

PTA NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024



WE HAD A BALL!

The Centenary Ball at Eton Manor on June 15th was a raging success, raising a grand total of £11,344. It was by far the biggest event the PTA has organised, and just goes to show what we can achieve when we all pull together. It was a joy to see so many happy faces there – parents, old Heronians, teachers and friends

from the community – and even more of a joy to see almost all of them busting out the moves on the dance floor. See the next page for a list of the many, *many* people who helped make it such a special evening. In fact, it was so good, we're thinking of holding another ball next year – watch this space.



MATCHFUNDING APPEAL

We could double or even triple the **£11,344** raised if we can find a matchfunding volunteer. If you work for a large company, there's a good chance it has a matchfunding scheme in place to support employee fundraising. Please get in touch if you think you could help or have any questions.

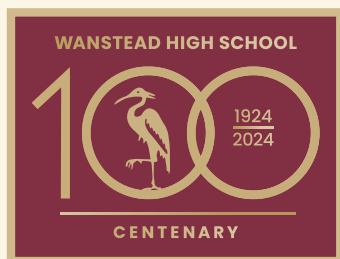
➔ info@ptawansteadhigh.co.uk



WANSTEAD HIGH SCHOOL



CENTENARY



A huge THANK YOU to everyone who played a part in making the Centenary Ball such a roaring success

TO OUR SPONSORS

Assemble Media Group

Headed by WHS parent Tom Broughton, Assemble is an independent publisher and events business for the built environment. The go-to place for events, education and intelligence in the sector, it also runs the online directory Venuefinder. assemblemediagroup.co.uk

Bradley & Co

Founded by WHS old boy Paul Bradley, Bradley & Co is a business-services company driven by a desire to build lasting relationships with clients and always going the extra mile. Expertise includes HR strategy, facilities management, mediation and compliance review. bradleyandco.uk

Edwards Duthie Shamash

Edwards Duthie Shamash has been providing legal assistance to individuals and businesses for over 120 years. Contact Anna Orpwood and her team at the Wanstead office for a comprehensive range of legal services and support. edwardsduthieshamash.co.uk

Finch Contracts

Headed up by former WHS pupil Paul Finch, Finch Contracts is a local construction company specialising in extensions, loft conversions and interior and external remodelling, with a reputation built on its ability to understand clients' needs and bring their vision to life. finchcontracts.com

idXtra

idXtra delivers identification, security and payment solutions to schools, colleges and universities, developing and integrating systems for the safeguarding of staff, students and visitors. Its raison d'être is to provide joined-up systems based on a single card or biometric credential. idxtra.com

LGCS Fitout

This Epping-based fitout company with offices in London and Poole has been transforming commercial spaces for 25 years. LGCS's modus operandi is to create exceptional spaces – on time, on budget and beyond expectations. lgcsfitout.co.uk

North London Loft Rooms

North London Loft Rooms is a local domestic building company that specialises in extensions, loft conversions and renovations. With a full team of trades and specialists, it helps clients from conception to completion, delivering amazing spaces every time. northlondonlofts.co.uk

TO OUR TABLE SPONSORS

Assemble Media Group
Barretts Law
Chestnut Manor Care Home
Classic Kitchens
North London Loft Rooms
Petty Son & Prestwich
Stow Bros
Summit Group
Treehouse Nursery Schools
T-space
Wanstead Business Network
Zoology

FOR THE FANTASTIC RAFFLE PRIZES

Petty Son and Prestwich
The Ginger Pig
Source Lifestyle
Provender
Physicals Fitness Club
East London Brewing Co
Flip Out
Lancasters
Ocado
Tower Bridge
Yard Sale Pizza
La Bakerie
Hair Candy
Café Brunch
Black Lines Drinks
Lillies of Wanstead
Wanstead Hairdressers
The Cuckfield
Colchester Zoo
Daisy's Florist
Filika
M&S
Family Manzie
Wanstead Opticians
City Place
Baillie Ballerson
Daygustation
Room 22
London Lions
Majestic
Aura Consulting

FOR THE FABULOUS AUCTION PRIZES

Assemble Media Group
LGCS Fitout
Origin coffee
Biyoni Hair
Aura Consulting
London Garden Rooms
ClueQuest
Naked Vacant
Andrew Boyd Photography
Revolution Karting
Venture Photography
Wanstead Pottery
Format Fitness
Carly Eley
The FA

AND NOT FORGETTING

Tom Broughton for invaluable advice and corporate liaison. Imy and Mark Maresch for bringing the tent down with their band The Night Shift; thenightshiftlondon.com. DJ Clive Johns for getting every last person up and dancing. Suzanne Taylor for her superlative design skills; suzitay@icloud.com. Mark from Prontaprint for printing services; pprussellsquare.com. Andrew Boyd for his photography and stellar compering alongside Stan Stanger; @andrewmboyd. The young people at Eton Manor Rugby Club for serving dinner with such professionalism. June and Chris Biddick, Claire Hogg and Jill Steggles for organising the raffle and auction. Ellen Lake, Co-Chair of the governors, for giving the perfect speech for the occasion. Ruth and the team at Rear Window for delivering a superlative dinner. The decorating team – Janelle, Emily, Louise, Carly, Claire, Marie, Dennis, Chloe, June, Nick, Chris, and the rest of the PTA set-up crew. Natasha and the Eton Manor team for all their help and support. Our waiters, Robert, Chloe, Dennis, Louise, Carly, Chris and the clean-up crew. Kerry, Lucy and Emma for dealing with #plategate. Stow Bros for banners and photocopying. And last but far from least, Mary for organising the whole shebang.

#BuildABetterWansteadHigh

It's A*s all round for the PTA. We relaunched 15 months ago with the initial aim of raising enough money to pay for three major school projects: an all-weather canopy for the playground, drainage for the sports field and new toilet blocks. And, thanks to your support, we're excited to report we've raised almost enough to fund the first of these. Find out more about the proposed shelter at the PTA's AGM at the school on 16th September.

£60,000 RAISED THIS YEAR!!!

INCLUDING MATCHFUNDING

WHAT A YEAR!

Here's a reminder of what we've achieved over the past three terms

- We've held five fabulous social events, including the Centenary Ball.
- Our volunteers have set up and run a much-appreciated refreshments service during the school's music, dance and drama performances.
- PTA mums Kes and Lucy have set up and run a preloved uniform initiative that has spared 297 items from going to landfill, saved parents thousands of pounds and is an inspirational example of the circular economy in practice.
- We've supplied and built two greenhouses and a shed in the quad for the science department.
- We have sourced and delivered thousands of pounds worth of office furniture for various areas around the school and donated computer equipment to bolster classroom provision.
- We've bought dozens of books for each form to support reading in the classroom.
- And last month, the school took delivery of a new drum kit purchased by the PTA for the music department.



BUT WE NEED MORE HELP - AND MORE HELPERS

We simply cannot keep up the pace without some new volunteers

It's fantastic to see the difference our efforts are making to the kids' school environment. But if we want to carry on making these improvements and reach all of our goals, we need more volunteers. If you can spare a few hours to help at an event, join one of our teams working on various aspects of PTA work over the coming year or even organise your own fundraiser, then please step forward. We are a vibrant and inclusive team doing something really worthwhile and often having a lot of fun along the way.

FOUR QUICK AND EASY WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT US

1. Need new name labels? Buy from stikins.co.uk with school code 24509 and the PTA will get a 30% commission on sales.
2. Sign up to easyfundraising.org.uk, list Wanstead High School Parent Teacher Association as your chosen charity, and the site will donate every time you shop.
3. Add a PTA donation on parentpay.com when you're topping up dinner money.
4. Donate any branded uniform you no longer need to our **preloved uniform** shop, via the donation bins in the school and leisure-centre receptions.

THE PTA COMMITTEE

Chair Dennis Weeks

Vice chair

Mary Richardson

Secretary

Louise Russell

Treasurer Chris Carr

Deputy secretary

Carly Eley

Email info@

ptawansteadhigh.co.uk

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Scan the QR code to go to our new PTA events website



pta-events.com/whspta/index.cfm

Newsletter editor

Natalie Reed

Designer Suzanne Taylor



LOCAL STAR

**Paul Bradley,
The bidmaster**



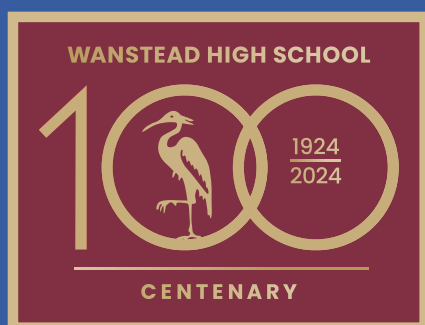
Not content with just being one of our sponsors for the Centenary Ball, former WHS pupil and local businessman Paul also outbid all the competition at the live auction to win a pair of Taylor Swift tickets and afternoon tea at the Savoy. Thanks Paul – we hope you have a fabulous time with the Swifties at Wembley!

Celebrate 100 years of Wanstead High School

If you missed the Ball, but still want to join in the Centenary celebrations, book a ticket to the school's 100-year-anniversary event on Sunday 22nd September, from 11am to 4pm. Everyone's welcome – old Heronions, parents, staff and all members of the school

community and their families. There will be a delicious lunch catered by old boy Ronnie Finch of The Duke, live music from WHS pupils, a chance to browse the archives, buy Centenary merch, including The Story of Wanstead High School, edited by Terry Joyes, and more.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF GEOFF WILKINSON



Alumni Centenary Celebration Sunday 22nd September 2024

Tickets available from
Wanstead High School PTA website
<https://tinyurl.com/Ptawhs>
£7 or £20 with lunch



Dates for the diary The PTA AGM: **16th September**. School Centenary Celebration: **22nd September**. Quiz night, hosted by stellar compere team Stan Stanger and Andrew Boyd, aka Standrew: **11th October**