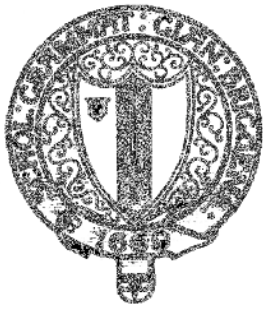


BRIGGENSIANS' NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2008



Fortitudine.



Briggensians' Association 31st Annual Dinner

Saturday, 15th March 2008, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

£18.00 Elsham Golf Club £18.00

Guest Speaker: John Allcock (1958-1965)

Summer Sports 2008

School Field Friday, 13th June 2008 at

6.00 p.m. for 6.30 p.m. start

Cricket or Rounders

Youth vs. Experience

and later at the Yarborough Hunt

Friday, 11th July 2008 Tennis

**Annual
Dinner
2009
Saturday
21st
March**

Winter Sports 2008

School Field Friday, 12th

September 2008 at 6.00 p.m. for

6.30 p.m. start

Football, Male and Female

Hockey, Netball and afterwards

at the Yarborough Hunt

Football + Pub Games, 27th

December 2008 – 10.30 am start

Briggensians' Golf Championships 2008

Individual Stableford Rules

Spring meeting at Grange Park, Messingham

Tuesday, 27th May 2008 – 3.00 p.m. start

Autumn Meeting at Elsham Golf Club – Sunday, 19th October 2008

1st Tee off 12.00 noon

Match Play

Past v Present Tuesday, 1st July 2008 Elsham Golf Club 4.00 p.m. start

30th Annual Dinner

Guest Speaker – John Allcock (1958-1965)



Having failed miserably to achieve the grades needed to go to medical school, I became one of the first students to take a degree in the then new science of Nutrition at London University. After three years of some study, a lot of football and a wide-ranging knowledge of the capital city my B.Sc(Nut) turned out to be a bit too new for many employers. Heinz told me when I applied for a job there that they " ...weren't bothered about their foods being good for people so long as it didn't harm them...". How things have changed.

So I looked to teaching. My first job was at the newly formed High Ridge Comprehensive in Scunthorpe - on day one of its changeover from being Scunthorpe Grammar School. I had never been in front of a class before but fortunately, it turned out that I loved the job and so have had no need to look for a change. With teaching every year is different - as fast as you can turn out good citizens at the top - they bring young lively reinforcements in at the bottom.

A fortuitous meeting with Gerry Longden in the bar at Scunthorpe Town Cricket Club two years later led to my eventual move to Brigg Grammar School in January 1970 - teaching Physics alongside Dave Brittain. Since then I haven't moved far but Brigg Grammar School has undergone more than a few changes! In that time a succession of Headteachers have let me have a go at quite a few jobs so I have been: Head of Physics, Head of Science, Head of Middle School, Examinations Officer, Timetabler and lastly in charge of ICT whilst variously teaching Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Business Studies, ICT, Food Technology and Games.

In the year when the Grammar School became Sir John Nelthorpe, I had the good fortune to be awarded a year's secondment at Southampton University to do an MSc in Education. This was a great opportunity to learn some Physics, think about teaching, try out those new-fangled computer things and improve my Squash and Badminton, both of which I still enjoy playing.

Forty years on and I am now teaching part-time and still enjoy the friendly staff room atmosphere which has always been part of the school. Weekends are spent in York where I share a house with my partner, Cathy who, not surprisingly, I met when she was an assistant at Sir John Nelthorpe. There I like nothing more than trying out a new recipe to cook, the one skill I have continued to improve on since my very first efforts in my cookery class at University.

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The 31st Dinner will be held on [Saturday, 15th March 2008](#) at Elsham Golf Club starting at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. – Gentlemen in Jackets and ties please.

Members and their guests are most welcome and places can be reserved at **£18.00** per head.

Requests for places **with remittance** should be sent to the **Sir John Nelthorpe Upper School, Grammar School Road, Brigg, N Lincolnshire, DN20 8AA.** (Tel. 01652 656551).

Cheques made payable to **THE BRIGGENSIANS ASSOCIATION.**

Please book and pay for places by [3rd March 2008](#) using the form at the end of this Newsletter

For information on **accommodation** in the area contact: Brigg Tourist Information Centre. Tel: 01652 657053

e-mail: brigg.tic@northlincs.gov.uk or on the web <http://www.northlincs.gov.uk/tourism>

Alternatively a suggestions list is available by email from Ken Proctor, Barbara Kernon and Dave Brittain.

Menu for the 2008 Dinner

Carrot and Coriander Soup

or

Prawn Cocktail

or

Melon



Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding



Roast and New Potatoes

Fresh Vegetables



Sticky Toffee Pudding with Custard or Ice Cream

or

Chocolate Cheesecake with Ice Cream

or

Cheese and Biscuits



Coffee or Tea and Mints



Vegetarian meals are available on request.

Please note that, as last year, we are asking Briggensians to make their meal selections at the time of booking in order to speed up table service

BRIGGENSIANS A.G.M. 24th SEPTEMBER 2007

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2007

The association has enjoyed another successful year with the usual sporting and social events plus communications with members via mail and e-mail.

The annual dinner at Elsham Golf Club was enjoyed by all (except me due to nerves!) with another good attendance.

The Very Reverend David Leaning was a good choice of speaker keeping young and old entertained with his tales of old school days and his subsequent career.

His rededication of the swimming pool area on the Grammar School site earlier in the day was greatly appreciated by all who attended.

My personal thanks go to the committee members for their support will all events, especially Barbara for her pre-dinner organisation, Mr O'Neill for his support at the dinner-this meant a great deal to me personally and to Dave for all his help and guidance given to me in my role as chairman this past year.

Also my thanks go to Helen Cresswell, Gibb, John Hastings, Rich' Rivron, Derek Stones and Jon Taylor- the Sporting event organisers. Thank you to Allan Ladlow, who has now left for pastures new, for all his help in the past with the golf.

The High School reunion was a great success and my thanks go to all who helped us celebrate this momentous occasion, especially our sub committee of Barbara, Brigid, Helen, Julie, Donna and The Head.

Jim Flewker has continued his excellent work with the web-site and all his work is done at cost and is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Dave Brittain for his continued production of the Newsletter and all who contribute to make this an entertaining read.

The year was saddened by the sudden death of Gerry Longden, a retired school master. His presence will be greatly missed especially at the golfing events.

The annual Dinner is booked for 15 March 2008 and I am looking forward to another successful year.

Jane Gibbons, Chairman 2006-8

Headteacher's Report 2008

The GCSE results achieved by Year 11 pupils in the summer of 2007 were very good. The percentage of pupils passing 5 or more subjects at grades A* to C rose to 62.4%. The new government target for 16 year olds requires pupils to pass 5 subjects at grade C or above including English and Mathematics. We were very pleased to find that Sir John Nelthorpe School came top of the local league table with 57.3%, which is well above the national average.

The Sixth Form A level results were also very pleasing with a pass rate of 97.9%. There was a significant rise in the number of students achieving higher grades. All the students who wished to go on to higher education courses were successful in obtaining suitable places on a wide range of courses.

The students should all be proud of their achievements and we wish them well for the future.

Recruitment to the Sixth Form has been very successful this year; 52 students enrolled in the lower sixth in September. This is the highest number for some years. There are now 95 students in the sixth form at Sir John Nelthorpe bringing the total to 140 in the joint sixth form. There have been significant increases in recruiting students to study mathematics and science subjects post 16, which is one of our specialist schools targets. Despite this the LSC and government continue to target school sixth forms for closure. Economy of scale seems to be their priority.

The summer term 2007 was an eventful one for Sir John Nelthorpe School. The Girls' High School Reunion held on 30th June to celebrate 70 years of the Wrawby Road building being opened. This provided the opportunity for ex pupils and staff to relive old times and rekindle friendships. I would like to thank all staff and friends of the school who helped to organise the event and attend on the day.

Fortunately the reunion had taken place before the rain arrived in July! The school field was under water and seagulls took up residence in the ha-ha, which became a moat! The sixth form residential visits and induction courses went ahead and were enjoyed by all involved despite the rain. As the monsoon continued and the days ran out it became apparent that sports day was not going to happen however the summer house matches did take place between the storms.

The weather did not prevent parents, pupils and staff from turning out to support the 'summer' musical evenings, end of term celebrations and proms or participating in the annual Outward Bound week.

At the end of the summer term we said goodbye to Dr Eric Stainton who had been deputy headteacher and teacher of chemistry at Sir John Nelthorpe for 17 years. We all wish him well for a long and healthy retirement.

September saw the beginning of a new academic year and we welcomed Chris Peters as the new deputy on the Wrawby Road site. He teaches biology.

Just as the school was settling in to the new academic year and looking forward to the October half - term holiday I received another phone call from Ofsted. This time they wanted to do a subject inspection of the Science Department. Although this was only for two days it was very intense with numerous meetings, lesson observations and meetings with staff and students.

The HMI was very positive about the progress made by the Science Department. The fact that the results at Key Stage 3, GCSE and A level had improved in 2007 helped. They approved of the department re structuring and plan for future developments. Fortunately the HMI had a sense of humour as the inspection took place during the sixth form TWAG week. When the HMI asked to interview four students who were studying sciences post 16 he was presented with Dennis the Menace (aka head boy), Little Bo Peep, a leprechaun and Emu! Not only did the Science dept do well but also the sixth form raised £2,900 for charities in four days!

The Governors, Trustees and Briggensians continue to make great contributions to the life of the school. I would like to thank them for their continued support. **Linda Hewlett-Parker, Headteacher**

A BLAST FROM THE PAST –extracts from **The Brigg High School History 1919-46.**

'Coming from such a large rural area where there had previously been no secondary education for girls, it will be easily realized that the school was a very "mixed bag" as far as the girls' previous education went, and it must have been quite a feat to strike a happy mean which would enable all to make as rapid progress as possible. In a good many subjects, of course, this meant starting right from the very beginning, especially in mathematics and languages, even in the case of the Upper Division, whose upper age limit reached 15 to 16. But somehow or other it was achieved, and the Upper Division, later the Fifth Form, were able to enter as an entire form for the School Leaving Certificate, then the Cambridge Senior, only three years after the opening of the school.' **Gwen Dent**

'Looking back on the days of the wooden huts the chief thing that comes to my mind is the friendliness. Somehow it seemed very easy to go to school when one's buildings had such a delightful individuality. The fact that many of those same individualities were highly inconvenient and sometimes actively unpleasant, in no way detracted from the general air of a happy makeshift. On my first day I remember feeling a kind of homeliness in the sound of the saws from Phillips' yard next door.' **Mavis Thompson 1930 – 1937**

'Our New School! It embodied all our ideas of what a school should be really like. Unlike the Old School there was a well equipped Gymnasium, in which the bolder spirits could challenge each other to deeds of daring on ropes and parallel bars until the Gym Mistress appeared upon the scene to redirect the energy of her charges into more orthodox channels.... Instead of travelling over the road to take our Science lessons, we now possessed an excellently equipped laboratory. One of my favourite occupations, I regret to say, was testing the effect of various acids upon my overalls - entirely unofficial of course.... Three tennis courts next to the school and a hockey pitch on the doorstep. What an improvement on the old state of affairs!..... We even boasted an aquarium, internal heating in the walls, and electric clocks - but most important of all, there was a lovely mechanical potato-peeler, carefully installed in the kitchen. **Anon**

BRIGG GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

BRIGG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL 1919 – 1976 REUNION

(Celebrating 70 years since the opening of the new building in 1937)

Saturday 30th June 2007 1.00 to 4.00pm

It was certainly a day to remember. Despite floods and threat of more bad weather about 160 Old Girls and Staff spent the afternoon reminiscing and enjoying the excellent displays of photos, uniform and memorabilia which had been sent in. Even the rain which arrived just on time - as folks crossed the field for tea - did not dampen the enthusiasm. It was a fun afternoon with Old Girls ranging from Joan Peart (Peck) who was a pupil in the huts from 1928 to the last entries, Jane and Julie, in 1975.

We had a real team effort from the Sub-Committee with extra volunteers as well and my thanks go to all who helped in any way. The coaster organised by Helen with the help of Dave Brittain's computer expertise was very popular and Jane must be thanked for her resilience after such a traumatic time with the flooding.



Sadly Miss Shepherdson was unable to attend but it was good to welcome Miss Moore and Mr Williams who saw the Schools amalgamate in 1976. The smiles said it all and many friendships were renewed, new contacts made and for some the celebration continued into the evening with meals arranged at various venues.

Linda had organised Eric and Martin to 'oversee' proceedings in her absence and I think they enjoyed joining in the excitement of friends reuniting after 30+ years.



Miss Moore brought her bound copies of *The Chronicle* which she donated to the School together with the School plaque. I will try to put information we gathered together to give a record of the occasion but it will hardly compete with Dr Henthorn!

Anyone who wants an email/telephone number to go on the High School database will they please contact Barbara Kernon. Barbara has records of names and addresses but very few emails or telephone numbers. Your next Newsletter could arrive by email almost instantly it is ready if you email me your address.

Did You Know? The Nelthorpe Trust (often referred to as **The Foundation**) that oversees the remaining assets from those originally left to the school by Sir John Nelthorpe in his will of 1669, still provides a modest financial benefit to the school and enables it to offer financial support to student beyond that which the LEA or the general school budget should provide. The trust also owns all the land and property comprising the Sir John Nelthorpe School although these can only be used for educational purposes. The Briggensians have a representative on that management committee and your contact is **John Hastings** who has just been reappointed for a further 5 years.

BRIGG SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

A-LEVEL RESULTS 2007 (A2)

Grade >	A	B	C	D	E	U	Student Entries
Cumulative% >	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Art & Design			50	100			2
Biology		42.9	42.9	57.1	85.7	100	7
Business Studies	20	60	70	80	100		10
Chemistry			100				1
Drama	11.1	22.2	66.7	100			18
English Lit.	7.7	34.6	76.9	88.5	100		26
French		25	50	50	100		4
General Studies	4.5	18.2	54.5	72.7	100		22
Geography	25	50	50	87.5	87.5	100	8
German		50				100	2
History	21.4	42.9	78.6	92.9	100		14
ICT			66.7	100			3
Mathematics	12.5	75	75	100			8
Media Studies	16.7	27.8	55.6	77.8	100		18
Music			100				1
Music Technology			100				1
P.E.		30	60	80	100		10
Physics	33.3	100					3
Psychology		23.1	23.1	53.8	92.3	100	13
Technology		33.3	66.7	100			3
Applied Courses							
Art & Design	33.3	50	66.7	66.7	100		6
Business Studies		75	100				4
Health&Soc.Care		33.3	33.3	66.7	100		6
Cumulative %	10	35.3	62.1	81.6	97.9	100	190

Brigg Sixth Form Prizes 2007

MATHS	Briggensian Prize	Sian Bower & Edward Faulding
CHEMISTRY	E. F. Brown Memorial Prize	Harriet Hodgson
PHYSICS	Stephenson Prize Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	Edward Faulding Scott Bird
BIOLOGY	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize Derek Appleyard Memorial Prize	Harriet Hodgson Jane Devine
ENGLISH	Spilman Prize Briggensian Prize	George Lowther Amy Crowther
BUSINESS STUDIES	Henthorn Prize	George Lowther
HISTORY	Sergeant Prize Taylor Prize	Judith Perry Abigail Broadbent
ART	Taylor Prize	Nikita Tavares
MUSIC	Morris Prize	Lindsey Billinger
PHYSICAL EDUCATION		Daniel Rowson
GEOGRAPHY	Vale of Ancholme Prize Sir John Nelthorpe Prize	George Lowther Sophie Bell

GERMAN	SJN Parents' Association Prize	Jane Devine
FRENCH	Vale of Ancholme Prize	Elizabeth Young
PSYCHOLOGY		Amy Crowther
MEDIA		Judith Perry & Emily Axon
PROUDUCT DESIGN		Thomas Morris
BUSINESS STUDIES HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE DRAMA ICT	SJN Parents' Association Prize SJN Parents' Association Prize Production Prize	Kirsty Vikentiou Clare Townsend Joshua Stapp & Judith Perry Ryan Smith
CONTRIBUTION TO SIXTH FORM EVENTS	Lardelli Prize Lardelli Prize	Paul Machin Abigail Broadbent
PROGRESS	Lardelli Prize Lardelli Prize Lardelli Prize Lardelli Prize Lardelli Prize VoA Technology College Prize VoA Technology College Prize VoA Technology College Prize VoA Technology College Prize VoA Technology College Prize	Rebecca White Fay Peall Elizabeth Faulding Victoria Hancock Jason Dexter Paul Machin Rachael Pope Jonathan Mitchell Tracy Woodforth Sally Ibbertson
HOWITT PRIZE FOR ACHIEVEMENT		George Lowther
CUSWORTH-PRESTON PRIZE FOR ACHIEVEMENT		Sian Bower

Prizes for Head Girls and Head Boys

Sir John Nelthorpe	Anthony Storr and Sophie Bell
Vale of Ancholme	Sian Bower and Thomas Morris

Lower Sixth Prizes 2007

MATHS CHEMISTRY PHYSICS BIOLOGY ENGLISH ENGLISH BUSINESS STUDIES HISTORY HISTORY ART AND DESIGN GEOGRAPHY MEDIA STUDIES PHYSICAL EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGY PRODUCT DESIGN GERMAN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE ICT DRAMA DRAMA	Simon Morgan Laura Hancock Timothy Jones Kelly Drury Benjamin Swift Helen Callaway Chelsey Barnes Kylie Thomas Joel Francis Lacey Jenney Sara Peall Erin Hall Shaynie Bird Lauren Harvey Craig Thurston Nico Williams Abi Antcliff Simon Morgan Alexander Dunn Gareth Stubley
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PRIZES FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL / SIXTH FORM:	Daisy Bell Joseph Hebblewhite Helen Callaway Danielle Compton Luke McMillan Craig Thurston John Burkinshaw Christopher Barrett Shaynie Bird Holly Turner	
PROGRESS PRIZES:		
A2-level/AVCE Certificates		
Emily Axon Oliver Beeson Sophie Bell Lindsey Billinger Scott Bird Amy Blendell Sian Bower Abigail Broadbent Christopher Brown Emma Carter Laura Cartledge Elizabeth Clarvis Amy Crowther William Davidson Jane Devine Jason Dexter Hollie Donson Beth Faulding Edward Faulding Jamie Garratt	Victoria Hancock Sarah Hayworth Grace Hewitt Amy Hinch Harriet Hodgson James Hooker Michael Hurd Sally Ibbertson Alice Ladlow George Lowther Anna Lucas Paul Machin Jonathan Mitchell Thomas Morris Karl Nazareth Oliver Pashley Fay Peall Judith Perry Rachael Pope	Kate Reid Kianne Rollinson Daniel Rowson James Sharp Rebecca Smith Ryan Smith Joshua Stapp Anthony Storr Lucy Talkington Nikita Tavares Peita Taylor Sally-Ann Towers Clare Townsend David Vessey Kirsty Vikentiou Bradley Wade Rebecca White Ryan Whitely Tracy Woodforth Elizabeth Young

A Rallying Cry from 1965 Briggensian Magazine:

Dear Old Briggensians, I want to write about two matters of vital concern to you at this time: the future of the school and the Tercentenary Celebrations in 1969.

You will know that the Secretary of State has required all Education Committees to submit plans within the year for the reorganisation of secondary schools on comprehensive lines. He has laid down a few defined lines of acceptable development. We have no choice as a maintained school but to comply with such a command. We are fortunate that our Authority shows a greater readiness to consult its schools and, we have faith, to heed their views than most; nevertheless we must accept that changes seem inevitable.

At the first stage I and my secondary colleagues are asked to produce an agreed plan for Brigg. We have found it easy to establish confidence between ourselves; we have very similar educational philosophies and we have a respect for each other's schools. In particular the others, one of whom is of course an Old Briggensian, have much sympathy with our situation as by far the oldest established school with the longest traditions. I think they would allow me to say that as a body we should strive to preserve all that is worth while and can be preserved in our foundation. You will, however, appreciate that we are far from free agents.

The plan will eventually, if approved by the Education Committee, be submitted for the views of interested bodies; this may be about April next year. I hope the Old Briggensians will consider themselves an interested body and that those of you who have views on these matters will endeavour through your Association to see that they are taken into account.

Our Tercentenary in 1969 could well be over-shadowed by these events. I want here to make a strong plea that it shall not be. Brigg Grammar School will no more end in 1969 than it has ended on several occasions before. The school today, both in government and pupils is very different from what it was in say 1940, and that school again was very different from the one in 1900 so we can go back. But what we are most conscious of is continuity, of the abiding and fundamental purposes and values of our life. We should be confident that so it will be in the future.

This is a testing time both of our confidence and of our pride. The Tercentenary Appeal will be launched at the Annual Dinner; may we have a quick and unambiguous response. But this is not all; we should be planning festivities, exhibitions and other event for 1969 and any news and ideas on these which you may have would be welcome to us. I do not think that we shall be sunk without trace—nevertheless let us have all our flags flying!

Yours sincerely,

H. B. WILLIAMS, Headmaster.

NEWS OF OLD BRIGGENSIANS 2007/8

Staff Related Section:

John Allcock: John has moved house to York where Cathy teaches at the University and in September 2007 they celebrated 100 years in Brigg so there was much drinking and eating to be done with the usual culprits indulging heavily!

Gibb and John as photographed here as they prepare one of the guests for their ordeal on the day before the party.

John now teaches 3 days a week at Sir John Nelthorpe School so is winding down slowly.

John Harding: John emailed to announce the safe arrival of a further grandchild born to Susie and Donald, baby Isabelle at 8lb 5oz joins Maddie and both grandparents are doing well.

Dena Clatworthy: Dena is to retire at the end of February 2008 after 29 years service; the Lower School will not be the same without her guiding influence.



Alumni News:

John Rhodes (1941-1948) writes, "Thank you for the date of 2008's OB Dinner. Unfortunately we shall be out of the country that weekend with friends seeking some late winter sun. And I had hoped to sell some copies of my book, 'Yeller-belly Years'. Ah, well! I have written a book about growing up in Lincolnshire between 1930-50'. I have copies for sale for anyone interested at £7.50 per copy +pp with several photographs. Perhaps you could give it a plug in the next Newsletter? The School Library will get a copy the next time I am in Brigg, hopefully before the end of the month."

Ed: I can report that it's a very good read ~ you should get a copy.

John Brain (1960-1968): I'm hoping to be at the Dinner in March (going to require lots of tact, diplomacy, and bribery, as it's my daughter's 10th birthday on the 16th, most of which I will miss as a result!). As the class of '68 and, in particular, the Baysgarth 7, will be celebrating 40 years of adulthood (!), I was hoping to try and rally round the full complement of the latter group to attend. To that end, I would very much like to track down David Hall and Gordon Stephenson, and I wondered if anyone has any contact details for them. I know that David wrote in response to one of the mystery photos (Nov 2005) so he is about somewhere. If you have any info, I'd appreciate it.

As for me, you may recall that I took up driving instruction a few years ago. I'm still doing it, but have also gone back into full time work at McCormicks (makers of Schwartz herbs and spices). I've just finished a year as European Call Centre Manager for their IT Department, and I am now settling into a more administrative job managing their computer and communications assets.

David Booth (1965-1972) I hope the following news might be of interest to some:

Three Briggensians who left in 1972 met again last December in Oxford, some 15 years since any of us had last seen each other. The occasion was The Queen's College Boars Head Gaudy (yes, with a real boars head brought to the Provost at High Table accompanied by choristers – but don't let that put off any current students thinking about Oxbridge, the occasion is uniquely traditional, having started in the 14th Century and held originally on Christmas Day, and is only the prelude to some very good food and wine!).

The three of us were **Paul Reilly** (who had studied Modern Languages), **Dr Martin Green** (Chemistry), and myself, **David Booth** (Mathematics, and football). Paul has been living near Paris for several years now, working as a translator. Martin is now living near Cambridge, still working for Unilever - he mentioned that he was still in touch with **Richard Neish and Stuart Fox**, colleagues from his two years in the Boarding House.

We were all of the 1965 – 72 cohort (although Martin came to the school in 1970). There were four of us who went to Oxford (**Simon Bradburn** chose Christ Church, the rest of us Queen's) – and at the time this was seen as an excellent achievement by a small (360 strong) country state-funded grammar school – Oxbridge entrants were one of the ways in which schools could demonstrate academic success (no league tables then, of course – although I suspect that BGS would have ranked very highly in terms of the 'added value' - academic, sporting, and social – that it gave all its pupils (we became 'students' only when we went to University!).

We weren't the most successful year in this respect, though – two or three years earlier an exceptional 5 had won Oxbridge places, several ably tutored by the renowned and very dedicated **Harry Stinson**, who never missed an opportunity to use their example to try to spur us mathematicians on to greater efforts. The headmaster, **Brian Williams**, was also influential and very supportive in his customary quiet and wise way. **David Booth**

Robina Cosser (1959 to 1966) e-mailed to say she enjoyed viewing the photos of the Brigg Girls High School on the website. She particularly mentioned it was nice to see a photo of **Miss Maddock** laughing, for whom she had a great respect. As she lives in Cairns, Queensland, Australia she hasn't been able to see the school since 1966.

We were able to help local historian, Anne Cherry, who has been in touch to request information regarding her Father, **Joseph Henry Parrott (1915 to 1917)**.

David Jardine(1960-1966): David wrote to say that he was trawling through one of his several e-mail scrolls and came across something a couple of years old telling him that he had won a Briggensians prize for identifying folk in a photo. The item then said the prize would soon be winging its way to him but he I never saw it, which could be due to the gross inefficiencies of the Indonesian Post (worse since privatised) or because he was back in the UK for a cancer op. We all hope David is now fully recovered. Currently, anything for him can be sent c/o Global Travel, 49 Jalan Jaksa, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Liz Dejaridin: "I hopefully will be coming to the 70 year celebrations and dragging with me Lynne Brumpton (now Clayton). I may even have a photograph somewhere which I can sort out. I remember being heavily involved in the celebrations in 1969. I found that I had a new skill in flower arranging, (alongside Mrs Bradburn the Maths teacher) for some of the events that week." Liz

Rosamund Dejaridin: Last February Rosamund wrote to say that she and husband, Jim, were living in the wilds of the magnificent Yukon but would be leaving Whitehorse and returning to Smithers BC when they retire later in the year. They want to get out in the mountains and see the spring flowers before they leave. Rosamund was teaching forest management at the local college and was involved in the choir singing for the opening ceremonies for the Canada Winter games and singing solo for some of the medal ceremonies. She wondered whether there was anyone she might know out there in Canada.

Fiona M Dejaridin: Rosamund sent me the request for information for the summer reunion. "I wish I could be there, but it is highly unlikely as I was in England over the Christmas break. Anyway, here is some news about me that you could use for the reunion or not, as you see fit. After leaving Brigg Girls High School in 1964 I married and moved to the United States. After having three children, Adrian, Matthew and Neil, I not only got divorced but also went to Rutgers University for my undergraduate degree in Art History and then pursued a Ph D at the University of Delaware. For the last twenty one years I have been living in upstate New York where I am employed at Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY. Here I am a professor of art history and director of the college museum. I was fortunate to also meet my husband, Terry Slade, a sculptor and professor at the same college. In my spare time I make glass beads which I then assemble into jewellery. I have fond memories of my school days at Brigg Girls high School and often wonder what happened to friends and teachers."

Kathryn Meiris: "It would have been nice to attend the school reunion, however by that time I will already be back in Colombia visiting my husband's family and our dogs which we have left over there for the time being.

Most up to date news in brief: I was working in retail management directly after leaving university but changed careers to teaching about 10 years ago. Spent 4 years teaching in UK then left to teach in Colombia (not as black as it's painted in the media) for 6 years, where I met and married Edwin. As well as working we travelled over most of South and North America and have had some great experiences and seen some amazing sights. Last August we moved to the Middle East near Dubai and have had some great experiences and seen a lot of sand! Not much of a linguist at school I now speak passable Spanish but I'm not making much progress in Arabic. Maybe if we're here for a while "inshállah".

I haven't been back to the UK much over the last 6 years but now we're nearer maybe we will get over there a bit more. It would be nice to attend the next reunion. Would love to hear from people and catch up with how they all are so please give out my email and send me news of the reunion. kmeiris2002@yahoo.com



I have attached more recent photos which I hope you'll use instead of the ones my mother gave you as those are a few years old now. One with my husband, one outside the Burj al Arab and one of my lovely class."

Catherine Pottage (nee WOLYNSKYJ): "I was Googling for Brigg Girls' High School's full address for reference purposes and found myself looking around the Briggensian website. I was highly amused to see 4@ as the mystery pic - this was my form! Looking at the picture, I am on the back row, third in from the left. The girl on my left is Joy Dixon (Dr Dixon's daughter) and the girl on my right is Louise (can't remember her surname though). I'd say it was 1974? I remember Karen Massarella (on Mr Howitt's left) and some other names, not all, but who could forget Mr Howitt's hair and clothes? I have very happy memories of the school and am sorry to see that it doesn't exist as a girls' school now. I have a framed B/W panoramic photo on my study wall of all the girls and teachers taken in May 1976 - Mr Howitt's hair is still out of control and he is wearing a loud floral tie and checked trousers - call the fashion police!"

Diane Stevenson (nee Moss): Emailed Barbara to say, "Congratulations on the superb reunion last Saturday. A great deal of organisation had obviously gone into making the day a great success. I left Leeds with not a little trepidation, knowing I was going to meet one person I remembered and had spoken to recently, but totally ignorant as to how much of a disaster the rest of the day may be!! I need not have worried - it was superb. We had a laugh about how surreal it was to chat to a group of friends one had not seen or spoken to for 45 years and realise how natural it seemed and how little some people had changed. My school days were definitely NOT the happiest days of my life but it was good to see the school and old photos and re-ignite old friendships.

Jamie Allcock (1981-1987): Jamie emailed to say that he was enjoying the Rugby World Cup more than most around him but that is all history now and that he had a new email address: jamie@otakicold.co.nz These days he tends to be spending more time at his work desk rather than at home although life is still great in New Zealand. Jamie is Logistics Manager at Otaki Cold Storage. tel. 06 3647309, Fax. 06 3646416

Ian Mitchell (1972-1979): Ian emailed in response to my plea for news to say that his son Peter (17) last summer represented Great Britain at the European and World Junior Track Cycling championships in the sprint events held in Germany and Mexico respectively. He won a Bronze medal in the individual sprint at the world champs in Mexico and was part of the Gold medal winning Team of three in the team Sprint event making him a Junior World Champion.

London 2012 is definitely the target but it is a long way off and there are many riders aiming for those precious few spots. All Ian can say is that he is definitely on the right track and has a realistic chance. It is a double edged sword but the GB track cycling sprint squad is probably the best in the world (GB or France are fighting it out) that means it is tough to make it but it also means that if you make the GB squad that an Olympic medal is a distinct possibility (He's got a £100 bet on him getting an Olympic gold, odds of 200 to 1).



His next target is to have another successful year as a Junior (under 18 on 1st Jan) and then graduate to the under 23 squad and the GB Cycling academy. This will be a big step as it means moving to Manchester in October 08 to become a full time athlete and not going to university. An even bigger decision as he is a bright boy studying Double Maths, Chemistry, Biology and PE at A level (Couldn't get him to do the physics but at least he followed me on the maths). Still, you only get one shot at the Olympics and it will open up so many other opportunities and he is smart enough to pick his studies up if things don't work out.

Ian doesn't get up to old haunts very often as his trips north are usually to the Manchester Velodrome, probably once every 3 weeks !!!

"If I do get some free time I would like to drop in and say hello – who knows."

Mobile 07710 368 234; Home 01903 812 047

Brendan Thorpe (1970-1977): Don't know if I have already passed this on but I am now head of marketing for an independent graphic and branding agency in London. Been here for 18 years, so I feel like part of the furniture. You could add my email to the contact list as you never know who might get in touch: brendan@springetts.co.uk

Richard Lawson (1961-1968): Richard says, "For the moment we continue to commute to County Hall West Bridgford Nottingham but I have threatened that it will not be for too much longer (we have done about 30,000 miles in the last 12 months). Jan's Dad had a major stroke on August Bank Holiday Monday and sadly he did not really recover and eventually his chest infection, which he brought with him from hospital in Lewisham, turned to pneumonia and he died in Feb 2007. (Richard's mother and great uncle both still live in Scunthorpe.)

Lincoln is a very interesting place to live ~ there is always something going on ~ even the sky delivers up fly pasts of the Lancaster or other planes including the Red Arrows who are based nearby even if they have to go to Cyprus to practise proper low level flying."

News of two of the first pupils at Brigg Girls' High School: In October Secretary Barbara Kernon received an email from Richard Brown 'Can you help please':- "My late mother (Winifred Marjorie LONG) and aunt (Marian Jane LONG) attended the school. They lived at 22 Bigby Street. I am trying to trace the years they were there. I was most intrigued with the 1950's picture of the School party to Paris (mystery picture on the web site). By the 1950s my aunt was living in Ealing W London. She went on to become head-mistress of Perivale Infants & Primary School.

At one time in his life, my grandfather, William Henry Cranwell LONG was a school registrar but I wonder on the off-chance whether it was Brigg GHS. I do hope you can help in some way."

Thanks to the bound copies of 'The Chronicle', given to the School by the last High School Headmistress (Ailsa Moore) when she attended the Reunion in June, some information has been found. References (years 1920 to 1927) are there for hockey teams, pupil teachers, prefects, exam results and especially success in the Royal Drawing Society exam in 1926 when Miss Stewart would be the art teacher.

Richard has now sent in some notes on the schooling of his mother and her siblings.

Marion Jane Long (1908-1989) attended the High School between **1919 and 1926**.

She moved to Mountsorrel, Leics to take up teaching. She was headmistress of North Ealing Primary School and on retirement moved to Winchester where she took up art and enjoyed a busy social life.

Winifred Marjorie Long (1911-1982) attended the High School between **1925 and 1927**. She went to teacher training college in Chichester, moved to Trinidad and married Ray Miller Brown in 1939. She spent the war years in Calgary. Post-war she taught in Trinidad and wrote books for the West Indies schools. She was passionate about cooking and healthy diet. Caribbean Cookery was published in 1965.

Richard has followed up with more information about his two maternal uncles both of whom attended Brigg Grammar School. He researched the information using The Briggensian online archive.

William Joseph Long (1907-1998) attended the Grammar School between **1919 and 1923**. He pursued a career in banking ending up as a Branch Manager in North London.

Frank Charles Long (1914-1995) attended the Grammar School between **1925 and 1932**. School journals show that he was good at sports and art. He settled in Quorndon near Loughborough.

A fuller article (with photos) will be printed on the web site www.briggensians.net

David Selley (1949-1952) emailed to say that he will be passing through Brigg in 2008 and will contact us and hopes to see a school photo for 1950 since he should be on it. "If there is a class list by year I would be able to tell from the names. I've forgotten nearly all of them, but would remember if I saw them." *Ed. Time he came to a reunion!*

"My most vivid memories are: The bus trip from Scunthorpe every day; hitchhiking back when we missed the bus (we were very naïve in those days!); the freezing cold water in the swimming pool; the dreadful food; the headmaster Mr. Mathews – a huge man and ex boxer, we were told; chatting with the girls through the fence (some went further than chatting); the wonderful ice slides in the quadrangle in cold weather. Best wishes to all. David Selley"

As promised a longer report of the meeting between **Brian Thornalley** and **Mike Willey** who attended BGS between 1945 and 1952, whose photograph has been reproduced on the website and can be located at Archive 10. Brian has written to say that after a gap of 54 years the last contact being when leaving school, Brian and Mike along with their respective wives met for lunch at The George in Stamford on 16th May 2006. Having been inspired by “Timber Watts”, Brian trained as a craft teacher at Loughborough College and retired in 1990. Mike graduated in economics and retired early after a successful sales career with I.C.I. Brian lives at Willoughby on the Wolds near Loughborough and Mike lives at Shalford Green, near Braintree. In March 2006, Brian made contact with “**Danny**” **Triggs** (1945 to 1950), who left school to be a librarian and who lives in Grimsby. These three, for five years at school, vied with each other for the B stream form prizes. Les D. Triggs is the author of the definitive book on the history of Grimsby Town Football Club.

More recently Brian has managed to contact **Ken Stothard** (1949 to 1953) who now lives in Australia and has put him in touch with Mike Willey. Brian has also been in contact with the **Very Reverend David Leaning** (1947 to 1955) in 2000 when they were both involved in planting Yew trees in Brian's parish.

Keith Lacy (1944 to 1949): “After working at Fulham, Chelsea and Leeds football clubs and also at Surrey County Cricket Club I have decided to finally retire and take life a bit easier and pursue my many hobbies.

I would like to get in touch with some old colleagues as follows; **Peter Hall, Geoff Howlett, Geoff Hogg**. I am a member of the Lincolnshire National Service Royal Air Force Branch and have met, after over 50 years, some Briggensians from my era, namely **Peter Douce and George Foster** and I understand a few more may be joining. I look forward to meeting you all on 15th March”. Please get in touch with him on 01469 588532.

P.D.J. Campbell (1924 to 1934) writes to say he was interested to see that the **Very Rev. David Leaning** was to be the guest speaker at the Annual Dinner 2007. He recalls that when David was Archdeacon of Newark he preached at PDJC's local church. As he was speaking to the leaving congregation he was most surprised when PDJC greeted him with “Fortitudine” the school motto of the day. PDJC has subsequently met Very Rev. Leaning on several occasions.

George Kirby (1917-1918): During the summer Gill Sherwood (nee Kirby) contacted the Briggensian's requesting information regarding her grandfather **George Kirby** who attended BGS 1917 to 1918. George Kirby's son now aged 80 is trying to build a picture of his Father's life as he felt he knew very little of his early days. After delving into the Briggensian's magazines (these can be located on the website) we were able to provide the following information: George Kirby was listed in 1917 as joining BGS as a boarder and a GTF Kirby is mentioned in Volume 5 No1 Spring Term 1918 as a new recruit to the Cadet Corps then active at the school. His granddaughter requested sight of his school records and she was referred on to the archives at Lincoln.

Russell Thompson (1965 to 1972) contacted the Briggensians to say how sorry he was to hear of the tragic death of Mike Whiting in a traffic accident. He says they were contemporaries at BGS from 1965 to 1972. Unfortunately, as frequently happens they went their separate ways and he had not seen him for over 20 years. Russell said he felt certain that Mike would be greatly missed by his family, friends and colleagues.

Nick Lonsdale (1954 to 1961) has written to **Ken Proctor (1956 to 1964)** saying he is still working in the real estate business in the Okanagan property market and lives in Enderby, Canada.

Frank Gant (1933 to 1939) wrote a detailed letter to the Briggensians in April 2007 extracts of which are posted on the Briggensian's website at Archive 14. The letter is interesting to read as it gives details of school days in the 30's and an account of Frank's career after school. Also of interest is an account of Frank's first sea voyage across the Atlantic in 1939 when his ship transported coal to Canada and brought wheat back to Britain. This can be read in “The Briggensian” magazine on the website (Volume 28, No 1 December 1940).

Karen Rouse (Massarella) (1971-1978): Karen emailed to say how sorry she was that she is already booked to perform in a concert on the Annual Dinner date but brings us up to date with herself. “I have many happy memories of the High School and think that it gave me a sense of community and the transferable skills that have equipped me for a varied working and social life – thanks to all the teachers who passed on their knowledge, love of subject and a rigorous discipline.

I took A levels in three sciences; degree in Biochemistry at Sheffield and PhD in Biochemistry at Leicester. Married in 1981 to a teacher who became a Vicar; four children now aged 22, 20 (twins) and 17. Jobs: violin tutor, lecturer in Biology in a FE College and now Clinical Audit in NHS. Still playing the violin after all these years!

George Gurnell (1932 to 1938) sends his thanks to all the organisers of the Briggensian's Annual Dinner in March 2007, which he thoroughly enjoyed, being his ninth consecutive attendance; and is already looking forward to the 2008 Dinner. He says he was the only pre-war “old boy” attending but felt very much at home and welcome with the younger “old boys and girls”. George is still regularly corresponding with Frank Gant of New Zealand. George is still carrying on his normal activities (bowling and table tennis and visiting relations and friends in the Brigg area) although he reports he is taking it a little slower.

Andrew Waterhouse (1972 – 1979) Emailed to say; “I was boarder at Brigg and saw in the change from Grammar School to the Sir John Nelthorpe School. I have been to one ‘meet up’ - many years ago but last week came across a wonderful picture of the back end of school house which brought many memories back!! As a result I have been looking at your wonderful web site – it is very good!

I remember Mr Gibbons as (a young!) teacher patrolling our dorms in those days! And is the picture real as he looks just the same!! It seems so long ago and yet when I saw the picture of school house it created a very powerful feeling of nostalgia – when you have literally lived there 24/7 for so many years it never leaves you!!

I don't live in N Lincolnshire these days – but still consider it my home. If there are any up-dates or so on I'd be interested.

One thing I will say. I remember Mr Hastings in the Boarding House – and used to go to his mum to get my hair cut!!”

News of our Committee member **John Hastings** who has recently moved to Scarborough. Fortunately he intends to maintain his contacts with Brigg and remain on the Committee.

Alan Brignall (1962-1966) To the Geographers of 1962/66:

When Barbara Kernon sent me the details at Christmas I started planning the trip. The last straw in the collapse of my plans is the weather. I was always allergic to water!!



Our last visit to Brigg was in 1973(I think). I had taken up a headship over the hills in Cheshire and came back just to see the changes. I was not incognito for long. In the car park a young mother enquired if I was Mr Brignall!! If memory serves me correctly it was Elizabeth nee Hastings – but that was 1973 – the portrait is from 1993 and 14 years on anything on camera is not for public viewing!! (I think I'm still young and handsome???)

For those of the Upper Sixth in January 1962 I can still remember your faces when I told you to put down your pens/pencils and listen and query. What I was saying was not for scribbling!! From the results it seemed a good idea, one of you (sadly your name has gone) earned the school a half day holiday with your success!! It is a pity that I can only remember some names and some faces – it's all so long ago. I calculate that some of you must be in your late fifties!! Would we recognise each other? It would be fun to try! Perhaps some of you would dare to send me a photo to jog my memory! Details of your post Brigg High School successes would also be much appreciated. And that seems a good idea too!

For the record, I left Brigg to be deputy head in a school in Downtown (Wilts) and then on to a headship in Longdendale, Cheshire later to become part of Greater Manchester. I took advantage of early retirement and have lived in Devon ever since. And worked harder than I ever did before!!

For those of you who went to the Halle at Sheffield City Hall in the autumn of 1963 may remember our eldest son Ian, then 7, was there as well. As a consequence, he has had a professional career as a violinist with the Philharmonia (travelling the world!!) and is now Orchestral Manager of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra! What a visit to a concert can do!

I can also remember the fun(?) we had with the Masque of Comus. I have always enjoyed the theatre and amateur dramatics in particular – probably all due to the desire to show off!!

I didn't mean this to be as lengthy as this and I'm sure I have missed many things I would have said had I been with you.

I do hope you have a happy time together and perhaps the sun will shine in Lincolnshire and you can all enjoy strolling the school fields again.

My very best wishes to you all, geographers, staff and others who have read this far. Email: briggietan@tiscali.co.uk

John Cox (1958-1965): I shall be attending my first OB dinner since I left BGS in 1965. This all came about when I attended Gerry Longden's funeral, and met up with some of my colleagues from the class of '58, and David Jones, our first form master.

I went from BGS to Oxford, where I read law. I subsequently qualified as a barrister, but was side-tracked into publishing. I worked at The Open University for ten years in the 1970s, and then moved through a variety of publishing companies, including spells as Managing Director of Scholastic UK, the children's publisher, Blackwell, where I ran the UK library supply businesses, and Carfax, a learned journal publisher. In 1997 Carfax was bought by Routledge, and I stayed on running the Carfax unit. In 1998 Routledge itself was acquired by Taylor & Francis, and I was made redundant. I set up my own management consultancy, specializing in scholarly publishing; I am amazed that this took off so quickly, and that ten years later I am still hard at work.

I also became involved in consumer affairs in civil aviation. I was a member of the Air Transport Users Council (AUC), which advises the Civil Aviation Authority, the Department for transport – airlines, airports and anyone else who will listen – on the consumer interest in air travel. I was Chairman of the AUC from 1986 to 1992, and was awarded an OBE in 1993. I continue to be involved in the industry, chairing a CAA committee on insolvency protection for consumers.

I have been very lucky in that my jobs have taken me all over the world. The Americans refer to someone like me as a "road warrior". I still travel, as most of my consultancy clients are in the USA. I have also been lucky in that I have been happily married for 34 years, and I have a daughter who also works in the publishing industry. I look forward to meeting all my friends and colleagues in March.

Mike Jenkinson (1975-1982): "I am still working for PA Consulting - mostly in London on a variety of central government projects and I'm one of the many commuters crammed onto trains morning and evening going to Liverpool Street from our home in North Essex. We will be celebrating our 17th wedding anniversary this year and our daughter Victoria (14 going on 22) is in her first GCSE year.

Hope you all have a great night in March. Please pass on my regards to John and anyone else from the 'old guard' that might turn up"

Paul Jenkinson (1974-1981): Paul is still in Australia - he was back home to see mum (now living in Brigg) just before Christmas. He brought his two children over (Alexander 8 and Emma 6) and took them up to Lapland for the day to see Santa! He says, "I'm working for IBM running part of their Software Business in ANZ - which in combination with the kids keeps me busy! I am still playing a bit of cricket - although more of the charity variety these days. I am part of The Lords Taverners Charity here in NSW which follows along the lines of the Tavs in the UK. The sporting highlight of 2007 was unquestionably the opportunity to play a game at the SCG just after England had beaten Australia in the 2nd One Day Final. The Tavs played the NSW Aboriginal XI which proved to be a lot of fun - I played something like Geriant Jones - took a good catch, dropped a skier and hit a couple of boundaries - straight back over the bowlers head somewhat uncharacteristic for those who remembered the somewhat dour opening bat from my school years !!

I am coaching my son's team - he bowls leg spin and has a level of confidence with the bat sadly lacking in his father!! Never fear, if he is ever good enough one dark night I shall spirit him back to the motherland to compete in the Ashes of 2021.

I see Chris Jacklin a couple of times a year - when he is in Perth and occasionally catch up with Simon Church when in WA - both are well although Chris seems a bit concerned that Scunthorpe United look like relegation material !! Not much changed there!

I do not get back to the UK so much these days although did make a brief visit at just before Christmas - even managed a pint on Saturday PM in the White Horse - there is nothing like a bit of nostalgia!

Needless to say if any of the 74-81 vintage is passing through please look me up!

Koen Beckers (1968-1975): Early in December 2007, I was sent on a surprise business trip to Bradford (Yorkshire), of all places. Living in Naples, Florida (since 1992), I left Ft. Myers airport at 29 C, I arrived in Bradford, at 5 C - which took quite some getting used to. Thank God my wife urged me to take my ski jacket along just in case! I wore it every day for 2 weeks. I took the opportunity to visit the house I grew up in Broughton, and later, Appleby. At both places I was invited in and shown around by very friendly owners who remembered the Beckers' name!

I also contacted old BGS friends, and with a fair amount of calendar shuffling and emails to and fro within the group, we arranged to meet at two venues. The first was at Greetwell Hall, hosted by **George Jewitt, Ross McFarland, Steve Blakey and Paul Wood** also



1975 Angel Hotel: **Koen Beckers; Hamish Bichan; Mark Proctor; Phil Traviss; Steve Blakey.**

attended, and George surprised us all by cooking a delicious lunch served in the grand dining room. A wonderful setting! I hadn't seen these chaps for 30 years so it was quite an experience - having an image of 20 year olds, and meeting again at 50. None of us had changed a bit). Oh alright, perhaps a tad... I think Steve won the prize for having changed the least though - if he shaved off the beard, he could walk back into school and impersonate a student! I was happy to be told I did not have a trace of an American accent (nor, even happier, an Australian one, where I lived for 5 years). Perhaps a trace of Dutch or S.African though - oh well, no one's perfect!

There was much reminiscing, laughter and catching up. Paul told interesting stories of his 11 years in Africa organizing aid. The afternoon flew by - time was much too short - but left us all with some great memories.

The trip down memory lane was repeated a few days later at **Jonathan Well's** place near Harrogate - where we were joined by **Steve from Sheffield, and Neil Marland** who made the trip down from Cumbria. **Phil Traviss** had to excuse himself at the last minute due to food poisoning - a great shame. After the initial laughter and amazement at everyone being 50 instead of 20, we drove to a nice curry place in Harrogate, followed by the traditional drink in a cosy nearby pub, and the evening ended back at Jonny's place (can't call him that anymore I guess!) to watch DVD's of The House that Jack Built and The Racket, both classics of the old Grammar School. Neil knew almost everyone in it - what a memory!

Jonathan easily won the prize for most changed - I had to admit, had I met him in the street and talked to him, I don't think I would have recognized him!) However, as the evening progressed I began to believe that it was indeed he - as some of the old familiar personal trademarks began to slip through the cracks)!

I was most impressed by the diversity and success everyone has made of their careers and personal lives. Clearly a tribute to the excellent education we all received at BGS! Having lived in several countries over the years I can personally attest to the fact that the level of general education at an English Grammar school has few peers.....

I hope I get to visit England again soon - before another 30 years slip by. To meet again at 80?..... Now there's a thought.

Obituaries

Gerry Longden: (Joined BGS in 1959). We had a really good day playing golf at Market Rasen on the day before; I was Gerry's partner and we played against his brother David and partner.

After the game we had a most enjoyable lunch at the club and a few drinks; Gerry was in really good spirits.

On returning to Brigg he cut his grass and later went to bed as normal.

In the morning Anne took him a cup of tea to bed but he wasn't there so she called him in the bathroom but got no reply. When she went in he was just collapsed on the floor with no obvious signs of any distress having had a massive heart attack.

Tributes to 'Jock' have poured in from across the globe remembering his prowess as a brilliant sportsman, schoolmaster and Head of Boarding. This has given comfort to the family and everyone has a story to tell about his skill or exploits. They don't make them like him anymore. DB.

Alex Paisley: (BGS 1947- 1960) Alex taught Chemistry at Brigg Grammar School and will be well known as a very successful teacher and sportsman. He moved to teach at Scunthorpe Grammar/ John Leggott College and retired from there.

David Westerman: David was a governor of Sir John Nelthorpe School and did splendid work on the Estates and contracts side of management. This fitted well with his knowledge from his professional work for the estate management at Scunthorpe Hospital.

Sadly David was diagnosed with cancer shortly after retirement and lost his fight for life in November 2007.

David's wife Linda is an accomplished artist and taught at the school from time to time. Their children Lisa (1983-1990) and Jonathan (1985-1992) were also educated there.

Nancy Clark: Many boarders will no doubt remember Mrs Clark, who was assistant matron to Mrs Brumby in the 1970s and 80s, and who died suddenly on May 22nd. Mrs Clark got to know many pupils and members of staff who appreciated her caring and sensible approach to life. John Hastings has particularly fond memories of meeting Mrs Clark when he did his first duty in the boarding house in 1975 suffering from a badly broken leg. "I felt that being in her company was the best medicine that I could have to keep my spirits up and her kindness and consideration helped me get over the long-term injury. Even when I was back on both feet she was always there to make sure I was not overdoing things."

Mike Whiting(1965-1972): Sadly Mike met an untimely death in a roadside accident in December 2007. He was returning from a Christmas party in Grimsby and was dropped off on the A18 to return to his home in Scawby but tragically he was struck by a lorry and killed. Mike (53) was a very well known and respected criminal lawyer in Brigg and we send our condolences to his family.

Russell Thompson sent a note to say how sorry he was to hear the sad news of Mike's accident, "We were contemporaries at BGS from 1965 to 1972. Unfortunately, as frequently happens, we went our separate ways and I had not seen him for over 20 years. I am certain he will be sadly missed"

Cliff Parish(1939-46):Briggensian George Clifford Parish, always known to friends and family as Cliff, died in Lincoln. Cliff grew up in Willoughton and won a scholarship to Brigg Grammar School, where he was educated, before serving in the RAF. He worked at Redbourn steelworks, in Scunthorpe, before joining the Lincolnshire Road Car Company at Bracebridge Heath, Lincoln, and then moving on to work for the well-known Godfrey Holmes concern, again in an administrative capacity.

Cliff's widow, Valerie, is a former pupil of Brigg Girls' High School. They married in 1957 and were just a few months short of their Golden Wedding anniversary at the time of Cliff's sudden death.

Cliff often returned to Brigg, to visit relatives, and always enjoyed reading copies of the association's newsletter.

Lionel Pilkington (1942-1946) passed away in December 2007. He was an old boy of Brigg Grammar and would have been 76. Brother of Harry Pilkington.

BRIGGENSIANS SPORTS:

CRICKET: The terrible summer of 2007 claimed the annual cricket match as another victim and no play was possible. Briggensians reading this newsletter who would like to take part in this June's fixture, weather permitting, should contact **Lee Fielden from Barnetby who plays for Brigg Town CC on 07787715825**

GIRLS' SPORTS Summer 2007

Rounders: the game was rescheduled due to heavy rain and Briggensians won by just half a rounder

Tennis: this was another fixture that was lost to the weather and could not be rescheduled in 2007.

Hockey and Netball: the 'old girls' played a six-a-side hockey match because their opponents failed to arrive. It was a fun game and evenly matched.

GOLF: SPRING MEETING: GRANGE PARK, MESSINGHAM - 31 MAY 2006

Biggensians' Golf Spring Meeting: Grange Park (Messingham) was once again the venue for the Spring Meeting held on Tuesday May 29th with Captain Adrian Gibbons being the first to tee off just before 3.00pm. In a summer when many a wet day caused a postponement we felt that we were picking a good day with a promising forecast. However, it was a bit of a shock when a cloudy sky filled in to bring a rather heavy shower to the start of proceedings but by the time Adrian was walking down the third fairway a stiff breeze had cleared the rain away and blue skies were to be the order for the rest of the competition. A very enjoyable afternoon was had by all with some good play witnessed in a testing and changing wind. Our thanks go to Derek Stones for organising the event, to Adrian Gibbons for donating and presenting the winner's prize, to Ted Cox for the delivery of the prize and to everyone who supported the competition. We must not forget the owner and staff of Grange Park who allowed us to hold the event at Messingham and for us to be able to play when many a venue was too wet.



Results:

Peterjon Dodd	33points; Winner	TedCox	30	Dominic Jeffrey	28	Nick Good	26
Nick Golland	30 (Best last 3)	Derek Stones	29	Charles Mailing	28	Dave Howson	22
Dave Brittain	30	Eric Clarke	29	Adrian Gibbons	28		

Hopefully many of the photographs of the day's event will be able to be seen on the web site in the near future.

Elsham Meeting and Past vs. Present: The Stableford golf competition for 2007 was combined with a match play game against the school. Wet weather in July caused a postponement of the school game but many thanks to **John Hastings** for arranging this combined event.

Photographs of players 'old and new' can be seen on the web site enjoying this pleasant occasion. Derek Stones was on holiday and this was the first meeting he had missed in 30 years ~ what an achievement! In his absence John Hastings took the chair for the AGM.



Andrew Longden, Dave Brittain and John Hastings



Matthew Holmes

Briggensians winner: Matthew Holmes

(42 Points - playing off 7!); seen in the photo on the right putting on the 18th green.

Past vs. Present: Past won 3-0

AGM elections for 2007-8 were:

New Captain 2007-8: Andrew Longden; seen above receiving the trophy from President, Dave Brittain with John Hastings.

Vice Captain 2007-8: Roger Holmes

Best nine results:

Matthew Holmes	42 points	Nick Golland	38 points (back 9)	Mark Boast	30 points
Roger Holmes	39 points (back 9)	Craig Holmes	38 points	Andrew Longden	30 points
Peterjon Dodd	39 points	Tim Phipps	30 points (back 9)	Allyson Golland	30 points



Past vs. Present

Membership of the Association is open to all former pupils of:

**Brigg Grammar School
Brigg Girls' High School
Brigg Sixth Form College
Sir John Nelthorpe School**

The life membership charge is **£5** (It would be helpful if those living outside the UK could arrange to pay via a friend in the UK) and anyone wishing to join should contact:

The Briggensians' Association, c/o The Sir John Nelthorpe School, Grammar School Road, Brigg, North Lincolnshire. DN20 8AA Telephone: (01652) 656551, Fax: (01652) 658229

I/We have received the 2008 Newsletter

Name, Address (Block capitals please) plus telephone number and email:

Postage is now being charged by size so we are asking you to **send a self addressed A4 envelope stamped to the value of 65p to confirm receipt of this Newsletter and to ensure that you receive a copy of the 2009 Newsletter** (or you can receive it for free by email)

At the same time, perhaps you could send some news or old photographs about yourself or school friends for the 2008 Newsletter or the web site (www.briggensians.net)

THE BRIGGENSIANS' ASSOCIATION DINNER
7.00 for 7.30 PM on SATURDAY 15th March 2008

I will be attending the Briggensians' Dinner (**absolute closing date 8th March 2008**) and enclose a cheque made payable to the Briggensians Association for the sum of:

£ for places at **£18.00 each**.

I regret I **will not** be able to attend but please receive £.....as my contribution to society funds.

Name: **Years at School: from****to**.....

Address:

Post Code:

Name(s) of Guest(s):

<p>For Confirmation of Places:</p> <p>Tel:</p> <p>Email:</p>

Please indicate if you have any seating preference other than with your guests:

Person(s) year etc.
 year

<p>Seating will be in groups of 6 or 8 (max 10) on round tables.</p>
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Menu Selection for the 2008 Dinner

Name >>				
Carrot and Coriander Soup				
Prawn Cocktail				
Fruit Juice				
Roast Beef				
Vegetarian Option				
Sticky Toffee Pudding				
Chocolate Cheesecake				
Cheese and Biscuits				