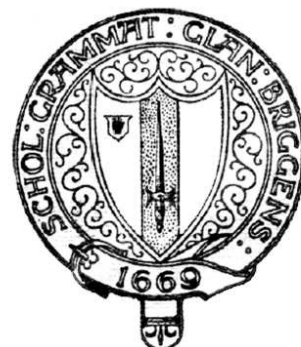


BRIGGENSIANS' NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2015



Fortitudine.



Briggensians' Association 38th Annual Dinner

Saturday, 14th March 2015, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.
£22.50 Elsham Golf Club £22.50

Guest Speaker: Nick Grafton

Booking slips are located on the last pages of this Newsletter

Dates for your Diary

39th Annual Dinner 2016

Proposed Date: Saturday, 19th March 2016
Elsham Golf Club

Summer Sports 2015

School Field, 6.00PM

Cricket: Friday, 5th June 2015
Rounders: Tuesday, 9th June 2015

Youth VS Experience

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

Winter Sports 2015

School Field, 6.00PM

Football: Friday, 11th Sept. 2015
Netball: Friday, 11th Sept. 2015

Youth VS Experience

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

**Football + Pub Games,
27th December 2015–10.30AM start**

Golf Section

Spring Meeting 12.00 noon, Sunday, 12th April 2015

Autumn Meeting 12.00 noon, Sunday, 4th October 2015

Past vs present 4.00 PM, Monday, 6th July 2015

Requests to play, please contact Ted Cox: ted@15mw.karoo.co.uk
Tel. 01482 847353

Annual Dinner Guest Speaker

Oh my God – what four decades at SJN can do to a body!



Nicholas John Grafton aged 59 years.

I was educated at St George's School, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

During Sixth Form I trained as a monitor for The Council for Colony Holidays for Schoolchildren and worked on The Puffin Book Club Colony Holiday.

1973: On leaving school, I worked for a while during a gap year for Penguin books in the Puffin Book department under the editorship of Kaye Webb. This involved preparing for the annual exhibition and working on events for young readers across the country attended by a variety of well-known authors. (Claim to fame is that I once took tea with Roald Dahl!)

1974: I went to train to teach Drama at London University Institute of Education and worked at Penguin books intermittently throughout my time as a student.

At the end of my training I was offered a job at my final teaching practice school in Croydon but before the contract was signed, Croydon Council decided to implement a policy of redeployment in order to manage education cuts so I ended up without a job at the beginning of July which meant that I had to look anywhere in the UK if I wanted a teaching post.

The job in Brigg was advertised towards the end of August and I duly applied. The interview took place on the second day of the autumn term. There is a story behind this that I will keep for the after dinner speech!

(Had I not got the job in Brigg, I would have taken a position that I had been offered in the PR department at Puffin books and pursued a career there.)

1977: Appointed by Brian Williams at the one-year-old SJN to teach Drama and RE (I had an A level in RE)- Somehow I dropped the R.E. fairly swiftly!

In my first year I directed "The Gondoliers".. and for the next twenty years, provided an annual dramatic production including Orpheus in the Underworld, Pride and Prejudice, Caucasian Chalk Circle, Grease, Blood Brothers, the Importance of Being Earnest - Bedroom Farce - an eclectic mix!

In January **1979**, moved into the boarding house to become junior housemaster.

In September **1979** became Head of Drama.

In April **1981**, married Florence, the French Assistante in Bayeux Cathedral - several members of staff attended the wedding.

Became Head of Lardelli house sometime during the 80s!

In September **1990** became Senior Sixth Form Tutor. - a Head of Year role.

In **1992** we introduced Drama and Theatre Studies at A level to the Sixth Form curriculum and I have enjoyed a 100% pass rate ever since!

In January **1998**, I took over as acting Director of Sixth Form and this became permanent 12 months later; I remained in the post, on the Senior Leadership Team until retirement.

In **2013**, we entered students for the National Theatre Connections Festival which resulted in taking the performance of a new play to the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, played in front of a paying audience!

Our two children, Benjamin and Philippa, both of whom attended the school and sixth form, then moved on to Durham and York universities respectively. Ben' is now a journalist and editor on *Britain Magazine* and Philippa a production editor on *Digital Photographer* magazine.

I have maintained my interest in performing and have been a member of The Glanford Players, and then Broughton Dramatic Society for many years.

Finally, I retired in August **2013** but still teach A level and some GCSE part time - rapidly becoming '**The Old Retainer**'!

Annual Dinner Menu

Starter

Cream of Vegetable Soup

or

Melon Carpaccio

or

Prawn Cocktail



Main

Feather Blade Beef and mini Yorkshire Puddings

or

Salmon with Herb Crust



Vegetarian Option

Mediterranean Mushroom Tartlet



Dessert

Sticky Chocolate Pudding

or

Lemon Meringue Cheese Cake

or

Cheese and Biscuits



Tea and Coffee

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. 22nd SEPTEMBER 2014

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 20013-14

I have now completed my 2 year term as Chairman of the Briggensians Association and 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 Martin Robinson. Unfortunately, over the past year, we have again lost some notable Briggensians but it was pleasing to see some younger members attending the annual dinner and I look forward to seeing them again.

I would also like to thank our retiring head, Linda Hewlett-Parker, for all the help and assistance she has given to the Briggensians Association over her term in office. I look forward to the Association enjoying a similar successful relationship with her successor, Mr Rob Biglands.

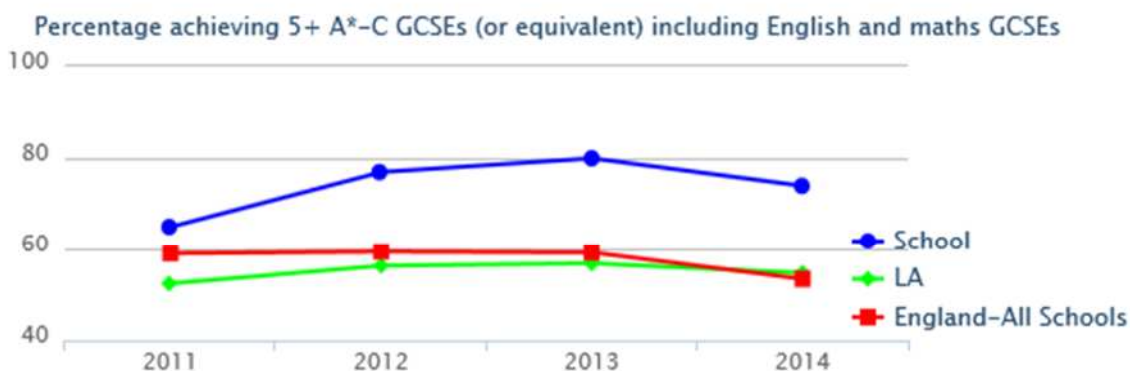
With regard to the sports events, all have been well attended and continue to serve as a useful opportunity for past pupils to renew old friendships.

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

Finally, I would like to pass on my best wishes to my successor, Brigid Vaughan, and I hope she enjoys her term in office as much as I have done. Keith Cawkwell – (1973-1980)

Headteacher's Report

The examination performance of students in 2014 has once again placed Sir John Nelthorpe School at the top of the DfE National GCSE league table for North Lincolnshire, with 74% of students achieving at least 5 A*-C grades including in English and in Maths. Indeed, **this level of performance places Sir John Nelthorpe School in second position nationally** when compared with the fifty five schools with the same intake profile as ours (based on English and Maths Key Stage 2 results); being beaten to first place by just 1 percentage point by Walthamstow School for Girls. Whilst those of you who follow trends in performance may have noted that this year's results represent a downward-turn over the last three years, it is worth noting the impact of the most recent government changes to examination performance data (first entry results only, adjustments to grade boundaries, reduction in the number of 'eligible' qualifications, etc.) as well as the impact on the national profile (shown below):



Performance in the English Baccalaureate was the highest in the Local Authority again this year at 40% of students achieving grade C or higher in English, Maths, 2 Science subjects, History or Geography, and a Modern Foreign Language. This year the Local Authority average in this category was 21% and the national average was 23%.

The percentage of students making at least expected progress (3 levels between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4) was also very strong at 85% in English and 79% in Maths, against Local Authority averages of 71% and 65% and National Averages of 72% and 66% respectively.

We are very pleased with our excellent **A-Level** results also, representing the culmination of a tremendous amount of hard work from both the students and staff.

A-Level Results: Pass Rate = 99% A*-C = 67% A*-B = 44%

There were some high individual achievements: Joe McWilliam achieving A* in Biology and Drama and A's in Chemistry and Maths, he is now reading Biomedical Science at Durham University. Ronan Musselwhite achieved an A* in Maths and A's in Biology, Drama and Chemistry, and is now reading Medicine at Manchester University. Ben Jowett achieved an A* in Chemistry and A's in Physics and Maths and is reading Medicine at Manchester University.

94% of students successfully gained their first choice university; others are starting on apprenticeships or moving into employment.

Overall, the academic performance of the students in 2014 was outstanding.

The programmes of curricular and extra-curricular enrichment have continued to pervade the academic year with students experiencing opportunities to visit countries as far afield as the Himalayas, under the leadership of Mr. Brister as part of the World Challenge Expedition programme, or many other locations much closer to home. The recent commemoration of the First World War saw the culmination of a massive project funded by the 'Big Lottery' and conducted by a dedicated group of students at the school under the leadership and guidance of Mr Waite. Many residents in Brigg and beyond were moved by the stunning collection of facts and artefacts as well as an impressive video documenting the whole project, and a Remembrance Day Trail which allowed residents and visitors to Brigg to explore the locations of the former residences of all the Brigg Grammar School young men who lost their lives in the Great War. Since that event, students have been interviewed by the local television broadcasting company 'Estuary TV' and their story has been televised to thousands of homes. This is well-deserved recognition for such an incredibly worthwhile project.

The whole community was shocked and deeply saddened by the loss of Mr. Gibbons in the summer term. Students showed their respect by releasing balloons in memory of 'Gib' and raising money for the British Heart Foundation.

More recently, in December the school was inspected by Ofsted and has been judged to be a Good school (having formerly been judged to be a Requires Improvement school in December 2013). The hard work and dedication of the staff, Governors and the students made me feel very proud to be the Headteacher at this wonderful school, however, I have made clear my intentions to move the school ever-forwards in pursuit of becoming an Outstanding school.

The school has a number of significant challenges ahead but within each challenge there are opportunities. Despite long-overdue improvements to 'per pupil' funding for young people in North Lincolnshire, to take effect in the new budget 2014/15, there is still much to be done to ensure the best provision of resources and facilities for the current and future cohorts at Sir John Nelthorpe School. The school buildings are looking tired in many areas, and the cost of addressing some of the more pressing needs is a challenge. I can at least say with confidence that the quality of experience that students receive within these largely outdated and inadequately funded buildings is second to none in the Local Authority and beyond (a claim that cannot be made by many establishments which have far 'superior' facilities...). Perhaps this is a perfect example of how the school is demonstrably true to its motto '**Fortis et Fidelis**', placing the education of the students at the core of its commitment. One day, perhaps, Sir John Nelthorpe School's unquestionable academic and sporting successes over the years will finally be recognised and responded to in the form of significant capital funding investment..... I'm sure it can only be a matter of time!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual dinner in March. **Rob Biglands**

BRIGG SIXTH FORM EXAMINATION SUMMARY 2014 GCE 'A' LEVELS

Directors of Sixth Form, Mark Bradley and Matt Mosey are very pleased with the achievements of students in the college. As the Headteacher has reported the pass rate for Advanced Level examinations is 99% underlining the hard work and effort of all students. The top grades of A*→C were achieved by 67% of all candidates with 1 in 3 results at A* and 44% at A or B grade. These A level results, in total, reflect excellent progression from GCSE results two years ago.

We are very pleased with our excellent A-Level results this year. They are the culmination of a tremendous amount of hard work from both the students and staff.

Many individual achievements were outstanding especially from Joe McWilliam achieving A* in Biology and Drama and A's in Chemistry and Maths, he will go on to read Biomedical Science at Durham University. Ronan Musselwhite achieved an A* in Maths and A's in Biology, Drama and Chemistry, he will read Medicine at Manchester University. Elliot Kerman achieved an A* in Maths and Physics and A in Further Maths, he will read Astrophysics at Manchester University and Ben Jowett achieved an A* in Chemistry and A's in Physics and Maths he will also read Medicine at Manchester University. Emma Hall achieved AAAB and Lucy Slack AAB.

Achievements for all students continue to enable them to access their chosen courses at University with 94% of students successfully gained their first choice; others are starting on apprenticeships or moving into employment.

We wish them all good luck!!

The Advanced Subsidiary Level results have provided students with a sound foundation for success at A2 next summer; both directors look forward to a productive second year for these students in the college.

Congratulations to Students and Staff on the excellent A level and GCSE examination results, best in the county.

Brigg Sixth Form Prizes 2014

Art	-	Taylor Prize	-	Emma Hall
Art & Design	-	Taylor Prize	-	Conor Drury
Art	-	Vale Parents' Association Prize	-	Caroline Hicks
Biology	-	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	-	Joseph McWilliam
Biology	-	Derek Appleyard Memorial Prizes	-	Caroline Hicks & Ronan Musselwhite
Business Studies	-	Henthorn Prize	-	Emily Ward
Chemistry	-	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	-	Benjamin Jowett
Chemistry	-	EF Brown Memorial Prize	-	Ronan Musselwhite
English Literature	-	Briggensian Prize	-	Laura Johnson
English Literature	-	Spilman Prize	-	Richard Hall
Geography	-	Brigg Sixth Form Subject Prize	-	Caroline Hicks
History	-	Taylor Prizes	-	Richard Hall & Lucy Slack
History	-	Sargeant Prize	-	Michael Saxby
ICT	-	The Vale Parents' Association Prize-		Bethany Moulds
Mathematics	-	Briggensian Prizes	-	Dominic Bishop & Elliott Kerman
Media Studies	-	Vale Parents' Association Prizes	-	Deanna Hammond-Blackburn & Molly Rickards
Physical Education-		Brigg Sixth Form Subject Prize	-	Dominic Bishop
Photography	-	Baysgarth School Subject Prize	-	Molly Rickards
Physics	-	Stephenson Prize	-	Elliott Kerman
Physics	-	Nelthorpe Foundation Prize	-	Benjamin Jowett
Product Design	-	Brigg Sixth Form Subject Prize	-	Emma Hall
Psychology	-	Vale Parents' Association Prizes	-	Laura Johnson & Bethany Moulds
Music	-	Morris Prize	-	Kyle Bartle

Lardelli Prizes -	For Progress & Effort in -	
	Biology	- Amber Bonser
	Biology	- Dominic Bishop
	Biology	- Kieran Brooker
	Biology	- Michael Saxby
	Physical Education	- Cassie Green
	Mathematics	- Ronan Musselwhite
	Drama, English Language & BTEC Music	- Rayanne Brakenbury
	Contributions to Brigg Sixth Form –	Kieran Brooker Naomi Stanfield Jordine Wadge
	Howitt Award for Achievement -	Elliott Kerman
	Cusworth-Preston Award for Achievement –	Jospeh McWilliam
	Brigg Sixth Form Special Award -	Brodie Atkinson

Lower Sixth Prizes 2014

Art & Design	Darcey Ingham
Biology	Joshua Rooker
Biology	Laura Macbeath
Business Studies	Amy Mettam
Chemistry	Ryan Davies
Chemistry	Michael Taylor
English Literature	Rebecca Reynolds
English Literature	Francesca Noton
Geography	Amy Mettam
Health & Social Care	Emma Riggall
Health & Social Care	Jade Fox
History	Francesca Noton
History	Katie Chapman
ICT	Lucy Martin
Mathematics	Katie Bell
Mathematics	Michael Taylor
Media Studies	Rebecca Reynolds
German	Rio Bray
Music	Grace Smith
Physical Education	Joshua Rooker
Physics	Michael Taylor
Psychology	Laura Macbeath
Contribution to Sixth Form Award - Mathematics.....	Amy Mettam
Progress and Effort Awards in: Art	Alisha Evans
Biology	Francesca Noton
Biology	Olivia Smith
Drama & Theatre Studies	Lucy Gibbons
Drama & Theatre Studies	James Boyle
English Literature	John Martin
English Literature	Georgina Jenks
Mathematics	Sarah Saxby
Product Design	Joe Stothard
Psychology	Olivia Smith

Destinations 2014

Brodie Atkinson	University of Lincoln	Drama
Lucy Barker	Bishop Grosseteste University	Education Studies with English
Kyle Bartle	Hull College	Music Performance
Dominic Bishop	Durham University	Sports, exercise & physical activity
Amber Bonser	York University	Psychology
Jack Bowers	Derby University	Construction Management & Property Development
Rayanne Brakenbury	Lincoln University	Drama
Kieran Brooker	Sports Placement	Cricket - Australia for sixth months
Megan Chapman	York St John University	Primary Education (3-7)
Rebecca Crisp	University of Derby	Primary Education
Laura Dibdin	University of Central Lancashire	Business (Foundation Entry)
Benjamin Dowell	North Lindsey College Lincoln University (2015)	Art & Design Foundation Degree Product Design
Conor Drury	Leeds College of Art	Creative Advertising
Thomas-Lee Dunderdale	Hull University	20th Century History
Jamie Ellis	Teeside University	Computer Science
William Fussey	Brigg Sixth Form	
Thomas Gander	HETA Apprenticeship	
Cassie Green	North Lindsey College	Health & Social Care
Emma Hall	Leeds Trinity University	Film & Television Studies
Richard Hall	The University of York	History / Politics (Equal)
Thomas Hammond	Myerscough College	Football Training
Deanna Hammond-Blackburn	Huddersfield University	Film Studies & English Literature
Caroline Hicks	Hull University	Biology
Rebecca Jackson-Stephenson	Grimsby Institute	Stage makeup
Laura Johnson	Hull University	Midwifery
Benjamin Jowett	University of Manchester	Medicine
Elliott Kerman	University of Manchester	Physics with Astrophysics

Anders Lang	Chester University	History
Laurenne Lethbridge	Leeds Metropolitan University	Music Production & Performance
Alexander Major	Newcastle College	DJ and Electronic Music
Joseph McWilliam	Durham University	Biomedical Science
Bethany Moulds	Gap Year	Further Training Midwifery 2015
Poppy-Jo Mullen	North Lindsey College	Placement in Child Care
Ronan Musselwhite	University of Manchester	Medicine
Caitlin Parkinson	Employment	Management Training for M & S
Celine Pohl	Derby University	Primary Education
Kimberley Potter	Gap Year	Seeking Employment
Thomas Richardson	North Lindsey College	A.A.T. Accounting
Molly Rickards	Apprenticeship	HBP Systems - Bus/Admin
Madeline Ryder	Coventry University	English & Creative Writing
Jessica Sargent		Employment
Michael Saxby	Heriot-Watt University Edinburgh	Architectural Engineering
Alexander Sciolti	Somerset College	Apprenticeship at Emarty Academy Music School
Lucy Slack	University of Hull	Politics & History
Christopher Smaller	Bishop Grosseteste University	Education Studies with Sport
Maxwell Southern	Northumbria University	History
Sean Sprakes	Elsham Golf Club 2015 Lincoln University	Apprenticeship Green-keeping Sport Business Management
Naomi Stanfield	Bishop Grosseteste University	Education Studies & SENI
Rachael Stanton		Employment
Oliver Tomlinson	Apprenticeship	North lincs Libraries
Jordine Wadge	Coventry University	Adult Nursing
Emily Ward	University of Hull	Education & Early Years
Samuel Welton	Sports Placement University of Derby (2015)	Cricket - Australia Business & Management
Christopher Woodliffe	Grimsby Institute	BA Games Design
Samuel Wormald	Buckinghamshire New University	Football Business & Finance
Kieran Wright	Manchester Met. University	Applied Physics

Web Site:

I am very grateful to Jonathan Woodliffe who has been liaising with Jim Flewker and has resurrected the web-site. This has been needed for some time and is being brought up to date; there may be a few things missing or not working if we haven't checked them off yet.

You may wish to look at the revised site which is now to be found at www.briggensians.co.uk

Let us know if you find things we still need to correct.

N.B. this was previously a .net site and you will need to change your search conditions if you have the site bookmarked.

NEWS OF OLD BRIGGENSIANS 2014/15

Staff Related Section:



The Briggensians Association says welcome to the new Head of Sir John Nelthorpe, Rob Biglands.

This clip from the Scunthorpe Telegraph shows Rob determined to continue the school's great reputation and exam success both at GCSE and A level.

Rob comes with an impressive track record and experience as Deputy of another high performing school at Healing. He has made a great start to his tenure and was treated to a visit by Ofsted that graded the school as 'good' so he is successfully on his way. We congratulate Rob on his appointment to 'the best school in the county' and look forward to working with him.



From Gamesmaker to Clydesider

Like many of the other Olympic Gamesmakers, I wanted a repeat of the "once in a lifetime experience" of the Olympics. And the Commonwealth Games did not disappoint!

A much more relaxed and smaller competition, with the venues, not on one large site, but spread around the city and beyond.

The build-up was much the same, with training, organising transport and hunting down accommodation options. To my surprise, I was allocated to the Diving at the Royal Commonwealth Pool, which, after looking to stay in Glasgow, I found out was actually in Edinburgh!

Once more I was in Spectator services, which as the name implies, is all about looking after the spectators – welcoming, information, ticketing, seating and exiting. At our Arena meeting we saw the pool for the first time and it certainly had the Wow factor. Not very large, it only held 750 spectators which included the VIP and a family section, but everyone was very close to the action. The diving was only on for four days so it seemed a far less stressful experience, so much so, that I had purchased four tickets for other events.

The first day most people thought we were mad and had lost our way from Glasgow, but after the diving was televised, they realised that it actually was in Edinburgh. More interest was shown and on the Saturday lots of spectators came our way – sadly in the pouring rain, but we entertained them with Scottish dancing and 'Singing in the Rain' routines with our brollies! I

loved it!

A farewell party, lots of photos, many memories re-lived, sadly it all came to an end.

My abiding memory: the absolute silence and stillness when a diver took their starting position, quickly followed by the deafening roar of applause and cheering when they entered the water.

So was it worth it? You bet! My next project? Not sure! But as they said in Glasgow: Bring it on!

Helen Cresswell

John Knox,[BGS staff 1966-68]: I'm sorry I'm too far away to attend the dinner and even more sorry to hear of John Slack's death. I remember him very well and with great affection. We once went on a steam-hauled train trip from Doncaster to Edinburgh and back. I went on the Lincolnshire cruise in 1967 with Dot. Sadly there can't be many of us BGS teachers from the 60s still alive. One who certainly is **Ralph Tapper**. He rang me up from the USA just before Christmas (2014) and is in very good form. Thanks a lot for keeping me in touch.

Obituaries

Ivor H. Ward: Brian Thornalley emailed to say that his brother-in-law, a pupil at BGS in the 1940s, died late in January 2014-- too late to be reported in the previous Newsletter.

This year has been another sad year for loss of much loved and respected staff.



John Slack, has sadly died. Members of a certain vintage will remember John as a Geography and Geology teacher, keen sportsman and Railway enthusiast. John taught in Brigg in the 1960s and 1970s before settling with his wife Dot in St Neots near Cambridge. Sadly John had MS but his strong determination to fight his condition saw him try numerous treatments, many experimental, to alleviate his condition; he was a real fighter.

John continued to teach Geology from his wheelchair, wrote several books one of which was advertised in the Briggensians Newsletter last year. John contracted pneumonia, in his weakened state was unable to shake it off, and sadly passed away but he would be proud of the fact that the MS didn't get him directly. John was cremated in March at Cambridge Crematorium and a number of

Briggensians attended the service and wake.

Peter Thompson – (1958-1965): writes that John Slack, 72, lived in Barnetby and was a keen hockey player for Brigg and general sportsman, as well as a railway enthusiast.

In the 1970s he moved on to teach, first to Northumberland and then to St Neots near Cambridge. John continued to teach Geology from his wheelchair and wrote several books.

His fascination for railways had developed in his time living in Barnetby and he researched a story about how during the 2nd World War two wagons filled with hard core were deliberately placed on the tracks to block any invasion force that might use the route following landings through the Humber. He had even found the two plates from the wagons and his story was featured in the Market Rasen Mail.

Andrew Graeme – (1964-1967): John Slack was a brilliant teacher. I once hit him with a treacle pudding, mistaking his shadow coming around the corner of the refectory for a friend of mine (who thoroughly deserved to be hit with a treacle pudding!)

John Slack was young, enthusiastic and inspiring and I read with dismay that this brilliant man had to fight MS.

David Arbuckle – 1961-1968): I do remember John Slack I think he might even have been our form master for a year. I seemed to remember him joining some time after I joined BGS in 1961. I would say that when you joined it would have been about the same time. (Ed: DB-1973-2001) I don't remember him staying to the end when I left in 1968. There was also another Geography teacher a Mr. Holmes I seem to remember.

He was obviously a very determined and courageous character as it would not have been a good end suffering from MS. Tempus fugit sic transit gloria mundi - as **Tigger Richards** would have said.

Liz Shorthouse (Dejardin)- (1962-1969) I think Jack Slack -as he used to be called- must have left in 1968 because his wife taught us Biology at the High School and she left half way through our A level, much to our chagrin, as we really rated

her teaching. I went to Durham in September 1969 after a year with another biology teacher. My fiancé Mike and I met the Slacks in Durham once for drinks when Mike had met John playing hockey.

Mike Pearson – (1961-1968): I was saddened to hear of John Slack's passing. I studied A-level Geography with him – pleased to say I got an A! But it was through John that a group of us developed an interest in geology – **Ric Weightman** going on to study at Imperial College. He organised several legendary field trips, notably to the Isle of Arran, recalled fondly.

John also nurtured my life-long interest in jazz, taking us to concerts in Leicester and elsewhere by famous American players and groups including, I think, the Modern Jazz Quartet.

I had renewed contact with John in recent years and he has been very generous about some of my writing that draws on geographical ideas. And, I was delighted to receive copies of some of his own work notably 'The Secret Life of St Neots Station' which is of course about his other love – railways – but also much more. Tod Henthorn would have appreciated such close attention to local detail.

I remember John's youthful enthusiasm, the interest he took in us and the real support he gave us at a point when we were making crucial decisions about our future lives. I emailed Ric to let him know. We'll remember John.

Alan Vickers – (1962-1969): I was saddened to hear of John Slack's passing, a teacher I liked from the outset and, as I remember, someone who was very much a contemporary of yours (DB). He had the misfortune to have me as a Geology student!!

Richard Rogers – (1954-1961): During my lunchtime yesterday I had the notion to see where a few of my old schoolteachers were with the aid of the internet and tried John Slack first.

I was cheered to find an article by him, but immediately saddened on reading your blog with the note from David Brittain. John was one of the most inspirational teachers I knew, he somehow had that knack of relating to the pupils and getting his enthusiasm across. He sparked my interest in Geology that is still there to this day, many of the rock samples I collected on the Isle of Arran and on the tour to North Cape are still cluttering the shelves of my office along with others from around the world.

It is some 40 years since I last saw him but obviously he made a great impact.

Dave Sergeant – (1960-1967): reports that **Dorothy Dimbleby (nee Lingard)**, Bishop Norton, died March 2nd 2014 aged 89.

He asks “Do we have any records of those who attended Brigg High School in former years? Yesterday I attended the funeral of my Mum's cousin (Dorothy Dimbleby, nee Lingard) and was surprised to hear in the address that she attended the High School including during the war. She was born in June 1922 so I expect it would be from around 1933. Any information would be interesting.”

Helen Cresswell responded, “We don't have any school records, except from a couple of school reunions that have taken place. Sadly many documents were lost when the basement was flooded in the 1990's. I do know a couple of ladies who live locally who may have been at school with Dorothy and I will continue to enquire and report back my findings. My mother was at the school too but not for long and about 10 years earlier, my uncle was at BGS around that time but he died just over a year ago.”

Emma King – (1980-1987): **Andrew King** who was a pupil at SJN from 1977 to 1984 and sent the sad news about his sister **Emma** who was a pupil from 1980 - 1987 who had died recently

John David Harding: Died peacefully, in the presence of his loving family, at Scunthorpe General Hospital, on 12th July 2014, aged 78 years. John was the beloved husband of Avril, much loved father of Tim and Sue, dear father-in-law of Val and Donald, a loving grandad of Matthew, Jonathan, Anna, Madeleine and Isabelle, and loved brother of Geoffrey. A service to celebrate John's life was held at St Bartholomew's Church, Appleby on Friday 8th August at 2pm, followed by interment in the Churchyard.

Everyone remembers John as an inspirational teacher of English and especially Literature where he enthused so many and had so much to impart. Following retirement, he continued to enjoy his garden, pipe and occasional pint. He took on further Open University courses and stretched his wings to include science and research into education.

Karen Rouse (Massarella) – (1971-1978): I was particularly sad to hear about John Harding. I still remember him as an inspirational teacher.

All is well with our growing family - 4 grandchildren and 2 more in progress! It's becoming something of a mission to get round them all, but it keeps us young (ish). I am now working at the University of Central Lancashire. My role has changed recently and I'm starting to do some lecturing alongside my examination duties.

Enid Brocklesby nee Bowen 1952-1958: Enid was Brigg Town Mayor 1991 to 1992 and also President of the Brigg Chamber of Trade from 1995 to 2010. She came from Keithley in Yorkshire and came with her parents who ran Bowens Bakery so frequently used for their 'sticky buns' by pupils at the school. Enid married Bill in 1963 and they had children Claire and Chris. Enid had fought cancer for several years and died at home aged 74.

John Lyon: PJ Dodd sent us an email to say that his uncle, John Lyon had passed away. John was at the school during the war years although he had to leave just before his A-levels (or whatever the equivalent was in those days) to join the family bakery business following his father's death in 1948. There are still likely to be Old Boys around who will remember.

Dr. Kenneth Proctor – (1956-1964): Sadly Ken died on 19th May 2014 and the service was held at his home village of Scawby on 29th May. Ken qualified in medicine at Liverpool University and initially worked at Scunthorpe General Hospital, before joining the practice of Doctors Richard and John Foxton. He began working at branches in Scunthorpe and Brigg but later concentrated on the surgery in Brigg.

He spent 14 years as a senior partner at the Riverside Surgery, before taking early retirement in January 2000. He was also a member of the local medical committee and was one of the founders of the former Crosby Nursing Home.

Ken was an 'old school' doctor, caring and compassionate making time for his patients, even to his own detriment, for over 30 years. He loved his work and he will have treated many Boarders when he was assigned to the house. He was also Medical Officer to Scunthorpe Football Club in the 1980s.

He was a great supporter of the Briggensians and former President, helping with the Newsletter and keeping contact with many past pupils. Ken was also a Foundation Governor and supported the school in that role. He will be sadly missed; indeed I am missing his input right now as I compile the Newsletter.

Forced into premature retirement through a serious heart attack he had to take life easier but then was stricken by cancer but fought on until the last.

Mike Hookham- (1949-1956): Mike was a well known figure in Brigg having been Mayor from 1988 to 1989. He was very approachable and always considered all opinion in his work as a local councillor. Mike was passionate about the Ancholme River activities having been President of the Rowing Club and a member of that club since the 50s and a committee member almost every year since he joined.

Adrian Gibbons –(1962-1970):

Much was said last year about the sad loss of Gibby but the Briggensian cannot let this publication pass without adding some of the emails reflecting on this much-loved member of staff.

Howard Paynter – (1960-1964): When Brian Williams died, he was 90+ (if I recall correctly) and this is a good age and acceptable, whereas 63 is just not fair.

I remember from my A level Latin with Tigger Richards the quotation from Horace, "Carpe diem..." i.e. "Seize the day, counting as little as possible on the day to come".

Gibby did just that.



PJ Dodd – (1953-1959): What a send off! His family must have been very moved by the turn out. Unfortunately I was one of the few hundred who didn't manage to get into the church. I'm sure this suggestion will already have been covered but for the benefit of those of us who heard nothing of the service, could you please arrange for the eulogy to be printed in the next Briggensians' Newsletter.

Eulogy by Richard Rivron for Gibb.

I know that we have all got our own special memories of Gibb ...and how lovely it was to hear those of Kelley and Lucy.

There is a corner **in** the Upper school staff room which is affectionately known as Gibb's midden ... whilst sifting through it we came across a diary that Jane hadn't seen before. Gibb had written it a year after his first heart attack.

Of course Gibb being Gibb ... his idea of recuperation was to organise a ski trip for 40 pupils to Austria.

The diary was written whilst on an inspection visit to check out the hotel and the skiing.

And ...**in** true Gibb fashion it had been written in one of Lucy's English exercise books ... along with 50 quiz questions.

Whilst too long to read in full, Jane has asked me to read the foreword which I think shows a side of Gibb that not many of us knew.

Born in Scunthorpe in 1951 - that makes me 61. Don't think I'm the average 61 year old.

I still play football, love golf, go skiing and quizzes - maybe I am the average old fart ... apart from the football.

I teach PE ... have done now for 35 years ... in my old school ...and love the job ... in fact it's more like a hobby I get paid for doing. School gets excellent results but is suffering from being old and run down. The kids are ace ... by and large.

Married Jane ... a former pupil ... 20 years ago. Marrying me was the furthest thing on her mind in my so called 'boring' geography lessons.

We have two 'usually' wonderful girls ... Kelley and Lucy. Kelley will be a teacher one day ... Lucy probably won't ... but they are both brilliant with kids and enjoy their company.

Football teaches you all about life ... how to win and how to lose... how to 'play the game' - being fair and to enjoy it whilst you

can ... local football that is ... not the overpaid prima donna divers you see on the tele.

Oh yes ... and the heart attack last year has made me determined to enjoy everything I can ... carefully ... so I enjoy growing old and seeing my kids grow up!

I feel honoured to have been Gibb and Jane's best man back in 1991... and having known him for some 37 years I feel very lucky to have so many great memories of a very special person.

Mike Beardmore – (1957-1964): I am greatly saddened to hear of Gibby's sudden death. He was a great character, an extremely popular and well loved member of the school staff and he will be hugely missed by everyone at the school. I knew him as the young brother of Chris Gibbons who was in our year at BGS, leaving as I did in 1964. Chris was my best man and whilst I have not seen him for a few years as he now lives in France, as you probably know, and we are still in touch with one another. I much enjoyed meeting Adrian at the Briggensians' annual dinners and we always had an enjoyable chat. I also met his wife, Jane, on a couple of those occasions.

Andrew King – (1977-1984): I am shocked to hear of Mr Gibbons death. As a pupil at SJN from 1977 to 1984 I remember him as a young teacher that we all looked up to (not to say idolised) with his good looks, long hair and sporting prowess. I was even lucky enough to play football alongside him in defence for a pupils/teachers Sunday league team around 1982/83 and have many great memories of him turning up to games in his MG.

Jonathan Moore – (1984-1989): Such very sad news. Gibby was a true inspiration to me and a very good friend to my late father, Jack. My thoughts and deepest sympathy go out to the family for such a sad loss. Rest in peace dear Gibby.

Karen Rouse (Massarella) – (1971-1978): Very sad to hear about Adrian, I knew him when I was very young as we lived next door to his parents in Ashby and I can remember talking to Adrian and his friends through the garden fence.

Mike Sparling – (1961-1968): Very sad news. My son Thomas had mentioned that he had seen it on Facebook last night but I didn't believe it. I had only seen him on Monday afternoon after I had called in at SJN with my Dinner application and cheque. As we waited at the junction on Grammar School Road he came racing past on his bike, in track suit and shorts, hair flying - apparently without a care in the world. I guess there are worse ways to go!

Rob Beswick-(1975-1980): Thanks for letting me know, he was my PE Teacher in the late 70's. Jane was in my class. Only saw him this time last year in the Britannia. Another great and good man gone.

Jane Reason (Price) – (1975-1982): This is tragic news indeed. Would you please pass on my personal condolences to Jane. As you may recall she was in my year at school and we were close friends for many years.

Jim Flewker: This is shocking news. I met Gibby and Jane at Lincoln Showground a bit more than a year ago at a Pre-Christmas fair. Typically perhaps, he was at a beer stall with friends. I had a long chat with him and made encouraging noises about recovery etc from my own experience. I am sure he did not need a pep talk from me. Kath and I then walked round the entire exhibition again and when we returned to the same spot, sure enough, he was still there.

I also remember going on school trips to France with him. He was a lot more laidback than me in such situations but an excellent and genial colleague. A unique character.

He will be sorely missed by many people and made a unique contribution to the school, I think we all know that. I suppose as you suggest he did choose not to alter the course of his life after his heart attack and for that, too, he deserves admiration and respect.

Christina Cook (Newton) – (1971-1978): I am still working part time at the school just Wednesdays and Thursdays in the S.E.N. Department; my time is split between supporting in the classrooms and delivering maths intervention to small groups.

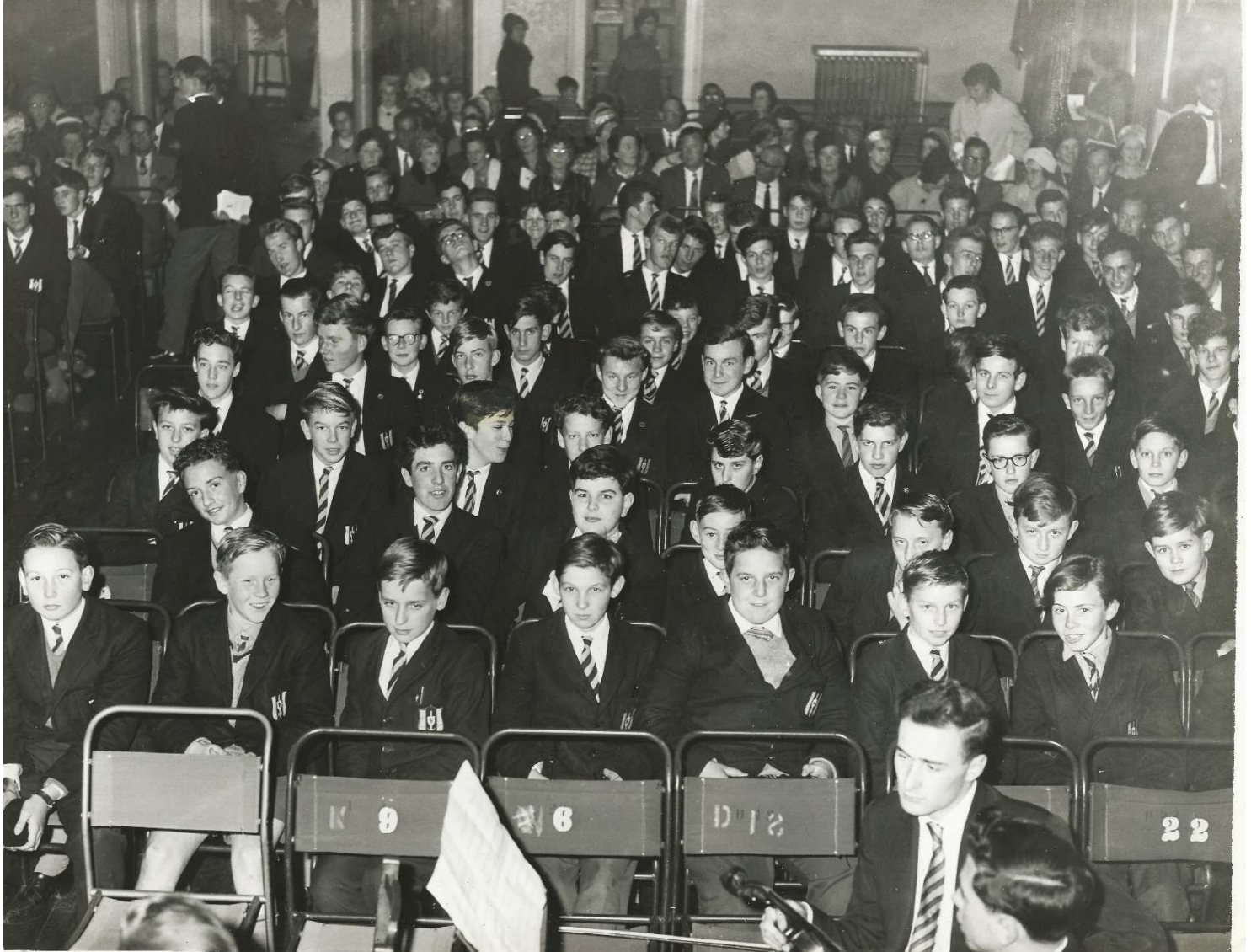
I had been supporting Mr Gibbons with his ASDAN group on Wednesdays so it was a shock when I was telephoned on Tuesday morning. It has been a struggle for everyone at school but everyone has been supportive to each other. His daughter Kelly had gone through school with our daughter Hannah so our paths often met doing the parent things as well.

Alan Vickers –(1962-1969): Gibby was a contemporary of mine - we started at the school in '62 and, along with Johnny Taylor and Eric Clark, played football together on every team over the next 7 years both in the Quad and on the field. Gibby was a gifted player, with what I can only describe as a "laconic" style - very much a reflection of his easy-going approach to life in general.

I remember him as a friend with a great sense of humour, a grin as wide as the Humber estuary, and who never seemed to say a bad word about anyone.

Ann Jeffrey (nee Pearce) – (1959 - 1964): Ann passed away in January 2015 after a long illness fighting cancer. Those who knew Ann would appreciate what a fighter she was, remaining positive until the last. Ann was married to Val and had two children Dominic and Nicola ~ sadly their marriage did not last. Ann will be remembered for her many talents which ranged from bricklaying and woodwork to her hairdressing business of 30 years, now run by Nicola. Ann's refusal to be too conformist was, perhaps, most evident in her dress sense where she was most often seen in a kaftan and flip-flops. She was a devoted family woman and grandmother and she will be sadly missed by her family and all those who knew her.

Alan Clare: - (1958-65):



Dear Dave, I received your letter and 2014 Newsletter a couple of days ago for which many thanks. I wanted to write to you to confirm that the person at the front of the picture on page 9 of boys sliding on ice in the winter of 1963 is indeed my brother Dennis Clare (as John Brain half remembered). I have the very same photo in my collection. I attach below three

photographs taken around the same time of Dennis and his mates. The bottom one (not very good quality I'm afraid) must have been taken on the same afternoon. Sadly, Dennis died in 1986 so it was a poignant surprise to see his photo in the Newsletter.

A further photo was taken at the Corn Exchange on Speech Day. I guess it is around 1964. Dennis is in the fourth (seated) row from the front, four from the right. I also recognise, further back, some of my contemporaries – Robin Dod, Peter Gloyn, Robin East, Anthony Miller and Paul Seville. Hopefully, this will bring back memories for many others too. I wonder if the school was awarded a totally unexpected half day holiday as it was at every Speech Day.

Alumni News:

Oliver Baudert – (1942-1947): Oliver sent a £20 note from Australia as a new member and was looking forward to receiving this year's edition of the Newsletter. He was a boarder from 1942 to 1947 under JT Daughton and NC Matthews; he recalls masters Cabourn and Pratt.

Fraser Whytock – (1971-1978): Apologies for not keeping you up to date with my contact details.

I have had a couple of employers since I was last in contact, having moved from Costain to Atkins and now to a German company, the M&W Group.

All in the Nuclear sector and this one sees me with a Europe wide role in delivering nuclear decommissioning projects in the UK and hopefully new Nuclear both in the UK and in Europe.

[Thanks for passing on the sad news about Gibby, but very heartening to see all the good things his friends have had to say about him on Facebook, etc.](#)

Derek Sumpter – (1943-1950): I was particularly fascinated in the contribution of John Brain (1960-68) and his photographs taken inside the second dormitory of School House. They are the first ones I have ever seen of boarders inside the building and the fact that they show the interior of the dormitories and boys either making beds or getting ready for bed are rare indeed. Not only that they brought back memories of my seven years from the age of ten in that famous old red-brick building in the 1940s. I had forgotten the wobbly plywood wardrobes which usually encased everything but clean clothes ! If any other ex-School House Briggensians have similar photographs it would be a real treat to see them.



CAISTOR SEC. MOD. SCHOOL - 1953-4

REAR: L-R: MR. SHARP, MR. DAY, MR. SMITH, MR. JOYCE,
MR. BORTHWICK, MR. SOWERBY

FRONT: L-R: JEAN THORNALLEY, MRS. HALL, MISS PHILLIPSON,
(SCH. SEC.) (NEE RICKARD)

MR. URRY, MISS NICKERSON, ?, ?
(HEAD TECHR)

I have no idea when I am going to get back on the golf course again. The flood waters are still spread over several low lying holes. Has Elsham suffered in any way? Best wishes Dave and see you in March all being well.

Brian Thornalley: The Annual Dinner was an enjoyable evening -- on the table with and as one of the oldest members ! Herewith a copy of a photo of the staff of Caistor Secondary School 1953-4, with Ernest Urry as Head (and my sister as Sch. Sec.) I've e-mailed the School, now Yarborough Academy, for info., but so far no reply, as to when Ernest left Caistor for Vale of Ancholme (if at all). A similar e-mail to Vale Academy also brought no response --- I guess they are too busy!

Jane Reason (Price) – (1975-1982):



Jane celebrated her 'big birthday' with a great gathering of friends representing all the milestones in her life so far.

The venue at Queens College in Cambridge was perfect and a great time was had by all.



Tony Instone – (1967-1974): Many thanks for all your work in co-ordinating and informing us about Briggensian matters. Although living in Oxfordshire for nearly 40 years I am always pleased to hear Briggensian news, albeit sometimes sad news as in your latest e mail. My father is still keeping well in Brigg and also keeps me regularly updated on Brigg related news.

Please can you update your email address for me as I am retiring (at the end of this week... if I can clear the in tray !) after 36 years in teaching.. including 18 years as Headteacher, along with Advisory work for the LEA and inspecting for Ofsted too. Where did that time go ?! ... the golf course awaits along with travel plans.

t_instone@btinternet.com

Stanley Horton : John Horton emailed to say that 23 April 2014 was the 70th anniversary of **Stanley's** death on operations for Bomber Command in WW 11. I produced the attached card for Stanley's family (it is designed to be printed back to back and folded). Stanley was at the School during the late 1920s and early 1930s. (*Ed: Apologies but I cannot insert this pdf image.*)

In December 1944 the Briggensian included “ **Stanley Somerscales (1927-33)**, Yarborough House, Squadron Leader, R.A.F., lost his life on April 23rd, during operations over Germany.

The news that S. A. Somerscales was missing from operations came as a great shock to those of us who had long known him and had admired his sterling worth. Only a few days earlier he had visited the school with his old schoolfellow, John Sykes-also, alas, killed in action. They had both then seemed so full of the joy of living, that their loss seemed all the greater. Somerscales was at Brigg from 1927 to 1933 and his school career was, in many ways, like that of scores of others: school certificate, first eleven football, first eleven cricket; the full, around school life. But he was more richly endowed than most, with the best virtues of the countryman: loyalty, tenacity of purpose, quietness of mind, and that gravity which keeps a man from being swayed by every wind that blows. After leaving school he entered the family business where he remained until he volunteered for aircrew duties early in the 'war. Talking with him when on leave, you felt that he had found great happiness in the comradeship of the crew of his bomber. Here was the good citizen, serene and stable, essentially a man of peace, whose sense of duty made him a good pilot in war. He gained promotion and was decorated for gallantry in the air, but he bore his honors with becoming modesty. And now, he, who such a short time ago seemed so vital, is gone from us. We mourn the loss of a very gallant Englishman.

John also included a fine tribute to Stanley but unfortunately it will not reproduce here being a pdf document.

David Hall – (1961-1968): Thanks for the reply. I trust you are keeping well. You may remember teaching me Physics in 1968...same class as **Neville Miller & co..** As you can see I now live in South Africa and would like to rekindle some old friendships. I assume that the e-mail list on the site is a few years old so probably not too reliable.

Robert Pacey – (1950-1957): I found the attached 1936 photo in a junk shop recently. Most of the masters were still there



when I was in the 1950s. Starting on the left, the first one in a gown - Mr Morris, unknown, unknown, Mr Richards, Unknown, Mr Knight, Mr Daughton (headmaster) unknown, Mr Pratt, Mr Cabourne, Mr Henthorn, Mr Thumbwood, Mr Pimlott, unknown. Perhaps someone can add a few names. I wonder if the photo should go to an archive somewhere. (*now on the web-site*)

Peter Welton – (1944-1949): Good to hear from you. Please put me down for a place at the Briggensian dinner on March 14th....a day before my birthday. I will do my very best to be there but we have recently been burgled and I had my car stolen. The Police hope to be able to find it and return it to me and if they do I will use it to come to Brigg !

Alan Winstanley – (1968-1975): Just to prove that at least some of your Physics teachings actually sank in : This year I published a paperback called The Basic Soldering Guide Handbook which explains all the necessary stages of soldering electronic components. It's aimed at hobbyists, students or Raspberry Pi / Arduino enthusiasts who want to get to grips with soldering some hardware together for the first time. The book is fully illustrated and is sponsored by the UK soldering iron manufacturer Antex. It can be bought on Amazon, or downloaded as a Kindle e-book.

Details at <http://www.amazon.co.uk/The-Basic-Soldering-Guide-ebook/dp/B00E8NEGAA>

In the past few weeks I also published a 'Worklab Edition' for education and training

at <http://www.magcloud.com/browse/issue/838872>

If the school would like a copy I will be happy to drop one in.

In the mid 1970s I recall a gang of us soldering together some sort of power supplies to help Mr Strudwick, and being told in BGS Physics that my soldering iron was probably big enough to hit people with! As a WH Smith Saturday lad (working with the late Charles Pearce) I saved my meagre wages to buy a better soldering iron and one thing gradually led to another.

Keith Cawkwell – (1973-80): The only update I've got is that following my early retirement from NatWest/RBS at the end of 2012 I am now back working part-time as a Consultant with Franchise Finance.

Stephen Jarvis – (1955-1962) writes re **John Colin – (1953-1960)** featured in the 2014 edition: Many thanks for forwarding the message from John Colin. He is of course being rather modest! I followed John from BGS to Westminster Medical School in London in 1962 and there is little doubt in my mind that his success there facilitated me being offered my place despite pretty awful A levels! Quite apart from his academic talents he was one of the best goalkeepers in all the London medical school teams!!

I qualified in 1967 and initially trained in Child Psychiatry - however I eventually ended up, via research on childhood disabilities, as Professor of Community Child Health in the Institute of Child Health, University of Newcastle upon Tyne. I retired ten years ago and now, apart from dinghy sailing and cycling, spend most of my time on our 7 (+1) grandchildren - 2 of them in Botswana and the others on Tyneside. We live out in a remote part of Northumberland in a cottage we renovated in 1978, a move from London that we chose for the superior quality of life in the N of England.

Having looked again at the last newsletter I think I could solve a few mysteries! "Who are the lovely sporting ladies?" - well one is my mother! So this is either Howells school Llandaff, Aberystwyth or Univ of Wales netball team.

The scout camp photo which includes Phil Walling also shows my brother Peter on the left.

I also very much enjoyed David Jones' talk in 2013 - he was a very great influence on my development instilling a love of mountains and climbing which still continues. Indeed when I was going through a particularly wild phase (*once borrowing my Dad's car during a school concert for a visit to the bar at Elsham GC with Stephen Moore - the police were eventually called off!!*) my parents I believe asked David Jones and Jack Moore to help them out by channelling my energies elsewhere than TWOC'ing!

There are so many good memories - I now realise that BGS (and the 2nd Briggs Scouts) were the making of me and many, many, others.

Jon Cresswell – (1985-1992):The first photograph is taking over the baton from Commanding Officer 42 Commando Royal Marines in Truro as part of the 1664 challenge to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the Royal Marines. The second is Ben and I sailing in Plymouth Sounds and practicing capsizing drills.



A packed year which started in the mountains of Washington State and finished in Plymouth. I have completed my trial by fire with the General Staff in London and am now leading 29 Commando. This is great fun and goes to prove that I have still to grow up as cross country, hockey and football are still the order of the day. I played in goal the other day for the officers versus sergeants. It has been packed with lots of training both at sea and on land, parades, endurance events and the basic administration of running the Regiment which is based in a 17th century fortress on Plymouth seafront. Heather and the children all well and we look forward to the challenges of 2015. Happy New Year everyone.



Robin Sumpter – (1941-1948): writes: My younger Brother, **David Sumpter-(1950-1958approx)** lives in West Sussex.Tel:01342 713894. He was one of a group of people which has set up a National Hockey Museum. He would welcome any memorabilia to add to the already substantial contents. People can give him a ring.

Greetings to all from Neville S. Gurnell (Sandy) – (1934-1939): No females allowed before World War II. In fact it was forbidden to even look in the direction of the Brigg Girls High School.

Halcyon Days. Chips Moriss had an uphill task trying to turn Lincolnshire accent into French verbs. Bumper Knight laid the foundations of trig. so I was a success as Navigator of the Q.E. and Q.M for five years. I was not really a success with soccer as I never knew what was the object of the exercise. Toddy Henthorne struck terror in my heart so I did well in History.

I survived five years driving merchant ships on the North Atlantic (Hitler's butchers' shop) plenty of wind up there and we had no shelter on open bridge, a 360 degree field of view was necessary in convoy and this was before radar. I wore a towel around my neck to stop cold water trickling down my back. I was a watch-keeping officer at 19. Now I live in Victoria B.C. and Seattle WA with begats. I'm healthy and still try to walk a mile a day, can read small print without spectacles and drive a big dodge diesel truck which I've had for fourteen years without a scratch. I was a carer for my wife for about ten years before she passed away 16 years ago. This is a cool maritime climate with plenty of rain, the grass is green all year round and not much snow. Number two son fellow is an airline pilot and he flies to Hong Kong tomorrow. when flying to and from Beijing they sometimes get as far West as Irksusk Russia.

Brussels sprouts and salmon and spuds for lunch; gotta go. Have fun. Cheers, N.S. Gurnell.

Nigel Allison –(1972-1979): Just a short line to say I have moved house from Brigg. I have returned to my village of Barnetby,

I am well, work/career is also going well. The company I work for is performing well and my prospects looking forward to the next twelve months, are good. New Address: 5 Sycamore Close, Barnetby, North Lincolnshire, DN38 6FG

Paul Goodwin –(1966-1973): Briggensian-Class of 73:

On a beautiful June day,20 of the class of 73 from the Grammar and High school met for a long overdue reunion. Somehow a 40 yr. anniversary seemed worthy of celebrating and it is something we'd been hinting at in despatches for a while, but doing nothing about. Tim Fell was kind enough to trust us with the use of his 'Party Barn' and his wife Lindsey brave enough to have 19, mostly strangers, in her home and organise a wonderful lunch.

It never ceases to amaze me how, despite the passing of 40 years, peoples' character, mannerisms, sense of humour and inter-personal relationships change very little and we all took our usual seats in class without 'Harry Stinson' having to throw a single piece of chalk.

We all swapped experiences and stories, births, deaths and marriages and dusted the cobwebs off memories of people; past glories (hugely exaggerated) and long forgotten misdemeanours.

We all had a memorable day and will be repeating the event in celebration of all our 60'th years.



Men: Kevin Lalor, Martin Beckers, David Sleight, David Wood, Paul Goodwin, Steve Howe, Tim Fell and Robert Hunt.

Girls: Back Row: Carol burns (nee Whitehand); Hazel Gray (nee Swan); Wendy Cooney (nee Vessey)

Front row: Judy Wood (nee Flint); Ann Heathcote (nee Spillman); Carol Rigby (nee Willey); Ruth Brook (nee Gunnee); Joy Winn; Jane Bradburn (nee Kemp); Denise Adams (nee Weaver); Lorna (nee Broome)

Tim Charlesworth –(1964-1970): Whilst clearing the loft I came across a 1977 Guinness Book of Records.

Page 222 (Human Achievements - Endurance and Endeavour) tells me :-

Crawling: The longest continuous crawl (progression with one or other knee in unbroken contact with the ground) on record is 9 miles by **Stephen Gorwood** at Brigg Grammar School on 5th July 1976.

I don't know if Stephen was a BGS pupil but it seems to be an appropriate example of Fortitude !

After leaving BGS in 1970 I sailed the world with the Merchant Navy for 26 years. I came ashore in 1995 since when I've enjoyed the post of Harbour Master in Plymouth, where I have lived since leaving school.

I hope to attend the dinner in March.

George Gunsson – (1944-1952): I would like to thank George for his sterling work in contacting our political leaders and alerting them to the injustices in education funding that has been suffered by the school. This may not show immediate results but may have influence in future thinking of whoever holds the balance of power after the next election.

Tony Beel-(1951-1956): Tony has started a Minibus service. Private Hire for nights out, days out, airports, school contracts, etc. Call or text Tony on 07973 794010 for bookings and fares.

John Hastings – (1961-1966):

During September (2014) we travelled across to the Retired Caravanners Association National Rally held at the Staffordshire Show Ground. Most of the details I mentioned last year, but again we had the chance to go out for a meal with Mr D V Adams before he set off on holiday himself to have a few days in Paris. Although the time was brief it was a pleasure to meet up again and catch up with news from the past year and tuck in to a good meal.

A few weeks later on the television I happened to watch Len Goodman's "Holiday of My Lifetime" and the guest that day was Chris Hollins. He went for a week to Oxford University on a Cricket Festival playing for Kent. This programme reminded me straight away of the times that Mr Adams had taken us away on trips from the Grammar School and the "Holiday of My Lifetime" that sprang to my mind, for everyone in our year, was the week to London. What a week!! Nobody who went will ever forget those 5 days.

We had trips out every morning and afternoon, evening meals in a very posh restaurant followed by trips to the theatre or I remember one night we went to the Daily Express to see the production of their daily paper. When we got back home on the Friday evening we had so much to tell our families and friends. It was a trip that would never be forgotten.

Another holiday organised by Mr Adams was a "Training Holiday" at Mablethorpe for all the Cross Country and Athletic Team members. I remember Mr Barker helped to transport us there and returned again the following Saturday to bring us all safely back to Brigg.

During that week we ran over the sand dunes as well as running on circuits marked out on the beach. The afternoons were spent on the beach with some training work but mostly playing games. We even had a visit from the Regional Athletic Coach to help us improve our standards in distance, height or time. As usual meals were wonderful and we ate at the caravan site restaurant and believe me it is still there.

Chris Hollins enjoyed the freedom, the independence and the excitement of being able to be away from family and home for a short time and I am sure that we all felt the same as we enjoyed our own "Holidays" spent with members of the school staff.

Before I close on my memories I have to remember the wonderful times that pupils from school had on the trips to Paris organised by Mr Morris and Mr Atkin. We could all write pages of our experiences about crossing the water of the English Channel but I will keep mine for another time. We were so lucky to have members of staff who organised these trips and gave us the chance to live life to the full and enjoy every minute of our experiences.

I am pleased to write and say that **Mr Walter Cash** is still fairly fit and well and will be celebrating his 98th Birthday on 14th January 2015. During this last year he went on a day trip from Scarborough to Dundee. He left Scarborough at 7.30am one Saturday travelling by train and returned back in the early hours of the following Sunday morning. What a day he had.

We enjoy our visits to see Walter and hear all the memories he recalls. He was very sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Ken Proctor and recalls times spent with his Mum. Thanks have to be sent to Ken's Wife Judy for sending a copy of the Service Sheet and to Ken's younger Brother Mark for a copy of his speech at the service. I can assure you it was very much appreciated by Walter.

This year the sponsored cycle ride organised by the lads (Briggensians) from the Brigg area was from Brigg to Scarborough, Scarborough to York and York back home to Brigg riding over three days. As usual it was wonderfully well organised and I enjoyed every minute admiring all the cyclists who covering the journey. After supporting them from the comfort of the driver's seat in the support vehicle I decided to exchange that seat for the saddle of my own bike.

Our Superintendent Minister here at Westborough in Scarborough is Rev. Mark Haynes and he decided to cycle round the newly formed North Yorkshire Coast Methodist Circuit visiting each Church over three days.

I decided to join him on my 36 year old bike which was built to my design by Falcon Cycles where they used to be on Bridge Street in Brigg.

At every Church we found a very warm welcome from old friends and new. The weather was kind, the scenery breathtaking but the food and drink was absolutely unbelievable. We have to thank everyone for keeping our energy levels up and helping us to travel the 116 mile trip, a journey that will never be forgotten.

(John Hastings.)

John Scott-(1963-1970): Well I went to South Africa to represent the UK at aerobatics. It was at the end of November last year and we got a team Silver which is pretty good. Especially as we all have to fly other peoples aeroplanes.

The picture below is the one I flew, it's called a Slick, is home grown in South Africa and in fact we hadn't seen one before



we got there, let alone flown one. In case you can't remember, I am 2nd from the left, and the 3rd picture is smiley face after I had flown my final sequence. The format is a sequence of 10-12 manoeuvres of rolls, loops, flicks and tumbles (or combinations thereof) all flown in a 1,000m box in front of judges who mark you.

Sometimes we know the sequence to be flown, and sometimes we don't, it is given to us a couple of hours before we fly. That is when mistakes are made! Great fun and a great result.



BRIGGENSIANS SPORTS 2014:

The annual Christmas Old Boys' football game took place on Saturday 27th December. This was a special fixture this year as it was the first game without the much loved and missed Adrian Gibbons. Gibb' loved the Christmas football and it was a tribute to him that 4 teams turned up to play this year. There was 2 young teams, one from the 6th form and one team of students who play for the White Hart in Brigg.



There was also 2 old boys teams, one was made up of those aged 25 to 40 and a team of older boys including Jonathan Allcock, Matthew Mosey, Paul Taylor, Alan Taylor and Doug Spencer to name a few.

The 25 to 40 team included Paul Neal, Steve Jordan, Jason North, Chris Rodgers and Jon Taylor whose inclusion in the under 40's was met with controversy.

The format was simple in that the 2 young boys teams played each other and so did the two old boys. **There was a minutes silence before the game for Gib.**

The team from the White Hart won their game 2-0 and the younger old boys beat the older boys despite a fine goal from Jonathan Allcock and a tackle from Matthew Mosey that Jason North will not forget in a hurry.

The winners of each game played each other as did the losers. The all important result for the points was the Winners game. The old boys had the upper hand in the game but wasteful finishing meant the game ended in a 0-0 stalemate. Penalties followed and despite an Andy Morris miss from the spot this ended 4 all. A draw was decided and all players retreated to the Britannia for pool, dominoes, darts, and a quiz plus a few other fun games. Paul Taylor was disappointed with his dominoes defeat because he is a fine dominoes player and the young boys he and his partner played did not really know what they were doing. The scores were all level going into the quiz, read by Jane Gibbons and Elisa Allcock. There was little doubt in the final result and the old boys ended up the winners. The day was a great tribute to Gib and over £300 pound was raised for charity, this included money from a golf competition held on New Year's Day.



Rounders

We had a good session at Rounders this year. We were extremely lucky with the weather as we thought it was going to pour down, but a fresh wind got up and blew the threatening clouds away. School turn out for once was excellent (2 teams) but Briggensians attendance was poor. I had seen Postie Sue a few weeks ago and asked her to get a team which she did and with three real Briggensians had a good match. We had an injury that meant the last match was abandoned. Hope she is OK.

Great support from school 2 teams) School 1 won 9½ – 4, School 2 were leading 5 - 1½

when there was an accident and the game was abandoned due to the injury.

Netball — Again a full team from school. A few OGs plus some extra from Diane Stanley's (nee Wells) team.



OGs won 18-14 in a very fast, competitive game. **Photos:** Red shirts is OGs summer Rounders, Yellow (OGs) and Red (School) bibs - Netball.

Cricket:

Close win for School – by 5 runs – having set Briggensians 136 to win. The annual "Old Boys" cricket match was played at Sir John Nelthorpe School in Brigg on Friday night, July 11, 2014, in perfect weather. It was played in very sporting spirit and very well umpired by Peter Douce, of Broughton, a keen supporter of the Briggensians' Association and a long-standing official in league matches throughout the Scunthorpe area. His arms must have been aching after signalling all the wides! The oldest player taking part in the match was 58 and old enough to have been to Brigg Grammar School (Nelthorpe having been formed in 1976). You can take a guess who that was!

This fixture has been contested for many decades. It was certainly going in the 1960s and probably long before that. For many years the game was played on Father's Day (Sunday) but the expansion of Sunday league cricket began to take its toll on availability, so the switch was made to an evening slot. Many schools in Lincolnshire used to have an "Old Boys" match, played annually. But very few of them now remain. Could this be the only one still going?

I can vaguely recall playing for a Brigg Grammar School XI against the Briggensians in 1971 or 1972 when the school had a Cricket Week at the end of July - at the start of the summer holidays. [Nigel Fisher](#)

The students, captained by Dom Bishop, an Upper Sixth, batted first. A great opening partnership between Rory Ronaldson and Joe Taylor, both retired on 25 not out, set the students up brilliantly. There was also a noteworthy batting display from Tom Donnelly, who despite his reputation, went on to get a very quick 22 not out. One of the most interesting wickets to fall in this innings was of course Harry Cawkwell who was bowled by his own dad, Mark Cawkwell.

The students finished with a very respectable 136, giving the old boys a real tough chase in the Twenty20 contest.

Some good batting from the old boys, mixed with quite a lot of extras, set the game up for a very close climax. Jordan Smith bowled the last over, with Tom Brock on strike for the old boys; 18 runs were needed from the last over and Tom Brock set about it very aggressively putting himself in a position where 5 runs were required to win the game off the last ball, a 4 would draw the game.

Jordan Smith, with a good line and length, drew Tom Brock into playing and missing leading to a smart stumping from Joe Taylor, who had also previously bowled well in this innings, to win the game for the students.



Overall a well spirited and tight game, won on the last ball by the current students..



Football:

The old boys football took place in September with an experienced old boys select 11 taking on a young boys team made up mostly of Sixth Formers together with the odd representative from Grimsby Town's youth team. The old boys included



the familiar names such as Paul Neal, Jon Taylor, Richard Golland, Mark Morris and Steve Jordan to name a few. The old

boys had most of the possession but struggled with the pace of their younger counterparts. Jickells was always a threat for the young boys and you could say that they were highly motivated to succeed. Matthew Dale, Joe Stothard, Josh Rooker and Charlie Coupland all gave one hundred percent for the Young boys. The old boys have not lost this fixture for a number of seasons and there was a little disappointment that they squandered chances and ended up losing the game 2 - 1, however, everyone really enjoyed the evening. The young boys will not be as lucky next year!

Golf:

Results of the Autumn Meeting: 16 players took part in the match played in beautiful weather on a course in superb condition. The result was close, with Ross McFarlane taking the honours with 36 points. Some players, mostly visitors, found the greens a little difficult to judge. However, some good golf was played, not the least by Geoff Sells who had a 2 on the par 3, 14th hole, holing his bunker shot. He was so discombobulated by this rare event that he left his putter by the side of the green. He didn't discover he was putterless until he got to the next green and had to walk all the way back to retrieve it – a bit more exercise than Geoff thought he was going to get.

1 st	Ross McFarlane	36 points
2 nd	Alan Taylor	35 points
3 rd	Geoff Sells	34 points



The President, Dave Brittain, presented Ross with the cup and Jonty Allcock the previous winner presented the blazer and cap.

OBS Spring Meeting, 6 April, 2014: Seventeen members took part in the competition and, for the first time, groups of three were given a start time. This was



done to speed up play and also because Elsham GC had bookings immediately before and after our allocated time. The experiment was a success; we got ahead of the following Inter-club Mixed Match and most groups finished in a little over 3½ hours.

Before the results were announced, members stood in silent tribute to the memory of Adrian Gibson, 'Gibby', who had died recently, who was a staunch supporter of OBGS and of whom most people present had many happy memories.

Richard Rivron was declared the winner with the very good score of 40 points and he was duly presented with an engraved tankard by the Captain, Jonty Allcock.

Results:

1 st	Richard Rivron	40 points
2 nd	Ross MacFarlane	39 points
3 rd	Dave Brittain	38 points

Past v Present Meeting, Monday, 7th July, 2014

The match took place in good weather but, unfortunately, both Richard Rivron and Ted Cox had difficulty raising teams and there were only six players on each side. Some of the Present side had only just started playing golf and were a little nervous to start with; however, they soon settled down and enjoyed the experience.

I would like to thank those players who did manage to get time to play and keep this enjoyable event going.

The final result was a 2-1 win for the Past team.

By the way, I am in the process of writing a brief history of



OBGS and am trawling through all the past minutes - I've got up to about 1973 so far.

When it is finished we will publish the material on the web site.

Ted Cox



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 The Sir John Nelthorpe School, Grammar School Road, Brigg, North Lincolnshire. DN20 8AA. Telephone: (01652) 656551, Fax: (01652) 658229

For those using the postal service:

I/We have received the 20014/15 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 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 2015/16 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 2015/16 Newsletter or web site to: dave.brittain@talktalk.net

Notes:

Briggensians' Association

38th Annual Dinner 2015- Booking Form

I will be attending the Briggensians' Dinner on **Saturday, 14th March 2015** (application closing date: **Friday, 6th March**) and enclose a cheque made payable to the Briggensians Association

to the value of £ for places at **£22.50 each.**

Tables are usually for
6, 8, or 10 places

Name: Yearsto.....

Address:,

Post Code: Email:

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:	(must be clear – please use capitals)								
Guests Names	School Dates	Vegetable Soup	Melon Carpaccio	Prawn Cocktail	Beef	Salmon	Mediterranean Tart	Sticky Choc	Lemon Meringue	Cheese & Biscuits	

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)