



AGS Friends – Chair’s Annual Report - Jan 2026

Welcome to the second annual report for AGS Friends.

Overview:

Our second year starts on strong foundations; the momentum and positive energy built during Year One, continues and is paying dividends against both objectives of fund-raising, and developing our community, in Year Two. My intention as chair is to build a strong team, be as welcoming and inclusive as possible, and to make our mission enjoyable – whilst enhancing the education of our students and the life of all at AGS, as part of our local community.

Please see below for my formal report, as trustee of the charity, which should be read alongside the Treasurer’s Report.

Constitution:

- The association established formally on 29 Jan 2024, with an elected committee of five members; chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer and School SLT lead, and registered as a charity in May 2024 - Charity Number 1208352
- The committee members are all trustees of the charity, and signatories to the charity’s registered bank account.
- **There have been no changes to the committee or constitution since our last AGM in 2025.**

Objectives:

The purpose of the charity is to:

- develop effective relationships between Alcester Grammar School, staff, parents and community
- to engage in activities or provide funds, facilities or equipment to support the school and advance the education of students.

Fund-raising:

In September 2024, a fund-raising target of £10k was set, to assist school with purchase of urgently needed IT upgrade. By the end of the school year, July 2025, funds raised by AGSF were £9270, and this was paid to the school in July 2025. The AGSF funding specifically was used to create an additional IT suite in school, directly benefiting all students by increasing IT capacity.

We started 2025/26 school year with the same target of £10k; following consultation with SLT, the school have asked that AGSF fund-raising be specifically to invest in a range of online learning platforms for use across all years and all departments to enhance classroom learning resources.

This was agreed by AGSF Committee in Term 1.

Legal Position:

- The Charity is legally constituted as an independent organisation, and complies with all Charity Commission requirements, including accounts submission.

- AGSF are registered as a Small Society Lottery under the Gambling Act 2005 with Stratford District Council. LICENCE NO : GA05 SDC 660499. This registration has been renewed and is up to date.
- We have secured TENS license for provision of alcohol at AGSF social events and fully comply with the requirements. We do not provide alcohol sales at school-organised events.
- We have researched, and will comply with copyright legislation for our first planned film night, Feb 2026.
- We are subscribed as a member of ParentKind – a national umbrella organisation for school PTA organisations, which provides insurance as well as advice and expertise.

Events 2025

AGSF have continued to run several events, both supporting the school, and organised independently;

- **Supporting school by catering at school-led events** (school concerts, parents evenings, sports awards and leavers event). AGSF support at these events has been two-fold;
 - ✓ Primarily to provide a welcoming environment and needed refreshment for parents/visitors to school and staff running the events (the ‘caffeine and sugar’ offering)
 - ✓ fund-raising for AGS Friends by selling refreshments to generate revenue.
- **Family Social Events** – AGS Friends have organised two fund-raising social events during 2025; a quiz night in July and a bingo night in November. These provide a social event for families, along with fund-raising, and include entertainment, raffle and interval games, as well as provision of refreshments including alcoholic bar. These events have been very well-received, as well as financially successful. In the future we will look to expand into providing hot refreshments as part of the events.

Other Fund-raising & Activities

In addition to events, a number of other initiatives have been progressed;

- **AGS Friends Lottery** – under our Small Society Lottery license, we have moved into the second year of our lottery. We have expanded from 154 players in Year 1 to 219 members in Year 2. This remains a significant source of fundraising with reliable income (see treasurers report for income generated).
- **AGS Friends Amazing Christmas Raffle** – year 2 of our Christmas raffle raised £3182 from ticket sales – a significant increase from last year’s total. We successfully secured a sponsor from which the star prize of £200 cash was funded, ensuring that all ticket sales went to the charity. Ticket sales were managed online by Sum-up, as well as cash/card sales, and complied with all licensing requirements. Thanks to **Mathnasium of Worcester** as our star prize sponsor.
- **Sponsorship** – securing sponsors for our quiz and bingo evenings enabled us to maximise our fund-raising; thanks to **Ash Hearing Clinics** and **Severn Veterinary Clinics** for their support. We will be exploring further opportunities for sponsorship through AGS families businesses/employers, including a sponsorship booklet in Spring term for Quiz night.
- **Local business collaboration** – as a Christmas fund-raising initiative, we joined with local chocolatier, **Henley Chocolates**, to provide an AGS exclusive partnership with all sales placed

via a dedicated website raising funds for AGSF. This received great feedback, as well as supporting a local-independent (and AGS family) business. We will be looking to repeat and expand this idea with additional businesses in the future.

- **Alcester St Nicholas Night** – AGSF ran a stall at St Nick’s night, supporting the local community event. We raised money through selling the chocolates and raffle tickets.

Future Plans:

For the remainder of the 2025/26 school year, the following plans are in place, alongside continued support at school events:

- **Uniform sales** – pre-loved uniform has been donated and sorted, with a view to creating an online catalogue for sale at point of need
- **Refreshments** at School Play *21-23 Jan*, concerts and parents evenings
- **Y7 Film Night** – new AGSF event providing film and refreshments *Thurs 26th Feb*
- **Quiz Night** – *Friday 20th March*
- **Community events** - explore how we can support other local community events.
- **Clothing outlet** event for 26/27

Volunteers:

We maintain a large team of volunteers who help in a range of ways, including planning, marketing, uniform preparation, pizza collection, raffle prize hunting as well as serving refreshments.

A huge thank you to all of them, and we are really grateful for a number of new helpers this year.

Committee:

A huge thanks again, to this year’s committee; Helen Silcox, Gemma Farrington, Julia Gilmour, Rachel Thorpe and myself. Definitely a dream team across a range of skills!

All of our committee members have agreed to stand for re-election; our treasurer, Gemma Farrington has a huge spread of responsibility, so has proposed a job-share for the role. I’m very grateful to Rina Connor for offering to stand as the other half of the treasurer post.

No other persons have put themselves forward to stand, and we therefore have unopposed nominations for all positions.

Conclusion:

A really successful year, building a team and strengthening our activities and planning – huge thanks to SLT and school for their support, alongside our multi-talented and cheerful team.

Here’s to a brilliant 2026!

Yvonne Bruton, Chair AGS Friends

Jan 2026