



# The New Stocktonian



**2001-2002**



# A **S**TEP IN **T**HE **R**IGHT **D**IR **E**CTION

STRIDE ENVIRONMENTAL

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY

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*"A big step leaving a light footprint"*

# THE NEW STOCKTONIAN

2001 - 2002

## OLD STOCKTONIANS ASSOCIATION

(Founded by Evan Baldwin 24th January 1913)

An Association of Former Pupils of Stockton Sixth Form College and the Grangefield Grammar Schools, formerly known as Stockton Secondary School, and originally as Stockton Higher Grade School: and also to the Former Pupils of the Grangefield School and of the former Sheraton-Grange and the Grange Schools.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION £1.50

(Advance subscriptions for two, five or ten years would be welcomed!)

Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed and made payable to;

**'Old Stocktonians' Association'**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2002 already! My goodness how time flies! Is it just me or is it the older I get, the faster time seems to zoom along. Anyway, may I wish you all a Happy and prosperous New Year.

You will (no doubt) be expecting me to launch the now (traditional) President's message regarding the precarious state of the Committee. Suffice it to say that in 2001 we were obliged to amend the Association Rules to reduce the number of members needed to make the Committee quorate.

The year of 2001 saw the Committee decide to launch an appeal in this edition of The New Stocktonian for donations to The Gordon Rattenbury Fund. I am sure that, like me, there are many of you who remember Gordon with great affection. For those of you who do not know, the Prize fund is used to donate prizes for the Grangefield Annual Prizegiving Event.

The Association was very fortunate to receive a donation of £1000 from a former pupil - a Mr. Paul Dee. I had the pleasure of meeting Paul last summer and he mentioned that many people in the United States (where he spent some of his working life) supported their former place of learning with monetary donations. Perhaps we should inaugurate something similar over here in England???

As Dinner Secretary, may I take this opportunity to draw your attention to our Annual Dinner, which takes place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April at the Swallow Hotel in Stockton. We look forward to seeing you and your contemporaries there. Before I close, I would like to express my gratitude to The Committee and Office Bearers for all their help and support and the Stockton Sixth Form College who provide facilities for our meetings.

My very best wishes to you all.

**Roz Prichard**

## COLLEGE NEWS

2001 was expected to be a very busy and challenging year, with students completing the first year of the new Curriculum 2000 Advanced Level programme and also the implementation of the second phase of the refurbishment and building programme. In addition, on 1 April 2001, the Learning and Skills Council took over from the FEFC as the body responsible for funding the college, with extensive powers to plan provision across further education and training.

On the academic front, staff faced the challenge of preparing the September 2000 intake for the new GCE AS Levels and Key Skills qualifications, often with minimal guidance from the examination boards, whilst also ensuring that students on the second year of the old GCE Advanced Levels maintained the very high pass rates which have been achieved in recent years. I am pleased to report that they succeeded admirably on both grounds.

Students settled in to a new pattern of programme of study of 4 AS Levels in their first year and there has been a significant improvement in retention, with an increase in the number of students remaining at college until the end of the summer term. The summer 2001 AS examination results exceeded or equalled the national average in most subjects. As expected, students took advantage of the flexibility offered by Curriculum 2000 to adjust their programmes of Advanced Level study in their second year: some continuing with 3 or 4 Advanced Level subjects and others switching to new AS Levels as they focused their career plans and ambitions for entry to university.

The second year Advanced Level year group achieved a pass rate which matched the summer 2000 results — which were the best ever for the college. The college was highly ranked in the national 'League Tables' and the Times Newspaper placed us 36<sup>th</sup> equal out of the 400+ sixth form and further education colleges in England and Wales. For the third year in succession the college also gained the distinction of being in the top 25% of colleges for "value-added" at GCE Advanced Level, with the majority of students achieving results which were well above those which would normally be expected, on the basis of the GCSE results achieved at school.

These excellent examination results have been achieved at a time when there is growing concern in the media about the demands which academic study is placing upon young people in sixth forms, and there have been some well publicised reports of students not being able to cope with the burden of work involved in the new Curriculum 2000 AS and Key Skills qualifications.

Stockton students, however, are made of stronger stuff and not only achieve very well by national standards in public examinations, but also participate in a very wide range of college activities. Many also have substantial part-time jobs and all enjoy a very busy and active private and social life. It is certainly not the case that the changes in the examination system have prevented students from participating in sports and games, nor have they detracted from the college's continuing sporting success at regional and national level.

In previous years, we have picked up several trophies, but in 2001 we picked up a succession of near misses! Our Hockey teams won their way to a hat trick of finals. The girls finished joint first in the British Colleges' National Finals in Somerset. The boys team, who won the cup in 2000, were runners up in 2001, whilst the mixed team came second in the U-19 Knock-Out Cup in Bedford. The boys hockey team have already qualified for the British Colleges' Hockey finals for 2002 beating off strong competition from teams as far afield as York and Huddersfield.

Continuing the run of near misses in 2001, the Netball team came second in the Cleveland U-19 Tournament and third in the Gill Bainbridge Memorial Trophy, which attracts entries from Yorkshire and Cleveland. The team has also reached the British Colleges' Finals, which will be held in Swansea in 2002.

The Rugby team had an outstanding season in 2001. They were the first sixth form college to make it to the first British Colleges' Final, but narrowly lost out to Swansea College. However, the winning streak is continuing in the 2001/02 season, with the team having already won the final of

the British Colleges' (North East Division) Rugby Sevens Tournament. They will now represent the North East in the National Finals which will, once again, take place in Swansea in 2002.

Two individuals have won representative honours. Steven Jones has represented the England Rugby team at under-19 level and has played two international games. Jonathan Austen has been selected to play for the England Colleges' team against the Welsh Colleges.

There have also been some other notable individual successes. Gareth John has been selected to play for the England U-17 badminton squad. Zoe Bayne and Kim Naylor travelled to Holland to represent Britain in the National Colleges' U-19 Hockey Team. Special congratulations go to Sophie Dewell who won the first ever British under 20s Women's Decathlon. Sophie trains four times a week at Gateshead Stadium and still managed to pass AS Levels in ICT, Sport, Psychology and Geography in June 2001.

The second phase of the building project was undertaken during the summer holiday and required very careful planning within a tight schedule. It involved moving the main office into the old student common room, thus freeing up the space for use by students as a social area. The construction of four large classrooms involved the closure of the Business Studies block at the end of May. The building work had to be undertaken without any disruption to examinations, or visits to the college by prospective students. Teaching continued until the end of the summer term and the work had to be completed and new furniture, computer equipment etc. installed in time for the start of the new academic year in September.

Work commenced on time and progress throughout June and July was encouraging. We then received the bad news that the manufacturer of the metal windows for the new classrooms could not guarantee delivery in time for the work to be completed by the start of the new academic year. We were fortunate that our architects responded quickly with a change in design from steel to aluminium windows and the contractors managed to secure delivery in late August so enabling the overall project to be completed "just in time" for the start of the term.

The two-year building project has been very worthwhile and the college now has an attractive general office and reception area. Students have a unified catering and social area and the four additional classrooms have enabled us to establish two additional ICT rooms elsewhere in the college. The summer vacation also saw a further extension of the PC network and we now have over 230 machines, which gives a ratio of 1 workstation for every 3½ day time students.

We were able to anticipate and plan ahead for most of the challenges which faced us in 2001, but we did not expect one further test in the form of a full college inspection. The college had received a very favourable Report from the FEFC Inspection in February 2000 and another full inspection was not expected for a number of years. However, following the abolition of the FEFC, Ofsted (the Schools' Inspectorate) has been given responsibility for the inspection of sixth form and further education colleges. The Department of Education decided that Ofsted should give priority to the inspection of colleges in areas such as Stockton-on-Tees, where 11-16 schools are receiving large amounts of additional funding in order to improve achievement at GCSE and encourage more young people to stay on at college and proceed to university.

The infamous "brown envelope" informing us that we would receive a full inspection in October 2001 arrived at the college in June, right in the middle of phase 2 of the building programme, and at a time when we were busy preparing for the start of the new academic year. The inspection required a considerable amount of preparatory work, including the 2001 statistics on student numbers, retentions and examination performance, all of which we usually compile in October and November, but which Ofsted required by the end of August.

A team of 14 inspectors visited the college for a full week and observed over 150 lessons and tutorials. They gave us a very good report, identifying as key strengths: the high pass rates at A-Level, with pupils performing better than expected in view of their GCSE scores; the supportive ethos of the college; effective teaching and efficient financial management. There were inevitably

a few criticisms most of which we had already identified and are being addressed, including some continuing deficiencies in accommodation and the need to improve the performance of some students who come to us to re-sit GCSE programmes. The inspectors gave the college a clean bill of health and judged that we provide good value for money for the community. We were also told that we would not be inspected for another four years - unless Government policy changes!

Carl Hansen, who has played a key role in the development of multimedia within the college's ICT courses and started the construction of the college web site, left the teaching staff in the summer in order to take up the post of Head of Faculty of Business, Computing and IT at Widnes Sixth Form College. We wish him every success in what is a well-earned and very challenging promotion. We have been fortunate to secure David Tarn, from South Tyneside College, who joined the ICT Department and has special responsibility for the continuing development of multimedia and the college web site.

Alan Mills finally retired from the teaching of Design Technology at the college at the end of the summer term. Alan stepped down from a full-time teaching post some years ago, but continued to teach on the A-Level programme, encouraging and supporting students to produce some outstanding project work and achieve consistently excellent examination results. Kate Brown assumed full responsibility for the Advanced Level Design Technology course in September 2001.

The start of the autumn term saw a further expansion in the teaching staff in order to meet the needs of the new AS and A-Level examinations. Media Studies continues to grow in popularity and Sean Offord has joined us from the south of England with responsibility for the teaching of their subject. Plans are already well advanced for more practically based Media Studies A-Level courses from September 2002, with a major emphasis upon video, recording and editing.

For many years there has been very little interest in GCE Advanced Level Music and it has not featured in our curriculum portfolio - although we have continued to offer instrumental music lessons to our full-time 16-19 year old students. The new AS Level one-year course has stimulated a renewed interest in the subject and we were very pleased to re-introduce Music into the curriculum from September 2002. We have been very lucky to secure the services of Geoff Palmer, a talented musician and composer, to teach the course. Student numbers look set to grow and we hope the subject will become firmly re-established at A-Level in September 2002.

We have also been working very closely with the Tees Valley Music Service in the introduction of leisure courses and were able to persuade Vicki Boolaky, who is currently Musical Director for the Levendale singers in Yarm, to offer a novel course: "Find Your Voice", which has been designed to attract adults who have not had the confidence to participate with others in singing. The course has been extremely popular and we have been able to double the numbers of adults on singing courses for adults during the 2001-2002 academic year. We are now working on plans for additional courses as part of an expanded programme for adults, which we hope to introduce in September.

Staff and students have responded magnificently to the challenges and tests of a very busy year. The college is in a very strong financial position and is able to continue to invest its building and teaching resources. It is highly regarded in the community and beyond and is well placed to continue to offer quality education with high standards of achievement to young people and also for adults on part-time courses.

Students, Staff and Governors join with me in sending you our best wishes for 2002.

**Howard R. Clarke**

## COLLEGE ACTIVITIES 2001/2

### Art

March 00/01

London trip by staff and 14 students to: Tate National Portrait Gallery.  
7 students visited New York with the Geography, and Leisure & Tourism Dept.  
14 AS Art students to CCAD Foundation course.

June 00/01

Art exhibition of students' work took on two separate evenings, 14 and 15 June, and the afternoon of 16 June.

December 01/02

Staff and 5/6 students attended Design Discovery Day at Teesside University to experience illustration/graphics/computer-aided design.

March 01/02

London trip by staff and 17 students to: Tate/National/Portrait Gallery.  
4 students to visit New York with the Geography and Leisure & Tourism Dept.

### Biology

January 00/01

2 speakers came in to College to talk to students on:  
(i) Health Education - discussing methods of health promotion.  
(ii) Glaucoma - talking about glaucoma campaign.

Later in the term a speaker came in to college to demonstrate genetic fingerprinting, in a forensic context 'who killed Kenny?'

July 00/01

Students attended fieldwork at Robin Hood's Bay.  
Staff and students attended Durham Science Project Week.  
Speaker from Durham University, Stockton Campus came in to college to talk about problems with research on 'sudden infant death syndrome'.

December 01/02

Presentation by a member of staff and 2 students on this year's NEAP project to INCA.

January 01/02

Presentation to Industrial Environmentalists.  
Visit to Northumbria University for a forensics day.  
Students participated in Biology competition for practical analysis organised by Nuffield Foundation.  
Talk by Dr Jan de Ruiter, University of Durham, on evolution of sexual behaviour.

### Business Studies & Economics

March 00/01

20 Business and Economics students took part in the Humanities trip to London. This included a visit to the Bank of England, T.U.C. and a 'workshop at the Advertising Standards Authority.

April 00/01

Visit to Hollywood Bowl.

May 00/01

50 students and staff attended a Business Studies AS revision conference at the Civic Hall, Newcastle.

July 00/01

20+ students and staff attended Understanding Industry conference at Teesside University.

March 01/02

20 Business and Economics students took part in annual three-day visit to London. This included a visit to the Bank of England, Houses of Parliament and the Advertising Standards Authority.

### Careers

January - ongoing

Work placement took place at businesses, hospitals and schools.

February 00/01

Nursing talk at College by Admissions Tutor from Teesside University School of Nursing.

May/July 00/01

Student visits to Leeds, Newcastle, Northumbria, Durham (Stockton Campus), Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Work Experience -

Students have undertaken work experience at: solicitors, hospitals, schools, accountants pharmacies and hospitals.

Autumn Term 01/02

22 Health and Social Care Advanced students undertook work experience. The venues included: nursing homes, Salvation Army and Safeway Crèche, primary/infant schools and school nurseries and hospitals.

October to December 01/02

Work placements were arranged this term for 40 ICT AVCE students.

January - ongoing 01/02

Work placements took place at businesses, nursing homes, hospitals and schools.

### Chemistry

January 00/01

Forensic Science Day at the University of Northumbria.

## **Computing**

July 00/01

Students attended North East Schools Industry Project Week. Lisa Monkhouse and Matthew Brooke designed an intranet for British Energy on environmental issues.

## **Design Technology**

March 00/01

Staff and students attended a conference at the University of Northumbria on everyday technology 'Science Alive 2001'.

October 01/02

9 A2 students attended 'Design Discovery Day' at Teesside University.

## **English/Media Studies/**

### **Theatre Studies**

January 00/01

Students visited the National Museum of Photography, Film and TV at Bradford. A study day for AS Media Studies students on film analysis - audience and institution. London trip by Media Studies staff and students. This included a visit to: IMAX Cinema, BBC Experience, British Board of Film Classification, Parkinson Show. Theatre Studies students to Arc to National Theatre's version of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

A2 and AS Theatre Studies students visited the "Theatre Upstairs" Billingham to see 'Translations' by Brian Friel performed by Billingham Players.

16 A level Literature students attended Chaucer's 'Wife of Bath' performance at Darlington's Arts Centre.

A2/AS Theatre Studies students visited the Newcastle Playhouse to see '1984' performed by Northern Stage Ensemble.

April 00/01

Theatre Studies students visited the Arc to see 'The House of Pootsie Plunkett' performed by Catalyst Theatre.

November 01/02

Theatre Studies students attended the Arc to see 'Look Back in Anger'

People's Theatre production of 'Oh What a Lovely War' in Newcastle attended by AS and A2 Drama and Theatre Studies and A2 Literature.

RSC production of Twelfth Night in Newcastle attended by AS Literature students.

A2 Drama and Theatre Studies students attended Manchester Exchange Theatre to see 'Hedda Gabler'.

March 01/02

AS Theatre Studies students may be visiting Billingham Forum Theatre to see "Bouncers".

Media Studies students to see Lord of the Rings.

20 Media Studies students took part in annual three-day visit to London.

## **Geography, Leisure &**

### **Tourism**

March 00/01

A2 Year Geography/Leisure & Tourism students on educational visit to New York. AS Geography field trip to the Lake District.

At the end of last term 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Advanced Leisure & Tourism students raised £625.82 for the Butterwick Hospice Charity.

April 00/01

GNVQ Leisure & Tourism students visited David Lloyd Centre in order to look at marketing and promotion for the external unit.

November 01/02

GNVQ Travel & Tourism students visited National Railway Museum, York. GNVQ students visited World Travel Fair at Earls Court, London.

March 01/02

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Geography/Leisure & Tourism students on educational visit to New York. AS Geography field work took place in Stockton and Gateshead.

## **Geology**

April 00/01

A2 fieldwork took place at Tynemouth, Shap Fell, and Ingleton.

March 01/02

A2 fieldwork took place at Teesdale.

## **History**

October-December

01/02

Holocaust Educational Trust: 'Lessons from Auschwitz - one day visit to

Auschwitz - Birkenau and 2 one-day seminars in London - attended by 2 students.



## Modern Languages

February 00/01

Study visit for A2/AS Spanish students to Avila, near Madrid. This included a visit to the University of Salamanca and a visit to Madrid.

March 00/01

Hosted students from Strasbourg. The students undertook work-shadowing at various placements.

July 00/01

Hosted Spanish students from Avila - in College and outside visits.  
Study visit for students of German to Troisdorf.

November 01/02

Travel and Tourism visit to Barcelona (staying in Santa Susana).  
Student visit to Strasbourg to the Lycée International des Pontonniers for the annual French work-shadowing experience. 3 (out of 4) students took part from SSFC. The exchange is run together with St Mary's Sixth Form College and Prior Pursglove Sixth Form College.

February 01/02

Hosted students from Strasbourg. The students undertook work-shadowing at various placements.

March 01/02

8 SSFC students went to Troisdorf, Germany with Cleveland Exchange (Prior Pursglove College).

## Physics

October 01/02

6 students from Physics and Design Technology attended the construction industry event at Hartlepool College of Further Education. The team won the design competition set by the Construction Industry Training Board.

## Religious Studies

March 00/01

Trip to London by RS students. During their stay they visited Regents Park Mosque, a temple, the IMAX Cinema, Parliament, London Eye.

March 01/02

Trip to London by RS students. During their stay they visited the Central Mosque and Hindu Temple.

## Social Studies

March 00/01

Trip to London by Social Studies students. They visited Harrow Public School, Bow Street Magistrates, Houses of Parliament, IMAX Cinema & London Eye.

April 00/01

Fire Brigade Talk to Health & Social Care students. RNIB Talk to Health & Social Care students.

Arrangements were made for Wendy Shepherd, organiser of the Barnardos project working with young prostitutes in Middlesbrough, to come into college to talk to A2 Sociology students about the research work undertaken by Barnardos (for A-Level Sociology research module).

March 01/02

Trip to London by Social Studies students. They visited Harrow Public School, Bow Street Magistrates, Houses of Parliament, IMAX Cinema & London Eye.

## Vocational (not included in above)

March 00/01

All Health and Social Care students took part in a 'Blind Bowl' bowling competition to raise funds for the RNIB. This was held at Hollywood Bowl, Teesside Park.

November/December 01/02

Students attended the Grange Day Centre at various times to carry out planned activities with the members as part of their Unit 22.

December 01/02

A2 Health and Social Care students helped at the Grange Day Centre for the Elderly Christmas Party.

## Sports Studies

### Football

00/01 season

#### 'A' Team

The team progressed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the British Colleges' Cup (furthest ever), beating South Tyneside and Wilberforce Colleges before losing narrowly to New College Durham 2-1.

League results: the Team lost 4-3 to St Mary's, drew 0-0 with Q.E. and won 4-2 against Hartlepool FE.

### 'B' Team

League results: the Team drew 2-2 with Darlington Q.E. and played Teesside Tertiary before half-term.

### 'C' Team

League results: the Team lost 5-3 to Middlesbrough B Academy, beat SBTC 'A' 9-2, drew 4-4 with Q.E. 'C' and drew 5-5 with Teesside Tertiary 'C'.

### **Overall summary for the season**

- ◆ No league success this year.
- ◆ The 'A' team reached the semi-final of the County Cup.
- ◆ The 'A' team beat the 'B' team in the county cup early round
- ◆ The 'C' team were knocked out of the Eric Bell trophy by a 'very strong' Middlesbrough College

### **01/02 season**

#### 'A' Team

Autumn Term The 'A' Team has, so far, beaten Bede 2-1 and St Mary's 4-1 and lost 4-0 to Middlesbrough in the league.  
Won 2-0 against Bede in the County Cup.

Spring Term Lost 3-0 to Teesside Tertiary in the British Colleges' Cup 3<sup>rd</sup> Round, beat Hartlepool Sixth Form College 2-0 and lost 2-0 to Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College. They play against Hartlepool FE College later this term.  
Play against St Mary's 'A' team in the County Cup later this term.

#### 'B' Team

Autumn Term The 'B' Team has made a successful start to the league this term, with victories over Darlington QE (1-0), Stockton & Billingham College (4-1) and St Mary's SFC (3-1).  
They also played a friendly with Stockton 'C' Team, winning 3-0.

Spring Term League results: Lost 0-5 to Middlesbrough College 'B' team and 2-5 against Hartlepool Sixth Form College 'A' team in the County Cup.

#### 'C' Team

Autumn Term The 'C' Team only played two games this term both against Darlington QE winning 4-2 and 12-1.

Spring Term League results: Lost 7-2 against Teesside Tertiary College.  
The team won in a friendly 10-0 against Stockton and Billingham College.

### **Rugby**

#### **00/01 season**

The rugby team was beaten by Hayley Bridge 43-7 in the North of England Trials and played a friendly with Darlington Q.E. before half-term.

- ◆ The team entered the ECS Regional 7-a-side event early in the year, losing in the finals to Teesside Tertiary.
- ◆ They beat Richmond-on-Thames in the semi-final of the BCS K.O Cup and play a Welsh team in the final on Wednesday, 9 May.

#### **01/02 season**

Autumn Term The College Rugby team played 3 fixtures this term and won them all, including beating Merion Dwyer (North Wales) in the first round of the British Colleges' Cup

They played in the British Colleges' Rugby Sevens NE Division and went through to the final, which will be held in Wales, in April.

Spring Term The team is having another very successful season. They have not lost a match so far and have won the British Colleges' (NE) Rugby Sevens Cup. They have also reached the quarter-final of the British Colleges' Rugby Cup.  
Steven Jones has represented England at under 19 level and, to date, has played two international matches.  
Jonathan Austen has been selected for the English Colleges' Rugby squad and will play an international game in March

**Girls Hockey**  
**00/01 season**

The team progressed to the national quarter final of the British College's Knock-out Cup, played Preston College on 14 February, but unfortunately were beaten.

The team lost only two games since September, playing matches almost every week - losing to Greenhead College, Huddersfield in the North Semi-final of the Monarch Cup and also losing a friendly to Scarborough Independent College.

- ◆ The team won the regional round of BCS to qualify for National Finals in Somerset. They played seven games and won 4, drew 1 and lost 2 to finish joint first with SEEVIC College, but lost on the 'strange' count-back system to finish runners-up. This completed a hat-tick of runners-up positions in the national finals in different competitions.
- ◆ They lost in the quarter final to Huddersfield in the Sixth Form Colleges and Tertiary Colleges K.O. Cup.
- ◆ Zoe Bayne and Kim Naylor have been selected for the British Colleges national team. Their final matches will take place in a tournament in Holland in early May.
- ◆ The teams were sponsored with some kit by Hippo Sports from Berkhamstead, Herts.

**01/02 season**  
**Autumn Term**

Brado Cup

The Team beat York in the first round but lost to Greenhead in the second round.

British Colleges Knock Out Cup

The team played Sunderland in early December.

British Colleges Regional Qualifying Tournament (organised by Stockton SFC).

Despite the fact that the team did not lose a game (6 in all) they failed to progress to the national finals by 1 goal difference from York College (SSFC had previously beat York College 6-0 in a full match). The girls were very disappointed that they did not make their 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive appearance at the finals, especially as they only lost the national title last year by 1 goal.

British Aerospace Competition

The team played at Leeds on 17 November and came third in the finals.

BSC National Squad

4 students attended the trials in Cannock on 19 November and Kim Naylor was selected.

**Spring Term**

The team played friendly matches in January. They lost 2-1 against Ridge Danyers in the Cup game.

**Boys Hockey**  
**00/01 season**  
**Spring Term**

The team remained dominant and performed very well in the cup finals in Bedford before Christmas. They came up against Lewes College, Sussex in the semi-final and played brilliant hockey - but unfortunately lost in a penalty shoot-out after a 1-1 result at full time.

A series of friendly matches were played to keep the side working towards the British College Finals in April. These matches included R.G.S. Newcastle, Durham University and Scarborough College.

- ◆ The team won the regional round of BCS to qualify for the National Finals in Somerset. They played 7 games in the finals, won 2, drew 4 and lost 1. They came fourth in what was a very closely contested event, with very little separating the teams in terms of points.
- ◆ The team won early rounds of the Sixth Form Colleges and Tertiary Colleges K.O Cup. They played against High Pavement College, Nottingham in the quarter final. They beat Nelson & Colne in the semi-final to play Worcester in the final, losing 4-1.
- ◆ Andrew Fletcher has been selected to play for the North East of England U19 and 21s.

**01/02 season**

Autumn Term

The Boys Hockey team got through to the finals of the Sixth Form and Tertiary Colleges' Men's Hockey Cup for England and Wales and these took place on 5th December at Bedford where the team were runners-up.

The team won the North East round of the British Colleges Men's Hockey competition. They now go through to the national finals at Swansea in March.

Spring Term

They continue to play matches in the Boys and Mixed Cup competitions.

**Mixed Hockey****00/01 season**

Spring Term

Mixed competition started in February/March with cup matches vs. Teesside, Greenhead, John Leggott and Franklin Colleges, leading up to national finals. Cup competitions started on 20 February.



In order to raise funds for their trip to the National Finals in Devon, the Hockey teams organised a 24-hour sport event, which took place on Friday 2 March

**Netball****00/01 season**

Spring term

**'A' Team**

Stockton finished 3rd in the Cleveland U-19 Tournament losing 21-3 to English Martyrs and 11-5 to Q.E. but they won 4-0 against St Mary's. They came 4th in the British Colleges' Tournament at Peterlee. Stockton won 29-17 against Richmond and won 14-12 against Bede.

**'B' Team**

Stockton lost to Wilberforce College 35-14 and lost 11-18 against Bede.

Summer Term

The Jill Bainbridge Memorial Netball Tournament took place at Teesside University on 9 May. The team gained 3<sup>rd</sup> place behind Teesside University 'A' Team and Hartlepool Sixth Form College.

**01/02 season**

Autumn term

Matches were played weekly against other sixth form colleges in Cleveland, Durham and North Yorkshire.

**'A' Team**

Beat New College, Durham 32-5 and Prior Pursglove 31-12

The 'A' Team played in the British Colleges' Regional Tournament on 5 December at South Shields. They were drawn to play South Tyneside on 12<sup>th</sup> December in the British College's Knockout Cup. (This is the first year this competition has taken place).

**'B' Team**

Lost to New College, Durham 11-14 but won against Prior Pursglove 16-15.

Spring Term

Won the British Colleges' Regional Tournament and qualified to represent the North in the British Colleges' National Championships.

The team won against South Tyneside 15-10 in the British Colleges' Knockout Tournament, beat Rotherham 38-13 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the Cup game but, unfortunately, they lost 31-15 in the quarter-final against Bilborough College at Nottingham.

Stockton won, 25-20, against Hartlepool Sixth Form College.

**Swimming****00/01**

Caroline Saxby and Carrie Broadbent went through to the British Colleges' Swimming Finals in Somerset in April.

In the North East Swimming Finals, Caroline won the 100m freestyle and backstroke and Carrie won the 50m freestyle.



1 student attended the BCS North East event and qualified for the finals in Somerset.

**Badminton:**

**01/02** 2 students were in the qualifying round of the BCS on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

◆ No college success this year but Garrett John (Year 1) currently plays for England U19.

**Athletics**

**00/01** The British Colleges' Athletics finals took place at York on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Overall results: Men 6<sup>th</sup>  
Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Overall team: 4<sup>th</sup>

**Cross Country**

**00/01 Spring term** Andrew Pearce and Matthew Carling qualified to run in the English School's Nationals at Chelmsford. They were successful in the two local and regional rounds.

**00/02 Autumn term** 8 students reached the qualifying round of the BCS on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

**Table Tennis:**

**01/02 Autumn term** Stacey Brown has qualified for the National Finals, which will be held at Swansea after playing in the British Colleges' Table Tennis Tournament at Shipley.

**Tennis and Golf**

**00/01** On 23 May the teams competed in the regional British Colleges event in Doncaster BCS regional events did not take place this year due to unavailability of an events organiser.

**Outdoor Pursuits Week**

**October 2001** 33 students took part in the annual trip to Askrigg, North Yorks. where they enjoyed a good week of weather (unusually!), despite access restrictions due to 'foot and mouth'. We managed to complete most of the usual activities – kayaking, canoeing, cycling, walking, abseiling, caving and group challenges.

**General**

A member from Teesside University's Sports Studies staff was invited to college to speak to Sports Studies students about the courses available. The numbers and quality of students applying to the University has deteriorated over the last few years and attempts to forge some stronger links are being established.

Three local primary schools were invited to College in June to take part in a sports and activities day arranged by the second year BTEC students as part of their HSLA. All students have previously had a 10-hour placement in primary schools, which involved sports/PE lessons.

**Spring Term 2002**

40 students are due to attend the British Colleges' National Finals in Swansea in early April. This is our best ever achievement, in terms of numbers of teams/individuals who have qualified to represent the NE region in the National Finals.

**Teams**

Boys Hockey  
Rugby Sevens (first time ever qualified)  
Netball (first time ever qualified)

**Individuals**

Girls Badminton (doubles)  
Boys Badminton (singles)  
Girls Table Tennis (singles)

**Student Awards**

**Leah Jamieson** was awarded the Calor Gas Prize for achieving excellent modular results in Chemistry and Physics in her first year of the GCE A-Level examinations.

The University of Teesside Prize for Mathematics has been awarded to **Matthew Horne** for achieving excellent Grade A results in his first year of the GCE A-Level examinations.

## J.G. RATTENBURY APPEAL

The Committee wondered how to commemorate Gordon, who died in March 2000 aged 89 years. Our deliberations were prompted by a letter from a former pupil who has spent a great deal of his working life in the United States. He sent a cheque for £1000 and a suggestion that a prize be created in Gordon's memory and that current prizes be increased to a realistic value to cover a decent "hard back". He pointed out that Former Students in the USA made donations to their former educational institutions and he felt it appropriate to make a donation to the Old Stocktonians.

As you will realise we added the very generous donation to our Prize Fund, inaugurated a prize at Grangefield School for Modern Languages in memory of Gordon and will increase the value of the three prizes from next year.

We feel it appropriate to invite donations from you, to be added to the prize fund, in memory of Gordon Rattenbury who taught most of us over his 42 years at the school.

**Donations can be sent to our Correspondence Secretary :**

**Bob Ward, 66 Butterfield Drive, Eaglescliffe, Stockton-on-Tees. TS16 0EZ.**

Please make the donation payable to "The Old Stocktonians' Association" and indicate that is for the **GORDON RATTENBURY Fund**. The donation can be sent as part of other payments and we will apportion it as required.

## C.W. KING MEMORIAL PRIZE

Founded by the Old Stocktonians to perpetuate the memory of C.W. King, M.A. Jesus College, Oxford and London; Assistant Master 1908 - 46 and Senior English Master for 23 years at the Secondary School. The Prize, now valued at £15, is awarded for **excellence in English at Grangefield School**.

## G.G. ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL PRIZE

Founded by the Old Stocktonians to perpetuate the memory of G.G. Armstrong, M.A., M. Litt., Armstrong College, University of Durham; Senior History Master 1921 - 48 at the Secondary School. The Prize is awarded annually, in the sum of £15, for **excellence in History at Grangefield School**.

## J.G. RATTENBURY MEMORIAL PRIZE

Founded by Old Stocktonians to perpetuate the memory of J.G. Rattenbury, B.A., AKC, PGCE [Kings College, London] Senior French Master and Deputy Head (during the period 1931-73) at the Secondary School and Grangefield Grammar School for Boys. The Prize is awarded annually, in the sum of £15, for **excellence in Modern Languages at Grangefield School**.

2001	History Prize	<b>Lee Copping</b>
	English Prize	<b>Victoria Henderson</b>
	Modern Languages	<b>Anna Sweeting</b>

The prizes are currently £15.00 each but will increase to £20.00 next year.

## DEGREE RESULTS 2001

Name		Subject	Degree		University
Lisa	Brackenbury	Theology and RS	BA		Leeds
Sarah	Colclough	Medicine	MBChB with Hons.		Liverpool
Joy	Collier	Psychology with Sociology	BSc	1	Leicester
Amanda	Dawson	History and Politics	BA	2.1	Teesside
John	Firth	Mathematics	BSc		Northumbria
Suzanne	Gill	Medicine	MBBS		Newcastle
Matthew	Glover	Biology	BSc	2.1	Durham
Peter	Hodgson	Engineering	M.Eng	2.1	Durham
Matthew	Judge	Marine Biology	BSc	2.1	Bangor
Katherine	Morgan	Town Planning	BA		Newcastle
Amy	Pritchard	History	BA	2.1	Teesside
Jeremy	Ranson	Engineering	M.Eng	2.1	Durham
Christopher	Saxby	History	BA	1	Teesside
Marianne	Speight	Communication and Society	BSc	2.1	Leicester
Khol	Van Dieu	Accounting and Law	BA	2.1	Newcastle
Robert	Williams	Natural Sciences	BSc	2.2	Durham

### FRONT COVER

This year's photograph shows the 'new' Millennium Footbridge which crosses the quayside dual carriage way and the river to the Riverside development. For those members who have not been to the town for many years the bridge emerges from the rear of Castlegate development at the point where Uptons was. For those whose last visit to the town was a very long time ago the emergence would be just before the rear of Doggarts department store.

### GRANGFIELD CAROL SERVICE

The service was held on Monday 17th December 2001 at St. Peter's Church. The Rev. Graham Benzies, one of our members, welcomed the congregation and the service began with Once In Royal David's City. The opening verse was a solo for Rachel Bradley, the daughter of Margaret who is a member of our committee. It was sung with confidence, although Margaret assured us that Rachel was very nervous. The nervousness certainly did not show and the notes were steady. Well done Rachel! The service followed the traditional pattern of nine lessons and carols, with readings from pupils, staff and Friends of Grangefield. The carols were a mixture of choir only singing and congregation and choir singing. The evening finished as always with the Hallelujah Chorus.

Thanks are due to all those who took part, and particularly to Rupert Booth, who is Director of Music Studies at the School.

**Brian Brand**

## GRANGEFIELD SPEECH DAY & PRIZE GIVING

The event took place at Grangefield School on Friday 7th December 2001. The guest speakers were Paul Frost [one of our members], and Bryn Hughes, Chief Executive of the Hartlepool Historic Quay and Museum.

The Head Teacher, Mr. Michael Hill, welcomed everyone and gave a short end of year report pointing out that the programme showed the success enjoyed by the pupils in the past academic year.

Paul Frost presented the GCSE certificates and gave some words of advice to the recipients, basically to remember that education was ongoing. Bryn Hughes, himself an ex teacher, repeated Paul's advice and gave out School Colours and special prizes to members of the school from all year groups. Some sixty-three prizes were sponsored, including three from the OSA. The C.W. King prize for English was awarded to Victoria Henderson, the G.G. Armstrong prize for History to Lee Coping and for the first time the J.G. Rattenbury prize for Modern Languages to Anna Sweeting.

The evening ended with a vote of thanks ably proposed by pupil Andrew Fish.

**Brian Brand**

## REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The service was held on Wednesday 14th November at Grangefield School. Ken Whitfield, Paul Graham and Brian Brand attended on behalf of the OSA. Although Ken was our senior representative, he asked that Brian lay the wreath at the 14 - 18 First World War Memorial. Brian, an ex serviceman by virtue of National Service, duly started the service by laying our wreath and the assembly observed a one minute's silence.

As it is every year the moving service of readings and hymns did credit to the School's Year 9 who had organised the occasion.

This year an event relating to one of Old Boys received some press attention. It concerned John Douglas Smith, a former pupil of the Secondary School who died in Thailand on 3 September 1943 as a result of working on the infamous Burma railway. His name is on our memorial and an account of the press interest is elsewhere in the book.

We thank Mick Hill, his staff and the pupils for looking after our memorials and making us so welcome.

**Brian Brand**

NOTE : Remembrance Sunday commemorates the dead of both world wars. It occurs on the second Sunday in November, that closest to November 11th, Armistice Day, the date in 1918 when the Armistice was signed to end World War I - "The war to end all wars"!



## OLD STOCKTONIANS' ASSOCIATION

(founded by Evan Baldwin 24th January 1913)

### LIST OF OFFICIALS for 2000-2001

#### PRESIDENTS :-

Mr. R. Prichard (Association President)  
Mr. E. Baldwin (deceased) (Founder President)  
Mr. H. R. Clarke (Principal)

#### VICE-PRESIDENTS:-

Miss L. Waring\*  
Mr. B. P. Brand  
Mr. P. Graham

Mr. J. Ingham  
Mr. R. Ward

(\* denotes Senior Vice-President)

#### OFFICE BEARERS :-

*Hon. Treasurer* : Mr B.P. Brand  
*Members' Correspondence Secretary* : Mr R. Ward  
*Membership Records' Secretary* : Mr. P. Graham  
*Minutes Secretary* : Mr. M.F. Peagam  
*Dinner Secretary* : Mr R. Prichard  
*Year Book Editor* : Mr. P. Graham  
*Advertising Manager* : Mr. D. Harris  
*Sports Extravaganza Co-ordinator* : Mr. T. Ripley

#### COMMITTEE (with above)

Mrs M. Bradley  
Miss J. Farnaby

Mr. M. Gillespie  
Mr K. Turner

#### HON. AUDITOR :-

Mr. P. Fleck F.C.A.

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

None

#### THE OLD STOCKTONIANS BENEVOLENT FUND :-

Convenor : Mr. B.P. Brand

Trustees : Mr H. R. Clarke, Revd. Mrs J.M. Thomas, Mr P. Graham

Hon. Auditor : Mr. J. Ingham

## 2000 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE OLD STOCKTONIANS' ASSOCIATION

This was held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2001 in the Staffroom of Stockton 6th Form College with the Association President Mr. R. Prichard in the Chair.

Present: Mr R L Prichard (Chairman – President), Mr P Graham, Mr B P Brand, Mr D Harris, Mr R Ward, Mr K. Turner,

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Bradley, Miss L. Waring, Mr P B Braney, Mr H R Clarke and Mr M R Gillesple.

### 2. MINUTES OF THE 1999 AGM

The Minutes of the 1999 AGM held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2000 were read and confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman with one correction : *Mr R. Prichard was in the chair, not Mr P. Graham for Mr R. Ward* as stated in the minutes.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING None

### 4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Membership Records Secretary, Mr Graham, reported that:

- there were currently 250 Members of the Association, of whom 167 were Life Members and 83 Annual Members;
- subscriptions were owed by 24 Annual Members (9 for the year commencing 1 January 2000);
- one Annual Member had paid subscriptions until 2027;
- of the current membership, 22 (18 of whom were Life Members) reside overseas: 5 in Australia, 5 in Canada, 3 in South Africa, 1 in USA, 2 in Eire, 2 with BFPO (SHAPE) addresses and 1 each in Denmark, France, Germany and Ghana.

### 5. YEAR BOOK EDITOR'S REPORT

The Yearbook Editor, Mr Graham, apologised for the fact that the Year Book was still to be distributed.

- 400 copies of the Year Book were to be printed and distributed at an estimated total cost of £405;
- the cost of printing by Teesside Tertiary College was estimated at £320;
- Postage costs estimated at £65
- consumables costs (ink, sticky labels and envelopes) anticipated to be £20;
- the anticipated income from advertising was £455, so there could be a possible overall profit (!) of some £55 (compared to a loss of £45.92 in the previous year);
- Of the copies not sent to members : 10 copies would be sent to Grangefield School, (about ?) 70 copies to Stockton Sixth Form College and 20 to advertisers, leaving some 50 copies 'in hand'.

Mr Graham paid tribute to the efforts and success of Mr Harris in once again increasing the advertising income on the previous year.

The President thanked Mr Graham for his efforts during 1999/2000.

### 6. HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr Brand, presented the audited accounts for the year ended 30 June 1999, and highlighted key features:

## Life Members and General Fund

- the balance at 30 June 2000 was £3839.18 (compared to £3559.67 at 30 June 1999);
- the surplus had increased to £279.51 (compared to £73.93 in 1998/99);
- subscriptions income £144.75 (£109.50 in 1998/99), donations income £157.25 (£152.14) and stock sales income £10.61 (£8.80) were all increased whilst the net income from building society interest decreased, being £71.81 in 1999/2000 (compared to £97.54 in 1998/99);
- the net cost of the Yearbook had decreased significantly from £256.45 in 1998/99 to £45.92 in 1999/2000 whilst the Annual Dinner had, for the first time in many years, made a small profit of £13.15;
- officers' expenses totalled £10.25 (compared to £37.50 in 1998/99).
- 'One off' expenses for the year included the River & Brewery Trips (£12.49) and the Association's donation in memory of Gordon Rattenbury. (£35.04)

## CW King and GG Armstrong Memorial Fund

- prizes totalling £24 were paid out and donations of £58.50 received;
- the surplus for the year was £37.64 (£15.98 in 1998/99) and the balance at 30 June 2000 was £221.38 (£183.74 at 30 June 1999)

The Treasurer expressed concern at the poor rate paid by the Building Society and the time taken to raise interest rates on savings accounts following the increase in the base-rate and once again suggested that consideration be given as to whether the Association's interests were best served by an account with a mutual building society.

Members agreed that the Treasurer should examine the various options open to the Association and put proposals to a future committee meeting.

The Treasurer outlined that future costs would include an outlay of £220 for new ties (which would only be repaid on a 'drip-feed' basis) and £50 to MacMillan Nurses' Fund in memory of Agnes Sowler.

The President thanked Mr Brand for his efforts during 1999/2000.

## 7 BENEVOLENT FUND REPORT

On behalf of the trustees of the Old Stocktonians Benevolent Fund, the *Convenor*, Mr Brand, reported that:

- during 1999, the trustees had made a substantial donation of £250 to enable a student to undertake voluntary service overseas (in Tibet) - the donation had been made only after the trustees had given careful consideration to the interpretation of the word 'necessity', given the fact that the trustees had no clear instructions as to their duties but relied on notes of guidance from a solicitor.
- Repayments of loans included : £250 (on an original £100 loan) and £300

## 8 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Members present unanimously re-elected Mr R L Prichard as President of the Association.

## 9 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Members present re-elected as Vice-Presidents: Miss L Waring, Mr B P Brand, Mr P Graham, Mr J Ingham and Mr R Ward.

*Members agreed the assignment of responsibilities as follows:*

- Membership Correspondence - Mr R Ward
- Membership Records - Mr P Graham
- Meetings and Minutes - Mr M F Peagam
- Dinner Arrangements - Mr R L Prichard (assisted by Mr R Ward)
- Yearbook Editorial - Mr P Graham
- Yearbook Advertisements and Publicity - Mr D Harris
- Sports Extravaganza - Mr T M Ripley

## 10 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members present elected the following as Members of the Committee:  
Mrs M Bradley; Miss J Farnaby; Mr M R Gillespie; Mr K Turner.

## 11 APPOINTMENT OF HON. AUDITOR

The meeting approved the re-appointment of *Mr P Fleck as Hon. Auditor* acknowledging, with thanks, his efforts in the previous year.

## 12 ALTERATION TO RULE 4

Proposal :

The Association's current Rule 4: "*In committee, seven shall form a quorum.*" shall be changed to : "*In committee, five shall form a quorum.*"

The proposal was carried unanimously.

## 13 COMMITTEE ISSUES

The Annual General Meeting noted a number of issues to be addressed by the Committee:

- Membership Recruitment Drive  
consideration should be given by the Committee to increasing membership of the Association, in particular through promotion to pupils of Grangefield School and students of Stockton Sixth Form College. Doug Harris agreed to look at our current leaflet to see how it might be improved
- Image  
the Association now had a letterhead
- Web-Site  
Paul Graham agreed to update the website and ensure that it became accessible through the popular Internet Browsers (e.g. Yahoo, Google, Lycos)

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.27 pm*

## **THE OLD STOCKTONIANS' BENEVOLENT FUND**

The funds remain sound and have been audited for the year ended 31st December 2000. On 1st January 2000 the credit balance at the Darlington Building Society was £1742.58. No grants or loans were made during the year. An outstanding loan of £100, made to a student in 1988, was repaid with interest! A cheque for £250 was received in April. No donations were received and interest of £22.49 net [tax paid £5.62] was earned. This gave a credit balance of £2015.07 at the Building Society on 31st December 2000.

Thanks once again to John Ingham for auditing the accounts.

Donations to the benevolent fund are always welcome and can be sent to Bob Ward with other money or direct to Brian Brand at the address below.

Appeals for assistance may be made in the strictest confidence to : Howard Clarke, Principal of the Stockton Sixth Form College or Mick Hill, Headteacher of Grangefield School [ or direct to Brian Brand, Convenor to the Trustees, 2 The Sidings, Christon Bank, Alnwick, Northumberland. NE66 3HR ]

**Brian Brand**

## TREASURER'S REPORT 2000-2001

The funds remain sound but have yet to be audited for the year ended 30th June 2001. Subscriptions remain about the same as last year giving £138.75. The donations have increased from around £150 to £230.85, giving an income from members of around £370. Building Society interest was £70.45 and the balance in the book was around £3900 an increase of £400 over the previous two years. The Year Book should pay for itself again and Doug Harris is to be thanked again for bringing in advertising to the tune of £455. The accounts do not show this as most of the cheques have still to come and will be credited in the next accounts year. The bill for the Year Book is still outstanding as it would appear that the person responsible at the printers was made redundant and the bill is somewhere in the pipeline! We had an extra expense because of delays in printing the Year Book, a mailing to members notifying them of the AGM and of the Annual Dinner. This cost £54.48 and we must thank Paul Graham for taking on the extra work involved.

The Dinner, in its new form, was a success again and 52 guests enjoyed the evening at the Parkmore Hotel. As we do not have the expense of a speaker we are able to price tickets at just above cost to us and still make a small profit. [All the hard work by the organiser is free!]

The King / Armstrong Prize fund continues to increase because of donations and is healthy for the foreseeable future. The two prizes are worth £15 each and it is proposed to increase the value of each prize to £20 and add a further prize for Modern Languages in memory of Gordon Rattenbury. A very generous donation of £1000 has just been received and will show in the next accounts. The donor suggests the extra prize in honour of Gordon and the Committee have decided on an appeal. [see the article in this book]

We now have a new stock of ties and this includes bow ties for the first time! Stocks of 'History of the Association' are not selling and although the publication costs have been recouped, we need to realise the money tied up.

Finally may I thank Peter Fleck, our Honorary Auditor.

**Brian Brand**  
Hon. Treasurer

### 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner

#### A view from one table!

The table in question was that of the 47 - 54 contingent. We were fewer in number, Don and Dorothy Moses, Brian and Pat Brand, Tom Shield and Ted and Wood. We hadn't seen or heard from Ted since he left school so there was a lot to catch up on! Don and Dorothy are now living in Cornwall and Tom has moved to Spain so you can see we were already a far-flung group. The senior guest, on the next table, was Percy Hugh Bell who graced the corridors of the old Sec. from 1914 to 1918. He is certainly the oldest member we have been privileged to entertain, or I should say entertain us! He was able to tell us about staff and events that none of my "young OAPs" knew about.

I was delighted to see six familiar faces from my early days in teaching. Some were familiar when they introduced themselves! Terry Wilson I see fairly regularly so no problems there but Ian Duncan, Ken Dutton, Alan Roberts, Nick Hall and John Philips left Grangefield in 1969, just before I left to join Eggescliffe School Staff. They were part of my Tutor group for three years and that tutor group had the best set of Physics "O" level results I ever had! They all passed, with fifteen at what is now called A\*. The shock was that they were all celebrating their 'big 50' and I still look back on their almost angelic faces. Still, my table has just been celebrating picking up their state pensions!

Another table I noted had a theme of those just beginning their lives - that is the forty "thing". I was also reminded that the mixed dinner is more enjoyable than the all male functions of the old days! The evening ended for us around 23.30 hours and a good evening it was!

**Brian Brand**

## 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner

This was (successfully) held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2002 at the Swallow Hotel, Stockton. Although numbers were small there were some new faces at the event and the meal was of excellent quality and value.

There will be a more extensive report in the next Year Book.

### Rachel Turner Zambia Trip 2001 Report

Arrangements had been finalised for the four-week trip to Zambia in April 2001 and it seemed like a long time before I was at Heathrow on the 13<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm waiting for the other members of my team to arrive. It felt very surreal to be flying to Africa in the middle of the night, effectively trying to go to sleep in one continent and waking up in another at 4am for breakfast. I had only met most of the other team members once or twice before and it was with great excitement that we chatted on the plane to get to know each other better. My first sight of Africa was through the window of the plane looking at the Zambezi River; we were all very anxious to "experience" Africa and wanted to take in anything we could. This is definitely one of the themes of the month; I wanted to remember as much as I possibly could and experience as many things as possible.

We arrived at Lusaka Airport just after 10am trying to stay awake after 3 hours' sleep. An American Missionary who we had met on the plane took us under his wing and sorted out taxis to take us to the bus station. Finally we arrived in Ndola at about 5pm after a four hour cramped bus journey along very bumpy roads; we were all very shattered and grateful for the food which had been prepared for us by the older team members who had arrived a week earlier than us.

The first full day was very different to what became the daily routine. We attended the church, which we were to work with, and were welcomed with such warmth. Everyone had known we were arriving and were all anxious to display his or her friendliness. As the only white people in the church we were certainly instantly recognisable and we were asked to go to the front to be properly introduced in the middle of the service. We were welcomed into one of the three widow's houses which we built the three toilet/shower blocks for. Each house had been built by previous teams sent out by the same organisation. Although a higher standard than a lot of the homes we later saw they were still lacking the luxuries we take for granted such as electricity, water and heating. They were also very cramped: two small rooms housing up to 9 people.

We were also shown the water pump which was polluted; sadly one of the first things we were told by the English couple, John and Wendy Hunter, who were advising us, was that it would be too expensive for us to purify the water. The three engineers on our team still spent time throughout the trip trying to come up with quick-fix solutions but, as it turned out, the focus of our trip became the toilet/shower blocks and work on the Pastor's House.

The rest of that first day we spent wandering around Kaniki Bible College, the grounds in which we were staying. KBC is an amazing oasis among the brown dusty landscape outside the College grounds. As well as a swimming pool there is an incredible array of colourful plants and trees including banana trees.

Monday morning saw the start of the project, work which lasted right up until the day before we left. Our days started at 6am when we got up and, although we weren't always successful, we aimed to leave for the building site at 8. After the morning's work we would break for lunch around 1 and then work through until about 5. It was certainly a different sort of life style to that which I had been used to previously and I think it was for the rest of the team as we then usually spent the entire evening lounging around reading and talking.

The pits had already been dug for the three ventilated pit latrines as well as the cess-pit and soak away for the Pastor's House. The first day was spent clearing away the masses of foliage to clear the area for the building work. The rest of the week was spent constructing the frames in which to pour the concrete, which we made by hand. Making concrete like that for days on end felt like doing sit-ups all day every day!

Throughout the four weeks we managed to build the three blocks, each with a ventilated pit latrine and a drain for the Zambians to have showers, all with plastered walls and floors and a waterproof roof. The money we had each raised covered all the building materials and we could even afford

doors for the blocks. We also built up the walls of the cess-pit and soak away. By the end of the trip I had used scythes, made concrete, built walls, plastered and used newly discovered skills with saws and hammers!

As we were working for El Shaddai Church we were instantly provided with a way to meet the locals. Although we were primarily there to complete the building work we arranged time off to visit a couple of places and spent weekends meeting with the youth group from the church. It constantly astonished me at the way we were welcomed by the Zambians. On one particular night the group split into pairs and visited a home to experience a Zambian meal, paid for by the church but prepared by the families.

I was eager to learn some of the local language, Bemba, in order to integrate a bit more into the Zambian life rather than being very "English". A girl, Blessings, who lived in one of the Widow's houses spoke very good English and taught me quite a lot of Bemba to use every day as well as a couple of Bemba songs. I found that the Zambians loved it when we tried to speak in their language and soon they were all trying to teach me new words and phrases. The children who played outside their houses while we were building were quite shy though very curious about us. At first we tried to talk to them in English with a few Bemba words thrown in. It took us until the penultimate day of working to realise that if you just started a game or joined in with them they were very receptive and would enjoy playing with us.

When we took a day off to visit Kitwe, a town with a very large market, it was a very different experience. The feeling of being welcome was replaced by wariness as we stood out as likely being rich. Thus, stares followed us everywhere and it was the only time I felt uncomfortable in the month I was there. We were told to barter as otherwise they would rip us off completely and it would perpetuate their perception of white people as easy to take advantage of.

My overriding memory of Zambia is not the building work even though that took up the majority of the time. Instead it is of the people who displayed such warmth and generosity to us and who constantly told us that they felt blessed that we were there. It was a very humbling experience because of the joy they had for the simplest of things, which we take for granted. It has definitely made me more appreciative of things and I am definitely grateful that I was given the opportunity to experience Africa and to meet friends who I hope to stay in touch with.

## **OUR SPORTING LIFE**

### **SPORTS EXTRAVAGANZA - 2002**

Thanks are due to our overall co-ordinator **TOM RIPLEY** and all the College staff who give generously of their time to make this such a special day for all former students. Tom is also a former student who is now teaching P.E. at the College and so there should be no problems with organisation.

***Tom can be reached at the College on 01642 612611 during the day. We still need all the support you can give if the events are to survive; they remain our last direct contact with the students at the College.***

### **UNDER 13 RUGBY / YEAR OF 47 : Dec. 2001**

We are all O.A.P.s and that is official! A Merry Christmas to all of you and Good Health in the New Year.

What has happened during the year?

A small group met at the OSA dinner in April, Don & Dorothy Moses, Tom Shield, Eddie & Alison Wood, Pat & I. Eddie made contact last year and travelled from Nottingham to be at the Parkmore. Don, Dorothy, Tom, Pat and I met up several times for OAP lunches, joined on occasions by Eddie Pinder.

On July 19th we had a lunch party to celebrate Tom's coming of age and it ended up as a team meeting [or to be accurate several team meetings]. The Party became a celebration for THREE birthdays! John Franks had his birthday on July 18th and Jack Gilliland was July 19th! The weather was not kind and the garden was too cold to sit out so 21 of us drifted between lounge, dining room and kitchen. The drinks captain (Don Moses) did sterling work and thanks to extra bottles

brought along, there was no shortage. Admittedly nearly half were on soft drinks to be able to drive! Thanks also to the washing up captains (Geoff Kenyon & Eddie Pinder) for organising the cleaning! We will hire you again! Jack Gilliland and Eddie Pinder brought bottles of champagne and we were able to toast the birthday boys in style.

Incidentally it was decided that Arnold Robson from "M" was the youngest in our year group, unless you know better [July 24 it was thought]

Team from those who braved the conditions [and only Brian Brand had his boots!]

JOHN FRANKS; JACK CANDLIN, JIM COLEMAN, EDDIE PINDER, S O ELSE;  
DON MOSES, BRIAN BRAND; PAUL DEE, TOM BELLIS; BRIAN CHALLINOR; GEOFF  
KENYON, S ROW; JACK GILLILAND, TOM SHIELD, W FORWARD.

Subs. VALERIE FRANKS, NORMA COLTMAN, MARION GILLILAND, BARBARA  
CANDLIN, KATHLEEN DEE & PAT BRAND

Referee JOAN WILKINSON [my neighbour]

We were delighted that Paul Dee and his wife Kathleen made the trip from America just to meet up! Well from York on this occasion rather than New York.

Although several of us have met up at different times over the last years we have never had exactly the same mix and I suppose that makes each get together unique and more interesting.

Having had Don and Tom around for three years they have deserted Teesside! Tom has moved to Spain, presently near Calpe [north of Benidorm] whilst his villa is being built at Jalon. Don and Dorothy have moved to Launceston, though currently in Pittsburg with their daughter, son in law and grandchildren for Christmas. Don hopes to meet up with John Walton before he returns.

Finally a date for your diary. If you want to meet up, make it Saturday 20 April at the OSA dinner. It will be at the Swallow Hotel in Stockton [7.00 for 7.30]. Cost is £15.50 for a three course meal + coffee. The Dinner Sec. is negotiating special terms for guests. As most of know you don't have to join the OSA. We just have our own table [and mainly our own company]. If you want a menu let me know by the beginning of April.

2002 to 2004 is "50 years on" from when we left school. There was a reunion two years ago for the sixth formers who left in 1949. It was reported in "Remember When", a publication by the Evening Gazette. Have any of you thoughts of such a reunion?

I'll close on that note.

All the best

Brian Brand

## **FORMER STUDENTS HERE AND THERE**

**More news than normal this year – perhaps our appeals are getting through!**

**I must apologise for the tardiness of the current issue of the Year Book which is due to a number of problems. I shall endeavour to get the material organised more quickly next year and try to avoid the need for a separate letter re: The AGM & Dinner.**

Paul Graham – Editor

An address confirmation and a handsome top up of subs from **DAVE ATKINSON (1957 - 64)** but no news to add to the last major 'write-up' in our 92-93 issue when, as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor, he was a partner with Baker Mallet in Stockton.

**TONY BARBER (1931 – 37)** suspected that his 'speculation' in Life Membership would be a shrewd investment all those years ago but felt that the time had come to 'even things up' and included a most generous donation to funds, along with his letter, this year. He added that, as the years go by references to the class of 31-37 inevitably become fewer and fewer but he was pleased to see that Don Smith and Ray Counter were still going strong. Tony thought Don's "Cricket Bats and Sticklebacks" was a marvellous evocation of schoolboy life on Teesside in the 30s. He recalls that one cold Autumn he joined Ray on



his cycle rides but confesses that he didn't have the stamina or dedication to qualify for the Smith/Counter "Cleveland and North Yorkshire Exploration Society"; though sixty years later he was privileged to be given a copy of that Society's Journal. Tony is sorry to see that today's rugby enthusiasts seem to have a hard time organising viable games, he noted that wherever his job took him he was able to make friends through the local rugby club. He recalls that about 5 years ago **DAVE BYERS (?)** had a photograph of the 1936-37 school team published in the Evening Gazette seeking the names of two unidentified members. Tony thinks that one was **NORMAN THOMPSON (?)** and the other (more obviously) was himself. Tony wrote to Dave and discovered that after a lifetime of teaching, ending up as the head of school in Canterbury, he'd gone to live in Australia. The Gazette photo included the redoubtable Race brothers, Bert and Harry, and the legendary Kit Irwin - a trio who bore the brunt of battle in schools swimming matches. Tony was surprised not to see "Fat" Chambers, Arthur Fairless and Dennis Orris (still living in Hartburn) in the frame. He recalls a wonderful gallery of teachers taught them in the early Thirties. "Cuthy" King and "Tibby" Brookes in particular did marvels in widening their cultural horizons. Despite such a background Tony plumped for the Civil Service after leaving school and "after five inglorious years in Scotland and Burma tracking fighter planes", ended up in charge of various tax offices in and about London. By describing himself as a practising socialist, he "infiltrated suburban society" and still got immense enjoyment from playing rugby. ("giving enjoyment to others by being a sporting loser at tennis, squash and golf"). He still thinks Teesside is a great place and until the sad loss of Harry Ray last year a little band of OS's made an annual visit - including Tony's sister Dorothy (now Bicknell) and cousins Vera and **FRANK BOWEN** (regular visitor to our pages), **ALAN MANNERS** (a retired electronics engineer in Ohio), his sisters Gwen and Janet (now Duffin). Tony hopes that the Association will be able keep up the good work for many years to come.

We received an e-mail from **RAYMOND BEALE (1952-54)** asking about membership of the Old Stocktonians' however to date we do not know if such membership has been taken up.

**JIM BEAUMONT (1928?-35?)** wrote to tell us that his autobiography publication date had been fixed for July 23rd, 2001. 1100 copies are to be issued by Pentland Books, plus a further six for personal gifts. Jim's literary effort is priced at £8.50 and he hopes that the work about his education and employment in ICI will persuade members to consider buying it.

We were pleased to receive correspondence from **Mrs SUSANNAH MELLORS (nee BRINKLEY) (1969-74)** who had decided to join the Old Stocktonians' Association. Suzanne was interested to know if anyone had photographs of the *interior* of the school during the period 1969 to 1974, as she has fond memories but no visual record; she would of course be willing to pay for the prints of such photographs. Since leaving school Suzanne trained as a Nurse and then as a midwife at North Tees General Hospital. She is married with three children and moved to Solihull in 1983, where she now works as a special needs midwife for Heartlands /Solihull N H S Trust. Staff at Grangefield that Suzanne remembers well include Miss Waring (Headmistress), Miss Stephens (Mathematics), Ms Styan (History), Miss Dubbin (music), 'the Nutalls' (Geography), 'the Atkinsons' (Science), 'the Woods' (Art/German), Mr Midgeley (English), Miss French/Mrs Thersby (PE) and last, but not least, Mrs Smith (French).

**FRANK BOWEN (1925-32)** dropped us a short note from his abode in Hull thanking us for details of the Dinner but regretted that age and infirmity would prevent him from attending. However he did offer us his best wishes for a happy and successful occasion. In a later communication Frank included a nice donation and informed us that he had been made a

Life Member of the East Yorkshire Gun Club for services to clay-pigeon shooting in that area. Frank also expressed his sorrow at hearing of the death of Agnes Sowler. Frank and Tom were at school and university together and at a time when young men happily switched from one girl to another he remembered that Tom remained steadfastly attached to his Agnes. In our reply to Frank we asked about any reminiscences that he may have of the old Secondary School in Nelson Terrace. Frank recalled that there were 96 steps from the 4th (top) floor of the school to the ground floor and that the pupils' 'accepted' method of descending these was to carry out a form of a glissade, sliding from the edge of one step to the edge of another. The moment a master appeared they were, of course, more decorous. The senior master, J. W. "Froggy" Eden, would blow the whistle for them to line up and go into school. Froggy would then run up stairs and look out of the cloakroom window to see that they were doing it properly. On one occasion the sash windows slid down and pinned him in a sort of gentle guillotine. He was not amused, but the pupils were! All the pupils liked the old boy, in spite of his Cromwellian aspect. Froggy used to carry a small notebook in which he entered the names of boys to whom he'd given lines. In his final term - he retired when Frank was in the 5th form - Frank met him in the corridor and ventured to offer him, stumblingly, his best wishes for his retirement. Froggy heard Frank out, smiled with genuine warmth and said: "Thank you Bowen, very much. And by the way" (out came the little notebook) "you still owe me 50 lines". This was an impot, handed out *two years* earlier, for running down the corridor. Frank thought he'd forgotten about it, but was wrong. Frank thinks all the pupils of his era admired Froggy because he was at least consistent in his discipline. You knew where you stood with him and it came as quite a shock to hear the old fellow admit in his retirement speech that he was rather afraid of boys. In closing Frank adds that rumour had it that in a cupboard in the upper corridor there was a skeleton. He and his friends opened it one day and found the rumour was true, but the story of what happened next is, he says, too long to be told here.

We have renewed our contact with **IAN CARBARNES (1972-79)** thanks to a letter from him to Bob Ward. Ian brought us up to date on his medical history (so to speak). After completing his degree and training at Edinburgh University Medical School (79-85) Ian worked at Western General Hospital in Edinburgh until 1988 when he transferred to Wythenshawe in Manchester. From 1989 to 1994 he worked as a Pharmaceutical Physician with Sanofi Winthrop in Manchester and Guildford before moving a position with Novartis in Basle Switzerland. Since 1998 he has been based in Macclesfield with AstraZeneca. His job involves conducting clinical trials of new medicines and preparing scientific dossiers to register new drugs, allowing them to be marketed. Along the way he has found time to marry - to Debbie - and they have three daughters; Heather (10), Amy (9) and Abigail (3).

A handsome top up of subs from Ian's sister **SHEILA CARBARNES (1983- 85)** who added that she was now currently working as a GP in of the Scottish Highlands.

We hadn't heard from **RICHARD CHAPPELL (1931-36)** for a few years but he writes to tell us of his new address (Billingham to Shropshire) and order a new tie. Unfortunately we were not able to supply him with the 'tie-your own' version of the bow tie he required. Sorry Richard!

It was nice to receive a letter from **PETER COUPE (1957-65)** with a (temporary) change of address indicating that he had moved from Wales back north to just outside York. Peter informed us that he had taken an early retirement offer in September 2000 from his post as Dean of the Built Environment Faculty at Southampton Institute of Higher Education. Since that time he had had a pleasant ten months of family and DIY! However from the 1st September 2001 he is taking over as Director General of the University of Technology,

Mauritius and hence the diversion of the New Stocktonian and to his new (temporary) address. It was nice to read that Peter was in such good form and enjoying life to the full, as ever.

After many years it was nice to renew acquaintance with **J.J. DAVISON (1951-58, Staff: 1961- 67)**. In addition to purchasing a tie John enclosed a nice donation to funds, even though he is a current Life Member. After leaving the staff of Grangefield in 1967 John moved to Scarborough Boys' High School, which eventually became Scarborough 6th Form College, from which he retired in 1996. He now divides his time between his computer, playing a lot of golf (at least a lot of shots!), travelling and relaxing. John recalls the very many happy memories of Grangefield Grammar School. Ken Whitfield was his form master in his first year, Jim Durrant taught him Chemistry to A-Level, and Brian Brand was a good friend and colleague. He particularly recalls the good friendship of John Ingham who helped him when he was a young teacher. John 'fears' that the final statement might make John Ingham feel a little older! He greatly treasures such memories of the old days.

After a short absence of about three years **DOUG DEAN (1951-56)** brings us up to date with his current adventures. When he last wrote he was delivering new cars nationwide on a casual basis and really enjoying the experience, following his early retirement from Northern Electric after 39 years service as an electrical engineer. Sadly the motor dealership that he worked for was taken over, he was made redundant and hence has retired once again; although he lives in the expectation of a new venture. Doug refers to page 29 in the 00-01 issue of the magazine where the question was asked whether the R.E. Wood from York Crescent, Billingham (who was a new member in 1951) was the same person as **EDDIE WOOD (1946-51)** and adds that the following point may be of interest. There had been a Ron Wood who started at Grangefield in 1951 and was in the same intake as Doug, and approximately 100 other students! However Ron Wood would not have left school until 1958, so the reference to 'new member' depends upon whether it refers to a new member to the school or to the Association.

In addition to his donation to general funds **PAUL DEAN (1947-54)** made a very generous and special donation to start the memorial fund for Gordon Rattenbury for which we are extremely grateful.

**PETER DEE (1948-50)** has sent us his usual top up of subs together with a nice donation but unfortunately no other news.

We welcome **JENNIE DIXON (nee HANDLEY?) (?-?)** as a new member to the Association this year and thank her for the additional donation to 'funds'. Having received information from Mavis Pugh, Jennie wrote to tell us that Harry Rhodes is not forgotten, and included a letter to Harry for forwarding – duly done by Bob Ward. We are also pleased to note that house and health are now 'ship-shape' once again.

We lost touch with **WALTER DOBSON (1934-39)** some years ago, but thanks to Committee member Brian Braney we have established a new address and received a lengthy subs donation. Sadly Walter's health has not been too good in recent years and he is now in a nursing home in Norton - we send him our best wishes for the future. You may remember that Walter was a winner of a 'Champion of Champions' competition run via the BBC Mastermind programme. Walter was the 'champion' from MENSA and received a magnificent (Caithness?) glass trophy for his outstanding effort.

Always a pleasure to hear from **JIM DURRANT (Staff: )** but we were sorry to hear the news about his wife.

Hot on the heels of our initial letter from Jennie, **MAVIS ELLIOT (nee PUGH)(?-?)** wrote to tell us that **SHEILA GLADDERS** now remembers **HARRY RHODES** and that she was indeed at his wedding (to her next door neighbour – **PAT HYMER**). Mavis is sorry to say that she still can't place him but knew all the ladies he mentioned and concludes that it should be **JEAN LECK** (not **LACK**) [It may be my fault in interpretation – Editor] We thank Mavis for her nice donation to funds. [Perhaps we need some photos of the period to jog memories !! - Editor]

Another new member in the shape of **RALPH A. ELMES (1951–57)** was 'welcomed to the fold' recently thanks to our website. Ralph 'fills in' some of the detail of his life since leaving Grangefield. After graduating from Manchester University in Electrical Engineering he went to work for Ferranti making the Bloodhound missile. After marrying one of the librarians from the University Ralph lived in Lucerne installing the Bloodhound system. In 1969 he moved to Honeywell and was living in Henley-on-Thames and Freeport, Illinois. Life in Henley must have been good because Ralph decided to join a small start up company there which supplied software and hardware to the airline industry and he is still with the same company 30 years later ! His progress through industrial life he lays firmly at the feet of Jim Stockhill and Mr Piper (?) who kindled his interest in Maths. Ralph asks "What happened to the entrepreneurs who bought doughnuts from Sparks and sold them in the morning break ?" [Anyone out there help ? – Editor] His family 'assets' are listed as : 2 married daughters, 1 granddaughter, 1 wife and 2 horses – but we don't know whether this is in priority order !! His hobbies include Astronomy and church bell ringing – so if you're ever in Oxfordshire (?) on a Sunday morning and hear the bells ringing it may be a 'message' from Ralph.

A change of address from **JOHN ENGLAND (1960-65)** but no news to add to the substantial contribution he made last year.

It's always nice to welcome a new member to the Association. **JOHN FRANKS (1990-92)** was formerly at Blakeston School (1985-90) and studied Physics and Geography at 'A' and Maths and Electronics at 'AS' levels. He remembers having John Ingham for Physics, David Dodds for Electronics, Diane Clark for Maths and Steve Rickerby & Judith Hiley for Geography. On leaving SSSFC John studied Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Bradford University [1992-96], which included a year's placement. He joined GPT [now Marconi] in Liverpool in October 1996 where he worked in the New Product Introduction Dept., writing Installation, Commissioning & acceptance Test procedures for Intelligent Networks. [He adds that all the fancy things you can do with a phone these days is down to IN]. In 1998 he joined Broadband Customer Support Dept., supporting National Broadband Networks for BT, NTL and other Service Providers on a 24x7 basis. In March 2001 John was promoted to take charge of a small team providing support for the above customers. John has lived in Warrington since 1999 and by the time you read this we understand that he will be safely married to **KATHRYN BEE (1990-92)** – we wish them every happiness.

The other John Franks (!), **Rev. JOHN FRANKS (1947-52)**, has written to tell us of his new address in Yorkshire and trusts that this (his tenth move in 40 years !) will be his last change of address but he's not banking on it !

The year 2000 proved to be a rather eventful one for **DAVE GATHERGOOD (1957-64)** with a new marriage and by being 'given the opportunity' by CORUS (formerly British Steel) to take early retirement. In response to our question in the last but one Year Book Dave says that he didn't learn Dutch – 'foreign languages were never my strong point'. The offer from CORUS was one he couldn't refuse and has provided Dave with the 'wherewithall' to purchase a motorhome which he and June have been touring Southern

Europe in the winter and the UK in the summer. As yet he has not come across any 'Stocktonians' in his travels. [Come on Dave you're not trying hard enough ! – Editor] we thank his once again for another donation to funds and wish Dave and his new wife every happiness in their retirement(s).

**RAY GEDLING C.B. (1929-36)** confirms his address and adds a very generous donation to the Armstrong/King Fund.

We apologise to **IAN GORRELL (1974-76)** for missing his move from Stockton to West Yorkshire and trust that the back issues of magazines were received safely.

**JOHN GREEN (1940-46)** was pleased to read the news of **KEN SHERATON (1940-44)** and **JOHN ELLIS (1940-46)** in the last issue of the Year Book. John remembers that Ken once challenged him to a cycle race from Ragworth Hall [where the 'Sec was evacuated to for short period during the War] to the School sports ground. Much to John's surprise he won, on an old 'Hercules upright'. Although he sees **JOHN A. SMITH (1946-51)** fairly often and keeps in touch with **NORMAN CARR (1939-44)** [and sends greetings to both] John would like news of **TOM BLENKIRON (1940-?)**. John well remembers them both watching, from the safety of Tom's stairway window, the barrage balloons being struck by lightning, one by one, and blazing to the ground. [Can anyone help ? The last address we had was 164, Darlington Lane but that was more than 25 years ago – Editor]

Another new address for **JOHN GREENAWAY (1983-85)**, back to Teesside this time, but no other news unfortunately.

An item of news from South Australia is provided by **STUART HART (1938-40)**. Residents of a house not far from where Stuart lives have been surprised to learn that Tony Blair lived in that house as a young child. Apparently the Blair family moved from Edinburgh to Adelaide in 1955 (until 1958) where Tony's father, Leo, lectured in Law at the University. Further details were revealed in a newspaper article which continued "...and it was in Adelaide where young Tony had one of his first experiences of being the centre of attention, when he played 'Mr Nobody' in a kindergarten play and refused to get off the stage". [No change there then ! – Editor]

A nice top up of subs from **BOB HEATHCOTE (1934-40)** who also tells us that he keeps in regular touch with **DON SMITH (1933-40)** AND **DENNIS RUSSELL (?)**. Bob adds that it is difficult to imagine how the pre-War 'Sec' has expanded into the new 6<sup>th</sup> Form College and, on a recent "flying visit" to Stockton, he found it even more difficult to find it ! Having got completely lost in the new housing estates where the playing fields used to be his 'time' had run out as he emerged onto Durham Road. [Perhaps we should supply a map – Editor] The North Yorks Moors were still easy to find though and, although he and his wife have lived less than a mile from the edge of the Brecon Beacons in the Usk Valley for nearly 40 years "home" still calls !

I remember hearing from **KAREN HUDSON (1976-78)** in 1989 two years after she had been obliged to return home following a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis. At that time she had been in remission and was hoping to find some part-time work as a librarian. In a recent letter Karen's mother tells us that the disease has progressed and Karen is now unable to speak or write. Although the Editor, ashamedly, pleads ignorance of the progression and remission possibilities of such a debilitating illness he sends to Karen the heartfelt hopes for improvement in the future from all members.

**WILF HUME (1924-29)** was pleased to see the name of a contemporary, **RON PURNELL**, in the pages of our last Year Book and he sends greetings to Ron and all others of their 'era'. [We have **RON FENWICK (1923-28)**, **FRANK SAWDON (1923-28)**, **G.E.**

**REDFEARN (1922-26)** still listed as members – Editor] Occasionally Wilf takes out his photograph of Form 4A Modern (on the back of which is recorded the 31 names of those in the class) with Evan Baldwin as their Form Master. Wilf wonders how many of those names are still 'with us', after all, it is 73 years since they left the School. [Can anyone help with information? – Editor.]

It was nice to be reacquainted with **PETER HUNT (1962-69)** after a long 'gap'. After University [Oxford, Keble College – Editor] Peter practised as a barrister in Leeds for 23 years. In 1997 he was appointed as a circuit judge on the North East Circuit. Still living in Leeds, Peter is married with two boys. Peter has very many fond memories of both staff and fellow pupils from his days at Grangefield. He wanted to pass on, through the magazine, particular regards to Brian Brand (his form master in 1966/67), John Ingham, Jim Durrant and Dermot D'Arcy – adding that they were (and are) all fine teachers whose classes he remembers with great affection. [I remember when Peter was a guest speaker at Our Annual Dinner in 1978, he gave a speech that was both very funny and, dare we say it, less reverent about some other members of staff. That said he added that all he had learned at the School had contributed to career progression. – Editor]. Peter doesn't tell us whether he has come across any former students in his new capacity in the legal profession.

We thank **DENNIS LUDBROOK (1928-33)** for his contribution to funds and confirmation of his address. No other information to include we're sorry to say.

We 'lost' **PETER MAULE (1959-64)** briefly last year but found him in the same Buckinghamshire town he has been in for his last four moves! Unfortunately there was no news to bring us up to date with his career et al. [How about a letter next year Peter – Editor]

A nice subs payment keeps **GUY MOULE (1986-88)** 'in the black' to the end of this decade! No other news unfortunately.

A top up of subs from **JANE NEAL (nee ARRAN)(1979-81)**, together with lots of info' about herself and others. Jane is married to **GARETH NEAL(1966-72?)** and still lives in the Stockton area. Having completed a City & Guilds Embroidery Pt 1 & Patchwork and Quilting Pt 1 at Middlesbrough College (Part Time) Jane is now back at Stockton Sixth Form College doing the European Computer Diving Licence (ECDL) to brush up her computer skills. [And doing very well too. It must be the good teaching. – Editor]. Jane is about to complete 20 years services with Baines Goldston, Chartered Accountants in Stockton and her current boss is **GEOFF HOPPER (1955-61)**. As she writes Jane is moving from pure audit and accounts work into computer training, both in-house and with clients, mainly using SAGE packages. In addition to her part-time accounting job Jane is also taking a few commissions for embroidery & patchwork quilting "just to keep me sane". Jane keeps in touch with **WENDY BURMAN (nee PEARSON) (1979-81?)**, who now lives in Taunton, who in turn, keeps her up to date with **GARRY MCGREGOR, STEVEN INGLEDEW & ALISON McNEILL**. She also met up with **CAROL SMITH (nee SHARP)** recently as their sons go to the same Scout Troop at Green Lane Methodist Church. Jane used to see **JONATHAN JENNINGS (1977-79)** on rare occasions but with a new baby on the way and his recent appointment as Press Officer for the Archbishop of Canterbury he has found little time for social visits to the area.

**LEN POPE (1927-31)** sent us a nice donation together with a request for two (!) ties and a copy of Tom Sowler's History of the Association.

I didn't mean as a 'challenge' when I mentioned last year that **HARRY RHODES (1941-46)** had sent us three letters in the one year. However, one of our readers has decided to outdo that effort by sending us four letters and a poem over a one-year period. I think the last submission may have given the 'game' away to our readers. If you haven't guessed it's Harry himself who is trying to put his record beyond the reach of us mere mortals! He usually waits (in anticipation) for the magazine each year with such eagerness that he is beginning to unnerve the postman! [Postman? What's that? – Editor] He continues that, as an aircraft enthusiast, he was very interested in the report of **KEN WHITFIELD's (1932-37)** testing of the Spitfire IX. A Mark IX has been restored in 'Oz' and can be frequently seen at airshows in the company of a 'Mustang'. Harry lives only five miles from Point Cook Airfield (now civilian) and the RAAF Museum, where flying displays by vintage aircraft are a regular occurrence. He was pleased to receive a photograph in 2001 (from Bob Ward) of thirteen delightful "mature ladies" who were celebrating their collective birthdays and he sends his (belated) best wishes. He was flattered to think that someone, somewhere in the world had taken the time to identify him as he was some 50 years ago by looking at old sports photographs. He adds that if they were taken during the period '43-'46 the chances are that he will be hiding somewhere behind 6' 6" **COLIN BEADLE (1941-47)**. He is the "-ish" chap: shortish, thinish, fairish with wavyish hair; but, adds, I "had a good allowance of nose". **ANNE BROWN's (nee SEAMAN)** reference to her teaching at Mill Lane School reminds Harry (on a visit to Teesside in '97) found at Preston Hall a litter of materials containing a stone engraved with "Mill Lane School" but couldn't see a date – nettle beds prevented a close inspection. He was very pleased to receive through Bob (Ward) a letter from **JENNIE DIXON (nee HANDLEY)** and thanks **MAVIS ELLIOTT(nee PUGH)** for making this contact possible. He asks if the **ALLAN THOMPSON** referred to by Anne in the Year Book is '**Bubbles**' Thompson (1942-48). If so Jack Thorman occasionally seems to bump into him whilst on shopping trips into Middlesbrough, and adds that the 'Bubbles' are being worn a little thinner these days. Harry added a few ("War boy") names to those mentioned by **KEN SHERATON (1940-44)** in the last issue: **ALAN TODD (1940-46)**, with whom he spent a holiday in France in 1950; **STEVE WEST (1940-45)** and his wife **MARY (nee PEACOCK)(1942-47)**, whom he last heard of living in Leeds and **ARTHUR (Babe) WILLIS (1940-46)** with whom he shared a barrack room during National Service. During the year Harry received a postcard from **JACK THORMAN (1941-46)**, holidaying in Rome, **STAN BASSETT (1940-46)**, not holidaying in Lincoln!, and, best of all, a tenth grand child, Chloe, and a second great-grandson Alex. A 'final' letter in May 2002 found Harry in a somewhat melancholy mood, due mainly to the Autumn ('Oz') weather. He penned us another 'Odd Ode', which you will find at the end of this section. He apologises for the rhyme with 'Stocktonian' – there aren't too many easy words that fit! [We assume we pay due deference to the author of "Oh God Our Help in Ages Past" – Isaac Watts? – Editor]

We are pleased to welcome **DAVID H. RICHMOND (1960-67)** as a new member of the Association and thank him for his donation to funds in addition to the 10 years subs. Sadly, David did not include any news with his application – perhaps next year?

A minor change of address from **PETER RIGG (1956-63)** as he has now moved into his garden! Peter and his wife, Attracta, have now sold their Post Office and moved into a house they had built in the garden. Peter is still with the 'same employer' as when he left School but there have, through mergers and take-overs, been several name changes on the way – seven in total! The latest name is **ALSTOM**, but Peter would not be surprised if further mergers were allowed. Although he still travels throughout the world carrying out acceptance tests on turbine generators, it is a long time since he met another Old Stocktonian ["Perhaps I just move in the wrong circles"]. Through the Friends Reunited website Peter has established contact with **LAURENCE ('Loi') ATKINSON (1956-63)**,

**GEORGE BARBER (1961-63)** and **ALAN WILKINSON (1956-61)** and adds that he too can be contacted through that website. Since leaving the Post Office Attracta and a friend have established a sandwich and catering business and are fast becoming a well-respected supplier in the Stratford area and are slowly extending their field of influence. Attracta and Peter's two children are still at home – Edward works for a small wine merchant and Marie-Laure is in the final year of a Sport and Materials Science course at Birmingham University. Where, apart from study of course, she captains the Ladies Hockey Team and plays for the English and British Universities teams.

A handsome top up of subs takes **SIMON ROBINSON (1970-77)** into the next decade and we thank him for the additional donation to funds. Simon is now a G.P. in Otley, after leaving a practice in east Yorkshire some three years ago. His wife also works as a G.P. but in Ripon and they have compromised on journey times to live half way between the two surgeries. Their two children Tim (10) and Katie (7) absorb the time which Simon and his wife have left after sorting out their "crumbly house". [Should be a 'doddle' with all these TV shows telling you how to do it! – Editor]

A short note from **PETER SAWYER (1947-49)** arrived between magazines and hence the news may seem a little out of date (sorry about that – Editor). In November 2000 Peter, **BRIAN ARTHUR (?-49)**, and **ROBIN HOSIE (?-49)** met up with **DAVID OLIVER (?-49)** and his wife in London. David is still practising as an obstetrician in New South Wales and this was the first time they had all met since 1949!

An address confirmation and subs top up from **SARAH SHERATON (1972-77)** was accompanied by her web page address. As requested, we give the address here as:  
<http://members.aol.com/SOLOS AIR/index.html>

The website deals with .... but that would spoil it; try it for yourself if you wish to know.

After a lapse of some 40 years it was nice to welcome back **JOHN SHORT (1943-48)**, who discovered us via our website. John is keen to find out what may have happened to all his School friends of 50+ years ago. [We only have Mike Williams, A. Walker and Eileen Ayre listed from those exact dates; are there any others known out there? – Editor]

In addition to his email address **DON SMITH (1933-40)** included his (we presume) website address [[www.forfarangus.freereserve.co.uk](http://www.forfarangus.freereserve.co.uk)] together with his usual well-received donation to funds. In our last Year Book he read with interest that **ANNE BROWN (nee SEATON) (1941-47)** had been in touch with the Association – and added that they keep up a regular correspondence. Anne's husband, **TERRY (1946 -?)**, had been going through a rough patch, healthwise, but seemed to be 'on the mend'. He also noted the number of (ex-) Billingham 'boys' who were mentioned in the Year Book. **BILL CHARNLEY (1939-44)** and **"DICK" CHAPPELL (1931-37)**, were both originally from Billingham and Don is curious to know if Bill had an older brother nearer to Don's age? Don maintains regular contact with **EDNA TWINNING (nee DICKINSON)** (also ex-Billingham) who used to suffer (like many of the girls) the flurry of paper pellets fired from rubber bands on the bus journey to school each day. He also keeps in touch with **IRENE GREEN (nee ARKLES)** who is a keen gardener and coach tourist. Another contemporary of Don's was **KEN WHITFIELD (1932-37)** [who was in 2Sc when Don was in 2A] and he was especially pleased to read the 'potted' wartime history of Ken in the last Year Book. Don recalls that, in the Summer of 1940, he, **BOB HEATHCOTE** and **'DICK' SHIELDS** cycled to Kendon Forestry Camp. The rest of the party including the **TWIDDY** brothers (**PETER** and **ERIC**), 'young Nick', son of the Head of Chemistry, the older **STEWARTSON** and one or two others ('names forgotten in the mists of time') travelled by train under the charge of Messrs 'Nobby' Morris and Stone. Even the cover of the last issue of the Year Book was of particular interest to Don. The owner of the sweet factory, which once existed in Green Dragon Yard, a D.F.



Smith [no relation] took a particular interest in Don's father, uncle and aunts when they were orphaned at an early age. Last year Don was in touch with **DES CROOKS** and **STAN KELLEY** and was informed of the sad news of the death of **BILL PALMER** (an ex-classmate and near neighbour in the '30s). Don visited Bill a year or two ago in Burgess Hill when Bill lived in the house of the former crossing-keeper on the London-Brighton line which had trains hurtling past within yards of his front door ! Early in the new year Don wrote to tell us that he had chatted over the 'phone with '**BERT RACE (?1930-36)** and Don's cousin, **RAY COUNTER (1931-36)**, had been in touch with **KEN DODSWORTH (1931-36)**. He added that **JOHN GALE (1928-35)** had not been too well of late, we trust that all is now OK. [Don added in his letter(s) that he was concerned about the space he seemed to occupy in the magazine. As the compiler of the booklet we need more, rather than less, news Don – keep it coming !! – Editor]

It is always nice to welcome new member **STEVE TERRY (1963-70)** into the Association and we were pleased to receive a most comprehensive 'history' of events in his life since leaving Grangefield – but 30 years is a long gap ! After leaving School Steve studied Metallurgy at Teesside Poly from '70-'73 and worked for Shaws Steel Foundry (Middlesbrough) and British Steel (South Teesside Works). Half way through the course he suspected that perhaps metallurgy was not his 'cup of tea' but persevered, despite feeling "rather lost and trapped". On graduation the employment climate was difficult and so he took a short-term job with Group 4 before securing a metallurgist post with Cummins. Sadly the recession took its toll soon after and he decided to open up his horizons, both geographically and professionally, and ended up in Cheshire. Chance seemed to deal him an unusual hand and on New Years day 1974 he started as a Residential Social Worker for Lancashire Social Services in Red Bank School [a Community Home with Education i.e. ex-Approved School]. He found that he loved the work and had an aptitude for it and, even better, he got paid more than he did as a metallurgist ! For the next 13 years social work remained as his profession (though at the time he assumed it was going to be 'for life'). During that period he met and married Karen (they have two children – 16 and 14), took a Degree in Applied Social Studies and a post-grad diploma at Keele Uni., moved to Northampton Social Services, where he became Deputy Head at a school near Towcester and thence to a Deputy Director's post in Shropshire. [It all sound so simple, doesn't it, when you skip over the years of hard work and soul searching? – Editor] Expecting to continue in the profession until retirement Steve was, like many in the profession, becoming unhappy with the wholesale change taking place and decided on a complete career move. After a post-grad Diploma in Training Management at Wolverhampton Uni., he obtained (in 1987) the post of Training Manager of a nationwide legal consultancy, based in Wolverhampton. Two years later he became Assistant Director (Training & management) at Birmingham City Council, catering for 56,000 employees with an annual budget of £11m. In 1995 Steve applied for voluntary redundancy and started his own management consultancy – a humble start from a room at home is now a well established firm catering (mainly) for local government across the midlands area. He concludes that it is demanding but he thrives on it and expects it to be his 'working life' until "they put me out to grass". [Where have we heard that before ! – Editor] When he has the time Steve and his family are keen outdoor enthusiasts – camping, caravanning and canoeing. The latter sport is combined with his love of photography and one day he hopes to canoe the Zambesi and some of the wild Canadian and American big lakes. His fantasy job would be as a travel writer/photographer. [Ah-ha ... Editor] He was disappointed not to see any references to old classmates in the recent Year book but was encouraged to note that most members were older than him ! He asks for help in finding **MIKE KAUFFMAN** (Fairfield – '76), **STEPHEN ROBINSON** (booze-up '71), **DAVID TAYLOR** (table tennis king), **JOHN MORTON**, **PETER WEBSTER** (Maths

teacher) & **STEVE ROBINSON** (at Poly with him not seen since '73) – the brackets indicate last 'memories'.

A most generous donation to funds from **RUSSELL THERSBY (1956-64)**, who we were pleased to see at last year's Dinner. Russ is still in the aerospace industry, based in Lancashire, and seemed as laid back as ever (i.e. when at School) when we spoke to him. He certainly seems to enjoy life and has done well in the intervening years.

It's always nice to hear from **LILLIAN THOMPSON (1929-34)** who sends a short note with a top up of subs. Lillian still sits on the Governing Bodies of two schools and has always been happy to give up time in the interests of local education.

A very generous donation from **NEIL (aka JACK) TURNER (1950-57)** together with some news – which is equally useful. Neil tells us that his uncle was **HARRY MANN (Staff: 1937-46?)** who was a Maths teacher at Nelson Terrace at the beginning of WWII and then a member of the BEF whence he was taken as a POW until 1945. Neil informs us that Harry died late in 2000. [Editor – Is this the same E.H. Mann who lived in Durham City, with whom we lost contact in 1993/94?] Harry's wife **GEORGIE (GEORGINA ?)(neeDAVISON)**, once a pupil and later a teacher during the War at Stockton, sadly passed away about 3 or 4 years ago. Neil himself responded to our request for news in recent years with a comprehensive letter. He has been "boiling oil" since graduating from Birmingham University in 1960 – 7 years at Shell's Stanlow refinery and now nearly 34 years at Lindsey Oil Refinery (LOR) for TotalFina Elf. He has managed to survive 30 years of 'musical chairs' in various senior management positions there and now has only a couple of years to retirement. With his wife (Bonnie) of 40 years he find life in rural Lincolnshire 'pretty good' and (being born in Co. Durham) is not 'phased' by the odd NE wind. After rugby at school and university Neil 'retired' to help with family life [he has 2 daughters] but discovered squash in 1974 and has been a devotee ever since. [He "and a fellow geriatric" still manage a 40-minute session every week] With a Georgian House and three acres to tend to his other spare time is usually 'spoken for' and Bonnie is involved in the retail antiques business. "Something for me to retire to" he adds. Neil still keeps in touch with **BOB ('HAPPY') HUTTON (1950-57)** [who was best man at his wedding] who is now retired (to fishing in the Ribble Valley) and **ALAN CRAGGS (1950-57)**, who was an engineer with the Midlands Electricity Board for many years, now retired and golfing. Bob, Neil and **JOHN LOGAN (1950-57?)** were all at University together but they have since lost touch with John [The last note we have of a J.M. Logan (Life Member) is Hayes, Middlesex – moved 1976 – Editor]. Neil wonders if **TOM OLIVER** or **TREVOR EDEN (both 1950-55)** ever received correspondence from Alan or Bob? Neil noticed their names in a recent magazine when they were asking about contemporaries and knew they were in the 'M' stream with Bob and Alan. Over the years Neil says that he has not run into many Old Stocktonians. At Shell the only one he met was **CHRIS LIDDLE (1951-58)** and, at LOR, **BERNIE WILKINSON (?)** 'passed through' whilst working as a Civil Engineer for Tarmac. He has however had the pleasure of working with **RAY MOFFATT (?)** for 25 years. He thinks Ray was at Nelson Terrace during the War years, joined the RNVR and was in Bahrain in the late '50s/early '60s before joining LOR in 1967. As second in command in the Engineering Dept. for some 25 years Ray was 'in the opposite corner' (so to speak) to Neil (as Operations Manager for 10 years) but they still managed to respect each other's integrity and remain good friends. Neil (as an ex-Bishop Middleham boy) concludes his narrative by passing on his best wishes to all those ex-pupils that daily trundled down the A177 on the Wilkinson's Special from the nether regions of County Durham.

It has been a good year for **PAUL VITTLES (1978-80)** and the company [RBA research] of which he is Chairman and MD. In addition to the firm achieving BS7911/MRQSA status

and being awarded Investors in People he was personally honoured by being made a Fellow of the Market Research Association, one of only ten such awards made in 2001. By the way he is on the move again, but this time it's just to new office premises ! We send him our congratulations and best wishes.

We received an email from **GRAHAM WALKER (1961-63)** in which he has "finally got round to telling you my change of address". We had been sending the magazine to the address Graham was at before he got married 30 years ago; however, his mother had been passing on the magazines. On leaving School at 16 Graham joined Dorman Long as a technical apprentice and remained there in various jobs until March 2001 when he took early retirement. Most of his career was spent in Project Engineering, installing equipment for iron & steel manufacture. One of Graham's senior managers in the later part of his working life was **RICHARD DARLING (?)** and he is still in contact with some long term friends from Grangefield, one of whom is **KATHLEEN MALTAS (Girls' Staff:1971-74)**

**Miss WARING (Staff:1973-77, Committee:1977- )** continues to be a constant source of information in respect of former pupils and backs this up with an excellent memory of pupils who were under her guidance when she was Headmistress of the Girls' School. She recently 'spotted' **NICOLE TIBBELS (1962?-69)** during a TV (Boxing Day) production of Rossini's 'La Cenerentola' Nicole had a leading role in the production, which was screened from Covent Garden, and was given a splendid ovation for her part. **BARBARA ROBINSON (nee GARTHWAITE)(1962?-69)** is currently President of Sorophomise International (at Stockton-on-Tees) and was voted Regional Teacher of the Year (2001). She is currently Head of Pastoral care at Blakeston School.

[For those who don't know Blakeston School, it was built (in Roseworth, opposite the end of Ragpath Lane [as Roseworth Secondary Modern ?]) to replace Frederick Natrass Senior School and opened in 1961 (?); changing its name in 1973 – Editor]

We were pleased to be 'reunited' with **DAVE WELLS (1949-56)** this year, after a 25 year gap. On receiving a back copy of the Year Book Dave was delighted to see that "**MIKE WATSON (1949-56)** was flying the flag for the '49-'56 cohort." Unfortunately Dave had no news of the names Mike mentioned but he could confirm his own well-being and his retirement status in Scotland, following a career in teaching which took him to London, Singapore, Germany and Scotland. After leaving the profession he spent six years as a consultant for a software house in the south of England before settling in Scotland. Dave recalls the most famous member of his year group as "the sixty million dollar man", **RIDLEY SCOTT** and adds that 6<sup>th</sup> January 2002 issue of the Observer Magazine 'quotes' Ridley as, allegedly, saying that during his time in Stockton "school was a washout"; Dave doubts that many of his contemporaries would agree with him. Speaking for himself Dave says that he has always been grateful for the encouragement and inspiration shown by all the staff and for the comradeship and good times shared with friends. He adds that **JIM STOCKILL (Staff:1950-63)** was 'to blame' for his decision to become a Maths teacher but complements his remark by saying that he has never regretted that decision. Other staff who influenced Dave included **VINCE CABLE, JIM DURRANT, "Fuzzy" DENNIS, "Tashy" LEE, RON "Bull" WRIGHT, "Black Jack" WHITE** and last (but not least) **JIM** (did he have a nickname?) **D'ARCY**. The only ex-pupil that Dave has met in the last few years is **RON (Spider) JACKSON** who was a year or two behind him but Dave remembers him as "a fine scrum half". They actually bumped into each other twice; once at an International Match at Twickenham about five-years ago and then on a coach at the airport in Phoenix, Arizona about two years ago when the plane they were booked on was cancelled. Dave had another surprise some time ago when he saw **DAVE TRAIN (?)** being interviewed during a Grandstand programme one Saturday afternoon. He was (is?)

a coach of the National Canoe Team. **ALAN ROSE (?)** recently contacted Dave through the 'Friends Reunited' website. Alan has been in Australia for the last 36 years and is still working in the auto industry. Dave was disappointed to read that rugby at the SFC was not flourishing as much as it did in the fifties when Grangefield teams were able to compete with any of the local (grammar) schools. He adds that it would be nice to hear some news of fellow players and lists **DEREK WELFORD (?)**, **DAVE ALLISON (?)**, **BOB HUTTON (?)** and **KEITH BODDY(?)** as potential candidates. He finished his email with a "few random memories". 'Taffy' Rhys insisting we "fasten our bottom buttons" and an occasion when he sang "Goodbye Dolly Gray" during a Chemistry lesson; Gavin Kay giving the class ear tests and everyone cheating and getting at least 9/10. He must have known! Going to Woolworths for "a penneth of broken biscuits" during the dinner hour at Nelson Terrace and then going down the docks; hostel trips to the Lake District with Jim Durrant and Fuzzy Dennis; Sixth Form Barn Dances with Queen Vic' and the Grammar; the game with the tennis ball and the coin in the prefects' room; "raiding" the girls prefects' room and the tongue lashing we received from Miss Milburn when we returned the carpet; and did we really store home made cider in the loft above the English room, and did the bottles explode? Happy Days...

It was good to welcome **JOHN WHITMORE (1960-67)** back into the Association. John showed his faith in our future with a long subscription. On leaving Grangefield John attended the School of Pharmacy at Sunderland Poly (as it was then) from 1968 to 1972. After a short initial period in Community Pharmacy he was appointed Deputy Chief Pharmacist at Ashington Hospital. From there he moved to the pharmacy commissioning team at the Freeman Hospital; but the patients made the place untidy and he moved on to Southend-on-Sea General Hospital as Principal Pharmacist - "what a culture shock that was for them!". John's next move to Ipswich Hospital was as Chief Pharmacist for 12 happy ("and one bad") years. They parted company some three years ago and John decided to work for himself as a locum pharmacist. John (and family) moved back to the north east in October, 2000 - so that he could follow Sunderland FC without an 800 mile round trip! At the time of writing he was looking forward to winding down (on the work front) and getting time to listen to his music (his other passion). Married to Barbara, they have two sons ("both at university and costing me a fortune"). He is in touch with **RICHARD WILSON (?)**, also a pharmacist, **ROB LYTHE (?)**, **IAN HUNTER (?)**, **JOHN MALCOLM REID (?)** and he "knows the whereabouts of" **GRAHAM REEVE (?)** and **PETER HILEY (?)**. [Get them to drop us a line John - Editor]

Ever the optimist **BARRY WIGGINS (1940-46)** wrote to us in November 2001 saying that "it must be nearly time for the 2001/02 edition" [Hope you weren't holding your breath Barry - Editor]. At 72 and a year since his heart by-pass operation Barry feels fairly good, even if he's not quite as energetic as he used to be. He now classifies himself as "fully-retired", although he still acts (for the ImechE) as an Assessor of mature candidates for Chartered Engineer status. In addition Barry is one of the Diocese of Leicester's appointees to the Board of Trustees of the Leicester Mission for the Deaf. This is a CofE Foundation that gives support to the NHS and the local authorities with services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Leicestershire.

It was nice to see **DAVID C.F. WILLIAMS (1959-62)** on one of our visits to Boulby Mine. A short note from him confirmed his address and topped up subs (with donation), but no other news.

We discovered the whereabouts of **CHARLES WILLOUGHBY (1947-54)** in 1999 and he has since sent us a long(-ish) letter with a nice donation to subs. As someone who left Teesside in 1956, did National Service then lived in Middlesex, Swansea and Hertfordshire, Charles had very little contact with old school friends until a couple of years

ago when Brian Brand organised the enjoyable reunion of the 1947-52/54 years. Brian had been able to contact him because the previous year Charles had been at a family wedding when he was introduced to a guest (on the bridegroom's side) named **JACK CANDLIN (?)**. Although they didn't recognise each other Charles was able to ask "Not, Jack Peyton Candlin?". Charles is not sure he has the spelling correct but says that second, third and even fourth Christian names were frequently referred to by one of the masters at Nelson Terrace and a lot of them are still remembered. [Paul M.J.J. Dee – he recalls]. With the 'middle' name there was instant recognition and amazement, they had been in the same class for seven years and had been good friends in and out of school. Now he is 'back in touch' he derives great pleasure in seeing so many familiar, yet almost forgotten, names in the Year Book and also the many coincidences and links that come to light. Charles was recently given the telephone number of **FRED RAMAGE (1946-51)** who ("although the year above me") was a great friend since they lived in the same street in Cowpen and usually travelled to school together. They had not been in contact for over 40 years and were surprised to learn that they had both retired within a couple of years of each other after similar long (almost 30 year) careers as engineers within BP. The name **EDDIE WOOD (1947-51?)** meant nothing to Charles when he was mentioned in last year's Year Book but when he read that he was in the same primary school class as **GRAEME DEWISON (1947-54)** (as was Charles) it dawned on him who he was. It was nice to hear of **KEN WHITFIELD (1932-37; Staff:1951-82)** who he remembered well, mainly through his links with **MALCOLM DUNCAN(1948-52)** [who is Ken's brother-in-law – Editor] and his family. It was not until he read the article about Ken that he realised that he was an old boy of the School. The reference to the 1939-45 War Memorial struck a poignant chord with Charles as his father's name, together with that of at least one very close friend from his class of 1926-31, is also recorded there. Charles pays just praise to the fine Personal Appreciation of, the late, Gordon Rattenbury written by Brian Brand. "Gordon ... was a stalwart of that group of masters from which my generation benefited so much in our professions, and life in general. In many ways theirs are the most successful lives that will be remembered with gratitude, respect and affection by so many of us."

A short note from **EDDIE WOOD (1947-51?)** confirming that he is indeed the R.E. WOOD referred to in last year's magazine. Since we last wrote Eddie has become a 'house husband' in so much as his wife now works in Bucks from Monday to Friday, returning home at the weekends. It has its compensations however, because it is handy for seeing her grandchildren (who live near to where she works). Eddie meanwhile has the freedom to do all his own cooking, housework and "a host of similar stimulating tasks."

### Tempus Fuqit, But Oh so Slowly

Time, like an ever rolling stream  
From now back to Devonian.  
Is like an evening gone, compared to  
Waiting for Stocktonian

The postman passing by my gate  
Just shakes his head in sorrow.  
There's nothing here from Stockton,  
Maybe better luck tomorrow.

Just bills and such. And rates demands.  
The Council rules draconian.  
But no brown envelope for me  
Containing my 'Stocktonian'.

A thousand ages roll on by.  
Each longer than the last.  
A deep depression settles in.  
Our hopes gone ages past.

But. One fine day ! Remind me  
Where I've heard that line before.  
A 'Stocktonian' bearing postman,  
Will come knocking at my door.

Then reading; in a foreign field,  
Of home and friends so dear,  
Old memories will live again.  
Whilst waiting for next year

*D.O. Gerel*

## OBITUARIES

Although he was not an 'Old Stocktonian' by birth **ARTHUR CARR** was certainly one by adoption and 'one of the old school'. Arthur came to Stockton from Scunthorpe SFC as the College's first Principal in 1974 when, to coin a phrase, 'education was in flux' and took on the difficult role of having to replace three grammar schools and a technical school sixth form. With his usual undemonstrative approach Arthur made the change seem a 'natural course of events' and I don't think even the most fervent devotee of the '11-18 system' could say that the College did not provide the same (or higher) standards of education as the best of the previous schools and, more crucially, make such available to a far wider 'audience'. Under his guidance the College went from strength to strength, academically speaking, but much to his personal regret it was not within his, or his loyal staff's, control to maintain the same levels of sporting competition with neighbouring schools and colleges. It was a particular regret of Arthur that rugby fixture lists were often reduced by lack of opposition (rather than College enthusiasm). He could however take pride in the national recognition achieved by the college in many other sports. Whenever he gave his 'state of the College' address at Old Stocktonians' Dinners Arthur was always at pains to ensure that the audience realised that the academic and sporting excellence he spoke of was all due to the students' own efforts and he distanced himself from any of the 'glory'. Before the Association allied itself with the new college (in 1973/4) we had (naturally) to approach Arthur to ask for his advice and approval. Without hesitation he welcomed our association (provided we 'opened our doors' to include female membership), and that friendship stayed strong (and two-way) right up until his untimely death; even when he retired Arthur served as an active member of the Benevolent Fund Trustees.

Although he could be forceful when the occasion demanded Arthur rarely seemed to 'lose his rag' in the everyday course of events and I think that most colleagues and friends would rate him as a true 'gentle'-man. We send our deepest sympathy to his wife Marjorie and the family.

**IAN FOX (1945-2001)** who died on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2001 was a young man for whom winning was a 'way of life'. Early in his life sport took up a huge part of his time and he was a good junior swimmer, but it was at rugby where he really showed his ability. Moving up through the teams at Grangefield he became an excellent scrum half and was top try scorer in the 1<sup>st</sup> XV during his final year – no mean feat given that Wishlade, Henderson, Barlow, Rayner and Turnbull were in the same side! He was chosen for Durham County Schoolboys and the County Colts, and the County 'sevens' at Senior level when he was a regular 1<sup>st</sup> team player at Stockton. Ian was always a strong family man for both his brother, sister and father and in later life for his wife Christine and daughters Laura and Amy. Despite being diagnosed with angina early in his life Ian (and Christine) lived life to the full and on one assignment for work in Iraq they were almost stranded in Baghdad by advancing Iranian troops. Life continued smoothly for a number of years thereafter until disaster struck and Ian fell from a ladder and suffered a severe cerebral haemorrhage. After several weeks on the danger list Ian 'bounced back' with usual resilience and after a whole year off he moved back to a successful working life. Life was (as near as possible) normal again and he enjoyed his 'new beginning'. How tragic it was that these circumstances were to last such a (relatively) short time. We send our most heartfelt sympathy to Christine, Laura and Amy (and Stuart & family).

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