



ROUNDWOOD PARK ALUMNI

Newsletter 42: June 2023

www.roundwoodpark.co.uk/alumni



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

Editorial comment- contact

PLEASE ensure we have your current email address.

PLEASE encourage fellow ex-RPS students (alumni) to get in touch.

Please give us your feedback on any items contained within or if you wish on any topic that relates to your time here or fellow classmates or staff.

alumnioffice@roundwoodpark.co.uk or b.smith@roundwoodpark.co.uk

ALUMNI NEWS

Hi Dr Smith.

Not sure if you are interested but an update from me (class of 82-89) Emma Farenden (now Perryment) I was a pupil from 1982 to 1989 and after a six year spell working and completing a Bank Kaufmann at Dresdner Bank in London I joined the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London where I have been working for 28 years. I am currently Associate Director of Data Quality and Integrity within a Data Management team.



My husband of 25 years (Neil Perryment) was also a pupil at Roundwood and we have been together since 1989. We have two children, Rebecca, aged 19, who is currently studying medicine at Hull York Medical school and Daniel, aged 16, who is

completing his GCSEs this year. We haven't ventured far from Harpenden and have been living in Codicote since 2000.

I have fond memories of my time at Roundwood Park. I will always remember Dr Smith explaining that the colour of his jumper was iron two oxide and that Julia Ricketts was a way to remember vitamin D deficiency. Mr Woodhouse was a great shot with chalk and board rubbers and after school cleaning with John Trussler was a chance to sing and dance to Prince at the top of our voices. They were good times. We are still in touch (mainly through Facebook) with many students from our year and it is great to see what they are up to now



This is 'Red Nose Day' in 1988. The people are (left to right, back to front): Katie Jones, Emma Farenden, Julian Clarke, Karen Orford, Dr Dan, Paul Shrigley, Natasha Fernandez, Philippa Young, Chris Lynch, Jason McGeown, John Trussler, Caroline Disspain, Clare Millins, Steve Mann, Louise Buchanan, Gemma Finch. Thanks to Emma (Farenden) Perryment for the above images.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

*In the past the Newsletter has featured an 'alumni of the month' to showcase the range of career **direction and locations that our alumni have pursued since leaving us.***

We would be delighted to hear from any of alumni that would like to feature in the next or future editions of these alumni newsletters.

Previous 'alumni of the month can be viewed on past Newsletters on the alumni site.

Dr Kieran Nunn writes



I was pleased to read that Andrew remembers sixth form fondly. I do too, minus a chemistry lab incident where the contents of his or our conical flask ignited, and rather than place the safety mat over the opening to deprive it of oxygen, he tried to quickly turn it over and block the top with the bench, which would have been fine had the fuel not been liquid. We got to bond over the sanding and varnishing of that bench. I understand he's a successful engineer and wish him the best. I write this from Toronto, Ontario, where I'm undertaking a fellowship in Trauma Neuroanaesthesia & Critical Care. Will I return to the NHS, I don't know, but I offer my solidarity in upcoming teacher strikes. Without the help of staff at RPS I would have missed out on a great deal in life. Thank you.

Kieran (class of 2002 and Head Boy 01-02)

CONGRATULATIONS

Byron Mackenzie (class of 2009) and Stephanie were married in Chelsea on 22nd September 2022.



Byron is currently First Officer with British Airways.




Alumni to the rescue! From the archives.

Can you recognise or know of these alumni?



Fine Journalism since Whenever it was

Trombone



Election Special

The Only Election Guide You can Trust

- News
- Features
- Manifestos

Edition 16 April 97 Election Special The Roundwood School Newspaper

Trombone was a student, magazine published in the 1990s? Can you remember this publication and who was editorially involved in its production?



In years gone past the science teachers took a moment to celebrate the end of the Autumn term.

Recognise any of these?

Quiz team bring home the bacon

PUPILS from Roundwood Park School, Harpenden really know their bacon and have prizes to prove it after winning a competition sponsored by Danish Bacon.

The school team of consumer-affairs experts scored the highest marks in an early heat for Young Consumer '95 and then reached the semi-final answering questions on law, food and general knowledge.

Sixth-formers Richard Dillon, Martha Turner, Laura Hay and Tom Schofield pitted their wits against the county's best with a total of 34 local teams answering questions from Hertfordshire Trading Standards.

Roundwood were pipped at the post in the county final by Bishop's Stortford College. Sixth-form tutor Dr Brian Smith said: "We came fifth a few years ago but this is the best we've ever done."

13/12/95 Harp. Adv.



AN award-winning theatre production from Hertfordshire's road safety unit is visiting schools and colleges across the county until November for the sixth year running.

As young drivers make up ten per cent of all motorists but are involved in 20 per cent of all road accidents, 'The Buzz' aims to bring home to them the dangers of speeding by using theatre to make them consider the consequences of their actions. The most common reasons for people being killed or

injured on the road last year was because they either misjudged the speed and distance of another vehicle, drove too close or drove too fast.

The Buzz is just one of a number of education programmes designed to make youngsters more aware of the importance of road safety and focuses on the thrills, dangers and peer pressure often experienced by new drivers. Actors from the production are pictured above with pupils from Roundwood Park School in Harpenden.

.and who was involved in either of these events?

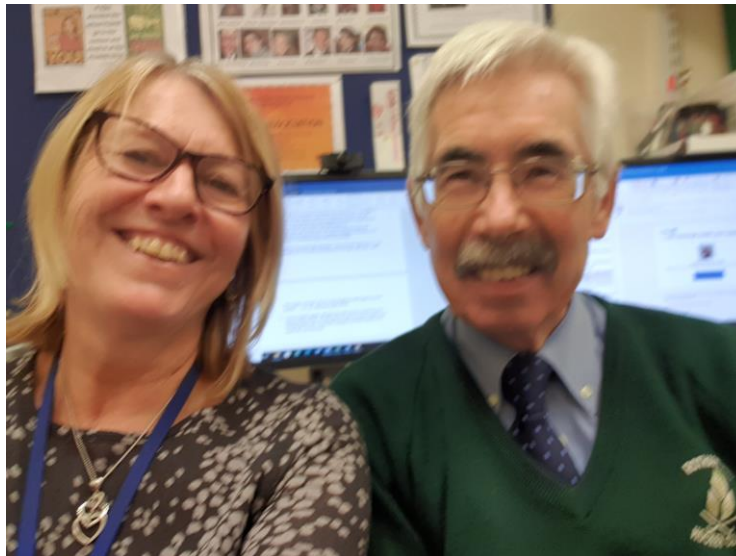
Mrs Michele (formerly) Darvill. January 4th 2000 – 24th March 2023.

A testing time – the life and times of an Examinations Officer.

Rumour has it that when Michele Tomlins arrived in the staff room in January 2000 for her interview, a certain person handed her a couple of bounty bar celebrations chocolates and said ‘welcome to paradise’.

Thus, began Michele Tomlins’ time at Roundwood Park school in a career that oversaw all aspects of professional examinations throughout the school for more than two decades.

We await Mrs Darvill’s comments in the next edition – hopefully!



The STAFF INTERVIEW

Coming soon(?) The long-awaited (since 18/06/2021) staff interview from Miss Ruth Plowman (Geography and Head of Year).

Alumni in the news!

Natasha Khalila Dowie (class of 2006) is an English footballer who plays as a striker, currently, for Women's Super League club Liverpool on loan from Reading. Throughout her playing career, Natasha, has achieved many high points.

She scored two goals, including the 119th minute extra-time winner, to give Everton a 3–2 victory over Arsenal in the 2010 FA Women's Cup Final. Dowie finished the top scorer in the 2013 FA WSL with 13 goals in 14 games for champions Liverpool. She was voted the FA Players' Player of the Year and selected in the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) Team of the Year.



Natasha Dowie scored the opening goal for Liverpool on Sunday May 7th against Manchester City. It was her first goal since returning to Liverpool in January. In doing so, she helped her team notch a big win and also made club history. She is now the first Liverpool player to score 20 WSL goals since the league formed in 2010.

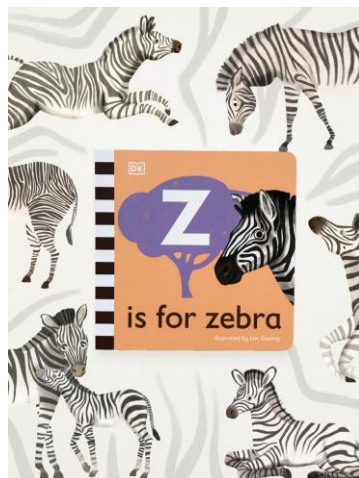
Livi Gosling (2008) is an accomplished illustrator still living in Herts. Visitors to Harpenden Books on Saturday May 27th were able to meet and talk to Livi about her work.



Examples of her amazing illustrations and children's books can be viewed.

<https://livigosling.co.uk/>

<https://livigosling.co.uk/childrens-books>





Letters to the Editor

- 1. Correction to March newsletter about Martha.**
There was a slight inaccuracy in that, (apart for 5 months at the height of Covid), my job is not with the elderly! Being a registered children's nurse, I should have never been let loose on the lovely old people of the Cotswolds, but there was a certain amount of hysteria in the NHS in the first half of 2020 which meant they didn't mind that my training had only ever covered nursing the under 16s! Now in my health visitor role, all the children I see are under 5 😊 Mostly newborn in fact!
- 2. Thank you!!! Loving reading all the news letters, great work on the alumni stuff! AC. Good to hear.**
- 3. Hey, yes that would be my old university email address. Do you need a new one? Happy to provide. CB. Thanks, as we lose so many contacts when email addresses change through job changes or getting married!**
- 4. Hi Brian, I know I can't believe that it's been 20 years and now I'm working in a school myself so close by! AS. Yes time flies but memories linger.**
- 5. Not sure if you are interested but an update from me (class of 82-89). EP. Yes, we are always interested and delighted to hear from our alumni especially with news and photos.**
- 6. The 63/64 group have done some research for you on head girl and head boy. JP. Thanks for these updates.**
- 7. How are you? It's been a long time since our science classes! NT. Very well thanks and good to hear from you.**

Staff Leavers

Isabelle Roubault, Learning Support Assistant, joined us on 01 September 2014 and will be leaving on 20 April 2023.

Sam Cosgrave, teacher of history, joined April 2022 and leaving on April 2023.

Kirk Dumbleton, teacher of Humanities, rejoined in January 2022 and will leave in April 2023.

VISITS

Our alumni are dotted all around the country and the globe but many ask if it would be possible to visit when they are in the vicinity/country!

We are always delighted to see any and all, but please not at once, of our alumni.

If you would like to visit please email us and we will see what we can arrange.



General and further information about news and events that are happening at the school can be found in the fortnightly newsletter Roundup.

<https://roundwoodpark.co.uk/roundup-newsletters/>

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to **Andy Gardner FStructE** for starting new position as **Fellow (FStructE)** at The Institution of Structural Engineers



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David Peck (class of 1981) and latterly staff member/teacher (1995-2004) who introduced the subject of **SOCIOLOGY** to the RPS curriculum and which has continued to attract many students to this popular A level subject, is alive and well and seen, for a catch up in Harpenden this Easter in Pete Mann's The Engineer Pub.

Many of our older alumni will remember **Miss Karin Froelich** (later to be Mrs Jack Passmore) who spent a year here as a Language assistant teaching German. She and Jack established a Language college in a city just north of Frankfurt. Karin now continues to run this thriving college which caters for the local industries.

Mr Bill Whitmore is still working at RPS as a cover teacher in many subjects, despite leaving in the summer of 2022

James Hampson (1990) and also **Susanna and Mark Collins** (1990) were all seen and to be in fine health whilst a certain person was out canvassing/delivering political(!) newsletters.

Lucy J and David J (both 2005) got married in April and spent their honeymoon in Bali. I am sure we all wish them every happiness. Hopefully photo and more details later.

Following an excursion into Heartwood Forest recently and getting lost, we were delighted and relieved to meet **Laura Sear** (2006) and a friend with two dogs who were able to show us the way out of that maze of a forest!

Nick Trevis (2000) writes to say "I've left the corporate world and launched a personal care brand called Brother Earth. Our mission is to remove plastic and harsh chemicals from the world's bathrooms.

Catherine MacDougall (?) is alive and well. She is currently overseeing a community wildlife pond on her allotment plot.



Another hard day at the office!

Best wishes to all our readers
BMLS (editor)