



# WCA NEWSLETTER

Vol 7 Spring 2004

[Wymalumnitrust@aol.com](mailto:Wymalumnitrust@aol.com) [www.wymondhamca.co.uk](http://www.wymondhamca.co.uk)  
[www.WCRemembered.co.uk](http://www.WCRemembered.co.uk)

## College Reunion 19<sup>th</sup> June 2004

This year's reunion is aimed primarily at the 1950/60s leavers but others may join in as long as they gather together a group of their own generation

### The following is a resume of the evening's "menu"

- ? Chance to look round the College 5.30-6.30pm
- ? Cash Bar open from 6.30pm
- ? BBQ with buffet and dessert.
- ? Draw for 100 club will take place during the evening.

**Philip Wade** is organising a **Raffle** – donations for purchase of prizes most welcome and preferred, although prizes themselves will still be appreciated. (Please add any donation to the price of the reunion ticket – if unable to come please consider making a donation in any event) Raffle tickets on sale during evening only.

It is expected that the maximum number of 200 persons the marquee can safely hold may well be reached, so do purchase your ticket as soon as possible to avoid any disappointment.  
? Full details on response form in the centre pages.

### **Golf Day**

The Golf Day organised by Bob Rowell is on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June** followed by a dinner in the evening. If you wish to join this enjoyable day please **contact Bob Rowell 01629 582229 or 07710 279171 or Mike Herring [mikedot@btopenworld.com](mailto:mikedot@btopenworld.com)**

### **The WCA Committee**

**The Constitution was ratified at the AGM held in November 2003. Please note that the next AGM is on Saturday 27 November 2004. Please notify Carole Arnold by 31 October if you wish to attend.**



President 2003-2004 Roger Garrard (52-89), Chairman 2003-2004 John Beales (52-59), Colin Leaford (70-77), Julie Harding (71-76), Jack Smith (51-53), Treasurer - Steve Read (68-73), 100 Club - Phil Robinson (66-73) Mike Herring (52-58), Secretary - Carole Arnold, Vice Chairman 2003-2004 Philip Wade (60-67) Alan Bridges and David Spinks (51-55) *Not pictured* -Staff Representative Dominic Findlay (82-87), WCR - Bill Atkins (58-64), Tristan Botly (94-00), Michael Brand (62-98) Corrine Milsom-Mann (82-90)

### **WCA 100 Club**

As intimated in last year's Newsletter, various fund raising options were being considered in order that the WCA might have a more secure financial footing. The committee has produced a Business Plan that has been discussed and well received by the College and we hope to have more news on that front shortly along with other fund raising ideas.

The cost of running the Wymondham College Association is approximately £13,500 per year. The College gives us tremendous financial support in this regard but we need to show that we can start to make an effort to "stand on our own two feet". The cost of producing this newsletter, in terms of printing and distribution, is in the region of £1,500. We are presently reliant upon donations and surpluses from reunion events for our funding, but these are by no means enough to ensure that the WCA can continue to thrive and prosper.

One of the ways of raising a reliable and regular source of income has been to initiate a "100 club" with monthly prizes and half yearly "star" prizes.

We commenced the draws in October 2003 but unfortunately the prize monies have had to be reduced as the number of members is only

around the 40 mark at present. The monthly payment is £5.00 (by Standing Order) but we are happy to accept yearly payments of £60.00 from anyone who would prefer to subscribe in that way. Of the monies raised, 40% is redistributed in prize monies with 60% being retained by the WCA. The draws are carried out in various hostelrys in mid-Norfolk each month (or at WCA Committee meetings should the timing be right) by myself and Steve Read (the WCA Treasurer). Anyone is welcome to attend (those on e-mail will be advised of when and where) and we have had fun choosing suitable pubs (the January draw was arranged to be carried out in a pub in Little Cressingham near Watton that had shut two years previously! More pub research required!).

The past winners have been :-  
**October 2003** – Bob Rowell, Barry Croxford  
**November 2003** – Lynnette Cannell, Tony Moulton  
**December 2003** – Bill Atkins, John Beales  
**January 2004** – Bill Atkins (again!), David Burdett  
**February 2004** - Melvyn Sims, David Spinks

If you feel that you can support the WCA in this scheme, please contact me, Phil Robinson – WCA 100 Club

Administrator at  
[philip.robinson@constructionplus.net](mailto:philip.robinson@constructionplus.net)  
t or at "Pipkim", Hill Road, Fair  
Green, Middleton, King's Lynn,  
Norfolk. PE32 1RW.

A copy of the relevant Bank  
Mandate is at the back of the  
newsletter.

## Wymondham College Guinea Pigs – April 1951

*The first Wymondham College pupils  
arrived in April 1951 and formed  
what was known officially as the  
'Pilot Course.' Unofficially, they  
were (and still are) the **Guinea Pigs**.  
Photos of many of those listed are on  
[Forms - 1950s](#) page on  
[WCRemembered.co.uk](http://WCRemembered.co.uk)*

*If you can contribute to the research,  
please get in touch with  
[michael.w.stacey@tesco.net](mailto:michael.w.stacey@tesco.net) The list  
could be subject of long discussions  
at this year's reunion. Before the  
reunion I would like to appeal to  
anyone who has a knowledge of the  
original intake to pass on to me the  
names that may be incorrect on the  
current list or any names that ought  
to be there.*

*I have tried several different avenues  
but now appeal directly to all  
Newsletter readers. If you have any  
indication at all that you have some  
information that could be useful  
please contact me through Carole at  
[wymalumnitrust@aol.com](mailto:wymalumnitrust@aol.com)  
Michael Stacey*

With the help of Roger Garrard,  
David Spinks, Margaret Smith and  
others here is the list so far. If you  
are in touch with any of the Guinea  
Pigs not marked with a \* do  
encourage them to come to the  
Reunion on 19<sup>th</sup> June.

Alan Algate, Madge Allard\* David  
Allen, John Bacon\*, Carole Baker,  
Phyllis Barker\*, Pat Basey\*, David  
Batterbee, Monica Baumber, Anne  
Bean\*, Annette Blunt, Geoff  
Boldero\*, Sheila Bolton

Frank Bone\*, David Brown, John  
Brown, Pat Crowe\*, John Cushion,  
Pat Dack\*, Reg Daniels (Deceased),  
Michael Doe\*, Shirley Doughty  
Simon Dow, Eileen Doy, Derek  
Everitt\* Robin Fancy (Deceased)  
Robin Farrow, Doreen Fenton, Brian  
Figgis, Maurice Follen, William  
Freeston, Rae Fuller, Wendy Fuller\*,

John Goss, Mary Hall, William  
Hammond\*, Stuart Handley\*, Hubert  
Harbord\*, Judy Harris\*, Ivan  
Hipperson\*, Shirley Jaggard, Shirley  
Johnson, Joseph Keddy, Anne  
Keeler, Doug Knights, David  
Ladbroke, Anthony Lake\*, Brian  
Leverett\*, Hazel Leveridge\*,  
Michael Lincoln,  
Leonard Malkin, Gwen Medler,  
David Nichol, Linda Nichols, Wilf  
Nichols Janet Palmer, Brian Raines\*,  
Reg Reader\*, Peter Reed, Mildred  
Roberts\*, Margaret Sandford,  
Maureen Seaton\*, William Sendall  
David Sewell, Margaret Smith,  
Michael Stacey\*, Andrew Street\*,  
Sonia Talbot, D Thomas, Vera  
Trundle, Rosamund Walker\*, Sheila  
Welsh, Janet Wing, William  
Woodward  
74 (41 boys + 33 girls)  
\* these we are in touch with.

## Reunions

### 50s Golf Day

The continual rain did not stop the  
WC Association Fifties having a  
great day's golf on the new extended  
course at Sprowston Hall, Norwich.  
The Hotel rounded off a memorable  
day with an excellent meal in the  
evening when the fifteen golfers  
were joined by a further twenty-one  
former students/spouses of the  
Fifties, including Robert Colson and  
Iris Hobart (Broughton) visiting from  
their homes in Australia.

**Bob Rowell** presented the prizes to  
Men's winner Barry Adkins and  
Ladies' winner Vera Spinks. The  
Longest Drive was by Barry  
Croxford. Nearest the hole was by  
Roland Clarke and the treasured  
booby prize went to Terry Nicholls.  
**Next** year's WCA Chairman John  
Beales thanked Bob Rowell for  
organising another excellent event  
and congratulated him on his  
forthcoming Presidency of Leicester  
Tigers Rugby Club, for whom he  
played for several years. John  
brought to the attention of those  
present the proposed 100 Club  
through which it will be possible to  
raise funds to help finance the  
activities of the WCA for which no  
membership fee is charged. Mike  
Herring distributed Entry Forms to  
those who were interested and a full  
set of pictures of the Sprowston day  
and dinner will be sent to all those  
who subscribe. John was also able to  
announce **19 June 2004** as the date

of next years Fifties reunion at the  
College. The idea that the Golf day  
and evening dinner should be  
repeated on **Friday 18 June**  
preceding the College reunion was  
favourably received.

*Attendees (Golfers\*):  
Barry Adkins\*, John Beales\*, David  
Burnett, Roland Clarke\*, Robert  
Colson + travelling partner  
Elizabeth, Terry Coppin\*, Barry  
Croxford\*, Janet Couperthwaite  
(Wing), David Everett, Aubrey  
Hammond\*, Hubert Harbord, Pat  
Harvey (Basey), Mike Herring\* and  
Dorothy Herring, Iris Hobart  
(Broughton), Robin Howes, Valerie  
Howes (Preston), Victor Kirk\* and  
Sheila Kirk\*, Tony Lake\*, Geoff  
Morter, Tony Moulton\*, Terry  
Nicholls\* and Beverley Nicholls,  
Peter Reed, Mike Rees, Bob Rowell\*,  
Melvyn Simms, Margaret Skipp  
(Smith), David Spinks\* and Vera  
Spinks\*, Heather Stockton (Bale),  
Heather Turner (Reed), Tony  
Watering, Pat Wooldridge (Dack)*

### Australia - Rugby World Cup 2003

Three past-pupils of the 1950s, **John  
Beales, Terry Nicholls** and **Mike  
Herring** went to Australia for the  
Rugby World Cup in Oct/Nov 2003  
and took the opportunity to meet  
other past students. Their itinerary  
included Perth, Sydney, Melbourne  
and Brisbane. The following reports  
reflect their visit.

*Excellent result from the South  
Africa match tho' it was so tense that  
we could hardly watch. Met up with  
Ann Matthews widow of John (Bert)  
Matthews (1952-1958) who has  
generously given up her time to show  
us Perth sights. John was a pal of  
John Beales (on tour) at school. We  
had "reunion" dinner with Vera  
Garner (Smith at school - South  
house - lived near Fakenham) and  
her husband Eddie. Ann also came  
along. Good evening of reminiscing  
etc. as none of us had seen Vera  
since 1957. She and Eddie are  
farming in the outback at a place  
called Wyalkatchem and just nipped  
in to Perth for the dinner - a 200  
mile trip one way. This has to be put  
into perspective as their main  
Supermarket is 75 miles away.  
They've got about 8,000 acres and  
Eddie is Shire President - leader of  
council. Vera won the competitive*

grandchildren competition with 14. Nobody else got close. Very hospitable couple. I could see this having to be an annual event. Anybody who can stand waking up in the morning to views across the Indian Ocean would be welcome! Eddie was suggesting that Vera should attend the bigger get-together in Sydney later in the month. To give you an idea of what this implies it would be like having a re-union in Wymondham and someone nipping over from Moscow. Sydney next and then later in week a two-day drive down to Melbourne for the next game.

The re-union (in Sydney) was an excellent evening and we then moved on to Brisbane and saw the SA v. Samoa and the England v. Uruguay games, staying with Joan Thomson (nee Woodbridge). Two of the party (John Beales and Terry Nicholls) stayed on for the quarter final in Brisbane. There is talk of starting an Aussie branch of the past pupils' association. You will probably hear more from Joan T in the near future. Just on the rugby in general (having seen both matches) nobody seems to be giving SA and Samoa the credit for the excellent rugby they played. SA have been a joke for the past 20 years but suddenly seemed to get their act together and I won't be surprised to see them in the final. Samoa played their socks off for 20 minutes and we didn't even touch the ball. John Beales

On Friday 31st October a dinner was held at Doyle's Restaurant (Watsons Bay, Sydney); organised by Joan Thomson (Woodbridge). Here is Joan's report and some photos taken by Liz Young (Bowers) are on WCRemembered.co.uk

We didn't have as large a turn-out as we had expected, but those who did attend enjoyed good wine and a great seafood meal that could have only be served in Australia. There are some things they do better here which simply cannot be beaten, and let's hope Rugby isn't one of them (it wasn't! – Ed). John Beales gave a good speech which unfortunately was interrupted by the dessert waiter but, unfailing, he stood up and carried on where he had left off.

Those attending were: from UK - John Beales, Terry Nicholls and of course Mike Herring with his lovely

wife Dorothy; - NZ - Liz Young (Bowers). It was so very, very special catching up with her. To those who remember her, she hasn't changed one little bit, still the life and soul of the party; - Sydney there was Sarah Cox, Alex Unwin, William Palmer and his son Matthew who was a little charmer; - NSW Keith Hudson and his wife Kathy; - Canberra - Richard Coulson - Brisbane - myself.

It was a super evening and a terrific couple of days spent in Sydney. The ten days John and Terry spent with us in Brisbane were very special. You can only reach the tip of the iceberg in such a short time but we tried to get them around to see most of the highlights of the area. We hope they will want to return for more of the same at a more leisurely pace.

### Mike Herring's Report Perth

Ann Matthews was a very gracious host during our stay in Perth. Ann is the widow of **John Matthews, 52–59**, East House. John was captain of the first fifteen rugby team and played cricket for the school as well as representing Wymondham at cross country. John passed away about five years ago and Ann moved to Perth where her children and grandchildren live.

**Vera Garner (Smith) 52–57**, South House - with her husband Eddie, met up with us for dinner one evening, overlooking the Indian Ocean. Vera and Eddie came from near Fakenham and emigrated to Australia in 1968. They now have an 8,000 acre farm in Wyalkatchem in Western Australia. They did a 400 mile round trip to have dinner with us. Eddie has become a stalwart of the local community and is currently Shire President for their area.

### Melbourne

**Roger Goodwin 57–64**, West and Canterbury. Roger played cricket for the first team and later for Norfolk. Went to NZ in 1974 and then Australia in 1977. Working as a quantity surveyor in Melbourne. He and his wife, Beverley, have two sons who are both into cricket. We had an excellent evening with them in one of Melbourne's excellent restaurants.

### Sydney

**Liz Young (Bowers 56–59)** East House. Liz has been in NZ for the

past 30 years and flew over to Sydney for the re-union.

**Joan Thomson (Woodbridge 56–57)** North House. Joan was the “anchor” for our meetings and besides arranging the re-union in Sydney also met us in Melbourne where she and her daughter Melanie were excellent hosts. Melanie, who is an exec with the Foster brewery group, arranged a tour of one of their breweries for some of the more enthusiastic members of the tour. To cap it all she and husband David then put four of us up to see the match in Brisbane.

**Keith Hudson (52–61)** Butler Keith came to Aus. in 1970 “looking for Maharishi but got lost on the way”. He and his Australian wife, Kathy, live in one of Australia's most beautiful areas on Jarvis Bay just South of Sydney.

**Will Palmer (71–78)** Will played soccer and cricket for the school. He brought his 12 year old son, Matthew, along to the re-union, who fitted in very well.

**Alex Unwin (70–77)** Durham and New Hall. Alex came to Australia in 1977 and is now married with two children.

**Robert Colson (54–59)** North House. Robert came to Australia in 1962, rose to some heights in the Australian Army and now lives in Canberra. He is “happily divorced with three children and two grandchildren.”

**Sarah Cox (79–86)** Cavell. Sarah came to Aus. in 2000. She was somewhat younger than the rest of the re-union but fitted in well and contributed to an excellent evening.

**Terry Nicholls (52–59)** West House. Played for the school at rugby and cricket and later for Norfolk under 19 cricket team. One of the touring team.

**John Beales (52–59)** East House. John played rugby and cricket for the school. One of the touring team.

**Mike Herring (52–58)** East House. Played rugby and did athletics for the school. One of the touring team.

### 60s Golf Day and Reunion

#### – Philip Wade

Thought you may like to know what happened at St. Ives over the weekend of 4th April 2003. On arrival at Olivers Hotel, St Ives, I met **Graham Smith, Sandra Wright** and Sandra's husband Bill. Later the men headed off to the Lakeside golf club. **Helen Clack**

arrived as we left. Helen and Sandra disappeared into St Ives for a bit of retail therapy. Golf was great fun and the weather was kind.

By the time we got back to the hotel, **Sandra Leeks, Eileen Pearson, Alan Bridges** and **Marion Rix** had all arrived. Sundowners at 6pm before dinner. **Susanne Milligan** and **George Zajicek** arrived for dinner. Eleven around the dining table. The food and wine were excellent. Lots of stories told and plenty leg pulling as usual. Round about 10pm **Alistair Taylor** appeared having driven down from Lancashire, and still had to go home near Wisbech!

Choosing the horses for the Grand National was the first priority over breakfast on Saturday. After breakfast we said farewell to George who was off skiing with his family on Sunday.

A relaxing day spend strolling around St Ives, first port of call being the bookies, the Norris Museum, finally coffee and drinks at the Dolphin Hotel watching the boats go by. Some wandered off to the marina while others wandered back into town where two of us had our blood pressure taken! Both ok!

Nice surprise, **John Young** arrived, having driven up from Surrey to spend a few hours with us, really great to see him. Hadn't changed a bit. Lots to chat about again before and after watching the Grand National. Didn't get the winner but managed second and fourth, so didn't lose much. No sooner had John left than **Christopher Ashton** and **Alistair Taylor** arrived. After another excellent dinner we retired to the bar where more stories, plans for the future, further reunions were all talked about.

With a chilly Sunday morning eight of us walked (two went by car!) through town, across the meadows and finally arrived at a pub in Hemingford Grey as they opened at noon. Coffee and drinks most welcome. Plenty chit chat and laughter. Then we prepared for the chilly walk back to the hotel. It was again a most enjoyable and successful weekend. London has been proposed for next year's weekend, so note it in your diary!

Don't forget the **Wymondham College Association 100 Club**, advertised on the WCRemembered website. **WCRemembered.co.uk website**.

Sadly I have to close with the news that a couple of years ago we lost **Gillian Bishop**.

### The 60's Bunch Xmas Drinks

The annual pre-xmas drinks reunion was held on 21<sup>st</sup> December at the Kings Arms, Hall Road, Norwich. Those who made it were Bob Collins, Steven Human, Roger Lincoln, Gerald Francis, Colin Farrington, Nicola Keatley of course, Kathy Eastwood, Graham Smith, Alan Bridges, Marion Rix, Alistair Taylor and Eileen Pearson. Bob Collins, who had come from Northampton with his wife, is one of the original 13+ Grammar School entrants who was inducted in September 1951 and left in 1954. The forecast of imminent snow and illness sadly kept a few away. Another most enjoyable afternoon spent in a super pub.

### 2004 Weekend in Cambridge

Next planned reunion will be over the weekend 2nd, 3rd and 4th April somewhere in Cambridge. (Probably golf on Friday; Grand National run on Saturday) Make a note in your diaries!

Hotel overlooks the River Cam and Jesus Common, easy walk to the shops! Have a look at the website <http://www.arundelhousehotels.co.uk> for more information. Just call Stephanie Tamasyn and mention WC when booking.

**Philip Wade**

### 1970s Reunion 2003

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2003 saw the latest "official" reunion to be held at the College. The marquee located on the lawn outside Kett (kindly provided by the College) saw around sixty ex-pupils and staff from the "70's" era spend an enjoyable sunny evening rekindling friendships from almost thirty years ago.

The B-B-Q provided by Bob Bales and his staff was again excellent. Fine beers and wines were provided by Buffys Brewery from The Cherry Tree at Wicklewood. The "sounds" were an eclectic mix of progressive

rock and chart hits from the period. (Dancing to "Peaches en Regalia" by Frank Zappa must have been a first though!) and many comments were made about when and where certain tunes had last been heard, (the sixth form room being the most common venue!)

Many thanks to all the helpers who assisted in setting up the tables, arranging flowers, setting up the college art display and generally making sure that everything would be alright on the night. Special thanks must go to Carole Arnold for her unstinting co-ordinating expertise and guidance to ensure that the event ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all attendees.

*Phil Robinson(66-73)*

~~~~~  
? **Gleanings from  
WCRemembered website  
for those who do not have  
access to it -**

### Television Appearances The Braithwaites

A new series of 'At Home with the Braithwaites' appeared on UK TV in the early part of 2003 and the cast includes two ex-pupils, **Adam Rayner** and **Judy Holt (Hall)**. Adam played a hunky gardener who later became the toyboy lover of Alison (Amanda Redman) and Judy was the bank manager and confidante of David (Peter Davison).

### Henry VIII

Old boy **Mark Strong** played the part of the Duke of Norfolk in the UK ITV drama Henry VIII in October 2003.

### Emmerdale Farm

**Peter Walton (stage name Peter Amory)** has come to the end of his 14- year-run as businessman Chris Tate in Emmerdale Farm (UK ITV rural soap). Chris 'died' spectacularly on Wednesday 17th September 2003 when he poisoned himself, after carefully ensuring his death would be blamed on his wife. One of Peter's later roles was at Weston-super-Mare when he starred as Abanazar in the Playhouse Theatre's traditional Christmas pantomime 'Aladdin.'

### Mentions on the Internet

1. English Heritage has put two 1993 College views on its

Viewfinder web site (<http://viewfinder.english-heritage.org.uk>); one of the water tower & the other of 'Tomlinson' area huts 14, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 24.

2. Some wags have suggested on Friends Reunited that Posh Spice (Mrs Beckham) and Adam Ant were two of our past pupils. We think not!

3. The Corrugated Iron Club (<http://www.corrugated-iron-club.info/>), mentioned in the Archers over the last year, has now included a view of the College's nissen huts in their 'Contributor Galleries.'

### **'That'll Teach 'Em'**

In the Autumn of last year UK TV Channel 4 ran a series 'That'll Teach 'Em' in which a set of 30 present-day GCSE students were subjected to the rigours of a 1950s state co-educational boarding grammar school, and on conclusion sat a scaled-down Fifties 'O' Level GCE examination. There were teachers in gowns, spam fritters, long division, fountain pens, hospital corners and an armpit-sniffing matron, features that brought back many memories for some of us. It has been suggested that Anglia TV should do a re-make at the College and call it 'That'll Larn 'Em!'

The related Channel 4 web site (<http://www.channel4.com/history/microsites/T/teachem/>) is still in place and includes the pupils' results for both GCSE and GCE.

### **Members of Parliament**

We now have three ex-pupil Members of Parliament. **Norman Lamb** and **Patsy Calton** hold UK seats for the Liberal Democrats and **Trudy Stevenson (nee Bevier)** is MP for the Zimbabwe Harare North constituency. Trudy represents the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC).

### **News of Past Pupils and Staff**

Previous College Head **Ronald Wolsey** (1971-1992) has been spotted in Norwich behind the wheel of a prestige motor bearing a personalised number plate W001 SEY (or very similar).

1960s Director of Music **Arthur Berry** is now living in Chester. He recently contributed several photos

of the 1960s orchestra and choir for the WCRemembered.co.uk web site.

We were astonished and pleased to discover that **John Dunn** and **John Langham** are still gigging together 35 years after they were in the rock band Earthworks at the College in the late 1960s. They are now known as The Rockin' Johnnies and perform throughout Norfolk and north Suffolk. John says that "any old WC survivors will be made much of!" E-mail: [gina.dunn@LineOne.net](mailto:gina.dunn@LineOne.net)

**Duncan Jones** writes: *'Looking at Stephen Deere in the web site photos reminded me he was that rarity - a lad that went from a rugby playing school to becoming a pro footballer. There was a pre-World Cup 98 tournament involving England, Brazil, Italy & France. I went there as part of the ITV team, and one evening found myself chatting to Kevin Keegan (what a name-dropper!). Remembering that he'd played for Scunthorpe United, I asked him if he knew Stephen Deere - once of York House - who had played for Norwich City as an amateur, but signed pro forms with Scunthorpe. "Oh I remember Steve Deere well," Wor Kev replied, "He was the only player in my group who had a car - a brand new Ford Cortina - so we used to cadge lifts in it to training!" Steve Deere was later transferred to Hull City in the old 2nd Division for the princely sum of £45,000! Anyone know where he is now?*

[duncan.jones1@ntlworld.com](mailto:duncan.jones1@ntlworld.com)

**Martin Harper (60-67)** writes: *"Congratulations for all your efforts on our behalf. I have only recently had a reliable access to your website as the communication lines in rural Africa have literally not been up to speed. I was prompted by one of your recent contributors to make my own contribution. In July 1967 we were released by 'Bob' Norton from Canterbury House into the world in the middle of that wonderful summer of Peace and Love. As 18 year olds we had been totally unprepared to join the Flower Power Generation as most of the staff at WC at that time thought Flower Power was a new garden fertilizer. Within a few days of leaving many of us joined up to meet in the Wellington Club East Dereham to attend a concert of the then upcoming Pink Floyd. The concert is still worthy of a mention on the Pink Floyd website. In those days Dereham was a cultural Mecca!*

*We certainly had some catching up to do and it is hardly surprising that many of us let ensuing years. Subsequent to those years I have lived most of my adult life under the now totally discredited regime of Robert Mugabe but perhaps the discipline instilled in us during the Sixties helped me to survive the very difficult latter years. I left Zimbabwe in 2002 after being forced to relinquish Zimbabwean Citizenship because of British origins and have now settled in New Zealand. So what is in a name? In the intervening years our hair down, quite literally in the I had no contact with WC and it was only in 2000 that I was contacted by Philip Wade and in December of that year met a number of old friends at a Reunion in Norwich."*

Belated congratulations to **Trudy Stevenson (nee Bevier)** who was elected as MP for the Zimbabwe Harare North constituency in 2000. She represents the opposition Movement for Democratic Change and is her Party's National Secretary for Research and Policy. Trudy was in West House and left the College in 1962. She has lived in Zimbabwe since 1980 and became a citizen in 1989. In Parliament Trudy is on the Standing Rules and Orders Committee, Public Accounts Committee and Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee. She says: "Mugabe does not frighten me, I feel it is my duty to stand up for the rights of all."

**Bob Rowell** is President of Leicester Tigers Rugby Club this year. Bob first joined Leicester as a player in 1962 and is a former England lock. He included these words in the programme for the Tigers v. Gloucester match (lost 18-28 unfortunately).

Today I have as one of my guests someone who had a great influence on my introduction to the game of rugby many years ago. **Mike Rees** coached a group of reluctant converts from soccer to rugby at Wymondham College in Norfolk during the 1957-58 season. Mike's inspiration and coaching achieved remarkable results for what was the College's first season on the 1st XV schools circuit in East Anglia, but more importantly his enthusiasm and influence ensured the continued involvement in the game for most of us as we embarked

on our various walks of life. **Terry Nicholls**, a member of that school XV, is also with us today."

Bob, Mike and Terry are pictured on the [1957/58 1st XV photo](#) on WCRemembered.co.uk Mike moved on to become director of sport at Oakham School, where he coached more pupils who would later play at Leicester.

## Gleanings

### 1950s

**Christine Ecclestone (51-55)** When I left school at 16 I worked for 11 years in a costing office at The Chaucer Press Printing works. I married, had 2 sons, I then worked on the management team in residential care of the elderly for Norfolk County Council. I am now retired. Over the years I have kept in touch with Julie Richards (nee Howell) and Rosemary Welton (nee Hughes). Both 1951-1955

**Peter Woodyard (51-55)** After school I joined the RN in September 55. Had a full career as a Marine Engineering Artificer. Still working with RN vessels for the Min of Def. I remember David Spinks very well. I cannot forget Mr Appleyard, Sid Banyard or Mr Jack Hawkyard! You will see me in the Viry Chatillon photo.

**Emba Jones(51-58)** Recently gave up gainful employment, having spent a lifetime in IT systems including 25 years with Logica. In the main I worked on financial systems based in London although I lived for periods abroad in Libya, Saudi, Abu Dhabi, Iraq, Hong Kong, Berlin and Switzerland. I'm married with a large family albeit the youngsters have all long flown the roost.

**Adrian Osler (53-59)**

**Keith Hudson (53-61)** Long happy adolescence which ended at age 30 when I happened to be in Adelaide, Australia. Became suddenly serious, got married & did the children, mortgage, career bit. Recently retired and a bit restless. A fair chance of reverting to a life careless irresponsibility once more.

**Dennis Hanwell(54-58)** Keen on sports, athletics, chess, rugby and golf. Occupation is development chemist M&B aka Rhone Poulenc, Syntex and Ghist-brocades in Bahamas, Sterling Organics to Rhodia Pharma Solutions via management buy-outs and take-

overs. Will retire to live in Jamaica later this year

**Judy Willson (Colman 54-59)** Was sports mad at school - don't remember much about the academic side!!! After working for myself for 7 years have now 'retired' and have taken up golf. I have a husband and 2 children, but no grandchildren as yet!

**Geoff Holmes (54-60)** After a Physics degree and career in IT in which I was a founder member of a small software company in 1969 which grew to have over 5,000 employees in 1990, I took early retirement and am now an active offshore and ocean sailor. I am chairman of the Trustees of a charity which brings sailing to people with disabilities and a flag officer of my local yacht club. The College is one of the best things to happen in my life and will always be grateful to it.

**John Duffy(55-60)** After WC I completed a 5-year Elect.Eng Apprenticeship with English Electric Co and worked for them for 23 years in many countries and UK.

Emigrated with my wife and three daughters after three working visits to Australia and I was offered a job with Alcoa in 1983. Now looking forward to retirement

**Michael Thorogood (56-59)** lived in dormitory 22 for the 3 years that I attended the college. Have lived in Wymondham at the same address since leaving college, with the exception of a couple of years in the late 1960's. Worked latterly for Eastern Electricity and took early retirement in 1996.

**Terence Waddington-Bennett(56-63)** Originally with South, later Gloucester with Mr Bowman (Housemaster). Have lived in Alaska, USA since 1983 with Anchorage being home since 1996. Wife Linda - 4 Children (3 Living) oldest 30 and the youngest 22. Work for Cummins Engine Company as a special account manager in charge of power generation for 52 Alaska Villages. Changed name to Bennett after finding real parents in 1965. Was a foster child while attending Wymondham College. Would like to hear from old contacts. Plan on returning to England after retirement - approx 7 years from now.

**Russell Stone (57-63)** Left in Upper Sixth to join Black & White Minstrel Show.....

It was good to see **Andrew Barrett (59-62)** when he visited the College

in October as he was passing through on his way back from doing some work with Norfolk Police. On leaving W.C. I joined the Metropolitan Police in London and served with them until 1998 having risen to the rank of Superintendent. While in their employment attended Reading University on a scholarship where I gained an LLB Honours degree. On retirement became an independent consultant advising all UK police forces on radio communications and their impact on business change management. I live in Somerset with my wife Christine and our 5 dogs. Five you say? Well, Christine is a dog trainer!

**Roger Trett (59-64)** Married twice, two daughters, one granddaughter. Chairman of International Construction Dispute organisation. Keen on Rugby. Sister Nancy and brother Phillip also attended Wymondham.

### 1960s

**Jenny Thomson(Brown 60-64)** I was always very interested in sport, and always managed to get into the "teams", hockey, tennis and netball and represented our school at area sports. I am now an Assistant Practice Manager at a local GP practice and am proudly waiting to become a grandmother (at last) - baby due in May to my son. I also have a daughter and a wonderful husband who I have been married to for 35 years.

**Jim Gathercole(60-65)** After WC, Birmingham University Dental School, married in 1972, no kids. Opened own surgery with fellow student in 1973 in Uttoxeter. Continued active participation in athletics through University but now continue the competitive side by racing historic cars.

**John Young(60-67)** After leaving Wymondham, did Industrial Chemistry at City University. Worked in the Midlands for a few years before moving to Sussex. Have been in the IT industry for the last 25 years (not all it's cracked up to be, but better than working). Married, no children. I am now old and fat.

**Julia Hayes (Owen 61-65)** My brothers David and Richard were also pupils in the 60s. I have since emigrated to Canada and now live about 45 minutes outside Toronto. Married to a Canadian for 14 years. Would love to hear from anyone who remembers me. I often think of Michael Brand, I believe I was in

one of his first classes – trial by terror I think!!!

**Ian Matthews(61-66)** My time at Wymondham was a formative part of my life-mostly very good memories. Sadly no enduring friendships but would like to catch up with a few of my contemporaries.

**Mike Comber(61-68)** OU graduate - chemistry - Worked for ICI for 30 years, lived in Runcorn and Brixham. Married - 2 children - divorced - played and coached cricket at several levels - including Devon Over 50s. Now living in Belgium working for ExxonMobil

**Tim Betts (62-68)** I am married and have two daughters. I have worked for Shell all of my career and am presently a Consultancy Manager. My team operates globally and does all sorts of clever strategic stuff. Fortunately, I'm senior enough just to go around the world supporting the team and keeping the clients happy.

I returned to live in Norfolk last year, after 30+ years elsewhere (UK, Portugal & the Dominican Republic). I'm now three miles from WC where my younger daughter is a 6th former.

**Paul Humphreys(62-68)** London in the late 60's to work as an artist. Eventually set up my own business in 1979 carrying out decorative restoration, which has flourished to the extent that we are now Royal Warrant holders and carry out restoration work in some of the country's most famous buildings such as Windsor Castle, British Museum, Royal Opera House, Kensington Palace Etc.

**Barry Wood (62-69)** After leaving Wymondham did Civil Engineering at City University in London. Emigrated to South Africa in '74 but only stayed two years. Married Lesley in '76 and have two boys Alex (23) and Josh (13). Live in Surrey and work for a consulting company in London advising on PFI contracts. Still enjoy rugby - but now only as a spectator!

**Peter Ludkin (63-69)** Arrived at WC as a "new 3rd" 63/64. Started a career in the water industry 1970, eventually saw the light in 2000 and took early retirement. Working occasionally, part time, as the mood takes me. Married since 1977 two teenage children, boy & girl.

**Stephen Farthing (63-70)** Recently returned to Norfolk after 30 very odd years away. Currently the Director

for Information Technology for a large Police Force. Still fooling around with music and guitars, old motorbikes and photography. Drop me a line.

**Liz Prissick (Storey 63-70)** Have had a variety of jobs including Harrods, WRAF Officer, secretary, swimming instructor and latterly florist. Now a lady of leisure.

Married to a pilot and have 3 boys 20, 16 and 14.

**Pauline Simpson (Vincent 63-70)** I played in the school orchestra - clarinet, and played the part of Yum Yum in the Mikado with Mr Brand. I am currently teaching and I am a lay reader in the Church of England. I have 2 daughters and have been married for 21 years.

**Paul Coglan (64-71)** Married to Alison in 1991 and now have 4 children; James b. 1992, Sam b. 1994, Emma and Lucy b. 2000. Working for Atos Origin in Cambridge as an IT consultant specialising in Lotus Notes.

**Mike Hedley(64-71)** Bob Mullenger's nephew. After leaving Wycol, studied Biochem at Leeds Univ until 1974. In 1975 undertook PhD studies in New Zealand at Massey University. After research jobs in Canada and UK returned to Lecture at Massey University in 1983. Married to Carolyn with 3 children Currently Group leader of Soil Science at Massey University.

**Iain King(65-70)** Despite my lack of technical and sporting aptitude at school, I now earn my living in the IT industry and help to manage a junior rugby team. I'm married to Sue and we have three sons, twins studying for their A-levels and one who has just started his secondary school career.

**Fiona Gibbon (Lyons 65-72)** Married 25 years, 2 fantastic kids aged 17 and 20 Work part time - enjoy life much more than I did at school!! Not at all boring now - honest!

**Kevin Hewitt(65-72)** Left in 1972 joining Cambridgeshire Police in 1973. Married with 2 grown up daughters and 2 grandchildren. Now coming up to retirement, having moved back into Norfolk some 7 years ago, but still working in Cambridgeshire. Lost my first wife to illness after 19 years of marriage but have been remarried for 6 happy years.

**Steve Woodbridge(66-69)** I was the only pupil still wearing shorts in the

third year. I am now somewhat taller, but not that much. I am a Chief Inspector in the Police having served for 24 years. Spent 7 years in the Armed forces before that. Played rugby and cricket for the college and continued these sports up until a couple of years ago. I am interested in attending the reunions as soon as possible.

**Kate Brooks(Oxley 66-72)** After WC and college I went travelling to Australia for 2 yrs. On my return I met up with Paul Brooks from my year but left in the 3rd form. We later married, have three children and live in Brighton. He works for the beebe and I work as a social worker. Would love to hear from any Westminster veterans from 65-72.

**Graham Smithson(66-74)** I was at Wymondham together with Jimmy Alston and Simon Marfleet, and we still meet once a year when I am in England. I studied History of Arts at the UEA in Norwich and retrained to Industrie Kaufmann in Germany. My German I learnt with Mr. Boothroyd. I have been living in Germany since 1978 and run a Gasthaus together with my German wife.

**Tony Anderson(67-74)** Married to another ex Wycol inmate – Deb (nee Smith) Worcester. We have two daughters. Currently working for a US software company here in UK.

**David Chamberlin(67-72)** After five not entirely delightful years at CGS/WC, I left part way through lower 6th, much against Chris Sayer's advice, joined Norwich Union, where I worked for 20 years, leaving in 1992 to train as a Vicar. After five years away, back in Norfolk as Vicar of Swardeston, East Carleton, Intwood, Keswick and Ketteringham. Now also Rural Dean of Humbleyard. Married to Julia, with four children, one in 6th form at WC, another starting in Y7 Sept 2003.

**Colin Cooper (67-73)** Married with three daughters and living in Epsom. I work at the Institute of Cancer Research at their Sutton Site. Joined Wycol in third year and left to go to Warwick University.

**Eibhlin Inglesby (Eileen Sheehan 67-73)** Then, I was in the F stream, good at arts, bad at sports, able but slightly dissident. A levels at Norwich City College, Theology & Philosophy at Birmingham. Nursing, teaching, mothering, travelling, dancing, law studies since. Two

daughters who are not only bright but good at sports!

**Michael Flatt (67-73)** Left during 1st year in 6th form (couldn't hack A levels) to become a quantity surveyor for a construction company. Still surveying!. Have lost contact with old school mates. Twice married with one daughter still living in Norfolk. Fatter, thinner on top but still benefiting from the Wy Coll experience. If Hammy Turner reads this please contact!

**Jane Rout (Manners 68-73)** Have worked for Barclays Bank since leaving WyCol, last few years as a trainer and coach, now taken redundancy and looking to start a new career. As an old CGS girl I wore my old school tie and badge 'til the day I left. Divorced & still living happily in Sth Norfolk.

**Chris Booth (67-73)** Joined Durham as a 13-year-old. Always enjoyed sports (Rugby and cross country) more than schoolwork! Used to travel home to Lytham St. Annes by train but in my last year, as House Captain of New Hall, was allowed to bring my Triumph Bonneville to school (which I kept under the New Hall arch!) It was a heck of a long drive home in those days, and still is. Sadly, left without A levels but gained geology A the next year which I used to join the oil industry in Aberdeen. I've been in the oil industry ever since, and have travelled around most of the world, thankfully at someone else's expense! Currently residing and working as a Directional driller for Shell/PDO in the Sultanate of Oman (a very beautiful, friendly country, totally free of terrorists and very pro Brit).

**Lois Le Lion (nee Pearce 69-74)** loved time at Wycol after I discovered contact lenses and social life improved no end! Attended CGS and left to study A Levels at Norwich City College: I was originally in Yare House and then amalgamated into Fry. Great fun and a new and splendid social life! Coming into the Saturday evening film brings back many happy adolescent memories. I was good friends with Debbie Leach and was in a form of 20 girls and one boy. I suspect it was some sort of sociological experiment but Tim Mayer didn't seem to mind! I have just made contact with Jan Turner (be still, my 15-year-old beating heart!). Some may remember my brother Richard who is 2 years older than me. While I was a model pupil,

he was frankly a bit of a toad and left before the Warden asked him to! It seems that his tutor Zomb Lewis (Art) had to beg the other teachers to let him sit his O Levels - few did! You will be pleased to know he went on to good things (BA at Lancaster, MA at Cambridge!). I myself went on to nurse and now live in Portsmouth, happily married (2nd time is always better!) with 2 lovely daughters; Jessica 17 and Katy 14. They find all this highly amusing, but it brings back lots of happy memories and the occasional lump in the throat! Kind regards to anyone who may remember me or the dreadful Richard!

**Linda Fudge (Plumb 68-74)** I was in Westminster and Kett. Never any good at sciences but have fond memories of Mr Brand's chemistry lessons, especially when we persuaded him to sing! After consistently under-achieving at school I decided to get my revenge by training as a teacher. I am now a headteacher of a school in Norfolk. I have two children, Jonathan and Laura.

**David Cook(69-74)** At WC: Useless at games, always played rugby in the "rabble". Not known for conformity, bit of a rebel. Mostly bottom of the class but passed all my O levels. After WC I started in the oil exploration business as junior buyer with Amoco. Obtained degrees (MBA, MCIPS) by company sponsorship. Still in the business, currently working as Contracts Consultant for Chinese government in Jakarta, Indonesia. Married in 1998, wife Indonesian, no kids yet. Want to hear from anyone who remembers me.

**Donna Kerrigan (Curtis 69-74)** I was a new 3rd!! My main interests were music (trombone) and Guides. I also played netball and swam!! I was in the school choir. I am currently Head of Mathematics at Southampton school and about to become Southampton LEA Maths Adviser.

**Tom Howe(69-76)** Have never been back to the school apart from turing out for the obligatory Old Boys Rugby match in '76. Found 'Friends' and 'WC Rem' sites two years ago. Until then WC memories were mostly an occasionally recurring nightmare in which A level English exam was imminent and I hadn't read a book. Although, now I think about it..... Anyway, currently equipping

hospitals for the NHS in West London.

**Vanessa Sinclair (Grant 69-76)** on leaving Wymondham I went on to Reading University where I gained my degree in Food Science. I then spent 6 years working for Bernard Matthews on new product development just as he was breaking in to the market. Marriage and children then got in the way and I am now at home with Ian, a science teacher, Jennie, 16 and Graham, 14 and trying to keep our 3 acres under control!

**1970s**

**Lynne Lemon(Hill 71-74)** Boarder Kett Hall 71-75 - still have fond/funny memories. Was a bit of a handful-much calmer now. Full time wife/mother to 4 daughters - 1, 2, 18 & 20 years old. Living in King's Lynn and enjoying life. Favourite pastime shopping - not locally - hence interest in the internet. Have enjoyed hearing from former pupils through Friends Reunited.

**Janette Smith (nee Beaumont 70-74)** was at the College and was initially in Worcester and later in Lincoln. Her father was based at RAF Sculthorpe. She shared a dorm with **Melanie Herd**, **Christine Butler** and **Jayne Walker** amongst others. Her House Wardens were Miss Battye in Worcester and Mr Rutherford in Lincoln. She would love to hear from **anyone around in those days** and bring back some great memories.

[JANETTEDS@aol.com](mailto:JANETTEDS@aol.com)

**Eleanor Coates (Wickins 70-75)** After qualifying as a physiotherapist in Cardiff I returned to Norfolk to work. I now work with children with special needs ranging in age from birth to sixteen. I live with my partner near the Broads and have a large garden to keep me busy. I have two daughters, one at university and one at college. Among many other interests I am a school governor and a qualified amateur swimming association judge.

**Bob Pinkett(70-75)** Had not thought about Wymondham for the last 25 years until one of my mates put my name in google and came up with this site - what a surprise. So what's happened to me since 1975? - university, travel, some interesting jobs, a wife and two daughters, now proud owner of a tuned Triumph Daytona T595, I work all over UK, Eastern Europe, Oz, still see a band once a month, live in a small village



overlooking the Thames...nothing extraordinary (except the gun running, drugs and champagne lifestyle) but happy with my lot.

**Paul Gurney-Read(71-78)** Potted History: Degree in Chem.Eng worked 7 yrs for May & Baker in Norwich then 3 yrs in Bahamas. Married to Sue with 3 fantastic kids, ages 11,8,6. Now living in Surrey (last 10yrs) Technical V P of Int. Engineering Company, mostly doing consultancy. Play lots of Squash (For team in Surrey leagues). Also enjoy skiing, badminton diving, watching most sport.

**Paul Harrey (85-92)** is living in Brisbane with his wife Pene and son Toby. Just started a design consultancy focusing on environmentally friendly products and buildings. Can be contacted on mitchellharrey@hotmail.com

**Alan Loose(71-78)** Left in 1978 and worked for one year in King's Lynn before leaving the area to live in Manchester. Started work as a scaffolder in 1979 and still at the same company in the NW of England. Stopped working 'on the tools' completely some 10 years ago and now control full day-to-day running of the company as a director. Married for 12 years but same partner for over 20 years, 2 children, a son of 14 and a daughter of 9 years.

**Georgina Davies(72-77)** Boarder at Cavell House until O Levels then went on to Norwich Catering College. I spent one year working in Switzerland followed by hotel jobs in other parts of England but am now back in Norfolk and not far from Wymondham.

**Kathelen Williams(Davies 72-77)** I started at Wymondham as a 3rd year and stayed to do my 'A' Levels as a boarder. I went on to teach special needs in Peterborough, mid Wales and Shropshire. I have now given up teaching and am concentrating on my two children and husband.

**Liz Morson(Amies -77)** Following a 2 year pre-nursing course at the city college, I did my nurse training at Peterborough. There I met my husband and was married before returning to Norfolk, where I presently work as a staff nurse in the local hospital. We have 2 teenage children, both of which keeps us busy.

**Anne King (Williamson 70-77)** I studied English History and French at A level, and was a member of the

debating society. Went on to Leeds University to do English and later did a MA/CQSW at Leicester University. Married with 2 children, I work as a Senior Probation Officer and live in Bristol. I'm still in touch with 3 friends from Wy Col days.

**Geoff Kew (71-77)** Following graduation from Bangor in Forestry, worked in various parts of the UK before moving to Cambridge in 1984 to work at Cambridgeshire County Council till 1994. Now working for RSPB on UK wide nature reserve acquisitions. Married in 1987, no children.

**Michael Cooper(72-77)** I left Wymondham College in 1977 and studied HNC electronics at Norwich City College. I started work for Post Office telephones in 1979, as an apprentice faultsman. In 1983 I was seconded to work for BELL Telecom in Miami Florida. In 1987 I transferred to BT Business Systems, back in native Norfolk. (Even managed to fix a couple of faults on the Regent switch at Wymondham College!) I got married in 1987 to Carolyn Simms (who went to the same primary school as me). We moved to Reepham, where we still live, and have 2 children, Laura b1989 and Reuben b1996. I am now a Customer service manager for BT Business.

**Hazel Smith (Poulton 72-79)** I lived in the staff houses whilst at W.C. Worked in a bank for a year in Wymondham, before going to Chester College. I now work for social services, and live and reside in Flintshire with my husband, Al and 2 children. I have kept in touch with 3 close friends from school, but don't meet up often due to distance

**George Ross (72-79)** Emerged from seven, sometimes happy, years at Wymondham with a handful of 'O' and 'A' levels passes. Went on to study Chemistry (B.Sc. and Ph.D) at Univ of Nottingham and worked in industry for 11 years. Retrained as a science teacher and am now in my fourth year and loving it. Have two children, James (12) and Amelia (10), who are the lights of my life. Still play sports.

**David Thorogood(72-79)** I spent the first 4 years in Kett with Mark Strong, Nigel Shepherd, Henry Swales, Steve Frewer, Paul Vignaux etc.. Then moved to New Hall [followed a girl - Sarah Tuddenham]. Had great memories of Wymondham and often hanker to get

in touch with old friends. Retiring to New Zealand in November 2003 so should have more time...

**Gwen Webster(Hurley 73-76)** Living in Western Australia for last 23 years, married (22 years to Paul Webster) with 1 child. We have a photographic studio which is going well. Not so much of a rebel these days!! Would love to be in touch with some people from school. Often wonder what has happened to some. Please contact.

**Debbie Smith (Matthews 73-79)** still living in the area and working for a financial services company. married with two children, both at the college. Would like to get in contact with anyone who remembers me.

**Kevin Howell (73-80)** After doing a degree at Portsmouth Poly I now run a wine shop in Hythe. Fully enjoying the tasting opportunities, and gaining my WYSET Diploma. Locally I am chairman of out Twinning Assoc – linked with Berck (France) and Poperinge (Belgium) I guess Messrs. Norton, Little and Foley would be pleased I am still a keen rugby fan!

**Joanne Finnemore (Shooter 74-81)** Trained as a nurse at the London Hospital. Then went on to become a midwife in Canterbury. Moved back to Norwich in 1988, gained a post as a community midwife sister. Marries in 1989, now have 3 children. Currently studying for a degree through the Open University and about to take over and expand the family business (private meal delivery service).

**Lisa Glover(75-79)** I am now a teacher back in Norfolk after working in the Midlands. Still in touch with a few old Wymondham College folk, but not many. Sing in Norwich group 'Big Sky'

**Susan Rawling (Sloat 77-79)** I was an insignificant member of the house but enjoyed singing and avoiding Miss Willets! Only stayed at WC for a couple of years but ingrained on my memory forever.

**Elaine Thexton (77-80)** I left Wymondham College to join the Metropolitan Police Cadets, and then went on to spend the next 16 years in the Police service until I was medically retired in 1998. I moved back to Norfolk with my husband (Ian) and 2 children (Adam & Joshua) in 1998. I am now a civilian Enquiry Officer for Norfolk Constabulary & live in Beetley. My

brother, **Justin Cromie** left Wymondham in 1986 and went into employment. When he was 27 he decided to go back to full time education, and is currently half way through his PhD at Bristol University. My sister **Kirsten Cromie** left the College in 1989 and spent 12 years in the RAF, 6 months of which were spent serving in the Falkland Islands. She is married with 2 small children and works for a tyre company as a Sales Manager. I would love to hear from anyone who remembers me - **Rachael Saunders, Lloyd Perkin, Ian 'Roly' Rutherford** (Who I believe may also be a member of Norfolk Constabulary), **Sara Hill, Joanne Marsh, Shirley Brooks** - to name but a few. I have met **Andy Spall** quite a few times - he is a Motorcycle Police Officer in Norwich.

**Chris Burman (73-80)** Married to Helene with 2 children (twins). Currently serving in the RAF as supply/movements officer based at High Wycombe, where we have settled. Have recently come back from 3 years in Canada

**Lorinda Baines (Moy 74-79)** Married in 1983, 3 children, 18,12,10. Moved to Rugby in 1991 with husband's work. In contact with a couple of people still. Have worked in various places since leaving school, but now only work part time in a small newsagents.

**Mark Jermy (74-80)** Rubbish academic, but loved the sports facilities at Wymondham. Finally got my brain around a degree and then spent the next 12 years working and travelling throughout Europe and Africa. Moved back to Suffolk/Norfolk border 1994, director of a reasonably successful medium sized company. Live with my partner Kim and our 2 year old in Beccles

**Glenn Jones (74-81)** RAF Tornado navigator 84-0. Still live in Norfolk and now embarked on career in the health and fitness industry. Would love to hear from old school mates.

**Clare Kerin (Hogan 74-81)** Studied for Economics degree in London, then worked behind the scenes in live music industry. Met and married an Ozzie. Went to live in Sydney for 8 years, had two children. Trained to be a teacher in Sydney. Came back to Norfolk in 1998. Teaching 7-year-olds

**Jane Stevenson (Franklin 74-81)** Now based in the Highlands of

Scotland - very top left of Scotland. Employed as travelling Registrar for civil marriages and also AD-ED tutor. Married - no kids, just 2 cats. **Martin Signy (75-81)** One partner, two young boys, one Food Industry Quality Management Job, two cars, one shed, no pets. Life spent in Norwich, Manchester, London and now Bucks

**Annette Yoosefinejad (75-81)** Loved and loathed Wymondham. Left just before A levels, went on to Goldsmiths College, London University, studied film and photography. Married Ata, met through Kim from WyCol. Abandoned photography when kids arrived. Now making jewellery and living, at least for another year, in Wiesbaden, Germany.

**Angelique Fox (Nichols 75-81)** Married Peter, straight after A Levels and went to Papua New Guinea for 4 years, after spending the interim in England now back in Papua New Guinea where Peter is Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Port Moresby. Three children, boys, David, living in Norwich, working in Natwest, John and Daniel with us in PNG

**Jerry Tonge (76-80)** Spent a very happy few years at WyCol as a boarder. Left in 1980 for university in Canterbury & Lyon, then trained as an accountant in London. After a couple of years in Madrid have now settled down in a village in Beds and have two young daughters. Working as FD for an IT services company in Stevenage. Still into sport in a big way, though more watching than playing these days!

**Bill Hipkiss (76-81)** IT consultant, living in Sydney for the past 6 years. Married with one son.

**Julie Espley (Roberts 76-83)** Studied History at Cardiff. Became a Civil Servant working for EPSRC and currently the Records Manager there. Married in 1992 and have two children. Simply can't believe where the time has gone! Lots of good memories of WC, but couldn't bring myself to part with my children at 11.

**David Hughes (77-83)** (Kett and Lincoln). He is now Anglia's Head of Weather and environment correspondent, having been a news journalist at Anglia since 1990. He was appointed environment correspondent, with prime responsibility for Anglia's on-screen weather presentation in 1998. He has lived in Norfolk since 1977 and was

a reporter and newsreader with Radio Broadland before joining Anglia. David is now also Deputy Editor of Anglia's Regional Programme Unit, and oversees the production of many of Anglia's most important shows. The College provided two earlier weathermen to Anglia - teachers Eric Dudley and Frank Laughton in the 1960s/70s.

**Marion Moore (Yorke 77-84)** Chartered Accountant, married to Ian. Currently at home looking after Kieran (3) and Heather (1)  
**Donald Jordan (77-82)** I'm in South Africa teaching people how to dive. I come back to England once in a while.

**James Ormrod (78-81)** Living in Houston, Texas, and working as an in-house lawyer for Hewlett-Packard. Married, two kids, and dog of dubious pedigree. Best wishes, James.

**Caroline Bettenay (Hay 79-84)** back in UK after 4 years in Oz. After leaving Wymondham I worked my way up from bank clerk to Chief Operating Officer without actually completing my degree - my teachers would be appalled at that, I know! I am very happily married with two beautiful children, and two dogs. Life is good.

**1980s**  
**Francis Brackley (82-89)** Since leaving Wymondham, I spent a few years with the Army, before moving into the Drinks Business!! I now work for Allied Domecq selling mainly champagne and wine.

**Penelope Blake (83-85)** Joined in the 3rd Year, left at end of 4th. Now driving buses in Bristol.

**Kirsty Gray (83-90)** Currently traveling in S America. Since leaving Wymondham I have spent time living in France, Greece, Australia and Ireland including a stint for Green peace in Sydney. Returned to UK during the internet boom and worked for lastminute.com

**Toby Wood (83-90)** Having left WC at the end of my 6th year, I "studied" Sound Engineering at Salford College, a BTEC ND, went on to an HND, but got offered a job at CTS Studios in London. I am now a freelance recording engineer and live in Ealing. I have just about managed to stay in touch with a few people from WC, but would be interested in meeting up with others.  
**Richard Rees (83-90)** got BA(Hons) Business Information Systems at Hull. Now working as a Business

*Process Manager for Geest. Living with Girl friend of seven and a half years and expecting our first child.*

**Sarah Cramp (84-89)** living with my boyfriend in Brighton. work as a qualified mental health nurse in rehab **Nicola Barnes (Wood 86-87)** Settled in sunny Bradford with Dave and 2 lovely boys, Michael and Tom. Running a car business- Barry Evans, eat your heart out!

**Debbie Pring(88-90)** I've had a varied career since leaving college, over seven years as a casino dealer in the UK and Europe and the last 4 years working for an Investment Management Co. in Luxembourg. If anyone can make the connection between these 2 jobs and what I studied at Wymondham, please let me know!

**Sonya Ryan(Ungerma n 86-93)** I was a nurse then got married in 2001 to my husband Jack and we have a wonderful son of 19 months called Camryn. We live in the United States and enjoying each day to the fullest

**Deborah Ford (89-95)** I was a good runner, in the cross-country and athletics teams. I am studying Accounts at Farnborough Tech College now and I have one son of 19 months. Would love to get in contact with old school mates.

#### 1990s

**KevinChatten (90-97)** Completed a degree at Oxford in Computing after leaving WC -OK so it was Brookes but its still in Oxford! Worked for 3 years and found I was not really enjoying it so recently finished a PGCE course and now teach ICT to secondary level students. Life is now fantastic and I am enjoying every minute. Hope old friends are doing well. All the best.

**Christina Bradstreet (91-98)** Have recently started a PhD in History of Art at Birkbeck College, my specialism being Victorian art. A big thanks to all the wonderful teachers at Wymondham who gave me the skills to get this far! Since leaving the College, I have worked for Buckingham Palace and also The Cabinet Office. I am living in Buckinghamshire with Chris Wilkie and he hopes to start building us a house soon!

**Tom Mead(91-98)** Have grown up quickly from college, after four years at Bournemouth Uni, and a pretty exciting Gap year. Almost graduated, (but not quite, watch this space!). Not 100% sure what I'll do

when I eventually have to leave education, its been quite a nice sanctuary away from the proper world of work. I could end up going anywhere! If the money is good enough!

**Simon Levy(91-99)** graduated from Loughborough in 2002 with 2:2. Didn't want to work, so am doing a Masters hopefully finishing in September, then who knows...travel? work? but no more studying...

**James Woodeson (92-98)** Currently working for an Investment Bank in Hong Kong

**Henry Potter (92-99)** is studying golf and leisure management at Lincoln University. He was one of a four strong group of students from the university competing in a week long tournament in the Algarve. He scored two-over par 73 on the final day to win the trophy. He plays for Lincoln in the 1<sup>st</sup> division of the British Universities Sports league and also competed in the English Universities Championships. When he finishes his studies this year he is hoping to turn professional and do his PGA training.

**Philip Gowers (94-99)** Finished year 11 and went to Welbeck College. Joined the Army in September 2001. Am currently studying for a degree in Software Engineering at the Royal Military College of Science.

**Alex Wynn (94-99)** Alex is studying Astrophysics at UCL.

**Ben Powell (92-99)** It was good to hear from Ben when he returned to his Norfolk roots for a spell to recover from his student debts. He has just surfaced from a totally different environment in Liverpool and obviously enjoyed the experience studying Sports Science and Psychology finding his best grades in the latter. He has been in touch with **Tom Carter** who is now at John Moores in Liverpool studying Business and IT, Jay Thomas to be seen on TV, **Adam Reeson**, **Kate Marsh** who is training to be a paramedic, **Emily Lowe** and **Sarah Mullenger** – all '99 leavers. His brother **Kristian** is also at John Moores

**David Harrison-Jones (93-00)** I am now working in New Jersey, America as a football coach. Enjoying life and looking forward to going on holiday to San Diego in 1 months time.

**Charlotte Bingham (98-00)** I'm keen to get in touch with anyone who remembers me, I've finished my

degree in Zoology and still can't tear myself away from Bristol. Funnily enough I miss Wymondham and it would be good to relive some juicy bits with someone!

**Owen Marsden (98-00)** Arrived in 1998 to do my A-Levels, found a niche for doing too many extra-curricular activities including Rugby, Cricket, Hockey, Dramatics, Music and so on. Awarded a college lion (yea) to the shock of my contemporaries, and self. Have since graduated from university and when not playing rugby writing about the game in websites and publications

**Marriages** ~ There were a spate of weddings amongst the late 90s leavers ~

**Tom Thornton(91-97)** married with a son, Connor b June 03

And **Rachel Sweeting**, **Zoe Ramsden**, **Jacqui Skoyles**, **Natalie Woodeson** all married during 2003

#### ~~~~~ Staff News

**Clive Halliday(74-77)** Tried to put kids on road to safe and happy sex. (Health Ed). Pet Club Debating Society. I/C 1st year integrated Humanities. The teacher in charge of the trip to Macintosh's chocolate factory. Friend of John Paxton and Keith Chandler - among others. **David Mills(61-86)** Head of Biology, Head of Science, Warden of Examinations & Timetable, took early retirement in 1986, but continued to work for UCLES in various capacities.

Four sons all at College - Simon, Jeremy, Peter and Tim. Now kept out of mischief by 6 grandchildren, playing average golf twice a week, and writing family histories.

**Charles Parker (59-67)** Taught Maths at the College - my first job - for six years, went on to be Head of Maths at three other schools, retiring from Abingdon School in 1997 where I also had a spell as Housemaster. Am still a Principal Examiner for OCR and have done some textbook writing for the SMP project and other CUP publications. Very happy to hear from anyone who wishes to contact me.

**James Wheeldon (72-81)** Left Wymondham to become Head of History at Bentham Grammar School in 1981. Married 1982. Became Deputy Head at Sexey's School in Somerset in 1986. Son, Simon, born 1988. Became Headmaster of King

Edward VI Grammar School, Louth,  
in 1992.

~~~~~  
We say farewell to ~

**Catherine Johnson** left after devoting 38 years of her life to the students. She retired officially two years ago but carried on part time helping with examination classes.

**Rosemary Anderson (95-03)** Senior Matron in Peel

**Cynthia Lansdell** who spent many years in the Accounts Office

**Frank Lawlor** (Physic) and who

played the piano so beautifully for us at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

**Glenn Sampson** (i/c French)

**Carole Cushing** (English)

## College News

**Drama** - Four students won places in the National Youth Theatre, Shaun McKee, James Page, Ollie Goulding and Rhys Williams. They spent last summer working on a number of productions. Places in the National Youth Theatre are always keenly sought and to have four students from one school get through the auditions is a real achievement.

The College Year 12 drama group performed 'Our Country's Good' at the Theatre Royal Studio, Norwich

**Extracts from a report in the EDP 10/05/03.** *Ben Patston was selected as one of the 10 'elite players' that made up the 'Golden Bursars' at Premiership side Northampton Saints for the 2003-4 season. Ben, 17 is an outstanding stand-off who has risen through the ranks of Norfolk, Eastern Counties and London Division School sides over the last two years. He made an instant impression and strong displays in the Saints 21s side against Bath, Bristol and Newcastle.*

? **Summer Fayre** is on **26 June**

? **Kett won the Mair Cup.** After a seven year reign, New Hall bowed out gracefully.

? A new **Chapel Organ** thanks to the generosity of the PSA

? **STOP PRESS** – we have just completed a superb OFSTED inspection

## ~~~~~ Where are they now?

**Annette Yoosefinejad (nee Munro) 75-81** was in Kett, then Lincoln, and would love to hear from **Kim Hammond**. Annette thinks she was in Cavell, or maybe Fry. When last heard from, about 15 years ago, Kim had moved to South Africa. Does

anyone know where she is now?

[annette@voosefi.com](mailto:annette@voosefi.com)

**Duncan Jones** looking for **Stephen Deere** (see above) *anyone know where he is now?*

[duncan.jones1@ntlworld.com](mailto:duncan.jones1@ntlworld.com)

## ? Obituaries

**Gwen Perkin (Matcham 69-76)** wife of Tim Perkin (69-76) sadly died of Cancer in May 2002

**John Riseborough (51-55)** died on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2003

We are sad to announce the death of **Kathleen Restiaux** – matron in Cavell in 70s and early 80s - - died suddenly in Hingham 6/7th November -

### **Graham Dye (52-56)**

Graham entered the 13+ Grammar School in 1952, and for the four years he was here entered wholeheartedly into every aspect of school life. He appeared in two major school plays, sang in the senior choir, and put every last ounce of effort into team sports. I can remember him now, staggering in at the finish of the senior house cross-country, utterly exhausted, gasping out that he was doing his best for West.

He left to do his national service in the R.A.F., then had three years at Westminster Training College, latterly at Oxford when Rev. Trevor Hughes was principal. Then, after a few years' teaching in Wymondham, he spent three years in Uganda teaching at a boys' boarding school, and it was there that Graham and Rita's first son was born, who with his sister was to become a pupil at the College in the 1980s.

The rest of his teaching career was spent in Dereham at what was to become Northgate High School, but he managed to combine that with being Head of an Adult Education programme for 25 years and being constantly involved with the Mid-Norfolk Singers. As his widow, Rita, reminded me, he loved organising groups of people, and he went on doing that after he retired. The College is deeply indebted to Graham and to the many others like him who helped create its wonderful community spirit back in the nissen hut days.

He and Rita were one of the earliest College romances, and they were able to celebrate their Ruby Wedding shortly before his untimely death last year. It was good to see them both at the 50th Anniversary Reunion in 2001.

*Roger Garrard*

**Mrs Cynthia Laughton**, wife of Frank Laughton (deceased), previously a housemaster at the College, died in December 2003 at the age of 89.

It is with much sadness that we report the death on 15 February of **Gemma Fuschillo (Kett 94-98 Head Girl)** as a result of a car accident on the A12. Gemma took up her first teaching post at Uppingham School last September after reading international business studies at Humberside, spending a year in New Zealand as part of her course, and then a PGCS at Sheffield Hallam University. Our thoughts are with her parents, Paul and Janet, her brothers, Ben and Sam and sister Gina.



**Wymondham College Association - Response Sheet 2003**  
**To: Mrs Carole Arnold, Wymondham College, Norfolk NR18 9SZ**  
*Tel: 01953 609000 Fax: 01953 609058 e-mail: [wymalumnitrust@aol.com](mailto:wymalumnitrust@aol.com)*

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**From:** *(block capitals please)*

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**Surname when in College**.....

**Address**.....

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

**Tel:**..... **E-mail:**.....

**Dates - of entry 19..... of leaving 19.....** **House**.....

**REUNION 2004 for 50s/60s LEAVERS on Saturday 19 June 2004**

**Venue:** Marquee on Kett Lawn

**Date and time:** 7.00 for 7.30pm on Saturday 19 June 2004

**Format:** BBQ Buffet supper, Cash Bar

**Cost:** £25 cheques payable to Wymondham College Association

**Please send me** \_\_\_\_\_ **tickets**

Cheques payable to 'Wymondham College Association'

**Please order your tickets early!**

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