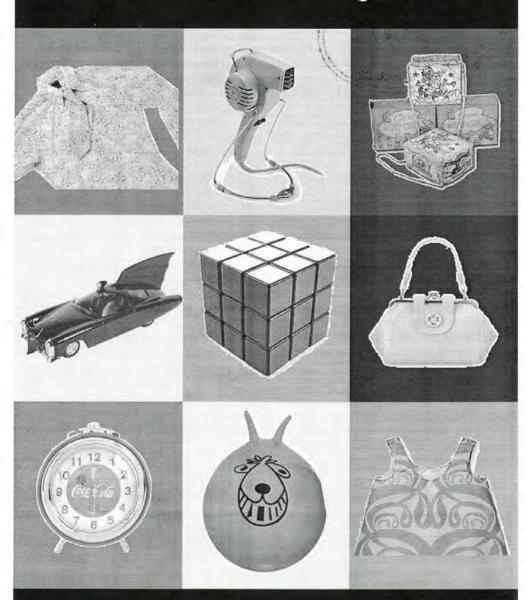
# The New Stocktonian



# 2006-2007

Produced by 'The Old Stocktonians' Association'

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<u>The Front Cover</u>: does it bring back memories of growing up through School and College? If so, tell us about them. If not, what iconic images do you remember of your School and College days? Get in touch and let us know.

# **Contact Details**

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You can also telephone Mr. R. Ward on:

01833 630163

Also, check out our website:

www.oldstocktonians.org.uk

### A Foreword by Dari Taylor MP

My school days were all very happy even though I did not have the opportunity of being educated near my home. I was born – and until the age of 16, lived and went to school – in the Rhondda Valley. My family's move to Burnley ensured that I finished my school life in England. As such, the friends I made cover a considerable distance!

world education changed The of dramatically for me in 1967 when I became undergraduate in the **Politics** Department of the University of Nottingham. They were three of the best years in my life. Of course, it was hard work but it was also great fun. I met people not only from the UK but from around the world, many of whom I am in touch with today.

It's forty years since my school life and university days ended but I still receive cards at Christmas time, numerous e-mails and my university alumni newsletter. All keep me abreast of what is happening in the lives of friends and many hundreds of associates. It is a community of like-minds that enjoys hearing about the variety of changes — professional, family, and institutional — that each experiences.

Mostly we keep in touch via the internet and e-mail, the rise of which means it is easy to forget the important role that alumni associations play in fostering the community spirit and fondness for schools or universities that ex-students usually feel. The newsletter reminds us not only of people we know but others we have forgotten and of events old and new. This helps to maintain and rekindle the university's special reputation.

The New Stocktonian gives all who went to Grangefield School or the Sixth Form College that similar sense of enjoyment. Through its articles it reflects the experiences of people who all shared, at different times, the same school days. From grandparents to 11 year olds, many surnames will appear again and again, giving all a chance to enjoy the multitude of stories that coloured their school days.

The Old Stocktonian magazine, by remembering the past and printing the news of today – from Grangefield and the Sixth Form – delivers an excellent read, made all the better when pupils past and present remember to drop the editor a line!

I would encourage any pupils – current or former – to become involved with the Old Stocktonians' Association, not only to keep in touch with old friends, but also to be part of the continuing development of the school's rich history. To be part of this group, which has been meeting since before the First World War, should make anyone associated with Grangefield School or Stockton Sixth Form College extremely proud.

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### President's Message

I am pleased to say that we did get a response to our appeal for new Committee members to come forward at the AGM. We welcome David Robinson, a young energetic law graduate who has taken on the mantle of Year Book Editor and has new ideas for projecting the Association into the internet realms. We also welcome David Williams as Treasurer and Peter Hunt on to the Committee along with Martin Peagam returning to the Committee.

I thank these new members of the Committee but again urge any others among you who can afford some time to come along and well the number on the Committee to what it used to be.

Regrettably we have had to make the decision to cancel the Dinner this year. Last year we combined the 47-54 reunion and only six other members came along, four of them stalwarts of the dinner over the years. There are plans to organise an informal reunion for all year groups and hopefully this will be in 2008.

David hopes to send out the Year Book well before Christmas and may I wish all of you well and good wishes from the Committee

Brian Brand

### A Brief Editorial

Firstly I would like to say 'hello'. I am the new Editor of 'The New Stocktonian' and as such I have made a few changes to the layout and design. All the usual features still remain and can be located using the contents list on page 2. I hope you enjoy reading this magazine. It will, however, only continue to be successful if you continue to contribute to it. Therefore, if you have any news, photographs, stories or anything at all you would like to go into the next edition, please send them to any member of the Committee (contact details are on page 2).

Many thanks to all those who have advertised with us - make sure you take a look at the advertisements which are scattered throughout this magazine. I would also like to offer my special thanks to Dari Taylor MP - her words set the tone perfectly for what I hope will be a very enjoyable read, and reminds us all of the shared memories we have of our education and how proud we should all feel.

I also offer a big thank you to Paul Graham, the previous Editor of this magazine. Paul printed all the labels for the envelopes, sorted payment out for the printing, proof read the magazine, prepared his own reports, offered suggestions and advice and much more. This edition of 'The New Stocktonian' would not be what it is without his help.

I hope you will continue to all keep in touch - a line or two a year is all it takes!

David Robinson

### **Remember When**

The Old Stocktonians' Association would like to warmly thank Barbara Baker and her colleagues at Stockton Library Service for providing the following photographs, and for all the help given to us. To look through the photographs and information they have please visit their website at www.picture.stockton.gov.uk



Above: This picture was taken in 1956 and is of a bouquet being presented to the Queen by a pupil from Grangefield Grammar School for Girls.

Right: A view of Stockton Higher Grade School, Nelson Terrace, Stockton on Tees, 1900.



## Stockton Sixth Form College: Success After Success

Martin Clinton, Principal of Stockton Sixth Form College, speaks of the successes and developments at the College during the last year.

Another great year for the College and Stockton Schools: schools in the Borough achieved another record set of results and the College gained outstanding results across the board. Students taking 3 A levels achieved a magnificent 98.9% pass rate with 26 subjects, both academic and vocational, gaining a 100% pass rate.

GCSE re-sit students and their teachers can be particularly proud of their 71% pass rate. All these results are well above national averages, which is what we have come to expect at the College.

The College is, of course, concerned with more than passing examinations. Students continue to be involved in developing a range of skills and attributes. The Student Council have met regularly. They organised a very successful, end of College, Dance at Hardwick Hall which was enjoyed by all. A small group of volunteers arrange regular paper recycling in conjunction with the local authority. They successfully lobbied for easy access to drinking water and liaise with our caterers to ensure healthy and affordable meals are available. A group of student volunteers helped Twister Arts organise an end of first year fair. This was the College's first such fair but was such good fun that it is likely to become an annual event. Writing of the student council, it is good to see a past student president as editor of this magazine. He has already initiated good ideas for trying to recruit new members of the Old Stocktonians e.g. on results day along with their results slips students were given an Old Stocktonians' newsletter. The president and vice-president play an important role in communicating student views and are both members of the College's Board of Governors.

Students are encouraged to be good members of the community. A group of students raised £2250 for UNICEF's East Africa Children's Crisis Appeal. They organised a whole series of events and were very clever in their "teaser" advertising campaign. The students and staff continued their annual support of Oxfam at Christmas, MacMillan Coffee mornings, Red Nose Day and the Butterwick Hospice.

One spectacularly successful Charity event was a result of very sad circumstances. The College held a race night for Middlesbrough Holistic Cancer Centre raising £1616. JOHN HALL, an IT teacher at the College, was diagnosed with cancer in September 2006 and received excellent treatment at the centre. John's bravery and stoical attitude throughout his illness was an inspiration. John continued to teach, when well enough. The College was very grateful that we were able to organise this, without disruption to the students, through the welcome help of the disability section of Job Centre Plus. John died last July. Sadly, GRAEME TURNER, son of Anne who works at the College and Keith who is active in the Association, also died in October 2006. Graeme had been a Hockey player at College so his parents have instituted an annual sport's prize. Like John, Graeme was very courageous and kept smiling throughout his illness. always be remembered. The College also hosted a drama on Slavery as part of the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade. The College's own production, the Accidental Death of an Anarchist, was a great success. A group of very talented art students worked with a professional artist on public art work which will be displayed at Lawson Street Health Centre to both be artistically pleasing 6 and promote good health.

Four students took part in a University Challenge evening as part of Durham University's 150th Anniversary Celebration. If they had not got off to a slow start they would have won the schools and colleges final. Staff and students continue to be very active in the North East Schools Industry Project's Durham University residential. To further build on our community links the College held an inaugural dinner for Friends of the College. This was well supported and we were pleased and thankful that the Mayor of Stockton Councillor Suzanne Fletcher and Frank Cook M.P both made excellent speeches. The event sponsored by Dr Banerjee's family for which the College is in their debt.

Sport continues to be a great strength of the College. In football, the A team won the league and the C team won the Eric Bell Cup. In swimming, **REBECCA LEIGHTON** and **MICHELLE GRAY** won the regional lifesaving competition. **ASHLEY BARWICK**, swimming the butterfly leg of the 50m medley relay

helped her team come second in the British Colleges National Championships. Another swimmer, JESSICA DICKONS represented the country in the European Championships in Helsinki, and won BBC Look North's Young Sports Personality of the Year. In netball, LEANNE ROGERS was selected for the England Netball Squad. In Cross Country LAUREN ROCHE, KATIE ABEL, NATASHA WHEATLEY and KATE WHARREY qualified for the National Finals. Although not a sport, EMMA TAYLOR'S achievement of "Best Army Cadet" in the UK deserves celebration. Starting with the new term the College will be running a Cricket Academy where alongside their academic studies young cricket hopefuls will be coached by former Durham professional Martin Speight.

Those of you local to the College will have seen that, at last, the Sports/Performing Arts Building is being built. It should be ready to open in January 2008.

Martin Clinton

### Treasurer's Report: 2006-2007

The funds remain sound but have still to be audited for the year ended 30th June 2007. Subscriptions have decreased slightly from last year to £103.00. The donations have increased once again from £189.90 to £194.15. These (with other small sales) give an income from members of £369.03. Building Society interest was £101.31 (before tax) and the balance in the Life Members and General Fund £3601.86, a decrease of £670.01 on the previous year. An exceptional cost this year was a mail shot to members about the possible winding up of the Association; this cost £79.47. Also the costs of setting up and maintaining the website over the past 5 years has eventually caught up with us to the 'tune' of £328.32. The Year Book cost £518.00 to print and postage & packing amounted to £77.55. Due to a lack of advertising there was no income to help defer costs and so the overall yearbook 'loss' amounts to £595.55. With a membership of about 240 the cost of production is approaching £2.50 per copy (50p more than the current yearly subscription) and the Committee will eventually have to consider alternative formats to reduce such costs. The King/Armstrong/Rattenbury funds with prizes worth £20 each are fairly healthy for the moment, with an overall total of £1739.20 (including interest). Stocks of 'History of the Association' are still substantial and, although the publication costs have been recouped, we need to release the money tied up and therefore the price is now reduced to £1.00.

Finally may I once again thank Peter Fleck, our Honorary Auditor, for his valuable assistance and time taken in auditing these accounts.

# facebook

### Facebook is a social utility that connects

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What is Facebook? Well, it is a website which is completely free to join and use, and it keeps people in touch with one another. You can search for friends, join groups with like-minded people (such as 'The Danger Mouse Appreciation Society'), upload photos - it is really user-friendly and an absolutely fantastic resource for finding out what your old school or college friends are up to now.

So, the next question is 'how does it work?' Well the best thing for you to do is to go to www.facebook.com - and then click on the link to register. It should then guide you through the process. The website also offers useful guides on how to get started. Once you are up and running make sure you use the search box and look for 'Old Stocktonians'. You should then see our group on there. Click join and it will provide us with another means of sending you news.



# Happy 70th Ridley!

Sir Ridley Scott, who was educated at Grangefield Grammar School in the early 1950s, has directed some of the biggest movies of our time such as Gladiator. As he is now approaching his 70th Birthday, 'The New Stocktonian' thought they would see what they could uncover about his school days and links with the North East.

Ridley was born in South Shields on 30 November 1937 and so at the time of writing he is approaching his 70th birthday. In an interview given a few years ago, Ridley said: "I was a very earnest, hard working boy at school, but my parents were distressed because I was always bottom of the class. But I wasn't dilatory, I worked like crazy. I think I was really bored at school. I was quietly clock watching for years. I went to 10 schools because my dad was in the Army and we moved around a lot". On the BBC website Ridley goes on to write: "In fact probably one of the reasons that led me to being a director was that I had an Art Master at Grangefield Grammar School, called MR CLAYLAND, and I have no idea whether he is still alive he ought to be because he was a young teacher then. So Mr Clayland was the guy who recognised that I was a dimwit but that I was really good at art. He advised me to leave Grammar School and go to art school. The choice was Middlesbrough or Hartlepool and that is what I did and for the first time in my life I stopped watching the clock. So thanks Mr Clayland".

Pictured Right: Grangefield Grammar School Playing Fields



# Here and There: News from Old Stocktonians

The following pages are full of news and comments sent in by Old Stocktonians from all across the world. Read below to see what your old school and college friends are up to.

We were very pleased to hear from <u>WILF HUME</u> (1924-1929). As ever we were grateful to receive his generous donation to the Association. At present Wilf is writing his life story; Having committed to print his mother's and then his father's life stories, his late wife Ann's having been undertaken earlier, Wilf's daughter got at him to do his own. He says that it certainly keeps him busy and out of mischief!

We were also grateful to receive the generous donation from **ARNOLD MORTON** (1937-1941). He says that he is now well settled in his flat and is determined to get to the School this year.

**JOHN GREEN** (1940-1946) got in touch with us. He was down in the area in January and stayed at the Clairville Hotel. When he was down John says he enjoyed playing table tennis again at the usual Friday evening session at the Eaglescliffe Village Hall. He offers his condolences at the passing of Louise Waring.

JOHN SMITH (1946-1951) took the time to send us news of what he has been up to and to pass on some of his memories. John was actually on the Committee in around 1964 before he moved south. He moved from NEEB to Southern Western Electricity Board at their Head Office in Bristol. Naturally his wife PAT SMITH (NEE LAW) (1947-1952) and two very small girls moved too. We pass on our congratulations to John and Pat as they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in August. John recalls that he has enjoyed reading the magazine over the years as it has brought back memories. John used to work with JOHN GREEN (mentioned above) as they were both electrical engineers. Also, John previously lived two doors down from another Old Stocktonian, DAVID CHURCH, when he lived in Fairfield. At this same address he also lived opposite GORDON LAKE and his sister Margaret. John also remembers TONY SCOTT as they were in the same class; he recalls that Tony was only slightly built but that he did well at cross country races at School and in regional runs, John also remembers that with PADDY O'NEIL and IAN GRANT they put their cycles on the train to Bristol and cycled along the North side of the windy Peninsula to Lands End and back along the South side to Bristol. By coincidence John now lives in that very area. Another memory of John's is when 24 boys and 3 teachers made the first trip to Paris since the War. Included in the trip was Mr. RATTENBURY, MR. CABLE and Mr. DURANT. English was not spoken well at the time in France and so their schoolboy-French was put to the test! Whilst at School John was also a member of the local Scout Troop and in fact became a Queen's Scout; others he can remember were JOHN WALTON, PETER BARRY BRAINY, DAVID (PUFFER) TRAIN, BARRY CROSS and TREVOR CROSS. If any of those reading this share these memories with John, or have your own stories, please get in touch.

In 2006 **Brian Brand** met up with **Lew Pilbrough** who was at school in the mid-1950s, before going with his parents and brother Dave to what was then called Rhodesia. Lew, along with wife Irene, called in on their way to Edinburgh with their daughter and son-in-law who were on holiday from Australia. Lew and Irene now live at Burnopfield, near Newcastle.

When doing some internet research on Grangefield Grammar School the website <a href="http://picture.stockton.gov.uk/photos/t6291.aspx">http://picture.stockton.gov.uk/photos/t6291.aspx</a> provided some information. <a href="mailto:Donald Nattrass Davison">Donald Nattrass Davison</a> wrote on that website that he was known as Nat and initially attended Stockton Secondary School in Nelson Terrace before moving into Grangefield when it opened in 1951. He left Grangefield at age 15 and went into the Royal Navy where he says he has never looked back and has enjoyed a great life. Although he left early Donald states that he has many happy memories of Grangefield and he is sure that the high standards of the then Grammar School stood him in good stead all his life.

It was nice to hear from **Peter Dee**, a '51 leaver, who sent us some more subs. He also sent us a donation for which we are as ever grateful. **Ken Oliver** (1948-1953) sent the Association an email. Ken's Uncle is also an Old Stocktonian as he went to Nelson Terrace in the early 1920s. Ken was a judge at the recent Young Engineer of the Year competition in Sunderland and met up with a team from Grangefield. He would be keen to attend a future reunion.

John Edmunds got in touch via email. John attended Grangefield in the first year, 1951. His first form was 1C but having come third in the final exam he was promoted to 2A. He obtained six 'O' Levels and went work for ICI in the analytical department - a shrewd move since his worst subject was chemistry! However, John was stuck with it and moved to Shell Research in Kent where he started on the road to becoming a pesticide specialist. John subsequently obtained the three A-Levels he needed to embark on the RSC route to graduation; he is now a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and a Chartered Chemist. He works full time in his company having developed a global control programme for pesticide use. At present 45% of all

fruit and vegetables consumed in the UK go through his company's system and his company expects to be operating in mainland Europe and the USA in the near future. John says that he is fit and well – he and his wife were the highest combined age to reach Everest Base Camp so most things are still working! John says that of course it is all down to the great start he had at Grangefield.

The Old Stocktonians' Association reaches far and wide, and **Tom OLIVER** from the USA got in touch. Tom went to Grangefield in the 1950s.

**GRAEME DEWISON** (1947-1954) dropped us a quick line with his address and confirming his dates at Grangefield Grammar School.

RAY REED, who left Grangefield Grammar School for boys in 1957, dropped us a brief line. Ray comes up to Stockton from time to time to visit family. He also keeps in touch with one of his contemporaries, ROBIN BOWERS, who now lives in Dorset.

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PETER GORDON (1954-1960) sent us some more subs and news. Peter was did not go on to the Sixth Form but instead joined ICI in Billingham where he qualified as a Management Accountant in 1966. One of his contemporaries, Austin Mason, was, for a time, on the same training course. At ICI Peter met ROSEMARY HUGHES (1958-1963) and they married in 1969. Rosemary is the sister of COLIN HUGHES (1952-1959) and they are both ex-Grangefield pupils. Colin lives with his wife June in Bramhall and have two adult children and two grandchildren. Peter and Rosemary have two adult children too. One is Richard who was born in 1973 in Brussels, and the other is Joanna who was born in 1974 in Hertford, Joanna and her husband James Utting have also provided Peter and Rosemary with two grandchildren: George (born in 2005) and Harriet Rose (born in 2006). Peter worked in a number of accounting positions, including two years in Belgium. In 1980 he became Managing Director of a defence electronics business and in 1985 the whole family moved to New Jersey, USA, where Peter had been invited to run a \$1 billion sales manufacturing business with more than twenty factories in eight countries! On their return to the UK in 1990 Peter worked for a while for an international French company and began investing in and chairing a number of smaller companies. He states that he was even Chairman of chilled fruit salad company for a while. Peter now keeps himself busy with a certain amount of business consultancy. He is also Chairman of the Welwyn Garden City Music Society, which has both a chorus and an orchestra. He is also Chairman of the Friends of St. Nicholas, which is a charity supporting his local Church. Peter also sings in two choirs and is doing a night school course in theology at St. Albans. Rosemary has brought up their two children and also ran her own interior design business in New Jersey. She has also been a Relate counsellor and has worked as a volunteer for Victim Support for many years. She also ran a Job Club in Hertford. Rosemary now gardens, leads a book circle and helps bring up two grandchildren. Peter says that they now spend most of their time on holiday in their apartment in the French Alps (skiing and walking) or on holiday in Scotland (shopping and walking). Plus, of course, they entertain their grandchildren. They also often see Peter's cousin, CHARLES HENRY WILLOUGHBY (1947-1954), and his wife Joyce, as they live quite near.

ROGER MASON (1954-1961) sent us some more subs and also his new address.

**JOYCE LINDSAY (NEE FLATTLEY)** (1956-1961) recently joined the Association. Joyce attended Grangefield Grammar School for Girls. She is still in touch with several girls from her year.

RICHARD CLUBLEY (1955-1962) dropped us a brief line confirming his details.

**GEOFFREY DANIEL** (1957-1962) expressed an interest in attending any forthcoming reunion.

PHIL DOVER (1960-1962) got in touch. After school Phil went on to obtain a degree in Industrial Economics from Nottingham University. After time in the corporate world (BP, Nestle) and an exciting few years in New Zealand, he finished up in the US where he did a Masters and PhD in Business Administration. He has now been there about 25 years and shares his time between Boston and Washington DC. He is a Professor of Marketing and Strategy at Babson College where he spends much of his time teaching executives in firms like Siemens and Sony. He still has strong links with the UK and he and his wife keep a small cottage in Wensleydale which they visit as often as possible. He says they appear to comprise the modern nuclear family (for better or worse), with a daughter living in London and a son in Atlanta!

It was great to hear from J. RALPH BARTON who left Grangefield Grammar School in 1962. For some years he has received a copy of the magazine from STEVE COWEN. He did not know Steve at School since Steve arrived in 1962 from Richard Hind to join the Sixth Form. He met Steve when Steve started courting the daughter of the people who lived next door (Steve later married her). They soon discovered that they had a number of friends in common. J. Ralph Barton arrived from Blackpool in the fourth form at Grangefield Grammar in 1960. He arrived on crutches with a plaster cast as he had a rather nasty ankle fracture at his previous School. In 1963 he became articled to a solicitor in the firm of Jefferson, Willan and Co in Northallerton and qualified in 1968 when he was only 21. He then join the firm of Close Thornton in Darlington and became partner in 1970. In 1969 he married Valerie who he had met at a dance in Great Ayton some years before. They now have two sons and two grand-daughters. In 1993 he was appointed a part-time Chairman of what is now the Employment Tribunals. In 1994 he obtained an LLM (Advanced Legal Practice) from Northumbria University and for the next two years he did some lecturing for them as well as acting as a consultant to the practice of Hudsons. Hard and Borrows in Richmond, In 1996 he was appointed a full time Chairman of the Employment Tribunals, based in Newcastle but sitting in Newcastle, Teesside and Carlisle, He and Valerie moved to St. Peter's Basin in the Byker area of Newcastle and Valerie became very much involved with the campaign to stop the expansion of the Byker incinerator. As an allotment holder she realised toxic ash from the incinerator had been spread on allotment footpaths and on other public places. Val was often in the local media and the groups she was concerned with won a national media award from WWF in the coverage they achieved and the quality of their reports. The incinerator was subsequently closed. They both now live in the very beautiful rural Northumberland with two collie dogs and two cats. We thank them for their cheque too.

We were very pleased to hear from <u>DAVID GATHERGOOD</u> (1957-1964) and we thank him for his kind donation. At the time of his note David was about to set off on a trip to Portugal, Spain and France for a total of four months in his motor home - enjoying the warm weather while they can! David will keep a look out for any Old Stocktonians on his travels, but as yet has not found any. He passes on his thanks to those who are keeping the Association active.

**Ron Syson** got in touch with us. Ron left Grangefield in 1965 to train as a chemist at Dorman Long. He eventually got involved with public health and became Chief Environmental Health Officer of Spelthorne Borough Council in Surrey but is now in early retirement in Cyprus. **Ken Taylor** contacted us through Friends Reunited. He is living in the south west at present. Ken left Grangefield in 1965. Another 1965 student was **Dave Clubley** who now lives in Nottingham.

Many thanks who **RICHARD SMITH** (1958-1966) for his confirmation of his address - if anyone else has changed address or is about to change address please let us know.

CONNIE ROBINSON (NEE MCKENZIE) (1962-1967) recently joined the Association. Connie attended Grangefield Grammar School for Girls, and since leaving she became a Registered General Nurse. She then trained to become a secondary school teacher in religious education. For the last 10 years she has been working as a lecturer in further education. In addition to work Connie is also now training to be a Reader in the Anglican Church. Connie is married with four grown up children and is still living in Hartburn.

In July <u>TED COOPER</u> (1957-1962) was featured in the paper with a horse! The horse was a police variety named Cooper after Ted's grandfather who won the Victoria Cross in the First World War. Ted, along with <u>COLIN MUSTARD</u> and <u>GEOFF WARD</u>, used to be regulars at the Association Dinner.

During the year an article in the Northern Echo highlighted ALAN WILKINSON and his work as an artist since retiring from industry. Alan was a member of staff at Grangefield Grammar School in the mid-1960s. He left to join ICI as a work study officer and received awards for his work in this field. He is remembered particularly for his folk singing at one of the staff functions.

RALPH ELMES, a '67 leaver, got in touch and gave a generous donation. Ralph has now retired and spends his time sorting out the house, helping Janet in the garden and ringing Church bells and hand bells. Ralph says that he often wondered if there are other ex-Grangefield pupils living around South Oxfordshire, which he says is perhaps better know as 'Midsomer Murder' capital of Britain!

BILL SANDERSON (1963-1969) is now a Consultant to the Chemical Industry. Bill was in forms 1Z, 2LB, 3LB, 4R, 6(i)Sc(a), 6(ii)Sc(a), and briefly 6(iii) before leaving to work at ICI for a 'gap year'.

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Please contact us for further information



The Association managed to get in touch with **BRIAN COLLIN** through Facebook. Brian left Grangefield (Boys Grammar) School in 1969 and ended up moving on and graduating with a degree in geography from the University of Nottingham. After that Brian began working in IT and notes that he hasn't yet stopped! In an attempt to stay current he got an MSc in Information Systems Design in 1986; in the same year he also got elected to Winchester City Council as a Liberal Democrat Councillor. Brian continues to serve with the Council having been re-elected five times!

MIKE BROWN (1961-1968) also got in touch with the Association. However, you may remember Mike better as 'Jammy Brown' at Grangefield as Peter (Rock) Hudson, the games teacher, seemed to christen somebody in each year group thus and his 'JMB' initials were the best match in the 1961 intake. Mike left Grangefield in July 1968 and went on to the North Eastern Electricity Board (later Northern Electric) and subsequently obtained a BSc in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Newcastle University. Working life took Mike to Billingham, York and Newcastle as an electrical engineer working on plant maintenance, fault location, telecommunications radio and IT, planning policy and finishing in the switching control room. He also became heavily involved as a trade union representative and negotiator. Privatisation and American ownership led to an offer of retirement on an (Continued over page ...)

(Continued from previous page) early pension just two days after his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2000. Mike now lives in Ponteland, near Newcastle Airport, and he is married with two daughters, one just approaching university and the other 6th form. Mike says that retirement is really still just a dream as he is a Trustee of the Northern Electric Pensions Scheme, which recent 'simplification' has expanded from six days a year to thirty plus days a year. Mike is also kept busy as he is a governor at two of Ponteland's schools and is also very involved in a campaign to keep middle schools in Northumberland. Mike's sister, **Jenny Brown**, left the girls' school in 1970. Mike is also in touch with **John Cameron** and **Keith Fryer** from his own year and also with **Hazel Lindley** who teaches science at Ponteland Middle School and **Margaret Stainsby** who used to teach domestic science in the girls' school and is now a leading light in the Ponteland Park volunteer group.

Again through the wonders of the internet the Old Stocktonians' Association managed to get in touch with **RAB Johnson** (formally **Tony Johnson**). Rab also had a twin brother, **PIB Johnson**, and both left Grangefield Grammar School in 1969. Unfortunately the Association lost touch with Rab as he moved out of the area shortly after joining the Association. He is now living in Scarborough; he recalls some ancedotes which you will read later in the magazine.

Following a message the Editor placed on the Friends Reunited website, <u>LEWIS AYERS</u> (1966-1971) was one of the people to get in touch. Lewis attended Grangefield between 1966 and 1971. He is currently living in Long Newton and so still often drives past the School.

**Brenda Humphreys (NEE Cossins)** (1966-1972) went to Grangefield Grammar School for Girls. She is now living in Australia but dropped us a line. Hopefully we will receive more news from her soon.

<u>LINDA HEADS</u> (1967-1973) and <u>MIKE HEADS</u> (1973-1974) sent us some more subs. They still have the Dental Healthcare Centre in Fairfield.

We received an email from <u>Dave Willers</u>, a 1974 leaver, who expressed pleasure at reading the last edition of the magazine (especially when he was able to read news about his old School mates <u>Doug Harris</u> and <u>Andy Wilkins</u>!). Dave further said that he was saddened by the possibility of the Association being wound-up and hoped that some people would come forward to help with running the Association.

**PAUL TODD** (1971-1976) attended Grangefield Grammar School and then went on to Stockton Sixth Form College. Paul is interested in joining the Association and hopefully we will have his updated news in the next edition of the magazine. **TRISH STEPHENSON** (1971-1976) moved away in 1980 but has just bought a house in the area.

**SIMON ROBINSON** tells us he was sad to hear of the possible demise of the Association in the last edition of the magazine - but he wishes us the best of luck in rejuvenating it and is keen to attend any future events planned. Simon attended Grangefield between 1971 and 1977.

**SUSAN TIERNEY (NEE COOPER)**, (1976-1977) who attended Stockton Sixth Form College, is now a tutor at a further education establishment.

We are grateful for the note from <u>Austin Wilkinson</u> (1972-1977) informing us of his change of address.

We are pleased to welcome a new member, JANICE PEAGAM (1975-1977).

**JIMMY (JAMIEL) MOHAMMED**, who left Grangefield School in 1978, got in touch and told us he is an Operations Director/Partner in a Real Estate company in Dubai. He does say that if any of his former classmates are interested in coming to Dubai either to purchase property or just for a holiday he would be happy to meet up with them and show them around.

**JOHN MURRAY** dropped the Association a quick line and gave us his email address. John attended Stockton Sixth Form College in the late 1970s.

Following the message on Friends Reunited, **SHARON WATRET (NEE POWELL)** dropped us a line. Sharon is from the class of 1981. She is currently living in the Rutland area, working for Rutland Water Cycling Limited as PA to the Directors. She has moved around quite a lot over the years after she married Barney who is a soldier in the British Army. Sharon and Barney have 4 children – her second eldest has, at 17 years old, begun his own Army career and is currently in Phase II training as REME (VM). Her eldest, Jake, is 20 and still living at home. Her daughter Jasmin is 15 and is studying for her GCSEs at Uppingham Community College and her youngest, Zachary, is 10 and attends Edith Weston Primary. Add to the mix a very timid German Shepherd called Jess and a hyperactive kitten called Beau, and she says she has a very lively household!

PHIL DOBBIE (1980-1982) has been in touch. Phil was at Stockton Sixth Form College from 1980-1982. He was Chairman of the Student Council for a while and recalls he had huge authority over key decisions like what should go in the vending machine! He also wrote a couple of student revues with **GAVIN MACHELL**. In fact, from those early days it was clear that they were set for a career in anything but writing or acting. Gavin is now teaching and Phil works in telecommunications. Phil worked at Radio Tees for a while, until the Sales Manager slung him a contra-deal ticket to Australia. He tells us he backpacked around, liked the place and, after a few years back in Britain, he ended up living out there. He recently got remarried to a gorgeous Aussie girl and early this year welcomed the cutest baby boy into the world.

Ex-Stockton Sixth Form College Student, <u>Dawn Kinnersley</u> (1982-1985), got in touch with the Association. Since leaving College she studied full time for a philosophy degree at North London Polytechnic. At the same time as doing this she worked part time in her local library. After her finals she worked full time in the library for about one and a half years before moving into the further education library sector where she remained for six and a half years - during which time she qualified as a librarian (again at the North London Polytechnic). She is currently Subject Librarian at the now London Metropolitan University. She tells us she is still in touch with <u>Alison Armstrong (Nee Thomas)</u> and <u>Annabel Watson (Nee Curd)</u>. Dawn has also provided some useful guidance in the advice section of this magazine.

A past member of the Association got in touch and will hopefully be joining again, **PHILLIP KING**. Phillip attend Stockton Sixth Form College in the early 1980s and is now married with 3 children - he also has a fish and a guinea pig!

He were pleased to hear from **RICHARD BRAND** (1983-1985) who sent us some more subs. Richard is still in Switzerland, living in Aarau which is not too far from Zurich. Richard commutes to London fairly regularly and occasionally ventures to the North East.

We are also grateful for the extra subs from <u>Tracey Brand</u> (1985-1987). Tracey has now lived in Leamington Spa for eighteen years. She is still at Milverton Primary School where she began he teaching, although now she is Deputy Head Teacher. In 2005 she gained her NPQH (National Professional Qualification for Headship) although she is not intending to apply for any Headship at the moment. Tracey is happy at Milverton School – it is a school which has a good reputation in Leamington and within Warwickshire.

**RICHARD HUMBLE** (1980-1987) sent us some more subs. Richard says he has little to report this year, except that the girls are now getting older and so he is stuck with taking his holidays during the school holidays for the next ten years plus! We are grateful to **GUY MOULE**, a 1988 leaver, who sent us an email with an updated address.

**SIMON SMITH** (1987-1989) sent a message through Friends Reunited. Simon went to Stocktor Sixth Form College between 1987 and 1989, and his Mum went to Grangefield during the 1950s Simon is in Australia at the moment but is interested to know what his old friends are up to now.

**GLORIA O'DELL HOLDEN** sends greetings from Africa! Again, we are hoping Gloria sends us some more news soon.

We received a message from Oregon from **TONY SMITH**. Tony left Grangefield in 1985 and Stockton Sixth Form College in 1987. He is now a project controls manager.

Another person who replied to a message left on Friends Reunited was MARK KNIGHT. Mark left Stockton Sixth Form in 1987 and went to Oxford Polytechnic to train to be a Primary School teacher; along with that he studied German Language and Literature which he really enjoyed. He came out with a second class honours degree which he says was just about right for him since he had not been a great studier! As Mark wanted to live down South and experience life away from the north east he got a job at the school where he did his second teaching practice in a village called Flackwell Heath near High Wycombe. There were one or two things Mark missed about not being in Stockton, such as the quieter roads for example. He has now been teaching for thirteer years and says it really goes fast and what with all the holidays and the great kids he teaches, he loves the job! Mark is on the Council of the English Schools' Football Association and currently oversees all schools' football in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire as well as helping to organise national competitions. Along with this he runs teams at school and has recently received his ter year service award for being secretary and chairman of High Wycombe and District Primary Schools' F.A. Mark still referees quite often since qualifying over twelve years ago and has had some high points in refereeing terms, such as officiating at a schools' final at Anfield and running the line when Wycombe Wanderers played Tottenham in a pre-season friendly in front of 10,000 fans. Other interests include golf, cricket and horse racing. One thing Mark says he misses about the North is being able to follow the Boro - he is hoping for a good reign under Southgate! From Friends Reunited, Mark met up with LEIGH BEAUMONT, which was great. Hopefully Mark might be able to attend any forthcoming reunion which is planned.

<u>VICKY CAMPBELL (NEE HARWOOD)</u> (1985-1990) dropped us a message through Friends Reunited Vicky is currently living in Australia but is due to come home for a while after Christmas. She hopes that she will be at home when the reunion is organised so she can meet up with her old school friends.

**DR CHRIS KIRTON** also sent an email expressing an interest in the Association. Chris is now married with two children and left Stockton Sixth Form College in 1991. He is now a Senior Research Associate at the University of Cambridge and is loving every minute of it.

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Past, Present and Future

Someone else who spotted the Association's message on Friends Reunited was **SARAH COTTERILL** (**NEE SHARPE**). Sarah attended Grangefield School between 1988 and 1993 and then went on to Stockton Sixth Form College.

**SAM GRANGER (NEE MCNULTY)** got in touch. Sam left Grangefield School in 1993 but is still in touch with some of her old school friends. She is still living in the area and would be interested in attending any forthcoming reunion.

By chance the Association came across <u>Margaret Turner</u> when we were emailing local businesses regarding advertisements for the magazine. Margaret and her brother and sister all attended Grangefield School. Margaret is living in Oxbridge and it is hoped we will receive more news from her for the next edition of the magazine.

**DAVID PEARCE**, now a technical director from Sussex, was one of many people who was keen for a reunion to take place. David attended Stockton Sixth Form College. We hope to hear more from him soon.

**DAVID ROBINSON**, who attended Stockton Sixth Form College between 2001 and 2003, graduated with a First Class Honours Degree in law from the University of Manchester in 2006. He then went on to recently obtain a Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice with Distinction from the College of Law in York. At the time of writing David is about to commence his legal training with a firm in Manchester; a firm which was voted the best law firm to work for in the country by the Sunday Times!

**HEATHER MCFARLANE** got in touch through Facebook. Heather left Stockton Sixth Form College in 2003 and informs us that having just completed a Masters in modern languages at the University of Manchester she is now moving to Bognor Regis with her partner Adam.

**SOPHIE HORSMAN** has been in touch and told us that since leaving College she went to the University of Teesside for a year and then took a vacation to Cancun, Mexico. She then decided to move out there and work! She will be moving back and finishing her studies when she is ready - read more about her in the advice section of the magazine.

Another person who got in touch with us via Facebook was **EMMA LOUISE SHEPHERD**. Emma has just completed her first year at the University of Chester where she is studying media (TV production). She has given some advice on the course and University in the advice section of the magazine, so take a look.

The Old Stocktonians' Association was founded by Evan Baldwin on 24 January 1913. It was designed so that ex-students of various local schools could keep in touch together. Today the Association continues and all ex-students of Grangefield School and Stockton Sixth Form College are able to join.

I can see two principle purposes of the Association at the moment:

- To act as an alumni association to keep people in touch with one another and to share news and to organise reunions.
- To provide advice and information to other members of the Association, particularly younger members, who are about to start or change careers.

So please don't think of the Old Stocktonians' Association as something which has lost all relevance to you - make it YOUR Association again. Get involved, keep in touch and put something back into the Schools and College that got you where you are today!

Ten of us gathered at Solberge Hall, near Northallerton, early in October, some accompanied by wives - DAVID BALMFORD, ALAN WALKER, HARRY WALKER, KEITH MATSON, ROBIN HOSIE, BRYAN ARTHUR, PETER SAWYER, ALAN WELSH, OULTON WALKER and FERGUS MCLELLAN - and enjoyed a great evening of dining, wining and memory-jogging. This has become an almost annual event - the first one was in the Parkmore at Eaglescliffe, and since then we have been to Ullswater, Dorset, Angouleme (where John and Isobel Brunt live), and the next one in 2007 is destined to be in Essex. The group are spread far a-field: Harry Walker and John Brunt in France, David Oliver in Australia, Rob Hosie and David Balmford in the West Country, Alan Walker, Alan Welsh and Fergus McLellan still in Teesside, Peter Sawyer in Chelmsford ... others have been with us from time to time, CLIVE SHERRIS (still local), LOL LLOYD ... but there are one or two we haven't been able to trace, so if anyone knows of the whereabouts of any of this year group please get in touch. Some I know have sadly passed on, but there are others we don't know about. Any news of John Short or Douglas Hawes?

Cheers FERGUS MCLELLAN



### School Rules

Does anyone remember the school or college rules? If so, let us know. More interestingly, let us know if you broke them!

- ⇒ Skirts must touch the floor when kneeling
- ⇒ No eating in public in school uniform
- ⇒ No talking or running in corridors
- ⇒ Wear your beret in a proper fashion
- ⇒ Fringe must not touch eyebrows
- ⇒ No intercourse through the wire netting!! (referring to boys and girls talking!)



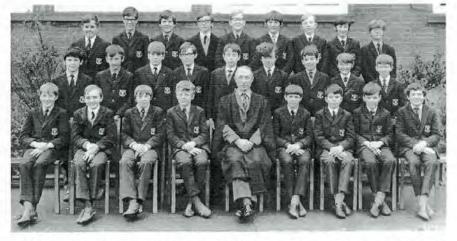
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Again the internet proves a useful place for research. Below are some photographs from Grangefield Grammar School for boys from the 1970s. If you want to take a look at the website directly the address is http://www.ibbo.fsnet.co.uk/reunion/index.html



Above: May 1973; Below: I believe it is from the Class of 1975



### Do you recognise anyone in this photograph?

If so, please get in touch with the Association and let us know, then we will be able to put names to faces in the next magazine.

# Senior Drama Club 1967: Grangefield Grammar School for Girls

Below is a copy of a page from the 1967 Grangefield Magazine. Do you recognise anyone in the photograph? Were you part of the Senior Drama Club? If so, get in touch and share your memories in the next edition of this magazine.

The last production of the Senior Drama Club was 'East Lynne' and, contrary to many of the fears of the past which lasted until the curtains rose on the first night, it proved a success. We found from the first rehearsals that we had a number of temperamental actresses and one very 'patient' producer. The play itself was a problem as we did not know whether the audience would enter into the spirit of melodrama with hisses and boos in the appropriate places for the 'dastardly villain', or be overcome by the cloying sentiment. Our doubts as to our ability to play melodrama proved unfounded, and although the scenes at some rehearsals had to be seen to be believed, the first night, and those following, met with great response from the audience. Not one of the 'younger ladies' it may be added tripped over their crinoline, despite this being one of our main fears.



Since this was for most of us the last play we will do at the school we would like to say how much we enjoyed our years in the Drama Club. Mr. Hodgson has always proved a great help and encouragement to aspiring actresses and has never, he tells us, seriously lost his temper.

### **Favourite Teachers at College**

People on the Friends Reunited website have shared their memories of their favourite teachers. Take a look and then make sure you get in touch to let us know who your favourite teachers were.

### MR. WIGHTMAN

Mr Wightman was without a shadow of a doubt the best teacher I ever had. He was so inspirational, what a top bloke!

(DAVID BAKER, 1994)

### VAL HART

Val was an absolutely amazing teacher. Whilst our class thought sociology could be understood through Smiths' lyrics she brought an appropriate critique to our adolescent naivety. She restored my faith in adults and really showed me how good teachers could be.

(DANIEL TRUMP, 1989)

### TOM RIPLEY

I remember the testing and measurement lessons and the sport psychology lessons and they were always really easy to understand, because Tom always related whatever we were learning about to something that was happening at that time in certain sports that we all knew about. He was a fantastic tutor.

(CAROLYN GRAINGER, 1998)

### MR VASEY

A very friendly and good teacher he made quantum mechanics seem interesting! He also ran the orienteering club at weekends.

(SIMON CAINS, 1978)

### **RAY HONEYBOURNE**

I remember Ray when he first joined the College in 1983. We were in the 2nd year. He was newly graduated and the College was his first teaching job. Because of the minute age gap and common music tastes, lifestyle etc, he ended up joining us on some visits to the sadly missed local rocker/biker bar "The Pit"!

(**JOHN CARTER**, 1983)

### MR. DARCY

A wonderful French teacher of the old school. He was patient and enthusiastic. To this day I can still speak and write French fluently.

(KATHERINE YOULDEN, 1980)

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### **Memories from School**

Detention, School Trips, Favourite Lessons ... Please get in touch and share your memories

### School Trip to the Pennines

Going out on a snow covered Pennines, with MR. STOREY (and MR. Fox as I recall)... We all got a commendation just for surviving I think! Anything was better than chess club!

### Favourite Teacher: Sheraton Site

One of the last Sheraton-site pupils would like to thank MRS PENNOCK. Throughout this ex-pupil's five years in the school she describes that "Mrs Pennock seemed to care for the education for the 80 or so pupils left at the Sheraton site. You will always be in my heart as the best teacher".

### Berets and Goldfish!

Does anyone remember the fuss when the Headmistress found a couple of prefect berets floating in the goldfish pond on the last day of the summer term?

### School Assembly

I remember the Notice given out by <u>Miss</u> <u>STEVENS</u> after Assembly when she told all us girls that we must not have "social intercourse with the boys through the tennis court netting!" You can imagine the response!

### Last Day of Term

The last day of school for the last day of Grangefield being a grammar school for girls and a grammar school for boys. The jointly used playing fields was a scene of rejoicing. The girls ran from their end of the field; the boys from their end. They met in the middle and threw their berets and ties in the air. It was a general frenzy of destruction of uniforms! A welcome rebellion at a time when strict rules reigned!

### Computer Studies Class 1982/83

MICHAEL BAILEY has provided an anecdote which some of you may remember: My friend STEVEN BRADLEY got in a spot of bother with MR. ROBSON for talking in class. The class was in Porta-Cabin next to the tennis courts. Steven was told to remove himself, his desk and his chair to the tennis courts outside. He did this and about ten minutes later we heard: "Bradley, what the hell are you doing?!!" being screamed outside. It was DougIE AGAR the PE teacher. explained that he had been sent there by Mr Robson. Dougle dragged him over with him to see Mr Robson back in class and asked if what he'd been told was true. Mr Robson said. "Absolutely not Mr Agar!" with a straight face, dropping Steven further in it!.

### School Opening

**DAVID BIRCH** writes: I had the privilege of being in my first year at GGS when it first opened in 1951-1952. After being in an old school prior to this it was a wonder to be in a brand new environment with nearly all brand new equipment, and with huge playing fields for rugby and cricket etc. When I passed both halves of the scholarship (11+) I cried when I was told where I was going as I was an ardent footballer and they only played rugby! I soon got over that though and played rugby for the school for the rest of the time I was there. Ahhh, reminisce!

### Steam Trains

TONY (RAB) JOHNSON writes: "There were still steam trains passing the playing fields when I started at Grangefield, in 1962. I recall a footbridge being put up over the tracks. Before that we had to go down one embankment and up the other side on cross country runs. I think, before I left, they had closed the line, but we still had to use the 24 footbridge".

There were some remarkable young artists at Grangefield Grammar School for Girls in 1967. Pupils were asked to illustrate poems. The first shown below is an illustration by **Susan Harding** of a poem entitled 'Determination'. The second is by **Connie McKenzie** of a poem called 'The Tramp'.





Pictured right are a group from MR. Woop's art class in the summer term in 1965. They had made puppets and were practising for a forthcoming puppet show taking place the following week at school. The girls include:

PAT SAWDON,
CONNIE MCKENZIE, AND
LYNNE JONES.



If any of the stories or pictures in this magazine bring back memories, make sure you get in touch and let us know

### **More Memories from School!!**

**TONY (RAB) JOHNSON** provides the following anecdotes. If any of you remember have your own stories, please get in touch as people love to read them.

### Social Intercourse!

The language lab was put up while I was there, with the very latest technology – personal tape recorders, now very old hat. I'm sure it will all be computerised now, if it's still there. The school was still segregated then and there were strict rules about not fraternising with the girls. There was an imaginary line between the centre of the dining hall across the lawn in front and over to the corner of the farm – which formed the boundary and trespassing beyond your side of the line or 'social intercourse' across it was strictly prohibited.

### Remote Controlled Waste Paper Baskets

Something which sticks in my mind is a radio controlled waste paper basket. It was **AL BOWMAN**, as I recall, who decided to build a radio controlled waste paper basket. Each classroom had one at the front, a brown octagonal basket made out of some sort of pressed board I think. Al built a replica with a false bottom and a radio control unit underneath, with wheels. Once it had some crumpled paper in it looked very close to the real thing. The real basket was hidden at the back of the room and the new one installed in its place. The classrooms had twin desks and Al held the control unit under one desk lid, with the aerial extended under the next one. There was an expectant air until, part way through the lesson, the wastepaper basket started inching out before cruising round the classroom on its own! I remember one teacher thought it had an animal underneath and tried to coax it towards him, but sadly I don't recall other reactions. I'm sure someone else will.

### Thunder!!

Another event I remember, particularly topical in these June floods, was a terrific thunderstorm. The sky went black at about 11am I think - pitch black, it was dark like the dead of night and it rained buckets and some fairly impressive hailstones too as I recall. In no time at all the drive was full of water, side to side like a river. There was thunder and lightning too of course. The Evening Gazette reported that the cloud had been 3 miles thick and some people had thought it was the end of the world!

### Harpsichord in Morning Assembly?

Then there was the time someone laboriously hung paper clips on all the strings of the grand piano to make it sound like a harpsichord in morning assembly. I'd like to report it being a sensation, but I think it was rumbled, as I'm sure we weren't treated to that particular effect!

Many thanks to <u>CLIFF THORNTON</u> for providing us with this image. Cliff attended Grangefield and was a contemporary of <u>PAUL GRAHAM</u>.



### Remembrance Day Service 2006

This 2006 Remembrance Day Service was held on Friday 10 November at Grangefield School. Any member of the Old Stocktonians' Association or interested parties are welcome to attend. It is always a Service well supported by the Governors and the Grangefield PTA.

The Service of Remembrance was made part of the Year 9 history lessons many years ago and as I say every year, the pupils behave perfectly. Pat and I were invited this year by **Lauren Brady**, a year 9 pupil.

I was invited by Allan Mansfield, the Head Teacher, to lay the wreath at the 1914-1918 Memorial and this was followed by a service of readings and hymns. The readings were by year 9 pupils BETH LODGE, LISA GRANT, MATTHEW LOWE, DALE WEST, EMILY SOUTHERN, PAUL HAWKES, READLE, PHOEBE STEPHENSON, HOPE STEBBING, Том BALLAGH and LOUISE NOZEDAR. Allan Mansfield gave the last reading and then a wreath was laid on the Second World War Memorial by a year 9 pupil, LAUREN RAFFERTY.

The hymns sung were 'When a Knight Won his Spurs', 'He who would Valiant Be' and 'I Vow to Thee my County'.

After we had filed out Allan invited any of the guests to re-enter and address the Year Group. As I have praised the different years in the Year Book many times, I was glad to be able to compliment all of them on their behaviour and I suggested that with the present conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan perhaps many of them understood what our Memorials meant to us. I thanked the School for looking after them for us.

The readers from Year 9 entertained the guests to refreshments and we were able to thank them directly before leaving.

If you would like to attend the 2007 Remembrance Day Service, please contact the School or Association in October or early November to find out the details



### **Benevolent Fund**

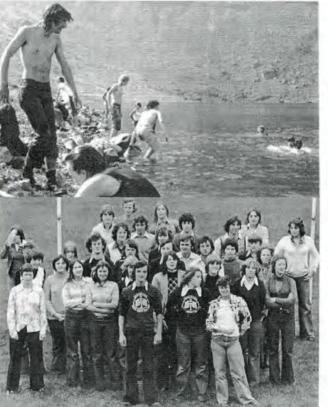
The funds have been audited for the year ended 31 December 2006. On 1 January 2006 the credit balance at the Darlington Building Society was £2284.83. No grants or loans were made during the year. No donations were received and interest of £17.82 net (tax paid £4.46) was earned. This gave a credit balance of £2302.65 at the Building Society on 31 December 2006. My 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 for the Old Stocktonians' Association or direct to Brian Brand at the address below.

Appeals for assistance may be made in strictest confidence to either Martin Clinton, Principal of Stockton Sixth Form College, or to Allan Mansfield, Head Teacher of Grangefield School, or to Brian Brand, Convenor of the Trustees, 2 The Sidings, Christon Bank, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 3HR (Tel: 01665 576273).



Above are pictures are from around 1980/1981 and are of the play '1066 and all that'.

The Roman Soldiers apparently wore badminton skirts!



Left shows a geography field trip to the Lake District in around 1978. It was a hot climb up to the Langdale Pikes and so everyone cooled off in Stickle Tarn at the top.

Left: Stockton Sixth Form Student Council, Summer 1976

Do you have any College photographs, old or new, send them to us!!

# <u>Advice for Younger Members</u>

Getting a job or choosing the right course or University can be a very difficult and stressful time, so some past students have offered the following words of advice

### Future Lawyers

Getting into University to study law, or getting a training contract or pupilage thereafter, is become extremely difficult. I have been fortunate to get a training contract with the top firm in the country (as rated by the Sunday Times). There were over 1200 applicants for about 12 places - I'll let you work the maths out on that! So what makes you stand out from the crowd? Well, firstly, and I can't stress this enough, WORK EXPERIENCE. You are going to have to do it for free initially, but a couple of weeks in the holidays does your CV wonders. Simply pick up the Yellow Pages and send letters out to firms asking for work experience. Make sure you personalise each letter; look at the firm's website, it's values, the work it does - and then ask yourself why you want to do work experience for that firm. Then put that into a 1 page covering letter enclosing your CV and send it off to them. The same principles apply for letters for training contracts.

Also, to help fill out what could be awkward silences in interviews - both for University places and for jobs - make sure you do things with your time. At the time of my interview I was President of my Hall of Residence and had recently produced one musical and was preparing to produce another. I ended up talking about feather boas and women's skirts for a large part of my interview (the musical I was producing was 'Disco Inferno'!).

If you would like more information please email me at oldstocktonians@hotmail.co.uk

David Robinson

### TV Production

I'm in my first year at the University of Chester studying Media (TV Production) after having been inspired by the SSFC Media Studies staff! The University has great links with organisations such as the BBC and Granada.

Advice-wise I would say to be prepared to do lots of reading and hard work and be up for new challenges regarding the way work is produced and trying new activities. Also, have a passion and an interest in the course and the industry the course is related to.

Emma Louise Shepherd

Whether you are going to University next, or getting a job, it doesn't matter; so long as you enjoy yourself. To quote Tim from BBC's 'The Office', "It is better to be at the bottom of a ladder you want to climb than half way up one you don't". What ever you do, embrace life. Experience as much as you can. Be diverse. Experiences are free!

### Grangefield School Speech Day and Prize Giving

This took place on the evening of Thursday 5 July 2007 in what was the Boys' Assembly Hall in the Grammar School days.

Allan Mansfield, the Head Teacher, welcomed special guests in the Thomas Sheraton Library for a short reception before the main event. He then led them to the main hall and after welcoming parents and students introduced the guest speaker, Ray Mallon, Mayor of Middlesbrough.

Ray began by giving a resume of his own life and how his parents had brought him up to appreciate life and to always strive to improve. He pointed out that he left Our Lady and St. Bede School without academic qualifications but with a belief in himself. He joined the Police Service as a cadet at the age of 17 and became a police constable at the age of 19.

Although he was aware that other PCs were better qualified academically, he was also aware that they were not as streetwise as he was. He rose to the rank of Superintendent and gained fame (or was it notoriety?) as 'Robocop' with the idea of zero tolerance. Unfortunately there were those who disagreed with him and for 4 years he had to fight to keep his principles. During all of this time he did not lose faith in himself and was determined to prove himself in the right.

Ray offered this attitude as a worthwhile reason for existing and suggested the parallel to Tony Blair's 'Education, Education' were his three important guides 'Attitude, Attitude, Attitude'! If the students did not believe in themselves, no one would. He suggested that even if we don't win we can be a very good second.

Ray, in his younger days, was a very good swimmer and captained the Great Britain Water Polo when he was 23. On a personal note, I first met Ray and his father Joe when Ray was swimming for Our Lady and St. Bede and I was master i/c swimming at Grangefield. At the age of 14 Ray was using psychology to convince his fellow competitors that he was going to win - and quite often did!

Ray then presented the prizes, all one hundred and twenty of them! Eleven of the prizes were for whole School achievement, two of them donated by one of our members, **Ernest Morton** - who although is in his 80s had come from Coventry to be present. The Ernest Morton Prize is for 'Bravery' whilst the Joan Morton Prize is for 'Initiative'. All the whole School Prizes relate to personal qualities.

Thirty seven prizes were awarded across years 7, 8 and 9 for success in individual subjects, whether it was for being top or for outstanding progress. Thirty three prizes were awarded for achievement in year 10 in individual subjects. Our Old Stocktonians' Association prizes came in this latter section:

The C W King Prize for English, was awarded to ZARINA HUSSAIN

The G G Armstrong Prize for History, was awarded to **Daniel Hampton** 

The G J Rattenbury Prize for a Modern Foreign Language, was awarded to LAUREN PAXTON.

The final two awards were colours ties for those who were outstanding for the school in at least two sports. The evening ended with refreshments for everyone in the Main Dining Hall and an opportunity for photographs with the guest speaker and chats with friends.

**BRIAN BRAND** 

### Friends of Stockton Sixth Form College Inaugural Dinner

The Friends of Stockton Sixth Form College Inaugural Dinner took place on Saturday 24 March 2007 at Stockton Sixth Form College. Keith Turner and Brian and Pat Brand attended this function to represent the Old Stocktonians' Association. The intention of the dinner was to launch a new 'Friends of Stockton Sixth Form College' society. It was held in memory of a former student, Arijit Banerjee, and was sponsored by his parents.

Guests were served a delicious Indian buffet, prepared by Gurjit Catering Service of Newcastle. The guests included contemporaries of Arijit, staff, parents and special sponsors from local and central government and educational establishments.

Many people will recall 'Friends of the College' which existed some years ago to promote interaction between the College, students and parents. In his after dinner speech the Principal, Martin Clinton, described this new society and explained the breadth of its remit. It aims to work through friendship and partnership to support students and extend the College's role in the wider community. Sharing amenities such as an Arts Centre and sports facilities could be of all-round benefit. There is a need for interdependence among schools, colleges and the general public. He pointed out that it was not going to replace the former students' association represented by the Old Stocktonians' Association. At this point he gave us some publicity and thanked us for attending.

Supportive speeches were made by Arijit's father, the Mayor of Stockton, Suzanne Fletcher and local MP Frank Cook. The presence of representatives from Durham and Teesside Universities, Egglescliffe Comprehensive School and Our Lady and St. Bede 's School was an indication of the importance of this new venture.

It was a pleasant social occasion which should generate practical outcomes.

PAT BRAND

### <u> More Advice ...</u>

### Librarian

If you have an enquiring mind, like searching for information and interacting with people, and demonstrating how to use IT, why not become a librarian? Don't be put off by the stereotypes - in the information age someone needs to be able to make sense of the vast amount of information available. It's a fast changing profession with plenty of variety and lots of different sectors. Before enrolling on a course you will normally be required to have some work experience, so look around for Saturday assistant posts at your local public library or shelver posts at your local University. If none are available, perhaps volunteer.

Dawn Kinnersley

### Work in Mexico

Since leaving College I went to Teesside University. I then took a vacation to Cancun, Mexico - where I am now living and working! Being out here has given me so much confidence, and when I go back home I'll be ready to work hard and finish Uni. For anyone thinking of going to Uni, do it! I was nervous about going and meeting new people, but it is worth it.

Sophie Horsman

# **Obituaries**

It is with great sadness that we report the death of James (Jim) Durrant, who was the Head of Chemistry at Grangefield Grammar School for Boys between 1949 and 1973, and Head of Chemistry at Grangefield School between 1973 and 1980.

Jim was born into a sea faring family and brought up in South Shields. At school his favourite subject was Geography and in the sixth form he made a wooden model of the Cleadon Hills in full relief. This created a lot of local interest and was reported in the Shields Gazette. Sport and outdoor pursuits were major interests; Jim played full back for Westoe Rugby club and started a collection of rocks and minerals — something which became a lifelong past time.

After school Jim studied Chemistry at Kings College. His sporting interests moved to athletics and he joined Durham University Athletics Club and became its President in 1939. He held titles in middle distance running for 400 yards, the half mile and the mile, and represented the University and his county in athletics championships throughout the north of England.

Jim graduated just as the war started and he was directed to work for the MOD. This led him to work away from Shields and eventually to Ayecliffe where he met his wife, Jean. After the war teaching beckoned and Jim joined the staff of Stockton Secondary School in Nelson Terrace and he then moved to Grangefield when it opened in 1951. Jim continued to teach at Grangefield until he retired in 1980.

Please read below obituaries of Jim Durrant and Anne Greatix (nee Baldwin)

The sciences, particularly Chemistry, were a vocation for Jim and he liked nothing more than experimenting with new ways of introducing his classes to test tube phenomena or the key points of the Periodic table. An example of this was recounted in one of the messages sent to Jim's family when he died. Not long ago Jim was admitted to hospital for a week. Also in the ward happened to be one of his former pupils, Tony Copeland, who, on recognising Jim, called over, "Sir, what's the formula for oxalic acid?" Without hesitation came the "C2H2O4etc - and don't forget it this time!"

Outside the chemistry labs, Jim was also interested in other activities. He liked the Lake District and each Easter for several years he organised school parties to introduce pupils to the fells. Music was another interest and, although never tutored, he taught himself to play the violin so he could join the second violin section of the school orchestra and play in evening events such as the annual carol concert.

On retiring Jim kept in touch with the Old Stocktonians and, thanks to the kindness of fellow members, was able to attend their reunion meetings well into his final years. He held the school, his colleagues and everyone he taught in the highest regard.

Jim's sons Christopher and Peter and their families would like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages when he passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

We write with the sad news that **ANNE GREATRIX (NEE BALDWIN)** died in 2004. Anne attended the Nelson Terrace Higher Grade School in Stockton on Tees. The School was later relocated and became the Grangefield Grammar School for Girls from which she won a County Scholarship in 1954 to read for an Honours Degree in English at St Mary's College, University of Durham. In 1996, after a routine blood test, Anne was discovered to have multiple myeloma, which is a cancer of the blood. On a website dedicated to her, it describes that Anne continued to be incredibly active, apparently happy and never complained about her condition. Anne died in April 2004. To read more information about Anne's life, please visit www.annegreatrix.co.uk.

# **Obituaries**

It is with great sadness that I report the death of **TONY COPELAND** (school 1962-1969) at the tragically young age of 55, following a courageous battle against cancer.

Tony was one of four brothers all of whom attended Grangefield, the family living in Durham Road. With his considerable height, blond hair and cheerful personality, Tony stood out from the crowd. He had a talent for all sports, excelling in particular on the tennis court, where he represented the school many times. He would have done the same at rugby but for the fact he preferred the round ball game, which in those days was given no encouragement or facilities by the school. Undeterred by the school's policy, he became a founder and star player of the 6th form 5-a-side team, which had to play outside school for the same reason.

Being no sportsman myself, I recall with greatest affection his mischievous sense of humour. Tony possessed an ability to spot from 500 yards a great joke in the making, and at school this was often of course at the expense of the teaching staff. By a curious twist of fate, on a day shortly before he died in Darlington Memorial Hospital Tony discovered that the elderly occupant of the bed opposite was none other than Mr. Jim Durrant – known to all as 'Barabas'- the legendary Head of Chemistry at Grangefield. "Sir, what's the formula for oxalic acid?', bellowed Tony across the ward, no doubt

Please read below an obituary of Tony Copland by Peter Hunt and an obituary of Alastair Beattie.

with the trademark grin we knew so well at school. Un-phased, Jim came up with the goods without hesitation - "C2H2O4 etc: and don't forget it!"

In 1973 after four happy years at Newcastle Polytechnic, Tony took a degree in business studies. As a student he met Jean and they were married in 1976. In his career Tony moved steadily upwards in personnel management, starting out with Dowty Engineering and then Findus Foods. For nearly 30 years Tony was head of human resources at Colston Ariston, which later became known as Tallent Engineering, at Newton Aycliffe. The firm closed for the day of Tony's funeral so all his colleagues could be there – a mark of the great esteem and affection in which he was held by everyone who was privileged to know him.

In the mid 1980s Jean and Tony had settled with their young family, James and twin daughters, Hannah and Sarah, at a farmhouse in countryside at Hornby, near Great Smeaton, the land being managed by Jean while Tony pursued his career. He was a devoted husband and father, enjoying cycling and walking with his family, and he kept up his tennis, squash and loyal support for The Boro throughout his life.

Our condolences go to all Tony's family especially Jean, James, Hannah and Sarah, and Tony's brothers, Chris, David and Paul. We shall all miss Tony greatly.

It is with deepest sadness that we write to inform you that 21 year old **ALASTAIR BEATTIE** died at home in May 2006. Alastair attended both Grangefield School and Stockton Sixth Form College. He then went on to study business at Durham University. Whilst studying there he became Captain of University Basketball Team. He was a most popular and active member at the University's Queen's Campus. The College Principal Professor Adrian Darnell said: "Alastair was a superb student both academically and on the sports field. Everyone is completely devastated by this shocking news. He never missed a class, was an excellent sportsman and leader, and was the first student from Queen's Campus to captain a full

### **SPORT: Old and New**

Grangefield Grammar School: below is the Under 14 Rugby Team from 1957/58



Picture includes Graham Goode, David Roxbrough, Howard Spence, Angus Pearson, MICHAEL WILSON, HARRY MALONEY, MICK CONNELL, AUSTIN CARTWRIGHT, ALAN CALLENDER, JOHN SMITH, PETER WISHLADE, TONY JACKSON, DAVID RAYNER (Games teacher is Alan Brown)

Stockton Sixth Form College Hockey Team from around 1979/80

Team members include

LYNN COLLINS

SUSAN FARRER

SUSAN ALDERSON

DAWN NICHOLSON



Pictured right is **MARK DAVIES**. Mark studied at Stockton Sixth Form College and is now an extremely promising bowler with Durham County team. Having represented England at Under-19 level, Mark grabbed 50 wickets at 18.76 in 2004 and 47 at 15.55 in 2005 before both campaigns were ended prematurely by back problems.



Key Facts: Born 4 October 1980 in Stockton on Tees; County: Durham; Other Teams: England U19; Batting Style: Right Hand Bat; Bowling Style: Right Arm Medium.



So many people have expressed interest in attending a reunion, and the Editor of this magazine did begin to organise one. However, producing this magazine took up a great deal of time and as such he was unable to organise a reunion. Mind you, organising a reunion does not take a lot of effort - find a venue, book it, advertise. So, why don't YOU do it. The Association will provide you help and assistance, and funds are available. Please get in touch with the Association if you are interested. Many hands make light work - the Association need people to come up with ideas and help to keep the Association alive. One or two meetings a year, a few emails that's all it takes. Go on, get involved! Please contact the Association through the details on page 2.



This photograph was taken at Durham Regatta and is of the Tees Novice 4+. Grangefield Grammar School pupils were introduced to the Teesside Rowing Club in the 1960s. **Chris Little** was one of the Grangefield Grammar School pupils in the picture above. The names cannot be guaranteed, but we are led to believe those pictured above are **Chris Little** (bow), **Arthur Pearce** (2), **Geoff Hodson** (3), **Phil Stephenson** (str) and **Wilf Ashman** (cox). In 1966 Grangefield Grammar School took part in its first Regattas and won their first ever race - but they didn't get any silverware unfortunately.

### **Jewitt's Centenary**

Baines Jewitt Chartered Accountants was established in April 2004 when Baines Goldston and Jewitts merged to create one of the largest accounting firms in the Tees Valley. Behind the two names is a long and proud history. Baines was formed in 1923 but the roots of Jewitts go back to 1907 making 2007 the centenary year.

It began when Richard Jewitt opened a practice in Stockton in 1907 trading as **Richard Jewitt & Co** from **1**33 High Street from where he acted for a family company, descendants of which are still clients of the Firm.

His son Thomas joined in 1911 and around the same time Thomas' cousin. William Jewitt, was in practice in Stockton. In 1935 Clifford Sparrow became articled William, eventually taking over from him and the two Practices came together during the 1940s, to become Richard Jewitt, Sparrow & Co. with offices in 62/63 High Street between the Vane Arms and the Black Lion. In 1955 Rowland Swinbank, 70 High Street, Stockton joined to create Jewitt, Sparrow & Swinbank, when they all moved to Barrington House, part of the existing premises in Yarm Lane.

Over the years the Firm managed the affairs of most of the larger family businesses in the area. Some excellent accountancy talent and highly regarded individuals were trained and became Partners including Ron Bulman, Alan Cook, Peter Bethell, Derrick Grass, John McGrother and Howard Murray. Howard became a Partner in 1971 and only retired from the Firm earlier this year

Last but not least of the current Partners at Baines Jewitt, **Jeremy (Jed) Lester** and **Don Adams** trained and qualified with Jewitts.

The Partners and staff are proud of the history of the Firm and the relationships that have been maintained over the years and anticipate that the same high levels of service and quality will continue for many years.



For a personal, quality service covering all your Business, Personal Tax Planning and Accountancy needs:

Contact Geoff Hopper, an old boy of the School, now Senior Partner of one of the largest Accountancy Firms in the Tees Valley, at:

Baines Jewitt Chartered Accountants Barrington House, 41–45 Yarm Lane Stockton on Tees TS18 3EA

> info@bainesjewitt.co.uk www.bainesjewitt.co.uk

Telephone 01642 632032



Baines Jewitt is a member of the UK200 Group, which is an association of independent Firms of Accountants with practices throughout

# **The War Years**



### Do you remember ...?

In 1942 the pupils of Stockton Secondary School were evacuated to Ragworth Hall, near Norton Green, whilst air raid shelters were constructed in the play ground of Nelson Terrace. At Ragworth Hall the ordinary lessons were conducted - Maths, English and such like - but laboratory work required for Chemistry and Physics was still carried out at Nelson Terrace.

# **ne Denvers**



Does anyone remember 'The Denvers'? This group started in the late 1950s as a school band from Grangefield Grammar School. They mainly played at school dances and functions, so if you remember them please drop us a line. In this photograph **ROY SMITH** (the founder) is seen on the left clutching his prized Hofner Colorama.

### REUNION 2008

Will you help?

If you are willing to help, please get in touch with the Association.

Literary o

As the Editor has said in previous pages, the Association, and this magazine, are YOUR'S. You can therefore include anything you want in the magazine, and share your stories, thoughts and ideas with the rest of the Association. Below is an example: one member of the Association kindly sent a book review in which it is hoped you will enjoy reading. If you have read a good book or watched a good film, why not share it with us and include a review in the next magazine? ...

Friendship, trust, corruption, betraval, discrimination, survival, death and love are just some of the areas which the Harry Potter journey takes us to through the course of the first six books. However, in Rowling's concluding novel, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows", everything is seamlessly interwoven and dealt with at rapid pace.

In this final book the whole wizarding community is shrouded in fear; fear of He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named, fear of the Death Eaters, fear of the unknown, fear of fear. From this situation Rowling explores how darkness can fester and demonstrates how people succumb to the darkness for fear of speaking out. Edmund Burke's message has never been illustrated so vividly: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing".

Fortunately, there are some good people - the members of the Order of the Phoenix, a small yet powerful resistance. Of course there is also Harry Potter, Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger - arguably the now most famous literary trio - who battle courageously to attempt to rid the world of the parts of Voldemort's darkened soul. However, as you can expect, nothing is easy. There are powerful wizards on both sides and so magic alone will not enable them to succeed. So what does the Order of the Phoenix, and Harry in particular, have that those supporting the Dark Lord do not have? ... The answer is simple, although Harry does not realise it at first. What is the ultimate weapon against fear, darkness and hate? Rowling reminds us that it is love.

The final 200 pages of this final book can only

be described as literary-genius. In case there are those of you who have not read it vet I will not reveal the outcome. But when Hedwig is killed in the opening pages you know that the ending is going to be filled with emotion. passion and a climax of all climaxes!

The future ... In the final book Rowling had intended to include a lot of information about how Harry and his friends' lives developed, but it did not work as a piece of writing. However, now that the novel is complete she has revealed some secrets - I say 'some', because there is even a possibility that Rowling will produce an encyclopaedia which will provide more extensive details.

So, what happens to Harry and the gang? Harry, along with Ron, is working at the Auror Department at the Ministry of Magic. After all these years Harry is now the department head. Rowling explains that "Harry and Ron utterly revolutionized the Auror Department. They are now the experts. It doesn't matter how old they are or what else they've done". Meanwhile, Hermione, Ron's wife, is "pretty high up" in the Department of Magical Law Enforcement, despite laughing at the idea of becoming a lawyer in "Deathly Hallows." Rowling discusses: "I would imagine that her brainpower and her knowledge of how the Dark Arts operate would really give her a sound grounding." Harry, Ron and Hermione don't join the same Ministry of Magic they had at odds with for years; they revolutionize it and the ministry evolves into a "really good place to be. They made a new world".

Visit: www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19959323/ for 38 few more details.

# **JOIN THE ASSOCIATION**



# Thousands of Faces, Thousands of Memories

Share your school or college stories, tell your old friends what you are up to now, share photographs ... be proud of your education! Whether you are just leaving School or College now, or whether you left 40 years ago, why not be part of the Association? To become a member please email oldstocktonians@hotmail.co.uk or contact the Association through the other means outlined at the bottom of page 2.

# **BE PART OF SOMETHING BIG**

Do something amazing today:

Give Blood, Save a Life

Telephone: 0845 7 711 711

# The Man for the Job



Ronald Thwaites QC, pictured. is one of our country's finest lawyers and where did he begin his education? Right here of course!

Back in May of this year Ron was involved in the high profile 'Anne Diamond' case. Ron managed

secure £75,000 from the Daily Mail for Anne Diamond's ex-husband, Mike Hollingsworth, over 'the big lie' that he struck the first blow during a drunken row over his affair with Harriet Scott, However, Hollingsworth had to be limited to £50,000 and so this was how much he received.

This is just one example of the high profile cases which Ron has dealt with. Ron was made Queen's Counsel in 1987 at the age of 41. Since taking silk his principal area of work has continued to be in high profile trials with an increasing amount of libel trials and civil actions. He regularly acts for Chief Constables when they are defendants in civil suits for damages arising out of allegations of false imprisonment, assault and malicious prosecution. He was instructed by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police in the Marchioness Inquiry and also the Statutory Inquiry into the death of Victoria Climbie. He was also instructed by the Chief Constable of West Mercia in the Telford Inquests.

Ron states that he owes a great deal to the Association because they loaned him, interest-free, the amount he needed to join Gray's Inn 40 years ago. Without their help Ron says that he would not be where he is today. Of course since then Ron did repay the loan and made a contribution to its funds, which the Association is grateful for.

Ron lost touch with many of his contemporaries as a result of his move to London - but if anyone would like to get in touch with him please drop us a line at the Association and we will pass your words on to him.

AND THEY CAN APPEAR IN ANY ORDER

Meningococcal Septicaemia	] Meningitis
Rash	
Leg pain	
Cold hands & feet	
Floppy child/ difficulty supporting own weight	0
Fever, vomiting or diarrhoea	0
Confusion & O	0
Difficulty breathing	
Abdominal/joint/ musdle pain	
Abnormal skin colour	
Severe headache	0
Stiff neck	0
Dislike of bright light	0
Body stiffens/jerky movement	is O

# Meningitis can KILL in under 4 hours

## Other symptoms in babies may include:

- Blotchy skin, quite pale or turning blue
- Tense or bulging soft spot (fontanelle) on the baby's head
- Poor feeding
- High pitched cry/irritable (especially when being held)

To make a donation phone 0117 373 73 73 or visit www. 4hours.org



# Life After School and College: University

To help the younger members of the Association, if you have any tips on life after School or College, why not send them in?

## What to Take and What Not To Take!

So you've just passed you're A-Levels and are about to head off to University. Then it hits you: you realise that you cannot possibly fit into your parents' car your entire DVD collection, your Postman Pat duvet set that you have used since you were 6 years old, the guitar you occasionally play and every item of clothing you own. So, how do you decide what to take and what to leave behind?

Many of us in the Old Stocktonians' Association have been to Uni ourselves, and we have come up with a list which you may find useful ...

#### What to Take

- A couple of plates, mugs etc, however, decline the temptation to buy a 16-piece dinner set with a full set of Chef's pans ... you will never use them and they will take up valuable kitchen cupboard space.
- A sensible amount of 'sensible' clothing students do not get dressed up everyday and so make sure you bring casual clothes which you feel comfortable in. Also, if you have a suit or ball dress then it would come in handy. If not, don't worry though because companies hire them cheaply to students.
- Linen unless bedding is provided make sure you bring it, else you will have a very uncomfortable first night's sleep!
- Costumes students are always having fancy dress parties, so if you have costumes do pack them.

⇒ To make the most of your Uni life, if you have any musical instruments or sports kits, bring them with you and get involved!

#### What Not to Take

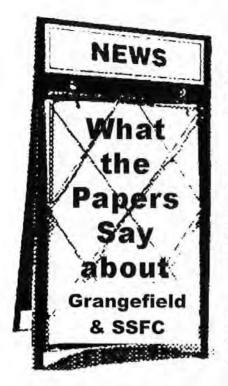
- Put simply, the most important item not to take is JUNK! If something is lying at the bottom of a drawer at home, the chances are it will just lie at the bottom of a drawer at Uni.
- Check transport links if they are good avoid taking your car, as parking is likely to be an issue and the costs of petrol and such like will not be welcomed by you.
- Every DVD/CD you own. Just bring a collection. You will never get chance to watch every DVD. In fact, you will be going out that often that you probably will watch very few!

Some of this might seem common sense, but when you are faced with the daunting task of packing the temptation is just to bring everything.

If you have any questions about Uni you would like to ask current students or recent graduates, please email:

oldstocktonians@hotmail.co.uk

IF YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE TO OFFER OUR YOUNGER MEMBERS, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH NOW!!



Grangefield Teacher, MATTHEW TURNBULL, was in the paper for juggling his teaching and his acting. Last winter he appeared in his fourth pantomime - this time playing baddie 'Fleshcreep' in 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at Billingham Forum Theatre.

### Evening Gazette, 23 December 2006

REBECCA HOPE, 13 years old at the time and a student at Grangefield School, was in the media spotlight when she won gold in 12-13 category at the Go Kan Ryu (GKR) UK event at the Crystal Place National Sports Centre in London. Her parents told the Evening Gazette that participating in karate has been "a great confidence booster" for Rebecca.

#### Evening Gazette, 27 December 2006

Members of Grangefield School Choir were in the papers when they raised £606.00 for the Butterwick Hospice charity by singing to shoppers at the local Sainsbury's supermarket.

# Evening Gazette, 31 January 2007

A powerful play about slavery caught the eye of the Evening Gazette at the beginning of the year. Stockton Sixth Form College hosted the debut of Sweet by Sean Burn.

# Evening Gazette, 5 February 2007

Former Grangefield School student, 23 year old <u>STACEY PITT</u>, opened the doors of her salon on the evening of 28 February to raise money for charity. Men were challenged to come along and get waxed!

#### Herald and Post, 21 February 2007

A story originating from 3 teenagers from Grangefield School caught the press' eyes in February. **Chris King**, 13, **Martyn Johnson**, 14, and **Paul Hawkes**, 14, made the finals of this year's Young Engineers competition, sponsored by the British Airport Authority.

# Evening Gazette, 21 March 2007

<u>MICHAEL McDonald</u>, 23, <u>Gary Hutcheon</u>, 22, and <u>Peter Lavin</u>, 22, were in the papers when it was reported that not only did they go to the same schools together, including Grangefield School, but they are all now sailing together on HMS Vengeance.

#### Evening Gazette, 17 May 2007

18 year old <u>Sam Linton's</u> College art project drew people's attention to the environment when she decided to wrap trees and features around the campus!

# Form 1W: 1958 - 1959



BRIAN BENNISON kindly allowed us to print this picture. Brian Attended Grangefield Grammar School for Boys between 1958 and 1963. This picture is Form 1W 1958-1959. Brian is second left on the back row.

<u>Pupils back row are</u>: Ditchburn, Bennison, Bruce, Beattie, Clapham, Armstrong, Edmundson, Dixon, Allen.

<u>Pupils in the middle row are</u>: Brown, Andrew, Cowpethwaite, Cowley, Aspinall,?, Dobson, Steer?, Burridge, Clubley, Coates,?

Those pupils in the front row are: Carr, Baker, Bell, Bone?, Brown, Copeland?, Callender, Connelly, Coates, Bosanquet. The form teacher is believed to be Ken Atkinson.

IAN AUFFLICK might have been the Form Prefect for this group. If anyone remembers any details, please get in touch with us. In commenting on this photograph on the Picture Stockton website, <a href="BRIAN SWALES">BRIAN SWALES</a> says: In 1965 I went on holiday to Lloret de Mar, Spain, with five friends from Grangefield: <a href="CLIVE SKILBECK">CLIVE SKILBECK</a>, <a href="Bobby Edmundson">Bobby Edmundson</a>, <a href="STUART PATTERSON">STUART PATTERSON</a>, BRIAN DOBSON AND JOHN HENDERSON. What a great time we had! We each took a red and white striped football shirt courtesy of <a href="STUART PATTERSON">STUART PATTERSON</a> and made out we were Sunderland Youth Football Team on holiday. It impressed some girls in the hotel but not one of the male guests! One guest said to us 'I saw you all kicking the ball about on the beach today but you didn't impress me very much' ... rumbled!

# SIMPLY THE BEST! STOCKTON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Look out for the College's Open Evening in November.

> 01642 612 611 www.stocktonsfc.ac.uk



# **The Music Man**

CHARLIE GILLETT (1954-1961) was Captain of Grangefield Grammar School and went on to Peterhouse, Cambridge, to read economics and politics. He was also an athlete and rugby player when he was at the school. He played in a rock band 'amateur style' and after graduating he did a PhD in the USA in popular music.

Charlie then went on to write a definitive book on the history of rock and roll, entitled 'Sound of the City'. Over 250,000 copies have been sold worldwide, and a Spanish edition was published in 2003.

Between 1992 and 1978 Charlie was the Presenter and Producer of a weekly Sunday lunchtime show, Honky

*Tonk*, on BBC Radio London. In 1980 he moved to Capital Radio which pioneered the first British world music radio show introducing Youssou N'Dour, Arrow, Salif Keita and many more.

Since the mid-1990s Charlie has worked with BBC London 94.9 and BBC Radio 2. In 1999 he became the Presenter and Selector of *A World of Music* on the BBC World Service, where he still works at the moment.

During his career Charlie has won numerous awards, including the Gold Award for Life Time Achievement in Radio Broadcasting in 1991, the winner of the best specialist music show in 2002, the Radio Academy John Peel Award for Services to Music Radio in 2006 and many others.

Pictured above is Charlie at the Barbican in May 2003, taken by Philip Ryalls.

If any of you would like to drop Charlie a message, or have any anecdotes from growing up with him at school, please do get in touch and share them with us. We are very grateful for Charlie's emails and we hope it will encourage more of you to get touch and let us know what you are up to.

Please send your articles and news for the 2007/2008 edition of this Year Book to the Committee by 31 July 2008.

Thank You

For those younger members of the Association who may have just left School or College and are hoping to get a job, some members of the Association provided the following advice for getting through the dreaded interview ...



- Find out as much as you can about the company which you are applying to. The internet has a wealth of information, so do your homework!
- Re-read the job-advertisement, your CV and any application forms you had to complete (always take a photocopy of any application forms you send in). These documents often form the basis of questions at interview, so make sure you know what you wrote on them.
- Think about questions which you may be asked at interview questions about you, what you do in your spare time, the job, your ambitions ... think of honest answers and practice articulating them (you can practice with friends or family or even in front of a mirror!).
- 4. On the day body language says it all! A mock interview with friends or family can help you avoid bad habits. For example, having your arms folded is not a good sign. Also, slouching in a chair does not portray the best image.
- 5. Select clothing in which you feel comfortable. Try and find out whether it is casual or smart; if unsure, dress smart. Make sure you don't wear aftershave or perfume which is too strong as this is extremely off-putting for an interviewer.
- 6. Try to be confident although this might not be easy, it is important. Introduce yourself, smile and give a firm handshake. Ensure you make eye contact with your interview and be polite and friendly. However, be careful not to stare!
- 7. At the end of the interview you might be asked if you have any questions. It is often prudent to have thought about a couple of things you would like to ask, such as 'what is career progression like in the company', or 'does the company have an induction programme'.

Although it is somewhat clichéd, it is the best bit of advice which we can offer: BE YOURSELF. Interviewers will probably see dozens of applicants, and the ones with text book answers and the ones who don't open up are unlikely to get offered the job. Also, if you are asked something you don't know the answer to, say so - honesty is a very attractive trait in employees.

TOP TIP: BEFORE THE DAY OF YOUR INTERVIEW MAKE SURE YOU KNOW HOW TO GET THERE - IT AVOIDS BEING LATE!

# **Yearly Members**

Surname	First Name	School From	School to	Subs	Surname	First Name	School From	School to	Sub
Anderson	Gordon	1985	1987	2006	Jackson	Fred	1953	1959	2000
Atkinson	Dave	1957	1964	2010	Jones	Clair	1979	1981	2017
Atkinson	Steven	1995	1997	2002	King	Andrew	1991	1994	2011
Bradley	Margaret	1960	1967	2006	Lake	Alan	1957	1960	2011
Brand	Richard	1983	1985	2010	Lindsay	Joyce	1956	1961	2008
Brand	Tracey	1985	1987	2010	Long	Arthur	1952	1957	2005
Carbarns	Sheila	1983	1985	2010	Mason	Roger	1954	1961	2011
Carbarns	Ian	1972	1979	2011	Meier	Sandra	1976	1983	2018
Carter	Stanley	1974	1976	2013	Mellors	Suzanne	1969	1974	2007
Chappell	Dick	1931	1936	2014	Moore	John	1959	1965	2021
Clubley	Dave	1958	1965	2010	Morgan-Harris	Diane	1955	1960	2004
Clark.	Sylvia	1956	1963	2008	Morton	Arnold	1937	1941	2011
Dee	Peter	1944	1951	2010	Moule	Guy	1986	1988	2009
Dewison	Graeme	1947	1954	2009	Neal	Jane	1979	1981	2009
Dickson	Sue	1975	1977	2002	Owen	David	1967	1973	2003
Dixon	Jennie	1946	1948	2007	Oxley	Pauline	1973	1997	2005
Duffin,	Janet	1932	1939	2018	Pallant	Mark	1969	1977	2002
Dutton	Ken	1962	1969	2011	Peagam	Janice	1975	1977	2012
Elliott	Mavis	1941	1946	2010	Peagam	Martin	1969	1976	2007
Elmes	Ralph	1951	1957	2011	Prichard	Roz	1958	1965	2010
Evans	Kay	1981	1984	2007	Race	Bill	1930	1936	2005
Franks	John	1990	1992	2006	Rhodes	Harry	1941	1946	2003
Gillespie	Martin	1979	1981	2010	Richmond	Dave	1960	1967	2011
Gordon	Peter	1954	1960	2016	Robinson	Connie	1962	1967	2012
Gorrell	Ian	1974	1976	2008	Robinson	David	2001	2003	2008
Graham	Derek	1959	1961	2006	Robinson	Simon	1970	1977	2010
Greenaway	John	1983	1985	2012	Sawyer	Peter	1947	1949	2009
Gregory	Paul	1968	1975	2015	Scott	John	1950	1957	2006
Harris	Doug	1967	1973	2010	Sheraton	Sarah	1972	1977	2009
Heads	Mike	1973	1974	2007	Short	John	1942	1948	2012
Heads	Linda	1967	1973	2007	Smith	Kevin	1974	1976	2006
Heathcote	Bob	1934	1940	2017	Southern	Sue	1978	1981	2010
Horne	Richard	1965	1971	2010	Stanley	Roy	1953	1961	2025
Hudson	Karen	1971	1978	2009	Stevenson	Jeff	1976	1983	2008
Humble	Richard	1980	1987	2019	Summerbell	Mark	1984	1986	2002
lutchinson	Christopher	1973	1980	2005	Terry	Stephen	1963	1970	2007
Ireland	Karen	1995	1997	2011	Thomas	June	1969	1986	2005

# **Yearly Members Continued**

Surname	First Name	School From	School to	Subs to	
Thompson	Lillian	1929	1935	2007	
Thornton	George	1938	1944	2003	
Turner	Keith	1960	1967	2011	
Vittles	Paul	1978	1980	2012	
Webster	Peter	1963	1970	2010	
Whitmore	John	1960	1967	2011	
Wilkins	Andy	1968	1973	2013	
Wilkinson	Austin	1972	1977	2008	
Willetts	David	1967	1974	2013	
Willetts	Lesley	1967	1972	2008	
Wivell	Vivell Keith		1977	2012	
Wood	Eddie	1947	1951	2015	

Please inform us if there are any errors or omissions.

# **Life Members**

Surname	First Name	Initials	School From	School to	
Allen		C.S.	1961	1961	
Allison	Dave	D.M.	1949	1949	
Ayre	Alan	A.	1941	1941	
Bainbridge		G.S.	1951	1951	
Barber	Tony	E.A.	1931	1931	
Bartlett		A.L.	1929	1929	
Barton		J. R.		1962	
Bate	Brian	B.N.			
Bates		K.L.	1941	1941	
Beeston	Christopher	C.J.	1961	1961	
Bell	Peter	P.A.	1958	1958	
Belshaw		G.	1949	1949	
Benzies		N.G.	1954	1954	
Bingham	John	J.	1949	1949	
Bowen	Frank	F.W.	1925	1925	
Boyes		J.M.	1953	1953	
Brand	Brian	B.P.	1947	1947	



If you are able to spare £5.00 a month you could sponsor a guide dog puppy who will then go on to make a big difference to someone's life.

If you can help, or would like to make any other form of donation, please telephone

0870 240 6993



Registered Charity Number: 209617

Continued

Surname	First Name	Initials	School From	School to	Surname	First Name	Initials	School From	Scho to
Braney		P.B.	1946	1953	Gillett	Charlie	C.	1953	196
Brown	Lynn	L.	1931	1938	Gillett	Jan	J.	1957	196
Brown	Tim	T.J.	1955	1960	Gilliland	Jack	J.	1947	195
Campbell	Robert	R.	1961	1963	Glattbach	Jack	J.	1953	196
Carr	Norman	N.	1939	1944	Glenwright		H.D.	1945	195
Carter	John	J.K.	1937	1942	Graham	Paul	P.	1958	196
Chicken	Peter	P.	1959	1964	Grant	Ian	I.S.	1946	195
Church		D.P.	1948	1955	Grantham		J.R.	1949	1956
Clark		J.B.	1945	1950	Gray	Ian	I.J.	1958	196
Clarke	Howard	H.R.	1986	2002	Green	John	J.A.	1940	1946
Cleveland		H.J.	1964	1972	Haigh	Jack	J.	1921	1925
Code	Harold	J.H.	1951	1957	Haile	Alan	A.N.	1960	1967
Cooper	Ted	E.D.	1957	1962	Hardwick	Ray	J.R.	1956	1963
Counter	Ray	R.	1931	1936	Hart	Stuart	S.B.	1938	1940
Coupe	Peter	P.S.	1957	1965	Hedley	John	E.J.	1951	1958
Cowen		J.S.	1963	1965	Helliwell	Paul	P.R.	1949	1954
Croot	Edward	R.E.W.	1953	1960	Heward		J.	1946	1951
Danby	Lionel	L.	1955	1960	Hume	Wilf	W.A.	1924	1929
Davis		W.A.	1947	1952	Hunt	Peter	D.P.	1962	1969
Davison	John	J.J.	1951	1958	Hurt	Chris	C.W.	1949	1956
Dean	Doug	D.	1951	1956	Hutton	Geoff	G.	1953	1960
Dee	Paul	P.M.	1947	1954	Ingham	John	J.	1957	1997
Denney	Ivor	I.	1940	1946	Kelley		J.	1930	1935
Dickensen	Philip	P.	1948	1955	Kelley		N.	1934	1939
Dobby	Frank	F.W.	1931	1937	Kenyon	Geoffrey	G.B.	1947	1952
Dodsworth	Ken	K.	1931	1936	Kitchin	John	J.	1959	1966
Duncan	Malcolm	M.C.	1948	1952	Lawson	Chris	D.C.	1950	1957
Durrant	Jim	J.J.	1949	1980	Little		D.S.	1949	1955
Eden		T.N.	1950	1955	Littlefair	Bob	R.W.	1953	1958
England	John	J.R.	1960	1965	Ludbrook	Denis	D.	1929	1934
Fenwick	Ron	R.	1923	1928	Mackey		N.	1950	1955
Fletcher		C.	1953	1960	Marriott		J.T.		
Franks	John	J.W.	1947	1952	Maule	Peter	P.A.	1959	1964
Fricker	Orlando	O.J.	1969	1976	McLellan	Fergus	F.A.	1944	1949
Garthwaite	Derek	D.	1946	1951	Mustard	Colin	C.R.	1955	1960
Sathergood	Dave	D.	1957	1964	Nash,	David	D.J.	1951	1954

G.C.

C.L.

Geoffrey

1955

1961

1962

1968

Nattrass

Neal

1936

1942

1929

1937

R.

D.H.B.

Gedling

Gibbs

Raymond

Denis

Surname	First	Initials	School	School	
	Name		From	to	
Neal	Haydn	R.H.	1955	1962	
Pallett	Fred	F.	1936	1941	
Parker	Malcolm	M.	1960	1967	
Pilbrough	David	D.J.	1947	1953	
Pope	Len	R.L.	1927	1931	
Purnell		R.	1924	1929	
Purnell	Mike	M.R.	1953	1961	
Rattenbury	John	J.C.	1958	1965	
Rayner	Dave	D.S.	1955	1963	
Rayner	Graham	G.	1959	1966	
Redfern		G.E.	1922	1926	
Reed	Raymond	R.T.	1950	1957	
Rigg	Andrew	A.N.	1958	1965	
Rigg	Peter	P.H.	1956	1963	
Robertson	Graham	G.	1959	1966	
Robson	John	J.D.	1957	1964	
Rodgers	John	J.	1965	1972	
Scott	Ridley	R.	1950	1954	
Smart	Arthur	A.	1948	1955	
Smith		J.A.	1946	1951	
Smith	Don	D.B.	1933	1940	
Smith	Richard	R.L.	1958	1966	
Sowler	Peter	P.A.	1953	1960	
Stewart	David	D.H.	1957	1963	
Strickland		H.C.	1932	1936	
Teasdale	James	J.A.	1942	1947	
Teasdale	William	W.C.	1928	1931	
Thersby	Russell	R.	1956	1964	
Tinsley	Eric	J.E.	1958	1965	
Turner	Neil	N.A.	1952	1959	
Wainwright	John	M.J.T.	1956	1963	
Walker		A.	1943	1948	
Walker		K.G.	1944	1950	
Walker	Graham	G.	1961	1963	
Waller		R.	1931	1936	
Waller	Brian	B.	1959	1966	
Waller	Colin	C.M.	1949	1956	
Walton	John	J.B.			

# NSPCC (S) CHILD PROTECTION HELPLINE 0808 800 5000



£2 a month could help the NSPCC continue to run their 24-hour child protection helpline, providing immediate help and support to anyone concerned about a child's welfare.

If you want to help, please call

020 7825 2505

Registered Charity Number: 216401



Surname	First Name	Initials	School From	School to	Surname	First Name	Initials	School From	Scho
Ward	Bob	R.	1954	1959	Williams	Mike	T.M.	1943	194
Ward	Geoffrey	G.R.	1955	1962	Willoughby	Charles	C.H.	1947	195
Ward	Gerald	G.A.	1959	1967	Wilson	Terry	T.	1962	196
Watson	Michael	M.J.	1949	1956	Wimberley	Peter	P.D.	1955	196
Wells	David	D.	1949	1956	Wimberley	Richard	R.G.	1954	196
West	Phil	P.W.	1951	1954	Winn	David	D.G.	1946	195
Whitehead		D.J.	1947	1952	Winter	Brian	В.	1963	197
Wiggins	Barry	B.D.	1940	1946	Wooton,	Russell	R.P.	1960	196
Wigglesworth	Chris	J.C.	1948	1955	Young	Dave	D.J.	1959	196
Williams		D.	1954	1959					

# MINUTES OF THE 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE OLD STOCKTONIANS' ASSOCIATION

Held at Stockton Sixth Form College on Wednesday 25 April 2007

1r. R. Ward took the chair and opened the meeting at 7.04 pm.

Present: P.Graham, P.Hunt, M.Peagam, R.Prichard, D.Robinson, R. Ward, D.Williams

Apologies for absence: M.Bradley, B.Brand, P.Braney

<u>Matters arising:</u> None

# 1embership Secretary's Report:

A report was handed out on A4 sheet. D.Williams asked if membership numbers were declining. Membership Secretary replied in the affirmative. At present there are 251 members of which 20 are currently overseas.

# 'ear Book Editor's Report:

D.Williams suggested e-mailing the Year Book to reduce overseas postal costs. The Editor replied hat the Year Book would take up too much space electronically, especially if pictures were not not not be reduced. The Editor agreed to look into the situation to see if email would be appropriate. Printing rosts were up significantly from £365 to £439. The postal costs were reduced by a lighter nagazine. The chair thanked the Editor on behalf of the Committee.

# reasurer's Report:

Funds are relatively healthy as per page 17 of the 2005/06 Year Book. The Annual Dinner profit vas unexpected. Possibly someone paid twice. No invoice from Grangefield School so the £60.00 prize has not been paid.

50

Benevolent Fund Report: This was not forthcoming as B.Brand not present.

Election of President: R.Ward proposed B.Brand. All the Committee agreed.

#### Election of Office Bearers:

Vice Presidents:

Minutes Secretary:

Hon Treasurer:

Correspondence Secretary:

Membership Secretary:

Year Book Editor:

No change.

R.Pritchard.

D.Williams.

R.Ward.

P.Graham.

D.Robinson.

Additional Committee Members P.Hunt, M.Peagam, K.Turner

#### Quorate Matters:

R.Pritchard proposed that 4 members of the Committee to be regarded as quorate. Passed unanimously.

#### Any Other Business:

D.Robinson said that next two years are critical for the continuation of the Association. M. Peagam thought that a new way of going forward could possibly be based on an employment opportunities network. P.Graham passed on emails received from members in response to the President's message in the 2005/06 Year Book.

# Date and time of next meeting:

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2008 at 7.00 pm at Stockton Sixth Form College.

R.Ward closed the meeting at 8.04pm

Roz PRITCHARD Hon. Secretary

Everyone is encouraged to attend the AGM on 23 April 2008. If you cannot attend but would have something you would like to be raised, please contact the Association.

# Half of all cancers could be prevented by changes to lifestyle



Stopsmoking

It's the best present you will ever give yourself

stay in shape

Be active and keep a healthy body weight

eat and drink healthily

Limit alcohol and choose a balanced diet with plenty of fruit and vegetables

besunsmart

Protect yourself in the sun and take care not to burn

Look after number one

Know your body and see your doctor about anything unusual

www.reducetherisk.org.uk

reduce the risk

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