



Sunday  
7 November 2010

## 2009 – 2010 review

The Bearwood Parents' Association (BPA) has just completed another year of successful fundraising and social events. Our mission is to bring together parents, teachers and local community members to help everyone get to know each other and to run events using the fantastic facilities at the college. Any money raised from these events is used to provide additional resources and equipment that they hope will help to enhance your child's experience here at Bearwood.

This year the focus has been on improving life in the houses with the BPA funding new televisions, a table tennis table and table football game, plus the recovering of the existing pool tables. We supplied funding for new tents for the CCF/D of E, and for a heavy-duty gazebo for the Hovercraft Team, who are competing in the World Championships this year – we wish them good luck.

The BPA committee is made up of parent volunteers who work very closely with the college. All give their time graciously and willingly, and rely on the continued support of parents, teachers and, of course, the scholars.

This year has seen some very successful activities. The autumn wine-tasting evening was very well attended. This was closely followed by our fabulous fireworks, which lit the sky for miles around. (Keep Sunday 7 November free for this year's rockets and bangers!)

Also, cast your mind back to December, when a bustling and fragrant Christmas market took over the billiard room, library and picture gallery. We greeted the new year with a lively Burns' Night Supper in January, when pipers were piping, ladies were leaping and a haggis was duly stabbed in line with tradition. No-one there will forget the ode from the laddies to the lassies, nor the lassies' acerbic reply.

The Bearwood Car Show, held in April, was a triumph! No-one could ever have imagined that an F1 Lotus would take a spin in North Court, but it was a sight to behold. Then, there were the Corvettes, Morgans, VW Campers, vintage Capris and numerous other legendary makes that adorned every available inch of the grounds; all lovingly cared for by their devoted owners. A special mention must go to Bob DuGard and the BPA car show team for their flawless organisation of the event. We are all looking forward to next year's show on 11 June with fervent anticipation.

The competitive amongst us were given a chance to shine at May's quiz night by answering dastardly difficult questions whilst enjoying a fish and chip supper.



Saturday  
4 December 2010



Saturday  
29 January 2011



Saturday  
11 June 2011



But the jewel in the BPA crown this year was the magical Midsummer Ball, held on Saturday 26 June. It started with Pimms, then a delicious three-course meal followed by dancing to an excellent live band, Left of the dial.

Finally, thank you to all of the BPA volunteers who willingly give up their time to help, whether it be serving cream teas, laying tables, directing traffic or selling tickets.

## Year representatives and contact information

The BPA has been approached to facilitate contact between parents and scholars. This is a tricky area because we understand everyone has concerns regarding privacy and junk mail. However, there are many occasions when it is desirable to make contact with other parents, or for scholars to contact each other. We have considered how best to approach this and have come up with a solution that we hope will provide the necessary level of communication while addressing these concerns.

We would like to recruit at least one parent from each academic year to act as a Year Representative, who will be the point of contact for other parents (and scholars) within that year group. This parent will collect contact information from parents in their year, collate it into a contact list, and then send this contact list to all parents who have opted in. Parents who would not like their information included will not receive the list, and the Year Representative will act as a go-between for any communication involving them.

The information we would like to collect is your name, address, phone numbers and email address, and, of course, your scholar's name, year and house (but not their contact details). Data protection and other legal issues mean that we can't ask the college for this information, parents need to opt in.

If you would like to be a Year Representative, please contact Leonard Crane who has joined the BPA to co-ordinate this project. Leonard will fill you in with more details and will also deal with any misuse of the information on the lists.

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