



*Class of 2024*

## **THE WESTWOODIAN 2024**

**Westwoodians' Association Newsletter for Former Pupils and Staff of**



**WESTWOOD  
HOUSE  
SCHOOL**



**The  
Peterborough  
School**



**PETERBOROUGH  
HIGH SCHOOL**



## Are you in contact with other Former Pupils and Former Staff?

If you are, can you please ask them if they have been in touch and given us their permission to contact them. The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), specify we must have explicit consent ('opt in') before we can contact anyone.

If they haven't given their consent and they would like to receive information from us, they can either:

Complete the '*Alumni Contact Consent Form*' on the School's website [www.thepeterboroughschool.co.uk](http://www.thepeterboroughschool.co.uk) in the Alumni section in the '*Stay in Touch with the Alumni Group*' page.

OR

Email [Alumni@tps.ch.co.uk](mailto:Alumni@tps.ch.co.uk) advising whether contact can be made by *telephone and/or email* and including all contact details



## Reunion Luncheon 2025

**Sunday 14th September 2025  
12:00pm until 4:00pm**



**The Westwoodians' Association invites you to  
attend our Reunion Luncheon to celebrate  
130 years since the School was founded.**

Please join us for a buffet lunch and welcome drink in the School Hall on Sunday 14th September 2025 from 12.00pm until 4.00pm. There will be a PTG Bar and tours of the School. Please email us photos of your school days to include in our slide show to [Alumni@tps.ch.co.uk](mailto:Alumni@tps.ch.co.uk)

Tickets are £30pp and must be purchased in advance. The tables will seat 10 people, and we would love for you to contact all your school friends and reserve a half, full table or individual seat.

To book your tickets, [click here](#) or scan the QR code below:



We are making a special effort to encourage past teachers from a range of year groups to attend. If there are any you would especially like to see, please email us.

**We hope to see you there!**



**It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this year's edition of 'The Westwoodian' and to thank all those who contributed to it.**

I would also like to thank the Westwoodians' Committee for their generous donation of £10,000 towards the cost of new curtains in the School Hall. The old red curtains had been up for many years and the new green curtains have made a huge improvement to the School Hall – we look forward to showing you when you visit.

It gave me great pleasure to welcome everyone back to School in September when we launched a unique educational framework which encompasses the four elements of Family, Ambition, Character, and Excellence. Our new values now feature throughout our rewards structure.

Last October, we welcomed to Speech Day Ben Smith, social entrepreneur, mental health charity founder, award winning global adventurer, fundraiser and author, as our guest speaker. Ben delivered an inspirational address to pupils, parents, staff and governors before presenting the awards.

Last year's Upper Sixth, our newest Westwoodians, were rightfully celebrating as they collected their A Level results, which saw a 100% pass rate for all exams. Additionally, almost 1 in 4 students gained an A\* or A grade in every single subject. 96% gained places on their chosen university courses, with courses ranging from Medicine to Law, to Business Management, to English Literature and many more, reflecting the many strengths of our outgoing Upper Sixth cohort. Building on our outstanding A Level successes, Year 11 pupils were also celebrating their excellent GCSE results, which matched last year's equally outstanding results. At the important Grade 9 – 7 measurement, both years individually rank as the best results we have had since the introduction of the numerical grading system in 2017. This year saw over 1 in 5 pupils gain Grades 9 to 7 in eight or more of their GCSE subjects.

We are very proud of the diversity of our School community and celebrated gaining the Rainbow Flag Award in the Spring term, a national quality assurance framework for schools. It focuses on positive LGBTQ+ inclusion and recognises and celebrates the School's approach to creating an inclusive ethos. In addition, this year we saw the School gain formal accreditation for our work in careers, through the Quality in Careers Standard.

We welcomed inspectors into School in February from the Independent Schools Inspectorate as part of their routine inspection of schools. We were delighted with the outcome of the inspection and the many strengths highlighted. I am particularly pleased that the pupils received so much praise within the inspection report, especially pertaining to

their learning, personal development and behaviour. It's particularly pleasing that they should see that we deliver on our core promise. In the first paragraph of our report, the inspectors identified our values of Family, Ambition, Character and Excellence as being at the heart of all we do. They said that 'Pupils are confident, polite and articulate. The school community takes pride in its inclusivity, respect for others and overall warmth.' and 'Pupils exhibit confidence and actively put into effect the principles of fairness, diversity and democracy.'

We continued to invest in the estate and the Nursery Expansion was installed in August '23 and opened officially on the morning of Speech Day by Ben Smith. We were delighted that the refurbishment of the Reception Classroom took place during the October half term break, and we have seen an incredible transformation. The children were so excited to see their new innovative space, exploring the wonderful 'tree house style' reading area, world map mural, brand new furniture, home corner and quiet corner! Thank you to the PTG, who agreed to part-fund the project to ensure we could put in place everything on our wish list.

The Chapel remains at the heart of the School and my thanks go to the many visiting preachers who led Chapel Services throughout the Autumn term. In November, Canon Tim Alban-Jones, who is both the Vice Dean at the Cathedral and a Governor, led an act of Remembrance with staff and pupils in Years 3 to 13 gathering at the flagpole. In the New Year, we held a very special Installation Service for our new Chaplain, Reverend Jenny Paddison, and it was wonderful to be able to include children from across the School. Our Woodard Provost Reverend Justin White presided during the Services joined by members of our Governing Body.

We welcomed Mr Ian Sanderson from Afrinspire, our annual charity, who spoke to pupils about the charity's work in Uganda, working closely with community leaders to understand the development needs of communities and tailor our support to meet these needs. This year our fundraising has been exceptional, and we ended the Spring term on a real high, with our Appeals Day, raising a total of £3,055.90 for Afrinspire and a grand total of £6,146 for Afrinspire. Our Charity fundraising for the year totalled £7,363, which is incredible.

Once again, our children have participated in a wide range of extra-curricular events and activities. Our pupils have achieved success in sports at District, County, Regional and National Level and pupils have recorded amazing success in music, and Speech & Drama examinations. This year's musical was Chicago, which saw pupils from Year 7 to Upper Sixth work together, and Prep productions included nativity plays, and a highlight was the Year 3 and 4 amazing production of the Bee Musical. Our choirs have once again sung locally and further afield, at St John's Church, Peterborough and other Cathedrals and other churches nationally and abroad.

Our children have ventured near and far too, with various trips and tours throughout the year. We wished our skiers a safe journey as they departed for Italy in December, our



netballers enjoyed a brilliant trip to Disneyland Paris, and our footballers ventured to Rotterdam in May. Prep children enjoyed their annual adventure holiday as well as their Bushcraft Residential.

We must also say thank you and send our best wishes to Professor Howe, Mr Hayes and Dr Thompson, who stepped down from our School Council as a Governors. Sadly, we said farewell to our longstanding Governor, Mrs Elizabeth Payne, at a beautiful funeral service in February. Mrs Payne was a governor for 16 years and was an immensely wise advocate for the School. She had a great sense of humour and was a regular attendee at functions and events. A former pupil of PHS for eight years, she then became Chairman of the Westwoodians', until joining the School Council in 2007. We remember Elizabeth in our hearts and keep her family and loved ones in our prayers.

### STAFF NEWS 2023-24

In September, it was a pleasure to welcome Mrs Dharamraj to the Prep School teaching team, joined by Mrs Newton who stepped up to cover for Mrs Joy's maternity leave. Mrs Emery joined to teach Spanish in the Prep School. They were joined by Mrs Aston, Mrs Moles, Mrs Carter as Teaching assistants. Mrs Ongley joined the Speech and Drama department in January as Mrs Pergande left to take up a role closer to home.

In the Senior School, Dr Smart joined to teach within Science, Mrs Rees to lead Food Technology and Mrs Taylor to teach Business Studies and Economics. They were joined by Head Science Technician, Mrs Henderson. Mrs Briskman returned to the School to work in the Individual Learning department this year.

In September we opened our Nursery expansion and during the year several staff joined the dedicated and talented team. Mrs Hicks, Miss Greensmith, joined as childcare practitioners and Miss Campion-Clarke started her career as an apprentice practitioner. They were joined by Mrs Adonina and Miss Marsh-Coomes in January. In the Summer term, Miss Bonner and Miss Asghar joined as practitioners and we welcomed Mrs Goldsmith to lead the Little Acorns Room looking after our youngest babies in the Nursery. We said farewell to Miss Smith in the Spring term.

We also welcomed Mr McIntyre, Mr Ahmed and Mr Taylor to the minibus driver team. Mrs Williams joined our catering team as Assistant Chef and Miss Fleck, Miss Szwanc and Mrs Law joined the domestic team later in the year, as we said farewell to Mrs Soares and Mrs Granelli. Miss Salmon began her work as our new Marketing Executive and Mrs Woods returned to the School to take up a role supporting the academic life of the School. As exam season began in the Summer term, we welcomed Mrs Limbrick, Mr Watson and Miss Stanley to the invigilation team. In the Sports Department we welcomed Mr Tighe as our new tennis coach.

At the end of the Autumn term, we said farewell to our Gap Tutors Miss Burgess and Miss Murden as they returned home. They were involved in so many different aspects of the School with virtually all pupils. In January, we welcomed their successors, Miss Jenkins and Miss Payne. They have both settled in superbly, supporting all areas of the School, and we hope they have a wonderful year with us.

We warmly welcomed Revd Jenny Paddison in January, although she was already well known to us, having visited us to preach during the Autumn term.

In the Prep School, we said farewell to Mrs Noone. She has been an outstanding teaching and most supportive form tutor to numerous children, contributing to the wider life of the Prep School. We thank her for her nine years of service and the care she has shown for the children. Mrs Joy left us at the end of the year as she took up a career in SEND Education. We offer thanks for her contribution during the last 14 years, within the Prep School. Mr Baldwin left us at the end of the year to take up a teaching role closer to home. Mr Baldwin has led our Prep computing, supporting children to develop their IT and coding skills. In the summer we said farewell to Mrs Lamb as she relocates away from the area. Thank you for all the support she has given to children in the Prep School, especially Reception.

Miss Johnson relocated to Malaysia in the summer and, therefore, stepping down as Head of PSHE, where she had led our new programme so very well. After 12 years' service to the School, as Teacher in Charge of Biology, and a dedicated and supportive Form Tutor, we wish her and her family well during their move. Mrs Hopwood also left in the summer. We thank her for her three years' service to the Maths Department and as our Coordinator of the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

We send our sincere congratulations to Mr Brain, Head of Music, who left us at the end of the academic year to take up a position as Director of Music at Haileybury College, closer to home, near Hertford. We congratulated Mrs Leyton-Smith who assumes the role from September. Our drum and percussion teacher, Mr Barnes left this summer as he relocates back to London to pursue his performing career.

Our Head of Girls' Sport, Mrs Lane left at the end of the year as she takes up a role closer to home near Worksop. She has had an excellent impact on the development of sport during her 12 years and will be missed. We said farewell to Mr Howitt as he left us in the summer to pursue a career away from education. We wish him every success in the future. We also said farewell to Dr Fox-Clipsham at the end of the year to start her new business, opening and running a cattery and pet crematorium. She joined the School in 2013 and has enjoyed considerable success in her teaching career. Miss Clarkson retired from teaching at the end of the year, after 32 years of dedicated service to the School and the History Department.

Sadly, we heard in March that Mrs Penny Cooper, who retired from teaching PE at The Peterborough School in 2013, passed away peacefully. We still have many staff who remember Penny, and parents too, and our thoughts and prayers remain with her family.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee who give up their time and work hard to run this Association and I hope you all enjoy reading this Newsletter.

With my very best wishes,

Headmaster



# Chairman's Letter

## Dear Westwoodians



I would like to give the Committee huge thanks for their time and support over the years, at our Committee Meetings but also at Westwoodians' coffee mornings and other events where we promote the Alumni to the Lower and Upper Sixth. A special mention goes to Margaret Hope who has been a Chair and a Vice Chair of this Committee for 37 years. She has been responsible for organising so many events during this time and the Westwoodians' Association

would not be around had it not been for her efforts and enthusiasm during the last nearly four decades. I am so grateful to her and so delighted that even though she is stepping down as Vice Chair she will continue to be a member of the Committee.

photos and read people's favourite memories further on in the Newsletter. My final thanks go to Ivana and Wendy for making the Reunion possible for those who attended, and also for all their hard work in creating these Newsletters and for supporting the Westwoodians'.



*Sixth Form Coffee Morning March 2024*

As you will be aware going forwards, we are looking at changing the format of our Westwoodians' Reunions and are very excited to be holding a sit-down luncheon in the School Hall on Sunday 14th September 2025. We are busy receiving confirmation from former schoolteachers, and we will be able to inform you of who will be attending soon. For those of you who were at the school during their time, Mrs Storey and Miss Facey have said they will attend, and we cannot wait to welcome them back to the School. Please could you take this opportunity to contact those old school friends who you may not have seen for many years, as well as those that you still see regularly, and reserve a table at this event. We will send more details early in 2025.

Micheala Drazek, a Former Pupil and Westwoodians' Vice Chair presented at a Senior Assembly in March. We put an appeal out to Alumni for Assembly Speakers which has generated a good number of Former Pupils who would like to speak at an Assembly, and we look forward to welcoming them back to School. If you would like to speak to students about your career, please contact [Alumni@tps.ch.co.uk](mailto:Alumni@tps.ch.co.uk).



*Sixth Form Coffee Morning March 2024*

I am excited to welcome some new Committee Members to our team. We have Victoria Soar (nee Toates) who attended the School from 1995 until 2003, whose little boy started in our Reception Class last year. We have Sophie Richardson who attended from 2001 until 2006 and whose children are also attending the School, and we have Gillian Mason who taught at the School from 2007 until 2023 and who is still helping out when she can. Finally, Michaela Drazek has agreed to take on the position of Vice Chair from September 2024 and my thanks go to her for all she does for the Committee too.

I would also like to thank everyone who came to our Reunion in June, a lovely time was had by all reminiscing and sharing their funny stories of the antics they got up to whilst attending what was then called Westwood House. Tours of the School brought back many fond memories for everyone when visiting the classrooms, which for some used to be their bedrooms in Belgian House. You can see



# Chairman's Letter

The Westwoodians' Association often donates funds to the School and this year has supported the School by purchasing new curtains for the School Hall. The colour has been changed from red to green, which may be a shock to some after the longevity of the red, but they look amazing! We were also able to donate money to the Sixth Form towards their Prom and you can see photos of this in the newsletter.

I was recently interviewed for the school magazine and my answers to their questions are below. We would love to hear from our Former Pupils with answers to these questions, or any other information and photos you would like to share with us. Please do contact us at Alumni@tps.ch.co.uk with your memories of our School.

I very much hope we see as many of you as possible at our 2025 luncheon. Please do keep in touch with us. Enjoy the newsletter.

## What is your standout memory from your time at TPS?

Giggling. I remember laughing until we cried in classes, in cloakrooms, at break times, on school minibuses and at sports practices. I remember singing the school hymn at every school occasion, and hearing it now still makes me tearful. I remember Appeals Days and Sports Days and the fear before a musical or a play. I remember looking at the Honours Boards in assemblies and wondering if I would get my name on there. I remember rushing to the kitchen staff to see if they had any leftover buns. I also remember every time I was ever told off, and how awful I felt! I have memories of when Mum and Dad were Boarding House Parents too, helping Mum cook roast dinner for the boarders on the weekend; seeing our dog produce puppies and watching them run around what is now the Angie Axe garden. I even worked at the school for a short period of time as a TA in Reception Class. That class graduated from Sixth Form a couple of years ago!! I have so many memories over so many years it's very hard to think of just one.



TPS is where I got married, where my children were christened and where they now go to school. I made so many special friends at the school that I still see regularly.

## Now that your children are the third generation to attend the school, what are the biggest changes/differences you have seen?

It's difficult because there are obviously so many, but it still feels exactly the same. The big change was the boys! We were girls only when I was at the School. Then the Sports Hall and the Refectory are hugely impressive additions to the School. The Refectory used to be the school uniform shop and somewhere the music practices took place. There are a few areas that have been removed that I miss – the red cabin where we did choir practice, it was just a red cabin on the field next to the Sixth Form Common Room; and the PE sheds on the front pitch (we used to play tig around these at break time). I remember the Library and Sixth Form Common Room being created and how excited we were that we would one day be able to use it. What I am glad about though is that my children still have the same buns of the day; still sing the same hymn; still wear the same blazer; still play on the same fields and learn in the same classrooms; and still have the same amount of fun and laughter that I had. I can see in their faces that they love this School just as much as I did.



## What was your favourite bun of the day?

Without a doubt it was chocolate crunch. I now have the recipe, but I can't make it the same way!

Vicky Axe, Chair

# TPS Alumni, Westwoodians' Association Committee 2022-23



## President

Adrian Meadows  
The Peterborough School,  
Thorpe Road  
Peterborough,  
PE3 6AP  
Tel: 01733 343357  
Email: [headmaster@tps.ch.co.uk](mailto:headmaster@tps.ch.co.uk)

## Chair

Victoria Axe 2001  
Email: [alumni@tps.ch.co.uk](mailto:alumni@tps.ch.co.uk)

## Vice-Chair

Margaret Hope (Hurn) 1971

## TPS Alumni, Westwoodians' Association Secretary & Assistant

Ivana Zizza & Wendy Short  
The Peterborough School, Thorpe Road  
Peterborough, PE3 6AP  
Tel: 01733 343357  
Email: [alumni@tps.ch.co.uk](mailto:alumni@tps.ch.co.uk)

## Honorary Members 2023/24

Head of School – Isobel Liddle  
Head of School – Ikaheng Pagiwa  
Westwoodians' Prefect – Zain Ahmed



Isobel Liddle &  
Ikaheng Pagiwa



Zain Ahmed

## Committee Members

Angela Axe 2014  
Hannah Baker (Darby) 2006  
Gwen Biddle-Edwards (Hardy) 1956  
Ross Cameron – Deputy Headmaster  
Micheala Drazek 2013  
Chris King 2019  
Julia Lamb (Jelley) 1983  
Gill Mason 2023  
Gemima Snowden (Mackney) 2008  
Ros Mayle 2017  
Patricia Reid 2010

Sadly, Margaret Hope, who has been on the committee since 1988, is stepping down from the role as Vice Chair of the Westwoodians' Association but will still remain a Committee Member. Margaret has been on the committee for 36 years undertaking various roles, the Treasurer, The Chair and Vice Chair. The position has been taken up by Micheala Drazek from September 2024. Jane Swales and Hannah Garford have also stepped down as Committee Members from October 2023 and we thank them for their valued commitment and contribution to the Westwoodians' Association over the years.

We have new Committee members – Victoria Soar (Toates), Class of 2003. Victoria joined the Committee from September 2024 and has a son in Year 1. Gillian Mason, Food Technology Teacher at TPS from 2007–2023 joined the Committee in October 2023. Sophie Robinson (Wiles), Class of 2006 also joined us from September 2024 and has two daughters now at the School.



*We would like to congratulate our Committee Member, Hannah Baker, who gave birth to Jacob on Sunday 22nd September 2024.*



# A message from the Heads of School

## What is your proudest achievement?

**Isobel:** My proudest achievement hasn't been anything big like bringing in a vending machine or creating a mural, it is changing the school day back to how it was before Covid, and how effectively we were able to do this. Although it is nothing massive, Covid changed so many things, so it was nice to see something little go back to how it was before the pandemic.

**Ikaheng:** I would also say returning the school timetable back to the Pre-Covid timings has been my proudest achievement. Many things that were changed because of Covid had been reverted but this was the only change that hadn't, and this was desperately needed for everyone.

## What do you think you've learned from the role?

**Isobel:** What I have learnt most from this role is how a 'role model' to look up to, is so important for the younger students. Therefore, the role has taught me to always advocate for people's beliefs, even if their ideas aren't plausible. Everyone feels empowered when their voice is heard.

**Ikaheng:** From this role, I have learnt the importance of having patience in everything you do and everyone you interact with. Whether it is waiting for responses to emails or trying to organise people, it is important to be patient with people and understand their situation.

## What have you most enjoyed?

**Isobel:** I would have to say I have most enjoyed sitting in the Senior Prefect meetings. Although sometimes they can be a bit of a pain to plan, it has been an eye-opening experience which has been both beneficial and interesting in understanding how the school works. I have also enjoyed being able to get to know some of the younger pupils more, especially when they come up to me asking for crazy ideas to be put forward to SLT!

**Ikaheng:** Although I enjoyed aspects of the role, I have most enjoyed being able to interact with the younger pupils and receive feedback for changes we had made. Seeing how the changes we had proposed had a positive impact on people's experience of the School makes all the long meetings well worth it.

**Isobel Liddle and Ikaheng Pagiwa  
Heads of School 2023/24**





# Welcome – New Members 2023

Welcome to the Westwoodians' Association and congratulations on your excellent A Level results.

Student	Subjects
Rhea Adams	Art, Business Studies, Sociology
Aleena Ahmed	Biology, Business Studies*, Psychology*
Zain Ahmed	Chemistry*, Maths*, Physics*, EPQ*
Michael Altmann	Computer Science, Maths, AS Physics
Monica Augustine-Ohwo	Economics, Maths, Physics, Product Design, EPQ
Lillia Barhouri	English, PE*, Psychology**, EPQ*
Robyn Cummings	Computer Science, Psychology, Sociology, EPQ**
Sicili-Ana Ellwood	Business Studies, Psychology, Sociology
Luke Gear	History, Maths*, Psychology*, EPQ
Thomas Hobden	Maths, Further Maths, Physics, EPQ
Georgina Hunt	History, Philosophy, Psychology*, EPQ**
Orson Keeling	Maths**, Further Maths*, Physics*, EPQ*
Isobel Liddle	English*, History, Philosophy, EPQ**
Daniel Lindus	History, Maths*, Physics, EPQ
Harriet Miller	Art**, English**, Philosophy**, EPQ**
Jasmine Modhvardia	Biology**, Chemistry*, Maths*
Srinidhi Mohan Prasad	Biology*, Chemistry*, Psychology*, EPQ
Ikaheng Pagiwa	Biology**, Chemistry*, Maths*, EPQ**
Amir Shah	Maths, Physics, Product Design
Emily Simpson	Art, Business Studies**, Geography*, EPQ*
Charlie Wadley-Jones	Business Studies, Economics, Sociology
Anna Wild	English, Physical Education, Psychology
Caitlin Wilkinson	Biology, Business Studies, Psychology
Evan Woods	Business Studies, Philosophy, Psychology, EPQ
Wiktorja Zimnowodzka	Economics, Maths, Physics, EPQ*

\*\* = A\* Grade

\* = A Grade

EPQ = Extended Project Qualification

Please keep in touch and let us know how your course is going, or what you are doing on your GAP year: [alumni@tps.ch.co.uk](mailto:alumni@tps.ch.co.uk)



# School News and Events



## The Peterborough School Nursery is now complete

Nursery Manager, Mrs Emma Auston

The beginning of the new school year saw the opening of our long-awaited new room, which we know as Little Oaks.

The children, staff and parents enjoyed watching the build take shape and everyone was very pleased once we could go inside. It was lovely to see the awe and wonder on the children's faces, as they went into the room for the first time. We have spent the rest of the year shaping the room, listening and watching the children to see where they play and how they use their space. Everybody within our Little Oaks team has done a fantastic job in making our new room feel like home – it feels as though it has always been here!



## Reception – The creation of an inspiring learning environment

We were delighted with the refurbishment of the Reception Classroom; we have seen an incredible transformation. The children were so excited to see their new space, exploring the wonderful 'tree house style' reading area, world map mural, brand new furniture, home corner and quiet corner! Thank you to the PTG, who agreed to part-fund the project to ensure we could put in place everything on our wish list. The classroom is a truly innovative space.



# School News and Events

## Senior School Production : Chicago

Chicago: Teen Edition was a stunning, fun but also challenging task – an iconic show and iconic movie.

If anyone is up for the challenge, it is the wonderful and talented students we have here at TPS. The students involved both on stage and backstage were nothing short of amazing, and they made the process of blocking, choreographing, and learning the show a fun, exciting and an unforgettable experience.

Along with rehearsing and performing in the show, some students were so helpful in teaching and creating choreography ideas too, after all, putting on the musical is a team effort and the students came together as an ensemble, all working together to make the show as amazing as possible.



**Appeals Day** was a highlight for many and included students from all year groups organising and running their own fundraising stalls, with all donated funds raised for Afinspire. The stalls were particularly creative this year with 'The Niners Inn', busking and glitter tattoos being a few examples.



The grand finale of the day, the eagerly anticipated **House Battle of the Bands**, was spectacular, as always, and my congratulations go to Eliot House on their victory. The standard of performance was almost unbelievable, and everyone should feel incredibly proud of their performances, a truly difficult job for our adjudicator.



# Class of 2024



Good luck Class of 2024 – hope to see you all soon.



# Class of 2024





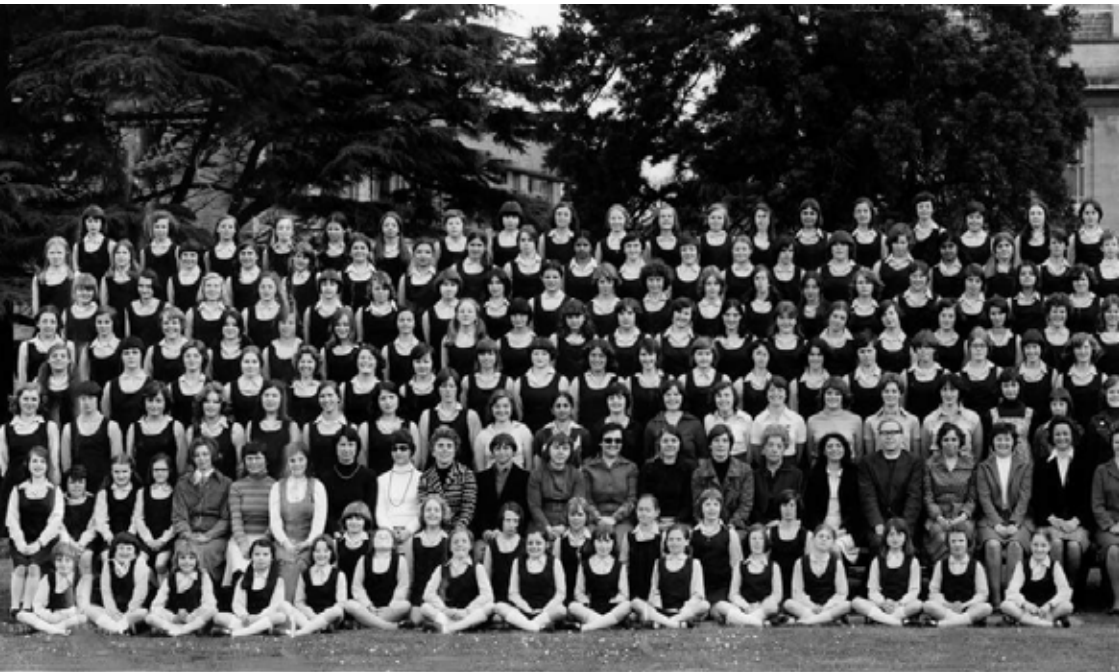
## Leavers' Service – July 2024



**Good luck Class of 2024 – we will miss you!**

# Westwood House 1977

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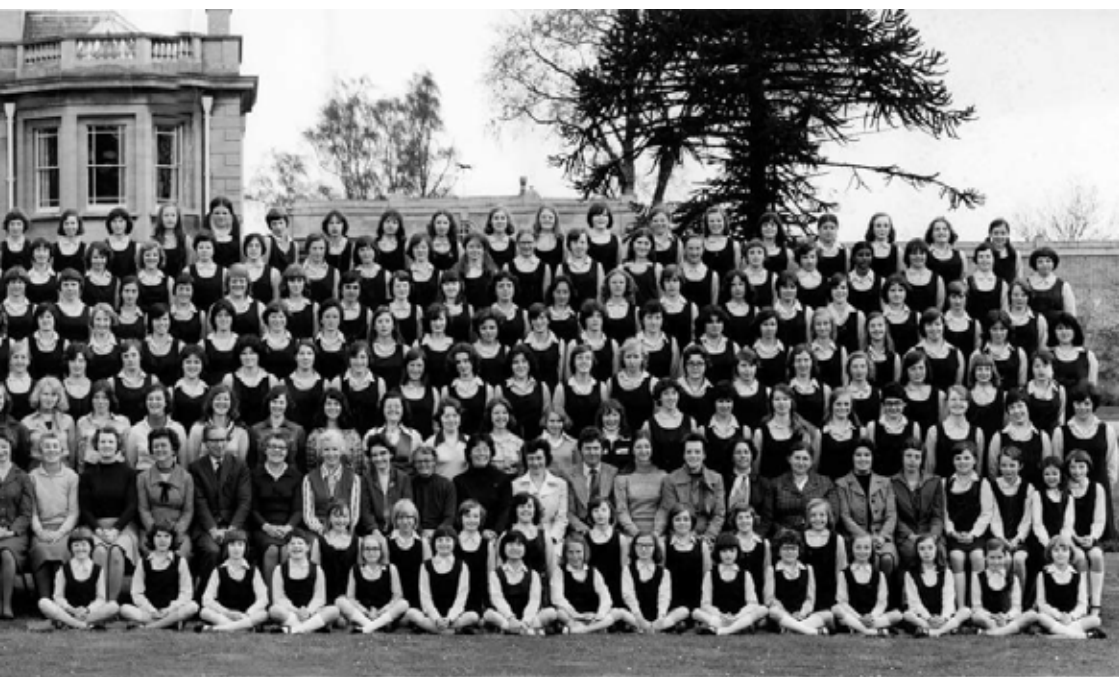



GILLMAN & SOMME

ROYAL SILVER  
WESTWOOD HOUSE

# Westwood House 1977

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OUR JUBILEE YEAR  
 SCHOOL 1977

OXFORD

# Sarah (Herbie) MacDonnell (née Simpson)



## Sarah (Herbie) MacDonnell (née Simpson) – Class of 1982



I had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon at the June 2024 Reunion with my best school friend (yes, we've kept in touch all these years!) reminiscing our school days at Westwood House School (its official name then!) and meeting older and younger ex-students and hearing their stories and memories as well, plus meeting some teachers which added to making our visit feel very special.

I attended WHS from 1975 - 1982 as a termly border with my twin sister (Amanda Simpson although she left after her O Levels) but I think the fact that we were twins and had just moved from spending our childhood in Nairobi, Kenya to this school made us stand out a bit! My mother stayed at the school for 2 days sewing in our name tapes into our uniform (no iron in labels or fabric marker pens in those days!) so we had to wear our own clothes for an interim period until everything had been named!

I think initially we shared a 12-bed dormitory run by the terrifying House Matron, Mrs Chapman and her two Assistants Mrs Bone and Mrs West. The latter always applied germolene to any aches, pains or injuries! As the years progressed your dormitory size got smaller and eventually you shared a 2-bed dorm in the 6th form years. My parents were keen that we were split in the dorms after the 1st year which was respected as despite being identical twins we were very different in personality. I was the quieter one! Although I do recall if there weren't enough textbooks in class we were always made to share!



# Sarah (Herbie) MacDonnell (née Simpson)



I have many fond memories of WHS - running up and down the Ha Ha (which sadly is filled in) chilling under the Monkey Puzzle Tree during break times in the summer (which sadly had to be taken down), having small bottles of milk and a rock cake at morning break, the milk often froze in winter and was sour in the summer months as they were stacked in crates outside, playing dares night in the dormitory on a Tuesday night (“Do dare, double dare, kiss, command or promise” was our mantra!) Being allowed to stay up and watch Top of The Pops on a Thursday night at 7.20pm. There was a hierarchy as to where you were allowed to sit depending on which year you were in! 6th formers got the chairs and the rest either stood behind or sat on the floor! Swapping lessons with my sister! The teachers told us apart with Mandy middle parting and Sarah side parting! We would swap our partings in order to swap cookery and sewing lessons. The teachers never knew but our fellow classmates did! This is probably why I still hate cooking today as I’d end up doing cookery a lot! Slipping joke rubber fried eggs into the tray of cooked fried eggs at breakfast time without Miss Coggin the cook seeing and waiting to see which poor

student couldn’t cut their fried egg! Placing a fake doggy doo outside Miss Scott’s office as she owned a dog! If you were summoned to see the Headmistress (Miss Scott, then Mrs Storey) you had to press a buzzer, and it would light up either red = wait or green = you could enter. Mandy and I were very sporty and were in the hockey team and would decide how we’d wear our long hair e.g. plaits, a ponytail or 2 ponytails. I played RI and Mandy RH so we would swap positions and no one could tell us apart. We were referred to as “those Simpson Twins” when playing matches against other schools on a Saturday morning - Mrs Axe will remember this!

I left WHS and went onto train at The Chiltern Nursery Training College in Reading, which was a residential college to study a 2-year Nursery Nursing course known as the NNEB. I was offered a place at the Norland Nursing Training College but declined as I didn’t feel I’d fit in there. After 2 years of training, I went on to work as a live-in nanny with a family based in Hampstead, North London and cared for a 2 and 4 year-old and travelled the world with them due to the dad’s work - so had a permanent suntan! I had my own self-contained flat! I recently reconnected with the family!

I left once both children attended school full-time and got a Nurse Nurse job at the King Fahad Academy in East Acton working as a classroom assistant in the Reception class for 2 years. This was a Muslim school with a mosque built within the premises. The students were segregated after reception class and the boys were taught by male teachers; the girls were taught by female teachers. Even the doors and window frames were painted red for the girls and blue for the boys. I recall King Fahad coming to officially open the Reception class and turning up with his entourage and bodyguards! We had a lot of Prince and Princesses in the school as well.

# Sarah (Herbie) MacDonnell (née Simpson)



After that I became a Recruitment Consultant for 2 nanny agencies (Regency Nannies and Nannies Incorporated - both based in London and still running) placing nannies with the rich and famous celebs in London and abroad and I did this for several years. I loved this job, but it was very stressful particularly if a nanny didn't work out. I represented Nannies Incorporated on the Esther Rantzen chat show on TV when Nanny Agencies were under scrutiny for not checking references when placing nannies with families.

The Daily Mail sent a reporter pretending to be a nanny looking for a job, I interviewed her but wouldn't arrange any interviews until I'd confirmed at least a couple of previous references - thankfully our agency wasn't "named and shamed" as we followed the rules! It even made front page news in the Daily Mail!

I became a Registered Childminder as I started my own family and did this for 20ish years!

I now work at a Literary Agency reading manuscripts sent in by hopeful authors looking to be represented by an agent and getting their manuscript published! I read all genres from picture books, children's, middle grade, young adult, adult fiction, non-fiction, memoirs and autobiographies hoping to find the next best seller!

I wasn't overly bright at school, but I worked hard, and I feel that attending WHS gave me a great foundation in life. Being a boarder, I learnt life skills and independence from being away from home and in fact I never lived at home due to my career choices. My time at WHS were happy memories apart from having to attend Peterborough Cathedral every Sunday which was a long walk there and back in all weathers!



*Sarah MacDonnell (née Simpson), Angela Axe, Louise Jennings (née Young)*





# Honours Board

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## 2022

EMMA DABIN BA Hons Iii, English Literature, Lancaster University

GEORGIA VARNHAM BA Hons Iii, Illustration, University of Lincoln

## 2023

OLIVIA BARNES MSc Distinction, Business Analytics and Decision Sciences, University of Leeds

CHIARA CASAPULLO BSc Iii, Psychology, University of East Anglia

ALICE CRAIG BSc Hons, Child Nursing, University of Leeds

## 2024

RHYS WILLIAMS MEng Iii, Mechanical Engineering, Oxford Brookes University

The Peterborough School

Looking to connect with former classmates?

Join our growing community on LinkedIn to stay in touch with life at The Peterborough School!

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12882800/>



# Reunion: Saturday 29th June 2024

## Jane Charnley (nee Howes) 1985-1990

We had the best time, and our tour with Ros Mayle was absolutely brilliant, we had such a giggle reminiscing. For me, I had always felt sad when I look back at my time at Westwood House just because my family moved to Saudi Arabia and I missed them terribly - a full term felt like a decade, but this weekend all the good times flooded back, and I'm so grateful to have had the chance to return with others to share those memories.



Michelle Hall (nee Griggs), Helen MacDonald (nee Stennet), Jane Charnley (nee Howes) and Heloise Toon (nee Clark)



Lesley De Havilland, Sally Hagger, Louise Jenning (nee Young), Sarah (Herbie) McDonnell (nee Simpson)

## Michelle Hall (nee Griggs) 1984-1990

*Favourite memories* – “Boarding house – tuck shop, pocket money on a Friday, going into Queensgate. Sports – playing hockey, netball and athletics. Bench outside music block – learning our French!!

*Who was your favourite teacher?*

Mrs Bolton (English), Mrs Wood (Boarding)

## Heloise Toon (nee Clark) – Class of 1992

*Favourite memories* – “Midnight feasts in the dorms, we used to hide the food in the bottom drawers! Getting ready in the Green Room, for a performance (Oliver, Wizard of Oz).

*Who was your favourite teacher?*

Mr Hurst!



Michelle Hall (nee Griggs) and Jane Charnley (nee Howes)



# Reunion: Saturday 29th June 2024

## Louise Jenning (nee Young) 1968-1980

*Favourite memories* – “School Food, Christmas Concerts, lovely surroundings, classmates and School projects, ha-ha.”



Patricia Reid, Ingborg Morris - Former Staff,  
Angie Axe – Former Student and Staff

## Sarah McDonnell (nee Simpson) 1975-1982 (“Herbie” – School nickname)

*Favourite memories* – “Playing hockey, swapping lessons (cooking & needlework) with my twin sister (Mandy!), “Dares Night” on a Tuesday in the Boarding School, School lunches, the “ha-ha” and the Monkey Puzzle Tree!”

*Who was your favourite teacher?*  
Mrs Axe and Mr Porter. Terrified of Mrs Chapman (House Matron) who told ghost stories at night.



Lucy Brown (nee Boyle), Pip Swarbrick (nee Herold) and Val Alemanno (nee Hand)



Jane McCombe and Penny Brown (nee Read) -  
Class of 1985





# Reunion: Saturday 29th June 2024



*Ann Field - Former Staff, Angie Axe - Class of 1964/Former Staff, and Ingrid McGregor - Former Staff*



*Sophie Allen (nee Gimblett), Charlie Kisby, Candice Sly, Vicky Axe, Francesca Santoro*



*Michelle Hall, Ros Mayle, Jane Charnley and Heloise Toon (nee Clark) behind*



*Ella Fysh, Micheala Drazek, Lucille Kenny and Ruth Plant*





# Associates' News, Events and Updates



## STEVE McCOMBE – Class of 1966

I was a pupil in the junior school between 1962 and 1966. Miss Wellington and Mr Thomas were my favourite teachers. My father, Dr Brian McCombe, was a GP based in Fletton Avenue where we lived in a house fronting the surgery until we moved to a house in Thorpe Road in 1968. My father recently died (my mother Janet having died in 2022) and I found this photo of a nativity play, possibly from December 1963. I am at the bottom right (wearing one of my parents' tea towels on my head), with Richard Watson to my right. I remember one of the girls was called Anne or Ann and it may be Ian Hargreaves standing behind 'Mary' (he lived on Thorpe Road). I certainly remember the outdoor swimming pool, sports days, climbing trees, having to 'stand on the landing' if I'd been naughty, and Mr Thomas having a smart sports car.

Jeremy Harkness, another pupil at Westwood House, attended my father's funeral in May.

My sister, Jane, who is 10 years younger than me was also a pupil at Westwood House.

## ZOE HYATT (Hill) – Class of 1988

Mum still lives in Peterborough; I am a primary school teacher. Married Jason in Oundle School chapel in 2002. Had a daughter Milly in 2003 and son Sam in 2004. Now live and work at Greshams School, Holt.

*Friends - Kate Makinson, S-J Coles, Sarah Duncan, Jo Frost, Jill Frisby, Louise Cutteridge, Katherine Green, Jane Aldred.*

## JANE CHARNLEY (HOWES) – Class of 1990

I live up north in Lytham and run an exhibition design business with my husband and have done since leaving uni almost 30 years ago. I have two daughters who are both grown up, 19 and 21.

I left Westwood in my fifth year as my parents came home from abroad and relocated to Lancashire.

I'd love to give a shout out to all the kind friends who invited me to their homes at weekends, it really did mean the world. I have many memories of Westwood House, here's a handful: laundry duty! Chocolate crunch, girl guides with Miss Ellis, county hockey, gym knickers, the haunted music block, top of the pops in the common room, and the calmness of the art room.

Photo of myself and Naomi Davis who I went to London on the train with and we met the Queen Mother at St James Palace. The boarders would knit squares on the weekend and the squares were used to create blankets for a charity and I assume the Queen Mother was the patron. Naomi and I were the lucky ones chosen to go on the trip to represent the school. I can't remember what year we were in, but I'd guess 1st or 2nd year.

*Head teacher: Mrs Storey. Friends: Helen Stennet, Michelle Griggs, Heloise Clark, Lowri Madoc, Lorna McDougall, Naomi Davis*



# Associates' News, Events and Updates



## **NICOLA WILKINSON (Saville) – Class of 1979**

I was at Westwood House School between approximately 1968 and 1979. I started aged 5 years when Mrs Bowis was the Headmistress, and as we lived near St Ives my day started with a group of other girls catching a train to Peterborough and then walking to school from the station. In the evenings if we hurried, we had the luxury of a local bus which stopped at the end of the school drive and dropped us at the Station for the return journey. Later as numbers from Huntingdon increased, the School hired a coach to pick us up and drop us off and I remember one winter's day when the coach did an unscheduled detour via the coach driver's house as he had apparently left his electric fire on by mistake. His quick detour cost him his job when on leaving, he lost control of the coach on the icy road, taking out a lamppost and as there were no seat belts on coaches those days, sending the first few rows of children bowling towards the front of the coach. Luckily no one was seriously injured.

One of my earliest memories is of a wonderful lady called Mrs Wellington who was my Year 3 Teacher. I also remember Mrs Williams my French Teacher. My favourite lesson was Classical Studies with, I think, Mrs Good.

The new School Chapel was consecrated around the time I was in the first form. I remember it as a beautiful, peaceful place and I still remember the kneelers – I must have spent a lot of time studying them during weekly Chapel.

I attended confirmation classes with Mr Mace (I think that was his name – Marion's father) while at Westwood House and was confirmed in Peterborough Cathedral. I eventually became a School Prefect and Deputy Head of House – although I can't remember which! (they were all named after trees at the time I think).

When Mrs Bowis retired Miss Brown took over. I still have memories of her on the platform in the School hall in the "stand at ease" position which she always assumed when she talked.

I also remember losing my School boater out of the train window; the beautiful line of lime trees along the driveway; and walking down the driveway in bathers and towel to do swimming lessons in the private pool of the large house

next door.

After leaving School I married a farmer from Bedfordshire, and we had 4 children. In 2005 we all emigrated to Perth, Western Australia. We are now very happily settled. One of our children has returned to England with his wife but the others all live locally.

We have no regrets regarding the move, and we certainly don't miss the winter weather. In fact the only thing I do miss is being so far from old friends. I am still in touch with a friend I met in the 1st form and enjoy hearing all the latest news when we talk.

*Friends – Mary Preston, Sally Ross, Fiona McGregor*



Nicola Wilkinson

## **SALLY HAGGER – Class of 1980**

I trained as an RGN at St Mary's Hospital in Paddington. I worked as a Staff Nurse for a year. I completed my midwifery training at Pembury Hospital in Kent. I returned to London and worked as a Staff Nurse then Ward Sister.

I left nursing in the early 2000s and retrained as a Pharmacy Dispenser. I did recently contemplate a return to nursing and started working as a Health Care Assistant at my local hospital. However, COVID struck, and I decided to take early retirement.

*Friends - Amanda and Sarah Simpson, Karen Jackson, Sarah Williams, Carolyn Knock, Sarah Mottram and Sue Tekell*



# Associates' News, Events and Updates

## **VALERIE LUCAS-HAYNES (Lucas) – Class of 1993**

I left after A-Levels, did my Art Foundation followed by Ceramics degree at Harrow (Mr Porter and Mrs Meadows were my fabulous Art teachers) followed by a year working as an Art technician in a Secondary school which led to my PGCE at UCL. I've been teaching Art in The Royal Masonic School, Sidcot School, Queenswood School and am now Head of Art at RGS Prep School in Guildford. I have one daughter, 13, and we live in Cranleigh just south of Guildford.

*Friends - Anna Broadhead, Sarah Martin, Georgina Hooper, Heidi Koenig*

## **SAMANTHA HORNBY (Haslam) – Class of 1998**

I left PHS in 1998 I was a boarder until sixth form then I became a day girl. I went off to university at Bretton Hall, part of Leeds University, set in the grounds of the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and left with a BA (hons) with QTS specialising in Art.

I was married in 2010 and lived in Lincoln for a few years as my husband was in the RAF until 2012 when we moved back to Manchester.

After 10 years of Primary school teaching, I became a stay-at-home mum until my two children went to school full time. I then retrained as a swimming instructor specialising in Baby and Preschool.

I help manage the local Swimtime franchise and am looking into becoming a franchisee for myself. I am the baby and preschool lead for our franchise and liaise with head office about the baby and preschool programme. I often think back to my biology lessons with Mrs Willey and try to embody her energy within my lessons. I have also qualified as an Aquatic Tutor and at a recent tutor conference for Skilltime Training Centre, who I tutor for, I was made a Senior Tutor and got an award for Outstanding Client Commitment 2023. At the

Tutor's Conference, I presented a workshop and spoke fondly of Mrs Willey and encouraged the other tutors to be just like her. I recounted her lessons about pollination where she would dance like a bee or flap around like a butterfly from flower to flower. She is my inspiration. As part of my role, I develop and present a variety of training courses and help to mould and shape the future of swimming. It has been the most amazing career change, and I can't wait to see where it takes me.



## **EMILY ALLEN – Class of 2008**

Two Westwoodians recently reunited when Beryl Flack (nee Forster, class of 1966) attended a stained-glass study day in Northamptonshire led by The Stained-Glass Museum where Emily Allen (2001-2008) is the Deputy Curator. Our group met in Peterborough before setting off to explore some modern glass masterpieces and headed right past the school gates on Thorpe road!





# Associates' News, Events and Updates

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## **KATE HARWOOD – 2007 - 2011**

Following a road traffic accident, I suffered at the end of 2010, which I'm sure Mr Meadows will remember, I was unable to finish my A-Levels at The Peterborough School. With great sadness I left in the middle of 2011. The next few years were filled with uncertainty, and it wasn't until 2017 that I was finally well enough to move away from home to attend Coventry University. I chose to study Fine Art and received a 1st Class with Honours. Now, I work in podcasting and the creative industry.

*Friends: Emily Florence, Susannah Lewis, Lauren Gichrist, Sheringham Reynolds, Emily Ansell, Cassie Taylor, Megan Orme-Smith.*  
*Headmaster – Mr Meadows.*

*Form Tutor: Mr McManus*

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## **GABRIELLA FATICA – Class of 2014**

I'm now a qualified primary school teacher I do supply teaching. But my main job since November 2023 has been supporting deafblind adults out in the community.

*Friends – Millie Wright and Poppy King*

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## **WILLIAM BENSON – Class of 2018**

I graduated from TPS in 2018 after being at the school since 2004 and went on to study Creative Advertising at Undergraduate level until 2022 at University of Lincoln. I am now very happy to be working for the lifesaving charity, Magpas Air Ambulance, as a Digital Design & Content Officer.

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## **OLIVIA BARNES – Class of 2019**

I graduated with a distinction in MSc Business Analytics and Decision Sciences from the University of Leeds. Following this, I decided to continue my studies at Leeds and have recently started a PhD, entitled "Developing new behavioural models at the intersection of psychology and econometrics". The aim of the research project is to bring together insights from psychology, econometrics, and machine learning in the field of choice modelling. The combination of these insights should help to improve the ability of choice models to predict

and understand decision making processes and increase the usefulness of these models to inform policy.

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## **GEORGIA VARNHAM – Class of 2019**

After leaving The Peterborough School I went to the University of Lincoln and studied BA (Hons) Illustration and graduated with a 2:1 in 2022.

This year I will be completing my master's degree in MSc Fashion Management from the University of Lincoln. During this course I have been asked to deliver several talks surrounding careers and sustainability in fashion, as well as achieving an Academic Excellence Award from the university celebrating my research on the future sustainability of fashion weeks. I have also been offered a job as a Fashion Buyer, beating over 7500 people to the role. This is an achievement I am incredibly proud of.

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## **TOM SMITH – Class of 2020**

I am delighted to share that I graduated from the University of Leeds with a first-class Economics and History BA degree. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my excellent tutors from the University of Leeds and the Leeds University Business School for all of their hard work, advice and guidance over the last three years. I am certain that I will continue to draw upon what I have learned throughout the challenges ahead.

I am also grateful to my family, friends and peers for all of their support during my time at the university. I have had an amazing time in Leeds, and I have made many memories that will last a lifetime. I wish you all the best of luck for the future.

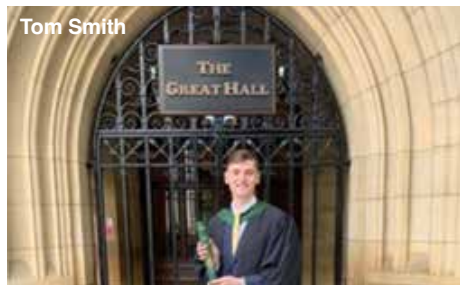
As one chapter ends, another will soon begin, and I am looking forward to returning to the Financial Conduct Authority in September. I will be joining the supervision, Policy and Competition Division and I am excited by the wonderful opportunity to learn and develop that this role provides.

I am delighted to have received the Beresford Award from the University of Leeds for distinguished work in the field of economic and social history in Finals. I feel honoured to be recognised for my essay on the importance of



# Associates' News, Events and Updates

economic and social mobilisation in determining the outcome of the First World War. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my excellent tutors for all of their hard work, guidance and expertise during my three years at the university, which provided me with the skillset and support necessary to achieve this award.



Tom Smith



Shivani Karthikeyan

## FATHER TOBY SHEERING – Former Staff 2023

I was finally Commissioned by the Archbishop of Perth in Holy Week, although I started my role in September 2023 and moved into our own home just before.

At the time of writing this (May) it is now Autumn and we're enjoying bright sunny days around 28 degrees. All is well, but I still miss you all TPS!

Blessings and peace to everyone especially graduating students in Year 6 and Upper Sixth.



Shivani Karthikeyan

## SHIVANI KARTHIKEYAN – Class of 2022

Congratulations to former pupil, Shivani Karthikeyan for an outstanding performance in the English Amateur Championships!

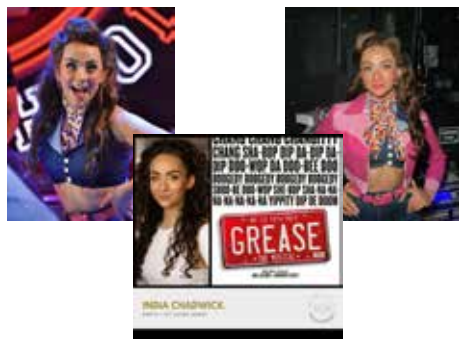
*"the lead changed hands six times between Stephens and Shivani Karthikeyan (Peterborough Milton) in a fantastic battle. Neither player got more than two holes ahead throughout, and in a dramatic finish, Karthikeyan holed 25-foot putts on the 34th and 35th holes, before her mistake on the very final 36th hole handed local girl Stephens a 2-up victory."* - **England Golf**

Shivani reached the final of the Matchplay rounds having qualified in fourth place for this stage following Strokeplay scores of 72 and 69.

## INDIA CHADWICK – PREP ALUMNI

Congratulations to Prep Alumni, India Chadwick, (left July '09) on securing the role of Marty in Grease the Musical UK Tour.

India graduated from the Guildford School of Acting with a BA (Hons) Musical Theatre First Class in 2021. In April this year, she won the role of Marty, first cover Sandy, in Grease the Musical, UK Tour, and has been touring all over the UK in a run up to November 2024.





## **Elizabeth Payne (Cambridge)** **Former Pupil 1977 - 1984 and Governor,** **born 21st April 1966**

It is with great sadness that after a short illness, Elizabeth, one of our Governors, passed away on the 11th December 2023.

Elizabeth was a Governor for 16 years and was an immensely wise advocate for the School. She had a great sense of humour and was a regular attendee at School functions and events. A former pupil of Peterborough High School for eight years, Elizabeth then became Secretary of the School's Alumni Association, The Westwoodians' in 1990 and became Chair in 1995 until 2005 and joined the School Council in 2007.

Adrian Meadows and Steve Dharamraj attended Bourne Abbey Church of St Peter & St Paul Bourne on the 26th January on behalf of The Peterborough School.

## **Rodney Yates** **Former Chairman of the Board of Governors 1996 -2004**

We record somewhat belatedly the death of a former chairman of the School Governors, Rodney Yates, who passed away on 1 July 2022 at the age of 85. Mr. Yates was Chairman of the Board from 1996 – 2004, in addition to being a Fellow of the Woodard Corporation. He took the greatest interest in all aspects of life at Peterborough High School (as it then was), and he and his wife rarely missed musical events and productions staged by the pupils.

Rodney was born in 1937 and was educated at Uppingham School, later qualifying as a chartered accountant. In 1968 he moved to London, where he became finance director to two successive firms of stockbrokers. In these roles, he did extensive work between London and New York. Four years later, he began his long and distinguished association with the Tallow Chandlers' Company: he became

Master of the Livery Company in 2005 and ten years later was proud to introduce his son Ben to this organization. On moving to Cambridgeshire in the 1980s, Rodney served on the North-West Anglia Health Authority. This led to his appointment to the General Medical Council in the early 1990s. Rodney was churchwarden at St. Mary's Church, Marholm for many years and later held the same post at St. Michael and All Angels, Uffington, near Stamford. His funeral was private, and he was buried in Marholm churchyard. A memorial service was subsequently held on 16 September at St. Michael Paternoster Royal in the City of London, which was followed by a reception at the Tallow Chandlers' Hall. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow Hazel and other members of his family.

*Written by Tim Hurst-Brown.*



# Obituaries

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## **Alison Withers (Chapman)** **Former Pupil 1980 - 1987**

Sadly, Alison passed away peacefully at home after a short illness on 8th January 2024 at the age of 54.

Alison was Head Girl, she was a vibrant member of the school; she represented the school in a major cookery competition. Alison was on the first Westwoodians' Committee when it was reinstated in 1987. Elise Nolan, Alison's daughter, also attended the school and she too was Head Girl. Alison will be missed dearly by her family and friends.

*Written by Elise Nolan-Thompson – daughter of Alison, and Margaret Hope – Vice Chair Westwoodians' Association Committee*

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## **Jean Challens** **(Woodcock, Berridge)** **Former PE Teacher**

Jean Challens, previously also known as Berridge, who taught PE at the then Westwood House in the late 1940's, sadly passed away in the summer at the age of 105.

Jean had 5 children.



## **Penny Cooper** **Former PE Teacher 2001 - 2013,** **born 9th December 1952**

Sadly Penny Cooper (who retired from teaching PE at The Peterborough School in 2013) passed away peacefully at dawn on Tuesday 5th March. This followed a diagnosis of Dementia in 2021. We still have many staff who remember Penny, and parents too, and our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this sad time.

Penny was surrounded by family in the days leading up to her passing. She'll be remembered as a wonderful mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and teacher who loved life and was so very accomplished. She is survived by four children (Alastair, Naomi, Daniel & Timothy) and 6 grandchildren.

There was a memorial service for Penny in April at St Peter's Church, St Peter's Crescent, Selsey, Chichester, West Sussex.



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