



ROUNDWOOD PARK ALUMNI Newsletter 19: June 2017

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www.roundwoodpark.co.uk/alumni



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Please forward this newsletter to ex-Roundwood friends and encourage them to make contact to be added to the mailing list.



Keeping in touch – tracing new alumni / contact details?

PLEASE inform us if your contact details (email) change also if you would prefer us to use a personal rather than a work email. Please email us or use the link to update details and also to indicate any preferences. <http://www.roundwoodpark.co.uk/alumni-registration-form/>

Alumni in the news – Georgina (2011) stars in 'NewsRevue' on London stage.



Georgina Thomas is a recent graduate of The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama who likes a damn good pun. She is a writer and performer and when not scrolling through twitter, listening to Radio 4 and devouring newspapers, Georgina likes a good gin and tonic. Georgina is a member of the Soho Theatre Young Company and is currently writing cookery-based comedy. With an extra-large spoon at the ready, Georgina can't wait to tuck into a big bowl of NewsRevue.

NewsRevue cracked its first gag at The Gate, London, back in 1979 and in the summer of that year premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival where it has returned annually ever since. It was the creation of Cambridge university chums Mike Hodd and Jack Thorington. Professor Michael Hodd has remained with the show since the very beginning. A few years after its inception it moved to its own venue, the Canal Café Theatre, where it continues to play to packed houses 50 weeks of the year.

Georgina is appeared in NewsRevue at the Canal Café in March and early April.

Dowie (2006) continues to cross the globe to play soccer.

England forward Natasha Dowie has joined US top-flight side, the Boston Breakers, having left Doncaster Rovers Belles in July 2016.

The 28-year-old played under current Breakers head coach Matt Beard when he managed Liverpool Ladies.

Dowie, who has 14 England caps, had a spell with Melbourne Victory in 2015 before making four appearances for Doncaster last season.

"If you get her in scoring situations, she'll score goals," Beard said.



“She works hard, and I think that will rub off on some of the players. The players won't get a rest when she's in training and in games

Some of the mystery photos – Can you identify some of these?

A bag full of photos were anonymously left for me during February half term recess!



These are the Harpenden Society Essay competition Awards (?) but when (1988?) and who are the students winners(?) with Dorothy Mills [Harpenden Town Mayor]. Sarah Oxford on



LHS of RH photos? Recognise any other students?

This is Sarah Cooper and Sarah Jones (1999) during an

A level chemistry practical session.

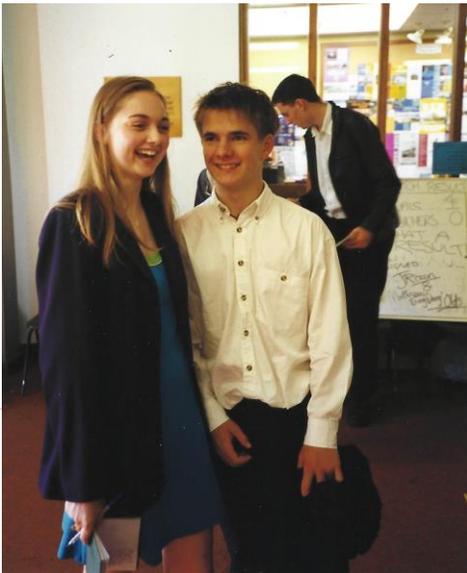
Sarah Jones is in Devon but what happened to Sarah Cooper? Last heard of doing a Ph.D. at Oxford or Cambridge?

The following year groupphoto is perhaps 1993 L6/U6



There are lots of familiar faces but names of all but a handful elude us. Can you help to identify these 5 rows of smiling faces and perhaps say where they now are or what they are doing?

The wedding of one gives me the year!



This is a photo of Hayley Evans (now Dr King – Paediatrician, last seen at Angela Clarke’s ‘Follow Me’ book launch in St Albans) along with Craig Arnold (who made excuses an art form and enjoyed the most amazing circuitous routes to school on his bike/scooter?) Any news of Craig?

Sixth Form year group of 1991(?)



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Again a number of familiar faces but few that can be named. For some reason cakes and the girl front row extreme left springs to mind and a hockey connection with the two standing directly behind!

These photos, and more, are all on the alumni gallery where they can be expanded to show more detail to aid recognition.

Wednesday visits



Alison Sharkey and Jayne Waller, both 1985, visited the school in mid March to look around their old stamping ground to look at all the places they remembered and to talk over old memories. It was an uplifting time for all of us to see how little and how much things had changed. Alison had brought in some class photos and also with Jane's help



we were able to identify and recall many of the students on the photos that were left in the Head teacher's office for me during the half term recess by an anonymous donor! Many of these photos are now on the Alumni gallery.

<http://www.roundwoodpark.co.uk/alumni-gallery-by-year/>

If, as many have suggested, that you would like to look around the school again PLEASE email b.smith@roundwoodpark.co.uk to arrange a time that suits you for a visit.

Alumnus of the Month: April 2017 Steven Waggett (1986)

Steven is currently the Clinical Systems / IT Project Manager at the University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust in Bristol.

This role involves managing the implementation of IT systems as part of the Clinical Systems Implementation Programme (CSIP), to support effective and efficient patient care and associated business functions.

After leaving RPS in the Sixth Form, Steven went on to the University of Teesside, gaining a Higher National Diploma in Computer Information technology administration and management. Next he gained an advanced diploma in computer systems analysis from the University of Gloucester.

Steven initially worked for the SW Regional Health Authority as a Team Leader. His next move was to Electronic Data Systems (EDS) where he gained extensive experience as a Business Analyst and as a Project Manager for many years before moving on to Hewlett Packard (HP) as a Project/Bid Manager. From there Steven returned to the Health sector in his current position in Bristol.



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Alumni Grapevine



John Rayner [1981]

After starting as a Retail Manager, John moved on to use his engineering skills in a number of companies. He is currently a Field Service Engineer for the Linde Kion Group in Peterborough.



Joanne (Menges) Langdale (1982)

Joanne gained a combined Honours BA in French & German from Birmingham University. After a number of senior managerial and consultant positions, Joanne is currently the Haed of Buasiness Development at Institutional Protection Services Ltd in London.



Tom Bliss [1987]. Tom started his career in the city as an Investment Banker. However he moved to New Zealand and currently works as a fully qualified and Authorised Financial Adviser for Forsyth Barr. He lives in Dunedin with his wife and three children and is a keen diver.



Corinne Green [1988]. Corinne gained a BA Hons in Geography from the University of Portsmouth. She then worked in Marketing at managerial level and has since held managerial positions in other disciplines. Currently Corinne is Business Relations Manager at Satellite Applications Catapult in Harwell.



Nigel Bliss [1989]. Nigel gained a degree in Geography from the University of Manchester. He then joined Mondrian Investment Partners and remains there as Senior Portfolio Manager in London.



Ian Perryment [1991]. Ian gained BSc Hons in Sports Science & Physics from Loughborough University. He then pursued a career in finance working for EDS, Hewlett Packard and currently Ark Data Services in Corsham where he is the Finance Director.



Andrew Owen [1992]. Andrew went to Birmingham University and gained BA Hons in Law. He then held a number of positions as a company auditor. He is currently the Regional Controller (Europe South, Midem and UK) for Reed Exhibitions in Richmond upon Thames.



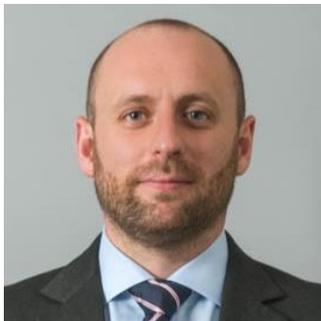
Mark Scrivener [1994]. Mark has held a number of positions in finance as an accountant or budget controller. Having recently moved to Sydney, Australia he is currently the Senior Group Production Biller at BWM Denitsu.



Zena Smith [1996]. Zena gained a BA honours in English & German from Exeter University and studied at the Institute for Direct & Digital Marketing. Zena then took up senior roles in marketing and communication. She is currently a Consultant at Balmer Consulting in Hants.



Chris Cullen [1997]. Chris gained qualifications in Accountancy before studying for his ACCA (Associate of Chartered Certified Accountants) at the London School of Business & Finance. He is currently a Practice Manager at Melwood Chartered Certified Accountant in Herts.



James Rourke [1999]. James studied at the Institute of Barrister Clerks gaining an advanced BTEC in Chambers Administration. He then worked in the London Courts as a criminal clerk and then as clerk to civil, and family law courts. He is currently Assistant Practice Manager for Civil, Immigration, Housing, Crime & Prison law at One Pump Court Law in London.



Tim Smale [2000]. Tim studied at Oaklands and then at Nottingham Trent University gaining a BSc (honours) in Combined Studies in Computing for Science with Physiology. After posts working on Electronics designs and Neuroanatomy and Histology, Tim is now an elearning fellow at Keele University.



Rachel Stephens [2001]

Rachel qualified as a dentist (BDS) from the University of Bristol before gaining further qualifications from The Royal College of Surgeons and University College London (MSc in clinical Dentistry). Rachel worked as a Senior House Officer in oral and maxillofacial surgery at the NW London hospital. Further posts at Eastman dental hospital and Kings College Hospital and St Georges Hospital to her current post as Consultant Orthodontist.



Ellie Bristow [2002]

Ellie gained a foundation degree in Art from U of Herts before taking on BA(hons) in Contemporary Textile practices at the Norwich school of Art & Design. She then gained an MA Conservation of historical objects at the University of Lincoln. Ellie worked for the National trust and as a freelance Conservator before her current post as an IT Administrator for WYG group.



Juliet (Mangwende) Mutongi [2003]

Juliet joined us in the 6th form and after A levels studied at the University of Portsmouth, gaining a BA(hons) in Business Studies and then an MSc in Business Management. After a number of managerial positions, Juliet is currently the Procurement Manager – Europe for Coca Cola Enterprises in London..



Joe Phillips [2006]

Joe gained engineering qualifications at Barnfield Technology Campus before embarking on a career in Engineering. He worked for InterMIT before moving to his current post as a Network Support Engineer for TristarIT Support at Welwyn.

Monique Hall [2007]

Monique gained BA in the History of Art & English Literature from Leeds University. She then worked as a journalist for such publications as the Herts Advertiser and the Mail online and gained journalism qualification on the way. She is currently Senior Social Media Executive at Ted Baker in London.





Nicola hammon [2008]

Nicola gained a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from the University of Sheffield. Nicola now works as Sales and Marketing Director for Izabelle Hammon Ltd which is a company that specialises in professional beauty, nail care and offers three specific branded products.



George Kerridge [2009]

George gained a B.Arch (Architecture) from Leeds Beckett University. He worked as a designer/digital designer for various companies and freelance. With a partner they set up an innovative social betting platform. George then moved to Melbourne, Australia where he is currently a senior Digital Designer at The Bridge.



Blast from the past

When **Larry Guare**, one of my former students (12/13BSm) from my form group (2005-7), turned up (a few years ago now!) with his OCR A level chemistry certificate showing the top grade (A), it was a proud moment for both of us.

Good luck to Larry and hope he is well and enjoying a happy and successful career.

I know Larry would be pleased for this photo to be published and if you know of Larry's whereabouts/contact details please let us know.

How Alumni can HELP inspire future generations.

We welcome offers to come in and help our current students with any form of advice. Career guidance and advice of specialist subject matters are welcomed. The school has a number of careers sessions and ad hoc meetings can easily be arranged to suit.

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Around the school are a number of A4 sized framed pictures showing alumni and how they have been 'inspired' by one or more of their teachers.

These posters showing how former pupils have been inspired and how they may have progressed to take up careers in any related/unrelated profession, have made a real impact on our current youngsters. Thanks to those of you that are already 'up there' and we would ask you to consider sending in any comments about how you may have been inspired in any way to push on you're your education, career or in any other way that has positively spurred you to move forward. Here is an example of an existing 'inspiration' poster from an alumnus. Aa photo is also posted alongside "the words"

RPS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

INSPIRATION

My experience at Roundwood Park and how I have been inspired by my teachers in...

ECONOMICS (please state your subject)

"I firmly believe that I use skills and knowledge learnt from each subject in various aspects of my life. However, in particular, my A level Economics teacher was an inspiration and now, almost eight years after my first lesson with him, I am using many of the skills and insights that he taught me, in my profession as an economist. Even through my degree and post graduate studies, fascinating and stimulating as they were, I still referred back to the basic elements taught by my teacher".

Imran Shahryar [1999-2006]

If you could write a few words to inspire our current youngsters then we would be delighted to hear from you. Thank you.

Old school ties: Walters urges ex-pupils to return and inspire today's teenagers

By Dean Kirby

The actress Julie Walters is leading calls for the "old school tie" network to support pupils in state schools as figures show thousands of disadvantaged teenagers are missing out on careers because of their background.

The Oscar-nominated star of 1980s movie *Educating Rita*, about a working class Liverpool hairdresser seeking a better life by studying literature, says the world of work is a "difficult place" and more support is needed to help teenagers move from school to employment.

The Birmingham-born actress has backed a week of events in the city hosted by leading education charity Future First. The organisation aims to encourage former state school students to return to their old classrooms to inspire and motivate the pupils of today to aspire to academic success.

Birmingham, a central part of the Government's bid to boost productivity under its Midlands Engine Strat-

egy, has been highlighted as a cold spot for careers support. The charity wants to build an alumni network in every school and college in the city. Former students are returning to schools this week as part of the charity's annual Back to School Week.

Multi-Bafta-winning actress Walters, who warned in 2012 that she feared acting was becoming the preserve of "posh" students, said: "The world of work is a difficult place and the more support teenagers have in navigating the move from school to work and broadening their job horizons, the better."

"I wish there had been something like Future First when I was at school. I'd urge everyone to sign up to support their former state school."

Research from the Social Mobility Commission shows that only one in eight children from a low income background is likely to become a high earner as an adult.

A survey of adults who attended secondary schools by Future First and YouGov also show that pri-

Tomorrow's leaders

Future First is a national education charity that helps state schools to build communities of former students to ensure that no current pupil's future is limited by their background.

More than 180,000 alumni are now supporting 400 state schools and colleges as part of the campaign, which has been backed by since its conception as Back to School Week.

Alumni taking part include people in careers as diverse as lawyers, doctors, plumbers, caterers and architects.

The charity says that state schools have historically lagged behind public schools in harnessing the "crucial experience and talent" of former students. But a survey by YouGov suggests that former state school students are just as likely as former private school students to be willing to support current pupils if asked.



Julie Walters wants to broaden the horizons of state school pupils GETTY

private school students are also four times more likely than state school students to have heard from the school's alumni.

Staff News - Obituary

Very sad news that Roundwood's beloved French teach, Mrs P, has passed away on 8th March 2017. Through the ex staff grapevine (Shiela Wheeler[music] and Judy Munton [Geography]) we have received this sad news.



Francoise was 90 last July. She broke her hip and spent 2 weeks in the L&D followed by 4 weeks in St Albans hospital. She recovered slowly and remained cheerful. She then managed to come to a colleagues lunch at Aldwickbury which she much enjoyed although she was now quite deaf. Ex parents would come and chat and she loved that. Unfortunately she had further problems with the hip and femur and had surgery in L&D followed by another 4 weeks in St Albans over Christmas. Her family visited from Sydney, New York, Paris and London which she absolutely loved. This time she made little progress but managed to come to Aldwickbury for lunch the week before she died. She was clearly very ill and we were very worried. Her children all came to support Andy, also 90 (10 days younger than her so she referred to him as her toy boy!) He has been wonderful coping and was always glad when we called to visit or take her for lunch. We shall miss her. (thanks to JM for this)

Staff News from down under

Chambos high & dry in flooded Oz!

Mike and Angie Chamberlain live in Queensland, Australia. This is a region that has suffered storms, fires and flooding over recent years and 2017 has brought severe flooding but we are pleased to report that the Chambos are in a suburb of Brisbane that is not flooded.



Mike taught physics and was a 6th form tutor from 2003-4. Angie periodically also taught in the school during this time. April 2017

Staff Departures

Julie Fox . September 2003 –May 2017. Mrs Fox initially worked in admin before assuming her final post as Head of Human resources. Destination unsure!



Janet McPherson. Sept 2005-May 2017. Mrs McPherson has been a regular in the year tutors office in B block, dealing with miscreant pupils, parents and general admin tasks; she will be sorely missed. She is going to take on a similar role with reduced hours at another school (StAGS).

Dr Jonathan Tuck. Jan 2008-May 2017. Former head of Maths for a spell and stalwart maths teacher. Rumour has it he is retiring at the end of the academic year.



If you would like us to promote or publicise any Alumni productions please send us details.



If you would like to be added to, or updated on the listings please let us know. PLEASE email to b.smith@roundwoodpark.co.uk with a synopsis of what you would like to appear. Please attach a photo (usually we can use your LinkedIn photo?).

News & Views, comments and photos, welcomed from all Alumni. Please email alumnioffice@roundwoodpark.co.uk

STOP PRESS

- ❖ **Catherine McDougal** (1998) is alive and well and living locally. When she is not trying to save the planet she is working on the land with her green fingers.



- ❖ **Siobhan (Meldrum) Morris** (1985?) is also alive and well and recently seen in Harpenden. She remains a creative artist in her studio in the south of England.

- ❖ **Alex Thomas** (2008) continues to be cited in the local Herts Advertise apropos his archaeological work on the proposed, but likely, site of the new school off Common Lane in Harpenden.



- ❖ **Angela Clarke** has written another (her third) book called called 'Trust Me' and as usual will be launched at Waterstones in London on Tuesday 20th June @ 6.30 p.m.

- ❖ **Evelyn Gillett** (1974-91) taught English at school but still lives locally and meets up with other 'retired' staff at Aldwickbury golf club where she was recently seen attending an 80th birthday celebration of a joint





friend. Also in attendance working there was **Sally Ring**. At the same time both **Terry Lansdown** (Maths and Year Head still at RPS) and **Ed Wilkinson** (6th form tutor, Economis & Business studies is now at Longdean School) were present having played golf.

