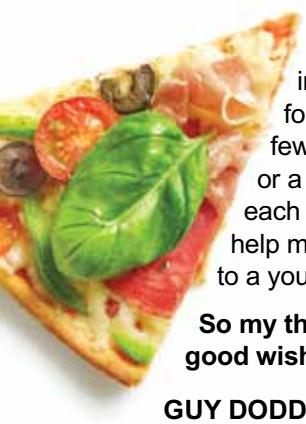
newsletter
MARCH 2019 : ISSUE 02
TRURO SCHOOL FOUNDATION

A note from the Chairman

As I begin my final year as Chairman of the Foundation I find myself enormously grateful that your generosity enabled us to fund completely, up front, the education of one new young member of Truro School last autumn, as well as provide partial fee support for a number of others. Thank you. Read about how our "Foundationer" is doing so far (see opposite).

And we have allocated funds which will be used in the same way next September. It is a pattern we very much hope to continue.

Of course there is a risk in this. We realised that our capital was producing very little income and concluded it would be more effective if we used it. We rely on replacement through major gifts and legacies (we only did so because the omens looked favourable) but also on the regular donations we receive. These are often – even usually – on a much smaller scale but cumulatively their effect can be enormous.



There are illustrations later in this letter but for the price of a few beers, a pizza or a cinema ticket each month you could help make a difference to a young life.

So my thanks and very good wishes to you all.

GUY DODD
Former TS Headmaster 1992-2001
Truro School Foundation Chairman

FOUNDATION AWARD RECIPIENT

My time at Truro School so far

"My time so far has been amazing. I have joined new clubs that I have never done before and I've experienced ethanol being set on fire. It has been great. I have made loads of new friends that are very kind and helpful to me. My teachers are also very kind and they help you when you are stuck with something.

I do an array of clubs, ranging from music to sports. I do running and swimming. I do fencing, trampolining and junior band. I enjoy all these opportunities and amazing activities very much. My Wednesday afternoon activities have been drama technical team and the junior play/ drama skills."

Snapshot from first report

FORM TUTOR

This student has made a wonderful start at Truro School. A delightful member of the form, who brings a smile and a positive outlook to our tutor group. The comments and grades contained within this report are a testament to that and the individual can be absolutely thrilled with the progress made in this short time. Away from academic work, the student has been involved in a variety of different areas of school life, from cross-country and football to playing in the junior band and attending the DT workshop. Clearly making the most of the opportunities available. Well done!

HEADMASTER

A wonderful set of reports. Our first "Foundationer" has made a flying start at Truro School. 20 commendations already!

ANDREW GORDON-BROWN

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Pupil – Governor – Bursar

Phil Kerkin CO81 attended Truro School Prep and Senior School, with his brother Courtney CO80, following on from his father, James Edward (Ted) Kerkin, TS 1946-1949, (former Chair of the Old Boys – as it was then!) and his grandfather, Richard James Kerkin, TS 1917-1919. Phil has served 12 years as a Truro School Governor, has been a Director of Bournemouth University and served on the HR Committee of the University of Plymouth.

Phil says his time at Truro School formed the foundation (!) for a varied and successful career and life (so far!). The blend of Sport, Music and Singing alongside a demanding academic timetable with high expectations, worked for him. He was also School House Captain. His memories of the staff include the Head at the time, Mr Derek Burrell, music with Henry Doughty and Frank Moore and Sport with Mr Lang, Mr Aldwinckle and Mr Johnstone. They were all very committed and very demanding! They helped build character, discipline and an essential work ethic.

Phil left Truro School to study Banking and Finance at Loughborough University, where he also played rugby. He enjoyed a successful career with HSBC working in Regions and Head Office, Strategy, ending up as the Regional Commercial Director for the South West. He then spent 8 years working with Handelsbanken, a Swedish bank.

Phil gave up banking in 2017 to semi-retire in Cornwall, 'to do something different' and have more family time.

In 2018, Truro School were looking to replace the outgoing bursar and Phil was approached to 'fill a gap' as interim part-time bursar. Nine months later, with the appointment of a full-time Business Director, Phil is looking forward to going back to his semi-retirement.

PHIL KERKIN, CO81
Truro School Interim Bursar

"Truro School helped me develop my principles and potential and gave me the grounding I needed to be successful at whatever I did. Truro School gave me the 'raw materials' – I had to make them 'work'! This includes the Truro School journey from pupil, to governor to bursar.

The Foundation is doing excellent work in helping youngsters have the Truro School education that I was lucky enough to receive. Only with your support can the Foundation continue and expand this vital task."

The Power of Collective Giving

Whilst it helps the Foundation immensely to receive large one-off donations and we are extremely grateful to those in a position to support us in this way, we also want to acknowledge and emphasise the importance of the modest, monthly, quarterly or annual recurring donations that we receive.

Collectively these donations make an enormous difference to the 2020 campaign - supporting the aspirations and ambitions of young people and helping to change lives by widening access to Truro School. Our ambition is to ensure that the make-up of our student body reflects today's dynamic and diverse society.

As previously mentioned by our Chairman, if the existing Truro School Foundation Community were each able to support the Foundation with a £10.00 regular monthly donation, it would collectively provide in excess of £15,000 a month enabling Truro School Foundation to assist at least 12 additional 100% Foundation Awards = 12 more life changing gifts.

Foundation Community **£10** per month ▶ **collectively £15,000** per month ▶ **12 more life changing gifts** **12 × 100%** Foundation Awards

Regular donations are vital in order for the Foundation to plan and be able to ensure we can continue to support an award recipient throughout their entire 7 years at Truro School.

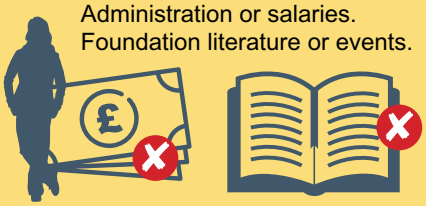
DONATIONS SUPPORT CHILDREN

100%

of **ALL donations** goes into the Foundation fund for the purpose of Bursary Awards.

Donations are NOT used to fund:

Administration or salaries.
Foundation literature or events.



WHY SUPPORT TRURO SCHOOL FOUNDATION

"I greatly enjoyed my time at Truro School and I learnt a huge amount during my time there. Truro School helped give me the knowledge, interpersonal skills and confidence to make the most of my career in banking at a global firm like Citi.

It is a real pleasure to be able to support the Foundation to give others the opportunity to benefit from the fantastic education and life skills that Truro School provides."

ADAM PROCTOR, CO97

"I am delighted to support the Foundation and through it future students at Truro School. I feel it's really important to support the learning and personal development of future generations."

MARK PRISK MP, CO80

Please support the Truro School Foundation with a monthly donation and **HELP CHANGE LIVES**.

Join us and be part of something truly amazing because **TOGETHER** we can make a real difference

DONATE NOW

WHY SUPPORT TRURO SCHOOL FOUNDATION

When I received the Truro School Foundation Appeal brochure last year, happy memories came flooding back of my seven years at the school 'high on the hill with the city below'. I was fortunate to win a scholarship – I doubt whether my parents could have afforded the fees – and am forever grateful for the wide education I received under the leadership of first Lowry Creed and then Derek Burrell.

It was not only in the classroom but on the sports field and in the clubs and societies of which I was a member that I realised my potential. Staff were there to guide and to encourage and to support when the going was tough. Truro School offered a kaleidoscope of experiences and undoubtedly prepared me for the wider world.

As I reflect on my many and varied experiences, I sincerely invite you to consider becoming a donor to this worthy charity so that other boys and girls from a less privileged background might receive the best there is in education.

You don't need to be super rich or to bequeath a princely sum as a legacy to contribute. Consider doing what I do – give a regular amount each month by direct debit.

As the parable of the mustard seed reminds us, from the smallest seed will grow a mighty plant!

REVEREND JOHN LEAR, CO52

I was very fortunate. Because my father was in the army I benefited from an MOD grant without which it would have been unlikely that I could have attended Truro School. The ethos and educational quality of the school under, for me, the inspirational leadership of Derek Burrell fundamentally shaped how I developed my career in various banking roles throughout the UK.

The ability to make a regular monthly contribution to the Foundation is the way in which I felt that I could give something back and help the Foundation provide assisted places. A small amount (£10 is the cost of two pints of beer) made monthly by an individual becomes a large amount, if others do likewise

NIGEL, CO72

WHY SUPPORT TRURO SCHOOL FOUNDATION

One of my lasting memories of teaching at Truro School, both in the lab and as a form tutor, was the ease with which all kinds of different students fitted in – the introverts and extroverts, the sporting and the geeky, the musically talented and the tone deaf, the bright and those who really had to work hard for their success. Students in these and all the other disparate groups were accepted by the community, and the great majority achieved the academic success they hoped for (and in many cases, more than they initially hoped for), at the same time developing all kinds of other interests.

I can think of a lot of students that I came across who would have had difficulty in an environment less forgiving, less accepting of difference, and it seems to me unjust that this is only available to children of well-off parents. That is why I was so pleased to be asked to support the School's project to fund bursaries for less well-off students who could benefit from what Truro School has to offer.

I'm told that if everyone who has opted to receive the Foundation newsletter gave just £10 a month, that would produce a steady income of more than £15000 a month for the fund.
That would really make a difference.

JIM CLARK
Former Teaching Staff 1974 - 1997, Head of Chemistry

Like my father I was lucky enough to get a free education at Truro thanks to the Direct Grant Scheme. That was then transferred to King's Worcester when the family moved to the Midlands.

With a younger sister going to a comprehensive school and younger brother going to a grammar school I was able to compare their experiences and see the real benefits I had from attending Truro.

The Direct Grant Scheme no longer exists but I feel that if I can help someone else to receive those benefits (even in a little way in retirement) then it is worthwhile.

LOUIS THOMAS,
CO71

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Vice Chairman of Truro School Foundation

I have recently had two sons at Truro School so have seen, first-hand, the benefits and opportunities of the rounded experience that the School can deliver. My own background/ education could not have been more different... I was born and brought up in a working class Cornish village & went to the local comprehensive - Truro School was aspirational beyond means.

The nearest I got to Truro School was a bi-annual thrashing on the rugby pitch – 92-4, I think, being a memorable nadir.

When I was approached to become a trustee of the Truro School Foundation (TSF), I assumed it was a case of mistaken identity – I certainly wasn't a Former Pupil, had no particular links to the School other than as a parent and even then hadn't really been to school as much as I should have been.

But having been involved with TSF for the last 2 years under the guidance of Guy Dodd - the head before Paul Smith – and the exceptional support team within the School – it all makes sense: what we're really about is making young Cornish lives better ...a simple aim, sometimes a complex journey & a weighty responsibility.

We do this by helping to provide the means by which the school can support worthy children who would benefit from a Truro School education but whose family circumstances cannot support the fees, or not all of them.

We provide the School with an annual grant which covers the selected pupils' support for the entirety of their time at the School.

TSF has finite resources and making the most of what we have in a structured and measured way is crucial to the future of the School, but more importantly, to the future of the pupils we support.

We have established a Finance Sub-Committee, which has direct responsibility for developing and implementing the Foundation's investment strategy. It aims to invest on a sustainable, ethical basis and to preserve the financial integrity of the Foundation so that we can keep offering young people the chance of a lifetime.

We would like to thank all our supporters, but also to take this opportunity to appeal for more financial support – we can only continue to help and support young people in Cornwall if we have the financial means to do so.

We are aware that there are many demands on finances, but we can only continue our work if we continue to receive the money to do so. The good news is that there are significant tax advantages for those of you who are able to contribute.

On a personal level, it's been a privilege to continue my involvement with Truro School and to be part of the TS family…I never had the chance 40 years ago. You never know when life throws up opportunities you may have thought had passed you by.

By the way, we beat the School 6-3 the following week.

GRAHAM HOOPER
TSF Trustee and Parent of Former Pupils