



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL

SHAKESPEARE'S SCHOOL

### **Professor J.R. Mulryne**

We were deeply saddened to hear of the death on 27th January 2019 of Professor J.R. (Ronnie) Mulryne.

Prof. Mulryne gave outstanding service as a Governor of King Edward VI School for 26 years, including eleven as Chairman from 2000-2011. His son Kevin attended the School between 1981 and 1988 and his grandson Ed joined the Sixth Form in 2015.

In his 2007 Speech Day address, the then Headmaster Tim Moore-Bridger summarised Prof. Mulryne's contribution to the School *"Ronnie's assiduous commitment to the School's welfare is quite extraordinary. He spends huge amounts of time on school matters, and as Chairman of Governors he concerns himself with finance, academic matters, appointments and personnel, as well as on all the major capital development. Few schools can have such an informed and influential chairman of governors, and very few Headmasters such an understanding and supportive "critical friend". It was in no small part because of the way Ronnie led the Governing Body that Governance was judged "Outstanding" in the Ofsted inspection of 2006."*

Bennet Carr, the current headmaster, commented *"It is virtually impossible to summarise the contribution Prof. Mulryne made to King Edward VI School for over a quarter of a century but, undoubtedly, he has been one of most influential governors in the long history of the School. Ronnie genuinely cherished and championed the School's traditions whilst simultaneously ensuring that it remained dynamic and looking-forward. Most importantly for me, he understood the importance of education in its widest sense, and throughout his association with the School he was a great supporter of music and drama, attending virtually every performance with his wife, Ethnie, for over three decades"*

Prof. Mulryne, who was Professor Emeritus at the University of Warwick, was the leading expert on the history of Stratford-upon-Avon's Guildhall which contains Shakespeare's Schoolroom. He was editor of *The Guild and Guild Buildings of Shakespeare's Stratford* which was published in 2010. Upon retirement from the Governing Body, Prof. Mulryne continued to serve as a Trustee and was instrumental in securing the £1.7m Heritage Lottery Funding to restore the Guildhall and open it to the public.

Our thoughts are with Eithne and his family at this time.

**The funeral will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon at 12 noon on Monday 25th February.**