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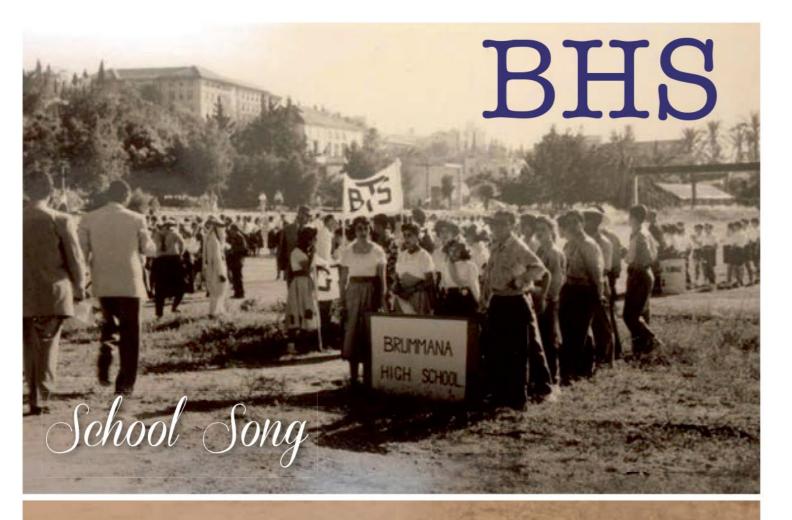
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As I was travelling around the world, I landed in Brazil And there, I met an ancient friend who loved Brummana still; 'How is the dear old school' he said, 'and is she thriving yet?' Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget! Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!

As I was travelling to New York its wonders for to see
A comrade from Binghampton came and met me on the quay;
'Oh tell me of the school', he cried 'where my affection's set'
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!

As I was travelling in the South, I reached Australia's strand And there a man from Lebanon came up and seized my hand 'I owe Brummana this', he said, 'come let me pay the debt' Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget! Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!

As I was travelling around the world, I reached Beirut again And as I climbed the mountain side, I heard the joyful strain From all the boys and girls at once: 'Well met, my friend, well met' Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget! Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!

> By Christopher G. Naish Tune: The Lincolnshire Poacher





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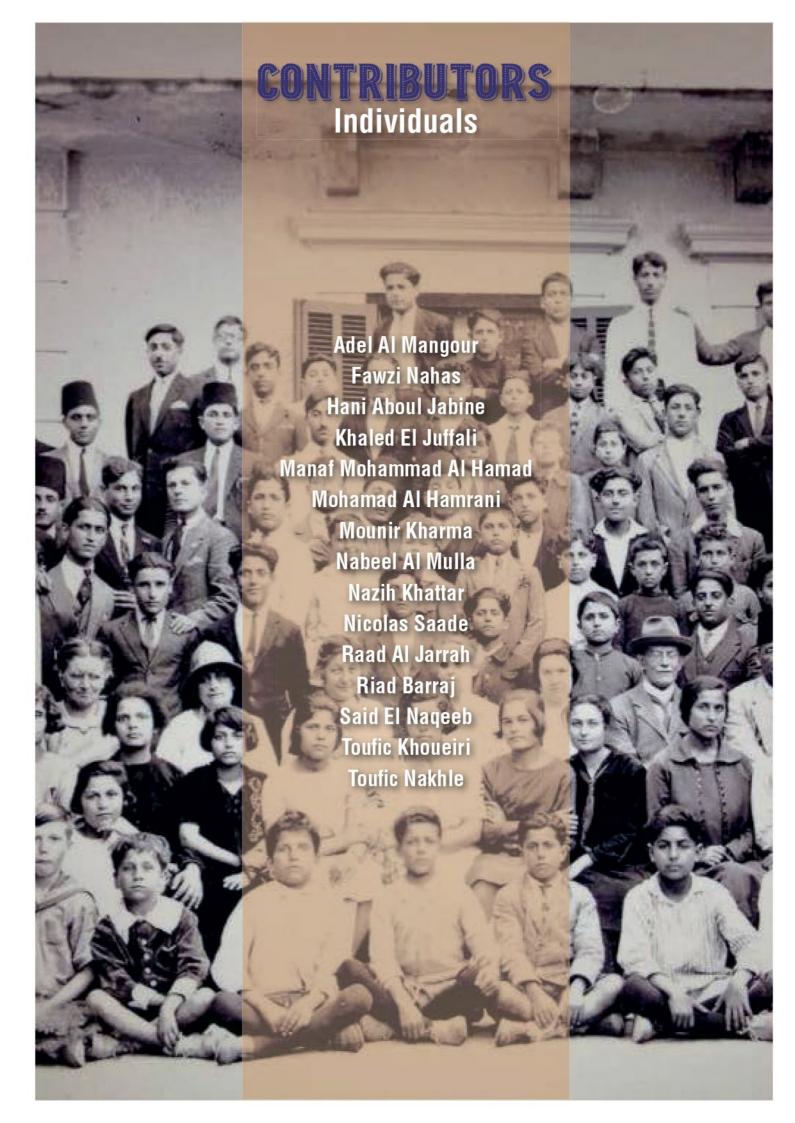












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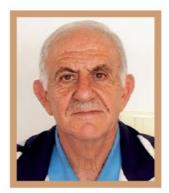
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Nazih Khattar '66

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2019 BHS OSA COMMUNITY

2019 BHS OSA COMMUNITY

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Mr. Shadi Assal '97 - Secretary

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Mr. Riad Barraj '70

Mr. George Obeid '78

Mr. Edmond Goraieb '88

Mr. Jimmy Joujou '93

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Mr. Khalid Juffali '75 - Vice Chairman

Mr. Mohamad AlHamrani '67 - Vice Chairman

Mr. Nabil Younes '63 - Secretary

Mr. Farid Makari '73

Mr. Nabil AlMulla '68

Mr. Mohammad Al Safadi '62

Sheikh Khaled Saab '64

Mr. Nazih Khattar '66

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Mr. Ramzi Nuseibeh '68 - Kuwait

Mr. Tewfic Alfar '75 - Qatar

Mr. Riad Barraj '70 - Saudi Arabia

Mr. Amer El Kurdi '75 - UAE

Mr. Naji Hawayek '00, Deputy Chapter Head - UAE

Europe

Mrs. Nayla Tawil Cookson '65 - United Kingdom

Levant

Mr. Nasier Abadi '66 - Iraq

Mr. Sami Mina '75 - Jordan

Mr. Nabil Shagoury '65 - Syria

The Americas

Mr. Hani Khouri '68 - United States

Mr. Kamal Khoury '92 - Canada

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Mrs. Grace Bader '03 - Administrative Officer

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Ms. Averil Armstrong

Ms. Philippa Neave

Mr. Digby Swift

Mr. Antoine Wakim

Mr. Martin McPherson

Mr. David Hickok

John Crosfield

Addresses

GENERAL EMILE LAHOUD '53

Former President of the Lebanese Republic

OSA Honorary President



Dear Old Scholars, class of 2019

It gives me great pleasure to address you on your commencement, now that you look forward to the next milestone, hopefully part of a lifetime of achievements. It is indeed a tradition that I have come to cherish deeply.

The story of Lebanon is seemingly that of 'the road not taken.' While it's People's tale is one of resilience and great hopes, it's leaders continue to be cynical, self-serving and wallow in mediocrity. The schism between the People of Lebanon and its leaders has never been wider and deeper, and that perhaps is a good thing.

Though limited in scope, the last parliamentary elections served a progressive note, at a time when Lebanon faced existential challenges while looking at great hopes and promises. This is a healthy trend and it behooves you, Our Hope, to see this swing of the pendulum to its desired end. You continue to prove to the world that in a region festering with instability, you have other plans and other methods.

The deeply entrenched principles of BHS's Quaker heritage, should always be your compass and reminder that the rewards of self-interest are short lived, no matter how deeply enmeshed into the political and national fabric of a nation. A hybrid and corrupt state of affairs is no match for a brave and aspiring people: let this be your cue card as you look to reclaim a Lebanon that is rightfully yours.

Your leadership will help us all inch closer to what we have longed for, decades ago.

Dear old Scholars; I congratulate you and share your parents' pride as you lead Lebanon and usher us to a state built on sound principles and foundations.

Addresses

HE TAMMAM SALAM

64

Former Prime Minister of the Lebanese Republic

OSA BoT Chairman



BHS was not only a school, but also a home, especially the boarding section to which I belonged.

During the early sixties, Lebanon was politically stable, as was the regional situation. We enjoyed calm and peace and reassurance from our families & surroundings, to help us live happily and in a secure environment.

The school was not only classes, teachers & lessons, but also a campus filled with the excitement and energy that accompanied our youth and vigor.

We lived in an atmosphere of camaraderie and friendship, with no obstacles or hurdles related to demographic, social or religious belonging. There also was a pan-Arab student presence from Syria, Iraq, Jordan, the Gulf countries and others.

In spite of the strict rules and regulations implemented by the school authority, based on a British system of conduct, we, nevertheless, had enough space and freedom to allow for some mischievous behavior, regardless of the rules. There certainly were many incidents and sometimes even foolish behavior that strengthened the bond among our classmates.



One such foolish yet exciting stunt, was a successful attempt to break into the teacher's Common Room and take possession of the conduct ledger, tear it into pieces and bury it in the woods, to avoid punishment to some of us, who would have to submit to an hour or two of detention over the weekend and be deprived of going home.

Once the staff found out, a general school meeting was held in the chapel to find out who was behind this act. We, the devils, took a binding oath not to give in, and the result of this devilish act was the detention of the whole school. Our oath still stands.

Coming back to some serious talk, I must admit that Brummana High School is a one-of-a-kind Educational Institution, which deserves the support of its Old Scholars, in providing opportunities for future generations of young aspiring students.

As such, the Board of Trustees was formed, tasked to ensure continuity of support to the Old Scholars and to Brummana High School.

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to all the Old Scholars, who are active and committed to the mission of supporting their Alma Mater, and in particular the President of OSA, the devoted and relentless Nazih Khattar.

Addresses

NAZIH KHATTAR

66

OSA President

2019 is a milestone in OSA's history and the start of a new era with the establishment of the Board of Trustees, the launch of the Financial Aid Program and Endowment Fund to be managed by the BoT.

I, myself, as per the mandate from the Administrative Committee, and, in accordance with the new Bylaws ratified by the Ministry of the Interior in May, 2018, selected OSA members to form the Board of Trustees. The nine chosen members, in turn, elected HE Tammam Salam as their Chairman in their inaugural meeting during the very successful Gulf Reunion in Dubai. The BoT members, also, collectively, and on the same day, raised a substantial sum of money pledged for Financial Aid, Endowment Fund and support for the OSA Secretariat.

The OSA Financial Aid Program for needy students will be launched during the General Assembly of the 28th OSA International Convention. Funds are earmarked for eligible students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 for the Academic Year 2019-20 and subsequent years. The deadline for this year is the end of August, 2019 for the Academic year 2019 - 20. In subsequent years, the deadline will be the end of February.

On March 15, 2019, with participants from Lebanon and the Gulf, a very successful one day Gulf Reunion was held in Dubai. In light of this success the Administrative Committee decided to hold a Gulf Reunion every year or at least every two years.



The OSA has been maintaining and strengthening its close relationship with the school, the new Principal David Gray and the new graduates by participating in the BHS May Queen event, supporting the BHS 1 Scout troop, recognizing top achievers at Speech Day, sponsoring the Prom Party and the Graduates Barbeque Dinner.

Lots of activity has taken place in the OSA House this year. Round Table events, workshops, Backgammon Tournaments, Tango lessons and many get-togethers in different venues where Old Scholars meet to catch up and reminisce on their days at school.

Many Class Reunions were held in Lebanon, Europe and the Gulf during 2018 - 19. Perhaps, the most interesting Class Reunion was that arranged by the OSA, held in December 2018 for the class of 2007, at the OSA premises. It is great to see members of the younger Old Scholars becoming active members of the Old Scholars Association. This is an excellent milestone in our membership development.

We are working to reach every graduate, young and old, and unite them under one umbrella (the Old Scholars Association), to create a world-wide network to benefit one and all and to better serve our beloved school.



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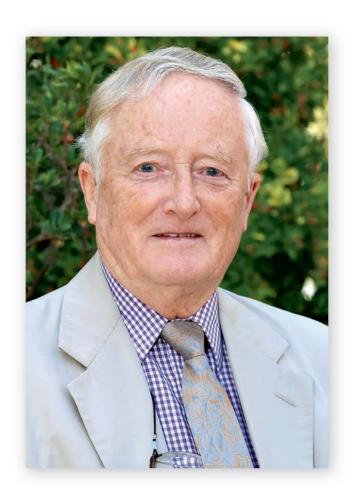
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Dear Old Scholars and Friends of Brummana,

Imagine the scene last Saturday.....it's the last night of the Newbury (UK) Spring Festival and I am walking into St. Nicolas' Church to hear a performance of Vaughan-Williams' Sea Symphony together with the Bursar of BHS (in UK for the Annual Bursars' Conference) who is my house guest. A retired gentleman walks up to me with hands outstretched and says "Paul, how is Brummana these days?" I was able to leave him in Raymond Feghali's care to reminisce about his time spent in Beirut as a child while his elder brother (Stuart Wallace 1965) was a boarder "up the hill" at BHS.

We all know that the love for this school extends around the world, not only in the hearts of Old Scholars but also with those many families and friends who have been touched by this place over so many years. Our hope for the future must be that it will once again become a school in which Lebanese families

Addresses

PAUL HIGH

BHS Chairman of QuIET

from around the world, will want their children to be educated in an environment where the notions of family, of culture and of place, are so strong.

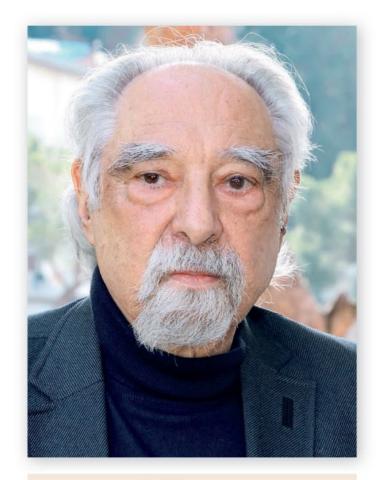
I have recently written to the OSA President Nazih Khattar congratulating the OSA on raising funds for scholarships and bursaries that it is hoped will enable the school to provide continuity of education for those pupils who are in real need. It is one of the greatest gifts that an Old Scholars' Association can make to their old school. It is an ideal that we in QuIET support as we make our annual request to Friends to contribute to the endowment of funds of the school for bursaries to those in critical need.

The Principal David Gray and the Board, under Hani Aboul Jabine's oversight, have the full confidence of QuIET in actioning a new School Development Plan that we hope will take BHS onwards and upwards in the years to come. Work has begun and in time BHS will provide more first- class facilities for learning, for teaching, for creativity in the arts and music, for physical and mental well-being in an environment tempered by the Quaker values that make their mark so distinctively, in the school.

We wish the whole school community, the Board and the Old Scholars Association a bright and hopeful journey together, into the 2020s.

In Friendship,

I SERVE.



Addresses

HANI ABOULJABINE

61

Chairman of BHS Board of Governors Ever since I returned to Lebanon in 2005, one of my main aims was to reconcile differences and ideas, to enable us to relinquish factional prejudices that had seeped into our society during the previous decades.

By adopting our motto and adhering to the Quaker principles that we imbibed during our years in BHS, by being completely open and transparent we seek to engender a more cohesive, unified society, rooted and developed in BHS's ethos:

with a greater hope that this spirit will be carried forth into their local environment, the wider society and ultimately, the region as a whole.

We seek not to negate the individual, but to celebrate the fruits of giving without expecting any returns other than to see our society prosper.

My ultimate aspiration, is to see a new generation flourish and thrive, emboldened by and embodying the motto, "I SERVE"

In Friendship.



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It has been a pleasure and an honour to assume the role of Principal of Brummana High School (BHS) this January in succession to Dr. Khoury who served the school with such distinction for almost two decades.

I was, for a similar period of time, Principal of the Erskine Stewart's Melville Schools in Edinburgh, with a school population of nearly 3000. Coming to BHS has been a revelation, a much smaller, but distinguished school which has been a beacon in Lebanon for nearly 150 years. It has helped to shape the country's educational map and provided for its students the moral guidance and courage, the academic drive and - through Quaker Values and the extracurricular programme — the all-round personal development to become the leaders and pioneers of tomorrow's world.

The school's strengths lie in its liberal atmosphere, its openness to new ideas and its tolerance of people of all faiths and all backgrounds. BHS is a place which encourages team work, freedom of expression, individuality and concern for others.

In my first months here, my colleagues and I have looked at areas of school life which need to be addressed. On the academic front, this has entailed overhauling the International Programme.

On the cultural and sporting front, I have enjoyed the highly competitive but very sportsmanlike Field Day of long tradition. The fierce loyalty of students to their houses, Waldmeier, Rizkallah and Little continues. The school has spawned champions in both boys and girls in many fields, but there are areas of the schools' sporting life which need attention, not least in terms of facilities. By September sound proofing will have been provided in the Sports Hall, and next to it a state-of-the-art mutli gym will have been established.

We are also looking at potential improvements to the football field by laying down Astroturf so that an all year round playing surface can be provided.

I enjoyed the Easter Concert and we now have plans to form a permanent choir which we hope to open up for students, Old Scholars and parents.



Addresses

DAVID GRAY

BHS Principal

I have been impressed by staff and Old Scholars' enthusiasm for saving our planet. Since January a Gardening Club, a Catering Committee and a Recycling Committee, have all been established with the enthusiastic support of the Student Council. This September we shall join the Global Eco Schools community led by the newly appointed Co-ordinator, Mrs. El Feghali.

BHS is a community as was most evident at the May Festival, brilliantly staged by the Parents' Association and involving people from all walks of life in the area.

I have enjoyed my initial months here. I hope to continue to serve the school long into the future with the continuing support of my colleagues, of the Governing Body and QuIET all of whom have made my wife, Hélène, and me feel very welcome to Brummana and to Lebanon.



Despite the 18 officially recognized denominations in Brummana, all the community lived together across all religious and denominational boundaries, and we have been doing just that for centuries, always prevailing, always coexisting.

We have to remember we are living in the Middle East, a place where everyone has a religion and a strong tie to it; and in a society where everyone's religious background is more or less discernible from their family name, BHS has created an ethos among its students, old scholars and Brummana community that religion and background don't matter. "Devotion, honor and duty to the community keep the Quaker spirit alive in Brummana".

Indeed, the Quaker's appeal has really been incidental to the local population, pioneering a unique multi-faith co-educational approach. Their values and traditions of education, peace, justice, tolerance, equality, commitment to justice and respect for the individual, seem to have imbued the character of the school with secular identity, at least in the traditional sense.

The curriculum was international and the extra-curricular and weekend activities created the bond in the community. Despite the differences in religions, cultures and nationalities, the pupils came together, to join in accepting one another and

Addresses

PIERRE EL ACHKAR

Mayor of Brummana

in appreciating their differencesto cherish one another and to embrace ideals and values that allow one to develop life-long friendships.

They infused in them the beliefs to live simply with each other, to love each other, to obtain simplicity as a way of life, to be disciplined in their daily behavior, and to serve their friends and society without creed, dogma and discrimination. Those beliefs had led the Old Scholars to be successful in their chosen fields wherever they are in the world.

With BHS phenomena, walking Brummana streets one hundred years ago, one would have come across people from places as diverse as Germany, Great Britain, France, Switzerland, and Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Jordan, Svria...

By today's standards, Brummana would have been "cosmopolitan," — a place where people from a wide range of ethnicities, cultures and religions lived in close proximity.

In a pluralistic society, where faith, disability, caste, and gender all serve to define who we are and speak to our identities, Brummana constitutes a Model City of non-sectarianism and cosmopolitanism, where the tolerance and diversity flourishes with unparalleled and unmatched: open arms, acceptance of the other.

Last but not least, "I SERVE" was and still is the motto that is being exercised by all the men and women who passed through BHS, and we proudly confirm that BHS Old Scholars are Brummana Ambassadors around the Globe.

Addresses

DINA BECHARA

BHS
Parents
Association
Chairperson

"Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." This is the motto that keeps the Parents Association thriving.

One of the things that makes Brummana High School very special, is the cooperation and effective communication between its organizations. The Parents Association is keen on maintaining a strong relationship with the school Administration, Board of Governors, Board of Trustees, the Old Scholars Association and the community.

Firstly, I would like to welcome BHS principal Mr. David Gray to Lebanon and wish him a journey fulfilled with success and happiness. The Board of Governors, Mr. Gray and BHS team have already started their plans and are revealed in the new traffic procedures already implemented, renovation of desks and chairs in the upper school, planting of trees and many other ongoing projects.

Many thanks go to OSA for their hospitality, and organization of the round table sessions, which were very successful. The topics presented were very interesting and I had the honor to present a session



about how parents may prevent their children from bullying, besides attending sessions presented by Old Scholars Misses Leila Obeid, Sally Sawaya and Mr. Sami Makarem etc...

Last year was a very busy year. The Parents Association organized many activities such as a family day get together, competitions and hiking around school, sports and games day, celebrating Christmas with Santa, the Annual brunch at Grand Hills, Teachers day, egg hunt, and the remarkable May festival that attracted thousands of parents and friends. I will take this opportunity to thank all our supporters. Our Agenda is still full and diverse and many activities are yet to come.

Brummana High School will always be treasured in our hearts and "I Serve" will be our motto throughout our lives.

"Together We Succeed".



My name is Laetitia Feghali and I am a student in the International Baccalaureate program here at BHS. I will be pursuing a major in Psychology at the American University of Beirut this fall, in hopes of further specializing in Child Psychology. I've spent four incredible years at Brummana High School during which I made unforgettable, lifelong memories: from playing an intense game of volleyball with the guys, to learning about mitosis in the biology lab, and even having Mr. Jawad help me cross the road after school.

I have acquired and nurtured many skills throughout my years in BHS, apart from deepening my knowledge about my fields of interest and learning countless lessons that will benefit me greatly in the near future. The school not only instills in students the importance of having a balanced lifestyle between academics, social life and physical activity, but also teaches values that students hold dear to their hearts.

In my opinion, the staff is the most amazing aspect of our school. The international Baccalaureate is widely known to be a tedious program, and, although our teachers have only been teaching it for two years, they have paved the way for each one of us students

Addresses

LAETITIA FEGHALI

2019 May Queen

to overcome any difficulties we might face. Since BHS is widely known for its striking variety of cultures and lifestyles, I've always found comfort in the school. Equality and respect are the principles that dominate campus life; the latter being free of all judgement and teeming with strong interpersonal relationships.

I was honored to be crowned May Queen of 2019 this spring and have learnt many things about myself during the process. On stage, I might have appeared to be a confident speaker who conveyed her ideas and message quite clearly; but do not let that persona fool you, for before the coronation I was nervous to the point where I thought of quitting, up until I set foot on that stage.

Thanks to this experience, I have learned how to control my stress, clear my mind while answering questions, and most importantly to be confident with myself no matter the circumstances. This experience has also given me the opportunity to voice my opinion and widen my perspective on topics that dominate modern day debates. Seeing my friends in the audience cheering me touched me greatly; all I could think about was that we were going to part ways in the near future to continue our studies. Not only did It make me feel sad, but it also gave me a sense of deep nostalgia. Nevertheless, I realized that my journey at Brummana High School would not end on Speech Day. I aspire to be an active member of the OSA in the future to help and "serve" the BHS community. I will always be proud to have been a Brummana High School student, and will forever go by our school's great motto: I SERVE.



Brummana High School has granted me an awesome experience and has made me grow as an individual. The elegant campus and breathtaking village of Brummana is more than the cherry on top. After moving from Kuwait in Grade 11, I was facing very big changes coming back to Lebanon. But people at BHS greeted me with open arms.

Everybody, from the administration to the staff and students, have all made me feel right at home. Being part of the boarding school at BHS, I have learnt how to be more independent, tolerant and patient. At the dormitory we all came from different backgrounds and nationalities which has taught me about other cultures and gave me a sense of open mindedness.

Mr. Rabih Aouad played an essential role in our journey at boarding school and I can't think of a better mentor to had in the last two years.

My learning experience at BHS was of the same caliber, there's a diverse selection of courses and the student body is very diverse. Brummana High School has a very rich extracurricular program which has made my education journey easier and far more interesting.

Addresses

TAHA SABOUNJI

19

Class
Representative
International
Program

I have always had a passion for photography and BHS nurtured that talent as I was encouraged by Mr. Chadi Nakhle to join the Photography Club and I was humbled to be the head of the club as I was eager to share my passion with other students.

Also, physical activities play a huge role on campus which gives us, the students, a sense of belonging and grants us more opportunities to shine. I was introduced to Rugby for the first time in my life and it was love at first sight.

I'm so grateful to have been part of BHS and for learning so many novel things, that I know I wouldn't have been introduced to at any other school.

Addresses

NATHALIE BITAR 19

Class
Representative
International
Program

Growing up as a student in BHS has been extremely affected by being a part of the student council for the past two years. As the Class Representative of both IB1 and IB2, I've been given the opportunity to have a say in how the school develops and the wellbeing of the student body. I've learnt a lot about how difficult politics could be as you must prioritize certain aspects of a social construct, in this case being the students' and administration's satisfaction.

In IB1, I was voted Secretary of the council and was responsible for keeping track of all meetings and keeping minutes. Meanwhile in IB2, I was also voted Treasurer of the council which gave me a different perspective on my role as I had to consider various financial aspects while hoping to achieve some goals.

Looking back at these two years and my countless interactions with various members of the administration, I've realized how much importance and recognition the council is given.

Attending a school that allows the student body to fully express itself and have the freedom to provide recommendations and feedback, truly portrays how empowering BHS is.



A characteristic I'm glad to say I've obtained after this experience is that now I've become more cooperative, driven, and confident. As a graduate, I am now on route to starting a Biochemistry degree, in the hopes of going onto Medical School. By completing the rigorous academic expectations in school, while balancing sports, and extracurricular activities such as Model United Nations and community service, every student is taught to be well rounded and an individual of society.

BHS truly prepares every student for the real world and I feel like I couldn't have been more taken care of in my years of secondary school. I've attended five different schools throughout my life and BHS truly has been a happy ending. I've been able to take part in numerous memorable events, meet some of my closest friends, and reach my full academic potential.



Your excellency, members of the Board, Mr. Gray, Teachers, Staff, family and friends, and above all, fellow graduates,

If I were to describe the Class of 2019 in one word — it would be revolutionary. We are the generation that was not afraid to break social norms. To try new things. To be brave and to push ourselves to the limit. We popularized Waterpolo in Lebanon. We represented our country in Model UN conferences in the United States. We won international competitions in Formula 4 and fitness modeling. We published a book and raised the bar on college matriculation!

I've been in BHS for 15 years, 15 years of learning from compassionate teachers, intense sports games, awkward May Festival dances, and grueling Tarikh pages. All the memories we made over the 15 years are timeless. All the happy ones, a reminder of the innocence of our youth and the sad ones, painful lessons learned.

Of course, BHS is about much more than our football field, the subject of incessant

Addresses

STEPHANIE ACHKAR

19

English Class Speaker

complaining by everyone from athletes and those seeking nicer Field Day pictures. It's about much more than getting reprimanded by Mr. Chadi for wearing leggings, for the 100th time. It is not even about the all-nighters that accompany the agony that is IB to meet IA deadlines (most of which I didn't ultimately meet).

It is about a 146 year-old institution in the green mountains of Lebanon that has sustained through Ottaman rule, two world wars and a civil war. Like Lebanon itself, it is resilience, identity, diversity, the spirit of service, and striving for higher ideals. All these values we take with us forever.

But most importantly, it's about friendship, it's about youth, it's about home. It will forever remind us of a period in our lives when we were young and free. The values of community and coexistence echo through every memory and every relationship we've ever built. When Miss Zeina called me at 6AM on a Sunday to ask me about my TOK essay.

In addition to bidding farewell to BHS, many of us are also bidding farewell to Lebanon. This democratic haven surviving amidst political, social, and economic turmoil taught us the importance of grit: passion and resilience under seemingly impossible circumstances.

Lebanon has truly shaped me into the person I am today, and there is a common theme here. If you deny your roots, you have no roots. I am proud to say that my roots lie in this tiny village, Brummana. However, at the same time, to quote Amin Maalouf, 'Trees must accept their fate, they need their roots. Men do not, what matters to us are roads'. Right now, we are at the crossroads between the past and the future, both holding onto our roots and exploring endless possibility and potential.

I reflected long and wide on what my phobia is. At first I thought I had arachnophobia, but then any remnants of a fear of bugs disappeared when I ate a live worm on a camping trip. Then I thought I might have a fear of heights, but now skydiving takes the number one spot on my bucket list. Then I realized what my fear actually was - oblivion. I feared not leaving a legacy behind, not having an impact on my community. I couldn't verify or practice that because I never moved. But BHS put all my fears to rest. It taught me that leaving a legacy behind does not mean that we should strive to be loved widely, but to be loved deeply. And I can truly say the relationships I've built with everyone here are immeasurable. So my message here is. Don't be afraid to touch people. Don't be afraid to be kind. Don't be afraid to be 3ayoush. That's the point of life.

Today is a day that marks the end of a certain period of our lives into an uncertain future. So what do we take with us. We take the resilience of Lebanon, we take the warmth of characterbuilding BHS. But most importantly, we take with us the happy memories, the smiles, and the laughter...

Now is the time when we learn that when you truly love a place, distance means so little. There are 10,430 km between Boston and Brummana. But no matter how far away the people we love are, we'll always find a way to feel close to them. I'll miss you all so much.

Thank you to everyone who supported us throughout this journey - our parents and siblings, and our teachers and friends who provided us with endless faith, love, and support through the years. With complete conviction, I can say, we couldn't have done it without you.

Finally, I leave you all with 3 of my favorite expressions:

From Hamilton: Do not throw away your shot. May the Force be with you. And most importantly,

I SERVE



Monsieur le principal, messieurs les directeurs et les gouverneurs, chers parents et élèves,

Je suis fier mais aussi anxieux de me tenir devant vous aujourd'hui.

Faire partie de Brummana High School, même si ce fut que pour une courte durée, a été un privilège pour moi. A mon avis, c'est une chance de pouvoir étudier ici, non-seulement pour le niveau académique mais aussi pour ce campus exceptionnel. C'est une richesse d'appartenir à une communauté multinationale tel que celle de Brummana High School.

En effet, BHS est un établissement scolaire qui encourage les étudiants à développer leurs passions à travers différentes activités interculturelles.

Mon expérience personnelle à Brummana High School fut excellente et j'en garderai de bons souvenirs. Ici, j'ai rencontré des amis que j'espère garder à vie et des profs envers qui je suis très reconnaissant pour leur compréhension, leur orientation et surtout pour leur patience.

Addresses

LEO SAMUEL D'AOUST

19

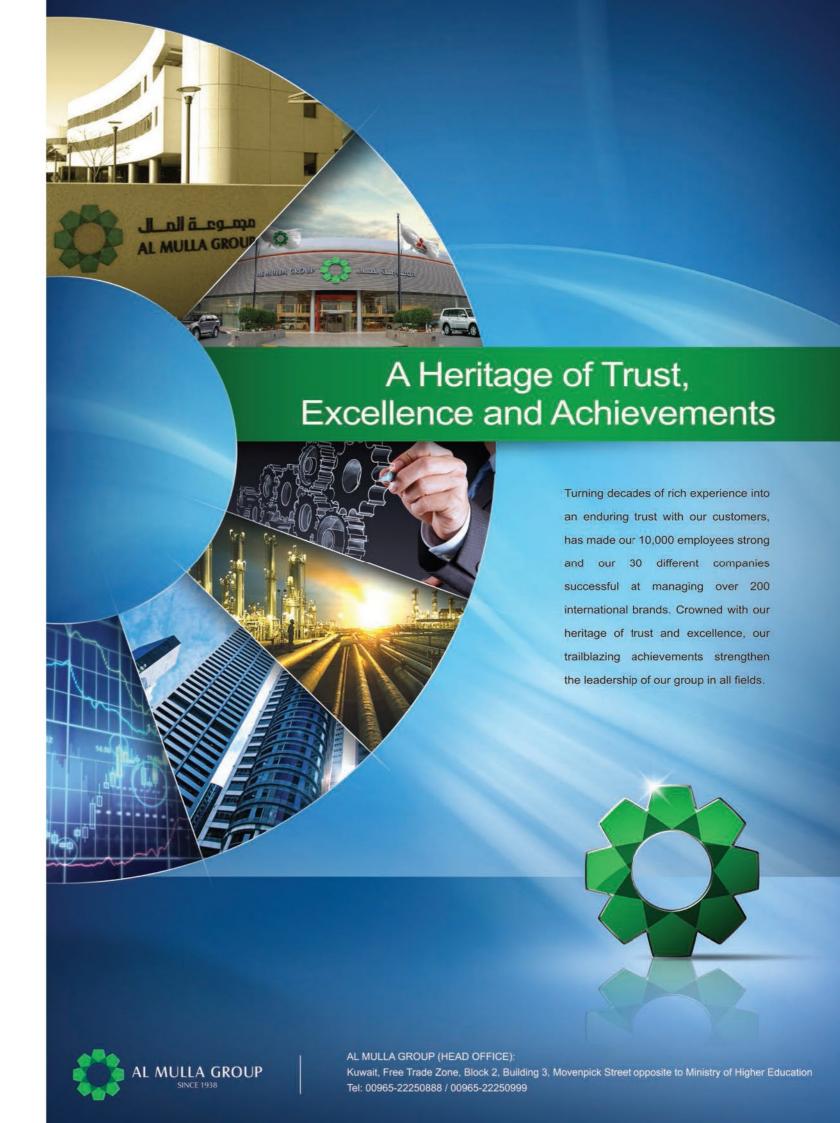
French Class Speaker

Je me rappelle de toutes ces heures supplémentaires que nous avons dû assumer ensemble, moi et mes camarades de classe, en Maths et en Théorie de la Connaissance. Mesdames, Giselles et Zeina, je vous remercie pour votre patience et vous souhaite la bonne chance avec les générations à venir.

De plus, Brummana High School est une école trilingue où les langues vivantes occupent une place importante au sein de l'éducation. Elle encourage les élèves à acquérir des compétences linguistiques qui développent chez eux une ouverture d'esprit et une éducation multiculturelle.

Finalement, je remercie tout le corps professoral et administratif pour son soutien le long de ces années. Grâce à l'éducation que vous avez procuré, nous quittons aujourd'hui BHS avec un esprit critique, communicatif et chercheur.

A vous, chers camarades, je souhaite le meilleur pour l'avenir et je sais que malgré la distance qui nous sépare, nous serons toujours liés par la devise de Brummana High School : **I SERVE**.



OSA EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION JULY 6 & 7 2018



On July 6 and 7, 2018, The BHS Old Scholars Association (BHS OSA) held its 27th International Convention in Brummana which kicked off with the annual dinner held on July 6 at The Grand Hills Hotel and was attended by around 200 Old Scholars from all around the world. The dinner was a joyous event and the attendees enjoyed great food and wonderful entertainment as well as a special commemoration for the Class of 1968 who were celebrating their 50th Graduation Anniversary.



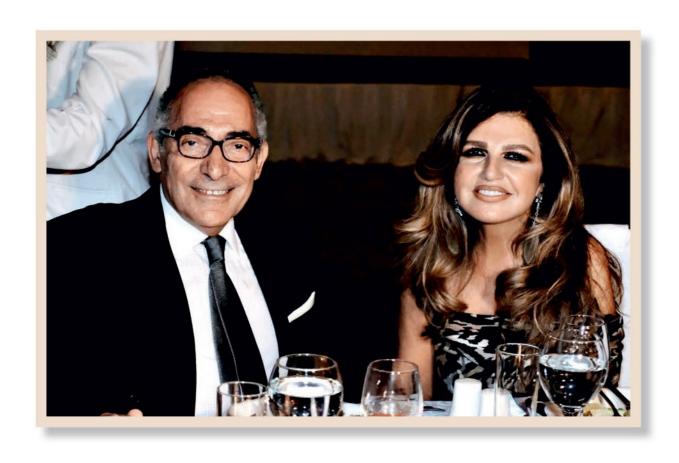
THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION





THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION









THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION















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THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION







THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION









THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION









THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION









THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Day two — July 7 - started off with the traditional saj-mankoushi breakfast outside the BHS Meeting House, followed by Brummana One Group's official opening ceremony. The General Assembly commenced shortly after at 12:00 pm with updates on OSA by President Nazih Khattar '66 followed by the financial report presented by OSA Treasurer, Mrs. Emily Salem '82.

Our Keynote Speaker this year was Mr. Nicolas Saade '68, Member of the Board on BLOM BANK SAL, BLOMINVEST BANK SAL, BLOM DEVELOPMENT BANK SAL, and BLOM BANK QATAR LLC, and Head of the Board Audit Committee of these banks as well as other board committees. After his speech, Mr. Saade was presented with an award of participation from the OSA. The assembly ended with the much awaited traditional group photo outside the Meeting House.





THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION









THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



At 7:00 pm, the famous Street Party started and people enjoyed great entertainment, live bands, shows, food stalls, artisanal products and many other activities throughout the night. The night ended with a spectacular fireworks show that lit up Brummana's skies making it the perfect finale for another memorable OSA International Convention.





THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

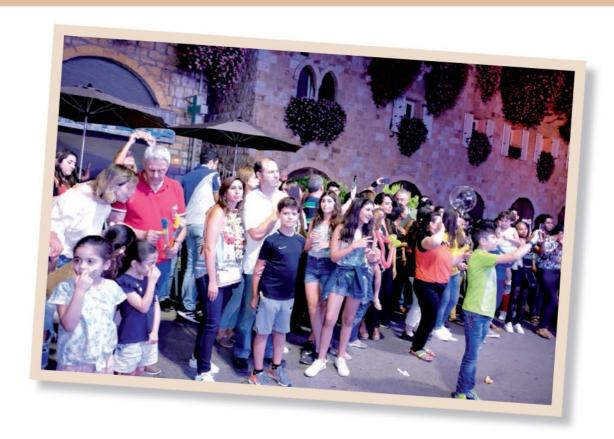




THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION









BRUMMANA TENNIS TOURNAMENT JULY 28 - AUGUST 12, 2018

SPERS SP

The BHS Old Scholars Association and Brummana Sports Club had the pleasure to host The Brummana Tennis Tournament that took place at the BHS tennis Courts starting July 28, 2018. The semifinals and finals matches were held on August 11 and 12, 2018 with live coverage by Future TV and under the supervision and assistance of the Lebanese Tennis Federation. The OSA Cup for the "Boys under 18" category was presented by OSA Administrative Committee members during the finals match.





AN OLD SCHOLAR VISITS THE OSA SEPTEMBER 7, 2018





We just love it when our Old Scholars come to visit us at the OSA House in Brummana and share with us their fond memories of the school!

On September 7, 2018, Mr. Wadhah Abultimman - Old Scholar from Iraq, and student at BHS from 1961 until 1965, visited us after an absence of 54 years from the school.

Mr. Wadhah shared great stories and some wonderful photos from his time at BHS.



A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE BEKAA SEPTEMBER 22, 2018



In honor of the newly elected BHS OSA Administrative Committee, Old Scholar Sheikh Khalid Saab '64 and his wife, Mrs. Amal Saab, invited some OSA members to a wonderful day at their Bekaa farm "AlHaush" on Sunday September 22, 2018. The attendees spent a beautiful day enjoying amazing food and each other's company in a picturesque setting.



A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE BEKAA





A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE BEKAA

A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE BEKAA









A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE BEKAA

A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE BEKAA









BULLYING - ROUND TABLE

SEPTEMBER 24, 2018



As part of the BHS Old Scholars Association's ongoing efforts to connect with our Old Scholars and provide them with a place to meet, exchange ideas and discuss a wide range of topics, on September 24, 2018, the BHS OSA hosted its 6th Round Table discussion on Bullying.

The keynote speaker was Mrs. Dina Bechara - Parents Association Chair at BHS — who led a very informative and well received talk about bullying, what bullying encompasses, its symptoms, and ways to deal with it.

The audience was wide and varied and included Old Scholars who are members of the BHS Board of Governors, BHS Parent Association, OSA Board as well as parents and teachers.



OSA'S BACKGAMMON NIGHT OCTOBER 12, 2018



Since the OSA House is also a place for relaxed fun and activities, on Friday, October 12, 2018, more than 20 Old Scholars participated in the OSA's Backgammon Night held at the OSA House in Brummana. The Old Scholars enjoyed drinks, snacks and most importantly, a fun and friendly competition among childhood friends. The winner of the night was Mr.Salim Shallah who received a trophy for his mastery of the game.





FOOD & NUTRITION - ROUND TABLE **OCTOBER 17, 2018**



The BHS OSA held its 7th Round Table discussion on Wednesday, October 17 2018, hosted by Old Scholar Mrs. Sally Sawaya '93 at the OSA House in Brummana. Sally, who is the Vice President of the Lebanese Association for Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND) gave a talk on Food and Nutrition in our 30's and 40's to an audience of Old Scholars, friends of Old Scholars as well as members of the BHS PA.

The session was fun, informative and interactive and was followed by a very popular Q & A session and quick tips for a healthier lifestyle.





NOVEMBER NETWORKING EVENT

NOYEMBER 29, 2018



On Thursday, November 29, 2018, the BHS Old Scholars Association held its first Networking Happy Hour Event at Olio Badaro. It was a pleasure seeing Old Scholars from the 1960's all the way up to the fresh gradates mingling together and exchanging life updates and contact information. The invitees enjoyed great food, drinks and wonderful ambiance but most importantly, they enjoyed connecting with old friends and classmates



NOVEMBER NETWORKING EVENT





NOVEMBER NETWORKING EVENT

NOVEMBER NETWORKING EVENT









BEAUTY BY LEILA OBEID - ROUND TABLE DECEMBER 18, 2018



On December 18, 2018, the BHS Old Scholars Association held its Special Festive Edition Round Table Discussion hosted by Mrs. Leila Obeid '76 entitled 'Beauty by Leila' at the OSA House.

Mrs. Obeid who is an Old Scholar and a leading name in the world of beauty, shared her expertise with the attendees and gave them valuable tips in both beauty and health. She also demonstrated one of her signature glamorous makeup looks in an easy-to-follow and fun way with her "Master-class Auto Makeup" routine.



BEAUTY BY LEILA OBEID - ROUND TABLE

The attendees who were Old Scholars, friends of Old Scholars as well as members of the BHS PA, had a great time and were given the opportunity to experience Mrs. Obeid's easy to prepare miracle face masks as well as participate in a live make up tutorial.

Since it was the festive season, a raffle was held and Mrs. Obeid gave away many valuable gifts and promised to have a follow up session in the new year.





2007 CLASS REUNION

DECEMBER 29, 2018



On Saturday December 29, 2018, the BHS OSA hosted a reunion party for the Class of 2007 at the OSA House in Brummana. More than 40 students, teachers and administrators reunited and shared stories of their time at BHS while enjoying drinks and snacks.

Mrs. Serene Musallam Farah '92, the General Manager of the OSA and an Old Scholar, welcomed the Class of 2007 and all the guests to the OSA House, and discussed the importance of staying connected to both BHS and the OSA.



2007 CLASS REUNION



This was followed by a sentimental speech by outgoing Principal Dr. Walid Khoury, and a speech by Ms. Aline Alam, who was the class's Math teacher at the time.

We were delighted to see members of the class of 2007 step up and share their fondest memories of BHS and their latest news and updates with all the attendees – it was truly heart-warming.

The Class of 2007 then cut a cake to commemorate the 11th anniversary of their graduation from BHS and enjoyed the rest of the night with their friends, teachers and members of the OSAAdministrative Committee.



2007 CLASS REUNION





INVESTIGATING OVARIAN & PROSTATE CANCER - ROUND TABLE JAN 30, 2019



The Old Scholars Association held its 9th Round Table Discussion on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, hosted by Old Scholar Dr. Ghassan Hallak '67.

The topic of the discussion was Investigating Ovarian & Prostate Cancers and was held at the OSA House in Brummana.

Dr. Hallak explained to the audience the prevalence of Ovarian and Prostate Cancers, why it is sometimes difficult to pinpoint the causes, and how to detect them. He also reviewed the different tumor markers used to detect Ovarian and Prostate Cancers, the importance of early detection, when to test for them, and how such tests may detect cancers before signs or symptoms appear.

The lively discussion ended with an interactive Q & A session.



FEBRUARY NETWORKING EVENT FEBRUARY 22, 2019





On Friday February 22, 2019, Old Scholars from different age groups met at Moods Pub in Brummana for a fun night of mingling, socializing, and reminiscing with old friends!

The attendees enjoyed each other's company and indulged in a friendly game of darts. After a few hours of drinks and delicious finger foods, some Old Scholars held an impromptu Karaoke session amidst lots of laughter and giggles while other Old Scholars shared their fondest memories of the school, their first crushes there, their favorite teachers, and inquired about long lost friends.

The night ended on a high note with attendees asking the OSA for more social events that would reconnect them with old friends and classmates!



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OSA BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) MEETING IN DUBAI MARCH 14, 2019



Nazih Khattar, President of BHS OSA called an inaugural meeting on March 14, 2019 of members of the OSA, selected by him, to form a Board of Trustees (BoT) to serve the Old Scholars Association.

The objectives of the meeting were to:

- Elect a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Secretary
- Define the objectives of the BoT
- Discuss guidelines for BoT Articles and Bylaws (Charter)
- Create and manage an OSA Endowment Fund in order to support the Secretariat and set up a Financial Aid Fund

The following members were elected:

Tammam Salam: Chairman

Mohammad AlHamrani and Khalid Juffali: Vice Chairmen

Nabil Younes: Secretary

Khaled Saab, Farid Makari, Nabil AlMulla, Mohammad Al Safadi and Nazih Khattar: members

OSA BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) MEETING







OSA BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) LUNCH & DINNER







OSA BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) DINNER







GULF REUNION 2019 MARCH 15, 2019



On Friday, March 15, 2019, Old Scholars from all around the Gulf region met in Dubai for a wonderful all-day reunion. More than fifty Old Scholars gathered at the One and Only Mirage Hotel; mingling, hugging, reminiscing and laughing amongst each other. The utter joy of reconnecting with old friends and classmates was wonderful to see.



GULF REUNION 2019



At 11:00 am, the Business meeting at the Peregrine Ballroom commenced. The UAE and Lebanese National Anthems were played, followed by the school song which everybody participated in singing. The business meeting started with a speech from President Nazih Khattar who gave an update about the Old Scholars Association and announced the names of the newly established Board of Trustees (BoT) and the objectives of the BoT.



OSA GULF RE March 15 2019, Di

This was followed by a speech by Keynote Speaker - and Chairman of the BoT - Mr. Tammam Salam who expressed his pleasure and honor to be part of the newly minted OSA BoT. After that, there was a Gulf update by Mr. Mohammad Hamrani who expressed the need for all Old Scholars to help and contribute to the OSA so it can achieve its goals of supporting and promoting the school.



GULF REUNION 2019



This was followed by an update about the school from BHS Principal, Mr. David Gray, and finally an update from the Gulf Coordinator and beloved former BHS teacher Mr. John Kirkbright.







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The attendees then took a number of group photos to commemorate the event and went on to have a scrumptious lunch in the ballroom, where Old Scholars of all ages networked and shared life stories and updates.



GULF REUNION 2019



That evening, the group reconvened at 7:00 pm at the Dubai Canal Marine Transport Station and boarded a luxury boat for a magical 4-hour ride filled with laughter, great food, wonderful ambiance and breathtaking sights.

By midnight, the Old Scholars and their partners returned to shore and President Khattar reassured everyone that the OSA will continue to organize Gulf Reunions annually or once every two years to keep the Gulf Old Scholars connected at all times.



GULF REUNION 2019









GULF REUNION 2019









DANCE YOUR WAY TO THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH - ROUND TABLE MARCH 28, 2019

On Thursday March 28, 2019, the BHS OSA hosted a Round Table session at the OSA House entitled 'Dance Your Way to the Fountain of Youth' led by Old Scholar Mr. Sam Makarem '67.

Mr. Makarem graduated from BHS in 1967 and went on to study Business Administration at AUB and Haigazian University before working in diverse fields such as Industrial Development, Real Estate and Finance.

Mr. Makarem has been an avid sportsman all his life, but his true passion has always been music and dance. He started appreciating music and dance before he was 10 years old and today, he is an expert in all dance forms and gives classes at the OSA House in various dance styles.



During the session, Mr. Makarem took the attendees through the scientifically proven benefits of dancing vis-a-vis both mental and physical health, as well as the role of dancing in promoting longevity and better quality of life. He also explained the different dance types and what dance type suits each individual personality.

Mr. Makarem ended the fun session with a group dance lesson which the attendees enjoyed tremendously.



A BRAINSTORMING SESSION WITH OUR CLASS REPS - MARCH 29, 2019



MEETING WITH QUIET TRUSTEES

APRIL 5, 2019



On Friday April 5, 2019, The OSA Administrative Committee - represented by Vice President Naji Chakhtoura, Riad Barraj, Eddy Goareib and Jimmy Joujou - met with QuiET trustees, BHS Chairman of the Board of Governors, Hani Aboul Jabine, and BHS Principal David Gray.

The following members of QuiET were in attendance: Paul High (Chair of QuIET), Will Haire (Vice-Chair), Martin MacPherson (Secretary) Averil Armstrong, David Hickok, Digby Swift, and John Crosfield.

The group discussed various matters related to the school and the Old Scholars Association and took a group photo to commemorate the meeting

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ANNUAL WELFARE WHEAT RACE APRIL 7, 2019



BHS OSA was a proud sponsor of the Annual Welfare Wheat Race that took place on April 7, 2019 and was organized by Al Amal Institute for the Disabled.

This year, the race had 1,137 competitors registered and present. The age of the competitors varied between 10 and 17 years old, hailing from 18 schools, 10 clubs, and 5 organizations.

100

ANNUAL WELFARE WHEAT RACE



BHS OSA was a proud sponsor of the Annual Welfare Wheat Race that took place on April 7, 2019 and was organized by Al Amal Institute for the Disabled.

This year, the race had 1,137 competitors registered and present. The age of the competitors varied between 10 and 17 years old, hailing from 18 schools, 10 clubs, and 5 organizations.

Many BHS students participated in the race and the winners were as follows:

5 K Run (Girls) - 1st place **Stephanie Ashkar**3 K Run (Boys 2002/03) – 1st place **Fadlo Elias Abou Fadel**4th place **Danny Chokr**and 5th place **Joey Angelil**2 K Run (Girls 2002/03) – 1st place **Angela Saade**and 3rd place **Lea Jaber**1.5 K Run (Girls 2004/05) – 3rd place **Mia Emily Weiss**1.5 K Run (Boys 2004/05) – 1st place **Simon Al-Hajj**and 1.5 K Run (Girls 2006/07) – 2nd place Marie-**Jose Al Akkari**and 3rd place **Maygen Naassan**

Congratulations to all!

ANNUAL WELFARE WHEAT RACE

ANNUAL WELFARE WHEAT RACE









AT THE BHS MAY FESTIVAL MAY 18, 2019





On Saturday May 18, 2019, BHS held its annual May Festival within the school premises and people from Brummana and beyond, joined the festivities.



AT THE BHS MAY FESTIVAL



As is the tradition every year, the OSA participated in the full day event with a fun and interactive stand that had games, contests and branded merchandize. Lots of people passed by and played and won prizes. The contests involved fun challenges like singing the school song, solving riddles and trivia questions about the school and the OSA. Maher Beydoun, a member of the OSA Administrative Committee was a juror at the Coronation Ceremony, which culminated with the coronation of Miss. Laeticia Feghali as this year's May Queen.



AT THE BHS MAY FESTIVAL

JOIN US AT THE OSA'S 28" INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION! JULY 5, 6 & 7 2019



AT THE BHS MAY FESTIVAL





AT THE BHS MAY FESTIVAL

JOIN US AT THE OSA'S 28" INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION. Plant of the osa's 28" International Convention. School School #BHSDSH2019



AT THE BHS MAY FESTIVAL





THE OSA'S ANNUAL OPEN-AIR GRADUATING CLASSES GATHERING MAY 24, 2019



On Friday May 24, 2019, The Old Scholars Association held its Annual Open-Air Graduating Classes Gathering at the BHS Ampitheatre "Fleiseh" attended by a large number of 2019 graduates, members of the OSA Administrative Committee, BHS Principal and members of the school administration and teaching body.



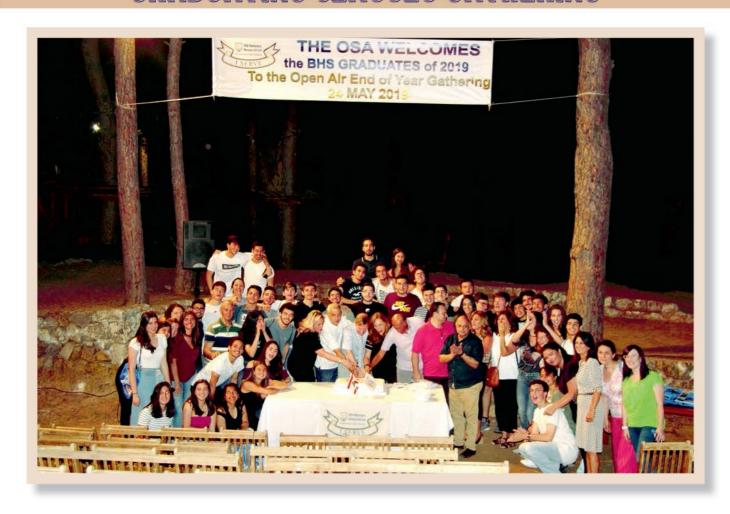
THE OSA'S ANNUAL OPEN-AIR GRADUATING CLASSES GATHERING



The event started at 7:00 pm with a short, congratulatory speech by Mrs. Serene Musallam Farah, General Manager of the OSA, on behalf of President of the OSA, Mr. Nazih Khattar. Members of the OSA Administrative Committee then distributed OSA backpacks to the graduates that included a free 5-year membership card, a pin, a letter from President Khattar and the 27th International Convention Yearbook. BHS Principal, Mr. David Gray then gave a short speech to the students, which was followed by the OSA presenting a cheque for \$5,000 to the 2019 Prom Committee.



THE OSA'S ANNUAL OPEN-AIR GRADUATING CLASSES GATHERING



The evening, which included a general knowledge competition, karaoke, dancing, great food and a delicious cake, was a total success! Congratulations to the Class of 2019, the newest members of the Old Scholars Association!



THE OSA'S ANNUAL OPEN-AIR GRADUATING CLASSES GATHERING



REWIRING YOUR BRAIN AGAINST WORRYING - ROUND TABLE

THURSDAY JUNE 20, 2019



On Thursday Juny 20, 2019, the BHS OSA hosted its 11th Round Table Workshop at the OSA House entitled "Rewiring Your Brain Against Worrying", which was led by Old Scholar Mrs. Nadine Zeinoun Khoury '91.

After graduating from BHS in 1991 and earning an MS in Pharmacology and Therapeutics from AUB, Mrs. Khoury had a long career in the pharmaceutical industry, before switching careers to become a certified Life Coach through Mentor Coach USA.

During the workshop, Mrs. Zeinoun Khoury helped the attendees understand the origins of negative thoughts and worries and explained how these thoughts and worries affected a person's physical and mental health negatively.

She then gave the attendees tools & tips to rewire their thoughts in order to have a more positive outlook on life.

The workshop concluded with a lively discussion and Q&A session.



THE OSA AT THE BHS UPPER ELEMENTARY GRADUATION

JUNE 25, 2019



On Tuesday June 25, 2019, members of the BHS Old Scholars Association participated in the BHS Upper Elementary Graduation ceremony and Board Members Mrs. Emily Kanaan Salem '82 and Mr. George Obeid '78 along with GM of the OSA, Mrs. Serene Musallam Farah '92 presented the Old Scholars Excellence Awards to 3 students: Jennifer Bou Faysal, Rawad Bou Akl and Ryan El Beyrouthy.

The guest speaker was Old Scholar and Lebanese sportsman, mountaineer and explorer Mr. Maxim Chaya who gave an inspiring speech to the students.

Congratulations to all Grade 6 Graduates!



THE OSA AT THE BHS 146TH SPEECH DAY

SATURDAY JUNE 29, 2019



On Saturday June 29, 2019, OSA President Mr. Nazih Khattar '66, Board Members Mr. Maher Beydoun '66, Mr. George Obeid '78, Mrs. Emily Kanaan Salem '82 and GM of the OSA Mrs. Serene Musallam Farah '92 attended the BHS's 149th Speech Day held at the Upper School Main Driveway.

This year, President Nazih Khattar presented both Youssef Charif and Fayez Al Sabea (Secondary III General Science) with the Old Scholars Award along with a \$500 cheque for each.

The guest speaker was Me. Ziyad Baroud, Former Minister of Interior and Municipalities, who gave a riveting speech to the Graduating Class of 2019.

Congratulations to all 2019 Graduates!





JOHN KIRKBRIGHT

TEACHER & HOUSEMASTER 1964 - 1971

Fifty-five years: khamsah wa khamseen sinah

I landed in Lebanon 55 years ago, never having set foot in the Arab World before, to be met at Beirut Airport by Roderick Grosvenor, the Principal, who was 'wise' enough, to take me with a B.A. Honors degree in French with written modern Arabic as second language, as one of two English teachers appointed in 1964.

I think the idea of being an Englishman made him think that I would be OK to teach English. I spoke French fluently having spent a lot of time in France. I had learnt written Arabic so, when my students said 'keef-ak ustaayz?' I had no idea what they meant. They cured me and had me saying 'mish 3am beshoof-ak" within a very short time. What a school, yaa Allah, a microcosm of so many nationalities, religions, rich and poor, villagers and international travelers all under one roof and living peacefully and blended together.

When I first met Quakerism the quiet and the peace made me think a lot. I needed this in my life. The idea of 'That of God in every Man' that I learnt there at BHS has travelled with me wherever I have been and I have to admit it is true. I think that the most 'Christian' person I ever met in my life was Renee Baz. Allah yerHam-ha.

I spent seven years at BHS in teachers' paradise before going back to UK where I was employed as a course writer and language trainer at the Army School of Languages. I taught UAE cadets, Iranian naval cadets and Gurkhas, the Himalayan warriors with their kukris. Little did I know, then, that I would later live in Iran and the UAE as part of my career. I left two years later to do an M.A in Linguistics and



Teaching English to foreigners (Leeds University) as I had no written qualifications in English after 'A' level.

In 1974, I took a job as Principal of an English Language Training Group in south Iran to teach Iranians how to do our job and make us redundant in 4 years. I enjoyed this very much. We taught young men who did not speak English very well but wanted to learn. I engaged teachers of Farsi for all of us as we were in the same field in English. We learnt Bakhtiari dancing — their variation of the debkee and slept out in the Zagros mountains under the stars. I learnt to ride a horse. I had grown from a Yorkshire kid to one with wider knowledge of the world.

After Iran, I took a job in Sharjah UAE, with a young sheikh I had taught in UK, as CEO of all his companies. I am still in the UAE 42 years later. I didn't lose my passport. I just fell for the life and the people. I worked for the Royal Bank of Canada as Private Banking Manager. I was the English man who spoke Gulf Arabic and Saudi.

I see a few ex-BHS students in BHS OSA on a regular basis and I gain weight during Ramadan from too many Iftars. Teenagers from BHS 1964 - 1971, grew up, got married, had children who grew up and got married so my old (former) students are now my old (mature) students. They were my extended family 55 years ago. They still are now.

Please support BHS OSA. 'We won't forget Brummana School and won't let you forget' but loving memories are not enough. Please support them financially for all the good work they do. BHS formed us to a large extent. We owe BHS our support.

I SERVE



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INTERNATIONAL FAIRS & PROMOTIONS

EDWARD F. SROUR PHD

75

A Letter from an Old Scholar

Currently, I am the Robert J. and Annie S. Rohn Professor of Leukemia Research, Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics, Microbiology & Immunology, School of Medicine and the Director of the Flow Cytometry Resource Facility Simon Cancer Center; both at Indiana University.

My research focuses on Hematopoietic Stem Cell (HSC) biology. HSC are immature blood cells that reside in the spongy, inner compartment of bones called bone marrow. HSC are responsible for the production of red and white cells of the blood throughout life.

My interest is to better understand interactions between Hematopoietic stem cells (HSC) and the different cell types that make up the bone marrow microenvironment. My main emphasis in these investigations is concentrated on the critical role osteomacs play in both sustaining stem cell activity and preserving the health of the bone marrow microenvironment.

I have published 170 peer-reviewed articles, many in high impact journals and 13 book chapters and editorials. My publications have been cited over 10,000 times by other investigators. During the last 25 to 30 years, I trained many graduate students and young scientists in the field of hematopoietic stem cell biology.



On a different note, my BHS experience was one of the few things that lasted me a lifetime. It gave me an education that guided me to where I am today. It gave me friendships that will last forever. It gave me memories that I proudly and joyfully shared with our children, and most of all, it was a period in my life full of fun, hope, and big dreams.

The Old Scholars convention of 2018 was a fabulous opportunity to see old friends, recall stale jokes that are still funny, ruminate on old memories, and as usual, make fun of one another. I wish it had not been my first convention. It will definitely not be my last.

Best regards, Edward Srour

I SERVE



Articles

DR. SHAILENDRA VYAKARNAMH

69

A Letter from an Old Scholar

Dear Old Scholars Association.

I am delighted to put finger to keyboard and let you know a bit about me, my memories and perhaps through your offices, to reconnect with some old friends.

I was in Beirut from 1962 to 69, lived in Rue Jeanne d'Arc in Salem Shatila Building bear the Commodore Hotel, where I used to swim frequently. I was 10 when I came to Beirut from Cairo.

My first school was the Salesian Boys School, then Manor House but best of all Brummana High School.

My father was with the Indian diplomatic service and we were part of a small Indian expat community from the embassy, businesses, Air India and so forth.

The names of friends I can recall from then are: Micky Jagtiani, hugely successful in Dubai, Prakas Golakatta, retired and living in Hyderabad, Omar Nusseibeh, in USA and Freddie Traboulsi.

I was not a great student to be honest. I was distracted by much older boys who seemed to be passing the time. Anyway I came to the UK and after settling into the system ended with an MBA and PhD from Cranfield and have, since 1986, been pioneering entrepreneurship education, mainly at Cambridge.

I can tell you more should you wish to know and happy to provide links etc to some of my activities should they be of interest.

My warmest good wishes to Brummana and if it is still there, the little sandwich shop opposite the main gate, where I enjoyed grilled halloumi baguette with Pepsi almost every day!!



Long story short, it all started at Brummana High School in September 2002. It was there where I met the love of my life and my soulmate.

It was young love right from the beginning but we both knew that this was a start of something very special.

Behind those green gates, stone walls and never-ending stairs are memories that will never fade away. We still remember the day we first met like it was just yesterday. Till this day, my love for her grows more and more. We were the high school sweethearts who had big dreams together for the future.

After Christine's graduation from BHS in 2004, Christine went back to live and study in Australia with her family. On the other hand, I graduated in 2005 as I was enrolled under the Lebanese program.

Little did we know how hard it was to stay in a long-distance relationship over the coming years. we stayed in contact but eventually we ended up going our separate ways.

Brummana High School was our common place, I would remember Christine every time I passed by the school, and one summer Christine came to visit

Lebanon and that spark came back and we decided that I would visit Australia.

I came to Australia in 2011, but a few things were not possible at the time. We both travelled and worked hard and I believe everything happened for a reason and at the right time when we were both ready. The year of 2014 was a very special year for us.

I proposed to Christine and we had our engagement party in Lebanon in May 2014 where we returned to Brummana High School and captured a photo the same spot we took in our high school days. We finally said 'I Do' in July 2014. We now have two beautiful daughters, Elena and Mariana and live in Sydney Australia. We hope one day to return for a holiday and show our children Brummana High School where our love story all started and take a family photo at our very own spot.

Christine captured my heart from the very start and I knew that one day I would marry her. We have known each other for 17 years and this July we will be married for 5 years. To all the high school sweet hearts, I hope that your love is as memorable as ours.

A saying I always used to tell Christine back then was "Our love is like a journey starting at forever and ending at never".

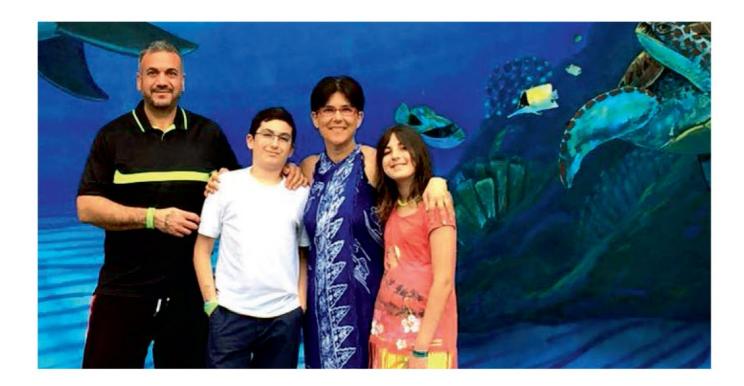


NISSAN KICKS, A KICKS FOR YOU.

NOW IN DUAL TONE







March 1988: As I was travelling round the world, I landed in...Canada? Not too far from Brazil I suppose, but there were no ancient friends here who knew anything about Brummana. Nevertheless, I was going to make a fresh start in what looked like a barren land from the plane's little window above. My uncle explained on the drive from the airport that this was all dead grass due to the harsh winters, and all will turn green come April. Well, April came, and so did the rain, and everything did turn green and lush. Now, 31 years later, I still hate the -30° C winters, but this is my home.

I have lived here more than anywhere else in the world, and as those who've lived and travelled around the world know, you might settle on one place to call home, but you leave a part of you in every place you visit.

A big part of me still remains in Brummana, particularly in the dear old school we call BHS. The culinary experience: I started out at BHS in Grade 2 primary, back in 1975, just as the war had broken out. At that time, the best labneh sandwiches on the planet were found at Scand's. The owner Scandar made the meanest labneh sandwiches your taste buds could ever savour. Unfortunately, every good thing comes to an end, and when Scand passed away, so did his famous sandwiches.

Luckily, we had M3alem Fouad to bridge the gap. He used to roll in with his bluish grey station wagon, filled to the ceiling with manaeesh; students would pile around him like there was a run on the bank, and as the crowds grew, everyone from the back would be pushing forward like fans at an unmentioned Liverpool game. Once you had your manoushe, you'd gloat that you were one of the survivors, and had the food to prove it.

Then, something marvelous happened. A little bakery opened up across from Tivoli called Karmid. Here, they offered sliced tomatoes, mint and olives with your manoushe! Of course, across the school, we had the fine establishments of Kenaan and King's Amusements.

At Kenaan's, you could get Hamadah to make you a cheese, ham and mushroom sandwich, or as he called it, "Jibneh, jambo, champinio", or a chicken sandwich with garlic paste for example. At King's, it was usually a burger and fries you were after. School foundations: There are numerous ingredients that make a school successful, but we all know teachers make a huge impact on our lives, and BHS had some of the best. There were those that saw potential, and found ways to tap into it, giving us the freedom to think and be analytical. Some of my favorites, (and I'm certain

I'm forgetting many), were Susan Mouneimne, Mark Deasey, Jim Shaw, Ian Lording, and Fouad Habib, to mention a few.

These teachers listened and acknowledged our ideas and opened the door for discussion, rather than just regurgitating from a book.

Articles

IYAD MUSSALLAM

'86

BHS: Reflections, from across the pond

Nawal Rizk was sensitive and cared for her students and their success, even though she would lose it on us with a loud "Ça suffit". Mr. and Mrs. Tabri, and George Abd el Masih. Who didn't love that guy? His jokes would never hold up on the North American stage today.

Mr. Topalian drilled the math concepts into our brains, only to see our "deer in the headlights" expression, and realise that we just weren't going to get it.

Khair Bshara appeared to be listening to your question, "umm...umm", only to interrupt you with a "Wo lak shou fee houn", directed at someone throwing paper planes.

Naim Baroud was passionate about history and geography, but if you pissed this guy off, take cover because his name meant just that.

Who doesn't remember Adel Abu Jawdeh's lab experiments? "If we put the litmus paper in acid, it will turn red". Hmm, you sure that's acid sir? That litmus paper turned blue.

There was art as well, but my favorite was Technical Drawing with Paul Little. But other than teachers and friends, a school this size needed structure and discipline.

Enter the one dean of students I considered to be a founding rock of BHS. Mr. Albert Kamel struck fear in the hearts of every student over decades of generations. If his voice was heard on the other side of the Drive, everyone took notice and stood to attention.

He shared many stories of BHS past, but sadly, Mr Kamel is no longer with us, and I can't help but feel sad for the generations to come that will not get to know him or hear his bellowing voice.

My mom, Laurice, and my late aunt, Mary Kindarji, both worked in administration, which meant I got to serve 2 detentions when I misbehaved; one at school, and one at home.

Finally, the hardest working at keeping this school ship shape, were the labourers. The school foreman, Michael Mattar, along with Youssef Fares, Youssef Meri, and the cleaning supervisor, Izhaya, and their staff; without their service, the school would have fallen apart.

Oh, we won't forget Brummana school: This is our school; the school that formed everlasting friendships, and perhaps kindled some new relationships.

This is Brummana High School, and we shall always serve, and we shall never forget.

I SERVE

KAMAL KHOURY

92

BHS OSA GREATEST ASSET

Money first comes to mind in the assets category: investments, properties and the likes. They go up, down, sometimes we follow it, sometimes it follows us ... how high is high, how much is enough, somehow this answer is beyond us that turns this asset into little real value.

Family comes at the core of valuable assets, we're all born into one, -large, small, far, near-, we all have one that we call family and hold close to our hearts as a real value in our lives.

Friends are the most valuable assets achieved in our lifetime. For most of us, friends were made at BHS and turned into lifetime friends as we became Old Scholars. For many of us, BHS Old Scholar friends are a large part of our lives certainly a very valuable one - one that transforms us to the days when we were all young, pure at heart and intentions, crazy: playing jokes on teachers (all of them whom we adore and appreciate now), pulling stunts with each other, at each other & there were many, oh the mind wonders when we think of all the great moments we created at BHS and relive as Old Scholars. How many cross country races we ran back then, we still cross countries to see each other now. There's practically a dear Old Scholar in every other city around the world, and meeting them elevates that city to a higher level in our minds. This 'raveling with friends' idea must've started on the BHS Bus.

Oh did we have fun during those school trips: those who sat in the back of the school bus, those who saved a seat for someone special.



How many Egg Hunts, Plays, May Queens, Field days has BHS entrenched in our minds forever. Crazy hair-dos we did together, thank GOD fashions we did in harmony many, many years back are out now! Many of us are now colleagues, volunteers at a charity, networking together for a better future. All the moments, laugher, crying, proud moments and the less so proud moments, yes we're all guilty of those too! Now every time we meet with these lifelong friends, there is a deep and authentic admiration amongst us; we know each other to the detail and understand every bit of it: when it started, where it started and how best to sooth each other's friendship. Some friendships evolved into bridesmaids, best men, partners, or more fun things like "likha" partners, drinking buddies, and the likes. This fraternity started in BHS and lives on in us the Old Scholars.

The best part is, there's more to come, see you soon BHS Old Scholars!

This is the BHS OSA's Greatest Asset



A school is more than a campus with a curriculum and group of teachers headed by a Principal that educates students for 14 years preparing them for life. And BHS is more than any average school delivering the fundamental education package.

It is an institution built on universal values of modesty demonstrated through its "I Serve" motto which transcends community and spiritual dimensions into professional ones where most if not all of today's successful businesses orbit around serving their stakeholders, be it customers, shareholders or employees through a sustainable performance.

Serving communities and the environment is also a formula of success that will pass the test of time. Corporate Social Responsibility and Eco-Friendly practices are the way to go forward.

Yet there is more to a Serving attitude than the eye can see, serving requires an engrained perspective of modesty and respect to everyone and everything.

In that sense, BHS delivered one generation after the other, thus acting as a model citizen for the future of Lebanon. Every BHS graduate has respect for all religions and all walks of life.

Articles

ZIAD SALAMEH '95

The BHS
"I Serve" DNA

Every BHS graduate has a heightened sense of individuality and self-worth through the weekly practice of directly speaking to God every Monday at the meeting hall.

Every BHS graduate has the critical learning approach through the intellectual heritage and authenticity of its teaching practice as well as the wealth & diversity of its successful alumni.

Every BHS graduate has the right competitive attitude nurtured by the sporting spirit exercised at the multiple sporting venues second to none among Lebanese schools campuses. Every BHS graduate has love for nature experienced through the exposure to its spectacular scenes, stairs and trees.

Every BHS graduate has respect for the past and history through its exceptional buildings & stories. Every BHS graduate has an intrinsic propensity to team work picked up through the closely knit classrooms of less than 20 students.

Every BHS graduate has the highest moral ground uplifted by the discrete Quaker teachings.

Every BHS graduate has a balanced perspective on life, family, work, country, humanity and universe at large.

Amplifying the above values, practices and way of life to a national level will make Lebanon Great Again.



I graduated from Brummana High School (BHS) in 1991. I know that ages me, but you know what, lots of things have happened since then, and that makes it OK.

After High School, I received my medical degree from the American University of Beirut and then moved to the United States, where I continued my training in Dermatology and then Cosmetic Surgery. I have been in the US since 2001, and since then, I have gotten married to Walid Naddaf (from Zahle) and had 2 children, Natalia Lynn, 8, and Jude Elias, 3.

I have so many memories of BHS, but one of my fondest, is actually a more recent one. In 2016, I took my kids to Lebanon for the first time, and one of the first places we visited was BHS. It was surreal to walk with them down the path (edoumiyye) that my brothers and I used to walk down to get to school every day. The nature countryside surrounding BHS is so beautiful and nothing like what we have here in Texas.

As we walked through the gates, I had an influx of memories dating back to when I was fifteen. That year, something new happened at the school. The students who had the higher grades got exempt from taking final exams! I remember my friend and I brought our roller skates to school, and while others were taking exams, we were just rolling away in the sunshine. My daughter did not think that was very nice of us when I told her the story.

I have many memories of just hanging out outside under the pine trees which are the staple of that beautiful campus. A couple of years ago, I started playing tennis, and I can't help but remember all the tennis matches we would watch from the bleachers at BHS.

Thanks to social media, I still keep in touch with many of my friends from BHS. I first joined BHS in 3rd grade (Secondary School). My first English teacher was Bushra Behmardi. If anyone knows her whereabouts, please let me know! She was absolutely amazing! I had just moved from Dubai from an all English school and was so worried about having to do social studies and other subjects in Arabic. But seeing her big bright smile made everything seem alright. I had some other memorable teachers. Mr. Topalian for math. Genius, from what I can remember. Mr. Ayash for Geography. I will not elaborate as I am sure he is well-known by many.

Articles

LANA HAWAYEK M.D. '91

Many other teachers are engrained in my memory and will be forever. The respect that Mr. Rhayyem (Arabic) taught us is one of them. He would have us stand up every time he entered the classroom. Mr. Homsi was another math genius, and frankly, the reason most of us got into our choice colleges at the time. I have been attending the Old Scholars Association dinners for the last couple of years and have seen some familiar faces there, like Mrs. Lahham, among others.

In 1991, I was nominated as one of the girls in the May Queen competition. It was such an honor and such a great experience. While I did not win, my best friend did, and the first runner up (I was the 2nd), later went on to earn the title of Miss Lebanon!

I was also class Valedictorian. My speech was in English and my classmate Mazen's speech was in Arabic. I still remember how we received our diplomas under those trees and how proud we were of ourselves.

Last summer, I took my kids to the BHS OSA Street Party. There too, I saw so many familiar faces that it was so bittersweet knowing that I had to leave the next day to come back to the US. While we are not originally from Brummana, we had moved there specifically with the plan of attending Brummana High School. And because of this school, Brummana is now considered by me to be home.





It's hard to believe that the "BHS years" are more than 20 years ago. While both my sister Rana graduated from BHS in '88 and my brother Fouad in '87, I only spent my elementary years as a student at BHS. Yet, as we all know, these wonder years were not limited to the classroom or to being enrolled in the school; they were all about the atmosphere and community the school provided. Back then, we didn't have to force ourselves to enjoy "experiences" as per the trend these days; those experiences were all we had, and we craved them on a day-to-day basis! So instead of diving into "life after-BHS", I wanted to relive on paper my innate BHS DNA that has shaped who I am.

Soft-serve merry cream at Armeed:

Starting any memory without the taste buds taking over, is a practical sin; especially after a hot summer day roaming around the school's beautiful campus, playing all sorts of games, running up the many sets of stairs, and watching grown-ups play tennis, then walking alongside the main road past Radio Charo, Tivoli, and ultimately reaching the holy grail of refreshments: Armeed.

Articles

NADIM SAMARA

Once a scout, always a scout

I believe I'm still digesting a couple of kilos of that soft-serve today! The best of that experience is not only the taste, but the chats that sprung up keeping an eye on who's coming and going on the main road and playing Tawleh with my classmate Fouad Aswad by the side of the road. Of course, with entertaining commentary on the dice game by Murhaf Baz, Andrew Ghobriel, Wael Haddad, Joe Howayek, Eddy Melki, Joe Zeinoun and many others: hours spent having fun!

Scout's winter camp in the Dobbing Hall:

Man, was that floor cold in December! Being a proud member of The Brummana One Scouts Group for several years as a Cub Scout all the way to Group Chief, winter camps had their special place. With sketches, activities, and other learning experiences, you'd quickly forget about the cold and start plotting the next laugh. The eerie creaks from the wooden floor of the stage never helped with sleep, but that was part of the charm we love of the place.

I remember one camp in the kindergarten playground, the wind was so strong that Joe Zeinoun and I as Venture Scouts on night watch had to create some shelter. We went about constructing a make-shift tent with our log poles, out sleeping bags and some blankets...and some 10 minutes later in the blistering wind we lay down to rest only to realize there was a sizeable ant-hill in the middle of our make-shift shelter. All this, while Chiefs Naji Chakhtoura, Samer Salameh, Amine Nakfour and others were somewhat comfortably sleeping indoors! Let's just say it was a long time until the sun came out and we were excused of guard duty. Today, under the leadership of Chief Mona Karam, I know the same scout mantra is permeating across the Brummana One Scout Group. Truly hours spent having fun!

The Basket-ball, pool & Kanaan love triangle:

Summer upon summer, the campus provided! The hardest basket-ball court ever, the coldest pool ever, and the most accurate accounting system for candy payments ever: the back of a Marlboro carton. What a combo! Soak up the sun and mess around in the pool until the lifeguards' patience ran out, put on the sneakers for basket-ball where what seemed like the whole town showed up for games, and in the meantime hike up those many stairs to sneak in a snack or two.

Most of us who played back then still do now, though with the softest muscles, warmest creams, and less accurate shots! There is a lot of heritage in BHS basket-ball, where we regularly played across different generations and families...the Bazs, Chalhoubs, Najjars, etc.... The timelessness of this ritual casting a mirror-image of the timelessness of the court itself. We lost track of time, days, even weeks as the same procedure became that ritual: hours spent having fun!



The first official international Tajjeh tournament:

If you haven't played tajjeh in the elementary school in front of the girls and boys bathrooms, you need to go back right now with three other BHSers and spring a game up! I am certain the tile masons had a cunning thought to lay down the tiles in the right manner that divided that seemingly perfect square into an "official" tajjeh court. God forbid the ball would bounce up onto the roof of the bathrooms, and you would start witnessing the most acrobatic climbing skills seen in Brummana.

With time, teams of two were forged in sweat, blood and sometimes tears — some of joy but most of pain and suffering! The stakes were high; ranging from merry cream from Armeed to the coveted pride of being the champs of Tajjeh. And the pride sometimes came at a cost with twisted ankles trying to jump off the two steps on the only side that didn't have a wall edge was common, but that was part of the uniqueness of tajjeh: hours spent having fun!

I'm sure there are many memories we each have, but more importantly, that we all share with one another that will stretch on and on. I consider myself lucky to have experienced these with most whom I consider family, and gratefully still in touch with today.

LARA HAGE 11

Yours truly



When I think of my childhood, the first thing I think about are my school memories and the 15 years I spent at BHS. Wow 15 years! can you imagine all the memories BHS filled my life with? Where do I start? Thousands and thousands of memories starting from KG1 up until Grade 12: from the field days to after school activities, to the May Festivals and many more.

But I must admit a memory that can never be forgotten is the day I found out I was nominated for May Queen. I still remember we were in French class and Mrs. Habib along with Mr. Bader came around to all the classes and named out the 5 girls that were nominated for May Queen. I still remember my friends cheering and congratulating me.

Preparing for the May Queen coronation, we had several steps that we needed to complete and one that I remember most and will never forget in my life was the day we were asked to give a speech in the Assembly Hall to all the students to introduce yourself and to convince them why they should be voting for you. The feeling of butterflies and nervousness was normal.

However, once it was my turn to deliver my speech and as I was standing in-front of my whole school, I suddenly and uncontrollably burst into laughter which had a domino effect on the audience as they began to laugh as well. I still remember looking at Mrs. Rima Habib's face thinking she might be angry as this was not according to what was planned, only to discover that she and all of the other teachers were laughing as well. After a few minutes, I managed to control myself and finally deliver my speech.

Looking back to this memory just makes me laugh and puts a smile on my face again.

Finally, and most rewarding was actually winning May Queen for the year 2011.

Still till today, I highly cherish and respect BHS and truly miss every single memory that this amazing school brought from memories with specific teachers, supervisor and friends.

All the way from Melbourne, Australia I will always say "I SERVE"!



Articles

RABAB SAAD KHOURY

92

"I won't forget Brummana school and won't let you forget." I did not know this song before I joined BHS. I did not know that this simple verse of the song is so true and sincere. I didn't understand why, until I became a part of it. I joined BHS in 1986, coming from Abu Dhabi, UAE. I didn't grow up in Lebanon and did not have any friends in Lebanon. My father had attended BHS and signed me up claiming that this was one of the best schools in the world. He told me all about the different world leaders that used to be BHS students. I was intrigued but scared.

I walked in on a Monday morning and saw someone waving at me. I had started taking ballet jazz classes and met a sweet girl called Serene at the class. She was the one waving at me. I was so relieved to have someone acknowledge me so I went to join her. We ended up being in the same classroom. We became instant friends. It was her first year at BHS too. There were several other students who were totally new, each coming from a different background and a different country. I would say our class was the most special class of all because we were a true

family. We were at school together even when the school was closed. We just liked to sit on the benches and walk the grounds.

During the war, several of the classmates moved out of the country. We stayed in touch and found ways to connect. We formed eternal bonds and we continue to maintain our solid friendship. There is an unspoken agreement and electric pull that draws BHS Old Scholars together no matter what grade or background, no matter where they moved to and how they changed.

I understand the meaning of the song now and I believe in it. I will always be an ambassador of my school and I am so proud to be a BHS graduate. I live in the USA now with my husband, who is also a BHS grad, and two children. I took my kids to see our school in 2013. They had heard so much about it and were so impressed with the history and the vast grounds.

BHS, I will not forget and I will see you soon!



LAURICE MUSSALLAM

BHS: Upward and Forward Always

My involvement with BHS started in 1975 when my eldest son Ziad (now Mark) completed his Primary School Education at the English School in Kuwait and we had no other option but to send him to a reputable school in Lebanon as we needed at that point in time to relocate to Lebanon.

The English School Principal made the following comment to me, "You are going back to Lebanon and you have a school in Lebanon known as Brummana High School, and yet you are wondering as to what would be the best school for Ziad?" So that was that, and the rest is history.

In 1976, I was elected to the board of the PTA, and we all worked hard raising funds for needy students as the war had started in Lebanon and was taking its toll on families in the area. We started several fund-raising initiatives such as managing the tuck-shop with all profits going towards the scholarship fund.

We started the Annual Christmas Bazaar Event, The May Day Celebration which always culminated with the coronation of the BHS May Queen, fashion Show events using BHS young and beautiful girls and boys, presented in a very classy manner with dinner at the pool of the Printania Hotel, and other activities that really helped out the students and gave us tremendous pleasure in watching BHS continue to provide the quality of education to all its students during a very difficult time in the history of the country.

In August 1977, I was recruited in the capacity of Secretary to the Principal who at the time was Robert Hudson. In 1978, I took over the position of Registrar and eventually more duties were added.

These positions included: Academic Assistant, House Mistress to the Boarding Primary School Boys and Girls and High School Girls, House Mistress for Little House, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, and I also during this period, initiated a Home Economics Club as an extra-curricular activity for the students.

I resigned my duties in January 1988, as we were immigrating to Canada. The memories I carry in my heart of our time in Brummana, and BHS will always be etched and will remain in the core of my soul.

All my days at BHS are still very vivid and alive in my heart. Some of the great memories that come to mind are the staff celebrations that we used to enjoy on Teacher's Day; the camaraderie that we felt near the fire place in the Staff room during the morning break; the excitement of all the houses that was shared and enjoyed by all the School Houses on Field Days; Graduation



Day; and so much more that was the signature of Brummana High School that made it the "Beacon of Culture and Education" in the Middle East.

"Go BHS Go". Upward and forward always. Some of my special memories are related to my time as Housemistress for the Boarding students. We enjoyed a feeling of being part of a big family.

The boarders to me were like my children. We enjoyed our good and not so good times together, and I always reminded all the boarders that I treated them and applied to them the rules that I applied on my own children.

I have so many vivid memories, but cannot go through them all as it would take a whole volume. All I can say, is that, having been given the responsibility of housemistress for the boarding school, was an honour and a pleasure to me as I felt that I reaped great rewards through making a difference in the lives of students in my care, and I truly wanted to provide them with the feeling of enjoying the Boarding School at BHS as a "Home Away from Home".

A Message to the graduating class of 2019

You are the image of BHS. You go into the bigger world and carry with you what BHS has provided you with and was a catalyst that will help you leave your footprints on your school, your country, your society and the world beyond for generations to come.

This is not graduation; this is commencement, because when you graduate from BHS, your role as an Alumni or Old Scholar is not complete or done. This is the Commencement of your new life, which BHS was very instrumental in shaping over the years.

Go into the bigger world with an open heart and an open mind and make a difference.

May you succeed and prosper in all you do and may you carry the banner of Brummana High School, your Alma Mater, high. May you do good for your school, your country and your brothers and sisters in humanity. Make a difference.

I SERVE



NADINE HADDAD "95

WHAT THE SCHOOL SONG FORETOLD US

After being approached to write about my memories of BHS, I was honestly overwhelmed and I asked myself, in this capacity what do I talk about? Where do I start? This school is profound; it enriched my time in many ways, considering I spent a quarter of my life in it...so my thoughts were jumbled as images zoomed in my memory. And...so the parade joyfully started...

Should I mention my nursery days in that small house on the ground floor, where today is the Sick Bay? It was warm and loving, it felt like home with Mrs. Little and the toys and the layout of the rooms.

My Primary to High School journey? The campus or the library? The Meeting House? The school song? The sports day and the house colours? Dobbing Hall and our music concerts? The education? The teachers? The promises we were given? The Motto? Or the feelings that emerge as I reminisced? Then I decided, it will not be just that, I will take the opportunity to paint a picture of this beautiful educational journey from the lens of a -3year old who grew in every corner of this everlasting space and graduated from High School ready to embrace the world with an open mind, an accepting and a multi-cultural attitude.

With the many changes that consistently occur outside the premises of this school, beyond its gates there are elements that remain constant withstanding time, and this is what BHS is all about, its local presence but global reach, the school stands fierce with its distinctive Motto "I SERVE", a fundamental principle that we learnt in our daily exchange and a promise highlighted at the gates of this beautiful school.

The Meeting House where the Quakers encouraged our silent prayers. In the heart of Brummana an old town in Lebanon that in fact remains forever young beating with generations of students, surrounded by trees and greenery, playgrounds and courts, huge old and new buildings, the campus projects the educational promise.

Every area is a historical site. BHS is the school of my grandfather, grand aunts, my mother, and all my family members.

BHS is the school that my late uncle Anwar Aswad <65, was proud of and joined his friends every summer for the Tennis Tournaments opening and the OSA BHS Annual International Convention events, where the school takes over Brummana and boosts the town with fun and lively street activities.

The Dobbing Hall at that time was our theatre, where the fun and collective creativity was shared, singing, dancing, and drama. The Library which was the pride and joy of Mrs Kamel and to be fair she was right, those books are such a treasure and even with the technology now, the kindle, the i-pads and the like, nothing will ever conquer the feeling of the avid reader holding a book, or the smell of ink and the hissing sound of paper as we turn the pages.

High school was a challenge but the process was fun, I always looked forward to the lab sessions and the new learning, Psychology, Philosophy, Literature, Chemistry all taught by really talented teachers who left a mark in our lives.

The friends and the childhood memories are what will live forever, and it is what the school song foretold us... no matter where we are in the world we will meet a BHS Old Scholar who shared our common ground. BHS, our museum of knowledge, where history survives with the heartbeat of generations in the beautiful town called Brummana.

Some might argue who would hang onto all those memories especially with such emotion? It is the memories, the relationships, and the existing symbols in all the school premises that add depth and richness to those memories making one feel like a student again.

Don't you agree?



IBRAHIM ALZABEN 11

The life of a BHS Boarder

I was 12 years old with a one-way ticket from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia to Beirut, Lebanon. My whole life was about to change and I had no idea.

My father was the first to hit me with the news, telling me "you are going to boarding school in Lebanon with your siblings". I had no idea where it was or what it was going to be like. I remember driving up a windy scenic mountain road nervous and curious to what is about to unfold.

My first impression was how different the environment was from Jeddah and how cool, clean, and fresh the air was.

My first week in middle school was a little tough and took some time getting used to. In Jeddah I was attending an all-boys school; in Brummana my classes were mixed and the curriculum was all in English as opposed to the all Arabic classes I had been in before that.

The faculty guided me and gave me the attention needed to become a better English speaker giving me the skills to catch up with the curriculum and the rest of my classmates.

The first year was a little tough, I was homesick and way out of my comfort zone; however, I built my confidence through after-school activities and sports.

Looking back now, it was the greatest decision my father had taken for me. I owe it to him and the school for the man I am now being a boarding student was another large hurdle for me as I had always lived at home.

The values I learned are irreplaceable. Being a boarding student taught me how to be independent and it shaped my personality that I probably would never have if I had stayed in my comfort zone at home in Jeddah. I learned leadership qualities and life lessons because I had great teachers and mentors.

I ended up spending 8 years of my life at beautiful Brummana High School that became home away from home. I am 25 years old now; it's been 8 years since I graduated and I still miss the smell of the pine trees and the walks from the dorms to the school.

The Brummana school song says it better than anyone as I truly met people from all over the world that are still my close friends to this day. That is what is so special about Brummana High School. The memories that are still with me have become a part of me.

Upon graduating, I became part of the Old Scholars Association, effectively Brummana High Schools Alumni Association. It makes me proud that I can now help make the school an even better place than when I left it, and I will always SERVE.

The profound amount of respect I have to all the faculty and mentors that have helped me and pushed me over the years, they are great teachers and I owe it to them for shaping the man I have become today.

I SERVE



HALA ALYAN '04

Hala Alyan graduated from BHS in 2004 and is a Palestinian American writer and clinical psychologist whose work has appeared in The New York Times, Guernica and elsewhere. She is the author of four collections of poetry and a novel. Her poetry collections have won the Arab American Book Award and the Crab Orchard Series. Her debut novel, 'Salt Houses', was published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in 2017, and was the winner of the Arab American Book Award and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. Her newest poetry collection, 'The Twenty-ninth Year', was recently published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Sana

It was green as moss, the mist I parted to find sea glass in the Andalusian sand.

The water a dim chant to the stars.

With jewels in each ear I shone like a candle, one of those wistful women who set out bowls of rice for the dead. Now, I break light on sundials, gather the purple corpse of each hour as stars chase one another like swallows.



The Letter Home

Tell her of the bronzed children. Your son's home spinning with laughter, their voices delicious even if you cannot understand the words the youngest uses to describe the waves. At night, they gather around the flame of the television and eat cakes sprinkled with sugar.

On the night of the comets, the youngest takes you outside, says follow the tail and the sky bursts violet. His Arabic is rusty and you teach him the word for clementine as you watch the fire above.

Tell her of the curtain of bees that covers the largest ash tree in your son's backyard and how he says his name all wrong in this country, like someone has cleared his mouth of bells. Your mouth is full of bells and no one seems to hear when you ask for rosewater to rinse sinks with. They dance to maracas here and none of the children whimper when thunder comes.

Tell her of the other night, when your son took you to the lighthouse and you stood stunned, watching the light dapple the water soft as an unwrinkled green sheet. Tell her you are afraid of the supermarket, the bright displays, the girl who bags your oranges without saying a word. Tell her you miss your city like a lung.

You miss the crakes, the fickle sea washing along driftwood, the way even the locusts bring music, tell her you wake at dawn weeping for figs, and when she writes back she will call you a fool, she will say sister, sister, they've turned this land into a grave.

Meals

In the beginning we ate oceans, translucent oysters, fish eggs, a radiant orb

of green, licked the brine off our fingertips.

*

Cassiopeia tosses her eyes over our feast of sand and milkweed.

We emerge from the dawn like jinn,

catch wind and drizzle with aluminum bowls.

*

A thousand empty hands.

The children clasp at each living thing—beetles and crunchy moth wings.

They suck the dirty ice.

*

The plate is a black eye, winter berries buried in a cup of sand.

We eat the gazelle tongue first.

Her language engulfs us: grass pastures, sky, mushroom clusters

budding in the field of poinsettias.

*

The men steal clams from the market.

Savage longing, our mouths fill with the spines of creatures slow enough to catch.

SPOTLIGHT ON AN OLD SCHOLAR MUKHESH JAGTIANI '69



CROWN PRINCE OF DUBAI, SHEIKH HAMDAN BIN MOHAMMAD OFFERS AWARD TO MUKHESH JAGTIANI.

Crown Prince of Dubai honours former BHS student Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammad bin Rashid AlMaktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, has honoured the Landmark Group by offering Mukhesh (Micky) Jagtiani, Brummana High School Old Scholar '69, the first Sports Imprint Award organized as part of the Nad Al Shiba Sports Tournament.

This award is offered to individuals or organizations that spread positive values through their humanitarian initiatives in the sports sector.

Sheikh Hamdan presented the award to Micky (Jagtiani) as Chairman of the Landmark Group for his efforts to raise awareness about diabetes through the 'Beat Diabetes Walk' held in Dubai every year since 2009 attracting over 20,000 participants from all walks of life. It has since spread to five GCC countries.

The Landmark Group, also, supports the International Diabetes Federation and the Emirates Diabetes Society and is involved in a number of other programs which create awareness about healthy living and a physically active life.

Congratulations Micky, wife Renuka and Landmark!

By: John Kirkbright



"Investing in **Tomorrow**"



Younata Investment L.L.C - P.O.Box 5956 Dubai, UAE
T: +971 4 224 5111 | F: +971 4 224 9111 | E: info@younatagroup.com
www.younatagroup.com

REUNIONS



CLASS OF 1993
Reunion at Escobar, August, 2018, in Brummana- Lebanon





CLASS OF 1992
Mini Reunions, October, 2018 in France and Canada





CLASS OF 1982
Reunion, November,2018, in Brummana- Lebanon





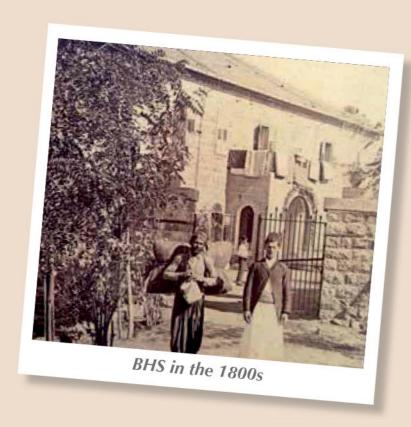
CLASS OF 1994 Reunion at Le Caves De Dar Azar, December, 2018, in Beit Mery- Lebanon

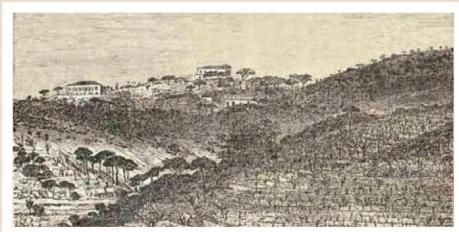


A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE



BHS Science LAB in the 1800s





BHS 1880



BHS Meeting house in the 1800s



Old Scholars 1st Annual meeting 1890





Dobbing Hall in 1952



Class of 1953



Theophilus Waldmeier



BHS Tennis tournament 1955



It's always hard to summarize all our activities in one page. Last year we "Left a Mark" and this year we are "Paving the Way" for a great generation of dedicated scouts, our members, the future of Brummana One Group!

Our scouting year of 2018 ended with the "Departure" known as "Raheel" of two BR1 Leaders, but not in the literal sense of the word. It's an exciting journey a scout embarks on alone, in nature. A 40km walk which starts at night the first day and finishes at daylight the next day; meant for reflection and overcoming challenges along the route. Two of our members will also be taking this journey before the end of this scouting year.

We held our Annual Dinner on 6 October, 2018 at Brummana High School-Khoury Hall, which was an immense success. Later in December, our Ventures held their "Red Christmas" fund-raiser which was followed by a Christmas Parade in the streets of Brummana, where the members and leaders walked around singing Christmas Carols and giving out sweets to people on the street.

Members and leaders are equally working around the clock on training overnights/camps to enhance scouting skills and instill leadership equally in cubs, guides, scouts and ventures.

BR1 Leaders also attended the LSA Group Leaders' Training in addition to the LSA Woodbadge I in December and April respectively.

Ventures Michel Ghaleb and Tarek Yared were consecrated on 11 May, 2019 in the by the LSA GC for having completed

advanced scouting skills brilliantly. Tarek was also appointed as First BL, a first in BR1 History. Michel and Tarek will be moving from the Clan to become leaders by the end of this scouting year.

Our community services deeds are blossoming, we are working closely with CARE Lebanon, an organization that cares for children with Autism and Special Needs. Many of our activities are aimed at raising funds for CARE, in addition to spending time with the children.

The Cub Scouts participated in a joint event with Beirut Four Group which aimed at donating clothes to less privileged families from "Basmeh & Zeitooneh".

In an attempt to have a cleaner home town, our ventures started a clean-up campaign in Brummana, an ongoing project, with an ulterior motive to spread the word across the Lebanese Scouting Association's Groups so they can do the same in their areas for a cleaner Lebanon.

That's not all, we have two very big projects lined up so, make sure you follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more.

Thank you to each and every single leader and member; words will never express how proud I am being your Group Leader.

Thank you beloved BHS, BR1 PA (they are extraordinary!), the MD and of course the LSA for the constant support.

I will end this with a quote I always say to the members and leaders: "Work in silence, let success be your noise." Scouting is a way of life. We scout everyday even when we are not wearing our scarves.

We are ONE, BR1. C. Mona Karam BR1 Group Leader

BR1 SCOUTS



BR1 SCOUTS







BR1 SCOUTS







An Unrivalled Campus

Our spacious grounds have fine views, traditional Lebanese architecture and shady trees. The extensive facilities include a football and athletics field, an outdoor swimming pool, volleyball, basketball, and tennis courts, and a climbing wall. The cooler mountain air makes outdoor activities pleasurable, even in the summer months.

BHS summer camp merges learning with fun as it has an educational programme along with fun activities, and it admits campers from ages 3 to 15. The educational programme contains class sessions in Arabic, English, Mathematics and Sciences all taught by highly qualified teachers. On the other hand, the camp provides a full programme of activities including: swimming, football, basketball, volleyball, street hockey, mini-rugby, softball, water polo, badminton, ping-pong, climbing and abseiling, rope games, roller blading, competitions with other summer camps, darts, chess and board games, cycling, scooter and skateboards, track and field, dance, tae-kwon-do, art and crafts, and computer, all under the supervision of experienced and skilled monitors. Boarding is available as well and fees include: full board, laundry, all outside trips and activities, swimming after camp hours, extra outings and activities, 24-hour accident insurance...

Registration and Further Information

For further information and registration, please contact the Summer Camp Director or the Summer Camp Office, open Mondays to Fridays, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. (04 960 430 /1 /2 ext. 447)

To register, Day campers need a completed Day Summer Camp Application Form, one passport photo, and a photocopy of the camper's ID card.

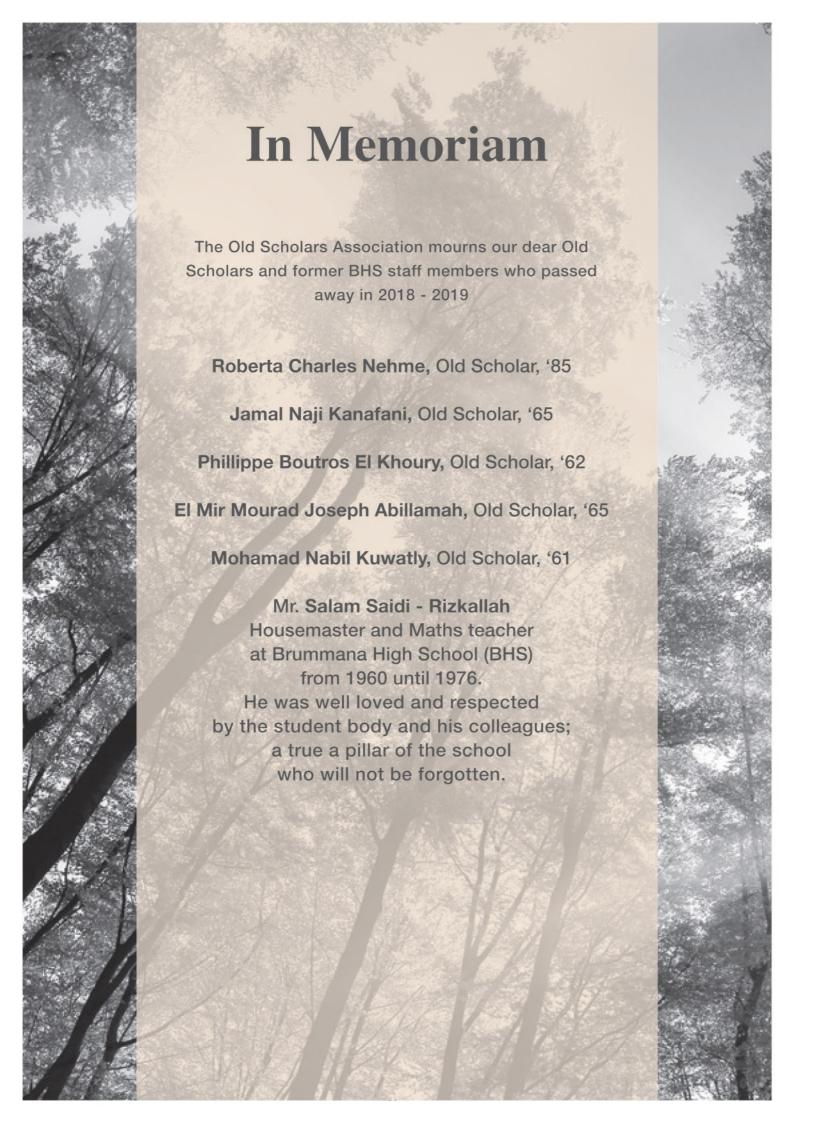
To register, Boarding campers need a completed Boarding Summer Camp Application Form, a completed Health Form (for non-BHS students), 2 passport photos, and a photocopy of the student's ID card. For a place to be confirmed, a copy of the money transfer should be sent immediately to BHS by fax or post.

For registeration from abroad, fax the application and the health forms to 00 961 4 961 225 or email it to campinfo@bhscamp.com. The originals should then be sent by post.













زرت برمانا في أربعينات القرن الماضي ودخلت مدرستها العالية في تشرين أول سنة. ذكرت في مقال سابق عن أحوال المدرسة في تلك الحقية أما الآن فإنني أصف برمانا كما أتذكرها.

كانت برمانا ولا تزال مصيفا مشهورا يقصدها المصطافون لطيب هوائها المعطر برائحة الصنوبر ومناظرها الجميلة التي تطل على الجبال شرقًا وعلى بيروت غربًا وبعدها عن الضجيج وقربها من بيروت ومعاملة أهلها الطيبين. عدد سكانها لم يكن كما هو اليوم ولكنها في الصيف كانت

خلاف لما هو اليوم، لم يكن كثيرون

شفیق داغر خریج ۱۹۵۱

برمانا كما عرفتها منذ ۷۰ سنة

تعجُ بالمصطافين.

يمتلكون بيوتا في الساحل وأخرى في الجبل ولم تكن مكيفات الهواء ميسرة، فكنا نرى الشاحنات مملوءة بالعفش الصاعد في أوائل تموز ثم يعاد هذا العفش إلى بيروت في أوائل تشرين الأول. وكنا نرى بعض الأهالى يقيمون في خيمة أوعرزال في هذا الموسم لكى يتسنى لهم تأجير مساكنهم.

أما الصيدليات فكان يوجد فيها اثنتان. أما مدارسها على ما أذكر فكانت ثلاثًا ألأولى ابتدائية تابعة لوزارة التربية والثانية مدرسة للراهبات والثالثة هي مدرسة برمانا العالية وكان رئيسها مستر دوبنغ. البلدية وفندق بارك أوتيل لصاحبه سليم رزق

سيدة إنكليزية تدعى فاكا ليتل وقد كان زوجها ليعذرني القاريء إذا لم أذكر كل شيء عن برمانا أو إذا وَجَدَ بعض الأغلاط في هذا المقال، فقد وصفت برمانا كما عرفتها شخصيًا ولم أستعن بأى مرجع لأخذ المعلومات ولم أستشر أحدا. إننى لم المَّ بكل شيء وهذا المقال ليس تاريخًا إنما ذكريات عشتها شخصيًا وبما أنني لست من أبناء برمانا فإننى أتمنى أن يكتب تاريخها أحد أبنائها لأنه يوجد فيها اليوم كثيرون من المؤرخين الأجلاء.

> الحوانيت الصغيرة تملأ الأحياء وأحيانا كان يأتى مكارون من الضواحى يبيعون بضائعهم على ظهورالحمير وهؤلاء كانوا يدفعون رسمًا بلديًا كما كان يدفع الرسم أيضا ماسحو الأحذية وبائعو الجرائد. في ذلك الوقت كان يوجد ٣ أطباء فقط في برمانا.

أما الميسورون والأجانب فكانوا يقصدون

الفنادق وكان يوجد في برمانا أكثر من ثلاثين

فندقًا و كان أشهر فنادق برمانا في ذلك الوقت

فندق برنتانيا لصاحبه شاهين الأشقر رئيس

المختار وأوتيل سيدر هرست الذي كانت تملكه

مديرا لمدرسة برمانا العالية لبعض الوقت. إن

فندق سيدر هرست هذا كان أول فندق أسس في

لم يكن في برمانا أماكن لهو كثيرة وقبل وجود

التلفزيون كنا نرى الوفود تتمشى على الطرقات

في المساء. إن أماكن اللهو كانت المقاهي التي

كان يقصدها البعض للعب الطاولة أو البليارد أو

لشرب القهوة وتناول البوظة أما السينمات فقد

كان فيها اثنتان وكان بارك أوتيل يفتح سينما

صيفية في الهواء الطلق. وكثيرون كانوا

يمارسون الألعاب الرياضية في ملاعب مدرسة

ولما كانت مدرسة برمانا العالية إنكليزية

ومؤهلة للألعاب الرياضية فقد كان يقام فيها كل

صيف مباريات الكومنولث في كرة المضرب

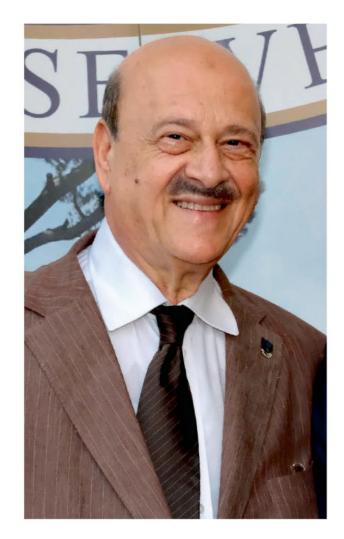
(ألتنس) وكان يأتى اليها المتبارون من إنكلترا

لم يوجد سوبر ماركت في ذلك الوقت بل كانت

وغيرها من دول الكومنولث.

برمانا ورقم هاتفه ١.

برمانا العالية.



عندما يدخل المرء الى صالة للمعروضات الأثرية، لا يشاهد في الداخل، بشكل عام، سوى زبانناً من فئة عمرية معمرة، يبحثون عن ذكريات أشكال خشبية أو معدنية، يريدون شراءها ووضعها في منازلهم للإستثناء بها، لأنها تجسد لهم مشاعر الحنين الى الأيام الخوالي! يحصل ذلك، في الغالب، مع الأثرياء المعتزلين إجتماعياً، الذين يعانون الوحدة، ووحشة المنزل، فيبحثون عن هذه الآثار التي تبعث في نفوسهم الحس بالزمالة العمرية المفقودة لديهم، رغم مشاركتهم السكن مع أولادهم وأحفادهم الذين يتعارضون فكريا وسلوكياً، مع تقاليدهم وأفكارهم الموروثة!

إن عدم إدراك الآباء والأمهات بحالات اللاوعي لأحساسيسهم الذاتية الجامدة التي تتعارض

مقسال فایز شلاح خریج ۱۹۱۵ أولادنا أمانة فی أعناقنا

مع أحاسيس وسلوك الجيل الجديد، من شأنها أن تبعث نفوراً وتباعداً بين الأجيال، وتولد خلافات حول الإختلافات الدائمة في وجهات النظر. ينتقد جيل الآباء كيفية تعاطي أولادهم في مخاطبة الآخر، وعدم الإكتراث للمظهر، وكثرة تناول المشروبات الغازية والمأكولات السريعة، والتبذير المالي، وإهمال المواعيد، والتقصيرفي التحصيل المدرسي، والسهر حتى ساعة متأخرة من الليل، واللهو على تطبيقات التواصل الإجتماعية، وأمور اخرى دقيقية ومتعددة، بينما هم يتناسون أنهم كانوا أيضاً على تباين حاد مع الجيل الذي سبقهم!

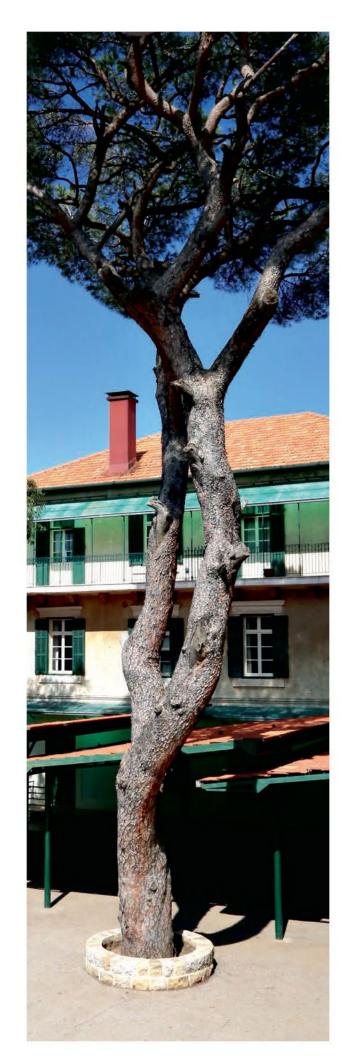
لابد من التسليم أن أنماط الحياة المدرسية، والإجتماعية، والترفيهية، عند الجيل السابق ستتبدل لدى الجيل اللاحق، والتي تستدعي من الآباء، بفضل

خبرتهم وثقافتهم، التأقلم المستمر والمتواصل مع الأولاد، وضرورة فهمهم متطلبات الحداثة العمرية، التي تخطت موروثات ومؤثرات المجتمع الضيق، لتصل إلى العالمية الإفتراضية، المتقدمة علمياً، وثقافياً، ومعرفياً. لقد عاش الجيل السابق في مجتمع منحسر إقتصادياً، وقد أصبح اليوم مجتمعاً إستهلاكياً، يستهلك الفرد البشري قبل أن يستهلك السلع!

نعم، لقد كاتت هناك فوارق طفيفة، إجتماعية وثقافية نسبياً، بين جيل الآباء وجيل الأجداد. لكن الفوارق الحالية لدى جيل الأبناء مع جيل الآباء هي كثيرة وقاسية، ولا مجال لسبر سرعة حدوثها أو التحسب المسبق لحصولها، مما ولد هذا التباين الحاد بين الجيلين، الذي يؤدي الى التفكك العائلي، والإنهيار الأخلاقي السافر.

لا يسعني سوى القول ان لهذا التبدل المتسارع في أنماط الحياة يستلزم تحديث وتطوير أستراتيجيات تربوية، وثقافية، وتعليمية وصناعية، من شأنها احتواء هذا المد الإستهلاكية للأجيال الحالية والقادمة، من ناحية القدرة الإنتاجية للدول الصناعية الكبرى، بتوفير الحماية الإقتصادية لهم، والعمل على مكافحة سياسة الإغراق السلعوي الرخيص، التي تشل الإنتاج المحلي، صناعياً، وزراعياً، وتجارياً.

إن أولادنا هم أمانة قي أعناقنا، وأي تقصير منا، نحن الأجيال الآباء، في عدم إتخاذنا وقائية بديلة وسريعة، لن ينتج عنه سوى البطالة، والهجرة، وتفريغ منتجاتنا الواعدة من أدمغتها وقدراتها.





مایکل صادق ۱۹

Arabic Class Speaker

أيها الحفل الكريم،

ليست هذه وقفتي الأولى التي أقف فيها مُخاطبًا مُرحبًا وشاكرًا . لقد سبق وخاطبتكم يوم انتقلنا من الصف السادس الأساسي ، لكنّ تلك الوقفة كانت أسهل بكثير، لأنني كنت أعلمُ حينها أننا سوف نقضى السنوات الستّ اللاحقة سوياً.

نعم يا أخوتي الخريجين، وصلنا الى النهاية. في غمضة عين مرّت أيامنا، بالأمس التقينا واليومَ نفترقُ بعد أن تسلّقنا القّمة الأولى من حياتنا لننتقل إلى قِمم أخرى تتوّج مراحل مستقبلنا.

وهنا، يا أخوتي علبنا أن نتذكر أنّ كل منزل يقوم على أربعة أسس ، ترفعه عالياً ، تدعمه ، تحميه ، وتمنعه من السقوط.

الأساس الأوّل هـ إدارة مدرستنا ، والقيادات الحكيمة التي زوّدتنا بجوازات سفر خوّلتنا الدخول إلى العديد من أفضل جامعات العالم ،

من دون الحاجة إلى تأشيرة (يا معالي الوزير)، نَعَم التأشيرة الوحيدة، هي ما تعلّمناه ونهلناه في مدرسة برمانا العالية.

الأساس الثاني هو أساتذتنا الأجلاء: أصواتكم التي تعبت من شرح الدروس قد تملّكت سمعنا، وأنارت كالشمس طريقنا الى المستقبل. بعد أن زودتمونا بالغنى الأكاديمي والثراء المعرفي والحضارة المسليكية.

الأساس الثالث هو أهالينا الأحباء: نرى اليوم الفرح في وجوهكم، ولمعة الفخر في عيونكم. نسمع نبضات قلوبكم تُهيمن على كل الأصوات، لتُطرب آذاننا بنفحاتها العذبة، فتُذكّرنا بما كنا نسمعُه في جنّتنا الصّغيرة، قبل أن نرى النور في هذا العالم.

أمّا الأساس الرابع فهو الجهود والمثابرة والأمتنان، وهنا، سوف أخبركم قصة صغيرة عن شجرة إسمها «موزو بامبو تري080M

Bambou tree ، تبقى أربع سنوات مختفيه تحت الأرض. بقدر ما نسقيها، تبقى مختفية. و فجأة بعد أربع سنوات، تكبر وتطول ٢٤ مترًا خلالَ ستة أسابيع. هذه الشجرة تبقى أربع سنوات تقوّي جذورها وتحصنها حتى تصبح كما أثبت العلماء، تمتلك أقوى جذور على سطح الأرض. هذه الشجرة اشتغلت في الخفاء فترة طويلة، ولم تهتم بإن يراها الناس، وعندما ظهرت لهم، لم تنس جذورها وبقيت كل عمرها تشكر تلك الجذور، التي كانت سبب نجاحها.

أخوتى الأحبّاء،

في هذه الصفوف، تسلّحنا بالعلم والمعرفة.

هنا نشأنا وترعرعنا. فلنفتخر، ما حيينا، بانتمائنا الى مدرسة برمانا العالية،

ومن منطلق هل خبريه، حضرتلكن كم بيت شعر يا اخواتي، سمعوون مني، و تذكروون، كل ال عمر.

كلكن إخواتي كنتو لِرفاقي كِلمة من القلب ومهما الفرقة بدا تطول بتضلو بقلبي إنتو وَلُو بِالعالى صرتو اسمعو منى هالكلمات ما تخلُّو البيت بردان يلّى بحضنو تدفيتو وما تنسو الجدّ التّعبان اللي عَ إسمو تسميتو يلّي بقلبو تعلّمتو وضلو تذكروا هالبنيان إنتو ما تعلمتو بسّ إنتو هون تربيتو ولو بالغربة تنعمتوا وما تنسو جبال ووديان كلّن قالو حبّيتو ما بيكفي تحبّو لبنان وعالكذاب وفزلكتو لازم نقضى عالفساد إنتو منّي تخبّيتوا وما تخلُّو الطّغيان يقول سويسرا الشرق وجوهرتو تيرجع لبنان الكان

أخوتي الأحباء، في هذه الصفوف، تسلّحنا بالعلم والمعرفة. هنا نشأنا وترعرعنا. فلنفتخر، ما حيينا، بانتمائنا الى مدرسة برمانا العالية،

We serve & we will always serve





