay Jones, Lead Curator of Urban & Community History at the Museum of Liverpool. Her first research project involves the museum's suffrage exhibit, *'Talking Liberties: Women's suffrage in Liverpool'*. One of the items in the exhibit is a Christmas Greetings Note from suffrage campaigner Isabel Abraham. <https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/artifact/votes-women-christmas-wishes>



The 1911 Census lists Isabel as a boarder at The Mount School York. Later in life, Isabel was a dedicated member of the Women's Social Political Union and was a founding member of the Students Suffrage Society at the University of Liverpool. Jo discovered that Isabel was a Quaker and a descendant of Margaret Fell. Jo will be writing an article for the Museum of Liverpool and will look at Isabel's whole life with a focus on her suffrage campaigning. I have put Jo in contact with The Borthwick Institute to learn about Isabel's earlier life and time at The Mount School. We can't wait to hear more about her findings!

JUBILEE DAY 1977

Colin Henderson asked the School if we still have access to a film of The Mount's celebrations to commemorate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. Colin reflects that there was a celebration in the garden at the back of The Mount at the end of the Summer Term. This included a version of "It's a Knockout", a popular television game at that time. Unfortunately, I didn't find the film but discovered some photographs which brought back memories of a very happy day.





DR HILDA CLARK (OF THE CLARKS SHOE FAMILY)

Norman Pickavance is currently researching a book about the efforts of many brave Quakers who struggled for peace, before, during and in the aftermath of the Great War. His work started with a fascination about the work of the Friends Ambulance Unit. However, it has widened to include other Quaker figures of significance, who also played a significant role.

It was in this process that he discovered Hilda Clark, who was a former Mount Girl. Hilda was a daughter of the founders and a doctor who dedicated her life to addressing the sufferings of civilians who were impacted by war. She set up and ran field hospitals in France during World War I, at great personal cost, and then went on to deliver relief aid to those starving in Austria as famine spread across Europe after the war. Her work was ultimately so extensive that she laid foundations for what would become the Kindertransport, helping Jewish children to escape the clutches of the Nazis. Norman is trying to build an accurate picture of Hilda's life, such that it might become a point of education and inspiration for the girls. The School is delighted to be involved with this project and liaising with the Alfred Gillett Trust who look after the Clarks' archive.



ROMAN TOMBSTONE

Professor Roger Wilson, from the University of British Columbia, asked The Mount if the Roman tombstone of Baebius Crescens, a soldier of the Sixth Legion, is still on display in school and if we welcome enquiries to see it. Roger is in the process of publishing a guidebook in its fifth edition with Cambridge

University Press and it has always mentioned that there is a tombstone in The Mount School. The soldier who lay beneath the tombstone came, it said, from Augsburg and had died at York aged 45 years. He belonged to the famous Sixth Legion - a legion which for its valour was allowed to add to its name the epithet "Vic.P.F. namely, 'Victorious, Loyal (Pius), Faithful'. The date is thought to be about A.D. 200. Overall the monument is a better one than we would have expected over the remains of a private soldier. It is likely the deceased was a person of good family or at least of some wealth.

THANK YOU

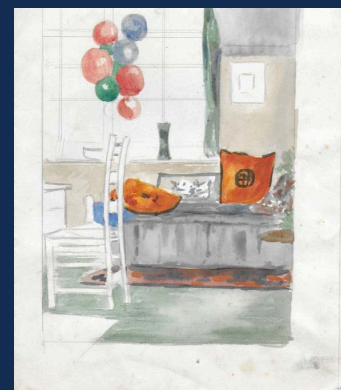
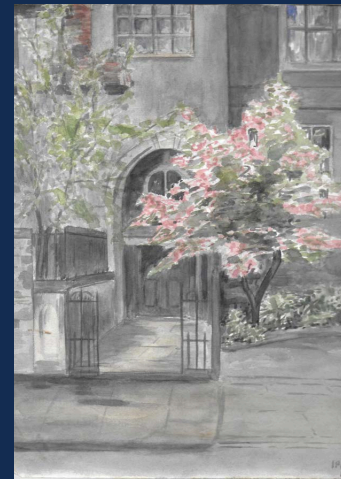
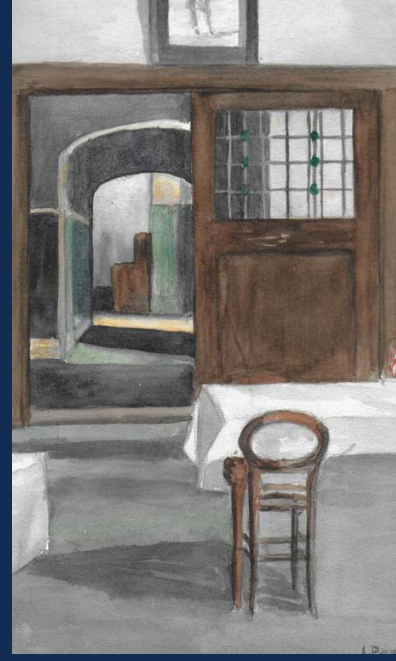
Finally, thank you to everyone who has contributed to the newsletter, it is always so lovely to hear from Old Scholars and I look forward to hearing more from you once I return from maternity leave.

Sarah Moore, Librarian and Archivist

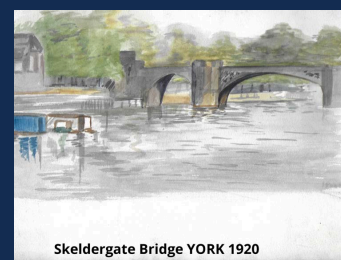
ART WORK 1920s

I was delighted to be sent these wonderful paintings and drawings by Isabel Poad, a Mount Scholar, at school 100 years ago. Anthony Abraham's mother, Isabel Poad, went to The Mount School in or around 1918 and stayed until c1923. When she arrived at the school aged 13 she was 6' tall and was the tallest girl in the school!

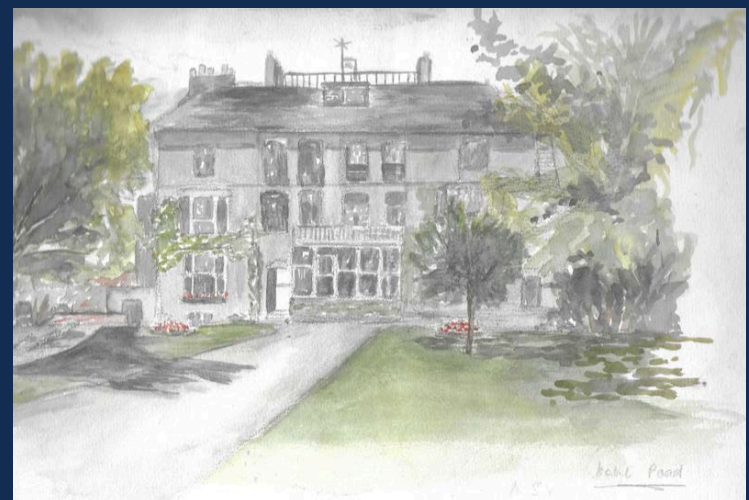
Mount School YORK Age 15



Teenager's Bedroom Age 15 1920



Skeldergate Bridge YORK 1920



MOSA REFLECTIONS

SHIRLEY NIGHTINGALE

Shirley Nightingale boarded at The Mount between 1945 and 1952. Here she reminisces on her school days (written in 2021).

"I arrived at The Mount on 20 September 1945 having never set eyes on the place before, so, as an 'only child' it was the start of a big adventure living away from home.

This was obviously in the post-war years, so we had to bring our ration books with us and hand them in, but we were allowed to keep the coupons for buying our sweet ration and soap coupons. Pocket money allowed for the Juniors like us, was one pound (twenty shillings) per term, and each week we were able to take out two shillings and six pence for our small purchases. The Seniors were allowed thirty shillings per term. On Sunday evenings just before bedtime, each of the two Junior forms at Riseholme had 'class reading' i.e. a 'book at bedtime' in a teacher's own room. A book was chosen each term and one chapter was read each week, so we were left in suspense when it was exciting.

Our trunks had to be unpacked - with items checked from the clothing list, including navy knickers! They all had to have name tapes. We were allowed to have three different sets of clothes which we could change into after games and before tea, and one of those had to be a dress for Sundays. Clothes were of course on coupons, so our uniforms took quite a number. Butcher blue blouses with white detachable collars were worn under navy blue tunics. A few years later the uniform was changed to pin striped blouses and skirts. A hat had to be worn on Sunday for going to Meeting in York, and we had to have our own hockey stick for games.



The two Junior forms lived in Riseholme, where the two ground floor rooms were classrooms for the two forms, and the bedrooms above varied in size with children from both years in each so the older ones could help the freshers. Each new girl was appointed a Senior girl as her 'nut cracker' to befriend her and help with any problems. We had our meals in the main dining room, entering the School through Portico, (which was where we had our weekly shoe cleaning session), then we all assembled in what was then the gym where girls were appointed



'meal sides', and those changed at half term. This system enabled everyone in the school to subsequently know who everyone was.

Every day before breakfast we had to learn either a passage from the Bible, or a poem like Abou ben Adhem and when we were all assembled in the gym before going to breakfast, two people would be picked upon to recite what they had just learnt. If anybody failed to do that, they'd be asked again later that week. We all moved round the dining table so we each had the opportunity to sit next to the teacher.

A dish of food was brought to each table by the 'Bettys' (maids) and the teacher served it out. Wednesdays were the days when we had sausages - a real treat! Good table manners were essential and we were expected to make sure that our neighbour had milk for her porridge, etc. The kitchens in those days were not opposite the dining room, (which was the chemistry laboratory), but to the right. If anyone had a birthday during term time we were allowed to have a birthday cake, which was kept by the Housekeeper, Mrs (Ma) Rivers, and we could invite who we would like to sit at our table for the party. This made a change from having just jam or peanut butter on bread for tea!

Miss E Constance Nightingale was the Head Mistress, nicknamed Flossie (from the famous Florence), who had a lovely little corgi called Vinney, and like most of us girls, all the teachers had nicknames, including The Egg for Miss Ruegg, The Bucket for Miss Tucket, The Nick for Miss Nicholson, etc.

The school mail was delivered early, and one of the teachers divided the pupils' letters into piles - one for each table - then at the end of breakfast one person from each table collected a pile from the ledge outside the dining room, and then went round the dining room handing the letters out to the recipients - another good way of learning 'who was who', any remaining undelivered letters were

put on the alphabetical letter rack near central hall.

After breakfast in the winter months we went up to Sister's room to have a spoonful of cod liver oil and malt to keep us healthy, then we had 'chores' which could even be mopping the floor in the gym, and then we returned to our bedrooms to make our beds and leave the room tidy before going to our classroom. Another reason for going to Sister's room, apart from if you felt unwell, was for the annual 'Nit inspection', but I never recall anyone being 'discovered'.

In the third year we moved mainly into bedrooms at Crossways, and a few were in school where girls of different ages mixed, then later the Sixth Formers slept in Rowans. We played a game called 'asphalt', rather like hockey with sticks like walking sticks, and this was on the little area beyond The Clump and next to the two tarmacked tennis courts called Naboth. Bedroom teams of four played one another to find the winner. Each evening the whole school attended 'Evening Reading' in the main hall when one of the teachers read from an inspiring book, like Elizabeth Fry. At the end of the meeting the teacher stood in the hall in front of the stage, and as we all 'filed out' in front of her she nodded 'good night' to each person who nodded back.

Meetings for Worship were held in the old Friends' Meeting House in Clifford Street where we went every Wednesday morning for a shorter service and of course Sundays for an hour. Bootham school boys attended them too. Two Sundays each term we had 'Split Meeting' when girls could attend a C of E or other church, so I often went to Dringhouses. Just near the Meeting House was a shop we passed on Wednesdays where girls could be seen sitting by the window in good light for mending ladders in nylons, because nylons had only just become available and were very scarce and expensive!

During our mid-morning break we were expected to go out into the garden to get some fresh air and exercise, and in the afternoon if the weather was not fit for games we had to go over the railway bridge to 'Far Field' and run round the perimeter of the field, or we had Wet Walks in the neighbourhood. We made use of the swimming baths at Bootham in the summer term because we didn't have our own in those days and were taken there by private bus. That term an Ice Cream seller came into the Mount garden so we could purchase just one ice cream.

Hair washing for the Juniors was done in the room above the main cloakroom where a row of circular heaters was on a shelf at shoulder height. We had to stand in front of these hazardous things to dry our hair and there was a

permanent smell of singed hair. Health and safety would definitely not have approved!

One term we had Civics week when visits were arranged to places like The Minster, Treasurer's House, the Kirk Museum as the Castle Museum was then called, and the Mansion House, etc. Each day we had to write up details in our special exercise book, including pictures, postcards or pamphlets.

Either at half term in the summer term for parents weekend or Whit weekend for Old Scholars, we had a gym display in the garden. One year we had a maypole to dance around which we thought was great fun. To encourage gardening, there were a few little plots which individuals could use for growing flowers.

Crafts were available and encouraged, including woodwork, weaving in The Web, which was a wooden building at the far end of school, (later demolished to make way for the extension for swimming pool, gym, etc.) leather work and basket making, and during the autumn term we had an Exhibition when parents could visit to see our achievements. There were different societies, and one was a Debating Society which proved stimulating and useful for when we'd left school! We also celebrated Halloween with Games in the Dark, and had a Blackberry Excursion when eight coaches took us to an appropriate area north of York so we could not only gather blackberries but also rose hips for commercially made rose hip syrup. At the end of term we had 'writing up', and depending on the number in the class the first girl would draw



something appropriate for the theme of the picture on the blackboard so the last girl would complete the picture at the end of term.

For the older girls taking School Certificate exams, one younger girl would make something special like a calendar, so that person would open the appropriate bit each day of her exams. Our year group were able to choose whether to sit the last year of the School Certificate exams, or the first of the GCEs.

One winter in the mid 1940s it was a particularly cold one and the lake in Rowntree Park was frozen - hard enough for ice skating, so those fortunate enough to have the use of skates could go there at the weekend. At the beginning of the 1950s Rowntrees sweet factory put on a Strawberry Tea for the older pupils at The Mount and Bootham which was great fun as there was dancing too.

Any girl who was in the school choir could also join the joint choir with Bootham, and I remember we sang Bach's St Matthew Passion, and we also did joint Gilbert and Sullivan plays.



MOSA VIRTUAL MEETING

A good thing that has come out of the Covid-19 pandemic has been the increase in the use of technology to remain connected. Following a successful online gathering in May, we decided to add an annual online meeting into the MOSA calendar, along with the Reunion day held at The Mount School in May.

The first of these was held on Saturday 20 November. The meeting looked at the theme of Traditions at The Mount, as well as providing an opportunity to say farewell to Principal, Adrienne Richmond, who retires at Christmas. Thank you to everyone who attended the virtual meeting and we hope to welcome you all to one again soon.

During the meeting MOSA members and Mount Staff reflected on the traditions of The Mount, many of which still remain today. These included; Games in the Dark, College Pantomime, Carols on the Stairs, Choc Lunch and the names of places such as Portico and Tramlines. The videos explore the theme further with a look into the archives and hearing from current Mount girls.



Big Excursion Byland Abbey 1920

Watch the videos at . . .

A LOOK AT TRADITIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

Compiled by Sarah Moore, with thanks to Sarah Sheils

<https://vimeo.com/656502445>

PASSWORD: R!Hgj89

TRADITIONS AT THE MOUNT TODAY Hosted by Year 9 Girls

<https://vimeo.com/656503383>

PASSWORD: Yr9b349!

MOSA REUNION DAY SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY 7 MAY 2022

We are delighted to be able to host our annual MOSA Reunion Day in person at The Mount School on Saturday 7 May 2022.

This will include the second MOSA Annual Gathering, a buffet lunch and the opportunity to take a look around The Mount School. We hope you can join us!

Alumnae News



DAME JOCELYN BELL BURNELL

In August 2021 Jocelyn Bell Burnell was awarded the world's oldest scientific prize, the Royal Society's prestigious Copley Medal. The medal is awarded for outstanding achievements in research in any branch of science and recognises her work on the discovery of pulsars, one of the major astronomical advances of the 20th Century.

Jocelyn is the second woman to be awarded the medal – the first being Oxford alumna Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin. Other notable recipients of the Copley Medal since it was first awarded in 1731 include Charles Darwin and Albert Einstein. The award includes a £25,000 gift which Jocelyn will add to the Institute of Physics' Bell Burnell Graduate Scholarship Fund that provides grants to graduate students from under-represented groups in Physics.

Jocelyn comments: *"Receiving this award has been quite a surprise, especially since it relates to work I did over 59 years ago – at least it shows that the work was durable! Indeed, pulsars continue to be used to test some aspects of fundamental Physics such as theories of gravity and the strong equivalence principle."*

To find out more about the Copley Medal visit royalsociety.org

CLARE TREACHER

Congratulations to Clare Treacher (2021 Leaver) who won Northumbria University's undergraduate scholarship of 2021. The award was based on her A-Level grades, personal statement and teacher references.

Clare, who is reading Geography, said, *"I want to tell the School how thankful and grateful I am for the help I received at The Mount, that allowed me to receive this award. I hope that everyone at School is doing well. I miss it already!"*



AMY FOSTER

Congratulations to Old Scholar Amy (2020 leaver), who made the first Netball team in her first tryouts at St Andrews University where she is reading Geography. The university has six teams and nearly eighty women attended the trials. Well done, Amy!

(Photo: Amy on the U18 netball team at The Mount)

Tell us your news!

If you have news you would like to share with the MOSA community please contact mosa@mountschool.york.co.uk



VICTORIA BROWN VISITS THE MOUNT

The College Medical Society (MEDSOC), is made up of College girls who are interested in a career in medicine. They invite speakers in to the School to tell them more about different medical professions and the various routes into those careers. In November, they had a very interesting visit from former Mount pupil, Victoria Brown. She spoke to the girls about University, her year in industry, volunteering as an English Teacher in Cambodia and her current role at AstraZeneca, a pharmaceutical and biotechnology company.

"During my year in industry as part of my degree I undertook a placement with GSK as a medicinal chemist in their epigenetics department," explained Victoria. After graduating from the University of Liverpool with a First Class degree Victoria accepted a job at AstraZeneca to be part of their Global Operations Graduate programme.

"I am currently doing my first rotation within Global Supplier Quality as a Project Manager with the Quality Management Systems team. In just eight months I have worked on and lead projects involving the clean up of master data and the restructuring of our Management Review process to report our KPIs allowing for a more holistic supply chain analysis."

"It is so lovely to be back, and see the School after five years. I loved talking about my career and talked for longer than my allocated time so that there was no time for questions! But I told the girls that any of them are welcome to contact me if they have any questions they would like to ask," said Victoria.

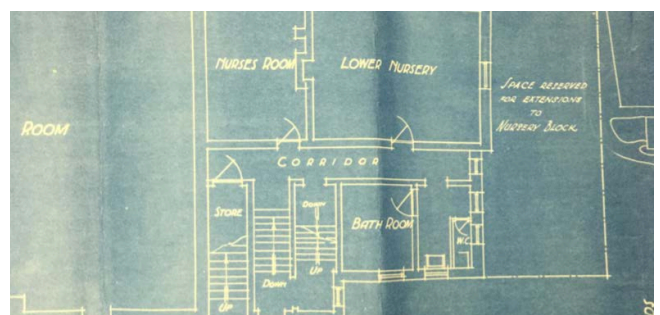
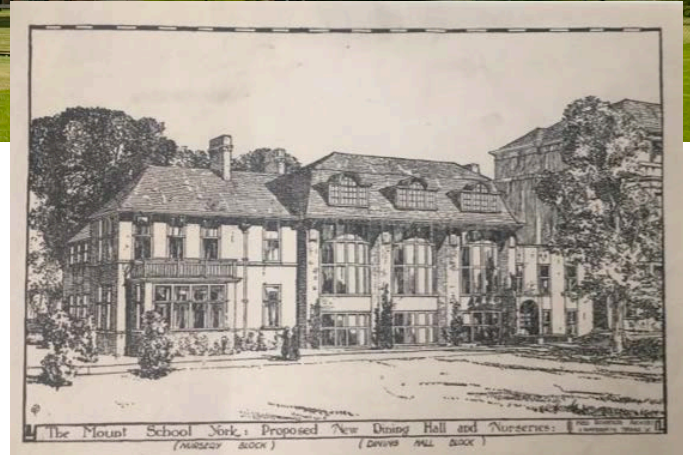
THE HISTORY OF Q

Two of our current pupils wanted to discover more about the history of The Mount's Medical Centre and why it is commonly known as 'Q'.

Junior School teacher, Jan Wilson, who has worked at The Mount for 30 years and has a keen interest in the history of the School put together a presentation for them that documents the History of Q. Here are some of the highlights.

- **'Q' was built together with the Dining Room in 1911. It was called the Nursery Block.**
- **It was designed by the famous Quaker architect Fred Rowntree. He was related to the Rowntree family who lived in Scarborough. He designed many buildings at The Mount including the library.**
- **The plan below is from 1928 and shows what 'Q' looked like when it was first built. This is the ground floor plan.**
- **In 1928, the corridor to the Hall and the Dining Room had not been built. So there was a staircase into 'Q' from the outside.**
- **This illustration, from 1930, shows girls queuing up the stairs to get in to the medical room.**
- **So, 'Q' is called 'Q' because girls had to queue to get their medicine; there was always a long queue in the morning of boarders getting their medicine!**
- **The rest of Q was built when the hall was built in 1935. The build hid the original staircase, a doorway was added, and the room at the end that is now the wellbeing room.**
- **This meant the access to 'Q' was now down a set of stairs beyond the Dining Room. Girls had to queue down rather than up!**

For further information see Sarah Sheils 'Among Friends: The Story of the Mount School York' 2007 and Records of The Mount School, York - Borthwick Catalogue.





THE MOUNT GETS READY TO WELCOME DAVID GRIFFITHS



David Griffiths, the new Principal of The Mount School York, takes up his post in January 2022. David has an outstanding track record as a leader in education with a particular interest in fostering and promoting girls' education. He was previously Headmaster of Wycombe Abbey School in Changzhou, China. Wycombe Abbey School in Changzhou is a branch campus school affiliated to Wycombe Abbey School, one of the most highly ranked girls' schools in the UK.

David Griffiths and Adrienne Richmond have this term been working together to allow a seamless transition between the two Principals.

David Griffiths said, *"The Mount School York is a leader in educating girls and understanding their educational needs by creating an environment that inspires and empowers confident, socially responsible young women who believe that nothing is beyond their reach."*

"I am excited to take up post in January and to embrace the very special Mount School ethos. I look forward to developing our shared purpose and progressive spirit by continuing to evidence our mantra of 'we know girls can'. What could be more vital and important in a world where the principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion are, at long last, assuming their rightful position."

(Photo: Incoming Principal, David Griffiths, visits The Mount School, October 2021)

MOSA REFLECTIONS

Each Term, we invite a Mount Old Scholar to be interviewed for the School Termly Magazine, Reflections. Old Scholars tell us more about their lives, careers and the memories they have of The Mount.

To read previous interviews please visit:

mountschoolyork.co.uk/mosa/mosa-reflections/

If you would like to be interviewed please contact mosa@mountschoolyork.co.uk

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

We would like to feature more news from MOSA members in our upcoming newsletters. Alumnae contributions are greatly appreciated, and add incredible value to this newsletter.

If you have any stories, articles, photos or anything you would like us to consider for publication, please email or phone Vanessa Charters.

mosa@mountschoolyork.co.uk
01904 667500



Wishing you a Happy Christmas
and a Peaceful New Year

from Adrienne Richmond, Principal
and everyone at The Mount School York

Artwork by Angelina Kang, Year 8