



# BRADFIELD 175 NEWS

CELEBRATING 1850 - 2025

A BRADFIELD SOCIETY AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PUBLICATION

MARCH 2025

## COLLEGE CELEBRATES 175th ANNIVERSARY

Our 175th anniversary gives us the opportunity to celebrate the vision and courage of our founder, to look back at the early years of Bradfield College and to consider its development into the school we know today.

Whilst much has changed throughout its existence, the College archives and histories speak to an underlying sense of purpose and commitment to the transformative power of education that has allowed Bradfield, Bradfieldians and the wider Bradfield community to flourish.

We are delighted to unveil the Bradfield 175 timeline frieze in Bloods corridor commemorating many important moments in the College's history. There are also two books, the wonderful History by Stuart Williams and a more pictorial history edited by Oli Gent in the English Department that compares the 'then and the now', showing what has changed and what remains the same. We have also installed information boards at key historic locations, such as the Greek Theatre, as focal points for knowledge and appreciation of our heritage.

We will mark the anniversary by celebrating Bradfieldians. Whilst there is one Bradfield there are many Bradfieldians and this year we will be sharing videos of notable alumni who share why Bradfield is special to them.

Throughout 2025 we will host events to mark the anniversary. Some have stood the test of time; the College Steeplechase that began in 1920 is still



going, whilst we have dedicated others to the 175th anniversary. On 21 June will host the 175 Summer Gathering, a day when we encourage alumni to 'Step back in time', to gather with friends and take a trip down memory lane.

"CELEBRATING OUR ANNIVERSARY GIVES US A CHANCE TO SEE EACH OTHER, ENJOY THE TIME THAT WE SPEND IN THE BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS OF BRADFIELD COLLEGE AND LOOK TO AN EXCITING FUTURE WHILST REMEMBERING ITS PAST".

On 26 June we are hosting the 175 Gala Evening that will celebrate the extraordinary talent of Bradfield performers from across the generations for a summer spectacle in the Greek Theatre.

In recognition of Bradfield's philanthropic founding principles we seek to raise funds for bursaries through the Bradfield 175 Bursary Campaign, which aims to allow us to maintain the very special education

experience that we offer at Bradfield to the widest pupil body.

Most importantly, Bradfield 175 will provide a platform for Bradfieldians past and present, teachers, parents, former parents, friends and visitors to gather together, share memories, delight in our unique surroundings and witness the vibrancy of Bradfield College today.

I very much look forward to seeing you all this year.

Dr Christopher Stevens

Visit the Bradfield 175 website for all Bradfield 175 News and Events information.



SCAN



# BRADFIELD 175 TIMELINE UNVEILED

Bradfield is delighted to unveil the Bradfield 175 Timeline which showcases the many developments and achievements of the College over its 175 year history. Perfectly situated in Bloods Corridor, it runs the full length of this historic feature and is a place where pupils, parents and the wider Bradfield community can learn about and feel proud of Bradfield's rich heritage.

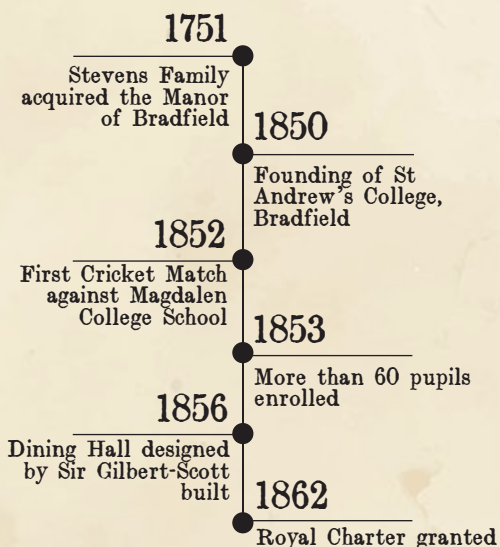
**“THE TIMELINE IS A BRILLIANT WAY TO BRING THE HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE TO LIFE”**

*Karen Ward, Bradfield Society Project Lead*

Beautifully decorated with images and artefacts from the College's history, the timeline also features the bright colours of Bradfield's 'Education for Life' educational principles and has turned what was quite a dark corridor into a vibrant educational setting.

The timeline sequences the history in chronological order, starting in 1751 the date when the Stevens family acquired Bradfield Manor and lists interesting events, giving insight into the development of the campus, teaching, sports and pastimes – a formal and at the same time a more personal history.

The Timeline finishes in 2025 with the wall at the end of the corridor celebrating 'Bradfield today' with



a selection of imagery from the Bradfield we see around us.

This project was led by Karen Ward from the Bradfield Society with the support of Stuart Williams, current staff and author of the recently published Bradfield College: Prosperity Past Our Deserving and Dr John Cardwell the College Archivist.

In addition to the Timeline we have installed information boards around the campus at key historic locations, to act as focal points for College tours by pupils and visitors. Many thanks to current staff Roger Keeley for collating this information and to the Friends of Bradfield for sponsoring this particular project.



# 'MY BRADFIELD' VIDEO SERIES CELEBRATES BRADFIELD AND BRADFIELDIANS

In honour of the 175th anniversary we have released a special 'My Bradfield' video series that shares the unique stories of Bradfieldians, what made Bradfield special for them, their achievements and challenges and their relationship with the College today.

Our first video release was of actor Claudia Harrison (I 92-94) who was among the first mainstream entries of girls to the College. After Bradfield, Claudia studied for a degree in drama at Birmingham University before graduating from RADA in 2000. As a professional actor she has had a varied and exciting career, including lead roles in TV, film, theatre and radio. She was most recently seen on TV starring as Princess Anne in Seasons 5 and 6 of Netflix series *The Crown*.

In February we heard from Col Simon Cox RM (G 96-01) who has had a

varied military career including commissioning into the Royal Marines, qualifying as a pilot and deploying to Afghanistan. Currently working directly in support of the First Sea Lord, in his video Simon talks about the importance of strong values in service.

Other releases include BBC sports commentator Tim Dellor (G 89-94), newly appointed Lord Chamberlain Richard Benyon (H 74-78) and The Saunders Family who represent 5 generations of Bradfieldians, featuring current Bradfieldian Lottie Saunders and her brother Harry (A 18-23), current Housemaster and former radio presenter Jonny Saunders (F 88-93) and his father Chris Saunders (SCR 64-80). Before them Jonny's wife Kate's father Robert Roe (E 37-42) and grandfather Robert Roe (1899 – 1904) also attended Bradfield.



Claudia Harrison (I 92-94): Actor



Simon Cox (G 96-01): Royal Marine



Tim Dellor (G 89-94): Sports Commentator



The Saunders Family: 5 Generations of Bradfieldians

Visit the Bradfield 175 webpage: [www.bradfieldcollege.org.uk/bradfield-for-life/bradfield-175/](http://www.bradfieldcollege.org.uk/bradfield-for-life/bradfield-175/)

## BRADFIELD ARCHIVE LOOKS TO FUTURE

The Bradfield Archive is the main repository for the historical records of Bradfield College, which embraces a diverse range of collections, dating from the seventeenth century to the present. In addition to conservation of the collection there is an ongoing project to digitise the archive, thereby making it accessible to all. Bradfield archive materials have been invaluable to the historical projects associated with Bradfield 175.

College archivist, Dr John Cardwell, has helped to research facts for the writing of the latest history of Bradfield, sourced photos for the pictorial celebration and will also be curating an exhibition of College artefacts for display during the Summer term.

HELP US TO PRESERVE BRADFIELD'S HISTORY FOR THE NEXT 175 YEARS

We would appreciate your support to continue the fantastic work to preserve and digitise these precious records of school life so that they can be enjoyed by future generations of Bradfieldians.

"A COLLEGE ARCHIVE IS A VALUABLE RESOURCE, HELPING US TO PRESERVE OUR PAST WHILST ALSO PROVIDING A SOURCE OF FUTURE INSPIRATION"

*Dr John Cardwell, College Archivist*

Read more on the Bradfield 175 webpage.



# COME BACK TO BRADFIELD IN 2025

OB vs College fixtures  
Football and Cross-Country



**15 March**  
Spring Matches

**15 March**  
Haydn, The Creation



The Bradfield Orchestra and  
Community Choir perform in  
Chapel

Established in 1920, the College  
is still running this time-honoured  
event



**27 March**  
Steeplechase

**25 May**  
Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts'  
Club Rally



Non-members welcome to wander  
around the vintage and classic cars  
on display

Bradfield grounds open to the  
public as part of the National  
Garden Scheme initiative



**1 June**  
Bradfield Open Gardens

**13 June**  
Jazz on a Summer's Evening



A fantastic evening of Jazz  
and Soul in the Greek Theatre

Help Bradfield raise funds for  
Bursaries



**24 June**  
75 Bursary Campaign Giving Day

**26 June**  
175 Gala Evening



Our 175 summer evening  
spectacle celebrating Bradfieldian  
talent across the generations

A time honoured tradition at the  
start of the academic year



**2 Sept**  
175 Handshaking

The finale of Bradfield 175

**30 Nov**  
175 St Andrew's Day



**REGISTER  
ONLINE**

[www.bradfieldsociety.org.uk/events](http://www.bradfieldsociety.org.uk/events)

**SCAN**



BRADFIELD COLLEGE

1850 175 2025

The Headmaster and The Bradfield Society  
request the pleasure of your company at the

# 175 GALA EVENING

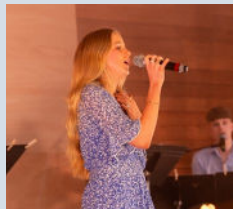
THURSDAY | 26 JUNE 2025

Join us for a night of  
Music | Drama | Dance | Comedy  
a spectacular light show and more...

Dress: Smart Casual

Register online at [www.bradfieldsociety.org.uk/events](http://www.bradfieldsociety.org.uk/events)

An evening to celebrate the extraordinary talent of Bradfield performers from across the generations for a summer spectacle in the Greek Theatre. From music to drama, spoken word to sketches the 175 Gala will be an evening to remember



# 175

Honouring the past



# BURSARY CAMPAIGN

Empowering the Future

## HONOURING THE PAST

Supporting talented and deserving pupils without the financial means to benefit from a Bradfield education is a fundamental part of the College's DNA, as set out in the original statutes by our founder Sir Thomas Stevens 175 years ago. The College remains to this day committed to a policy of means-tested financial support, offering transformational opportunities to our bursary award holders by providing the environment and support to excel.

## NURTURING TALENT

Bursaries play a crucial role at Bradfield in promoting our core values of Kindness, Integrity, Respect, Inclusivity and Positivity. Bursary Award holders often bring insights that can stimulate classroom discussions, foster collaboration, and contribute to a richer cultural environment. They also bring talent – our current Bursary students have been awarded 48 scholarships across all disciplines.

## EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

The gift of a great education can transform a child's life. We hope that in return it will inspire them to transform the lives of others. Against the backdrop of VAT and increasing financial challenges, ensuring the continued provision of these bursaries is more important than ever. Access to education is a major challenge in our society. The gap between rich and poor keeps growing and Bradfield understands the important role we can play in addressing this.

**"NURTURING TALENT: OUR CURRENT BURSARY AWARD RECIPIENTS HOLD 48 SCHOLARSHIPS ACROSS ALL DISCIPLINES: ACADEMIC, SPORT, ART, DRAMA, MUSIC AND ALL-ROUNDER"**

## 175 YEARS OF EMPOWERING POTENTIAL THROUGH BURSARIES

### 175 BURSARY FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Unlike some Independent Schools, Bradfield College doesn't benefit from an historic endowment, so our transformational bursaries are funded through the generosity of our community who make donations, regular gifts and leave legacies to the Bradfield Foundation, as well as through the College choosing to sacrifice additional fee income as was previously done in the form of (non-means tested) scholarships.

To honour 175 years of developing potential through bursaries at Bradfield, we are excited to launch our new Bursary Fundraising Campaign with the dual aim of supporting current generations of bursary award holders, but also to build an endowment to ensure the provision of these bursaries continues for the next 175 years.

### THE POWER OF COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY: TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Making a gift to our bursary fund will help create life-changing experiences for talented, deserving young people, regardless of their background. Whether you would like to make a single gift, a regular donation, or can't help right now but could leave a legacy in your Will.

For more information visit our website [www.bradfieldcollege.org.uk/bradfield-for-life/bursary-campaign](http://www.bradfieldcollege.org.uk/bradfield-for-life/bursary-campaign), or scan the QR code below.

SCAN



## KATIE (K 13–18)

MUSIC SCHOLAR AND BURSARY HOLDER

“



Whilst I'm a professional musician, I think that my time at Bradfield was characterised as much by drama and my roles in school plays as it was by music and concerts. I threw myself into everything at Bradfield and I loved being involved.

”

## DEVAN (G)

ROYAL SPRINGBOARD SCHOLAR AND BURSARY HOLDER

“



My biggest achievement has been being appointed to the JCR as a Community, Charity and Admissions Prefect, something I didn't think possible as a sixth-form starter. I've really enjoyed getting to know pupils across the school and responding to their feedback.

”

# SAVE THE DATE

## BRADFIELD'S 175 GIVING DAY

### WEDNESDAY 25TH – THURSDAY 26TH JUNE

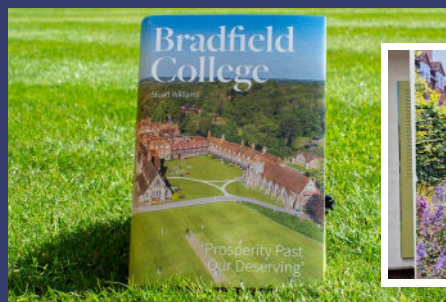


As part of our 175th Anniversary Celebrations this summer, we are excited to be running our first ever 'Giving Day' to raise money for our Bursary Fund and hope that as many people as possible will support us. Over 36 hours, the school community will be coming together to take part in fun activities and challenges, both online and in person. As the clock ticks down, more challenges will be unlocked, hopefully leading to more donations. You can watch the excitement unfold via our online platform.

Donations made during this special day will count towards the campaign, with matching donations being unlocked through specific challenges being completed. More details will follow soon but if you could help us launch the Giving Day by contributing to our matched giving pot in advance, please contact [Kirsty Perkinson](mailto:kperkinson@bradfieldcollege.org.uk) on [kperkinson@bradfieldcollege.org.uk](mailto:kperkinson@bradfieldcollege.org.uk)

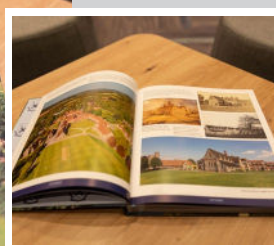
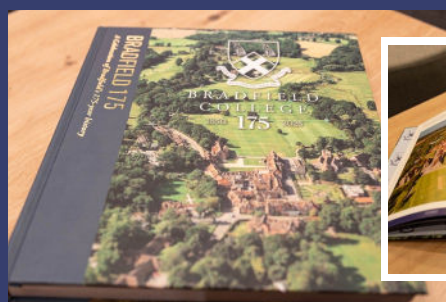
# BRADFIELD 175 COLLECTION

A carefully curated selection of Bradfield products available to purchase from the Bradfield Society online shop via the QR code



## College History

Most recently written history of the College, with a fresh take on the Founder's intentions and including the last 50 years of development. A great read.



## Bradfield in Pictures

A collation of archive and contemporary images of Bradfield through the seasons. A beautiful addition to your coffee table or bookshelf.



## Bradfield Gin

Limited edition Bradfield Gin, infused with honey from Bradfield's own bee hives and locally sourced botanicals. Perfect with ice and a slice.



## Bradfield Print

A playful interpretation of the College's Campus painted by widely collected landscape artist David Kirk. A stunning feature for your wall or as a gift.



## Steeplechase Top

A beautifully designed top to replicate those worn by Bradfieldians competing in the Steeplechase. Fully customisable with House and initials.



## 175 Umbrella

Commemorative Bradfield 175 Golfing Umbrella in Navy and White with Bradfield 175 logo. Perfect for a rainy match day.