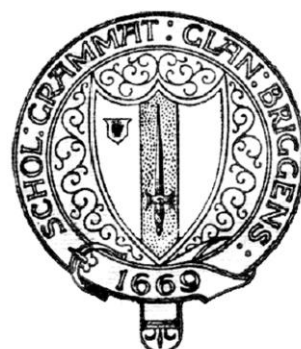
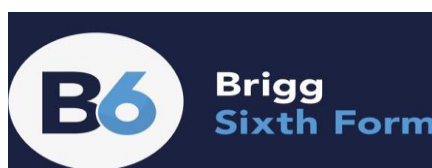


BRIGGENSIANS' NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019



Fortitudine.



Briggensians' Association 42nd Annual Dinner

Saturday, 16th March 2019, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

£25 Elsham Golf Club £25

Guest Speaker: Dr Anne Rae (1986–1991)

Head of genetics research at Cherry Valley

Booking slips are located on the last pages of this Newsletter

Dates for your Diary

Annual Dinner 2020

Saturday March 14th 2020 - date tbc

Summer Sports 2019

School Field, 6.00PM

Rounders: Friday, July 2019 tbc

Cricket: Friday, July 2019 tbc

Youth VS Experience

Players and spectators are invited
to gather afterwards at the
Yarborough Hunt

Winter Sports 2019

School Field, 6.00PM

**Football and Netball
Friday, 13th September 2019**

Youth VS Experience

Players and spectators are invited
to gather afterwards at the
Yarborough Hunt

**Football + Pub Games,
27th December 2019–10.30AM start**

Golf Section

Spring Meeting

12.30PM, Sunday, 14th April 2019

Autumn Meeting

12.30PM, Sunday, 20th October 2019

Past vs present

4.00 PM, Monday, 1st July 2019

**Requests to play, please contact David Harness: dave.harness@ymail.com
Tel. 01652 688005**

Annual Dinner Menu

Starter

Melon

or

Tomato and Basil Soup

or

Chicken Liver Pâté



Main

Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding

or

Salmon Fillet with Hollandaise Sauce

or

Vegetarian Option

Butternut Squash & Red Pepper Tartlet

All Served with Seasonal Veg & Potatoes



Dessert

Raspberry and White Chocolate Roulade

or

Fruit Crumble & Custard

or

Cheese and Biscuits



Tea and Coffee

Please note that, as 2019 is a very special anniversary year we are anticipating an increased demand for tickets. The main room at Elsham will accommodate 100/110 and any overspill would have to be seated in the section nearer the bar. The first 100 application will be seated in the main room so please book early to secure your place. Maximum numbers will be 120.

Booking forms on the last pages: please reply to the school address

Guest Speaker 2019

Dr. Anne Rae (1986-1991)

I was born in Scunthorpe in 1974 to Roy Rae, a metallurgist at Scunthorpe Steelworks and Pauline Rae, a French and Latin teacher. At eight months old my parents and elder sister, Elizabeth, and I moved to Brigg where my mother still lives.

After primary education at St Mary's RC primary school, I started at Sir John Nelthorpe in 1986, where I developed a keen interest in Science. On completing my A' levels (at John Leggott 6th form college), I went on to Birmingham University to study Genetics, followed by a PhD in the Quantitative Genetics of *Brassica oleracea*, or in layman's term, identifying DNA regions for growth and flowering in broccoli plants.

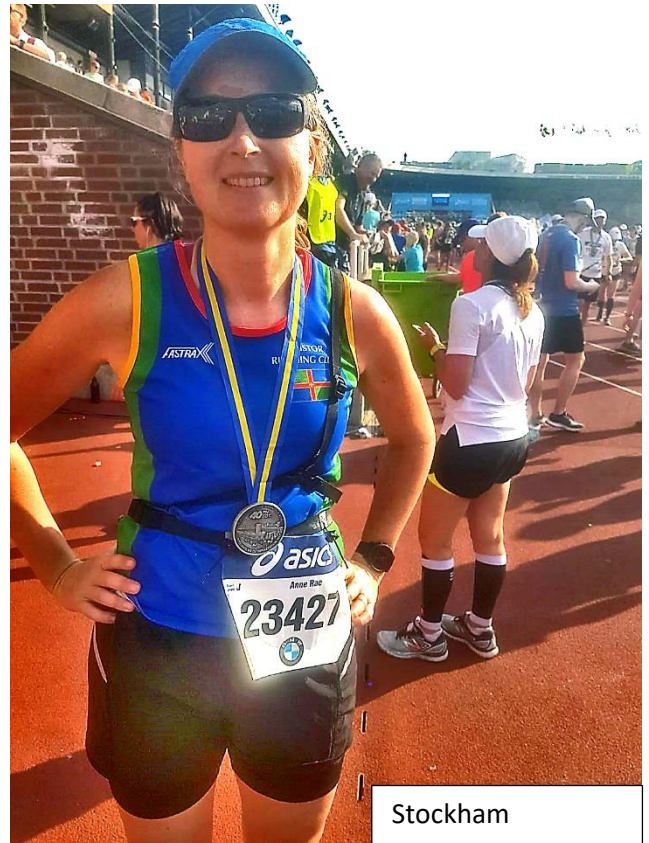
On completing my PhD in 2000, I was offered a job at Southampton University researching the breeding and genetic improvement of poplar trees for use as a carbon neutral bioenergy crop. After seven years enjoying life on the south coast and mountain biking on the Isle of Wight, I took a position as Genetics and Plant Breeding Team leader on the Artemisia Research Project at the University of York. This was a Gates Foundation funded project researching and implementing the improvement of the Artemisia plant to increase the yield of the chemical artemisinin used in Malaria medicines. As well as the fascinating research into a novel plant, this involved carrying out field trials in the countries such as Uganda, Kenya and Madagascar, where the plant is grown and required for malaria treatment.

During this time, I married Tim, who had been my neighbour during my degree in Birmingham. Tim,



Nepal

being a Yorkshireman and a teacher of Sociology at Wilberforce 6th form college in Hull, was keen to stay in the geographical area, so when the research side of the Artemisia project at York finished, Tim mentioned to a colleague in Hull that his wife would be looking for a new job. Surprisingly, the colleague mentioned that she knew a quantitative geneticist who wanted to retire, but that he worked with ducks, not plants. However, I contacted the quantitative geneticist and discovered that he was head of genetics at Cherry Valley Ducks, based at Rothwell and Caistor, and that he had lived in Brigg, just one road away from my parents, for the last 26 years.



Stockham

I started work at Cherry Valley in 2012 and am now head of Genetics, Research and Development where I oversee the breeding programme for the UK and China. Cherry Valley started as a Lincolnshire family business in the late 1950s, producing the UK's first oven ready duck. Now it's genetic breeding stock contribute to 80% of the world's Pekin duck market; over three billion ducks a year, with the largest market being in China. I found the change from working with plants to ducks, and academia to industry reasonably straightforward and am in the process of introducing genetic techniques that are used in plants, into the duck breeding industry.

Having commuted daily from York for 18 months, Tim and I moved to the village of Tealby in May 2013. Although we miss city life, we enjoy walking in the Lincolnshire Wolds, and also adventuring further afield, running full and half marathons in European cities, mountain hiking, and the occasional holiday in South East Asia off the back of my business trips.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2018-19

Another thoroughly enjoyable year as Chairman of the Briggensians committee has passed. Many thanks to those who have given their time, energy and enthusiasm to sitting on the committee to plan the Briggensians' activities. I would encourage others to join us as we are always looking for new members to bring fresh ideas to the strong group already in place.

Unfortunately, this year we have lost a number of Briggensians. Please join me in sending our collective condolences to all the families and friends affected by such loss. In particular, one notable loss for me was **Dominic Avison (1974-2018)**, he was the Bar Manager at Brigg Town Football Club.

The annual dinner 2018 was an eventful evening. Unfortunately, due to the snowy weather conditions, our speaker and some of the members could not attend.

As a result, the Head, Mr. Biglands, had a bit more time expand on his plans for the school and in particular the project "Our Place in Time".

Despite the appalling weather, 2018's Dinner was again a fabulous evening. Thank you to all those that put in additional hours, under trying circumstances, to make it a success.

Special thanks go to our speaker, Anne Rae, who has kindly agreed to come back this year and deliver her address.

The school and the sixth form have had another brilliant year for exam results. Congratulations to all involved and in particular to the Head, Mr. Biglands, his staff and all the students.

The sports, as always, were very well attended and as competitive as they were enjoyable.

This year ahead 2019 is the **350th** anniversary of the founding of the Grammar School and 100 years since the founding of the Girls' High School. There will be celebrations during the year and I urge you to keep looking at the Facebook and SJN/Briggensians websites so that you know what is happening and please support the events.

Clive Thompson

Head teacher's Report 2018-19

Students continue to secure good results at GCSE and A Level at Sir John Nelthorpe School

Students, staff and governors recognised students' achievements at A Level and GCSE level on the results days this summer, with the dedicated team of teaching and support staff on hand to offer support and advice as students prepared for their next steps.

It is immensely rewarding to see our students achieve their personal goals and secure their next steps in education and the world of work. Students who succeed at Sir John Nelthorpe School emerge as well-rounded individuals who understand that strong academic achievement can be vital in the pursuit of career aspirations and life ambitions but it is also the values instilled in the individuals; the recognition of the importance of good manners, respect for others and tolerance within an increasingly diverse and rich community that distinguishes a Sir John Nelthorpe student. Our staff work hard to produce confident well-rounded young citizens who can contribute positively to society. I am very proud of all of our students and what they have achieved during their time at this fabulous school. There has been a considerable amount of anxiety amongst teaching staff in relation to the new grading system at GCSE level and the new more demanding GCSE specifications, leading to a lack of confidence in predicting student outcomes. In light of this, the results achieved are very impressive indeed.

At GCSE level, of particular note is the number of students achieving a 'pass' grade 4 (formerly a grade C) or higher in the academic group of subjects defined as the 'English Baccalaureate' (EBacc.). To achieve the EBacc, students must gain at least a grade 4 in English, Maths, Science, at least one Modern Foreign Language (French or German) and at least one Humanity subject (Geography or History). Sir John Nelthorpe has topped the county league tables in this measure, ranking first place for students achieving a standard pass (grade 4) or higher and ranking in first place for those achieving a strong pass (grade 5) or higher.

The GCSE "Basics" measure (recognising students who achieve a pass in both English and Maths) saw over 80% of students achieving the standard pass of grade 4 or better and over 50% of students achieving a strong pass of grade 5 and above. A remarkable pass rate of 100% was achieved in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Business Studies and Child Development. There were also very strong performances in Modern Languages and Technology subjects, along with PE and History.

At A Level, the performance of students within the Brigg Sixth Form has been excellent with all students securing the grades required to be able to progress to their chosen universities (the vast majority of these being 'Russell Group' universities) or employer and apprenticeship routes. This year's Brigg Sixth Form results show some outstanding individual performances. As we know A Level study is challenging and requires determination and a real desire to succeed over two years. The school-based setting offered by Sir John Nelthorpe School offers the best opportunity for staff and students to work closely together to support the individual learner and larger-than-ever numbers of Year 11 students are choosing to continue into our Sixth Form for exactly this reason.

Our Place in Time

The Our Place in Time campaign is gaining pace and the Brigg Arts and Culture committee has now been formed. A bank account application is being completed and the charities commission application is nearing readiness for submission. When these two pieces of work are complete, we will be able to process contributions from our fund-raising campaign legitimately. The committee appreciates the indicated generosity of members of the Briggensians Association and we thank you for your continued patience with this. The scale of the proposed works is large and the phased approach we have agreed means that the first piece of work can start possibly as soon as February half term. I will provide any additional updates through the Briggensians Association Committee when I can. Thank you for your continued support and patience. I would like to wish you all the very best for 2019 and I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual dinner.

R. Biglands

Brigg Sixth Form Prizes 2018

Art & Design	Taylor Prizes	Molly Baker
Art & Design	BSF Subject Prize	Jason Walker
Biology	Derek Appleyard Memorial Prizes	Wojtek Dobrowinski
Biology	BSF Subject Prize	Harvey Stevenson
Business Studies	Henthorn Prize	Monica Salvatierra
Business Studies	BSF Subject Prize	Esther Rands
Chemistry	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	Harvey Stevenson
Chemistry	E F Brown Memorial Prize	Wojtek Dobrowinski
Drama	Production Prize	Heather Peers
English Literature	Spilman Prize	Molly Baker
English Language	Briggensians Prize	Jason Walker
English Language	BSF Subject Prize	Job Robison
Fashion	BSF Subject Prize	Amy Tucker
Fine Art	BSF Subject Prize	Greta Matyziute
Geography	Subject Prize	Monica Salvatierra & Alex Nightingale
History	Taylor Prize	Alex Nightingale
History	Sergeant Prize	Jason Walker
ICT	Vale Academy Parents' Association	Tom Wilkins & Tom Fowler
Mathematics	Briggensians Prize	Kai Tindall
Mathematics	BSF Subject Prize	Harry Broughton
Music	BSF Subject Prize	Connor MacMillan
Music	Morris Prize	Kenza Hardy
Media Studies	Vale Academy Parents' Association	Greta Matyziute
Physical Education	BSF Subject Prize	Hollie Mumby
Physics	Stephenson Prize	Stan Brown
Physics	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	Kai Tindall
Product Design	BSF Subject Prize	Job Robinson
Psychology	Vale Academy Parents' Association	Daisy Smith & Rachel Sladen
Lardelli Prizes -	For Progress & Effort in Studies	Luke Hargraves – PE
For Progress	Contributions to Brigg Sixth Form	Molly Baker & Tom Palmer
	Vale Academy Parents' Association	Rheanon Green & Caitlin Almond
Howitt Award	For Achievement	Rosie Cleave
Cusworth-Preston Award	For Achievement	Harvey Stevenson
Head Boy	Vale Academy	Stan Brown
	Sir John Nelthorpe	Tom Palmer
Head Girl	Vale Academy	Molly Baker
	Sir John Nelthorpe	Daisy Smith

Lower Sixth Prixes 2018

Fine Art	Abi Tutty & Nia Robinson
Biology	Cameron Elliott & Georgia Hynes
BTEC PE	Stacey Breeton & Ben Botham
Business Studies	Leah Hemstead & Alysha Vessey
Chemistry	Sam Lewis & Cameron McFarlane
Computer Science	Jacob Marshall & Callum Burrows
Drama	Owen Jollands & Ellie Somerscales
English Literature	Megan Russell
English Language	Alex Williams & Sadie Rickell
Geography	Leah Hemstead & Julia Bernat
History	Peter O'Hara
ICT	Emily Woollin
Mathematics	Owen Jollands & Jacob Marshall
	Josh Taylor & Richard Lowe
Media Studies	Lucy Coulson & Alysha Vessey
Music	Chloe Meakin & Alex Williams
Physical Education -	Chloe Meakin & Alex Williams
Physics	Owen Jollands
Politics	Jacob Marshall
Psychology	Rebecca Barnes & Molly Greenwood
Sociology	Megan Wells
Contribution to Sixth Form	Cameron McFarlane (Chemistry) & Cameron McFarlane (Maths) & Josh Taylor (Events)

Destinations 2018

Joshua Blanchard	Apprenticeship	Logistical Department—DFDS
Kieran Brown	Looking for employment	
Rosie Cleave	Southampton University	Marine Biology
Sam Crowther	Employment	Also finishing foundation year online
Sophie Evans	Employment	Support Worker
Cain Jones	Employment	
Tom Palmer	Huddersfield University	Architecture
Esther Rands	Leeds Art University	Fashion Design
Monica Salvatierra	Leeds University	Business Management
Rachel Sladen	University of Lincoln	Psychology
Daisy Smith	University of Lincoln	Psychology
Bailey Symonds	University of Lincoln	Computer Science
Kai Tindall	Apprenticeship	BAE Systems
Karla Turner	York St John's University	Geography
Jason Walker	Sheffield Hallam University	Graphic Design
Tom Wilkins	Riseholme College	Agricultural Degree

Web Site:

I am very grateful to Jonathan Woodliffe who has continued to update and improve the Briggensians' web site.

You may wish to look at the site that is to be found at www.briggensians.co.uk which has a link to the splendid Sir John Nelthorpe website.

Facebook: "The Briggensians Association"

The Facebook site continued to inform members but needs more posts. Posts will be available to everyone to use if you have news and 'likes' will help to spread the word. Alternatively, you can email me and I will arrange the post for you. If you see something that should not be on our site then please email me so that I can take action as editor.

Celebrations 2019: Please be aware that 2019 is a very special year for the school and there will be celebrations to mark the 100th Year since the formation of Brigg Girls' High School and the 350th year since the Boys Grammar School foundation in 1669.

The Briggensians Association would like members to join with us and celebrate at our annual dinner and join the Sir John Nelthorpe School celebrations in the summer.

The "Our Place in Time" project should be well advanced by the summer and members will be able to see, first hand, the developments.

Obituaries

Lynda Siddle (nee Naylor) passed away at Castlethorpe Nursing Home in March 2018 after a long battle with cancer, aged 56. Both Lynda and her daughter Tracey attended the school and have over the years continued to be involved with the Briggensians Association.

Lynda was an active member of the Brigg community and a well-recognised figure in the town. For many years she taught swimming at the now ceased Glanford Amateur Swimming Club (GASC) and was a long-standing member of Brigg Tennis Club. Tracey has recently begun to volunteer her time to act as clerk for the Sir John Nelthorpe Foundation to continue the good work delivered by the Foundation to support the school and wider local community.



Stuart Burt: Sad news from Sue & Adrian Hopkins:

Earlier this week Sue & I received sad news of the death of Stuart Burt at his home in Oakham. He had retired from his teaching post at Oakham School some years ago. Here in Brigg he was Sue's geography teacher and both an admired colleague and valued friend of mine at the High School during the late 1960s, early 1970s. Stuart's funeral in Oakham was in early October.

As we had relocated to Brigg early in 2017, it was fortunate that our post woman in Hibaldstow intercepted the letter from Stuart's friends in Oakham - they had power of attorney due to his advanced dementia and contacted everyone listed in his address book - and passed it on to Vicki at the garage where she presently works.

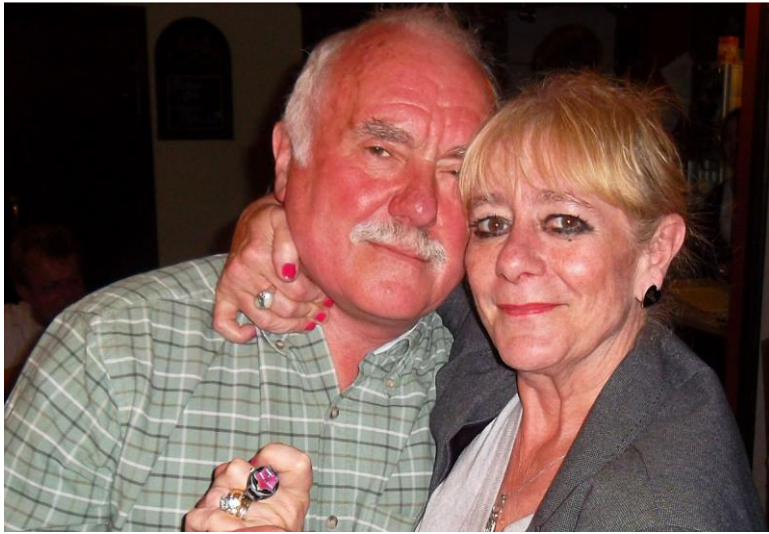
I fear that the remaining male staff members from Stuart's era are becoming an endangered species!

Dominic Avison (1985-1990): Dom' died suddenly in February 2018 leaving two daughters, Milly 16 and Macy 14. Tragically for the girls, his wife Becky died in the following November. Dom' was a real character with a ready smile and did a wide variety of jobs before finding his vocation as the bar manager of Brigg Town Football

Club where he was a Director. He enjoyed the community aspect around local football and a recently renovated stand will be named 'The Dom' Avison Stand' in his memory. .

Nick Cole (1957-1962):

Nigel Fisher informed us of the death of **Nick Cole** - one of our very best mates in journalism and someone we'd worked alongside since 1984. The veteran Scunthorpe Telegraph news reporter and prolific columnist was 72.



As a boy in the steel town he passed his 11+ and attended Brigg Grammar School from 1957 to 1962 - travelling in daily by bus.

He progressed into journalism and part of his early career was spent covering stories in Brigg for The Star weekly paper.

While with the Telegraph, Nick reported extensively on the Brigg music scene and our pubs and clubs in his long-running Steelbeat and Bar Fly/Around Clubland columns.

He joined Brigg Blog on occasional prolonged and enjoyable tours of town pubs in recent years,

during which we introduced him to some local landlords and pub personalities.

Having been to the Telegraph office in Scunthorpe to write our own tribute to Nick, we got a lift back to Brigg in the afternoon and made for the nearest hostelry to raise a glass or three in his memory.

Among locals to pay tribute to Nick has been well-known Brigg charity fundraiser **Andrew Markham**.

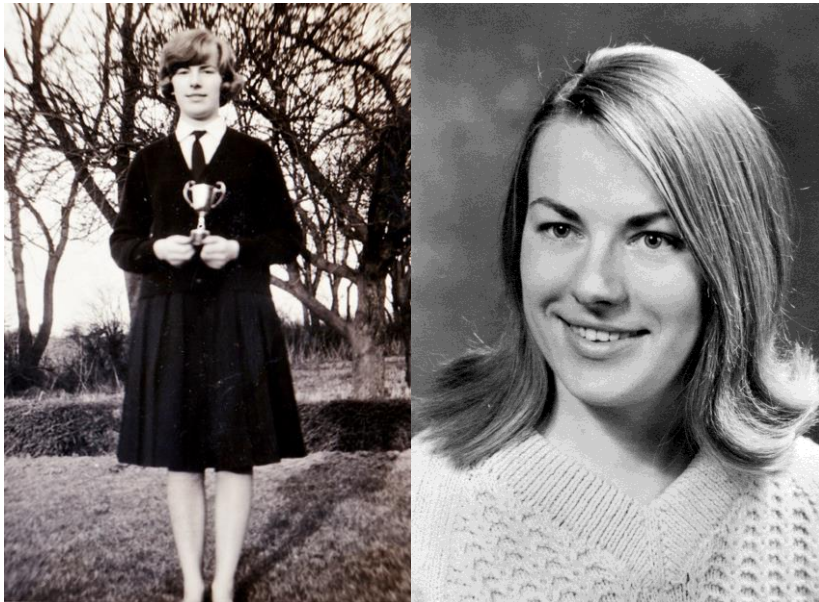
He told Brigg Blog "So sad to hear of Nick's passing. A great local 'hack' and a nice bloke."

Our happy picture, taken some years ago during a social event, shows Nick in party mood with his wife - also, sadly, no longer with us today.

Gillian Sallin (née Feirn) (1958-1966):

Veronica Feirn sent a belated entry in this section. I know that I am too late with my sad news, but I thought you might include it in the next newsletter. My sister, Gillian Salling, nee Feirn, died on 20 December 2017 in Texas, USA of metastatic ovarian cancer.

~~~~~



Gillian Margaret Feirn Salling was born August 7, 1947, at her parents' house in Cleatham, Lincolnshire, England. She died peacefully in her sleep December 20, 2017, at her home in Sherman, TX, with close family members near her. She bravely battled ovarian cancer for the last 4 years.

Gill pursued her love of languages during her college years, becoming proficient in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, and even some Mandarin (in later years she also learned how to understand rural Texan!). She received

an Honours Degree in French and German from Leicester University in the UK after traveling abroad to teach English in France for a year. During that time, she had a chance encounter with her future husband of 47 years, Jim Salling, at a bus stop along the French Riviera. This changed the course of her life. The two of them married the day after her birthday in 1970 at St. Andrew's church in Kirton Lindsey, the village down the road from her parents' farmhouse, and within a month she had moved across the world to start her new life in Jim's hometown of Dallas, TX. She embraced life in Texas, becoming an American citizen and being fascinated by Texas history

She worked for a short time at a language school in Dallas before becoming a teller at the National Bank of Commerce downtown. Having always loved music, she played the violin and piano as well as sang in different choirs. But her true passion emerged after she and Jim moved to Sherman, TX, in 1976 and she began breeding and training German shepherd dogs. Over the following decades, Gill's devotion to German shepherds and the painstaking detail she put into refining East German pedigree lines produced an astounding number of puppies—each one receiving vast amounts of personalized attention and care above and beyond that given by almost any other breeder. In the more than 30 years that Gill poured into this work, she saw her dogs become everything from search-and-rescue K-9s to therapy and guiding-eye dogs, bringing happiness and companionship to so many people's lives.

Her other life's passion was her children, Stacey and Ryan, whom she supported tirelessly through all of life's ups and downs. From college graduations and weddings to scraped knees, fights, and heartbreaks, she was always there to either encourage them to feel better or offer proud, heartfelt love and congratulations. She will be missed by all her puppy owners for her expert advice and guidance, but in the end she will be remembered as a good friend, warm and compassionate, with a joyful and distinctive laugh.

Survivors include her husband, Jim Salling, Jr., of Sherman, TX; son, Ryan Salling of Ida, TX; daughter, Stacey Salling-Figueroa, and son-in-law, Julio Figueroa, both of Austin, TX; sister, Veronica Flatt (née Feirn).

## NEWS OF OLD BRIGGENSIANS 2017/18

**Committee Members:** If any Briggensian living locally would be willing to join the committee then please contact Helen Cresswell at: [hcresswell@westrum.co.uk](mailto:hcresswell@westrum.co.uk) or tel: 01652 653216. There are only three meetings annually that last approximately 1 hour so the commitment is not great but the value of your opinion to the association is huge. **Please help if you can.**

*I would like to thank all those who have contributed towards this Newsletter and to Julie Lawson who has assisted me this year in collating all the entries. Can I remind Briggensians that they should advise me of any email address changes so that they continue to receive notifications about events, news and activities of the association.*

*If anyone is in contact with other Briggensians who do not receive our emails please encourage them to contact me so that they can be added to the circulation list.*

*Best wishes to all for 2019 and I look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual Dinner.*

**Walter Cash (1927-1933):** Walter is now 102 years old; he has moved from his bungalow in West Ayton and is in a Methodist Care Home in Scarborough and John Hastings visits from time to time. Walter sends greetings to all Briggensians.

**John Hastings (1961-1966):** John brings news of his wife Sylvia who is receiving various treatments for her cancer and this requires regular trips to St. James, Leeds. I had the pleasure of seeing them both in early January and I am sure that we all send our best wishes and hope that things are being contained for Sylvia now that the tumours are shrinking. Maybe she can soon return to singing in the local choir.

They are still getting to rallies with the caravan when not at hospital and spirits are high.

### **Peter Harris- English:**

Thanks very much Dave for the Briggensians' Newsletter.

I was saddened to read of the death of Peter Cox.

He was a colleague I greatly liked and respected and always supportive to me when I first arrived and thereafter. It has been several years since we visited Brigg - yes it has! ...but we get a regular card from Avril and from Stacey (back in Aberdeen).

I hope on our travels south (now two grandchildren in London and two daughters) we can call by again going up or down.

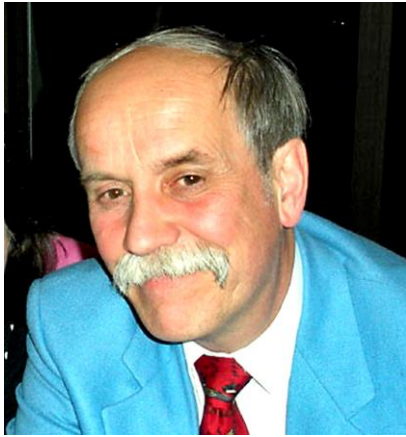


### **Neville Miller (1961-1968):**

Having received Nev's Christmas Letter I was somewhat alarmed to know that he had had a motorcycle accident whilst racing his bike last September. He tells me:

When I got back to Ottawa, the racing season was fast approaching. Fortunately I didn't have any work to do to the engine of the bike, but I was still experimenting with gear ratios. Just like last year, the weather for the race

weekends was mixed so it was impossible to predict whether the track would be wet or dry when it was time for your race. I was able to secure the pre-1950 championship after three rounds which was just as well because in Round 4 at the beginning of September there was a collision between two bike immediately in front of me



and in avoiding the resultant carnage I left the circuit and crashed heavily damaging both shoulders. This was my first crash in over 40 years of racing. (I am the centre of attention in the bottom left hand corner). Although I didn't break any bones I tore or ruptured many ligaments and tendons and they are taking an awful long time to mend. Three months after the incident I am still in constant pain and discomfort and have little strength in my arms.

### **Mike McCleave (1964-1968):**

A bunch of us from the past got together for a Reunion Lunch in Brigg on 27 September. Left to right, Mike



McCleave, Bill Phipps, Bob McCleave, Mark Tatam, Mike Sparling, Brian Wesley, Steven Sackfield and John Schofield. After lunch and chat we walked down memory lane to the old BGS now SJN School.

The black and white photo is Mike Sparling, Bill Phipps and John Schofield on a school trip.



**Chris Plumtree (1959-1965):**



It was great to spend so much time with Pug after 50 years and to be able to show him some of the many delightful places that I enjoy regularly in and around Split, including a car ferry trip to Brac, one of the nearby islands that boasts the famous Zlatni Rat beach.

Keith said that he would be writing to tell you about his trip but I don't know if he has got around to it? If any other Old Briggensian fancies to coming for a visit, please get in touch with me via my email through David and I will be happy to give you advice and show you around.

My one piece of Old Briggensians news from 2018 was the very welcome visit to see me and where I live, in Split, Croatia, by Keith "PUG" Palmer in September of this year. He brought his delightful wife, Jill, who really enjoyed her holiday in Croatia.



**Derek Sumpter (1943-1950):**

Found this picture in an old box of papers I was going through.

**Brian Chapman** (School House with me 1943-50), your good self and **Robin Sumpter**.

At a guess, I think the photo was taken in the very late 90s. You may be able to pin it down more accurately. Obviously taken at Elsham during a Briggensians Annual Dinner but the exact date eludes me.

**John Cox (1958-65):**

John has completed some 40 years advocating the

consumer interest in civil aviation, beginning in 1979 as a member of the Air Transport Users Council

After eighteen years as Chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority's Tour Operator Insolvency Advisory Committee ATIPAC, John Cox stepped down in June, ending his representing consumers to the CAA and to Government that started in 1979. He is now fully retired but still restless. More recently, he has been involved in Grimsby's Heritage Lottery funded *Shipwrecks of the River Humber* project, which researched and dived on the wrecks of some of the 300+ Grimsby trawlers sunk by enemy action during World War 1. A stunning exhibition of the marine artefacts recovered and the detail of the trawlers lost continues at the Grimsby Fisheries Heritage Centre until mid-January 2019.





**Brett Butler (1951-1958):**

Fairly quiet year at this end. We had a couple of weeks in Australia and then in September I nipped over to the UK for three weeks to see my mother in Grimsby. She is now 97.

Our education system suffers from problems similar to yours in the UK, among these being a chronic shortage of teachers, too much assessment and evaluation and increasing volumes of form filling and bureaucracy.

I would very much enjoy the 350th celebrations in March but I fear that is a very long longshot.

Currently up in Auckland helping our one of our sons and his family to move into a new house.

The 350th year anniversary in 2019, stretching back to 1669. It all makes New Zealand seem very new and recent.

Hope to be up in Lincs in late May always assuming my mother is still on the go at that stage.

**Jon Cresswell (1985-1992):**

Jon is now back from West Africa and came back to Brigg to recount his adventures to Brigg Army Cadets over the summer.

Sadly he is now 'relegated' to deskwork in Army Headquarters.

He sends best wishes to everyone.

The photo was taken with the cadets in Brigg but it has not been cleared to show the young people.



**George Gunson (1944-1952):**

I have just read your email, and I have also been in touch with Derek last week, which has prompted me to send you this Photo of the two Surrey Musketeers dining at the local new Ivy Restaurant overlooking the Norman (?) Castle Walls of Guildford.

Derek tries to get up to Guildford once a year to renew old acquaintances and charge his batteries (and mine), and we savour some of the fare of local hostelryes. I think that it is fair to say that

we are both well, and standing up to wear and tear. Derek raised the question of attending the Annual Dinner, but on the one hand the distance Guildford-Brigg is rather long and these days I avoid long-distance car-driving; I



believe that I had also mentioned to Derek that we may be going to Colombia or the month of March so this is another reason for not accepting the invitation to be there, as plans are falling into place. Mariela and I married in Bogota, Colombia in 1961, so there is an Anniversary for a start, and while there is no longer any family there, we have not visited for more than ten years and we felt that we should make an effort to see the 'homeland' once again. The plan is to arrive in Barranquilla where I started my banking career learning book-keeping, the main lesson for which is that the Credit side is the one nearest the window; then on to the old City of Cartagena, flying on to Manizales to embark on an organised tour of some Orchid and Coffee Farms, before finally going to Bogota, where I started my Banking Executive career and

visit some friends and old haunts.

We shall be away for three weeks, but the key date is the Carnival in Barranquilla which is linked to Ash Wednesday, before touring around the country, and the Annual Dinner date is in the middle of this programme. We shall think of you.



**Tony Coulson (1953-1959):**

Just a few bits **Brian Bradshaw (1942 to 1947)** is in hospital in Norwich I have attached a photo of when he visited the family farm Brickyard Farm Atterby Carr that is sadly no more. He was born there in 1930. I met Arthur Borrill 1953 to 1959 in the summer he is retired from the family farm he retains the registration number that his father got on a car that he purchased from Stuart Sass just after WW2. We last met in the 1960's.

**Mike Cosser (1961- 1968):**

Whilst 2018 has been a challenging year I continue to recover from my health issues of the Autumn of 2018, and am now back doing some light jogging, and together with Jenny my wife, we are learning Nordic walking, which we are both enjoying. I continue to evangelise for Christ, but I am mostly briefly in central Bexleyheath, rather than all over the London Boroughs. Our grandchildren (now aged seven and three) astound us with their love and amazing energy and zest to learn. We worship at St John's, Welling, and this year were confirmed as Anglicans, (after 37 years as Baptist in my case, and a lifetime in Jenny's) I think I have come to appreciate my wider family more this year, they have been very loving and supportive. We had a great holiday in Tenerife this year, and I went to see the Rolling Stones and Ed Sheeran in concert, in local stadiums in the summer, never too old to enjoy a good tune, I say.

Love and kind regards to all who might remember me; still crazy after all these years. Now there is a good tune.



**Helen Flewker (1992-1999):**

Helen is now back in the UK after her last posting as trade attaché in Ankara. She is now Joint Head of the Gulf Team at MENAD, which is the Foreign Office's Middle East and North Africa Directorate, and her work includes dealing with Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. In her work she occasionally meets another Wrawbyite and ex-Brigg Sixth Form student, **Ben Rawlings**, who works in the Cabinet Office.

**Simon Church (1975-1982):**

I thought I would just drop a quick email to report in from Perth (Western Australia) for 2018  
Apologies for the late correspondence.

Cricket in Australia 2018

The year started off with myself and my son (Simon Thomas) flying to Sydney to catch up with Paul Jenkinson (BGS – 1974-81) and his son Alex  
We attended the third day of the fifth Ashes test match at the SCG.  
It was tremendous occasion, made better by the fact it was the 'Pink' test and funds raised went to help the Jane McGrath Cancer Foundation



On a scorching hot day (35-40c) a few cooling ales were the order of the day, as the four of us joined the travelling Barmy Army for a good old sing song.



PJ and I are in regular contact with each other despite living 4000 km apart in the same country.

Back at home in Perth, I have been fortunate with my work to be involved with the supply and installation of various signage at the key stadiums here in WA.

One such venue is the fabulous 60,000-seater sports stadium (Optus Stadium), which is the new home of cricket here in the west.

As a member of the WACA (Western Australia Cricket Association), I aim to get to as many games as possible. This year saw the first test match (v India) the first ODI (v South Africa) as well as numerous Perth Scorchers (BBL) games.

In my spare time, I have been involved with boxing and martial arts and over the last 5-6 years have had the pleasure to work with both Justin Langer / Adam Voges and the Western Australian cricket team.

In a year that has been difficult for a number of Aussie cricketers (not least our local boy Cameron Bancroft) it has been encouraging to see how hard these young guys work for an opportunity to wear a 'baggy green' cap. I will always support England over Australia in sport, but it is wonderful to get an opportunity to see these tremendous young players in action.

With the Australian Ashes team to be announced soon ... keep an eye out for a few WA lads that could make the touring team

Jhye Richardson, Ashton Agar, D'Arcy Short, AJ Tye, Jason Behrendorff, Josh Philippe and Marcus Stoinis ... not to mention the Marsh brothers (Mitch and Shaun) and Cam Bancroft.

### MotoGP in Malaysia

In November I was forced to miss the ODI cricket game in Perth as I was in Malaysia with my brother Paul (BGS - 1961-65)



Paul and I made the short five-hour flight to Sepang to watch the MotoGP.

Both being avid Valentino Rossi (#46) fans, it was a shame to see him lead for most of the race only to crash out near the end.

Malaysia in November was hot, humid and wet. Practice sessions were delayed and the actual race was moved forward a few hours on the Sunday to ensure that the weather didn't ruin the spectacle.

### Speedway at Pinjar Park

On the subject of motorbikes, last weekend Paul (my brother) and I were at the opening of the new Pinjar Park Speedway track

Special guest and eventual winner of the WA State title was none other than Scunthorpe legend and current World Champion 'Tai Woffinden'



Tai although being born in Scunthorpe was educated in Perth and spends the off-season here with his family in and around Ocean Reef.



Paul and I were delighted when an elderly gentleman introduced himself as Tai's Grandad (Brian) Brian moved to Western Australia many years ago and now follows his World Champion grandson on TV's (Foxtel / Sky channels)

It was a delight for Brian to actual have Tai home and see him win on the opening of the new track.

As a footnote – next weekend sees Tai compete in the prestigious Rob Woffinden Classic again being held at Pinjar Park.

Rob (the son of Brian and father of Tai) sadly lost his battle with cancer some years ago and this special night will see many of the top local and National riders fight it

out for the trophy in the name of this ex Scunthorpe speedway rider.

On a personal note I am scheduled to be holidaying in the UK with my family in April 2019.

It would be lovely to catch up with any old Briggensians that may want to swap a few yarns of days gone by.

### **Cliff Turner (1936-1941):**

Picture taken in garden at 4 Redcombe Lane, Brigg, in summer 1938. I started at BGS in September 1936; Ken started in September 1937.

I am the one in the tie, my brother Ken (on the right) died a couple of years ago.

I am still doing well, for a 93-year old.



### **Helen Cresswell**

Another busy year volunteering. This time the Womens' World Hockey Championships in London. A great event but long, almost three weeks and the heat and noise of London was extremely taxing. Made me think I wouldn't do another. However,... I am now looking forward to a similar role with Spectator services at Headingley for the World Cup cricket in the summer. Leeds of course, so not so far away. Next adventure though is Australia (as a tourist). I am travelling to Brisbane and then Sydney in Feb and March. Hope to meet up with relatives I last saw in 1973! Do get in touch if you are in that area and perhaps we can meet up.

While I was working in Brigg Heritage Centre on Friday **Anne Cox** came in. It was lovely to see her and we had a long chat as I showed her round. She came to Brigg to see **Jean Merris**. She looked very well. Sends her best wishes to everyone.

### **Dr. Martin Scanlon (1970 – 1977)**

Martin visited Brigg in December 2018 and met up with old boys including John Watson, Richard Cook and old University colleagues. Martin has been appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the University of Manitoba. His five-year term started on January 1, 2019.

"I look forward to working together with partners across a wide spectrum to develop research capacity that aligns with the University of Manitoba's priorities in food and agriculture," said Dr. Scanlon. "Collaboration drives us forward because interdisciplinary perspectives often shed new light on the complex problems we encounter in food systems research."





### **Brigg Old Girls 1970**

Former Brigg High School Girls who started in 1970 met in September, from far and wide for a couple of days. Carol Spinks (Frankish), Janet Paige (Bray), Karen Hirst (Whitehand), Liduina Deering (Beckers), Fay Painter (Perry) Gay Fewster (Dixon) and Julie Lawson all had a great time reminiscing, looking at the old school magazine and enjoyed a visit to the Heritage Museum as well as an evening out in Brigg.

If anyone reads this and would like to join in please get in touch, it would be great to hear from you.

**Dominic Jeffrey (1979-1984):** We have recently opened no.3 The Workshop (L'Atelier) and one or two other



changes. Externally is an ongoing process and The Cowshed has had a new kitchen and shower fitted. Below are some photos to catch up. Always open for business and the kettle is on to anyone passing by.

All our best regards to you all.....

Dominic & Jayne, Harley & Meg

Don't forget book direct with us and we can give you 15% off the Booking.com price and 10% off Brittany ferries crossings

[www.leboisgautier.com](http://www.leboisgautier.com)

### **David Selley (1949-1952):**

It is my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, so I have something special to commemorate. I do hope I can make it to one of the 350-year celebrations next year. Let me know the dates when you have them. I visit the UK every year at least twice, so maybe I can fit it into my plans.

This year my wife and I went on a cruise to Antarctica – truly the trip of a lifetime. Travel is one of my passions and I have been to over 100 countries. In 2018 we plan to do a cruise from Reykjavik to Montreal via six stops in Greenland and three in Arctic Canada. Finishing in Montreal means I can just hop on a train home from there.



As you may have heard, we have had a brutally cold winter (although as I write it has warmed up to 3C). I attach two photos I took a couple of weekends ago of a very wintry Niagara Falls.

### **Clerk to the Foundation: Tracey Siddle (1993-1998)**

Tracey been appointed to this position. She is in the process of taking over from Mike Watkins. Recruited thanks to Facebook!

I took a career break late last year as my mother's terminal cancer had worsened. I have now accepted a job starting in the New Year acting as a Senior Advisor to Highways England, advising on best practice across their infrastructure projects.

### **Tim Phipps (1972-1979):**

Tim is now well recovered from his hip replacement operation and back at work, playing golf and looking forward to a less painful 2019.

### **Russell Thompson (1965-72):**

I would be willing to contribute to the redevelopment scheme and to attend the celebrations in the summer. Please advise details/dates of those as soon as they are available.



I was wondering what was the consensus of opinion following the survey concerning the possibility of changing the timing of the Annual Dinner. I have attended twice and on each occasion been caught in heavy snow on my return journey, the last occasion thanks to the second 'Beast from the East', when I only just managed to extricate myself from a snowdrift outside of Hibaldstow thanks to 4 wheel drive!!

**Sue Lewis, Jane Barron (Hornby) and Kay Palmer (Leaning):**

Sue, Jane and myself started at Brigg Girl's High School in **1973** (when first years still had to wear gymslips),



having met on our first day of primary school, so we have known each a very long time! Although we live in different parts of the country we still meet up regularly, and enjoy taking overseas breaks together (along with long suffering hubbies) and have more recently been reliving our adolescence by camping at music festivals (which we actually never did as adolescents!)

Sue lives in Ashby de la Zouche with husband Pete and has spent much of her working life in social care. She now works for the CQC as an Inspector. She has two boys who

are both at University. Jane lives in Wilmslow with her husband, Martin. She has retired, having had a long and successful career with Xerox. I live in Surrey, with husband Jeremy, and I work for the adventure tour operator, Exodus Travels (where I've worked since 1990!).

For those who might struggle to remember us here's a close up from one of our school photos taken in 1976, and a more recent one of us on holiday in Morocco.



My brother still lives in Scawby Brook but now my parents are no longer here I find my visits home are less frequent. I was home this Christmas and enjoyed a good night out on Christmas Eve in The

Yarborough! Jane still has her mum and brother living in Wrawby, so is back in the area on a regular basis. We are all sorry we can't attend the Briggensian's Annual Dinner in March, but we're looking forward to hearing about the events that are planned for celebrating 100 years of the High School, and hope to make it back to Brigg (or home as we still call it!) for one or two.



# BRIGGENSIANS SPORTS 2018:

## Cricket:

The Briggensians cricket match was the first old boys game on our new wicket.



The old boys made up of Nick Beacock, David Baggott, David Willey, Tony Beel, Paul Neal, Simon Dixon, Redmond, Dawson, Adam Dunderdale, Kieran Brooker won the toss and put the young boys in to bat.

The young boys scored 59 in the total of 14 overs with a notable performance from the year 7 student Matthew Oades who scored 22

before being run out on the final ball of the young boys innings. The early wickets of George Thomas and Owen Dunderdale had gone for 1 and 4. Captain Tom Donnelly scored 8 before being bowled by Baggott, Brett Howden scored 5 and a late cameo performance by Alex Smith including 2 fours and a six took the young boys to their total.

The old boys managed to reach their target in the 12th over. David Baggott hit 3 sixes in gaining 19 before retirement. Tony Beel was run out without score by a very sharp throw from Owen Dunderdale. Opener Dixon scored 12 in singles, Willey scored 4, Brooker (Caistor first team captain) scored 14 and Redmond also scored a quick 14.

All those who turned up had a fantastic evening. I would once again like to thank Brigg Biomass for the grant we received for the new wicket and the contribution made from the Briggensians association. I would also like to thank Helen Annis for helping write the bid.

## Hockey, Rounders & Netball

**Hockey:** Sadly, the hockey was cancelled due to lack of support.

**Rounders-** Ladies rounders went ahead in July with good turn out from school but few actual former pupils. A close first half with Briggensians' winning 18 1/2 to 14 at the close. It would be good to see more former pupils becoming involved.





**Netball:** The Netball was on the second Friday night in September. Di Stanley organised the Briggensians team who were too strong for the school, winning 18-5. A good game was played though with the experienced players helping the girls, who both enjoyed and benefitted from it. Again not many of the team were true Briggensians' and again more ex pupils would be welcomed.

My thanks to Sarah Burdett from school who organised the schools teams, Di and Ali Sharp who helped umpire with me.

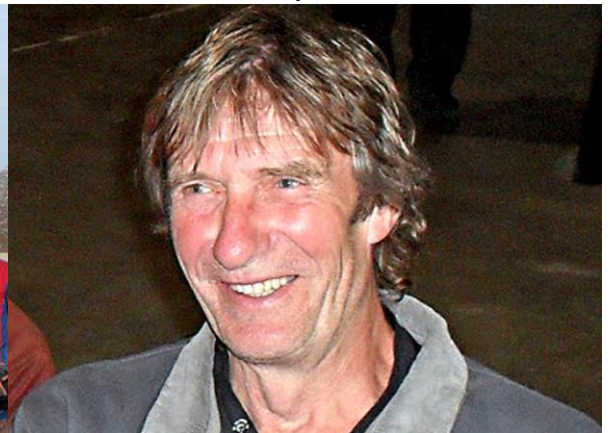
**Helen Cresswell**



**Football:** Ross McFarlane forwarded Dave Lischka's photos of teams from 1924-5 and 1926-7. Maybe your father was in the team?



**Gibby Memorial Match:** Brigg Town Football Club which is the venue for a charity match at the



Hawthorns. It is in memory of the Zebras' former player and Sir John Nelthorpe School teacher, Adrian Gibbons. We presented a cheque to the British Heart Foundation (Brian Taylor MBE) for £1,600. This money was raised in our previous

Adrian Gibbons memorial football matches held in May.

## **Boxing Day +2**

We also had a collection from the players and raised over £200 for the Lindsey Lodge Hospice.

The game itself saw the over 27's take on those over that age ranging from 28 to over 60 (Colin Mumby). The match was a 2-2 draw in the end followed by the usual pub games such as pool, darts, dominoes and a quiz. Experience was invaluable in the end and the old boys won overall. There was a great deal of festive cheer and I hope everyone is keen to play in the third Adrian Gibbons memorial game in May. **Jon**



## Golf: Reports and results of the 2017 matches



### BGS Spring Meeting, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018

It was one of the best days of Spring so far, warmish, with some sunshine, only one shower for 3 holes on the back 9, and it was probably the driest course we had all played on in the early part of this year. A good turnout of 12 players saw **Ted Cox win with 38 points**, closely followed by Dave Howson on 36 and Richard Rivron on 35.

It was a good golfing day overall with most players scoring 30+points.

**Dave Brittain** - Roger Holmes was very generous in letting me share his buggy when we played the Spring Meeting at Elsham because I felt unable to walk the course due to some bug or other.

In the event I went to the GP on the following Wednesday and was immediately sent to hospital having had a heart attack. Quite some shock. The diagnosis was a heart block that is where the electrical signal is not passed between the two chambers of the heart, resulting in a very low pulse rate. Mine was about 30 to 36 and at its very best 42.

I had a pacemaker fitted in Castle Hill Hospital, Hull, on the following Tuesday and am now back feeling ok again and hoping I've got a good battery. Typical of a physicist to have problems with his electrics!

### Past v Present, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Elsham Golf Club

We had a great evening, as forecast the weather was great and course was in excellent condition. Both sides were able to field 3 pairs which resulted in an honourable draw, i.e. a win, loss and draw for each team. It was a close run thing with all 3 matches going down to the 18<sup>th</sup> hole for a decision.

It would be remiss of me not to mention that Nick (Golland) and Ted Cox managed to draw from a 5 up and 5 to play position!





### **BGS Autumn Meeting, 14<sup>th</sup> October**

Unfortunately the rain came slightly later than forecast, which meant it rained heavily most of the Sunday, which ordinarily would have meant a wash out, but 5 'brave' souls still went out.

14 players were scheduled to play, and most turned up at Elsham for the AGM that we held prior to the game as most players did not, understandably, want to play in the appalling conditions.



On a 2nd 9 countback, Andy Longden was this year's winner with 31 points, with Nick Golland also on 31 and Ross McFarlane on 29 - well done Andy!

Key points of this year's AGM:

- \* Dave Brittain was re-elected President.
- \* Ted Cox was re-elected Vice-President
- \* Dave Harness was re-elected Secretary/Treasurer
- \* Nick Golland was elected Captain

- many thanks Nick

\* Jon Taylor was elected Vice-Captain

The President thanked Allyson Golland, the retiring Captain, for a very good year. He also reminded everyone that 2019 is an important year for the schools with the 'Grammar School' celebrating it's 350 year anniversary and the 'High School' celebrating it's 100 year anniversary. There will be celebratory events happening and we should consider how we, as individuals and as a golf society, can be involved.

Many thanks to you all for your support during 2018, and here's looking to a great 2019!

Dave Harness



# Ties and Badges for Sale:

The association has available for sale a few ties and a new pin badge.

Members who would like to purchase these items can:

1. Append a note to their Dinner booking form and add the appropriate payment or
2. Email Helen Cresswell requesting items are reserved for purchase at the Dinner or
3. Send an S.A.E and remittance to Helen



The very attractive pin badge is approx. 2cm x 2.5 cm with a butterfly securing to a pin on the reverse

**Badges £10 each      Ties £10 each**

## New members:

**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 make contact giving their details:

The Briggensians' Association, c/o **Helen Cresswell**, 3 Westrum Lane, Brigg, North Lincolnshire. DN20 9EY. Telephone: (01652) 653216 Email: [hcresswell@westrum.co.uk](mailto:hcresswell@westrum.co.uk)

## For those using the postal service:

### I/We have received the 20018/19 Newsletter

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Postage is charged by size so we ask you to **send to Secretary, Helen Cresswell, 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 2019/20 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 2019/20 Newsletter or web site to: [dave.brittain@talktalk.net](mailto:dave.brittain@talktalk.net)



# Briggensians' Association

## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dinner 2019 - Booking Form

**I will** be attending the Briggensians' Dinner on **Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2019** (application closing date: **Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March**) and enclose a cheque made payable to the Briggensians Association

to the value of £ ..... for ..... place(s) at **£25.00 each.**

Tables are usually for  
6, 8, or 10 places

Name: .....

Years .....to.....

Address: ....., .....

Post Code: .....

Email: .....

(please write clearly)

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

| Contact Person's Details: |              | Starter |                        |      |  | Main       |        |                      | Dessert           |               |                   | Special Dietary Needs |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------|------------------------|------|--|------------|--------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Name:                     | Tel. No.     | Email:  | (please write clearly) |      |  |            |        |                      |                   |               |                   |                       |
| Guests Names              | School Dates | Melon   | Tomato Soup            | Pâté |  | Roast Beef | Salmon | Butternut Squash (v) | Raspberry Roulade | Fruit Crumble | Cheese & Biscuits |                       |
|                           |              |         |                        |      |  |            |        |                      |                   |               |                   |                       |
|                           |              |         |                        |      |  |            |        |                      |                   |               |                   |                       |
|                           |              |         |                        |      |  |            |        |                      |                   |               |                   |                       |
|                           |              |         |                        |      |  |            |        |                      |                   |               |                   |                       |
|                           |              |         |                        |      |  |            |        |                      |                   |               |                   |                       |
|                           |              |         |                        |      |  |            |        |                      |                   |               |                   |                       |

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

**The Briggensians Dinner Secretary**, c/o Rachael Harvey, Sir John Nelthorpe School,  
Wrawby Road, Brigg. DN20 8DS Tel. 01652 656551