

# rws Old Scholars NEWS 2017

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**Old Scholar Ben Dickenson Bampton has joined Christine in collecting our Old Scholar News. This week he introduces himself and his sister Sophie.**

## **Sophie Dickenson Bampton**

left Ringwood Waldorf School in 2014, after eight years at the school, to join Ringwood Sixth Form.

Whilst there, she took A Levels in Economics and Photography, and a Production Arts BTEC. A former member of the Forest Forge drama group, Sophie was involved in the school's successful Singing in the Rain performance, where she took her first organisational role, as the hair and makeup designer, alongside her work for the Big Little Theatre School as a stage assistant.



Halfway through her time at sixth-form, Sophie's experience working at the High Corner Inn, in Linwood, inspired her passion for hospitality. After graduating from sixth form with grades A, B and Distinction\* in her subjects, Sophie was accepted onto the International Hospitality and Events Management degree at Surrey University, the most established programme of its kind in the country.

After deferring her place until September 2017, Sophie is

currently on a gap year and, after travelling to the Dominican Republic in summer, is working to save money for a longer trip to Bali, Indonesia, in May.

## **Ben Dickenson Bampton**

I left Ringwood Waldorf School at the end of Class Ten when, unlike the rest of my Brockenhurst-bound classmates, I joined Ringwood Sixth Form and took A Levels in Photography, English Language and Economics.

During sixth form, I developed my long-standing interests in writing and photography, becoming the English Principal Student and spending an eye-straining amount of time in the darkroom.

After leaving school for a gap year, I began writing photography reviews for the online magazine LensCulture, where the highlights have included interviewing the V&A Museum's chief photography curator and visiting big exhibitions and events.

Last summer, I went on an inter-rail trip across Europe with two old RWS pals, Bernard Bryce and Edan Turner, for six packed weeks.

We climbed mountains, camped in the paradise of Lake Iseo in Italy (and a rainy field in Holland), visited a stuffed handful of interesting cities - from Berlin to Budapest - and sampled East Europe's dubious delicacy burek.

Being exposed to wildly different people, cultures and societies, and realising how much I wanted to

learn more, prompted me to change my course of study from an English degree, which has meant that I've needed to take a second year out. I'm currently working to save for further travels (with Copenhagen my next destination) and using my free time for courses, local internships at the Daily Echo and House Magazine and my own writing and



photography projects. I plan to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics in September, at either Exeter or Warwick, before combining my broad interests in people and society with my writing and photography, in a career as a social commentator.

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## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Lucy Mills** is in her last year at Liverpool University in Veterinary studies.

**Katie Mills** is working in a local bakery earning money to travel. Her next journey-in-the- planning is to South America.

**Edward Cowan** is studying Joinery in Salisbury.

**Sean Risoli** is studying psychology at Bristol University.

**Tom O'Hare** is the manager of Waterstone's Bookshop in Christchurch.