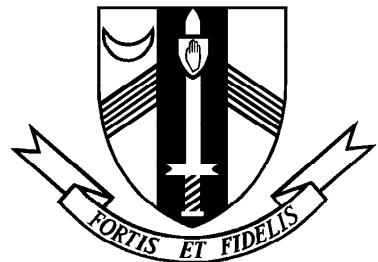
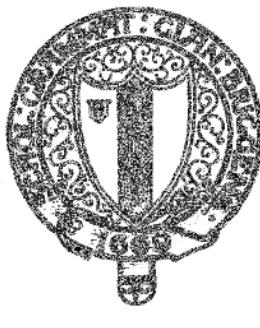
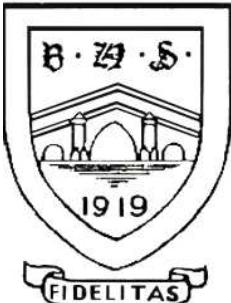


# **BRIGGENSIANS' NEWSLETTER**

## **FEBRUARY 2014**



## **Briggensians' Association**

## **37<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner**

**Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.**

**£22.00 Elsham Golf Club £22.00**

**Guest Speaker: Martin Robinson –1971-1976**

**Booking slips are located on the last pages of this Newsletter**

## Dates for your diary:

**2015: 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner**

**Proposed Date:**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

**Elsham Golf Club**

### Summer Sports 2014

School Field

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

Cricket: Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Rounders: Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Youth vs. Experience

and afterwards at the

Yarborough Hunt

### School Sports Day:

**Tuesday,  
1<sup>st</sup> July  
2014**

### Winter Sports 2014

School Field

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

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

Netball and afterwards at the

Yarborough Hunt

**Football + Pub Games, 27<sup>th</sup>  
December 2013 – 10.30 am start**

### Briggensians' Golf Championships 2014

#### Individual Stableford Rules

Spring meeting at Elsham Golf Club

Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014 – 1st Tee off 12.00 noon

Autumn meeting at Elsham Golf Club

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2014: 1st Tee off 12.00 noon

#### Match Play

Past v Present Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 Elsham Golf Club 4.00 p.m. start

## Annual Dinner Guest Speaker

Born in 1960 at Twigmoor Hall, the house that was to feature in the failed escape plans of Guy Fawkes, should have perhaps indicated a life full of explosions, bangs and excitement or a life evading the law. Pleasingly, not least to his parents, neither has been the case.

He was educated at Brigg Primary School and Brigg Grammar School where even though he lived in the nearby village of Scawby he stayed as a boarder. He was given the best opportunities to excel which he seemed adept at avoiding for some time. Life in the boarding house holds many vivid memories, not least playing “Will, Dare or Forced To” against those far braver than he, and enduring nights staring at the emergency lights during ‘the winter of discontent’ whilst electricity was cut off, and most famously breaking both arms during a game of Pirates in the gym one winter’s evening.



Having left school at 16, he prepared for college life by studying for two part time qualifications before departing to Rycotewood College in Oxfordshire to study Agricultural Engineering. Before his final year had been completed, his life was to take a new direction. He had intended a career within the manufacturing sector of Agricultural Engineering, but the death of a close family relative offered the chance of returning to farming – something deliberately not

considered previously. Whilst taking this opportunity and intending reviewing the direction of his life after a few years, he now finds himself 33 years older and not having made time to examine that decision.

However in the meantime he has travelled as a Nuffield Scholar, become a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, been President of the Rotary Club of Brigg, organised and travelled on vehicle dependant expeditions to the south of Morocco, the Jebel Akakus in Libya and the Trans Saharan Highway and Hoggar Mountains in Algeria, as well as marrying Yvonne and helping bring up Tom, Jack and Emily. He currently manages and farms an area just short of 1,700 acres and in various guises, he sits on the Home Grown Cereals Authority Research and KT Committee and is a non-exec board member of the Green Pea Company. When things have settled down he intends reviewing what direction his career should take, probably just as retirement looms.

# *Briggensians' Association*

## *37<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Menu 2014*

**(v) Tomato Soup**

**Or**

**Melon and Parma Ham**

**Or**

**Prawn Cocktail**



**Roast Beef**

**Or**

**Salmon with Lemon and Dill Sauce**

**Or**

**(v) Goat's Cheese and Red Onion Tart**

**Selection of Fresh Vegetables  
and Potatoes**



**Sticky Toffee Pudding**

**Or**

**Lemon Tart**

**Or**

**Cheese & Biscuits**



**Coffee or Tea**



**(v) Vegetarian option**

*Please note that, as in previous years, we require Briggensians to make their meal selections at the time of booking in order for us to inform the Golf Club and speed up table service. Booking forms on the last pages.*

## **BRIGGENSIANS A.G.M. 17<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013 and CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 20012/13**

I have enjoyed my first year as Chairman of the Briggensians Association in what is my second term of office after a gap of 20 years!

I would like to thank my fellow committee members for all their help and assistance which has made my role considerably easier. In particular I would like to thank all those who helped with the annual dinner which again was a successful event with an excellent speaker in David Jones.

All the sports events have been well attended and continue to serve as a useful opportunity for past pupils to renew old friendships.

My only concern is the need to attract some of the younger old Briggensians to our events to ensure that the association continues to thrive and we will continue to give this matter some thought over the coming months.

Once again the school has achieved some excellent exam results and I would like to congratulate the staff and pupils on their success.

I look forward to my second year in office and the continued success of the school and the association.

**Keith Cawkwell**

## **Headteacher's Report 20011/12**

Following the impressive examination success in 2012 we knew it would be a real challenge to improve on the GCSE results again in 2013. I was proud and delighted when this year's results arrived. Yet again Sir John Nelthorpe School had achieved the highest ever GCSE results in North Lincolnshire, beating our own record by 3%. An outstanding 80.3% of our Year 11 students achieved 5 or more A\*- C grades including English and Mathematics which is likely to put us in the top 10% of schools nationally. The local authority average was 56% and the national average 60%.

The statistics for those passing the English Baccalaureate were stunning too. Students need to achieve 6 or more A\*-C grades in specific academic subjects including English, Mathematics, 2 science subjects , History or Geography and a Modern Foreign Language. The local authority average pass rate was 16%, the national pass rate 22% but the pass rate at Sir John Nelthorpe School was 49%. The Ebacc is important as it is a good basis for success in further and higher education.

The students who left the 6<sup>th</sup> Form in the summer also experienced examination success with a 99% pass rate at A level, These results enabled students to move on to a range of university, college and apprenticeship opportunities.

The students and their parents, staff and governors at the school, should be very proud of the academic achievements last summer. They were outstanding!

The academic aspects of school life are important but it is equally important that we encourage students of all abilities and talents to participate in a range of opportunities.

Sports day in July went ahead despite dark skies. We were pleased that Mrs Helen Cresswell, who worked in the PE department for many years and has supported sporting activities since her retirement, was able to present the prizes.

School teams have competed successfully in a range of sports including rugby, football, netball, rounders and hockey. Students participated in house tennis tournaments and again visited Wimbledon. Our golfers reached the final stages of the British Heart Foundation Junior Golf Championship. Year 8 students took part in the Quad Kids challenge that includes the four core disciplines. The school cross country raised money for a children's cancer charity and this year it was Sir John Nelthorpe School's turn to organise the District Athletics at the Costello Stadium in Hull.

As well as success in sporting activities the school continues to encourage students to take part in field trips and community activities. Year 8 students investigated land forms at Flamborough Head; Year 10 had a residential week in North Wales and another visit to Louth to investigate river processes. The 6<sup>th</sup> form completed a residential field trip in the Lake District studying tourism and glaciations and the biology students studied the wild life on the Humber estuary.

Students in Year 7 visited France at the end of the summer term, others in years 8 and 9 visited our German exchange school, Year 8 participated in Teentech and the Let's Get Cooking Club continues to thrive. 3 students participated in the Humberside Police Lifestyle competition and junior pupils grow produce in the Green Fingers Club. There have also been a number of music and drama activities to encourage the creative talents. These are just a few of the enrichments offered by staff at the school.

At the end of the summer Mr Nick Grafton, Director of Sixth Form, retired. He was an excellent pastoral and academic leader, a valuable member of the senior team as well as an inspirational teacher of Drama. He had served 34 years at the school and was a significant contributor to the life of the school over his time with us.

Mr Mike Lynaugh, who taught technology and graphics had also been at the school for over 30 years, he too has retired. He will be remembered for his enthusiasm for his subject and the excellent exam results he ensured for his students.

The site continues to be a challenge however, the boarding house roof has been replaced and it has certainly improved the appearance of the building and surrounding area. The new roof was severely tested in the December storms but has stayed in place. Unfortunately, the refurbishment to the interior has not been completed.

Briggensians may be interested in the school project to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the First World War. Mr Waite, from the English Department, is working with a group of Year 10 students and staff from the Brigg Heritage Centre to research those who lost their lives in the local area during WW1. Life in Brigg during the war and the impact on those left behind will also be studied. If anyone has any information or resources that may be of interest please contact the school.

There has been a change of governance at the school. Mr Robert Smith was elected as chair of governors in November and Mrs Emma Wells was elected as vice-chair. Both Mr Smith and Mrs Wells initially joined the governing body as parent governors. I would like to thank Mr Peter Gray who succeeded Roy O'Neill for the time, dedication and support he gave during his time as Chair of Governors.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual dinner on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Linda Hewlett-Parker

## **BRIGG SIXTH FORM EXAMINATION SUMMARY 2013 GCE 'A' LEVELS**

**CANDIDATES: 115 EXAMINATION ENTRIES 114 PASS GRADES 2 A\*'s**

<b>2013 99% (PASS RATE)</b> <b>(Cohort Result at AS 73% 2012)</b>	<b>2012 100%</b>	<b>2011 97%</b>	<b>2010 99%</b>
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**A-B GRADES**

<b>2013 23.5% (A-B PASS RATE)</b> <b>(Cohort Results at AS 14% 2012)</b>	<b>2012 32.6%</b>
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**A-C GRADES**

<b>2012 57.4% (A-C PASS RATE)</b> <b>(Cohort Result at AS 28% 2012)</b>	<b>2012 62%</b>	<b>2011 62%</b>	<b>2010 68%</b>
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**Congratulations to Students and Staff on the excellent A level and  
GCSE examination results, best in the county.**

### **Brigg Sixth Form Prizes 2013**

ART & DESIGN	Taylor Prize	Jemma Lidgard
BIOLOGY	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize Derek Appleyard Memorial Prizes	Matthew Rabin-Smith Lauren Noon
BUSINESS STUDIES	Henthorn Prize	Helen Dennie
CHEMISTRY	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	Matthew Rabin-Smith
ENGLISH	Spilman Prize Briggensian Prize	Yasmine Russell Helen Dennie
FRENCH	SJN Parents' Association Prize	Rebecca Baker
GEOGRAPHY	SJN Parents' Association Prizes	Mitchell Walker
HISTORY	Taylor Prize	Rebecca Baker
ICT	VoA Parents' Association Prize	Mitchell Walker
MATHEMATICS	Briggensian Prize	Christopher Carr
MEDIA STUDIES	VoA Parents' Association Prize	Chad Newton
PHOTOGRAPHY	Baysgarth Tech. College Prize	Megan Mundell & Hollie Fudge
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Brigg Sixth Form Prize	Kyran Lowe

BTEC PE	Brigg Sixth Form Prize	Shara Green
PHYSICS	Stevenson Prize Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	Matthew Rabin-Smith Lauren Noon
PRODUCT DESIGN	Brigg Sixth Form Subject Prize	Thomas Angus
PSYCHOLOGY	Vale Parents' Association Prize	Charlotte Worthington
SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM EVENTS	Lardelli Prizes	Shara Green Chad Newton Amber Rickell Lucy Marshall
PROGRESS and EFFORT:	Lardelli Prizes:- Geography & Maths French English Literature Business Studies Vale Parents' Association Prizes Biology & Psychology Psychology Media Studies ICT	Adam Sutton George Sparling Maxwell Southern Emily Ward  Hannah Lansley Yasmine Russell Callum Petch Victoria Watson
ACHIEVEMENT:	Cusworth-Preston Prize	Matthew Rabin-Smith
Head Boy and Head Girl	Sir John Nelthorpe Vale of Ancholme	George Sparling & Emily Ward Kyran Lowe & Lauren Noon

## Lower Sixth Prizes 2013

Applied Science	Jordine Wadge
Art & Design	Conor Drury
Art	Emma Hall
Biology	Joseph McWilliam
Business Studies	Lucy Slack
Chemistry	Ronan Musselwhite
Drama & Theatre Studies	Richard Hall
English Literature	Naomi Stanfield & Laura Johnson
French	Linzi Richardson
Geography	Caroline Hicks
German	Laura Dibdin
History	Richard Hall
ICT	Bethany Moulds
Mathematics	Elliott Kerman & Ronan Musselwhite
Media Studies	Emma Hall & Deanna Hammond-Blackburn
Photography	Molly Rickards
Physics	Kieran Wright
Physical Education	Kieran Brooker
Product Design	Emma Hall
Psychology	Bethany Moulds
Prizes for Contribution to School/Sixth Form	Lucy Slack & Richard Hall
Prizes For Progress & Effort in:-	
Psychology	Laura Johnson
Media Studies	Alexander Major & Molly Rickards
Mathematics	Michael Saxby & Dominic Bishop
Music Technology	Alexander Major
Biology	Michael Saxby & Caroline Hicks
Physical Education	Samuel Welton

# DESTINATIONS 2013

Thomas Angus Rebecca Baker Amy Barnes James Bottomley Christopher Carr Stephen Clarke Rebecca Crisp Helen Dennie	Armed Forces University of Leicester Brigg Sixth Form Employment Coventry University Epworth Leisure Brigg Sixth Form Sheffield Hallam University	Contemporary History Ancholme Leisure Centre Computer Science Trainee Management Course  Business & Human Resource Management
Klye Edwards Hollie Fudge Judith Gilles Emily Gladwin Jade Glossop Shara Green Kyle Greetham Rebecca Holman Alice Hotchin Emma Kelly Hannah Lansley Jemma Lidgard Kyran Lowe Lucy Marshall Maxx Matthews Daniella Morwood-Smith Megan Mundell Chad Newton	Brigg Sixth Form Gap Year Bishop Grosseteste Uni Employment Apprenticeship - Eco Haulage Hull University Lincoln University Teesside University Seeking Employment Seeking placement Coventry University Lincoln University Lincoln University Musician Lincoln University Seeking Employment Gap Year University of Leeds	Sept 2014 Bedford University  Education Studies & Visual Arts Retail Accounts/Admin Sports Coaching & Performance Social Science Fine Art  Jockey Training Adult Nursing Fine Art Film & Television  Civil Engineering  2014 - Nurse placement Broadcast Journalism

## NEWS OF OLD BRIGGENSIANS 2011/12

### Staff Related Section:

**John Knox:** sent to Ed Dave Brittan: I got your letter and copy of the Briggensian today. Thanks very much. It was sad to hear of the deaths of so many former colleagues and, more particularly, of a former pupil, Michael Sedgewick. I remember him well though I never taught him. Good to hear that Brian Williams and his wife are still flourishing and the same for Anne Longden and John Slack. I remember the Longdens lived in Westrum Lane like you. Any word of Robin Mattison?

I left BGS to teach in Campbell College in Belfast. I was Head of Mod. Langs. there for 26 years and retired in 2005. I met my wife Andree in Brigg. She was a teacher in the convent. We got married in Brigg in July 1969 and have 2 sons and 2 grandchildren. Our elder son lives in Zurich where he is a translator. The younger one, now 40, is a French teacher here in Northern Ireland.

I remember Neville Miller very clearly and am glad that things have gone well for him. By a very strange coincidence I was speaking to Rob Smart on the phone a few months ago. His sister is a friend of a lady we know and somehow it emerged that I had taught in BGS. It turned out that she had been at the High School and her brother Robert at the Grammar School. He is retired now and lives in Sussex. I remember he was on the Lincolnshire Cruise that I accompanied to Spain, Morocco, Gibraltar and Portugal in October 1967. Thanks again for your information. I'll send you a fiver to join the Briggensians.

**John Harding-** John has not been too well but is slowly responding to treatment ~ we all wish him continued steady progress. John says: "What really bugs me is that I have had to shelve my doctorate. After a year devising a survey aimed at investigating the effects of Gove's proposed reforming of the AS and A level exam syllabuses and now ready to get permission to launch questionnaires and interviews over the next three years at some appropriate college(s), I am in no fit state to start. If I can't begin early in Spring (2014) I shall miss important data before the reform begins in 2015 - making valid and reliable comparisons impossible. Damn!!"

**Helen Cresswell** writes:-After travelling to Glasgow in November for my interview to work as a volunteer at the **Commonwealth Games**, I have been offered a role in Spectator Services at various venues around the city. Like the Olympics, I have to find my own accommodation and my son Jon assures me he will not be posted to Glasgow in May or June! Any offers or help with accommodation would be welcomed. The games take place mid-July to early August. Please contact her through The Briggensians'.

### Alumni News:

**Web site:** Apologies to any member hoping to get up to date information from the site which is quite out of date now but Steve Howe is in the process of constructing a new site for the association and this should go live within a few months. Best of luck Steve.

## Memories evoked by the 2013 Dinner:

**John 'Henry' Haresign-(1954-1961):** David Jones was the person who introduced me to rock climbing, first on Dow Crag on summer scout camp in 1959 - then it was he who encouraged me to do a rock climbing course at Plas y Brenin Nat Mtn Centre in North Wales. It was there I met John Jackson principal who had been on the 1953 Everest Expedition. He also took Steve Jarvis and me on several climbs on Stanage Edge in Derbyshire 1960-61.

He was very influential in the development of my climbing/outdoor experience, and it is with this that I too have given many pupils and students an introduction to the outdoors. I look forward to meeting him once more.

**Jeff Teasdale-(1957-1964):** I am really disappointed not to be there as David Jones was one of the most influential teachers during my time at Brigg Grammar School.

He and Jack Moore's love of the mountains, especially the Lake District, were passed on to many who went on the annual Easter trip to the Lakes.

During those weeks, to Langdale, Borrowdale and Wasdale and other visits to Stanage Edge in Derbyshire, we learned so much about life, about friendship, helping each other, self-reliance, enduring hardship but above all appreciating the wild beauty of the mountains. The strictness of regulations regarding school trips now, would certainly mean many of the activities we were encouraged to do then, would not be contemplated anymore. What a shame. But as Chair of Governors at Goxhill Primary School, I take the responsibility very seriously and understand the need to keep our children safe at all times when in our custody. But they are likely to miss some real character forming experiences.

I am sure David will remember the eyesore that our group built on the end wall of the boarding house, possibly the first climbing wall in the country. That group consisted of **Sandy Trees (now Lord Trees), Howard Winfield, Chris Gibbons, Phil Pedley, John Sanderson and myself.**

We were that hooked on climbing that we also organised the Brigg Grammar School Cairngorms Expedition during the summer holidays in 1962. With a bursary from a school fund, we were able to pay our train fare to Blair Atholl. We begged dried food from many companies and planned the itinerary to the last detail and carried everything we could need for a 3 week walk around the Cairngorms climbing all the 4000 ft mountains and many more. We came back safe and sound, and exhilarated by the experience. Dave and Jack had taught us well.

We had a reunion after 20 years to Derbyshire and I struggled to climb Grotto Slab, let alone Flying Buttress. Sadly my strength to weight ratio had gone into reverse.

I had every intention of organising a 50th Reunion of the Cairngorms Expedition last year, but I don't know where the year went. So I hope to organise a belated reunion this year, somewhere near some mountains, preferably with a splendid view of them from the bar. Please give my very sincere regards to David Jones and thank him and Brigg Grammar School for setting me and many others on the right path for a happy and successful life.

A great evening on Saturday - all involved in the organisation deserve thanks for putting it together.

**John Brain-(1960-1968):** I thoroughly enjoyed David's talk and his pictures. It was only afterwards that I began to join up the dots



(rightly or wrongly). I recall spending some Saturday afternoons taking photos, and then developing and printing them ourselves in a cupboard under the stairs in School House. After what he told us last night, I can only assume that Mr Jones must have been the inspiration and driving force behind that endeavour. It also fits in with his mention of the winter of '63, when the entire school field froze over. The attached file shows a couple of photos of us taking advantage of the conditions. It must have been a Sunday as we were wearing our suits - just as well our mothers didn't witness that!

The other three photos show what seems to be quite rare, as I've seen no others - an impression of what the dorms were like at that time. This is second dorm, at bed-making time. The top photo is a school day, but I think the bottom two are again a Sunday, as we are making the beds while still in pyjamas. We usually made our beds after breakfast, but on Sundays we made them before. In the dorm

pictures are Graham and Bill Porter, myself, and Roger Wilson. On the ice, I'm not so sure, but I think the chap at the front was Dennis Clare.

**Anthony Miller-(1958-1965):** I would like to send my appreciation for a wonderful evening the other weekend (16th March), when David Jones gave us a magnificent presentation on his life's work in Africa. Quite incredible. It was made even more remarkable for me by the very nostalgic set of photos at the beginning, which were of many members of staff at Brigg in my (and David's) first full year, and groups of pupils in various activities and outings. The people who didn't attend the dinner missed a rare treat! So thank-you to you and the people who organised the evening - it will be remembered for a very long time! Please convey my thanks to all who might have been involved.



**Mike Setterfield FCMI AFRIN RAF (Ret)-(1963-1970):** Tony Clixby has been keeping me up to date on Old Briggensians affairs. I do remember you as Ben, 'my' Physics teacher and that you were often in the company of Jack Moore (so sad to learn of his death) and Gerry Longden. I'll never forget Jack's whistle (his own brand of mouth music) during basketball, not to mention his infectious giggle

After many years hidden away in the archives of the MOD, I have had my passion for "the days of Charles, the second of the name" re-energised by Tony, who sent me a DVD of events and a vignette involving Forms 3a and 3 alpha – my first year! At great expense, I will be enrolling for life membership.

After working for the NatWest for 6 months, I joined the RAF as a Navigator and flew operationally in Vulcans (see how old I must be) and Tornados. I retired after 36 years as a Squadron Leader, but in the later stages of my career (2002/3) I worked with Commander Mark Leaning at the Defence Aviation Safety Centre. Would it be possible for me to make contact with him – can you help in this regard? (Ed.[Help provided](#))

**Graham 'Nogsy' Hall-(1971-1978):** Nogsy is branching out and can now offer his services:

#### Behaviour on School Premises (cont'd)

or practical periods and should consult the master in charge for safe keeping of such property.

8. Loss of property shall be reported immediately to the form master or Deputy Headmaster, or the prefects. Retrieved valuable are kept in the Staff room; other lost property is kept and supervised by the prefects who are responsible for its collection and return.

9. "Borrowing" without the owner's consent is forbidden.

10. Unofficial games in break or dinner hour shall at all times be played with due regard to the convenience of other people, the possible damage to property and the condition of the school field. Boys are expected to respect the privacy of neighbouring houses and gardens. Balls which go over a boundary shall only be retrieved after permission from the householder has been obtained, and fences and hedges should not be climbed over. No climbing on to school buildings is allowed unless specifically permitted by a member of staff. No casual games are allowed in goal mouth areas.

11. Damage of any kind to school property should promptly be reported to the Deputy Headmaster.

#### V. Behaviour off School Premises

1. At all times boys should behave with courtesy and consideration to the general public; this is particularly so when entering and leaving school, when visiting Mr. Clark's shop, when travelling on or waiting for 'buses. Boys are expected to acknowledge members of staff whom they meet in the street.

2. No boy may leave school bounds during the day unless authorised. There are three exceptions, during the dinner hour only:-

- a) boys returning home for dinner.
- b) V<sup>th</sup> Form boys
- c) other boys who have permission over the signature of the Deputy Headmaster.

3. Mr. Clark's shop is considered within school bounds during break and the dinner hour, but not at any other time of the school day. Boys are not to loiter in the shop or on the pavements outside it or the school.

#### VI Departure

1. Form rooms will be left clear and clean, and will be vacated promptly. Any group using a room after school

#### SEXION 5 DISCO/KARAOKE/PA HIRE

If you require sound reinforcement for a small function - eg radio microphone and a couple of loudspeakers on stands for retirement speeches etc. - or a full disco set up, please contact me on : 01673 818999 or mobile 07974 759807

NO VENUE/FUNCTION TOO SMALL. I live at Snitterby (just off the A15 where the 'safety' cameras are)

#### Departure - cont'd.

hours should consult the Caretaker first.

2. 'Bus queues form in the yard under supervision of 'bus prefects. One prefect for each 'bus will wait outside the school to give the word when the 'bus comes. No other boys will be outside the school at this time so that neither the pavement nor access to the school are impeded. On the word a queue will move in an orderly walk to the 'bus. No two queues should move simultaneously. Upper VIth. Formers other than 'bus prefects need not wait in queues and may exit by the door of the school, but should not stand waiting in front of the school.

3. 'Bus prefects are responsible to the master on duty until the 'bus leaves. For behaviour on the journeys to and from school they are responsible to their House Master.

Nogsy also sent the rules by which he claims to have lived his life by, not daring to break the instructions as handed down way back in 1971

**Paul Goodwin-(1966-1973):** It's been such a long, long, time since I've been to Lincs or indeed been in contact with my old class mates. I've seen **Ambrose Fowler and David & Judy Wood as well as Ralph Day** on a few occasions. Have been chatting with Tim Fell over the past year or so about getting back and putting together a small group of pals for a day of memories...finally done it so about 15 of us are meeting up in June.

Having not had The 'Briggensian' at all I am well and truly out of touch.. Now I've rediscovered this notable publication I will sign up for a subscription and hopefully stay in touch...

I was particularly sorry to note the passing of 'Archie' Moore-one of my best and most memorable teachers...What of Gerry Longdon?? We were lucky to have passed through the school just after they arrived to breathe some new life into the hallowed but rather 'dank' halls.

I note a particular lack of info/news from the 66-73 era, so will put a little pictorial together of our gathering and news for the next issue.

My own path took me into the army for a year (an SSLC gap year), building roads and bridges in Malawi and then a Civil Engineering degree at Southampton. (Mostly spent on the Rugby field) followed by 2yrs at London Business School doing an MBA. I joined an American materials technology company and moved out to The States for 6-7 years returning in 1986. I left them in 1988 and decided I'd had enough of Large Corporate life and joined my father's small construction business with a view to growing the business and expanding its scope of activities. All went well up until the Lehman crises and finally had to put most of the Group into Administration in 2011. Now doing a couple of non-execs and have started a recycled products business...

**Brigg Heritage Centre:** The old blazer and cap ([seen here modelled by golf Secretary Ted Cox](#)) have been temporarily loaned by the golf section for the centre's display and will return when needed for the next golf presentations.

The new captain receives a blazer from last year's captain and the winner of the autumn competition receives the second blazer plus cap to hold for one year. Don't they look splendid? Centre open on a Saturday 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM. You can get tea and coffee etc. in the courtyard but no Angel Hotel services!

When were these blazers and caps in regular school use?  
Answers please to either Dave Brittain or Helen Cresswell.

**Mike Beardmore-(1957-1964):** Visited Sheffield last w/e ([sent 25/5/13](#)) for the occasion of **Dave and Liz Brewer's** 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Dave was in our year at Brigg and a great friend of mine since we were very young-our fathers worked for The Farmers Company Ltd, Brigg, and were friends. We lived in Middle Rasen at the time. Also attending the party, were **Harry Paynter and Gerry Richards** from our year and it was great to meet Dave's brother, Andrew, who was 2y younger and is also a Briggensian tho' not a member but we have encouraged him to join and join us next year at the dinner]. Andrew followed me to Sheffield University-I started in 1964 and he turned up in 1966.



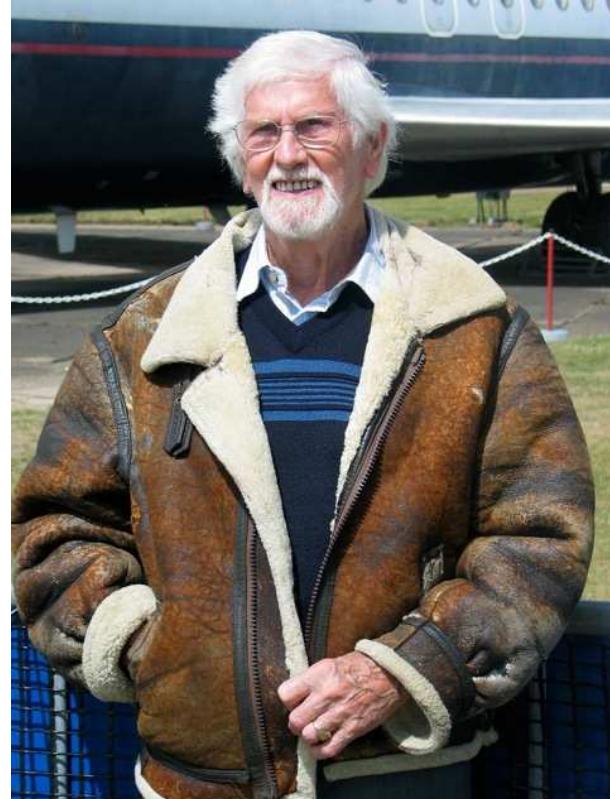
**Brian Creasey** from his time at BGS; he lives near Norwich. [From Albert \(Tony\) Coulson](#)

Nick Breech and Mick Kirkman (standing)

Zeus Rowley (kneeling)

**'Mac' Malcolm Mckay-(1946-1954)** from the early fifties, will anyone who has information regarding him please contact **Giles Henthorn** on 020 8482 2460 or [franhenthorn@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:franhenthorn@yahoo.co.uk)

**Brian Richard Bradshaw-(1942 to1947):** "I have heard from my uncle, Brian Bradshaw who was at BGS during the second world war, he is keeping well and in his 80's he remembers **John Rhodes, George Woodhead and**



**P Vince? McGrath? & Phil Walling-(1951-1959)?**  
Was this at Scout Camp?



**Lieutenant-Colonel Jon Cresswell (1985-1992)** will be returning from London to Plymouth to take up the post as Commanding Officer, congratulations Jon.

**John F Colin:** (School House 1953-1959)-

Sports Day 1959: I was in the upper sixth in the Boarding House when Mr & Mrs Williams arrived but it took only a short time to appreciate his strengths and he very quickly gained the respect of the boys. He had an air of friendliness tempered with an aura of self-



discipline and one felt that fools were not to be suffered .He was enormously kind and understanding, fair, firm and realistic. My mother was asked to present the Prizes on what would have been his first (& my last ) Sports Day and I have a treasured photo of me receiving the Victor Ludorum from my mother on the grass in front of the Boarding House ,just over the HaHa with Mr Williams beside her.

He was also the head while my brothers Patrick & Andrew were at Brigg although Andrew moved on elsewhere. Brian Williams was a good man.

I am sorry I will be unable to be present at his funeral in St James' (the church in which I was married) as I have another uncancelable engagement that evening & will not have time to return to Norwich ,but please present my condolences to the family & to Mrs Williams.

- PS photos show B Williams, Col Nelthorpe, Mrs Colin presenting prizes, Roger Dobson (back turned) receiving the Mile Cup & JF Colin on the right & kissing mother in the other having received Victor Ludorum. Is that the Mayor & Mayoress of Brigg?

**Mark Proctor-(1968-1975):** Koen Beckers-(1966-1975) says that “Mark Proctor and family visited us in Naples, Florida in the summer of 2012. Again, a bit tardy on my part – but attached is a picture of the happy event, with myself, my wife Yolande, Mark, and his wife

Sarah in our backyard. The picture was taken by Luke Proctor (5 years old!). The cage is typical of Florida homes to make life liveable outside especially in the summer – a protection from bugs, and falling pine needles. We had a marvellous time catching up and realized that a few hours over dinner simply doesn’t suffice – so we will have to have a follow up.”

**Caroline Kelly (Robinson)-(1994-2000?) (left pprox.. 13 years ago):** I have changed my name as I got married to Craig Kelly just over a year ago so am now Mrs Caroline Kelly. I met him doing Musical Theatre in Huddersfield and we have been together almost 9 years!

I am currently Music Coordinator at Dixons Music Primary in Bradford – the only specialist music primary school in the country! I still sing in the Huddersfield Choral Society and am currently the MD for both Longwood Amateur Operatic Society and Huddersfield Light Opera Company in Huddersfield, I also perform on stage with



Dewsbury Arts Group so am always to be found at some rehearsal or other...!

I trust you are well and that things at SJN are still ticking along nicely – especially in the music department – although I understand that

Rachel has retired and Sue has left so I imagine they’re rather different!

Always nice to hear from you and get updates from the Briggensians.

**John Rhodes-(1941-1948):** I was pleased to receive the Newsletter that contained considerable information that was of interest. To learn of Michael Sedgwick’s death was a real shock. Had he returned to this country from Australia and do you have the address of his widow? The Sedgwicks lived next door to us in Central Square, at 28 joined to our 29. Those two houses hold something of a record and probably deserve a blue plaque. There can’t be many council houses that can say they sent three inhabitants up to Oxford within the space of some twelve years – Michael in the early 60s to read Maths at BNC, my brother David to read Physics at Wadham in 1958 and myself to read English at Wadham in 1950. Of course, most of the credit goes to BGS. There were some inaccuracies in Michael’s valedictions, but he had a fine mathematical brain. Before his appearance, his father helped me to complete ‘Bumper’ Knight’s Maths

homework by arcane methods learnt at night school while qualifying as a gas-fitter. They confused me further, but caused a wry smile from 'Bumper'.

I was interested too in the items about **John Slack and Peter Plant**, who I learn live within fifteen miles of me. John I don't know, but I have contacted him by e-mail. **Peter Plant** was three years ahead of me at BGS, but I remember him well.

**Sandy Gurnell, BGS 1934-39:** Sorry that I will not be able to make it to your annual bash again. I speak regularly to George Gurnell and Frank Gant on Skype, they have indulged themselves in injuries that impose limitations. I am still dividing my time between Seattle and Victoria BC.

I have attached a monograph on a voyage I made seventy years ago this month. (**Ed. I couldn't open what I think is an audio file**) We became tail end Charlie in Convoy ON 170, we couldn't keep up with the good guys. They got mauled by the enemy and the weather, it's mentioned in Chay Bly's *HITLER'S U-BOAT WAR*, I don't know if it has any relevance with the present generation.

**Helen Davenport (Manning)-(1964-1971):** I teach in a large High School (20% skimmed off to Grammars – we get the remaining pupils) in Broadstairs – I love the life by the sea.

**Norman Hutchinson-(1958 to 1965):** I attended Brigg Grammar School and I am currently the British Seniors Chess Champion if it is of interest.

**Carol Burns (Whitehand)-(1966-1973):** I subsequently did a degree in Biochemistry and Physiology (used the physics mostly in Biochem as we had to learn how the machines operated). Then got a job with the Atomic Energy Authority – The Radiochemical Centre – where I worked in their Immunology area working on radioactive immunological test kits for such as thyroid disease and oncology. Moved to Cardiff in 1980 where the new plant was opening and we did so well that we were subsequently acquired by Kodak and then Johnson & Johnson. I was mostly working in the technology side until 1999 when I moved in to HR and earned enough to retire nearly 3 years ago. Very varied career and enjoyed it immensely – but now turning my hand to gardening and DIY in the summer (we bought an old farmhouse in the Dordogne and the work seems never ending) and skiing in the winter months in the French Alps.

### Do You Know?

#### Who are the lovely and sporty ladies?

A winning team in 1927-8?

I lost the details when I transferred files across to my new computer, can you help?

#### When did the helicopter land on the school field?

Was it the same time as the long photo was taken of School House?



**David Culm-(1954-1956):** David emailed to ask if I had contact details for **John Price 1952-60, Peter Jon Dodd 1953-59, G Grundy 1953-56?** Or similar years? **I was able to supply PJ's email but not the others; can you help?**

David also says, "I am now secretary for Loughborough College School (no longer called that!), the school I went to as a boarder after Brigg."

Trouble with being the son of a RAF officer was that one never had the benefit of building strong and long friendships. Brigg GS must have been 'home' to many RAF children during its 20<sup>th</sup> century history (Kirton, Hibaldstow and Hemswell). Green East Lindsey council school buses picking children up from the above and the surrounding villages.

I attended my eighth school (4 secondary schools) in 1956 (Loughborough College School –now Burleigh College) after leaving Brigg in July 1956 having only been there 18 months! My brother and I were made boarders (only 45 of us at LCS) to stabilise our education prior to GCE curriculum. My brother and I had very disturbed childhood, but I learned a lot from having to adjust to being an outsider quickly wherever one went. Also, using British Rail to travel to and from boarding school, I had to manage changes of trains and movement of luggage for both of us which was in the guard's van.

I was placed at Loughborough when my pilot father was posted (for the umpteenth and last posting) to RAF Abingdon in Oxfordshire (Berkshire then).

But I really enjoyed the open spaces of the countryside around RAF Hemswell, both summer and hard cold winters, occasionally being taken up as an ATC cadet in Lincoln bombers, in which I loved occupying the rear gunner's turret (sadly no guns) of the aircraft my father captained. No greater thrill for a 14 year old could there have been. I was lucky to have had such a varied life and to have experienced so much of England that those children who never moved anywhere never enjoyed. A great character building experience which many RAF children will have shared.

Hope the dinner goes well, and that you might possibly use some of the above in any forthcoming despatches.

I hope Bramshaw Golf Club in the New Forest where I'll be on the same weekend, will be drier than courses up here.



**George Jewitt-(1968-1976):** So pleased that I made the effort to come to the last reunion and talk to Brian Williams (or Herbert as he was affectionately known to us) for the first time since leaving BGS. We all owe a lot to him.

It's been an eventful year for me so perhaps time to provide an update for the newsletter. I left BGS to do architecture at what was then Manchester Polytechnic. I completed the course and qualified after spending the last year working for Lincoln City Council. On my return I took over the running of the family companies and to cut a long story short I ended up starting a builders' merchant in Scunthorpe called Builders' Merchant Company Ltd. I blame this on my grandfather who did the same thing but sold his when I was six. After some very tough years we seem to have weathered the economic slump and are heading for a £3 million turnover this year. My manager has been short listed for Manager of the Year.

I spent some nine years as the carer for my elderly mother and when she died in 2009 at the age of 92 I decided that I needed an academic challenge. So I applied to join the part time PhD course at Sheffield University Department of Town and Regional Planning. I have presented my proposal, titled "Narrative, Power & Outcome: the continuing development of Scunthorpe", and am waiting for it to be approved. I've taken a year's sabbatical from my studies as I got married for the first (and hopefully the only) time this year. My wife and I also welcomed our son in August, my first child, born via surrogacy in the USA. So now I find myself semi-retired and knee deep in nappies and formula milk having the best time of my life at the age of 56.

Thinking about the educational future for my son makes me think of my own schooling. Sadly Brigg Preparatory School is no more and BGS long since became SJN so the opportunities afforded me are no longer an option which is sad but probably inevitable given the passage of time. The more I think of my time at BGS the more I appreciate what the staff achieved with very little in the way of equipment or facilities. Proving that to achieve good results you don't need much other than talent. What extra could Aristotle have achieved with an interactive white board?

**Keith Birkitt-(1971-1978):** I attended BGS between 1971 and 1978 and my interest in the outdoors was ignited by walks **with Mike and Liz Jefferson** firstly to the Peak District and then the 3 Peaks of Yorkshire and a weekend in the Lakes. I remember going with **Dave Owen**.

After school I went to Sheffield Poly and continued hill walking in the Peaks, Snowdonia and the Lakes. After gaining my honours degree in Metallurgy, sponsored by British Steel, I went to Cranfield and gained my Masters in Welding Technology. I then spent 3 years at the Vickers shipyard in Barrow in Furness, walking most weekends and taking Scouts in to the hills.

After Vickers, I worked in Bristol for 5 years, walking in the Brecon Beacons, N Wales and the Lakes and started rock climbing at Symonds Yat and N Wales with my assistant Scout Leader. In 1992 I got a job in Manchester and settled in Chapel-en-le-Frith, where I still live. I now work for the Health and Safety Laboratories as a Senior Scientist investigating workplace incidents.

Whilst on a trip to the Lakes in 1994, I got involved with two rescues and on mentioning this to a friend I knew in Buxton Mountain Rescue Team, he invited me to join. My first exercise was on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 1994. I became a full team member within a few months. A year later I joined the management committee and the following year I became Fundraising Officer, which I held for 8 years. I stood down from the committee after the birth of our daughter, Hannah, but continued organising our activities at Chatsworth Country Fair, which I still do, and which has raised over £80,000 for the team since I took it over. I also give talks to clubs and societies about the work we do.

In my time with the team, I have been one of the most regular attendees and have attended over 700 callouts and sometimes take a lead role in incidents at the sharp end – as a casualty carer or crag rescuer. I have the dubious honour of having been lowered the full height of Mam Tor face (250ft), showered with small rocks, to successfully rescue a cragfast climber without a rope or harness.

I am currently responsible for organising the team's training programme. I am also a deputy key contact, responsible for receiving calls from the duty controller or Police, and calling out the team.

We're on call 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year including Christmas Day and attend 70-80 callouts a year. We respond to 999 calls to the Police for missing walkers, children and vulnerables (depressed, suicidal and Alzheimers patients who have wandered off). 80% of our calls are to injured walkers, climbers, fell runners, toboganists, horse riders, mountain bikers, trail riders, paragliders, hanggliders and tourists. In poor weather (blizzards) we sometimes get mobilised to check out roads and vulnerables in isolated farmsteads.

All team members are unpaid volunteers and give up their time freely. No expenses, including travel costs, are received by team members. It costs approximately £30,000 per year to run the team, most of it raised by donations and fund raising by team members.

After 19 years, I still enjoy being in the team and consider it an honour to be part of something so special. The reward is in a job well done and to know that we have made a difference.

To have been nominated and been successful in the **Queen's Birthday Honours** is also a great honour and I look forward to receiving my award from the Lord Lieutenant later in the year and to attending a **Royal Garden Party** next year. I knew nothing of the award until I received a letter from The Cabinet Office, which came as a bit of a shock. Of course the award is only possible due to the support of my team colleagues, my employers and especially my wife, who has to pick up the pieces when the pager goes off – usually at the most inconvenient moment.

I hope that gives you a little insight into what we do in the team.....If you need to know more or have any questions, please just ask.

**Dorothy Graham (Frankish)** provided these pictures and they show Dorothy and her friends at about 14 with separate pics of herself at ages at ages 12 and 13.



**Do you know who the other girls are?**

**Oliver Baudert-(School House 1942-1947):** In 2013 I turned 83. It has been a marvellously "dramatic" year for me playing first an old artist trying to re-live his romantic memories after 60 years by visiting the girl who is now quite a different woman and finding that his muses, who come from Keats' poems, will not leave him alone.

Then I played three non-singing roles in a huge pro-am production of *The Phantom of the Opera* to over 15,000 people in Canberra's main theatre and finally an inmate of a very English Private Nursing Home who is just starting the frightening journey into Alzheimer's but has a brilliantly comic companion who has bladder problems, in a play by Bob Larbey: *A Month of Sundays*. The production –and my performance- received excellent notices of which I am very proud.

It was in 1943 (I think) that I appeared in my first play as Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* open air production set between two air raid shelters on the School's playing field.

In case any reader(s) are in Australia I would like to make contact particularly if they are from the 1942-1947 era. I live in Canberra. ([Ed email available](#))

**Hazel Gray (Swan)-(1968-1973):** I recently (April 2012) took early retirement from Shell, after 25 years there in a variety of roles. I took what my kids refer to as a delayed gap year, doing the first year of a distance learning Diploma in Egyptology at Manchester University; I'd already completed a Certificate at Birkbeck College in London whilst still at work. Then early this year the job of Office Manager at the [Egypt Exploration Society](#) came up, and it seemed like too good an opportunity to miss, so I am back in the old routine of commuting into London each day. I'm loving it, although working in a team of four at a charity is a world away from life in an oil company.

I met up with a bunch of Old Briggensians earlier in the year. We were very kindly hosted by **Tim Fell** and his wife. I think one of the other folks there is going to send you a write-up for the magazine, but it was really good to see everyone after such a long time. I'd kept

in touch with a couple of them through letters and emails over the years, but the majority I was seeing for the first time since we left school. Amazingly, we all got on pretty well, and left with plans to meet up again for a joint 60<sup>th</sup> birthday bash.

**John Hastings-(1961-1966):**

Having attended the last re-union for the 1988-1993 year in May 2009 it was a pleasure to be invited again in 2013. This re-union was to celebrate 20 years since the pupils had left S.J.N.School (or you could also say 25 years since they started). The last re-union had been held in the Ancholme Inn, but since it is no longer there, this re-union was held at Arties Mill. It had been a busy day for me with my College Re-union at Bishop Grosseteste in Lincoln on the same day. I arrived in the warm evening just as one or two were beginning to wonder if I had been able to get away on time to be with them. The evening did not disappoint in any way and a big "Thank You" has to be mentioned to Joanne (Holt) and Steven Jordan for the organisation which was spot-on. Everyone said what a wonderful time they had meeting so many familiar faces and catching up with all the news. There were many former pupils there that I had met at the previous re-union but they still had plenty of news to relate as well as other pupils that I had not seen since they had left 20 years ago. Certain pupils were sorry that they had been unable to attend but hopefully we shall all meet up again before so long. I learnt at the evening that Joanne Holt's family were putting the finishing touches to a flat in Scarborough which is only 2 minutes from where I live. I met up with Mr and Mrs N. Beacock....Nick and Lucy (Lucy nee Richardson, was in my year 93-98) and they have to be congratulated on the birth of their baby son Sol Richard in December. All in all a wonderful evening!

In September I go along to the Retired Caravanners Association National Rally held at Stafford, at the County Showground. During our visits in recent years I have met up with Mr D V Adams who was my maths teacher, sports teacher and cross country and athletics coach while I was a pupil at B.G.S. He now lives in Stafford and we were invited out for lunch by him during our stay. Before lunch we had a very interesting walk around Stafford and Mr Adams told us all the historical details about the various buildings that we saw as we wandered through the ancient streets. We had a wonderful meal in a very quaint restaurant discussing many memories as well as up to date topics. As always the time passed by too quickly and it was soon time to say our "Good Byes" and for us to head back to the Rally Field while Mr Adams prepared to pack and go on holiday. At this rally I had been invited to conduct the R.C.A. choir and since the previous 2012 rally I had been picking up as many helpful tips as possible from musical friends. Mr Charles Mailing (Music and German teacher) was one such musical friend who helped me on the right road and with help from other sources here in Scarborough they gave me the confidence and knowledge to stand up and perform. It all went so well on the night that I shall be waving the baton again next year.

Before I close I would just like to thank all the Briggensians and Friends who supported our sponsored tandem ride around the Lincolnshire Wolds last Summer. We covered 120 miles and raised nearly £2,000. Thank you all very much indeed! The money was divided between 3 charities which were Marie Curie Nurses, Macmillan Nurses and Cancer Research.

Finally a very dear friend, Mr Walter Cash, who is a Briggensian and lives at West Ayton (just outside Scarborough) celebrated his 97<sup>th</sup> Birthday on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Apart from some arthritis he is doing very well.

**David Hall:** He now lives in South Africa and visited the school. He was asking about others and **Nev' Miller** responded: "Dave Hall was 'Abs', as in Albert Hall. Named by Jack Moore. He was one of us in the first contingent in Baygarth. The family emigrated to South Africa when he left school. We managed to trace him in Dubai about 5 years ago and I tried to contact him when I was in Dubai a couple of years ago but he had left the company he had been with. So I no longer have any valid contact details for him. Did he leave any? It would be good to get in touch again."

**Peter Welton-(1944-1949):** Yet more honours for Peter: the University of Leicester awarded him the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters recently in recognition of his contribution to art. He was both amazed and delighted!

**PDJ Campbell-(boarder 1924-1934):** Sends his best wishes to Briggensians and for the success of the school. He is now 98 and resides in St. Saviour Care Home in Retford but still remembers his time at Brigg Grammar and as a boarder with great affection.

**Dave Sergeant-(1960-1968):** I was rather saddened to see Michael Sedgwick in the obituaries. Gus and I shared a lot in common while at BGS and we both stayed on for Oxbridge entry and got places at Brasenose. I decided instead to go to Southampton, a decision that rather upset Brian Williams at the time but I think was the right choice for me. When I found the Briggensians website in 2006 I exchanged a few emails with Gus. I was aware they had moved back to the UK but it was a bolt from the blue today to hear he is no longer with us.

After a successful time at Southampton (we had our 40<sup>th</sup> reunion there in 2011) I spent the next 23 years with Ferranti as a design engineer here in Bracknell. When Ferranti went into administration I set up Dave Sergeant TV repairing TVs, VCRs and all sorts of other electronic things. I am still doing that but rather less comes through these days and I'm looking forward to the magic 65 next year...

One of these years I intend to come to the annual dinner, but this year we have a family christening on the Sunday, my brother's youngest grandson (Michael Sergeant, 1957-1964) so please accept my apologies. I was probably taught physics by David Jones while I was at school but can't quite place him – some people I remember vividly, others are a faded memory.

## Obituaries

### **Brian Williams**

A remarkable and varied life and a man of great intellect, compassion and understanding.

Tributes from around the world have been paid to one of the most respected former Head Teachers in North Lincolnshire. Brian Williams, who was Headmaster of Brigg Grammar School in the turbulent 1960's and 1970's, died at the age of 95 in Stewton House Nursing Home in Louth having lost his fight to overcome Oesophageal Cancer.

Brian Williams grew up in Newton-le-Willows Lancashire. After obtaining a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Oxbridge degree in Mathematics he served as a civil servant for the British Government in India during the Raj ("reign" in [Hindi](#)) and subsequent partition period. It was in India that he married his wife Margaret and they had been married for 69 years on his death. Things got very hostile in India so Brian returned to England to start a teaching career and in only his second job joined Repton Public School where he taught Mathematics and was also a housemaster. (Brian and Margaret featured in the BBC programmes about the Raj in India and were taken back there to relive and recall memories of that time.)

He secured the **Headship at Brigg Grammar School in September 1959** and had the task of directing the school towards a new modern age. He and his wife Margaret also transformed and ran the very successful Boarding House bringing comfort and a family atmosphere to the mainly forces and farming scholars.

The school during his time was exceptionally successful in sport, music and study with very many pupils gaining places at Oxford and Cambridge and then embarking on illustrious careers. ([Ed. Tributes and testimonials abound in this issue.](#))

Shared Sixth Form teaching with the Girls High School was extended in 1966 but Saturday Morning School was a complication and was ended in 1968.

With the advent of Humberside, the school was forced to become an all ability comprehensive school for boys and girls.

**Sir John Nelthorpe School was born in September 1976** – the girls and boys were promised that their Grammar School Education would be protected and they could be taught in separate classes until the Sixth Form.

Brian Williams was its first Headteacher and to make administrative matters worse the newly created Brigg Joint Sixth Form, under the direction of the former High School Headteacher, **Ailsa Moore**, was to be taught by staff from all schools including the previously amalgamated Secondary Modern Schools of Glanford and Westmoor and that required a timetable integrated across all sectors and all systems of organisation.

At the same time the school became a building site as Music and Drama, Needlework and Cookery, Sixth Form, Staff Room and Science Block rose from the mud.

It was an intellectual challenge and Brian Williams rose to the situation having the mental capacity to juggle all the complexities and still put people at the centre.

**On retirement in 1979** he went to live in the Horncastle area. He studied for the Anglican ministry and was ordained in Lincoln Cathedral before becoming a non-stipendiary minister, living at Goulceby and serving churches across the rural area.

When he moved to Louth he became involved with St James Church, one of his roles was working as a volunteer guide but he also gave communion to 'the old folk' at Stewton Nursing Home close to his home.

Despite moving to central Lincolnshire Brian Williams always retained an interest in his former school through the Briggensians Association and he attended the Annual Dinner in March 2013.

**Jeremy Henthorn-(1953-1961):** Brian Williams was a man our age group could talk to. I have read all the compliments paid to Matthews (his predecessor). I felt stifled by Matthews' character, which I felt was personified in his portrayal of the judge in "Trial by Jury" 1953. I was not alone in that feeling.

Williams brought a much-needed breath of fresh air. I am sure that no one could harbour any ill will to him. His fairness and sense of justice remain clear in my memory. I hasten to add that the fact that he appointed me head boy does not influence my judgment! Alan Bowers had secured his university place, leaving a vacancy, which I filled. To this day I think Williams appointed me out of respect for my father. I was not a distinguished pupil.

I will always have fond memories of Brian and Margaret. I don't want to rabbit on about it.

Should you want any further ramblings please let me know? I frequently meet people older than me who have fascinating reminiscences which they think are of no interest to others. I always tell them that they should make a record of their histories. My memories are not significant enough to rate a memoir such as John Rhodes', which I found truly uplifting.

**David Evans-( BGS 1961-68):** A short note to express my sadness at the death of Brian Williams. He was the major influence in my decision to go into the medical profession, indeed I remember going into his office, and being told that that was what I should do.

That generation, who had their formative years disrupted by World War 2, were made of stern stuff; my father, who was of similar age, also lived to the age of 95. Cardiff, South Wales

**Marc Beckers (1967-1974):** Sorry to hear about Mr. Williams, and my parents join me in conveying condolences to Margaret. My parents will be forever grateful for having their children attend Brigg Grammar School (before it turned comprehensive).

I remember in my second year, Mr. Williams caned me for making rude gestures at a prefect out of the school bus who had reported me to him. This was rubbish because I was actually "waving" at my friend **Tony Instone**, not the prefect, who just happened to be walking behind Tony. The prefect made me write a report to submit to the headmaster. I asked **Andrew Smith** (our neighbour and sixth-former at the time) for advice and he told me to write about "digital gesticulations" which was Greek to me but Andrew spelled it for me. Mr. Williams only gave me one slap with the cane because he said I had submitted a "very clever report". I came out with a sore hand and boosted confidence. I do not think there are many leaders who hand out punishment yet make the culprit feel better for it!

He was also key in my A-level choices and advised me in my choice of universities to apply for. Though he had only taught me in my first year, it was amazing how much he knew about me and where my talents lay. I think it is fair to say that my life would have turned out completely different but for those conversations with Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams is especially famous for the time when Mr. Mailing was ill and thus unable to play piano for the morning Assembly hymn. Emerging from his office, Mr. Williams was overheard to ask "Have we got a pianist?" to the consternation and subsequent mirth of the passing pupils.

**Roger D. Stokes, C.Eng.. M.I.C.E.. P.Eng.- (1955-1963)** Although I never was an academic and struggled to maintain my interest in studying at Brigg I have always been thankful to Brian Williams for allowing me to continue with my A-level studies when most other people would have banished me from the grounds. Because of that I eventually did get a degree and have benefitted greatly from it during my life.

**Alan Vickers-(1967-1974):** I was saddened to hear of "The Headmaster's" passing. Strange, but I still can only think of him in that role and can't quite imagine what life for him was like once he retired – I never met him other than at Speech Day the October after I left, when I returned to receive the Head Boy Prize. I remember the occasion very clearly. I had just started working for Williams and Glynn Bank in the city of London as a trainee Foreign Exchange Dealer. I quickly became a fan of the starched collar, striped shirt and old school tie look and proudly wore the same, including my "Distinction Tie", for Speech Day. As I walked onto the stage and shook the Headmaster's hand he looked at me, gave a knowing smile and said quietly "out of one uniform Vickers, into another".

It's only now, as I reflect on my years at Brigg that I realize what an enormous influence my Headmaster had on me. I've experienced many others over the years, first as a teacher during my own teaching years, then as a parent of four children, and now a grandparent. I can say without hesitation he dwarfed all others and I feel truly blessed to have been the beneficiary of his wisdom, advice and even the occasional scolding!

Unfortunately as you know we have lived in the States for many years now and I will not be able to attend his funeral. Please pass on my thoughts and prayers to his wife, family and friends.

**Anthony Miller (Mousey) BGS, 1958-1965:** A remarkable man, who made an enormous impression on me personally, and I'm sure, very many others of my generation. How lucky we were, although we did not necessarily appreciate it at the time, and what a team of fellow teaching staff he had and led (of which, of course, you were one!). We were also fortunate that he remained with us to a grand old age, and I'm glad that we were able to see him at the last Briggensians' Dinner.

Unfortunately, I don't think that I shall be able to make it on Friday. We have a long-standing arrangement for looking after our granddaughters on Friday, and of course I am unable to drive at the moment, which means I would depend on someone else to bring me, in any case. As the weather is a little uncertain, that would also be a consideration – I am very lacking in confidence if it is slippery, or uneven underfoot. So sadly, I shall have to miss this chance of paying my respects. I would appreciate it if you could do so on my behalf. Thank-you. You will all be in our thoughts and prayers, especially Margaret and the family. It is truly the end of an era.

**Mike Beardmore-(1957-1974):** I remember Brian Williams with much gratitude. He was a great headmaster and I had the utmost respect for him. As I may have already told you, it was Brian Williams in his role as careers adviser (they didn't exist, of course, in those days!) recommended a career in medicine to me and encouraged me to apply for medical school entrance. I did not have a clue what being a doctor involved but thankfully, I took his advice and the rest is history. I worked for 40 years in the NHS and it was a very satisfying career but I have serious concerns about its future as things are at present.

I have fond memories of the boarding house at BGS under the guardianship of Brian and Margaret Williams. They were very kind to us boarders and it was a happy place to be.

Yes, we will be at the dinner along with the usual suspects and hopefully Dave Brewer too. I must mail him.

**Dr Ken Proctor-(1956 to 1964):** Hearing Brian Williams speak at the 2003 Briggensians Annual Dinner brought back to my mind how popular Brian Williams had been at Brigg Grammar School. I remembered his expertise and good advice, of which I was a recipient,

for those applying to Universities and Colleges. He was certainly an inspiration to all the pupils and it was clear from his speech that he had enjoyed his time at Brigg Grammar School.

**Peter Jackson-(1954-1961):** I left BGS in 1961 aged 18 and in mortal fear of HB. I thought then, that he was about fifty. I'm almost tempted to come to the dinner (2013!).

**Margaret Williams:** Ed: I had the pleasure of visiting Margaret on 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 and can report that she is progressing very well from her stroke and there are marked improvements in her speech and mobility; as you would expect she remains fiercely determined to make the best of her situation.

**Stan Beedham:** Stan has passed away peacefully at the age of 92; he was born and raised on the family farm in Wrawby near Brigg. He went to school there until he was 14 years old and then joined his father working on the land and farming animals.

When his father died he continued to farm but moved into pigs and then chickens for the sale of eggs.

When that market declined he worked at the Sugar Beet Factory and then joined Brigg Grammar School where he was Groundsman. Stan was especially remembered for the way he kept the grounds to perfection and the cricket square was tended and guarded as if his own.

He and sister Madge were very close and lived next door to each other.

After retirement he was in great demand for tending people's gardens and advice on Brocklesby Park's cricket square. He enjoyed long walks in the country and was a welcome sight around the lanes and tracks.

Latterly Stan has been in Holme Farm Nursing Home in Elsham having been burdened with Alzheimer's.

**Bret Butler-(1951-1958):** said: Stan Beedham was the groundsman in my time he should be remembered well for producing some of the best wickets in the county and the BGS ground was always a delight to play on. As well as the school matches I always enjoyed the fixtures with Brocklesby Park and Normanby Park. I suppose these games no longer exist.

**Ailsa Wish (Ramsey)-(1967-1973):** I always wanted to know Stan Beedham's name- I passed him most days and chatted when I was a more confident sixth former... on my way over to Dad's car for a lift home. A lovely man who taught me about dedication- annual sprinkling of lawn sand on the cricket square and the passing of the seasons. We had a good view of him at work from the rooms at BGHS!

**Nigel Plumtree-(1965-1970):** Nigel just died of a heart attack on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2013 without any warning that it might happen. Such a terrible shock. He was not ill nor overweight, having lost weight over the previous few months. He had also decided to change jobs and move back to Scunthorpe and his wife had retired from teaching. He loved his new job and seemed so happy.

I still can't believe it:- Chris Plumtree

**Tony Wilford-(1956 to 1963):** David Jackson sends the sad news passed on from Mary Wilford that Tony died on Friday 1 November 2013 of lung cancer. It had spread to his brain and the end came quickly and without pain. Tony was a boarder at the school from 1956 to 1963, when he went to study at Manchester University. He lived in Bolton.

**Matthew Grimley-(1990-1997):** Tragically Matthew died suddenly in November 2013 at the age of 37. He will be sadly missed

## BRIGGENSIANS SPORTS 2012:

### Cricket:

Sir John Nelthorpe School in Brigg kept up an old tradition stretching back to the days of Brigg Grammar School (pre-1976) when it



hosted a cricket match between a School XI and members of the Briggensians' Association, representing former pupils.

The School set the Old Boys a daunting target which proved just beyond them on a perfect night for cricket – bright sunshine and no hint of rain.

Jon Taylor, of Hibaldstow Cricket Club, umpired the match and was thanked

by both teams.

The Young boys won the game with fine performances from Dominic Bishop (y12), Rory Ronaldson (y12), Matthew Eagles (y10) and



Joe Taylor (y10). There was a good attendance from the old boys including N Fisher, A Gibbons, J Taylor, N Beacock, A Smith, M Bell to name a few. The Young boys scored 128 from 13 eight ball overs. Everyone in the old boys bowled an over. The old boys made a few mistakes retiring certain key batsmen to allow the young boys to triumph. Afterwards the Briggensians met up at the Yarborough Hunt, in Brigg, for a few drinks and a chat about old times.

**Rounders and Netball:** Four teams at Rounders last night – having another one in July! Very oldies (some young ones too) 1<sup>st</sup>, School 2<sup>nd</sup>, oldish 3<sup>rd</sup> and younger former pupils 4<sup>th</sup>! A good time had by all.

Around forty players turned up for summer Rounders – a record- plus there were a number of spectators of family and friends. Two pitches of games took place eventually with the oldies winning overall but school coming in a very



respectable second. A good time was had by all and there were a few aching limbs the next day!

## Golf:

### Result of the match played earlier

18 players had taken part in the match, played in beautiful sunshine but a stiff breeze. The result was closely contested, Johny Allcock winning with 39 points from Joseph Hastings, who had 38 points. This was a magnificent effort by Joseph, who had not played golf for two years. Leading scores were:-

1st	Johny Allcock	39 points
2nd	Joseph Hastings	38 points
3rd	Ted Cox	34 points
4th=	Roger Holmes	33 points (back 9 - 18)
4th=	Adrian Gibbons	33 points (back 9 - 17)

The Captain, Tim Phipps, presented Johny with the trophy, blazer and cap, and complimented him on his score, which was all the more remarkable as he didn't score on two holes. Johny, having struggled into the blazer and precariously balanced the cap on his head, thanked Tim for the trophy and Elsham G C for presenting the course in such a great state.

### Result of the Spring Meeting, held 12th May, 2013

The match had to be re-arranged because of bad weather in March. The winners were:-

1st	Alan Taylor	34 points
2nd	Richard Rivron	33 points
3rd	Andy Longden	31 points

12 players took part.

### Past v Present, Monday, 8th July, 2013

For once, the sun shone on Elsham Golf Club as the Past versus Present match got under way and continued to shine for the whole evening. Apart from one match, the matches were very close and the final result was a 2-all tie. Unfortunately, one member of the Past team failed to show up which meant that Ted Cox had to take on Adrian Gibson and Chris Norrie on his own. The effort proved just too much for him as both "Gibby" and Chris combined well and on some holes played below their handicaps. So hard did all three concentrate that they did not disturb the tranquility of the evening and were joined by a muntjac deer as they approached the twelfth green. In the game ahead, after the match was won, Dave Brittain could be seen reverting to type and giving golf lessons to his inexperienced opponents - perhaps he had been confused by the urgent need shown by one of the lads to replenish his energy by buying a packet of crisps after the ninth hole and doggedly (and I use that word advisedly) eating the whole lot before driving off on the tenth!

**Ed:** Apologies but I cannot correct: 1. Johny Allcock for Jonty Allcock and 2. Adrian Gibson for Adrian Gibbons as this is copied from a pdf file and appears as a picture ~ should I buy a converter?

**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  
and staff of either 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 20013/14 Newsletter

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

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**Postage is now being charged by size so we are asking you to send a self-addressed A4 envelope stamped with a ‘large A4 letter stamp’ to confirm receipt of this Newsletter and to ensure that you receive a copy of the 2014/15 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 2014/15 Newsletter to: [dave.brittain@talktalk.net](mailto:dave.brittain@talktalk.net)

# Briggensians' Association

# 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner 2014 - Booking Form

I will be attending the Briggensians' Dinner (**closing date Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014**) and enclose a cheque made payable to the Briggensians Association for the sum of:

£ ..... for ..... places at £22.00 each.

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

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

**Address:** .....

**Years attended School:** from ..... to .....

**Post Code:** .....

Seating will be in groups of 6 or 8 (max 10) on round tables.

#### **For Confirmation of Places:**

Tel: .....

Email: .....

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

Person(s) ..... year ..... etc.

..... year .....

## Menu Selection for the Annual Reunion Dinner on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2014

Please send this completed booking and menu choice form, **along with payment** to  
(cheques payable to The Briggensians Association):

**Sir John Nelthorpe Upper School, Grammar School Road, Brigg, North Lincs. DN20 8AA**  
**(Tel: 01652 656551)**