



# WCA Newsletter

Wymondham College Association, Wymondham, NR18 9SZ. Tel: 01953 609000  
alumni@wymondhamcollege.com, www.wymondhamca.co.uk, www.WCRemembered.co.uk

VOLUME 10, SPRING 2007

## REUNION 1ST JULY 2006

by Joanne Allen  
(ex Alumni Secretary)

About 40 members came to the Summer Fayre in the afternoon, only 7 of whom did not stay for the evening hog roast and 12 of whom had a tour of the College led by 6th formers. Julie Harding kindly organised the book stall this year and Philip Wade and Alan Bridges did a brilliant job with the raffle again, especially given the heat!

The PSA were grateful for our support and hope that we will be able to help again next year, although it may be in a different place for a change. The tennis match was a new feature, kindly organised by Michael Brand, and was enjoyed by all.

Sadly the cricket match had to be cancelled at the last minute, as Alan Corrigan was unable to field a side. This may not have been helped by the clash with the football but was a great disappointment, as the College had gone to a considerable amount of effort to arrange it.

83 people attended the hog roast in the end, and a good evening was had by all.



Chris Sayer and Michael Brand

The evening was an opportunity to say goodbye to our President for 2005/6, Mr Christopher Sayer, who retired from the teaching staff after 38 years service. The Sayer/Brand speeches were an entertaining highlight of the evening and Frank Lawlor did a great job on the piano. Sadly, Victoria Musgrave was unable to join us as she was unwell.

Lincoln Dining Hall seemed to make a good venue for this number of people and the nice weather meant people could spill out onto the lawn too. Lilwalls provided an excellent hog roast.

Thanks to Philip and Alan again for organising the evening's raffle, which raised £175!

## 1950s GOLF DAY AND DINNER SPROWSTON, 30TH JUNE 2006

by Bob Rowell (52-59)

Sprowston Manor was again the venue for our Golf Day and reunion, and on a pleasant summer day we enjoyed meeting again and also welcoming those who joined us for the first time. The golf was well contested and the gathering in the evening good fun.



Mervyn Taylor, Terry Coppin, Aubrey Hammond & Philip Wade

The golf was won by Philip Wade who I am sure will be back next year to defend the title and hopefully will bring with him more of his friends from the Sixties.

**Longest drive:** Roger Hubbard  
**Nearest the pin:** Terry Coppin  
**Ladies prize:** Muriel Blowers  
**Award for greatest endeavour:** Mike Herring

It will be Mike's endeavour to relinquish this title next year!

*Those attending* Barry Adkins, Richard Blowers, Muriel Blowers (Currie), Ruth Chase (Brown), Roland Clarke, Terry Coppin, Janet Couperthwaite (Wing), Barry Croxford, Jean Gouldthorpe (Southgate), John Gouldthorpe, Aubrey Hammond, Pat Harvey (Basey), Huby

Harbord, Mike Herring, Roger Hubbard, Tony Lake, Pat Meek (Morris), Brian Meek, Geoff Morter, Tony Moulton, Terry Nicholls, Beverley Nicholls, Tony Pyle, Ann Pyle (McCafferty) Peter Read, Steve Read, Mike Rees, Phil Robinson, Bob Rowell, Glenda Sewell (Angell), Maggie Skipp (Smith), David Spinks, Mervyn Taylor, Philip Wade, David Whyte, Neil Whyte Jennifer Wickam (Howell), Bill Wiskin, Pat Woldridge (Dench), Peter Woods, Mavis Wood (McNulty), Esme Wyatt (McNulty), Tony Wyatt

Arrangements have been made to meet again in **2007 on June 29**, with no increase in cost. Hopefully, not too many of us will have holiday or other commitments, and that no event at the College takes place that weekend.

## THE 60s BUNCH ANNUAL GRAND NATIONAL WEEKEND 7-9 APRIL 2006, LONDON

By Philip Wade (60-67)

**Friday 7th April.** I caught the train from Woodbridge to Ipswich where I transferred to the 2.00 p.m. train from Norwich carrying Sandra Leeks, Eileen Pearson, Alan Bridges, Graham Smith and the Sister of Rees Ling. The plan was for Marion Rix to board at Chelmsford. Trouble was, the train didn't stop at Chelmsford and so we went very quickly straight past Marion! All worked out as Marion caught another train and we all met up at Liverpool Street. By five, we were at the Hyde Park Hilton enjoying tea as Susanne Milligan arrived.

A quick wash and brush and off we went for a stroll down Queensway where after 100 yards we squeezed inside the Rat and Parrot for something to drink.



In the pub; John Young, Eileen Pearson, Philip Wade, Marion Rix and Sandra Leeks.

Alan Corrigan and Anthony Thomas joined us, as did a friend of mine, then Roger Hayward and finally John Young. Great atmosphere in the pub. Dinner at the hotel was booked for 8.30 and a fine meal it was too.

**Saturday 8th April.** Trainers on and a quick jog around part of Hyde Park before what was a breakfast that had everything. Horses for the Grand National chosen and the bets placed. Plan for the day was to visit Greenwich, so we casually strolled through the park, caught a bus to town and took the boat down to Greenwich. A nice way to see what's been built beside the Thames.

At Greenwich we were joined by Victor Laird. First stop was a pub, having passed the Cutty Sark, which served excellent coffee and food. Weather was bright and dry, if a bit chilly. We strolled up to the Observatory, great views from there, then down to the Maritime Museum, the Painted Hall and finally the chapel before catching the boat back.

Jumped ship at the Tower and raced round to a hotel to watch the Grand National. Our horses came 3rd and 4th so we didn't lose everything. Managed to pick 7th, 8th and 9th too, but you get nothing for those! Back to Rat and Parrot for pre-dinner drinks but too crowded so into another pub that served just as good beer and wine. Next stop was an Italian restaurant where a hearty meal was enjoyed by all.



Horseguards Parade; on the bollards are Sandra Leeks, Susanne Milligan, Marion Rix, Eileen Pearson, Alan Bridges, Graham Smith and Philip Wade.

**Sunday 9th April.** Trainers on and a quick jog around another part of Hyde Park before that breakfast that again had everything. We then made our way to Buckingham Palace, strolled through St. James, posed in front of the

Horseguards Parade, through Admiralty Arch and down Whitehall to the Houses of Parliament. Up to and across the Millennium Bridge and into the Tate and out again. Back over the river where the girls headed back to Hyde Park and the boys headed into the Centre Page for a swift half and a snack.

Time once more went all too quickly and we found ourselves back on the tube and train heading home.

Another excellent weekend full of fun with great friends. Looking forward to next year already!

#### REUNION WEEK

27TH - 30TH JUNE 2007

#### **ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW ON 27 AND 28 JUNE 2007:**

There will be a team of WCA members on the College stand throughout both days – do come and join us for a chat .

**Please note that the College Stand will be in a different place this year – Stand No. 122, 3rd Drive located near the Dereham Gate entrance and Members Pavilion.**

#### **GOLF AND/OR DINNER AT SPROWSTON MANOR ON FRIDAY 29 JUNE:**

Bob Rowell is kindly organising another 1950s Golf Day this year. It will again be at Sprowston Manor and held on Friday 29th June.

Please put this date in your diary and contact Bob Rowell for more information on 01629 582229, 07710229126 or bob.rowell@virgin.net

#### **PSA SUMMER FAYRE 30TH JUNE 2007(12 noon until 4 pm)**

Once again the WCA will have a stall at the fayre. Do call in and see us for a chat.

Also during the afternoon, there will be a parents versus students cricket and tennis matches, and if anyone wants to volunteer to organize anything else (rounders?), do please contact the Alumni Secretary.

**Afternoon tea:** Tea and coffee will be available in the Peel Common Room from 4-6 pm.



Miles Baron (Staff) and David Spinks (51-55) at the 2006 Reunion Dinner

**As a new Alumni Secretary has only just been appointed there has been no time to organise a formal reunion event this year. However, hopefully many of you will come along to the Summer Fayre and use this opportunity to catch up with old friends.**

#### CHAIRMAN'S GREETINGS CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2005/6

*by Michael Brand (Staff 63-98)*

Dear Former Students & Staff

I had not expected to be writing this greeting this year as the election of Chairman is, by tradition, of one year duration. The Vice-Chairman automatically takes on this role at the next AGM. Unfortunately, for family reasons, he was not able to do this, hence my writing again.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the officials and members of the WCA committee for their continued support and commitment to the association. Attending committee meetings is not the best way to spend a Saturday morning- especially if you have to travel long distances. If there are any former members of the College who are interested in becoming committee members please do not hesitate to contact the alumni secretary (Jackie Glenn: glennja.ad@wymondhamcollege.com).

As far as State Boarding is concerned, we live in interesting and exciting times. The government has now realised what an excellent contribution state boarding is making to the education process. A sum of £25 million has been allocated for the development of state boarding schools, of which Wymondham College has secured nearly £10 million for development. When I last visited the College it resembled a building site. The construction of an additional

boarding house for 115 Year 13 (upper sixth) students in single rooms with en suite facilities has now commenced as have (a) a new administration wing, (b) extra classrooms and (c) an astro-turf. The latter, hopefully, will be in use in time for the Summer Fayre. The WCA is making a contribution to the Summer Fayre and I hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend this function in support of the Parents & Staff Association.

Other events of the WCA can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter. A suggestion has been made that we change the name of the association to the 'Old Wymondians' and this will be formally proposed at the next AGM.

Kindest regards,  
Michael W. Brand  
Chairman

---

### **WCA 100 CLUB REPORT - 2007**

*By Phil Robinson (66-73)*

This is the third year that we have been operating the WCA 100 club and we have generated £2,660.00 in funds supporting the running of the WCA (as at 30th September 2006). This is an encouraging sum, but it could be much higher. At present we only have just under 80 members who subscribe £5.00 per month into the draw. This is an increase from the 73 members that we had last year. On the WCA database we have over 4,000 - so if you feel that you can assist the WCA by joining the 100 club, please make contact (details below)!

Of the monies raised, 40% is redistributed in prize monies with 60% being retained by the WCA. The cost of producing, printing and posting the yearly newsletter is in excess of £2,500.00, so it can be seen that the current income from the draw is just covering the newsletter costs. We are therefore reliant on reunion profits and donations to ensure that the WCA can operate effectively. The fact that there will not be an official reunion this year will obviously have an effect on our operating costs. The cost of the Alumni Secretary and office support is funded directly by the College, to whom we are very grateful.

For those of you who may wish to join, the monthly payment can be made by Standing Order but we are happy to accept yearly payments of £60.00 from

anyone who would prefer to subscribe in that way.

Steve Read & I continue to meet on a monthly basis at hostelrys within Norfolk and have been joined by a number of you in the last year, any ex-pupils or staff are more than welcome to attend. If you have a local that you would like us to visit, please let us know. However, the only way of effectively advising people of where/when we meet is by e-mail. If you wish to be kept advised of the monthly meetings and who has won, and you also have access to the Internet/e-mail, please contact me so that I can add you to the list.

This year's winners have been :-

**January 2006** – Bob Cooke; Justin Brand  
**February 2006** – Roger Garrard; Janet Couperthwaite (nee Wing)  
**March 2006** – Philip Wade; Kris Dwornik  
**April 2006** – John Beales; Neil Sparrow  
**May 2006** – June Spear (nee King); Marcus Ellis  
**June 2006** – Mike Herring; Anne Brand  
**July 2006** – Evelyn Walker (nee Hutchcraft); Anne Brand  
**August 2006** – Katherine Brand; Alan Bridges  
**September 2006** – Lynnette Cannell (nee Connor); Julie Harding (nee Ebbens)  
**October 2006** – Terry (Dan) Hegarty; Graham Smith  
**November 2006** – David Burdett; Tony Moulton  
**December 2006** – Joseline Tibbenham; Joan Thomson (nee Woodbridge)  
**January 2007** – Colin Leaford; David Mills  
**February 2007** – Alan Bridges; Tony Moulton  
**March 2007** – Gill Thompson (nee Norman); Joanna Mills  
**April 2007** – Mervyn Sims; Richard Charley

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 or at "Pipkim", Hill Road, Fair Green, Middleton, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE32 1RW.

A copy of the relevant Bank Mandate is attached to the newsletter.

---

### **PLANNING A REUNION?**

The WCA database can provide a list of past students and staff by many different criteria to help get started, and we can probably try to send a Committee Member along too if that helps! Of course, if you are based overseas, you could do this on a country-wide basis! Do contact the Alumni Secretary if you'd like to give it a go.

If any of you are already organising mini reunions, even if these are just for a few of your peers, do please let us have details for the newsletter and we'll be happy to include them.

---

### **TREASURER'S REPORT 2005-6**

*by Steve Read (68-73)*

The accounts for the year to 30th September 2006 showed a satisfactory financial picture with total funds of £5302 at the year-end, reflecting an increase in net funds held of £1370 from the previous year.

The 101 Club continues to be the main source of income generating £2660 (net). Many thanks to Phil Robinson for his unstinting devotion to meeting me each month at a choice public house to perform the Draw and consume a pint or two of real ale!

The Reunion produced a surplus on the night of £757. My thanks to all 'volunteers' and those that donated raffle prizes.

Donations of £1250 were also received from various sources, be it from the appeal in last years Newsletter, commissions on purchases made via the [www.wcremembered.co.uk](http://www.wcremembered.co.uk) website or other sources. Special mention should be made to Mike Herring who kindly donated his 101 Club 'Star Prize' winnings back to the Association.

The cost of producing and distributing this Newsletter continues to be the largest item of expenditure incurred (costing £2708 last year).

Your Association are now investing in the registration database and website (£720 for the year to 30 September 2006) which will continue to be an item of expenditure in the accounts.

I am grateful for the support and time given freely by the Committee and also the College, who fund the Alumni Secretary position.

So, whilst currently in a satisfactory financial position, in order to provide improving facilities we need your financial support. All donations are gratefully received and why not join the 101 Club? The funds generated are put to good use and you may be a lucky 'Star Prize' winner!

Steve Read (Hon Treasurer).

## COLLEGE MAGAZINES

If you would like to purchase copies of the latest College magazine 2006-7 when it is published, these are available via the Alumni Secretary at a cost of £5.00 (please complete and return the enclosed Response Sheet accordingly).

Jackie also has several copies of the College magazines covering the years from 1975 to 2005 (but not including 1977 and 1984) which are surplus to requirements. These can be purchased for £3 each (including P&P) by sending your order with a cheque payable to Wymondham College Association to the Alumni Secretary at the College address.

## MEMORABILIA

There are still copies for sale of the book "**Wymondham College – The First Fifty Years**" written by long-serving teachers Roger Garrard and Michael Brand. This 92-page book provides a detailed and well-illustrated chronological history of the College. It was published in July 2001. It can be purchased from the Alumni Secretary at the reduced price of £5, plus P&P (£2 UK, £5 overseas). All proceeds go to the Wymondham College Trust Bursary Fund. Order form enclosed.

Also now available are **limited edition (500) signed prints** of a Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Spitfire flying over the College, size 63 cm x 50cm.

The original painting was done by David Chedghey (Head of Art at the College) in 1986. The prints are signed by David himself, Sir Michael Beetham (Marshal of the Royal Air Force), Sqn Ldr Tony Banfield (RAF Officer Commanding, BBMF) and Flt Lt Jim Wild (RAF Pilot - who flew the plane over the College on 15 September 1986).

Price is £10 each, plus postage & packing - £3 UK and £5 overseas. Orders to the Alumni Secretary, with cheques payable to Wymondham College Association.

To view a small reproduction of this painting, please see [www.WCRemembered's](http://www.WCRemembered's) fundraising page. *One of these prints was sold at auction by Keys of Aylsham for £40 on 19 August 2005!*

## NOTICE OF WCA AGM 2007

This will take place on 17th November at 11am at the College. All past students and staff are welcome – just advise the Secretary if you plan to attend.

### **AGENDA:-**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report and adoption of accounts
6. Secretary's Report
7. Election of Officers and Committee
8. Any Other Business

---

### CALLING ALL EX THETFORD GRAMMAR WYMONDIANS (1951 TO 56)

*by Jack Smith (51-53)*

On 21st November Joan Sperring (nee Tebbutt) becomes a nonagenarian and the College is inviting Joan and her husband John to the Founder's Day Service, followed by lunch on Sunday, 18th November.

The speaker at the service will be the Bishop of Thetford. Former "Grammar" students and staff from Joan's era are also invited to attend both functions.

After lunch, there will be time for chatting, tea and birthday cake in the College Library. If you wish to be present on 18th November, please e-mail or write to Jackie Glenn before the end of September.

---

### NEW WCA 10 YEARS ON

*by David Spinks (51 - 55)*

It's ten years since the new WCA was re-launched through the initiative of the Wymondham College Trust and secretary Carole Arnold. Thank you, team, for making it work. A special thanks to Bill Atkins for his excellent presentation of our history on WCRemembered.

I well remember talking to Bill at the 1997 re-union, his first return since school days. He and I both articulated our contempt for many things we had to endure at the College as students and how it strengthened our resolve for what was to come.

My thanks also to Phil Robinson & Steve Read who between them have raised over £7,000 through the WCA 100 Club to date. This helps finance our activities, and with the added support of the College enables us to operate without charging you a subscription.

Phil and Steve choose a particular pub at which to draw the winners every month. The venue is published in advance on WCR and many former students have turned out to enjoy a pleasant pint or two. Tony Lake and I really enjoyed the evening at "The Kings Arms" at Reepham the other evening.

There are currently 78 members in the 100 club which when compared with other former student associations is exceptional. We really would like this to be 100. Please contact Phil Robinson at: [philrobinson.robson@btconnect.com](mailto:philrobinson.robson@btconnect.com)

Regards and best wishes.

*David Spinks*

Chairman of Wymondham College Trust  
[www.wymondhamcollegetrust.co.uk](http://www.wymondhamcollegetrust.co.uk)

---

### THE 2006/7 COMMITTEE

**President:** Dominic Findlay (current acting Principal)

**Chairman:** Mike Brand. (Staff 63-98)

**Vice-Chairman:** Colin Leaford (70-77).

**Treasurer:** Steve Read (68-73).

**Secretary:** Jackie Glenn (Alumni Sec.)

### **Other Committee Members:-**

Carole Arnold (1995-2005 ex staff)

Bill Atkins (58-64) - WCR

John Beales (52-59)

Roger Garrard (52-89 ex staff)

Mu Gurbutt ( Staff Rep)

Julie Harding (Ebbens 71-76)

Mike Herring (52-58)

Phil Robinson (66-73) – 100 Club

Bob Rowell (52-59)

Asha Gita Simmons (Ramseebaluck 81-87)

Jack Smith (51-53)

David Spinks (51-55)

### **Past Presidents:**

2000-02 Jack Smith

2003/4 Roger Garrard

2004/5 Bob Rowell

2005/6 Michael Brand

**General News:** The web site will be 6 years old in April. There has been a steady flow of new additions over the past year and the content now amounts to some 220 Megabytes of information and photographs, presented on 1300 pages. Each month the site receives approximately 4000 visitors.

Fresh material is always welcome; whether in the form of photographs, recordings (audio and video), memories or just identification of an as yet unnamed face (there are still a lot of them).

#### **A couple of reminders:**

If you are on line but not yet registered with the Wymondham College Association (WCA) please take a few moments to do so at <http://www.wymondhamca.co.uk>. Once validated, you can search the database of past-pupils and exchange messages. There is a Discussion Group at <http://groups.msn.com/WymondhamCollegePastPupils> where you can 'chat' to other former inmates. Please come and say hello!

**Heard on the 'Net:** American-born **Trudy Stevenson (nee Bevier, West House 1955-62)** is the only white woman MP in Zimbabwe. Recent events in the country prompted a search of the on-line news and it was distressing to learn that Trudy had been violently assaulted last year; not by Robert Mugabe's ZANU PF, but by a faction within her own party - the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC). A gang of youths accused her of turning against the party founder, Morgan Tsvangirai:

A full account is available at <http://www.newzimbabwe.com/pages/senate222.14415.html> (or search on *trudy stevenson zimbabwe*)

The next time you see reporter Martin Geissler on the ITV News, there's a good chance that the cameraman will be **Duncan Jones (1960-67)**. A recent assignment for the duo was a 2- week trip to the Carteret Islands, presently in danger of being swamped by the rising seas as a result of global warming. Duncan says "It took us 4 days, 3 flights and a 12 hour trawler journey to get there, the latter like being in a sea-borne tumble drier! Luckily I don't get seasick. We stayed 7 days on Han Island, which

you can see in quite good detail if you have Google Earth. You can see some of the footage at <http://www.itv.com/news/bigmelt.html> (the Carterets item is headed 'Evacuations over islanders' ocean threat').

From the EDP: A farmer who wanted to help local police after they had to deal with an illegal rave on his land has donated a £24,000 Land Rover to help fight crime. **Clive Hay-Smith (69-76)**, of Weybourne, near Sheringham, Norfolk, saw 800 revellers invade his land in August 2004. Mr Hay-Smith offered to buy the vehicle following this and further meetings with police.

We were pleased to hear from **Charles Parker** who was a Maths teacher from 1959-65 and was assigned to North and later Canterbury Houses. He said "You may be interested to know that after 40 years I have met up again with **Brian Williams (Staff 59-64)**. He lives in Canada / France but spends some time (not a lot) in the UK each year." Ah yes ... Brian Williams (French) ... the delicious scent of his Gauloise cigarettes is wafting down through the years!

Old Boy **Mike Gascoyne** has parted company with the Toyota Formula One team, relinquishing his post as Technical Director. Mike is said to have had a "fundamental difference of opinion [with Toyota] with regard to technical operations." Read more by searching for Mike on the web!

**Chris Sayer** has finally retired after 38 years on the teaching staff at Wymondham College (33 of them as Head of House). Chris was the 2006 Wymondham College Association (WCA) President and attended the official reunion at the College on 1st July.

Bedford Blues have signed fly-half/full-back **Ben Patston** for this season. The Wymondham College-educated player has been a part of Northampton Saints Academy for the last two years.

**Brian Farrow (1956-63)** now devotes much of his spare time to his roles as Musical Director of the Sheringham Shantymen and Hon. Secretary of the Sheringham Lifeboat. Since 1980 he has worked for North Norfolk District Council and is at present the authority's Coast Protection Engineer.

Second Lieutenant **George Wyndham (1993-2000)**, 24, has completed a gruelling 44 week course to become an Army Officer, and took part in his passing out parade with Prince William. Her Majesty the Queen took the salute at the Sovereign's Parade and she was accompanied by other members of the Royal Family. George was educated at Wymondham College, where he completed his A-Levels in 2000. He then attended Loughborough University, achieving a degree in Computer Science in 2003.

**On stage and screen:** **Mark Strong** narrated the BBC series 'Who Do You Think You Are'. **Nick Crane** ... appeared in the second series of 'Coast'. **Adam Rayner** will soon be appearing with Gillian Anderson in the film 'Straightheads'. **Judy Hall** (as Judy Holt) ... appeared in episodes of 'New Street Law' and 'Doctors'. **Nick Haverson** appeared in an episode of 'Spooks'. **Peter Walton** (as Peter Amory) ... appeared at Norwich Theatre Royal (27th April to 1st May) as lead in 'Trap For a Lonely Man'. **Paul Flattery** ... produced the 2006 Billboard Music Awards, Teen Choice Awards, VH1 Rock Honors and the Miss America competition.

**Where Are They Now?** Shirley Barber (Rogotzki) is looking for **Ruth Palmer**. They were both at the College 1966 - 1972. Please contact her at [Shirley.Barber@qehkl.nhs.uk](mailto:Shirley.Barber@qehkl.nhs.uk)

John Mayes was at WC 1955-1962 and would like to get in touch with **James 'Jim' Grogan** and **John 'Fred' Lowton**. He thinks Jim was with Barclays Bank and possibly moved to Kent. Fred is probably a solicitor having been article to a Thetford firm. [john.mayes@pipe-fittings.co.uk](mailto:john.mayes@pipe-fittings.co.uk)

Can you help? ..... "I believe that **Dave Corbridge** was at your school before coming to Bicester Grammar School (Oxfordshire) in 1962/3. The picture in your gallery is of him doing the straddle. Have you any idea where he is now, as we are organizing another reunion and would love to get in touch with him?" - [Bill.Holman@oxfordshiredaat.org](mailto:Bill.Holman@oxfordshiredaat.org)

Hilary Schoop (1960-1968; now Hilary Ambler) has often wondered what became of her schoolmate **Patricia Elmslie**. Does anyone know? [amblerdavid@bc.wbs.net.au](mailto:amblerdavid@bc.wbs.net.au)

Received from Marney Timms (marney.timms@gmail.com): "I have just been onto the Remembered site on behalf of my father who was at Wymondham around 1959/1960. I was looking through the old rugby team photos that you have on the site and he was in one of them - **Paul Timms** in the 1st XV team in 1959/1960. My Dad has been reminiscing about his school days a great deal recently and I would love to get a good copy of the photo reproduced and framed for him [trying to arrange this - Ed.]. It would be great if you could forward my message to any of the team members as I know that Dad would love to get in touch with them again to talk about old times and see where people got to. I can't believe that when my Dad was merely 17 years old my name may have been influenced by Mr Marney!"

Alan Loose writes: "I am trying to regain contact with two ex-New Hall students from the 1970s; **Martin Warren**, who I have had no contact with since 1979, and **Gordon James**, who I did contact about 3 years ago when he was flying out of Birmingham as a charter pilot. I think my e-mail was filtering out his e-mails and sending them to the junk file so I lost contact after exchanging only a couple of messages. My address is al\_va99@hotmail.com

Trevor Lincoln would like to contact **Steven Hazzard** who was in the choir in 1966 - trevhome@yahoo.com

**Valerie Grounds** - now living in Libby, Montana USA (raising Boston Terriers): "I was at Wymondham somewhere around 54 to 56 - I would love to hear from some of the girls. I remember **Ann Smith**, (she used to date Mick Herring); David Spinks was there when I was there and there was that Beatnik-type art teacher, I cannot remember his name but he played the piano and smoked at the same time, blues and jazz were his favourites. I had a stroke last year and it is hard for me to remember names .... but I remember the skiffle group, at least Mick Herring. At the dances we danced properly in front of the teachers and then rock and rolled in the parts where they couldn't see us. I also remember the under-house mistress, whose favourite saying was "Give Over" and Mr. Metcalfe ... "It has come to my attention..." Val Curtiss (nee Grounds). justbostons@frontiernet.net  
Steve Kirk (Cavell 1972-78) is trying to locate **Louise Coote**, who was in Cavell

in the early 1970s. If anyone knows of her whereabouts or has any current contact details, Steve would love to get back in touch.

**William Trevithick** was a student at Wymondham, probably between the years 1966-1972. "I was not a pupil but was a pen friend to 'Trev' (my parents on holiday in Norfolk put my name and address in a bottle and threw it out to sea, he picked it up on the next beach along the coast) during his time there and for some years after that. We lost touch and I have moved, house and country many times since then and wondered where he was now. If you can help, contact me, Anneke Davies, by e-mail: annekebeckett@hotmail.com"

From **Joyce Pycroft** (nee Daniels): "Joy Emmerson, Jackie Savage and I all attended the funeral of Jenny Sayer's husband in Long Sutton three weeks ago and we all hope to meet again as soon as Jenny feels better. We would like to hear from any other old friends. bruncott@gotadsl.co.uk

---

#### OTHER NEWS OF PAST PUPILS/STAFF

The following are excerpts taken from the online new and reregistrations of past pupils/staff on the WCA website [www.wymondhamca.co.uk](http://www.wymondhamca.co.uk), via which you should be able to contact them:-

#### *From the 1950s.....*

**Cynthia Harris (Robinson 51-53)** Left Norfolk in 1957 to work in London, met & married John, have two 2 children and 3 grandchildren. Now retired and living 6 mths of year in Spain (in the Jalon wine valley!) which is mid-way between Alicante & Valencia.

**Patricia Turl (Luckhurst 51-52)** I was among the 22 transferees from Thetford in 1951. The girls I mostly chummed with were Fay Stowers and Doreen Gallant. Lost touch with both after leaving. I married in 1954 and we moved to Toronto, Canada in 1967. We have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are both now retired. I spent a good part of my working time as Head Secretary/Admin. Assistant in an Elementary School.

**Dennis Thomas (51-53)** Lived in Bristol 1953-63 except for National Service in R.E.M.E. (ending in Hong Kong). Went to N.Z. in 63 overland in Land Rover. Went to South Africa 66-67. Returned to N.Z. after a summer in U.K. and have been here ever since. Married in 69. Two children, son 31an Aquarist and daughter 33 a doctor. Have just

retired and built a new home on 10 acres in Bay of Plenty.

**Dorothy West (Ducker 51-53)** I am retired and married with 2 children; both girls; and have 6 grandchildren. My hobbies are watercolour painting, reading, holidays, gardening and walking. We have a caravan so are out and about all over the country in the summer months. I started Wymondham College in 1951 and found it very enjoyable after the initial shock of sleeping in a dormitory.

**William Freeston (51-54)** Now retired after 23 years in RAF and 25 yrs working in the airline industry, namely Air Anglia, AIRUK and KLM as a licensed avionic engineer on Fokker F27/F50 /F28/F100 Bae146, finally finishing as a Bid estimator, bidding for maintenance work on Bae 146 /Fokker F50 /F100 Aircraft.

**Peter Robertson (51-55)** Played for the school footer and rugger teams. In Mrs Shepherd's class -3a. Friends included Alan Clark, James Hagg, Terry Russell, Clive Pratt and Tony Collins.

**Christopher Chamberlin (51-56)** Represented the school at Football and Cricket and left in 1956. Joined the Metropolitan Police and served in the Clubs and Vice unit for 20 years retiring in 1993. Now a fully retired pensioner and spend most of my time playing golf and, like most retired officers, having a 'pint'.

**Alexander Morison (51-57)** I was employed by Lloyds Bank PLC from 1957 to 1992 and early retirement. Worked at various branches, Kings Lynn, Fakenham, Watford, Ealing and Acton. I still visit Norfolk frequently to check on my 89 year old Mother in Dersingham.

**Jon Read (53-56)** Industrial chemist and engineer at British Gas for 36 years. Married 1963 to Daphne, daughter Samantha. Serious collector of oil engines, soap, typewriters, Old Hall stainless steel tableware and sugar shakers - verging on madness! Like Christopher Smith, was also caught at Snetterton Racetrack by Bob Mullenger, but he only smiled and said "Never saw you". He was one of England's gentlemen. Wymondham College was and is unique. I am now a speaker to clubs and societies. My subjects are: The History of Soap, Tales of the Gasworks, The Red Dragon and the Tylwyth Teg and Steel Yourself.

**David Ayres (53-59)** Married to Ann for 44 years, with 2 sons and one grandson. After a secondary science teaching career and curriculum research posts, moved to Loughborough University to

taught psychology and led science teacher training team. For 13 years warden of Elvyn Richards Hall and had pleasure of meeting a number of former WC students.

**Anna Withnall (Whyte 54-61)** Member of the 'Whyte' dynasty at Wymondham, including Neil, David, Margery and John.

**Ann Pyle (McCafferty 54-59)** I enjoyed life in dorm 11 with a great bunch in the mid fifties. I remember loving Saturday dances and Geography Club. With the Choir I sang in 'Down to Earth'. I played rounders for the school; and reached the county games at discus. I married Tony Pyle and we raised a family of 4 daughters. Later I studied at Keele and became an English teacher. Retired, I do supply work.

**David Burden (55-62)** I left in 1962 and began work in the pharmaceutical industry at Glaxo in London. In 1968 I achieved a doctorate in pharmacology and moved to Welwyn Garden City to work with my major employer Roche Products for 33 years. Drug research was ceased in this country by Roche in 2001 and the workforce of about 300 people was made redundant - I took early retirement. I have been recently widowed and have 2 children and 4 grandchildren to keep me busy

**Keith Swetman (55-62)** I performed in 3 College operatic productions - Jasper Grasper, Trial by Jury & Patience and was the last pupil to leave never having lived in one of the 'new' boarding houses. Since leaving, all my children attended the college - Fiona, Iain & Timothy. I am more or less retired after careers in local government, the RAF and running a tea-room (ButterCups) in Cromer.

**John Simpson (56-60)** Coming straight from the village school at Syderstone it was difficult to adjust to the hard living and academic life but the discipline, regulation and comradeship learnt carried me positively forward in adulthood. Following an apprenticeship at LSE Norwich leading to an electrical engineering qualification, I worked on Power Station electrical construction and industrial/marine service; then a career in capital electrical goods sales/marketing. I retired in 2000 after 40 years in the industry leaving as CEO of AEG UK Customer Support Division.

**Alfred Hayward (56-62)** Now farming in Suffolk and running small internet business.

**Robert Hodgkinson (56-63)** Always in trouble at WC for smoking. Flunked my GCEs and went to work for an insurance company. Spent about 25 years working

in insurance but then went to work for Royal Mail. Currently a transport manager for RM at Wolverhampton. Married Chris Robinson (also a pupil) in 1967, but now separated.

**Malcolm Makins (57-62)** Joined BT after leaving and spent the next 33 years working for them in Cambridge and Saffron Walden. Married in 1965 to Carol, and we have three married daughters and three grandsons. Returned to Norfolk in 1999 after helping our middle daughter to look for a house here (couldn't believe the prices!) Youngest daughter now teaching at Drayton Middle. She likes it here too! Have stayed in touch with Mick Hubbard, but would be pleased to hear from any others of the era.

**Christopher Beech (57-65)** I have lived in RSA for 34 years, was in the 1st 11 cricket team and won school sports colours. I am a project manager in my own business, am divorced and have 2 children, aged 30 and 31. I have an MBA and am a member of the RICS. I travel back to the UK about 6 times a year. I live and work in Cape Town, but spent 19 years in Johannesburg.

**John Metcalfe (57-64)** Currently living in West Yorkshire and working as a librarian in an FE College - retiring later this year and looking forward to doing some serious walking.

**Enid Stanbrook-Evans (Watson 57-64)** I am one of the lucky ones - to still be married to Jon and have two healthy grown up children. I have enjoyed juggling family life and Police shifts with a teaching career, but now retirement is a less hectic life style. Fortunately we enjoy good health and love outside activities. Would love to hear from any one who knows me, especially Bronwen Dale and Christine Hulme.

**Tony Walker (58-60)** I arrived at WC the term before my O levels, having been asked to leave Gresham's School, due to my 'total disregard for the school rules'. Perhaps my most memorable recollection was our rugby 1st XV away match against Gresham's School. I was in the 1st XV as stand-off with Tommy Young as scrum half. I heard afterwards that Mr (Dr?) Metcalfe (Headmaster at the time) had checked with Bruce Lockhart, Headmaster at Gresham's and an ex Scotland rugby international, if it was acceptable for me to play. And the result? We thrashed 'em! I am indebted to Terry Marney, the school rugby coach at the time, for not bowing to pressure to drop me for that game, who I see died in 2005. That also reminds me of a number of 'school rules' breaches that Corrie van

den Heuval and I undertook, and I was also very sad to see his obituary in the 2006 WCA Newsletter. I recollect he was in the 1st XV also. After that I went on to Wye College with two or three others from WC, then up to Newcastle University and eventually established a planning and environmental consultancy in 1970, from which I retired in 2001. I remember speaking to Phil Mault many years ago; he was an electrical engineer nearby, and he played in that game against Gresham's!

**John (Jack) Amberton (59-65).** Retired

### *From the 1960s.....*

**Carol Cotterill (Finter 60-64)** 5ft 9", Well-built, light-brown hair, blue eyes. Good at sport but LOATHED athletics!! Managed to skive off for almost the whole term in my last year (partner-in-crime one Barbara Clare) but caught and made to make up the hours running round the hockey pitches. Married now for 41 years, to the chap who owned Morley Old Hall just up the road! 5 children, 6 grandchildren.

**Jenny Childerhouse (West 60-66)** Married, 2 children 1 grandchild. Working part-time for local company to avoid housework. Not really into reunions and such-like but like to see who is doing what now.

**David Nevill (60-66)** After a varied career in a few different but interesting fields, you can read about the "adventurous life" I have now at [www.toubab.com](http://www.toubab.com). My thanks to all those responsible at the CGS for giving me the knowledge and wide appreciations to have a happy and fulfilling life.

**Thelma Wheeler (Worby 60-66)** Used to be in the Senior Choir, Madrigal Group and took part in various G&S operetta productions. Married ex WC pupil Brian Wheeler (Salisbury). Now divorced.

**Joyce Browne (Wilkins 61-66)** Changed Christian name from Joyce to Joy. Living in Essex, now Medical PA at hospital in Colchester. Am in touch with Shirley Rose (nee Smith), also day pupil same years. Very rarely see mention of day pupils in newsletter. Would like to make contact with Susan Wyatt (Nickname 'Swilly').

**Erol Bryant (62-65)** I was keen, even at Wymondham, to pursue an artistic career, which I have done. I was in a school rock band at the time, and involved in rowing. I came into the college at 13, as a late intake pupil, and was there for 3 years, leaving after my 'O' levels. I have worked in fine art and the film and music industry ever since.

**Hilary Ambler (Schoop 61-69)** Moved to Australia in 1970 and fell in love with the country. Now retired and living on a mountain at Larkhill, a rural locality about a one hour drive west of Brisbane. We have a small herd of Droughtmaster cattle and the usual farm complement of sundry animals. We expect to sell up soon and move to a property on the coast

**Derek Humphreys (62-68)** After leaving Wymondham I headed for London where I've lived ever since. Had a lively few years working in the West End and living in Chelsea before settling down, marrying and producing 3 children now aged 26, 24 and 19. Been a Manager in the insurance industry for over 20 years and still trying to work out what I'm going to do when I grow up. Love travelling, music and developing a worrying tendency to explore the past.

**John Willimont (62-68)** Left College to join Lloyds Bank and worked for the organisation for 37 years, at various branches in East Anglia. Have recently retired at the age of 55 and am now enjoying life to the full. Hobbies include tennis, squash, golf, gardening and holidays.

**Lyn Nash (Tatum 62-69)** Married with 2 fantastic kids ( now nearly 19 & 22 ) Have been living happily in the Middle East for past 20 yrs. Teaching at an International school and looking forward to the good life - retiring !!

**Francis Wright (63-69)** I left Wymondham at Christmas 1969 and worked in Curls in Norwich for a few months, when I met Heather Sanders, who was then at the CGS! After that I spent 4 years studying at St John's College, Cambridge. Heather and I married in 1974 and I then spent 3 years studying and 2 working at the H. H. Wills Physics Laboratory, University of Bristol. Since 1979 I have worked in what is now the School of Mathematical Sciences at Queen Mary, University of London, where I am currently a Reader in Mathematics. Heather and I are still married and have two daughters, who are currently both studying, the older one for a PhD.

**David Bowerin (63-70)** Married with 2 children; living in Chobham, Surrey. Works for Citigroup as Head of Marketing for their Global Relationship Banking division, based in London.

**Gillian Cornwell (Middleton 64-67)** I have worked as a Civil Servant since leaving Wymondham but I am currently on a career break looking after my elderly father. I have a son and daughter and 4 step-grandchildren. I would be

interested to hear from anyone who remembers me.

**Catherine Bowey (Willimont 64-69)** Now divorced after many years as a well travelled 'Forces' wife. 4 grown children, 3 grandchildren. Cancerous tumour in right leg 5 years ago has left me lame, but otherwise well. Kept busy with grandchild! Durham a lovely place to live. Recently visited family in Norfolk -passed signs for the college, bringing back many memories!!!

**Mary George (64-69)** Moved back to Norfolk 20 years ago after spending several years in London. Have worked in music/PR/leisure industries and currently work for a national charity headquartered in Norwich. Divorced, mother of 1.

**Susan Juul (Daniel 64-70)** Occupational Therapist (trained at LSOT) who has lived in Oslo, Norway since 1980.

Form 4x ca.1967.and despite all the distractions in the 6th form managed to pass a few exams.

**Terence Wright (64-71)** BSc 74 & MSc 75 from Bristol. Happily Married 75 to present! 2 Children. Alexander now a Fund Manager & Melanie now a Vet. I run three companies in Sheffield one Construction Training, one making Architectural Mouldings, the third installing them. I am a Liveryman and Freeman of the City of London. My school days were not the best time of my life - now is!

**Debe Gillham (Cornish 65-72)** Married, living in Hampshire, 2 grown up daughters. Working in 6th form college SEN Department.

**Joyce Aindow (Dalrymple 65-69)** Married, farming near Southport, Lancs, one child, married a friend of Bryan Dyer. Was a home economics teacher, now housewife.

**Anne Richardson (Warner 66-73)** Met my husband (Robin Richardson) at the College and our son Ian is now in year 11. Also a trustee of the College trust. Work as a partner in Accountants Larking Gowen in Norwich specialising in personal tax. Hobbies include sailing, and amateur dramatics with Horning Amateur Theatrical Society and East Norfolk Operatic Society (Gilbert & Sullivan).

**Zena Gant (Roberts 67-69)** My parents were in Tobruk. I had a brother Steve, nickname Short, in Salisbury House 2 years younger than me. I joined as a new third and Steve as a first year. I was in a dorm of 8 that included big Helen, little Helen, Julie Ryder and Julie King.

**Alan Hall (67-70)** Joined WC in the

3rd form and left after taking O levels. Later spent 20 years with Ordnance Survey. Now married with one 18 year old daughter and living in Lincolnshire. Self employed in the field of garden design and landscape.

**Paul Beck (68-75)** My main school hobby was chess, when the Wymondham College team used to wipe the floor against Norfolk Opposition. I went on from Wymondham College to graduate from Salford University with a Jnt Hons. Degree in Computer Science and Economics. I worked for Cap Gemini Ernst and Young (a computer consultancy) for 23 years. I have now set up my own company - Beck Computer Services Ltd. I am now a family man, married to Andrea with 4 children, Chris, Lydia, Michael and Sarah. I am also a keen Christian. I try to keep fit, and ran the Manchester 10k recently.

**Richard Harding (69-74).** Married with 4 Sons, and now living in Malawi, Central Africa, whilst working for a security company.

**Donna Kerrigan (Curtis 69-74)** I started at Wymondham as a 'new third' in 1969. I played the trombone in the school orchestra, was in the Christian Union and the Guides. I also played netball and was in the swimming team. I have now been married for 27 years to Mike, and have two boys - James (23) and David (21). I am an LEA Adviser in Southampton.

**Kathleen Jones (Somers-Joce 69-76)** Graduated from Swansea University with BA Hons History in 1979. Post graduate certificate in Education at Homerton, Cambridge 1980. Teaching in middle school in Redditch since 1980. Married to Mark Jones, also graduate from Swansea University, in 1980. Two children Rebecca b.1986 and Hannah b.1990.

**Andrew Warman (69-76)** Sponsored by BAe in Hatfield to do an HND at Hatfield Poly, then the IEE conversion course at Cambridge Tech. Then joined a Marconi company in Surrey, Travelling to Germany and Italy on a regular basis. Moved to the North West and re-joined BAe, where I have been ever since. Married in 1985, 2 children - Robert (18) and Charlie (15).

*From the 1970s.....*

**Sheridan Scotton (Smith 70-72)** Married to Roger. Two sons, Robert (20 yrs) and Ian (19 yrs). Would like to contact Allison Burchall, Andrew Counsell and Ian Rippon who were classmates.

**John Clack (70-75)** I left the College in 1975 after my fifth year. I joined the Police Service in Norfolk and have worked with them ever since. I am now a Training Officer based at Thetford. Would be superb to hear from anyone from the past. Still enjoy my music and sing Opera with the Livewire Opera Company.

**Peter Christmas (70-77)** I'm still in touch with one or two from my 1st year, at Durham, including Philip Moon and Christopher Sharples. Other 5 in dorm in first year were Stephen Pope, Marcus Dunn, Simon (Alex) Unwin, Ashley Hines (2nd yr pupil) & David Arnott. My sister Janet Christmas was also at Wymondham, 4 years older than me.

**Andrew Moll (70-77)** Left College in 1977 with laughable 'A' level results and spent 5 months in the civil service working and retaking sums 'A' level. Joined the Royal Navy in Jan 1978 and served Queen and Country for 27 years before rejoining the civil service in Jan 2005 to do the same (but somewhat more safely).

Married 1987 (to Frances); have two daughters (Charlotte & Rebecca), house and mortgage, but no dog.

**Kevin Sanders (70-77)** Attended Norwich City College until Feb 79. Am a Computer Development Engineer currently working in Stafford where I have been for the last 17 years. Married to Shelagh (1986) & have two daughters, Emma (b Nov 95) & Clare (b 98).

**Timothy Loyd (71-77)** Retired and living in New Zealand. After Wymondham I travelled the world for a few years as an engineer in the Merchant Navy before working at RAF Greenham Common as a project manager. Later I joined an American company making control systems for aero-planes and industrial engines. In 2004 decided to retire, bought a small farm in Cambridge NZ and started enjoying life.

**Martin Warren (71-77)** Married with daughter living in Norwich. Solicitor working part time in house for a company based in Cambridge and Part Time as an Employment Tribunal Chairman.

**Jane Eyre (72-80)** Have lived in West Sussex for the last 15 years. Live with long-term partner and our 4 children - 2 boys and 2 girls (aged 14, 12, 9 and 5). Consider myself very fortunate to be able to work from home whilst bringing up family.

**Yvette Rupke (Sennett 73-75)** At school I had long brown hair, and wore glasses. I was a boarder in Kett, shared a dorm with Dawn Wright, Jayne Cox,

Erica Drieboltz, Cathy Harding, Mandy Balantyne Tracey Keyes. Jenny Culyer and Debbie Parrot were my best friends, both daygirls.

**Paul Ellis (73-76)** A few gaps in this summary, but...15 years in the Prisons and Police service in London. Injured and retired from the police. Then did a Masters in HRM. Married in 1995. Moved to Belize for a while with Russell (then 10 months). Back in time for arrival of Sheriden (7), Vicky (3) more recently, and divorce (2004). Now into a variety of training roles. Management, Sailing, Driving. Also building a house.

**Lyn Bond (Clarke 73-80)** Registered nurse, married, two children still in Norfolk.

**Jane Vessey (73-80)** Left Wy Coll end 1980 -University at Essex, post grad and Masters. Worked in London and Barcelona teaching, home to the damp of Sheffield, Newcastle Universities as a Research manager - then worked at OU at Milton Keynes. Now in NW - both children are Man City Fans (!!!!) working at local school, married to an internationally renowned professor of GEOGRAPHY - can you believe that!!!!

**Tina Black (Hilton 74-76)** I was only at the school for about two years. My father's work took us south in the early seventies and then north again in the late seventies, so I didn't really get to know anyone that well unfortunately. However I do remember thinking that all the other girls were very nice when I was there. There are a couple of girls I would love to get in contact with; I think one was called Katy and the other was called Julia? They were friends so if I find one I'll be able to find them both.

**Debi Simpson (Ingham 74-76)** I was a boarder in Fry. In Course 14, 24 & 34. I left in the 3rd year. Later trained as a nurse in Norwich but am no longer working. I have three children who are 16, 13 & 9. I am trying to get in touch with people who knew me & my friend Helen Hayes (dec'd) who was a day pupil in Peel.

**Jane Sheldrake (Wright 74-79)** I worked for Norwich Winterthur for 12 years. I met Steve in 1982 and we got married in 1987. We have 2 tall children (!) - Ben 15 (6ft 5) and Rebecca 12 (5ft 3). I now work for Tesco as a Home Shopper, having previously been a checkout operator and a Home Shopping delivery driver. I still play Badminton in the Norwich League and took up Table Tennis about 6 years ago.

**Christopher Rist (74-79)** Day bug/Cycling mad(then)/Got better with age.

**Lois Crowe (Catchpole 74-80)** Long dark hair, brown eyes, not one of the 'in' crowd, into Led Zeppelin, Yes, Pink Floyd etc when everyone else in my year was listening to Abba and Tamla Motown. Used 'quiet' reputation as a convenient disguise for activities that would have certainly led to expulsion had they been suspected, let alone discovered!

**Paul Martells (74-80)** Where have the years gone! I have mixed memories of my schooldays. My favourite teacher was David Spurling, whom I remember with gratitude and affection. Notwithstanding a fairly undistinguished academic track-record at school, I went on to study Business Finance & Economics at the UEA and later completed an MBA at Exeter. I work for HSBC Bank and live in Oxfordshire with my wife, Dee, our Son, Dylan (4 mths), and our scatty dogs, Sweep & Barney. I rediscovered running a few years ago and have now run several marathons! Would love to hear from anyone who remembers me.

**Christopher Gay (74-81)** After leaving college, I moved through a whole series of jobs from Civil Servant to Disc Jockey and finally ended up joining Norfolk Constabulary in 1985. I have two girls, Stacey and Connie, from my first marriage, and now live with my partner Elaine, step daughter Courtenay and a seriously stupid spaniel. Generally life is good.

**Mark Gilmour (74-81)** Currently relocating back to Norfolk after 13 years in Scotland. Relocation is due to employment. Worked in the oil and gas business since leaving University in 1990. Kept up to date with the college developments and now trying to get my eldest son into Wymondham College!

**Stephanie Hunter (Lewins 75-82)** Married with two sons who are both now enjoying boarding at Wymondham College in Kett. Have a Computer shop and Consultancy in Holt with husband Mark. Still in touch with a few good friends from school days and enjoying being a parent of pupils at the School and seeing all the changes that have taken place.

**Deborah Rushen (Lane 75-81)** Married with 2 children - Primrose 10 and Oscar 6 - living on a small farm.

Had wonderful career first with Top Shop and then with Archant newspapers - EDP etc. I am kept very busy as I am Chair of the Governors at Kenninghall Primary School. Still have a love of the Arts which started during my years at Wymondham College.

**Max Edwards (76-81)** Despite extremely poor memory (of school days) have managed to avoid destitution and find myself as a Group MD of a set of Marcoms agencies in Norwich. Happily married, lots of children, dogs, cats, fish, guinea pigs, hamsters, chickens, goats, horses etc. Hello to anyone who knew me!

**Jeremy Lee (76-82)** Left to do A levels in Kings Lynn, then University at London. Worked for University of London and now the Administrator for the Center for the Environment at Oxford University.

**Claire Watts (Mullender 76-82)** I was first in New Hall with Mina Sassoon, Sue Pyle and Teresa Sewell. We were then all moved to Fry when the 6th form houses were separated. Also friends with the three Liz's in Fry and Mandy and Sophie. Would love to get in touch again. Am now living in Poole, Sandbanks. I am married with one daughter who is about to start Grammar school. Work from home as a PA to a chairman of a company in Singapore.

**Jonathan Lerner (76-83)** I am a physiotherapy tutor at the UEA, married to Emma (a physiotherapist) with 2 children, Amy and Tom. After studying in Oswestry and qualifying as a physiotherapist in 1991 I returned to Norfolk. I worked for the Norfolk & Norwich hospital until 1998 and then Norwich City F.C until 2001. I spent 3 years as a manager at BUPA Hospital Norwich before joining the UEA teaching staff in 2005.

**Debbie Slade (Nash 77-83)** I loved my time at W.C. Have fond memories of sunbathing in Tennis. The disruption to French in the Nissen Huts by the noise from the RAF. Singing lessons in Science from Mr Brand. I was a day bug travelling on one of the many coaches. Now married with three children and running my own business with my husband making Sweet Fruit Vinegar.

**Amanda Leveson Gower (Blaxell 78-83)** One half of a pair of very naughty twins Amanda and Debs. Both living on Islands now - Debs on Bermuda and I'm on Isle of North Uist. Still very, very naughty. I have a sporting Lodge on the Island and would welcome any former WC pupils who wish to investigate the Outer Hebrides, as long as they qualify - never having had their top button done up!

**Angela Weatherill (Sanderson 78-83)** Married to Mark for 21 years with 4 children; been involved with village

life, but have recently bought a couple of properties abroad which we are developing, and contemplating a move abroad - not as easy as it sounds as children unwilling!

**Daniel Jordan (78-86)** Tall, thick curly-haired with glasses in school days. Started in New Hall and ended up being Head Boy there in 5th year under Keith Rutherford (now sadly missed). Moved into 6th form in Lincoln doing great combination of Maths, Physics and Chemistry - most of which now long forgotten. Moved to London and NatWest Bank IT after A Levels, and now Head of Credit Risk IT in Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

**Samantha Robinson (Wheddon 78-84)** Moved to Australia in 92. Married, with 3 year old twins.

**Jonathan Dye (79-84)** I have great memories of my time spent at Wymondham College, I am now married and settled down in Norfolk (on wife number 2) and have a son. I am a sales director for a property company and have recently bought a house in France to escape from it all. I still get to see some old friends from School but it would be good to catch up with some more.

#### *From the 1980s.....*

**Sarah Edwards (80-87)** Went on to study Business and Finance, and travelled quite a bit. Married Bill in 1997, we set up a small business in horticulture. It proved to be quite successful and we sold up in 2005 and moved to Christchurch, New Zealand. We have one son, aged 2 and are expecting our second child in August 06. We are about to start a similar business here.

**Tim Vogel (82-89)** Having tried to flee the county, I have ended back here in Norfolk, married with 2 little girls.

I run my own niche accountancy practice doing forensic accounting, and a bit of consultancy work.

**Chris Ravenscroft (84-89)** Left Wymondham after 1 year of 6th form to join the Army. Spent 4 good years serving before tearing knee ligaments, decided my true love was sport so I left & went to DMU Bedford for four years to gain a teaching degree in PE. 7 Years later I am running a faculty in a School just north of Birmingham. Married, no children but very happy.

**Kate Webster (84-89)** Following taking A Levels in West Sussex, I studied and then worked as a Physiotherapist in Manchester for 4

years. I have subsequently been working in Recruitment for the last 8 years managing offices in London, Canada and now Australia. I am also currently studying for an MBA.

**Gary Bradley (84-90)** I'm living in Sheffield now where I have a joinery firm which is doing ok. Have not done the family bit so far. Things are good.

**Lousie Rice (Haverson 84-90)** Left Wymondham College for University of Kent at Canterbury. Worked in cinema management and then in retail. Now living in Dersingham, Norfolk. Happily married with two lovely daughters.

**Richard Mann (84-91)** Recidivist smoker, tentative mountaineer, perennial student and occasional actor, living happily with my partner and her daughter in Norwich.

**Matthew Gilbert (85-89)** Self-employed landscape gardener and designer; travelled a bit too much and now can't settle down for longer than a year. Wouldn't mind finding out what everyone is up to?

**Ben Weston (85-91)** Went to University, obtaining degree and PhD in Biochemistry. Was a research fellow at Imperial College for five years before deciding to move into teaching. Am currently a Science teacher and Housemaster at Highgate School in North London. Married to Claire with two boys, Etienne and Olivier.

**Paul Harrey (87-94)** is currently living in Australia with his wife and 2 boys. Enjoying life in the sun and working as an industrial designer. Paul graduated from Brunel University in 1997 and went on to do a PhD in environmentally friendly electronics. Would love to hear from anyone. Email [mitchellharrey@hotmail.com](mailto:mitchellharrey@hotmail.com)

**Mike Foster (88-92)** Left WC - went to Southampton Inst of HE 1992. Returned to Norwich 1996 - left again in 1997 to work in Telecoms. Married Tryph 2002 - started my own business in 2004 (Canvas Art Materials & Picture framing) - my lovely wife gave birth to our first son Noah April 2006. Life is good!!

#### *From the 1990s .....*

**Ken Lee (90-95)** Left WYC in 1995 and went on to do A-levels in Norwich and Lowestoft. Ended up doing a Physics degree at Nottingham Uni and then a PhD in Theoretical Physics at Cambridge Uni. Currently Working for an Investment bank in London as a Quant. Would be good to catch up with anyone from New hall or anyone in my year.

**Scott Harwood (91-97)** I am now married. I am currently living in Old Costessey, and working as a project manager /CAD designer for an architectural aluminium window company.

**Imogen Church (91-98).** I was a boarder in Cavell for five years and a day girl in the sixth, I was in seventh heaven studying GCSE World War 2 history in a World War 2 Nissan Hut, I faked injuries regularly to skive off games, contributed greatly to the empty Vodka bottles at the bottom of the pond and took all the rebellious joy that came with studying Drama in an asbestos-ridden Blue Studio into my grown up life, where I am an Actress in London.

**Louise McDonell (Jarvis 91-98)** Andrew (Angus) McDonell and I got married in 2004. We have recently bought our first house together in Norwich. After finishing my psychology degree I completed teacher training. Taught for three years, working this year as an Assistant Educational Psychologist, and will start a Doctorate in Educational Psychology this September. Don't want to tempt fate, but everything is going swimmingly at the moment.

**Jason Wood (92-99)** Having obtained a degree in electronic engineering and then travelled around the world for a bit, I am now living in London doing completely unrelated work.

**Chris Barton (93-2000)** After falling out with an anticipated career in art I have found myself settled securely performing the role of Police Officer within the Metropolitan Police Service in London. Happily enjoying life and always welcoming contact from past leavers of the college.

**Paul Clarke (93-2000)** Life in Australia couldn't be better right now. I'm currently working as the Technical Manger for a prominent mobile services company based in Adelaide. Recently a third of the company has been purchased by the largest TV network in Australia and Yahoo! So as you can imagine there is plenty of work coming through! This year Michelle and I are getting a house and planning for our wedding in the Gold Coast early next year.

**Rob Daniels (93-2000)** After Wymondham I studied Mechanical Engineering at Exeter Uni before getting the travel bug and doing a Raleigh International Expedition. I am back in Norfolk having spent 18 months in Central America and

Australia, Currently working for a defence company as a Mechanical Engineer. I am a cive instructor in my spare time and still spend quite a lot of time sailing.

**Antonia Shorten-Marsh (Toni Marsh 94-99)** Have been living in Norwich for the past 5 years. Working at the UEA in the School of Law. Got married in 2004 - got there by helicopter (a surprise present)!!

**Charlotte Wright (95-99)** After Wymondham I took my first gap year working as a ski instructor in Austria and spent the summer in the Caribbean. I then attended Birmingham Uni doing Sport and Exercise Sciences. I have now spent the last 3 years travelling and working and now live in Queenstown, New Zealand, for 6 months of the year and a northern hemisphere ski resort for the other 6 months - awesome, come visit me!

**Danielle Anderson (96-2003)** I am pretty much the same as I always was. I love talking and shopping way too much! Just finished a degree in English Literature and am going on to do teacher training in September 2007. I live with my boyfriend; we have been together about 3 years now. I'm going travelling with Dawn Jewell and Sarah Gammell this summer I'm really happy!

**Stephanie Straube (97-98)** I came for one year to Wymondham to improve my English. People might remember me as a very small person with big brown eyes. I did a lot of sport; I shared my room with the House Captain - Hilary Pearson. My A levels were Theatre Studies, French, third I can't remember, and GCSE English with Mrs. Loyd. My best friend was Rebecca Shipp.

**Samantha Sadler (97-2002)** I'm currently living in the South of France with my long term boyfriend. Haven't really changed much, still short and wearing glasses.

**Jennifer Tsui (98-2001)** After finishing at Wymondham, I did a BA Linguistic at University of Hertfordshire and a PGCE at Warwick Uni. I am now back in my hometown in Leamington and enjoying my job as a supply teacher working across Warwickshire and Coventry primary schools.

**Ella Howell (98-2005)** I was a boarder in Kett for 7 years and am now a student of Sheffield University reading American Studies. My two brothers Fred and Charlie also went to WyCol with the latter still currently there in Year 10.

**From 2000+ .....**

**William Rous (2000-02)** Joined the Army and am just finishing my pilots course; soon to start flying the Apache.

**David 'Fluffy' Howard (2002-06)** I am currently at the College of West Anglia studying a BTEC national Diploma in construction. I now belong to west Norfolk athletics club, and train twice a week. I do high jump, middle distances and hurdles. In my second year at the college I'm planning on doing some As to help me to go to uni to read architecture.

---

## OBITUARIES

**Helen Hayes** I would like to be able to make a contribution to the past pupils magazine. My best friend, Helen Hayes, who was also an ex-pupil of Wymondham has died. She was a day pupil in Peel from 1975 until 1982. She then attended Canterbury Christchurch University.

Helen then went on to work in television in London and later Southampton before starting her own business called Stress Solutions. Helen was married to Gary and became Helen Watts and leaves a daughter, Hazel, aged 7. Anyone wishing to pass on messages to Helens' family can do so by contacting me, Debi Simpson (Ingham) on 01603 737175.

*by Debi Simpson*

**Cyril Victor Hughes (staff 1952 and 1955-56).** I just wish to inform you that my father , Cyril Victor Hughes, who was a member of staff between 1952 and 1955/6 has recently passed away on 14th February 2007 at the grand age of 90 years. He always had very fond memories of the school and as a family we lived in the famous Nissan huts. I was only a baby at the time but my birth in 1952 was mentioned in one of the school's newsletters.

*By Margaret Temple (nee Hughes)*

**Cyril had made an entry on the WCR site only this year -**

**Cyril Victor Hughes (staff 52-55)** I was a staff member starting 1952 teaching Chemistry, Physics and Engineering Science and with Dave Goman set up the first engineering science laboratory in the only brick building on the site (former mortuary).Established engineering science courses to O level. I enjoyed my time here in spite of the round shoulders caused by living and working in nissen huts.

## NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Dear Fellow Alumni

Looking out from my office window in early May I cannot help thinking about how much the College has changed since my arrival here back on site as a member of staff in Sept 97.

Very soon three major building projects will be completed:

**New Admin block, staffroom and extension to student's dining room.  
11 new classrooms  
An astro hockey pitch.**

All of the above will go a long way to ensure that the College's facilities are of the highest quality possible.

As well as the above, our main project, that of a 115 en-suite bedroom extension to Lincoln, will be on track to be completed by Sept 08. This will provide 6th Form students with first class facilities for the future.

Well, the future for me is very exciting, as I am leaving the College following 10 years as a member of staff and 7 as a student. That time has simply flown by, allowing me to work with staff who had the unfortunate job of trying to teach me, as well as leading staff in educating the children of a number of my old class mates back in the 80's.

As I move to Langley School in Loddon, the College is looking forward to welcoming its new Principal, Mr Melvyn Roffe, in Sept. He faces a tough task in attempting to move forward an already outstanding school to new heights. I am sure, like me, that you will follow his progress with interest.

Many of you will be aware that this year the College said goodbye to three very long serving members of staff:

**Mr Clive Richardson - Bursar** Clive took early retirement in Feb 07, following 16 years service.



Clive Richardson, Alison Scott, Geoffrey Darling  
12

**Mr Trevor Forder – Estate Manager**  
Trevor finished at the College following 35 years service.

**Mr Glynn Long - Senior Science Technician** Glynn retired following 35+ years at the College.



Glynn and Diane Long

All three of the above have given great service to all members of our community over the years, and I am sure you join in all concerned in wishing them a very happy retirement.

Replacing such staff has been a real challenge, however, I am delighted to announce the names of the following appointments:

**Mr Bob Moorhouse – Bursar** - Bob left the RAF to begin his civilian life here at the College.

**Mr Steve Peck – Estate Manager –** Steve was promoted through the ranks to his new position.

**Mr Andrew Gardiner – Senior Science Technician (and old boy!!)** joined us in Sept 06.

Other leavers during the year were Natalie Pierrejean and Val Woodrow.



Val Woodrow

Now finally, I would like to finish with a personal plea to all fellow alumni. Having had the opportunity to both attend and now lead the “best school in the East”, the one area that still has yet to be really developed is the potential of the huge numbers of past students at the College.

The WCA and WCT have both done a fantastic job in getting the ball rolling in terms of a data base, reunions etc. However, the future of the College could

be even stronger if we could use the expertise and resources of the many thousands of past students.

I very much hope that when I send a 1st XV over to the park from Loddon in years to come that maybe a few of you have decided to really get involved with the College's future.

We have had our time, it is now up to us to ensure that the College stays strong for our children, their children and for many, many years to come.

I wish you all best wishes from the College, and look forward to meeting some of you at one of our up and coming events.

Yours forever at Wymondham,

Dominic Findlay

### DAVE GOMAN PRIZE

Due to the generosity of Dave Goman in association with the WCA, his bequest to the Wymondham College Trust (WCT) has provided school prizes in the following categories.

Technology & Art Prize - Rebecca Spencer  
Technology & Maths Prize - Robin Shute  
Technology & Science Prize - Matthew Sampson

This presentation will continue annually to projects of merit. This years efforts where exceptional.

### SARAH BATTYE PRIZE

The 2006 winner of the Sarah Battye Prize was Laura Alves.

The WCT has also received a very generous bequest of £5,000 from the estate of Elspeth Hodgson who died last year and was the wife of the late Jim Hodgson who taught the first College Grammar School pupils from 1951/56 and who died 16th May 1988. Part of this donation will be used to finance an annual history prize starting this year.

### DATES FOR YOUR 2007 DIARY

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 2 June     | PSA Grand Summer Ball  |
| 27-28 June | Royal Norfolk Show   |
| 29 June    | '50s Golf Day, Sprowston   |
| 30 June    | PSA Summer Fayre and<br>WCA Official Reunion                                     |
| 13 Sept.   | College Presentation<br>Evening at 7.30 pm                                       |
| 11 Nov.    | College Remembrance Service  |
| 17 Nov.    | WCA AGM  |
| 18 Nov.    | Founder's Day College, At<br>which all past pupils and staff<br>are most welcome |