

ONT

MAGAZINE SUMMER 2022



NOTTINGHAM
HIGH SCHOOL



#sharedlives



ON

MAGAZINE SUMMER 2022

Welcome to the 2022 summer edition of the ON magazine, keeping you up to date with news and events from within the School and the wider ON community

Although the School has now broken up for the summer we had another very successful year and will start again in September with a record number of pupils. The last few weeks of term were busy with Founder's Day, and our Barbecue to say our goodbyes to the class of 2022. For many of them this will be their first ON magazine so we hope that you enjoy what is in the pages that follow. We also held a few reunions of different year groups and it was good to see a number from the Class of 1970 join us at Founder's Day.



Kevin Fear, Headmaster

Over the summer the School is again a hive of activity as we replace more windows, upgrade another lab in the Science block as well as laying new drains down at Valley Road. In addition we will be starting work in September on converting the White House into our new Wellbeing Centre.

In our special Platinum Jubilee themed edition, we meet **Ed Roberts (ON 2012-2020)** whose award-winning design won a National Competition to design an emblem to mark the Queen's Jubilee year. We also interview **Peter Dredge (ON 1965-1971)** on his time at the School and his career as a cartoonist; we include our **'Your School, My School'** project with the current Year 10 students and Old Nottinghamians **Geoffrey Parker, Shaughan Terry, David Winfield and the late Guy Pooley** talk to us about the School 67 years on in our reflectiONs section.

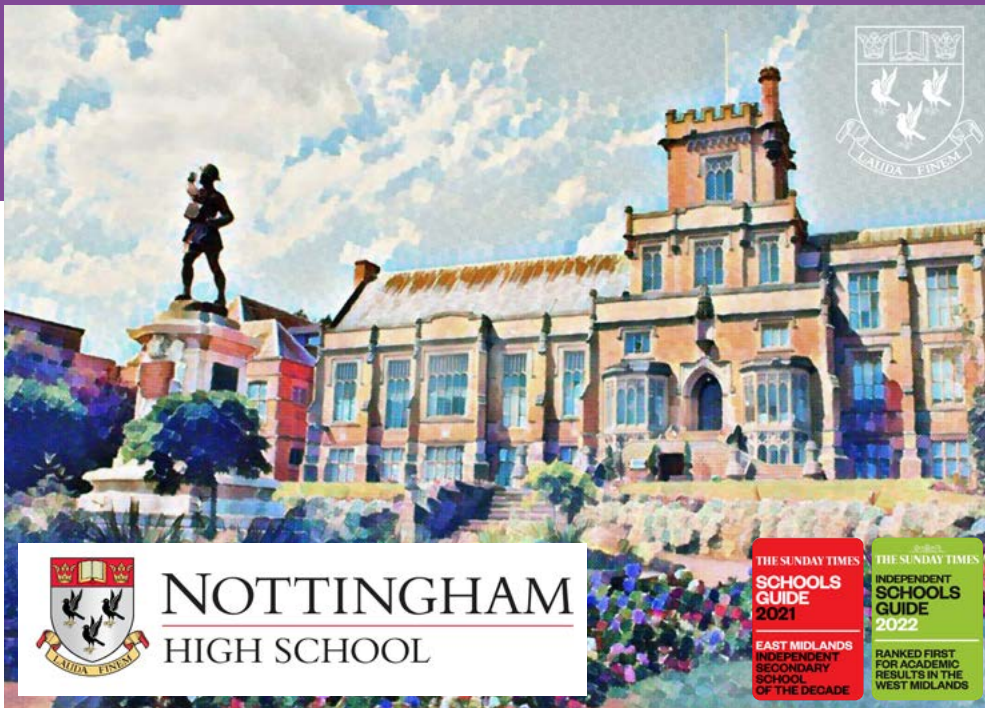


Sam Ellis, Kevin Fear, Kamala Newton, Deborah Penney (clockwise)

It is with great pleasure that I am able to tell you that Nottingham High School has been shortlisted for an award in The Development Award for Outstanding Fundraising Achievement and Independent School of the Year for Contribution to Social Mobility category.



The purpose of The Independent School Parent Magazine's Independent Schools of the Year awards



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has always been to highlight the excellence of the student experience offered by the UK's amazing independent schools.

On the evidence of the 2022 nominations, the independent school sector in Britain has surged back from the impact of COVID, with rising demand or places across the country.

This year the judges have been particularly interested by the increased emphasis many schools are placing on promoting social mobility; the effort being put into expanding bursary programmes is extraordinary as are the partnerships being undertaken with many state schools and other community bodies.

We are proud to play our part in delivering transformative and innovative projects that are changing lives of children through a Nottingham High School education and our Partnership/Outreach programmes.

Kevin Fear (Headmaster)

Kamala Newton

Manager of Development & Events
newton.ka@nottinghamhigh.co.uk

Sam Ellis

Fundraising Manager
ellis.s@nottinghamhigh.co.uk

Deborah Penney

Development Officer
penney.d@nottinghamhigh.co.uk



ReuniONs

Andrew Whitman (ON 1963-1970) shares his enjoyment of the Class of 1970 Reunion: “27 ONs gathered at the School for the long-awaited reunion of the ‘Class of 1970’. It was originally scheduled for 2020 but postponed because of the start of the pandemic – and then delayed again last year for the same reason.

We'd all been waiting more than two years to meet - but I think we all felt it was well worth it. I met school friends I hadn't seen for 48 years and was very pleased to catch up with them, once we'd just about recognised each another. Paul Balen welcomed everyone and we sat down to a convivial lunch. Geri Thomas was then heroic in his detailed tour of the school, impressive in his recollection of people, places and events from over 50 years ago – and the relevance they may have had for us as individuals or as a group. The school may have changed a lot but the main assembly hall, the old gym and individual corridors and classrooms are still very evocative. The only frustration with even a four-hour event is that there still isn't time

to have detailed conversations with everyone we would have liked. So some of us adjourned to the city centre for a restaurant meal and a couple more hours in one another's company. The day was thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile – so much so that I gather some have suggested re-convening in five years' time, subject to soundness of mind and body. So, very many thanks on behalf of us all to the Development Team, Geri Thomas and Dennis Usher for organising and hosting the event – and to Richard Tennant for making the dinner happen. I hope everyone enjoys the photos”.



On the 25th June, the Class of 1997 held their 25th anniversary reunion joined by former teachers Dieter Hecht, Tony Holding and Andrew Winter. We loved hearing about their memories of their time here at School. They even managed to find their old classroom, which was definitely worth a photo opportunity!



You can enjoy the photos from both of the reunions here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nottshigh/albums>

Charity Golf Day 2022



It was wonderful to see so many ONs enjoying the amazing course at Stanton on the Wolds and in the sunshine too. We'll try and turn off the wind next year!

A special thanks to **Geoff Bryan (ON 1963-1973)**, Secretary/Treasurer of the Old Nottinghamians' Golf Society, **Rob Bendy (ON 1981-1988)**, **David Wild (ON 1964-1974)**, **James Merritt (ON 1983-1993)** and **Keith Hayes (ON 1948-1958)** for helping to make the event a success.

Thank you to those who took part and our sponsors; you have helped us raise an incredible £2,732 for the Nottingham High School Bursary Fund.

We are planning to make this an annual event so we'll let you know the date of the 2023 Nottingham High School Golf Day as soon as we can.



All of the photos kindly taken by **Keith Hayes (ON 1974-1985)** can be viewed here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nottshigh/albums>





Founder's Day 2022



Representative Scholars for 2021 and 2022



Former Chair of Governors (L-R) Nigel Tamplin (ON 1960-1970), Paul Balen (ON 1960-1971), David Wild (ON 1964-1974) and current Chair Steve Banks.



On Saturday 18th June, we were delighted to hold Founder's Day back at St Mary's Church in Nottingham since the pandemic. Last year's ceremony was a virtual event so it was lovely to welcome back our Old Nottinghamians, Governors, parents and all students for the first time since the pandemic. After the service, many joined us for the Cheese 'n' Ale Ceremony where the chosen representative Scholars for 2022, Saif and Khushi and for 2021 Francesca and Nathan, were awarded a Foundation Tie and framed certificate with a traditional groat coin.



Leavers' BBQ 2022

On Friday 24th June we held our annual Leavers' BBQ on the front lawns. It was a lovely event that gave the Class of 2022, their tutors, teachers and parents a chance to say farewell.

The event also celebrates the Class of 2022 joining the Old Nottinghamian Community and we look forward to keeping in touch with them and welcoming them to our future ON events.

Additional photographs from the BBQ can be found on Nottingham High Connect.



Events



Dates for your diary



Speech Day
Royal Concert Hall



Class of 1972 Reunion - Nottingham High School
To book you place: <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BMGZ>



ON Cambridge Dinner
College TBC

If you would like us to help arrange a reunion for your class year, please get in touch development@nottinghamhigh.co.uk



ON London Dinner
Venue TBC



Carol Service
St Mary's Church, Lace Market



ON Sports v School
Valley Road (Rugby, Netball)
Wollaton Park (Cross Country)





Simon Williams Teacher of History



Can you describe the changes you have seen in both the students and the School over the period the time you were here? (curriculum, societal changes, political changes, School Life)

I had the great pleasure of teaching at NHS for 35 years. I came for interview, my first, as a student teacher whilst doing my teacher training in Sheffield in February 1986 as a candidate to replace David Peters, the long serving Head of History. I felt the interview went well, but was surprised to be offered the job by Dr Witcombe on the phone. It was the first time I had ever been inside an independent school.

My main role at the High School was the teaching of History across all years in the senior school, though I also taught Year 13 American Government and Politics for a few years towards the end of my career. I also taught games for my teaching career, mostly senior games and for a few years I ran junior cricket teams. However, my longest sporting involvement was with the sixth form football teams, an enjoyable if not always successful association. For 12 years I was an assistant scout leader with the Venture/Explorer Scouts, an

association I continued throughout my time at the school as I continued to do expeditions and Duke of Edinburgh Award assessment with them even when I ceased to be a regular leader. I was for a time a careers adviser, I helped edit the school magazine and latterly was its editor and I also taught PSHE. I had the pleasure of being an assistant tutor and then tutor for the entirety of my career in **Cooper's House**. I served as a form master in a number of different school years, but mainly in the sixth form where I helped to write UCAS references.

What made you/helped you to stay for so long at the School?

I always enjoyed my time at the High School and I was never driven by a burning ambition to climb the greasy pole of success as Disraeli might have put it. However, during first week in Nottingham I met a young woman coming out of church who eighteen months later became my wife and, as she is a Nottingham girl, I would say that, plus being happy in my work and in my activities outside of work were the biggest influences on the longevity of my career at the school. It is also true to say that I have been privileged to teach thousands of bright, interesting, funny and, sometimes, infuriating pupils and work with truly gifted, interesting and personable staff and this always made going into work an absolute pleasure.

Which were your most memorable School trips?

I have always had an interest in the First World War and many trips to the battlefields have been memorable. However, I was also lucky to visit Russia in 2012 and New York and Washington in 2014 on History and History and Politics trips respectively and these were tremendously interesting and exciting trips organised by Peter Dowsett and Peter Cramp. I also visited Berlin twice which was an amazing city thanks to Katherine Rich and Claire Daly. Outside of History the many expeditions I went on with the scouts stand out, notably early winter expeditions to Scotland, particularly the Cairngorms, and other walking

expeditions to Snowdonia and the Lake District. Richard Nicolle, as scout leader, introduced me to the hills and inspired in me a life long passion for hill walking and trekking. The stand out expedition I went on, however, was the scout Swiss alpine expedition in 2012 which was two weeks of wonderful walking and experiences. I have Ben Thomas to thank for providing me with this and many other great walking opportunities.

Can you tell us about your career at Nottingham High School?

When I started my teaching career I taught the last year of O Level and the first year of GCSE. The differences in the demands of both were quite noticeable. At A Level I taught Medieval History of Britain and Europe for many years and then many other topics and periods. The amount that students had to learn and the nature of the exams has certainly changed, sometimes for the better, sometimes not. A big difference in my time at school has been the growing importance of IT. I never touched a computer before the early 1990s and by the end of my career teaching without the use of one would have been unthinkable. Students have been increasingly reliant on them and their phones and books and reading, the accumulation of information, have become increasingly less important and less likely to be done by students.

Politically, I have found myself increasingly out of step with the prevailing mood. Education has been a political football for a long time, but the chopping and changing of various governments hasn't really been beneficial. I also find some of the more extreme elements of cancel culture baffling and feel that some of the politically correct statements issued by pressure groups completely ignore a proper understanding of history and the past. To use modern parlance, I am not very woke, so it was a good time to retire!

Do you have any funny stories you would be willing to share?

The funniest was the time I was involved in leaving a minibus of scouts sitting in

the school yard at the start of an Easter expedition to the Scottish Highlands. The accompanying staff all jumped into the other minibuses and kit van without realising that the minibus in question had no driver and we didn't realise until Scotch Corner, when we stopped for a coffee that we had left a whole load of scouts behind. Fortunately, after about an hour the scouts had alerted other members of staff and one of them drove the bus up to re-join us. Red faces all round.

Another amusing story was when we were on a school trip to St Petersburg. We were staying in a hotel which also had a party of Russian girls staying there. When we were doing the rounds at night, checking everyone was in their rooms we heard giggling come from one room. A colleague knocked on the door and everything went quiet. Eventually, after quite a while, the students whose room it was opened the door. My colleague looked around and went into the en suite bathroom where he discovered several other High School boys hiding. He then went into the bedroom and saw that the duvets had been pulled off the bed and were lying spread out on the floor. One of the duvets twitched slightly and he pulled it off the floor to discover a number of Russian school girls hiding beneath it. Everyone was immediately despatched back to their own rooms! Our students had obviously been taught about entente cordiale too well.

Have you got a favourite period of History and if so why is it your favourite?

I would describe myself as a jack of all trades master of none in History terms. I loved the medieval period and very much enjoyed teaching about the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and Normans for many years. I have always been interested in the First and Second World War and the Cold War and, also American History. In addition, I really like the Ancient World, particularly the Roman Empire, though I have never taught it. In truth many different histories, periods, countries topic areas interest me, it just varies.

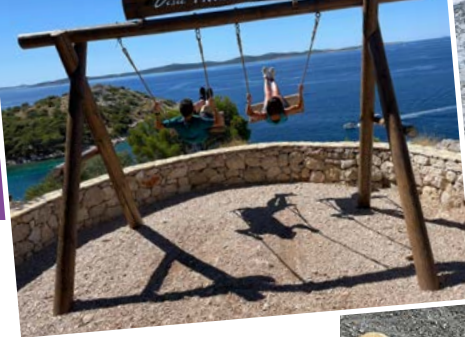
Can you tell us about your research into

the boys, from Nottingham High School, who died during the First and Second World Wars?

I didn't research the Second World War ONs, that has been done by a former colleague, John Knifton. My interest in the ONs who were killed or died in the First World War originated from my first trip to the battlefields in 1988 with another school. I also found a copy of the Roll of Honour in the school archive and thought it would be interesting to know more about these young men, not just their names. From there, in a rather intermittent and haphazard way I started to gather information about their time at school and, where I could, about their subsequent careers and military service. The imminence of the centenary of the war gave me further impetus as did the fact that the advent of the internet made research much easier and more accessible than he had been earlier. I do not subscribe to the view that was pushed from 1960s onwards that this was a pointless war, a view which has been challenged and largely discredited by more recent historians, if not always in the minds of the public and some politicians. I felt their patriotism and sacrifice needed to be acknowledged. However, in many ways I have only touched the surface of what could be found out and the rest will have to wait until someone else delves deeper into the lives of these ONs.

Which books would you recommend to our ON Community?

History book recommendations include an excellent series of snap shots of England through the ages by Ian Mortimer such as the "Time Travellers' Guide to Medieval England". I have read two in the series and will read the others soon. I found John Lewis Stempel's book "Six Weeks" on the short life of junior officers on the Western Front very good. Anthony Beevor's book



"Stalingrad" was an excellent if brutal read and Anne Applebaum's book "Iron Curtain" was fascinating and should put anyone off communism. I have "Catholics" by Roy Hattersley, a history of English Catholicism since the Reformation by my bedside as well as a History of the Roman Empire by Mary Beard. In fiction, I read two or three books a week, but I would like to recommend my brother's latest novel "The Prime Minister's Affair", by Andrew Williams, about a prime minister whose "antics" get him into hot water, this time, however, Ramsay MacDonald, not Boris. a shameless plug, I am afraid!

How are you spending your time in retirement?

Since retiring I have spent a lot of time travelling. I have been walking on Exmoor and the South West Coastal Path, walking in the north of Scotland and on the Orkneys. I have been to Croatia twice where my wife has family, Belgium, tried skiing in the French Alps without much success, been trekking for three weeks in Nepal, the Gokyo Lakes and Everest Base Camp. We have also visited Krakow and Auschwitz. At the moment we are in the process of moving out of Nottingham to Hartington in the Peak District. I hope to do some voluntary work there and I am seriously thinking of taking up line dancing and learning more about the natural world. I get frustrated by my lack of knowledge in this area.



Notices



Madeleine Wood (ON 2019-2021)

Madeleine Wood was awarded 2nd place in the Ivy League's indoor championship for High Jump and achieving a new personal best of 177cm. Maddy is studying an undergraduate degree at Princeton University.



LGBTQ+ Month

A special thanks to James Mellors (ON 1989-1994) and his team from Mellors Entertainment for kindly donating their equipment and time to light up the School to celebrate LGBTQ+ Month in February; as the sky darkened, the School looked phenomenal.



Ian Smart (ON 1968-1978)

Ian with his daughter Rachel both visited whilst on a trip from the USA. (ASC Playworker).



The Boehm Drama Cup

It was fantastic to have former Investment Banker, now film maker and actor **Stefan Boehm (ON 1983-1993)** return to School to present the Boehm Drama Cup and to spend the day inspiring students and answering their questions "some insightful chats with talented students and teachers and the positive energy since going Co Ed is extraordinary.. Class of 1993 reunion next year!"

Staff Farewell

This summer we say goodbye to the following staff:

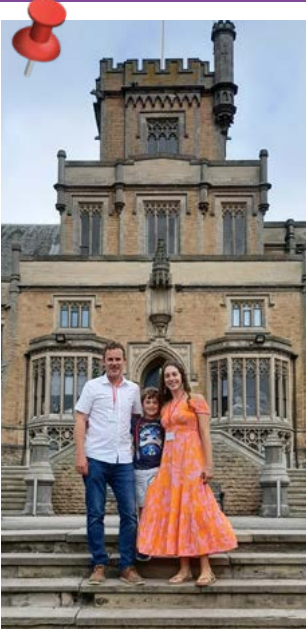
Holly Anderson (PE Intern), Emma Baker (Head of Key Stage One and Year 1 Class Teacher), Katie Bell (Teacher of Spanish), Louis Duprez (Sports Assisitant), Ina Gillett (Teacher of History & EPQ Co-ordinator), Emily Harris (Teacher of EYFS), Lewis Hayne (Cleaner), Katie Mortimer (ASC Playworker), Matt Neale (Teacher of English), Rebecca Plant (TA), Christopher Rudkin (PE Intern), Jessica Schoeneberg (PE Intern), Mary Scorer (ASC Playworker), Anna Stapleton (Teacher of Psychology), Dimitrios Theodorakis (Teacher of Physics), Nan Williams (Gap Year Placement Student), Lauren Winter (Data Manager)

We also say farewell and happy retirement to Karen George (Head of IJS Learning Support)

"Thank you, Mrs George, for everything you have done for so many over the years. You'll never truly know the confidence and pride you instilled in your pupils. I hope you have a fantastic and well-deserved retirement!"



Mrs George and some of her students from the Class of 2022



Richard Gapski (ON 1988-1995)

Whilst on a visit to Nottingham to see family, Richard Gapski (ON 1988-1995) who now lives in the US, came back to the School for the first time in 27 years. Richard was joined by his wife Amanda and son Oliver and it was a pleasure to show them all around the School. The visit included a trip to the library where Richard was able to look at his entry in the red Admissions Register.

During the tour we also bumped into Richard's nieces who are current students at the School!

Richard also attended sports day and the school concert where he caught up with fellow classmates Mark Flanagan and Chris Freeston.

This could be you!?
Send us your news! A wedding, retirement, a catch up with former school friends, your holiday snaps, your achievements and special events.

Duncan Smith ON 1967-1977)

Duncan Smith (ON 1967-1977) grew up in Nottingham. Following a degree in Chemistry at Manchester University he worked as a research scientist for a large pharmaceutical company. In 1993 he moved to the United States to work for the leading biotechnology company, and after twenty-four years in the biopharmaceutical industry he left to fulfil his dream of writing a novel.

Matt Allen, a biochemist at a successful Boston biotechnology company, is researching a cure for his daughter's cystic fibrosis. One morning he discovers his team leader dead, notebooks are missing and building access records have been erased. Unlike the police he is convinced there was foul play. Matt is sent to the UK, where Julia Berrington, a British scientist working at the company's Nottingham office, tells him that her colleague has disappeared. Concerned that there is a company-wide conspiracy, Matt and Julia decide to investigate. What they find chills them. They need all of their scientific training to uncover the horrifying plot with dire consequences for the human race.

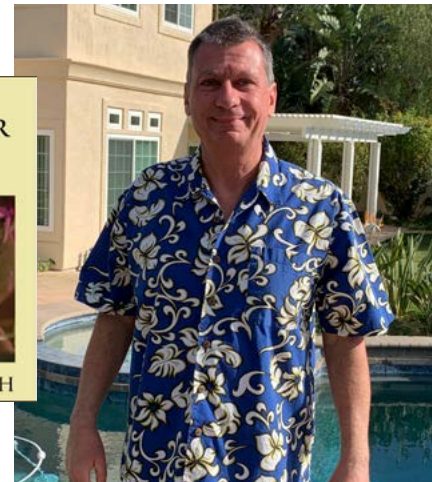
Laurence Henry (ON 2004-2010) prepares to open doors to two new venues at 1 The Island Quarter

This autumn, Masterchef: The Professionals 2018 winner, **Laurence Henry (ON 2004-2010)**, will be opening the doors to two brand new canal-side venues at 1 The Island Quarter in Nottingham.

Binks Yard launching this summer will feature live entertainment, craft beer, cocktails, grills, a wood-fired pizza oven and a range of expertly crafted tacos and pinchos, while the finer dining restaurant, Cleaver & Wake, opening later this year will showcase the very best British produce.

In the years since leaving Nottingham High School Laurence has become world renowned for his culinary skills. Heading up both sites as chef patron, Laurence has been instrumental in crafting the menus at both restaurants, and he looks forward to welcoming guests in the coming months.

To find out more about The Island Quarter, visit www.theislandquarter.com/



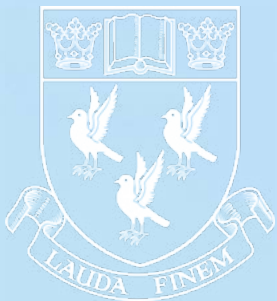


InternatiONal Community

Our ON Community is spread far and wide and we would like to add more faces to our international map.




ON




Over the last 18 months we have spoken to many of our international ONs via video call and the warmth towards the School and your time here radiates through the screen. Please send us your details for the next ON magazine.

1



Stephen Stone
(ON 1963-1973)
Lives: Lantzville, BC, Canada
I am a Registered Nurse, finishing my career in Covid work.

2



Robert Fettiplace
(ON 1956-1965)
Lives: Wisconsin, USA
Professor of Neurosciences at University of Wisconsin-Madison. I research into the origin of deafness.

3



Guy Carrington
(ON 1990-1997)
Lives: Los Angeles, USA
Partner/Executive Producer at production company Done and Dusted.

4




Anthony Bladon
(ON 1954-1962)
Lives: USA
Retired, former Linguistics MPhil and DPhil, positions at UCNW Bangor and University of Oxford. Speech technology companies in Boston and California.

5



James Binley
(ON 1982-1988)
Lives: San Diego, USA
Professor at San Diego Biomedical Research Institute working on HIV and coronavirus vaccines.

6



Julian Lewis
(ON 1981-1988)
Lives: Issaquah, USA
Married with two daughters, leading the commercialization of Silicon Valley food-tech start-up on next generation of sustainable food.

7



Matt Turner
(ON 1995-2003)
Lives: Brooklyn, New York
I am Editor in Chief at Business Insider.

8



Andrew Chow
(ON 1986-1993)
Lives: New Jersey, USA
Regional Director, Meso Scale Discovery.

9



Ashley Holmes
(ON 2002-2006)
Lives: Lakeland, USA
I am Head Men's Soccer Coach at Florida Southern College.

10



David Pilsforth
(ON 1952-1964)
Lives: Geneva, Switzerland
Moved to Switzerland in 1985, working with Lloyds Bank Int. I now write SciFi books, under the name of Andrew Man.

11



Trevor Watts
(ON 1947-1954)
Lives: Switzerland
Retired. Started as geologist, finished as head of Swiss company's translation department. Living with Nottingham-born wife, two children, one granddaughter.

12




Christopher Williams
(ON 1963-1970)
Lives: Andria, Italy
Retired after 44 years of teaching at university in southern Italy. My wife and I spend our time in Puglia.

13



Jamie Heather
(ON 1974-1984)
Lives: Frankfurt, Germany
Living with wife and son, working at Karl Mayer Stoll, the largest warp knitting textile manufacturer in the world. I am the lace expert.

14



Mike Andrews
(ON 1952-1960)
Lives: Bangkok, Thailand
Retired, worked 40 years in Textile Industry mainly in Asia Pacific region.

15



Sam Powell
(ON 1998-2005)
Lives: Sydney, Australia
I am Agency Lead at TikTok across AUNZ markets. Live with fiancé and our child. Australian Citizen.

16



Gavin Wigginton
(ON 1953-1964)
Lives: Melbourne, Australia
Published author, biography and social history. Previous roles in private and not-for-profit sectors, and Governance and Risk Management.

17



Phil Holliday
(ON 1958-1965)
Lives: Tasman, New Zealand
Retired, previously electronic & software engineer, business owner and investor.





Your School, My School

David Towers (ON 1951-1961) talks to Jaber, Farah and Susan



"I was quite good at the mathematics-based subjects when I was at school" recalls David. "I enjoyed maths, chemistry and physics in particular. I eventually went on to study mechanical engineering and enjoyed my career immensely." Susan and Jaber agree that "engineering sounds like a fascinating industry, with lots of variety and the opportunity to work on revolutionary products. We both like the sound of it!" David continues "After 9 ½ years working as an engineer, including 6 at Rolls Royce, Hucknall, I retrained to be a Chartered Accountant. I remember coming 4th out of almost 4000 students in the final exam, so owe a debt of gratitude to the High School for fostering my love of maths. I have no doubt that being 10 years older than many of the other students probably played a part too, though!"

Discussing school in general, David remembers "a History teacher would ask us to read a textbook chapter and then give us 30-question test on it the next day. I found this daunting and could never remember enough dates to pass; it was definitely something I was pleased to avoid later on and my A-level subject choice reflected this. In addition, having my father at school as Head of English meant I was always in the spotlight and often felt I couldn't meet his expectations. I had a twin brother who I also felt I had to compete with at every stage." Jaber agrees that parental expectations are high, with Farah and Susan nodding in agreement at this point. "We all understand how privileged we are to be at this school and want to make the most of the opportunity. But it's impossible to be high-achievers across every subject and at every point in the year. We all have 'off-days' too!" they agree.

David remembers the expectations continued into the weekend, with his mum sending him to Sunday school. "I would have no free day of the week" he says, as we also had Saturday school at this time. Susan joins in "I can relate to that, as on Saturdays I attend Chinese school and on Sundays I go to piano lessons and also tutor young children. I really enjoy these activities, but it does mean I particularly enjoy the holidays when they come around!"

In conclusion, David spoke of enjoying being able to support the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants ACCA for many years. "I wrote the audit exam papers for 17 years, which were taken by over 200,000 students. Sometimes you find your strengths later on in life as you are given different opportunities to explore. So my advice is to keep trying new things and always choose the subjects that make you happiest as you will make them work out for you in the end."

Dr Kiron Griffin (ON 2001-2008) talks to Kapil and Namit about studying science, mental health and the rise of technology



"I have really had some good memories of Nottingham High School and I still stay in touch with my old tutor, Mr Whitehead, who retired last year", said Kiron Griffin. "I particularly enjoyed the sciences in school and it led me to become interested in medicine. I am now a qualified psychiatrist and know that the High School enabled me to achieve this ambition". Like Kiron Griffin, both Namit and Kapil enjoy the sciences and are curious to explore the wide range of careers in the Healthcare sector. Kiron Griffin earned a scholarship to attend the school and says "I was very aware of the sacrifice my parents made to enable me to take up the opportunity and always felt I should live up to their expectations. I was of course hugely grateful to have the opportunity, but such advantages come with expectations too. I know many students today also feel this pressure and I certainly remember the importance that was placed on getting good results in exams." Both Kapil and Namit confirm "Yes, that aspect of school has definitely not changed since you were here! We both understand the importance of doing well in the exams in order to keep our future options open. There are lots of helpful resources to do with mindfulness and coping with stress, but you still feel the pressure despite this."

When Kiron was at school they were not allowed to use their mobile phones at all and there were only two computer rooms. "We also had to sign a contract that we were not allowed to play computer games" added Kiron Griffin. Namit says "Phones are much more integrated into our daily life at school, with all our notices and homework assignments being posted online. We wouldn't function without our phones!" Kapil adds "We are allowed to go on our phones during break and lunch times. We bring our own laptops in to school and most of our homework is done in a Google Classroom and sent to the teacher online for marking". These have only been regularly used since the pandemic, so Kiron can see how different school has become in a short space of time. Kiron notes that "When I was in year 9, in 2003, teachers started using laptops and projecting powerpoints on interactive whiteboards. This was high tech for us!" The structure of the day was also different when Kiron was at the High School. "We had 8 periods a day, each 30 minutes long with 3 breaks in between". Namit contrasts "Currently, we now have 5 lessons, 1 hour long, with 2 slightly larger breaks. I like the opportunity to do longer pieces of work, such as science practicals, and wonder if I'd feel rushed with just 30 minutes." Kiron says "Although I left fairly recently, the school has already altered in appearance and the delivery of the school day. It is interesting to hear the current pupils' experiences of the school."

Kiron concludes "My time at Nottingham High School set me up well for a career as a Doctor. Although exams in particular could be stressful, I am pleased to hear that the school has support mechanisms in place to promote resilience and wellbeing of its current pupils."

Meet the School's Fundraising Manager



Sam Ellis and
Kevin Fear,
Headmaster

Sam Ellis

I joined the Development Office almost two years ago as the School's first Fundraising Manager.

From its foundation to the present day, the School has championed social mobility for the bright children of Nottinghamshire and the surrounding counties, regardless of their families' ability to pay through the bursary programme.

Founded with one Legacy in 1513, Nottingham High School has been providing an outstanding education for over 500 years. Our history is built on benevolence, we are proud of our humble beginnings.

From the moment a student joins the School, their own journey begins through a house community inspired by philanthropy.

Our School Houses are named after four of our benefactors: **Mellers'**, named after the School's Founder, Dame Agnes Mellers

Cooper's, named after Frederick Cooper, an artist who in 1872 donated almost two acres (8,100 m²) of land to the School

Maples', named after Samuel Maples, a former pupil who bequeathed £3,000¹ to fund bursaries in 1882

White's, after Sir Thomas White who endowed a charity to provide interest-free loans to "young men of good name and thrift".



The School Charter dated 1513 sealed by
Henry VIII



Our own history is also clearly influenced by national history.

- Under the Direct Grant Scheme (1944-1979) a significant percentage of Nottingham High School students paid no fees at all.
- When this was replaced by The Government's Assisted Places Scheme (1979-1997) - one third of students received funding.

¹ A legacy of £3,000 in 1882 is the equivalent of around £400,000 in today's money.



Following the withdrawal of state funding, in 1997, the demographics changed. The School set up a bursary fund that today provides financial assistance to one in eight students, to varying degrees.

Since then, our support for bursaries has been complemented by income from the School's modest endowment fund, local trusts and foundations and a number of generous Old Nottinghamians. We are incredibly grateful for all gifts, large or small, now or in the future. The donations really do change lives.



Kamala Newton, Sam Ellis and Deborah Penney

Many of you will know Kamala and Deborah, we are a close-knit team, all of whom find our work incredibly rewarding. Our Alumni are at the very heart of what we do; getting to know each other better, sharing stories and memories, as well as sensing the warmth you feel towards your old school.

“

A sustainable Bursary Fund enriches the life of the School and ensures its continued growth and success

”

Nottingham High School has put social mobility on the map and thanks to our supporters continues to build a culture of diversity and inclusion as we prepare our students for life beyond school.

As well as fundraising for the Bursary Fund, the Development Team are responsible for Events – ON Dinners, ReuniONS, Charity Golf Day, reflectiONS (our oral history project), connectiONS (our soon to be launched monthly social), mentoring, work experience.



Sam Ellis at the School's Charity Golf Day

If you're interested in finding out more about our work and you can support your old school please contact me ellis.s@nottinghamhigh.co.uk

Donation Form



NOTTINGHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

Please complete and return to: The Development Office,
Nottingham High School, Waverley Mount, Nottingham, NG7 4ED

Full name:

Address:.....

e.mail.....

Designating your gift

I would like my gift to be allocated to: (please indicate)

- Bursary Fund
 Capital/Infrastructure
 Area of greatest need

Regular Gift by Direct Debit

I wish to make a Regular Gift and have completed the Direct Debit instruction overleaf.

£..... per month per quarter per year

(Please allow at least one month between the starting date for payments and the date you sign the Direct Debit instruction overleaf)

Additional information

- I would be happy for my name to be included in the Nottingham High School 'Roll of Honour'
 I would like my gift to remain anonymous
 I am interested in leaving a legacy to Nottingham High School. Please send me more information

Single Gift

- I enclose a cheque/CAF cheque or
£.....
Made payable to 'Nottingham High School'
 I am making a donation of £.....
by bank transfer.

Nottingham Smiths Bank,
16 South Parade, Nottingham NG12JX
Account Name: Nottingham High School
Sort Code: 56-00-61
Account Number: 45195781

giftaid it

If you are a UK taxpayer and choose to give using Gift Aid we can reclaim 25p for every £1 that you give, at no extra cost.

I would like Nottingham High School to treat this donation (and any other donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise) as a Gift Aid donation. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed: Date:.....



NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL



Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send it to:
Nottingham High School, Waverley Mount, Nottingham NG7 4ED

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to
pay by Direct Debit

**Bank and building societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions
for some types of account**

Name(s) of account holder(s)

.....
Bank/building society account number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Branch sort code

		-			-		
--	--	---	--	--	---	--	--

Name and full postal address of your bank or building society

To The Manager..... Bank/Building Society

Address

..... Postcode.....

Service User number

8	5	6	2	1	4
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Reference (office use only)

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Instruction to your bank or building society

Please pay Nottingham High School Direct Debits from the account in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Nottingham High School and, if so, details will be passed electronically

Signature(s)

Date.....

This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit, Nottingham High School will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request Nottingham High School to collect payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by Nottingham High School or your bank or building society you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society.
- If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when Nottingham High School ask you to.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.



Nottingham High School is a registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1104251)

Flying the flag



Edward with his award winning logo design for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Souvenirs printed with Edward's design were on sale in shops all around the country and the world. An astonishing achievement for such a young student at the start of his creative career.



Edward Roberts (ON 2012-2020)

Edward tells us how it felt to create the winning logo design for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the High School and met some lovely people whilst I was there. It may be rather obvious, but I would say I most enjoyed my time spent in the

Art Department. It was like a small community. There was a sense of freedom and license you were given at A-level which very much appealed to me. What I learnt there was invaluable, and I will always look back at my time there with fondness.

One of the best pieces of advice I could give someone, is to follow your ambitions. Before going onto study Graphic and Communication Design, I had never previously been taught it. It was at the start of A-level where I took a real interest in it, and I began to do small pieces of design work alongside my studies. So, one could say, I was fairly new to the area of creative study. But ultimately, that didn't put me off going onto study it at university. You have to have confidence in your own decision making.

Regarding university selection, as well as looking at what the course offers, I would consider the fact that you will be living in that area for some time, so make sure the location suits you.

It is a great honour to have been selected as the winner of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee emblem competition. I came across the competition when watching The One Show and I thought I might be able to add to it. When told I had made it into the top 100 entries, I was proud of what I had achieved in itself, so to go all the way means such a lot. It is lovely to see the emblem receiving such great feedback and I very much look forward to seeing it in action across the course of the Jubilee celebrations".



Where are you now?

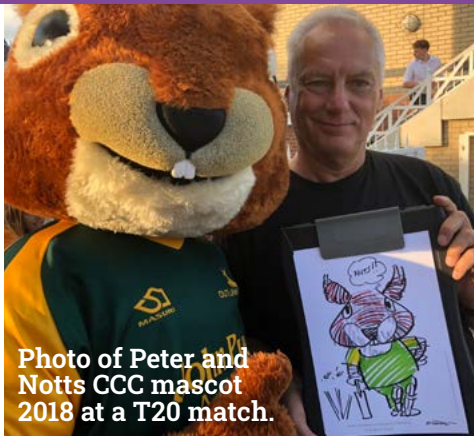


Photo of Peter and Notts CCC mascot 2018 at a T20 match.

Peter Dredge (ON 1964-1971) Cartoonist



Photo of Rt Hon Ken Clarke (ON 1951-1959) with commissioned cartoon from Ernst & Young to celebrate opening of new offices 1994.

When were you at Nottingham High School?

1964-71 Started out in Alan Leadbeater's Form 3L

What was your favourite subject at school?

Not surprisingly it was Art. Mr J.A.Foister was head of art when I joined and I remember the art room walls covered with finely executed pencil drawings and scenery from a school play production. The smell of poster paint still lingers in the memory. Later "From Giotto to Cézanne" was our history of art textbook and I remember adding silly captions to many of the paintings illustrating the book. An early sign of my anarchic cartooning humour!

Who was your favourite teacher?

Mr Terry-Satterford took over from Mr Foister after his retirement. He was the archetypal art teacher, bow-tied, kindly, slightly eccentric and laid back. It was always a joy to enter the art room and get stuck into whatever project we were set. The same could be said of my tutor group master, Mr Kettell (but not the bow-tie

bit). A quirky, restless ball of energy who always had the time for those under his wing.

What is your happiest memory from school?

I was never going to achieve the sporting heights of some of my contemporaries so 3rd XI cricket was the best I could have hoped for. I can clearly remember facing 1st XI captain **J.M. Darke's (ON 1964-1972)** medium fast bowling in a practise match at Valley Road and driving him imperiously through the covers for four. I didn't trouble the scorers much after that but the memory is forever etched in the achievements folder.

What non-academic activities were you involved in?

I remember going on a school skiing trip to Austria in, possibly, 1968...and breaking my ankle in two places on the second day on the nursery slopes!

I had to wait until we got back to Nottingham before having my leg put in plaster at Nottingham General. Missed about six weeks off school and as this was back in the dark ages before wif

computer connectivity. A.G. Harrison, who lived near to me at the time, couriered homework back and forth until I was fit to return.

I was also secretary of the Art Society and would have been chair of the Beer Appreciation Society had it been in existence back in those days!

Are you still in touch with any school friends?

After leaving in 1971 I kept in touch with a few friends but, regrettably, gradually lost touch as the years progressed. It was only about six years ago that I met up with **R.W.S.Whitby (ON 1963-1971)** again. Our better halves were work colleagues at Rosehill School in Nottingham. Then in late 2021 it emerged that a good friend of my sister was married to the brother of an old school friend and after a flurry of emails a mini-reunion has been arranged for just after Easter with half a dozen or so meeting up at The Embankment hostelry near Trent Bridge. Fifty+ years to catch up on.

Where are you now?

My wife Sharon and I now live in

Photo of 1970/71 football team. Peter is 4th from left, back row



Scarborough, North Yorkshire having moved from Nottingham in 2019.

What did you do after leaving the High School?

After leaving school I ended up at Trent Polytechnic. I had secured a place at Redruth College of Art but the local authority wouldn't award a grant so I was at Derby Art College for a short while until a place became available at Trent Poly.

How did you decide to become a cartoonist?

It came as no surprise to old school friends that I had become a cartoonist as the embryonic signs were there, having filled the pages of my green rough-book and the occasional unattended blackboard with cartoons and caricatures of the staff. Indeed, **Trevor Dann (ON 1963-1970)** remembered me when he was at Radio Nottingham and commissioned me to do some cartoons for his "Radio Nottingham-the First Ten Years" publication in 1978.

Once I had left Trent Poly with a Dip AD in Graphic Design I worked in a Leicestershire design studio before throwing myself in to the security-free zone of freelance cartooning. Did I learn nothing at the High School?? I sold some cartoons to Punch magazine in 1976 and became a regular contributor right up to its sad closure in 1992 (briefly relaunching in 1996 only to close again in 2002) and I have also been a regular contributor to Private Eye since 1977.

My work has appeared in many other publications including The Times, The Guardian, Church Times, The Spectator, Solicitors Journal and the Radio Times. I also wrote a few sketches for the BBC's

"Not The Nine O'Clock News" satire show in the late 70s.

Later with a number of other colleagues, we set up The College of Cartoon Art distance learning course in the 1990s.

Although well received by students and the profession it was not a commercial success (I must have dozed off during one of Stan Thompson's "Economies of scale" lectures back in the day!)

In 2001 I was approached by two local business people, Kate Fletcher and Jim Lee, who owned the Bar Wax in Hockley if I could help to organise a cartoon festival to help promote the Broad Street area. Along with fellow Nottingham cartoonists, John Clark and Justin Wyatt and with great support from The Broadway Cinema, Nottingham's Big Grin cartoon festival was born. It ran for three consecutive years and it was a great thrill for me to attract about thirty or forty cartoonists from all over the country to Nottingham. One of the exhibitions I curated was of "Just William" illustrator and Notts born artist Thomas Henry Fisher. This was held in St. Mary's Church in the Lace Market. Sadly, due to lack of funding and access issues (Broad Street wasn't the pedestrianised area it is today) the final festival was in 2004.

It was during these festivals that I first had a go at live caricaturing. I had only drawn from photos before so this was a scary experience drawing the public

face to face. There were some disasters along the way but I became more proficient and

this became an additional string to my bow working at weddings, conferences and student graduations. I could also be spotted at Trent Bridge Cricket Ground caricaturing in the family stand at T20 matches.

What is your greatest achievement?

Apart from never having had a 'proper' job, you mean?...

Professionally speaking, it was being asked to produce a couple of covers for Punch magazine in the 1980s. On a more personal level, it was being able to achieve a good work/life balance throughout my career, raising a couple of delightful daughters and keeping a roof over the family home despite many ups and financial downs.

What do you do in your spare time?

Hard to believe I'm approaching my 70th birthday and I am enjoying semi-retirement on the North Yorkshire coast, dog walking and my work has always been my hobby so still churning out cartoon material for Private Eye, The Spectator and a regular comment piece cartoon for The Church Times. We've all been living through some difficult times in recent months and having the innate ability to find humour in the darkest places helps keep me sane. Onwards!



Where are you now?



John Pearce (ON 1964-1974)

I was born 8th April 1940 in Wilford Nottingham and educated at various schools prior to going to Nottingham High School in 1953. I left in 1958 after one year in the sixth form. I enjoyed my time at School, I managed to pass 4 'O' levels and 3 'A0' subjects. I went through the Red and Green streams, made many friends at this level the majority, on leaving, remained in Nottingham to work.

I also obtained my First Colours for Rowing and Shooting.

22 | Nottingham High School | Summer

I carried on rowing on leaving school with the Nottingham & Union Rowing Club and I am still both a member and their President.

As a strong supporter of the Old Nottinghamians' Society I had the honour of being President 2015 & 2016.

The teachers who I admired were Sandy Powell, Babs Elliott, Joe Neville, (who taught me the sex habits of a Rabbit!), and a special thanks to Jack Mells, the woodwork teacher, I still use the Coffee Table I made.

I left school in 1958 and joined my father as an Articled Clerk. My father was a sole practitioner, he sadly died at the age of 54 in July 1965. I had not qualified but managed to pass the final exams in August 1965 and admitted November 1965. I became the Senior Partner at the age of 25, and obtained dispensation from the Law Society for the practice to continue, and remained in that position until I retired in 2006.

My brother, Michael who also attended Nottingham High from the Prep onwards, joined me in 1966. He left the Partnership in 1976 and went to the Bar. My main areas of law are Crime, Divorce and Licensing.

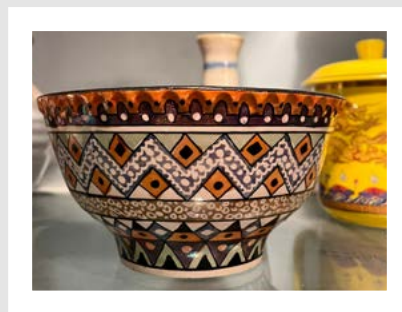
I was grateful of the Licensing Act 1964 which gave me a good

living, including other work in the leisure industry, acting for several Breweries and individuals. This was exciting work and enjoyable, I miss the theatre of the Courts.

In October 1964 I got married to Sara, we have 4 children 13 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Sara, my wife, keeps us all in order and is a tower of strength to me and all the family.

Apart from our great family my main interests are ceramic pottery, having my own equipment and workshop. I started this hobby in 2000 at Rufford and then at Welbeck. I had tuition from Rachel Wood a renowned international Potter.

I continue to enjoy wood work having my own pole lathe, painting and learning to play the accordion. I also have several vintage vehicles including a 1939 Fleetwood Limo V8, so I have plenty to keep me occupied!"



Where are you now?



Andy Palmer (ON 1987-1994)

Leaving school in 1994 I never expected that almost 30 years later Nottingham High School would continue to be a significant part of my life.

To anyone who asks, my experience of school is wholly positive. The sport, the music, the friendships, the love for learning (that may not have manifested itself in particularly good A-Levels!) all combined to deliver a very happy few years at Waverley Mount and formed the basis for much of what I've done since leaving the school.

Standing on the top of Tryfan remembering that the first time I did that was on adventurous training with the CCF, finishing a marathon and recalling the first time I felt that level of pain being at the end of one of Clem Lee's beasting of the 1st XV up and down the hill of the Forest, being interrogated by the Public Accounts Committee and digging into the reserves of quick thinking developed through the challenging and demanding way in which we were taught. Nottingham High School has always been there in the background.

Three years in Leeds studying Zoology then led to a career working in training and education where I have been fortunate enough to run some incredibly innovative companies in that sector. Always in my mind has been Mr Driver's assertion that I'd 'make a great teacher' and while I have never actually taught, my desire in work has always been that everyone, regardless of their stage of life, should

have access to quality education and training to make a positive change in their lives. My guide for the quality of that education or training is the quality of what I experienced in my time at Nottingham High School.

Over the years I have enjoyed visits back to school. Events such as the 500th Anniversary Celebrations, occasionally refereeing the 1st XV at Valley Road, joining in some working groups about the role of the alumni and the like have all been welcome opportunities to see the development of the estate, reacquaint myself with the staff and in some small way give something back to the school.

Having had two daughters I assumed that we would be looking elsewhere for their education so the announcement that the school was going to accept girls came as something of a surprise. Having watched the transition over a couple of years, and seen the ethos move from an all-boys school to one that truly embraced girls and boys, we moved our girls to the school five years ago and have enjoyed seeing them both thrive from the moment that they arrived.

While core elements of the school haven't changed – the buildings, the uniform, the demanding expectations of the pupils all remain – some aspects of the school are unrecognisable from the one I left in 1994. The pupils are confident, but not arrogant,



about their place in the city and the wider community and aware of their responsibility to other people. They have much greater opportunity to explore ideas and life choices that were not open to previous generations. They respect and embrace difference in a way that we never did. Maybe this just reflects changes in society over the last 30 years but it starker in an institution that, rightly, prides itself on its history and traditions.

It is a pleasure to accept invitations from the school to come in and meet the pupils for the various projects that they are doing. I would encourage any local (or not so local) ONs to do the same. Yes, there is the good feeling of giving something back to the school but invariably I leave those events having learnt something from the young people and feeling confident that the legacy of the staff and pupils that have gone before is safe in the hands of the current incumbents".



The Four Musketeers,

If you attended NHS in the 1950s, you may remember us: Parker, Pooley, Terry and Winfield. As an experiment, the School decided to move the four of us from the Prep School directly to the Third Form, 3L, thus jumping an entire year. You can see us in the photograph of Mr Horner's 1A1 class in 1955 – the last year the four of us were together.

Why did the School do it? After so long, our memories are dim and those who knew the answer have sadly passed, but we heard that the principal motive was to get us ahead of "The Bulge," because we – born late 1943 or early 1944 – were the advance guard of what are today known as the Baby Boomers, conceived soon after Stalingrad and El Alamein suggested that the Allies might, despite many initial setbacks, win World War II. Ten years later, the School feared



Mr Horner's 1A1 class photo from 1955. Upon rediscovering it sixty-seven years later, we tried to identify everyone: we apologize to those whose full name we cannot now recall.

Front Row (Left to right)

Roger Jarrett; Jeremy Thorndyke; Poole; David (?) Lee; Ian Douglas Morton; Anthony Lewis; Christopher Kent

Seated (Left to right)

Noel Geoffrey Parker; David Winfield; Mr Horner; Shaughan Terry; Robert Mardling

Back Row (Right to left)

Deane; Unknown; Skinner?; Russell Hardwick; Rowan; Peter Ulyatt; Richardson?; Stephen Maslen; Barrington; David Niven; Guy Gibson Pooley; Unknown; David Somekh (almost invisible) David Cheeseborough; Sainsbury

67 years on



that with so much competition, we would find it difficult to get into university and even more difficult to find jobs afterwards.

The School apparently underestimated the challenge of making up a full year's teaching, unaided. All of us had trouble with at least one subject (Maths, English composition, Latin), and since the School made no special arrangements to cover the work we had missed in Second Form our parents had to pay for extra tuition so we could catch up. Moreover, all of us became socially isolated. We had never functioned as a group; we lost touch with the friends we had made in Prep School; we found it hard to break into the established friendship groups in our new year. Some of us continued to experience difficulties in Fourth Form.

Two of us entered 4B, under the sympathetic care of the Rev. Charles ("Charlie") Stephens, who taught us trigonometry, photography and geography – as well as how to watch sunspots safely and how to locate Venus in the night sky, using the giant telescope that he wheeled out into the schoolyard. The other two went

into 4A, with a Form Master who seemed unable to understand why we were struggling and did nothing to help.

Jumping ahead didn't work out as planned either. After A levels, two of us were too young to get into medical school and had to mark time for a year; the other two won places at university in December 1961 but the school did nothing for us. Nor did anyone ever ask us how the "experiment" had worked out. We rejoice that NHS never repeated it.

On the positive side, beyond the terrific education NHS provided, the upheaval taught the four of us how to study on our own, how to think about what we learned, and how to persevere and never give up. In addition, the "down time" after we won our university places provided opportunities to experience the "real world" before we left Nottingham. For six months, one of us worked in Player's Tobacco Factory and another in Redgate's Mineral Water Bottling Factory (neither of them survives today, but it's not our fault. Honest!). These work experiences taught us not only in the value of money

but also why it's better to choose a career and activities that bring satisfaction rather than wealth. Eventually, all four of us became doctors – two PhDs and two medical doctors. Two of us stayed at the same University our whole career; the other two travelled the world so we could work at what we found most satisfying. We ended up as a Professor of History, in the USA; a Research Astrophysicist in Cambridge; the Head of the Department of Haematology at Sheffield (one of the two top Haematology Departments in the UK); and Clinical Professor of Medicine and Consultant Hepatogastroenterologist in Australia.

We would love to hear from other survivors who appear in the photo of Mr Horner's 1A1 class in 1955.

Noel Geoffrey Parker (ON 1953-1962)

Guy Pooley (ON 1952-1962)

Shaughan Terry (ON 1952-1962)

Dr David Winfield (ON 1954-1962)



Nottingham High School A Personal Memoir

Lesley Raynor (ON 1954-1964)

"It was with some trepidation that I arrived one morning in September 1954 at the gates of the NHS, unsure of what to expect, but certainly looking the part, with my new school blazer, cap and shorts, all purchased as required from D & P Outfitters on Friar Lane in Nottingham.

My mother had brought me to the Waverly Mount entrance on this my first day in a real school, having successfully passed the Entrance exam and being admitted to Hardy's House (House colour Green). There were 3 other Houses into which boys could be allocated – Trease (Red), Balls (Purple) and Tonkins (Grey). I was joining Form 1C2 under the guidance of Miss Martin and nerves apart, was excited to meet my new school friends, a few of whom would share the same Form/Class with me for the next 10 years! Miss Martin was very nice and whilst strict, very approachable if we had questions or any issues. She explained that the School badge consisted of 3 Merles (Blackbirds to you and me) and the School motto of "Lauda Finem" meant "Praise the End" which we took to mean the day we finally left school - "Hallelujah!". The Preparatory part of the School consisted of 3 years before proceeding into the Senior or Main School as we called it then.

There were 2 Forms in each year and I progressed to 1B2 (Form master W.H.C. Walker [Willie]) and thence to 1A1 under Mr Allen [Pop] who was also Headmaster of the Prep School. In the final year we had to sit the 11+ examination to get an

idea of scholastic achievement, prior to moving on to Senior/ Secondary Education. I was offered a Scholarship to Henry Mellish School in Nottingham, on the basis of my Exam result, but my Dad preferred me to stay at NHS, albeit fee-paying (Pds 40 per term in those days!). He was an Old Boy as were my two uncles on my mother's side, all from the 1930's and wanted the family to remain tied with NHS.

I duly joined the Main School in 1957. Hardy's House became Maple's. The other Houses also changed names – Trease – **White's**: Balls – **Cooper's**: Tonkins – **Mellers'**, colours remaining the same. Each House had a number of Tutors allied with them – I was allocated to Dr. C.N.Jackson [Cy] who was also the House Master of **Maples'**. Once a week we had a "Tutor Set" which was supposed to be an opportunity for the Tutor to guide us and mentor when needed. Am still not sure how effective these Tutor Sets were, but they gave an opportunity to have a chat with others in the same House but different school years.

My first Form was 2M with Mr Collander-Brown [Colly-B]. This year gave us an insight into what life would be like in the main School. Thence to 3L under Jeff Leach and on to Lower 4, with Jack Mells the Woodwork Master. Our Form room was the Woodwork laboratory – no desks only benches with gas outlets for Bunsen burners. Our books were kept in lockers which initially had doors but later the doors were removed as one of our class sought



LOWER 4TH 1960

REAR: L-R: Steve Siddall: Dave Pilsworth: Les Raynor: Jack Mells: Chris Aylett: Mick Rose

FRONT: L-R: Dave Milne: Dave Miles: John Page: Nick Hardwick: Bruce Pearce: Roger Carr: Paul Gledhill: Ian Macdonald: Alex Boyd (missing Bob Seaward)

fit to stick pictures of scantily clad ladies to the inside of the door. This was a great year, largely due to the group of 15 students but also to Jack Mells who went out of his way to make our school life as enjoyable as possible.

The school day was split by Morning Break, during which we had to go outdoors to get our 1/3pint of milk and visit the Tuck Shop if wanted. The meat paste buns and the sticky buns were the main attraction, although doughnuts were also on offer. Lunch (if you had bought dinner tickets in advance of course). was in the Dining Room which at the time was alongside the Tennis court that fronted Arboretum Street, (no longer there). My favourite dessert was Jam Roly-Poly with custard.

Afternoon school finished at 4.10pm unless you had Detention, in which case it was 5pm.

I think a major difference between then and now was Discipline and how it was applied. Many of the Masters/Teachers relied on the use of a Gym Shoe to whack the offender's bottom whilst bent over a chair. Having an "untidy" desk in Form 2M got you 1 whack, repeat offending got 2 or even 3

THE LIKELY LADS 1963

Back: Nigel Walker

Rear: (half hidden) : Les Raynor: Barry Hillier

Middle: Steve Siddall: John Lupton: Neal Fraser: Roger Carr: Ian Macdonald

Front: Dave Miles: Bob Seaward: Ian Tyler: Ian Russell: Bob Tew (now deceased)



if Mr Collander-Brown was feeling energetic. But worse far worse than the Gym Shoe, were the Prefects.

There were 2 catch-all school rules: From memory and having written them multiple times

Rule 12: "Conduct likely to bring discredit on the School at any time and any place is considered a Breach of Discipline"

What constituted a breach of discipline was left open to interpretation. Not wearing a cap if you were not in the 6th Form was considered a Breach!!

Rule 26: "The enforcement of rules of conduct is largely in the hands of the Prefects, who may, after due deliberation together, punish a boy for the breach of any of them. In every case, the right of appeal to the Headmaster is given".

At that time, the Prefects' Room was in the round Tower accessible via small staircase in the corner of the changing area on the 2nd Floor, above the Headmaster's and Secretaries office. If you look at the school skyline from Arboretum street you can just see this tower's roof.

Privileged 6th formers (now Deputies or House Prefects) noted the so-called offence in the "Book". Every Thursday morning, the Prefects held "Court" and an offender was fetched from Class to appear before the Court. Waiting at the bottom of that staircase was frightening enough for a 2nd or 3rd Former, but then having to stand in front of a "Courtroom" full of Prefects, all glaring at you, whilst trying to plead your innocence was in itself a major deterrent to repeat offending. The Prefects could

give Lines, Essays etc as punishment to be handed in by Friday lunchtime or in the worst cases they could give you 1- 3 beats with a Cane. Believe me, once received you never wanted a repeat performance!

As time passes, so habits and ideas change. Corporal punishment is no longer allowed, Gym Shoes have gone, the Prefects' Tower is there but without the prefects, by 1963 they had relocated to another room a floor above the Staff Room.

Looking back, was corporal punishment that bad? None of us enjoyed it, but we remembered it and it didn't do us any lasting harm, but of course we are not all the same and on balance, it is probably better that Corporal punishment is no longer an option.

After L4, I progressed to U4B2 with Dr. Thimann and then onto to L5B2 with Jimmy Sadler and then U5B2 with Eric Tarry. My French was not so bad and so, whilst in the U4ths, I participated in the Belgian Exchange and spent an interesting 3 weeks in Liege. My French certainly improved and in the L5th was able to sit GCE "O" level French a year early. Happily I passed and won The E.P.Gaskin prize for oral French as well.

Everyone remembers the U5th year as that of GCE "O" level. Those exams that some passed whilst others failed, requiring a re-sit. This year also directly influenced which 6th form we could enter to study for GCE "A" level. It was complicated as some subjects could not be studied together due to scheduling problems and some subjects like Spanish and

Italian could only be studied as an extra subject for Science 6th forms. I did another Belgian Exchange and enjoyed another 3 weeks in Liege with Claude Neven and his family. We also created "The Likely Lads" in 1963, a group of friends that still meet up whenever we can, Geography, Health etc, allowing . The first reunion was in 2006 and again in 2013 . Living in Sydney, Australia doesn't make these reunions any easier.

I graduated into 6 Economics with Stan Thompson, studying French, English and Economics, really because I couldn't get a fit with other subjects. Maybe this has changed now (some 57 years later). Happily, no more wearing of caps in the 6th Form. Myself, Ian Tyler and Ian Russell plus Alan Hopkins went off to Paris for Easter 1964 and to study French Literature at the Lycee Michelet in Vanves, a suburb of Paris. A great experience and well worth doing – my French improved as well!

On Wednesday afternoons, Bob Seaward was the Senior Naval cadet in The CCF, whilst I played the big drum in the CCF band. At least this activity helped me to avoid Army Drills.

I left School after 1 year of the 6th form, partly because my father wanted me in our family business along with my brother and A levels were not necessary and also because apart from French, I didn't enjoy the other subjects, that because of the curricula, I had to do.

So my High School days came to an end, but gave me many memories – too many for this memoir. In some ways I wish that girls were allowed into the 6th forms in those days like now, but then that would have interfered with daily trips to the Arboretum, just behind the wall to the Nottingham Girls H.S. But then, that's another story!!

Les Raynor



Dr Sharmini Krishanand

Governor Spotlight



I have enjoyed being a Governor at Nottingham High School for the past five years. My eldest son, Dilip (ON 2010 - 2021) left last year after spending eleven fulfilled years at the school. My daughter, Kashvi was one of the first girls to join Year 7 in 2016 and my youngest son Kapil was fortunate enough to start at Lovell House in 2011.

I am often questioned on what does a Governor really do? I usually reply that 'We assist the school in the implementation of its vision as well as review the updated protocols and policies and check they are being adhered to'. I usually get a yawn to this response, but being a Governor is far more interesting than my reply!

We have various committees for different subjects, and I sit on the School Committee which focuses on the children, their education and

safety. It's such an interesting area to be involved in. I enjoy reading the reports on these matters and find my questions are answered honestly and succinctly. I am also Safeguarding Governor for the Infant & Junior School, which complements my day job, as a General Practitioner.

I also attend Full Governor's Meetings which entails all the committees and covers matters on the whole depth and breadth of the school.

Being a Governor is not just about attending meetings and fulfilling roles, it's also about getting involved. I was involved with the mass testing during Covid which enabled me to experience the camaraderie between the staff, pupils, and teachers. We are invited into the school for classroom visits. This has been a lovely experience with a wide variety of subjects being witnessed, from Chemistry fume cupboard experiments, listening to orchestra practice, observing Art Class to solving Maths equations! We then really get to feel like pupils again when we sit down for lunch in the Dining Room with our School Dinner.....and I always choose the Jam Roly Poly and custard!

The most fortunate aspect of being a Governor and a Parent is that I get to enjoy the most amazing Theatrical and Musical Performances. In fact, I often feel that I've been to the 'West End' after a school performance! The talent of the pupils is phenomenal, and it is nurtured so well at Nottingham High School.

Attending the beautiful Carol Service at the St Mary's Church truly marks the start of Christmas. We also commemorate Founders Day Service at the same church with a truly poignant service.

I've enjoyed my first five years as a Governor at Nottingham High School and look forward to the exciting projects and challenges my next five years as a Governor entail.

ReflectiONs on collecting books



Geoffrey Bond Bibliomaniac

"Young people of today seem to be growing up with technology, whilst I grew up with books and I think I was very fortunate to do so. I read voraciously from my earliest days: I had a grandfather who collected books and I spent many happy days in his small library. Rather like the poet Byron's comments recalling his days at Harrow School "the truth is that I read eating, read in bed, read when no one else read and had all sorts of reading since I was five years old ". It was not only that I enjoyed reading books, but I loved the tactility and the aroma of my grandfather's leather-bound antiquarian volumes, so perhaps I became a 'bibliomaniac' at that time. I developed an urge to collect and

happily, in my younger days second-hand book shops were much more common than today, particularly antiquarian book shops. As a young man in my late teens on visiting London in the Charing Cross area, I could visit at least ten antiquarian book dealers. Most have now disappeared. I am often asked why I collect because I collect things other than books, for example, 18th Century Derby porcelain. I think the answer has to be because I can't help it! The genus collectanea has done much for the world: many of our great museum collections were donated by collectors. I have not collected to make money, and agree with what one famous collector said, "think nothing about value; still less about fashion; buy what you love, pay the price that things are worth to you and you alone." As it happens, some of the books I have bought, first editions, many years ago now have increased considerably in value, but in many ways that is ancillary to the love of collecting books.

Susan Pearce wrote an erudite work published in 1995, entitled "On Collecting: An Investigation into Collecting in the European Tradition ". Pearce records that the accumulation of the material is a standard human preoccupation here, as elsewhere, our relationship with this world's goods is one of the major themes of European 19th-century fiction in general as it was of 19th-

century society. For example, in Balzac's Cousin Pons and, in the 20th Century, Bruce Chatwin's Utz. Utz was an owner of a spectacular collection of Meissen porcelain and obsessive about it, spending hours in museums looking at porcelain: "What " Utz's mother asked the family's physician, " is this mania of Caspar's for porcelain?". "A perversion," he answered. I have never considered my collecting of porcelain to be a perversion! I prefer a definition written by Walter Benjamin, in the Arcades Project (1927- 40) where he said, "the most deeply hidden motive of the person who collects can be described this way: he takes up the struggle against its dispersion".

The one thing I hate contemplating is getting rid of any of my books, I feel comforted by them, I enjoy looking at them and certainly reading them. Why should a first edition, first issue of a volume of say Byron's poems be any different from a 21st-century copy of the same work? It's a difficult question to answer. The fact is that it is extremely enjoyable to read Byron's poetry in a book printed at the genesis of the work.

So I recommend collecting books, do try it."

Geoffrey Bond OBE,DL,FSA.
Chair of Trustees - The Chizel Educational Trust, a supporter of Nottingham High School
Go to [geoffreybond books for more information.](#)





Gallery

Some popular views of school you will remember well



In Memoriam



It is with great sadness that we note the passing of the following members of the Nottingham High School Community

Mr Arthur Barlow (ON 1944-1952)
Mr Peter Christian (ON 1942-1949)
Mr Richard Davy (ON 1946-1954)
Mr Paul Derbyshire (ON 1990-1997)
Mr Arnold Digva (ON 2003-2010)
Mr Bryan Ford (ON 1942-1949)
Mr Hugh Hamilton (ON 1947-1951)
Mr Robert Hatfield (ON 1941-1947)
Dr Mark Howard (ON 1981-1991)
Mr Nick Johnson (ON 1965-1972)
Mr Edward Lockwood (ON 1946-1955)
Mr John Napier (ON 1944-1949)
Mr David Revill (ON 1945-1956)
Dr Kenneth Shelton (ON 1952-1959)





Class of 2022

Welcome to the Old Nottinghamians' community

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For more information about our work, please visit our website or contact the team.

0115 8452285 | development@nottinghamhigh.co.uk | oldnottinghamians.co.uk