The Hall

# THE WATHEN SOCIETY

**FOUNDED - 16TH NOVEMBER 2016**

## WHAT YOU LEAVE BEHIND IS NOT WHAT IS ENGRAVED IN STONE MONUMENTS, BUT WHAT IS WOVEN INTO THE LIVES OF OTHERS

**Gerard Wathen** served as Headmaster at The Hall School **from 1924 to 1955** and it was under his leadership that academic excellence thrived and The Hall became the leading North London prep school.

It was during the difficult war years that Gerard Wathen established a tradition of bursary support that continues to exist to this day. Many of the boys who attended the school in the 1930's and 40's were refugees from Europe and were given the opportunity of an education at The Hall thanks to the generosity and humanity of the Headmaster.

In 1952 the school passed from the ownership of the Wathen family and the Hall School Charitable Trust was established but the Wathen family have continued to serve the school up until the present day. Julian Wathen (OH 1937) was the Chairman of the governing body from 1972 – 1997 and his son, Simon Wathen (OH 1958) served as a governor from 1998 to 2014.

*'We feel an enormous debt of gratitude to Mr Wathen and The Hall School for giving us the start in life and the basic educational opportunity which has proved so valuable throughout our lives'. (George Summerfield OH45)*

in 1980 Julian Wathen established the Hall School Endowment Trust. Its purpose was to promote philanthropic gifts to provide funding for bursaries and development projects at The Hall. The Trust continues to exist to this day and ensures that any donation to the school is protected and used for the purpose it was intended.

It is in recognition of the contribution the whole Wathen family has made to the school that we have named The Wathen Society in their honour.

## TO BE REMEMBERED IS TO LIVE FOREVER

**The Wathen Society** has been established to recognise and thank members of our community who have chosen to remember The Hall in their will.

In many ways, a bequest is the greatest gift of all. It signifies the belief you have in all that the school stands for, and it creates a living testimony to that affection beyond your death.

We believe that such a commitment to the future should not be recognised purely through acts of remembrance, and that those who have chosen to endow that future should be honoured and thanked in their lifetime. It is for this reason that we have created the Wathen Society.

Membership of the Society is granted to all those who have signified their intention to make a bequest to the school. Recognising that such a decision is often private and personal, the list of members is not published, but we will make sure that you are kept in touch with the school and have regular opportunities to meet the Headmaster, Governors and of course our current boys.

If you would like to become a member of The Wathen Society or receive further information about how to include The Hall in your will, please contact us at *development@hallschool.co.uk.* All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.